



*One of the Renaissance Festival's 250 artisans demonstrates the ancient craft of glassblowing.*

# Behind the Scenes

## At the Texas Renaissance Festival

The modern world behind the scenes at the Texas Renaissance Festival breaks the enchanting web of fantasy the festival strives to weave. The letdown is comparable to watching a film being shot in Hollywood and walking around back, only to discover the spectacular set is just a facade.

Mud, tractors, trucks and garbage hide beyond the fences that enclose the magical kingdom, providing a jolt back to reality for

anyone who strays from the grass-covered paths.

Employees, who were peddling their wares moments before, now settle down with co-workers to rest tired feet on back porches. When the wenches and rogues take their breaks, Southern drawls replace the cockney accents that add to the flavor of the festival.

Many of the employees live near the site of the 12th annual festival and, whether this

**Story by Nancy Neukirchner**

**Photos by Bill Hughes**