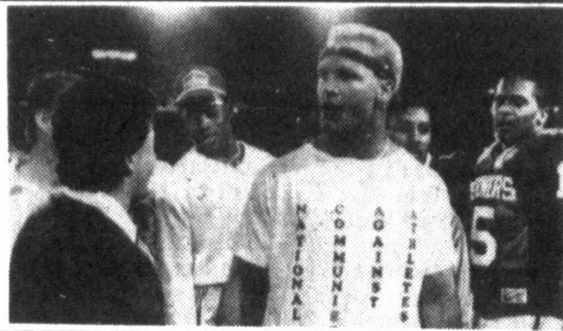


**Snarl**

Delta traffic crawls because of gunman, Page 3

**Sorry**

Coach says apology won't help Bosworth, Page 12



**Pay hike**

Plan gives Congress year's second raise, Page 5

# The Tampa News



25¢

Vol. 79, No. 235 16 pages

January 6, 1987

Tuesday

## Arab frees child

Boy's terror lasts 8 hours at DFW

By SUZANNE GAMBOA  
AP Writer

GRAPEVINE — A gunman who took a 10-year-old Florida boy from an airline ticket counter and held him hostage while demanding a flight to Egypt surrendered after being told he could leave the country, an airport official said.

Eight hours after taking the child from his parents and younger sister, firing a shot and forcing his way through a security gate at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, the gunman gave himself up at 11:39 p.m. Monday, airport spokesman Joe Dealey Jr. said.

The child, Mike Caruso Jr. of Sunrise, Fla., was not injured during the incident, which snarled Delta Air Lines service at its regional hub, Dealey said.

The boys parents, Mike and Cindy Caruso, were within 100 feet of the gunman and their child as airport Officer Gary Pinkston concluded the negotiations for the surrender at Delta's Gate 10, Dealey said.

The gunman, identified only



Young Mike Caruso Jr. waves on leaving airport with his family.

as Solah Abdou-Kassem, was assured that no harm would come to him "and there would be some amicable way for him to leave the country should he surrender," Dealey said.

The man was taken to airport police headquarters. No charges were immediately

filed. Dealey said authorities were not sure why the man wanted to go to Egypt.

"We thank the Holy Father for the return of our son. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place," the Carusos said in a statement released through Dealey's office. "We would like to thank all our family and friends and everyone who prayed with us for the safe return of our son."

At one point during the negotiations, Delta had a Boeing 737 taken to Gate 10 at the request of the airport's Department of Public Safety, said Henry Conley, district director of marketing for Delta.

After the gunman took the boy, he fired a pistol into the ceiling as Caruso ran after them and raced to the security clearance area as bystanders ran or dove for cover, Dealey said.

Terminal 4E was immediately shut down, but the rest of the airport continued

normal operations, Dealey said.

Airport officials said Caruso, 32, and his wife, 30, are employees of American Express and were being transferred from Florida to Phoenix. They were en route to Arizona with their son and daughter, Rosey, 6, and were at the ticket counter.

Cliff Marler of Oklahoma City said he was standing in the Delta ticket line when the gunman "grabbed the little boy whose parents were standing in line."

"When he took off with the little boy, the father took off running after the guy with the gun. When (the gunman) saw the father running after his kid, he fired up into the ceiling," Marler said.

"I saw him grab the boy, put a gun to his head, raise it up in the air, shot it, then they went off to the right of the counter," said Dave Helmke of Eules, Texas.

## Canadian city chief resigns

By CATHY SPAULDING  
Staff Writer

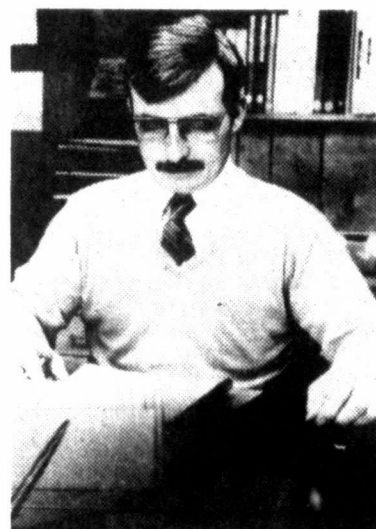
CANADIAN — Lured by the opportunities of a larger community, Canadian City Manager Jody Butler announced his resignation Monday.

Butler, 34, who has been city manager for 2½ years, will leave office Jan. 30 to become city manager at Littlefield, a town of about 7,500 residents near Lubbock, where he's in for a 22 percent increase in salary. Butler gave his resignation to city officials Friday.

Butler said he first was attracted to the Littlefield position when he went to a TEXCEL (a state sponsored economic development program) meeting in November.

"The Littlefield Chamber of Commerce director told me then that the city manager there was relocating in Port Lavaca," Butler said. "I didn't think about it much at the time. But then the city manager, a friend of mine, called me in early December. I sent them my resume on Dec. 10. And they called to offer me the job."

The council should discuss Butler's resignation in a meeting scheduled for 2 p.m. Thursday.



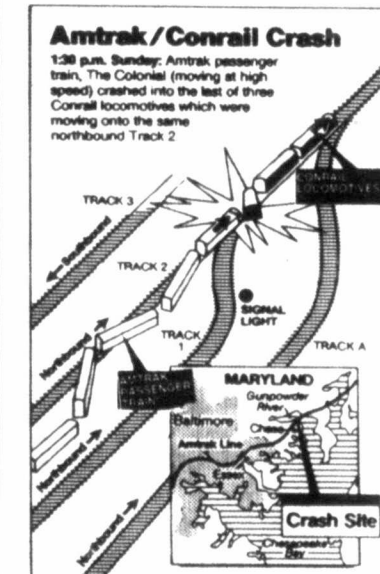
Butler

Members previously were scheduled to discuss traffic lights.

"We'll have to put the resignation on the agenda to see how they can replace me," Butler said Monday, adding that he'd like the city to advertise for a manager through *Texas Town and City*, a publication of the Texas Municipal League. He plans to recommend that City Secretary Terry South act as interim city manager.

See CANADIAN, Page 2

## Engineer couldn't stop soon enough



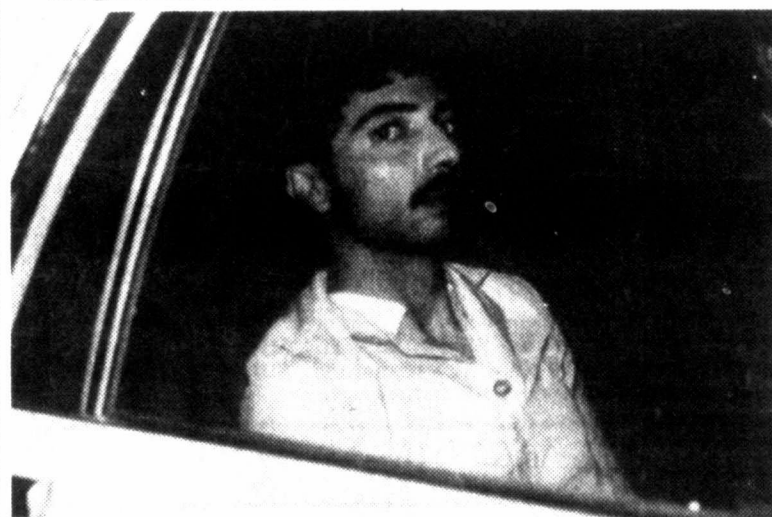
CHASE, Md. (AP) — Crews worked today to rebuild the track where an Amtrak train plowed into three Conrail freight locomotives that had run a stop signal, killing 15 people and injuring more than 170, officials said.

The Conrail engineer saw the signal — which had been in place for three hours — and braked, but didn't have time to avoid the collision with the passenger train, which was traveling at 100 mph, authorities said.

Rescue workers on Monday finished searching a cafe car compacted to a fraction of its original height and called off their search of the train cars mangled in the worst wreck in Amtrak's 15-year history.

Fifteen bodies, including that

See STOP, Page 2



Gunman Solah Abdou-Kassem sits in police car.

## Budget's still alive

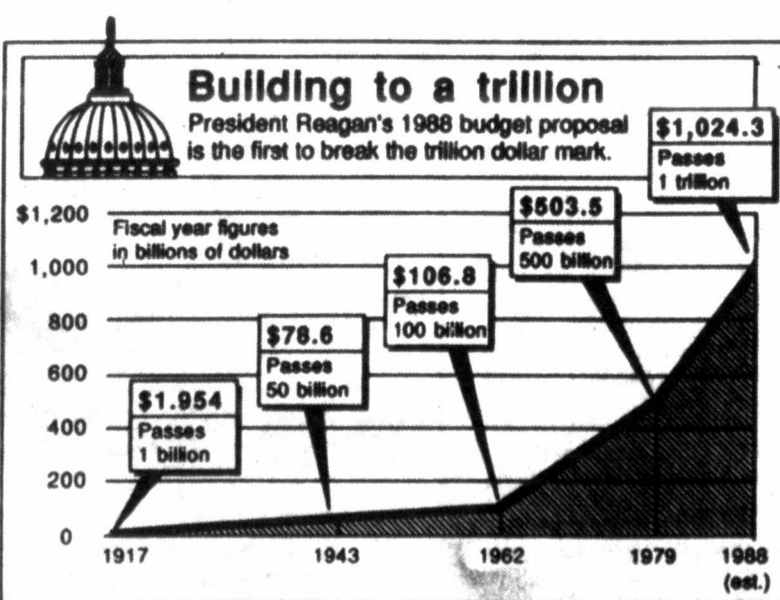
Euthanasia debated for \$1 trillion plan

By TOM RAUM  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — With the ink barely dry on President Reagan's \$1,024 trillion fiscal 1988 budget, it already is being dismissed as unworkable by congressional Democratic leaders as the White House struggles to save the spending plan from an early burial.

"The administration wants to work with Congress. We want Congress to take us seriously," Budget Director James C. Miller III said as Reagan's new budget, calling for further increases in defense spending and another round of deep cuts in domestic programs, was delivered to lawmakers Monday.

"I'm tired of hearing statements that the budget is dead on arrival," Miller added. "The



budget will be dead on arrival only if somebody on Capitol Hill kills it. It was alive when it left our quarters."

The budget calls for sharp cuts in many favorite Reagan targets: food stamps, student loans, housing and mass transit programs.

It proposes cutting in half over the next five years farm subsidy programs while increasing defense spending annually at about

3 percent on top of inflation over the same period.

To generate additional revenue, it relies heavily on sales of federal assets and loans, and calls for user fees for many federal services.

While the chief emphasis in the new budget proposal is on deficit reduction, it also outlines a number of hefty increases: a three-fold increase, to \$1 billion, in

See BUDGET, Page 2

## Hemphill race still clouded

By CATHY SPAULDING  
Staff Writer

CANADIAN — Tedium was the order of the day Monday as the opponents in the still-disputed Hemphill County judge's race waited to see which one gets the job.

As of 11 a.m. today, incumbent County Judge Bob Gober, and challenger Don Schaeff still didn't know.

Gober lost to Schaeff in the May Democratic primary, declared his write-in candidacy and then beat Schaeff by 15 votes in November.

After a recount, Schaeff challenged the validity of 50 of those write-in votes and filed an appeal in 31st District Court.

The two men, both of Canadian, faced each other again Monday as 154th District Judge Pat H. Boone Jr. of Littlefield began counting the more than 1,500 ballots cast in the race. As each precinct was counted, Boone ruled on which votes were valid and allowed the contestants' attorneys to challenge questionable ballots.

At the end of the day Monday, only the 401 ballots from voting Precinct 1 had been recounted, with Boone ruling that all but one of those votes were valid.

The hearing continued this morning at 9 a.m. By 11 a.m. today, voting Precincts 2, 3, 4 and 5 had been counted, a spokesman for the Hemphill County justice of the peace office reported. The magistrate's office adjoins the district courtroom on the third floor of the Hemphill County Courthouse.



Schaeff

Gober

After Boone spent 2½ hours Monday afternoon sorting Schaeff's Precinct 1 votes from Gober's, Schaeff's attorney, Mack Sansing of Canadian, asked that 29 of Gober's votes be pulled for further examination. Gober's attorney, Joe Hayes of Canadian, questioned one of Schaeff's votes.

The two attorneys argued on what constitutes a properly marked ballot and how to determine voters' intent. Sansing pointed out that the 1985 Election Code "clearly states that votes for a candidate must be marked in an appropriate place."

Hayes countered by noting that the election code also states that failure to mark a ballot properly does not invalidate the ballot if the voter's intent is understood.

Sansing believed that votes for Gober that were

See RACE, Page 2



# Texas/Regional



Long wait occurred for Sammie Johnson, left, while a gunman held a hostage at airport.

## Thousands of passengers affected by hostage case

GRAPEVINE (AP) — A hostage incident that forced the closure of a major terminal Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport snarled Delta Air Lines traffic and disrupted travel plans of thousands of passengers, officials said.

Terminal 4E, the center of Delta flight operations in Dallas-Fort Worth, was shut down about 3:45 p.m. Monday when a gunman took a 10-year-old boy hostage, fired shots and demanded to be flown to Egypt, authorities said.

The man surrendered about 11:39 p.m.

Delta spokesman Bill Jackson, of the company's Atlanta headquarters, said the area was evacuated and all Delta flight operations at the airport, a regional hub, temporarily were suspended.

Henry Conley, district director

of marketing for Delta, said 85 flights were due out of the terminal Monday evening. Of those 52 were canceled, while the remaining 32 were diverted or delayed. The incident affected at least 6,000 passengers, Conley said.

"We weren't concerned with money tonight," said Conley.

Operations resumed at the terminal about 1 a.m. today.

Airport spokesman Joe Dealey noted that Dallas Fort-Worth is a secondary hub for Delta.

"The situation is having an enormous impact, not only on customers coming in and departing from DFW but coast to coast," Dealey said.

Some Delta flights into DFW were diverted to Houston, Austin, Oklahoma City and Shreveport, La., officials said.

Other airlines were not greatly affected, Dealey said.

"With the exception of Delta

flights, airport flight operations continue to operate more or less on schedule," he said.

A commuter airline, ASW, and British Caledonian also use the terminal, Dealey said.

Paul Abney, of Dallas, was among a group of stranded passengers who gathered in a baggage check-in area in the terminal. Abney, who had planned to journey to New York on a Delta flight, said he had just checked his luggage when the incident began.

"As soon as my little bag went up the thing (ramp), it cut off," Abney said.

Abney, who is in the retail apparel business, said he could not continue his business trip without the bags.

"Next time I think I'll try and make the appointment with them (his clients) here in Dallas, rather than New York," he said.

## Smuggled fruit expensive

EL PASO (AP) — Tasty, cheap fruit and vegetables could end up being very costly to those who try to sneak produce across the Mexico-U.S. border, where Agriculture Department inspectors stay busy.

Avocados stuffed in the hollow spaces of car doors, limes under vehicles and drunken birds in coat pockets are just a few of the smuggling techniques witnessed by Charles Parker, assistant supervisor at the USDA in this border city.

"I've even seen people take gallon cans of jalapenos, fill them with mangoes and reseal the cans," said Parker.

One contraband avocado can net a fine of \$50, depending on circumstances, said Phil Garcia, assistant officer in charge of the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in El Paso, one of the two busiest ports of entry along the border.

When culprits refuse to pay a fine, the USDA's office in Washington, D.C. gets involved and offenders may find themselves before a judge. In those cases, fines could be as high as \$1,000, said Garcia.

Most people pay and the offending fruit is examined and destroyed, he said.

Other federal agencies are on the lookout for drug and alien

smugglers, but the USDA is watching for pests that could wipe out U.S. crops, such as the dreaded citrus canker, a bacterial disease that ravaged Florida's billion-dollar citrus industry in 1984, or the Mediterranean fruit fly.

Avocados can carry the avocado seed weevil, a cousin of the boll weevil that has attacked cotton crops in the neighboring Mexican state of Chihuahua. Potatoes can transmit the potato smut, a fungus, and fowl and hen eggs could have Newcastle's disease, a respiratory ailment that affects poultry.

The agency tries to make the public aware of the dangers of bringing in produce. Still, some people either are ignorant of the rules or don't think them important, said Garcia.

At times, there's a lighter side to smuggling attempts.

"One time a guy came through declaring absolutely nothing," he said. "I saw him in our secondary inspection area and he still declared nothing. Then his little daughter pipes up and says, 'But what about the mangoes in the back seat, daddy?' That cost him \$50."

Birds are another common contraband. Smugglers use tequila and other alcoholic beverages to

stun the otherwise noisy creatures into silence.

"I've often seen birds under the influence at other border points," said Garcia, who worked at Eagle Pass, Texas and San Juan, Puerto Rico before arriving in El Paso a year ago. "A parrot chewed its way out of a cage and was ambling down a hallway. Looked like it was trying to make a getaway."

Drunken birds are tucked into pockets and handbags or taped to the inside of bumpers, said Parker.

"These are small birds and a teaspoon of alcohol to them is an abuse," said Garcia. "Half the time the birds don't live."

Most people entering the United States don't try to smuggle prohibited items, said Garcia. Those who do are often tourists returning with a pet or with food gifts from relatives. Some are border residents who shop in Mexican towns for cheap groceries.

Others are smugglers catering to the black market in exotic birds, such as sparrow hawks, said Garcia.

"That violates not only our regulations but U.S. Fish and Wildlife regulations about bringing in birds of prey without permits," said Garcia.

## 'Slow learning' twins reach top of the class at college

By NICK WOLDA  
The Lufkin Daily News

NACOGDOCHES (AP) — Tony and Tim Precella shared just about everything while growing up. Now, both are sharing the distinction of perfect college records.

The identical twins just graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with perfect 4.0 grade point averages. It was a first for the 63-year-old school.

The brothers majored in mathematics and minored in computer science. And both had the same schedule throughout their four and one-half years of school.



Twin scholars Tony, left, and Tim share perfect college records.

But both will downplay the perfect grades, saying, "We really didn't expect this."

"We feel lucky just to graduate," Tony said. "Four years ago we didn't even think that much about going to college."

But that certainly wouldn't be questioned by anyone who's seen their past record. What most people don't know is that both really don't think they're intelligent.

"We're more common-sense smart than book smart," Tim said. "We just put forth the extra effort."

Both Tony and Tim grew up in the Nacogdoches School District labeled as slow learners. It wasn't until eighth grade that a teacher recognized their talents.

"We were always in the slowest reading classes, the slowest math classes," Tim said.

The turning point came in the ninth grade when a teacher put them both into an algebra class. "We thought it was a mistake in the administration," Tony said.

Both said the many years of the slower classes affected them.

Now they see the world as a dichotomy — always with a contradiction. Many conflicts abound. The two can't decide on anything.

"I really don't know why we're this way," Tony said. "But we see the world in many different

aspects. Sure we want to be rich, but we are both so lazy."

"As far as school, we both don't think we're exceptional students," Tim said. "We're just happy to graduate, and now we're continuing our education."

Both will stay in Nacogdoches for two more years as they will enroll in SFA's graduate school.

"Everyone asks us, 'Why don't you all leave Nacogdoches, leave SFA,'" Tim said. "But we have to stay here. It's a difficult time with the family."

Tim speaks of his parents' divorcing as reason for staying home. They said they couldn't leave their mother.

"If it hadn't been for mom, we wouldn't be here today," Tim said. "We probably wouldn't have gone to college." Adds Tony, "We wouldn't have gone to college."

The two said their father did not encourage their educational goals, which added to their determination to succeed.

"It's helped us in the long run," Tim said. "When someone tells me I can't do anything, I'll go out and do it to prove I can. Tony's

the same way."

Before attending SFA as freshmen, the two also didn't want to go away and live in a dormitory.

"Really, that's another reason for not going away to school," Tim said. "We didn't want to live in a little crowded room."

And now, the brothers feel they've put so much into the math department at SFA that they don't want to leave the department that has trained them the last four years.

"Why go anywhere else?" Tim said. "This university has done a lot for us. We've spent many hours getting to know all the people here."

Though the two wouldn't say which schools or companies were offering them opportunities, they said letters were arriving every day at their Nacogdoches home.

"We could see ourselves working for NASA someday," Tim said. "We don't know; we haven't thought about it."

One thing for sure, both are best of friends, and they're practically inseparable. They dress alike, talk alike, gesture alike. And it's for a purpose.

## Lottery officials meet in Austin

AUSTIN (AP) — Religious groups that oppose state lotteries frequently don't know what they are talking about, according to a state official who helped bring the lottery to the Bible Belt.

"The opponents don't have the facts, but they have emotional appeals," Ralph Peters, director of the West Virginia lottery, told the New Lottery States Seminar on Monday.

West Virginia voters approved the lottery in a 2-1 vote. The game will complete its first year this week, according to Peters, who said it is the "first incursion into the so-called Bible Belt in the lottery business."

The three-day seminar, aimed at helping officials in states that are getting into the lottery business, is sponsored by Public Gaming Research Institute, Inc., based in Rockville, Md.

Several Texas lawmakers are pushing a lottery

bill in this year's Legislature, but Baptist and some other religious groups oppose the lottery as an improper way for the state to make money.

Peters said officials in states that are just starting lotteries should "get out on the rubber-chicken circuit and talk shows and radio call-in shows" to counter opponents.

"Every denomination except the Quakers at one time or another benefitted from lotteries," he said.

Peters also said lottery foes offer misleading facts about who plays the games. Some opponents say the games take money from the pockets of the poor in exchange for a slim chance at getting rich.

The average West Virginia lottery player has more than 12 years of formal education and an annual family income of \$23,000, he said.

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# Nation

## Reagan's salary plan would give lawmakers \$12,100 hike

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of Congress, who got a 3 percent annual pay raise of \$2,300 on Sunday, would get an additional \$12,100 increase next month under President Reagan's proposed salary adjustments for top government officials.

And Reagan wants to give his 16 Cabinet secretaries an additional \$10,700 on top of their automatic 3 percent increases, boosting their annual salaries to \$99,500. Congressional salaries would rise to \$89,500.

The proposed increases, part of a ritual that takes place every four years to help bring the pay of top government officials in line with that of corporate executives and law firm partners, become effective in 30 days unless the new Congress convening today votes to overturn them before then.

The process is actually a year behind schedule this round.

Unwilling to give themselves large raises just before the 1986 election, Congress and the administration had the so-called Quad Commission effectively delay until after the November balloting its recommendations for specific

increases.

The commission last month called for raises ranging from 57 percent to 80 percent for 3,027 top government officials, saying their current salary schedule of \$70,500 to \$111,700 a year "does not allow them even to maintain basic family obligations."

In a message to Congress, Reagan said Monday that he sympathizes with its members and other government officials who have received only periodic cost-of-living increases in the past 10 years. Nonetheless, he cut the panel's pay recommendations substantially.

"We are under a mandate to reduce the federal deficit and hold the costs of government to an absolute minimum," Reagan said. "In this environment I do not believe ... it would be appropriate to fully implement the ... commission's recommendations at this time."

After going along with Reagan and chopping welfare, education, job and other domestic programs in 1981, Congress voted to forgo his recommended pay increases then.

Citing political fallout that

might arise from giving themselves large increases when the government is running a \$173 billion annual deficit, Senate leaders have said they will give members within the next month a chance to reject them again.

"Most people think we are overpaid," said Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole of Kansas.

The raises would boost the pay of members of Congress and the heads of federal agencies such as the FBI and NASA by 16 percent, from \$77,400 to \$89,500. Vice President George Bush and House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, would get 13 percent raises, from \$100,800 to \$115,000.

The Quad Commission had recommended boosting the pay of Bush and Wright to \$175,000, Cabinet salaries to \$160,000 and pay for members of Congress to \$135,000.

In addition to the Cabinet officers, annual raises of \$1,700 to \$9,300 would go to 2,485 other top executives and judges. And another tier of 8,900 Senior Executive Service, Foreign Service and top civil service employees also would get automatic raises under Reagan's action.

## Pentagon studying missile attack on Navy helicopter

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon says it will pursue an investigation today into an unprovoked missile attack on a Navy helicopter that was flying a routine surveillance mission in the Persian Gulf.

The attack, which the Pentagon said occurred Monday morning, came as the chopper approached an unidentified merchant ship sailing off the coast of the United Arab Emirates. The vessel fired a single surface-to-

air missile, which the helicopter managed to evade, the Pentagon said.

The missile "passed within about 500 yards" of the helicopter, which immediately returned to its ship, the destroyer O'Bannon, the Pentagon added.

Defense Department sources said the merchant ship had steamed late Monday into the port of Ash Shariqah in the United Arab Emirates and that the O'Bannon was in international

waters near the area when the attack occurred. Efforts will be made today to positively identify the merchant ship, the sources added.

The Pentagon declined to elaborate, saying only that its U.S. Central Command was investigating.

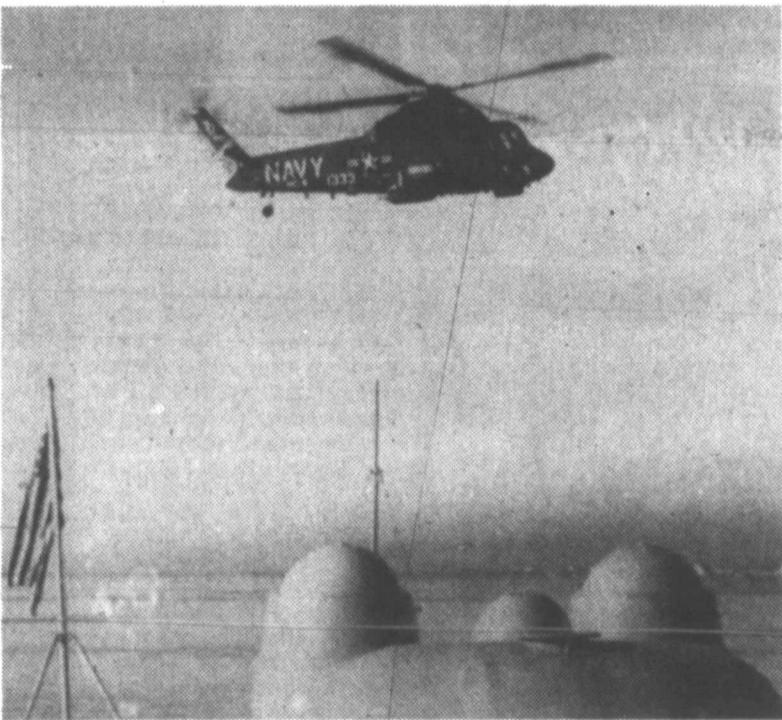
The sources, who asked not to be identified, said that upon receiving word from its helicopter of the attack, the O'Bannon immediately changed course and pursued the merchant vessel. Before the destroyer could overtake the unidentified ship, however, the vessel steamed into port, the sources said.

The helicopter, an SH-2 anti-submarine chopper, had been dispatched from the O'Bannon to ascertain the identity and national flag of the merchant ship. Such surveillance is conducted routinely by the five Navy ships currently patrolling in the Persian Gulf.

The Pentagon said the helicopter was about three miles from the merchant ship when the missile was fired and about 38 miles from the O'Bannon. The incident occurred at sea approximately 75 nautical miles west-northwest of Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The SH-2, also known as the Seasprite, normally carries a crew of three and is armed only with two torpedoes.

The chopper assigned to the O'Bannon is part of Helicopter Squadron 36, which is based in Mayport, Fla., the Pentagon said. The O'Bannon is based in Charleston, S.C.



(AP Laserphoto)

Missile attack was on helicopter similar to this one in file photo.

## CIA director Casey unlikely to return to job, ABC claims

NEW YORK (AP) — CIA Director William Casey, who underwent surgery last month for removal of a brain tumor, is unable to speak, walk or control the right side of his body, according to ABC News.

The network, quoting unidentified sources, reported Monday that Casey is clear-minded and conscious, but said his condition makes it unlikely that he ever will return to his job.

CIA spokeswoman Kathy Pherson and White House spokesman Denny Brislley, reached by The Associated Press on Monday night, said they would not comment on the report.

Tracy Primrose, spokesman at Georgetown University hospital, said Casey remained in stable condition, but she would not provide additional information or comment on the report.

Casey underwent surgery Dec. 18 for the removal of the malignant tumor.

The White House was informed at least two weeks ago that it was unlikely Casey would return to work, and since then a search for

a possible successor has been under way, ABC said.

Deputy Director Robert Gates has been running the CIA in Casey's absence, but is not considered a leading candidate to replace him, ABC said.

Several reports have said that those being considered for the job include U.N. Ambassador Vernon Walters and former senators John Tower and Howard Baker.

One administration official, speaking on condition he not be identified, told the AP it has been apparent from the outset that Casey probably could not resume his duties, but top White House officials, including White House chief of staff Donald T. Regan, have been reluctant to begin a search for a successor.

He said there is no sense of urgency, partly in deference to Casey's family, long-time friends of President and Nancy Reagan, and partly in the belief that Gates is well-equipped to handle the job

of acting director.

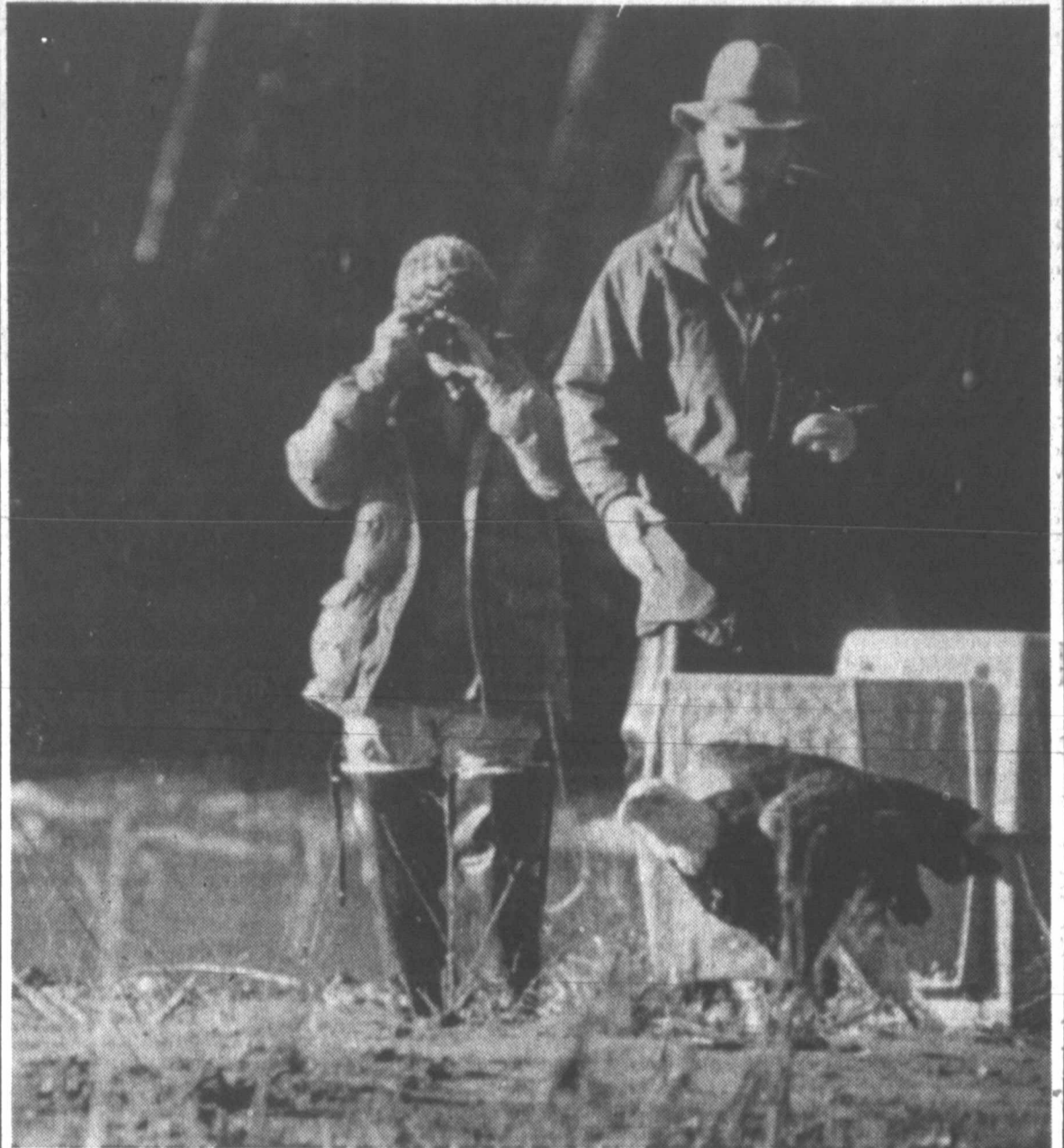
The source insisted that no search for a replacement has begun within the White House and talk of possible candidates is speculation. However, Sen. Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo., said Monday he has received "feelers" from the White House about succeeding Casey.

In a copyright story published today, Wallop told the *Casper Star-Tribune* that White House officials, whom he would not identify, expressed "their interest in having me take over if they were going to replace Casey."

"I haven't been asked, and I'm not running around pursuing it," he said.

He said doesn't expect to be offered the position because it likely would cost the Republican Party a Senate seat. If Wallop resigned, it would be up to Gov. Mike Sullivan, a Democrat, to appoint a replacement.

### Free again



(AP Laserphoto)

A bald eagle is about to fly to freedom as it's released on a sand bar on the Sagit River near Seattle, Wash., Monday after recovering from injuries received in a leg trap in

Alaska. Woodland Park Zoo keepers Eric Kowalczyk, left, and Ernie Rose watch the bird, the 38th to be rehabilitated by the zoo since 1971.



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# World



Family and friends gather at burial of former hotel assistant manager Brook Thompson at Bayamone, Puerto Rico.

## Lawsuits filed in Dupont Plaza Hotel fire

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Lawsuits seeking a total of \$19 million have been filed on behalf of two victims of the Dupont Plaza Hotel fire, charging hotel management with negligence in the blaze that killed 96 people and injured more than 140 others.

The suits involve a Puerto Rican man who died and another man who was injured. They were filed Monday in U.S. District Court, one day after Commonwealth Gov. Rafael Hernandez Colon said investigators found proof the New Year's Eve fire was set intentionally.

The family of 63-year-old Juan Rosario Torres, who worked at the hotel, is seeking \$9 million in damages. Its suit charges Torres suffered greatly before his death because of the "intentional, negligent and careless acts of the defendant."

The suit names as defendant Hotel Systems International of Santa Monica, Calif., which attorneys for the plaintiffs said

owns the Delaware-based San Juan Dupont Plaza Corp.

A second suit, seeking \$10 million in damages, was filed by Jose Aponte Rodriguez, who was in the casino when the fire broke out. Aponte Rodriguez suffered a broken ankle and a concussion.

The suits contend the 20-story luxury hotel was negligent in failing to install fire-prevention measures such as a sprinkler system, fire walls and lighted exits, and for failing to have a safe evacuation plan.

Torres' suit also accuses the hotel of "closing and sealing the casino doors and entrapping the decedent." Hotel officials have denied the casino exits were locked at the time of the fire.

Hotel management did not immediately respond to the suit.

The *New York Times* today quoted a high-ranking federal investigator in San Juan as saying the fire started after an arsonist ignited furniture stored in plastic wrapping "in the ballroom area"

of the hotel.

The newspaper quoted the unidentified official as saying investigators were seriously considering the possibility the arsonist may have intended only to damage property, not destroy the hotel or kill guests.

It said the burning of both the plastic wrapping and the furniture, which apparently was made mostly of synthetic, petroleum-based material, "caused intense heat and a great deal of poisonous smoke."

Hernandez Colon and other authorities have refused to name suspects, but have noted that the Teamsters local representing about 250 Dupont Plaza workers was engaged in a contract dispute with hotel management.

The local had voted to strike at midnight New Year's Eve. Talks between the two sides broke down shortly before the fire started. The union has denied involvement in the fire.

Lawyers for the hotel summoned Dupont Plaza employees to a nearby hotel Monday for questioning in their own investigation.

Luis Izquierdo Mora, the island's health secretary, said Monday that 20 people remained hospitalized, one in critical condition. Pathologists at the Institute of Forensic Sciences had identified 72 bodies by Monday night.

Many victims were charred beyond recognition, requiring experts to use dental records, X-rays, autopsies and personal effects to identify them.

Among attorneys for the Rosario Torres family are Lugo & Berkowitz, with offices in Hato Ray. Also helping is Speiser, Krause & Madole of New York, lead attorneys for plaintiffs in the 1980 Stouffers Hotel fire in Harrison, N.Y., which claimed 26 lives. That suit was settled for \$49.5 million, the firm said.

## Immigration files reveal list of suspected Nazis

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An official of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies says he has discovered more than 200 new Nazi war crime suspects by reviewing confidential World War II immigration files compiled by international relief agencies.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the center, predicted the documents would yield many more suspected Nazi war criminals, including a large list of people living in the United States.

The documents, some held by the International Red Cross, had been kept secret to protect the privacy of refugees, Hier said Monday.

The files were obtained about three months ago, the rabbi said. Since then, he said, the Wiesenthal Center has notified governments of at least seven nations of suspected war criminals living within their boundaries. He said the files disclosed 17 suspected war criminals living in Britain, 50 in Australia, 44 in West Germany,

26 in Canada, 13 in Sweden, three in Venezuela and one, a Treblinka death camp guard, living in Brazil.

Hier did not provide a complete breakdown of the 200 figure.

"In about two weeks we expect to produce a large list of those in the United States," Hier said before a news conference.

Red Cross spokesman Gene Jeffers in Washington said he was seeking comment from the International Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.

West German Justice Ministry spokesman Juergen Schmid confirmed receipt of the list.

"We received it on Friday afternoon," Schmid said, adding that Chancellor Helmut Kohl's office also had received a copy.

"We are already checking it. After our check has been completed we will send the names to the appropriate prosecutors' offices for further investigation," Schmid told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

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Doug Coon*

# State denies needy payments in liver transplant surgeries

DALLAS (AP) — Thirty-three states provide funds to help needy patients pay for liver transplants, but Texas considers the surgery experimental and doesn't provide such funds.

In Dallas, now a national center for the surgery, doctors say the operation has an 80 percent success rate but the cost of the procedure makes it practically unaffordable, doctors say.

Dr. Goran Klintmalm, director of the transplant program at the Baylor University Medical Center, said its ironic that the state will pay for intensive care to prolong one's life but won't pay for a transplant that could save it.

Klintmalm said he is frustrated by Texas regulations calling them a "front to keep from paying for surgery."

However, Abner Bryant, assis-

tant deputy commissioner of the state Department of Human Service, said the high cost of transplants has played a part in the decision to classify the surgery as experimental.

"We have to stay within the budget set for us by the Legislature," Bryant said.

Although the state will pay a maximum of \$50,000 for children, the cost of previous hospitalization is deducted from that amount, leaving little for transplant surgery.

The lack of state funding means patients must rely on voluntary contributions and private fund-raising efforts.

Dances, raffles and bake sales have been held in the hometowns of potential recipients Barbara Edwards, 47, and Dustin Nichols, 7.

Doctors say Edwards' bills could exceed \$120,000. Her family, in Mason, has sent letters to churches and newspapers in an appeal for help.

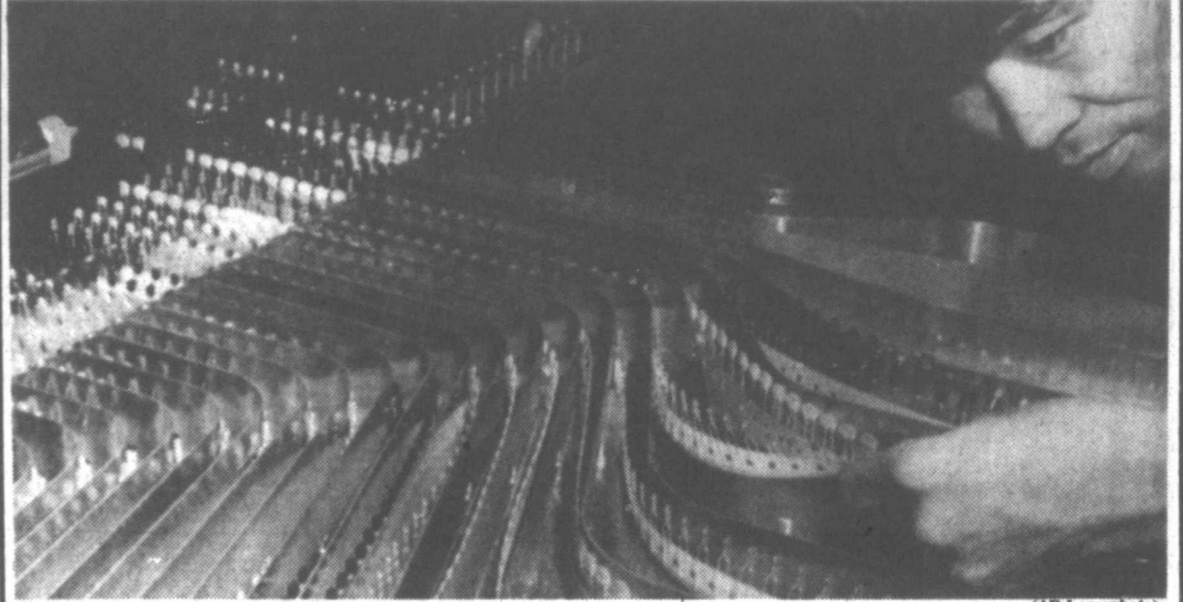
"Barbara Edwards is your friend. She is your mother, daughter and your wife. She is you," said one letter.

Linda Nichols, Dustin's mother, said the \$90,000 down-payment on the \$250,000 needed for her son to qualify for an operation is "a price on my son's head for living."

Residents of Arp, the Nichols' hometown, have contributed nearly \$48,000 toward the operation.

Two Dallas facilities, Baylor University Medical Center and Children's Medical Center, are among national leaders in the surgery.

## Quick check-ins



A worker at the Hillsboro, Ore., Epson Portland plant inspects equipment that automatically inserts integrated circuits and odd-shaped electronic components on dot-matrix printer circuit boards at more than 6,000 components per hour. (AP Laserphoto)

## TDC to study reforms after judge's ruling

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Corrections board will meet next week to discuss the probable appeal of a federal judge's contempt ruling that officials say could cost the state \$24 million a month in fines.

U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler issued the ruling Monday, giving the Texas Department of Corrections until March 31 to clear up numerous problems.

Failure to enact the reforms could bring fines totaling \$800,500 per day beginning April 1, said F. Scott McCown, the assistant attorney general representing the prison system.

McCown said that while all the reforms haven't been enacted, the TDC made progress on the orders Justice began issuing in 1981. He said state officials were "disappointed" at the judge's contempt ruling.

"One of the things that's disappointing about the order is it doesn't recognize the tremendous progress that has been made at the department," McCown said.

"The department has said from the beginning it's not in full compliance ... It's a matter of perspective whether the bottle's half full or half empty. I see the bottle half full, and I think the judge sees it half empty."

In Monday's contempt ruling, Justice instructed the state to, among other things: increase the number of guards; "vigorously recruit and employ" medical staff members for the prisons; increase the number of prisoners in single-inmate cells; house all handicapped prisoners in accessible facilities; provide adequate housing, daily showers and recreation for prisoners in administrative segregation.

Overcrowding in the prison system became a volatile issue during the 1986 gubernatorial campaign. Prison spokesman Charles Brown said Monday that facilities for an additional 4,200 beds are under construction, and McCown said that should meet requirements set down by Justice with a Sept. 1, 1987 deadline.

McCown said the TDC board was scheduled to discuss the judge's ruling at its meeting next Monday in Huntsville.

He said the state probably will ask for an expedited appeal before the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, he said.

McCown also said Gov.-Elect Bill Clements and Attorney General Jim Mattox were scheduled to meet with Justice on Friday.

Clements' press secretary, Reggie Bashur, said Justice's contempt ruling "does not come as a surprise."

"There is a major problem in the prison system. Gov. Clements has been talking about it for 15 months," Bashur said.

"Until Gov. Clements can sit down and review carefully what is in the citation and until after his Friday meeting with Justice, it would be premature to speak specifically to the issue. He wants to build lines of communication with Judge Justice and state clearly and strongly the state will move as quickly as possible and will act in good faith to comply with all orders of the court," Bashur said.

The contempt ruling also came as no surprise to lawyers who have represented inmates in the suit against the Texas prison system.

"We are very glad to see this clear indication that the court will enforce its orders," said lawyer Donna Brorby of San Francisco.

"We expect the TDC to take a cue from (the ruling) and work very hard, with the Legislature now in session, to get itself into compliance."

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**THRIFTWAY**

# Today's Crossword Puzzle

Release in Papers of Tuesday, Jan. 6, 1987

**ACROSS**

- 1 P in MPH
- 4 Actor Kruger
- 8 Pairs
- 12 Wide shoe size
- 13 Mideast nation
- 14 Make over
- 15 Three (pref.)
- 16 One who sets free
- 18 Greek dialect
- 20 Amount
- 21 Mrs. in Madrid (abbr.)
- 22 Gear tooth
- 24 Time zone (abbr.)
- 26 Surpass
- 30 Spoken exam
- 34 Call out
- 35 Baseball player
- 36 Novelist
- 37 Animal of South America
- 39 Cologne
- 41 Electrical unit
- 42 Olive genus
- 43 Runs
- 45 Married woman's title
- 47 Swindle
- 48 Beret
- 51 Highway curve
- 53 Rhymes
- 57 Ease
- 60 Small island
- 61 Charles Lamb
- 62 Leaping insect
- 63 Food container
- 64 Soviet refusal
- 65 Narrative
- 66 Uncle

**DOWN**

- 1 Singer
- 2 Architect
- 3 Irish dance
- 4 Type of paint (2 wds.)
- 5 Three (pref.)

- 6 Keep on
- 7 Gets an advantage over
- 8 Singing syllable
- 9 Antiprohibitionists
- 10 Scent
- 11 Bird
- 17 Royal Mail Service (abbr.)
- 19 Commerce agency (abbr.)
- 23 Channel
- 25 Rugged rock
- 26 Eight (comb. form)
- 27 River in Russia
- 28 Transcribe shorthand
- 29 Stride
- 31 Civil disorder
- 32 Pain
- 33 Runs from law (sl.)
- 36 Continental
- 38 I think, therefore

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	A	R	D	U	S	T	O	U	R	S
E	E	E	U	L	N	A	N	I	L	
T	R	A	T	E	A	K	E	T	T	L
E	O	L	I	C	P	E	T	O	L	D
E	O	S	N	U	T					
D	O	O	R	M	A	T	I	O	N	I
E	A	R	E	R	A	S	O	C	T	O
E	R	S	D	R	E	W	A	E	C	
P	S	A	L	M	A	R	I	K	A	R
G	A	Y	L	N	U	N	H	Y	E	N
A	C	U	M	I	N	A	T	E	C	A
E	R	L	E	T	Z	A	R	C	B	S
L	E	E	R	S	I	T	S	E	S	E

- 40 Former nuclear agency (abbr.)
- 43 Change into bone
- 44 Year (Sp.)
- 46 Accelerate (a motor)
- 48 City in France
- 49 Confederate
- 50 Ballet movement
- 52 Spanish room
- 54 Behold (Lat.)
- 55 Madam (cont.)
- 56 "Auld Lang
- 58 Sup
- 59 Thrice (pref.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16				17			
18			19				20			21
22			23				24			25
26	27	28					29		30	31
32			33				34			
35			36				37			
38			39				40			41
42			43				44			
45			46				47			
48	49	50					51		52	53
54			55				56			57
58			59				60			
61			62				63			
64			65				66			

**STEVE CANYON**

WITH THE SPEED OF THE CRUISE SHIP THERE IS NO CHANCE TO RESCUE THE TERRORISTS...

AND THE SHEER CLIFF IS DEAD AHEAD!

THE HIJACKERS HAVE DROPPED GRENADES INTO THE CONTROLS ON THE BRIDGE!

**THE WIZARD OF ID**

ROD, HOW MANY PEOPLE BESIDES YOU AND ME KNOW ABOUT THIS DISGUISE?

ONLY MY TREE SURGEON

AHEM

OH, YES, AND HOOTY OWL

**EK & MEK**

THINGS ARE HEATING UP ALL OVER...

MY HOROSCOPE TODAY SAID...

'BEWARE OF FORTUNE COOKIES'

**B.C.**

SORRY, MEN... WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE THE PLAYOFFS THIS YEAR.

HECK, COACH, WE KNEW THAT MONTHS AGO.

YOU'RE NOT LISTENING... I SAID THIS YEAR!

**Astro-Graph**  
by Bernice Bede Osol

Jan. 7, 1987

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Don't dilly-dally today if you suddenly have an opportunity to conclude a matter that thus far has proven to be rather tedious. Strike while the iron is hot. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker set instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** You may get a very interesting piece of news today. The information will relate to a project in which you have recently become involved.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** A critical situation is about to be shifted around. When the dust settles and everything is sorted out, it's going to be to your advantage.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** You're very imaginative and resourceful today, and your first thoughts are apt to be your best ones. Act on your inspirations instead of trying to dissect them.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** There are strong indications today that you may benefit in a unique way through a friend who's involved in an unusual venture. Be alert for opportunities.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** You're more effective than usual in making fast decisions today. Evaluations that come to you in a flash will contain constructive substance.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Just because something has always been done a certain way doesn't mean you have to be locked into a procedure if you can devise a better method today.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** You're fortunate at this time where new friendships are concerned. In fact, you might be introduced to someone today with whom you'll have an instant rapport.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Something propitious might unexpectedly develop today through a family member or relative. What occurs could produce material benefits for you.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** A person who's been at odds with you pertaining to an issue of importance might surprise you today when you discover your thoughts are now in harmony.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** Something you've been wanting which you felt is far too expensive might not cost you nearly as much as you've estimated. Recheck your figures and sources today.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** Compared to most signs, Sagittarians are usually rather lucky. Your rabbit's foot will be working again today in situations that have elements of chance.

**MARVIN**

I REALLY FEEL ROTTEN TODAY

I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING LEFT IN THE BACK OF THE REFRIGERATOR FOR SIX MONTHS

**ALLEY OOP**

IT LOOKS LIKE THAT YANKEE OFFICER'S HORSE DECIDED NOT TO GO BACK TO CAMP AFTER ALL!

SO WE MIGHT AS WELL PUT 'IM TO USE!

EASY THERE, FELLA!

THAT'S TH' WAY! OKAY, HENRY, UP 'Y'GO!

ALL RIGHT, M'BOY... WHICH WAY?

THAT WAY!

**SNAFU™ by Bruce Beattie**

"I come back every year to see the tourists return."

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**

"Thanks for the sweater, Aunt Nancy. Uh, just a minute."

"She wants to know if I like it."

**THE BORN LOSER**

WHY ARE YOU STANDING ON YOUR HEAD?

MY DOCTOR ADVISED IT...

IT AIDS CIRCULATION.

**PEANUTS**

Dear Grandma and Grandpa, they say that grandparents like to spoil their grandchildren.

I'm ready when you are.

**MARMADUKE**

"I don't care if she is a friend of yours... you're not using my hairbrush!"

**WINTHROP**

"THIS IS YOUR OWN PERSONAL DAILY HOROSCOPE."

"BY 'PERSONAL' WE MEAN THAT IT IS FOR YOU AND YOU ALONE AND THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MUST ANY OTHER EYES BUT YOURS SEE IT. WE CANNOT STRESS THIS TOO STRONGLY. ANY INVASION OF YOUR PRIVACY CAN BE PUNISHABLE BY LAW."

THERE WASN'T ANY ROOM LEFT FOR THE HOROSCOPE.

**TUMBLEWEEDS**

ITS OWNER MUST BE INSIDE THE CABIN.

WHAT'S OUR FIRST MOVE?

TO THE TRADING POST, IF WE HURRY, WE CAN STILL MAKE THE HAPPY HOUR.

**FRANK AND ERNEST**

THINK OF IT... IT NEVER ENDS!.. THE MUSIC!.. THE ANGELS!.. THE MUFFLER GUARANTEES!

**GARFIELD**

IS NATIONAL LAZY WEEK FOR YOU? ASK YOURSELF THIS: WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO LEAD A PARADE IN CELEBRATION OF THE LAZY LIFE?

IF THE ANSWER IS YES... YOU'RE ALL WRONG FOR LAZY WEEK



# Lifestyles

## Doctor's cure? \$\$\$\$

DEAR ABBY: Six years ago, I clipped the enclosed column from my local newspaper. I have found it very relevant and I think that it needs to be rerun periodically. At times, I have enclosed copies of this column to patients who have been delinquent with their accounts, and while some have been understanding, others have drawn tremendous objection to receiving any kind of pressure to pay for services rendered.



Dear Abby  
Abigail Van Buren

Over the years, physician overhead has increased tremendously. My current overhead is close to \$100,000 a year, and in addition, due to various circumstances, I render nearly \$100,000 per year of free services or reductions in my fees. Nevertheless, I still have tremendous problems in getting patients to compensate me for my services, and I know that I am not alone, as nearly every physician has the same problem. Sign me ...

ran it in October of 1980, but I like it even more today. As a valentine to the many doctors and dentists who share the same leaky boat with you, I repeat it with pleasure:

DEAR ABBY: As a physician, I know this problem is a genuine source of concern to almost every physician.

It may come as a surprise to many, but not all doctors are rich! Far from it. We have house and car payments to make, children to raise, and business expenses just like anyone else trying to make a living. Add to that the exorbitant premi-

ums for malpractice insurance. People wouldn't think of going to the grocery store, filling station or beauty parlor without cash, a check or credit card. But they come to their doctor's office and say, "Bill me," or, "My insurance company will take care of it."

Abby, some insurance companies wait 60 to 90 days (and longer) to pay a bill — assuming it's covered — and sometimes it's not covered! Unfortunately, the doctor has to pay his rent, office help and family expenses within 30 days.

If after three or four months the doctor hasn't received a dime from the patient or his insurance company, it's customary for his office to phone the patient and request payment, whereupon the patient usually becomes highly indignant! This person would probably froth at the mouth should his paycheck be held up for one day! Yet, that's what the doctor's bill is — his paycheck.

It's unfair that the doctor is usually the last one to be paid, and sometimes he's not paid at all! Sign me ...

AN M.D. WITH \$35,000 ON THE BOOKS

DEAR M.D.: I'm using your letter as a reminder to those who owe their physicians — and their dentists, too.

AN M.D. WITH \$154,000 ON THE BOOKS, LAGUNA HILLS, CALIF.  
DEAR DOCTOR: I'm glad you wrote. I liked this letter when I

### New pastor arrives



(Staff photo by Cathy Spaulding)

The Rev. Dale Dunn, new pastor of First Baptist Church of Miami, serves punch at a recent open house at his home. The Rev. Dunn, his wife Linda and their 2-year-old daughter Elizabeth recently arrived to take over pastoral duties in Miami from Kingsborough Ridge Baptist Church in San Antonio.

### Library users active people

CHICAGO (AP) — Library users appear to be active people who welcome new experiences, according to a study just completed by the American Library Association that analyzed the responses of nearly 4,000 adults to an annual lifestyle and attitude survey.

Fifty-eight percent of all the respondents said they had used a library in the last year, and 34 percent had visited one at least five times. The ALA survey shows that more women than men go to the library, and the most frequent visitors are likely to have children under 17 at home.

They are more adventurous about travel and how they spend their time than non-users. They are more likely to go to a concert, an art gallery or a lecture. They are also more sociable, according to their responses, which indicate that they give and attend more parties than non-users.

Their family incomes were higher and they were more likely to have a college education, the study shows.

The heaviest library users — those who visit at least 12 times a year — are more interested in new and exciting experiences than non-users. They are more likely to swim, ski, jog or go boating and bicycling. They are interested in camping, as are non-users, but are far less likely to go hunting.

Library users are also more optimistic about the future and feel good about themselves. They more frequently volunteer for civic activities than non-users.

Although the study does not fully represent the very rich or the very poor, ALA officials note, projected nationally more than 78 million adults visit the library at least once a year.

### Pageant hopefuls



Pictured are two of the 12 contestants scheduled to appear in the Miss Top O' Texas scholarship pageant at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in M.K. Brown Auditorium. At left is Mia Banister, 18, of Amarillo. She is to perform a

dance-twirl routine as her talent entry. At right is Kristi Fesler of Stratford, who is also 18 years old. Fesler plans to play a saxophone solo in the talent portion of the competition.

## Skaggs Futurity deadline nears

### DATES

Jan. 5 — 3:45 p.m., 4-Clover 4-H meeting, McLean Ag building

Jan. 5 — 7 p.m., Gold Star 4-H meeting, Courthouse Annex.

Jan. 6 — 7 p.m., 4-H Fashion Club meeting, Courthouse Annex.

Jan. 6 — 7:30 p.m., Grandview 4-H meeting, Grandview School cafeteria.

Jan. 8 — 7 p.m., Adult Leaders Council, Courthouse Annex.

Jan. 9 — Bob Skaggs Futurity deadline.

BOB SKAGGS FUTURITY  
Those who wish to exhibit their lamb or steer at the Bob Skaggs Futurity, Jan. 17-18, need to send the entry and fees to Pampa High School Ag De-



### 4-H Corner

Jeff Goodwin

partment, 1440 Charles, Pampa, 79065. Entry fee is \$25 for steers and \$15 for lambs.

Steers will show at noon Jan. 17 and lambs at noon Jan. 18. Weights must be turned in by 10 a.m. each day. Entry deadline is January 9. A \$10 late charge will be added after that. Make checks payable to Pampa Ag Boosters.

FASHION CLUB  
Next meeting of 4-H Fashion

Club will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Misty Neef will present a program on modeling.

For a community service project, members are asked to bring personal items, toys or baby blankets for the Tralee Crisis Center to this meeting. Also, dress for modeling.

4-H BEDROOM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
A 4-H housing and home furnishing project begins at 4 p.m. Thursday in the Annex. This year's project focuses on bedroom improvements emphasizing color, textures, room arrangements; wall and floor coverings and accents, window treatments, storage

helps and accessories. 4-H'ers interested in this project are invited to attend the Thursday meeting. Project plans and requirements will be explained at that time. Any adult interested and/or willing to help with the project should contact Donna as soon as possible.

MEAT JUDGING TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED  
Gray County 4-H'ers interested in working on the 4-H meat judging team should meet at 5 p.m., Jan. 22, at the Courthouse Annex. We will have a Junior Team and a Senior Team, and will meet twice a month until the district contest in April.

The top two senior teams in the district will go to state contest in June. Our second meeting will be on Jan. 31 at 10 a.m. at the Annex. If you are interested in working on the Meat Judging Team, but cannot make the first meeting, let me know.

### College students' outlook changes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The college graduating class of 1990 is more money-conscious than the students of some 20 years earlier, according to a survey made by UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute and the American Council on Education.

Of 280,000 college freshmen from 550 campuses surveyed, 71 percent said "being very well off financially" was their primary goal as opposed to 83 percent of the freshmen of 1967 who named "developing a meaningful philosophy of life." One in four wants a business career and fewer than

one percent will be English majors (down 80 percent in 20 years). Politically, college freshmen have moved towards the center. Middle-of-the-roadsers grew to 56.7 percent, up from 45.4 percent. Liberals shrank from 36.6 percent to 22.4 percent, while freshmen on the right stayed at 15 to 20 percent of the total.



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# Survivor crusades for auto insurance law

By MICK ELMORE  
Valley Morning Star

SAN BENITO (AP) — For the past year, Alonzo Cavazos has tirelessly worked toward one goal — convincing as many people as possible to support what has become known as the "Cavazos Resolution."

His efforts have met with considerable success along the Texas-Mexico border, and it is on the verge of receiving attention throughout the state.

The resolution, which calls for a law requiring all motorists on Texas highways — including citizens of Mexico and other countries — to have automobile liability insurance, will be put before both houses of the Texas Legislature when it convenes this month.

State Rep. Juan Hinojosa has decided to introduce a bill in the House, and he says he feels confi-

dent that such a law will pass and that finding a sponsor in the Senate will be easy.

The accident that spurred his efforts took the lives of Cavazos' brother, sister-in-law and niece on Christmas Eve 1985. The driver of the other car, believed to be an uninsured motorist from Mexico City, fled the scene and hasn't been seen in the United States since, although a suspect was indicted by a state grand jury in November.

The accident sent Cavazos on a one-man crusade to generate support for his proposal.

"There is not a day that I'm not thinking who I should call or looking for another group that could help," says Cavazos.

"The only thing that makes sense is to make something good out of this tragic accident."

Cavazos said he expected some opposition to the resolution from businessmen and chambers of commerce. But as he traveled about the state

asking organizations to support the resolution, all have jumped on the bandwagon but one.

All the county governments along the border which have been asked to vote on supporting the resolution, from Cameron to El Paso counties, have done so. So did Bexar County, and some other smaller counties in South Texas.

Service groups and many chambers of commerce have also given their support to the resolution.

The chambers of commerce are significant, Cavazos says, because their support shows the business community agrees with the resolution even though it might hurt business by reducing the number of foreign travelers in Texas.

The liability insurance law would benefit the people of the state, says Richard Pinon, the Department of Public Safety trooper who investigated the Cavazos accident.

"I would give us somebody to work with — the insurance company. Somebody that would be liable. In this case no one is," he says.

The problem would be enforcing the law. California, which has a similar law, checks drivers as they come into the United States.

Whatever form the law takes, says Hinojosa, there is a lot of support for something to be passed.

A spokesman with the Mexican Consulate in Brownsville said he would not speculate on the ramifications of the resolution and would save any comment "Until it becomes law."

One weak point might be the logistics of such a law. With so many people traveling in Texas, it might be difficult to process insurance for everyone.

Jim McDaniel of the Association of Insurance Claim Adjustors said there would be some problems, but nothing that couldn't be worked out.

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