

1988

# CCSU, A&I ask state for funding increases

**By Janet Warren**  
MARTINE HANKS AUSTIN BUREAU

AUSTIN - The presidents of Corpus Christi State University and Texas A&I University yesterday called for funding increases of 47 percent and 72 percent, respectively, to accommodate a projected boom in enrollment.

The increases would go chiefly toward additional degree programs.

Speaking before Legislative Budget Board examiners yesterday, CCSU President B. Alan Sugg said a study shows a possible 50- to 80-percent jump in South Texas public school graduates in 10 years.

"No other part of the state will have this kind of an increase," Sugg said. CCSU, he said, must have

money to plan proper programs for that growth.

He also proposed beefing up the degree menu at CCSU to help meet that demand. In addition, the budget request of Texas A&I University in Kingsville contains new degree proposals.

Sugg presented a CCSU budget proposal for the two-year period beginning in September 1989 that calls for appropriations of \$12.8 million the first year and \$13.7 million the second, increases of about 47 percent and about 57 percent over the \$8.7 million for the current year.

Texas A&I's two-year budget request, presented yesterday by A&I President Steven Altman, calls for

annual state appropriations of \$21.1 million and \$22.7 million, which are 60 percent and 72 percent increases over the \$13.2 million appropriation this year.

The examiners will make funding proposals to the budget board, which will draw up budget blueprints for the 1989 Texas Legislature to consider.

"I think the likelihood of the Legislature providing full funding for the universities is not too great, but we're hopeful that there are some rate increases," Sugg said.

Sugg said that because of the work of the Legislative Joint Committee on Higher Education in South Texas, he feels more certain that all South Texas universities

will see some funding increases. The committee, created under a Senate resolution sponsored by state Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, last week completed public hearings on how to improve higher education in South Texas and is preparing recommendations for the Legislature.

The increased allocation would be used toward "general support" throughout the university.

His request also contains \$900,000 a year for development of new programs, but that amount is subject to change pending discussion of cooperative efforts with Texas A&M University, Sugg said.

Currently, the development request is for a doctorate program in

educational leadership, to be offered jointly with Texas A&I, and master's degree programs in criminal justice, mariculture, public administration and health care administration.

He noted that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board requires a university to have 50 percent of the cost in hand before the board will approve a new program.

Altman said A&I's increased funding requests are based on the need for development of more programs at A&I.

"The rather dramatic under-funding for institutions in South Texas in the past is what forms the basis for the requests for special items," Altman said.

Among A&I's requests is \$250,000 a year for telecommunications equipment to offer graduate engineering courses in Corpus Christi and, eventually, other parts of South Texas.

Texas A&I is requesting \$1.4 million a year for new programs, although that number is subject to change pending negotiations with Texas A&M University over cooperative efforts or merger. The Texas A&M and University of Texas systems are studying possible mergers or cooperative programs with South Texas campuses to improve higher education in the region.

Staff writer John Bruce contributed to this report.

## County delays dog-catcher

**Job ruling**  
CORRECTION 9-1-88 CT p. 3A

**By Spencer Pearson**  
STAFF WRITER

Nueces County commissioners yesterday postponed a decision on an appeal by the former county dog catcher, who was fired after four dogs died at the county animal shelter in Robstown.

The dogs' deaths and the conditions at the shelter have prompted animal rights activists to call for criminal charges and for the firing of the county engineer, who was in charge of the shelter.

Commissioner Richard Borchard said after a closed meeting that "we need to get more information so we can make a proper decision" on the appeal by former dog catcher Eneide Garza, 32.

Borchard said the commissioners court wants to question County Engineer Gerald "Buddy" Scalf, who was in charge of the shelter because of its location at a road equipment yard and others in the road department.

On July 19, four dogs that had starved to death were found inside the shelter.

Scalf fired Garza and suspended for two days his supervisor, Cosme Longoria, a crew foreman in the road department at the Robstown yard.

The commissioners court has since put the pound under Borchard's supervision. It is closed temporarily for repairs and improvements.

Garza, 32, appealed his dismissal to the commissioners court, which held a closed hearing on the matter yesterday morning. He was represented at the hearing by Jeanne Chastain, a lawyer with the Nueces County Legal Aid Society.

She said before the hearing that Garza "did his job well and did more than was required."

She said he was hired to work five days a week but that he often worked Saturdays and Sundays also to take care of the dogs. He was paid for two hours of work when he went in on a Saturday or Sunday to feed and water the animals.

She said that he fed the dogs on Saturday, July 16, and that he intended to go in the next day, but he had car trouble and couldn't get there. There was no one for him to call for assistance that day, she said.

He called in sick on Monday, July 18, and the dead dogs were found Tuesday morning.

Scalf said shortly after the incident that Longoria told him that by the time Garza called in sick Monday, all of the crew had been assigned to jobs and no one was left to take care of the dogs.

Scalf said then that he fired Garza for failing to arrange to have someone feed the dogs on the weekend and suspended Longoria for not seeing that the dogs were fed that Monday.

Several animal lovers criticized the county for the treatment of the dogs. In addition to the lack of food and water, they said, the pound was poorly maintained.

Several called for an investigation, and some wanted Scalf to be fired.

After an investigation by the sheriff's department, County Attorney Carlos Valdez said the evidence did not support any criminal charges of cruelty to animals or failure to maintain the pound properly.

"The system is at fault, and you can't prosecute a system," he had said.

Elizabeth Airheart, founder of Lost Pet Hot Line, demanded a more thorough investigation. Bruce Piccirillo, who described himself as an animal activist, did some investigating of his own and appeared last week before the Nueces County grand jury, which took no action.

No date was set yesterday for re-opening consideration of Garza's appeal.

## Waiting for a ride



GEORGE GONGORA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carlos Cavazos, 11, son of Mr. and Mrs. Juan for school. Carlos, who was waiting for his mother Cavazos of 213 Havana St., stands outside Fisher to pick him up, will be in the 5th grade. Classes begin Sept. 1.

# Four arrested in Aransas Pass drug-lab raid

## Confiscated methamphetamines valued at \$360,000, say police

**By Darcy De Leon**  
STAFF WRITER

ARANSAS PASS - Houston officials assisted by members of the Tri-County Narcotics Task Force raided an illegal methamphetamine lab here yesterday, confiscating unprocessed drugs and arresting four people.

Officials said equipment and chemicals used in making the drug would have yielded 20 pounds of street-grade methamphetamine, known as speed, for an estimated street value of \$360,000.

The speed confiscation occurred about noon at a trailer home on Farm Road 1069 about a mile from the Texas Highway 35 intersection, said task force commander Kevin Sullivan of the Nueces County Sheriff's Department.

"We prevented 20 pounds from hitting the street," he said. "Since we have had indications that there was a lab in operation in that area from time to time, it will put a definite dent in distribution of methamphetamine in the local area."

Houston police, Drug Enforcement Administration officials and Department of Public Safety troopers followed the four suspects from Houston three days ago to the Aransas Pass laboratory, said Rick Ashwood, a police officer with the Houston Narcotics Division.

Sullivan said officials did not know where the drug was to be distributed.

A 28-year-old Houston woman, a 34-year-old Houston man and two Aransas Pass men, ages 33 and 28, remained in the San Patricio County Jail last night in connection with the raid, said San Patricio County Chief Deputy Leroy Moody.

All four were being held without bond, and charges of possession with intent to manufacture methamphetamines were expected to be

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*- Kevin Sullivan  
Nueces County Sheriff's Department*

filed today, Moody said. The task force - comprised of officers from Nueces, San Patricio and Aransas counties - and members of the Aransas Pass Police Department assisted in the bust, Moody said.

The aim of the task force is to intercept local drug traffickers and traffickers moving through South Texas.

The officers yesterday raided a 20-by-15-foot wooden shed near a trailer home after they smelled the drug being processed and observed the suspects carrying equipment and chemicals used in making methamphetamine, Ashwood said.

The equipment and about 10 firearms, including handguns, semi-automatic pistols and rifles also were confiscated in the raid, a member of the task force said.

The suspects, arrested in the trailer home, which belongs to one of the Aransas Pass men, surrendered without incident, Ashwood said.

Houston police began surveillance of the suspects three days ago in Houston and called Coastal Bend officials at 5 p.m. Tuesday after having followed the four people to the laboratory site, Ashwood said.

# Electricity consumption reaches highest level in '88

Mix blast-furnace temperatures, schools opening for teacher in-service days, a lack of rain and a strong desire by South Texans to not have to sweat more than necessary.

Yesterday, the combination meant that Texans in 44 counties called on Central Power & Light Co. for more juice than on any other day this year, according to a company spokeswoman.

"We used a record amount of electricity for the year," said Jackie Bjorum of CPL.

CP&L reached its peak consumption for 1988 at 4 p.m. with 3,013

megawatts or, if you prefer, 3,013,000 kilowatts of power surging to customers throughout South Texas.

To put it in perspective, Bjorum said, the average customer uses 1,000 kilowatts of electricity per month.

Last year, peak consumption was reached on Aug. 26, with 2,881 megawatts.

In 1986, the record was 2,974 megawatts on Aug. 20.

The all-time record, Bjorum said, was 3,022 megawatts on Aug. 26, 1985.

See a pattern developing here?

Sure you do. "What's magic about the third week in August?" Bjorum asked. "Usually we're experiencing an extended dry spell, people are still using a lot of electricity at work and at home and now schools are open again. Given the right weather conditions, our peak is usually the third week in August." But, she said, "just because the temperature goes up doesn't mean your bill has to. You can turn off unnecessary lights and appliances, keep the drapes closed during the hot part of the day, use weatherstripping. There are a lot of ways to keep the bills down."

## HL&P FROM PAGE 1B

in the public interest, Dunn said. Barney Knight, city attorney for Austin, said the agreement provides that HL&P give the city a decision within 10 days of final PUC action. If a motion for rehearing is filed, action would not be final until that motion is ruled on, he said.

"They (HL&P officials) have some time for calm reflection and reconsideration," Knight said. But if the agreement falls through, he said, "I can assure you the city of Austin will go to court. There are those who believe going to court is the

best option." Painter said, "I would hate to say we wouldn't negotiate, but it would have to be starting from scratch again. It would have to involve going over all of these issues from very beginning."

Also on Wednesday, the nuclear plant completed a 100-hour test, the last major step needed before the plant begins commercial operations, a spokesman said.

STP spokesman Glen Walker said the test of the plant's first unit was completed at 10:40 a.m. The 100-

hour run had begun twice before, but officials had to halt both tests because of minor problems.

Although the plant has been in a testing mode, it has been able to produce more than 1 billion-kilowatt hours of electricity for consumers, Walker said.

The difference between a testing mode and commercial operation involves changes in who manages the power and in bookkeeping, he said.

An operations review committee planned to go over results of the test Wednesday to decide how well the plant operated each day. In addition, all other tests done at the plant at 100 percent power will be reviewed, Walker said.

## Ship News

- ARRIVALS
  - Sealift Atlantic (U.S.) from South Carolina at Oil Dock 7.
  - Gateway North (Panama) from Venezuela at Champlin 3.
- IN PORT
  - Acina (Panama) at Southwestern 3.
  - Co-op Grain (Liberia) at Interstate.
- DEPARTURES
  - Coastal Manatee (U.S.) to Port Arthur, Texas.
  - Tarum River (Norway) to Galveston.
  - Constitution (Liberia) to New Orleans.

## Crime Stoppers



The following are burglaries reported to the Corpus Christi Police Department and compiled by Crime Stoppers. Citizens who believe they have information about the burglaries are urged to call Crime Stoppers at 888-TIPS. The information listed includes day the burglary was reported, the time of the burglary if known, the general location, the point of entry, comments made by investigating officers and whether it was a home or business.

| DATE REPORTED | TIME: | LOCATION:          | ENTRY: | COMMENTS: | TYPE:    |
|---------------|-------|--------------------|--------|-----------|----------|
| 8-20-88       | Night | 3000 Eisenhower    | Window |           | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Day   | 6700 Everhart      | Unk    |           | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Day   | 2700 Sacky         | Window | Broken    | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Night | 4900 Bear          | Roof   | Pried     | Business |
| 8-22-88       | Night | 700 Cantwell       | Wall   | Pried     | Business |
| 8-22-88       | Day   | 100 Highwood       | Door   | Forced    | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Day   | 400 Military       | Window | Forced    | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Unk   | 4000 Kevin         | Window | Broken    | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Day   | 4300 Spring        | Door   | Forced    | Home     |
| 8-22-88       | Night | 4400 Prescott      | Window | Broken    | Business |
| 8-22-88       | Night | 3400 Ft. Worth     | Window | Broken    | Home     |
| 8-23-88       | Night | 2500 Bolivar       | Window | Broken    | Business |
| 8-23-88       | Day   | 3500 N.Naylor      | Door   | Forced    | Home     |
| 8-23-88       | Night | 700 Buffalo        | Window | Broken    | Business |
| 8-23-88       | Day   | 5300 Hitching Post | Door   | Forced    | Home     |
| 8-23-88       | Day   | 2800 Elizabeth     | Window |           | Home     |
| 8-23-88       | Day   | 7300 Candy Ridge   | Window | Broken    | Home     |
| 8-23-88       | Night | 3500 S. Staples    | Window | Broken    | Business |

For additional information and to request a free security survey of your home or business, contact the Corpus Christi Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at 886-2665.