



Houston parks director calls for tighter alcohol controls after Memorial Day panic in city park

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Regents adopt system-wide drug policy

By KEVIN M. HAMM
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Texas A&M University System Regents adopted a drug policy Friday aimed at curtailing drug use among employees and students. The policy also covers alcohol abuse. The measure's objectives include "maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all students and employees," protecting the reputation of the System in communities and "improving the effective performance of job duties and productivity of all employees and the educational performance of all students." The policy outlines uniform actions each part of the System should take to deal with drug or alcohol

abuse among employees, but refers any specifics dealing with students to individual System parts. Board of Regents Chairman William McKenzie said this is the first system-wide drug and alcohol abuse policy in Texas. He added, "It's long overdue." System Chancellor Perry L. Adkisson said it is important to enact a drug policy that is consistent System-wide, and that this policy is proactive instead of reactive. According to the policy, employees may be tested if there is reasonable suspicion their job performance has been affected by drug use or the employee's actions are a safety hazard. If drug use is confirmed, employees are advised of available counsel-

ing programs and the terms of any probation period. If the situation is not resolved through these means, the policy outlines further actions that can be taken. Sanctions that can be imposed upon employees and students must be consistent with any applicable local, state or federal laws. Actions range from completion of a rehabilitation program to student expulsion and employee termination or referral to authorities for prosecution. The plan originally prohibited the "unlawful manufacture, distribu-

tion, possession or use of illicit drugs or alcohol on System premises ... or during System activities." Margraves argued limiting the policy to System premises or activities would allow a person to manufacture and sell drugs off campus and then come on campus and be exempt from the policy. "I don't want 'Professor Jones' manufacturing LSD across the street thinking he's safe," he said. Institutions of higher education are required to enact a drug-abuse policy by Oct. 1 or lose funding, according to the federal Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools Act Amendment of 1989.

Keep off the grass

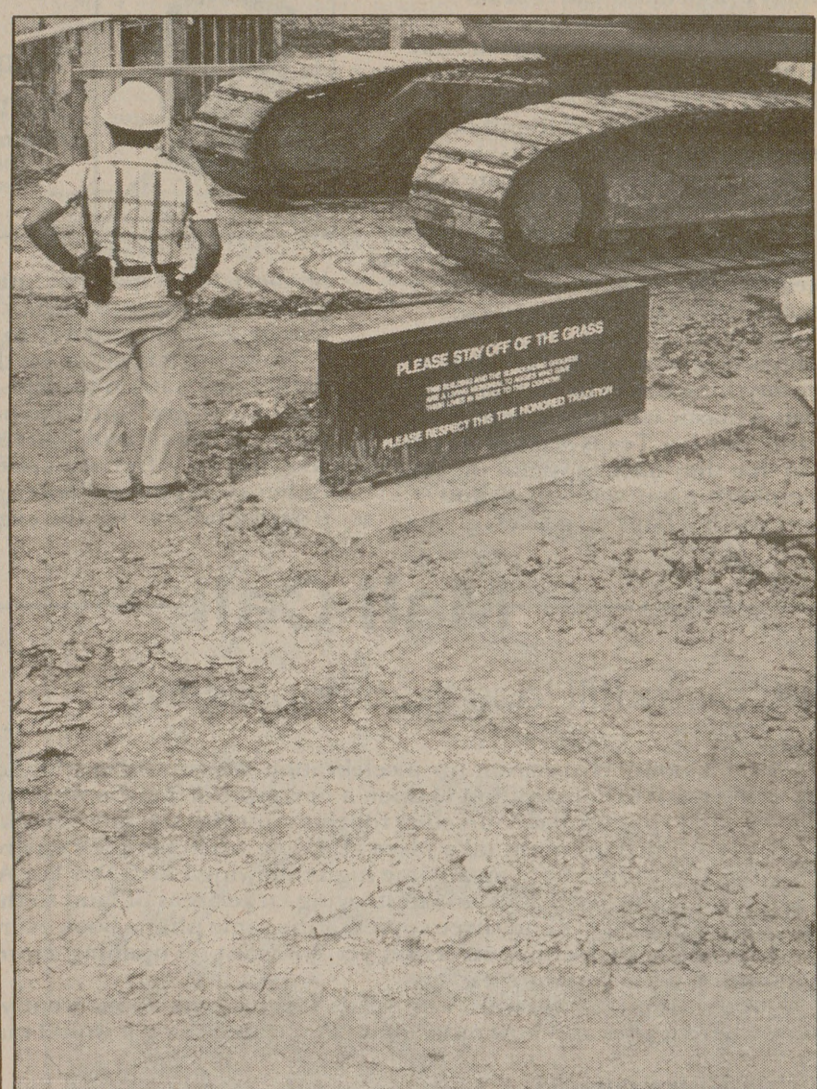


Photo by Eric H. Roalson

While most of the MSC grounds have been torn up due to construction, the sign urging visitors to respect an A&M tradition by staying off the grass surrounding the MSC remains.

Gubernatorial hopeful Williams heads list

Pro-choice group targets Texas candidates

AUSTIN (AP) — Ten Republicans were placed on an election-year hit list Tuesday by the Texas Abortion Rights Action League, which promised that anti-abortion candidates would "feel the heat" come November. "Now more than ever the pro-choice majority here in Texas is determined to use their votes, their dollars and their time to elect pro-choice candidates," said Phyllis Dunham, TARAL executive director. GOP candidates blasted the group, saying it favors Democrats. "This group will be supporting liberal Democrats and opposing conservative Republicans," said Mark Sanders, spokesman for GOP lieutenant governor candidate Rob Mosbacher Jr., No. 2 on the TARAL list. "I'm afraid they will find on election day that they are out of step with the mainstream of Texas." TARAL last month placed GOP gubernatorial hopeful Clayton Williams atop a "TARAL 10" list of candidates it is targeting for defeat. Added to that list Tuesday were nine more Re-

publicans, including Mosbacher, attorney general hopeful J.E. "Buster" Brown and seven candidates for the Legislature. Dunham said the abortion issue offers clear differences between candidates in many races and will be a significant factor in Texas and nationally. "We're being watched by the nation. This is George Bush's home state," she said. "What happens in Texas on the issue of choice is very significant for what happens in the rest of the nation." "Those candidates targeted for defeat on the TARAL 10 list will feel the heat," Dunham said. "The elections on every level are critical in protecting the right to choose." Mosbacher spokesman Sanders said the TARAL list isn't representative of the attitudes of most Texas voters and charged that the group is an ally of Democratic gubernatorial nominee Ann Richards. "It's certainly not a surprise," Sanders said. "TARAL should probably be renamed the Ann Richards Fan Club."

"Rob endorses the plan that the Republicans outlined earlier this spring, which essentially calls for banning sex-selection abortions and requiring parental consent for minors," Sanders said. "He is opposed to abortion on demand, but realizes that that position may not be reflected by everyone in the state, and therefore has endorsed these limited restrictions." Attorney general candidate Brown also criticized TARAL's failure to endorse Republicans. "In my opinion, this issue is way too sensitive of an issue to be used like that for partisan political gains," he said. Mona Palmer, spokesman for GOP gubernatorial candidate Williams, said the campaign had no immediate response. In releasing the hit list, Dunham said her group looked for pro-choice Republicans to endorse but couldn't find any in "critical" races. "That does not mean that we will not be endorsing Republicans in other races," she said.

Members initiate plans for recreational building

Board allows \$25,000 for development; unappropriated plant funds used for study

By CHRIS VAUGHN
 Of The Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents initiated plans for a \$30 million recreational sports building and natatorium at A&M by appropriating \$25,000 to develop building requirements. Regents approved the measure during Friday's meeting. Money for the study will come from the University's unappropriated plant funds. The study, which could be finished in four to six months, is being conducted by the A&M Facilities Planning and Construction Department to outline details of each room in the building. Architects then use the study to create the concept for the building. The recreational sports building and natatorium could be built

more than \$2.4 million over A&M estimates. The frame of the headquarters building, which is more than 82,000 square feet, is already in place on Tarrow Street in College Station near the Hilton Hotel. Peel said several proposed "frills," such as elaborate granite and mill work, will be offered as alternates to cut down on unanticipated costs. The estimates prepared for A&M had the cost of the headquarters at \$7.6 million, but the lowest bid offered was \$10.1 million. "We're disappointed the bids were so far off the estimates," Perry Adkisson, system chancellor, said during the meeting. The project is expected to undergo some design changes and the bids will be reopened in early July in preparation for the Board's meeting in late July. Some regents expressed displeasure about the elimination of certain features in the building to save money, but Peel disagreed. "I think we will get a quality building, yet one that is within the budget," he said. In other planning and building business, the Board of Regents:

- Appropriated \$1.1 million for detailed designs of the Veterinary Medical Center addition to be built on west campus near the present veterinary school.
 - The addition is scheduled to cost \$35 million when completed and add almost 251,000 square feet to the School of Veterinary Medicine.
 - Appropriated \$465,000 for detailed designs for the renovation of part of the old Chemistry building.
 - Renovations are to include the replacement of the roof, windows, masonry, and the restoration of the laboratories and lecture halls in the 1932 wing of the building. Renovations are expected to cost \$7.25 million.
 - Appropriated \$30,000 for preliminary design of a Texas Beef Industry Center.
- The center, which is expected to cost \$1.5 million, will be built by private donations. The beef center is the first component of the System's planned Animal Science Teaching and Research Center.

Board allots \$1 billion for '91 Regents approve budget

By CHRIS VAUGHN
 Of The Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M University System will spend more than \$1 billion during the next fiscal year, making it the largest system budget ever approved by an A&M Board of Regents. The record-setting budget was passed during Friday's regents' meeting. The fiscal year 1991 budget for the 16 institutions of the A&M system totals \$984.4 million, but following the addition of West Texas State University on Sept. 1, the budget will increase to \$1.02 billion.

The total system budget has increased 3.6 percent from last year's total. Texas A&M alone will spend \$550.6 million in 1991, a modest 3.4 percent increase in the present \$532.5 million budget.

The regents also approved the budgets for the following institutions in the system: administration and general offices, \$17.5 million; Prairie View A&M, \$61.6

million; Tarleton State, \$30.6 million; Texas A&M at Galveston, \$14 million; Corpus Christi State, \$16.7 million; Texas A&I, \$31.2 million; and Laredo State, \$5.5 million. The system budget also includes the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Forest Service, Texas Engineering Experiment Station, Texas Transportation Institute, and other state agencies operating on campus. In other business, the Board of Regents:

- Approved the Texas A&M athletic department budget, which totaled \$11.1 million.
- Approved an increase in student services fees and health center fees beginning in the fall semester.
- The student services fee will increase to \$6.75 per credit hour, not to exceed \$81 per semester, and the health center fee will increase to \$25 per semester.
- Granted the title of emeritus to Dr. Richard H. Costa and Dr. Harry P. Kroitor, both professors of English, and Dr. Roger G. Feldman, an associate professor of veterinary pathology.

Koriyama campus classes commence

Texas A&M's Japanese campus in Koriyama, north of Tokyo, began classes Monday. A&M officials said the Koriyama campus is the most extensive international effort in the 114-year history of the University. Japanese students enrolled at the campus will spend two years studying courses such as business administration, liberal arts or science and engineering. After the two-year period, students will relocate to A&M's main campus to complete studies. Students from the United States will attend A&M at Koriyama in the future. Permanent facilities are scheduled to be completed by 1992. These facilities are being financed by Koriyama city and business leaders at a cost of 2.5 billion yen, or about \$18 million. The campus officially opened May 19. A&M President William Mobley led a University delegation that participated in the formal opening.

Soviet populist reformer wins post, promises Russian economic 'rebirth'

MOSCOW (AP) — Populist reformer Boris N. Yeltsin won the presidency of the largest Soviet republic Tuesday, overcoming opposition by Mikhail S. Gorbachev and declaring the start of "Russia's social, economic and spiritual rebirth." Yeltsin's election, after three hard-fought ballots in the Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation, poses a substantial challenge to Gorbachev and may spur more radical reforms across the country. Gorbachev, who arrives Wednesday in Washington for a summit, retains the two most powerful jobs in the country: president of the Soviet Union and General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party. But as president of Russia, the largest of 15 Soviet republics, Yeltsin will have a highly visible platform from which to wage his campaign for more radical reforms. Yeltsin and other Soviet officials said his election could help Gorbachev, despite their differences. "It may be a blessing in disguise," Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told reporters at the United Nations in New York. "Gorbachev has his critics from both the left and the right, and possibly it is better to have the election of a critic from the left." Yeltsin said, "At first, President Gorbachev will react very unhappily,

but then he'll gradually get used to this inevitability." The strapping, white-haired Yeltsin told reporters that he would seek reconciliation with Gorbachev and avoid confrontations as long as it did not hurt Russia's interests. Gorbachev had brought Yeltsin to Moscow to head the city's Communist Party, but the two men had a falling out in 1987 after Yeltsin publicly criticized the pace of Kremlin reforms. They have been at odds since then. After the outcome was announced in the Grand Kremlin Palace, Yeltsin strode to the podium to warm applause and pledged to "spare nothing — health or time — to get out of this crisis and lead Russia to better times." His bass voice echoing through the hall, he called the day "the beginning of the road to Russia's social, economic and spiritual rebirth, the way out of the crisis and toward the blossoming of Russia as a sovereign, independent government in the framework of our union." He left through the Kremlin gates later to cheers from well-wishers chanting "Victory! Victory!" One man yelled, "Thank you, thank you for the future!" Gorbachev strongly opposed Yeltsin's election. He told the Russian Congress last week that Yeltsin's platform of decentralizing political

and economic power would lead to a "breakup of the union." The Russian Federation stretches from the Baltic Sea in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east. It is home to half the country's 285 million people and includes Moscow. Yeltsin took office immediately. As president of the Russian Con-

gress, a newly created body that holds the Russian Federation's highest government authority, Yeltsin acts as chief executive of the republic. In the deciding vote of the 1,060-member Russian Congress, Yeltsin won 535 votes, four more than the majority needed. Russian Premier Alexander Vlasov received 467 votes. Valentin Tsou, a little-known businessman from the Soviet Far East, received 11 votes. Lawmakers said Tuesday they believed Yeltsin gained the last few votes he needed by offering to form a coalition government with members of the conservative Communist Party bloc and other groups. Yeltsin said he gained several votes because of efforts by Gorbachev Monday night to block his election. Russian Deputy Alexander Liubimov, a well-known TV commenta-

"At first, President Gorbachev will react very unhappily, but then he'll gradually get used to this inevitability,"

—Boris Yeltsin, Russian Republic president

tor, said Yeltsin's election would force Gorbachev to start dealing with another strong leader instead of "shadows" willing to defer to him. Vitaly Churkin, a spokesman for Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze, said on NBC that Yeltsin's election "might actually help Gorbachev because Gorbachev is for radical reform, and he needs more popular support for that."

Some also said Yeltsin may have benefited from the adverse reaction to the Kremlin's proposed program for making the crippled Soviet economy a partial market economy.