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Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

player Travis Mays, who made a team foul during Saturday. See basketball story/Page 9

Aggie Band members yell at University of Texas the Texas A&M vs. Texas basketball game here

Soviets tour space center Atlantis groomed for launch with secret satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) Russian defense committee lawmakers toured the Kennedy Space Center Sunday as NASA groomed the shuttle Atlantis for a Thursday launch with a secret satellite that reportedly will spy on the Soviet Union.

The committee chairman and head of the delegation, Vlaidimir Lapygin, said he was impressed by the shuttle launch facilities, and when asked by a reporter what he thought of Atlantis' spy satellite, he

replied with a smile:
"We have no special secrets. ... I think you are wasting your money."

The unprecedented five-hour Soviet visit here and stops at other U.S. military installations are a result of the new openness in the Soviet Union and follow a similar trip to that country last August by members of the U.S. House Armed Services Committee.

The group of 23 included 10 up the shuttle's engine compartment and advisors on space, science, disarmament and foreign affairs.

They toured facilities where space

shuttles and their payloads are fied, the Pentagon and NASA will worked on, a launch control center not announce the precise launch

We have no special secrets. ... I think you are wasting your money."

> Vlaidimir Lapygin, chairman, Soviet defense committee

and shuttle Launch Pad 39B, from Pad 39A, two miles away.

members of the Defense Committee and making other preparations for a of the Soviet National Legislature darkness launch early Thursday. The countdown was to start Sun-

day night.

Because Atlantis' payload is classinot announce the precise launch time until nine minutes before blastoff to make it harder for Soviet satellites and a reconnaissance ship sit-

ting offshore to track the spaceship.
Officials have announced only that launch will occur between midnight and 4 a.m. However, sources close to the project said Atlantis and its crew of five military officers are to take off at 1 a.m.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the shuttle's payload is a 37,300-pound satellite with a dual role to snap high-resoluwhere they could view Atlantis on Pad 39A, two miles away. tion reconnaissance photos and eavesdrop on military and diplo-At Pad A, workers were buttoning matic communications.

Mexican president raises furor with move to name papal envoy

MEXICO CITY (AP) — President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's decision to name a personal envoy as liaison with John Pope Paul II has raised outcries from opposi-tion groups who accuse him of violating the Mexican

The appointment Wednesday of Agustin Tellez Cruces, an experienced politician, less than three months before Pope John Paul II's second visit to Mexico, raised widespread speculation Salinas is preparing to establish formal diplomatic relations with the Vatical

Interior Secretary Fernando Gutierrez Barrios, the Cabinet's chief political officer, stressed publicly twice this week that Tellez's appointment in no way implied diplomatic ties or legal recognition of the Roman Catholic Church.

Gutierrez described Tellez's job as an "unofficial" link between Salinas and John Paul and no reform of the 1917 constitution was required, although he did not entirely rule out eventual diplomatic ties when he said in his Wednesday statement "it is very early" to speak of

The announcement raised hackles even among some within Salinas' own Institutional Revolutionary Party, which has been ruling Mexico for the past 60 years, and opposition groups who claimed it violated constitu-tional provisions on the separation of church and state. Even though Mexicans are overwhelmingly Roman

Catholic, their constitution prohibits the Roman Catholic or any other church from being recognized as legal entities. The church was restricted because it was historically allied with landowners and other conservative elements that resisted social change.

It prohibits the clergy from teaching in schools and universities and even bans priests from appearing in clerical garb in public, voting or taking part in politics. However, observance of the bans has weakened in re-

cent years.

The Mexican government has maintained no formal relations with the Vatican since 1926, when President

Plutarco Elias Calles expelled the papal representative during a crackdown on Catholic dissidents.

Vote

(Continued from page 1)

who have a lot bigger access problem polling sites in Brazos County were know what the issues are going to than the people who live within the proposed to help voter turnout by be." campus area.

The Republican Party petitioned the county commissioners court for relaxed requirements that must be

sion for the voting sites to be posted

making it easier for people to vote.

The Republican Party petitioned the county commissioners court for two more absentee polling sites in 1987, when changes in the state law where people can vote conveniently the absentee polls in the general

In December 1989, by a 4-1 vote, the court approved changes to create two new polling sites and relocate a third site, he said.

The court the same reason I want them in the primaries, and that is to encourage more peotics played a big role in the county commissioners' decision regarding the creation and location of the same reason I want them in the primaries, and that is to encourage more peotics played a big role in the county commissioners' decision regarding the creation and location of the same reason I want them in the primaries, and that is to encourage more peotics played a big role in the county ple to participate," Lewis said.

a third site, he said.

The court then applied to have the changes approved by the U.S. Justice Department. The Justice Department did not approve the changes until two days after the county was supposed to post the absentee polling locations.

Then the county had to apply to the state for approval to post the four polling locations late, Lewis said. The state has granted permis-

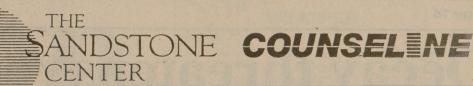
"I think they're taking a tremendous gamble. We don't know who Lewis said changes in absentee the candidates are yet, and we don't

Lewis said he would like to see ab-

to where they live or work," Lewis elections in November for the same

This summer the commissioners court will decide whether there will be an absentee voting box on cam-pus for the November general elec-

tion, Lewis said. 'If you voted in '88, give it a try,' Lewis said. "The chances are good that your name will be on the voter list; and if you vote absentee, you can correct the information on your voter registration card as you vote, and you'll be all set to go in the fall."



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1990-91 UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE **FELLOWS PROGRAM** CALL FOR STUDENT RESEARCH PROPOSALS



ELIGIBILITY: Outstanding Juniors who have completed nine hours of Honors coursework before the fall semester begins and who have at least a 3.25 overall gpa are currently being invited to apply for participation during their senior year in the UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS PROGRAM. This program is the most prestigious research opportunity available for undergraduates at Texas A&M, featuring a close, master-apprentice relationship between student researcher and faculty advisor. This provides an oportunity usually available only to graduate students.

TIME TABLE: An informal meeting concerning the 1990-91 Fellows Program, open to faculty as well as students, has been scheduled for 5:15 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 26, 1990 IN ROOM 301 OF RUDDER TOWER. Research proposals will be due March 26. Students admitted will be notified during the fall semester pre-registra-

For more information contact the University Honors Program, 103 Academic Building, 845-1957





GUBERNATORIAL Forum **CANDIDATES**' FORUM

An open forum with the candidates for Governor of Texas.

THOSE ATTENDING:

DEMOCRATS

Theresa Hearn-Haynes Earl Holmes Ray Rachel

REPUBLICANS

Ed Cude W.N. Otwell Royce Owens

Monday, February 19, 1990

5:00 P.M...Democratic Forum....601 Rudder 6:30 P.M...Reception......Forsyth Galleries 8:00 P.M...Republican Forum....601 Rudder

This program is presented for educational purposes, and does not constitute an endorsement for any speaker.

Sell-william Best

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