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 IN **HOUSE CALLS**  
 FRI.-SAT. MIDNIGHT — ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW  
 ALL SEATS \$1.50

# \$19.4 billion OK'd in ag fiscal budget

United Press International  
**WASHINGTON** — The House Appropriations Committee Tuesday approved a \$19.4 billion Agriculture Department budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, rejecting a plea for changes made by Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland.

By voice vote, the committee accepted without amendment a bill approved by the agriculture appropriations subcommittee, increasing spending for several Agriculture Department programs in opposition to administration wishes and restoring research funds the administration sought to cut.

Bergland had appeared in open hearing before the comparable Senate subcommittee and the House subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Jamie Whitten, D-Miss., to argue that the changes hampered his and President Carter's attempts to run the government.

Whitten's reply was: "I think it's time the people's branch got back in the saddle."

The budget includes \$6.8 billion for general agriculture programs, \$2 billion for rural development, \$7.9 billion for domestic food programs, including food stamps, and miscellaneous allocations.

The bill is expected to go to the full House next week. The Senate subcommittee has scheduled its decisions on the budget next week. The House subcommittee said

# Record tug-of-war game ends in disaster for students

United Press International  
**HARRISBURG, Pa.** — A lighthearted attempt by the Harrisburg Middle School to set a world tug of war record began with the drop of a yellow flag.

It ended tragically about three minutes later with 70 students injured, four of them with parts of their fingers sliced off.

For nearly three minutes, 2,200 students and teachers from the school strained against the 2,000-foot long, 1½-inch, braided nylon cable.

Then there was a sound like a rifle shot.

The rope, which was supposed to be strong enough to withstand the pull of 13,000 pounds, had snapped.

Besides the four students who lost parts of their fingers, another 66 were treated at local hospitals for burned, blistered hands and possible fractures. And 150 to 200 more were treated by school nurses for hand burns.

Marshall Layton, principal of the school, said the students and teachers were trying to set a record for the largest tug-of-war so they could get into the Guinness Book of World Records.

"It sounded like an explosion. It really popped and everybody went flying," said Pete Rekus, a news photographer who witnessed the accident.

"There was some confusion at first until the kids realized what happened and looked at their burned hands. I saw one kid running with his hand held up in the air saying, 'My finger's gone. My finger's gone...'"

The rope, loaned to the school district by the Pennsylvania Power & Light Co., had a breaking strength of 13,000 pounds.

Regina Holmes, 13, who suffered severe burns and blisters on both hands, said the rope "popped just like a gun going off."

It exploded right in my eye. My hands felt like they were on fire."  
 Witnesses said the rope, about one-third of the length from the left side. One smoke issued from the rope before it snapped.  
 "There were too many pulling. There was just too much heat, too much resistance," Janice Hicks, 14, who lost hand burns.  
 Betty Bogar, spokeswoman for Harrisburg Polytechnic Institute, said four persons were injured for amputations. They were Donald Burnett, 16, who lost the little finger of his right hand; John Price, 14, who lost the tip of the little finger of his right hand; Dale Roberts, 13, who lost the tips of the third and fourth fingers of his right hand; and Lewis, 13, who lost part of left thumb.

# POLITICAL FORUM

and Brazos County Bar Association Present:  
**LAW DAY**  
 featuring Judge W. C. Davis of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals  
 Thursday, June 15  
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# Fords, Fiats under investigation for wheel, fuel, steering defects

United Press International  
**DETROIT** — Ford Motor Co. and Fiat officials have pledged their cooperation in a federal safety investigation of suspected fuel line and steering defects in Ford and Mercury cars and possible wheel bearing problems in Fiats.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced earlier this week it will study the vehicles to determine if a safety-related recall should be ordered.

Spokesmen for the two firms said Tuesday they hope for a speedy resolution of the matter.

Included in the investigation are 568,000 1975 and 1976 Ford Granadas and Mercury Monarchs the agency suspects could spring gasoline leaks in a small rubber hose connecting the fuel line to the carburetor, resulting in fire in the engine compartment.

Also involved are more than 1.2 million 1973-1975 Ford Fords, Mustang II and Mercury Bobcats. The manual steering the agency says could get out of control as a result of a loosened bolt in the steering mechanism.

The Fiat investigation covers 1973-1977 Fiat 128 and 1300 models. The agency believes south perience front wheel bearing failure, resulting in loss of control, wheel looseness, locking, and other problems.

An agency spokesman said the investigations began as a result of consumer complaints and dealer warranty claims. Nine accidents involving two injuries reported in Italy, and steering problems were reported in mishaps on record, the agency said.

John C. Eckhold, Ford's chief of automotive safety, said the company has provided the government with all information regarding the date and "will cooperate fully" with the agency to resolve both problems as quickly as possible.

He noted Ford voluntarily recalled 66,000 1974 Pinto cars that Mustang II models earlier this year. That company investigation had potential steering problems through result of "assembly process" (that) were not fully effective.

As a result, he said, "the coupling flange bolt was not adequately tightened on percentage of vehicles, a condition that could — in use — result in pling flange slippage on the shaft."

Frans Donk, vice president of engineering and service for Ford of North America, said the engineers had "conducted extensive tests and a thorough investigation of the alleged bearing problem."

"We have found no substantiated complaints of loss of control, wheel looseness, wheel or wheel separation," Donk said. "We are confident the investigation, with which we cooperated fully, will not reveal safety-related problems with bearings."

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<b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee		
<b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> BREADED FISH FILET w/TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SATURDAY NOON AND EVENING SPECIAL</b> "Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style" Tossed Salad Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON AND EVENING</b> ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter Coffee or Tea Gilet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable

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