NFU Sets Political Agenda For Economy

WASHINGTON, DC— Leaders of the 250,000-member National Farmers Union, troubled by the faltering U.S. economy, have announced a plan they say will stimulate the economy if policy-makers will adopt it.

Dubbed an "Economic Recovery Package — Revitalizing Foundation Industries," the NFU proposal examines twelve economic segments and offers solutions for their recovery.

In announcing the package during a Washington news conference, Farmers Union President Leland Swenson told reporters that it would focus on jobs, housing, money and credit, the deficit, infrastructure improvement, health care, tax reform, energy, the environment, trade, hunger, and of course, food and agriculture.

"The current recession is the longest in the post World War II period," said Swenson. "Since January of 1989, over two million more people have become unemployed. Five million more people have had to resort to food stamps."

For the U.S. to recover, the farm leader says national priorities must be redefined.

The farm organization's specific recommendations include a reformed farm policy that would

set higher support prices on commodities in order to stimulate real markets; a public works program to create jobs; a more progressive federal income tax structure; a national energy strategy aimed at self-sufficiency; and, a national health insurance program.

Swenson said their are a couple of reasons why a farmers' group is touting a broad-based package

"Because the purchasing power of people in rural America and in cities has eroded. The farm economy is a disaster, and when consumers have less money to spend on food it makes the problem even worse," Swenson said.

"Also, people from all sectors must have the wherewithal to reinvest in our economy if it is to grow and strengthen."

NFU leaders say they hope their package will become a catalyst for discussion during the 1992 presidential and congressional campaigns.

"A lot of people are going to say they have a plan for economic recovery this election year. Our goal is to go on record with a specific set of proposals that can be put into effect and that will stimulate the economy and help people. What we all have to do now is demand that our elected officials make it happen," Swenson said.

York 4-H Beef Honors

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er of the Hoss's restaurants chain, for his support for the York 4-H meats judging team's attendance at national competition in Kansas City.

Lebanon County auctioneer Harry Bachman was honored by the club for donating his time and auctioneering talents to the annual beef club roundup sales.

Five beef club members were honored as Roll Call winners, an award based on their management and scoring in a presentation made at each meeting.

Top winner was Sandy Eisenhour, Wellsville, with a 4.7 score average. Second place went to Robin Shive, Seven Valleys, with a 4.5 average, while Jason Rankin, Abbottstown, was third with a 3.9 average.

Rookie Roll Call recipients were Amy Trowbridge, Spring Grove, first place, and Astasia Smith, Felton, second.

Special plaques, presented by Bill Dietz of W.D. Angus Ranch, East Prospect, went to winners at the York Fair. Recipients of the Dietz awards were Shawn Waltimyer, Airville, champion steer, Kenley Jo Myers, Dallastown, champion fitter, Jen Sweitzer, Seven Valleys, rookie fitter, Keith Grubb, Hanover, champion age 15-19 division fitter, and Suzanne Bishard, York, champion age 9-14 division fitter.

"Roasted" during the awards ceremonies were outgoing club members Kenley Jo Myers, Tina Hetrick, Ed Livingston and Sandy Eisenhour.

Entertainment for the dinner was by the "beef club players," presenting a series of humorous skits



Dave Shive, left, and Charles Sunday, receive awards for their years of service to the York County extension service.



Kathy Wise, agriculture extension secretary in York County, is surprised by Tim Beck, livestock agent, who hands her an award as the agency's 1992 outstanding award honoree.

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