Bush visits Lebanese president

BEIRUT, Lebanon-Under heavy army and police guard, former President Bush arrived Tuesday for a visit that raised Lebanese hopes of Washington lifting a nine-year ban on travel

Bush traveled to Lebanon from Damascus, where he conferred with Syrian President Hafez Assad. Lebanon and Syria were the last scheduled stops on his Middle East tour, which also took him to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain.

It was Bush's first visit to Lebanon since the end of its 1975-1990 civil war, and his second in 13 years.

He first came here as vice president in October 1983 to boost the morale of U.S. Marines serving with a multinational peacekeeping force, after suicide bombers blew up their base and a French paratroopers' base, killing 299 people.

The attacks, claimed by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim extremists, brought the collapse of the 17-month peace mission in Leba-

Bush's one-day visit as a guest of President Elias Hrawi was seen as an indication the United States might be moving toward lifting a travel ban imposed by the Reagan administration in 1987, following a wave of kidnappings and hijackings.

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Dole secures support, sets sights on Clinton

mary Tuesday and banked on victories in California and Washington to close a crowded month of voting that transformed him from teetering to triumphant in the Republican presidential

"A new America is within our reach," Dole said in celebration.

Early results from Nevada showed Dole well ahead of Pat Buchanan, who needed a win to avoid a 25-state losing streak, but had little hope of success.

Buchanan conceded Dole's victory, and congratulated his rival, but said nonetheless he would take his campaign to the San Diego GOP conven- dential nomination.

In victory, Dole made an overture to all his vanquished rivals. "The issues they have raised and the voters they have appealed to will be a crucial part of a winning Republican coalition this fall," Dole said.

Yet in an interview, he left no doubt he had little patience left for Buchanan's daily demands about shap-ing the GOP platform. "The longer he just hangs in there the more he helps Bill Clinton," Dole said.

49 percent in Nevada to 21 percent for Steve Forbes, who quit two weeks ago while the mail-in voting was already

Dole dropped his calculated caution and claimed victory a week after and mount an independent bid. securing a majority of delegates. "The

Sen. Bob Dole won Nevada's pri-battle for the Republican nomination is over," Dole told a victory rally.

Setting his sights on President Clinton, Dole cast the Democratic incumbent as the obstacle to welfare reform, tax reform, a balanced budget and tougher judges. "The battle for America's future is beginning tonight," he declared.

The 72-year-old Kansas senator locked up the nomination with a fourstate primary sweep last week, but he waited a week to declare victory so that he could give giant California the credit for putting him over the top on this third try for the Republican presi-

Republican Party Chairman Haley Barbour ended his neutrality in the primary fight and his words were more as allowed.

"From today forward, the Republican Party is going to be focused on everything we can do this spring and summer to help Bob Dole beat Bill Clinton and send him back to Arkan-Early returns showed Dole winning sas," Barbour said.

Buchanan headed from California to Washington for a meeting with key supporters Thursday. Buchanan said under way. Buchanan had 15 percent. he wasn't ready to quit, but he sounded less likely to bolt the Republican Party

"The battle for the Republican nomination is over."

BOB DOLE

GOP presidential candidate

down with Clinton, he could not ignore the lurking shadow of Ross Perot, who began a busy stretch of travel to promote his new Reform Party just as the presidential primary calendar finally gave Dole the chance to plan a vacation.

"If you think a new party is a good idea, we'd love to have you join," Perot told a Tuesday night Texas A&M than symbolic: Dole has spent most of audience, criticizing both Democrats his primary money, and the party is and Republicans for failing to keep prepared to step in and absorb as much their promises. He bristled at a few of his travel expenses and other costs questions, snapping at one student who asked why she should support his new Reform Party, "I don't care whether you vote for our party or not.

Dole tried anew to convince the Texan to stay on the sidelines.

'The one barrier to what Ross and his supporters believe in is Bill Clinton," Dole said.

In the interview, Dole said he had given no serious thought to picking a running mate, and that while he considered it unlikely, had not ruled out making his choice well before the As Dole looked toward a show- August GOP convention.

Parking lots could undergo conversions

THE STATES AND SECURE

By Melanie Brandert enior Editor

Several changes in the campus parking map, including the removal of parking west of Memorial Stadium to make way for a new parking structure, were unveiled Tuesday.

Parking Manager Tad McDowell told the Parking Advisory Committee that the lot contained 286 faculty/staff and metered parking stalls. He estimated as many as 185 stalls could be eliminated once construction started on the parking structure

Many committee members voiced concern over the loss of Area 10 parking in that vicinity.

A temporary solution to the problem, McDowell said, would be to move Area 10 parking from the lot north of the stadium to an Area 20 lot west of the stadium. He said commuter parking would not change.

"There's no other choices we have," he said. "We must make sure the campus functions with the least amount of disruption."

McDowell said commuter parking also would be added to the Area 1 lots from 17th to 19th streets between Q and R streets to give students flexibility.

Many commuters were displaced this year because of the paving project along 19th Street, he said.

A grassy area just north of the former DaVinci's property near 13th and Q streets will be converted into Area 10 parking, McDowell said. This will compensate somewhat for the loss of Area 10 stalls created by the addition of a sculpture to be placed south of the Temple Building, he said.

The committee also debated whether to convert about 20 spaces in the Area 10 lot north of Abel Hall to Area 2 parking. McDowell had told members the extra residence hall parking was needed to relieve overcrowding in the lot behind Abel-Sandoz at the beginning of the school year.

The committee voted to wait on making the map change to determine if the parkin be needed early this fall.

Committee members also voted to change a strip of commuter parking southeast of the College of Dentistry to faculty/ staff stalls to ease congestion in the Area 10 lot west of the col-

Greenspan breezes through hearing

WASHINGTON Alan Greenspan breezed through his confirmation hearing for a third term as Federal Reserve chairman, with senators raising few questions about an audit criticizing Fed finances or the central bank's decision Tuesday not to lower interest rates.

Greenspan and two other nominees, White House budget director Alice Rivlin and St. Louis economist Laurence Meyer, were praised extensively during the four-hour hearing by both Republicans and Democrats for their qualifications to be on the Fed

After the hearing, Banking Committee Chairman Alfonse D'Amato, who called Greenspan the "world's preeminent central banker," said his ate would act this week.

1987, renominated by George Bush in 1992 and then by President Clinton

Greenspan, 70, was first selected as Fed chairman by Ronald Reagan in

last month. While the hearing was under way, the Fed announced that central bank policymakers had decided to leave in-

Presents.

them at their previous two meetings in December and January.

Financial markets took the news in day stride with the Dow Jones industrial average finishing the day up 26.74 points at 5,670.60.

The Fed had been widely expected to stand pat after a March 8 report showed the unemployment rate dropping to 5.5 percent from 5.8 percent.

Analysts said the Fed's decision to to add anything. leave interest rates unchanged and the optimistic comments by Greenspan, Rivlin and Meyer on Tuesday could be signaling a prolonged period when the Fed leaves policy unchanged.

'In general, Greenspan gave a remarkably upbeat assessment of economic prospects," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston panel would vote on the nominations & Co. in New York. Jones said the Fed Wednesday. He predicted the full Sen-may be content to leave rates alone & Co. in New York. Jones said the Fed until after the November election.

After Republicans took control of the Senate in 1994, Clinton never seriously considered anyone other than the Republican Greenspan for the chairman's post. As part of a package deal he put forward two prominent Democratic economists to fill two other vacancies on the seven-member board, including Rivlin as vice chairman.

However, all three nominees

sounded as if they were reading from the same economics textbook Tues-

"The Fed has to keep its eye on inflation," said Rivlin. Meyer called price increases the "single most im-portant thing" the central bank has to be concerned with.

After Rivlin and Meyer offered their views, Greenspan said he felt no need

Greenspan was questioned about a critical General Accounting Office audit released Monday. It contended the central bank was doing a poor job of controlling costs, with expenses soaring by 50 percent since 1988.

Calling allegations of waste "wholly contrary to the facts," Greenspan said the Fed's workload had increased dramatically during this period because of increased oversight brought on folowing the massive bank the 1980s.

While Republicans on the committee urged Greenspan and his colleagues to continue focusing on inflation, several Democrats said that the law still required them to pursue policies that would promote the maximum sustainable growth consistent with low inflation and low unemployment.



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