

Sooners Have Stake in Free Enterprise

THE FIRST 10 amendments to our Constitution were designed to limit the effects of government on our lives; not to limit freedom of the people.

So said noted economist Dr. Milton Friedman during a recent visit to Oklahoma. His proposals for putting brakes on government taxing, spending and regulation have been well-reported in news stories. One vital point deserves further emphasis.

"We must initiate changes which will limit the effect of government in our lives," Friedman said. "More fundamental is the need to provide young people with an understanding of what it takes to maintain a free country."

He made this statement on the campus of Oklahoma Christian College, where walls are rising to house "ENTERPRISE SQUARE, USA." This unique institution is being created to help people — young and old — to grasp a better understanding of free enterprise and to acquire a renewal of the spirit that built this nation into a great economy.

Oklahoma Christian College has

established itself as a center for free enterprise and all that goes with it. (There might be a lesson here for floundering small colleges, but that's another story.)

Dr. George S. Benson, Dr. James Baird and Dr. J. Terry Johnson, successive heads of OCC, have attracted support of businessmen because they had a vision of the essential link between religion and economy. The link is freedom.

Friedman emphasized this by asking: "What is a Jew boy doing standing before a crowd at Oklahoma Christian College?" Then he enumerated freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, upon which Americans of all religious beliefs may agree.

"In the history of this world," Friedman declared, "no country ever has had religious freedom that has not also had economic freedom. We can protect our freedom only by limiting what government can do."

ENTERPRISE SQUARE, USA is scheduled to open in 1982. It is not far from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center where history is portrayed in

art, stories and displays.

ENTERPRISE SQUARE, USA will point toward the future by utilizing modern devices, inviting visitor participation.

Through elections Americans have expressed a desire to redirect governmental functions from welfare to enterprise. The time may be right for communicating a renewed spirit of freedom to the younger generation so they may perpetuate it.

When announcement of ENTERPRISE SQUARE, USA was made, some business leaders asked: "Why don't you build it in New York City?" Political spokesmen suggested Washington, D.C. Perhaps it was because New York City has itself become economically dependent upon the federal government. Maybe it was because Washington is where taxes, spending and regulations are enacted.

And then it might be because Johnson and his associates at OCC thought of the idea that the project is being built in Oklahoma City. Oklahomans believe in free enterprise and want the world to know it!

Oklahoma Christian College

1981 in Review

SATURDAY OKLAHOMAN AND TIMES

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Ferdie J. Deering

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Rising Enterprise Dr. R. Stafford North, executive vice president of Oklahoma Christian College, discusses construction work on the Enterprise Square U.S.A. project with R

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A HOLE IN THE GROUND A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Three years before Ronald Reagan's election sweep, deep in the heart of Oklahoma a handful of believers at Oklahoma Christian College decided that Walt Disney had shown the way to spread the Message about free enterprise.

So they dreamed up Enterprise Square U.S.A. and drummed up most of the estimated \$15 million cost. They've begun filling up the hole (shown here) with a complex that will convey—with exciting, participatory clarity—what those murky, oft-murdered phrases, "free



enterprise" and "capitalism," really mean.

Using all the audio-visual gizmos known to the devotees of every gaming arcade from Las Vegas to Piccadilly Circus to Tokyo's pachinko parlors, visitors will be able to do everything from going into business for themselves to experiencing the Great Depression itself.

The opening of Enterprise Square U.S.A. next year should result in the opening of minds and eyes of countless thousands of Americans.

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