

local

Nuclear waste piling up; no disposal plans in sight

by USCHI MICHEL-HOWELL

Battalion Staff
Low-level radioactive waste, which has been accumulating since February at Texas A&M University's Nuclear Science Center, will continue to do so for an undetermined period.

The University is waiting for Nuclear Sources and Services Co. of Houston to get approval of a burial site in Leon County, said Dr. Robert Berg of the Office of University Research.

The Radiological Safety Office had been picking up wastes from 200 laboratories on campus, but last week told departments involved to store the wastes themselves until a new waste-disposal company and burial site can be found.

Research projects that generate new wastes may have to be discontinued if wastes can't be stored temporarily in lab areas, Berg told departments last week. But no research projects have been stopped yet and most are likely to continue, Neff said.

There are no problems of accumulation because the

Nuclear Science Center can store the waste temporarily, Berg said.

However, Berg could neither guarantee that waste collection would resume May 15 or that current research projects could continue.

Radioactive paper, fluids and animal carcasses fill 25 metal drums a month at Texas A&M, Berg said.

The wastes have been stored in a temporary shelter since February, said John Simek, assistant radiological safety officer.

The university was left without a burial site for nuclear wastes in February when the Todd Shipyard Co. went out of business.

The Galveston company gave the University 69 barrels for temporary storage, Simek said.

For a short-term, the waste barrels are kept in two fenced, covered areas at the center, Simek said.

Another temporary storage area is planned should be completed in a few weeks, Berg said.

A 20-by-40 foot concrete and metal building is planned for future storage, as well as a compactor, Berg said.

Permit to build condos approved

by MARCY BOYCE

A site plan permit was approved by the College Station Planning and Zoning Commission Thursday night for the construction of condominiums on the corner of Church and Nagle streets.

The request was presented by developer Boyett Investments Ltd., who plans to build the Rampart Condominiums on two acres of the 9.6 acre tract where the Circle Drive-in once was.

Approval of the project, however, depended upon approval of the developer's future plans for drainage of the lot as well as for the location of fire hydrants.

Although City Planner Al Mayo expressed some concern regarding additional traffic that the project will probably generate, no objections were raised at the meeting Thursday. Commissioner Jim Gardner, who voted to abstain from approval of the permit, however, said he saw no reason for having a pocket of residential property in the predominantly commercial area. The permit was approved 4-0 with two abstentions.

The project is also pending approval of rezoning the tract from commercial to apartment by the College Station City Council.

In other business, the commission also approved site plan permits for multi-family projects on the corner of College Main and Spruce Street and another on the corner of Boyett and Louise streets.

The commission also approved a request by Film-N-Photo to move their facility in Culpepper Plaza's parking lot to a location in the same lot more accessible to customers. The request granted following the petitioner's agreement to move the building out of traffic route in the parking lot.

A public hearing for College Sta-

tion's proposal to annex Harvey Hillside was also scheduled for June 5 at 7 p.m. Residents of the community presented a petition objection to the annexation at the beginning of the meeting.

Vet school will dip dogs on May 10

First-year students at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine will dip dogs for pet owners on May 10. The charge will be \$3 per dog.

Students will provide the treatment from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the parking lot behind the Small Animal Clinic, west of Wellborn Road on University Drive.

Dog owners should provide a brief medical history of their dogs, including information on when the dog was last dipped and wormed.

Students will give the dog a physical examination and a bath before dipping them. Owners should bring a towel to dry their dogs themselves. All dogs must be leashed.

The students are offering the treatment as part of National Pet Week, Sunday, May 4 through May 10. They will continue the program one day a month, throughout the summer.

The next treatment program is scheduled for June 7.

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Predicts loss of nomination Expert says Bush hard sells

George Bush's campaign style may prevent him from winning the Republican presidential nomination, said a Texas A&M University speech expert.

"I expect George Bush will fail to win the nomination because he hard sells too much, and is perceived by many people as a candidate who spouts a lot of empty rhetoric," said Dr. Josh Crane, chairman of the speech communication division of the Department of English.

Crane, an authority on communication, said more than 60 percent of what is communicated in a social conversation or by a political candidate isn't spoken.

Nonverbal communication such as eye contact, body language and inflections in speech can be a salesperson's best selling point, or a politician's downfall, he said.

Bush has an overly loud and argumentative sounding voice, said Crane. He gestures with a straight up-and-down hand motion much like a karate chop, and points with his finger at times; his smile is too broad and too much like what the public perceives as a politician's smile, Crane said.

On the other hand, Reagan comes across relaxed and much more confi-

dent. He doesn't gesture as much, and his smile is frequent and appears to be more sincere, Crane said.

Crane said nonverbal communication is especially important for people in the public eye. For instance, the image presented by a salesman may be the unconscious deciding factor in a sale. A big part of building confidence has to do with appearance, says the speech expert.

High-pressure salespeople, who are aggressive and manipulative, are on the way out. Today, the consumer is just too informed and too leery of that to buy it, he said.

"The same is true of high-pressure politicians. For example, some people perceive John Connally in that manner. And, as sincere as he may have been as a presidential candidate, some thought him too manipulative," Crane said.

"People remember he was once a Democrat and view his switch to the Republican party as an opportunistic thing to do.

Just as there are rules in chess, there are rules in the business and political worlds, some of which are unwritten, Crane said.

"You can gain firmer footing in an interview if you remember that successful selling includes eye contact

because people think that is sincere. Also, understand that a handshake, for whatever reasons, means a great deal and that colors can enhance your image. We talk about executive blues and grays because they are good colors for business clothing," Crane said.

"When vocalizing, if you have a little louder and faster speech which doesn't include gaps, you will be more persuasive," he said.

Her communications specialist said politicians and salespeople must constantly be aware of their image. People judge others, fairly or unfairly, he said, so the best approach is to present them with a person in whom they can have confidence instead of someone who bullies.

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Your support and encouragement has been both rewarding and gratifying, and although I am unopposed in the upcoming elections, I solicit your vote and continued support.

Most importantly, be sure that you cast your vote this coming Saturday in this important primary election.

Sincerely,
Bill Prensall
State Representative

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Chairman
Citizens Committee on Appropriations

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