

**STATE AND LOCAL**

**Political debate features radical activists from '60s**

By ANN CERVENKA  
Staff Writer

Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin, two radical activists of the 1960s, will debate on the idealism of the 60s and the realism of the 80s on Thursday at 1 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

The debate, sponsored by the Memorial Student Center Political Forum, will undoubtedly touch on the Youth International Party, co-founded by Hoffman and Rubin in 1968. The Yippies organized in protest of the Vietnam War and American policy.

Hoffman, once described by Time magazine as "the frizzy-haired, war-painted Yippie leader who preached revolution against the American establishment," personified the young rebel with his political pranks and colorful lifestyle.

In 1973, Hoffman was charged with the possession of \$36,000 worth of cocaine. Because he did not think he would receive a fair trial, he jumped bail and went underground for six and one-half years.

During these years, he remained in the public eye, but without his identity becoming known. He assumed the name Barry Freed and became an environmental activist in New York.

In August of 1980, he made a dramatic re-entrance into society which coincided with the publication of his autobiography, "Soon to Be a Major Motion Picture."

During the emergence of the civil rights movement, Rubin left the University of California-Berkeley to become a full-time activist.

Between 1965 and 1967, he actively opposed the Vietnam War, believing it "was a moral issue and people had to be willing to go to jail to stop it."

In 1966, he ran for Mayor of Berkeley on an anti-war campaign and came in second of four candidates with one-quarter of the votes.

As a member of the Youth International Party, he "sought to impose guerrilla theater on the political consciousness of the country."

After the Yippies demonstrated in Chicago in 1968 at the Democratic Convention, several were found guilty of inciting riots. Rubin served a total of nine months in jail in five different states for his anti-war activity.

After the Vietnam War ended, resulting in peace on college campuses, Rubin withdrew from the public eye.

In 1982, he joined the "establishment" that he fought against so many years. He and his staff invite people from the entertainment and financial worlds to a weekly "networking salon," where business matters are discussed.

**Foreign film series considered again**

By MARY MCWHORTER  
Reporter

The foreign film series cancelled last November is being considered again by Schulman 6 Theatre owner Morris Schulman.

The overabundance of theaters in the area and the shortage of movies that usually occur in the spring and fall might provide an opening in theaters for foreign films, Schulman says.

The foreign film series stopped after showing only seven films.

"I believe there is an audience for first run art films," says Larry Hickman, a philosophy teacher at Texas A&M.

"One of the ways you gauge the sophistication of a community is if they are content to show Clint Eastwood ... Arnold Schwarzenegger movies or more thoughtful and wellcrafted films."

Hickman also teaches a film course in the philosophy department and organizes Alternative Cin-

ema, a non-profit program that shows foreign film classics at Texas A&M.

The Alternative Cinema series is beginning its second semester and is a success. Hickman says he is able to meet all his costs in bringing the foreign films to A&M.

On the other hand, Schulman says his foreign film series failed because of an uninformed public and high shipping costs.

Attendance wasn't large enough to cover all the costs, Schulman says. Even though he had larger than usual ads in the Bryan-College Station Eagle, the public didn't find out about the films by the time they were shown.

Aggie Cinema is presently showcasing foreign films on Sunday nights. Also, Alternative Cinema shows its foreign film series every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Architecture Auditorium.

**'Hokum'**

Man says racing bill full of it

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Claims that legalized horse race betting could generate up to \$200 million in state revenue are "a plate full of hokum," the director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission said Tuesday.

Phil Strickland, director of the group that long has opposed pari-mutuel gambling, said some racing bill backers are projecting a revenue figure that is twice the average of what the biggest racing states receive.

One of the bill's sponsors, Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, has said racing eventually could bring Texas up to \$200 million.

But Strickland said statistics from the horse racing industry show California, the state with the largest pari-mutuel income, received over \$138 million in 1983.

The average of the four racing states with the largest incomes — California, New York, Illinois and Ohio — was just \$79.6 million in 1983, he said. And in states around Texas, revenue ranged from \$2.1 million for New Mexico to \$11.6 million for Arkansas, he said.

"This most recent claim by the horse racing folks hurt them," Strickland said. "They are assuming that legislators are incredibly gullible or incredibly stupid."

"Pari-mutuel gambling might eventually raise \$200 million, but I will be riding to work in a space buggy when it happens."

Berlanga and Rep. George Pierce, R-San Antonio, introduced the bill in the House Monday, and Speaker Gib Lewis said the legislation's time may have arrived.

"I'll be honest with you," Lewis said. "At one time, I was opposed to pari-mutuel betting. It's something that's overdue, especially with the fi-

nancial problems we are facing in the state."

Given the state government's budget problems — a potential shortfall of \$1 billion over the 1986-87 budget years — Lewis said gambling revenue could help.

"It's a multi-billion-dollar industry," he said, with potential windfalls not only from a cut of the bets but also from "satellite businesses that it spurs."

Horse racing legislation was approved by the Senate in 1983, but failed in the House by two votes.

Berlanga said he thinks the House will favor his bill this time because of the need for new state revenue sources and because in 1981 and 1983, the House broke a psychological barrier by voting on horse racing.

"Primarily, we feel like we're operating from a position of strength," Berlanga said.

The new bill would allow pari-mutuel racing only in counties where a special election approved it.

Berlanga acknowledged his bill is at odds with Gov. Mark White, who has said he wants a statewide vote before pari-mutuel gambling is permitted. Berlanga said he is going to meet with White in hopes of getting his support.

The Texas Horse Racing Association has said pari-mutuel betting eventually could bring the state \$75 million to \$100 million annually in new revenues, while critics contend it would attract organized crime.

If passed, the bill will establish an eight-member Texas Horse Racing Commission to regulate the industry. However, the comptroller's office would monitor the financial affairs of the tracks.

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