

New line for water will be built for West Campus research park

By SARAH OATES
Staff Writer

A contract for construction of a waterline that will provide water for the Texas A&M University West Campus expansion will be awarded at the September Board of Regents meeting, said a facilities and planning official.

Assistant Director Daniel Whitt said Friday that construction on the waterline will begin in October.

"It should take about a year to build it," he said.

The new waterline will loop around West Campus, running from FM 60 (University Drive) to FM 2818, from FM 2818 to Jersey Street, and from Jersey Street to Wellborn Road.

The waterline will provide the water supply for the research park that will be built behind what is now West Campus, bound by Jersey Street, FM 60 and FM 2818.

Construction work for the park, to include an ocean drilling program building worth \$4.8 million, will be contracted this month.

The new waterline also will supply water to Easterwood Airport, and the Firemen's Training School. Whitt said the new line will be able to handle greater water volume and pressure.

Whitt said work on the waterline will begin on University Drive near the West Bypass.

Gen. Wesley Peel, vice-chancellor of facilities and planning, said there "will be occasions when there will be some temporary traffic interruptions."

The research park is part of the ambitious West Campus Expansion Plan to possibly extend the campus all the way out to FM 2818.

"We can only expand west because there's no place else to go," Peel said. "Texas A&M owns all that land."

"The idea is for big companies, such as Shell, to lease the land from the University and build pure research buildings here."

The plan also includes construction of a new systems administration building, a new physical plant, a new poultry science center and a track and field events center with adjacent intramural fields.

The park will cost an estimated \$7 million.

Peel said the park will be completely devoted to research, not academics, although it is probable that students and faculty will be employed there.

Early plans place the new poultry science center at the corner of West Campus bound by FM 2818, near the sewage treatment plant.

There also are tentative plans for a track and field events center, which would be located at the corner of Beef Cattle Road and Jersey Street. The center would be funded by donations.

A new systems administration building also is being designed and facilities and planning will begin advertising for construction bids in January.

The new building will be located at the intersection of FM 60 and FM 2818 and will cost an estimated \$7.5 million.

Employees working in the current Systems Administration Building will move to the old administration building, Peel said the old building will be renovated before the move. The Coke Building will be used for faculty office space.

Facilities planning and construction also is designing a plan to landscape the western part of the campus. The project will be contracted for next spring.

Buildings currently under construction on West Campus are:

- The medical sciences library, located at FM 60, is scheduled for completion in May 1985. The library is part of the \$10 million package for construction of the medical science complex located across the street from the Veterinary Medicine Complex and will be used by both veterinary and medical students.

- The agricultural engineering research laboratory, located near Agronomy Road, will be completed in February 1985 at a cost of \$1.8 million.

There also are several buildings under construction on the main campus. The new engineering and physics building is being built on Spence Street between the Doherty Building and the Cyclotron.

Parking Annex 7 was torn down to make way for this \$18.8 million project. The building should be finished by December 1985.



Construction of new chemistry building.

A short section of Spence Street from Ross Street south has been closed for construction of the new chemistry building. The building is scheduled for completion in May 1987 at a cost of \$18 million.

Peel said that eventually most of the area surrounding this building will be made into a landscaped mall.

A new physical plant, which will be located at West Campus, is currently being designed, he said, and

the old building will be torn down. A 2,000 car parking garage will be built on that site to compensate for the loss of parking in the mall area.

A new civil engineering building that would tie into the McNew Engineering Lab is being designed. Besides being a classroom site for civil engineering students, it will house the Texas Transportation Institute and the Engineering Design Group.

Woman arrested for newborn death in Dallas airport

United Press International

DALLAS — Murder charges will probably be filed this week against a 22-year-old woman arrested in the death of a newborn boy whose body was found in a trash can at the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport, authorities said Sunday.

Airport Police Chief Tom Shehan said a janitor discovered the baby's body in a restroom in the Delta Airlines terminal at 6:40 p.m. CDT Friday.

The death was ruled a homicide after Tarrant County Medical Examiner R.O. Medford said an autopsy showed the baby died of "asphyxiation due to manual strangulation" shortly after birth.

The Garland, Texas, woman was arrested Saturday afternoon as she prepared to board a flight to Baton Rouge, La.

"She has not formally been charged," Shehan said. The woman was questioned Saturday and released Sunday on a \$5,000 writ of habeas corpus for murder.

"We will probably file formal murder charges against the lady either Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning at the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office," Shehan said.

He said it was unclear whether the woman was married and he did not know why she was going to Baton Rouge.

"Quite frankly, she didn't tell us much of anything," he said. He said investigators learned the woman's name from airport personnel who reported that they had assisted a woman found hemorrhaging at the airport Friday night.

Shehan said evidence indicted the full-term infant was born in the restroom, but they had not determined why the newborn was killed.

"We've got a good suspect," Shehan said. "We don't know if she planned to kill the baby. Maybe she panicked ... that probably is the case."

He said the woman "exhibited remorse," but he would not elaborate.

Bush commemorates experiences in WWII

United Press International

NORFOLK, Va.— The Navy rolled out its relics and its modern warships Sunday to honor Vice President George Bush, who was plucked from the Pacific 40 years ago when his World War II bomber was shot down.

Bush told a crowd of about 200 Navy brass and spectators at Atlantic Fleet headquarters "the surest way to keep the peace is to keep the United States prepared."

In his seven-minute speech, Bush echoed President Reagan's line that "no war was ever started because we were too strong ... a strong and secure United States is the best defense guarantee of world peace."

The trip, which he called "a very moving occasion for me," was designated as non-political, meaning taxpayers picked up the tab for what was essentially a photo opportunity for Bush to hail his war record the day before he begins a campaign swing through the South.

At age 20, the youngest bomber pilot in the American military, Lt. Bush was shot down over an obscure island chain held by the Japanese and bobbed in a life raft six hours before rescue by a submarine.

Bush stood on a platform at the end of a pier flanked by the Avenger torpedo bomber of the type he flew

to glory and the nuclear-powered submarine USS Finback—namesake of the diesel sub that rescued him as he bobbed in the water.

Facing him on either side were the massive nuclear-powered carriers USS Nimitz and John F. Kennedy.

Navy Secretary John Lehman, in introducing Bush, said his exploits were similar to Kennedy's in World War II. The president's PT boat was sunk by the Japanese in the Pacific.

Bush was piped aboard the Finback for a tour of its control room and was lunching with colleagues from his old air group aboard the Kennedy.

Noting the contrast between the technology available to him in World War II and the modern devices aboard the carriers, Bush said, "technological superiority isn't an abstract question for our soldiers, sailors and fliers — it's a matter of life and death."

A spokesman said the honor was set up by Navy Secretary John Lehman to commemorate the shooting down and the rest of Bush's career in public life — congressman, Republican national chairman, United Nations ambassador, envoy to Peking, head of the CIA and vice president.

Uvalde boy second victim of rare meningitis

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — A 12-year-old Uvalde boy died Sunday from a type of meningitis contracted while swimming at a state park, a hospital spokeswoman said, the second death this summer from the rare disorder.

Ben Wright, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Wright of Uvalde, had

been treated for amoebic meningoencephalitis since July 28, about a week after he went swimming in the Frio River in Garner State Park. He died at 7:40 p.m. Sunday, said Barbara Williams, a spokeswoman at Southwest Methodist Hospital.

"The doctor who was treating him, Chief of Pediatrics Marshall Benbow, said that in the last day or

so his heart had slowed and he had cardiac arrest Sunday night," Williams said.

"He was in the pediatric intensive care unit the entire time and most of that time he was in a coma, on life support and in isolation," she said.

Health officials believed the boy contracted the disease while swimming in the untreated river water at

the park and the state parks department banned swimming there.

The Uvalde boy was the second to die from the rare disease this summer. Derek Leach, a 3-year-old Irving, Texas, boy, died July 2 after swimming at Lake Grapevine in suburban Dallas.

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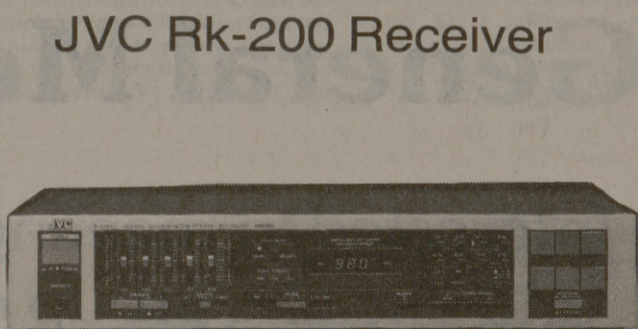
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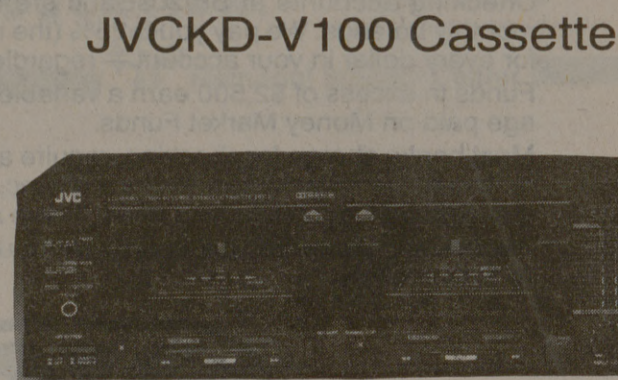
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