

Tuesday, October 3, 1989

Review of collider project only beginning of research

DALLAS (AP) — A physicist's review of the multibillion-dollar super collider Monday begins an important phase of research for the giant atom smasher that will last through the 21st century, a congressman said.

More than 800 physicists and other scientists attending the Conference on Super Collider Physics and Experiments were scheduled late Monday afternoon to tour the site near Dallas that will cover the 53-mile underground complex.

"This conference is an important first step in the research that will be conducted at the superconducting super collider for years and decades to come," Rep. Martin Frost, D-Dallas, said.

President Bush on Friday signed an appropriations bill that included \$225 million to permit work on the SSC's first construction phase within the next 12 months.

Scientists will use the circular tunnel, to be constructed about 30 miles south of Dallas in Waxahatchie, to bombard atoms and study the debris.

"Also, we in Texas are particularly interested in exploring the possibilities of international participation in construction of the SSC," said Frost, whose 24th Congressional District includes DeSoto, home of the Texas National Research Laboratory Commission and the U.S. Department of Energy's SSC Laboratory.

Dr. Roy Schwitters, SSC lab director, read a letter from Energy Secretary James A. Watkins welcoming the international conference to north Texas and thanking scientists for their support.

"The super collider is one of the administration's highest priorities in the area of science," Schwitters read. "The project holds great promise for increasing our knowledge of the fundamental constituents of matter and the origins of the universe and for furthering advancements in medical research and technology."

The funds appropriation was "a tremendous victory for the administration, for the international science community and for America," Watkins wrote.

Texas Supreme Court decides gulf between schools unconstitutional

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Supreme Court found "glaring disparities" between the state's rich and poor school districts and ruled Monday that the way they are funded is unconstitutional, one of the most far-reaching decisions in the court's 149-year history.

The 9-0 ruling could have enormous financial and social implications for the 3.3 million-student Texas school system, the nation's second-largest behind California.

The court found the public school finance system violates the 113-year-old constitutional provision for an "efficient system" of public schools and ordered legislators to find a solution by May 1, 1990.

"A remedy is long overdue," Justice Oscar Mauzy's opinion said. "The Legislature must take immediate action."

Gov. Bill Clements said he will call for a special 30-day session of the Legislature in the spring to grapple with the problem.

Although the court said it would not tell the Legislature how to correct school finance inequities, it

warned, "A Band-Aid will not suffice; the system itself must be changed."

Nearly \$10 billion in state funds will be made available for public schools in 1990-91, and almost \$12 billion is expected to come from local districts.

Because of the disparities in district property wealth, annual spending per student ranges from \$2,112 to \$19,333, the court said without placing an exact date for the figures.

The Legislature meets in special session Nov. 14 on workers' compensation, but Clements said he would withhold the school finance issue until a task force has had time to make proposals.

"I am extremely pleased that this is back in the hands of the Legislature, where it belongs," Clements said.

An Austin state district judge had held the school finance system unconstitutional in a case brought by poor school districts against the state education commissioner and others.

That ruling was overturned last December by a 2-1 vote of the Austin-based 3rd Court of Appeals.

But the Supreme Court found "the state's school financing system is neither financially efficient, nor efficient in the sense of providing for a 'general diffusion of knowledge' statewide."

The lawsuit, known as Edgewood vs. Kirby, was filed in 1984 by school districts with low property values. Public schools are funded largely through a combination of local property taxes and state aid. The federal government also contributes.

MBA/Law Symposium brings experts to MSC

By Todd Connelley
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M students interested in business or law careers will have a chance to meet with the experts this month.

The 1989 MSC MBA/Law Symposium "See You at the Top" will let students hear professionals speak on graduate school and career opportunities in business and law.

The symposium, which won the MSC Program of the Year award last year, will be on the first floor of the MSC on Oct. 11, 25 and 28.

The first date will feature a group of law school representatives from across the country. SWAPLA, Southwestern Association of Pre Law Advisors, sponsors the trip each year.

"This is the first year SWAPLA has decided to come to Texas A&M," Marc Carroll, chairman of the MSC MBA/Law Committee, said.

Carroll said that the law school representatives will distribute literature and answer questions about entering law school.

The second date will be committed to informing students about different business schools, Carroll said.

"Business school representatives from as far away as the University of Chicago will be here to talk with students," he said.

The last day of the symposium will feature speakers from various Texas law firms and corporations.

"Most of our speakers will be former students," Carroll said. "Texas Sen. Kent Caperton and Gloria Smith, president of the Black Women's Lawyer Association, are going to be here."

The first half of the day, panel presentations will give students a chance to converse with professionals on such topics as career opportunities with an MBA or a law degree as a stepping stone to politics.

"In the afternoon we will have roundtable sessions featuring two or three speakers and about 30 students," Carroll said.

The symposium will be free on Oct. 11 and 25, but students will be charged \$5 on Oct. 28.

"The reason we are having students pay for the 28th is to make them feel more committed," he said.

Carroll said that students not majoring in business or pre-law are encouraged to attend. "We actually try to focus on students in other majors, like liberal arts," he said. "We want to open doors for everyone."

Design students plan unique restaurants

By Mia B. Moody

The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M senior environmental design students used menus, food, and models to show how the restaurants they created could be pleasing to the palate as well as the waistline.

George Mann, a professor in the architecture department, said he assigned the three-week project to make students look beyond "brick and mortar" in order to develop a restaurant completely.

Students were given lectures from other professors on how to create nutritious food and on the envi-

ronments that are most conducive to relaxation," Mann said. "We chose to have the presentation at Cenares to give students the chance to receive input from outsiders."

Brian Runyon, a Dallas architect, said he was impressed by the projects.

"They have done more in three weeks than we used to do in half a semester when I was in school," Runyon said. "They have good ideas and very creative concepts, but they are lacking in what actually goes into restaurant design, like the spacing of tables from the kitchen and bar areas, etcetera."

Dr. Bethann Witcher, a nutrition

specialist from Texas Agriculture Extension Service, said she reviewed dietary guidelines with the students and credited most of them with creating nutritious menus.

"The project participants used my suggestions at varying degrees," Witcher said. "For instance, this student did an excellent job because he took the foods that Americans love and cooked them in such a way that makes them less fattening."

Brian Nettleton, a visiting professor from Melbourne, Australia, said he told students how important environments are at restaurants.

"People want to feel either relaxed, excited, or stimulated in res-

taurants," Nettleton said. "These environments can be created by trees, water daylight or shade."

Karen Gosby, a senior environmental design major from Dallas, created a restaurant that would be beneficial to A&M students because it would be an economical and nutritious drive-through.

Todd Fisher, a senior environmental design major from Nacadoches, said his restaurant would be located on Jersey because he wants to preserve old railroad depots. He said his health food restaurant would also serve as a museum.

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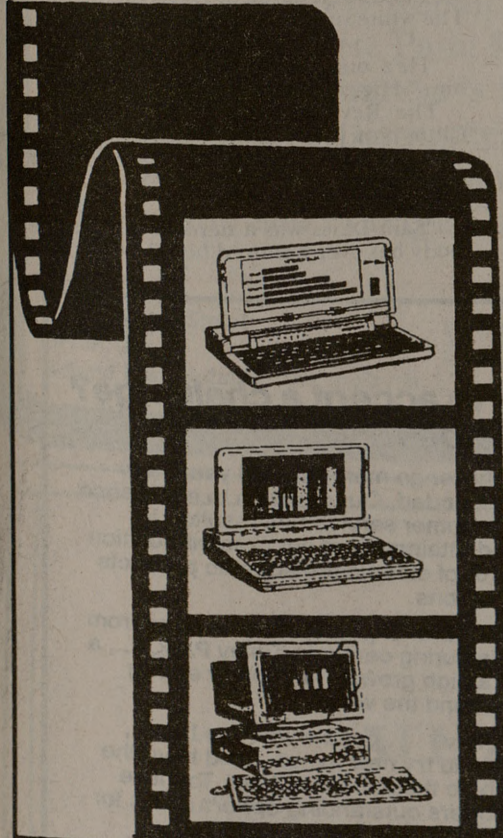
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Where: Texas A&M University
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Exhibits - Room 226
Seminars - Room 228
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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