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Garage to house students, faculty

By Richard Williams
Senior Staff Writer

Ever since the Texas A&M Board of Regents approved the construction of a \$9 million parking garage in January 1987, students have been asking if they are going to be allowed to park in the six-story structure.

Bob Wiatt, A&M director of security and traffic, said he plans to allow students and faculty to buy permits that will allow them to park in the 2,000-space garage.

The permits, the cost of which are undetermined, will be sold to faculty and students at the same cost; however, students would be able to purchase permits based on a nine-month school rate, Wiatt said. This would mean students not attending summer school wouldn't have to purchase a year-round permit.

Unlike the regular student parking lots, the garage will not be oversold, Wiatt said. The parking garage will have a limited number of permits available for purchase, he said.

There are more permits sold for student parking lots than the number

"In actuality, when you buy a permit for student parking you are buying a hunting license that allows you to hunt for a space. We will not do that with the parking garage."

— Bob Wiatt
A&M director of security and traffic

of spaces available each year because A&M must sell permits to any student who wants one, Wiatt said.

"In actuality, when you buy a permit for student parking you are buying a hunting license that allows you to hunt for a space," Wiatt said. "We will not do that with the parking garage."

A survey is underway to determine how many faculty spaces are needed, he said. After the survey is

completed, the number of student permits to be sold will be determined, he said.

Out of the approximate 2,000 available spaces, only 1,500 permits will be sold, Wiatt said. The students who buy permits for the garage will only be buying the right to park in the garage if space is available, Wiatt said. If the garage is full, those students with garage permits will probably be allowed to park in certain random lots around campus, he said.

Spaces will be available to those who wish to pay cash each time they park in the garage, Wiatt said. While the cost per day has not yet been set, Wiatt said it probably would be either \$1 or \$2 per day.

Those using the cash parking system could park in the garage for 30 minutes or the whole day; however, those who paid cash and then left the garage would have to pay again to re-enter that day.

Before the garage is finished, the State Department of Highways hopes to have University Drive from

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Drag out the coats

Photo by David Eller

Cold weather hit the Texas A&M campus Tuesday, forcing students like Ken Buchanan, Bart

Lowry, Denise Walker, Lisa Spies and Liz Paulus to drag out their coats again.

Probe not always 'properly directed,' Sessions claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI Director William Sessions said Tuesday that the bureau's investigation of a group opposing the Reagan administration's Central America policy was "not properly directed" in all instances.

Sessions, in his first in-depth discussion of the probe, denied that the FBI had expanded its investigation into the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, or CISPES, to include other organizations.

He said that since members of CISPES were in contact with people from other organizations, a "limited investigation was conducted to follow up information that was not complete. The focus

remained on CISPES, not the other organizations, and was to round out or develop information on the scope of activities and influence of CISPES."

But the New York-based Center for Constitutional Rights, which last week released some of the FBI documents it obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, contended that the investigation "covered hundreds of groups and individuals who were engaged in activities protected and encouraged by the U.S. Constitution."

The center also released other FBI documents that it said show the probe was broader than Sessions has acknowledged.

New program begins to bring more research money to Texas

By Todd Riemenschneider
Staff Writer

A new program designed to bring more federal research money into the state will begin today at the Balcones Research Center in Austin.

The Texas Research Seminars are being fully sponsored by the Texas Office of State and Federal Relations, which is located in Washington, D.C.

The event is being hosted by the University of Texas and Texas A&M University Systems. This is the first year for the seminars to be sponsored.

Activities at A&M will begin at 8 a.m. Thursday with a working breakfast at the Clayton Williams Alumni Center.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m., tours will be conducted at Texas A&M's Cyclotron Institute. Others will be held at the Wisenbaker Engineering Research Center and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station's Bru-

cellosis Research Program.

There will be a noon luncheon in room 225 of the Memorial Student Center that will serve as a conclusion to the seminar.

Jane Smith, information representative for the engineering program, said she hopes the seminar will allow researchers to come in contact with people who can help them in their work.

"A researcher who may not be familiar with the various agencies that have research money available will get to know more about the agencies and what programs they will be working on," Smith said.

"This will allow researchers to make some personal contacts with the people who are directly involved with the grants," she said.

Smith is hopeful about the impact the seminar will have on the economy in Texas.

"We hope this will increase the amount of federal research money,

and that money goes into our economy," Smith said.

Robert Goodwin, assistant deputy chancellor for external affairs, also hopes the seminar will bring researchers and federal funds together.

"One of the purposes of the seminar is to provide exposure to some of the administrators at the Washington level who are involved in the evaluation and administration of federal grants," Goodwin said.

"We hope by them seeing firsthand the facilities we have in the state and by having personal dialogue with any of the bright researchers, we will have an opportunity to attract some research money that might otherwise go to other institutions," he said.

Goodwin said there is a great amount of competition for the federal dollars.

"We are in direct competition with other key research centers," he said.

"The more that the agencies in Washington can appreciate what we have to work with in Texas, the more likely we are to bring in some of those research dollars which in turn will spawn more research funding in Texas," Goodwin said.

"By seeing some of our people face to face and our facilities first hand, it will allow us to attract a higher percentage of those research dollars," he said.

Problems with prisons escalating

AUSTIN (AP) — Prison crowding problems are continuing, authorities say, with Travis County billing the state more than \$300,000 for housing prisoners and the Board of Pardons and Paroles running out of short-term, non-violent offenders to release.

Travis County Sheriff Doyne Bailey has sent the state prison director a \$384,750 bill for prisoners housed in the county jail because there wasn't room for them in the prison system.

Travis County joined several other counties that are trying to get the state to pay the bills for convicted inmates who spend months in county jails because they can't be transferred to the Texas Department of Corrections.

Inmates sentenced to the Texas prison system are backed up in jails across the state because of a quota system that limits the number of prisoners that can be sent by each county to the prison, officials say.

More than 5,000 inmates are awaiting transfers to prison, officials say.

In a letter to TDC Director James Lynaugh, Bailey said 225 inmates who could have been sent to state prisons spent a total of 8,550 days in the local jails from Sept. 4 through Jan. 8. The county figured the costs at \$45 per inmate per day.

The panel also is considering other measures, including possible release of more convicts directly from county jails, an increase in electronic monitoring of risky parolees, an increase in the number of facilities for inmates who are within six months of release and an expansion of the number of halfway houses for parolees, officials say.

State officials devised a plan that limits admissions to Texas prisons to 150 inmates per day and requires the parole board to release the same number daily.

This allows the prisons to stay within court-ordered population guidelines and avoid repeated closings of the prison system to new admissions.

SEC: Computerized selling fueled crash

WASHINGTON (AP) — Computer-driven selling by large pension and mutual funds fueled the October stock market crash, panic ignited and nervousness continues to pervade the market, the Securities and Exchange Commission said Tuesday.

The SEC staff, in a report the size of the Manhattan telephone book, said that computer trading strategies involving the futures markets were not the sole cause of the stock market's plummet.

Investor fears about the economy probably triggered declines immediately before Oct. 19, but computer trading by large institutions was "the largest single direct factor responsible for the initial opening declines"

on the day of the crash, the report said.

The study was released as the Senate Banking Committee opened four days of hearings into the market nosedive.

The leadoff witness was New York investment banker Nicholas Brady, a former Republican senator from New Jersey who headed a presidential task force on the market crash.

The SEC said that during critical trading periods on Oct. 19, when the Dow Jones industrial average plunged a record 508 points, program trading accounted for between 30 percent and 68 percent of New York Stock Exchange volume in major stocks.

The computerized selling that day was followed by panic selling over a broad range of stocks, the report said.

It said the very existence of computer strategies such as portfolio insurance, designed to protect large pension and mutual funds from price falls, created an "overhang effect," fueling "negative market psychology."

Trading of stock index futures allows an investor to speculate on the direction of the stock market as a whole.

It is faster and less expensive than trading the actual stocks.

The report said "the aftershocks of Oct. 19 continue to affect the markets today."

The continued high pace of futures trading and the resulting wild price swings on the stock market "can have long-term, profound impacts on the participation of individual investors in the stock market," the study said.

That, in turn, hurts the ability of corporations to raise money by selling stock and in the long run hurts the economy, it said.

Despite those findings, the SEC staff said, futures markets are a valuable hedging mechanism and changes should be "effected with great care."

It did not support limits on daily price swings in either the stock or futures markets but said consideration should be given to increasing margin

requirements in the futures market.

The SEC study did not address one of the key recommendations of Brady's task force: that one regulator, preferably the Federal Reserve Board, coordinate various markets.

Brady told the Senate committee that the stock, futures and options exchanges and federal regulatory agencies should be given a chance to enact suggested reforms on their own.

But, he added, "I'm a little doubtful that will take place."

He said Congress should give the financial industry perhaps six months to make some changes under the threat of "having it done for them."

Siege at school ends after hostages released

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — A gunman was taken into custody and 26 children and a teacher who were held hostage in a day-long siege at a private school were released Tuesday night, police told the children's parents.

"It's over," Assistant Chief of Police Billy Wilkins said. He said the kids were "all right."

The man who said he wanted to help the homeless held more than 30 children and two teachers hostage at a private school Tuesday but released others as a news reporter heard his plea and Gov. Guy Hunt sent a taped message.

"There are people on the street who don't have a place to sleep or anything to eat," the slightly built, gray-bearded gunman said as he held a rifle in a hallway of West

End Christian School. "I'm doing this for them. This is a political act, not a criminal act."

The gunman, who did not give his name, made his comments to Associated Press reporter Hoyt Harwell several hours after invading the school's elementary division building and taking about 80 children hostage along with four teachers and an assistant.

The gunman sent a request for the AP staffer to enter the school building and hear his case to help "get my message out." Nine children were released by the gunman after Harwell entered the building and heard the man's statements.

Earlier, the gunman had freed about 40 of the initial hostages, with the freed children walking

across a street in intermittent heavy rain to safety. Those taking part in discussions with the gunman included a television reporter as the gunman sought television coverage of his actions.

The remaining hostages included teachers Judy Dunn, who is pregnant, and Mary Alice Blanton. The teachers and children could not be seen by Harwell, who was in a hallway while the gunman, with the rifle pointing above Harwell's head, stood in a doorway of one of the classrooms holding hostages. The children were quiet as the gunman spoke.

The governor sent the gunman a taped message, but its contents were not disclosed, Hunt spokesman Terry Abbott said.

"It's a real critical situation,

and the less we say, the better," Abbott said.

The gunman said, "All I want is proof the governor will do something. They're wasting my time. The kids want out and I want out."

The gunman, who appeared to be in his 40s, said at another point that he wanted "immunity and a pardon."

Police said two men wearing ski masks and carrying at least one rifle invaded West End Christian School about 8:40 a.m., shortly after classes began. Police Lt. David Hartin said about four hours after the school siege started, one of the two men surrendered to police, who did not release the names of the two.

The gunman told Harwell,