



## SCONA speakers to include commander, political scientist

Speakers at the 21st Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) at Texas A&M next month will include Adm. Noel Gayler, commander of U.S. Pacific forces, and Dr. Charles B. Marshall, Johns Hopkins University political scientist.

The Feb. 11-14 conference will enable student delegates from around the U. S. to discuss worldwide changes in power.

Information they will use in considering "Global Power in Transition" will be provided by key speakers and other sources.

SCONA 21 Chairman Joe Charter said Adm. Gayler, a veteran in U.S. foreign policy matters, will speak on "The Post-Vietnam Status of the U.S. as a World Power."

Dr. Marshall, holder of the Paul Nitze Chair of International Politics at Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies, will provide the conference overview. His topic is "U.S. Power in Transition."

Carter said, "SCONA 21 will have something an accounting major can relate on, as well as a political science major."

Dr. Marshall has held the Nitze Chair since 1967. He has also served on the Foreign Affairs Committee staff for the U.S. House of Representatives. He worked for the State Department's Policy Planning Staff and was advisor to the prime minister of Pakistan.

Adm. Gayler was formerly director of the National Security Agency. In his present command, he also serves as U.S. military advisor to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, on the Australia-New Zealand-U.S. Council and U.S.-Japanese Consultative Committee.

Other speakers, including representatives from the Departments of State and Agriculture, are being confirmed. The conference is expected to draw 150 off-campus delegates. Several are expected from Mexico. The 30 A&M delegates will include international students from Bangladesh, Nigeria, Guyana, Australia and the Dominican Republic.

Carter said the topic, centering on emerging international powers, appears increasingly appropriate.

"The NBC-TV special Monday was almost the conference," Carter said. NBC presented a White Paper report on "American Foreign Policy."

"It looks like we're on target,"

## U.S. to suffer oil crisis

By 1982-84 the United States will suffer an energy crisis worse than it has ever experienced.

Dr. John J. McKetta Jr., Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Texas made this prediction Jan. 7, at the Thermodynamics Research Center Data Estimation Workshop at Texas A&M.

McKetta also predicted 15 per cent unemployment accompanied by the worst recession in 40 years. He said there is no way the U.S. can reach self-sufficiency in petroleum by 1985 or even 1990.

McKetta said that political expediency, empire building, extremist influences and selfish re-election concerns have all shaped government energy regulations.

## Ag Players' Bicentennial tryouts set

Tryouts for Bicentennial-themed plays during Texas A&M's Centennial are planned for Monday and Tuesday.

Conducted by the Aggie Players, the four plays are open for participation by the entire community, said Robert W. Wenck.

Tryouts at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 19 and 20 will be in the Rudder Forum. The Bicentennial festival of plays, to be presented Feb. 23-28 at Texas A&M, include "Lamp at Midnight," "The Man Who Never Died," "Coat of Many Colors" and "Harpers Ferry."

"The plays emphasize turning points in the lives of Galileo, Joe Hill, Joseph in Egypt and John Brown, men who shaped the destinies of the Western world," said Wenck, chairman of theater arts in the English Department.

The Bicentennial festival of plays are written by Barrie Stavis, who worked in a textile house to finance his education at Columbia University.

The plays require 110 actors and actresses in addition to publicity, house, set, lighting, prop, costume and sound crew personnel.

# Committees questioned, writer seems confused

By JOHN CUNIFF  
AP Business Analyst

NEW YORK — This is the age of the study committee. In business, government and academic life the phrasing is similar: "The matter was referred to the committee for further study."

If after due study the committee fails to reach a conclusion, it might hand off the problem to a subcommittee, from whence it might then be passed on for further "action" by a foundation or institute, where study is permanent.

Name the subject and it is being studied, but name the subject and the chances are you won't find the answers. Studies raise questions, like beating a rug raises dust, sometimes beclouding rather than clarifying.

And so, in the spirit of not expecting much, a few unanswered questions are hereby cast into this murky oblivion, offered as subjects that might be studied somewhere, sometime, without the least expectation of resolution.

— Is a gentlemen's club a social rather than a business establishment? There is an intriguing tax angle to this.

— In some parts of exclusive city "social" clubs, in a taproom perhaps, you are forbidden from writing or shuffling papers on the surface of the table. Such conduct suggests business rather than socializing.

The rules are enforced too, and people so rude as to require reminding are watched carefully and might find themselves asked to leave if they persist in such crude behavior. The line has to be drawn somewhere.

Oddly, almost everyone at one such club on a certain day were gathered for the specific purpose of

talking business. Their memberships, in fact, were obtained through business associations. Their firms paid the dues.

When they were through, their checks were offered to the Internal Revenue Service as business lunch tax deductions, and the waiters who enforced the "no business" rule gladly provided receipts for that purpose.

The questions for the study committee are many, of course, but an especially intriguing one is whether this cultural schizophrenia should be recognized by the IRS.

— Who is the mysterious "they," perhaps the most widely quoted alleged authority on everything and anything but who nevertheless remains unknown? A saboteur, perhaps? "They" always seems to have bad news.

One effort to find the elusive

"they" led only to more suggesting the need for a committee, such as can be launched, rather than a solution.

Referring to the economy, an informant commented, "We're headed for more bad times." The informant was raptured by a question: "What we're headed for bad times?" answer: "Oh, they all say we

Who is "they?" He or she found.

— Do high interest rates cause inflation or do they help inflation?

You think you know the answer but can you prove it? High interest rates to the cost of doing business? And we know that it passes on increased costs to the consumer, right?

## People buying peace with long drives

DALLAS — Many persons today are building their homes hours from work sites to take advantage of lower prices and peaceful surroundings, an official of the National Association of Homebuilders says.

E. Don Dobson, a staff vice president of the association, said homeowners don't seem to mind the long drive from their homes, which can be built with more conveniences

in a small community.

"As an example, there are several families living on the Oklahoma side of Lake Texoma and driving the 100 or so miles to work in Dallas," said Dobson, the man responsible for organizing the 32nd annual homebuilders convention which begins Sunday in Dallas.

Dobson also said the convention will look at the effect of local agency housing restrictions, which he said

are denying some persons the right to new homes.

The restrictions, Dobson said, "are raising the costs of housing and bringing on higher values for land."

"We hope at this convention to advise and instruct the members of our association how best to deal with their community problems," Dobson said.

The five-day convention next week will include appearances by

Sens. Hubert Humphrey, D-Minn., Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., William E. Brock, D-Tenn., John B. Anderson, R-Ill., and J. St. Germain, D-R.I., and Carla Hills, secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

More than 48,000 persons registered to attend the convention where 500 exhibits will be displayed.



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