

What's up

Wednesday

- AGGIE MEN'S CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. at the College Station Community Center. All members need to bring their dues.
- ALL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS:** Sept. 28 is the deadline for accepting re-recognition forms for organizations wishing to be recognized for this school year. Forms are available in the Student Activities Office, 208 Pavilion.
- BUS OPERATIONS MEETING:** anyone interested in making suggestions for improved shuttle bus service is invited to attend the meeting of the committee at 2:30 p.m. in 404 Rudder.
- VICTORY '84:** is having a mandatory meeting for off-campus and phonebank members at 8:30 p.m. at Citizens Bank.
- SOCIETY OF AGGIE SCHOLARS:** are meeting at 6:30 p.m. in 610 Rudder. All scholarship students, especially freshmen, are welcome.
- STUDENT Y SHARE GROUP:** is meeting at 7:30 p.m. in front of Sul Ross.
- LAREDO A&M HOMETOWN CLUB:** is having a general meeting discussing a party, special projects and more at 8:30 p.m. in 230 MSC.
- MESQUITE HOMETOWN CLUB:** is meeting to discuss an upcoming party, intramurals, the Big Event and bonfire cut at 7 p.m. in 704 MSC.
- SULLY'S SYMPOSIUM:** David Alders, student body president, will speak at noon by the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue in front of the Academic Building.
- PRE-VET SOCIETY:** Dr. Gage will speak on new entrance requirements at 7 p.m. in 212 MSC.
- SEMPER FIDELIS SOCIETY:** is having a general meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 504 Rudder. Class will be taught and a Fall semester project will be discussed. Little sisters will meet in 305 Physics.
- TEXAS A&M SPORTS CAR CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 302 Rudder.
- MUSICIANS' CLUB:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 137A MSC. New members are welcome.
- HILLEL JEWISH STUDENT CENTER:** is meeting at 8 p.m. in the student center for Rosh Hashana services.
- NEWMAN CLUB:** is meeting at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Center for the weekly Newman Liturgy followed by socializing and relaxing.
- SCONA:** is having a general committee meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 701 Rudder.
- AGGIE SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY:** is having an organizational meeting in 140A MSC at 7:30 p.m.
- OMEGA EPSILON - OCEAN ENGINEERING:** is meeting in 105 Hydro Lab at 6:30 p.m.
- MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 104C Zachry. Dave Lorenz of Marathon Marine will speak and show a film on the Gorilla Platform.
- SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS:** Dick Simmons from Tenneco will speak about the use of methanol as an alternate fuel at 7:30 p.m. in 127B Zachry.
- BETA ALPHA PSI:** is meeting at 7 p.m. in the Ramada Inn Ballroom. Professionals from Ernst & Whinney will be speaking.
- TAU KAPPA:** is meeting at 8:30 p.m. in 510 Rudder.

House criticizes loan to farmer

United Press International

WASHINGTON — House members criticized the Farmers Home Administration Tuesday for fostering a perception of unfairness by lending \$400,000 to John Curry, farming partner of Agriculture Secretary John Block.

"It has created, in the minds of a lot of farmers, a double standard," Rep. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., told administration officials who testified at a hearing of a House Agriculture subcommittee.

Administration officials defended the propriety and legality of the loan, but conceded that federal regulations are interpreted differently from state to state, so that farmers in other states might have been denied treatment received by Curry, a financially troubled farmer from Galesburg, Ill.

Frank Naylor, undersecretary of agriculture, and Charles Shuman, Farmers Home administrator, reiterated their earlier statements that Block had no prior knowledge of the loan.

Under tough questioning, Shuman said Curry's loan was only one of two such Farmers Home loans as large as \$400,000 made in Illinois this year. Rep. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, added that it was the only loan with subsidized interest.

On May 29, Curry received the emergency loan, with 5 percent interest for the first \$100,000 and 8 percent interest for the rest, under a federal program that provides low-interest loans to farmers who suffered severe weather loss last year.

As collateral, Curry pledged proceeds of crops on 4,731 acres of land

in Iowa, Missouri and Illinois. Curry's proceeds from the crops are expected to total \$700,000.

In Missouri, according to Rep. Harold Volkmer, D-Mo., Farmers Home refuses to make loans with crops only as collateral. Many farmers' requests for emergency loans of \$25,000 or \$30,000 were turned down for lack of extra collateral, he said.

Shuman said policy in Illinois permits crop proceeds to be used as sole collateral. He said the agency is working on trying to eliminate inconsistencies in the way states interpret regulations.

A farmer can get a Farmers Home loan only if he cannot get credit from commercial lenders. Harkin said Curry did not even apply to several banks cited in his file as refusing to grant him credit. But Shuman said those banks knew enough about his financial situation so they would not lend him money.

One of the banks that turned him down, Community Bank of Galesburg, loaned money to Curry at the end of May, Harkin said. Shuman replied that Curry's financing was a joint deal between the agency and a private lender.

Rep. Berkley Bedell, D-Iowa, said that Curry is "a land speculator" so that the loan violated language in the law saying the program must "foster and encourage the family farm system of agriculture."

Shuman said he does not know if Curry is a family farmer. The law does not restrict loans to family farmers, but regulations require that family farmers be given preference for loans, he said.

Reunion brings bit of Michigan to Dallas party

United Press International

DALLAS — A group of former Michigan residents is bringing a bit of the Great Lakes to Texas.

The sixth annual Michi-Texas reunion party, scheduled Saturday, will be a far cry from the first one when about 50 former Michiganders met at a small Dallas restaurant to talk over old times and get together with former schoolmates.

The second reunion grew to more than a hundred, and by last year, the event attracted more than 525 participants from all over the state, said Myrna Green, co-chairwoman for the event.

Green said she projects 800 to 1,000 people this year. "People who come to these parties are of all ages, backgrounds and life experiences, and they represent all areas of Michigan from the Detroit area way up to the Upper Peninsula and the Mackinac Straits," she said.

Michiganders will meet at Big D, Texas, an 1880s frontier theme park in Dallas, at 6:30 p.m.

Guests will be greeted by gunmen on horseback, and the town marshal and the sheriff will rescue partygoers and escort them into town for

a barbeque buffet dinner, country western music and a western musical revue.

Miss Trixie, the "world's ugliest saloon girl," will be there. Theme songs will be the fight songs of Michigan State and University of Michigan.

Two years ago, NBC news filmed portions of the reunion and last year a Detroit television station filmed the entire event, Green said. Other than that publicity, Green said news of the event is generally spread by word of mouth.

"Our efforts to reach as many people as possible know no bounds," she said. "Some weeks ago, several members of our committee attended the (Detroit-Texas) Tigers-Rangers reunion at Arlington Stadium armed with 500 fliers about the upcoming reunion."

"Since that time, we have received letters in our mailbox every day with lists of names of people excited about coming to the reunion. Our list just keeps expanding," said Green, who with her husband, Richard, moved to Texas from Detroit 10 years ago.

Union appeals firing

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — A union official Tuesday said he will appeal the firing of a partially blind, deaf-mute woman, who lost her government job for alleged "inappropriate behavior" and was escorted by security guards from Kelly Air Force Base.

Robin Binkley, 25, lost her job as a supply packer for Kelly's Directorate of Distribution just three days before she ended a year's probationary period.

American Federation of Government Employees trustee Alfonso Garcia said Binkley did not receive an advance warning of possible termination, and that the woman could not even read the notice informing her that she had been fired.

"She can't read anything they give her," said her mother, Anne Binkley. "All she knows basically is her name."

Binkley was escorted off the base by two security officers when she reported to work last Friday, Garcia said.

"An employee normally receives at least one warning according to government regulations," he said. "She was not given an opportunity to improve her conduct or performance."

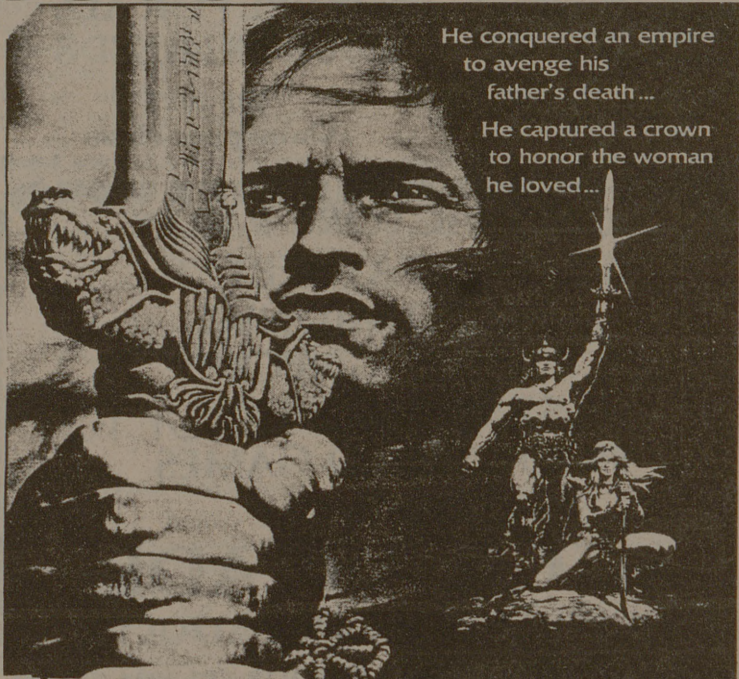
A Kelly spokeswoman said Binkley was informed of her firing Sept. 11 after an incident that occurred Aug. 21.

Binkley allegedly kicked a fellow employee, and her termination was based on "several incidents of inappropriate behavior toward co-workers and also a failure to do her assigned duties," the Kelly spokeswoman said.

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