

3-Forrest City, Ark., TIMES-HERALD, Monday, December 18, 1995

Plans shaping up for new Delta Center at A-State

JONESBORO, Ark. (AP) — Architects and Arkansas State University officials say construction on a new center focusing on life in the Mississippi Delta must begin soon.

Architect Jerry Brackett said construction needs to begin on the Delta Studies Center on ASU's campus to meet several spring deadlines.

Last month, the center received \$1.5 million from the state's capital improvement fund. Of that, \$942,000 was budgeted for construction, but

bidders submitted figures last week that exceeded that amount.

Brackett said architects will have to re-evaluate each bid and possibly negotiate alternatives before selecting a builder.

The studies center and its Carroll Cloar Art Gallery are to be housed on the sixth and seventh floors of the university's Dean B. Ellis Library.

ASU President Les Wyatt said the center will play a role in the development and preservation of the Delta and its her-

itage.

"We believe it will give this university a wide focus in the Delta over a long period of time," Wyatt said. "We think its effects will be far-reaching and will be far-appreciated."

The center's goal is to use university resources for Delta initiatives through research and teaching about Delta life, economy, culture, art and environment.

The apparent low bidder for construction of the center was Big M Construction Co.

Construction of Delta center urged

JONESBORO, Ark. (AP) — Architects and Arkansas State University officials say construction on a new center focusing on life in the Mississippi Delta must begin soon.

Architect Jerry Brackett said construction needs to begin on the Delta Studies Center on the ASU campus to meet several spring deadlines.

Last month, the center received \$1.5 million from the state's capital improvement fund. Of that, \$942,000 was budgeted for construction. However, bidders submitted figures last week that exceeded that amount.

Brackett said architects will have to re-evaluate each bid and possibly negotiate alternatives before selecting a builder.

The studies center and its Carroll Cloar Art Gallery are to be housed on the sixth and seventh floors of the university's Dean B. Ellis Library.

ASU President Les Wyatt said the center will play a role in the development and preservation of the Delta and its heritage. "We believe it will give this university a wide focus in the Delta over a long period of time," Wyatt said. "We think its effects will be far-reaching and will be far-appreciated."