FermiNews
April 25, 1989 Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Text of Fermilab Director Designate John Peoples' Press Conference, April 21, 1989

I'm delighted that the Universities Research Association has selected me to succeed Leon Lederman. Leon was one of my first teachers in graduate school at Columbia in 1959. I recall walking into his office with my class card, trying to persuade him that I could actually do physics.

I'm also very happy to be chosen to direct Fermilab at this very exciting time. As Leon has said, the TEVATRON is the highest energy accelerator in the world. It is a magnificent instrument, largely to Leon's credit, since it was built during his tenure as Director. Credit also goes to people like Helen Edwards, and Rich Orr, and Dick Lundy, and countless others who contributed immensely to the TEVATRON's successes. And we cannot forget the vision of Bob Wilson. I'm lucky; I get to see all the magnificent physics the TEVATRON will do.

We have very good plans for this machine during the next five years. Yesterday, we reviewed those plans with the Department of Energy. They praised us, they praised Leon, and they stated that this was the pre-eminent high-energy physics lab in the world. That is something we have believed ourselves, but it's always nice when somebody else says it. After five years, we'll see what the physics teaches us, but the TEVATRON will continue as the highest energy accelerator into the wee hours of the 21st century. Between then and now, we'll think up some things that will help us maintain our position as the top laboratory. We've shown imagination before, and I'm sure we'll show it again. We'll be a great laboratory ten and fifteen years from now.

Question: What are Fermilab's plans for the future?

Our immediate plan is what we're calling the "Upgrade," which entails improving the luminosity of the TEVATRON. The first phase of that upgrade is under way. The last piece of the first phase is to improve our Linac, which is currently the lowest energy machine in our accelerator chain. By upgrading the Linac, we can improve all the machines. We expect to have the Linac improvements completed by about 1992. **Continued on reverse**

URA President Knapp Resigns to Resume LANL Research

Universities Research Association, Inc., (URA) announced on April 18, 1989, that Edward A. Knapp will resign as URA President, returning to Los Alamos National Laboratory to resume his research activities. Knapp, who has served as URA's President since 1985, has been on a temporary leave of absence from Los Alamos.

"Now that the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC) contract is in place and a new Fermilab director has been nominated to DOE, it is time for a new president to lead URA through the next stage of development," Knapp said. "Fermilab is the premier high-energy physics facility in the United States, and the SSC holds tremendous promise for a new era of discoveries. Having commissioned the Fermilab TEVATRON Collider, accomplished the conceptual design and coordinated long-lead R&D for the SSC, and now been awarded the management and operating contract for the Supercollider's first nine years, URA is ready to enter a new management phase. It's been an honor to be associated with these key achievements, which have been and will continue to be integral to the advancement of particle physics."

A formal search for the new president will be initiated by the URA Board of Trustees. The Board, composed of university presidents and corporate executives from the across the U.S., is chaired by John Marburger, President of the State University of New York at Stony Brook. A search committee will be formed in accordance with URA precedent and will recommend a successor, to be approved by the Board. Knapp has agreed to remain with URA until a new president is in place, anticipating a transition no later than December 31, 1989.

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We also intend to replace the original machine built by Bob Wilson [the Main Ring], which is in the same tunnel as the TEVATRON, Leon's machine, with a new machine called the Main Injector, to be located outside the TEVATRON's tunnel. It's rather crowded with two machines and lots of detectors in one tunnel. The Main Injector will be a 150-GeV injector for the TEVATRON. That will allow us to make further steps toward improving the luminosity, allowing physicists to observe rarer phenomena. The rare phenomena give us insight into the fundamental properties of matter. We think we can have that entire program completed by 1995. Beyond that, we will have to wait and see what we discover in the next five years. We do have a plan for a larger machine on this site. We'll refine that plan, and if that turns out to be the right thing to do, then we'll do it.

In the meanwhile, we're just as enthusiastic about getting the SSC launched as anybody else. We are actually making some significant contributions to the development of the SSC magnets; we will probably make some other contributions. In addition, some of our good people have gone to the SSC, and while that will make the SSC a strong laboratory, I don't think it will weaken us in any way, because we've been able to attract a large number of younger people who are eager to learn and contribute.

Question: Is the funding coming through for the upgrade?

A little. We must persuade our funding agencies that our plans are the best plans. It's an unrelenting dialogue.

Question: On the heels of the SSC siting decision, do you think that Fermilab was in any way damaged, and could you elaborate on the Lab's participation in the SSC?

I don't think Fermilab is damaged. It just means that our future is going to be a bit different than it might have been. The SSC is not the only road in high-energy physics, even though it is very important to high-energy physics. We're a healthy laboratory. I'm the Deputy Director at the moment; that means I have a boss. We've been run very, very well over the last ten years by my boss; we're in very good shape.

Fermilab is the repository for a great deal of knowledge, and we also have the ability to train younger people entering the field of high-energy physics; we have one of the youngest accelerator divisions of any laboratory in the United States. We are going to help the SSC, in part because some of the people who are running it are our friends, and you don't turn your friends down. Our major contributions are going to come in the area of magnet development. We weren't involved in magnet development in the beginning, but we're becoming more active as people remember that the TEVATRON was a very well constructed machine. The magnets were a *tour de force*, and I hope we can bring some of that *tour de force* to the SSC. We'll also be involved in the areas of detectors and test beams. In fact, building detectors requires particle beams for test purposes. It will be quite awhile before there are any particle beams down in Waxahachie, so the SSC will have to rely on our facilities, and we'll find a way to share our facilities with them.

Question: Do you have a philosophy for running Fermilab?

I was called earlier this morning by a reporter, and during our conversation, I thought of that saying: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." As I said, this has been a well-run laboratory, with a certain style that we will continue. The Director of this Laboratory has traditionally kept an interest in many things that go beyond high-energy physics, such as education and environmental concerns. I want to see those initiatives sustained. One can't be Leon; he's the great educator. But we're going to continue those programs, which, I think, are very valuable to the community. Programs such as our institutes for high school teachers and "Saturday Morning Physics" are contributions beyond high-energy physics that are an obligation of national laboratories as we seek to make science more accessible to the public, and certainly more accessible to the people who teach our children.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTION:

The Arbor Day Celebration date (May 12) in the last issue of *FermiNews* is actually the rain date. The official date is May 5. Remember: If it's not raining on May 5, be at the Bullrush Pond behind the Industrial Complex on Road C-East. In case of rain, be there on May 12.

In other late-breaking Arbor Day news, Jesse Guerra has joined the Arbor Day Committee, and NALREC will provide a picnic lunch for volunteers. Music for the festivities will be performed by the *W* Bosons: Eileen and Hank Thacker, and Dick Gustafson. The complimentary saplings being given to volunteers are courtesy of Roads & Grounds.

***Note:** The next issue of* FermiNews *will appear on May 5. Deadline for ads/articles is April 27.*