



Pampa not MADD enough to support a local chapter

BY PAUL PINKHAM
Staff Writer

Pampans just aren't mad enough about drunk drivers to support MADD, or so it seems.

The local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, known as MADD, has folded and its president, as well as several local law enforcement officials, are blaming a lack of interest by the community.

MADD is a national organization designed to focus awareness on the problem of drunk driving as well as lend support to those involved in accidents involving drunk drivers. With increasing political clout in recent years, the Hurst-based organization is generally credited with helping spawn tougher drunk driving laws in many states.

Sharon Potter, who headed the Pampa chapter, said the local organization lasted less than a year. She said plenty of people said they were glad a local chapter was started, but few

joined the organization or served as volunteers.

"Pampa is just not interested," she said. "They're just not ready for it or just don't want to deal with it."

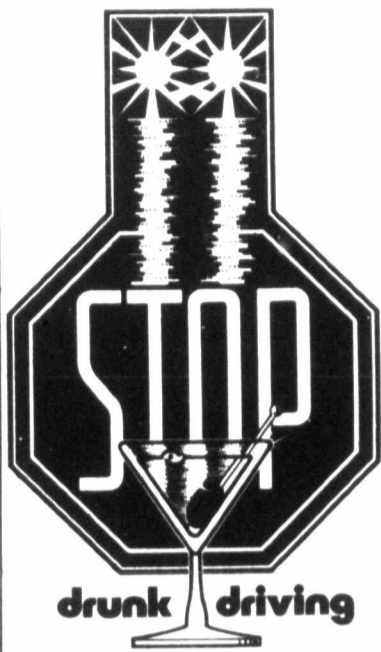
Potter also said she had trouble getting local businesses to back the organization, although several did donate door prizes for the group's barbecue last June, she said. That event drew about 500 people, not quite enough for the chapter to break even, she said.

In its brief existence, Potter said, the group attended county court proceedings involving drunk driving cases and met occasionally with the county attorney. She said she feels the group was had some effect on the outcome of such cases.

The group had also hoped to use revenue from the barbecue to work out a system whereby local taxi drivers would drive drunks home from bars. Such a system is in place in Amarillo, she said.

"One taxi driver said he would rather be driving one (a drunk)

MADD won't push this message in Pampa any more.



home than meet one on the road," Potter said.

Potter disputed the belief that MADD is an anti-drinking or prohibitionist organization. She noted one of the group's largest supporters is Coors, the Colorado-based beer company.

"We're not saying do not drink or even not to get drunk. We're just saying know your limit and call somebody," she said. "If you drink, that's your business, but if you're out on the road drunk and heading toward my car, that's my business."

Local law enforcement officials expressed a mixture of surprise and sorrow that the local MADD chapter folded. County Attorney Robert McPherson said he is shocked, surprised and sorry there is not more interest in the drunk driving problem in Gray County.

"I'm sorry because I do think that MADD mothers gave me a little leverage," he said.

But, McPherson added he has never felt the local community has demanded strong

punishments for drunk drivers. He admitted Gray County's treatment of driving while intoxicated cases seems lenient in relation to surrounding counties.

"It kind of backs up my thinking that I can only enforce the law as the community wants it enforced," McPherson said of the chapter's folding.

McPherson said the group's most important function, in his opinion, was educating members as to drunk driving laws and drinking problems and providing publicity to the problem.

County Judge Carl Kennedy, who rules on drunk driving cases at the county level, said he was sorry but not surprised because local people already are involved in numerous organizations, although he said he felt MADD was a worthy organization.

Kennedy said he and his wife were MADD members but he did not personally attend meetings of the group for fear of creating the appearance of a conflict of interest.

"I'm sorry to hear there was not enough interest to keep it going," Kennedy said.

Assistant District Attorney David Hamilton said he finds the lack of interest argument "hard to swallow."

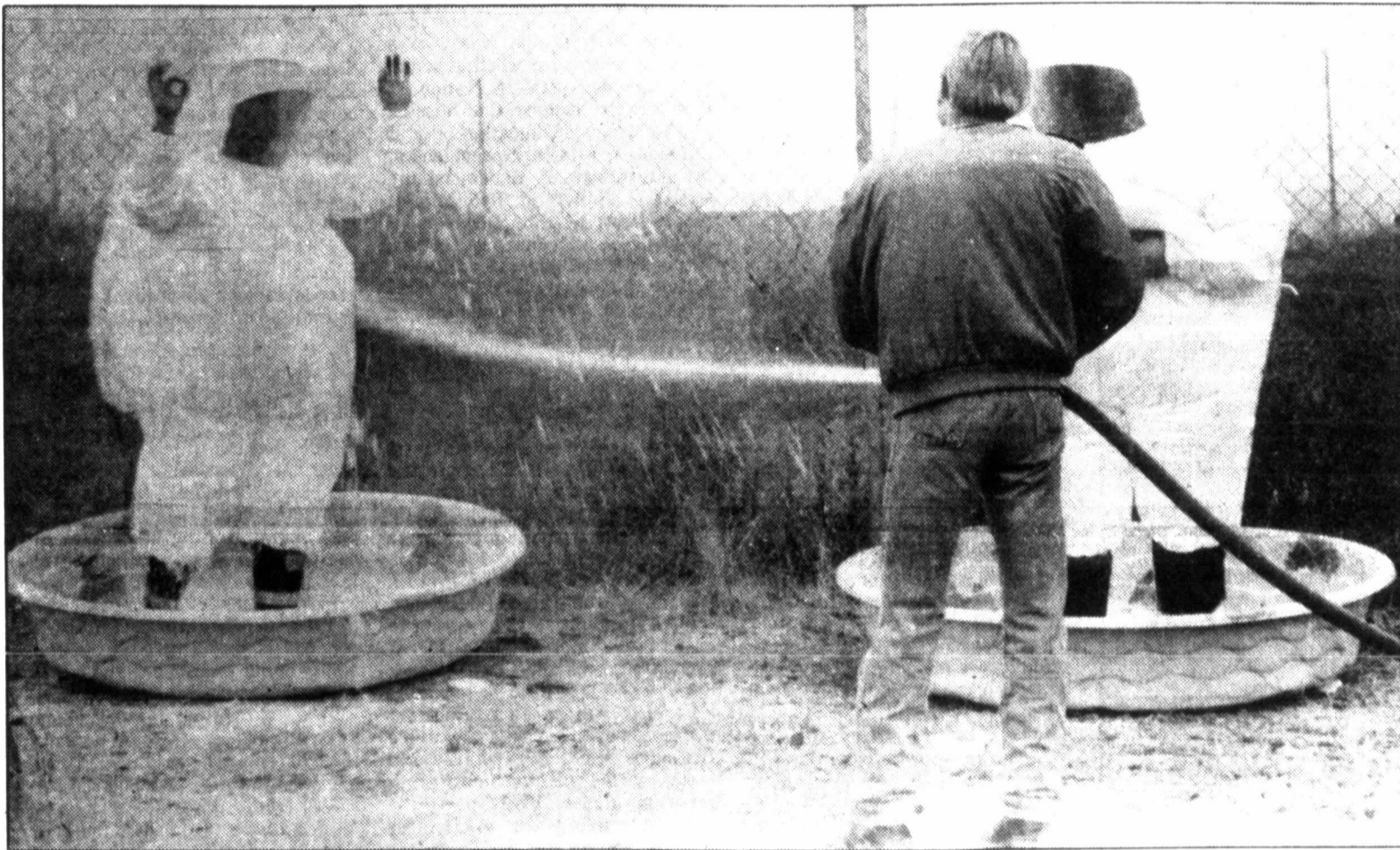
"I think that people are interested in the problem of drunk drivers in Texas," he said.

Hamilton cited several local problems in drunk driving cases. He said the county jail is not large enough "for all the DWI's that go through that court."

"I don't know if (MADD) did any court - watching and I have an idea that if they had they wouldn't be happy," he said.

Hamilton credited MADD with bringing about a change of public attitudes toward drunk driving much like the recent changes of attitude toward rape victims brought about by attention toward rape. Five years ago, he said, the common public misconception was that if a woman was raped, she must have

See MADD, Page two



NO WASH OUT! - Dana Miller hoses off Wayne Smith and Kelvin "Kelly" Randall during a hazardous materials drill on a foggy Saturday afternoon at the drill field east of the city. The hazards drill team, composed of members of the fire and police departments and the Office of Emergency Management, conducted a dry run drill involving a nitric acid spill from a tanker truck. Wearing encapsulated suits from protection from dangerous fumes, Smith and Randall evacuated the injured driver, Johnny Harper. Miller then hosed them off, with the water runoff later being safely

disposed. Dan Rose and Harold Davis then went in and stopped the truck leak with a sleeve patch; they were hosed off by Gary Boydston. The drill lasted 20 minutes from the time the alarm was received until the area was declared secure. Supervising the drill was Steve Vaughn, OEM coordinator, and Fire Chief J. D. Ray, with other team members participating in the activities. The short drill was in preparation for a later, more extended drill. (Staff photo by Larry Hollis)

Weinberger: Soviets don't control troops

WASHINGTON (AP) - Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger is accusing the Soviet Union of failing to control its troops following a new military confrontation in East Germany in which a U.S. Army truck was bumped and its occupants held at gunpoint.

Weinberger on Sunday offered the first public word of the Sept. 7 incident in southwestern East Germany. He said the American unit involved was from the same unit as Maj. Arthur Nicholson, an American officer shot and killed by a Soviet guard last March outside an East German base.

The defense secretary, who for months has been denouncing the Soviets over the Nicholson shooting, demanded a Soviet apology for the latest incident, which he said was part of "a continuing series of episodes."

Appearing on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation," Weinberger mentioned only the driver of the truck-like vehicle. But the Defense Department, elaborating later, said two Americans were involved.

"The Soviets bumped his truck deliberately where we were supposed to be, and doing what we were permitted to do under a treaty that is some 40 years old," Weinberger said.

"When he attempted to get out and fix the truck they pushed him back into the truck and held him at gunpoint and detained him for roughly nine hours and generally behaved in the same way in which they did when Maj. Nicholson was killed and murdered," he said.

However, another administration official later said it was unclear if the U.S. vehicle was where it should be, and said the Soviet commander had subsequently apologized profusely for the incident.

Under a U.S.-Soviet pact, a limited number of American soldiers are permitted to travel in East Germany in return for similar rights by Soviet soldiers in West Germany.

Most of the trips - described for years as "legalized spying" - are to report on military activities on each side of the border.

Since the March 24 shooting of Nicholson outside a base near Potsdam, East Germany, the United States has held a series of meetings with the Soviets to complain of harassment against members of the U.S. missions. During that time, there was another incident, involving the collision of U.S. and Soviet vehicles.

"We have had promises by the Soviets that they would tell their people not to use force," Weinberger said. "Either they're not keeping their promises or they are very poorly disciplined."

Asked why the incident had not been announced by the United States at the time it happened, Weinberger said: "We're trying our best to get the conditions corrected. We're not interested in publicity."

He said a protest had been lodged with the Soviets and "we hope that ultimately they will do what they say they are going to do and that is discipline their troops and control their troops."

He said there were reports that the Soviet mission had promised to look into the latest incident, but "we have not had an apology."

Asked if the Soviet action would have an impact on President Reagan's summit meeting with Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva in November, Weinberger said: "No. I don't think so, you just have to recognize that this is Soviet behavior."

School schedules hearing on tax increase Tuesday

Pampa Independent School District patrons will have the chance to speak out on a 1.8-cent tax increase at a public hearing scheduled for 5 p.m. Tuesday.

The school board approved the increase at its Sept. 3 meeting, raising taxes from 70 to 71.8 cents per \$100 valuation. The increase is considered an 8.16 percent raise in taxes because the effective tax rate, the amount needed to raise the same amount of revenue as the previous year, is 66.38 cents.

Despite an increase of more than 8 percent, the point where, generally, taxing entities are subject to a rollback election, the district does not face the possibility

of such an election because of the loss of about \$162,000 in state aid.

Of the district's \$12.35 million budget, approved in August, \$6.15 million will be raised in revenue from taxes. Supt. James Trusty said at the Sept. 3 meeting.

The board will adjourn the public hearing and call its regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Under consideration will be a contract with St. Paul United Methodist Church for the use of rooms at the church's educational building for kindergarten classes from Horace Mann Elementary School. Trusty told the board Sept. 3 of a plan to use the church building to reduce overcrowding

problems at Mann.

Under the proposal, kindergartners will be sent to the church building to free up classrooms for first and second graders. Classes in those grades exceed the 22-1 student-teacher ratio mandated by the state for pre-kindergarten through second grade classes.

The use of the church is a "short-term, temporary measure," Trusty said.

In other matters, the board will receive a budget report, act on committee reports and consider due bills and invoices. A possible executive session is planned to discuss employment of personnel.



National and local statistics have recently shown that thefts from unattended automobiles are becoming even more frequent. An accomplished and skilled car burglar can enter almost any type of locked vehicle in less than 20 minutes in most cases.

Crime stoppers of Pampa will pay up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and indictment of persons burglarizing vehicles in Pampa.

If you have information about this type of crime, or any other crime, you can report it and remain anonymous by calling 669-2222.

Retail sales in area still ahead of last year

By LARRY HOLLIS
Staff Writer

According to sales tax rebate figures released last week by State Comptroller Bob Bullock, most area cities showed some improvements in sales over the previous month.

Pampa slipped a little in percentage but still indicated retail sales running above last year, based on Bullock's monthly report.

Bullock sent September checks totaling \$57.3 million in local sales tax payments to the 1,005 cities that levy the one-percent city sales tax.

September checks represent taxes collected on sales made in July and reported to the Comptroller's Office by Aug. 20.

Bullock sent Pampa a check this month for

\$102,704.63, representing sales of slightly over \$10.27 million. That's a slight decrease from the September, 1984, check for \$106,981.12, representing sales of nearly \$10.7 million for the previous July.

Payments for the year to date total \$1,216,494.36, indicating sales for just over \$121.6 million. That is a 4.56 percent increase above the \$1,163,481.36 in payments received in the first nine months of last year for sales of about \$116.3 million. Last month Bullock listed Pampa with a 5.42 percent hike.

Figures can't be compared with complete accuracy, however, due to a number of items and services that were added to the sales tax collection last October. That comparison won't be accurate until the December checks are received.

Elsewhere in Gray County, Lefors held steady with a 26.12 percent decline listed by Bullock. The

city received no checks in September for either year. Total payments to date this year are \$3,371.83, down from the \$4,563.79 received at this time last year.

McLean still showed a decline, but a larger September check improved its sales figures. Bullock sent the city a check this month for \$1,339.71, up from the \$1,069.02 for the previous September.

Total payments for the year are \$14,754.64, nearly \$2,000 under the \$16,731.53 recorded at this time in 1984. That indicates an 11.82 percent drop for McLean. But last month the city was registering a 14.35 percent decrease.

In Carson County, Groom had a September check for \$2,838.88, nearly double the \$1,444.61 received last September. That pushed Groom back into the positive column again.

Payments for the year to date total \$16,162.20, a 1.96 percent hike above the \$15,850.78 recorded at this time last year. Last month Bullock listed Groom with a 7.52 percent drop.

Skellytown received a payment of \$1,664.69 from the state this month, down more than \$300 from the September, 1984, check for \$1,978.41. Total yearly payments are \$14,634.97, falling 24.75 percent below the \$19,449.62 recorded for the first nine months last year. But last month Skellytown was registering a 25.76 percent decrease, indicating a slight improvement from the August check.

The state sent White Deer a check this month for \$2,455.12, nearly \$800 more than the \$1,667.33 in payments earned in the same month last year. Total payments for the year to date are \$14,970.96, falling

See RETAIL, Page two

TEXAS / REGIONAL

More information needed on saving money on school workbook purchases

AUSTIN (AP) — The State Board of Education has rejected a proposal that would have required textbook publishers to supply workbooks and similar materials at a fixed price.

Jack Strong, a board member from Longview, offered the measure, saying it would save money for the state, but the proposition failed 10-4 after State Education Commissioner William Kirby declined to endorse it.

Kirby says he needs more information before he could support it. "Could it have any result except to save money?" Strong asked. "I'm not adequately informed to give a recommendation at this time," Kirby replied.

Strong claims the plan to require book publishers to provide supplementary materials at a fixed cost over a period of time could save local school districts millions of dollars.

He said publishers already are giving Arkansas and Florida fixed contracts on supplementary materials. Strong said the publishers told him the only reason "they had not done it in Texas was we hadn't asked for it."

According to Strong, the price of items such as workbooks have been going up 11 to 13 percent a year in Texas.

He wanted the board to go on record as favoring a fixed price

before it adopts textbooks in November so publishers might be persuaded to volunteer fixed prices.

Strong said he would be more inclined to vote for a textbook if the publisher would agree to a fixed contract on workbooks.

The savings, Strong said, would come to local districts, who pay for extra materials out of local funds, or to students who have to buy the materials individually.

Texas pilots killed in copter crash

CAMP MERRILL, Ga. (AP) — A team from the U.S. Army Safety Center will investigate a helicopter crash that killed two Texas Army National Guardsmen on weekend maneuvers, officials said.

The two pilots died Sunday morning when their Cobra Helicopter Gunship crashed into trees and burned while on a training flight at the U.S. Army's Ranger School near Dahlonega.

Texas Army National Guard spokesman Maj. David Cottam identified the two men as 1st Lt. Kevin M. Cardwell, 23, of Round Rock, the pilot in command, and 1st Lt. Michael L. Pape, 27, of Killeen, the co-pilot.

Cottam said the accident will be investigated by a team from the U.S. Army Safety Center in Fort Rucker, Ala., and Texas aviation officer Co. Herbert Purtele.

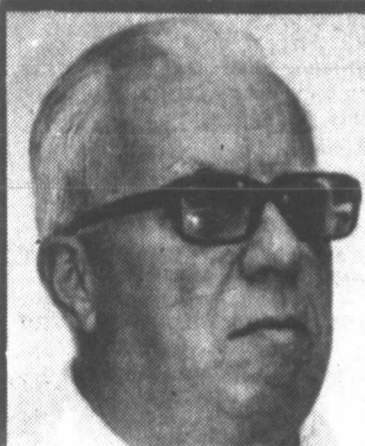
No cause for the crash, which occurred about 9 a.m. EDT about 40 miles northeast of Gainesville, was immediately determined.

Cottam said there was no radio communication from the men indicating any problems. Hem said the last call from the aviators was to another chopper on its way to join them.

The crash occurred in a heavily wooded area and Cottam said the weather was generally clear at the time.



TRAIN DERAILMENT — Workers are seen in front of a Southern Pacific freight train which derailed late Saturday night just south of San Antonio. Twenty-nine cars derailed, some were carrying sulfuric acid which spilled into the Medina River. (AP Laserphoto)



Off beat

By
**Fred
Parker**

There's room for a debate

This week's column was written when I came across some information that I felt shouldn't be held for a week, so here are my reactions to instructions accompanying parking permit stickers given teachers and some students at Pampa Senior High School last week.

The stickers were to be placed on automobiles of the teachers and students assigned parking places on the paved parking lot adjacent to the high school and the instructions bore the signature of "T. Powers." Tim Powers is the school's vice principal.

After advising the recipient to check to see if they had received "the right sticker," the instructions told the teacher or student to follow the steps listed.

- The steps are as follows:
- "1. Find your car.
 - "2. Make sure it will be the car you'll be driving to school each day.
 - "3. Go to your car (before school, during lunch, after school).
 - "4. Place the sticker on the inside rear windshield on the driver's side of the car, at the bottom corner. (See example)" — A drawing showed the placement.
 - "5. Park in the correct place."

After reading the instructions, I could understand why many of the teachers and students were less than happy. The instructions, to me, sounded like something written for grade school students, not for professional teachers and high school juniors and seniors.

And, by the way, I wasn't aware a car had a rear windshield. My Webster's dictionary refers to a windshield as "a transparent glass screen that forms the upper front part of the passenger compartment of an automobile." When I was in school, about 40 years ago, the back window was referred to as "the rear window."

Seems like education has changed over the years, including the names for various parts of cars. Oh well, back to the original subject.

Points for contention and reasons for debate always will exist. Take something as stale as the old "chicken or egg" controversy and an argument can start.

So, which did come first? The answer depends on your point of view. When no definitive conclusion can be drawn, just figure that people many generations down the line will continue to hash over the options.

Abortion qualifies in that category. The folks espousing population control and right-to-life advocates can both present compelling and emotional arguments. Which stance is right? Depends on your ideas. Many eons will pass and the debate will continue to rage.

Human beings will always be opinionated. Some tend to be more argumentative and hard-hearted, but that's what makes life go 'round. Everybody knows a few people who wouldn't be happy if they couldn't argue about something.

Is the United States spending too much on defense? Are there too many social programs? What's the answer?

See, that's why we have political parties and ideological concepts. The points of contention can range from the ridiculous to the sublime.

Certainly those beer commercials in which former athletes and other celebrities quibble over the burning issue of whether the product is less filling or better tasting belongs at the lesser end of the spectrum.

On the other hand, religious beliefs set the stage for all sorts of subtle and hair-splitting squabbles. While most people who consider themselves religious believe in a higher being, the doctrines and prophecies of the various faiths are open to individual and human interpretation.

How does one reconcile the differences between Protestant and Catholic philosophies? If you happen to be in Northern Ireland, words quickly escalate into street fighting. Some people like to make their points with bombs.

People within the same religion — maybe even the same church — are going to find nits to pick. Congregations have been known to split over the strangest of contentions — all in the name of Christianity.

Conveniently, life presents many opportunities for arguments.

A silly little millimeter, a single punctuation mark or the context of one word often sends tempers past the boiling point.

Many medical experts will say that screaming and shaking of fists is good for a person. Letting internal venom spew is much healthier than keeping it bottled inside, they claim.

If that is true, we should have a world full of rosy-cheeked individuals with no stomach problems. After all, there's a whole lot of shouting going on.

Maybe, just maybe, the raising of voices is not the only way to retain sanity and keep a reasonably healthy physical being.

Once upon a time, there was a fellow who took great delight in standing aside as discord erupted.

After a suitable time, the guy would intercede — always with the same line. "Why must there always be trouble in happy valley?" he would inquire in a deep bellow.

Usually, that would startle the participants enough to realize they were being a little too adamant for bystanders who hadn't been drawn into the frenzy.

Then a round of laughter could be expected to wipe out most of the bad feelings. Such jovial conclusions in conflicts might be even more effective than the constant venting of spleen.

So which should come first — the chuckle or the ire?

Parker is city editor of The Pampa News.

Cleanup crews will work round the clock

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — Cleanup crews worked round-the-clock vacuuming toxic sulfuric acid out of the Medina River, contaminated when a freight train derailed on a railroad trestle.

"It looked like beer cans just torn apart," said Carl Mixon, Bexar County fire marshal, of the ruptured tanker cars.

One cleanup crew member was slightly injured in the Saturday night accident, and 300 people living within a one-mile radius of the accident were evacuated. The evacuation was to continue into today, officials today.

The derailment sent 29 cars crashing 50 feet down to the riverbanks. At least 21 were tankers loaded with the highly corrosive acid, said Art Henson, spokesman for Southern-Pacific railroad.

The sulfuric acid apparently will continue to leak from the ruptured tankers until the cars can be removed, officials indicated. Henson said it was uncertain how

many of the tanks were ruptured. "We don't even know how much is left inside them," he said.

Officials said between 100,000 and 200,000 gallons of acid spilled into the river, killing thousands of fish, sheering off small trees on the riverbanks and creating hazardous fumes.

"It's a super mess," Mixon said. Cleanup crews dumped 100 tons of lime into the river Sunday to neutralize the water. An additional 800 tons were scheduled to be added to the waters during the night, Henson said.

A high school about a quarter mile away from the accident site was ordered closed today.

Henson said a rock quarry close to the school and downstream from the spill was contaminated with a lot of acid.

"Obviously, this is going to be a very expensive derailment," Henson said. "Damage will run well over \$1 million."

The derailment was blamed on a shifting load of wood on a flatbed car, the first to jump off the track.

Mixon explained the 530-foot bridge has a wooden frame on both ends and is made of concrete and iron in the center.

"When the cars started going through the metal, one of the cars went catty-cornered," he said.

The chemical contaminated at least a five-mile stretch of the river and killed between 10,000 and 100,000 fish, said Pat Hammack, a spokesman for the Environmental Protection Agency.

Some of the fish, he said, literally disintegrated in the highly corrosive acid.

Shallow, private water wells in San Antonio and four surrounding counties, were untouched, Hammack said.

The Texas Department of Water Resources urged all water intakes downstream of the derailment be shut down and warned against irrigation watering from the river.

The nearest city that might be affected by the acid spill would be Port Lavaca, at least 100 miles southeast, a Texas Water Commission official said.

Port Lavaca takes its water from the Guadalupe River, which the Medina eventually flows into. But drinking water for that city must be pumped out of the river and tested before it can be used, said commission spokesman Skip Francis.

"It looks like that acid ate right through that bridge," said state Rep. Frank Madia, after making an aerial inspection of the accident site.

"The cars appear to be all piled up on top of each other," he said.

One cleanup worker, Ralph Arden, 41, of Texas City, was treated and released for acid burns on his face and arm. No other injuries were reported.

Henson said Southern-Pacific crews would work around the clock to repair the 400-foot collapsed section of the bridge. He said he hoped it would be useable by Thursday.

The trestle collapse had no connection to a fire on the bridge three weeks ago, he said.

Bagpipers invited to Texas' birthday

AUSTIN (AP) — Joe Lane could never be accused of throwing a dull party.

To mark the Texas Sesquicentennial, Lane is planning to bring 80 British infantry bagpipers here to play at a 150th birthday bash for the state in February.

He has even asked them to learn a couple of songs for the occasion: The Yellow Rose of Texas and The Aggie War Hymn.

The 58-year-old investment banker said he got the idea while listening to a tape cassette in his

car of Scotland the Brave played by a band of bagpipers.

Lane said the bagpipers will also allow him to give a personal salute to a Scottish ancestor who has not been marked well in history.

His great-great-uncle, Richard Ballantine, died at the Alamo and Lane said Ballantine's name was misspelled on brass plaques on the Alamo walls and on a monument on the state Capitol grounds.

Lane said many of those who died at the Alamo came from Scotland or were of Scottish descent.

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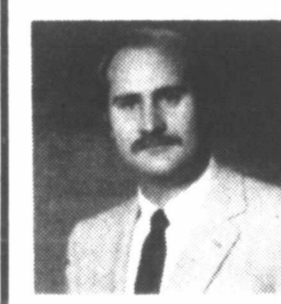
TREATMENT FOR STIFF NECK

If you're suffering from a stiff neck, don't wait for it to take care of itself when treatment is available to correct it.

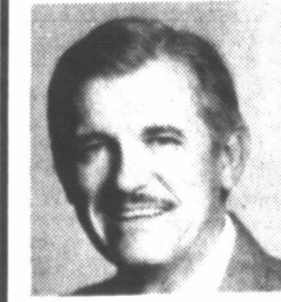
Of all the bones in the spinal column, none are more easily injured or more vulnerable than the seven vertebrae in the neck. None are moved more often. We are constantly turning our heads to look at people and things.

Neck stiffness can have many causes, from sudden and violent accidents to such simple activities as painting a ceiling or just sitting reading a book for a long time. But there's nothing simple about the pain.

A careful examination will reveal the source of the pain and how best to treat it. Any misaligned vertebrae in the spinal column should be properly adjusted so there will be no abnormal pressure on your nervous system. Treatment may also include exercises for the cervical muscles such as gently rotating your head in all directions. This can help restore muscle strength and tone.



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Today's Crossword Puzzle

Release in Papers of Monday, Sep. 16

ACROSS

- 1 Labeled
- 6 Notched bar
- 11 Naval petty officer
- 13 Wine factory
- 14 Actress Dahl
- 15 Freedom of access
- 16 Act of lending
- 17 Bishop's province
- 19 Mideast nation
- 20 Abhor
- 23 Physicians' association (abbr.)
- 24 Compass point
- 27 Point of triangle
- 29 Wore away
- 31 Jewish month
- 35 Oarsman
- 36 Formosa city
- 37 Primitive word
- 40 Horse relative
- 41 Swift aircraft (abbr.)
- 44 Greet
- 46 Division of ancient Greece
- 48 Organ of speech
- 49 Writer Marquis de
- 53 Fish trap
- 55 Spring festival
- 57 Islamic holy city
- 58 Flatter
- 59 Editor's marks
- 60 Smells

DOWN

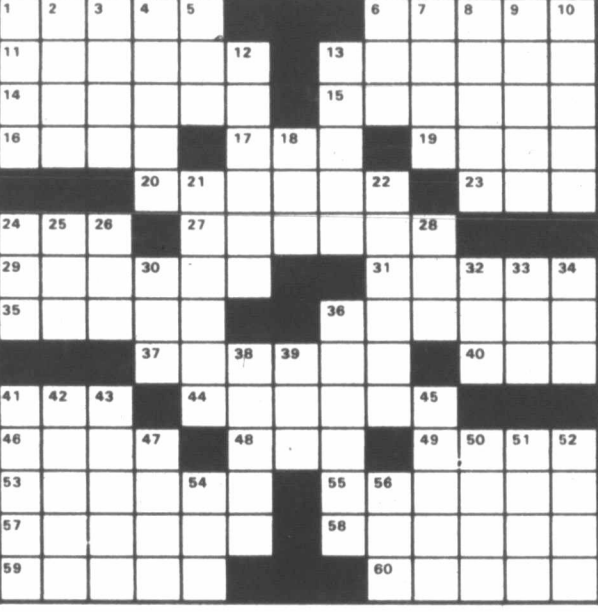
- 1 Old English coin
- 2 Air (comb. form)
- 3 Author Emile
- 4 Correct
- 5 Jacob's son
- 6 Japanese currency

Answer to Previous Puzzle

WEDGED WEDDED
 ENDURE ENRAGE
 ENAMEL ATTMON
 PAYS LAP PEST

HAVOC
 RATIO INANITY
 YARNS RIBES
 ANENT EDILE
 LINSEED SEDER
 LIVES
 SERF GIL SEPT
 WRAITH ENABLE
 AIGLET VINOUS
 BASSEY ELDEST

- 7 Against
- 8 The planet earth
- 9 Elite
- 10 Wolf's kin
- 12 Made a home
- 13 Smallest
- 18 Poetic contraction
- 21 Overthrows
- 22 Occupant
- 24 Unit of weight in India
- 25 Theater sign (abbr.)
- 26 Exclamation of surprise
- 28 12, Roman
- 30 English river
- 32 Mineral spring
- 33 Roman bronze
- 34 Norse goblin
- 36 Hair piece
- 38 Conference site, 1945
- 39 1051, Roman
- 47 Point of land
- 41 Appears
- 42 Rain and snow
- 43 Pronunciation mark
- 45 Ancient two-wheeled chariot
- 47 Point of land
- 50 Atomic number (abbr.)
- 51 Hind
- 52 Is human
- 54 Octane numbers (abbr.)
- 56 Macao coin



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STEVE CANYON

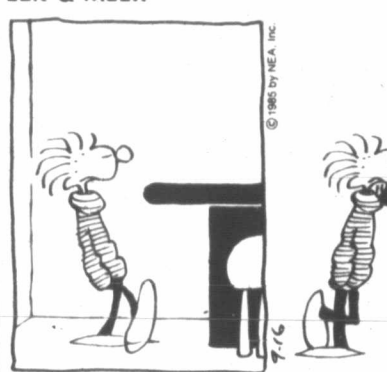
WITH ELIZA (SUMMER) AS A HOSTAGE, WILY WALLEYE ESCAPES THROUGH A TUNNEL UNDER THE OLD THEATRE.



THE WIZARD OF ID



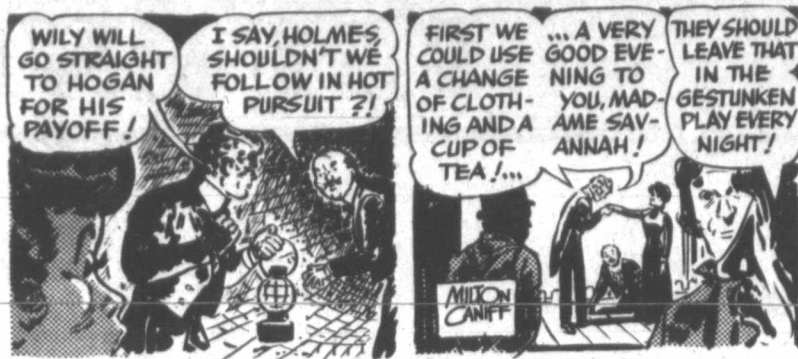
EK & MEEK



B.C.



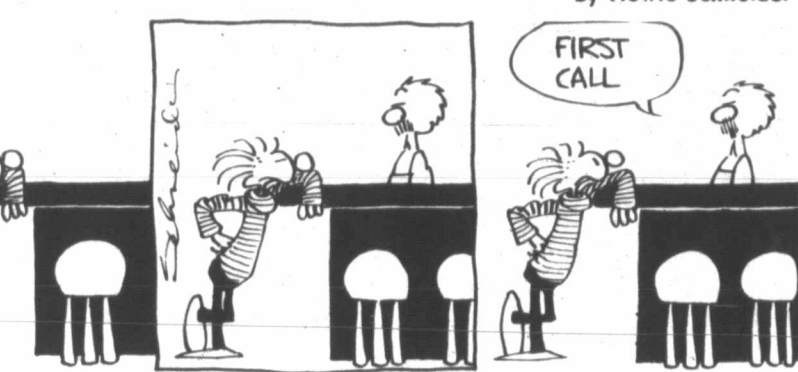
By Milton Caniff



By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



By Howie Schneider



By Johnny Hart



Astro-Graph

by bernice bede oso
 Sept. 17, 1985

Much time and effort will be spent in the year ahead on self-improvement. The results will be all you desire and you'll take great pride in the new you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Usually you're a reliable person who others can depend upon, but today you might promise to do something, then fail to honor your commitment. Trying to patch up a romance? The Matchmaker set can help you understand what it might take to make the relationship work. To get yours, mail \$2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, Box 1846, Cincinnati, OH 45201.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Self-discipline will be required to cope with your extravagant whims again today. If you're wasteful now, you'll pay for it in regrets later.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Try not to be pompous or pretentious to impress others today. If you're not accepted for what you are, it's their loss, not yours.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) To make others sit up and take notice, you might be tempted to embellish the facts today. Unfortunately, this will produce an opposite effect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Castles cannot be built upon sandy foundations today. If you're hoping to pull off something big, be sure it has a sturdy base.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) In career situations today, do not treat serious matters frivolously. If your attitude is too loose, it may scare others from doing business with you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) For the sake of your self-esteem, don't try to palm off on others today things that you should be taking care of personally. Stand on your own two feet.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) It's best not to try to advise friends today in financial or business matters. Your suggestions may be well-intentioned, but they could be erroneous.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) An opinion about which you feel strongly might not be too well received by others today. Don't try to force your views on people who aren't receptive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) If you've been feeling a trifle sluggish lately, it could be because you haven't had adequate exercise. Do something today to stretch your mind and muscles.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It's important today to guard against overindulgence. A little of a good thing is OK, but too much of the same could be bad.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't make any major decisions today without first consulting your mate, especially if it pertains to a matter where the two of you disagree.

MARVIN



By Tom Armstrong

MARMADUKE



By Brad Anderson

KIT N' CARLYLE

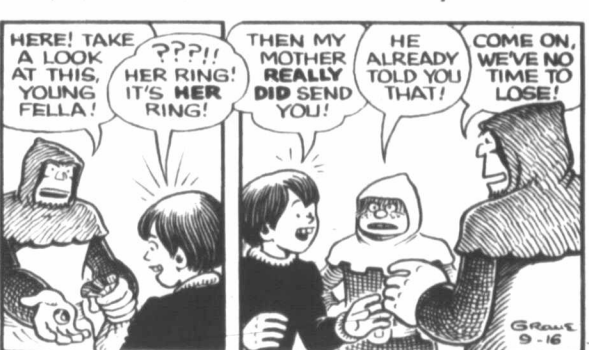


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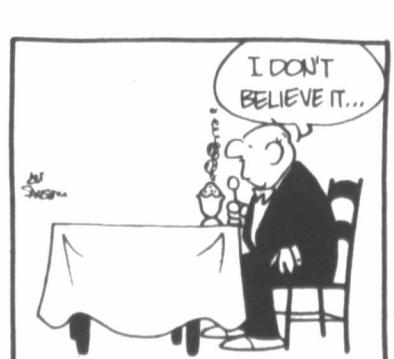


By Bil Keane

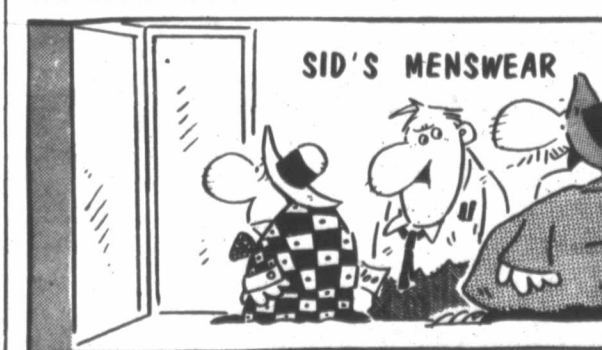
THE BORN LOSER



By Art Sansom



FRANK AND ERNEST

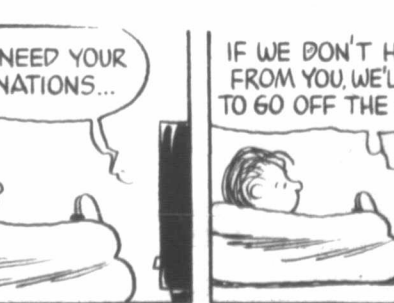


By Bob Thaves

PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schultz



GARFIELD



By Jim Davis



Largest Solidarity crowd in nearly a year gathers

CZESTOCHOWA, Poland (AP) — The largest pro-Solidarity crowd to gather in nearly a year chanted slogans and carried more than 100 banners to a Mass ending an annual two-day pilgrimage to Poland's holiest religious shrine.

Lech Walesa and other leaders of the outlawed trade federation joined about 50,000 others Sunday at the Jasna Gora monastery in Czestochowa, about 130 miles south of Warsaw, home of the Black Madonna icon.

The annual workers' pilgrimage was initiated in 1983 by Jerzy Popieluszko, a Roman Catholic priest who was killed last year by three secret police officers. It was the largest pro-Solidarity crowd to gather since about 250,000 people attended Popieluszko's funeral last November.

"I knew there were a lot of us, but I didn't know there were so many," Walesa told The Associated Press as he looked down from the monastery's

parapets at the crowd in an adjacent field.

"It shows that we will never give back our August, that we will find methods and ways to defend August," he said, referring to August 1980 when the government signed the Gdansk agreements with striking workers that led to the formation of Solidarity, the Soviet bloc's first independent trade union federation.

Before the Mass the crowd applauded and shouted Walesa's name, and chanted "There is no liberty without Solidarity," raising their hands in V-for-victory signs.

More than 100 Solidarity banners were on display in the crowd, many of them bearing the names of cities or combining political and religious themes. Among them were banners reading "Let's vote for our blessed mother," an indirect reference to Solidarity's call for a boycott of Oct. 13 parliamentary elections.

Bishop Tadeusz Goclowski of Gdansk, who delivered the sermon, said Poland has "the right to be responsible for its own fate."

"As we are united in Solidarity, let the truth, freedom, justice and social love on which we will build a happier today and tomorrow win in our homeland," he said in a sermon interrupted at least 10 times by applause. "Let us go back to our working places as hosts rather than slaves," he said.

Jacek Lipinski, a Solidarity leader from the Warsaw steel works, urged the crowd to pray "for the strength to remain faithful ... to the ideals of Solidarity."

A Solidarity source said that after the Mass, Walesa and Cardinal Henryk Gulbinowicz of Wroclaw, who celebrated the Mass, wrote a telegram to Polish-born Pope John Paul II saying workers have the "right to establish independent trade unions as we did in August 1980."



PASSING ON THE CROWN — Miss America 1985, Susan Akin of Mississippi, gets her crown adjusted by last year's Miss America, Daria Rogers, in Atlantic City, N.J., Saturday night. (AP Laserphoto)

Bumper corn crop can be a big headache

WASHINGTON (AP) — When it comes to corn, nobody grows it like the American farmer. And no one else has such headaches when the corn crop turns out to be a whopper.

This fall, according to the Agriculture Department's latest estimate, farmers will harvest a record by drought and government acreage curbs.

What happens to a crop of that size? If farmers are lucky, they will feed most of it to hogs, cattle, lambs, chickens and turkeys. Some will be made into whiskey, some into alcohol for fuel. And there are corn flakes and sweeteners for soft drinks.

If farmers are truly lucky, they will export most of the remaining corn from this year's crop. Those shipments will go to the Soviet Union, Japan, Mexico and dozens of other countries.

But the USDA says farmers really aren't all that lucky. Not all of the corn will be consumed or shipped overseas. That's why the price outlook is so dismal, why farmers in some parts of Iowa are reportedly getting less than \$2 per bushel on the cash market.

After the department hatched its latest corn production estimates last week, the experts did some

further doodling to see how the demand situation stacked up with the supply of corn in the marketing year that will begin on Oct. 1.

Here is how USDA thinks the 1985-86 season may shape up:

Slightly less than 1.32 billion bushels of corn left over from previous harvests will be in the U.S. farm inventory on Oct. 1.

Mrs. Thatcher, ministers discuss how to react to ouster of Britons

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and two top Cabinet ministers held urgent talks on a response to the ouster of 25 Britons from Moscow, and news reports speculated the government was preparing to expel more Soviets.

The Foreign Office ordered 25 Soviets accused of spying out of Britain last Thursday following the defection of a top KGB agent. The Soviets responded Saturday by ordering 25 British diplomats, businessmen and journalists to leave.

An announcement on whether Britain would retaliate was expected today.

Press Association, the British domestic news agency, said Mrs. Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Home Secretary Douglas Hurd had reached a decision during their meeting late Sunday, but were keeping it secret.

An aide to Mrs. Thatcher confirmed the three had met, but refused to give details.

Press Association said the

quickly arranged session and the inclusion of Hurd indicated the British were planning retaliation. As home secretary, Hurd has some responsibility for security matters involving foreigners in Britain.

Howe had cut short his weekend to begin what he called "urgent and careful" talks with aides on how to react to the Soviet move. Mrs. Thatcher returned to London from her country retreat, Chequers, for the session with Howe and Hurd at her official residence, 10 Downing St.

London newspapers said the decision would likely be announced before Mrs. Thatcher departs later today on a four-day trip to Egypt and Jordan.

Counter-retaliation could mean more expulsions by the Soviet Union, a lower ceiling on the number of Soviet diplomats, businessmen and journalists allowed in Britain or stricter limits on the diplomats' freedom to travel outside a 25-mile radius of London, news reports said.

The Sunday Telegraph, a strong backer of the prime minister,

reported that Britain "was ready to hit back ... and send home more Russians."

In background briefings for reporters, British officials said a list of further possible expulsions had been drafted in the event the Soviets made more than a token response to the expulsion of their 25 diplomats, correspondents and service personnel.

A British official had told reporters Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative government was prepared to retaliate for even one expulsion by the Soviets.

The Soviet retaliation came two days after Britain's announcement that Oleg A. Gordievski, identified as head of the Soviet KGB secret police in London, had been granted asylum. In usually blunt language, the Foreign Office said the 25 Soviets identified by the defector were all spies.

The swiftness and severity of the Soviet retaliation appeared to have surprised and angered the British, prompting speculation Mrs. Thatcher would retaliate in kind.

After Labor Day? Christmas, of course

By CHET CURRIER
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It used to be that the Christmas selling season began in earnest after Thanksgiving. Then it crept up toward Halloween.

Now it is about to bump into Labor Day.

That late-summer holiday was scarcely past when the first Christmas catalogue showed up in these precincts. It was Sears, Roebuck & Co.'s "Wish Book '85," which you too may have encountered by now.

It is 643 pages long, weighs in at 2 lbs. 1 1/2 oz., and carries a cover price of \$2.

In fact, the catalogue alone lists for more than many of the items featured in Sears' first "Christmas Book," an 88-page offering published in the depths of the Great Depression in 1933.

The attractions for sale in that era included \$5.98 wedding rings, 35-cent patterned socks, and artificial Christmas trees for 35 cents to \$4.98, depending on the size.

Those numbers serve as evidence that though inflation has supposedly been conquered in recent years, the effects of the malady linger on.

But if prices have skyrocketed since our parents' and grandparents' day, so has the

general economic well-being. Next to its first Christmas book, this year's Sears catalogue is a testament to prodigious prosperity.

Remember, this is not some chi-chi specialty boutique we are talking about. It is the country's biggest mass-merchandise, with a clientele that lines up smack in the middle of the middle class.

If you are feeling flush enough to buy a piano from Sears for Christmas '85, you don't buy just a piano. You go for the Suzuki 88 Grand, with 5 1/2-inch speakers, jazz piano and harpsichord voices, and a right-hand control panel that conceals a built-in metronome with tempo, volume controls and headphone jack.

"When you're ready to relocate, simply uncouple the electronic locking mechanism and separate the 88 Grand into two easy-to-move pieces," Sears says. Price: \$999.99.

For all its splashy colors and bountiful offerings, the Wish Book '85 is not born into a world full of boundless economic cheer. There is talk among lots of economists of a "growth recession," possibly worsening at the moment, that could depress holiday sales.

Certainly many farmers and workers in manufacturing industries are not planning big spending sprees. They have been badly pinched by a strong dollar and imports like that electronic piano from Japan.

The economists S. Jay Levy and David Levy, who publish a monthly letter called Industry Forecast, say retailers face many problems heading into their make-or-break season.

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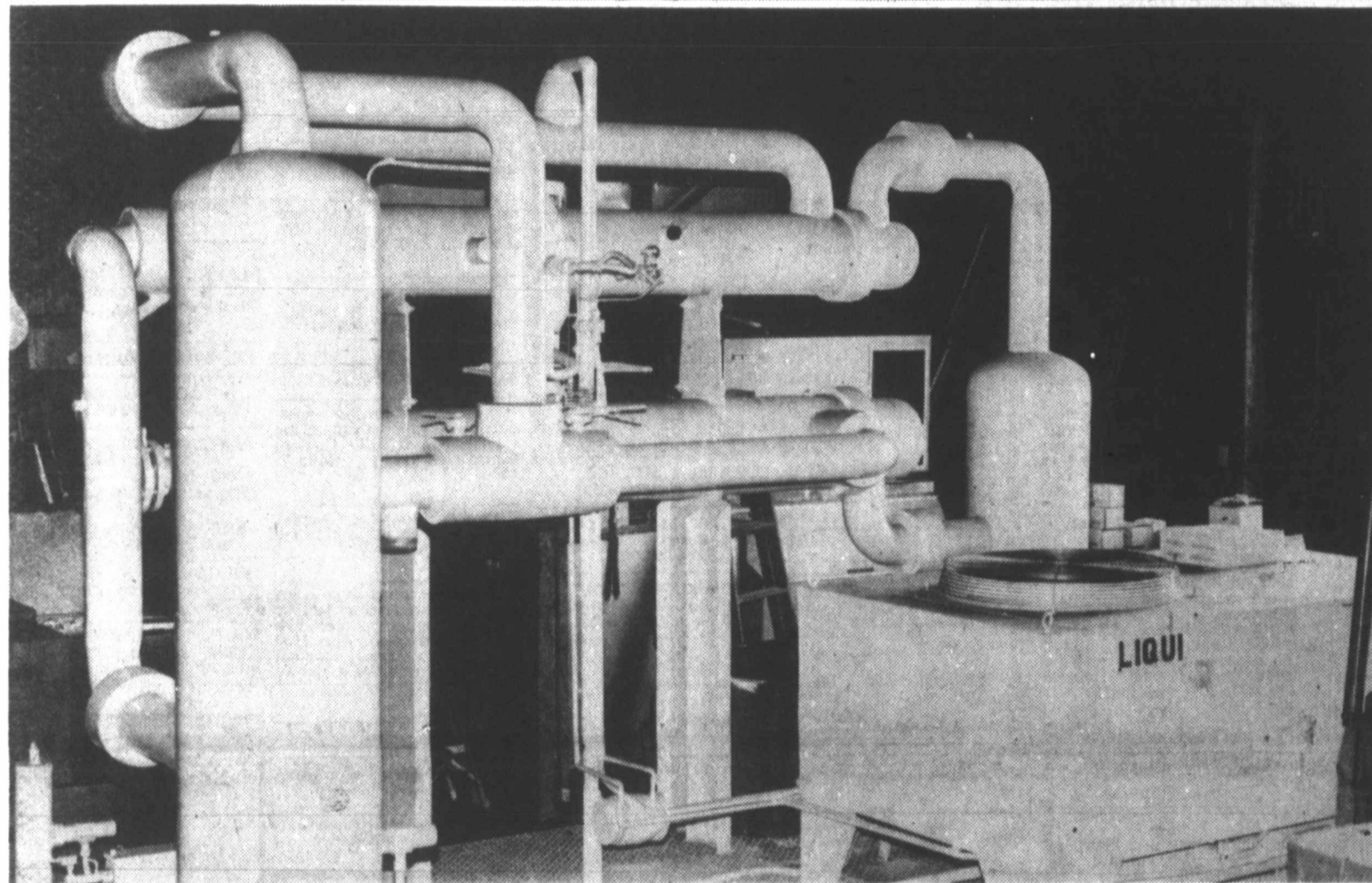
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BUSINESS REVIEW & FORECAST



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