

New residence hall planned

First phase of construction project to be completed by 2004

University officials presented plans for a multi-phase residence hall construction project to the Residence Hall Association (RHA) General Assembly on Wednesday.

The Residence Life Support Services Building, expected to be complete in fall of 2004, is phase one of a project that will include a new, apartment-style residence hall. The residence hall, phase two of the project, is not expected to be completed until at least 2009, said Chareny Rydl, associate

director of residence life.

Phase One of the project is projected to cost \$11 million. The money will come from a proposed two percent rent increase, in addition to tapping reserves and bonds. The rent increase was approved by students several years ago, Rydl said.

The two percent rent increase will be separate from an additional increase next year, which will be used to pay for utilities. Department of Residence Life Director Ron Sasse said residence life does not

receive money from the state and their only source of income is rent. He also said there will be an open forum for students in January before the project is up for approval in February.

The new building will house services such as a 24-hour desk, computer room and a multi-purpose room which will be able to divide into three separate rooms. Sasse said the building will have 4,000 square feet for student organizations. RHA will shift its headquarters from the John J. Koldus

Building to the new building. Residence hall councils, and Freshman Leaders in Progress will receive their own cubicles, while RHA and staff council will move into new offices. RHA will hold their general assembly meetings in the new multi-purpose room.

The proposed building, off of Old Main Drive, will be partially built on parking lot 42, which will be expanded across Jones Street. Rydl said that are trying to construct a right-hand lane onto Wellborn.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Student dies after collapsing in game

HOUSTON (AP) — A Pasadena high school basketball player collapsed and died during a game at the Houston suburb Tuesday night.

John Alexander, a 6-foot-2 junior guard at Pasadena Dobie High School, was standing about midcourt when he collapsed with 7:32 left in the second quarter.

Coaches from Pearland and Pasadena Dobie high schools rushed to aid the 17-year-old varsity guard while players from both teams formed a prayer circle near the Dobie bench, according to the *Houston Chronicle*.

Dobie athletic trainer Chad Jones tried to revive Alexander before emergency medical technicians arrived. They treated Alexander for about 25 minutes and then transported him to

Memorial Hermann South Hospital, about two miles away. Alexander never regained consciousness or showed any vital signs and was pronounced dead on arriving.


A cause of death was not immediately released, a nursing supervisor at the hospital said.

The hospital emergency room area was filled with students, parents and faculty after Alexander's death.

After learning of his death, a crowd returned to Dobie, where incoming students joined in prayer. Emery Gadd, an associate pastor at Sagemont Church.


Gadd, a statistician with Longhorns football games, worked with students at a school, located in Pasadena, Houston, opened in 1969.

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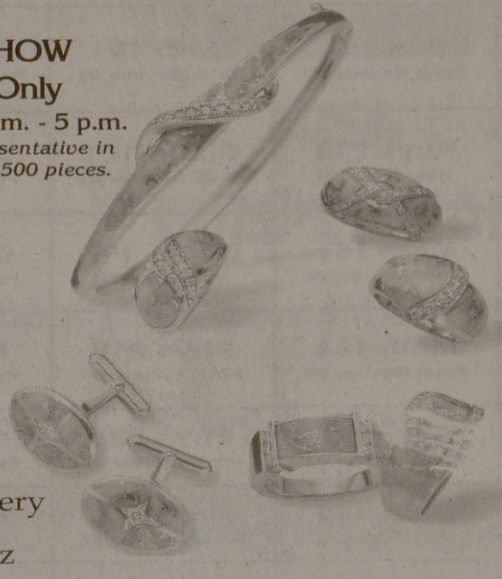
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