

Farm loan program announced

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — Secretary of Agriculture John Block announced the creation Wednesday of a new guaranteed loan program to rush \$450 million in aid to America's farmers. Block said the Reagan administration realized the need for such a plan when farmers hurt by the recession found themselves unequal to the credit standards of private lenders but too

well-off for direct aid from the Farmers Home Administration. "This fills the gap," Block said at a news conference after an address to the Independent Bankers Association. "This can fill a void that's existed, and it'll also make it possible for private institutions to carry a greater share of the load." Under the program, qualified private lenders will be approved in advance to process FmHA

operating, ownership and economic emergency guaranteed loans. The FmHA will guarantee up to 90 percent of these loans. Block said the Approved Lender Program will speed up the processing time for guaranteed loans, which is especially important as farmers enter the planting season in most parts of the country. The loan money will include

\$300 million in economic emergency loans and up to \$150 million in operating loans, he said. This will be in addition to direct aid provided by the FmHA to some 271,000 farmers. Block said there were no estimates of how many farmers would benefit from the new program.

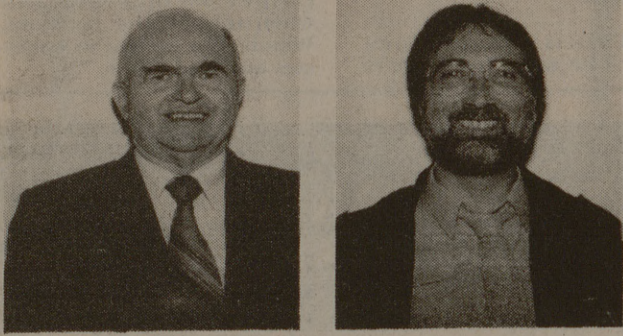
An approved lender will be familiar with FmHA requirements, will collect needed credit information and will prepare the application package. The FmHA will continue to make decisions on each farmer's eligibility. Banks can join the program, Block said, simply by applying and demonstrating their records in handling farm loans.

What's up

THURSDAY

- AGGIES AGAINST DRUNK DRIVERS:** A meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in 402 Rudder Tower. Everyone welcome! For more information, call Lee Ann Snodgrass at 696-9323.
- BAPTIST STUDENT UNION:** A daily lunch and Bible study will be conducted on MWF from 12-12:50 p.m. on TTH from 11:15-12:15 p.m. in front of the Academic Building.
- BIOCHEMISTRY SOCIETY:** A meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in 113 HEEP. Officer elections will be held and there will be a guest speaker from the U.T. Southwest Medical School Biochemistry Department. For more information, call Adam Quarles at 260-3383.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** A Lenten Brown Bag Luncheon/Bible study will be held at noon in the student center. Bring your sack lunch and join Fr. Leon in an informal discussion of next Sunday's readings.
- CHI ALPHA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP:** A Prayer and teaching session will be conducted at 7 p.m. in 51 Rudder Tower. Contact Paul Giles at 846-2777 for more information.
- CLASS OF '85:** Tickets are on sale in the MSC for the Junior Weekend activities. The Hawaiian Toga Party will be held March 30 and the Playday will be April 1. Contact Anne Dixon at 260-0710 for more information.
- CO-OP STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** Anne McDonald will be speaking on interview techniques and resume writing at 7 p.m. in 510 Rudder Tower. For more information, call Diedre Smith at 764-8896.
- ECONOMICS SOCIETY:** Larry Fiala, chief economist for Tennaco, Inc., will be speaking on "Careers in Economics" at 7 p.m. in 105 Harrington. Call Jeff Clements at 693-6297 for more information.
- IM-REC SPORTS DEPARTMENT:** A wallyball team captains meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in 164 E. Kyle. For more information, call 845-7826 or come by 159 E. Kyle.
- LUTHERAN COLLEGIANS:** A Bible study will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. in 226 of Sterling Evans Library. Call Philip Strucely at 845-3778 or 260-2175 for more information.
- MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE:** Aggiecon XV, the largest science-fiction and fantasy convention in the Southwest, will be held through Sunday in the MSC. For more information, call 845-1515.
- MSC VARIETY SHOW:** Tickets are on sale at the MSC Box Office for the variety show, April 13. Student tickets are \$3 and non-student tickets are \$3.50.
- METHODIST STUDENT MOVEMENT:** A lunch and Bible study will be conducted at 12:30 p.m. in the Wesley Foundation (behind Pizza Hut). Bring lunch or \$1.50 sandwiches. Call 846-4701 for more information.
- MOBILITY AWARENESS:** This program will be held through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the ARCM. Call Derby at 764-9066 for more information.
- STUDENT ORGANIZATION ALLOCATION BUDGETS:** Budget forms are available in 217 of the MSC. The deadline for all budgets is tomorrow.
- TEXAS A&M EMERGENCY CARE TEAM:** An important banquet and symposium meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Call Ken Hutchenrider at 845-4321 for the location.

"No Ma'am, We're Not the Police."



Who Are These Men?

- (1) Boy George's Mom and Dad
- (2) The ministers at A&M Presbyterian Church 301 Church Street (Get the hint, Presbyterian students!)
- (3) The Democratic Presidential Candidates

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School official acquitted

United Press International
MARSHALL — A Harrison County grand jury refused Wednesday to press criminal charges against a Hallsville school official who chased and shot at a group of students, wounding one of them.

The panel heard two days of testimony before declining to return any charges against Oliver Timberlake Sr., 54, vice principal of Hallsville High School.

Timberlake was accused of opening fire with a .22-caliber rifle on a truckload of people who had been throwing beer bottles at his rural home and shouting obscenities.

Timberlake, who has been suspended with pay since his arrest, claimed he was unaware people were in the bed of the truck and that he was trying to shoot out the vehicle's tires.

Ten people, including six Hallsville students, were in the truck. Timberlake chased the vehicle, firing four or five shots, before the truck veered out of control and overturned on U.S. 80 near Longview.

Steven Wright, 18, of Longview, was wounded in the arm. The other nine people in the truck suffered minor injuries when the vehicle overturned.

Timberlake's attorney, Bruce Abraham, said his client's reaction was triggered by a series of vandalism incidents at his home.

"You can only take so much," he said. "I really feel like this was an incident where Mr. Timberlake acted out of frustration, out of the pressures of having the repeated vandalism and burglaries numerous times.

"No shots were fired after he realized there were people in the bed of the truck, and only after a good way did he realize they were kids."

Timberlake, who Abraham called a "dedicated educator," has been with the Hallsville school system 27 years.

"Mr. Timberlake wants to go back, wants to continue in the function that he was assigned," the attorney said. "I believe the people of the Hallsville Independent School District will welcome him back."

MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society

MSC OPAS

Prospective Member Orientations

**Monday
 April 2**

**Rudder 502
 7:00pm**

**Wednesday
 April 4**

YOU MUST ATTEND ONE MEETING. Applications may be picked up from Jody in the Student Programs Office, Room 216 MSC. For more information call Tad Pruitt at 260-4789, Barbara Ramage 260-0951, or Arlene Manthey 845-1515.

"Where's the beef?" Lady from ad honored

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The "Where's the beef?" lady in the television ads, a 4-foot-10-inch grandmother named Clara Peller, was honored Wednesday by American cattle producers who are grateful for the demand for beef her bellow has generated. Peller, a former manicurist who became a folk hero after a new commercial for the hamburgers of a national chain began running in January, was presented with a 25-pound hamburger topped by a dwarfed regular-sized bun. John Weber of Alturas, Calif., president of the National Cattlemen's Association, proclaimed her a lifetime honorary member for "all she has done to make Americans aware of the value of beef." She delighted cattle producers who were packed into the room by frequently yelling, "Where's the beef?" The pro-

ducers yelled back in unison, "Where's the beef?" They showered her with gifts, including a branding iron with a CP brand, a cowboy apron with the words "Beef Strength," and a pink hat says "Beef Builds Bodies. See Below." The cattlemen passed the solution commending the food firm that saw sales jump 17 to 19 percent the second month the Clara Peller ad. Cattlemen said sales of ground beef total about 6 billion pounds a year, or about a third of total beef sales, and billion pounds of it are sold in the fast food market. The cattlemen said about Democratic presidential contender Walter Mondale, his contribution to the value of beef.

FOR ALL TAMU ORGANIZATIONS:

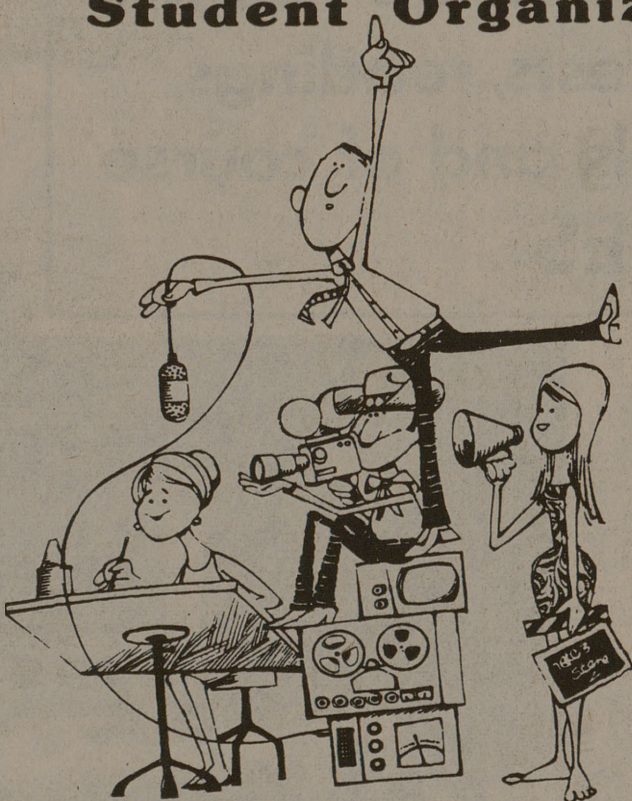
Student Organization Officer Workshop

Thursday, April 5 1984

601 Rudder 7-10 p.m.

Dr. John Koldus, Guest Speaker

- Sessions: Presidents
- V. Presidents
- Secretaries
- PR/Publicity
- Treasurers
- Service
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