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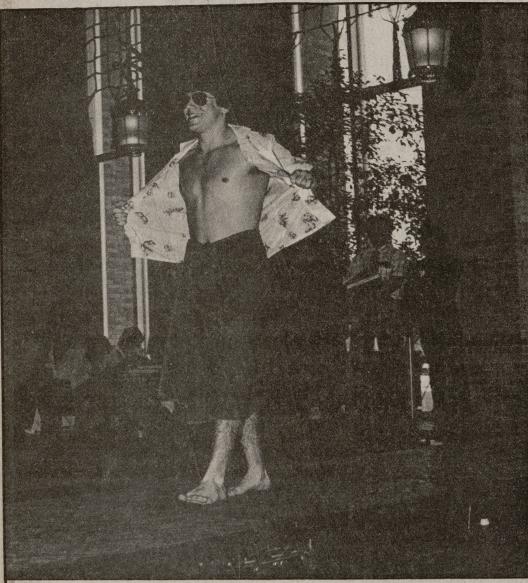
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## staff photo by Colin Valentine Taking it all off?

Well, almost. Robert Campbell, a junior biochemistry major from Houston, strips down for the MSC Hospitality Committee's Mr. Aggie contest. The contest, which was a promotion for the Miss Texas A&M Pageant, was held Wednesday afternoon. Campbell won the contest from a field of 13 contestants on the basis of appearance, poise, costume, originality and personality. The contest was judged by a panel of contes-tants for the title of Miss Texas A&M University.

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## Aid package will prevent 'new Cubas,' Reagan says

United Press International WASHINGTON—President Reagan, saying the United States must act swiftly to prevent the emergence of "new Cubas," Wednesday announced a sweeping U.S. aid package to promote democracy in impoverished na-tions of Central America and the Caribbean.

The president's announcement, in an address to the Organization of American States, came amid increasing administration concern about Cuban and Soviet intervention in the Western Hemisphere.

"If we do not act promptly and decisively in defense of freedom," Reagan said, "new Cubas will arise from the ruins of today's conflicts. "Let our friends and our

adversaries understand that we will do whatever is prudent and necessary to ensure the peace and security of the Caribbean

in the American concept of suc-cess through hard work and free enterprise, the same framework he put forward last year at the Cancun, Mexico, summit conference.

He said the strengthening of the economies of the small nations will pay political dividends through making governments popular with their citizens, but he never strayed far from making sure that all concerned including Moscow - know the economic initiative is put forward under a protective umbrella.

"A new kind of colonialism stalks the world today and threatens our independence," he said. "It is brutal and totalitarian. It is not of our hemisphere but it threatens our hemisphere and has established footholds on American soil for the expansion

of its colonialist ambitions."

Accordingly, Reagan announced he is seeking up to Reagan \$60 million in supplemental appropriations in the current 1982 budget for military aid, including small arms, patrol boats, helicopters and communications equipment, to the region. An administration spokes-man said the package would

"Let our friends and our adversaries understand that we will do whatever is prudent and necessary to ensure the peace and security of the Caribbean area." -President Reagan

absolutely not involve American

Combat troops. The president also requested \$350 million in supplemental economic development assistance in the current fiscal year.

considered a communist country and thus subject to the ban imposed on Cuba, Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Enders said he would not go that far, but "the trends are very unfavorable

If Nicaragua wants the assist-ance, Special Trade Representa-tive William Brock said it depends on how the Nicaraguan government conducts itself.

The president's warning against further communist expansion in the Caribbean basin backed up his sweeping propos-

al to help prop up the economies vide emergency assistant of the poorer nations in the area several countries with a massive inflow of U.S. textile and apparelexpon the region while efforts? dollars.

"This economic proposal is as unprecedented as today's crisis in the Caribbean," he said. "This commitment makes unmistakably clear our determination to help our neighbors grow strong."

The overall program is de-signed to protect what the presi-dent termed "a vital and strategic and commercial artery for the United States.'

The main points of the prog-ram include Reagan seeking congressional authorization for:

-One-way free trade and the elimination of duties on all imports from the Caribbean Basin nations except for textiles and apparel. A safeguard mechan-ism would be created to protect any U.S. industry seriously hurt by such imports. — An extra \$350 million richer nations of the

appropriation for 1982 to prophere



## Today's Almanac

United Press International Today is Thursday, Feb. 25, the 56th day of 1982 with 309 to follow.

The moon is moving toward its first quarter. The morning stars are Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and

Saturn. There is no evening star. Those born on this date are

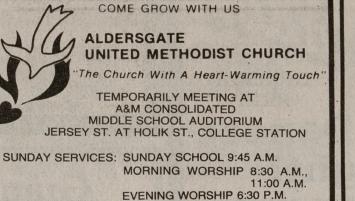
under the sign of Pisces. On this date in history

In 1901, J.P. Morgan formed the United States Steel Corp. in New Jersey, to become the na-

tion's first billion-dollar enterprise. In 1967, American warships began shelling Vietnam.

In 1975, President Ford warned Cambodia would soon fall to the communists unless Congress approved his request for \$222 million in new aid.

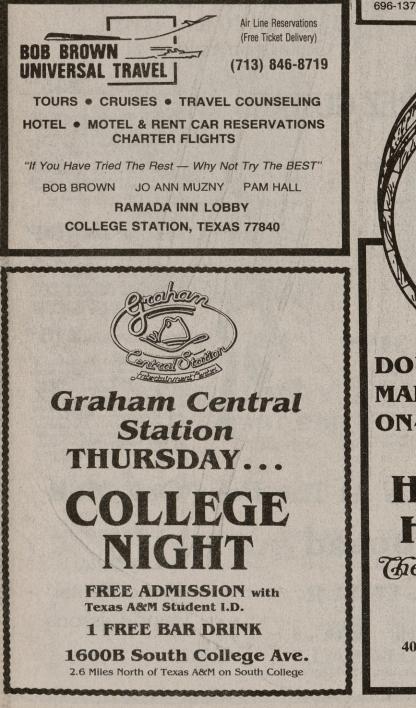
A thought for the day: American Philosopher William James said, There is no more miserable human being than one in whom nothing is habitual but indecision.'





Asked if Nicaragua could be

area." The president's speech at the OAS headquarters in Washing-ton emphasized his firm beliefs





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