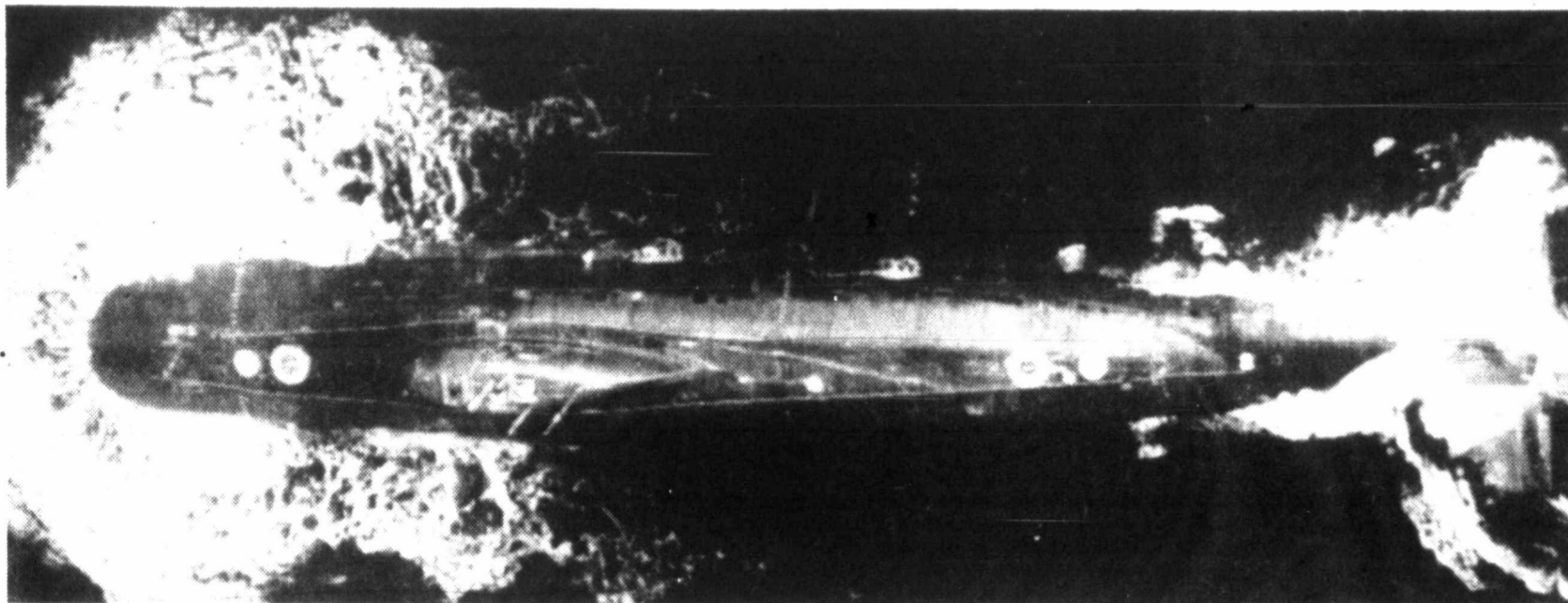


FORECAST — Windy and cooler with chance of showers and thunderstorms and rain mixing with snow tonight. High in the 50s, low in the 30s. Northeasterly winds gusting to 20-35 mph. High Friday, 40. Low Wednesday, 37; high 69.



SOVIET SUB—A nuclear-powered Soviet attack submarine that was reported to have collided with the U.S. aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk in the Sea of Japan is shown in this aerial photograph shortly after the incident took place. The U.S. Navy said in Washington

the submarine resembled that of a Soviet Victor class vessel. The sub moved away from the collision site under its own power

U.S., Soviets swap charges on mine blast

WASHINGTON (AP) — The crippling of a Soviet tanker by a mine off Nicaragua's coast has produced strongly worded accusations and hostile encounters between senior Soviet and American diplomats here and in Moscow.

The two superpowers are holding each other responsible for Tuesday's incident off Nicaragua's Pacific Coast, in which the mine planted by American-backed rebels exploded and blew a hole in the hull of the Soviet ship.

Five Soviet sailors were injured, prompting the Soviet news agency Tass to say that Moscow may seek compensation.

United States of conducting a "policy of state terrorism" against Nicaragua.

U.S. officials, who asked not to be identified, said they were struck by the tone of the statement. Because Moscow went public with it, the State Department responded in kind, first with a statement by deputy spokesman Alan Romberg and later with a rare public account of a meeting between Undersecretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and Soviet Embassy Minister Counselor Oleg Sokolov.

Romberg suggested the Soviets had no basis for complaining because the mining of certain Nicaraguan ports had been "widely advertised."

While regretting the injuries and damage caused by the incident, Romberg said the dangers in the area were well known.

He added that to a great extent, "these regional dangers and tensions result from Soviet encouragement of conflict in Central America and the Caribbean, and therefore the Soviets are hardly in a position to blame others for an increase in violence."

But Romberg refused to answer questions about whether the mine was supplied by the United States. He said he was not authorized to comment on allegations about intelligence activities.

Hours after Gromyko met with Zimmerman, Eagleburger summoned Sokolov to the State Department.

An official statement released afterward said Eagleburger rejected the Soviet protest note in its entirety.

Rebels remain quiet

Campaign ends in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Campaigning for Sunday's presidential election has ended with little sign that leftist rebels plan to disrupt the voting, but the U.S. Embassy says guerrilla promises not to interfere are "worthless."

The rebels have given contradictory signals about their intentions. Last month guerrillas announced they would not disrupt the voting but on Saturday they threatened in a radio broadcast to step up the war "before, during and after" the balloting.

There have been scattered reports of violence around the country this week and rebels Wednesday continued a

campaign of confiscating identification cards that citizens need to vote.

Rebels also briefly took over two San Salvador radio stations Wednesday and forced employees to broadcast recordings denouncing the election. Rebels blacked out the northern province of Chalatenango by dynamiting power poles and fought government troops in the east, killing one and wounding four.

Still, the week so far has been in marked contrast to 1982, when guerrillas launched a broader campaign against voting for a constitution-writing assembly. Despite the offensive and threats of violence, 1.5

million Salvadorans went to the polls.

The result was an international public relations setback for the leftists, whose leaders have publicly admitted the offensive backfired on them.

A Salvadoran military official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said the guerrillas learned a lesson in 1982 and would not likely threaten voters with the same sort of violence.

The race is widely believed to have narrowed to a two-man contest between Roberto d'Aubuisson, of the ultra-rightist Republican Nationalist Alliance, and Jose Napoleon Duarte, of

the moderate Christian Democratic Party.

Late Wednesday the U.S. Embassy here distributed a statement saying continued vigilance is necessary because the rebels already have been doing "everything possible to disrupt the elections and reduce the voter turnout."

In Nicaragua Wednesday, leftist junta leader Daniel Ortega said his country faced a "new crisis" because of attacks by U.S.-backed rebels and repeated his call for nations of the world to help curb the "aggressiveness" of the United States.

White promises to find money for state schools

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Mark White says if it's money the Texas school system needs, "then we'll have to find that money."

White commented Wednesday after the Texas Research League released a preliminary survey showing that Texas schools spend about as much instructional money on vocational education, physical education and sports as they do in reading, writing, mathematics and science.

"I think it is an alarming revelation," White said. "We have to make certain we are not diluting the scarce dollars we have for education on something that's less than essential."

Dr. Jared E. Hazleton, TRLE president, released a sample study of 12 Texas schools, which was requested by the Select Committee on Public Education.

Hazleton said the final report to be released in May would include 20 Texas

school districts but the preliminary report only had data from 12 of those districts.

"I suspect if we had the figures from 150 or 200 schools, the data would be similar to these 12," he said.

School districts in the preliminary report included New Deal, Paducah, Beckville, Junction, Jourdan, Iowa Park, Rockdale, Atlanta, Lockhart, La Porte, Temple, and Edgewood.

Hazleton said the report in May would include data from eight other school districts — Commerce, Fort Stockton, Georgetown, Grapevine, Midland, McAllen, Austin and either Houston or Dallas.

"The percentage of instructional salary costs devoted to the core academic curriculum in the sample high schools ranged from 12 percent to 48 percent," the report said.

Hazleton said the "core academic curriculum" includes courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies and foreign languages.

"On the average, the rest of the high school instructional dollar broke down this way: 25 percent for vocational education, 13 percent for electives, 10 percent for competitive sports, 7 percent for special and compensatory education and 5 percent for health and

physical education," the report said.

Other highlights of the preliminary report included:

— At the campus level, high school salary costs per student are 54 percent higher than for elementary schools and 31 percent higher than for junior high schools.

— Larger high schools offer two to three times as many electives as smaller high schools.

— The average cost per high school student for core academic courses is \$181, compared with \$215 for other academic courses.

— Vocational education courses, averaging \$425 per student, generally cost from two to three times as much as academic courses.

— The average high school vocational class includes 11 students, compared with 20 for academic courses.

"I sensed the likelihood of this occurring but I didn't know until we saw this preliminary report that it was as bad as it was," the governor told his weekly news conference. "It appears some of it was built in by legislation, some of it is in the vocational areas. For instance, vocational education teachers can't be asked to do anything but that particular subject. You cannot use that classroom except for that particular course."



MISSING—Bertha Rodriguez, the 15-year-old victim of Sunday's kidnapping in Pampa, and Francis Unsuela, the man believed to have kidnapped her, remain missing. Police released photos of the Pampa girl and her alleged abductor in the hope that someone has seen them.

'Nice human being' 'Candy man's' pen pal says he's really kind

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Ronald Clark O'Bryan, facing execution next week on a conviction of killing his son, is really a kind, caring man who is "the type of friend everyone would like to have," said an 18-year-old coed who has exchanged letters with the condemned man for the last six months.

Kim Lea Manganaro, a Texas A&M freshman from Houston, said she and O'Bryan became pen pals last October and she has found him to be "kind and caring, very accepting and very encouraging."

"He's the type of friend everyone would like to have," she said in an interview at the Ellis Unit of the prison Wednesday. "He's a real friend of mine, a nice human being."

Ms. Manganaro said that O'Bryan introduced himself by letter after a letter she wrote opposing the death penalty was published last October in the Houston Post.

"In the first letter, he asked if it (her letter) was some type of joke," she recalled. The letter went on, she said, to ask her to write him. Ms. Manganaro said O'Bryan even provided references which she could check out.

Ms. Manganaro said during the following they developed a warm friendship through the mail.

"I got a lot out of the relationship," she said. "He's a very good person and I really care for him."

Ms. Manganaro, a nursing and journalism major at Texas A&M, said she has twice visited O'Bryan and hopes to visit him next week just before his scheduled execution.

O'Bryan, 39, was convicted in the 1974 Halloween candy poisoning murder of his eight-year-old son Timothy. At his trial in 1975, the prosecution contended that O'Bryan fed his son cyanide-laced candy to collect on a \$30,000 life insurance policy.

O'Bryan has stoutly denied his guilt and has insisted all along that he had nothing to do with his son's death.

O'Bryan is scheduled for execution prior to dawn on March 31, but the U.S. Supreme Court is considering a writ of habeas corpus that would give him a new trial.

Asked how she feels about the prospects of O'Bryan being executed by poisonous injection next week, Ms. Manganaro replied: "Scared, very scared. I never truly believed they would go through with it."

She said that she is strongly opposed to the death sentence and particularly for someone like O'Bryan who had been a deacon in his church and a respected member of the community.

Attorney general nominee asks for special prosecutor's probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Edwin Meese III, his nomination as attorney general increasingly under fire, is asking for a special prosecutor to investigate his affairs, Sen. Joseph Biden said today.

Biden, D-Del., told reporters at a meeting of the Senate Judiciary Committee that Meese told him of his decision in a telephone call earlier in the day.

The committee has been conducting hearings on Meese's nomination.

Biden said, "I told Meese myself he would be making a serious mistake if the White House did not insist that the Justice Department investigation be a full-blown one, not limited in any way, and have an independent counsel conducting the investigation."

The senator said Meese had asked to have a meeting with Biden, the ranking Democrat on the panel, but he told Meese, "I did not want to do that."

"He told me that at 10:30 this morning he's going to announce he is asking for a special prosecutor to cover all matters" regarding the investigation into Meese's affairs.

Biden said he did not know exactly how broad an investigation by a special prosecutor Meese would be seeking but that he advised Meese it should concern all questions regarding his financial matters and his role in any in the passage of Carter re-election documents to the Reagan campaign, as well as his controversial promotion to colonel in the Army Reserve.

Meanwhile, Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker Jr. tried today to give an optimistic view of Meese's chances of gaining confirmation.

"I think it would take more than you've seen now to defeat the nomination," he told reporters.

"I don't think anything has been proven that disqualifies Meese," he also said.

Baker acknowledged, however, that "the nomination is carrying a lot of baggage."

In another development, Biden released a letter he and the Republican committee chairman, Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, had sent Attorney General William French

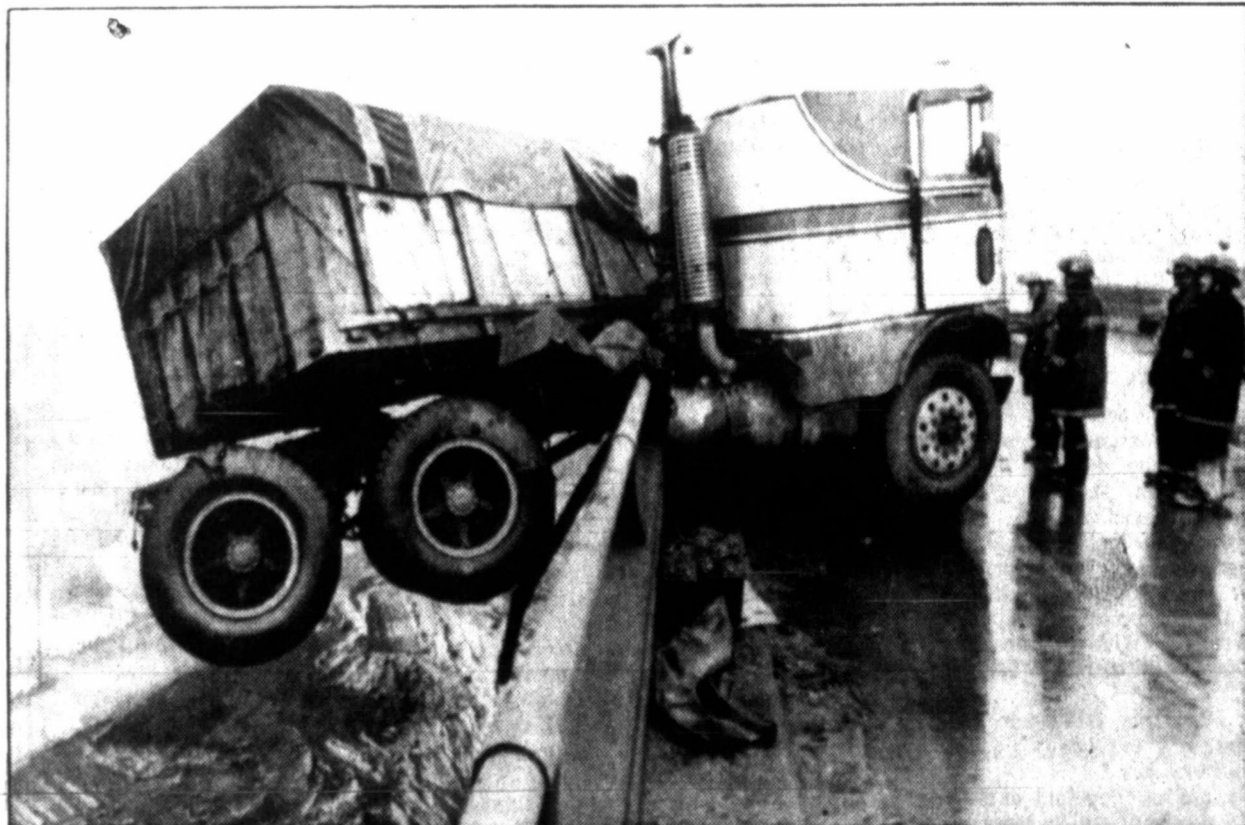
Smith asking for a broad and comprehensive investigation into Meese's affairs.

"Given the extraordinary importance of this investigation to the nomination process and to the integrity of the office of attorney general, we welcome your assurance that all relevant issues that have arisen in this case will be thoroughly investigated," the letter said.

It went on to ask Smith to examine not only Meese's failure to disclose a \$15,000 interest-free loan from the White House aide, but also the purchase of Biotech stock made by Meese's wife Ursula with the money.

On Wednesday, a White House official said Meese left some interest income off his 1981 and 1982 income tax returns and must file amended returns.

Meese, who has remained in his post as Reagan's White House counselor, omitted from his returns a sum in the range of \$200 to \$300, said the official, who asked not to be identified. He stated: "We're not talking about huge amounts."



IN THE BALANCE—A jack-knifed tractor-trailer rig hangs over a guard rail on an elevated section of Interstate 77 in Cleveland Wednesday. The driver, who narrowly escaped plunging off the high bridge, was treated for minor injuries. A crane was brought in to lift the rig off the rail. (AP Laserphoto)

TEXAS / REGIONAL

Prosecutors have new man

Charges against Geter will be dropped

DALLAS (AP) — Lenell Geter, who served nearly 16 months of a life sentence for a robbery he said he never committed, is beginning "to see the bright clouds of justice" after prosecutors announced charges against the black engineer would probably be dropped today.

District Attorney Henry Wade announced at a hastily called news conference Wednesday afternoon that the aggravated robbery charge would be dropped because four of the five witnesses who had identified Geter as the robber have now identified another man as the bandit.

When first told of the news at his office at E-Systems Inc. in Greenville, Geter said he could not believe it but that he'd heard "rumors all day."

"All right! Listen, I'm just excited," Geter told the Associated Press, which notified him the charges were being dropped. "It's a new beginning. I'm going to pick up my life and go on."

In a Wednesday night interview with KXAS-TV, Fort Worth, Geter repeatedly thanked those who helped him and believed in his innocence.

"I'm getting to see the bright clouds of justice and I feel that our system will work," said Geter.

Geter, 26, refused to make any direct comment about a possible lawsuit in connection with his arrest and conviction in October 1982 on charges he robbed a fast-food restaurant in the Dallas suburb of Balch Springs.

"I'm sorry to say nothing tangible can account for lost time I spent in prison, but the mere fact I received justice and the intangible things ... could be handled later," Geter said.

Geter was convicted on the basis of five eyewitnesses to the robbery, even though they inaccurately estimated his height. Geter's co-workers said he was at work 50 miles away in Greenville.

Geter said that during his almost 16 months in the Texas Department of Corrections in Huntsville he never lost hope he would get out.

"I never gave up hope on our judicial system and I believed in the constitution of United States and also I believed strongly in the powers of God," he said. "I've never given up faith and believed also I'd be vindicated and exonerated and that day has come and I feel very happy today."

"I thank America. I thank people for writing, my colleagues, praise God, my lawyers and just happy to be here today."

Geter has maintained his conviction was the result of racism and shoddy police work. He was released from prison in December after news reports raised doubts about his guilt. He was to be retried April 9.

Geter called his mother in Denmark, S.C., immediately after he heard the charge would be dropped.

"I am so happy. This is the happiest I've been for a long time. I knew it was going to happen one day but I didn't know it was going to be this soon. I'm so happy," Geter's mother, Ellame Willis, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"He called me, he said, 'Momma I got some good news. They dropped all the charges. They found they guy who did it. I said, 'Now you ain't kidding me child?' And he said, 'no, momma I'm not kidding. They dropped all the charges.'"

Geter was spending Wednesday night in Dallas hotel.

Wade said four of the same five eyewitnesses who originally identified Geter have now identified Curtis Eugene Mason, an inmate in the Harris County jail, as the man who held up the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant and took \$615.

"This office has checked out Geter's alibi and his past record and we have checked Mason out as best we can and feel that he (Mason) committed the robbery for which Geter is accused," said Wade.

"As a result of this investigation and as a result of our office finding who we feel committed the robbery, we feel like Geter is innocent and that this

office has found the guilty party. Therefore the Lenell Geter case will be dismissed," said Wade.

He said Mason has been charged in Houston with four robberies and is being questioned about other holdups at Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants. Wade said Mason is also charged in Houston with possession of a controlled substance, and with felony possession of a weapon.

The prosecutor said witnesses, who asked not to be identified, said Mason told them he committed the robbery of the Balch Springs Kentucky Fried Chicken.

But in an interview with reporters at the Dallas County jail Wednesday afternoon, Mason denied he robbed the Balch Springs restaurant.

"Well actually he's (Wade) trying to get a scapegoat," Mason said. "Those witnesses ... just like they put Geter in prison. What makes them so reliable? They put Geter in prison, then they turn around and put me in prison."

Wade said Mason probably would not be charged with the robbery in Balch Springs because he already is charged with similar offenses. He said that when the witnesses changed their story once, it weakened the prosecution's case.

"Charges won't be officially dropped until a motion to dismiss the charges is presented to Judge (John) Ovard, maybe that'll be done tomorrow (Thursday). But for all practical purposes the case is over with," said defense lawyer Ed Sigel.

Sigel said the defense team was "elated" but expressed some bitterness that case wasn't dropped sooner, saying Geter was "railroaded."

"There was so much evidence exonerating him. He was at work that day. We're not quarreling with Henry Wade's office now. We're quarreling with the delay in doing what they did."

"The wrong was just too hard-headed in this case. We had plenty of alibi witnesses," Sigel said.



Lenell Geter smiles after learning charge to be dropped

Prosecutors still sifting through records

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — Thousands of documents have been weeded out from the 25 tons discarded by a medical school, but prosecutors are "laboriously" sifting through the rest to see how many relate to an investigation into suspicious infant deaths, the district attorney says.

Some of the University of Texas Health Science Center documents had been subpoenaed in the 14-month probe into infant deaths and illnesses at Medical Center Hospital, Bexar County District Attorney Sam

Millsap said Wednesday. Medical Center is staffed by faculty from the UT facility's medical school.

Investigators are trying to determine whether the pertinent records in the 50,000 pounds of documents, which were seized in a shredding warehouse, duplicate material already in their files, Millsap said.

"Most, if not all, of the initial culling process has been completed," he said. "The initial stage was to simply identify those documents that we clearly had no interest in. Now we're

going through the remaining documents with greater care."

A single indictment has been issued from the investigation, charging nurse Genevieve Jones with administering a life-threatening injection to a month-old child at Medical Center's pediatric intensive care unit.

Ms. Jones already has been convicted of murdering a Kerr County infant girl with drug injections.

Millsap obtained a temporary injunction earlier this week barring the health

science center from destroying "any records of any type" related to the pediatrics unit.

The district attorney disclosed two weeks ago that he was considering filing charges against some Medical Center officials for destroying 4½ tons of documents, some related to the case.

Millsap said Wednesday

that charges against either facility would be delayed at least until he learned exactly what records made up the UT facility's stacks of documents, which were seized after an informant's tip.

Millsap said his investigators were combing the papers for "specific documents," but would not elaborate

Kerr takes stand in libel trial

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Former Assistant U.S. Attorney James Kerr says a column published in 1978 by The El Paso Times stating he lied to a jury "embarrassed (and) humiliated" him while reducing his effectiveness as a federal prosecutor.

Kerr took the stand Wednesday in his \$40 million libel lawsuit against the Times, saying he did not lie during closing arguments in a drug conspiracy trial. He added he never had any intention of lying.

Kerr told a seven-man, five-woman jury that when he read the Aug. 6, 1978, column written by Times reporter Ronald Dusek, which stated "Kerr lied" during closing arguments in a drug conspiracy trial, he was "certainly disappointed and hurt."

"I knew that whatever we did, there would be somebody who believed it (the article)," he said.

Kerr sued the daily newspaper in 1979, alleging Dusek's column entitled "Federal System Less Than Just?" libeled him.

The column was published in a Sunday edition of the Times on the commentary page. It said "Kerr lied" when he told the jury hearing a drug conspiracy case that one of the defendants in the trial had admitted to being the financier for a drug smuggling operation.

According to court records and testimony, the defendant's alleged confession was made to a paid informant and a government undercover agent. The defendant never admitted to being the money-man during the trial, though both the informant and government agent testified of the alleged confession, trial transcripts show.

The lawsuit, which seeks \$10 million in actual damages and \$30 million in exemplary damages, also contended Dusek's column implied Kerr cheated while performing his duties as federal prosecutor.

An attorney for the Times, Richard Munzinger, asked that a mistrial be declared Wednesday after Kerr testified. "The record has not been set straight and it won't be unless the jury renders a verdict..."

Munzinger interrupted Kerr before he could finish his sentence, saying Kerr was

giving closing arguments rather than testifying as a witness. State District Judge Edward Marquez, however, denied Munzinger's request.

The trial was resuming today with Kerr continuing his testimony.

Dusek, 35, who currently is the Times capital reporter in Austin, testified for more than a total of five hours Tuesday and Wednesday, saying the column was an opinion piece that was based on fact.

He said he wrote that "Kerr lied" because he believed Kerr intentionally was trying to mislead the jury.

But Kerr's attorney, Jerry Gibson of San Antonio, said Dusek's column only restated the defense's position, ignoring the prosecution's

point of view.

"You bought the arguments of the defense and were advocating them, hook, line and sinker," Gibson said.

Dusek also told the jury Wednesday, "I'm not indifferent to what I write. I have to write the truth. I want to write the truth. I am concerned about the truth and I am concerned about what I write. But I cannot allow my concern about what happens after (stories are published) to prevent me from writing the truth."

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AWARDED—French culture minister Jack Lang congratulates American movie star Barbara Streisand after awarding her with the Art and Literature Officer's medal at the French culture ministry in Paris Wednesday. (AP Laserphoto)

New IRS computer link worries lawyers

DALLAS (AP) — Consumers' rights advocates say they are worried by a computer link between the Internal Revenue Service and a Dallas County data base.

A computer in the IRS offices at the Earle Cabell Federal Building on Wednesday went "on line" with a computer at the Dallas County Courthouse.

Dallas Civil Liberties Union president Stan Weinberg told the Dallas Times Herald that members of his group have decided to look into the linkup, which they fear could lead to constitutionally prohibited invasions of privacy and have a "chilling effect" on voter registration.

But IRS officials say there is no difference between a five-block walk to the county courthouse, where the agency previously got publicly available information on property values and voter registration, and instant access to the computer.

They predict a cost savings of \$167,000 a year by using the computer linkup to track delinquent taxpayers in a 143-county area of Texas.

Dallas County Judge Frank Crowley, who led the county commissioners in a unanimous vote last month approving the IRS computer connection, said the debate

like to be treated like anybody else. We've been getting it anyway; we've even accessed the information on the county's computer terminals" at the courthouse.

When the IRS sent letters to

officials in 143 counties in North Texas requesting access to any computerized public records, 80 counties agreed, Mrs. Gaysek said.

She said the agency is about to sign a contract with a major data service company

that holds records for about 80 counties, 21 of which have already agreed to the idea.

The IRS temporarily withdrew the suggestion after Tarrant County commissioners turned it down.

Nuclear fuel delay predicted

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission official says the owners of the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant will be nine to 12 months late in loading radioactive fuel in the project's first reactor, a delay that could be costly.

Figures provided recently by the utility show the delay could add between \$550 million and \$730 million to the plant's estimated \$3.89 billion price tag.

Officials said if the forecast is correct, the first reactor will not begin operation until late 1985 or early 1986. Utility officials are still saying operations will begin in early 1985.

The prediction was made by Thomas A. Ippolito, an NRC executive who was appointed last week to head a special NRC task force that will examine licensing issues posed by Comanche Peak, located near Glen Rose.

Ippolito said the forecast was a preliminary assessment reached after three days of meetings with plant officials this week. He said an official prediction based on more detailed research should be issued within a month.

The forecast marks the second time in four months that the NRC has revised its estimate of when fuel loading is likely to occur.

At the end of November, the NRC said it expected the fuel to be loaded between this July and September. The estimate was seven to nine months later than the prediction of the utility, which was anticipating fuel loading in December. In December, the utility changed its estimate to midyear.

Homer Schmidt, manager of nuclear

services at the plant, said officials of the Texas Utilities Generating Co., the consortium of six utilities that own the plant, told NRC officials Monday they are running six to eight weeks behind the schedule that would have allowed fuel loading in July.

Schmidt said he still hopes that fuel loading will occur between July and September and said plant officials will be submitting additional information to the NRC in an attempt to persuade them to revise their forecast.

The earlier construction forecast is important to the utility because the company is pressing the U.S. Atomic Safety and Licensing board to recommend issuance of an operating license for the plant as soon as possible.

Schmidt said it would be premature to speculate on whether the project's price estimate will go up. The \$3.89 billion estimate, made in December, was the sixth increase since the original estimate of \$779 million in 1974.

Last fall, plant officials estimated the plant's price will go up \$2 million for each day of delay in loading fuel. In adding \$450 million to their previous estimate in December, they boosted the price by \$2.47 million for each day of the projected six-month delay.

Ippolito said the NRC's prediction was based on a large amount of unfinished insulation work, painting and pre-operational testing, as well as a delay in correcting almost 9,000 construction defects.

Ippolito made his announcement during a break in licensing hearings being conducted by the licensing board.

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BELATED PRESENTATION—Adam T. Raczkowski stands with his wife Anna and Rep. Nancy Johnson, R-Conn., right, after the World War I veteran was presented a Purple Heart Wednesday in a Pentagon ceremony. Raczkowski, 85, serving as a private first class, was wounded in a gas bombardment in 1918 and was belatedly presented his citation Wednesday. (AP Laserphoto)

Woman sought in shooting of men

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — A statewide bulletin has been issued for a woman who police say went on a shooting spree — killing one man and wounding two others — after a bar patron mistakenly took her bar stool.

The woman was armed and already had been facing an aggravated assault charge in connection with an attack on a police officer, authorities said.

The shootings began at 8 p.m. Tuesday when the former cab driver — called a "tough hombre" by witnesses — returned to her stool and found Air Force Lt. Nolan Horton sitting there, detective Billy Hook said.

Bartender Robert Rios, 22, offered her another bar stool, but she pulled a revolver from her purse, put the gun next to Horton's head and pulled the trigger, Hook said.

She then fired at Rios, grazing the side of his head, witnesses said.

Horton, 32, was listed in critical condition late Wednesday at Medical Center Hospital, while Rios was said to be in good condition.

Dead was Allen Knight, 45, who was shot in his home in Live Oak, a San Antonio suburb.

Investigators said the woman, who had not been charged, apparently drove to Knight's house immediately after leaving the bar.

He was shot once in the head about 15 minutes after Live Oak police questioned him concerning the woman's whereabouts, Hook said.

The license plate of her car had been traced to Knight's address, he said.

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Dissolving glass could have wide range of medical uses

By **ROBERT GLASS**
Associated Press Writer
HARLOW, England (AP) — Scientists are testing a special dissolving glass to deliver drugs to the body at a constant rate for any period ranging from a day to 10 years.

The glass is known as controlled release glass, or CRG, because it dissolves at a controlled speed. Its developers say that besides delivering drugs to the body, CRG could be threaded into a tumor to gradually release chemicals that are too lethal for general introduction into the bloodstream.

It can also be molded into rods and tubes for use as a structural material in surgery, and already has been used successfully in an operation on a human arthritis patient, according to a scientist involved in the research.

Although any possible use of CRG for human cancer patients is still years away, animal tests are scheduled to begin next month at Harper-Grace Hospital in Detroit.

CRG looks like ordinary window or bottle glass and is made in the same way: by melting at high temperatures. But unlike conventional glass based on silicates, CRG is based on phosphates.

It was created in a laboratory fluke in the early 1970s, when British scientists were trying to develop an ultra-hard glass for telephone switching components.

Instead, the result was a glass that dissolves in water. It had no known use then, but its inventor was unwilling to waste all his effort and continued to look for applications.

"It is a new class of materials," said Cyril Drake, a Standard Telecommunications Laboratories research chemist who discovered the glass and holds 40 patents on its use. "They will dissolve in water at a controlled, pre-determined rate — and that really is the key."

For decades, researchers have been trying to develop better ways to deliver drugs into the bloodstream at a constant rate over a long period.

Drake said the first commercial use of CRG probably would be in the animal health field. CRG capsules for supplementing the mineral diets of farm animals should be commercially available within the next 18 months, he said in an interview at his laboratory in Harlow, 25 miles northeast of London.

Dr. William Powers, director of radiation therapy at Detroit's Grace-Harper Hospital, said he planned to begin testing CRG against animal cancers as soon as he receives a shipment of the glass, expected by April.

"We are going to put very toxic chemicals in tumors and allow the glass to dissolve in the local region," he told The Associated Press.

He said he thought it would be good in treating prostate cancer, and it would "allow us to give the drug fairly rapidly and get it out of the system quickly too."

Powers said he could not estimate when the treatment might be available to cancer victims, "but we'll find out pretty fast if it doesn't work."

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LIFESTYLES



Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: Am I an old fuddy-duddy or what? (I'm 32.) My daughter, who is 11 and in the sixth grade, insists that she is the only girl in her group who isn't allowed to wear eye makeup, shave her legs and go to the movies with boys unsupervised.

She's right, unfortunately. Most of her friends are allowed those things. It really burns me up that so many parents give their kids so much freedom that those of us who don't are "the bad guys." Everyone keeps telling me that kids are more "mature" these days and do things at a much younger age. Sometimes I wonder if their parents aren't nuts.

We trust our daughter and know that she has a good head on her shoulders, but where is the line drawn? Am I really old-fashioned? We had hoped to make her wait to use makeup and shave her legs until she was at least 13, and hold off the boys until she was 14 or 15. But 11?

Please help me, Abby. I feel very "old" tonight.

OLDIE AT 32

DEAR OLDIE: Don't blame other parents for caving in when their children pull the old line. "Every-

body else can—why can't I?" (It's not always true.) You are responsible for raising only your child—and setting the limits that seem appropriate to you. Makeup can wait, and so can boys. But a girl who's old enough to be self-conscious about hairy legs should be given an electric shaver and permission to use it.

DEAR ABBY: I'll get right to the point: When somebody asks, "How are you?" isn't it proper to be perfectly truthful about it? If I am fine, I reply, "I am fine, thank you." But if I am ailing, I tell the person that I have a backache or I feel as though I am coming down with something, just getting over the flu, or whatever.

A friend of mine told me I should always say "I'm fine" whether I am or not because nobody really cares—it's just a friendly greeting like "Hello" or "Good morning."

Please settle this.

A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

DEAR DIFFERENCE: Generalizations are dangerous (even this one), but usually when people ask "How are you?" they don't want an organ recital.

I once heard a bore defined as "A man who, when you ask him how he is, tells you." The same goes for a female bore.

DEAR ABBY: I was glad to see so many letters in your column urging readers to put their small children in proper car seats with seat belts.

Most people think they have to be in a terrible automobile accident for a child to be seriously injured or killed.

Listen to this: A neighbor of mine was driving with her 2-year-old daughter sitting beside her. While she was slowing for a stoplight—and going not more than 20 miles an

hour—another car bumped her from behind, causing her little girl to fall in such a way that the child's eye was impaled on the gearshift! That gearshift went into the child's skull and into her brain. Emergency surgery was performed, but the child died on the operating table.

From that day on I have been a one-woman campaigner for children's car seats with the proper restraints. I hope you think this is important enough for your column.

STEADY READER

DEAR READER: Indeed it is. Thanks for writing.

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Time to shape up!

Do your spring clothes look as if they've spent the winter in hibernation—with no signs of their ever coming back to life? With spring just around the corner, now is the time to revive your wardrobe for the months ahead.

Here are some suggestions on spiffing up for the spring:

- Mothballs can keep more than moths away from your clothes! To rid your garments of that mothball odor, put each item into the dryer under air cycle (no heat) for about 10 minutes. Dry each item separately.
- Add a few drops of witch hazel (or your favorite cologne) to the water in your steam iron before you iron. Clothes will smell like spring when you are through.

- Whether you've stored your wardrobe in cartons, shopping bags, cedar chests or grandma's attic, they probably need to be de-wrinkled. Hang the garments on the curtain rod in the shower and cover them with plastic dry-cleaning bags. Run the hottest water possible and close the door. Garments will be wrinkle-free in a matter of minutes.

Suits to celebrate Easter

NEW YORK (NEA) — Simplicity is the fashion word these days, with clean-cut silhouettes and uncluttered detailing. The best Easter outfit will be a suit, and since Easter is late this year, it should be chosen with an eye for summer wardrobes.

Within the boundaries of simplicity, this year's suit can feature a classic blazer, a big-shouldered, oversized jacket, or the unconstructed looks based on sportswear or Japanese influence. An Easter suit can be formal or softly casual.

Tailored, formal suits often come in black and white. Von Aesch for Rod Owens does a white ottoman jacket, long, lean and trimmed in black, with a slim black skirt and black silk shirt. Subtle detailing sneaks in with black stitching rows, accenting the edges of Tahari's white herringbone jacket with its squared, padded shoulders, raglan sleeves and shawl collar sweeping down to a shaped, buttoned waist. Such suits will go to the office later.

Many spring suits are all-white linen blends meant for summer wear as well. Cotton blends are also used, such as the white cotton/poly sailcloth, two-button blazer at Sero, classically tailored to go with a slim skirt eased by a side panel of stitched-down pleats. Sero adds a gray and white pin-striped cotton shirt with white club collar.

In softer suit looks, jackets have rounded shoulders, gentle fit and lingerie detailing such as the white shawl collar on a pink, linen Kodol jacket by M.J. Concepts. The jacket is double-buttoned at the waist and hipbone length to show gathers that ease the skirt.

While tailored suits call for long, lean jackets, soft suits usually have short ones.

- Keep your closet well-stocked with accessories to keep clothing in tip-top shape: shoe horns, lint pick-upppers, and spot removers.
- When you put your winter boots away for the season use boot trees to help them keep their form.
- Once you have your closet in order, these suggestions will help keep it in tip-top shape:
 - Let clothes air out for several hours after wearing before putting them back in the closet. This gives them a chance to breathe, and helps keep them in better condition.
 - This may seem obvious, but it really helps — put the

clothes you'll be wearing most often at the easiest — to reach places in your closet. Rumaging through a closet when you're late for work is bound to cause problems.

—Rid your closet of those garments you haven't worn in two years. Once they are gone, you won't miss them. Keep your closet manageable, and give the extras to charity. You'll make your life — as well as somebody else's — better.

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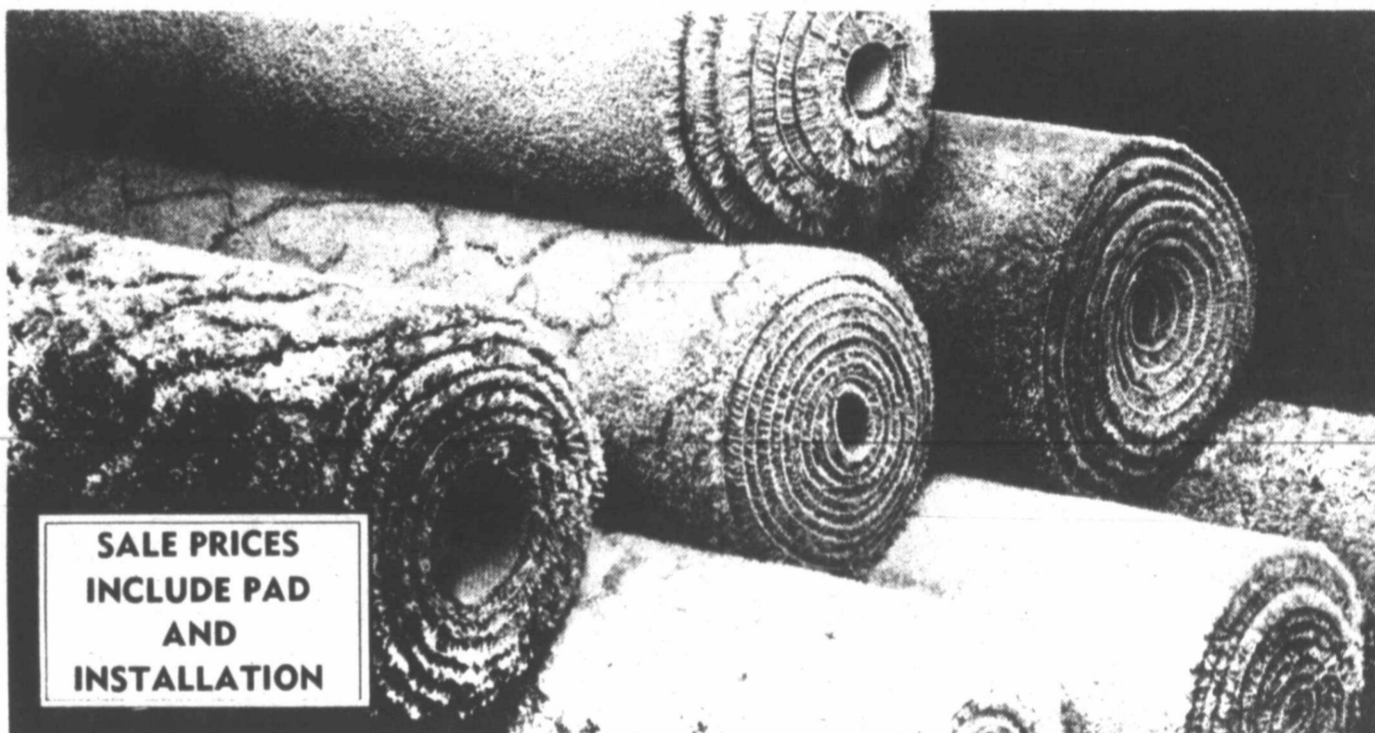
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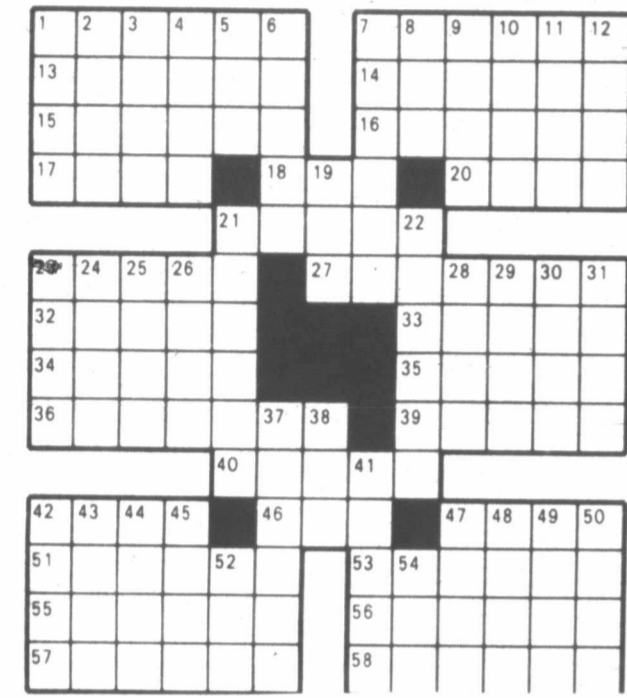
1 Volcano
3 Saffron plant
13 Slob-like
14 Agnes Moorehead role
15 Wily
17 Saw notch
18 Technical university (abbr)
20 Bodies of water
21 Bird's home
23 Folk song
27 Knowledge
32 Form of architecture
33 Mild pinch
34 French river
35 Throw
36 International understanding
39 Went astray
40 Make objection
42 Persian poet
46 Point of story

DOWN

1 Vane
2 Exceptional
3 At a distance
4 Quarrel
5 Superlative suffix
6 Limerick
7 Irish
8 Genetic material
9 Racetrack term
10 slaw
11 Animal waste
12 Back talk
19 Tax agency (abbr)
21 Go up

Answer to Previous Puzzle

KEENE UMLAUT
NEVEN LEANTO
GARITE CASTER
EVIL DEBENT
REEL DARTLEAK
YEAR PYGMY
DAM ANITA GOA
ONA SENOR SST
ANTRE GREW
YETI BLY ATLE
FLAY ULNAR
DEAFEN ANKARA
UNCLAD STONES
OTTERS HONES



Astro-Graph
by bernice bede osol

Fate is likely to intervene where your career is concerned this coming year. She may set into motion peculiar circumstances which could lead to your advancement.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Joint-venture commercial situations can be pulled off successfully today. However, both you and your counterpart must keep your target in focus at all times. The areas in which you'll be the luckiest in the year ahead are revealed in your Astro-Graph predictions. To get yours, mail \$1 and your zodiac sign to Astro-Graph, Box 489, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019. To find out to which signs you are best suited romantically, send an additional \$2 for your Matchmaker wheel and booklet.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Spend as many hours as possible today with one with whom you're seeking a more desirable relationship. Time can enhance your alliance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You're especially adroit today at updating or improving upon methods or systems where your work is concerned. Make the necessary revisions.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Diplomacy and tact will have greater impact than aggressiveness today. Keep this in mind if you are confronted by a difficult individual.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Should you experience strong urges to serve your fellow man today, by all means do so. Great satisfaction will be derived working for noble ends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Important self-interests can be promoted today if you do things with a flare. Follow your instincts as a showman, but don't be too flamboyant.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't ignore your hunches in financial matters today. Your sixth sense can serve you well when trying to negotiate a bargain.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Try to relegate your activities to the mental realm today. Projects requiring you to use your imagination will prove the most rewarding.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) In order to generate a flow from a business involvement today, it may be necessary to spend a little seed money. Do so wisely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Conditions in general look hopeful for you today, especially in matters where you are teamed up with another who shares your ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) For best results today, don't broadcast your objectives. Quietly go about your purposes, but be quick to share your achievements.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You have a remarkable talent today for taking the ideas of others and putting them to practical uses of which they never dreamed.

STEVE CANYON



By Milton Caniff | KIT N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



OUR BOARDING HOUSE

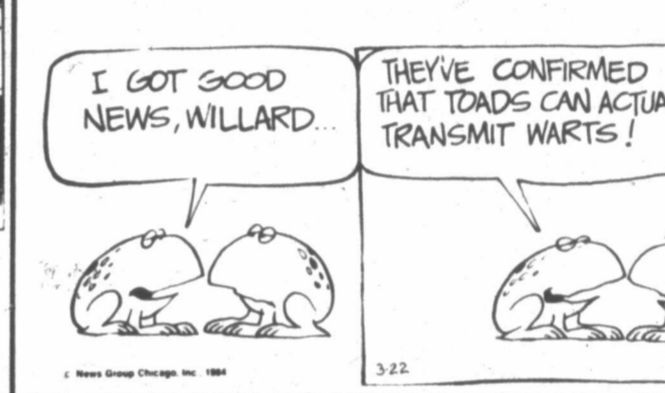
Major Hoopie

EEK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider



By Johnny Hart



MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong



WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli



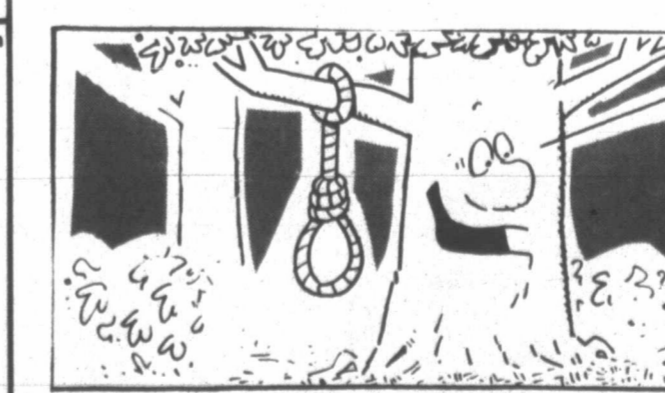
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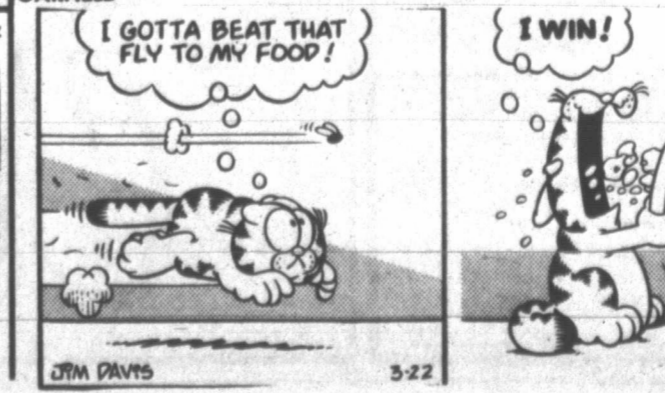
FRANK AND ERNEST

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GARFIELD

By Jim Davis



ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue



THE BORN LOSER

By Art Sansom



PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schultz



SPORTS SCENE



SETTING A DATE— WBC Super Welterweight Champion Thomas Hearns, left, and WBA Junior Middleweight champ Roberto Duran pose with oversized boxing gloves to promote their June 15 junior middleweight title fight at a site yet to be determined. Duran holds a glove that lists the boxer's nicknames, including his—Manos de Piedra—which translates to "Hands of Stone." (AP Laserphoto)

Food bank to benefit from women's tourney

The Converse Women's Invitational Tournament to benefit the High Plains Food Bank will be today through Saturday in the Amarillo Civic Center.

Tickets will be half price with the donation of one can of food.

The tournament will

feature eight college basketball teams. There will also be All-Star high school games at 7 p.m. nightly. Other games will be played at noon, 2, 4, 7 and 9 p.m. each day of the tournament.

The High Plains Food Bank is a private, non-profit

organization which receives, stores and distributes food to more than 100 non-profit agencies, including the Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels and Good Samaritan.

Seven Pampa area players will be competing in high school all-star games during the tournament. They include Kay Ford and Tina Ford of White Deer, Stephanie Mitchell of Canadian, Traci Smith of Perryton, Karen Strawn of Panhandle, Maria Eck of McLean and Kathleen Koetting of Groom. All are playing on the East squad.

Cowboys' Pearson hurt

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Cowboy wide-receiver Drew Pearson was injured and his brother Carey Mark Pearson was killed early today in a traffic accident in north Dallas, police said.

shoulder of LBJ freeway in far north Dallas and hit the rear of a parked tractor-trailer truck.

Spencer said Carey Pearson, 27, was dead at the scene and that Drew Pearson, 33, suffered back and internal injuries and was taken to Dallas Presbyterian Hospital. The driver of the truck was not injured.

Hospital spokesman Bill Mays said Pearson is in satisfactory condition with internal injuries.

Spencer said the officer making the report said Pearson was driving a 1984 Dodge Daytona at an unsafe speed and that the truck was parked on the shoulder with its flasher lights on at the time of the 1:30 a.m. accident.

Youth bowling roundup

Todd Mason bowled the high game this week for the Bantam-Prep boys, a nice 165. John Donnelly bowled the week's high series, 141-154-131-426.

Girls' high game and high series was Tammy Parsley's 105-92-95-292. Other outstanding games were by Tim Miller 138, Steve Miller 66 (duplicate) David Futch 136, Matthew Hamon 134 and Danny Stokes 136. Chad Miller joined the league this week and qualified for a patch with his first game. Chad is 8 years old and set a

42 average.

Junior bowlers were really knocking down the pins this week. Dale Sanders bowled a 170 game, Mark Pulse 195, Kyle Clark 158, Chris Hazle 180, John Thomas 179, John Hazle 157, Susie Steiner 150, Patti Proctor 164 and Perry Moore 166. Troy Moore had high series for the week, a 150-153-167-470.

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NCAA Midwest It's all gravy for DePaul coach

ST. LOUIS (AP) — At the end of a trail spanning 42 collegiate basketball seasons at the same school, Ray Meyer insists he's going to go out with a smile.

"Even though it's my last time around, I'm having a ball. It's all gravy," the venerable DePaul coach told reporters Wednesday by telephone. "These young kids have exceeded my expectations. I figure that even if we lose, they've given me a fantastic year."

Meyer's team, of course, isn't expected to lose when it faces Wake Forest in Friday night's second game of the Midwest NCAA regional semifinals at the Arena.

But the 70-year-old coach of the nation's fourth-ranked team is taking nothing for granted against the 19th-rated Demon Deacons. Neither, for that matter, is Coach Guy Lewis of No. 5 Houston, which will take on 16th-rated Memphis State in the other semifinal.

DePaul's record, 27-2, tops the Midwest field as a tribute to the man who has advanced the Chicago school into the NCAA tournament a seventh time in the last nine years.

The Blue Demons, who were knocked off three times in a row in preliminary rounds, cleared that hurdle last Sunday with a 75-61 triumph over Illinois State.

Now their challenge is an opponent which shared third place in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Meyer said he anticipates no slowdown by Wake Forest, 22-8, despite a disparity in team quickness and bench depth favoring DePaul.

"I don't see them holding the ball or playing a half-court game as such. They're a running ballclub," the coach said. "I know quite a bit about them. I have four or five films."

Meyer said is concerned, however, by the combination defenses the Deacon Demons are apt to throw at his young charges.

"They go into that trap and

drop right back into that 1-3-1. We don't want to stop and get out of our offense," the coach said. "I think that maybe did something this morning (in practice) that may help us solve that problem."

It is an opportunity for the Blue Demons, to present their coach with a school-record 28th victory in one season.

"I think their quickness is most effective at the defensive end of the court. The fact that they held their opponents to 41 percent shooting gives us concern," Wake Forest Coach Carl Tacy said. "Their explosiveness on the offensive board causes us concern."

Mavericks slip by Hawks, 102-101

DALLAS (AP) — Rolando Blackman didn't get what he wanted, but he got just what the Dallas Mavericks needed. His off-balance shot between two Atlanta Hawks with two seconds left gave the Mavericks a 102-101 victory, but Blackman was looking for a foul.

"I went up with my elbows extended looking for contact," said Blackman, whose 30 points led both teams in Wednesday's victory. "But nobody touched me so I just tried to follow through and get it into the rim as soft as I could."

The 10-foot shot rattled against the backboard and

rim before dropping into the net, giving Dallas, 37-32, its fifth win in nine games. But the Mavericks, who lost an early 9-point edge and trailed 97-91 with four minutes to play, did not look good winning it.

"We really didn't play well enough to win tonight," said Dallas Coach Dick Motta, whose team was out-rebounded 39-38 and outshot despite the fact that Atlanta played all but 10 minutes without 7-1 center Tree Rollins, who left with a sore knee.

"But we've lost about six heartbreakers like that this season, so I guess things have

a way of evening out," he said.

The Hawks, who got 27 points from Dan Roundfield, missed a chance to go up by three with 13 seconds left when guard Johnny Davis missed a 15-footer over Blackman.

"It was a good war between two good teams, one fighting for the playoffs the other fighting for a division title," said Atlanta coach Mike Fratello.

The Hawks are currently seventh-place team in an eight-team race for the Eastern Conference playoffs with 10 games to play while Dallas is one-and-a-half

games behind Midwest Division leading Utah Jazz with 13 games left.

On Dallas' final shot, Motta said he just wanted to "get the ball to a guard and create, get a decent shot."

Aguirre, who had 25 for Dallas inbounded the ball to Blackman who was quickly doubled teamed by guards Mike Glenn and Davis. But the 6-6 guard faked both men into the air, then made the shot.

"I don't know if there is any better way to play him defensively than we did," said Fratello.

List first to finish tour

Steve List of Pampa was the first bicyclist to finish in the "Come and See the Stars" 25-mile bicycle tour held last weekend. The event was sponsored by The Flatlanders, a touring and racing club which has members from Pampa, Amarillo and other panhandle cities.

Forty-seven riders from Amarillo, Borger, Canyon, Fritch, Hereford, Lubbock and Pampa participated, and received embroidered patches in the League of American Wheelmen sanctioned Quarter Century Tour. Last weekend's tour was the first in a four-part series of tours called, "America the Beautiful." The remaining tours will be 50 miles, 62 miles and 100 miles.

Three hours were allowed for the Quarter Century, which was a loop course beginning at Hollywood and Canyon Expressway in Amarillo. All entrants finished well inside the time.

The Flatlanders awarded trophies to the top three finishers: 1. List, 1:02:44; 2. Tom Hutchinson, Lubbock, 1:02:45; 3. Buddy Essary, Lubbock, 1:02:46.

Ribbons were awarded in age categories listed below: 18 & Under-1. Steve Avampato; 2. Richard Tamplin; 3. Chris Hall.

40 & Over-1. David Lard; 2. Ted Brandt; 3. Leo Karlin.

Oldest Rider-James Burton.

Youngest Rider(tie)-Jerry Klienpeter III and Kelly Hendrick.

Pampa bicyclists completing the tour were Bruce Belcher, eighth; Tom Byrd, tenth; Bobby Schiffman, 18; Fred Venal, 23; Cranz Nichols, 24; Alec MacGregor, 26; Kelly Hendrick, 31; Rodney Caldwell, 37; Larry Hendrick, 38.

Umpires Clinic set next week

Pampa Softball Umpires Association is sponsoring an umpires clinic March 27-29, starting at 7 p.m. in Room 202 of City Hall.

Persons interested in umpiring softball games this summer are urged to attend.

Players and coaches are also invited.

For further information, contact Tommy Florer at 669-3554 or Nelson Medley at 665-8944.

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Visit to underscore strong US-France relations

WASHINGTON (AP) — The visit by Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist president of France, to the United States this week is expected to underscore France's strong support for U.S. leadership of the western alliance despite differences over economic policies, Central America and the Middle East.

"What matters is that when it counts, we can count on them," a senior U.S. official said.

On his first full day of an eight-day visit, Mitterrand today was meeting with President Reagan at the White House, addressing a joint session of Congress and being honored at a state dinner.

The Mitterrand visit is viewed here as a key event in a series of trans-Atlantic

meetings intended, one official said, to "demonstrate and reflect alliance cohesion" in economic and political policies.

These meetings, culminating with the annual summit of industrialized democracies in London in June, include a meeting of NATO foreign ministers in Washington in May and the meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris in April.

Reagan recently has met with the top governmental leaders of West Germany, Portugal, Austria and Ireland.

Although Mitterrand was in the United States for the Williamsburg economic summit last May and has been in Washington for short working visits, his arrival here Wednesday evening marked the first state

visit by a French president since President Giscard d'Estaing visited in 1976.

Although relations between Paris and Washington have been marked in recent years by spats over such issues as cooperation by French corporations in the building of a Soviet natural gas pipeline to Western Europe, the U.S. official who briefed reporters at the White House, said that at the moment there are "remarkably few controversies."

He said Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz will almost certainly want to explore with Mitterrand the failure this week of the members of the European Economic Community to reach agreement on agricultural pricing policies.

The French government reportedly has

differed from Washington over the U.S. decision to withdraw the Marines from Lebanon and other Middle East policies. Two years ago Mitterrand was sharply critical of U.S. policies in Central America.

"We don't expect the French to see all of these regional issues precisely as we do," said the U.S. official who briefed reporters on condition he not be identified by name.

Mitterrand ends his round of meetings with top U.S. officials here on Friday and then goes on to a cross-country tour with stops in Atlanta, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Galesburg, Ill.; Pittsburgh; and New York City.

He and his wife, Danielle, are scheduled to return to Paris from New York next Wednesday.

Scientists arguing about how to develop space weapon

WASHINGTON (AP) — A year after President Reagan outlined his vision of a space-age defense against Soviet nuclear attack, scientists are still arguing whether it is a "Star Wars" pipedream leading the world to disaster or to the end of a 30-year-old atomic stalemate.

A group of distinguished physicists came to the first conclusion in a report issued Wednesday, arguing that the administration should pursue arms control rather than "this illusion." The private group, the Union of Concerned Scientists, has been critical of Reagan in past years.

But Dr. George Keyworth, Reagan's science adviser, said recently, "it's worth pursuing. Our research is at an early stage and may come to nothing. But if we find something, we (the United States and the Soviet Union) could get away from these loaded guns we're pointing at each other."

Officially, the Pentagon calls the project "Strategic Defense Initiative" and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger bridges when critics call it "Star Wars" after the popular movie featuring futuristic weapons.

However, official Pentagon budget documents recently submitted to Congress show that one part of the research, dealing with a weapon known as the electromagnetic gun, has been named "Project JEDI." The Jedi Knights, possessors of

"the Force," were the good guys in "Star Wars."

Reagan, in a March 23, 1983 speech, called for scientific research into a defensive shield which change military strategy from offense to defense and could "give us the means of rendering these nuclear weapons obsolete."

The existing concept is "deterrence," the three-decade old doctrine which holds that the nuclear stalemate exists because both know a first strike would not destroy enough weapons to eliminate a devastating counter-attack by the other side.

The Union of Concerned Scientists study, written by a group of eminent physicists which included Nobel laureate Hans Bethe, said none of the current defensive systems being studied, such as various types of lasers, will work to make existing weapons useless and, even if they did, the systems could be easily defeated by steps the Soviets might take.

The Pentagon has proposed spending about \$3 billion in the next fiscal year and the program will cost at least \$26 billion through 1989 without any assurance that a deployable system can be developed. Pentagon officials have told Congress in recent weeks.

But Keyworth disputed that figure, saying, "I cannot conceive of how anybody can estimate the cost" because "we have no idea yet of what it will look like."

However, backers of a plan known as High Frontier continue to push for their system, which would station 432 killer satellites in orbit, each armed with 40 to 50 rockets capable of knocking down Soviet missiles.

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