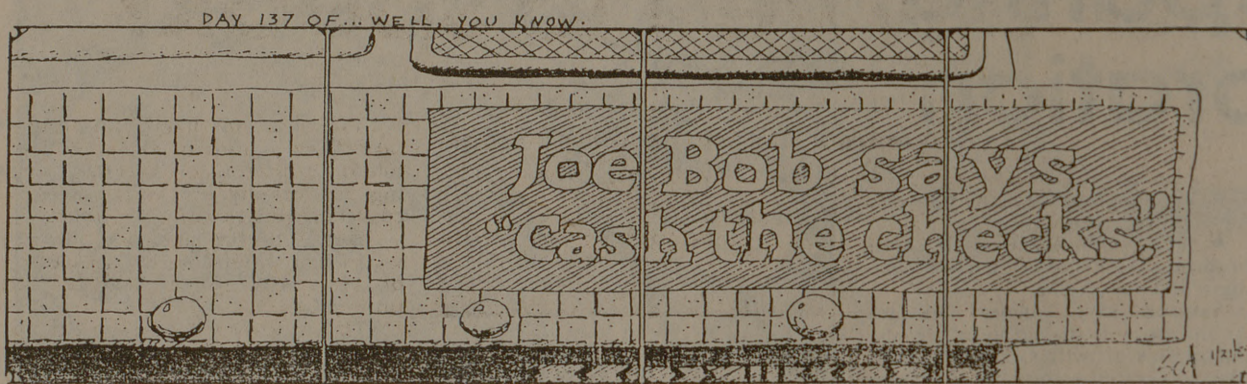


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Symposium gives chance to speak

Open forum to return

By CATHY RIELY
 Reporter

Class presidents, representatives from both the men's and women's basketball teams, and the Miss Texas A&M beauty pageant finalists are just a few of the speaker possibilities in the spring semester line-up of Lambda Sigma's Sully's Symposium.

Sully's Symposium is an open forum that Lambda Sigma, the sophomore honor society, began in the fall semester of 1984 to bring together students and campus leaders. Since response from the fall semester's trial run has been so positive, the program will continue.

"The main purpose behind Sully Symposium is to make the students feel that each one counts," said Cindy Gay, the president of Lambda Sigma.

"Through something like Sully we can each have an affect on what's

going on. There's not enough communication between leaders and students as a whole, and we want Sully to bridge that communication gap."

The first symposium will be held on Jan. 30 at noon. The speakers tentatively will be the class presidents, Gay said. The forums will continue to be held every Wednesday at noon for the rest of the semester.

The symposium with the pageant finalists has been confirmed for February 13, Gay said. The current Miss Texas A&M and some of the finalists will be discussing the objectives of beauty pageants.

On-Campus Aggies and the Residence Hall Association presidents, the student body president and the editor of The Battalion are some of the other possible choices for the symposium.

"We're also sending invitations to both Mr. Bum Bright (A&M Regent)

and Dr. Vandiver," Gay said.

Lambda Sigma is implementing some new ideas this semester. The symposiums will always start at noon, rather than at a different time each week.

The group also is trying to arrange to have the debate forum for the student body president and yell leader candidates held out at the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue.

"Last year it was held in Rudder and only about 25 people showed up," Gay said.

Another change is that in addition to the speakers scheduled for each week, a representative from Student Government will give a brief report on what they're doing.

"In a way we're like a vocal Battalion," Gay said, "but the forum gives students a chance to respond immediately instead of writing a letter to The Batt."

Daredevil performs stunt, dies

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Daredevil stuntman Soucek was killed when he dropped 180 feet from the top of the Astrodome in a barrel which he was supposed to land in, authorities said Sunday.

Soucek, 37, of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, died at 12:05 a.m. at Taub Hospital, the Harris County medical examiner's office said. He had suffered a crushed chest and a skull fracture, according to the examiner's report.

Soucek rode a cushioned barrel over Niagara's Horseshoe Falls in July — the first person to perform that act in 23 years.

"When he went over the falls last year, he studied a lot, took a lot of time spent of lot of time figuring out the currents, before he ever went over," said stuntman Spanky Spangler, who had known Soucek for 15 years. "This one just didn't look good from the beginning."

"I tried to get him to use a net bag because it was a much bigger get, but he said he wanted to get as close to Niagara as he could," Spangler said.

Soucek attempted the stunt in a specially designed barrel about 10 feet above the Astrodome floor on Friday night at the Thrill Show Destruction Derby.

Soucek was to drop into a tank about 9 feet deep and 12 wide. The barrel struck the rim and then fell in.

Hightower says farmers need a plan

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Thousands of American farmers are being forced out of business by the federal farm policy and their losses are as "criminal as a subway mugging," Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower said.

"Washington is not going to save us," he said Friday at the annual convention of the Texas Farmers

Union. We have to have our own plan. We have to mount our own crusade."

Almost 1,600 farms — including 100 in Texas — collapse weekly, he said.

"These are good farmers — efficient, productive and competitive people," Hightower said, "whom we need if the U.S. is to maintain its agricultural abundance."

"Last year, FmHA rejected 42 percent of those who sought loans to continue farming, and this year will be worse," he said.

Federal farm legislation has encouraged overproduction and established low commodity prices, Hightower said.

Since 1981, the market price of 22 of the 28 major agricultural prod-

ucts have declined an average of 10 percent.

But farmers usually receive more for their goods than what they produce them, he said.

While farmers are suffering the worst economic crisis in 50 years, said, the Reagan administration is proposing a new farm bill that would establish lower federal price supports on commodities.

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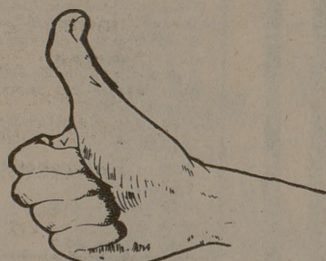
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