

New place for Old Ags

Former students moving

by Robert McGlohon

Battalion Staff
Plans for the recently approved office building for the Texas A&M Association of Former Students are still uncertain, but association President A.W. "Head" Davis says it's a "strong maybe" that the building will be completed by the end of 1984.
The association plans to hire an architect in August and "kick the plans around until the first of the year," Davis said Tuesday. He added that construction on the land at the intersection between Houston Street and Jersey Street will start soon after that and be completed by the end of 1984 or early 1985.
While the idea to move to a new building has been discussed seriously by the former students for the past few

years, "casual words" of such a building go as far back as 1908, Davis said.

He said the words became less casual about three years ago when it became clear that, because of the increasing size of the association, the offices in the Forsyth Alumni Center in the Memorial Student Center were becoming too small.

Davis said it came down to three choices: enlarge the Forsyth Alumni Center, curtail the activities of the association, or move to a new building. The association decided that moving was the best choice.

University officials and the Texas A&M Board of Regents approved the project with lavish praise.

"Without question, Texas A&M is blessed with the sup-

port of the finest alumni association in the world," Dr. Frank E. Vandiver, president of Texas A&M, said. "And we are delighted to cooperate in helping accommodate the Association of Former Students in the manner it deems most appropriate."

The Board of Regents also praised the association with a resolution citing its contributions to Texas A&M. However, the board did not have the last word on the project. The 50-year ground lease it approved was subject to legislative approval.

The board is legally prohibited from disposing of land on the main University campus, Davis said. He defined the main campus as being roughly the area bounded by Texas Avenue, Wellborn Road, Jersey Street and Uni-

versity Drive.

He explained that because the Texas attorney general has ruled that a long-term lease is tantamount to disposing of the land, the association needed the Legislature's approval as well as the board's.

Sen. Kent Caperton and Rep. Bill Presnal sponsored the legislation.

The legislation, which has been signed into law by Gov. Mark White, allows the Association of Former Students to lease three to five acres of land for 50 years with an option for renewal, Davis said. The association will use its funds to build the 20,000 to 30,000 square foot edifice, he said, adding that no University money will be used and that the rent is for the land only.

Dioxin victims suing chemical manufacturers

United Press International
NEWARK, N.J.—Fearful residents, injured workers and concerned merchants have banded together in a class action seeking damages from present and past owners of a Newark herbicide manufacturing site contaminated by dioxin, primarily Diamond Shamrock of Dallas.

least 300 samples from various area locations.

Between 1958 and 1978, the suit charged, various herbicide manufacturers "knowingly, willfully, wantonly, recklessly or negligently released dioxin" into the surrounding area.

Among the 11 plaintiffs are two former employees of the defunct Diamond Alkali Co.

Aldo Andreini, of Elizabeth, N.J., and Ralph Lamoreaux, of Hunlock Creek, Pa., both former Diamond employees, charged they suffered permanent physical injury from exposure to dioxin. The suit seeks unspecified monetary damages for the plaintiffs and members of the various classes they represent, lawyers said.

In addition to actual or potential physical harm, the plaintiffs contend they suffered "mental and emotional distress" and economic hardship by the loss of business and depreciation of commercial and residential property values.

On June 2, Gov. Thomas Kean disclosed that dioxin in the soil at the Diamond site was found in amounts greater than those at Times Beach, Mo.

The key defendant named was Diamond Shamrock Corp. of Dallas, which merged with Diamond Alkali in 1967 when the plant was producing the Vietnam War defoliant Agent Orange and the "ultrahazardous" by-product dioxin.

Congressmen still behind MTA

United Press International
HOUSTON — Several Houston-area members of Congress vowed to continue pursuing federal funds for the Metropolitan Transit Authority, even if the voters of the area say they do not want a heavy rail system.
"The election was a pretty clear message to Congress that there is not a consensus among Houstonians about the plan devised by MTA," Rep. Mike Andrews, D-Texas said Monday. "I will continue to work with the delegation to gain funds for the system that Houstonians support."
Voters soundly defeated a referendum Saturday which

would have used \$2.35 billion to build a heavy rail transit system while upgrading the present bus system.

Reps. Mickey Leland, a Democrat and Bill Archer, a Republican, both from the Houston area, said they will continue to lobby for federal money for Houston's transportation problems. Metro officials said they do not know what is next.

"We have to find out first why the bond referendum failed and then come up with a new plan," said Metro spokeswoman Janet Redeker. "The voters did not want what we had. We will be regrouping now and come up with something else." Federal

funds amounting to about \$110 million tentatively earmarked for the proposed Metro rail system now are in question.

But Rep. Jack Fields, R-Texas, said he will recommend dropping the federal funds request.

"As of now I am going to cease my activity in trying to get tax dollars back to Houston (for the transit plan)," said Fields, who has been one of the most active members of the area's congressional delegation in seeking funding.

Although Fields has been trying to secure the federal dollars, he has never endorsed a light rail or trolley system.

Metro already spent about \$30 million in studies and engineering costs, but Redeker said that money has not been wasted.

But Houston city Councilman John Goodner, chairman of the city's Traffic and Transportation task force and the leading opponent to the proposed rail system, said the transit authority must set up new guidelines for improving bus service in the city and increasing the maintenance facilities.

"We can accelerate some of these projects," Goodner said, listing increased bus lines, overhead bus lanes and possibly a light rail or trolley system.

Grand Opening

ShearClass

the second location
Precision Hair Cutting

2402-D Texas Ave.
Parkway Square
693-0345

FATHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY JUNE 19
FIRST CLASS
MALE



5 Swank® gifts for men... wrapped and ready to go for Father's Day gift-giving!

- A. Triplet travel brush**
Give him a gift he'll appreciate! This handsome accessory has a shoe horn plus a helpful lint and clothes brush \$10
- B. 36-hook tie and belt rack**
Dad's closet can stay organized if he uses this handsome wood and brass rack to keep his accessories close at hand \$10
- C. 15-piece tool kit**
Here's a gift he can really use! A handy tool kit in a convenient, zippered case that's perfect for home or office \$10
- D. Brass tire gauge**
For the man who has everything, a handy little pocket-sized precision air-gauge made of gleaming solid brass \$10
- E. Moustache kit**
This convenient kit contains a small brush and comb to keep dad's mustache well-groomed no matter what the occasion... \$10

save 50% on handkerchiefs!

Buy any of our Swank® pre-wrapped gifts for Dad, save 1/2 on a 6-pack of 100% corded cotton handkerchiefs.
Reg. \$6... \$3 with purchase.

Dillard's

