



Photo by Sam B. Myers

Planting pansies

Lane Gillespie, Masha Whaley and Otis Adams, all of Bryan, and Joel Alaniz of College Station plant maroon and white pansies, which they grow themselves for graduation, in front of the Systems Building Monday.

Judges respond following TV report on donations to judges' campaigns

AUSTIN (AP) — The next chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court said Monday in response to a network television report on contributions by lawyers to the campaigns of Supreme Court judges that justice "should not be for sale nor should it appear to be for sale."

The controversy drew the scrutiny of CBS' "60 Minutes" show Sunday night.

Houston Judge Thomas Phillips, designated by Gov. Bill Clements as chief justice upon the departure of John Hill next month, responded to the show Monday.

"To restore public confidence in our courts, we must have judicial reform. Reform means changing the

method of selecting judges," Phillips said in a statement.

"Reform means limiting the size of campaign contributions made to judges. I will work to restore the public's faith in the integrity of our judicial system by advocating change and by limiting my own campaign donations to reasonable amounts from a broad base of contributors," he said.

Meanwhile, a Republican House member who heads the judiciary committee said the justices involved in the television show should resign.

Rep. Mike Toomey, R-Houston, said Democratic Justices C.L. Ray, William Kilgarlin, Ted Robertson and Oscar Mauzy "looked more like

a collection of desperadoes from the 'Rogues Gallery' than members of the Texas Supreme Court."

"The national audience watching '60 Minutes' could not believe their eyes and ears: The story line was crystal clear," Toomey said. "Campaign contributions are influencing judicial decisions. That is an absolute outrage. It's an embarrassment."

Responding, Mauzy said Toomey was in no position to make such charges.

"Mr. Toomey didn't appoint me to this court," Mauzy said. "The people of Texas elected me to it. I intend to live up to that contract with the people of this state."

As for Toomey's allegation that Mauzy and the others looked like "desperadoes," Mauzy said, "He's in a better position to know what desperadoes look like than I am since I assume he looks in the mirror every morning to shave."

Clements' press secretary, Reggie Bashur, said the report "was a real eye-opener for the general public in terms of the court and the lack of integrity and credibility."

"It is clearly a tremendous embarrassment to the state, and I think it will contribute to a mounting groundswell among people who are going to push for changes on the court," Bashur added.

Judge denies delay request in hearing

FORT WORTH (AP) — A federal judge on Monday denied an NAACP request to delay and expand a hearing on the desegregation busing plan for Fort Worth schools.

U.S. District Judge Eldon Mahon said he scheduled Monday's hearing so he could review the busing issue — not because parties in the city's 28-year-old desegregation lawsuit asked for it.

Leon Haley, attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, told Mahon the group needs more time to gather evidence.

Haley asked Mahon to set a later date to hear all the issues involved in the integration of Fort Worth schools.

A&M works to expand research with telecommunications industry

By Kimberly House
Staff Writer

Texas A&M research is collaborating with telecommunications industries to see what they are doing in new technology and to let them see what the University can do, said Dr. Jerry Gibson, director of the Telecommunications, Control and Signal Processing Research Center.

He said interaction will help transfer research results into products.

"This is a big program in the College of Engineering," he said.

A&M researchers, industry telecommunications leaders, government officials and students will discuss new technologies and applications in the telecommunications field Tuesday and Wednesday in Rudder Tower.

The Telecommunications, Control and Signal Processing Research Center is sponsoring the discussion.

People interested in attending the discussion can register in 510 Rudder.

Gibson said the symposium will provide interaction between the University and industries.

He said universities and the telecommunications industry need collaboration and cooperation, or "technology transfer," to present and exchange ideas.

"Thirty-five presentations from industries, faculty and students will cover topics of signal-processing applications, image processing and concepts, computer communication networks, speech-processing applications, knowledge-based signal processing and digital communications," Gibson said.

Gibson said the meeting will provide a good chance to let the industry see the University's faculty and students in action.

The symposium is open to the public, but Gibson said the language and concepts will be highly specialized and the general audience may not understand much of it.

He said since universities and telecommunications industries are isolated from each other, conferences let both know about new ideas and findings. They also let the interested people know what is happening in the high-tech industry, he said. And they might attract industries that may be interested in funding research at A&M, he said.

"We want to show industries that we can help them, so they will help us," Gibson said.

Companies participating in the meeting are Texas Instruments, E-Systems Inc., Rockwell International, Recognition Equipment, ElectroSpace Systems Inc., MIT Lincoln Laboratories and Sandia National Laboratories.

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