

Physiology research center could help recruit athletes

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State mental hospitals meet with court-ordered rise in staff

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A&M coaches get an early look at future Aggie stars

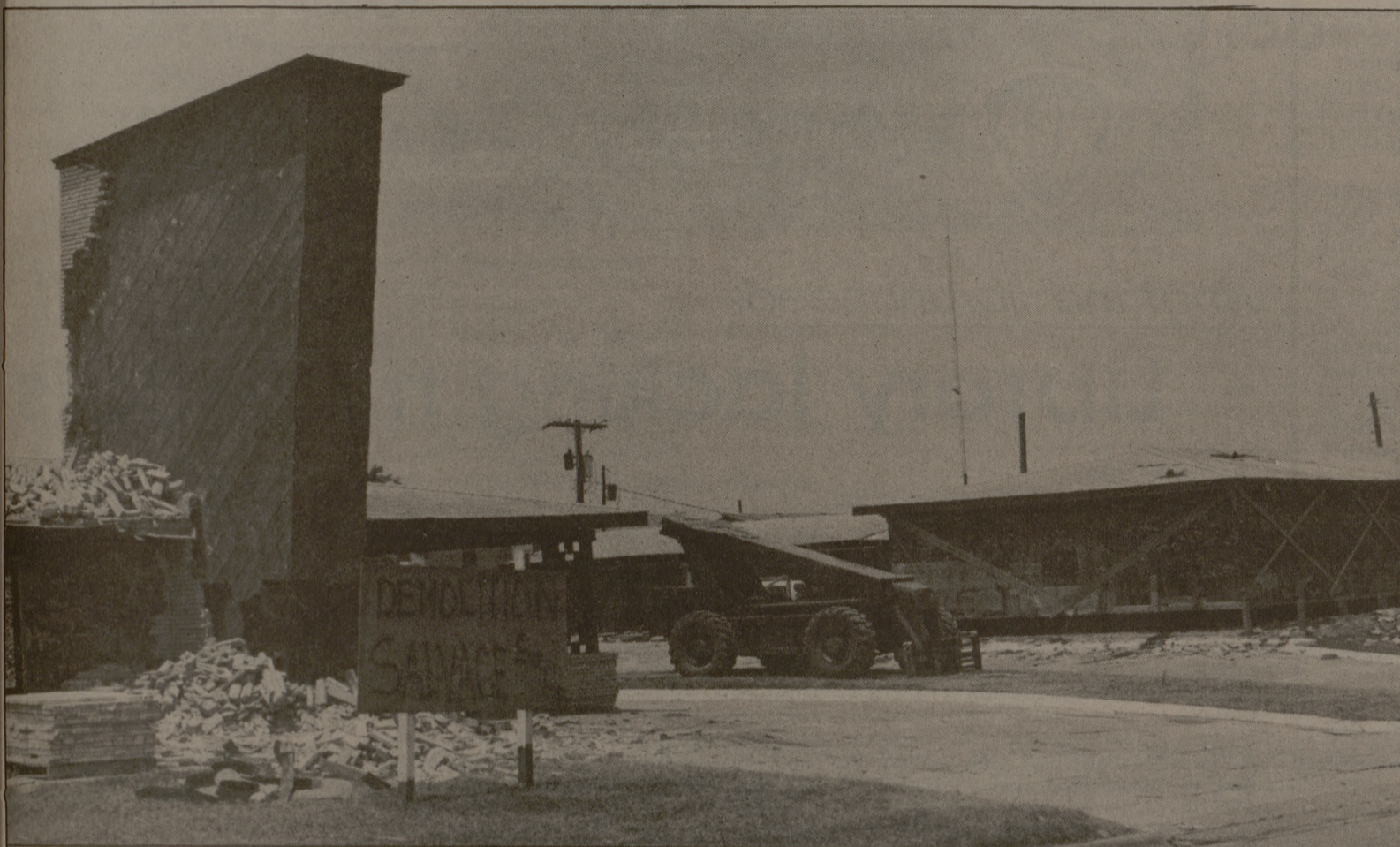
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Texas A&M The Battalion

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Leftovers, Anyone?

The remains of the Sands Hotel have been put on sale. The hotel, located on Texas Avenue, is due to be replaced by the new Hamp-

ton Hotel, which is part of the Holiday Inn chain. Construction will begin after demolition has been completed.

Photo by ANTHONY S. CASPER

Budget talks break down in Congress

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congressional budget talks collapsed in acrimony Wednesday, perhaps dooming efforts to draft a major deficit-reduction package this year.

As Sen. Pete V. Domenici, R-N.M., chairman of the Senate Budget Committee adjourned the bargaining session, he told House conferees, "We'll call you back as soon as we have something to talk about."

Senate bargainers rejected an offer from the Democratic-led House, and House negotiators accused the Republican-run Senate of continuously changing its targets.

It was unclear whether the Senate would make a counterproposal to the House plan that had been rejected.

Senate bargainers had spent the day picking over the House's latest budget compromise offer, complaining that the package violates an agreement with President Reagan by including too little for military spending.

Testiness built on both sides during the day with Rep. William H. Gray III, D-Pa., chairman of the House Budget Committee, saying at one point, "I'm tired of the false and

phony accusations with regard to the House."

The congressional talks are aimed at drafting a compromise version of fiscal 1986 budget passed by the House and Senate.

Senate negotiators questioned their House counterparts about the details of a three-year, \$272.6 billion deficit-reduction plan that includes \$24 billion more in domestic spending cuts than the House had originally passed. The package would reduce spending by \$56.9 billion next year.

Senate Republicans indicated the House offer did not go far enough in meeting the Senate's higher level of military spending authority or do enough to enforce domestic spending cuts.

Domenici and other senators said the House had not lived up to an agreement with the president on military spending.

The House proposal provides \$298 billion for military spending authority next year, but Domenici said it was short the \$4.5 billion that would be needed to keep pace with inflation, which he said was part of the agreement.

Bush impressed with Reagan's 'dramatic' recovery

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan was taken off intravenous feeding and put on a mostly liquid diet Wednesday as he continued what Vice President George Bush, visiting him for the first time during his convalescence, called a dramatic recovery from cancer surgery.

Bush said Reagan was "running high and looking good" four days after having a malignant tumor removed from his colon.

"It really is dramatic the way the recovery is taking place," the vice president said.

Bush spent about 45 minutes with

the president in his suite at Bethesda Naval Hospital in suburban Maryland. They discussed foreign and domestic affairs and Bush said the president was "clearly read up" on the issues.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Navy Capt. Dale Oller, the head of surgery at Bethesda, reported that Reagan's digestive system was beginning to return to normal and placed him on a diet of liquids such as bouillions, apple juice and tea, as well as Popsicles and Jell-O.

Speakes said the president had his first uninterrupted night of sleep

Tuesday, retiring shortly after 11 p.m. EDT after watching a movie on television.

He said Reagan awoke about 5 a.m., went back to sleep and woke again at 8 a.m. As he left his room to walk the length of the hall in his suite, Speakes said, the president quipped, "Tennis, anyone?"

Doctors removed a nasal tube used to draw out gas and fluid from the president's stomach. Reagan, who had complained of some irritation from the tube, quipped, "This is Christmas in July."

The physicians described Reagan's condition as excellent, his vital

signs as stable and his spirits as good, according to Speakes.

The spokesman said the president signed several nominations and a supplemental extradition treaty with Britain, designed to assist in combating terrorism.

Speakes said Reagan heard the sirens of the Bush motorcade arriving and surprised his visitor by getting out of bed to greet him in an adjacent sitting room.

"I got up there prepared to wait, and out came the president to greet me, walking, and sat in a straight-backed chair and looked very well indeed," Bush told reporters.

Bush was accompanied by his chief of staff, Craig Fuller; the president's chief of staff, Donald T. Regan and Speakes.

Speakes said the president's "first words to the group were to deny still another report of his demise," referring to rumors of his death that circulated in some international financial markets.

"Somebody must be trying to make a buck," the spokesman quoted Reagan as saying.

He said they discussed a breakfast meeting with Republicans from the Senate Finance Committee earlier in the day, at which Bush substituted

for the president, and that Reagan "emphasized his interest in the budget deficit, which obviously still concerns him."

Speakes said the president told his visitors, "We have to show real dollars in domestic spending savings. That's the only way. Go tell them that."

Bush, who made a fortune in the Texas oil fields before entering politics, said, "There's an expression in the oil business, 'Running high and looking good,' when you are drilling a well, and that's the way he is, running high and looking good."

Gift is largest in University's history

A&M Foundation gets \$7.3 million donation

By DONNA DAVIS
Reporter

The Texas A&M Development Foundation has received a donation worth \$7.3 million as a result of the termination of the Ella C. McFadden Charitable Trust.

Robert M. Rutledge, executive director of the foundation, says the 20-year trust is the largest single contribution in the history of A&M.

Rutledge says the trust, which was organized in 1965 after the death of Ella C. McFadden of Fort Worth, has been used to support honor scholarships and other programs. In the past, the assets were used to finance

"We are indeed indebted to the McFadden Charitable Trust for its grand and long-standing support, and for the confidence that it places in us to administer these funds for the maximum benefit to the University." — President Frank E. Vandiver

the Center for Education and Research in Free Enterprise and to set up a President's

Endowed Scholarship as well as the McFadden Scholarship, Rutledge says.

He says the contribution consists of Southland Royalty Co. stock and interest in other royalty trusts that are all oil related.

"Only four percent on the value of the assets is being earned now," Rutledge says, "but the potential for the assets is great."

Rutledge explains that the recent slump in the oil business is one of the reasons for the low royalty income.

Part of the funds are to be used to maintain the scholarship programs, Rutledge says, but

the remaining portion is unrestricted.

The income from the endowment will be used at the discretion of the trustees and A&M President Frank Vandiver.

"We are indeed indebted to the McFadden Charitable Trust for its grand and long-standing support, and for the confidence that it places in us to administer these funds for the maximum benefit to the University," Vandiver said recently.

No decisions have been made as to where the funds will be distributed, but a meeting with trustees on Friday may produce some ideas, Rutledge says.

Officials: ocean incinerators should be licensed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Government officials told a Senate committee on Wednesday that despite "research gaps," ocean incineration of hazardous chemical wastes should be licensed on schedule to ease the burden on land-based incinerators.

The Environmental Protection Agency has been criticized by public officials and citizens groups for forging ahead with regulations to license specially built incinerator ships without fully assessing the dangers of ocean incineration.

EPA officials have said licensing could begin as early as the end of this year. "We have environmental impact

statements for post offices," Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., said. "I hope to hell we have one for this."

EPA plans to allow incinerations off the West Coast, Gulf of Mexico, and upper Atlantic coast.

Terry F. Yosie, director of EPA's Science Advisory Board, told the panel that the independent scientists who serve on his board "do not think the nature of the research gaps that we have identified are such that EPA should delay adoption of its regulations."

In fact, Yosie said, "We believe that the process of gathering research actually depends upon gathering data as incineration actually occurs."

EPA officials and representatives of the waste disposal industry argue that ocean incineration is needed because land-based incinerators are overburdened.

Sen. John Chafee, R-R.I., chairman of the subcommittee, said, "I guess the thing that worries all of us, is we want this judgment to be as safe as possible . . . but at some point we've got to get on with it."

The hearing before the Environmental Pollution Subcommittee was called at the urging of U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas. Texas officials fear the state's lucrative fishing and tourism industries will be damaged by a spill.

"You seem to be in a rush to issue the permits," Bentsen told Henry Longest, EPA's acting assistant ad-

ministrator for water.

"What kind of pressure is being brought on you to move at this speed?"

Longest said he didn't feel any pressure.

Bentsen later complained that the Gulf of Mexico site, where test burns have already been conducted, had been "grandfathered" into the regulations without a fair assessment of all potential sites.

But Longest said EPA is considering new criteria for site selection.

If they become part of the final regulations and the Gulf site doesn't qualify, it will be dropped, he said.

The two incinerator ships that conducted the test burns in the Gulf of Mexico are European-built and were purchased by a U.S. waste dis-

posal company.

Two other ships are under construction in the United States with the help of \$70 million in government loan guarantees.

Jack Ravan, former EPA assistant administrator for water and now regional administrator in Atlanta, told Chafee the government wouldn't necessarily lose the money if ocean incineration is not licensed.

But he said, "the shipowner would have to find a way to finance that debt."

Chafee said he thought it would be safe to assume the money would be lost.

"It would be tough to make a passenger vessel out of one of these," he said.

Dollar down, gold rises in foreign trade

Associated Press

LONDON — Jitters over the U.S. economy and President Reagan's health pushed the dollar to its lowest level in a year on foreign exchange markets today. Gold bullion prices edged up.

The dollar opened broadly lower in the wake of an announcement late Tuesday by the Federal Reserve that it was revising its anti-inflation growth targets for the basic U.S. money supply.

A trader in Frankfurt, West Germany, said the move was taken as a sign that the Fed wants to continue easing its monetary grips and push interest rates lower to stimulate the economy. Prospects of lower interest rates make dollar-denominated investments less attractive.

Later in hectic trading, the dollar lost more ground when rumors — strongly denied by the White House — circulated in London financial markets that Reagan had died.

Terming the rumors the "height of irresponsibility," Deputy Press Secretary Pete Rousset said in Washington that there had been no change in the president's condition.

The dollar was also trading at levels last seen in the summer of 1984 against the British, West German, Swiss and French currencies.