

Wednesday, September 27, 1989

A&M gets shot of Rand objectivism

By Selina Gonzalez

Of The Battalion Staff

The Students of Objectivism sponsored a videotaped lecture by Dr. Leonard Peikoff titled, "Religion Versus America" Tuesday night to educate Texas A&M students about Ayn Rand's philosophy of objectivism.

Objectivists maintain four beliefs: reality as it exists independent of man's feelings, wishes, hopes or fears; reason as man's only means of perceiving reality, his only source of knowledge, his only guide to action, and his basic means of survival; man as an end in himself, not the means to the ends of others; and laissez-faire capitalism as the ideal political-economic system.

The purpose of Students of Objectivism, founded last year, is to educate people about Ayn Rand's objectivism philosophy, Kevin Copps, president of Students of Objectivism, said.

An objectivist cannot believe in God, Copps said. Atheism is a consequence of objectivism.

Lecturing at the Ford Hall Forum in Boston on April 20, 1986, Peikoff said, today's Moral Majority is correct in saying that America's freedom depends on moral values. But the Protestant Fundamentalists, led by the Republican Party, is incorrect in saying that religion can provide that moral foundation, Peikoff said.

"Religion means orienting one's existence around faith, God and a life of service . . . condemning four key elements: reason, nature, the self and man," Peikoff said.

Communism is a modern derivative of religion, Peikoff said. "We are still being protected (from communism) by the fading remnants of our Enlightenment heritage . . . but we will not be so for long if the New Right has its way," Peikoff said.

Peikoff said the Moral Majority's view on abortion is an example of how women don't have con-

trol over their bodies, their own lives, their life goals and even their existence.

"The New Right is not the voice of Americanism," Peikoff said. "It is the voice of thought-control attempting to take over in this country and pervert and undo the actual American revolution."

Peikoff said that in order to combat the doctrines that he said are destroying America, "We need a philosophy of reason and of rational self-interest that will release the power of man's mind and the energy inherent in his pursuit of happiness."

The purpose of Students of Objectivism is to find that philosophy, Copps said.

Peikoff encouraged people who agree with objectivism ideas to choose between religion, which is a form of upreason, and America.

"You cannot have both," he said. "If there is to be any chance for the future, this is the only chance there is."

Angry letter writers ask officials to deny Jones' parole request

AUSTIN (AP) — State parole officials have received hundreds of letters saying convicted baby-killer Genene Jones should stay in prison, and the prosecutor who won that conviction said Tuesday he will join them.

"She's dangerous," Kerr County District Attorney Ron Sutton, who prosecuted the 1984 case, said.

Jones first becomes eligible for parole in November after being sentenced to 99 years in prison for killing a 15-month-old girl by fatal injection.

Chelsea McClellan died Sept. 17, 1982, after suffering mysterious seizures while in the care of Jones, who worked as a nurse in a Kerrville pediatrician's office.

Karin Armstrong of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles said more than 575 letters had been sent to the board since the case was publicized last week on the syndicated television show "Geraldo."

"That's a lot of letters," a second board spokesman said. "It's as many as any of us can remember."

Jones' eligibility for parole under state law doesn't mean that she will be released, Armstrong

said. A board member is scheduled to interview Jones next week and file a report for a three-member panel to make a parole decision.

"She never has admitted her guilt in this thing," Sutton said. "For that reason, I consider her extremely dangerous. I'm going to protest the parole. I think she's dangerous and I think she's got sociopathic tendencies."

According to evidence presented at the trial, there was a history of problems at the pediatrician's office. From Aug. 27 to Sept. 27, 1982, six children — including Chelsea McClellan — suffered unexplained seizures while in Jones' care. All had been brought to the office with relatively minor complaints.

Chelsea was scheduled to receive routine immunizations, and the nurse gave the injection while the child was in her mother's arms.

"It's a very clear pattern," Sutton explained during a 1986 appeals court hearing. "In each case, there was an unexplained seizure. Each one had an injection by needle or intravenous and in each one (Jones) prepared the needle or the intravenous."

Jordan Institute bolsters world awareness

By Cindy McMillian

Of The Battalion Staff

College life is so demanding that many students develop tunnel vision, shutting off the rest of the world. A program offered by the MSC Jordan Institute for International Awareness, however, encourages Texas A&M students to open their eyes and see the whole picture.

The Jordan Enrichment Program provides funding to student organizations that plan activities with an international subject matter. Siti Aishah Md. Lassim, Jordan's director for Enrichment Programs, said the program offers international students a chance to bridge the gap between themselves and American students.

Lassim, a graduate student in industrial engineering from Malaysia, said the Jordan Institute and the International Students Association aim for basically the same objective, but many internationals don't realize that.

"Most of the time international students focus on the ISA, but actually they're isolating themselves

from American students," she said. This gap, Lassim said, is the reason she became involved in Jordan.

The types of programs funded by Jordan are wide ranging, she said, and in the past have included lectures, movies, art exhibits, music, architecture and business. The Jordan committee is not looking for any certain kind of event to sponsor, she said, but considers funding for any program planned by a recognized student organization that deals with an international subject.

"A lot of programs can be done," she said. "It's just a matter of who's willing to apply and take responsibility for the planning."

Planning, organization and implementation of programs are completely the responsibility of the sponsoring organizations. Jordan helps provide the funds from proceeds of an endowment left in the memory of Leland T. Jordan, Class of '29, by his wife, Jessie W. Jordan.

Organizations receiving money from the Jordan Enrichment Program in the past include the Aggie Players, MSC Great Issues, the Association of Graduate Wildlife and Fisheries Scientists, MSC Aggie Cin-

ema, Langford Architecture Center Gallery, MSC Black Awareness Committee and the Mexican Students Association.

Deadlines for applications are staggered, depending on when the money is needed. Organizations may apply for funding for academic year 1989-90, academic year 1990-91 or funding on a monthly basis for an ongoing type of program.

Lassim said that planning in advance for a program to be offered

next year can be considered a problem, but it can also be a plus.

"The application deadline helps you prepare well for your program and make sure you have enough money," Lassim said.

Most grants do not exceed \$1,000. Between the current year's budget, next year's budget and the monthly award, a total of \$7,200 is available. Applications for the enrichment program can be picked up in the committee's office in the MSC Browsing Library.

Activists protest federal AIDS survey in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Gay rights and AIDS activists blocked the entrance to the Dallas County Health Department Tuesday with 90 "bodies" to protest a federal door-to-door survey on AIDS.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services last month approved a random survey of Dallas County residents to be conducted over a three- to four-month period to determine the county's rate of AIDS infection.

The survey of 3,400 households is also intended to determine the feasibility of a national AIDS survey next year.

"The time for studies has passed. The time for

action is now," activists chanted as they blocked the door to the health department with shirts and pants that were sewn up and stuffed to resemble bodies.

The number of stuffed "bodies" represented the number of people who will die of AIDS in Dallas County during the survey period, William Waybourn, president of the Dallas Gay Alliance, said.

The survey would ask one adult in each of the 3,400 randomly-chosen households to take a blood test for the AIDS virus and answer ques-

tions about sexual habits and drug use. Acquired immune deficiency syndrome is caused by the HIV, or human immunodeficiency virus. The virus damages the body's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to death from infections and cancer.

Proponents say the survey will shape government spending on AIDS prevention and treatment.

"At this point the only solid numbers that we have deal with AIDS patients, not with HIV-infected persons," Dr. Gordon Green, director of the Dallas County Health Department, said.

ADMIT ONE

Here's Your Ticket To The Hottest Show On Campus!

ZENITH data systems & **MICROCOMPUTER CENTER**
Computer Sales and Supplies
Located on the main floor of the Memorial Student Center
Monday thru Friday 7:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(409) 845-4081

Present

Solutions Tour 1989

Zenith Data systems is pleased to announce Solutions Tour '89. Solutions Tour '89 features a full day of seminars and exhibits demonstrating a full range of solution oriented applications that include:

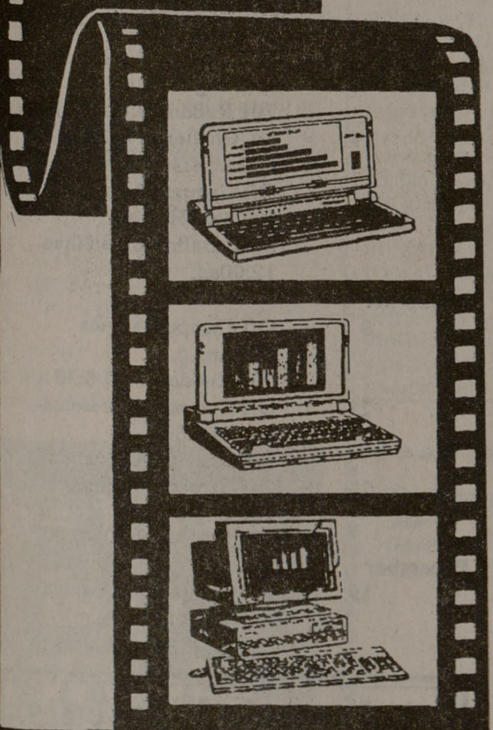
- Networking • Multi-tasking • Graphics
- Desktop Publishing • Portable Computers
- Graphic User Interfaces • System Utilities
- Word Processing • Spreadsheets

Zenith Data Systems looks forward to presenting a solution for your specific needs.

When: October 3, 1989
Where: Texas A&M University
Memorial Student Center
Exhibits - Room 226
Seminars - Room 228
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SEMINARS

- 9:30 - 10:30 Extended Industry Standard Architecture (EISA vs. MCA)
- 11:00 - 12:00 Electronic Publishing Solutions
- 12:30 - 1:30 Unix and Multiprocessing Architecture for the 1990's
- 2:00 - 3:00 Zenith Hardware Solutions for Networks



Logos for sponsors: Microsoft, SYBEX COMPUTER BOOKS, FIFTH GENERATION SYSTEMS, SRC SOFTWARE PUBLISHING, ZENITH data systems, ZENITH INNOVATES AGAIN™, Santa Cruz Operations, Z-LAN, NOVELL, Xerox Ventura Publisher.

NOW IN KEGS!



MILLER BREWING COMPANY REMINDS YOU TO PLEASE:



Beer Brewed by Miller Brewing Co., Milw., WI