



ENTERTAINMENT FOR A MONDAY AFTERNOON was courtesy of Ramirez Trucking, who were in a rut, not financially but literally. The ground gave way under the weight of the vehicle and work came to a halt. The crew from Milner Hall brandished lawn chairs and provided music for the occasion. (Photo by Hayden Whitsett)

SCONA XVII will feature Silber of Boston University

A university president who believes teaching undergraduates is the most important and most neglected task in higher education will wrap up the 17th Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) at A&M.

Dr. John R. Silber, president of the 24,000-student Boston University, will make the final plenary session presentation Feb. 19 at the four-day TAMU conference.

The former University of Texas at Austin dean, described by a Boston U. student as the "Vince Lombardi type," is one of six major speakers to appear before the 140-delegate SCONA XVII on the Impact of the University.

Silber will be in the company of conference keynote Dr. Joseph P. Cosand of the U. S. Office of Education; "Establishment Maverick" Joseph Rhodes; Dr. Earl McGrath, Temple University; Lawrence Fouraker, Harvard business dean, and John G. Tower, U. S. Republican Senator from Texas.

Dr. Silber, 45, was dismissed at Austin as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences allegedly because he opposed an administrative plan to split the college into smaller schools.

Observers feel his downfall came because of Dr. Silber's vigor in consolidating his position at UT, which included appointment of 22 department heads in less than three years.

The former philosophy professor renowned as a scholar on the 18th Century philosopher Immanuel Kant was said to have the respect of the UT Board of Regents chairman, Frank C. Erwin, with whom he clashed.

A professor said Erwin told Silber: "John, you are the most intelligent, articulate and persistent man around. You scare the hell out of the incompetents above you."

He became BU president in the late 1970, succeeding Arland Christ-Janer and acting president Calvin Lee.

BU faculty and students on a search committee for the new president found Silber "opposed to student violence and any positions students took unless they could defend it with logical argument and take full responsibility for what they did."

He was evaluated as a demanding but, when required, gentle

administrator "blunt in scorn for campus radicals."

Silber's work at Austin from December, 1967, included "repersonalization" of the college, an extensive program of student evaluation of teachers and courses and appointment of a student "ombudsman" to investigate student complaints, among others.

The former Yale University philosophy professor and department chairman in 1966 was one of eight persons in the U. S. to receive a Danforth Foundation award for outstanding teachers.

Silber was a Guggenheim Fellow at the University of London King's College, had a Fulbright grant to Germany and is past president of the Southwestern Philosophical Society, among numerous memberships and listings.

A native of San Antonio, he received the B.A. with highest honors from Trinity University. Silber undertook Biblical studies at the Yale Divinity School and was enrolled a semester at the UT Law School before continuing graduate philosophy studies.

His M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale were awarded in 1952 and 1956.

New student service fee being proposed

A tentative student services fee allocation calling for an optional athletic fee and increased funds for the new university health center has been proposed by President Jack K. Williams.

The proposal will be studied and counter-proposals will be made at the Student Senate meeting Wednesday night.

The most radical change involves the athletics fee. In order to make the fee optional, Williams plans to remove it from the student services fee allocations and make it separate.

The proposed fee is for an estimated \$20. This would be in addition to the \$30 student services fee. If a student desired to attend football games, he would be paying \$50 for both the tickets and his normal services fees.

The current method of financing athletics now takes \$6.06 from the \$30 services fee. The fee is mandatory.

Utilizing the option would entitle the student to a reserve seat ticket to football and basketball games. The ticket would be his property, unlike now, and the student could do with it whatever he wishes.

If a student did not want the option, he would still be able to buy a ticket, but at the full \$6 price.

Aside from making the fee optional, there were two major reasons given by Williams for using the \$20 system.

It would allow the money in the student services fee now used for athletics to be transferred to other things such as the new health center.

This is the reason why there is no reduction in the services fee even though athletics are being removed. The funds that would have gone to athletics are now going to the hospital and other uses.

The optional fee, because of the increased cost, will also bring in an estimated extra \$50,000. The increase is needed, said Williams, because last year the Athletic Department went over budget by \$82,000.

The optional method is "old hat," he said. Most other schools have much the same plan, he added.

The only major increase in the budget is for the new health center. The possible budget has increased from \$380,551 in 1972 to \$435,977 in 1973. When the services fee is broken down on a per student basis it becomes an increase from \$18.18 to \$23.95.

Improving the health facilities on campus is something to which Williams says he is firmly committed. Included in the plans for the center, to be built where Mitchell Hall now stands, are arrangements for 11 consulting specialists and full time doctors and nurses.

In decreasing the budget for certain groups, Williams has recommended an optional Aggeland. Having the Aggeland optional would increase the cost per book to about \$10, he said.

Also removed from services fees allocation is the Student Aid program. The program received \$60,864 in the 1972 budget. Williams hopes to fund the program from other sources.

Throughout the list of accounts receiving money from the

services fees there are great differences between the 1973 budget requests and 1973 possible budget.

"They will all say they can't live with it," said Williams, referring to those groups receiving funds.

The reason for the budget cuts, Williams said, is because the services fees have run out of surplus funds.

For the last three years surpluses accumulated in past years have been used to supplement the programs. The surpluses have run out, he added.

Those programs falling under the control of the services fee allocations are the hospital, Intramurals, Student Programs, Memorial Student Center facilities-local, Great Issues, Political Forum, Singing Cadets, Student Aid program, Student Publications, Student Senate, Town Hall, and the YMCA.

Opposition has already arisen in the Student Senate against the proposals, according to John Sharp, the Student Senate president.

The Senate Executive Committee has authorized Sharp to develop three alternative proposals to those made by President Williams.

Sharp said that his first consideration was for the senate's instructions regarding the optional fees be followed.

Sharp was referring to earlier in the year when a proposal dealing with the Athletic Department that resembled President William's plan was proposed. The proposal was defeated unanimously.

"We either keep it like it is or change their minds," said Sharp.

Sharp's first alternative proposal follows the same pattern as Williams' except that he calls for the optional fee to be \$10 rather than \$20. "\$20 is just too stiff, I don't think anyone will stand for it," he said.

The other proposal is to leave the Athletics Department in the services fee allocations and cut the budgets in other departments.

To be considered in this plan said Sharp, is the placing of the YMCA under Student Affairs or Counseling and Testing, having an optional Aggeland, obtain college support for the magazines the Engineer, Agriculturalist, Southwest Veterinarian, and Synergetics or remove them altogether, remove student aid, consider telling the Singing Cadets to find funds elsewhere, combining Great Issues with Political Forum, and lower the hospital costs by selling drugs given out at the hospital rather than dispensing them free, as is now done.

"We have to consider what all students profit by," said Sharp, "and not just some." That's why we want to remove the Singing Cadets and other programs all students do not directly profit from."

Sharp believes that Williams will listen to the proposals so long as funds for the hospital are not jeopardized.

The allocations will be considered by the Student Senate in a 7:30 p.m. Wednesday meeting in room 103 of the Engineering Center. The meeting is open to all students who are interested.

Shuffler theorizes

Myths make Texans stand out

"What distinguishes Texas in the eyes of the world is not the land or the people but the Texas myth," said Henderson Shuffler to a Contemporary Arts audience last night.

Shuffler, director of the Institute of Texas Cultures, is a former student at A&M and formerly the director of the University Information here. He spoke to a predominantly middle-aged crowd

in the Memorial Student Center Assembly Room concerning the Texas myth and Texas history.

"The Texas myth began simply as yarns that become blown out of proportion," Shuffler said. He explained that the yarns grew into folk myths and later into Texas brags. He said that much of the Texas myth is based upon Anglo-Saxon superiority.

Shuffler feels the eastern writers gave Texas a distinct but false image in the world. "The average Texan was pictured as a hard-drinking, swearing, unlettered ruffian," he said. The image of the big, fearsome, uneducated oil or cattle tycoon also predominates, he feels.

Shuffler admitted that Texas was a rough place to live in the 1820's and 1830's but insisted that there were many intellectuals there at the time. He mentioned

that Stephen F. Austin missed the good books and operas available in the East when he was in Texas.

Shuffler then gave a brief history of Texas Independence with emphasis on its heroes, Sam Houston, Davy Crockett and Maribau B. Lamar.

"Texas is a meeting ground of many cultures," Shuffler said. "Poles, Czechs, Swedes, Chinese, Irish, Japanese, Lebanese and Italians have established large communities in Texas," he continued. He feels that Texas has achieved unity despite color and creed.

Shuffler believes that to reach full maturity as a society we must keep on in the way of the past. "In addition," he said, "we need to abandon the Texas myth and realize what each ethnic group did to help make Texas."

In the question and answer session, Shuffler gave some background on the Institute of Texas Cultures. "The institute was an exhibit at HemisFair," he said. Now it produces film strips, traveling exhibits, publications, movies, and educational television programs.

The institute has published four booklets concerning the Norwegians, Mexicans, Indians and Germans in Texas history. It is currently making a study of the Texas black. Shuffler said that there is a "300 year blank" in the history of the Texas black. He explained that little was published and few records kept during this time. "Much of what was written was greatly effected by emotionalism," he said. He believes that it will be at least a year before this booklet will be published.

Nixon widens Red Chinese trade

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon opened the door a bit wider Monday for trade with Communist China, putting it on an equal footing with the Soviet Union. And the White House announced a rough schedule of open-ended talks with Chinese leaders in Peking.

A relaxed schedule of sight-seeing and a decision to permit President Nixon to ride in a foreign aircraft for the first time during his China visit also was announced by the White House.

The relaxing of trade barriers and the special courtesies to the Chinese were announced three days before Nixon's departure for

the People's Republic of China.

Press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said the "across-the-board parity" in trade regulations for Communist China and the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries will permit the flow of a larger number of non-strategic products into China.

It is a continuation of a relaxing of trade barriers begun last June, just before Nixon's national security adviser, Henry Kissinger made his secret trip to Peking to open the door to Nixon for summit talks with Chinese leaders after over 20 years of isolation.

"We would hope that the Peo-

ple's Republic of China will be receptive to this step to further open up communication with us," Ziegler said. He added "The door to trade has opened wider. We hope they would welcome this additional step forward . . ."

Under the new regulations, China will be able to import a long list of items, previously banned, including such things as locomotives, construction equipment, a variety of industrial chemicals, internal combustion engines and rolling mills.

In general, there currently are no restrictions on products China can send into the United States as a result of an initial easing of trade rules by Nixon last June.

Ziegler estimated the United States has imported about \$5 million worth of goods from mainland China in indirect trade since then.

There was no estimate from the White House as to how much the China trade would mean to the United States in terms of its balance-of-trade difficulties.

Ziegler gave a wider view of Nixon's activities for seven days in three cities of China. He said a large portion of the trip has a "rough itinerary" because much of Nixon's schedule will be determined at his first meeting with the Chinese leaders in Peking.

That will get under way on the first day after an official welcome in Peking on Monday morning, Feb. 21, Chinese time.

Ziegler said Nixon will make

a rest-stop landing in Shanghai then go on to Peking, where the host government leaders and officials will be waiting at the airport.

A drive by car through the streets of Peking to their guest house on the west side of the city will be part of the arrival activities, paving the way for the Nixons to see some of the capital city and perhaps for the Chinese citizenry to come out to see them.

During breaks from a continuing round of talks, probably with both Premier Chou En-lai and Communist party Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Nixons will visit a number of historic spots, take in cultural and gymnastic shows and take a boat trip around West Lake in Hangchow, a winter retreat about 100 miles southwest of Shanghai that is used by Mao.

Most of Nixon's time—five days of the seven-day trip—will be in Peking. There will be a round of four Chinese-style banquets, including one the Americans will give for the Chinese in Peking.

The U.S. accepted a unique arrangement to permit President Nixon to fly in a Chinese government plane on the visits Feb. 26 to Hangchow and back to Shanghai Feb. 27.

Chinese officials will fly along and their plane will be equipped with a special communications hookup which would operate through the equipment of Nixon's "Spirit of '76," which will fly close by on these trips.

Handler will discuss science, man's future at lecture series

Dr. Phillip Handler, president of the National Academy of Sciences, will discuss "Science and the Future of Man" at A&M Thursday as part of the University Lecture Series.

The admission-free presentation will be held in the Memorial Student Center ballroom at 2 p.m., one hour earlier than previously announced, noted Dr. W. A. Landmann, University Lectures Committee chairman.

Dr. Handler has headed the prestigious NAS since 1969. He was previously associated with Duke University, serving as

chairman of the biochemistry department and later as James B. Duke Professor of Biochemistry.

"Dr. Handler became increasingly concerned over the role science should play in meeting the needs of people and established a nationwide reputation as an articulate and persuasive spokesman for science, and as one familiar with the political mechanisms through which science can work for the good of society," Dr. Landmann noted.

The College of Agriculture is the host division for Dr. Handler's lecture.

Marine Corps-oriented ROTC initiates operations this fall

The timetable for establishing a Marine Corps-oriented Naval ROTC unit at A&M has been moved up to this year, announced TAMU President Jack K. Williams.

Dr. Williams said a team of Marine officers is expected to report for duty here about July 1 to prepare for the formal start of NROTC activities this fall.

The Naval program was originally scheduled to begin in 1973.

Dr. Williams said the decision to advance the date was made after meeting with two Marine officers and a Navy captain conducting a site visit here.

The visiting officers were Col. Eugene Foxworth, commanding officer of the NROTC unit at The Citadel, Charleston, S. C.; Maj. Vito Solazzo, NROTC action officer at Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington, D. C.; and

Capt. George Birdt, head of the NROTC Education Branch of the Department of the Navy.

In addition to Dr. Williams, Marine officers have been meeting with Dean of Students James P. Hannigan and Col. Thomas R. Parsons, commandant, and other officers associated with the Army and Air Force ROTC programs here.

Major Solazzo noted the decision to advance the starting date was partly based on the availability of facilities.

"Facilities here are excellent," he emphasized.

The Marine officers also gave the Corps of Cadets high praise.

"We have been extremely impressed with the cadets' appearance, military courtesy, discipline and attitude," Colonel Foxworth observed.

With the addition of NROTC, TAMU and The Citadel will be

the only institutions in the nation with a full-time Corps of Cadets including all three ROTC programs leading to commissions in all four branches of the armed forces. Additionally, TAMU's Texas Maritime Academy at Galveston offers students the opportunity to receive commissions in the Coast Guard Reserve or Naval Reserve.

Major Solazzo said the NROTC unit here will be headed by a colonel serving as commanding officer. The staff will include a lieutenant colonel as executive officer, a major as Marine officer instructor and a staff NCO as assistant MOI. Initially, there also will be at least two Navy officers and two Navy enlisted men on the staff.

University National Bank
"On the side of Texas A&M."
—Adv.