



WILSON SUBMITS RESIGNATION

Robert R. Wilson resigned Feb. 9 as Director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

The announcement was made by Norman F. Ramsey, president of Universities Research Association. A consortium comprising 53 universities, URA operates Fermilab under contract with the Department of Energy. Ramsey said the problem of inadequate funding led Wilson to resign and indicated the loss of Wilson as director would be a severe blow.

In his resignation letter Dr. Wilson wrote:

"In this letter I regretfully tender my resignation. In a previous communication I expressed my concern that the future viability of Fermilab is threatened because the funding has been below that necessary to operate the existing facilities responsibly; presently we are operating at about half of our capacity to do physics experiments.

"This predicament is especially serious in the light of the financial resources of CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland) which are considerably more than double our own. Our scheme to leap-frog their financial advantage by increasing the Fermilab proton energy to 1,000 GeV through the application of superconductivity has been confounded by indecisive and subminimal support, as have been our modest proposals for intersecting beams.

"Such considerations led me, in desperation, to the conclusion stated in my last letter to you that I should not continue to give the impression that I could responsibly direct Fermilab without a substantial increase in funding.

"Despite mutual endeavors, as well as those of our many supporters, no additional money has been identified for FY 78, nor does the President's budget for FY 79 indicate more than a cost-of-living increase in operating funds. It does propose that the



Director R. R. Wilson announces resignation

Tevatron project (referred to as the Energy Saver) now become a construction project costing \$39 million, but the rate of funding for FY 79 is not enough more than that we are spending right now.

"It would require moving at least \$5 million forward from FY 80 to FY 79 to keep the Tevatron project moving at an acceptable and economical rate."

Dr. Wilson further indicated his desire to continue to work on the Tevatron. He initiated the project as an improvement program for Fermilab. The first phase of the project is the Energy Saver, for which funds are now being requested.

The director expressed the hope that in tendering his resignation he would be contributing to the chances for increased support of the Laboratory.

(Continued on Page 2)

WILSON RESIGNATION (Cont.)

"I could do this," he said, "could only do it, because of my confidence in my talented colleagues and in their ability to continue to make Fermilab a growing source of contributions to our knowledge and to our culture-- a great Laboratory."

Dr. Ramsey commented on Dr. Wilson's letter, saying:

"Although I fully sympathize with Dr. Wilson and understand his difficulties in directing a laboratory that is funded at too low a level, I deeply regret that these problems have led him to resign as Director at this critical time.



...R. R. Wilson meets the press...

"Dr. Wilson has been an inspiring Director of Fermilab since its inception and has made that Laboratory a great center for particle physics research. With Dr. Wilson's resignation as Director, science at Fermilab, in America and throughout the world will suffer a great loss."

EMERGENCY CLOSING INFORMATION

The status of early morning information on Fermilab on bad weather days is available from the Fermilab Operator (840-3000) as decisions are available. If the Lab is not open or partially open, the information will be broadcast by cooperating radio stations as follows:

	<u>AM</u>	<u>FM</u>
WMRO - Aurora	1280	108
WGSB - Geneva	1480	-
WMAQ - Chicago	670	101
WGN - Chicago	720	-
WBMX - Chicago	-	103

NALREC'S 1978 CANDLELIGHT BOWL

Saturday, February 25

9 P.M. - 1 A.M.

Admission \$7

Bowling Green Sports Center, West Chicago



Monday (Feb. 20) is the deadline to buy tickets. At \$7 per person, includes bowling, buffet and free drinks. Special prizes for red pin bowl, comic bowl and scotch doubles bowl. For tickets, contact: Jesse Guerra, Ext. 3533; Brenda Moylan, Ext. 3648; Sherry Nila, Ext. 3555; Pat Yost, Ext. 3441; Don Sorenson, Ext. 3087; Ed LaVallie, Ext. 3138.

...Candlelight bowl committee members are L-R: E. LaVallie, P. Yost, S. Nila, J. Guerra, D. Sorenson...



...Support Services members L-R seated are: J. Sutcliffe, D. Kiro, S. Swanson, C. Weissert, E. Jones and S. Henderson; L-R standing are: S. Cepeda, Sr., G. Guyer, R. Bermel, J. Colson, A. Lindner, R. Haynes, R. Solfisburg, B. Quinn and N. Hill...

SAFETY OFFICE, SUPPORT SERVICES RELOCATE

Central Laboratory sixth floor west is the new home for the Safety Office and Support Services group. Dug Pinyan's safety people had operated out of quarters at Site 50 on Batavia Road. John Colson's Support Services crew came from 43 Feldott Road.

...Safety personnel L-R seated are: M. Kasules and D. Pinyan; L-R standing are: C. Bonham, A. Streccius, R. Scherr, E. Brezina and R. Adams...



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ACADEMIC LECTURE SERIES ANNOUNCED

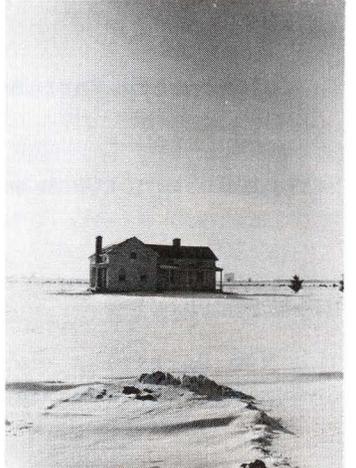
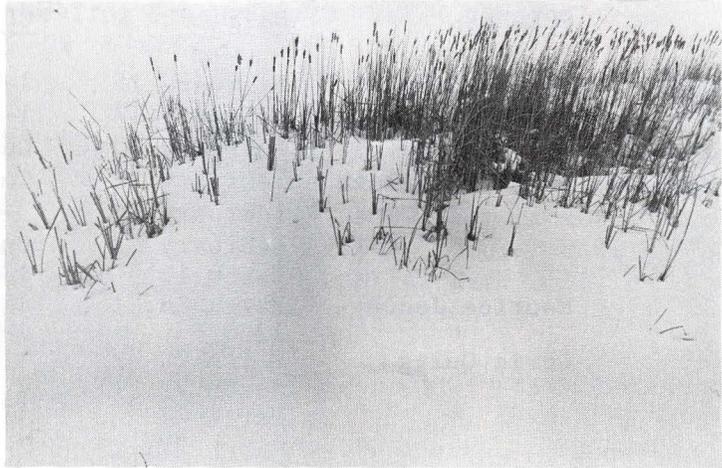
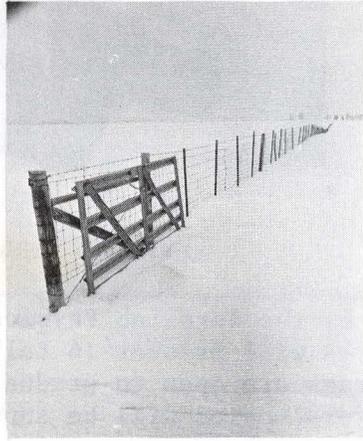
A 1978 academic lecture series sponsored by the Fermilab Physics Department opened Wednesday. H. E. (Gene) Fisk said four speakers will present 16 talks through March. Time of each talk will be 9:30 a.m. The programs are open to graduate students, research associates and others interested. Later speakers/topics will be announced. The schedule for February is:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CL CONFERENCE ROOM</u>
The Elementary Parton Model	Dennis Duke	February 15	1-West
		February 17	1-West
		February 20	Curia II
Strong Interactions of Partons	Hannu Miettinen	February 22	Curia II
		February 24	1-West
		February 27	Curia II
		March 1, 3	1-West
High P Physics	Maurice Jacob	March 13, 15, 17	1-West
		March 20	1-West
The New Particles - Charm and the Upsilon	Chris Quigg	March 22	
		March 24	1-West
		March 27, 29	



PHOTO ESSAY:

In the wake of January's blizzard, Fermilab photographer Rick Fenner focused on site scenes . . . and found some snow-clad prairie beauty. The best of Fenner's art is offered for our readers' interest.





February 16, 1978

To All Employees

You are all aware of the immediate energy crisis resulting from the coal strike. The Government is instructing all of their installations, east of the Mississippi River, to cutback on energy consumption. Fermilab is being asked to suspend high energy physics research. That means that we will cease to operate the 400 GeV research program. At the same time we are being asked to cutback 10% on our normal remaining power consumption. We are being asked to do this in the context of maintaining the Laboratory in active status with full staff gainfully employed. We see no problem in complying with these instructions. We have many maintenance and development projects which could fully occupy our staff for an indefinite period of time.

We have also been asked how much power we could save, beneath the level described above, by shutting the Laboratory down completely except for those activities which are essential to preserve the viability of the facilities and the capability to turn back on in an orderly and economical fashion. It is clear that such a shutdown has possible implications regarding enforced vacations, layoffs, etc. It is the Laboratory's position that the energy to be saved by shutting down tightly does not justify the costs that would accompany such a move. We shall fight strongly for that position.

Sincerely,

R. R. Wilson