

SENATOR TOM HARKIN, was first elected to Congress from Iowa's Fifth District in 1974 where he served until 1984, when he was elected to the U.S. Senate. Born 48 years ago in Cumming, Iowa, (pop. 150) to a coal-mining father and a ~~Yugoslavian~~ emigrant mother, the ~~new~~ Senator grew up working in the heart of the nation's farm belt. After graduation from Iowa State University and service in Viet Nam as a Navy ~~jet~~ pilot, Tom Harkin returned to the state he loved and began his career in Iowa Democratic politics. During his political career, he has distinguished himself as an advocate on behalf of ~~poor~~ ^{farmers} working Americans, and ~~with~~ ^{in the area of} international human rights ~~issues~~. One measure of his success is the respect he has earned from his colleagues, who named the freshman Senator to the Appropriations, Small Business and the Agriculture Committees. He is currently championing legislation to ~~save the american farms~~ ^{as} an alternative to ~~bankrupt~~ ^{existing} National Farm Policies.

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~~The Family Farm Act~~ ^{forer}
and ^{he} has emerged as a national spokesman on rural heritage and our agricultural future

SARAH MCCLENDON, the veteran journalist who will interview Senator Harkin, is a syndicated columnist who has covered the White House since Franklin Delano Roosevelt. That was nine presidents ago, and she is still asking tough questions at Presidential News Conferences. Ronald Reagan was pinned down by Ms. McClendon on November 19th when she persisted in getting him to respond to her queries about Presidential plans for new legislation on behalf of the people: the farmers; the homeless; the elderly; and, the ill. At the White House every day, the columnist, broadcaster and lecturer says she has always tried to be a bridge between big government and the little people. Now 76, she still works seven days a week, 20 hours a day, a schedule she has followed since she got her start as a journalist in her home town of Tyler, Texas when President Roosevelt first took office. This past January when nine freshman members of The House Agriculture Committee reported for their first day on the job, Sarah McClendon was chosen to give them their first briefing on the National Farm Crisis, a topic she has researched first-hand as an honorary member of WIFE-Women Involved in - farm economics.

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