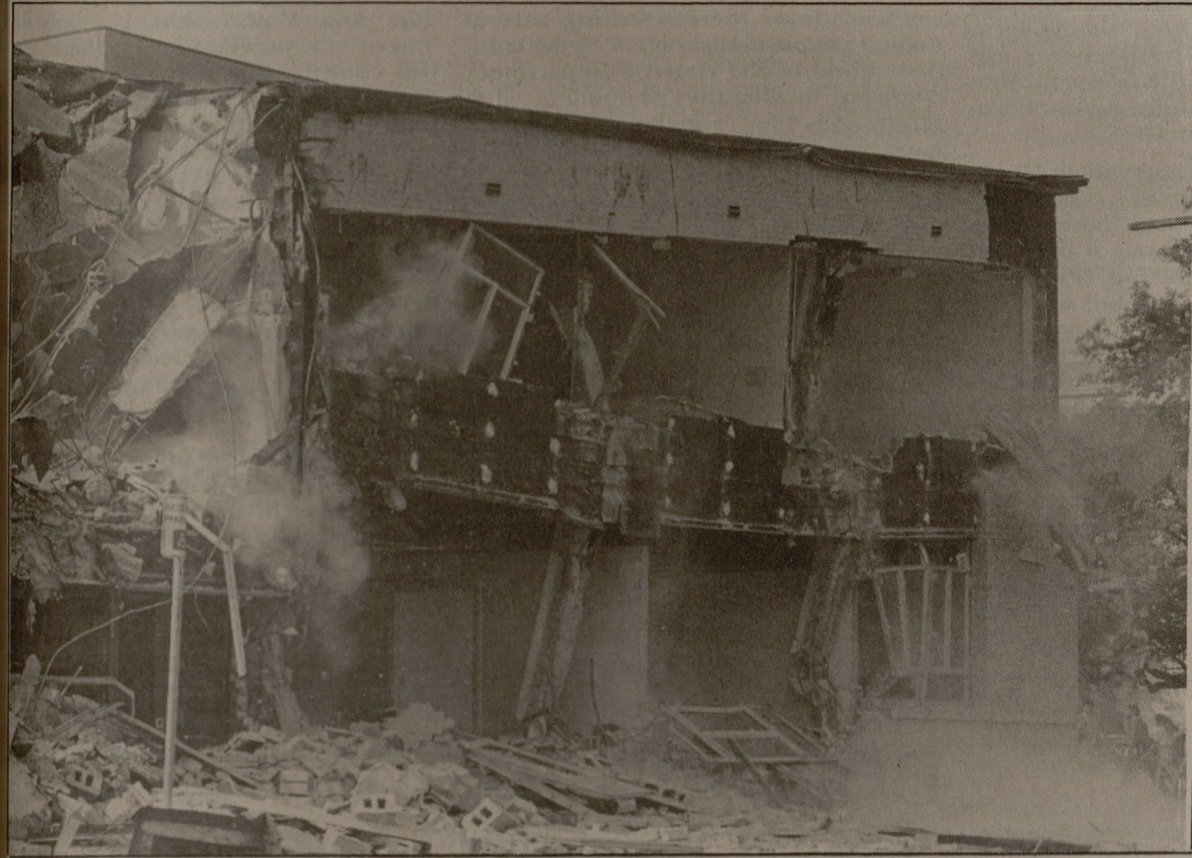


Reserch center gets torn down



Photos by Derrick Grubbs and Brad Apostolo

Students watch as the Highway Research Center gets torn down Wednesday. The building, located on Ross Street, will be replaced by the Joe C. Richardson Petroleum Engineering Building, a 10-story building, named after a former member of Texas A&M's Board of Regents. The new building should be built by June of 1990.

By Mercedes Salinas
Reporter

The Highway Research Center was demolished Wednesday to make way for the construction of the Joe C. Richardson Petroleum Engineering Building.

The 10-story building, named after a former member of Texas A&M's Board of Regents, is expected to be completed in June 1990, said Charles Caffee, assistant manager of the A&M Facilities Planning Division.

The first floor will be for general campus use and will have one 150-seat classroom and two 100-seat classrooms. The second through the eighth floors will be for Petroleum Engineering offices, laboratories and research facilities. The ninth and 10th floors will be used by the Chemical Engineering department because many of its projects are conducted simultaneously with the Petroleum Engineering department.

The old Highway Research Center is located on a valuable section of property and the demand for space requires better use of the ground than a two-story building, Caffee said.

With the rising enrollment of the Petroleum Engineering department, the current facilities are not able to serve the students properly, said Dr. Douglas Von Golen, professor and head of the department.

"We have about 350 students in Petroleum Engineering of which about 100 are graduate students conducting research," he said. "We need the space badly because we keep growing. This new building is going to make a big difference in our operation."

The pink granite from the exterior of the Highway Research Center has been retained and will be used inside the lobby of the new building to "carry some of the old building into the new," Caffee said.

Court upholds law allowing investigations

(AP) — The Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the power of independent counsels to prosecute illegal acts by high-ranking government officials, a momentous constitutional decision and a defeat for a handful of former White House aides such as Oliver L. North and Michael K. Deaver.

By a 7-1 vote, the justices said a 1978 law inspired by the Watergate scandal does not violate the Constitution's command that the powers of the executive, legislative and judicial branches be separate and balanced.

The ruling clears away a potential stumbling block in the prosecution of North, the former National Security Council aide; John M. Poindexter, President Reagan's former national security adviser; and two arms dealers indicted in the Iran-Contra arms and money affair.

It also dispels important doubts about the convictions of Deaver, who formerly was Reagan's deputy chief of staff, and another onetime Reagan aide, Lyn C. Nofziger.

It also permits a special prosecutor to wrap up a lengthy inquiry into the financial activities of Attorney General Edwin Meese III. No criminal charges are expected in that case.

The court announced the ruling moments before ending its 1987-88 term. In an extraordinarily busy day, the justices issued nine decisions totaling 433 pages.

In the special prosecutor case, the court overturned a 2-1 federal appeals court ruling last Jan. 22 that declared the law unconstitutional.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, writing for the court Wednesday, said the law does not transfer presidential powers improperly to Congress and the courts.

"This case does not involve an attempt by Congress to increase its own powers at the expense of the executive branch," he said. "Similarly, we do not think that the act works any judicial usurpation of properly executive functions. Finally, we do not think that the act impermissibly undermines the powers of the executive branch or disrupts the proper balance between the coordinate branches."

Rehnquist said the special prosecutor law is distinct from the so-called Gramm-Rudman budget-balancing law the court struck down in 1986 as a violation of separation of powers. That law was invalidated for empowering a quasi-legislative officer, the comptroller general, to establish budget cuts.

The chief justice, in a 38-page opinion, said since special prosecutors may be removed by the attorney general for "good cause," the executive branch maintains important control over the independent counsels.

Justice Antonin Scalia, the lone dissenter in his own 38-page opinion, said the checks and balances of the Constitution are what make it a unique and enduring document and guarantee the freedom of the American people. "In dictatorships of the modern world, bills of rights are a dime a dozen," he said.

The law opens the way to prosecutorial abuses by those, unlike the president, who are not accountable to the voters, Scalia said.

"I fear the court has permanently encumbered the Republic with an institution that will do it great harm," Scalia said.

"The independent counsel statute provides a workable solution to a difficult problem," the Iran-Contra prosecutor, Lawrence E. Walsh, said in a statement.

Reagan calls Dukakis liberal bent on taxing

Michael Dukakis screened vice presidential running mates on Wednesday while President Reagan tore into the likely Democratic presidential nominee as a "true liberal" bent on more taxing and spending.

Vice President George Bush, certain to be the Republican presidential nominee this fall, said the next administration must be prepared to "seize the opportunity of change" in the Soviet Union. He said the Reagan administration's military buildup had helped nudge the Soviet Union toward openness but he added, "The cold war is not over."

Bush made his way from California to Wisconsin as a new poll, taken last weekend, showed him trailing Dukakis by a margin of 46 percent to 41 percent — less than half the gap reported in other nationwide polls.

In another development, New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean announced that he will deliver the keynote address at the GOP National Convention in New Orleans in August. Kean, who was overwhelmingly re-elected governor in 1985 with support from blacks and union members, said he would use his prime time speech to "show there is a tremendous difference between the two parties."

The Republican developments came as Dukakis was spending the better part of his day in the Capitol in Washington.

Sen. Sam Nunn, favored by many in Congress for his Southern base and his conservative political beliefs, said he was never offered the vice presidency during a hour-long private talk with Dukakis.

Funeral service to be today for Cardenas

By Loyd Brumfield
Senior Staff Writer

Funeral services will be held today for Audrey Lynn Cardenas, 24, at 1 p.m. at Texas A&M's All Faiths Chapel.

Cardenas, a May journalism graduate from A&M, was found dead early Sunday morning in Belleville, Ill. after being missing from her job as a newspaper intern for about a week.

Belleville Police Chief Robert Hurst said there was still not an official cause of death filed by the county medical examiner, but murder is still suspected.

"The status of the case hasn't changed since Monday," Hurst said.

Burial will be in the College Station City Cemetery, and there will be no visitation at the funeral home.

Cardenas had been working 10 days as a newspaper intern at the Belleville News-Democrat before she disappeared Sunday, June 19.

Cardenas was born in Bryan in 1964 and lived there eight years before moving to Houston with her family.

Survivors include her mother, Billie Fowler of Houston; a



brother, Craig Cardenas of College Station; a sister, Yvette Cardenas of Bryan; her paternal grandmother, Jo Dunn of Bryan; her paternal grandfather, Willie Ihlenfeldt of Caldwell; an uncle, Paul Ihlenfeldt of Caldwell; and an aunt, Patsy Perry of Bryan.

The A&M department of journalism has established a scholarship fund in her name, and another scholarship fund has been established in Missouri City.

Memorials may be made to the Audrey Cardenas/Texas A&M Scholarship fund, Box 925, Missouri City, Texas, 77459.

Communists divided over openness

MOSCOW (AP) — Delegates to a national Communist Party conference split openly Wednesday over the pace of economic change and the media's new independence under Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

They also ordered an investigation into a report that some of the delegates in attendance have taken bribes.

Gorbachev broke in at one point to denounce attempts by any "one group of people" to monopolize the nation's press, as other delegates lashed out at publications including Ogonyok magazine, which has been one of the most daring advocates of the Kremlin's campaign for "glasnost," or openness.

The 5,000 delegates to the party's first national conference in 47 years watched a rare spectacle in this long-closed society: speakers at an official gathering daring to disagree.

Although closed to all but the official media, Soviet television viewers and newspaper readers got a taste of the proceedings from various published and broadcast reports on the second day of the open-ended forum.

Gorbachev opened the conference in the Kremlin on Tuesday proposing to revamp the Soviet political system by indirect election of a more powerful president, convening of a full-time legislature, and shifting authority from local Communist Party bureaucracies to local government councils. He also pressed for a quick return to family farming to spur food production and end chronic shortages.

Delegates themselves and published or broadcast reports Wednesday indicated the confer-

ence's second day was marked by contradictory assessments of the fruits of Gorbachev's drive for "perestroika" or social and economic restructuring.

"I can't really make a resume yet about what's for real and what's not," said Daniel Granin, a Soviet author and conference delegate from Leningrad. "So far, it's a real muddle... it's a complete mess."

The press became a target, with critics suggesting there has been too much openness.

Gorbachev, who was sitting on the dais in the Kremlin hall, interrupted Mikhail Ulyanov to add his thoughts to those of the head of the Russian federation's theater workers union, who observed the Soviet media are no longer servile, but a force to be reckoned with.

In the past, Gorbachev said, "there was a monopoly on the mass media by one group of people, and we know what this has brought about. Now we see another group, acting very gradually, wants to use the press as a national forum. We want the pluralism of views... therefore, it is necessary to create conditions for the expression of various viewpoints."

His comments drew stormy applause in the giant hall, and Yuri A. Sklyarov of the party's Central Committee Propaganda Department said other delegates had criticized Ogonyok and its editor, conference delegate Vitaly Korotich, as well as other contemporary Soviet journals exploring the frontiers of glasnost.

F.V. Popov, party chief in the Siberian Altai region, called his fellow delegates' attention to the latest issue of Ogonyok, which accused some

Uzbek delegates of involvement in corruption.

In an article detailing an investigation of widespread corruption in the Asian republic, Ogonyok said several "bribe takers" had been elected to represent Uzbekistan at the conference.

"There's nothing about it in the report of the credentials committee, but it's in Korotich's Ogonyok," Popov said of the corruption reports. The credentials committee certified all the delegates elected to the conference.

Popov's remarks were televised during the evening news program "Vremya."

Popov demanded an investigation into the accusation, and Korotich said Gorbachev directed that an inquiry begin Thursday. Uzbek party boss Rafik N. Nishanov, who spoke at a news conference, said a decision from the credentials commission was expected by Thursday.

Vladimir Karpov, head of the Writers Union, complained that some writers are depicting Soviet history "totally in black," an apparent reference to recent publication of a barrage of exposes criticizing the late dictator Josef Stalin and other former Soviet leaders.

Karpov's deputy, Yuri Bondarev, charged that nihilistic criticism was becoming a commanding force in the press.

"The immorality of the press cannot teach morality," he said.

Delegate Grigory Baklanov, chief editor of the literary magazine Znamya, told a late evening news conference he regarded the comments by the two Writers Union leaders a disgrace.

Food services add options to meal plan

By Victoria Larroca
Reporter

Surveys have shown that students want more flexibility when they dine on campus and the Food Services Department is changing to meet these demands, Jim Moore, assistant director of the department, said.

This fall, Texas A&M students will have eight meal plan options to choose from instead of the three they have had in the past.

"We are just giving the students what they want — more convenience and flexibility in choosing the meal plan that's right for them," Moore said.

In addition to the current five-day plan, seven-day plan and Aggie Express (point plan), a five-day Plus, seven-day Plus, Flex-12, Lucky-7 and Gold Card plan will be implemented this fall.

The Plus plans offer the regular 15 or 20 meals per week plus a speci-

fied amount of Aggie Bucks.

Like the old point plan system, Aggie Bucks are a declining balance account that allows the student to dine in any of the facilities on campus — not just the main cafeterias.

The Flex-12 plan offers any 12 of the 20 meals per week plus Aggie Bucks, and the Lucky-7 offers any seven of 20 meals, also with Aggie Bucks.

"The Lucky-7 plan is designed with the off-campus student in mind," Moore said. "We want them to have a chance to eat at least one well-balanced meal a day if they so choose."

The Aggie Gold Card will allow students up to four on-campus meals a day, 28 meals a week, anytime, anyplace, as long as the meal does not exceed \$6.50 at a cash facility.

Meal prices will increase 10 cents in the fall, making the average meal price \$3.08, and there will be no

Meal Plan Purchase		
Meal Plan	4 Payment Plan	Fee
5-Day	\$ 818.92	\$ 727.70
7-Day	195.11	780.45
5-Day Plus	215.53	862.15
7-Day Plus	221.98	887.95
Flex-12	208.82	835.28
Lucky-7	160.98	376.27
Aggie Express	94.06	643.93
Gold Card	285.95	1,143.80

Graphic by Taani Baier

carry-over from semester to semester.

The plans were not offered as meal plan options when students pre-registered in the spring but students may change plans in the fall if they wish.

The five new options are being offered to incoming freshman attending freshman conferences. The

plans also will be offered on a full payment or a four-payment installment plan.

A Food Services Convenience Store will open in the fall in the basement of Sbsa and will have food as well as sundry items such as school supplies, groceries and T-shirts, all of which can be paid for with Aggie Bucks.