

Spotlight On Energy At N. C. State Fair

RALEIGH — The spotlight will be on energy in the biggest exhibit of the 1978 State Fair.

The 10,000 square-foot charter-sphere, which last year housed the highly successful "Leaves of Gold," will be turned this year into the "Energy Dome." Another 12,000 square feet of space outside the dome will have solar and commercial exhibits.

Designer David Cameron promises that the Energy Dome "will hit on everything." He added, "I want visitors to be able to say, 'Hey, I can use that idea at my house.' On the other hand, I want to show them some of the new energy alternatives that are at the forefront of technology."

An attraction of the Energy Dome is bound to be the cut-away model of a two-story, energy efficient house. Visitors will be able to walk through the house and observe construction details and energy-saving devices, including a special fireplace.

Another feature of the dome, which could have practical application for many visitors, will be the exhibit on wood stoves. On display will be wind generators and solar panels, including the new photovoltaic solar cells being developed by the Research Triangle Institute.

A flywheel car, a model of a wood-fired boiler, and a methane gas generator will be packed into the dome. A highlight of the Energy Dome will be the model forest, which will come equipped with rain, ponds and a cascading stream. Located on the stream will be a small hydroelectric generator and a ram, a popular water-pumping device before electricity reached rural areas.

A special series of reusable exhibits will include a map of North Carolina's present energy resources, including nuclear power and other alternatives for the future. A home-of-tomorrow scaled to the ecosystem will be part of this series.

A strong conservation entire Energy Dome, according to Cameron. A model oil recycling plant and information on the recycling of paper and aluminum will be presented.

ROCKINGHAM — The American 500, final Winston Cup Grand National stock car race of the season in the Carolinas-Virginia area, will be the featured attraction for outdoor recreation lovers this week with a series of exciting happenings scheduled Thursday through Sunday at North Carolina Motor Speedway.

In the spotlight will be auto racing superstars Cale Yarborough, Darrell Waltrip, Richard Petty, Benny Parsons, David Pearson, Bobby Allison, Buddy Baker and defending American 500 champion Donnie Allison, plus many other drivers with a shot at Victory Lane such as Lennie

Pond, Neil Bonnett, Dave Marcis and Richard Brooks. They will be contesting for the \$16,385 winner's share of the \$149,150 in posted awards for the 500-mile event on the world's fastest one-mile closed course. The race is scheduled to start at 12 noon Sunday.

Other highlights for the weekend include qualifying for the prestigious Sun-Drop Pole Position Award on Thursday at 3 P.M., the American 500 Road Race of 10,000 meters and One Mile Fun Run from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M. Saturday, followed by the Lyon Radio Stations Baby Grand 125 kilometer feature race for sub-compact cars at 3 P.M.

The spotlight figures to focus considerably on Richard Petty, who is trying desperately to snap a winless string that has stretched to 41 races. The acknowledged king of the sport with 185 career victories, hasn't gone winless for a season since 1959, the year he began racing fulltime about midway through the season.

Petty conducted extensive tests at NCMS last week and

was very much encouraged with the results. The test results, following a highly competitive showing in the National 500 at Charlotte the Sunday before, had Petty flashing his famous grin and admitting "I honestly think we've got a chance to win now. Since changing from the Dodge to Chevy we've got a chance to win now. Since changing from the Dodge to Chevy we had been so busy going to races every week that we hadn't had a chance to go through the race car and sort things out. We're in the ball game now. If we can get a little good luck for a change we've got a chance to win."

Parsons and J.D. McDuffie followed Petty the next day with test patterns of their own. Parsons, who finished third in the same lap with Carolina 500 winner David Pearson in March, was seeking a tip for better handling on the track's high-banked turns (22 degrees in turns one and two and 25 degrees in three and four.) McDuffie was testing McCreary tires for endurance. Both were pleased with the results.

Yarborough, winner of nine Winston Cup events this season, will be running on a new setup for the American 500. Car builder Junior Johnson has announced that he has been working on some new stuff for the race. "Rockingham is a tough place to finish, much less win. Your car has to be almost perfect, and we think the little additions and changes we've made are a

step in that direction." David Pearson, winner of seven pole positions this season, will be favored to take the \$1,000 Sun-Drop prize and a \$500 bonus from Busch beer. The fastest 15 drivers will earn starting spots on Thursday. Fifteen additional drivers will win berths in time trials Friday, and the field of 36 will be filled Saturday.

Media Gets Beating

By James J. Kilpatrick
The American press, as such diverse fellows as Richard Nixon and Bert Lance will tell you, is famed for dishing it out. We are not so widely acclaimed for taking it. But when a few hard lumps come our way, we ought in good conscience to acknowledge the thumping and venture some modest reply.

In the current issue of the Atlantic, Louis Banks gives the press what-for. In the February 15 issue of Modern Medicine, Dr. Michael J. Halberstam lashes about with his cane. They make substantially the same charge, that once the press gets beyond routine reporting, much of our coverage is ignorant, biased, unfair, imbalanced, or all of the above.

Banks is an old pro who served in the Time-Fortune factory for nearly 25 years before he crossed the street to academia in 1973. He's now an adjunct professor of management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His concern goes chiefly to the coverage of business news. He relays his observation that many business leaders distrust reporters, dislike the emphasis on "antibusiness" pronouncements, and believe the press provides "a distorted view of reality."

This resentment is especially severe, Banks advises, among businessmen engaged in producing consumer goods. These executives "see themselves as victims of a media epidemic more virulent than botulism." The bad consumer news gets prominent coverage; the good consumer news rarely is reported at all.

Dr. Halberstam, a leading cardiologist here in Washington, is also a professor of medicine and a prolific writer in the medical field. His February piece in Modern Medicine is an admirable example of polemical writing at its very best. He takes the hide right off. First he skins Mike Wallace and Dan Rather of 60 Minutes; then he flays the print media generally; finally he returns to the television that "almost

always trivializes what it covers." It is no more realistic, he says, to expect the press to be fair in its reporting than to expect a rattlesnake to be "fair" in its striking.

Dr. Halberstam is convinced that much medical reporting is flatly "biased." He denounces the press for covering the harmful side effects of certain drugs without giving coverage to "the triumphs and advances." All this adds up to a performance by the press that is astoundingly bad, inaccurate and vindictive. "It is the manhandling of our profession," he says, "that properly enrages us."

Well. There is some small measure of truth in this farrago of accusations, but two or three points may be made in reply. First, businessmen and doctors alike suffer from a fundamental misunderstanding of the nature of news. Second, much of the picture they complain about is of their own making. Third, the situation is steadily improving.

It is not news, alas, when one million automobiles perform satisfactorily; it is news when ten thousand are recalled. It is not news when Kodak names a vice president; it is news when Kodak gets hit with an anti-trust judgment. It is not news when a surgeon performs a thousand successful operations; it is news when he leaves a saw inside. And so on. Yes, we ought to cover more of the "triumphs and advances," and in point of fact much coverage is indeed devoted to the good things. But news is news.

The press could do a better job if executives and scientists would climb down from their high horses and respond, on the level, to reporters' questions. Every reporter of my acquaintance has gone through the maddening experience of trying to reach a business executive, close to deadline, only to get the royal runaround from the PR boys. Down in Florida last year, one of the county medical societies voted to discipline any member doctor who spoke to a working reporter. Who's sore at whom?

The situation improves. At the highest levels of journalism, increasingly we see courts covered by reporters who are law school graduates. Many business editors are trained in economics. Food editors have degrees in nutrition. We have science writers capable of holding their own in any laboratory. And so on. This trend toward specialization will grow steadily stronger.

But we never will wholly satisfy our critics, and we ought never to try. So long as the press maintains an essentially adversary relationship to the whole blessed world — them against us — a healthy tension will survive.

(Mr. Kilpatrick is syndicated by the Washington Star Syndicate, Inc., N.Y., N.Y. This column reprinted by permission of the author.)

Washington Report By Walter B. Jones

By Congressman Walter B. Jones

The House of Representatives was the scene of a major presidential victory last week when that body voted to sustain the veto of the Public Works Appropriations Bill. President Carter had vetoed the bill against the advice of both Democratic and Republican leaders in the House and the Senate. Because of his opposition to the construction of about 30 water projects, primarily in the west. The vote was actually 223 to 190 in favor of over-riding the President, but since a two-thirds majority was required to override, the vote was not even particularly close.

The decisiveness of the President's victory was rather surprising since most observers had felt that the vote could go either way, even up to the time when the roll was called. The margin should be attributed to the intense and highly effective lobbying conducted by the President himself, the White House staff, and his cabinet

officers. The lobbying effort was certainly stronger than anything previously put together by this administration (with the possible exception of the Panama Canal Treaty in the Senate) and indeed some Congressmen said that Mr. Carter had done a lobbying job comparable to those done by former President Johnson, the acknowledged expert in this field.

As an example, the night before the vote I received a personal telephone call from the President concerning how I would vote on the override attempt the next day. We had a friendly conversation in which he offered his reasons for vetoing the bill. I replied that I certainly understood why he had taken his action and that I continued to support most of his policies, but that I felt I had to uphold my previous commitment to House leaders to support passage of the Public Works Bill. There was no undue pressure by the President, and I believe he understood the reasons for my position. The North Carolina

delegation had eight Members supporting the President and three, including Congressmen Ike Andrews, Charlie Whitely and myself, voting to override. Although none of us had projects directly affected by this override, we do have Congressional districts that benefit from public works projects on frequent occasions and it is necessary to support the House Public Works Committee on other items. In other action, the House passed a bill making it a federal crime to smuggle

cigarettes across state lines for purposes of evading taxes in states which place a high levy on cigarettes. The Senate had passed a similar bill shortly before. This bill was in response to evidence of growing involvement of organized crime in the cigarette smuggling trade. The bill would not affect a family from up north which purchased several cartons of cigarettes in North Carolina on their way home from vacation. There must be at least 30,000 cigarettes involved before federal jurisdiction would occur.

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