

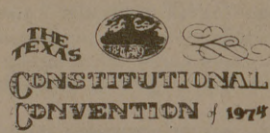
Listen up Lawn policy viewed

Editor:

As Curtis Marsh stated yesterday one reason for not "keeping" grass policy for the MSC grounds is the problem of enforcement. This, as one might be surprised to know, is a result of former students and guests of the University being insulted for walking on the grass. The reason they walked on the grass in the first place was because they were unaware of this "tradition". This tradition is a new one anyway. As late as 1963, Muster was held on the MSC lawn. As for the signs, please don't put any tacky signs in front of that beautiful building. With proper landscaping as evidenced by the grass in front of the Cushing Building, one would realize dirt paths would not develop, yet students could still enjoy it. Signed:

Brad Bryant
Student Senator

Michael Hatch
Chairman, MSC Building
Studies Committee

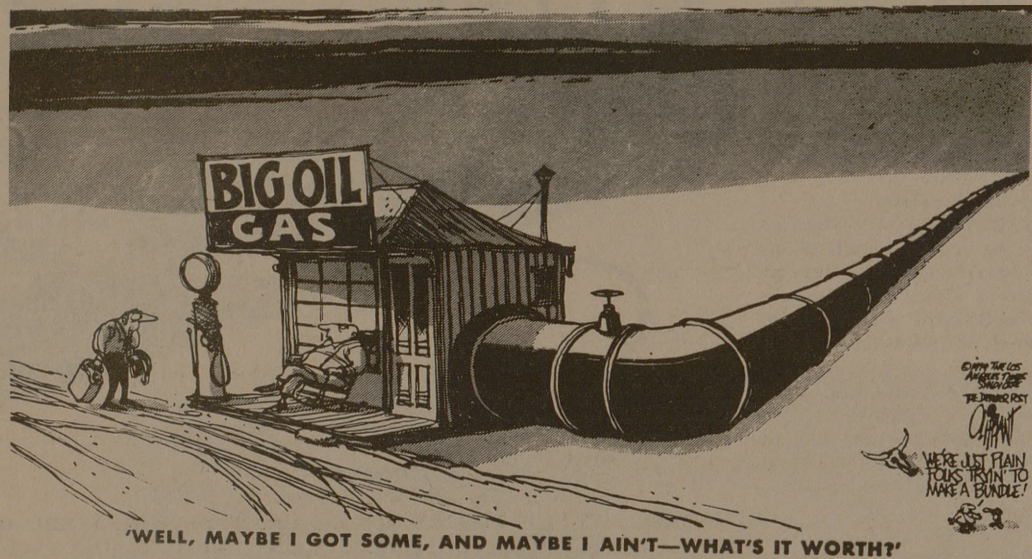


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Editor's Notes

by Rod Spear

Judging from introductory speeches it seemed as though the purpose of the National Student Lobby's third annual conference in Washington, D. C. was to make students knowledgeable of NSL issues, to lobby with congressmen and to prepare schools for lobbying efforts at home. The lobby, in a statement of priorities, said it would concern itself first with issues that affect "students and their status and capacity as students" (financial aid, tuition levels, campus child care for examples). With all this in mind I was anxious to see how well the conference would move students in that direction.

The first three days were crammed full of workshops, speakers and panel discussions. The basic theme was educational funding and other campus problems. In addition, emphasis was placed on learning good lobbying techniques that the 900-plus delegates would use later in the week with their local Congressmen. As the week progressed, however, the interest of the delegates began to shift away from the education scene to other political considerations.

No matter what group was meeting, to merely mention the impeachment of President Nixon would bring cheers, whistles and clapping that shook the walls of the Ramada Inn, NSL's temporary home. A women's caucus, a black caucus and a council for the impeachment of you-know-who were active in presenting resolutions before the lobby not related to educational needs.

AT THE FIRST MEETING of Regional II (which includes states from Texas to Montana and Nevada to the Mississippi River) the main issue was dividing the region into smaller, less diverse areas. When the Texas delegation met with Senator Lloyd Bentsen, educational funding had to take back seat to a discussion of a Big Thicket National Park.

Along with what I consider a breakdown in priorities came a breakdown in efficiency. Meetings began consistently later and later and even major speakers, such as Senator Hubert Humphrey and Dan Rather of CBS News, were not heard until at least a half an hour after they were scheduled.

The conference reached a low point in efficiency and effectiveness following the rabble-rousing speech of Sen. Humphrey Monday night. His talk, of course, began very late, and after an hour of crowd-stirring rhetoric like "the oil companies are taking the American people for a ride," a business meeting was supposed to be held. Besides starting late, the NSL staff made the mistake of allowing the delegates a "ten minute break." Bedlam ensued and order was never restored.

It was well over an hour before any semblance of a meeting began. The chairman attempted to have the rules suspended so he could call "previous questions," thereby ending a debate that became too long or heated. This inspired a lengthy debate of Robert's Rules of Order. After two voice votes, a delegate count by regions and a request

CADET SLOUCH



"They could help traffic a lot by not driving in it!"

to delay the meeting until Tuesday night, the rules were suspended. It was then 11:41.

THE NEXT MORNING two buses were to leave at 7:20 and 7:40 for Capitol Hill with aggressive student lobbyists carrying the banner of education.

Over the shouts of disturbed Northeasterners and the general buzz of private conversation, a delegate motioned that a new chairman be appointed. This motion and one to adjourn failed and at midnight the group completed its first important piece of business.

It wasn't long before disorder prevailed again and the bearded chairman in his blue-denim shirt could not quiet the delegates. Willis Edwards, the current Chairman of the Board for NSL, coolly walked to the podium and made a plea that "everyone get straight" adding that "the student movement sometimes becomes the stupid movement; let's cut this bull --- out!" (Cheers, whistling.)

A delegate suggested that a sergeant-at-arms be appointed to keep order. Shortly thereafter a six and a half foot respect-inspiring black was at one microphone. He announced the meeting must continue elsewhere as the conference room had to be cleaned for an 8 a.m. meeting. He added that his men were coming in to clean the place "now." Edwards retorted, saying the meeting would continue and he would personally talk to the manager.

THE CHAIRMAN TOLD the sergeants-at-arms (none had been appointed, however) to keep the cleaning men from entering. At this point your faithful reporter began to envision swinging mops and billy clubs and youthful lobbyists behind bars.

Fortunately, the hotel management did not follow up its threat and the meeting continued without external conflict.

I understand the meeting continued until 4 a.m. but long before that I decided to give up and prepare for the next day's lobbying.

I truly believe the meeting was the exception and not the rule with the lobby's organizational effort. However, it did mar an otherwise meaningful experience and illuminates some of the problems the student lobby faces.

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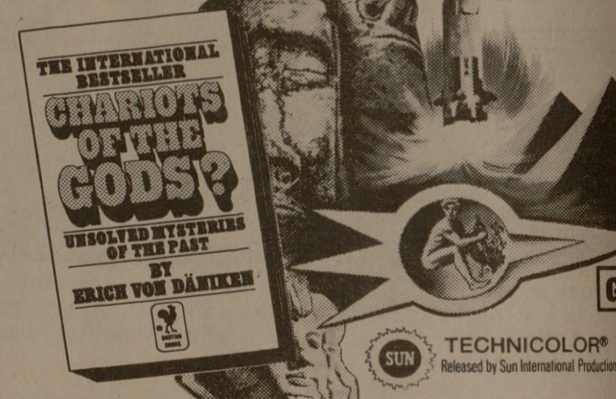


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