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Police seize concealed speed lab

Sting operation produces results

Associated Press

DALLAS — Authorities on Wednesday seized another clandestine speed lab as they continued reaping the results of a three-year, multi-state sting operation that has led to the arrests of nearly 200 people.

Phil Jordan, the Drug Enforcement Administration special agent-in-charge for Texas and Oklahoma, said the lab was discovered in Clarksville at about 4 a.m. It is the second lab seized since Tuesday.

Three suspects fled the scene, leaving behind enough raw materials to manufacture about 20 pounds of amphetamines with a street value of around \$3 million, Jordan said.

"Before we could arrest them, they escaped," he said. "They left behind an operational, clandestine speed laboratory."

Jordan said one of the suspects is among 27 people named in a federal indictment charging a conspiracy to produce amphetamines for sale.

The man was expected to surrender to authorities, he said. He said local authorities were still searching for the other two suspects.

The three-year sting investigation, dubbed "Operation Dry Gulch" and based in Texas, has resulted in the arrests of at least 198 people — including 18 on Tuesday — and one of the largest ever seizures of chemicals and equipment used to manufacture mostly amphetamines and methamphetamines, Jordan said.

"This is only phase one, we anticipate more arrests in cooperation with state authorities," Jordan said.

Since the operation began in June 1982, more than \$2 million worth of chemicals and laboratory equipment used to manufacture drugs at 62 laboratories has been seized, along with

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Aggie Squirrels

Squads left, squads right, squirrels, squirrels we're all right. Load (the nuts), ready, aim, fire! Reload? Nobody knew if these squir-

rels were seniors, but they seemed to be "humping it" on a tree branch near Bolton Hall.

Photo by PETER ROCHA

Contras to profit by aid vote

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House voted decisively Wednesday to resume direct logistics aid to anti-Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua, reversing previous denials of such assistance and giving President Reagan a major legislative victory.

It also refused to renew a ban on use of U.S. funds to aid military actions against the leftist government in Managua.

At the White House, Reagan praised the House vote as an "historic" action for democracy and liberty in Central America.

"A clear bipartisan majority has shown that our nation stands with those who are determined to pursue a political solution and seek a democratic outcome to the crisis in Nicaragua," the president said.

The Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington quickly issued a statement asserting that "any assistance to the Contras, whether it is called humanitarian or otherwise, is a violation of international law."

Following the lead of the Senate, which endorsed a \$38 million aid package last week, the House voted 248-184 to approve an amendment offered by House Republican

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Reagan: U.S. to 'firmly oppose' Sikhs

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, trying to encourage India to loosen its ties with the Soviet Union, lavished praise Wednesday on Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and pledged that the United States will "firmly oppose" Sikh separatists who attempt to undermine Indian unity.

As the muted chants of about 1,000 anti-Gandhi Sikh protesters wafted across the South Lawn of the White House, the president greeted the 40-year-old prime minister warmly, terming his leadership and

idealism "inspiring."

Reagan told Gandhi and his Italian-born wife, Sonia that they would find a deep well of affection and respect for India and its people during their four-day visit to the United States.

"Our shared democratic ideals serve as a bridge between us," Reagan said. "Our mutual commitment to the freedom and dignity of man set us on a different road, a higher road than governments which deny the human rights so cherished by our peoples."

The two leaders talked alone for 30 minutes and at another half-hour session attended by their top aides following formal welcoming ceremonies.

In his welcoming remarks, Reagan told Gandhi all America offered him sympathy for the tragedy he suffered, a reference to the assassination of his mother and predecessor as prime minister, Indira Gandhi, at the hands of her Sikh bodyguards.

Gandhi's visit here follows his six-day tour two weeks ago of the Soviet

Union, which ended with a \$1.15 billion deal for Soviet industrial credits.

As Reagan and Gandhi spoke, about 1,000 chanting Sikhs rallied outside the White House gates in protest. The turmoil surrounding the Sikhs' demand for greater autonomy in the Punjab has spawned one of India's greatest domestic crises.

Reagan acknowledged that the two nations have "areas of disagreement" over global security issues, but he said this should not preclude discussions.

A White House official, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said Reagan and Gandhi had a "fairly extensive discussion" of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Suspicious between the United States and India have been high over the years, primarily because of the warm ties between India and the Soviet Union and because this country is the main arms supplier to India's long-time foe, Pakistan.

India gets more than 80 percent of its weaponry from the Soviets.

A&M moves up 13 places

Library system ranked 42nd

By CINDY IRVING
Reporter

The Texas A&M library system has risen 13 places since last year and currently is ranked 42nd in the nation according to the Association of Research Libraries.

Dr. Irene Hoadley, director of Sterling C. Evans Library, said one of the reasons why A&M moved up in the rankings was because it was allowed by the association to include statistics from the Medical Sciences Library for the first time.

"This makes us now more comparable with other institutions since we are able to incorporate last year's holdings and statistics from the medical library," Hoadley said.

She said the rankings for the academic year 1983-84 take into account all of the following from both libraries: the number of volumes, the gross number of volumes added during the year, all current serials, microforms, binding and salaries and wages.

Also included are the cost of li-

brary materials, the number of employees and student staff members, and other various operating costs.

Joe Jaras, assistant bibliographic instruction librarian, said Evans library has doubled from 768,000 volumes in the beginning to 1.5 million volumes. The library currently has 1,540,510 volumes; 17,900 serials; more than 800,000 microfiche holdings and an additional 70,000 volumes from the medical library.

Compared to the library at the University of Texas, ranked sixth in

the nation, Evans library has a much smaller support base, Hoadley said. A&M does not put as much priority on its library as UT does, she added.

A&M also does not put as much emphasis on areas such as liberal arts, humanities and education, Hoadley said.

However, she said the library does well in providing information and services for undergraduate students.

The newest service in the library is the Bibliographic Retrieval Service.

Texas A&M grants GSS official recognition

The Gay Student Service received formal recognition from Texas A&M Wednesday.

Marco Roberts, president of the GSS, filed the appropriate papers for official A&M recognition June 5.

The organization was denied official University recognition on April 1, 1976 and a lengthy court battle followed. Earlier this year, on April 1, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the GSS, forcing A&M to recognize them.

Roberts says the group has big

plans for the summer.

On June 30, GSS members plan to march in the Gay Pride Week Parade in Houston. They plan to show their Aggie spirit by playing their renditions of school songs on kazooes, Roberts says.

The group also is planning fundraisers to cover lawyer fees the group has incurred. Roberts says the group has been considering bar benefit shows here and in Houston.

Grove offers new fare, re-schedules calendar

By PATRICIA CAMPBELL
Reporter

The Grove has changed its activity schedule for the summer and will be offering new special events and workshops, as well as movies.

In previous years, the Grove has offered a movie every night of the week during the summer.

Jim Hurd, director of the Grove, said that records show the most popular nights for movies are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. To cut losses, the Grove will only offer movies on those nights and leave the other times open to offer workshops.

There will be a fishing clinic on June 15 and a free gun clinic on June 22.

"An antique auction featuring a professional antique auctioneer

will be held on June 30," Hurd said.

He said a beach party is planned for July 27 — the movie "Blue Hawaiian" with Elvis Presley will be shown. The Grove also is waiting on funds, so it can hire a popular band for the party.

Specific times for these events have not been decided, Hurd said.

He said the Grove also plans to save money by changing its working staff from paid student managers to A&M faculty members doing volunteer work.

Four faculty members already are taking turns each night of the week, Hurd said.

"The fiscal year ends in August so we can't take any chances on losing money," Hurd said. "The cutback in student workers will help the budget."

Japan testing broadcast university

Associated Press

CHIBA, Japan — Few of the 18,000 students enrolled in Japan's newest university ever visit the campus. Tucked away in an industrial zone north of Tokyo, it has no libraries, classrooms, dormitories or dining halls.

Instead, the University of the Air, Japan's first four-year broadcasting school, has televisions — rows and rows of shiny TVs lined up in spanking-new studios, all primed for a massive Japanese experiment in education.

Noriyuki Nasu, a geology professor, retired from Tokyo University — the nation's top institution of higher learning — to devote himself to this new school, which was launched in April.

"The importance of study should not be limited to college days," he says. "Lifetime study is the fundamental concept of the university."

"We're open for everybody," the professor, 62, said in an interview.

In fact, the university is so open that applicants need only a high school diploma or university-approved equivalent, and a \$12 antenna to join. Once enrolled, they pay tuition far below that of normal universities.

However, diplomas from the University of the Air won't be handed out casually, organizers say. Taught by some of Japan's best professors, the

courses will be rigorous, the grading tough and the overall academic level as competitive as in the most prestigious schools, they say.

The government, which will contribute 85 percent of the \$4 million annual budget, has spent more than a decade planning the project.

Although broadcasts now are available only within 60 miles of Tokyo, officials hope to expand the range to create a truly national university — one that not only will meet a need for schooling for older or poor students, but will help move Japan's tradition-bound education system in new directions.

Historically, only one path has led to a college degree in Japan — the agonizing "examination hell," followed by acceptance at one public university or one of several private universities.

Although 35 percent of Japan's 120 million people graduate from some type of college, no alternatives have existed for students who flunked the exams, or for adults who wanted to return to college.

Increased government interest in using TV and radio in classrooms and a desire to give adults the opportunity to return to college led to the idea of the University of the Air in the late 1960s.

Political disputes slowed the project initially,

but in 1975 the University of the Air Foundation and its parent National Institute of Multimedia Education began broadcasting experimental lectures.

Organizers also began to recruit faculty from some of Japan's best universities in Japan, such as Nasu, who joined after reaching Tokyo University's mandatory retirement age of 60.

Nasu, one of the university's 40 professors, says he was attracted by the idea of a classroom without walls.

"If I wished to explain the oldest fossil in Japan, I went to that spot (to film)," he said in an interview. "That's the advantage of TV."

This year, the school will offer 105 courses, and organizers hope to expand to more than 200 courses in the future.

Courses may be applied to one of four areas of study — a four-year bachelor's degree in natural, social sciences or humanities, a one-year specialized course, a single term, or studies for those who never finished high school but hope to qualify for a college degree.

Each course costs \$48, about \$380 for a full year of undergraduate study. Tokyo University students pay \$1,008 annually plus a \$400 entrance fee.