

Christmas Fair will be Thursday in Rudder

by Mike Davis

Battalion Reporter

Along with the arrival of the Christmas season comes the pressure of picking out the right gifts for friends and family.

Limited budgets, a lack of time or the inconvenience of shopping malls can all be frustrating to the Christmas-spirited student.

Laurie Wright, special projects chairman for the MSC Hospitality Committee, says the MSC Christmas Fair was created with these students in mind.

The Christmas Fair, spon-

sored by MSC Hospitality, will be Thursday in Rudder Exhibit Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Goods of local merchants and craftsmen will be on sale — and all with a price tag of than \$30 or less.

Clothing stores, bookstores, a nature photographer and a jewelry maker will sell their wares at the fair, Wright said. Several students also will sell their handicrafts at the fair this year.

The fair eliminates the hustle-and-bustle of crowded shopping malls, outrageously priced gifts and bumper-to-bumper traffic.

The Christmas Fair will make gifts available that fit a

student's budget while giving students the convenience of staying on campus to shop, Wright said.

Wright said the MSC Hospitality Christmas Fair should not be mistaken for the Christmas Craft Festival.

In the past there were conflicts with the Christmas Craft Festival, sponsored by the MSC Craft Center, being on the same day, Wright said. Many students mistook the crafts festival for the Christmas fair.

Wright said to solve the confusion this year, the Christmas Craft Festival is going on today, while the Christmas Fair will take place on Thursday.

Contracts may go abroad

United Press International
LUBBOCK — High Plains cotton producers might arrange contracts with overseas businessmen now concerning delivery of 1984 cotton, agribusinessmen were told at an export workshop Tuesday.

The contracts could be made with existing overseas markets to allow for a partial advance payment to producers — preventing them from having to borrow money to produce their next crop, a regional trade official said.

"That front-end money would provide operating capital for planting," said Carmon Stiles of Dallas, regional director of the International Trade Administration, part of the U.S. Commerce Department.

Stiles met with agribusiness representatives at a daylong ex-

porting workshop sponsored by Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, Stiles' office, the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, South Plains Association of Governments and several Lubbock organizations.

Representatives from existing oversea cotton markets should be asked if they were willing to enter into a contract calling for producers to provide a certain amount and quality of cotton at the end of the crop year, he said.

In exchange, overseas businessmen would pay producers an advance deposit.

"Our hope is that we can put it together for the 1984 growing season," Stiles said. "It's a very creative thing, it's not a government program."

But he said the government could help by having embassy staffers find overseas businessmen willing to participate in

such contract deals. The concept could be implemented within a couple of months once those businessmen were found.

He said a bad crop year and failure to meet the contract was a risk the buyer and seller had to share, adding it might be possible to find insurance companies that would cover such contracts.

"It hasn't been the greatest year for agriculture," Stiles said.

He added the workshop was intended to help High Plains

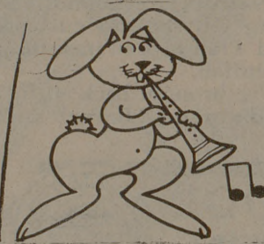
agribusinessmen consider new markets and marketing alternatives.

Stiles said if the concept proved workable for West Texas cotton farmers than it would work for other farmers with other crops.

Stiles said the concept resulted from a brainstorming session he had with several businessmen and agriculture representatives.

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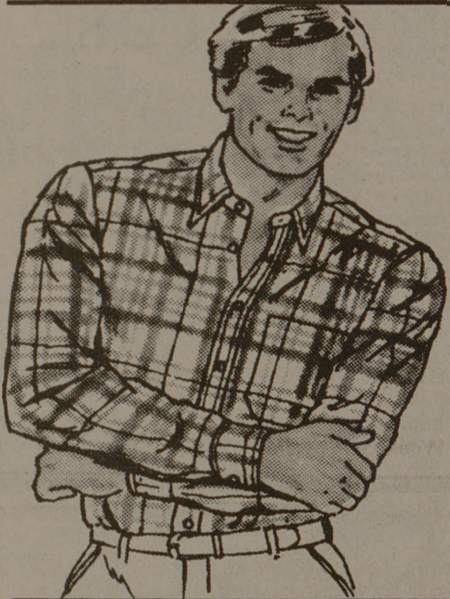
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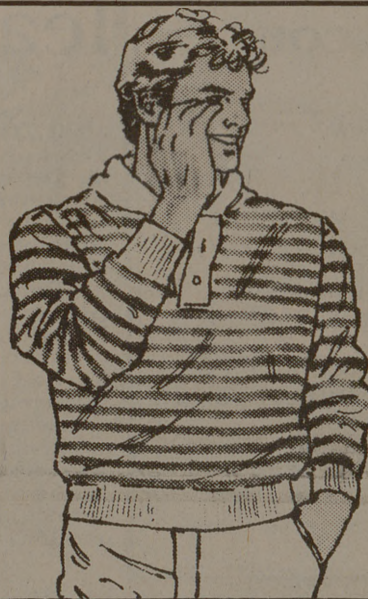
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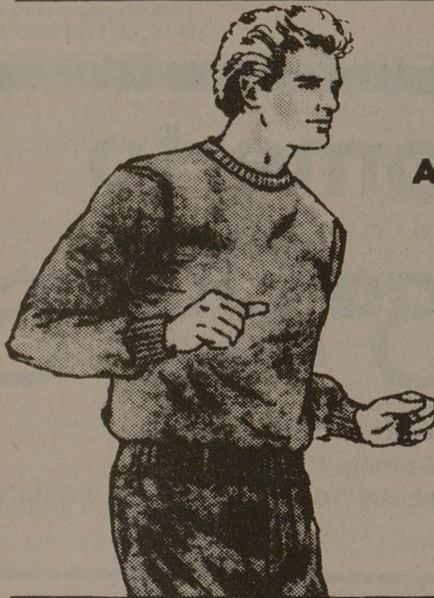
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