

Dock-to-dome pipe line tested

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — Inspection crews checked valves and joints Wednesday in preparation for the first flow of crude oil through a 42-mile pipeline from a Texas dock to the nation's first underground oil storage site.

"They're walking down the line checking every valve," said William Parker, deputy manager of the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve Program. The pipeline runs from the terminal at Nederland, Texas, to the underground salt dome at Hackberry, La.

He said oil should be flowing into the dome by Friday if no faults were found in the 42-inch diameter line.

"We're actually flowing water down the line and behind the water is a pig (a test device that mechanically inspects the pipeline) and some oil," Parker said. "We're cleaning the line out, just checking it out and making sure it's OK."

Sometime (Thursday) evening or Friday morning the test should be where the oil will be at Hackberry, and the line will have 350,000-500,000 barrels of oil in it.

He said the first oil from the pipeline will be injected into the salt dome after the water washes debris from the line and the pig device is removed.

"I've heard stories of finding dead rabbits, snakes, shoes and those sort of things in pipelines," Parker said.

The Hackberry dome was the scene of a blowout and fire that killed one man and destroyed thousands of barrels of oil last month. That accident occurred in another portion of the complex. Work at other areas of the site, including the pipeline receiving station, were not halted by the fire.

Parker said the Hackberry dome is separated into different storage areas by natural salt walls. The fire occurred at cavern six and the pipeline will feed into caverns eight and nine.

President Carter ordered the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Program as protection against another Arab oil embargo or similar shortage. It calls for storage of billions of barrels of oil in Louisiana and Texas salt domes and vacant Ohio and Kentucky mines.

Hackberry was the first storage site, and received its first oil shipment in July, by barge from Nederland. Barge operations will continue for several months, but the pipeline will be the primary method of filling the dome, capable of holding huge quantities of oil.

Americans try to un snag talks

United Press International
WASHINGTON — American mediators met separately with Egyptian and Israeli negotiators Wednesday morning to focus on the difficulties that brought President Carter directly into the talks on Tuesday.

American mediator Alfred Atherton began meeting with the Egyptian delegation at 9 a.m. EDT at the Madison Hotel and was scheduled to meet later at the hotel with the Israelis.

Conference sources said Wednesday's meetings should make clear whether Carter's intervention removed the hurdles that prompted him to join in the discussions in the first place.

Egyptian and Israeli negotiators are focusing on the final, difficult issues standing in the way of a peace treaty, leading to President Carter's direct involvement in the talks.

Carter spent one hour each with the Egyptian and Israeli delegations at the White House Tuesday, and it appeared that one of the disputes is whether the disagreements in the negotiations are serious.

The Israelis seemed to think they are. The Egyptians and the Americans played down the problems.

As he emerged from his meeting with Carter, Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said: "We have come up against some difficulties in our negotiations with the Egyptian delegation. When we came here the president told us whenever we are stuck, we should come to him and we used this opportunity."

Dayan refused to say where the difficulties lie, but it appeared from earlier government statements that the big problem involves the linkage between the current Egyptian-Israeli negotiations and the larger issue of a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

Israeli officials say there is no connection between the two issues; the Egyptians claim there is, and an American conference spokesman said the larger issue has been discussed, although the principle focus of the conference has been on an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

American officials said there is no sign of a major snag in the negotiations and the talks are not stuck, as Dayan implied.

21 arrests 2 pursued from drug raid

Authorities are still looking for a woman and a juvenile named in indictments connected with a recent drug raid in the College Station area.

Both are wanted for delivering marijuana, a third degree felony.

Nine people have been arrested since the original bust Thursday night, bringing the number of arrests to 21. Twenty-nine indictments were issued.

All of the nine most recently arrested have been charged with delivery of marijuana. They are Deidra Ray Cheek, of Route 5, Bryan; William Henry Black Jr., P.O. Box DE, College Station; Anthony Joseph Meyer, of Somerville; Joe Anthony Pleasant, of 901 N. Pierce, Bryan; Michael Pierce Yeager, of 306 Redmond Drive, Apartment 236-C, College Station; Tyrone Poole, of Tunis; Timothy Clinton Storey, of 2201 Leonard Road, Brazos County; Charles Ray Freeman, Route 2, Box 246, Caldwell, and David Gerald Mouser, who listed his car as his residence.

Ray Nutt, narcotics officer with the local Department of Public


Safety, said the arrests have been made throughout the Bryan-College Station area.

Detective Ronnie Miller of the College Station police force said about four of Thursday night's arrests were made in College Station's Northgate area, with others mainly scattered throughout Bryan and College Station.

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Senate votes to present new constitution for vote

By DILLARD STONE
Battalion Reporter

The Texas A&M University student senate voted Wednesday to present a new student government constitution to the student body.

"In principle and in fact it's the same constitution the senate passed last spring, with some changes made for student government efficiency," said Austin Sterling, vice president for rules and regulations.

Sterling said that inconsistencies and contradicting language in the old constitution made the senate decide to write a new one last spring. The proposed document passed in the student election, but the judicial overturned the election earlier this semester. The constitution was returned to the rules and regulations committee in order to conform with standardized procedure required for its adoption.

The senate approved two major changes in the constitution, as well as a number of wording changes for clarity.

One major change made in the executive branch provides for student senate approval of a new student body president in the event of the president's removal or resignation. The executive vice president will assume the presidency with a two-thirds approval of the senate. If the executive vice president fails to

receive the vote of confidence, the senate will select the new president from among the five vice presidents.

The other major change gives the student body president the right to remove executive appointees without the two-thirds senate vote formerly required.

The new constitution will be presented to the students in next Thursday's fall election.

In other business, Senator Paul Bettencourt withdrew a bill that provided for the extension of dormitory visitations to 24 hours on weekends.

In its stead, Bettencourt offered a measure that would co-sponsor with the Residence Hall Association a survey to determine the opinions of dormitory students about maximum visitation hours.

Also introduced was a bill detailing an alternate ticket allocation system for the Arkansas football game. The bill calls for each student desiring to attend the game to sign up at G. Rollie White Coliseum on the Tuesday prior to the game. Each student would receive a numbered token, and a lottery to determine the recipients of the 377 available tickets would be held on the Thursday before the game.

Completion of installation of new washers and driers to two campus areas has been delayed until the third week in November. Kevin Patterson, vice president for student services, told the senate that the three-week extension was caused by conflicts with other cam-

pus projects, such as the renovation of the Chancellor's Home.

In other reports, Joe Beall, vice president for external affairs, said that 15,000 student government Student Purchase Program books have been printed. He added that distribution would begin soon, with the RHA passing out the books on campus.

Dorothy Du Bois reported that the external affairs committee is planning energy seminars to help off-campus students reduce their energy usage and electric bills. The seminars will be conducted with the help of the Texas Energy Extension Service, she said.

The senate also adopted five policies that it will use as priorities in state lobbying this year. A poll of the senators indicated they wanted to pursue these areas: more equitable tuition rates between foreign students and out-of-state students, maintenance of low tuition rates, maintaining the determination of Q-drop policy by the university, a student member of the Board of Regents, and faculty tenure.

A resolution urging the administration to examine university growth in relation to the need for more student center area was passed.


Senators Brian Gross and Steven Hageman introduced a bill to establish a committee to select the recipients of annual student government awards. Gross said the measure is necessary because now there is no statutory method of selecting award winners.

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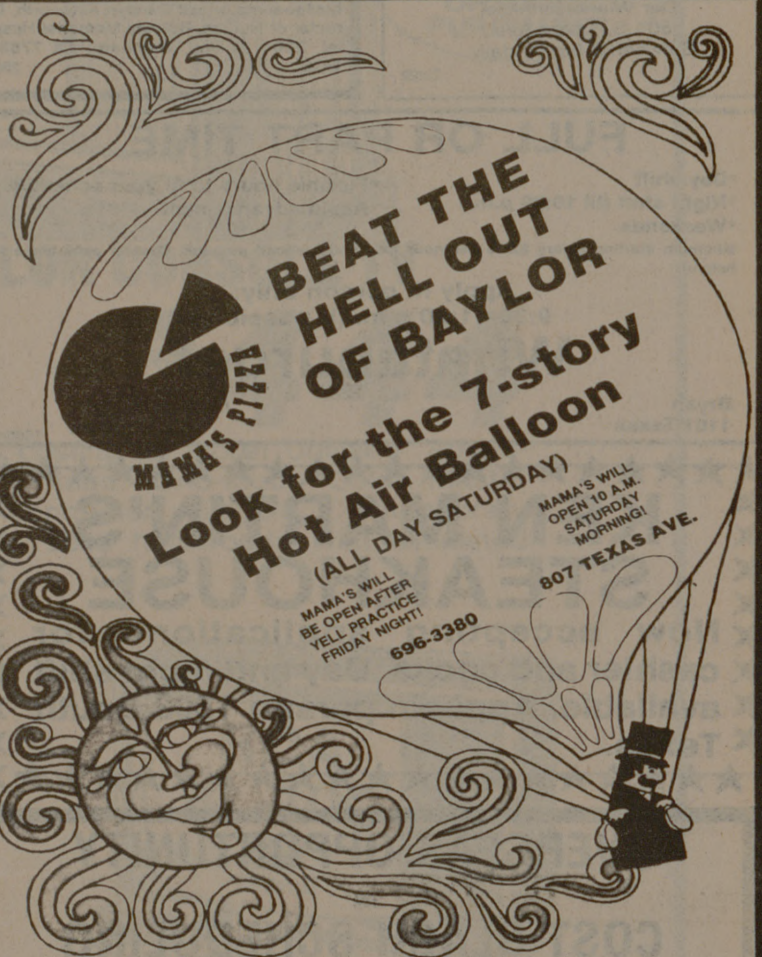
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White House gets Christmas tree

United Press International
KENT, Ohio — The national Christmas tree, a 26-foot Colorado Blue Spruce, is scheduled to be planted Friday on the White House grounds in Washington.

A contract to transplant the tree, being moved from York, Pa., was awarded Wednesday to the Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, by the National Park Service.

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