

Makin' their rounds all over town putting out ol' flames

Area firefighters share first-hand accounts of fighting fires, and saving lives

By HEATHER CAMPBELL
THE BATTALION

life," Phillips said. "Sometimes, we're breathing for them, and we watch the heart on the monitor each time we give them air. When it calms down after a fatality, the scene runs through our heads. The critical incident stress management team

helps us work through the pain."

Phillips said they received their most shocking call after the 1999 Aggie Bonfire collapse.

"I've never seen a sight as unbelievable as the fallen Bonfire," he said.

Rodgers said that after an emergency they try to keep things in perspective.

"I have a family, and I love them very much," Moreno said. "Each morning, I leave my house and realize that there's a chance I may never come back."

The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks have affected fire stations with several anthrax scares and have changed people's behavior.

"For a while, we were getting 10 anthrax calls a day," Moreno said. "The tragedy brought a change among people's behavior concerning emergencies. If we run around with a hose, people will crawl on their hands and knees to get away instead of staying to see what happened. In that aspect it has changed a great deal."

Firefighters constantly put their lives on the line for others and perform selfless acts everyday.

"One time, the entire ceiling came down on my head," Rodgers said. "That's why we wear helmets. Each piece of clothing we wear and equipment we carry serves a specific purpose."

Moreno is fulfilling a childhood dream by serving as a firefighter. He said the brotherhood among the firefighters is priceless.

"It's a family event," he said. "Any fireman could walk in from around the world and we would treat them like one of our own. We are willing to put our lives in each other's hands. The camaraderie we share is incredible."

Phillips said the most rewarding moments are when they realize they have made a difference.

"I wouldn't want to do anything else," Phillips said. "Especially after Sept. 11, when I see flags waving, it makes me proud."

Moreno said that he and his friends would trade their life for someone else.

"There's not a lot of people who wake up and think that today someone's son or daughter might live because I was there," Moreno said.



College Station firefighters (from left to right) Robert Mumford, Kevin Stobbs, Lt. Greg Rodgers, Chad Phillips, Pete Moreno, Leon Moore and Chief Goehl (not pictured) take a break from a busy day's work.

PHOTO BY HEATHER CAMPBELL, ILLUSTRATION BY CODY WAGES AND GUY ROGERS

OPEN DAILY AT 4 P.M.

P.O.E.T.S.

PISS ON EVERYTHING TOMORROWS SATURDAY

DRINKERY & BILLIARDS

CULPEPPER PLAZA (BEHIND HOLIDAY INN) **696-3351**

DRINK SPECIALS

| MON. | TUES. | WED. | THURS. | FRI. | SAT. | SUN. |
|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| \$3.00 | \$2.00 | \$1.50 | \$2.00 | \$2.00 | \$1.50 | \$2.00 |
| SKYY | ALL | DOM. | WELLS | PINTS | DOM. | WELLS & |
| VODKA | MEXICAN | LONG- | TILL | TILL | LONG- | PINTS ALL |
| MARTINIS | BTLs. | NECKS | TILL | TILL | NECKS | NIGHT |
| FREE | 7 TIL | 7 TIL | 11PM | 11PM | TILL | FREE POOL |
| POOL | CLOSE | CLOSE | | | TILL | TILL 10PM |
| TILL | | | | | | |
| 10PM | | | | | | |

25 BRUNSWICK PRO 8 TABLES

\$6.00

HOURLY PER TABLE

COME PLAY DARTS

FREE

ON ONE OF OUR FOUR

BOARDS

MUST BE 18 OR OLDER

APO, OCA, & TAMU Athletic Dept.

Sponsor the

"Everyone Bleeds Maroon" Blood Drive!

November 12-16, 2001

Tickets for TAMU Volleyball or Basketball games will be available to donors!

Commons-Lobby

Mon.-Fri.

10:45-5:45

Bio-Bio-Lobby

Mon.-Fri.

10:00-4:00

Zachary-Lobby

Mon.-Fri.

10:00-4:00

Vet School-Lounge

Mon.-Fri.

10:00-4:00

Rudder-Bus

Mon.-Fri.

9:45-5:45

Sbisa-Bus

Mon.-Thurs.-12:00-7:00

Fri.-12:00-5:45

Rec Center-Lobby

Mon.-Thurs.-3:00-9:00

Fri.-11:00-5:00

Duncan-Bus

Mon.-Wed.

12:30-7:30

Wehner-Bus

Thurs.&Fri.

10:00-4:00

Bush Academic Bldg.

Wed.&Thurs.

10:00-4:00

All Blood Donors Will Receive a Commemorative T-Shirt!

+American Red Cross