

## David Brower to lecture

**April 25, 1980**

David Brower, an internationally recognized conservationist who is founder and president of Friends of the Earth, will give the second annual David Marc Belkin Memorial Lecture Tuesday, May 6, at the University of California, San Diego.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 8 p.m. in the Mandeville Auditorium at UC San Diego. Brower will speak on "Contemporary Conservation Issues."

The Belkin Lectures on environmental issues were established by the parents and friends of David Marc Belkin, an honors graduate of John Muir College who lost his life while backpacking in the High Sierra in July 1978. His love for the wilderness prompted his family to establish the endowed memorial fund in his memory.

Brower's career as a conservationist began in 1933 when he began doing volunteer work for the Sierra Club. In 1941 he was elected to the board, and from 1952 to 1969 he was executive director of the club. Membership in the Sierra Club jumped from 7,000 to 77,000 during his tenure and the club became a major influence on the national environmental scene.

Brower was instrumental in establishing the Kings Canyon, Redwood, North Cascades and Point Reyes national parks. He fought the relinquishment of timberlands from the Olympic National Park and he played a major role in preventing dams in Dinosaur National Monument and the Grand Canyon.

When Brower resigned from the Sierra Club in 1969, he founded Friends of the Earth and later the Friends of the Earth Foundation. He serves as president of both organizations and he travels around the world, helping to establish independent Friends of the Earth groups in other countries.

Brower is an accomplished mountaineer and skier and he has climbed every peak in the Sierras higher than 14,000 feet. His love of the wilderness is supported by a first-hand knowledge of the parks, forests and wildlife which he staunchly defends.

As head of Friends of the Earth, Brower has worked for a clean environment and a sensible, restrained long-range plan for the use of finite energy resources. His work has been dramatized in a book by John McPhee entitled "Encounters with the Archdruid."

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