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STATE AND LOCAL

Peace Corps recruiting students

By ANGELA ATKINS
Reporter

Two Peace Corps representatives are visiting Texas A&M to recruit some of the 600 additional volunteers needed to fight drought and hunger in Africa.

Former Peace Corps volunteers Julie Bryan and Matt Wunder are visiting A&M to promote "Appeal for Agriculture."

Bryan and Wunder will be in the Memorial Student Center until 5 p.m. today, talking to students about the Peace Corps.

Though Africa has been a host country for the past 23 years, the "Appeal for Agriculture" is an additional response to the severe drought problem in Ethiopia.

Besides the immediate problem of hunger in Africa, there is a need to work on the long term problems of the poor water systems, Wunder said.

The major goal of the Peace Corps is to train the local population to meet the basic needs of the community, he said.

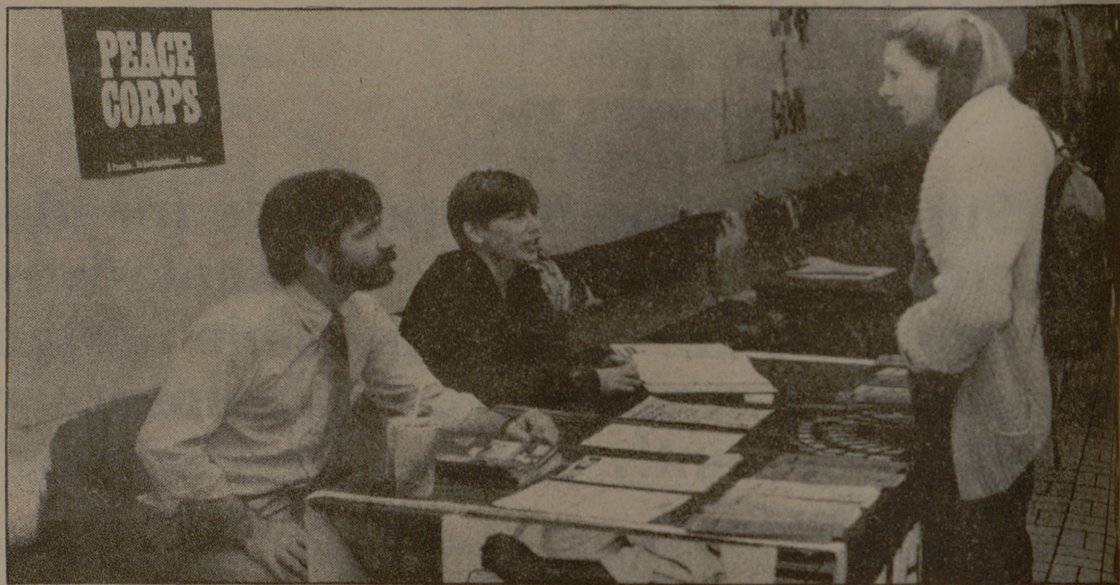
The "Appeal for Agriculture" is a program to get farming specialists to teach better farming techniques, he said.

While training the people, the Peace Corps volunteers teach them to grow nurseries, to practice better grazing management and new farming techniques, Wunder said.

One or two progressive farmers usually adopt the new techniques. After they see their neighbors producing more, other farmers adopt the techniques.

The activities of the volunteers involve more than teaching farming techniques.

The Peace Corps does not hand out food, but the volunteers do monitor the health of the children. When



Peace corps representatives at their table in the MSC.

Photo by ANTHONY'S

a volunteer sees malnutrition becoming a problem in a community, it is reported it to the Peace Corps headquarters. Then help can be given before the problem gets too serious.

"Being a peace corps volunteer is probably the most complete experience anyone can have," Bryan said. "You learn a lot about your own culture as well as other cultures."

Although starvation in Ethiopia is the most well-known, there are 12 other countries in Africa in the same condition. The number of volunteers that are sent to each country is dependent on the needs of that country.

To become a Peace Corps volunteer a person must be:

- 18 years or older
- a United States citizen

- have 2-5 years experience in a field of expertise or a college degree
- interested in people.

After completing an application, the volunteer is interviewed, and the best qualified applicants are chosen.

Becoming a volunteer is a 27-month commitment. The first three months are spent in the host country learning the language and culture of the people. After the volunteer is sworn in, he is assigned to a work with a host agency or counter part.

Each volunteer receives a monthly allowance that enables him to live close to the same income level as the hosts. It is usually \$200 or \$300 in local currency. At the end of their service, the volunteer gets a readjustment payment of \$175 for each month of service.

"You learn patience," says Matt

Wunder former volunteer. He was stranded along a dirt road for three days while traveling 180 miles in Africa. His bus broke down three times before it died and then was picked them up. Wunder says people have to put up with a lot of things all the time.

Immunizations and health care are given to the volunteers before they travel and after they return in the host country.

In the past 23 years that the Peace Corps has been operating, only one life has been taken due to malaria, Wunder said.

Wunder and Bryan will return to A&M Feb. 13-14 to talk with those interested in the Peace Corps.

Cotton council wants deficit reduced

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The National Cotton Council Tuesday urged President Reagan to organize a bipartisan commission to find ways to reduce the federal deficit.

The council's delegates also called for congressional, administrative and Federal Reserve Board action to restore a balance between the value of the dollar and other currencies.

The council took the positions during a closing meeting of delegates.

Those represented were farmers, ginners, warehousemen, merchants, cooperatives, oil mill crushers and textile manufacturers.

The delegates endorsed a 27-page list of resolutions.

Many of the resolutions are calling for improvements in American

trade of fiber products with other nations.

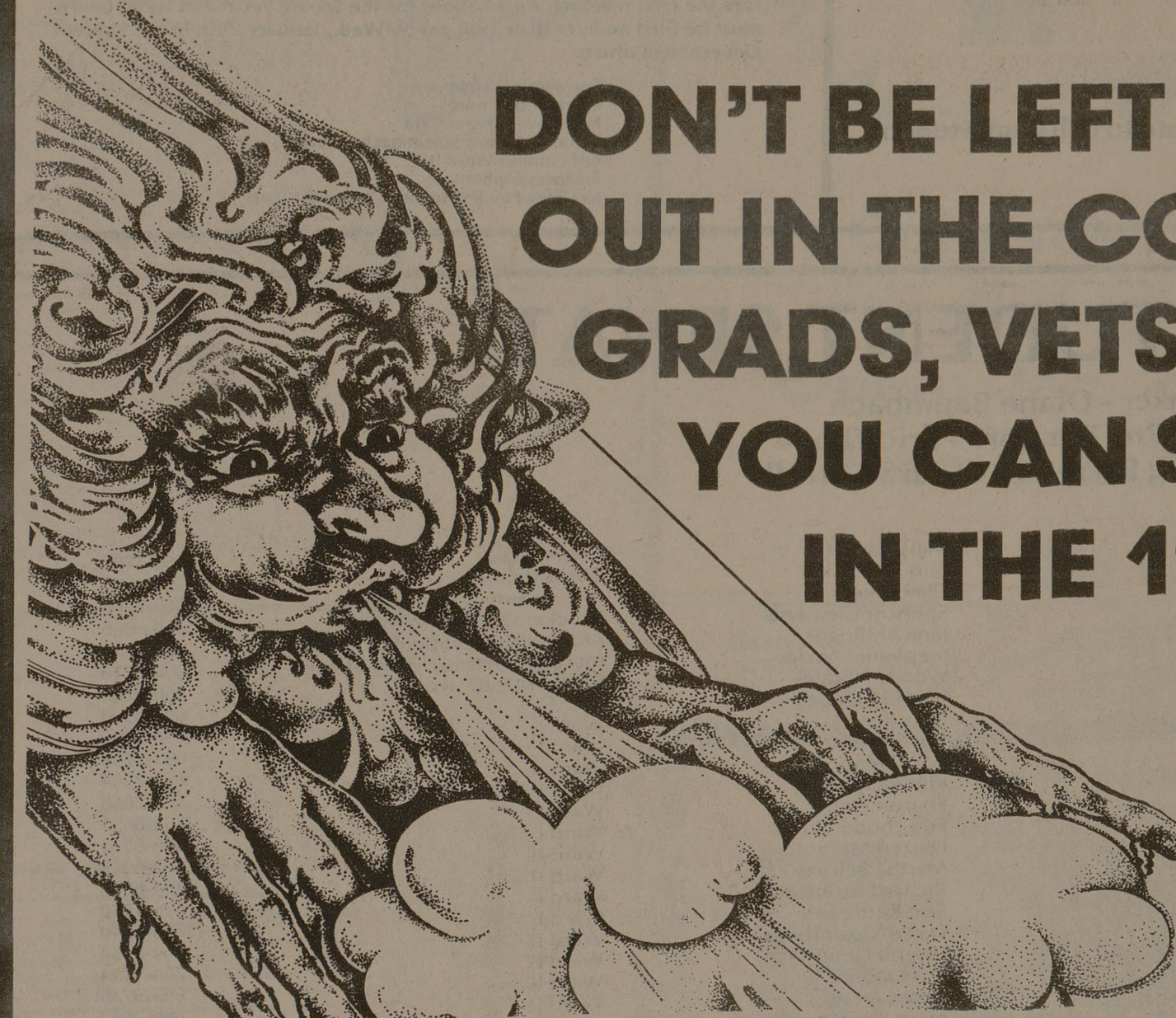
"Right now, our two major concerns are trade and the farm program, which will be taken up this year in Congress," said Dabney Wellford, assistant to the executive vice president of the Cotton Council.

The delegates also endorsed a resolution calling for a temporary surcharge on fiber imports to help re-

store competitiveness in international market.

The council urged an International Trade Commission investigation into the impact imports are having on the U.S. cotton industry.

Currently, a tariff is assessed on the full value of a product once imported into the United States.



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THRU FRIDAY, FEB. 1st**

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TIME: 8:30 to 12 and 1 to 4:30 p.m.**