

Friday, January 27, 1989

University Center expansion starts Parking garage, MSC addition highlight \$30 million renovation

By Fiona Soltes
STAFF WRITER

Plans for expansion and renovation of the University Center Complex are underway.

Steven Hodge, manager of the University Center, said the project is in the detailed design phase, with construction to begin this fall.

"It will be a fairly complicated project," Hodge said. "There are

four areas of expansion. The first will be an addition on the MSC to the east, toward Rudder Fountain.

"The theater will be expanded to the north toward the Military Walk, and there will be a second-level connection between the MSC and Rudder Tower. Also, there will be a building and parking garage where Parking Lot 60 is."

Parking Lot 60 is across from Rudder Tower.

Hodge said the project will take

two or three years to complete and will cost about \$30 million.

"It's hard to give the exact cost, since the size of the new parking garage has not been decided," he said. "That will probably have a large impact on the final cost of this entire project."

Hodge said the funds for the project are coming from various sources, including donations, building use fees for the classrooms, University Center usage fees for the

lounges, and parking bond proceeds for the garage.

The MSC Bookstore and Food Services will fund their own expansions, he said.

Hodge said the project will cause some areas of the University Center Complex to be closed off, but he said he will not know which areas or for how long they will be closed until the project plans progress.

"Our intention is to keep the center functioning," he said.

Candidates already on trail for '90 races

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas politicians in both parties are openly discussing "possible" races for governor. Several candidates have raised million-dollar piles of money. Maneuvering is hot and heavy in the Legislature among potential candidates for lieutenant governor, attorney general and state comptroller.

"I don't know that we're getting a much earlier start than in the past," observed Karl Rove, an Austin-based Republican political consultant. "I just think the radar antennae are up a little sooner."

Among early blips on those radar screens: Attorney General Jim Mattox, a likely Democratic gubernatorial candidate, has raised \$3.25 million for the race.

State Treasurer Ann Richards, a Democrat, has reported a \$2.1 million war chest for the same race.

Secretary of State Jack Rains says he's "95 percent" certain he'll seek the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

George W. Bush, the new president's eldest son, admits he is "interested" in doing likewise.

Comptroller Bob Bullock, a Democrat, has raised \$1.9 million for his long-announced bid

for lieutenant governor.

Early campaigning is becoming a way of political life in Texas, says George Christian, consultant and former press secretary to President Lyndon Johnson.

Unless the Legislature changes the law, the 1990 primary will be held in early March. That would make January 1990 the candidate filing deadline and allow no-excuse absentee voting to begin in February, he noted.

"And we've got the law that won't let anybody raise money until after this Legislature is over," Christian said. "So from Labor Day (1989) until the filing deadline will be only four months. It will be five months until absentee voting starts."

"Everybody will hit the deck running in June trying to raise money for a campaign that will commence during the summer."

"You just have to compete. You can't sit back and expect that you can come out of the chute in the summer of 1989 and be able to mount a full-blown campaign by March of 1990."

Those 1990 races will include those for the U.S. Senate and all the top statewide offices. Fueling interest is the big turnover expected in state government, creating a veritable job fair for of-

fice-seekers.

Gov. Bill Clements says he won't seek re-election. Five-term Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby says he's not running again either, the first time that post has lacked an incumbent since Hobby's first win in 1972.

Bullock's decision to run for lieutenant governor leaves an incumbents race for comptroller for the first time in more than a decade. Mattox's all-but-announced bid for governor opens up attorney general, while Richards' apparent gubernatorial bid would leave the treasurer's job vacant, too.

So far only Democratic Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower, once expected to run for the U.S. Senate, has announced for re-election.

"It's important for a candidate to start this soon to figure out if they should get into a race or not," Rove said.

"On the Republican side, for example, there are about 4,500 people who've been county chairmen in a race for governor, U.S. senator or president in just the last few years," he said. "So you've got to get in touch with a lot of people."

Cost estimates for U.S. Senate range from \$10 million to \$20 million, with a successful gubernatorial bid expected to cost from \$10 million to \$12 million.

Alleged rape victim resumes testifying, breaks down again

SAN DIEGO, Texas (AP) — The alleged victim of a kidnapping and gang rape returned after medical treatment Thursday, and before breaking down again pointed at the second man to be tried in the case and shouted, "He did it."

Her outburst came about an hour after she took the witness stand during defense cross-examination of her prosecution testimony that was interrupted when she reportedly fainted Tuesday.

"I've answered all of your questions," the 20-year-old said woman Thursday, bursting into tears. "I've told you all I know. He did it," she said, pointing at Felipe Chew while defense attorney Eugenio Soliz questioned her. Chew, 29, was on trial on an aggravated kidnapping charge. He also faces a separate sexual assault trial later in the case.

After she shouted and pointed at Chew, two women from Crisis Services of Corpus Christi led her out of the courtroom to rest for about 20 minutes before returning to testify for another hour.

The state rested its case after bringing on her husband, who admitted hitting her with the back of his hand to stop her from acting hysterically the morning after she returned from the alleged gang rape. The two have been separated since October.

Chew is one of 10 men indicted after the woman reported being abducted and taken to a ranch north of this South Texas town

and two other locations where she said she was raped by as many as 20 men the night of March 26, 1988.

All 10 men have pleaded innocent to charges ranging from sexual assault to kidnapping and aggravated kidnapping. The woman was taken from the Duval County Courthouse in an ambulance Wednesday morning, moments before her testimony was to resume, and treated at Alice Physicians and Surgeons Hospital, where officials declined to say what she was treated for.

Defense attorney Jaime Garza questioned her after she returned from the outburst Thursday afternoon, and asked her if she voluntarily got into Chew's car the night of March 26 with Chew and three other men.

"Isn't it true that on the night of March 26, 1988, you had an unusually strong desire for sex?" Garza asked her. "Isn't it true that you have an uncontrollable desire for men?"

"No," she said before prosecutors objected and Judge Gilberto Hinojosa ordered the last question stricken from the record.

Earlier Thursday she accused Chew of forcing her to perform oral sex with him, of shining a flashlight on her while other men raped her on the hood of a car and of catching her and bringing her back when she tried to escape her attackers at the ranch.

'Military brats' enjoy exposure to different cultures

By Sherri Roberts

STAFF WRITER

For the children of military personnel — or "military brats", as they are called — the concept of having a hometown is as foreign as the cultures in which they often find themselves immersed. For them, moving isn't a choice — it's a way of life.

"It's a unique way to grow up," said Mike Morton, a senior history major.

As the son of a U.S. Army colonel, Morton and his family lived in numerous locations, including Germany, Kuwait, Boston, Washington D.C., Maryland and Alabama.

"It's hard to leave your friends and the pseudo-roots you put down, but you get used to it," he said. "You learn to expect that every two or three years your dad will have to move. And you try to make the best of it."

Morton recalled the differences of living in Kuwait, where he graduated from high school, compared to living in the United States.

Upon arrival to the Middle Eastern country, the temperature was a desert-like 120 degrees. The culture was conservative, he said, with many people of Moslem faith. Many of the country's people were curious about Americans and wanted to talk to him, he said.

"They were in awe of our freedoms," he said.

Differences existed on a smaller scale, as well. A box of stale, imported Twinkies cost \$4; a driver's license could not be received until one's 21st birthday; and school was in session on Saturday and Sunday with weekends on Thursday and Friday, Morton said.

He recalled one particular afternoon when he and his sister, hearing moans from outside the house, looked outside to see

their next-door neighbors trying to prod a camel out of their truck.

Morton said he and other American friends would often watch movies or hang out at the embassy swimming pool.

However, Morton said he had friends from all over the world in high school. Although it was an American high school, people from countries such as the Soviet Union, France and Jordan attended the school because it was considered prestigious, he said. Seven of the 79 people in his graduating class were Americans.

After becoming accustomed to a different culture, returning to the United States and seeing large groups of white people was a cultural shock, Morton said.

The experience of living abroad, he said, taught him to open his mind to the way other cultures think.

"I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world," he said.

Dan Martin, a junior business analysis major and son of a U.S. Navy commanding captain said he encountered more racism in the United States than he did overseas. The move his family made from Naples, Italy to Memphis, Tenn. was one of the most difficult adjustments he ever had to make, he said.

"It was shocking to me that people discriminated against blacks, Hispanics and other races," he said. "Overseas, as a whole, people don't discriminate as much."

In addition to Italy and Tennessee, Martin lived an average of two years each in California, the Philippines, South Carolina and Iowa. The longest he lived anywhere was in Corpus Christi for four years, he said.

"I hated it when I had to leave," he said. "I kind of jumped into a new place with both feet and made the best of it. I was good at meeting people."

In half of the places Martin's family lived, they resided in housing on a military base, he said.

In Italy, where he attended sixth through eighth, and half of ninth, grade, Martin lived in a neighborhood inhabited equally by Italians and Americans, he said.

"Many of the inhabitants had the perception that all Americans are rich," he said. "And many Americans are compared to their lifestyle."

"It was like an education in itself that you don't realize you're getting," Martin said of the experience.

After returning to the United States and graduating from a Rhode Island high school — the third he had attended — Martin made a three-day road trip to College Station to begin school at Texas A&M. Many members of his family were from Texas and had attended A&M, he said. See Brats/Page 6



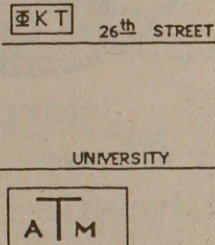
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