

Texas/Regional

Supreme Court: Attorney General may not intervene before PUC in electric-rate cases

AUSTIN (AP) — Attorney General Jim Mattox blasted a Texas Supreme Court ruling that said he doesn't have the right to intervene on behalf of state agencies in electric-rate cases before the Public Utility Commission.

"There appears to be a frightening new majority on the court that will let the giant corporations have their way with the Texas public," said Mattox of the 5-4 Wednesday ruling.

"The public should be outraged. This is an horrendous blow to consumers and taxpayers," Mattox said, predicting the action would cost Texas taxpayers tens of millions of dollars annually.

Mattox said he intends to ask the Supreme Court for a rehearing and will ask Chief Justice Thomas Phillips and Justice Barbara Culver to remove themselves from the case because they were

not court members when oral arguments were presented. He said he will also seek state legislation giving agencies the right to be represented in electric utility rate cases.

The court ruled against Mattox in a case involving a request by Central Power and Light Co. and Houston Lighting & Power Co. for preferential accounting treatment for costs related to the South Texas Nuclear Project.

Mattox, who said the PUC "has a history of being anti-consumer," sought to oppose the utilities' request on behalf of state agencies. The attorney general went to court when the PUC did not allow him to do so.

Mattox argued he has the constitutional right and duty to represent state agencies to protect the state's interest as a ratepayer, and to ensure that

corporate monopolies do not exercise unlawful power.

"We find no basis for either of these contentions," Justice James Wallace wrote in the majority court opinion. PUC spokesman Bill Dunn said the commission would issue no formal statement on the ruling.

Agencies are not "persons" allowed to intervene in rate cases under state laws governing administrative procedure and utility regulation, the opinion said. It also said there was no evidence the agencies asked Mattox to represent them.

The Texas Constitution gives the attorney general the duty to take court action as needed to prevent any private corporation from exercising any power or demanding or collecting any species of taxes, tolls, freight or wharfage not

authorized by law, the opinion noted.

But it added that with the enactment of the Public Utilities Regulatory Act, the PUC took over the duty to ensure that electric rates are just and reasonable.

The attorney general can institute court proceedings if a utility enacts unauthorized rates, the majority said.

A strong dissenting opinion by Justice Oscar Mauzy said Mattox "not only has the right to intervene in these electric rate cases, but he has a duty to do so." The dissent was joined by Justices C.L. Ray, Ted Robertson and William Kilgartin.

If the attorney general cannot intervene in a case at the state agency level, where the record in a case is built, he cannot effectively pursue a court appeal, the dissent said.

Even if the attorney general had no constitutional right to intervene, and the PUC had statutory discretion over the matter, the commission decision still should be overturned because the commission abused its discretion, Mauzy wrote.

"In excluding the state agencies as customers while including other customer groups, the commission acted in an arbitrary and capricious manner," the dissent said.

Gov. Bill Clements, at a news conference, said he agreed with the majority. "You can't work both sides of the fence... take both sides of the issue and take credit for both sides," Clements said. "The bottom line is, he (Mattox) has a positive, identifiable conflict of interest in trying to represent both sides."

Tenneco to sell oil, gas business

HOUSTON (AP) — Tenneco Inc., the 10th largest U.S. oil company, picked a favorable time to sell its oil and gas operations, analysts say.

"I think they see where they can liquidate some assets at decent values," said H.B. Juengling, a natural gas pipeline analyst for Howard Weil Lobouisse Friedrichs Inc. in Houston. "In 1986, the values just weren't there."

On Wednesday, the company announced it would be leaving the oil business by selling its oil and gas operations, instead concentrating on other industrial and pipeline ventures.

The company would not put an estimate on how much the sales might bring, but George J. Gaspar, an oil analyst with Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. in Milwaukee, believes the company already courted some interested buyers.

"I would expect they've had a nudge already, and decided to go public with the announcement to solicit other bids to make sure they will get the most attractive price possible," Gaspar said.

The Houston-based company, which posted 1987 revenues of \$14.8 billion, will use proceeds from the sale to help pay its hefty \$8.5 billion debt, Tenneco spokeswoman Suzanne Thomas said.

"The new Tenneco will be a financially stronger and more focused company," said James L. Ketelsen, Tenneco's chairman and chief executive officer.

"With significantly reduced debt and capital expenditure needs, the company's earnings should improve materially, and its intrinsic value to shareholders will be secured and enhanced," he added.

Proceeds from the sale also may be used to repurchase shares of the company's common stock, depending on market conditions and total proceeds from the sale, he said.

The oil and gas ventures being sold are from the Tenneco Oil Co. subsidiary engaged in exploration, production, refining and marketing.

In 1987, it had sales of \$3.3 billion and operating income of \$233 million. The company's proved reserves of crude oil and natural gas liquids were 407

million barrels at the end of 1987. Natural gas reserves totaled 2.95 trillion cubic feet.

"While profitable, these businesses are not now providing adequate returns on past invested capital, and we do not believe their market value is fully reflected in Tenneco stock prices," Ms. Thomas said.

"The sale will unlock the underlying value and provide us funds that will enable us to take advantage of growth opportunities in our pipeline and industrial businesses," Ms. Thomas added.

The current mix of business in Tenneco's energy ventures make up 22 percent of the company's revenue, while all of industrial and pipeline ventures account for 78 percent, she said.

After the sale, Tenneco will be comprised of 31 percent farm and construction equipment, 23 percent pipeline, 14 percent shipbuilding, 13 percent auto parts, 10 percent packaging and 9 percent chemical.

The businesses are — Tenneco Automotive, an auto parts manufacturer that includes Monroe shock absorbers and Walker exhaust systems; Packaging Corp. of America, a major producer of paperboard, molded fiber, aluminum foil and plastic packaging; Newport News Shipbuilding, the largest privately owned shipyard in the world; and Albright & Wilson Ltd., a manufacturer and marketer of specialty chemicals and phosphates.

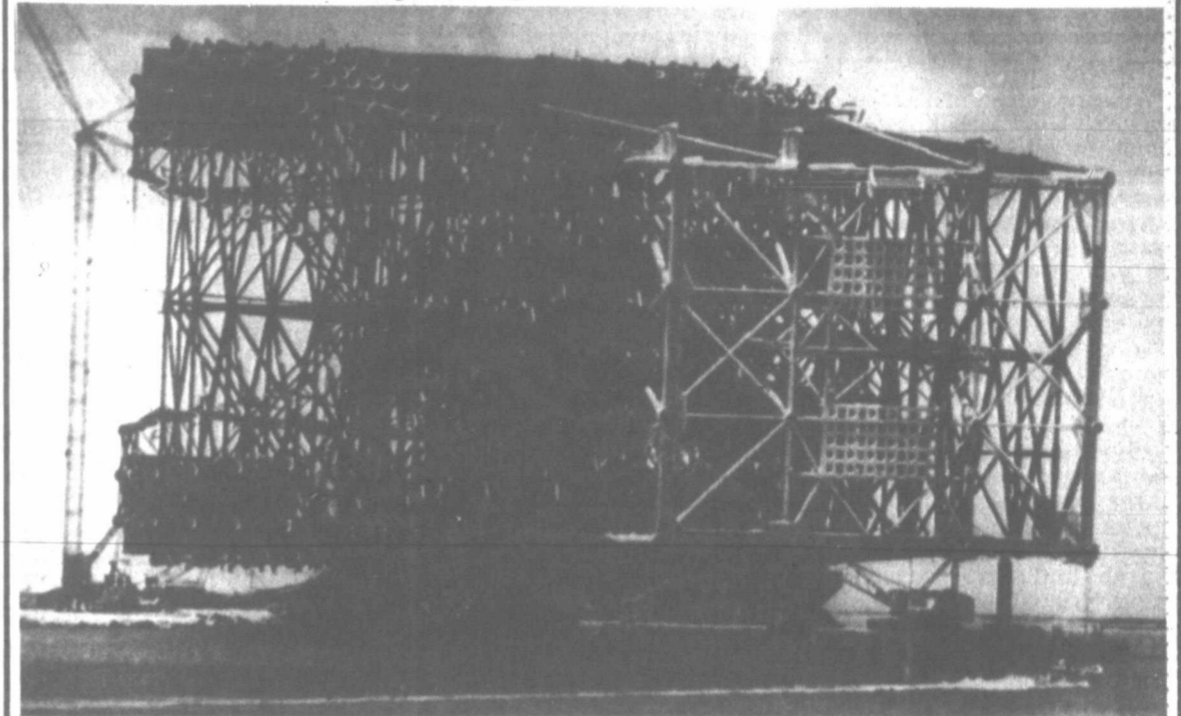
Tenneco said the businesses together have achieved a five-year compound annual growth rate of 18 percent in operating income and have averaged 26 percent return on net assets employed.

The shipbuilding and auto parts companies are worth an estimated \$1.25 billion each.

Tenneco also owns Case IH, the nation's second-largest farm equipment maker, and Tenneco Minerals. Ketelsen said Case should be able to reap benefits from further upturns in the domestic agricultural equipment business. Tenneco Minerals is a producer of soda ash and gold.

In addition, Tenneco also operates its Gas Pipeline Group, a 20,000-mile network of pipelines.

Bullwinkle ready to go



The 1,615 foot tall Bullwinkle jacket oil drill rig, the largest ever, will leave Ingleside Friday for its destination 132 nautical miles east of Corpus Christi in the Gulf of Mexico.

Economic advisers' council chief urges more oil stockpiling by U.S.

DALLAS (AP) — The United States should stockpile more of its own oil to stymie possible political maneuvering by foreign suppliers, a national economic advisor told energy industry executives Wednesday.

"If oil prices remain low, we could be importing as much as 50 percent of our oil by 1990, and as much as 60 percent by 1995," said Beryl W. Sprinkel, chairman of the president's Council of Economic Advisors. "Much of this oil comes from the Persian Gulf, an area not known for its peace and tranquility."

Sprinkel told a national conference for energy executives that America can wean itself from dependence on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries by using more domestic and Canadian fuel products.

A free-trade agreement signed by President Reagan and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney will represent an important step in that direction, he said.

"The Strategic Petroleum Reserve currently

has 545 million barrels of oil — we are aiming for 750 million barrels — and it is being filled at a rate of 50,000 barrels a day," he said.

"We are trying to double the fill rate because we think this stockpile is vital to our national security," said Sprinkel. "By the early 1990s, we plan to have enough stocks on hand to be able to release 4 million barrels per day for at least six months. Our allies also have stockpiles."

But John G. Jenkins, president of the American Energy Assurance Council, said the prospect of a real energy crisis looms in the not-so-distant future, even without interruption of foreign oil supplies.

The council — a coalition of 100 energy producers, environmentalists, consumers and public officials — will stage a national energy crisis simulation on Nov. 17-18 to stimulate formation of a sustainable long-range U.S. energy strategy.

In the war games-style simulation, council members will defend their constituencies in reaction to an energy crisis scenario.

Into foggy pasts or starry skies

Despite some chilling interruptions, warm weather has finally arrived, a matter which I was beginning to doubt throughout April and hesitant to believe even in May.

In addition to the greening grass, leafing trees and blooming flowers, another sure sign of summer's approach is the numerous children suddenly riding their bicycles in the streets or noisily running through various yards in pursuit of play.

I hope they continue to enjoy being outside and stay away a long while from the inside-drawing television sets, video games and computers.

A couple of weeks ago, while watching Paul playing softball on his church league team, his wife Linda and I began to talk. Somehow the conversation turned to how children today really don't know how to play.

Now I'm sure most children, and even some of the parents today, would question that observation. After all, there are so many more toys on the market, so many new and intriguing items to purchase.

Well, sure — but I'm not so certain they encourage "play." Despite all the manufacturer's claims, the new toys really don't stimulate the imagination. Nearly everything is provided for the young minds.

Television provides visual and aural stimulation — sometimes too much! But it really doesn't ask a child to use his or her inner imagination as well as any good book can.

Video games? Let's face it — all you do is push a button or swirl a stick around in your hands. Everything else is on the screen, a kind of a variation of television, really.

Computers? Despite all the great software programs, computers tie kids down to a desk and a chair inside some room. And there's the television-like screen again.

For awhile I admit I found myself sometimes envious of this new generation, with all the electronic gadgetry and animated screen action and flashing lights and captive sounds.

Then I began to notice that nearly all of the action is *inside* — the kids aren't out under the blue or even gray skies. Unless a window is open — less common in these days of circulated, cooled, conditioned air — there's no fresh breezes, no scents of wildflowers or new-mown grass, no chirping of birds or buzzing of locusts, only carpeted floors instead of grass and weeds and even dirt underneath bare feet.

What a shame! I found myself thinking, now feeling sorry for all that today's youth is missing.

When I was in high school, I became embarrassed at having friends over to our modest house at the edge of the city. The backyard was full of junk!

But as I've grown older, I find myself more often looking back fondly at my burgeoning childhood years. What I called junk in high school was all the material of dreams and imagination and play as a child.

From somewhere, Dad had obtained a large wooden cable spool — it was huge! We rolled that spool all over the large yard. And with a couple of slats removed and turned on end, it became a

Off Beat

By Larry Hollis



spaceship or ocean-going vessel.

We also had a large tractor tire. We'd climb inside and push each other up and down our dead-ended alley, turning literally heads over heels. Maybe that's why I still enjoy rollercoasters and similar carnival rides.

There were also a couple of giant metal pots — I have no idea where they came from. But, filled with water, they became a temporary home for numerous tadpoles taken out of Red Deer Creek after recent rains. There we'd take daily check to watch the miracle of the tiny tadpoles turning into tiny frogs. (My mother wasn't overly excited by that, but we kids were certainly entranced by the event.)

And then there was the huge stacked pile of old lumber resting on the ground and reaching up into our two large apricot trees. We'd climb up on the ends of the boards onto the deck of a ship, then on up into the tree limbs, the riggings for sails.

Near our home were fields where weeds and Johnson grass grew unchecked. Instead of being something to be mowed, that vegetation became jungle or prairie or swampland, depending on what hunt-and-search teams we had formed for the day.

And there were other items. A cast-off piece of board or a small sawed-off section of pipe became a gun or a space weapon or a spear. A discarded length of rope became a lasso. Tin cans and strings made telephone hook-ups. Smaller pieces of wood, pieces of old shoe leather and rubber bands made slingshots and shooters.

All of that together formed imagination, as we made up stories of sailing on a ship, flying into space, cowboys hunting Indians, safarists trekking to new lands, innocent humans fleeing from some terrifying alien creature, battling gangs of opposing soldiers and... whatever — the world was ours.

And as the evening cooled off, gangs of neighborhood children gathered to play Hide-and-Go-Seek and Sheep-in-My-Pen, the territory stretching out over two blocks. Or there'd be Statue, Red Rover, Simon Says — or just sitting under the stars and telling ghost stories.

We didn't gather inside to take turns over some video game.

We preferred the outside where the mind stretched back into the foggy pasts or outward to the boundaries of the universe.

And the stories and games were ours — not packaged and then handed to us — but ours!

Man dies after leaving gas pump without paying

TEXARKANA, Texas (AP) — A Louisiana man with a history of mental problems was killed in a car chase which began after he fled a service station without paying for the gas he pumped.

A Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman said James Gay Jr., 45, of Natitoches, La., was killed Tuesday when his car crashed into an auto repair shop four miles west of Texarkana on U.S. 82.

Service station owner Ron Patterson jumped into his pickup after Gay left the station without paying \$12 for the gas he pumped.

Patterson said the two vehicles bumped three times and reached speeds of up to 65 mph when the chase left the city limits. At one point during the chase, Patterson grabbed Gay at a stoplight and asked for the money, but Gay sped away.

Gay's mother, Mary Lee Gay, of Natitoches, said she thought her son was going to the barber when he left home at 8 a.m.

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Nation

Helms drops delaying tactics on INF treaty

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate negotiators have cleared a major hurdle en route to approval of the U.S.-Soviet treaty banning middle-range nuclear missiles, setting up almost certain approval of the first arms-control treaty to be ratified in 16 years.

The chamber's Democratic and Republican leaders expressed hope that remaining disagreements over conditions to be attached to the accord could be ironed out at meetings today.

"We're not there yet, but we've made a good deal of progress," said Majority Leader Robert Byrd, D-W.Va.

A key to progress on the treaty was the decision on Wednesday by the leading opponent of the pact, Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., to drop his delaying tactics.

Helms said he did so in the face of a probable vote by the Senate to shut off debate.

"That was the end of it," Helms conceded in a floor speech. "I've had no illusions about defeating this treaty. The American people are beginning to understand that this is a dangerous treaty."

Helms' concession ended more than a week of delay and raised hopes that the accord could be approved in time to be shipped to Moscow so that President Reagan could formally exchange ratification documents with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev at the summit meeting that begins Sunday.

The primary remaining issue did not

affect the treaty itself, but the modified conditions under which the Senate would grant its consent.

Democrats sought to attach a condition stipulating that any attempt by a future president to reinterpret the treaty would have to be approved by the Senate in order to become effective.

Backers of the change have said it is an attempt to preserve the Senate's constitutional power of advise and consent on treaties. The debate stems from a dispute with the Reagan administration over its attempt to reinterpret the 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty to permit more latitude in developing Reagan's Star Wars missile defense. That treaty with the Soviet Union was

the last arms-control pact to win Senate approval.

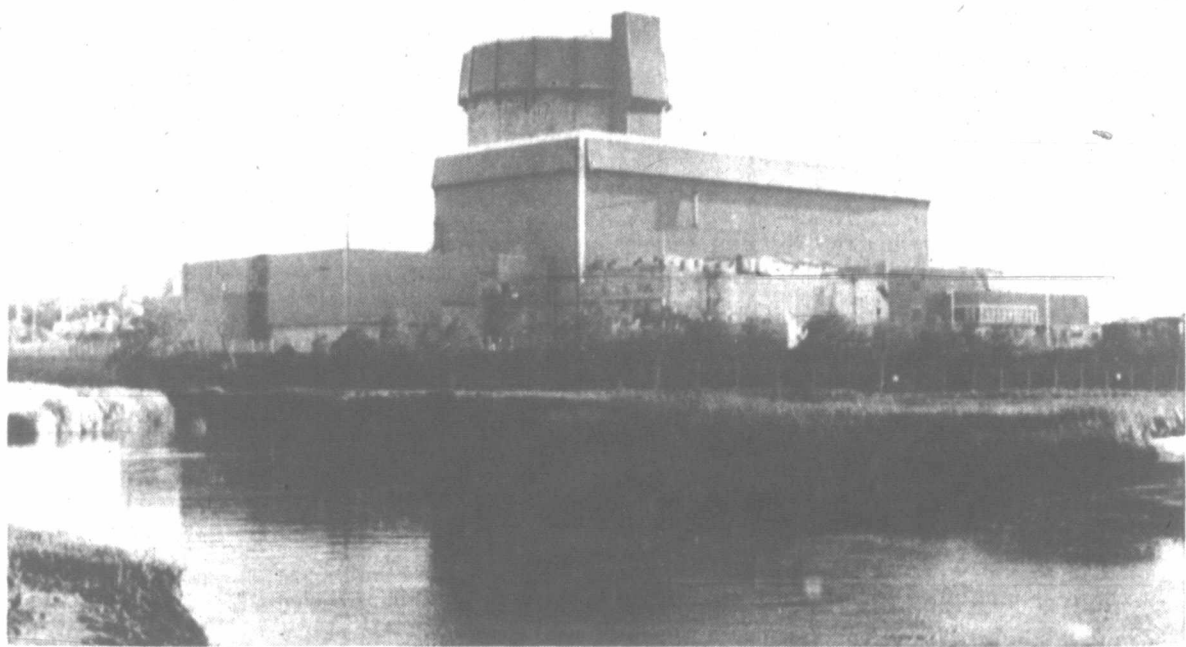
The treaty on intermediate-range nuclear forces, which Reagan and Gorbachev signed in Washington on Dec. 8, requires elimination within three years of U.S. and Soviet nuclear missiles with a range of 300 miles to 3,400 miles. It would result in the elimination of 867 U.S. missiles in Europe and elimination of 1,752 Soviet missiles.

While the treaty is regarded as militarily insignificant because it leaves most of both sides' nuclear arsenals intact, it holds potentially great political significance as a model for a follow-up treaty to provide for deep cuts in long-range nuclear missiles. As leaders wrangled throughout the

day Wednesday in an effort to clear remaining procedural hurdles, the Senate approved a pair of relatively mild amendments to the accord and overwhelmingly defeated two others.

On a voice vote, the lawmakers approved a non-binding provision urging negotiators in future talks on reductions in long-range missile arsenals not to give up the U.S. right to maintain stocks of conventionally armed air- and sea-launched cruise missiles.

And the Senate urged the president to keep human rights in the forefront of U.S.-Soviet relations and "insist on sustained and demonstrable human rights progress." That language was added on a voice vote.



(AP Laserphoto)

Negotiators have reached a tentative agreement that would see the \$5.3 billion Shoreham nuclear power plant, shown above, abandoned.

Tentative deal reached to kill completed nuke power plant

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A utility company today tentatively agreed to give up the \$5.3 billion Shoreham nuclear power plant. Once the deal is finalized, it would be the first time a completed U.S. atomic plant was abandoned before it opened.

The agreement between the state and the Long Island Lighting Co. was announced by Gary Fryer, a spokesman for Gov. Mario Cuomo.

It would allow financially troubled LILCO to continue to operate as a privately owned utility. The state had been proceeding with a possible takeover of the entire company.

As part of the agreement, the state would buy Shoreham for \$1 and LILCO would pay the more than \$400 million to decontaminate and decommission the plant. New generating plants would then be built on Long Island to ensure that residents have a sufficient supply of electricity.

The agreement in principle was announced 95 minutes after Cuomo's midnight Wednesday deadline for an agreement. Earlier, Cuomo had threatened to call off negotiations if LILCO failed to agree to a deal and then resume a state lawsuit to keep Shoreham closed.

Utility spokesman James Lois confirmed the agreement but withheld detailed comment.

The entire agreement must be approved by the state Public Service Commission, and some parts of the agreement must be approved by the legislature.

Once completed, the deal will end years of attempts by environmentalists, local activists and others to close Shoreham, on Long Island's north shore.

"I think that utilities throughout the United

States will be very mindful of what happened to the Long Island Lighting Company," said Irving Like of Bay Shore, a Shoreham opponent and a member of the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), a board the state set up to examine a possible takeover of the utility.

The plant, completed in 1984, has never been opened because of the refusal of state and local officials to approve an emergency evacuation plan.

The officials had argued that Long Island, because of its geography, could not be safely evacuated during a nuclear accident and without such approval the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission had refused to issue an operating license.

But state efforts to close Shoreham accelerated after the NRC in October eliminated the rule requiring state and local government participation in an evacuation plan.

The settlement provides a prototype for opponents of other nuclear plants because it had been widely believed that once Shoreham was completed, it would be licensed despite state and local government opposition, said Harold Holzer, an aide to Vincent Tese, Cuomo's chief negotiator in the deal.

"I think that's the national example," Holzer said. "That the evacuation prerequisite (of the NRC) has to be taken seriously and if not, it's possible to resist what other people thought was inevitable."

The future of the plant has been in limbo for years and the delays in construction and the licensing effort, along with massive cost overruns, drove LILCO to near bankruptcy.

Ford executive says Congress should override trade bill veto

DALLAS (AP) — Congress should work to override President Reagan's veto of the foreign trade bill to give the United States a stronger foothold in the world market, says the chairman of Ford Motor Co.

Donald E. Petersen, chairman and chief executive officer of Ford, said Wednesday that Congress should "either let this bill stand as it is or quickly modify it so that we get all the good that's in the bill. It would be a shame to lose all this effort."

Petersen said if the bill is passed, it will give the United States access to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"We really aren't authorized to be a participant in the next GATT round, and I think that's very important that we do that," Petersen said at the American Society for Training and Development's meeting in Dallas.

Petersen said the trade legislation is "a clear expression of the importance of other countries taking action to work in cooperation with us and each other to avoid this ongoing, very substantial imbalance of trade we have."

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Medicare bill clears major hurdle

WASHINGTON (AP) — A catastrophic health insurance bill providing the largest expansion of Medicare in the program's 23-year history has cleared a major legislative hurdle.

The compromise agreed to late Wednesday by a House-Senate conference committee must win final approval from both chambers, but that is a foregone conclusion given the broad support that the basic measure received last year when it cleared the two houses in different versions.

Health and Human Services Secretary Otis R. Bowen told conference committee members that he will recommend that President Reagan sign the legislation, even though it is considerably more ambitious than the measure proposed by the administration more than a year ago.

The basic framework of the legislation has been in place for months: providing protection for America's 31 million Medicare recipients against runaway hospital and prescription drug bills accumulated during acute illnesses. But House and Senate negotiators have worked since February to iron out the details.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, whose Finance Committee shaped the Senate bill, called the compromise "a landmark piece of legislation ... that will bring peace of mind to millions."

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee as well as the

conference committee, praised Bowen for his protracted role in overcoming some objections within the administration to win presidential support for the Medicare expansion.

"You are the linchpin who launched us on this crusade," Rostenkowski told Bowen, a physician and former two-term governor of Indiana whose first wife died after a long battle against cancer.

It was a surprise Bowen maneuver — dropping his opposition to a respite care provision for home-bound beneficiaries — that removed the last stumbling block to compromise.

The big knot that had kept the legislation tied up was loosened last week when a conference committee task force agreed on provisions of a historic outpatient prescription drug benefit.

The compromise legislation provides for Medicare coverage for hospital stays lasting up to 364 days; a first-day deductible still will be charged. Medicare now pays full hospital bills for only 59 days a year.

Regarding doctor bills, Medicare now pays no more than 80 percent of approved charges, no matter how high they run. Under the catastrophic health provision, Medicare will pay 100 percent of allowable fees after an individual has incurred \$1,320 to \$1,400 in out-of-pocket expenses.

Under the expansion, Medicare will pay half of drug costs in 1991 after a \$600 deductible is met,

with the government share rising to 60 percent in 1992 and 80 percent in 1993. However, the deductible is expected to rise each year to keep pace with rising drug costs.

World

Sandinistas, rebels prepare for new talks

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — The rebels are preparing a new peace proposal designed to bring democratic changes to Nicaragua and end their 6½-year-old war with the leftist Sandinistas.

Negotiators for both sides were set to resume their third round of high-level talks today in Managua, the Nicaraguan capital.

Alfredo Cesar, chief of the rebel delegation, told reporters late Wednesday, "We have come here to present a comprehensive proposal to the government for a global solution to the war."

The rebels, he said, were prepared to make a "special effort to achieve a definitive cease-fire."

But, he said, "I'm not optimistic because the government has not complied" with a preliminary peace plan worked out March 23 in Sapoa, a small village on the Costa Rican border.

The rebel delegation arrived Wednesday evening, ending a dispute over where the talks would be held.

The U.S.-backed rebels, also known as Contras, had initially refused to return to Managua, the site of two previous sessions. They complained the government restricted their access to opposition political leaders.

The government insisted the talks be held in the capital and agreed to let the rebels meet with the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinate and visit the Roman Catholic bishops' conference, the opposition newspaper La Prensa and relatives.

Col. Enrique Bermudez, the rebel military leader, arrived from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to take part in the negotiations, marking his first trip to Managua since the war started in late 1981.

"My presence here is due to the fact that I'm a Nicaraguan and that I'm opposed to the state of affairs in Nicaragua," he told a news conference.

"I have come here to try to see Sapoa fulfilled, to discuss a cease-fire and an end to the war because this is my country," he said. Cesar declined to provide details of the

Contra proposal, but other sources said it calls for the government to agree to a series of democratic reforms, such as freedom of expression.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Contras then would be willing to lay down their arms by the end of the year.

The proposal includes a specific timetable for the government to comply with the democratization proposals.

In Washington, Wilson Morris, an aide to House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, said on Tuesday the rebels planned to offer to disarm themselves by Sept. 1.

The two sides earlier agreed to a 60-day cease-fire to give them time to arrange a permanent truce. The cease-fire was to expire on May 30, but President Daniel Ortega announced earlier in the week that he would extend it for an additional 30 days.

Cesar told reporters the rebels do not want repeated extensions of the cease-fire, but rather a permanent halt to the fighting.

Restaurant owner killed in Spain

EIBAR, Spain (AP) — A restaurant owner was shot and killed in this Basque town near San Sebastian in what provincial government officials said appeared to be the work of the Basque separatist group ETA.

According to witnesses, one or two men shot and killed Sebastian Azpiri, 38, as he walked to his

restaurant on Wednesday night. ETA has claimed responsibility for the deaths of three policemen and a retired general so far this year.

Since taking up arms in 1968, the separatist group has claimed more than 600 killings in its campaign to seek independence from Spain.

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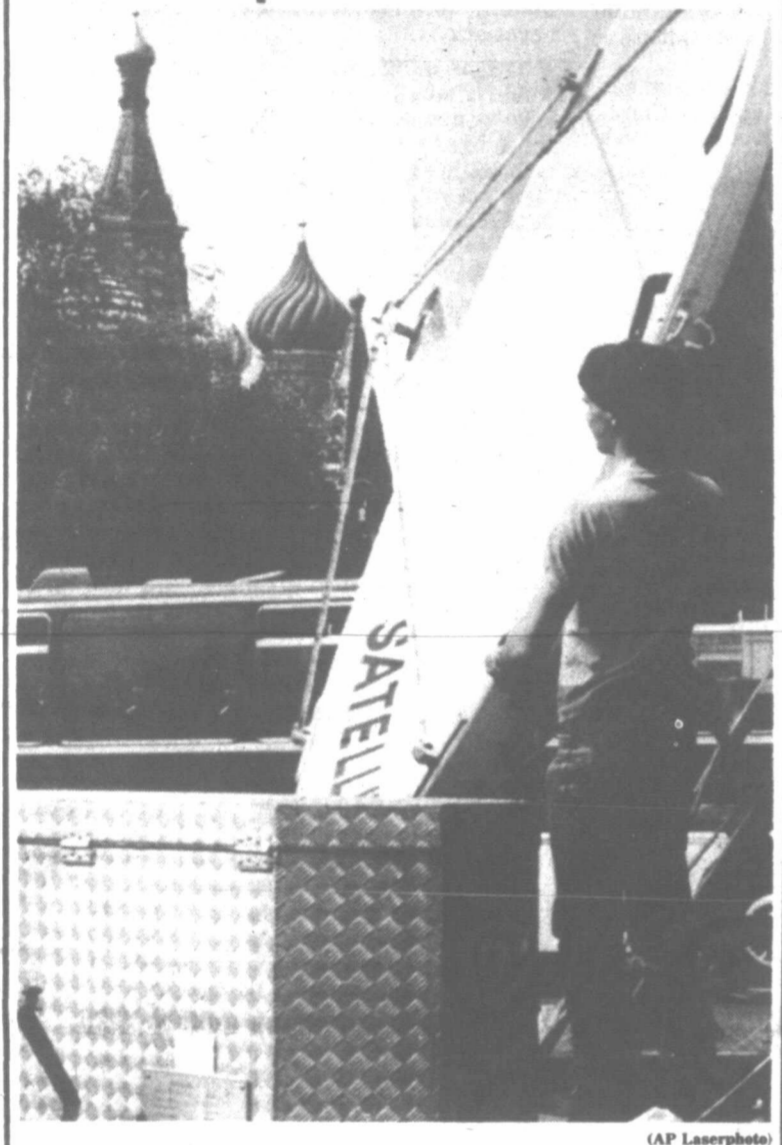
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Summit uplink



(AP Laserphoto)

A technician adjusts a satellite dish in Moscow Thursday as part of the preparations for the summit of President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

Supreme Soviet delays vote on cooperatives law after rare debate

MOSCOW (AP) — A rare debate in the Supreme Soviet postponed voting on a law that would give more freedom to cooperative businesses. Delegates were seeking changes in provisions regarding tax policy and bureaucratic restrictions.

The Soviet Union's nominal parliament, which normally approves the Communist Party agenda with a unanimous show of hands and without debate, votes on the bill today.

The law, considered to be a key element of Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev's economic reform effort, would set tax rates for cooperatives while ensuring that their property may not be seized.

The law was to have been brought before a joint meeting of the Supreme Soviet on Wednesday. But 22 parliamentarians spoke about the law in meetings of the separate chambers Wednesday morning and the vote was delayed while a commission looked at a series of amendments, officials said.

Tass, the official Soviet news agency, reported Wednesday that members of the Supreme Soviet had raised objections to the law and proposed amendments "to protect cooperatives from unfounded interference by local authorities."

According to remarks reprinted in the government newspaper Izvestia on Wednesday, several parliamentarians urged that local authorities be allowed to give tax breaks to cooperatives.

The law as submitted on Tuesday would permit local governments to collect taxes from cooperatives, but would allow only national authorities to establish tax breaks for certain kinds of cooperatives.

"In my view, it's necessary to

transfer to local Soviets the tax policy regarding cooperatives," said Georgy Tarazevich, a representative to the Soviet of Nationalities from the Byelorussian capital of Minsk.

He added that the system does not give local authorities the power to encourage certain kinds of cooperatives.

An Estonian representative, K. Veldi, said high personal tax rates discourage some workers from joining cooperatives.

Under the law, personal income taxes will be 27 percent on a monthly income of \$1,600 and 53.5 percent on an income of \$3,200. The tax rate eventually reaches 90 percent.

The average industrial worker in the Soviet Union makes about \$320 a month.

Officials have said the aim of the progressive tax system is to get the cooperatives to invest in expanding their business rather than paying high salaries to workers.

Soviet Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov said in a speech to the opening session of the Supreme Soviet on Tuesday that the law was of "immense social and political significance."

Gorbachev has pushed cooperatives as a method of augmenting the state-run economy, which cannot provide enough consumer goods and services.

He has stressed in many speeches on the economy that cooperatives should be a key form of economic activity in the Soviet Union, and should receive equal treatment as state-run business.

Restaurants are one of the most popular forms of cooperatives that have opened, and others have formed to make clothing, pump gas, make apartment repairs and provide other services.

Wealthy fish farmer slain in Philippines

MALOLOS, Philippines (AP) — Gunmen killed a wealthy fish farm owner as he returned home after inspecting his ponds in central Luzon island, police said.

Police identified the victim as Mamerto Borlongan, 60, who also

served as a neighborhood ward leader in this town 20 miles north of Manila.

Borlongan owned hundreds of acres of fish ponds in the central provinces of Bulacan and Pampanga.

Two white officers to hang for murder of a black youth

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Two white policemen today were sentenced to hang for the murder of a black youth who was beaten and then shot during a police unit's drunken foray into a black township.

If the executions are carried out, it would be the first time in South Africa that white policemen were hanged for crimes committed while on duty in a black township.

Key testimony against Warrant Officer Leon de Villiers, 37, and Constable David Goosen, 27, came from other members of their 10-man riot unit who were pressured by police investigators into abandoning a cover-up attempt.

Several officers testified that de Villiers, the unit leader, had ordered Goosen to "take out" 18-year-old Mlungisi Stuurman because the youth had been too badly beaten to be set free.

Stuurman was taken to a riverbank and shot in the back of the head on July 26, 1986, in the black section of Cradock, in eastern Cape Province.

The non-jury trial, which began in October, was held at the Supreme Court in Grahamstown, near Cradock.

Justice N.W. Zietsman, who presided over the trial, convicted the two men on Wednesday, saying de Villiers had led his men on a "beating expedition" in which residents were assaulted indiscriminately.

Today, Zietsman said he had rejected the mitigation arguments presented by defense lawyers.

Goosen had testified that he was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder because of repeated exposure to violence in the black townships.

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Bridging gap: Pepsi, jeans show U.S. influence on Soviet society

By ANDREW KATELL
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Images of Michael Jackson dancing to rock music in a Pepsi commercial flicker across the Soviet television screen, and Levi's jeans hug the hips of young Russians in a crowded subway car.

Amerika, as the Soviets call it, has arrived. Far behind the Iron Curtain, we were able to develop a pro-Western mentality, and what, tell me, could be more Western than America? emigre author Vasily Aksyonov wrote about his youth in the Soviet Union of the 1950s.

Even the Cyrillic alphabet hasn't prevented what the Russians call Amerikanizatsia. "Jeansi," "stop," "break dance," "OK" and one of the latest signs of the times — "stress" — are now part of the Russian lexicon.

Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev has encouraged his people to learn more about America. To demonstrate his sincerity, he has allowed more travel to the United States, ended the jamming of Voice of America broadcasts and removed barriers to joint business deals.

In April, a record 1,200 Soviets, most of them Jews, were allowed to visit relatives in the United States. An additional 1,000 Soviets traveled there on official business. Before Gorbachev, only a handful of Soviets visited the United States monthly.

The 1985 Geneva summit gave an official stamp of approval to cultural agreements and "people-to-people" exchanges. Under the agreements, Soviet and American lawyers, doctors, students, musicians, scientists and teachers have visited each other.

In some instances, the exchanges reflect a Soviet desire for American help in tackling social problems such as alcoholism and drug addiction, problems the government previously denied existed.

At the grass-roots level, Soviets need little encouragement to talk about things American.

When introduced to an American, many Soviets immediately start with the questions, on everything from war and peace to the availability of hamburgers.

A taxi driver's reaction when a passenger introduced himself as an American was to run down the American authors she loved — Ernest Hemingway, Mark Twain, Ray Bradbury. Collections of these authors in translation occupy prominent places on the bookshelves in some Soviet apartments. More contemporary American authors are lesser known because their works still aren't available in the Soviet Union.

Levi's jeans are required attire in certain circles. And some of those who manage to get an American candy bar, soft drink or pack of cigarettes proudly display the empty packaging in their living rooms.

Many Soviets are turning to videotapes for a glimpse of America. Tapes of movies such as "Police Academy" and "Rambo," dubbed in Russian, are passed among friends in a thriving black market where blank cassettes cost at least 50 rubles (\$80), or one quarter of an average monthly salary.

The black market also feeds on young Soviets' thirst for American rock music. Records of Madonna and Michael Jackson fetch exorbitant sums. Jackson's music videos have appeared on Soviet television, and his Pepsi commercials hit the airwaves in mid-May during broadcast of a five-part series on the United States.

Officially sponsored concerts by American musicians such as Billy Joel, Dave Brubeck and the Doobie Brothers have become major happenings.

At the same time, some Soviet rock stars are traveling to the United States. Boris Grebenshchikov, the hippy-like leader of the Leningrad rock band Aquarium, is scheduled to record an album in the United States this summer.

The end of Soviet jamming of Voice of America broadcasts in May 1987 opened a new source of information about life in the United States.

Satellite television discussions with American studio audiences also have given Soviets a chance to learn first-hand about life in the United States. Soviet television's widely watched evening news program "Vremya" has shown features on child care, automobiles and sports in America, and in mid-May Soviet television broadcast a series moderated by former U.S. resident Vladimir Posner.

But even though Soviet media coverage about the United States has become more balanced under Gorbachev, reports about crime, unemployment, racism and the poor are still common.

In politics, Americans and Soviets still have sharp differences. But for many of the Soviets who viewed Reagan as a warmonger a few years ago the rhetoric has eased since he signed an agreement with Gorbachev last December to eliminate all medium-range nuclear missiles.

"We have no propaganda of hatred toward Americans, no disrespect of Americans," Gorbachev told a group of U.S. teachers of Russian who met with him at the Kremlin last August. "One cannot find them here, either in politics or in teaching."

USDA in flap over cutting fertilizer use

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Mike Synar, D-Okla., wants the Agriculture Department to tell him more about its plans to encourage farmers to use less fertilizer and pesticides.

The USDA came in for some close questioning at a hearing on April 28 by the Government Operations subcommittee on the environment, energy and natural resources, headed by Synar. One issue, in particular, was an alleged apology by the department to the Fertilizer Institute, a Washington-based trade association.

The institute was miffed about the wording of an

announcement of a program to help farmers use less fertilizer, pesticides and other costly production items. Those hard feelings still haven't been put aside entirely.

A spokesman for Synar's subcommittee said this week that the USDA had not yet provided the requested information, although no timetable had been set. Meanwhile, the transcript of last month's hearing is under review, he said.

At the USDA, officials said that Synar's questions had been circulated to various inside agencies for drafting replies.

Anybody home?



Like fellow feline Sylvester, Gandolf the cat checks out a birdhouse looking for a Tweetie (AP Laserphoto)

Prosecutor says Mowbray shot husband

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Auto dealer Jay William Mowbray Jr. was alive on Sept. 16, 1987, when police entered his home, a reserve deputy sheriff testified in the opening day of the murder trial of Susie Mowbray.

In opening statements, Cameron County Attorney Ben Euresti told jurors in Judge Gilberto Hinojosa's 107th District Court he planned to prove that Mrs. Mowbray shot her husband as he slept in bed.

Estela Mauricio, a reserve deputy sheriff, testified Wednesday that she went to the home with Sgt. Bobby Gonzalez to investigate a reported shooting.

She entered the home and went upstairs, where she found all bedroom doors closed, she said. In one room, she found Mowbray in bed.

He at first appeared to be sleeping, but when she heard a gurgling sound, Ms. Mauricio said she

went to Mowbray's side. She saw a gaping wound in the side of his head and a large pool of blood on the bed, she said.

Mowbray died on the way to Valley Baptist Medical Center.

Mrs. Mowbray's attorneys contend her husband committed suicide, but prosecutors say she killed him after the two argued over several incidents in the days before his death.

Euresti said Mrs. Mowbray, 40, watched some television then walked into the second-floor bedroom of the couple's home and shot her husband while he slept. The slug passed through Mowbray's head, a pillow, his right hand and into a second pillow, the county attorney said.

Euresti said Mrs. Mowbray did not call police after the shooting.

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Professor's geology course is a class act in Oregon

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP) — Once you've been shot from a cannon and tap-danced atop a piano — all in the name of education — there's not much left for an encore.

Unless, of course, you pop out of the screen during a showing of "Alien."

Julius Dasch is forever searching for new ways to generate interest in "Rock and Stars," the most popular elective course ever offered at Oregon State University here. A professor of geology, Dasch has become a master at mixing science and showmanship.

How many other geology professors would allow themselves to be shot from a cannon in a parody of the "big bang" theory? Create a class syllabus with coupons from a local pizza parlor? Sponsor a rock concert to raise money for a guest speaker? "We haven't had any live births during class — yet," Dasch deadpanned. "We did have a guy pass out once, though."

"Rocks and Stars" began in 1981 as an attempt to draw more students into geology. In designing the class, Dasch combined his profession, geology, with his love of outer space. He poured a lot of energy and a little bit of money into promotion.

His colorful advertisements drew 274 students the first term. Word of the lively guest lectures and interesting topics spread. The second year 649 students enrolled in the spring term class.

The response caught everyone by surprise. The class had to be moved into Oregon State's largest teaching auditorium. While waiting for stragglers that first day, Dasch played music from "Cosmos" and lit up the overhead screen with space art.

"It really caught on," he said. "And then somewhere in there, I guess I went bananas."

Rock music replaced the ubiquitous class-ending buzzers. Students contributed music, and ideas for new topics. To begin year three, Dasch staged the skit

in which he was "blown" out of a cannon. The students went wild over the idea of a skit. A new tradition was born.

The class has been a sellout ever since. This spring, though, the effervescent Dasch was worried. "Rocks and Stars" hadn't been offered for two years while Dasch was on leave working at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. Many underclassmen at OSU had never heard of it.

But more than 1,000 students signed up, roughly one out of every 15 students at Oregon State University.

"I heard from a girl friend that it was a fun class," said one enrollee, Christy Waitt, a senior in health care administration. "Well, it caught me a little off guard, but I thought it was great," she said of the first day of class.

And then there was 72-year-old Oliver Zehr, the oldest student at Oregon State. After watching Dasch burst through the screen during "Alien," participate in several well-rehearsed skits and finally bust a guitar on stage, Zehr plainly was taken aback by education in the late 1980s.

"I don't hardly know what to think," Zehr sputtered after class. "What a bunch of nuts. I've always wondered just how they filled this place. I took some astronomy in high school and learned about the planets, so I thought I'd give this a whirl. But I've got to admit, I was a bit bewildered this morning."

Dasch has bewildered a number of people, including department heads from around the country who want to imitate the "Rocks and Stars" format at their own universities. His success with the class has also impressed NASA officials, who may have discovered a new way to reach future voters.

As enrollment for the course grew over the years, NASA took on an annual sponsorship of two speakers, plus expenses for an engineer to spend a week in Corvallis, plus half the fee for a visi-

tor from the Johnson Space Center. Dasch's on-campus maneuvering has drawn financial support to attract other prominent speakers.

This spring, for example, "Rocks and Stars" speakers range from Harrison "Jack" Schmitt, an Apollo 17 astronaut and geologist, to Peggy Lathlaen, finalist for the Teacher-in-Space program, to William "Mitch" Mitchell, a Houston realtor and president of Lady Base One, a proposed lunar colony.

"I used to worry about how these people would react to the class, which is a bit unorthodox," Dasch understated. "But, absolutely without exception, they have all been extremely enthusiastic, even the heaviest scientists. It brings out the ham in people."

"I probably worry about credibility more than anyone," Dasch said. "It's a legitimate question. I suppose there shouldn't be a lot of courses like this one, but there is room for one. A lot of learning goes on here. Something about holding a meteorite or a lunar rock makes them forget my name. The hype is called 'getting their attention.'"

The critics are quickly forgotten in the heat of battle — like the day Dasch tap-danced on top of a piano. A film on the San Francisco earthquake wasn't delivered on time, so a scrambling Dasch found an ancient, and silent, film on the disaster that was "really quite good."

"I decided to put on a Scott Joplin record in the style of the old, silent movies, but then had a brainstorm and brought out a piano from backstage," Dasch explained somewhat sheepishly. "A student held a flashlight, and I pretended to play the piano while the Joplin music was playing. One thing led to another, and pretty soon I was tap-dancing on top of the piano."

Texas couple designs video to teach values to children

AUSTIN (AP) — As a parent who returned to work six weeks after her daughter's birth, Karen Huybrechts quickly saw the need for videos that teach values to children who spend more time at daycare than on their mothers' laps.

As a businesswoman, Ms. Huybrechts has joined with her husband to create a pilot TV program, recently broadcast on cable television, to instill values by video. They also are marketing an animated video of songs.

"We're really looking at an entire generation now that is being immensely impacted by a whole change in lifestyle. Mom and dad are not capable or allowed to spend as much time with them, because they have got to work," Ms. Huybrechts said.

The Huybrechts' work is designed to teach children cooperation, self-worth, politeness, self-control, dependability, loyalty and perseverance through animated characters, child actors and original music.

About 30,000 of the song videos have been purchased for use in classrooms, daycare centers and homes so far, and national distribution to retail and video outlets is expected later this year.

"The parents traditionally in our country have instilled in children their value system. They provide the emotional support and teach them the social skills they need," Ms. Huybrechts said in an interview at the studio of UMA Mirage Productions. She is president and producer of the Austin-based company.

But 10 million children under age 6 now are in single-parent homes or in homes

where two parents work, she said. Teachers have told her they are expected to teach morals and ethics, but have few tools to help them do so.

The couple established their production company, which also has done work for corporate clients including Dupont and GTE, in 1984.

Francois Huybrechts, a symphony conductor whose posts have included assistant

conductor to Leonard Bernstein and music director of the San Antonio Symphony, is music director for the company.

More than \$1 million was invested in the 24-minute "Watchkins" home video, Ms. Huybrechts said. She said a regular half-hour Saturday morning cartoon may cost up to \$300,000 to produce, by comparison.



Francois and Karen Huybrechts with sunflower puppet characters Flora and Sol.



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Lifestyles

Chapter I students receive books

The Junior Service League of Pampa recently distributed free books to all Chapter I students in Pampa.

A distribution party, with punch and cookies, was sponsored by the league.

Approximately 200 boys and girls at Baker, Mann, Lamar and Wilson elementary schools each received a book of his/her choice. The cooperative effort between

the school and the community is intended to give students the pride of owning their own books and to encourage students to read independently, school and league officials said.

Panhandle's Santa Fe depot registered as a historic site

PANHANDLE—Panhandle's City Hall, 200 S. Main, formerly the Santa Fe Depot, became a registered Texas Historic Landmark in a dedication ceremony Sunday.

Included in the program was a short history of the Santa Fe Depot given by Mrs. J.B. McCray, chairman of the Carson County Historical Commission. B.G. Perry, assistant general manager for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway in Amarillo, spoke about the role of the Santa Fe Railway in Panhandle.

Former city mayors were honored by Mayor Leslie McNeill. Carson County Judge Jay R. Roselius dedicated the marker accepted by Mayor McNeill. An open house, hosted by the Panhandle City Council, followed the dedication.

Panhandle's history is closely tied to the Santa Fe Railway, originally Southern Kansas Line, which arrived in the city in 1887. The first passenger train arrived in January 1888. The townsite was laid out in 1886 because of the coming railroad.

Both the Fort Worth and Denver and the Santa Fe railways were to meet in Panhandle, but the Fort Worth and Denver changed its plans, taking a route 15 miles to the south. Headquarters for the Santa Fe Railway remained in Panhandle for many years.

Discovery of oil north of Panhandle, at what is now Borger, caused an immense surge of business in the railway. All materials were shipped to Panhandle and trucked to the oil fields. July 1926 was the heaviest month in history, with \$1.8 million

in business and an office force of 49 full-time employees. During July and August, Panhandle's station saw a larger volume of business than any other station with the exception of Chicago.

More tracks were laid and a new depot planned. Construction began in late 1927 on the new brick and stone depot with a green tile roof, reported to be the best for any town its size on the Santa Fe west of Kansas City and the largest ever to serve such a small community. The Spanish mission-style building measured 42 feet by 203 feet with a long, raised platform in front. Trains unloaded at the new depot for the first time on May 17, 1928.

Santa Fe Depot was used for passenger service until May 1, 1971, when passenger service on the Santa Fe was ended in the area. When it was learned the station would no longer be used for freight, negotiations began in 1982 by Mayor Charles Smith and Mrs. Ralph Randel, chairman of the board of trustees of the Square House Museum and chairman of the Carson County Historical Commission, to lease the depot.

The building was to be used as Panhandle City Hall and for museum storage. In November 1983, the lease was agreed upon and the city and museum took over the building. After some interior decorating, leaving the plan of the building intact and with the original tile floors and steam heating system, the Santa Fe Depot became Panhandle City Hall in 1985.

Dedication of the historical marker completes a project planned by the Panhandle Sesquicentennial Committee in 1986.



(Staff Photo by Duane A. Laverty)

Pampa Middle School students competing in recent mathematics contests are, front row from left, Joyce Osborne, Elasha Hanks, Chris Jaramillo, Kasia Lewis and Misti Plunk. Middle row from left are Bryan Stephenson, Erin Fruge, Kirk McDonald, Monte Bennett, Andrew McCall, Darin Wyatt and Doug Rapstine, assitant principal. Back row from left are Pampa school superintendent Dr. Harry Griffith, Kristal Barker, Tony Fields, Jocelyn Chen, Jennifer Mouhot, Christina Wingerts, Jenny Edwards, Michele McGivern and PHS math coordinator Dennis Wyatt.

PMS math students compete in Mathematics League events

Pampa Middle School sixth, seventh and eighth grade math students participated in the regional and state levels of the Texas State Mathematic League contest recently.

The Pampa eighth grade team placed third, and the seventh grade team placed second in the region. The sixth grade team came in fourth.

Bryan Stephenson of the seventh grade team was second high person in the region.

The contest is designed to check both reasoning and computation skills. The state is broken into regions, with Pampa included in the northern region comprised of the counties from Lubbock north.

Pampa's team consisted of the top five students in each grade level. The top five sixth grade students are Joyce Osborne, first; Elasha Hanks, second; Chris Jarmillo, third; Kasia Lewis, fourth; and Misti Plunk, fifth.

The top five seventh grade students are Stephenson, first; Erin Fruge, second; Kirk McDonald, third; Monte Bennett, fourth; and a tie between Andrew McCall and Darin Wyatt for fifth.

The eighth grade top five students are Kristal Barker, first; Tony Fields, second; Jocelyn Chen, third; Jennifer Mouhot, fourth; and a three-way tie for fifth among Christina Wingerts, Jenny Edwards and Michele McGivern.

Girl meets boy by military mail

DEAR ABBY: Although I've never written to you before, I want to thank you for addressing one issue I had been struggling with a few years ago. A 17-year-old girl thought something was "wrong" with her because she was still a virgin.

I, too, had felt that way on several occasions. I'm a virgin who will turn 21 soon. I was dumped by more than one man because I wouldn't have sex. I plan to remain a virgin until I marry. I don't want to have to tell my husband about an illegitimate child, an abortion or herpes outbreaks.

I also want to thank you for the addresses of overseas servicemen. I wrote six letters and received three replies. One has become very special. He's "Andy" on the USS Coral Sea. He writes beautiful, deep, philosophical letters — three and four typed pages. We have come to know each other intimately through our letters.

Our similarities are uncanny. We agree on everything from premarital sex and abortion to kids, dogs and yogurt. Abby, he has helped me to understand that just because I had a bad childhood, I am not a bad person. He tells me I am a very special, beautiful person, and I believe him. If I never lay eyes on him, he has already helped me more than he (or you) will ever know.

Andy is due back in the States soon. And when his ship docks in Norfolk, I'll be there to meet him! Abby, if he turns out to be half as



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

wonderful in person as he is in his letters, I would marry him tomorrow.

WALKING ON AIR

DEAR WALKING: He sounds too good to be true. Congratulations on an exciting beginning. Please keep me posted.

DEAR ABBY: Our family is able to eat only one meal each day together. It's supper. Our children are 8, 5 and 3 years old. My husband does not allow any talking at the table. He sits at the head of the table and barks commands at everyone. ("Sit up straight!" "If you must cough, leave the table!" "Just shut up and eat!")

It doesn't take much of this before we all lose our appetites. I was raised in a family where the supper table was a place we could eat leisurely and share with other

family members the events of the day.

I think my husband's attitude is wrong. He says the table is the place to eat and get it over with.

Please tell me, who is right?
DIFFERING IN GARLAND, TEXAS

DEAR DIFFERING: There is no right or wrong — only different preferences. I agree with you: The supper table is an ideal place for the family to enjoy each other's company while they eat.

Try to persuade your husband to lighten up a little, to be more patient and less demanding of the little ones. Good luck.

DEAR ABBY: Would you kindly define the phrase "immediate family"? I need to show the answer in writing. Thank you.

INQUISITIVE IN LONG BEACH

DEAR INQUISITIVE: In the legal sense, wife or husband, children, parents, brothers and sisters are all immediate family. But for exact information regarding the laws in your state, you should consult a lawyer.

Volunteers needed for MD telethon

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is currently seeking an organization or group of individuals to assist with the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon in the Pampa area.

"It's an exciting two days of work filled with fun, sharing, the joy of giving of a bit of your time and, above all, showing that your community cares," said Carole Weatherley, MDA spokesman in Amarillo.

MDA provides patient service care such as orthopedic equipment, professional medical treat-

ment, recreational activities, respiratory equipment and more to persons with a neuromuscular disease. The organization also funds the world's largest single research program to find cures and treatments for neuromuscular diseases.

"It takes a great deal of money, community effort and caring people to continue to provide these extensive services," Weatherley said.

Anyone wishing to volunteer may make a long-distance collect call to the Amarillo MDA office, 359-3141.

Brownies' day camp June 6-10

Pampa Brownie Day Camp will be held June 6-10 at Camp Mel Davis near Lefors.

Girls who are kindergarten age through sixth grade may sign up at the Quivira Girl Scout Council office at City Hall.

Fees are \$10 for 5-year-old pre-kindergartners, \$15 for registered Brownies and \$19 for non-registered Brownies.

Car pools will leave from Alco at 8:30 a.m. each morning and will return by 3 p.m. Each girl should bring a "sit upon," a sack lunch and a cup.

"Nature At Its Best" is the theme for this year's day camp. Debbie Donnelly is camp director.

Adults are needed to help with the camp, Donnelly said. Any adult signing up as a staff member for the week will be allowed one free camper.



Michelles

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Friday and Saturday Only

One Group Jrs.

"Catch The Wave"
1/2 Price

Eagles Eye 25% OFF Select Groups Donovan Galvani 25%-30% OFF

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1/2 Price
Limit 4 Cans

Zotos Wavelock Perms
Pantene Perfect Transition
20% OFF

201 N. Cuyler

9:00-6:00

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Space Center 27 REFRIGERATOR with Refreshment Center



Model TFX27FK

- Built-in compartment door for instant access to inner shelf.
- Electronic Monitor and Diagnostic System.
- 26.7 cu. ft. capacity; 9.88 cu. ft. freezer capacity.
- Automatic dispenser for crushed ice, cubes and water.
- 3 Adjustable glass shelves.
- "Quick serve"™ System stores left-over and prepared foods in individual dishes.
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You Must Come and See This Refrigerator To Believe It!

BLACK GLASS OVEN DOOR 30" GAS RANGE



White Model JGBS15GPJ

Time-of-day clock with 4-hour timer. Porcelain enamel finished oven interior. Oven door with window. Separate broiler compartment. Black glass backplash.

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Now \$409
SAVE \$90

4,200 BTU CARRY-COOL AIR CONDITIONER



Model ATV04LA

115 volts, 5.6 amps. Easy installation. Built-in handle, 10-position thermostat.

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Now \$239
SAVE \$100

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Today's Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Angora goat fabric
 - 7 Baby
 - 13 International org.
 - 14 Bearlike
 - 15 Of the foot
 - 16 Motor hotels
 - 17 Personality
 - 18 Angeles
 - 20 Townsman (abbr.)
 - 21 Looks at
 - 23 Antony symbol
 - 24 Mrs. Dick Tracy
 - 25 Please reply
 - 27 He who hesitates
 - 30 Bridge expert
 - 32 Spinning toy
 - 33 Comedian Costello
 - 34 Kennel sound
 - 35 Mark with spots
 - 38 Ooze
 - 41 Emerald Isle
 - 42 South of Colo.
 - 44 Fall suddenly
 - 46 Compass point
 - 47 Actress Lupino
 - 48 Consumed food
 - 49 Car part (2 wds.)
 - 52 Come-on
 - 55 Romantically involved (2 wds.)
 - 56 Concrete ingredient
 - 57 Sparkling
- DOWN**
- 1 Hushes
 - 2 Wild donkey
 - 3 Champions
 - 4 Beast of burden
 - 5 Amazon tributary
 - 6 Bread cakes
 - 7 Flowers
 - 8 Gold (Sp.)
 - 9 Calif.
 - 10 Parts
 - 11 Join the army
 - 12 Trials
 - 19 Japanese sash
 - 22 Slim
 - 24 Overshadowed
 - 26 Secret scheme
 - 28 Pigeon
 - 29 Superman's girl
 - 31 Actor Brynner
 - 35 Digging ore
 - 36 "1984" author
 - 37 Conclude
 - 39 End of a pencil
 - 40 Powerful
 - 41 Metaphysical beings
 - 43 Bout
 - 45 Western Australia capital
 - 47 The same
 - 50 Deer
 - 51 Eggs
 - 53 Wide shoe size
 - 54 Doctors' group

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	P	A	T	O	S	T	S	P	A	N
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O	A	S	E	S	S	I	T	R	O	T
S	I	N	E	A	I	C	A	D	D	Y
E	N	G	R	O	S	S	E	R	U	S
I	R	E	D	E	E					
C	L	I	N	T	G	I	E	L	G	U
R	I	C	E	D	E	B	S	A	F	E
O	N	E	S	D	E	L	I	R	O	N
W	E	D	S	T	S	E	E	R	S	T

GEECH

By Jerry Bittle

HEY, RABBIT, WHAT'RE OUR CHANCES OF GETTING SOME PEANUTS OVER HERE?
WELL, IF YOU PLANT EARLY, YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME BY FALL.
I THINK THAT MEANS "NO."
I WONDER HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE TO GROW SOME PRETZELS?

Astro-Graph
by bernice bede osol

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Some form of social outlet could prove very pleasurable today. If nothing is on the agenda, drum something up yourself, but limit the number of participants. 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.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Information you can use to your advantage could come to you today in a rather unusual manner. The person responsible might be one with whom you have little in common.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) There is a chance you may receive some good news today that will elevate your hopes and expectations. It relates to something new in which you're involved.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A career objective can be achieved now by using your mind, not your muscles or clout. Today, the race goes to the brightest, not the brashest.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) People with whom you're closely associated are likely to be more appreciative of your ideas than usual today. They should be, because they'll be good ones.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A financial matter about which you are concerned, looks like it's taking a turn for the better. However, you might still have to be patient a bit longer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A wise friend may offer you some sage advice today. You might not comprehend it when you first hear it, but after you mull it over, you'll appreciate its merit.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Progress can be made where your career is concerned today, but you'll have to take everything one step at a time. Don't rush and trip over your own shoestrings.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Mutual benefits can result today from a discussion with one who shares interests similar to yours. Each person has valuable information to offer the other.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You have a remarkable ability today for being able to transform outmoded ideas into something more functional. Put your talent to work.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The reason you may have been denied some information you're seeking is because you haven't asked the right questions to the right people.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) It looks like you may be able to make an improvement in your financial position today. It won't be mammoth, but it could make you feel a bit more secure.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

NO SWEAT ON THIS ONE, SIRE.
SORRY... I MADE AN ERROR HERE.
RRIP
SIR RODNEY VS THE VILLAGE SISSY
SIR RODNEY VS THE VILLAGE SMITHTY

25 Digging ore
36 "1984" author
37 Conclude
39 End of a pencil
40 Powerful
41 Metaphysical beings
43 Bout

45 Western Australia capital
47 The same
50 Deer
51 Eggs
53 Wide shoe size
54 Doctors' group

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EEK & MEK

By Howie Schneider

B. BAD WOLF REAL ESTATE
SALE STRAW CONDOS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. "APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS"
THIS RAIN IS A WHOLE MONTH BEHIND SCHEDULE!
NOW WE PROBABLY WON'T GET ANY FLOWERS UNTIL JUNE!
MAYBE IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS BEING A LEAP YEAR.

MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

"The leash is for you to take him for a walk, the umbrella is for the rain, and your wallet is for you to buy him a hamburger."

KIT N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright

I'M SORRY, BUT WE'RE ALL BOOKED UP. YOU MIGHT TRY THE STATUE DOWN THE STREET.

ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue

I GUESS WE DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE, DO WE?
NOPE! LET'S GO!
YIPPEE! WE MADE IT!
DO YOU THINK THAT ALLOSOURUS WILL TRY IT?
NAH! HE MAY BE DUMB, BUT HE ISN'T THAT DUMB!

WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli

HOW COME YOUR DAD DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING WHEN HE PASSED US?
HE'S MAD AT ME...
SOMETHING TO DO WITH ME PUTTING MARBLES IN HIS GOLF SHOES.

SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

UNIVERSITY CAP & GOWN

"We're running short. Make the organic chemistry final as tough as you can."

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane

Jason's lucky. He's goin' to visit his grandma in Pepsi-Cola, Florida.

CALVIN AND HOBBS

By Bill Watterson

HOBBS, LOOK! DAD GOT ME MY OWN PAIR OF LITTLE BINOCULARS!
NOW, THESE ARE HOURS?
AREN'T THEY GREAT?
I'LL SAY.
DAD SAID AS LONG AS I WAS GOING TO BREAK DAD'S BINOCULARS, I GOT TO AT LEAST BREAK MY OWN.
NOW WE CAN GO TO THE BEACH AND SEE IF I COULD GET SOME OF THOSE.
MAYBE I SHOULD BREAK DAD'S POWER TOOLS AND SEE IF I COULD GET SOME OF THOSE.

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves

I DON'T HAVE A LICENSE --- MY CAR AND I ARE JUST LIVING TOGETHER.

THE BORN LOSER

By Art Sansom

THERE'S NO DOUBT YOUR HUSBAND'S ALLERGY IS CAUSED BY LITTLE FELIX
NO! THAT'S TERRIBLE!
NO NEED TO WORRY... WE CAN FIND HIM A GOOD HOME
OH, THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY... BRUTUS IS OLD ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF!

GARFIELD

By Jim Davis

LET'S TAKE A WALK IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD, BOYS AND GIRLS, WOULD YOU LIKE THAT?
SURE, UNCLE ROY
HERE WE ARE OUTSIDE MY HOOD... HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HELP! BINKY THE CLOWN'S STEALING MY HOB CAPS!
IT MUST BE RATINGS WEEK

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schultz

DON'T YOU SOMETIMES WONDER HOW DOGS GOT TO BE THE HIGHEST DEVELOPED OF ALL LIFE FORMS ON THIS PLANET?
DON'T YOU EVER WONDER HOW DOGS GOT TO BE SO PERFECT?
BIRDS NEVER WONDER ABOUT ANYTHING.

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves

I DON'T HAVE A LICENSE --- MY CAR AND I ARE JUST LIVING TOGETHER.

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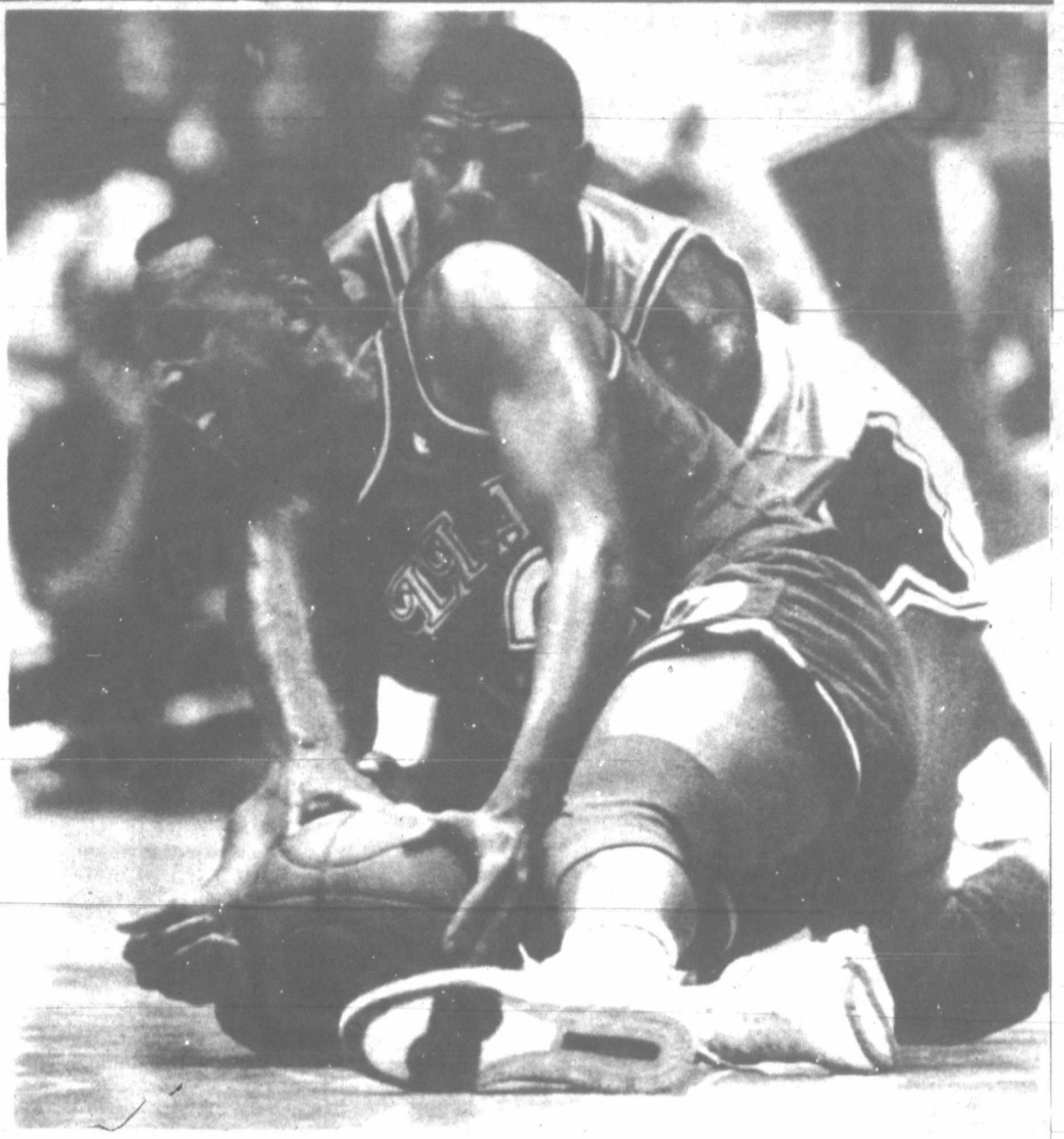
Sports

Lakers rout Mavericks

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Earlier in his career, Byron Scott was regarded by some critics as the weak link in the Los Angeles Lakers' lineup. But Scott, in his fifth NBA season, has improved continuously and quietly has become the Lakers' leading scorer. Wednesday night, Scott scored 30 points on 11-of-17 shooting to lead the Lakers to a 123-101 victory over Dallas and a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference finals. The best-of-seven series now shifts to Dallas for games Friday and Sunday. "My confidence level was high in the regular season and during the playoffs, it's skyrocketing. I felt so loose for this game," said Scott, who seemed plagued by self-doubt earlier in his career, particularly after he had some

lackluster playoff games. Scott, a 6-foot-4 shooting guard who's often overlooked in the shadow of point guard Magic Johnson, is the Lakers' leading scorer both in the regular season and the playoffs so far this year. He has bolstered his game by becoming effective on drives to the basket. He was hitting consistently from outside and on drives against the Mavericks in Game 2. "Over the whole year, defenders have been playing me for the drive," he said. "The way I've been shooting the ball, they have to defend that, too." "Now I can either drive or shoot it. They have to defend both. I have created more problems (for opponents)." Scott's scoring is a problem Dallas coach John MacLeod

would rather not have to deal with. "He's another weapon for them," MacLeod said. "He's been having an All-Star season. He's been on fire, playing really well, since training camp." "He's going to remember this year when he's old and retired. It's a banner year for him." Said Lakers coach Pat Riley: "Byron had a career year last season, and he's playing even better this year." "Byron is a young player and if he keeps improving, he's going to be the best off (shooting) guard in the league, if he isn't already. Of course, that's not counting Michael Jordan. He, like Earvin (Magic Johnson), is in a special class."



The Mavericks' Derek Harper slips to the floor.

Pistons click against Celtics

BOSTON (AP) — There were 5½ years of failure, 5½ years in which the Detroit Pistons lost every one of their 21 games in Boston Garden. But rarely, if ever, in those 21 games did Isiah Thomas get hot and score 35 points at the same time that the Celtics went cold and forgot the entire point of their offense. Boston, at its best when it plays patiently and works the ball inside, hurried shots from the outside in the second half Wednesday night. Thomas hit shots from all over and led Detroit to a 104-96 victory in the opener of the NBA's Eastern Conference finals. Having seized the homecourt advantage from the Celtics in the

best-of-seven series, the Pistons can gain a huge edge by winning tonight's second game at the Garden. The third and fourth games are scheduled for their Pontiac Silverdome home on Saturday and Monday afternoons. "In the playoffs, you don't really think about the (Celtics' home) winning streak," Detroit guard Vinnie Johnson said after the Pistons' first Garden victory since Dec. 19, 1982. "You just want to win the game. Now that the streak is over, it's great, but I'm more excited about winning the game." "It's real frustrating starting the series like this," said Boston's Larry Bird, who had 20 points. "You want to win and get

the first one under your belt." The Celtics, who led the NBA with a 52.1 shooting percentage during the regular season, made only 41.8 percent of their shots for the game and 35.6 percent in the second half. "On offense, we self-destruct sometimes," said Kevin McHale, who led Boston with 31 points on 13-for-17 shooting. "We had a stretch of about four times in a row in the fourth quarter where we didn't get a single good shot." Detroit had trouble guarding the 6-foot-10 McHale, but the Celtics rarely got the ball to him in the second half. He had 22 points with nine minutes left in the third quarter but took just four shots after that.

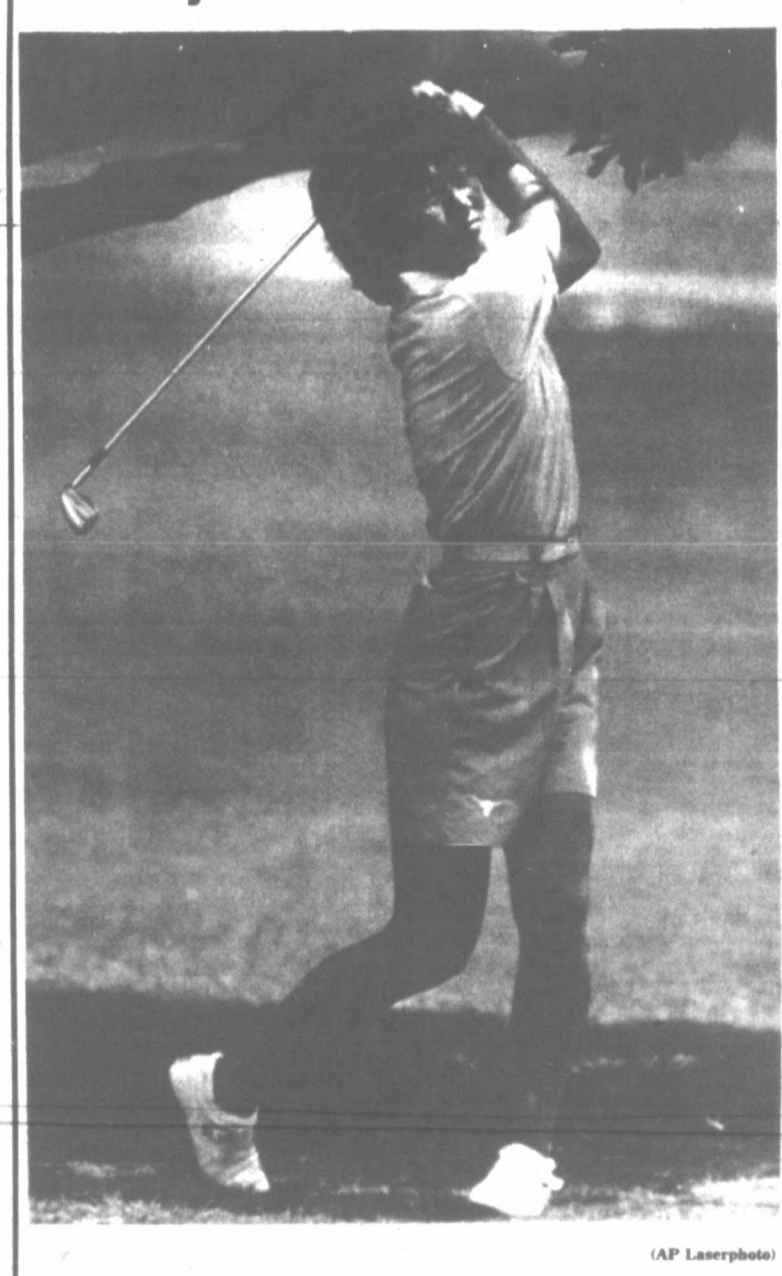
Pampa hopeful of landing AAU meet

By SONNY BOHANAN Sports Writer

Pampa has a great opportunity to host an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) track and field meet on Saturday, June 25. This meet would provide top-notch competition for Pampa and area athletes in the summer off-season, and would be a boon to the local economy as well. The West Texas Association, which is the region that would be included in the meet, extends from the top of the Texas panhandle, south to Midland and Odessa, and east to Wichita Falls. That's roughly one-quarter of the state, and it means some worthwhile summer competition for our athletes. The cost for competitors to participate in the meet is minimal, as compared to the cost of competing in Texas Athletic Congress (TAC) track meets. To be a part of the AAU meet, athletes must purchase a \$6 AAU card and pay a \$2 entry fee. Cardholders may compete in all of the AAU meets this summer, and the entry fee allows the competitors to participate in as many events as they like. The cost of competing in TAC meets is considerably higher. After purchasing a \$10 TAC card, the entrants must pay \$2 per event per athlete. The AAU is sponsored by the Junior Olympic program, and there will be several events that are not usually offered in area track meets, including javelin throw and decathlon. The top four finishers in each event will advance to the state meet in San Antonio on July 16. The top four in each event at state will qualify for the national meet in Lawrence, Kansas.

The meet will feature five age-group divisions: Bantam-10 and under, Midget-11 and 12, Junior-13 and 14, Intermediate-15 and 16, Senior-17 and 18. If all goes as planned, as many as 600-700 athletes, accompanied by hometown supporters, could turn out for the meet. That translates into a tremendous amount of business for Pampa and area hotels, motels, and restaurants. A meet of this size will require an enormous amount of preparation, and in order for Pampa to be the host city, numerous volunteers will be needed. Persons who are interested in participating either as athletes or volunteers are urged to contact Terry Bob Moore within the next week to ten days. He can be reached at 665-0071, or write to Box 1452, Pampa, Texas 79065. These next ten days will be the critical period in deciding if the meet will take place in Pampa. The community must show that there is adequate interest to support the venture. All of the Pampa High School facilities will be available for the meet, and plenty of coaches will be on hand, including Mike Shklar, Wendell Palmer, and Moore. Other volunteers are now needed to get the program off the ground. For the past ten years, the meet has been held in Borger. Since becoming president of the AAU, Moore has been trying to drum up enough support to move the meet to Pampa. Again, this is a great opportunity for the kids and the community, and your help is needed. Call Terry Bob Moore for more information.

Fairway shot



University of Texas golfer Michiko Hattori hits toward the green during Wednesday's first round of the NCAA women's golf championship at Las Cruces, N.M. Oklahoma State leads the field after the first day of the 72-hole tournament.

Duncan tops Rotary

Optimist roundup

Duncan pitcher Dennis Graham couldn't have helped himself out much better in a Major League (11-12) game Wednesday night. Graham was not only the winning pitcher in Duncan's 14-1 over Rotary, but he also hit a bases-loaded home run in the bottom of the fifth to wrap up the win. Graham, along with Shawn Hays, also had earlier home runs. Hays also added two singles and a double to Duncan's 13-hit attack. Graham pitched a five-hitter, striking out 11 and walking five. Kelley Dewey's single was the only hit for Rotary. Rene Armendariz, Eric Kirkpatrick and Jason Warren all had doubles and Jason Jones had a triple. Joel Monds, James Spencer and Jason Soukop each had a single for Duncan. Losing pitcher Eric Zamudio scored Rotary's only run when he walked, went to second on a passed ball, stole third and then came home on a passed ball. In T-Ball 7-8 year old action last night, Warner-Finney came from behind to defeat Danny's Market 17-8. Warner-Finney was trailing 7-6, but broke away with a six-run third inning to pick up its fourth win against no losses. Jarred Bowles, Amos Valmores, Leo Ramirez, Logan Stinnett and Josh Franklin were the top hitters for Warner-Finney. Bowles had two singles and an inside the park home run, Valmores had three singles, Ramirez had two singles and a triple, Stinnett had two singles and a triple, and Franklin had three singles. Leading hitters for Danny's Market were Eric Cobb, Jordan Fruge, Shellbie Allison and Danny McPherson with two singles apiece. Kory Nichell had two doubles, Preston Reed a double and single, Jeremy Knight two singles, and Shawn Young, two singles, for Warner-Finney. Preston Reed and Jarred Bowles played outstanding defense for Warner-Finney. Warner-Finney's next game is May 31 at 7:30 p.m. against Titan Specialties. In another T-Ball game, un-

beaten Wayne's Western Wear (5-0) defeated Malcolm Hinkle 21-11. In Minor League play last night, Chase Oilfield outlasted Moose Lodge 13-11, using clutch defense to win the game. With a runner on first and only one out in the bottom of the sixth inning, Bryan Waldrip and Andy Edmondson pulled off a double play. Waldrip caught Kerry Adams' line drive, then threw to Edmondson to double up the runner on first to end the game. Devin Lemons, T.J. Davis and Matt Uzman also played outstanding defense for the winners. The win improved Chase's record to 5-2 overall and 3-0 in league play. Ben Padgett was Chase's top hitter with a pair of singles while Donnie Middleton led Moose with a double and single. Also collecting base hits for Chase were Bryan Waldrip, Kory Harris, Andy Edmondson and Devin Lemons. David Gamblin had a double and Adam Scoggins a single for Moose. Winning pitcher was Kory Harris, who came on in relief of starter Brian Waldrip in the fourth and struck out four, walked eight and allowed two hits and three runs. Losing pitcher was relief pitcher Eric Ritchey, who relieved starter David Gamblin. Ritchey struck out five, walked four, and gave up 10 runs on four hits. Holmes won over Thomas Auto 9-5 in another Minor League game played Wednesday. Winning pitcher was Todd Finney, who also had two home runs and two singles. Josh Starnes had two singles for Holmes. Billy Thomas had a double and Brandon Osborn a single for Thomas. With the score tied 4-4 after five innings, Holmes won the game with a five-run outburst in the sixth. Finney was superb in relief as he struck out nine, walked two and didn't give up a hit in three innings. Holmes improved its record to 4-0 record.

New sports writer welcomes tidbits

In Stride

By Sonny Bohanan



As Earl Davis of the "Howdy New Neighbor" welcoming committee has just visited me here at the Pampa News office with an official welcome to Pampa, I believe that I am now a full-fledged member of the community. Although I've never lived in Pampa before, I was born here back in 1963. I grew up in Amarillo, and only left there to attend the University of Texas at Arlington. After a four-year exodus, I'm back to the hinterlands of my birth in the capacity of sports writer for the Pampa News. As the new sports writer, it is my job to cover sports — in all shapes and forms — in the outlying towns near Pampa. My beat encompasses Allison, Bricoco, Canadian, Groom, Kelton, Lefors, McLean, Miami, Mobeetie, Wheeler, and White Deer. I welcome any and all contributions, ideas, criticisms and tidbits of information from coaches, athletes and citizens of these

towns to make my column more enjoyable and well-rounded. Feel free to give me a call or drop a line at the Pampa News office about any upcoming events. Following the whirlwind of the state track meet, I'm casting about for something to get my hooks into. And, yes, I may occasionally end my sentences in prepositions. After this initial "get-acquainted" column, I will hereafter fill this space once or twice a week with stories on the area, college, or national sports scene as the need arises. Living in Arlington for four years has made me a Texas Ran-

gers fan by osmosis. I worked as a beer vendor for two seasons at Arlington Stadium, which translated into a free ticket to all of their home games. That's a sure-fire method of becoming a Ranger fan. You've got to be willing to take a certain amount of abuse to be a Dallas Cowboys or Texas Rangers fan, but with the Rangers currently occupying second place in the AL West, it becomes considerably easier. When they're hunkering in the basement, as they often do, you learn quickly who the real fans are. I tend to enjoy high-school sports more than professional sports, because I'd rather see a game in person than watch it on television. With the exception of major-league baseball games, where a decent seat can be had for \$5, buying a ticket to most professional sports events is comparable to refinancing your car. A sport that I'd like to find out more about in this area is amateur boxing. I don't know if any of the nearby towns still have teams, but when I was a kid boxing for the Lion's Club in Amarillo, I know that Borger, Stinnett, and Lefors all had boxing programs. Give me a call if you know anything about area amateur boxing. Anyway, I'm the new sports writer for the Pampa News. I've enjoyed myself so far in Pampa, and I hope you'll be seeing and hearing a lot more of me. As my editor says, when things get slow around here, we get to lying too much. But bear with me. Just let me hit my stride, that's all.

Golf clinic scheduled here

Frank McCullough's annual golf clinic is scheduled for May 30 through June 3 at Clarendon College-Pampa Center. The morning session (8 to 10 a.m.) will be primarily for junior golfers (10-14 years old) and the evening session (6 to 8 p.m.) will be confined to adults. Cost of the clinic is \$40 and golf clubs will be provided if students don't have their own. Hereford wins regional opener SNYDER — Hereford came from behind for a 7-6 win over Everman Tuesday in the first game of a regional semifinal playoff series. Game two in the best of three 4A baseball series will be played at 2 p.m. in Abilene. Winning pitcher was Jason Scott, who improved his mound record to 11-1. Scott gave up eight hits while striking out nine and walking four. Roger McCracken and Scott belted home runs for the Whitefacs. Hereford extended its record to 24-3 while Everman fell to 20-10.

Policeman finds cherished role in Special Olympics

By CHERYL COGGINS FRINK
Austin American-Statesman

AUSTIN (AP) — He's pretty much done it all — the homicide scene, the domestic disturbances, the law enforcement et cetera that tend to define the life of a senior police officer.

But he didn't really sob on the job, didn't laugh with wild abandon until a few years ago when he was commissioned as an official "hugger." That's when Austin police officer Paul Brick discovered a few things his law enforcement work had not made obvious, those few precious things that only those who step inside the world of Special Olympics ever learn.

"It's the best entry job I've ever seen in my life," said Brick of his role as hugger, an individual who greets Special Olympians with congratulatory hugs after every athletic event.

"It takes no experience, no special education and no coordination. And even if you start off with a closed heart, well, I've never met anyone who left that stadium without an open heart," said Brick of the annual athletic competition for people with mental retardation.

"Once people have participated, we don't have any trouble getting them back," Brick said. "It doesn't wear off for a long time."

This year, Brick is helping organize the Law Enforcement Torch Run, an event that taps the

running talents of about 300 officers from around the state to generate funds for the Special Olympics.

The officers, who have earned pledges for each mile or flat donations for their participation, began their run from more than 20 Texas cities early this week. On Wednesday afternoon, the officers will meet in Austin, where they will move into formation at the Hyatt hotel and jog north on Congress Avenue to the steps of the Capitol. Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox will lead the procession.

AT&T and the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas are working with Special Olympics to sponsor the run.

The officers, who hope to raise \$50,000 for the Olympics, are among the 3,000 volunteers who make the Texas Olympics extra special. The three-day Texas event, which is the largest state meet for Special Olympics, begins Wednesday with competition during the day and opening ceremonies in the evening at Memorial Stadium.

"The opening ceremonies are when we try to get the athletes pumped up so they're really excited about doing their best," said Tad Druart, program director for Texas Special Olympics.

"More than anything else, the opening ceremonies make the athlete feel special. When they look up and see the stands full, it makes them feel that people really care about them," Druart said.

Down by the water



Le Le and Nan Nan check out the water in their quarters at the Toledo, Ohio, Zoo recently at their official debut. The Chinese giant

pandas drew more than 4,275 people on opening day, according to zoo officials.

(AP Laserphoto)

Feds fine hunter in East Texas lion safaris

HOUSTON (AP) — A man's land is his private kingdom in Texas, but the law stepped in when Larry Wilburn's island lion hunts expanded to the tamer public marshlands of East Texas.

"We don't want to put constraints on what he can do on his own property," said Ed White, spokesman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "But we are concerned with safety."

Wilburn says he has led paying hunters on six lion safaris to his 400-acre island wild kingdom this year. He won't say where he got the lions.

Government officials became involved when two lion carcasses were found on government land across a roughly half-mile-wide shallow river from Wilburn's isolated island. The government land had been purchased for a reservoir project about 40 miles east of Houston and was being managed by the corps.

At least one of the lions was believed to have been released, hunted and skinned on government property, said Charles Craddock, a Wallisville corps ranger who normally concerns himself with monitoring compliance with grazing and oilfield leases.

Lacking regulations against lion hunts, Wilburn was ticketed with disposing of an animal carcass on government land, and conducting a business for profit on government land, which together carried a \$125 fine, White said.

In addition, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ranger who accompanied Craddock to Wilburn's taxidermy shop April 29 fined Wilburn \$110 for not having a license to mount migratory wildfowl.

Wilburn says he paid the fines promptly, and says the publicity helped both his taxidermy business and his game hunting business, which usually involves bow hunting for sheep, goats and wild hogs.

"I would just as soon not have had the publicity or the fines," said Wilburn. "This way, I got both."

To federal officials, the idea of lions roaming free followed by hunters with high-powered weapons on land usually used by duck hunters and nature buffs was unnerving.

"I had a long talk with him," Craddock said. "He indicated to me that he was not going to hunt any more lions down there."

Wilburn said the lions were brought to the island in cages, let loose and then tracked across the private property in hunts lasting as little as 20 minutes. His price list for the hunts ranged from \$2,500 to \$3,000.

"Once that lion is released, there is no catching him back again," Wilburn said. "I'm obligated to kill him. I can't have the liability of a lion running around."

"They made it sound like we were releasing lions in that part of the country, hoping we'd find them," Wilburn said. "When the cat was released, it never left our sight."

Wilburn said his hunters had no preconceived notions about the hunt.

"They knew they weren't in Africa, they knew they weren't hunting for a free lion," Wilburn said. "If they wanted that, they could go to Africa."

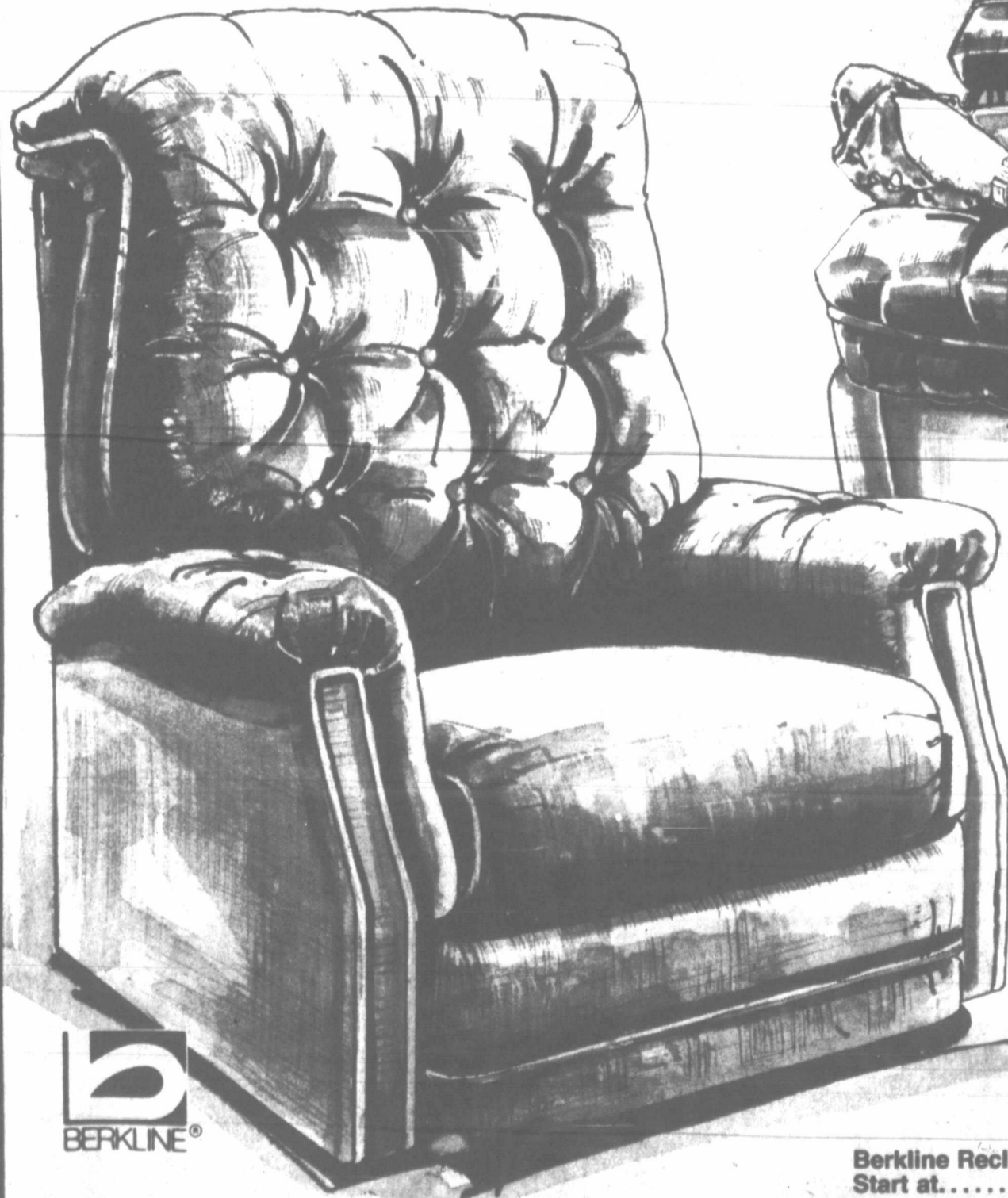
Oddly, the case coincided with the unrelated trial in San Antonio of a lion owner whose beast mauled an 8-year-old girl in a Houston flea market last October. The lion later was destroyed.

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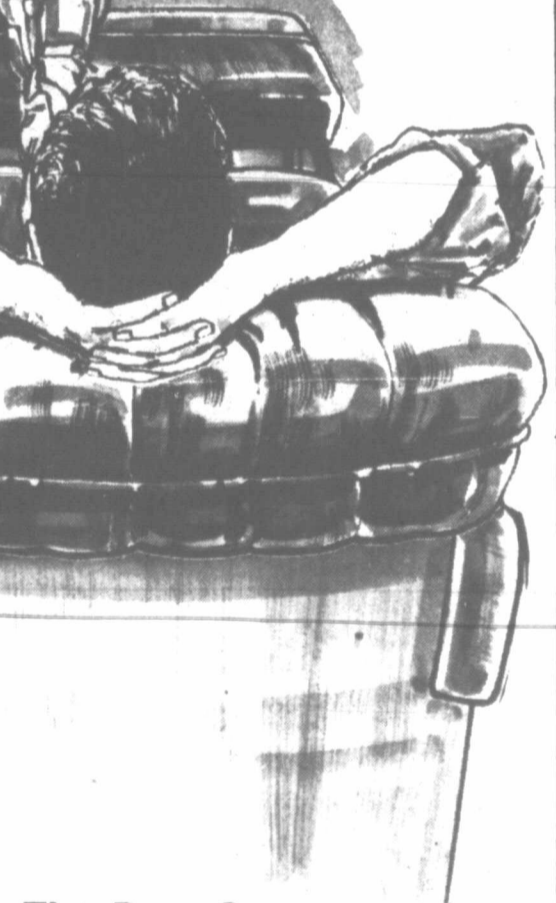
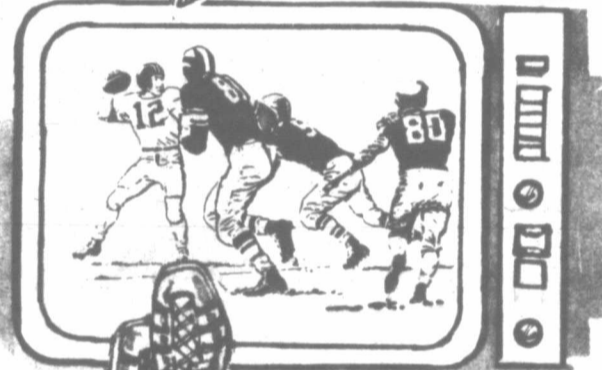
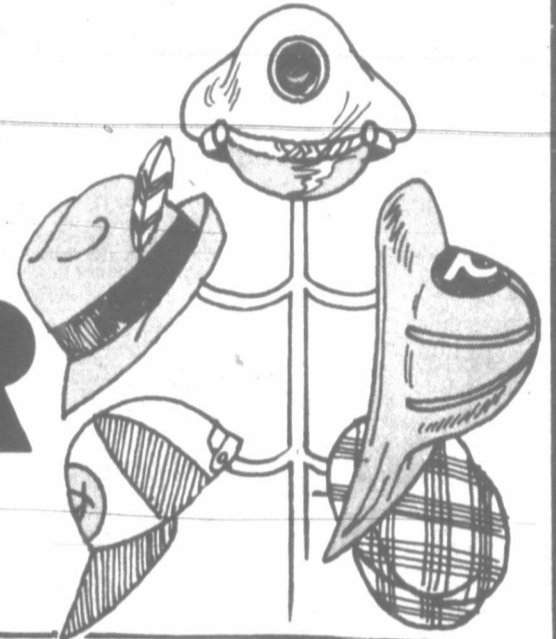


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