

International Student Center Groundbreaking Ceremony
San Diego State University, Saturday, March 2, 1991

Side A

Opening Remarks: Ron Johnston, Emcee Co-Chairman, SDSU Parents'
Development Board

Welcome to what we all feel, is one of the most exciting things that has happened to this university in history. Sometimes in the near future we will be talking to you from the actual facility that we're here to celebrate today. And we'll be inside that warm facility without worrying about the rain. A facility designed, compliments of the very talented architect, who is humbly standing over on the side, Francisco Montesinos, done just marvelous work in producing the drawings, the renderings, all the architectural nuance (not clear) that is necessary to create the structure we are here to celebrate today. Also this facility would have not been possible without a tremendous amount of volunteer work of many outside businesses, such as, for instance, Dave Denning of the Fieldstone group, who is here with us today. Where is he? Thank you for all of your help. DLSK & Associates, someone here with DLSK today? Nowell-Thompson Landscaping Architects, Nasland Engineering, and that's just to name a few.

The International Student Center has been funded as well, to the collected efforts of many appreciated contributors. Most of you would be on that list. And because of that the individual names are really too numerous to mention. They are in the hundreds, with one very obvious exception. There is one name

that we'll all think of every time that we and the students enter the center we are here to celebrate today. One name that we will see proudly displayed in large letters at that center and that name is Harold Keen. (talking from the audience)

Because of the wishes of Mrs. Ruth Keen, who is here today to honor her beloved husband and her generous, substantiated donation, to fortified the building fund, the dream of a grand San Diego State University International Student Center to serve tomorrow's leaders, for generations to come, this center will become a reality.

Harold Keen was a journalist and today there aren't many true journalists. And he pieced together many facts to tell a story and just like the different chapters in a storybook, many separate groups have been bound together to reach this goal that we celebrate today.

During the rest of this morning's program, you'll hear more about these wonderful people. As we unfold the many chapters of our, International Student Center, story. But before we begin, it is my honor and pleasure to introduce the many who stands at the helm (unclear) of everything that is San Diego State University. His leadership that had led our university to the challenges of the 90's and beyond. The University President Thomas B. Day, understands the impact our International Student Center will have on the campus, the community and the world, both business and social. We thank him for his continuous support and I would like to invite him up, to now say a few words. Dr. Day

(applause from the audience)

Official Welcome: Thomas B. Day, President

I thank you all very much. It's always a little embarrassing to come up to an applause when someone like Lionel Van Deerlin is here, it's just uh (laughing from the audience). You feel so humbled by the fact that I am here today to be able to thank you all to recognize the tuition (unclear) of the efforts of hundreds and hundreds of people. It's nice to have a project that has a beginning and an end that a lot of people can work on and can see come to an end and is a project that is really intrinsically so good. It's nice to see the art and the designs of sketches and I also honor the architect. It's particularly nice to have a project that brings people together, unlike this from all over the world, which will be perpetual, which will remember tremendously important and nice people like Harold Keen. He was a great journalist. In my first year here, which was not a very easy year, never is, uh, he interviewed me in a long, long article and was very gentle to me, very nice (laughing from the audience). I look back on now and I consider the (unclear) journalists that I deal with so much as the reporters that I deal with, there is a big difference. Uh, and I think of tremendous nostalgia for a man of his caliber. It's a real pleasure to be able to have an event that honors someone like this and someone like Dave Neptune, who has been a backbone of this university. Projects of this kind through generations and generations of students have been touched by and we were also

much honored. While this is uh a monument to students, I think it's always wise for a president to remember the faculty and there is one faculty member who probably can legitimately be looked on as uh (unclear) of all the faculty who is in the room today, Gayle Burnett, who was the Masters uh, care of the Masters Committee for Ruth Keen. So that we really have posed a circle here at sometime and I want to honor Gayle and through her, all the faculty of course, faculty or the other part of the institution that we usually honor.

Today uh, today, though, it's really for students, I think, for the international students. It's a good time for that. It's a trying time internationally, but as Walt Disney said 'it is a small world' and we're all on one small world together and we better learn how to live with each other one way or the other. At least we are finding that there's beginnings of some resolutions of international uh dissensions and conflicts in different parts of the globe. And there are ways of going about that, whether it's international trade, which of course has brought the globe together for thousands and thousands of years, or whether or not it's international curiosity, or the desire to be educated, which is what this center is all about, what this university is all about. Education is inherently international. It's a spiritual endeavor. Its an endeavor of man's spirit to reach beyond himself or herself and in that we're all together. We all are in one world. So I'm delighted to be here at this time to see this project come to(unclear) and I'm really looking

forward into going inside of it. Thank you very much.(Applause)

Ron Johnston:

With leadership like that, how could we not go the right direction? The next speaker in our distinguished line up is a gentleman not listed on the program. By the way how does everyone think that the students who are here today, with their native costumes are absolutely a dynamic way to introduce a program like this? (Applause)

Our surprised guest, and this is really a surprised guest, will not be a surprise, anyone familiar with the existing international student services and events on campus. Together with his dedicated staff and his wife, by the way, who I know keeps pushing him in the right direction. Ron Moffatt, Director of International Student Services operates out of a cramped, ill-equipped office temporarily.(Laughter)

Although his daydreams these days are visions of the future and the new facility, we've asked him to backwards in time a little to give us a little history on this project, so we can all look at it in perspective and appreciate really how far we've come, and by the way that time span is about 2 1/2 years that we are celebrating here today. To that end, I will like to introduce Ron Moffatt, our special guest speaker.(Applause)

Ron Moffatt, Director of International Student Services

Thank you, Ron. Good morning and welcome. Today, Marks a critical turning point in an incredible journey that began almost forty years ago. Today, some magical things begin to happen.

What was on abstract, is about to become concrete, literally. (Laughter) What was once imagined is about to be realized. What was once a dream is about to come true. As I look around this audience today I see several people who have helped bring about this magical transformation. Among us today are several committed and determined pioneers who left indelible footprints along a path that leads us to this special time and place. Each has become a part of living history that brings us together for such a joyous celebration.

There's a person among us today who for 35 years served as advisor, counselor, mentor and enduring friend of our international community. His name is Dave Neptune. Proudly touching the hearts and minds of thousands of individuals now living all over the world, David has been righteously called the Founding Father of the International Student Services. Each of us who knows Dave realizes that our lives and in turn our world are richer today because of his caring, because of his vision. In a few minutes someone else will share a few words about Dave Neptune and his life long contributions to greater international understanding and good will.

There's another person among us today, who for 11 years dedicated herself to improving the everyday life of our international students, and who resolutely and steadfastly, advocated the building of an International Student Center. Her name is Winnie Chase and from 1972-1984, she served with great distinction as director of the SDSU International Student Office.

Primarily through her efforts and influence, original plans for a center in Scripps Park were approved by the faculty senate in 1983. In 1985, Winnie provided the first major gift to a fundraising campaign as a challenge to other faculty and staff to honor the life work of Dave Neptune.

Among us today are several of the hundred and fifty plus individuals and colleagues who responded so generously to this challenge. Well your presence here today is just one more eloquent reminder that your commitment to the success of this project. Your ongoing support and patience have been greatly appreciated and thank you for joining the ranks of the angels, world leaders, the diplomatic core, peace core and the many, many global villagers.

There's another person among us today, who makes me smile every time I think of him. His name is Jerry Baker and he's the stubbornest person I've ever met. (Laughter) When he sets his sights on something he wants he doesn't stop until he gets it. Jerry is a business man and an Aztec parent who for more than 2 1/2 years has set his sights in building an International Student Center of this campus. As a consequence, he has spent apart each and everyday raising support for the project. In addition to serving as co-chair of the parent development committee and making a major personal donation to the campaign, Jerry recruited other prime players to the team. First, Jerry brought in Francisco Montesinos, the master architect from San Clemente. Francisco has volunteered countless hours of hard work and

creativity toward this project and the fruits of his labor are readily apparent on the display table at the rear of the room. I hope you've had the opportunity to see what a magnificent facility Francisco has designed for us. Second, Jerry brought in Ron Johnston, the other co-chair of the Aztec parent development committee and this mornings Master of Ceremony. As you have already discovered, Ron has infused this project with tremendous energy and purpose. His expertise in the world of banking and finance has also been a tremendous asset for us. Over the years both, Jerry and Ron, have learned much about the inner wonders of the state supported enterprise. And they have steadily grown accustomed to roll with the punches. When the (unclear) analysis (unclear) of Scripps Park could not support the twelve hundred square foot center original designed for there, Jerry responded with "No problem. We'll find another source." When the newly designed center was increased to 4500 square feet and the cost jumped to three fold to \$475,000.00, Ron responded with "No problem. We'll raise some more money." As you can see, Jerry and Ron don't give up very easily.

Finally, there's a person among us who's the primary reason we are here today. The one person who made it physically possible for all the other dreamers and planners and builders and supporters, to make it possible for all of us to finally come together on this common ground. Her name is Ruth Keen and it is her unyielding love for her husband, Harold, that had brought us together. Her celebration of that love and the memory of the man

she so dearly loved, motivated her to reach out in a very tangible and very generous way to make the imagines real and the dream true. Ruth knew, when she first heard about this project that this is what Harold would have wanted. What better way to honor Harold Keen and his life long contributions to the world, than to help build a center that will promote greater international understanding and good will. Well, each and everyone of us, who have worked so long and so hard for this day, remain forever indebted to you, Mrs. Keen. Mrs. Keen, we are grateful to you, for your of Harold and for your loving way of honoring him. (Applause)

Ron Johnston:

(Applause) In a few moments, we will hear more about Harold from one of his dearest friends, the honorable Lionel Van Deerlin, but first I would like to call up to the podium, Carl Emerich, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, who will share a few thoughts about the person who got this magic started long ago, at the beginning of this incredible journey.

(Applause)

Carl Emerich:

Thank you. When I was asked several weeks ago if I would speak about David's life, I turned it down four times. The (unclear) was that I could only use three minutes. And for those who have heard me talk, I have never given a speech in three minute and David's life is far too rich to capture in three minutes. But the negotiations and the haggling went on and I

finally broke down because I had other things to do. (Laughter)
It's not that I don't love David, it's because of the persistence of building this building. If you think you folks are contributing materials, you ought to be involved in the inside. When folks want something down, they are not real interested on what is on you calendar, you need it down and you do it and that's the easiest way to get along.

I think one of the reasons I enjoy working at this university so much is, it is a large complicated university that understands that its people that make things work. No matter how big this place becomes, it is not the organization, it's not oedipuses, it's the one to one relationships and the network of relationships who has made everything happen. So I am very pleased today that I and others are reminding ourselves that it is not the building that has really brought us together here. The building is the reason we are gathering, but it's the celebration of all of our cooperative energies, it's the celebration of the root cause of what made this building a possibility and that is our desire to have a university that is grounded with an international understanding and serves as a place which is fertile to the exchange of ideas between people who grow up in different cultures.

Now we will honor many people today and my job is to honor one in particular. And to me it's the person who made the need to build the building possible and that is David Neptune. As I said, there's a lot on could say, three minutes is a short period

of time. I am going over that no doubts, just relax. (Laughter) I decided on what I would do, rather than recount David's many achievements and for many of you in the room who have known him longer than I, the man is simply is normally where something needs to be down and it happens, and it happens differently because he was there. Instead I would like to recount with you just very briefly what I have learned from the man.

I come from an immigrant family and my grandmother, I think to great pleasure in reminding me, when I would come home from school sometimes in her native dialect. She didn't care what I did in school that day, she wanted to know what I had learned. And I suspect, when I think of David, I think about what I have learned. So let me share with you several things which have really changed my life and I suspect have touch many of the rest of you in the same way and I have no doubt he has touched hundreds of thousands of students over the years.

First off, I've learned that to be a really great person, you must have a vision and David has a really clear vision. I also learned that David didn't start out with the vision. He started out with what he thought was important in his life and he tested that vision and he found truth in it and because of that, he found a way of life which began to look as other people might want the world to be. David has a real clear vision of world peace, he has a real clear vision of understanding between people. He has a beautiful vision of the richness that the diversity of all the different ways humans express themselves

merged together into a symphony.

I have also learned that David is a man of great passion. And that might sound very strange to some of you cause David has got to be one of the most quietly powerful people I have every met. (Laughter) But David taught me that there is extreme strength in humility, there's great strength in modesty, and more so, there is great strength in conservation of worlds. I serve on committees with David dealing with some very difficult issues. I worshiped with David in the silence of the Quaker practice and I had found that as he expresses himself his words are always well thought out, his words are inviting words, and his words are also those words which allow things to grow within them.

I have also learned from David the importance of consistency. It is very easy riding the crest of some great celebration, to be great. But I have seen David in programs where hundred people should've shown up and four did. And David put on that program as if a hundred people were there, as if hundred people's enthusiasm were in the room and making something happen and David was no less the person that he might have been with all the enthusiasm that a hundred would bring. I have seen David be strong when the winds have changed and the wimbs of (unclear) and politics would blow one way or the other and he remained consistent to the vision bolstered by that passion that he has to make things happen.

The last thing I want to share with you that I have learned from David is the real difference between looking for meaning in

your life and experiencing life. Joseph Campbell, the great teacher of mythology once said that "he discouraged students from looking for meaning in life." I thought, "wait a minute, that's what we're supposed to (unclear) in higher education." And then he went on to add that "you can't find meaning without experience." David created environment and still creates environments where people can experience issues, where people can test the truth of their own ideas and find out what remains after the cliches and the (unclear) and the politics and the personal pettiness that we all carry with us sometimes into emotional situations, have just simply had to fade away. And out of that, we've learned through our experience what is real and what is valuable. And I think the beauty of it is that David teaches so often without words. He lives what he believes. He lives it consistently. He lives it with a great deal of vitality and he lives it in a way your just very sure, even if you don't understand what is going on, he has thought this through and there is, in fact, something holding it all together, if you can just remain consistent and labor with him. I'm also reminded, as a teacher, that there is great paradox of being an educator. You are often told that you get to plant seeds, but you never get to see what comes up. Well that's not always true. Every now and then, a student comes back and says to you, " you know that thing you told me to try someday, gee, I tried it and everybody was amazed and gee it was right out of the textbook. But more often, we forget that just because some of us sew and others read

doesn't mean that that circle doesn't move actively in our lives because sewers be get other sewers and, in fact, seeds, as they fall to the earth and grow, come up as plants that create fruit and bare more seeds, and so something passes on and passes on and passes on.

When I was a senior in college, I had a seminar teacher, oh, those were the days, when you know you couldn't graduate until you sat down in a seminar and tried to put together everything that you had learn the other three years and you had to prove that you had some command over it. (Laughter) My senior seminar teacher, forgive if I can't remember who had said this quote (unclear), but he reminded us that there were many great people in the world whose names would never be written down in books, whose paintings would never be in grand museums, whose statues would never adorn in the lawns of the wealthy, but these were people who had lived their lives so well that they were treasures and that treasure was appreciated by people who knew them well. From my point of view, there are people all over the world who appreciate David as a treasure. And there are even other cultures who treasure people as national treasures and I am sure in their heart, David is treasured in that way. But more importantly, apart of David, which influenced them, is now influencing other people in the same way. And I have to believe if there is any hope for all of us to find a way to live together and to realize the dream of what our humanity can mean. It's because there's a lot of unnamed people who are real heroes and

heroines in the world who don't always get credit for the great something, but do the day-to-day little things, which makes all the differences in people's lives. And because of some difference in someone life, they make a difference in someone else. And I am just enough of a mathematician to believe in geometric progression and I have to hope, even if not in my life time, that that will all, at some point in other, take hold of. And so today, I think the probably the most appropriate thing any of us could say to David is what one says out of deep sincerity and conservation of words. Thank you. (Applause)

Ron Johnston:

Now, a very special chapter of today's story. It's often said and has been said to me by a number of people here today that Harold Keen was loved and respected by all who knew him. His death was a loss felt by friends around the globe. Those of us who did not know Mr. Keen in his life time, missed a chance to experience a remarkable man. It only seems fitting of one of Mr. Keen's closest friends and associates could be here today to share with us his memories of Harold Keen. So that we may all have some insight into the life of the world (unclear) reporter, I would like to introduce to you, a former Congressman, media personality, a man, whose name that I have heard many years ago when I was active in politics, along time colleague of Harold Keen, honorable Lionel Van Deerlin. (Applause)

Lionel Van Deerlin:

Chairman, David Neptune, group...This is a highly unusual

event in more ways than one. Is anyone here who's ever attended an indoor groundbreaking? (Laughter) And after what journalists have been enduring for the last six weeks. It seems unusual, too, that we should be gathered to honor one of their number. (Laughter) From Baghdad all the way back to (unclear) and Washington, the profession has been kicked around in recent times as seldom before. That could be part because there aren't enough of them like the guy we are talking about this morning. I can see by the age level here that quite a few of you are old enough to remember this man. And I thought outside of Ruth, I'd be the one here who had known him longer than anyone else, but I have to yield to an ex-Hollywood High and UCLA fellow student of Harold Keen's, Mr. Berger, in the front row, who's intimate friendship with Harold's goes back to the 1920's, very obviously.

Harold will be remembered principally for his days on television, which he entered in its infancy, not because he was much like what you see in the television news today. I doubt very much and I am sure Ruth would validate this, I just can't believe that Harold ever submitted to a blow dry hair job.

(Laughter) His on air manner was not exactly in accord with much of today's happy news. Harold didn't think it too important to be kidded about if he had a flat tire on his way to work that day as they kicked it over from the weather to sports and back to the commentary. But he frequently had prepared his copy so close to air time that there wasn't time to get it up on the crawl, as they called it, to make it look as if they are looking into the

camera and the words were just flowing from a fertile mind. (Laughter) Old Harold was there looking as if he was bobbing for apples. (Laughter) Reading much too fast, it's possible that in the today's world of high pay consultant, Harold might not even be employed by a tv station. Indeed, it could be said that he had about only one thing going for him and that was total believability. Here was a man if you think of the word credibility, you have to think of Harold Keen. People knew when they got something from Harold that it was the best information that was available. They knew it was ever going to be colored. It was going to come straight through as news and not as any hidden agendas. Harold was straight forward. He was the one man who made the first television station in San Diego what it could become and what it did become and if some of the aura has fallen away, from that station in the competitive communication's race, it very well could be because Harold is no longer one of its staff.

I first met the guy in 193-

End of Side A

Side B

Lionel Van Deerlin: (cont.)

...San Diego Sun for a job paying \$18.00 a week. (Laughter) Harold, who had had a year start on me, was already making \$25.00. (Laughter) And as I often (unclear) him on occasion being

his interviewee and much many years later, I never caught up with him. The San Diego Sun was not, was a Scripps Howard paper, and any of you who know anything about the newspaper business, know that the Scripps Howard syndicate was always the outrater of second and third newspapers where ever they operated. They got along with staffs about half of the size of the opposition papers and even though this was a time when so called pm newspapers, afternoon papers, were still the leading circulation builders and money makers in newspaper(unclear), which fell, a position which was abandoned to morning newspapers when television came in to take up people's evening time. The San Diego Sun got by with about as little in the way of investment or expenditure as it could be imagined. For one thing, they were quite paternalistic, they paid us on Mondays rather than on Fridays, so we wouldn't go and blow the whole thing on the weekend.(Laughter) The office boys, the copy boys, referred to their pay checks as Christopher Columbus checks because after eight cents had been taken out for a new program called social security, the amount came to \$14.92. (Laughter) (unclear)...on the newspaper, a stone depth fellow named Earl Zan, who had one limitation imposed upon him. No matter what the importance of the story, he was not to use more than two flash bulbs. (Laughter) Flash bulbs cost about six cents each and they were an expenditure. Earl was once called out of bed at one o'clock in the morning to cover a big department store fire downtown, the old...no it wasn't Marston, it was south of Broadway, Walkers? No... Well, Whitney's,

Whitney's, Whitney's. You find when you get older... (unclear) (Laughter) And he had quickly used up his two flash bulbs before the fire really flared, (Laughter) so poor Earl climbed seven flights up the fire escape across the street, from the building, and waited and took a time framed exposure, utilizing the exploding flash bulbs of the Union and the Tribune photographers (Laughter) and got a picture that was carried nation wide as a prize. (unclear) And the story is probably apocryphal, but told none the less of the hard bitten managing editor of the Sun, J. Boyd Stevens, who is still with us in Rancho Bernardo, even older than some of us. That a reporter was once given three days to take a bride to Yosemite on a honeymoon and the middle of the third day, he wired back to the office and said, "It's wonderful here. Can I stay an extra day?" And the replied came back from J. Boyd Stevens, "What you are doing is wonderful anywhere." (Laughter) Many of us on the staff, you had to get along on (unclear)....even on the (unclear) sum of \$25.00, which Harold was making, it was just as well to watch you expenditures. And we lived in a rooming house runned by an elderly couple about ten minutes from downtown...mom and pop Hair. Mom was the real dynamo. She ran the place. For eight dollars a week, you got a room and three meals. She put up a lunch for you to take to work. If you didn't want to carry lunch to work, you could have the whole deal for seven dollars. But five lunches for the week for the extra buck was not too shabby. Pop Hair, I reckoned to say, had to be watched rather closely

because if you kept any booze in a dresser draw, you would find it, after a few days, watered down. (Laughter) He had the idea while you were there at work in the day time, pop was making the rounds, checking the supplies. (Laughter)

Harold Keen was..., you know we all had to be fairly fast when you were out numbered as we were by the opposition, but Harold was a simply an amazing sight to behold. Afterwards, after the San Diego Sun, has been bought out by a certain chain operation, which will be nameless, otherwise known as the Copley Press, he went over to the Tribune and when they acquired Harold, they really got something. It was said all the Trib that Harold could turn out a lead for the Tribune and one for the Los Angeles Times and one for the Associated Press, all of which he represented as well as having his job on the Tribune, while normal man was just working out his story for the paper. And after 39 years as the San Diego correspondence with the Los Angeles Times, Harold was flattered to see them start a San Diego edition and to note, that, to replace Harold, they hired a staff of thirty. The late afternoons were no relaxing time for Harold because at 5:00 or 5:15 or 5:30, whenever it was, he had a fifteen minute news program on KFSD, the old am radio station, who's studios were down on top of the grand hotel. And while the other members of the staff were beginning to shake off the effects of the day's work, Harold was a (unclear), if you never assembled a fifteen minute newscast, believe me it's a lot of air time to fill and yet Harold carry it all off as if it was just

flowing from the...more than the carbon copies of the day's news that he was working off from the Tribune. In that date, radio news was even less sophisticated than today and Harold was probably the first radio reporter who did more than just read what has already appeared in the newspaper. He was a man who followed up stories and you knew when you heard Harold on the air that you were having access to the very latest in whatever he was giving you. When television came, ah...television. 1948, we were a little behind the East Coast in getting it, but San Diego had its first station early on with channel 8, KFMB-TV and the management, and of course there was nothing in television at that point that in any way match, those even before (unclear) network news shows with cameras and (unclear) and a like. It was totally in its infancy, but the management of that news station had the wit to see that in this very good reporter, there was a making of a nightly news program, which wasn't a news program at all, but, it's called, "People in the News." And there was a fifteen minute interview program in which Harold Keen came on and he would introduce whoever happened to be in the news and it was a conversation piece around town who had been on the night before and pretty soon he became a very powerful figure in his ability to get people to come on. And some might have been nervous, but they were more nervous about not coming on and having someone like Harold Keen wondering why and trying to find out why they didn't want to come on.

This was a time when television was still in, news at least,

not anything like an interview program (unclear)...still categorized as public service to fulfill the requirements that was supposedly imposed upon the licensees to serve the public interest convenience and necessity, not just to make money. It was many years later that the management discovered that the good local news was also an excellent money maker and could produce a lot more on revenue than the small share of the take that they got off the network advertising. The Tribune, however, began to be a little disturbed by this news of this reporter. This was before the newspaper in general were accepting television as they (unclear) earlier on been reluctant to accept radio because, you see, if competed with the newspapers for advertising and so the time came, when Harold, early in the 1950's, when Harold got his ultimatum. Either he was going to have to go with this new competitor, the television or he was going to have decide that he was after all a newspaper man and stay with the Tribune. He could not do both. And to the amazement of the newspaper management, Harold had the vision to see that there might be a future even greater in television than in the print (unclear). And he went with KFMB, both in radio and tv and I should say that today, for a while, you might have supposed that the most celebrated news man ever to come out of San Diego, was a fellow named Max Miller, who had been a water front reporter for the old Sun and who wrote ten novels beginning with " I covered the water front," which of course song and movie and all, made him rich and he was able to take up residence in La Jolla and which I assure

you, I can't think of any other San Diego Sun veteran who ever could live in La Jolla, (Laughter) including those present. And this is because he was so identified with all the big news stories that this burgeoning city encountered. One of my favorite recollections is of a fellow who ran across the western United States in about 1952 or 1953, killing, robbing, (unclear), raping as he went. He was called "Bad Boy Bill Cook." And he had claimed 7,8, or 9 lives, he'd come up to campers in their recreational vehicles and kill them and take whatever they had and move on. Finally, he was, he was an object of such a chase that he crossed into Mexico and the FBI in San Diego, put out the word that they were (unclear) to him and they were on to this and they would produce him very quickly. And it turned out that a couple of Mexican rural police encountered Bad Boy Bill Cook and took him captive and brought him up to Tijuana and the cameras went down to Tijuana. And there was a huge press conference where Harold had not miss the opportunity to give the FBI a little bit for their pomposity and their failure. (Laughter) He was interviewing Bad Boy Bill Cook, who sat there with his head down in his chest, he wouldn't look up, and this just wasn't going to be a good television picture at all. So Harold leads with, " Here's this man who has killed nearly a dozen people in this rampage that has had the attention of the whole country, these last weeks." And he reached over and lifts his chin up, looking right into the camera. (Laughter) It worked.

Harold showed similar daring every Tuesday night. This was

in the days when broadcasters didn't manage, mind shamelessly, boosting commercial enterprises and every Tuesday night was pro wrestling night in San Diego. And pro wrestling was, I regret to tell you, way back then was just as...just what it is today (Laughter) Every Tuesday night a feature of Harold's people in the news program on channel 8 was an interview with whoever was the hottest wrestler of the moment was going to be on the card that night. And Harold's motive was to tell the wrestler, he wanted to put on what his favorite hole was. Well poor Harold, week after week, he'd submit himself to headlocks....(Laughter) airplane spins and the most ludicrous of all came the night they were featuring midget wrestlers, (Laughter) only about three feet tall. These fellows didn't understand that they were supposed to hold back, you know, and poor Harold, he took a horrible (unclear) (Laughter)

More serious side, Harold was the best, well I would say one of the two or three best interviewers I have ever known. If you have noticed anything about tv interviewers, most of them, especially these pretty ones, (Laughter) and I refer to both sexes. (Laughter) Coupled with an interview that you hear, if that the interviewer is so busy thinking of what he is going to ask next, that he isn't listening at all to what the interviewee is saying in response to his previous question. You just see them looking at their notes and the person is talking and you always have the feeling that one of these types of interviews that you could say and "why did you come to San Diego?" and the

answer could be, "Well because I was up for montraside in Oklahoma and...(Laughter) And the interviewer would come up, "And where do you plan to live?"(Laughter) Harold was not that kind of interviewer. He was the kind who uh....just wouldn't let you off the hook. His gambit was to say "Now here is what we are going to talk about in this interview." And of course, I got to understand that after this (unclear) I was in Congress, I knew the guy well enough to know, "Look out this is not what he going to talk about at all." (Laughter) You have this little preparation of interviewing in you and they tell you about what questions you are going to come to, and I came to my district five nights before the 1964 election with Linden Johnson and this was at the climax of a campaign that Johnson was supposed to be winning in a walk, except two or three nights before, in the local YMCA, near the White House, a highly placed member of the Johnson-(unclear) trust had been caught in a compromising situation with a homosexual ring. And there was great concern within the ranks of the campaign that this might, well you know, you can't tell how the public is going to react to something like this and it might be very damaging. It didn't look as if it should be. This was my first re-election campaign and I, or course, was worried that, I hadn't eaten in five days. And as Johnson came off the plane, I was trying to maneuver him towards the speaker's platform, out in Lindbergh Field. There was Harold waiting with his camera and his microphone. And naturally, I thought it was best to keep the President moving if

possible. (Laughter) He was enough of a ham, though, when he saw that microphone and that camera, he stopped. And Harold's first question out of the box was, "Mr. President, do you think the homosexual incident, involving your administration is going to prove damaging to the campaign?" (Laughter) I thought, "Now I've really got to push the guy." But not a chance. He stopped, he talked and he gave an interview, which became national headlines. Five days before the election, "President Charges that the Eisenhower Administration had Similar Homosexual..." (Laughter) I don't know if it's true or not, but I didn't care... (laughter)... this guy will kill you if you stay here any longer. So I literally tugged the President's (unclear) unto the platform. And it may not have escaped your attention that, he was re-elected despite his great stop over with Harold Keen. (Laughter)

I can tell you that the end of Harold's career, and I say the end I mean the last two or three years, were in my opinion, the best of all. I recall Harold saying to me at one time, quite seriously, "You know Van, as hard as we work and as all the effort and imagination we put into this, hardly anything that we ever write will live beyond sun down." And of course, he was right, that's the essence of the daily newspaper. You live for the moment and then the next day is a new challenge, a new time. That was before Harold went to work on a regular, not that he was employed by, but that he had a monthly column, I would call it, but it was a featured piece, in San Diego Magazine. In that

medium, for the first time, Harold went out on a long range business of investigation, of preparation of a story that wind up with some of the most informative reporting that has been done, the best writing on subjects like San Diego's Water Needs, its transportation and other matters. Some of his works in San Diego Magazine are still a touch stone for people who are supposed to be in charge of the municipal agenda. And you know this is not a bad (unclear) at all. To be simply the very best at whatever it is that you do. Harold Keen was the best and the friends that he left nearly ten years ago, will have to be delighted to know that his memory is to be associated with this new center for international students here on the campus of San Diego State University. Although he was not privileged to have been a graduate of this institution, where his wife achieved both a BA and an MA, there putting herself one up on Harold. (Laughter) Harold and San Diego State had a great deal in common. A spirit of intellectual curiosity , an inclination to reach out to all who share that curiosity and an understanding that for most of us, success will come only after hard work. Harold would be especially pleased to know that his bond with this university is to be perpetuated through an international student center. Himself, a second generation american, as are, I guess most of us. This man was close enough to his roots, to know some of the difficulties encountered by strangers in any land. Yes, even in a land which offers them as much as ours does. Thanks to all of you, and today especially, to thanks to dear Ruth Keen . Foreign

students of San Diego State will enjoy new opportunities to mingle and to intermingle. As set forth on the invitation to this morning's event, you joined an effort to build a new foundation for peace. An effort whose importance has surely been impressed upon us by the events of the last six weeks, 10,000 miles from here.

Whatever a student's race, whatever his national origin or as annunciated in the fifteenth amendment, whatever his previous condition of servitude, all will find a friendly pavement in this great campus center. Here, let us hope they will find the spirit of America. It'll be a spirit that asks, "How are things going? Anything you need? or How can we help?" It'll be the spirit of Harold Keen. (Applause)

Ron Johnston:

Days like this, where we hear story about the inept and dishonest politicians, where's Lionel Van Deerlin when we need him?(Laughter & Applause) Thank you very very much. All of you, we would appreciate, if you would come up and have some more coffee, things have been refilled. There will be more food brought out. Please stick around for a couple of reasons. Number one, we don't want to leave a lot of food that has to be disposed of. Number two, there's going to be some photo sessions and Judy (unclear), who's been the guiding force of today's event at San Diego State University and the Student Resource Center, is going to be arranging photo things, so please stick around because you will likely be tapped to be involved in something.

You can't escape. She won't let you out the door. And to close out the program portion of today's event, I would like to do something a little bit different. As Lionel Van Deerlin said, "We're having a groundbreaking ceremony within a room and that's a little bit different. And consistent with the theme brought up, I think by Ron of Disney's "Small World" or possible President Day, if you would all join hands with you neighbor. This being a small worked and if the students would do the same thing, we would like to introduce Lynda West, who's going to grace us with some beautiful music. And in closing today, too, if any of you have some friends who you feel would like to become involved in a project as exciting as this project is, please have them call us, please have them talk to one of the people who you know today at the meeting, we would like to have their participation and like to have them enjoy the growth of this university and its student center as well. Thank you all. Lynda. Lynda sings "Let There Be Peace on Earth"