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Road to nowhere

Road construction on University makes driving near campus tricky for returning Aggies and other residents of College Station. The con-

struction started during the summer and is scheduled to continue into the fall.

Photo by Frederick D. Joe

Bush Jr. helps with fundraising for Sheriff Miller

By Alan Sembera
Staff Writer

Vice President George Bush's son was in Bryan Monday to help raise money for Brazos County Sheriff Ronnie Miller and to boost his father's image as a "law and order" candidate.

George W. Bush toured the Brazos County Jail Monday morning with Sheriff Miller, U.S. Representative Joe Barton and several other local Republican Party leaders and then went to a \$25-a-plate barbecue banquet to meet about 400 supporters and beef up party morale.

During the tour of the jail, attention was focused on the vice president's promise of tough law enforcement against criminals, especially drug traffickers.

Bush accused Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis of being soft on crime, and attacked the prisoner furlough program in Massachusetts, where Dukakis is governor. Bush said that under this program, prisoners serving life without parole are allowed to go home on unsupervised leaves.

"(George Bush) thinks that the victim ought to be looked after as opposed to the criminal," Bush said, "and it's just one of the many philosophical differences that Texans are going to have to understand."

"We have to make sure that in the White House, we have someone who is tough on criminals, not soft on them. George Bush is tough on criminals. Michael Dukakis is soft."

Bush said education was an important part of the war on drugs, but concentrated more on the enforcement of drug laws.

He said that in Texas, because of the prison overcrowding, more prisons would have to be built in order to house the extra criminals. He said one of the solutions his father offered would be to convert unused military bases into prisons.

Representative Barton added that another important part of the war on drugs is the more than 10,000 anti-drug clubs in the United States. He gave Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign much of the credit for this.

Afterwards at the banquet, Bush praised Sheriff Miller and tried to rouse the crowd into helping the Republicans' 1988 campaign by focusing on the importance of "grassroots" political support.

He also used the opportunity to attack Dukakis' stand for gun control, striking a chord with the audience by saying Dukakis wanted to take guns away from hunters.

He ended by concentrating on his father's record as vice president, saying that during those eight years one of the greatest achievements was the elimination of medium range nuclear missiles.

He again tried to boost his father's image as being tough by stressing that peace comes through military strength, saying his father was for a strong military.

He was given a standing ovation at the end of his speech.

Afterwards he left to fly to Temple and Hillsboro.

Bush is an oilman from Midland, but has lived in Washington D.C. for the past year to help his father's campaign.

Bush, Dukakis renew hostility

George Bush said Monday that Michael Dukakis gives the impression of being "against every new weapons system since the slingshot."

A newly aggressive Massachusetts governor fired back that his Republican rival's call for a cut in the capital gains tax amounts to a handout for the wealthy.

The combatants in an increasingly heated battle for the White House exchanged barbs as their senior aides prepared to meet in Washington on Tuesday to open face-to-face negotiations over campaign debates.

Bush has said no debate is likely before Sept. 20, and he added during the day, "I'm not about to be stampeded" by Democratic demands for an earlier date.

Fresh public opinion polls provided a snapshot of what both parties say will be an unusually close race this fall.

Among them was a survey indicating that Dukakis' once-substantial margin has been washed away completely in California, the biggest state with 47 electoral votes.

Bush held a nine percentage point lead in a separate survey in Missouri, a key swing state, and Dukakis owned an 11-point bulge in Wisconsin. Both states have 11 electoral votes.

Bush, who has consistently challenged Dukakis on defense issues, continued the barrage at a campaign stop in St. Louis.

He belittled his Democratic opponent for saying the United States needs anti-tank weapons rather than the MX mobile missile, adding that both systems are needed for national security.

"Sometimes he gives me the impression he's against every new weapons system since the slingshot," the vice president said on a day that included a tour of a defense plant in Missouri and a visit to a ROTC program in Tennessee.

Bush also said his running mate, Indiana Sen. Dan Quayle, has absorbed a "tremendous pounding" over his National Guard service and



other issues, and has "emerged to where he will be an asset" to the GOP ticket.

Quayle and his Democratic counterpart, Texas Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, took a day off from campaign traveling.

Dukakis embarked on a two-day tour of western Massachusetts and he seemed eager to close the books on the last few weeks — the period since the Democratic National Convention during which his once-solid lead in national public opinion polls turned into a deficit.

"The dog days of August are almost over," he said as he returned Bush's fire on the subjects of crime and drugs and said there is no need to debate the patriotism of the two candidates.

At a news conference that was scheduled, canceled and then rescheduled, Dukakis said he wanted to ask his opponent about the 16,000 furloughs granted to federal prisoners last year, "some lasting 45 days and many to convicted drug pushers Mr. Bush says he wants to execute."

Bush has criticized Dukakis for a Massachusetts furlough program in which a prisoner on a weekend pass raped a woman.

The vice president also favors the death penalty for drug kingpins.

Dukakis has been the subject of unusual criticism from his own party in recent weeks for running an insufficiently aggressive campaign and permitting Bush to seize the offensive.

The governor conceded his campaign message of recent weeks may have been lost in the "somewhat extraordinary" coverage of the Republican National Convention, the furor over Quayle and unsubstantiated rumors about himself and his wife Kitty.

His news conference was briefly dropped from his schedule when senior aides said they wanted to force television coverage of "Dukakis' speech."

In his remarks, Dukakis seemed to reply to Bush's attacks over his veto of state legislation requiring teachers to lead their students in the Pledge of Allegiance, a law the state Supreme Court said in an advisory opinion was unconstitutional.

World-renowned Army burn unit treats air show disaster victims

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — Army burn specialists have been sent to West Germany to help treat victims of an air show disaster and some victims may be returned to the world-renowned burn unit at Brooke Army Medical Center, officials said Monday.

BAMC spokesman Robert Clark said the team was flown to Frankfurt, West Germany, earlier Monday and then would go to Ramstein Air Force Base to help medical experts there.

Three Italian jets crashed during an air show at the base Sunday, killing at least 45 people and injuring up to 500 others, including some Americans, officials said. More than 300,000 people were watching the air show when the jets collided. The BAMC team included two

physicians, a nurse, a respiratory specialist and a clinical specialist, Clark said.

"This specialist team is something that they have been doing for a while," Clark said.

In the past, numerous burn victims injured during military crashes or clashes, have been flown to the burn center for treatment.

Among the most recent victims treated at BAMC were sailors from the USS Roberts, which struck a mine in the Persian Gulf earlier this year. Sailors from the USS Stark, hit by an Iraqi missile in May 1987, also were treated at the burn unit.

The 40-bed unit, staffed by 240 physicians, nurses and support personnel, is operated by the Army's Institute of Surgical Research and has designated space for civilian and military burn victims.

Clark said once the burn specialist team arrives in West Germany it will decide whether to transport some of the victims to the burn unit at the hospital at Fort Sam Houston.

Clark said the burn unit is one of the top in the world because it has developed treatments, including topical creams, to help burn victims heal more quickly and less painfully.

"This is the only burn center in the federal government . . . it's one of the earliest burn centers and it has developed several treatments now in use at other burn centers," Clark said.

The burn center was established in 1943 in New York and moved to BAMC in 1946.

In 1949, the unit was given permission to study burn trauma and steadily has developed new techniques, Clark said.

New department attempts to ease parking problem

By Alan Sembera
Staff Writer

When 15,000 off-campus students with parking permits have only 3,000 parking places on campus to choose from, competition for spaces becomes tough.

In an attempt to alleviate the problems caused by the lopsided student-parking space ratio, Texas A&M officials created the Parking and Transit Department this summer.

The new department, which is responsible for parking administration, traffic planning and bus operations, is overseeing several ongoing projects designed to ease the parking crush.

The opening of two temporary lots on campus with about 550 parking spaces will have an immediate impact on the parking situation, department director Douglas G. Williams said.

The lots were built to offset the loss of 400 dormitory-parking spaces because of construction south of the Commons, he said.

The larger of the temporary lots, with

about 300 spaces, is behind the University Police Department at the former site of the Southside Apartments. The other lot is south of the University Press building, next to the bonfire field.

The new lot will not interfere with the bonfire site, Williams said.

In another attempt to ease the parking shortage, two off-campus "satellite" lots have been established. These lots give students, faculty and staff the option of parking their cars at one of two College Station shopping centers and catching the shuttle bus to campus.

The northern part of the K-Mart parking lot next to Valley View Drive is part of the FM 2818 bus route. The buses stop at the South Stop on campus, near Joe Routt Boulevard and Throckmorton Street.

The Post Oak Mall lot, west of the J.C. Penney Co. store, is served by the Dartmouth bus route. The buses on the Dartmouth route stop at the East Stop, near the intersection of Lubbock and Bizzell streets.

Plans also are underway to open a satellite lot on 29th Street in Bryan, Williams said.

Parking permits are not required for parking in the satellite lots, but a \$46 bus pass must be purchased each semester to ride the shuttles.

The shuttle buses run about every 15 minutes from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and every 30 minutes from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Despite the addition of the satellite lots, no plans have been made to expand the bus fleet, Williams said.

One of the major responsibilities of the department will be the new parking garages on campus.

Robert Smith, interim vice president for fiscal affairs, said the 2,000-car parking garage under construction on the northside of campus is scheduled to open in January.

Less than 1,000 of the reserved spaces in the garage have been sold, Smith said, but he said he expects the garage to sell out before it opens.

He said students, faculty and staff find the garage-parking option attractive because it has reserved spaces.

"Once you pay for it (parking space) it's yours," Smith said. "Nobody else can get to it because of controlled access."

"You have to have a card to get up to the contract parking area, so only people with a contract parking spot can get to that area. If they have a spot, they have no reason to park in your space."

Permits for the garage cost \$150 per semester.

About 200 spaces on the ground floor of the Northside Parking Garage will be available for day-rate parking, Smith said. The rates will run by the hour and day, he said.

The day-rate parking can be used by anyone, he said.

Another 2,000-car parking garage will be built on the Rudder parking lot.

The garage has been approved by the Board of Regents, Smith said, and is scheduled to be finished in the summer of 1991.

This garage will have reserved spaces and be available to students, faculty and staff, he said.

The Regents also are considering building a third 2,000-car garage south of the new modular dorms being built next to the Commons, he said.

The garage, which will probably be approved, will be reserved almost exclusively

for students, he added.

Smith said the new department will help the University plan further ahead to ease parking problems, but he said the problem will never be fully solved.

"I don't know that we can ever provide a parking space for everybody that wants one, but I'm not sure we're obligated to do that," he said. "I think our first obligation is to provide for the faculty, staff and dormitory students — people who have to park on campus."

"There will be a limited number of day-student parking spaces, but what we're trying to encourage them to do is to ride the shuttle bus."

Other things the new department has done include eliminating special parking stickers for underclassmen, letting students pay for parking stickers on the installment plan, letting students pay tickets with Visa or MasterCard and experimenting with "hang tags" as a possible replacement for parking stickers.

Smith said the tags, issued to individuals rather than vehicles, can be hung from a rear-view mirror.