

Chancellor Alfred R. Neumann. Photo by Bill Langford.

## Voter's dilemma: straight or split?

By LISA INGRAM

Even as I reached for the levers to cast my ballot, my hand wavered. It has been a week since Election Day and I am still questioning those choices. I have fulfilled my civic duty, but did I make the right decisions?

I have mixed emotions about politics. I am not even sure if I am a Republican or a Democrat.

People who brag about voting a straight ticket for years irritate me. It seems to me that such a procedure would leave no room for thought. Voting would become a habit. Why read the newspaper or listen to campaign speeches, if you know you are going to vote for the party, no matter who is representing it?

I do listen to the speeches and study the issues and yet I still do not know whom to vote for. I understand both sides of an issue but can never decide which side's advantages or disadvantages outweigh the other's. For example, I will argue with my father, who is a Republican (registered a

Democrat,) just for the sake of understanding his viewpoint.

One of our last arguments dealt with the government giving tax cuts to big business. I follow what Dad says about industries deserving a break because they offer many job opportunities whereas the small independent merchants do not. On the other hand, the expansion of the corporations is driving out the individual's attempt to be autonomous.

I would prefer to own and manage a small business rather than be a faceless slave in someone's corporation. However, when I am traveling, I would much rather eat at a "Dairy Queen" the risk my meal at "Mabel's Grill."

Just where do I stand? I always vote. In the few years that I have been a qualified voter, I have not yet set a consistent pattern of voting for either party. I am probably a Democrat, though I have voted Republican. Maybe, I am a Republican who has often voted for a Democratic candidate. Please don't ask about last week's elections. I'll never tell.

## Chancellor Neumann guides CLC into maturation phase

By Peggy Mathis

There were two transportation routes out of Frankfurt, Germany, in the spring of 1937 for 16-year-old Alfred Neumann. One was by the Zeppelin dirigible, which departed twice a month for Lakehurst, New Jersey. It was a three-and-one-half-day journey that costs 1,000 Marks.

The second was a five-day trip by ship that cost 255 Marks. Neumann begged his mother to let him fly to the United States.

Two things discouraged his flight. First, until it reached the U.S., the dirigible was considered German Territory, and, secondly, his mother said he "was too young to spend that kind of money on." Once on board the ship, he would be "out of the Nazis' clutches."

In May, the Hindenberg, crashed at Lakehurst, ending the Zeppelin service. In June, Neumann boarded a ship for America with his violin, viola, music, a few linens, five suits, 36 pairs of socks, some books, and four dollars.

Sixteen years later he joined the University of Houston faculty as an Assistant Professor of German. After serving for two years as Assistant to

the President, he was appointed Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, a position he held for 14 years prior to assuming the UH-CLC Chancellorship six years ago. Now, as chief administrative officer of the university, responsible for its operation, he has watched this institution that was the "dream of a great many people" become a reality in a short period of time.

"Now comes the stage of maturation," Dr. Neumann said. "This is sometimes much more difficult than just getting the initial institution underway, and it is much less spectacular than the beginning phase of new buildings. The consolidation and solidification of quality is much less visible."

The university's purpose is to provide advanced education for people who might not be able to have an educational opportunity because of geographical or economical reasons.

"The people in this area," he continued, "seem to want extensive programs in business, in education, in human sciences, in public affairs and in technology. We try to offer

these programs." Dr. Neumann would like to see a full music program offered, if there were a demand for it.

The university attempts to be "as flexible as possible" in program offerings since conditions and public needs change so quickly. The university's approach to education is "interdisciplinary because the world is not compartmentalized into departmental lines."

Programs in business technology and in medical records administration were attempted but "did not work too well" because of a lack of interest, and thus were discontinued.

UH-CLC faculty members were surprised by the "preponderance" of graduate students that came and wanted to be here. These students are "mature and very well motivated." Dr. Neumann considers it an asset that "we have no freshman or sophomores," and that "we deal with goal-oriented students."

He hopes that UH-CLC will "continue to intensify in quality and give our students what they come here for,

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Take a bow! The cast and crew of Lu Ann Hampton Laverly Oberlander included: first row, left to right, Len Sobel, Gerald Ford, Martha Ann Ball, Bo Ogden; second row, Jim Hackett, Lynette Perkins, Marilyn Rogers, Arthur Glen Hughes, Susan Meyers, Howard Dahl; third row, Byron Gernand, Stephen Ford, Ricky Goodnight, Bill Logan, Larry Sievers. Not pictured, Kenneth Bennett, Jo Anne Wheeler, Jon Middents. See story on page 3. Photo by Jim Hackett.



# "The world is not compartmentalized into departmental lines"

Continued from page 1.

namely, the best education we can provide." He hopes, too, that the university will continue "to grow slightly, but not too fast."

Insufficient funding seems to be the university's biggest problem. Having attracted a "particularly well-qualified, student-oriented faculty," Dr. Neumann believes it is essential to "find a better salary situation and more support funds for them. We have built a splendid library," he said, "but we are now having problems maintaining it because the state simply does not support us sufficiently."

"We hope we will continue to be recognized as the premier upper-level institution in Texas," he said. For the first time this fall, out of 30 similar universities, UH-CLC is the largest in terms of enrollment.

While Dr. Neumann has tenure as a professor of literature, he hopes to continue as Chancellor until he reaches the mandatory retirement age.

He seeks variety in his life through work in administration, work in the family, work in the community and work in music. He patterns himself after his father because, he said, "this is the best way for young people to get interested in something - to see others whom they admire in role-model situations."

His father, a businessman, spoke four languages fluently,

and "always had a lot of books around the house and encouraged us to study. My father played chamber music every Wednesday night," Dr. Neumann related, "and I was allowed to listen and finally as I grew older I was able to play with them."

The home spark kindled an educational flame that sent Dr. Neumann in quest of learning that resulted in an A.B. degree from Marshall University, an M. A. from the University of Kentucky, another M.A. from Harvard, and a Ph.D. in German Literature from the University of Michigan. He has taught at Tulane, Harvard, and the University of Michigan.

In 1964 Marshall University awarded him the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws, and in 1974 he was named Distinguished Alumnus. The West German Government decorated him in 1964 with the Order of Merit, followed by the Commander's Cross of the Order in 1974.

He is a member of the Commission on Leadership Development of the American Council on Education. As Chairman of the Committee on International Programs of the American Association of State Colleges, he recently traveled to Egypt and Greece to visit educational institutions. He is currently director of the Jewish Family Service, a

board member of the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Space Center Rotary Club.

While Dr. Neumann has never published a book, he has had numerous articles published, some relating to his favorite author, Goethe. He also wrote the Houston Symphony program notes for 17 years.

Dr. Neumann still has the musical instruments he brought with him from Germany, but because of lack of practice time, he no longer plays them. At one time Beethoven was his favorite composer, but now Mahler is, because, he said, "As you grow older you like different things."

Dr. Neumann's wife, Selma, earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music from the University of Michigan. She has taught piano for many years; her most noted teacher was Artur Schnabel.

Sailing is the Neumanns' main recreation. Their son, Steve, a graphics designer in Houston, is captain of their sailboat, which is named "The Imposter," because, Dr. Neumann said, "when I am behind the wheel I am truly an imposter." The Neumanns' daughter, Kiki, is a promotional representative for a Houston paper company.

Dr. Neumann stood up and

led the way to his real office, a small room off a short corridor leading from the large, parlor-type office. This office, too, faces the front of the university, because, he laughed and said, "I picked it out." In this room are a work-piled desk, a typewriter, two chairs, and many, many books.

Back in the formal area, he nostalgically explained the interesting wall hangings. There is a large, framed lithograph of Joseph Joachim and his string quartet that once hung over the mantel in his

home in Frankfurt. There is a picture of the signing of Senate Bill No. 2 that authorized the funding for UH-CLC. Behind the desk is an autographed photo of former German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, a 1650 map of Germany entirely in Latin, and an 1843 German newspaper clipping advertising for immigrants to come to the U.S.

Dr. Alfred R. Neumann might be an "imposter" behind the wheel of his sailboat, but at the helm of UH-CLC, he is real.

## Club Beat

### TSEA

The largest organization on campus, Texas Student Education Association (TSEA), a branch of Texas State Teacher Association (TSTA) offers a wide range of opportunities to UH-CLC education majors to serve the area school districts and gain teaching experience.

In October TSEA, volunteers provided a Halloween celebration at Texas Children's Hospital and escorted visitors at the World Futures Conference held at UH-CLC.

TSEA just concluded a kindergarten screening program in Alvin where members tested children's developmental and readiness levels in reading and math. Now, volunteers are tutoring children in math and reading at the South Houston Neighborhood Center through the Pasadena Independent School District.

At the recent TSEA District Convention, two UH-CLC students were chosen as part of a 16-member Texas delegation to attend the Student National Education Association convention. In January, TSEA President Leigh Sims and Chairman of Human Relations Connie Abshire will represent UH-CLC in San Diego.

Other 1978-79 TSEA officers include: Vice-President. Bob Karsten, Secretary Johnna Massey, Treasurer Sarah Yelverton, Program Chairman Sandy Josephson, Asst. Program Chairman Marsha Lukaszewski, Historian Debbie Creel, Parliamentarian Scharlet Mauldin and Reporter Sue Humphreys. Faculty sponsors are Dr. Betty Criscoe, Dr. Phil Lanasa, Dr. Bob Fitzmaurice and Dr. Nolie Mays.

### SPA

On Sept. 22 the Society of Personnel Administration held a banquet at the Sheraton

King's Inn to receive their national charter. The local chapter has 106 members making it the second largest in the nation.

This semester the entire UH-CLC student body was invited to attend SPA sponsored workshops in resume writing and job interviewing.

The club recently chartered a bus and took 50 members and their friends to attend the horse races at Delta Downs in Vinton, Louisiana.

A committee has been appointed to determine criteria for the new internship program sponsored by SPA. Internships have currently been established with Entex, the American Arbitration Association, and UH-CLC.

Anyone interested in joining SPA is invited to contact Faculty Advisor Lou White or President Nolie Nettles at 488-9494.

## Students must walk through early registration process

To register early for the spring semester, continuing students will have to get off their easy chairs and "walk through" the registration process. Why?

Director of Admissions and Records T. J. Smith says that the change is to save time and money.

The "easy chair" registration Smith initiated last semester worked well in most cases. The problem was that many students had less than ideal situations.

Ideally, the students discussed possible schedules with a faculty advisor over the phone while relaxing in an easy chair at home. After deciding upon a schedule, the advisor would send the approved course request to the registration office for processing. Then the bursar's office would handle billing of tuition and fees by mail. The course request became an official class schedule upon receipt of the student's payment.

Sometimes a course request is rejected because of a discrepancy between the "tick" number and the course "ID" number copied from the scheduled catalogue. In many cases, the process was held up by cancelled or closed courses. Then the registrar's office had to contact the student by mail or telephone. Often before submitting an alternative request, the student needed to consult with an advisor again. "The advising period tended to drag on throughout the entire process," said Smith.

Another problem is that most students waited until two or three days before the payment deadline to pay tuition and fees. Then it was necessary to extend the deadline. It is quite expensive to mail out reminders, billing statements, receipts, revisions, re-billing statements, and payment extensions.

"These postage expenses were eating us alive, especially at 15 cents a throw," Smith said. One mail-out to the entire student body costs about \$850. "It was getting to the point where we would have to increase the staff in the bursar's office and in my office, to keep up with it all," said Smith. The new registration procedure should keep these offices from hiring new personnel and cut costs at the same time.

Now, a student must meet with a faculty advisor in person. Between Nov. 27 and 30, the student will take his own request to the registration office to have it processed on the spot. Rather than waiting to be billed by mail, the student must pay in full at the bursar's office.

The student will know of any discrepancies or changes immediately and can handle them without delay. Also, since registration is completed on a first-come, first serve basis, students have the opportunity to get what they want by registering early. Before, even though the student may have been among the first to leave a course request with an advisor, that was no guarantee that his request would be among the first to reach the registrar's office.

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The UHCLidian is published bi-weekly by The University of Houston at Clear Lake City, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., Houston, Texas, 77058.

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## Review

# Lu Ann Hampton Lavery Oberlander



**Billy Bob Wortman (Jim Hackett) and Lu Ann (Marilyn Rogers) discuss the chances of getting his father's step-down Hudson for the Senior picnic. Photo by Jim Hackett.**

By Carolyn Truesdell-Morgan

Lone Star beer flowed, country music filled Atrium II, and everyone expressed praise for the excellent presentation they had just seen. This was the atmosphere at the "hoe-down" following the opening night performance of "Lu Ann Hampton Lavery Oberlander" at UH-CLC October 27. It was quite an experience.

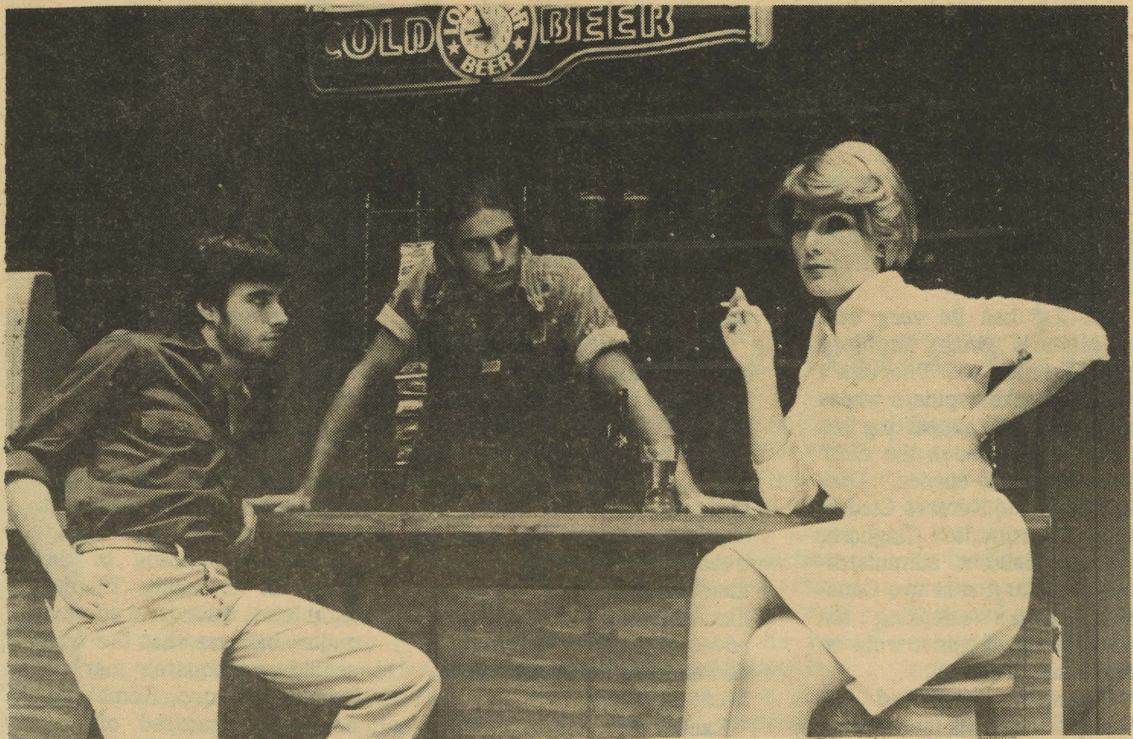
The play was a fine example of integrated talent in everything from set design to acting. It gave one the feeling that a lot of credit was due the insight of its highly professional director, Dr. Robert Everding.

This is in no way meant to discredit an absolutely superb cast. From the moment the audience saw Marilyn Rogers (Lu Ann) in her cheerleading suit, chewing bubble gum and wise-cracking in her authentic west-Texas drawl, they were aware of a definite stage presence. By the end of the play, the audience has watched her progress through 20 years of divorce, widowhood, rearing her child alone, and working at two-bit jobs to support herself,

her child, and an alcoholic brother and invalid mother as well. But she is still telling-it-like-it-is all the way.

Lu Ann emerges as an example of those brave women all across this country who somehow manage to keep body and soul together despite the tremendous odds placed against them by society and fate. Marilyn Rogers may well be the best actress seen in an amateur production in the Bay Area in a long time.

Arthur Glen Hughes as Skip Hampton also gave an expert performance as the mixed-up Korean War veteran who moves from brashness and broad humor in the first act to the d.t.s of a degenerate wino in act three. With the help of makeup and excellent body movements, he did a believable job of aging from a healthy young man in his twenties to a prematurely old alcoholic in his forties. Skip



**Cory (Ricky Goodnight) tries to make time with Lu Ann (Marilyn Rogers) as checker player Larry Sievers looks on. Photo by Jim Hackett.**

Hampton is the debris of war that society casts by the wayside. It is left to the Lu Ann's of the world to try to pick up the pieces.

Kenneth Bennett had the audience in spasms of laughter in his cameo role of Milo Crawford. His voice inflections and expressions were reminiscent of the Mr. Peepers character created by the late Wally Cox.

Byron Gernand did a good job of creating the character of the brash and sometimes vulgar bar owner, Red Grover. Stephen Ford (Dale Lavery) and Ricky Goodnight (Cory Oberlander) played Lu Ann's first and second husbands, respectively.

Ricky Goodnight gave a touching performance as the macho-yet-sensitive highway-hole repairman who rescues Lu Ann from the loneliness of divorce. Cory is killed a few years later in a pick-up truck accident, leaving Lu Ann in the loneliness of widowhood. Jim Hackett (Billy Bob Wortman) was impressive, green hair and all, as Lu Ann's high school boyfriend who goes into the ministry. Later, in the last act, when he returns to visit Lu Ann, she reminisces about why she did not marry him and

decides it must be because she just could not imagine being called Lu Ann Wortman "it's just plain silly sounding!"

Bill Logan and Larry Sievers were suitably small-townish and smallminded as the bar-room checker players.

Susan Meyers (Claudine Hampton, Lu Ann's mother) was involved in the one discernible faux pas of the evening, not hers, but the set's. As she was removing a hat from the hat rack on the wall, the rack fell down. Susan carried it off with such aplomb that the audience might well have thought it was supposed to happen that way.

Lynette Perkins was horrible as Charmaine Lavery, but she was supposed to be horrible. As the ornery teenage daughter of Lu Ann, she was abrasive, disrespectful and cruel at times.

All in all, what Preston Jones does in Lu Ann is to create life as it is, that strange mixture of

pathos and humor that we live every day. And the UH-CLC Drama department has brought it to life so we can laugh, cry, and perhaps look at our own lives with a little more perspective.

## Dance slated

Space Dance Theater, a professional contemporary dance group under the direction of James Clouser, will perform in Atrium II on November 17 and 18 at 8:30 p.m. Clouser is a former director of the Houston Ballet and also a former UH-CLC faculty member.

The evening is entitled, *Witches*, and will consist of four works. *Shank's Mare*, *Cauldron*, *Crossed Purposes* and *Witches*. Tickets will be \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children, and may be picked up at the door.

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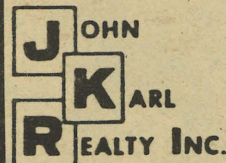
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## Take a hike

# CLC nature trail offers tranquillity in woodlands

By LISA INGRAM

If studying long hours in the library begins dulling the brain, set aside the books. Take a hike. Visit the nature trail.

UH-CLC has its very own "Walden" with spiders comparable to Thoreau's "yellow-backed spiders whose webs - the main supporting line - stretch six feet in the clear from spruce to spruce." During the World Futures Conference, Marguerite Claghorn, the chancellor's administrative secretary, met two Canadian visitors admiring the construction of spider webs on the nature trail.

Claghorn attributed the sturdy five and six foot webs to the Gulf Coast golden spider. "Those built at the end of last May are usually still around now," added Claghorn. One of the visitors exclaimed, "these are much stronger than anything we have seen in Canada."

Claghorn, who tries to walk the trail once a week observed that the spiders have built their webs a little higher each year to avoid breakage by hikers.

An observant hiker will not only see spiders but also, raccoons, armadillos, rabbits, possums and a variety of birds. Many have seen deer in the early morning and late evening. There are even reports of a fox and a bobcat sighted on campus.

The nature trail begins across the street from the student entrance of the Bayou Building. Hiking the 1.6 mile takes about an hour. A city right-of-way intercepts the wooded corner with an Exxon pipeline. Using the right-of-way as a short-cut provides a 20 minute hike.

A pavilion just beyond the

entrance of the trail occasionally serves as an outdoor classroom. On the longer trail a bird-watch platform overlooks Horsepen Bayou. There is also a boat dock on the water.

After pointing out the bayou on this same hike, Mrs. Claghorn slows her pace and lowers her voice, "come November-December, when the deciduous trees have lost their leaves, then you can look over the bayou and see these ghostly trees with just Spanish moss on them. On a gray day it really is like something out of a Gothic novel. If you have an imagination and you are in here alone, it can be scary."

Except for the rhythmic knocking of a woodpecker and the crowing of a blue jays, the nature trail offers a noiseless serenity. Claghorn, who hikes for the pleasure of walking, says, "the nice thing is that there is no telephone out here."

Another nature lover, Dr. David Malin agrees that the trail is a "nice place to get away from it all." Malin, professor of behavioral and biological sciences, often uses the bird-watch platform.

After sitting quietly a few minutes Malin claims that anyone could spot red bellied "blue birds of happiness" and spectacular pileated woodpeckers. The proud, red crested bird is of the "Woody-the-woodpecker" fame. Two ospreys or "sea eagles," which are an endangered species, inhabit this area between the Armand and Horsepen Bayous. On a recent evening, Malin saw a huge barred owl come out for his nightly jaunt.

Malin, who is also interested in snakes, reminds potential hikers that this area is virtually an untamed wilderness.

"There are poisonous snakes, particularly copperheads. Most of the snakes are harmless and are extremely useful to ecology," says Malin. Anyone using the trail should "always look ahead of the path while moving, keep to the middle of the trail and never wander away from the trail," urges Malin.

Because of the constant change in foliage and the lack of markers, a hiker not familiar with the trail could mistake an opening in the brush for the path. Thomas Hambleton, behavioral science major, believes that the trail should be adequately marked. Even with a map, Hambleton accidentally tramped off the trail and found the UH garbage dump instead of the bird-watch platform.

Claghorn expresses disappointment that more students do not use the nature trail. She would like to find a group of students who would help maintain the trail. Because of the lack of funds, the grounds crew does not include the nature trail in the scheduled maintenance program.

Supervisor of the grounds maintenance department, Harleigh Kemmerer explains that the trail is cared for on a request basis. He sent a crew to clean up the pavilion two weeks ago after some one on campus called in the request. Kemmerer says that the nature trail does not require much maintenance.

Anyone using the trail could help by picking up litter and tossing aside fallen branches. Kemmerer adds, "a good student project would be to have a few of the trees identified with labels." Identification labels could also serve the purpose of marking the trail.



Mrs. Marguerite Claghorn, administrative secretary to Chancellor Alfred R. Neumann, enjoys the serenity of the nature trail. Photo by Bill Langford.

At one time the grounds crew covered the path with a layer of natural bark. The wood chips marked the trail and controlled a certain amount of erosion. Most of the bark has since washed away.

Marked or not, the nature

trail provides the cautious adventurer an exciting experience. Follow Thoreau's advice, read some "living poetry like the leaves of a tree, which precede flowers and fruit, - not a fossil earth, but a living earth."



Beauty and the beast on the nature trail. Photos by Bill Langford.