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FEBRUARY 23, 1989

THURSDAY

Twice as far



(Staff photo by Duane A. Laverty)

Julie Massick, left, and her mother, Kathy, work on posters and banners cheering on the Pampa High School Harvester basketball team as they prepare to go to Lubbock for Friday's area playoff game with Andrews. With the slogan, "Twice as far, twice as many," school officials are encouraging

Pampa residents to attend the 8 p.m. game at Coronado High School in Lubbock. High school students have the opportunity to travel to Lubbock by bus for \$2, with today being the final chance for sign-ups for the group travel.

Tower faces problems on confirmation voting

By DAVID ESPO
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Armed Services Committee headed for a possible vote today on John Tower's nomination as defense secretary, with majority Democrats bluntly challenging President Bush's claim that an FBI report swept away allegations against the nominee.

Sen. James Exon, D-Neb., appearing today on ABC's *Good Morning America*, reiterated his plan to vote against Tower's confirmation.

"There remain some concerns in my mind about Senator Tower's personal habits ... Certainly the report does not give a clean bill of health to the personal habits of John Tower," Exon said.

Armed Services Chairman Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said Wednesday he disagreed with Bush's view that the FBI report cleared Tower. "That's the president's opinion ... That is not my opinion," he said after chairing a three-hour closed-door committee session to review Tower's nomination.

But Sen. William Cohen, R-Maine, a Tower supporter, complained on ABC this morning that the former Texas senator "has been maligned, he has been slandered, he has been held up to ridicule. I think irresponsibly ... I think it's very unfair what's happened."

Tower has been battling allegations of womanizing and excessive drinking, and also faces questions stemming from his consulting work for defense contractors before his nomination. Even his closest supporters concede he had a drinking problem in the 1970s, but they say it no longer exists.

"What we're seeing here is a situation in which members of the Senate, based upon what I think is fairly thin allegations, are going to substitute their judgment for that of the president of the United States," Cohen said.

Exon said he hoped the committee would vote sometime today, predicting the margin there and on the Senate floor would be "quite close."

"It is true that about 90 percent of all the charges (against Tower) have been garbage," Exon acknowledged. "The 10 percent that remain are of concern to me and many other members of the committee."

Nunn said the panel would meet in private again today, and hoped to hold a public roll call later in

the afternoon. But he also said the lawmakers want additional material from the White House before it votes, as well as a transcript of a separate investigation by a House subcommittee looking into alleged security lapses in an arms control delegation in Geneva that included Tower in the mid-1980s.

Congressional sources said the House panel heard testimony from a former secretary in the arms control delegation who said she felt intimidated by White House staff in advance of her appearance.

These sources, who asked not to be identified by name, said Deborah Baker told the panel that on Tuesday she met with White House staff aides, who stressed that Tower is the president's nominee and emphasized the serious implications of her testimony.

Calls to Baker, who is employed at the White House, were not immediately returned.

Nunn said some of the material being sought from the White House was "odds and ends." But another lawmaker said the committee still has not received some material relating to the precise nature of Tower's work as a defense consultant.

Nunn led a parade of Democrats who disagreed with Bush's declaration a day earlier that the FBI report had "gunned down" the allegations against Tower. "The president's entitled to his view but I think most people reading that would not come to that same conclusion," Nunn said.

Democratic Sen. Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico said Bush had been "overgenerous" in his characterization, and Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., said it was not "an accurate characterization."

The committee's senior Republican, Sen. John Warner of Virginia, said the FBI report left room for "reasonable, honest, credible differences of opinion."

Several Democrats said Wednesday they were particularly concerned about Tower's drinking habits, and one, Sen. Exon, said his concerns would lead him to vote against the nomination.

"I've made a decision, notwithstanding the expertise of John Tower on defense matters, that after careful consideration it's my considered judgment that we should look elsewhere for a secretary of defense," Exon told reporters. He predicted a close committee vote.

Tokyo shuts down for funeral

By DENIS D. GRAY
Associated Press Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Shinto priests purified Emperor Hirohito's resting place and workers swept leaves off the procession route today on the eve of the grand state funeral that will virtually shut down this capital of 12 million people.

Friday's ancient ceremony for Hirohito — emperor during a devastating war and a dazzling economic recovery — has been described by Japanese officials as the largest gathering of international leaders in modern times.

Making his first trip overseas as president, George Bush held a series of meetings today with several of the 163 heads of state,

royalty and other government representatives scheduled to attend the daylong funeral.

Opponents of Japan's imperial system staged at least three peaceful rallies today, including one with placards that caricatured and equated Hirohito and Nazi leader Adolf Hitler.

Accompanied by his wife Barbara, Bush lunched with President Francois Mitterrand of France and met with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Foreign Ministry sources said Bush and Takeshita focused on international issues. Takeshita had visited Washington just three weeks ago.

Completing Bush's schedule today were brief talks with Jordan's King Hussein, President

Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, President Chaim Herzog of Israel and leaders of Portugal and Thailand.

Although White House officials said none would be decision-making meetings, Bush's talks with the Middle Eastern leaders had added significance because of recent Soviet peace initiatives in the region. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has nearly completed a Middle East swing.

The "funeral diplomacy" is to continue until Bush's departure Saturday for visits to China and South Korea.

Protests by Japanese anti-monarchy groups and the possibility of international terrorist attacks against the galaxy of

See TOKYO, Page 2

Missing person search conducted



French

Pampa police and Gray County sheriff's deputies are searching today for a man suffering from Alzheimer's disease who wandered off from his family Wednesday evening.

Robert Eldredge French, 66, 1805 Beech, was last seen at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday near Coffee Street. Sheriff's deputies also had reports that French may have been spotted on Hwy. 60 east of the city.

"I don't know if he's had a spell. He does tend to get disoriented," said his wife, Frances French.

French also suffers from a condition known as Adam Stoke's Syndrome, which causes an occasional heart malfunction.

He is described as being 5 feet, 9 inches tall, weighing 135 pounds, with light brown/gray collar-length hair and blue eyes. He was wearing a blue telephone

company cap, safety glasses, blue jeans, a brown plaid shirt, tan vest and brown boots when last seen. French also has three front teeth missing due to a recent fall.

His family said he would be hungry and cold after spending the night without food or shelter.

According to family members, French enjoys looking in dumpsters for aluminum cans. They worry he may have crawled into a dumpster somewhere in an effort to keep warm and could not climb back out.

French retired from Southwestern Bell in 1986 after coming down with the disease.

"He is nonviolent," Mrs. French said. "He will just be cold and hungry."

If French is spotted, the Pampa Police Department or Gray County Sheriff's Department should be notified immediately.

Look, Ma, no hands!



(Staff photo by Duane A. Laverty)

Tiffany Phillips, first-grade student, sips her cola during a celebration Wednesday afternoon for the Latch-Key program at Wilson Elementary School. The Latch-Key

program has been in operation at the school for the past five years, offering a place for students to remain after school until working parents can pick them up.

Businesses, farm operations reminded to report chemicals

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

A new federal law is requiring all businesses, schools and agricultural operations to report to their respective county officials if they store at least 55 gallons or 500 pounds of hazardous chemicals.

Gray County Judge Carl Kennedy has appointed Steve Vaughn, director of Pampa emergency management, to head up the local program.

Vaughn and Capt. Kelvin Randall, Title III implementation officer for the Pampa Fire Department, held a press conference Wednesday afternoon at the central fire station to discuss the new laws.

"We want to inform people about the Texas Hazardous Chemical Communication Act. If they have 55 gallons or 500 pounds, that's the triggering mechanism. They can contact us to follow-up on it," Randall said.

At least 360 chemicals are on

the government list of items that must now be registered with the state and local government to comply with the law.

"One of the things we've been saying is we have one of the highest compliance rates in the country. We're hoping this will show that's true," Vaughn said.

He stated that two major industrial accidents involving hazardous chemicals sparked the current law.

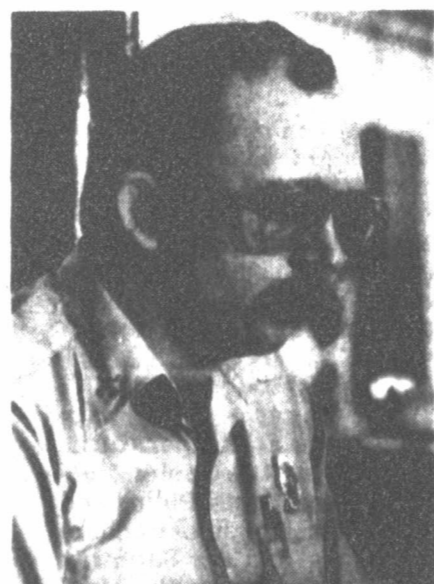
"The Bhopal, India, chemical leak was the beginning. The chemical industry went before Congress and said nothing like that could happen here. Then in Institute, W.Va., there was a Dupont plant leak.

"The plant knew 22 minutes before they reported it to authorities. When this came back before Congress, the chemical industry supported new legislation this time," Vaughn said.

The new Title III rules protect the public's right to know about hazardous chemicals in their

area as well as assuring that local firefighters are prepared for any eventuality regarding a chemical accident.

"The legislation is trying to keep anything like Bhopal or Institute from happening again.



Randall

And if an incident did occur, local government would have planned and exercised and could get warnings out to the public," Vaughn said.

If the chemicals stored on a farm or at a business are known



Vaughn

in advance and the Fire Department has been given accurate maps of the facility, Vaughn said, it improves response time and reduces the threat of serious chemical accidents.

Randall said the law also protects the public and keeps them informed.

"It gives the opportunity to the public, if they are concerned about chemicals, to find out what is stored next to them. We need them to submit a request in writing. There is a section (in the law) that protects trade secrets, but we do know what components are stored," Randall said.

Vaughn and Randall pointed out that the new law requires all companies, no matter their size, as well as governmental bodies like schools and cities, to keep the media informed, through their filings, so the public is never unaware of chemical dangers.

Randall said the penalty for not filing with the state and the county could be fines of as much as \$25,000 per day per chemical.

"We do not act as an enforcement agency," Vaughn said. "We are a support agency."

The Environmental Protection Agency will begin to level fines against those businesses or agricultural operations that do not file possibly as soon as six months from now, state officials have told the Fire Department.

"This involves community right-to-know laws. Not to scare them, but to inform them. What they want is compliance, not to level fines," Randall said.

In some smaller counties where no emergency management team is in place, the men said, businesses and farms should notify the county judge regarding stored chemicals and the proper ways to file.

The cost to register chemicals is \$50 for each list of up to 24 chemicals.

Local businesses and agricultural operations that store chemicals should contact the Pampa Fire Department for more information on filing.

Texas/Regional

Committee OKs bills for college mergers with UT, A&M

By JACK KEEVER
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Bills that would bring five schools from the poor, rapidly growing South Texas area into the rich University of Texas and Texas A&M University systems have been approved by the Senate Education Committee.

The 10-0 vote on each bill Wednesday indicated that there should be little, if any, difficulty in winning approval of the 31-member Senate.

"This is a great day for South Texas," said Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi.

One bill would merge Pan American University's two institutions at Edinburg and Brownsville with UT. The other would make Texas A&I University at Kingsville, Corpus Christi State University and Laredo State University, which are in the University System of South Texas, part of the A&M system.

The proposed mergers, which already have been approved by the schools' governing boards, are in response to legislator and citizen complaints that

South Texas — a region of 1.5 million people with high illiteracy and school dropout rates — has been shortchanged in higher education.

Truan said South Texas now has only one doctoral program and no state professional schools.

Blas Martinez of Laredo, president of the South Texas system board of directors, said, "The people of South Texas have waited patiently for many years to be brought up to the mainstream of higher education. Our grandparents tolerated the inequities, our parents requested the change, and our children demand it."

UT regent Chairman Jack Blanton said of the UT-Pan American merger, "This is probably the most important thing that will happen to me during my time on the University of Texas Board of Regents."

Truan said the proposed A&M merger "is the result of the aspirations of an entire region which has historically received nothing but the short end of the stick when it comes to educational resources."

Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, asked Blanton how he thought the merger with Pan American's schools would benefit UT, which is the state's largest and richest university.

"We simply recognize that the Hispanic leadership in this state is very important to our future," Blanton said. "It's important to us today, it was yesterday, and it will be even more so to our children and their children."

Committee Chairman Carl Parker said, "I believe from your remarks that it is the intent of the board of regents and administration of the University of Texas to take this new member of the family in as a full participating member of the family and not the stepchild."

"That's exactly our unanimous attitude, and it should be no other way," Blanton said.

Nat Lopez of Harlingen, Pan American regent chairman, said of the UT merger, "We think it's going to be terrific for Pan American, and it's going to be a tremendous opportunity for the Valley as a whole."

Pan American at Edinburg, which has a predominantly Hispanic enrollment of 11,200, would be known as the University of Texas-Pan American. The Brownsville campus, with a 1988 enrollment of 1,500, would be known as the University of Texas at Brownsville.

The schools proposed for merger with the A&M system would retain their current names.

The committee also approved proposals that would:

- Establish Pan American at Brownsville as an upper-level institution with authority to design its own curriculum and award its own degrees. Pan American at Edinburg is a four-year university.

- Direct the governing board of Laredo State University to pursue establishment of a graduate school of international trade.

- Create a committee to study making Laredo State a four-year college.

Truan said he would introduce separate bills to create a law school at Texas A&I and to make Corpus Christi State a four-year school.



(AP Laserphoto)

Freddie Marquez-Rodriguez of Managua, Nicaragua, shows his documents as he seeks asylum in U.S.

INS turning down most asylum pleas

By JOEL WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

BAYVIEW (AP) — America's back door has a new lock and no welcome mat. Central Americans applying for political asylum are learning here this week.

Fewer than 1 percent who have tried to obtain refugee status have gotten it and more than 100 have been jailed under a get-tough policy that began Tuesday to weed out "frivolous" applications before the immigrants travel further into the country.

The same-day service policy calls for the immediate arrest and detention of rejected asylum applicants, who are placed in deportation proceedings and kept in a detention center.

Of more than 300 who applied the first two days, only two were granted refugee status Tuesday and none made the grade Wednesday.

Commissioner Alan C. Nelson of the Immigration and Naturalization Service announced the new procedure in Brownsville on Monday. He declared its intent was to deter 100,000 Central Americans who he said otherwise would enter the southern tip of Texas this year with unfounded asylum claims.

INS officials said Wednesday it was too early to declare a trend but that the sharp drop in applicants, from more than 200 to 51, indicated the plan was deterring unqualified applicants.

"We can only speculate that the word has gotten out and many of those coming for purely economic reasons are not coming any more," said INS Harlingen District spokeswoman Virginia Kice.

"Maybe we can put ourselves out of business," said Omer G. Sewell, INS district director. "I hope so."

But immigration attorney Linda Yanez said immigrants will merely go underground.

"My guess is that most people are probably going to just take their chances and get apprehended," said Yanez, who helped organize attorneys to provide free representation for those denied asylum under the new program.

"If they get apprehended," Yanez said, "then they're before an immigration judge (to submit asylum applications), where they're going to get a fair hearing, as opposed to this kangaroo court that they're conducting over there."

Immigration officials said some Central Americans may try to cross into the United States west of the Brownsville area, where patrols have not been stepped up.

The Border Patrol has added 100 agents to the state's southern tip, said Silvestre Reyes, chief of the patrol's McAllen Sector.

Processing of asylum applications previously took weeks and involved relaying information to

and from Washington. Immigrants who were denied asylum were freed on their own recognition while awaiting appeals or deportation.

Political asylum is granted to those fleeing persecution. INS officials contend that most Central Americans are here to better themselves economically, and do not qualify for asylum.

More than 40,000 people have applied for asylum in southern Texas since the INS noted a dramatic increase in Central American applicants last spring. A total of 631 applied Monday, the last day they could travel further into the United States to pursue their cases.

The agency has added extra staff and brought in State Department officials to issue on-the-spot asylum decisions. Officials say it will take several weeks to bring 500 federal workers to the area to fully implement the program.

The INS said 118 single adults denied asylum on Tuesday were detained at the INS Port Isabel Service Processing Center, a minimum-security prison 15 miles from the border city of Brownsville. They were held for deportation under bonds of \$1,000 to \$4,000 and issued orange prison jumpsuits.

Freddie Marquez-Rodriguez, 20, said he left Managua out of fear of being drafted into its military.

"I know that if I go back, I'll probably be put in jail for 30 years because I left without serving in the army," Marquez-Rodriguez said Wednesday after being denied asylum. He plans to appeal his claim, but said he will have to stay in jail because he doesn't have \$4,000 for his bond.

For Richard Jesus Rivera, prison ended a five-day journey from his home in Ulsulután, El Salvador.

"I don't have the money for the bond. But I hope that my aunt in New York might be able to send it to me. I don't want to go back to El Salvador because there is too much danger because of the fighting and besides, there aren't any jobs," Rivera said Wednesday.

Single adults are kept in the prison, while family groups are sent to an American Red Cross shelter in Brownsville, where they must answer daily roll calls under the auspices of the Justice Department's Community Relations Service.

Those sent to the shelter on Tuesday totaled 115.

Another 16 on Tuesday were issued "intents to deny" asylum, and given two weeks to find documentation to bolster their border-line cases, according to the INS.

The two granted asylum the first day were a 32-year-old former construction worker from Managua, who plans to settle in Miami, and a 65-year-old Nicaraguan businessman and accountant living in Brownsville, according to the INS.

Insurance officials deny poor regulation

By SCOTT ROTHSCHILD
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Members of the State Board of Insurance denied much of the testimony of a former high-ranking agency official, who said the insurance industry enjoys little state oversight.

Lee Powell, a former deputy commissioner at the insurance agency, testified Wednesday before a state Senate subcommittee. He said that some 15 insurance agents were writing hundreds of thousands of bogus policies and that when he passed this information up the chain of command at the agency, nothing was done.

During two hours of testimony, he also complained of private communications between board members and insurance company representatives, lack of communication between staff members, and an inept bureaucracy that failed to act promptly to try and rescue financially troubled insurance carriers.

"Who's regulating who?" asked Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock, chairman of the State Affairs panel.

"I don't know," said Powell. "We weren't regulating anyone."

But board members who attended the meeting dismissed many of Powell's claims. "I don't know but what the man is hallucinating," said Board Chairman Edwin J. Smith Jr.

Board member David Thornberry said, "Lee Powell, technically, was a very good examiner. But Lee Powell does not know what's going on throughout the agency."

Powell, employed 13 years by the state agency charged with regulating the insurance industry, submitted his resignation recently because, he said, "I didn't feel I could operate under an environment when I knew the laws of Texas were being broken."

Powell also said five or six people bankrupted their insurance companies because they robbed the company's assets to prop up

their teetering savings and loans.

"Many rules, many laws are enacted at the behest of the insurance industry. The companies have little or no respect for regulatory officials," Powell said.

He said there was probably no criminal intent behind the lack of oversight of the insurance industry, but added, "Many people there don't care. Floating along is easier than becoming involved."

Powell said there are about 15 known insurance agents peddling false policies and bilking unsuspecting policyholders, but that the board has failed to take action.

But Thornberry said cases have been brought to the district attorney against some of the people that Powell suspects, while others, he said, Powell had incoherently fingered through guilt by association.

Powell said once he was summoned by board member Thornberry to a meeting in which Thornberry directed Powell to re-examine an insurance com-

pany's records after the company had complained of the initial examination. A representative from the company was present at the meeting, Powell said.

But Thornberry said Powell misinterpreted the meeting. Thornberry said he was asked to straighten out the matter after a state insurance commissioner in Utah complained they couldn't get a straight answer from Powell.

The company representative was at the meeting, Thornberry said, because they needed company approval for the funds to complete the examination.

Thornberry also denied any wrongdoing when he met an insurance company representative at a seeking in New Orleans, who was seeking a license to do business in Texas.

Thornberry said it was a chance introduction through a friend. He said he doesn't know if the company ever pursued its intent to work in Texas.

But Powell said he believes such a meeting was improper.

Overall auto insurance premiums to drop

AUSTIN (AP) — Automobile insurance premiums will drop about \$11.4 million statewide under a rate change adopted by the State Board of Insurance.

That figure means overall rates will decrease an average of 0.3 percent. But drivers who only purchase the required basic liability insurance will see a 13.1 percent increase.

"The presentations showed that was, in our view, the most suitable change," Board Chairman Edwin J. Smith Jr. said Wednesday after the 3-0 approval.

The new rates take effect June 1, and represent baseline rates, meaning insurance carriers can deviate up or down from the rates with board approval.

Insurance industry representatives, who had requested a 6.5 percent rate increase, were disappointed the board adopted its staff recommendation.

"It's disappointing that the board continues to ignore that their staff model is flawed," said Richard Geiger, of the Texas Auto Insurance Service Office. The model is used to calculate proposed rate changes.

But Kay Doughty, general counsel of the Office of Consumer Protection, praised the board's decision.

"I'm pleased that they didn't grant the full increase the industry asked for. We obviously didn't think it was justified," Doughty said.

The major dispute centered on

the amount of expenses insurance carriers claim when calculating a rate change, and investment income earned by the carrier.

Insurance board staff members said they recommended the 0.3 percent rate decrease because insurance carriers will be able to make up for the lower profits through investment earnings.

Chairman Smith and other board members said studying expense factors could possibly be considered at a hearing separate from a rate request.

"It would be a real plus for us and a real plus for the consumers of Texas if we can get them to take a real serious look at that issue," Doughty said.

Under the rate changes, liability coverage will increase 14.8 percent. Of that increase, the basic insurance coverage required by law would increase 13.1 percent. But physical damage coverage will decrease 18.5 percent for a total liability and physical damage decrease of 0.3 percent.

Coverage for a low- to medium-priced car driven to and from

work with no male driver under 25-years-old and no female driver under 21-years-old would cost the following under the new rates as compared with the current rates:

- In Amarillo, a comprehensive policy will cost \$524, down \$121. Basic liability will cost \$176, an

increase of \$10.

- In Houston, a comprehensive policy will cost \$677, down \$47. Basic liability will cost \$282, an increase of \$52.

- In Dallas, a comprehensive policy will cost \$733, down \$49. Basic liability will cost \$315.

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Viewpoints

The Pampa News

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We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not a political grant from government, and that men have the right to take moral action to preserve their life and property for themselves and others.

Freedom is neither license nor anarchy. It is control and sovereignty of oneself, no more, no less. It is, thus, consistent with the coveting commandment.

Louise Fletcher
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Bush getting used to being president

George Bush appears to be getting the hang of this "presidential thing," as he might call it. He raised the idea of a new tax on savings accounts, a "trial balloon" immediately riddled with anti-aircraft fire. And he sent to Congress a tax-cut package that would boost investment and help the poor. And though some are already attacking the plan, it has at least a chance of being written into law. Bush is learning that Americans love tax cuts and won't tolerate tax increases. The plan includes:

- A cut in the capital-gains tax from 28 percent to 15 percent. This would encourage investors to finance new businesses and industries, thus providing more jobs. And the 15 percent rate would mean about \$10 billion a year in more revenue for the government, brought in by the flood of new investment, according to Harvard professor Lawrence Lindsey.

- We've seen this before. In 1969, under the sponsorship of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the capital-gains tax rate was raised from 25 percent to 49 percent. Capital investment in new small companies with growth potential plunged from \$171 million in 1969 to \$10 million in 1975. No wonder we ended up with a decade of stagflation. But in 1978 the rate was cut to 28 percent; and in 1981, to 20 percent. The ensuing flood of new investments contributed to the economic boom of the last seven years. And from 1987 to 1985, tax revenues from the capital-gains tax jumped 184 percent, despite — or rather because of — the tax cut. (In 1986, the rate was bumped back up to its current 28 percent.)

- Creation of enterprise zones, long a favorite of Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Jack Kemp when he was in the House of Representatives. Now Kemp will have a chance to put his idea into practice. The enterprise zones would create tax-free and reduced-regulation areas in the nation's slums. No taxes would be "lost," since these areas are no-man's lands that don't generate taxes anyway. But the new businesses will bring life back to the burned-out areas.

Kemp's hardest task may be convincing state and local governments to adopt concurrent enterprise-zone laws. Enterprise zones won't work if the burden of federal taxes and control is lifted but the sometimes greater burden of state and local taxes and control remains.

- A \$1,000 tax credit for child care, plus a \$1,000 grant for families earning less than \$10,000 a year. A better plan would have applied the tax cut to all families, even if they don't use child care. Why discriminate against families whose mother chooses to stay at home? Still, this program is better than the vast government babysitting bill proposed on Capitol Hill.

Bush should work to raise the personal income-tax exemption, which includes exemptions for children, from \$2,000 to \$6,000, the amount it was (taking into account inflation) in 1960. Families themselves know best how to provide for children; government just has to stop feeding its giant maw by stealing food from the mouths of babes.

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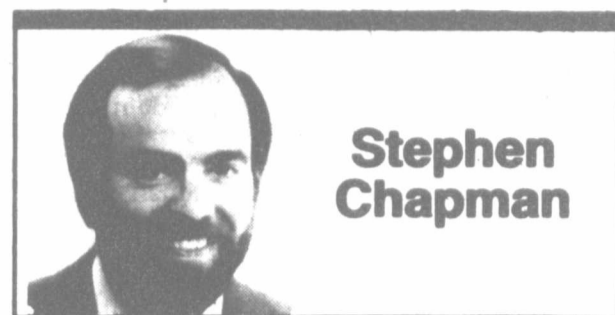
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Berry's World



"Do avidaniya (goodbye), Afghanistan."

Bashing the GOP can be fun



Stephen Chapman

After weeks of deference to the noble ideal of bipartisan cooperation, Washington seems to be reverting to its natural state of conflict and recrimination. Democrats are sniping at Republicans, and Republicans are grousing about Democrats. Soon there will be open political warfare.

Instead of working constructively together to address our grave national problems, our elected officials will be wasting their energies in shameless efforts to advance narrow ideological agendas.

Well, it's about damn time. All this huggy-bear kissy-face among people whom we sent to Washington to fight with each other is about as satisfying as a nonaggression pact between heavyweight title contenders.

For a while, the spirit of bipartisanship was heady enough to mellow the fiercest ideologues. George Bush has been so attentive to Democrat concerns that New York Gov. Mario Cuomo called him a "de facto Democrat." Maryland Sen. Barbara Mikulski pronounced him "a lot like Michael Dukakis." Oh, barf. The Democrats did everything but send Bush a dozen roses on Valentine's Day.

But the squabbling has already begun. For this we can thank John Tower, whose nocturnal diversions are too big a target for any red-blooded Democrat to ignore.

The embarrassing gap between the president's pieties about ethics and the conduct of two close associates, White House counsel Boyden Gray and Secretary of State James Baker, has also reminded the loyal opposition that bashing the GOP can be fun as well as politically profitable.

Contrary to the catchism of the high-minded, this is bound to be good for the country. Voters

have little enough to distinguish the two major political parties without them trying to overcome what few differences persist. George Wallace got a lot of votes in 1968 complaining that there wasn't a dime's worth of difference between them. Will we better off if the distance shrinks to the point that it can't be detected without a microscope?

When they obey their partisan instincts, Republicans and Democrats both serve useful functions. The Republicans generally reject government expansion, bureaucratic tinkering with the economy and tempting illusions about communism. The Democrats usually uphold civil liberties, the needs of the poor and distrust of right-wing dictators. We won't gain if they agree to split their differences.

As a general rule, bipartisanship ought to be regarded as the political equivalent of an anti-trust violation. It's a device to protect politicians by minimizing the ways in which they may compete for votes. It implies that division and debate undermine wise government, which is a fine idea if you like authoritarianism. A critic called Woodrow Wilson "a man of high ideals and no principles." Bipartisanship suffers from the same discrepancy.

The whole point of democracy is to let opposing factions duke it out for the voters' favor. The voters can't make intelligent choices if elected officials give them nothing to choose from. If bipartisanship is such a wonderful thing, why do we have two parties to begin with?

True, there are times when it is useful for lawmakers and citizens to put aside ideological disputes and unite against a greater threat. But outside of wartime, it's hard to think of many.

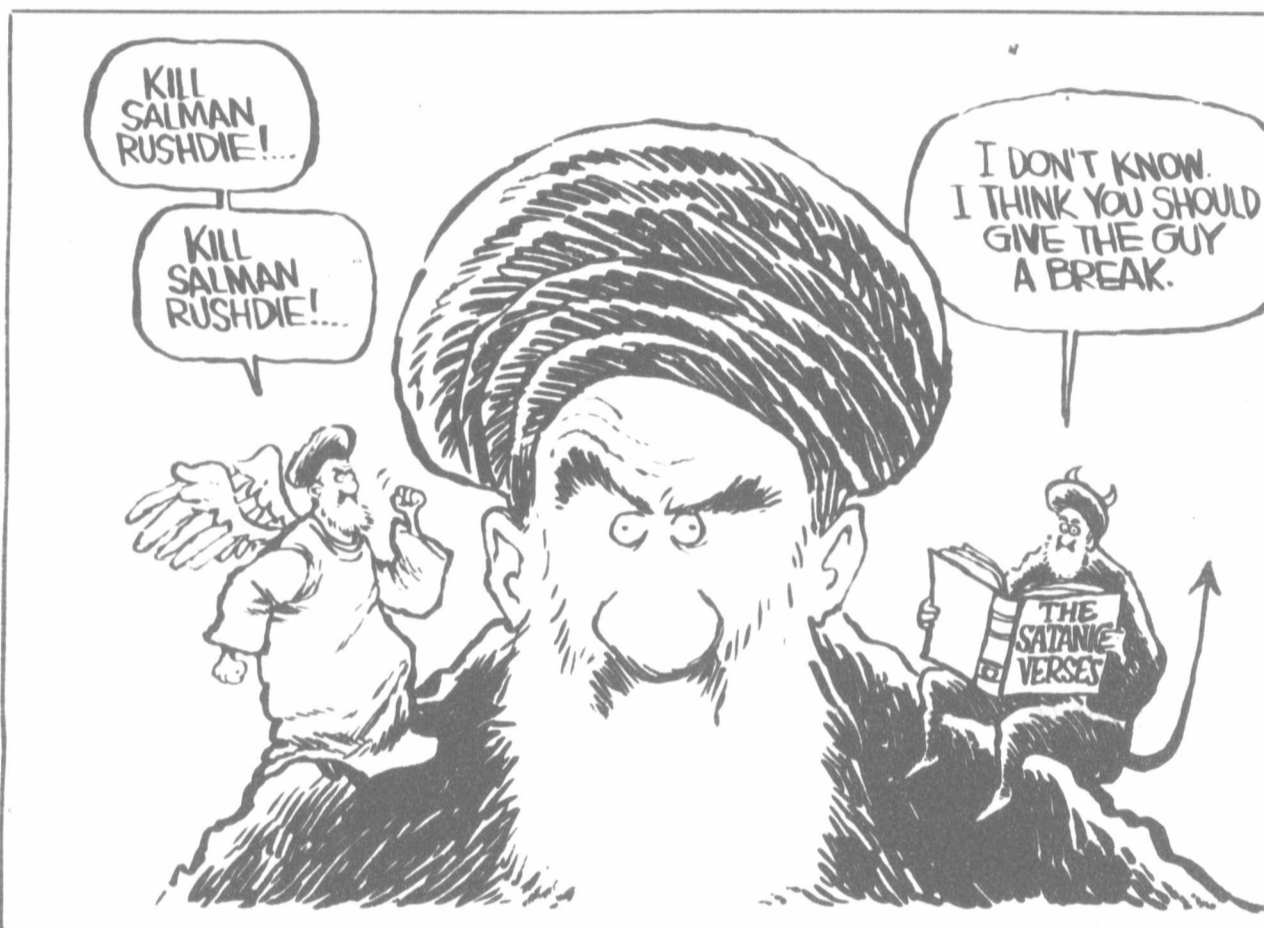
Genuine national emergencies don't require endless arguments over basic goals, because the basic goals aren't in dispute. But a government without clashes between the parties is like a climate without rain: The absence may be pleasant for a while, but it's unhealthy over time.

Unfortunately the bipartisan urge is no passing twinge. In recent years, official Washington has been trying its best to not only promote bipartisanship but to institutionalize it.

We had the commission on Social Security, which gave both sides an excuse to do what was needed to rescue the bankrupt retirement fund. We had the commission on federal pay, a panel appointed by the president and Congress which made the surprising recommendation that the President and Congress deserve more money.

Any day now, we'll get a report of the commission on the federal budget, which is expected to recommend that Bush ignore the wishes of the voters who elected him and do the bidding of people who weren't elected by anyone.

What all these plays have in common is the purpose of frustrating political accountability by making it impossible to lay the blame on one party or the other. Voters may decide that if the Republicans and Democrats won't at least oppose each other, we can do without either.



Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 1989. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:
On Feb. 23, 1945, during World War II, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima raised the American flag atop Mount Suribachi in a scene captured on film by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

On this date:
In 1685, composer George Frideric Handel was born in Germany.

In 1822, Boston was granted a charter to incorporate as a city.

In 1836, the siege of the Alamo began in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1847, U.S. troops under Gen. Zachary Taylor defeated Mexican Gen. Santa Anna at the Battle of Buena Vista in Mexico.

In 1848, John Quincy Adams, sixth president of the United States, died of a stroke at age 80.

In 1861, President-elect Abraham Lincoln arrived secretly in Washington to take office, an assassination plot having been foiled in Baltimore.

There's lots of them pageants



Lewis Grizzard

I was born in Georgia and I have lived in Georgia for most of my 42 years.

But I didn't know there was such a person as a Miss Georgia Sweet Potato Queen until she appeared before the Georgia Senate and sang a song that caused four black senators to stalk out of the hallowed chambers, quite offended.

Miss Georgia Sweet Potato, the niece of one of the white senators, got up in front of the body and sang "American Trilogy." The problem seemed to be that "American Trilogy" includes lyrics from "Dixie." When Miss Georgia Sweet Potato got to that part, out went the black senators.

I'm not going to get into whether or not Ms. GSP should have selected that particular piece for her performance or whether or not the black senators should have caught the first potato out of the hall.

There is something much more important here and that is that my research has led me to the realization there are many other such titles as Miss Georgia Sweet Potato available to young women in the state and if you win one you, too, could be invited to sing to the Georgia Senate and maybe wind up a star.

Rumors circulating the state Capitol, for instance, say that as a result of Miss Georgia Sweet Potato's controversial appearance, Hollywood is looking at her as a possibility to play an important role in the upcoming *Mississippi Burn-*

ing II, which will feature Sylvester Stallone once again as Rocky fighting the Ku Klux Klan heavyweight champion, to be played by Arnold Schwarzenegger — if they can teach him to say "y'all," "grits" and "Whar's my sheet?"

I have obtained a partial listing of other titles available to young ladies who are not only lovely to look at but also are talented and are seeking a bright future that doesn't require them to learn to cook or type or remember the name of the current president.

(It's George Bush, incidentally, but don't clutter your pretty little mind with such details.) Here are a few of the upcoming pageants (clip and save):

MISS GEORGIA DOODLEBUG QUEEN: MAY 15-16. Open to any contestant under the age of 22 who has at least some interest in insects. Sponsored by the Georgia Save-the-Doodlebug Foundation. Actually it doesn't mat-

ter if you don't know what a doodlebug is; just keep smiling and if anybody asks, you say the Lord told you to enter the pageant.

MISS GEORGIA COLLARD FESTIVAL QUEEN: April 17, as a part of the annual Collard Festival in Billy Goat, Georgia. Open to any contestant who likes collards and doesn't have hairy thighs.

MISS GEORGIA DRUG BUST QUEEN: August 15. Sponsored by the Georgia Association of Narcotics Agents. First prize includes an all-expense paid trip to crack-house busts in the Atlanta area and a spot in the Miss National Drug Bust Queen Pageant in Miami, if it's still there.

MISS GEORGIA RIFLE ASSOCIATION QUEEN: June 15. Shoot against other contestants while wearing a tiny bikini. Prizes will include your own AK-47 and a baby deer you can raise and then shoot whenever you want to.

MISS GEORGIA TAMMY FAYE BAKKER LOOK-ALIKE QUEEN: October 8. Open to any ugly girl in the state who's also a little pudgy and needs four pounds of makeup to keep her from scaring small children.

MISS GEORGIA BUTT NAKKID QUEEN: August 3. Sponsored by the Georgia Association of Nudists. Winner will be invited to perform nude at a joint session of the state Legislature and may sing anything she pleases. No walkouts guaranteed.

We should raise pay for federal judges

By WILLIAM A. RUSHER

It isn't easy to identify the worst single aspect of the recent congressional pay-raise fiasco. The sheer cowardice of Congress' attempt to raise its own pay by 50 percent through a tricky maneuver whereby it would never actually be seen to vote for the raise is certainly a contender for the prize.

But when one takes into account over-all damage to the public interest, the most inexcusable aspect of the whole affair was undoubtedly the harm it inflicted on our federal judiciary. That ought to be rectified promptly.

Like a highway robber leaving a gas station with the contents of its cash register, Congress, in its raid on the federal treasury, took the precaution of taking along a hostage. The commission that was to recommend higher congressional salaries to the president was also charged with proposing raises for federal judges. The president could approve the recom-

mendations, or modify them, or reject them; but, whatever he did, the chances were that he would treat Congress and the judiciary alike, in the interests of good will all around.

And that, of course, is what President Reagan did when he was presented with the recommendations of the Cutler commission. There is considerable evidence that what was chiefly on Mr. Reagan's mind was the need for substantial increases in judicial salaries, lest judges start leaving the bench for far more lucrative jobs in private law practice. But, having decided on husky raises for the judges, Mr. Reagan evidently concluded that members of Congress would be mortally offended if he didn't do as much for them.

But the cases of judges and members of Congress are very different. The basic salaries of federal district judges and members of Congress are identical (\$89,500), but the official and unofficial perks of a member of Congress are vastly greater.

A member of Congress, whether a

senator or a representative, of course enjoys the franking privilege — i.e., he pays no postage on his voluminous mail. He is entitled to specific amounts of free travel to and from his home district or state. Even his haircuts and his parking space at the Capitol are free. He enjoys, in addition, the services of a large office staff.

And then, of course, there are those famous "speaking fees" — payments averaging around \$2,000 apiece (plus travel expenses) for informal talks to friendly organizations. Some prominent and powerful congressmen earn so much this way that a lid has finally been put on how much of the booty they can keep; but such fees remain a formidable supplement to their base pay.

None of this applies to judges. Wherever they live and work, they must get along on that salary. If they have one government-paid clerk, that's a lot. The financial burden undoubtedly falls most heavily on district judges, who tend to be younger and often still have children to put

through college. Small wonder that many of them — including many Reagan appointees, who are of course on average the youngest of all — are tempted to leave the bench altogether and earn three times as much in private practice.

The solution, obviously, is to yank the judicial hostages out of the clutches of the highway robbers on Capitol Hill and deal with the two cases separately. No doubt congressmen do deserve modest regular pay raises, keyed to inflation; but there is no earthly reason why American taxpayers must give their judges and their congressmen identical and simultaneous pay boosts.

Now that House Speaker Jim Wright's sly card trick has been exposed and rejected, Congress should deal with the subject of pay raises for high government officials openly and fairly. If it gives judges the raise they need and deserve, the voters won't object unduly to a modest increase for congressmen themselves.

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Nation

McFerrin, Chapman lead winners at 31st Grammy awards

By RICHARD DE ATLEY
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Bobby McFerrin's feel-good song "Don't Worry, Be Happy" was the choice of the music academy for song and record of the year over Tracy Chapman's downhearted "Fast Car" at the 31st Grammy awards.

McFerrin, the vocal gymnast who uses his voice and body as an instrument, won four Grammys Wednesday night, while Chapman, a shy 25-year-old folksinger from Boston whose self-titled album dealt with racism, poverty and desperation, won three trophies.

"I think it was so popular because it went to the spirit," McFerrin said backstage of his song.

Both big winners lost to George Michael for album of the year. He won for his platinum *Faith*, a crossover blend of ballads, rock and soulful pop, including the hit single "I Want Your Sex."

Fifteen of the Grammys were handed out in a 3-hour, 20-minute long ceremony broadcast live to the East Coast by CBS. The rest of the 76 awards for the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences were handed out during a pre-broadcast ceremony.

Singer Anita Baker took two rhythm & blues trophies for her "Giving You The Best That I Got," including best female performance and a shared songwriting award with Skip Scarborough and Randy Holland.

In country music, Randy Travis won best male vocal with "Old 8 X 10" and K.T. Oslin won female vocal honors for "Hold Me," which also was voted best country song. The Judds won best country group for "Give a Little Love."

Willie Dixon, the 73-year-old blues master whose songs have been hits for so many rock groups, finally won his first Grammy for his *Hidden Charms* album in the best traditional blues recording category. He mounted the stage with the aid of a cane and received a standing ovation.

"I've been in the music business for about 50 years," Dixon said backstage. "It's about time,



(AP Laserphoto)



(AP Laserphoto)

McFerrin, left, won four Grammys, while Chapman, right, picked up three trophies Wednesday night.

don't you think?"

Besides best song and record, McFerrin won best pop male vocal for "Don't Worry" and the male jazz vocal award for the song "Brothers."

Chapman did not appear backstage to talk to reporters. Her Grammys were for best contempor-

ary folk recording, best new artist and best pop female vocal performance for "Fast Car," a song about a woman trying to escape poverty by driving away from it with her jobless boyfriend.

"I want to thank my family — my mother, who bought me my first guitar, my sister, who's always

been my best audience, best critic and best friend," Chapman said tearfully as she accepted the award for best female pop vocalist.

A check of Grammy records showed "Don't Worry, Be Happy" was the first a capella song, or one without instrumental background, to win best song and record of the year. Another a capella group, the sextet Take 6, won the soul gospel duo-group award for their self-titled debut album.

In a new category, hard rock-metal vocal or instrumental, the high-voltage rockers Jethro Tull won for *Crest of a Knave*, defeating newer groups such as Metallica and Jane's Addiction.

Another new category — rap — was hit by a boycott by some of the major nominees. The best song was "Parents Just Don't Understand" by D.J. Jazzy Jeff & The Fresh Prince, who were among those not attending the show because the award was given during the pre-telecast presentations.

Neil Dorfsman was named producer of the year for British rocker Sting's album, ... *Nothing Like The Sun*.

The late Roy Orbison won his third Grammy, sharing best country vocal collaboration with country singer k.d. lang for their version of Orbison's "Crying."

Tina Turner won the female rock vocalist prize with *Tina Live in Europe*. Robert Palmer won male rock vocalist for "Simply Irresistible."

Manhattan Transfer, the harmonious jazz vocal quartet, were awarded best pop performance by a duo or group for the single "Brasil."

Pop singer Linda Ronstadt took honors in the Mexican-American category for her album *Canciones De Mi Padre*, dedicated to her father's heritage.

Terence Trent D'Arby won best male rhythm & blues vocal for *Introducing The Hardline According to Terence Trent D'Arby*.

Irish rockers U2 won for rock performance by a group for the single "Desire" and music video performance for "Where The Streets Have No Name."

Court rules state not responsible for child abuse protection



(AP Laserphoto)

Melody DeShaney

By MICHAEL C. BUELOW
Associated Press Writer

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Social workers say a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that protects them from lawsuits for failing to prevent child abuse means more cases will be reported, but critics say it denies children their constitutional rights.

The court ruled Wednesday that the state of Wisconsin was not liable for the injuries of 9-year-old Joshua DeShaney, who was left permanently brain-damaged and physically disabled from beatings by his father beginning in 1983.

The boy's mother, Melody DeShaney, sued the department for allegedly violating the boy's constitutional rights by failing to prevent the abuse.

The lawsuit contended social workers failed to take action despite their suspicions the boy had been abused several times by his father, Randy, before the child was hospitalized in March 1984.

The boy remains institutionalized in the custody of the Winnebago County Department of Social Services.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, writing for the court, said the state's awareness of the abuse did not mean it had a duty to protect him because he was not in the custody of the state at the time.

"While the state may have been aware of the dangers that Joshua faced in the free world, it played no part in their creation nor did it do anything to render him any more vulnerable to them," Rehnquist said.

Tom Birch, counsel for the National Child Abuse Coalition in Washington D.C., said the decision "should have a positive effect on child protective services throughout the country."

Birch and others in child abuse prevention said the ruling alleviates social workers' fears of being sued, and that a ruling against the workers could have

affected their judgment in reporting cases.

"When they are not held to the high standard of liability this case imposes, they will have the flexibility they need to protect the child when appropriate," Birch said.

Others, however, said the court's 6-3 decision weakens programs designed to prevent child abuse.

Elaine Olson, executive director of the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund, said the decision threatens the safety of children in abusive environments.

"Essentially what they're (the court) saying is that children have no protection under the Constitution," Olson said. "The purpose of child protective services is to get child abuse cases to authorities who can do something about them."

Joshua's case was brought to the department's attention in 1983 when he was hospitalized for cuts and bruises. The boy was re-

turned to his father's custody, and social worker Ann Kenmeter visited several times. The boy's mother was living in Cheyenne, Wyo.

On March 7, 1984, Kenmeter visited the home but did not see the boy. She was told the boy had fainted in the bathroom days earlier for no apparent reason.

Kenmeter did not ask to see the boy, according to court records. Joshua was hospitalized a day later for head injuries that destroyed half his brain, court records show.

Randy DeShaney was convicted of two counts of child abuse and sentenced to two prison terms of two years each. He was released after 2½ years.

The Supreme Court ruled that even though the boy was in protective custody resulting from an earlier incident in the home, "the state does not become the permanent guarantor of an individual's safety by having once offered him shelter."

Dozens arrested in money laundering ring

LOS ANGELES (AP) — U.S. authorities raided the downtown jewelry market and arrested at least 37 people nationwide in an effort to smash a \$1 billion cocaine money-laundering ring allegedly run by a Syrian national.

The surveillance investigation, which lasted for more than a year, was the biggest of its kind undertaken by the government, Attorney General Dick Thornburgh and Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said in a statement released Wednesday.

During the past two years, the illegal network processed at least \$1 billion through jewelry merchants in Los Angeles, Texas, Florida and New York, authorities said.

A key leader of the ring was identified as Wanis "Joseph" Koyomejian, 47, a Syrian national who lives in suburban Northridge. He was ordered held without bail Wednesday night by U.S. Magistrate Ralph Geffen.

The Los Angeles raid began just as stores in the nation's second-largest jewelry district prepared to open for business Wednesday.

Hundreds of federal agents swept through the downtown district, creating a traffic jam as incredulous onlookers stared while dozens of employees were hand-

cuffed at jewelry counters.

Complaints filed in U.S. District Court here charged 33 people and a Hollywood, Fla. corporation with laundering Colombian cocaine profits. The 13-month-old probe, nicknamed Polar Cap, also led to the seizure of 640 pounds of cocaine, according to court documents.

It was unclear exactly how many people were arrested Wednesday as authorities searched 85 locations in Los Angeles, New York and Miami. The Justice Department statement, issued in Washington, said 37 people were arrested.

The Los Angeles money-laundering operation was directed primarily from two wholesale jewelry companies, Ropex Corp., owned by Koyomejian, and Andonian Brothers

Manufacturing Co., according to court documents.

The owners of Andonian Brothers, Vahe Andonian and his brother, Nazareth Andonian, also were arrested Wednesday.

The defendants were charged with aiding the distribution of thousands of pounds of cocaine by laundering hundreds of millions of dollars in cash. The money, packed like bricks and shipped by armored car, was generated from cocaine sales in Los Angeles, New York, Houston and other cities, Thornburgh said.

In addition, the defendants were charged with conspiracy for knowingly violating the Money Laundering Control Act and avoiding requirements to report all transactions over \$10,000, the government said.

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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Scientists: Nose research points to wider knowledge route

By JOHN DIAMOND
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Scientists know a lot about smell. They know it weakens as we get older, it varies depending on a person's sex and ethnic background, and it involves more than just the nose. What they generally don't know is why.

"Within the scientific community, smell has always taken a back seat to the other senses, probably because we don't live in an olfactory world. We live in a visual world; a world of sounds," said Dr. John S. Kauer, a New England Medical Center researcher trying to determine brain function using the nose.

Last year he used video cameras and special dyes to trace the path of an odor impulse through the brain of a salamander. The work produced a "movie," or series of color-enhanced pic-

tures, showing that the brain is "a parallel processor," handling many signals simultaneously — like a supercomputer.

The research may have implications for the study and treatment of brain tumors by helping differentiate between tumors and normal tissue.

Smell, Warren said, 'is the one sense for which the mechanism for perception is unknown.'

Scores of researchers are poking their noses into such olfactory oddities as a link between premature decline in smell and Alzheimer's disease; a protein that ferries odor molecules through the nose; the fact that half of all people between ages 65 and 80 suffer major loss in the sense of smell; and the trait

peculiar to some nasal nerve cells to regenerate.

"They're the only neurons in the human body that undergo this spontaneous renewal and spontaneous decay," Kauer said.

Some of the research in the field of smell is aimed not at medical advancement but at the bottom line. In Union Beach, N.J., Dr. Craig Warren heads a research and development team for International Fragrances and Flavors Inc., a company that produces scents for soaps, perfumes and other products made by hundreds of companies around the world.

Smell, Warren said, "is the one sense for which the mechanism for perception is unknown." Scientists know how odor molecules are gathered by smell neurons but they don't know how a few similar types of receptor cells can distinguish between thousands of different odors.

Research suggests that the process of smelling involves more than the nose, Warren said. When blindfolded, "Most people cannot discriminate a lemon from a lime or an orange from a grapefruit."

IFF regularly brings in dozens of smell samplers, usually women, to rate and react to fragrances, with emphasis on how the fragrances can alter mood. In the process, Warren has found that 10 percent and 15 percent of the subjects display a particularly acute sense of smell.

At the opposite end of the spectrum are those with no sense of smell.

Mary Brooks, 35, of Philadelphia, took an uncommon route to this fairly common problem. Beginning in 1972 she began to experience what amounted to smell hallucinations; she thought she smelled an unpleasant odor when there was no odor present. Years of anguish and unsuccessful

treatment finally led to brain surgery in which her olfactory nerve was removed, ending her hallucinations but leaving her incapable of smelling.

"It can be very dangerous," she said. "I've already burnt things in the oven and I didn't know it and there are smoke

'It's a frontier of science which really hasn't even been touched on.'

alarms everywhere. But on the other hand it doesn't bother me not to smell because I still sense that I'm breathing and smelling the same as you are."

Brooks' doctor was Richard Doty, director of the University of Pennsylvania Smell and Taste Center. Patients include the aged

and professionals like wine tasters, firefighters, police officers, gas company workers, inspectors and cooks whose lives and livelihoods can depend on the sense of smell.

"There have always been problems that people had and they've had no place to turn in the past," Doty said. "It's a frontier of science which really hasn't even been touched on."

Doty and colleagues in August reported in the journal *Neurology* a link between loss of smell and Parkinson's disease. A year earlier, a similar study linked the loss of smell to Alzheimer's disease. A new area of research will try to determine if the nasal passage serves as a pathway for viruses or chemicals that contribute to those maladies, Doty said.

Despite mountains of research, a key question that puzzles scientists is precisely how the sense of smell works.

Consumer prices up in January

By NANCY BENAC
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer prices, propelled by higher costs for food, fuel and a variety of other items, rose 0.6 percent last month for the biggest jump in two years, the government reported Wednesday.

The rise in the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index followed moderate increases of 0.3 percent in both November and December.

The January price increase, which is seasonally adjusted, would amount to an annual inflation rate of 7.2 percent if the pace for the first month of 1989 held throughout the year.

Higher prices for gasoline, poultry, fish and eggs, coupled with a sharp advance in tobacco prices, accounted for nearly all of the acceleration.

Consumer prices advanced 4.4 percent last year, the same rate as in 1987, but analysts are expecting the pace to quicken this year.

Worries about spiraling inflation intensified earlier this month after the Labor Department reported that wholesale prices shot up an unexpected 1 percent in January, largely due to rising food and energy prices.

Wednesday's report showed that at the consumer level, food costs jumped 0.7 percent in January after rising 0.3 percent in December. Energy costs overall rose 0.8 percent after a 0.3 percent decline in December.

Excluding those two volatile categories, other consumer prices rose 0.5 percent in January.

Last month's advance left the price index at 121.1 percent of its 1982-84 base, meaning that a hypothetical selection of goods costing \$100 during the base period would have cost \$121.10 in January, 60 cents more than in December.

Unlike other figures in the report, the overall index is not adjusted for seasonal fluctuations.

January's 0.6 percent increase in consumer prices was the biggest jump since a 0.7 percent rise in January 1987.

One of the biggest increases came in costs for tobacco and other smoking products, which jumped 4.7 percent.

The Labor Department gave these other details of January price increases:

- The increase in food prices was paced by a 1.6 percent jump in costs for meats, poultry, fish and eggs. Cereal and bakery products rose 1 percent and dairy products were up 1.1 percent.

- Gasoline costs were up 0.9 percent during the month after dropping 1.6 percent in December.

- Housing prices increased 0.2 percent during January after a 0.4 percent increase in December.

- Fuel oil costs jumped 4.3 percent, while prices for natural gas and electricity were up 0.3 percent.

- Clothing costs dipped 0.1 percent after rising 0.3 percent in December.

- New-car prices were up 0.7 percent, while used cars jumped 0.5 percent.

- Medical care costs rose 0.8 percent after climbing 0.5 percent during December.

Even in advance of Wednesday's CPI figures, worries about inflation had been heightened by earlier reports showing that the economy entered 1989 with strong momentum and by January's sharp jump in wholesale prices.

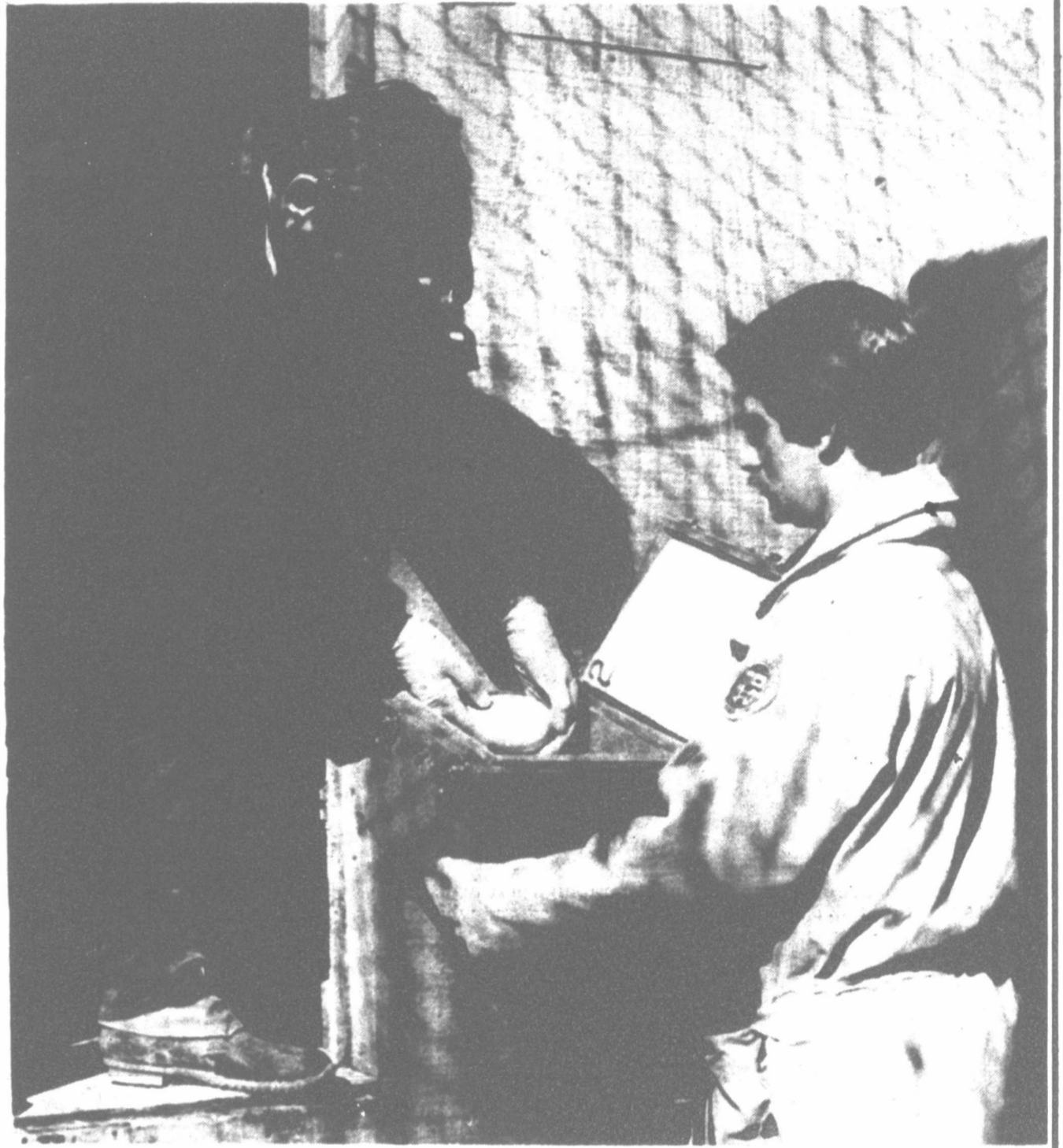
"The inflation rate is edging up and that's going to continue," David Wyss, an economist with Data Resources Inc. in Lexington, Mass. "The first quarter of 1989 is likely to be the worst for a while."

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Tuesday that the central bank would continue to push interest rates higher in an effort to slow the economy and dampen inflationary pressures.

"Let me stress that the current rate of inflation, let alone an increase, is not acceptable, and our policies are designed to reduce inflation in coming years," Greenspan told the Senate Banking Committee.

He said that with economic growth remaining strong, "the risks seem to be on the side of a further strengthening of price pressures."

Precious cargo



(AP Laserphoto)

Dr. Michael Wallace carefully places a condor egg into a box, held by Don Richardson, condor keeper, at the Los Angeles zoo. After conferring with federal and state agencies involved in the condor program, it was de-

cidated to remove the freshly laid egg and transfer it to the San Diego Wild Animal Park. Wallace is the Los Angeles zoo bird curator and field supervisor for the Andean condor release program.

Tips to prevent ear pain on airplanes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Do your ears hurt when your jetliner starts descending for a landing? Here are some tips from the nation's ear, nose and throat doctors to relieve the discomfort:

- Pop your ears to equalize the pressure. Pinch your nostrils, take in a mouthful of air and, with your mouth closed, use your cheek and throat muscles to force the air into the back of your nose "as if you were trying to blow your fingers off your nose."

When you feel a pop in your ears, you may have succeeded."

said Dr. Robert Schindler of the American Academy of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery.

If necessary, repeat the procedure several times, but stop if it hurts.

- Try swallowing and yawning to activate the muscle that opens the Eustachian tube connecting the back of the throat with the middle ear. Chewing gum or letting mints melt in your mouth will help you swallow more often.

- Avoid sleeping during descent. You may not swallow enough to

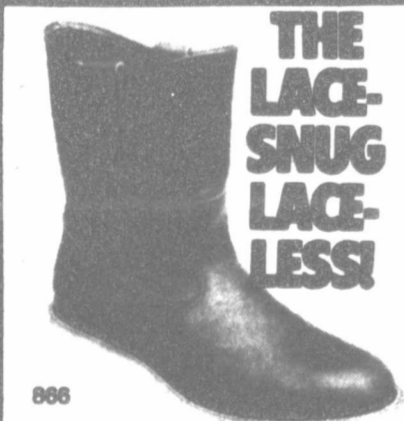
keep up with pressure changes if you are asleep.

- If you have allergies, take antihistamines at the start of the flight or a decongestant pill or nose spray an hour or so before descent.

Schindler said the medications will help your ears pop more easily, but they shouldn't be used by people with heart disease, high blood pressure, irregular heart rhythms, thyroid disease or excessive nervousness.

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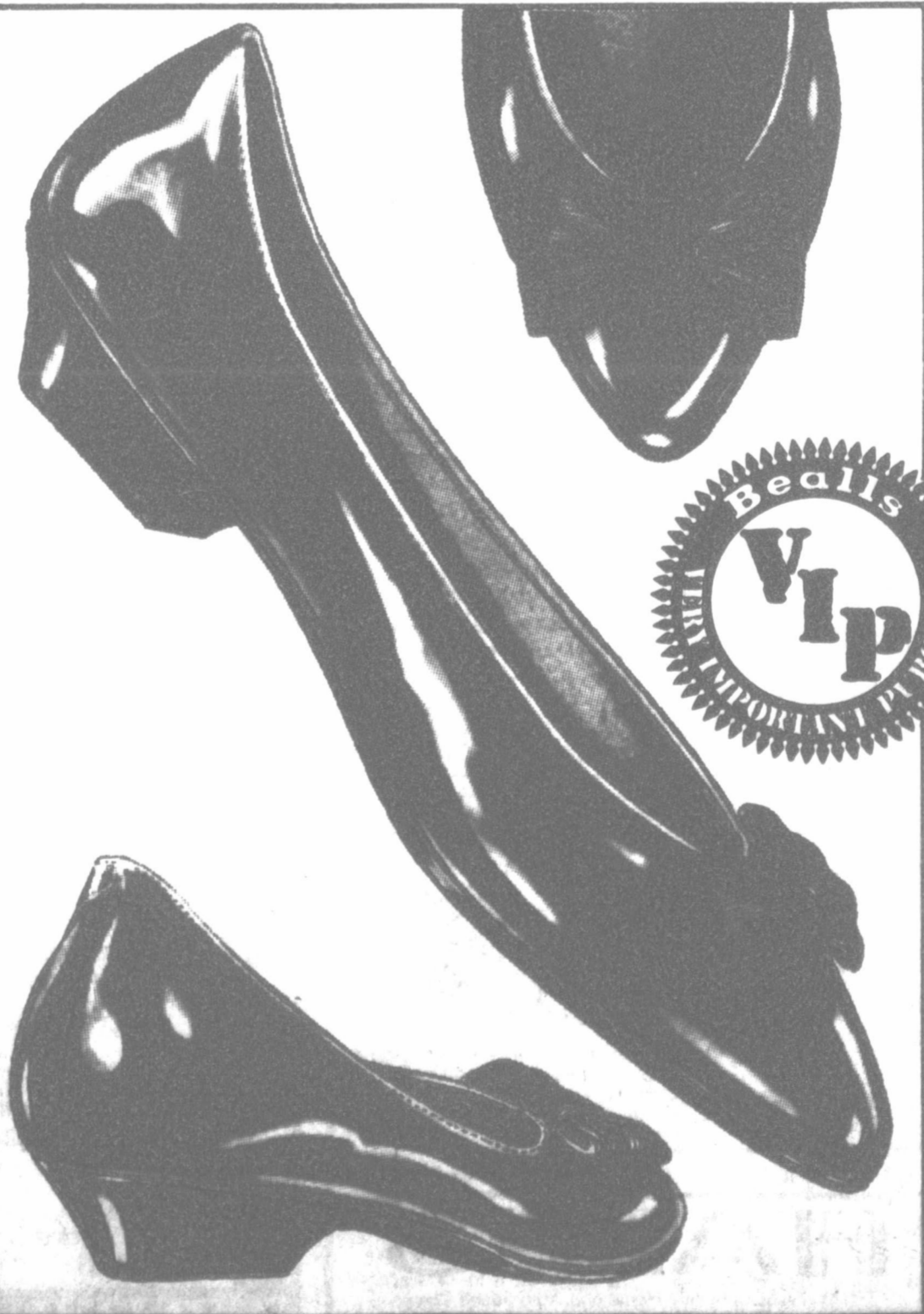


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World

Bush has mini-summits with world leaders in Tokyo visit

By **TERENCE HUNT**
AP White House Correspondent

TOKYO (AP) — President Bush arrived in Japan today and immediately plunged into a series of mini-summits with world leaders. Against the backdrop of an imperial Japanese funeral, he began his search for an elusive peace settlement in the Middle East. After a 16-hour flight from Washington, Bush went directly to the U.S. ambassador's residence for lunch with French President Francois Mitterrand for talks that the White House said focused on superpower relations and the seven-nation economic summit in Paris in July.

Bush quickly went into a series of talks with three Middle East leaders: Jordan's King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

White House officials said in advance that none of the sessions would be decision-making meetings and that they would not deal extensively in substance. Most of the sessions were expected to last only 15 to 20 minutes, but they represented the start of Bush's personal diplomacy on the volatile re-

gion as president.

On his first overseas journey as president, Bush will attend the funeral Friday of Japanese Emperor Hirohito, who died of cancer Jan. 7 at the age of 87.

Bush will travel to China on Saturday and make a 4½ hour stop in South Korea on Monday before returning home.

"Things in the Pacific seem to be going reasonably well," Bush said earlier during a refueling stop in Anchorage, Alaska. "But we are a Pacific power and this visit will demonstrate that we intend to stay a Pacific power."

Showing no signs of jet lag, Bush appeared in good spirits as he sat down with Mitterrand in the elegant dining room of the ambassador's residence.

Briefly responding to reporters' questions during a photo session, Mitterrand said everything was on the table for discussion, including the Soviet Union.

Bush said he has adopted a new policy of not answering questions while posing for pictures, but Mitterrand referred to former President Ronald Reagan's practice of doing so.

"I never answer such questions (from reporters) but since you are my guests, I am doing it the American way," he said.

Bush's talks with Middle East leaders took on added significance because of a trip to the region by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Bush said in a pre-trip news conference he still is pondering "what specific steps we take next" in the Middle East and said he would not be stampeded into action by Shevardnadze's advocacy of an international peace conference.

Bush said the Soviets should play only a secondary role in the Middle East.

In recent days, both Mubarak and Hussein conferred with Shevardnadze in Egypt and Jordan. The Soviet foreign minister also held talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens.

With the U.S. playing a low-key role in the region now, the Soviets have been seeking a larger profile for themselves with their idea of a conference hosted by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

After his talks with Mitterrand, Bush went to Akasaka Palace.



Hosni Mubarak, left, president of Egypt, chats with President Bush during their meeting today in Tokyo. (AP Laserphoto)

Hostage holders threaten revenge for book

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Pro-Iranian captors of three American educators today threatened to take revenge against Salman Rushdie, the publishers of his novel *The Satanic Verses* and their supporters for insulting Islam.

Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said in a handwritten statement that it would "take revenge against all those who took part in strong and ferocious campaigns against Islam."

It said the revenge would cover "all institutions and organizations that insulted in one way or another" members of prophet Mohammed's family, meaning Moslems.

European governments have recalled their ambassadors from Iran to protest Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's decree last week that Moslems seek out and kill Rushdie and his publishers because *The Satanic Verses* blasphemes Islam.

Authors have led demonstrations of outrage at the threat from Iran's fundamentalist patriarch, who has refused to accept Rushdie's apology, and President Bush has called the threat an insult to the civilized world.

Rushdie, a naturalized Briton who was born a Moslem in India, is in hiding with his wife in Britain and reportedly under police guard. Iranian clerics have

offered \$5.2 million for Rushdie's murder.

Jihad's Arabic-language statement was delivered to the office of a Western news agency in Moslem west Beirut accompanied by an instant photograph of American hostages Alann Steen, Robert Polhill and Jesse Turner.

The three were kidnapped Jan. 24, 1987, from the campus of the American-affiliated Beirut University College, where they held teaching posts.

The photograph shows the three bearded hostages from the knees up sitting on what appeared to be a bed and looking straight into the camera. Polhill's left arm and hand are

noticeably thinner than in a picture released 14 months earlier, and his left sleeve appears to have intentionally been hiked up to the elbow to show the arm.

Steen, 49, of Boston, taught journalism, while Polhill, 54, of New York, was assistant professor of business and Turner, 42, of Boise, Idaho, taught mathematics and computer science.

The Jihad statement did not make any reference to the hostages, whose photograph was included to prove the document's authenticity.

The three are among 15 foreigners missing and believed held hostage in Lebanon by pro-Iranian Shiite Moslem

Former Moscow party chief wins ballot spot

MOSCOW (AP) — Boris Yeltsin, the ousted Moscow Communist Party chief and outspoken critic of party conservatives, won a spot Wednesday on the ballot to represent the capital in the new national legislature, Radio Moscow said.

Yeltsin, who lost the party job in November 1987 after complaining about the slow pace of reform, received 532 votes at an electoral committee meeting that ended before dawn at the ornate House of Unions in downtown Moscow.

Yevgeny Brakov, director of

the giant ZIL automotive plant, received 570 votes and will compete with Yeltsin for one spot in the March 26 elections.

Both were chosen by committee members from a field of 10 potential candidates to represent Moscow.

The committee made its decision after the two candidates presented campaign platforms in the chandelier-lit red-and-white Hall of Columns.

Yeltsin, 57, and Brakov "both support restructuring and democratization, but propose different

solutions to specific problems," the radio said.

Under an law approved in December, two-third of the seats in the new 2,250-member Congress of People's Deputies will be filled by candidates nominated in the workplace and chosen by voters on a territorial basis.

The rest of the deputies are to be chosen by party, union, professional and other officially recognized groups.

The new congress will meet annually and choose the Soviet

president and members of a new, smaller and more active sitting parliament.

Yeltsin told the committee members before they approved his candidacy that he staunchly supports President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's policies, both at home and abroad.

"From the viewpoint of the strategy of external politics, I fully support him," he said in a seven-minute speech interrupted six times by applause. "From the viewpoint of the strategy of internal politics, fully."

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Authors, press claim Khomeini shows uncivilized behavior

By RANDALL HACKLEY
Associated Press Writer

President Bush and a host of authors expressed outrage at Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's call for Moslems to kill novelist Salman Rushdie. Iran's largest trading partner reportedly considered imposing an economic boycott.

Iran's fundamentalist patriarch Wednesday said the hostile Western reaction proves opening contacts to the rest of the world was wrong.

Iranian leaders who have begun courting the West are "not totally with us in ideology," Tehran Radio quoted him as saying.

Khomeini did not name the leaders.

In Bonn, a television network said the West German Cabinet met Wednesday and discussed "further measures" against Iran. "If the mullahs adhere to the execution order against (Rushdie), then economic sanctions will no longer be ruled out," the ZDF network reported.

It provided no further details of the possible sanctions.

West Germany, Iran's biggest trading partner, already had decided to remove its ambassador from Tehran for consultations as part of an action by the 12 European Economic Community countries.

Literary figures, including American authors Norman Mailer, Susan Sontag and William Styron, expressed indignation at Khomeini's threat and at decisions not to publish or sell Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*.

American authors read from Rushdie's novel in New York Wednesday and marched to the United Nations in support of the author.

Khomeini refused to withdraw the death threat after Rushdie, a British citizen who was born into a Moslem family in India, issued a statement from hiding apologizing that his novel had offended Moslems.

Many Moslems say *The Satanic Verses* is sacrilegious because it casts doubt on central tenets of the Islamic faith. The book, for example, portrays the prophet Mohammed's wives as prostitutes and suggests he wrote the Koran, the holy book of Islam,

rather than receiving it from God.

Major U.S. booksellers such as Waldenbooks, B. Dalton and Barnes & Noble have withdrawn the book from their shelves, citing threats.

That has left only independent bookstores to continue to stock the novel.

The book will debut as No. 2 on *The New York Times Book Review's* best-selling hardcover fiction list in the March 5 issue, the *Times* said Wednesday.

The paper ran a full-page ad Wednesday by the Association of American Publishers, the American Booksellers Association and the American Library Association that says: "Free people write books, free people publish books, free people buy books, free people read books."

"I think the best form of protest is to patronize those who are selling the book and to remember the places that have failed to make accessible to us the works that are forbidden by terrorists," said historian Daniel Boorstin, a former Librarian of Congress. He and Mailer spoke on ABC-TV's *Nightline* show Tuesday night.

Publishers in France, West Germany, Greece and Turkey have canceled plans to publish the book. *The Satanic Verses* has been banned by at least seven countries, including India, Pakistan and Egypt.

No matter how offensive Rushdie's book may be to Moslems, "inciting murder and offering rewards for its perpetration are deeply offensive to the norms of civilized behavior," Bush said Tuesday.

Khomeini issued the death decree — which also applies to the book's publishers — nine days ago and Iranian clerics offered up to \$5.2 million in bounties for Rushdie's death.

In London, the 2,000-member International Press Institute deplored the threats as "a gross violation of civilized standards on the right of life and the right to freedom of expression."

In Ottawa, Foreign Minister Joe Clark said that Canada was withdrawing its charge d'affaires from Tehran for consultations.

Revenue Minister Otto Jelinek, who made the decision not to ban *The Satanic Verses* in Canada,

said he was under police guard after receiving death threats.

Iran recalled its ambassadors from European Common Market nations on Tuesday in response to Monday's decision by the 12-member European Economic Community to withdraw their envoys from Tehran for consultations.

Sweden and Norway followed suit, recalling their ambassa-

dors. Britain on Monday recalled its entire embassy staff and on Tuesday announced it was expelling the Iranian charge d'affaires and his aide.

Bush said he supported the EEC decision. Washington does not have diplomatic ties with Iran.

The 41-year-old author has been in hiding with his wife under police guard.

Family settles lawsuit over leukemia death

GALVESTON (AP) — Monsanto Co. and the family of an Alvin plant worker who died of leukemia in 1980 have resolved a suit filed by the man's survivors with an out-of-court settlement described as "substantial."

The settlement came after jurors in a federal court retrial found that benzene used by Monsanto in chemical production can cause the type of leukemia that killed Wilbur Jack Skeen at the age of 53.

The second phase of the trial, in which jurors would have been asked to decide if benzene expo-

sure specifically caused Skeen's leukemia and if Monsanto was negligent, ended before it began.

U.S. District Judge Hugh Gibson in Galveston told jurors the case had been settled.

Skeen's family was seeking \$100 million in damages, the amount the family was awarded in 1986. That award, thrown out by the court as excessive, was the biggest ever in a Texas wrongful death case.

"We're elated. We proved our point, that benzene causes all kinds of leukemia," said Skeen's widow, Sammie Joe Skeen, 56, of

Henderson. "This is like when Columbus discovered America."

"We've opened up a new field for other people," she said. "We would like for people to know that we have fought very hard for men working at plants and that the jury system does work."

Monsanto's attorneys had argued that benzene may cause acute myelogenous leukemia but not the chronic myelogenous leukemia listed as the cause of Skeen's death.

Jurors voted 11-1 that benzene could cause the disease that killed Skeen.

Monsanto attorney Daniel Goforth said the settlement results in a "take-nothing verdict" in that there is no finding of liability against Monsanto.

He and Skeen attorney John O'Quinn said both parties had agreed not to disclose the sum of settlement and it will be sealed from the public in court records.

The jury's decision sets an important precedent about the use of cancer-causing chemicals that will be watched closely by other chemical companies, the lawyer said.

DPS to have on-going entrance exams

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has announced that beginning on March 1, they will be giving entrance examinations and physical agility tests every Monday and Wednesday, year round, instead of only during a short period just before an announced recruit school, according to Major V.J. Cawthon, regional commander for this area.

Maj. Cawthon said, "Even though a date for a recruit school has not been determined, we will begin testing all year long. This

change in testing periods will allow the applicant to take the test, more so, at his convenience and will allow the DPS ample time to conduct the background investigations and hold the interview boards."

Testing will begin at 8 a.m. on each Monday and Wednesday, except days that fall on state holidays. The tests will take most of the day to complete. Tests will be given at the Amarillo, Wichita Falls and Lubbock Department of Safety offices.

The applications must be completed and all basic requirements must be met prior of taking the entrance exams. Employment qualifications and application forms may be picked up at the above mentioned offices or by contacting your local Department of Public Safety Trooper.

Cawthon stated, "The DPS is actively recruiting qualified minorities and females."

The Texas Department of Public Safety is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Clements has phone hotline

AUSTIN — Last month, Gov. Bill Clements' office helped 836 Texans cut through the bureaucratic red tape with an innovative Citizens Assistance Hotline.

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, hotline staff members provide information to anyone who calls 1-800-252-9600 (463-1780 in Austin).

The department helps people obtain information or assistance on a variety of topics ranging from obtaining the address of their state legislators to how to get a copy of a birth certificate.

The hotline also serves as a liaison between the public and state agencies or programs.

During the legislative session, hotline workers expect to field thousands of telephone calls about pending legislation.

A summary of the legislative queries will be presented to the governor for his consideration as he reviews bills sent to his office by lawmakers.

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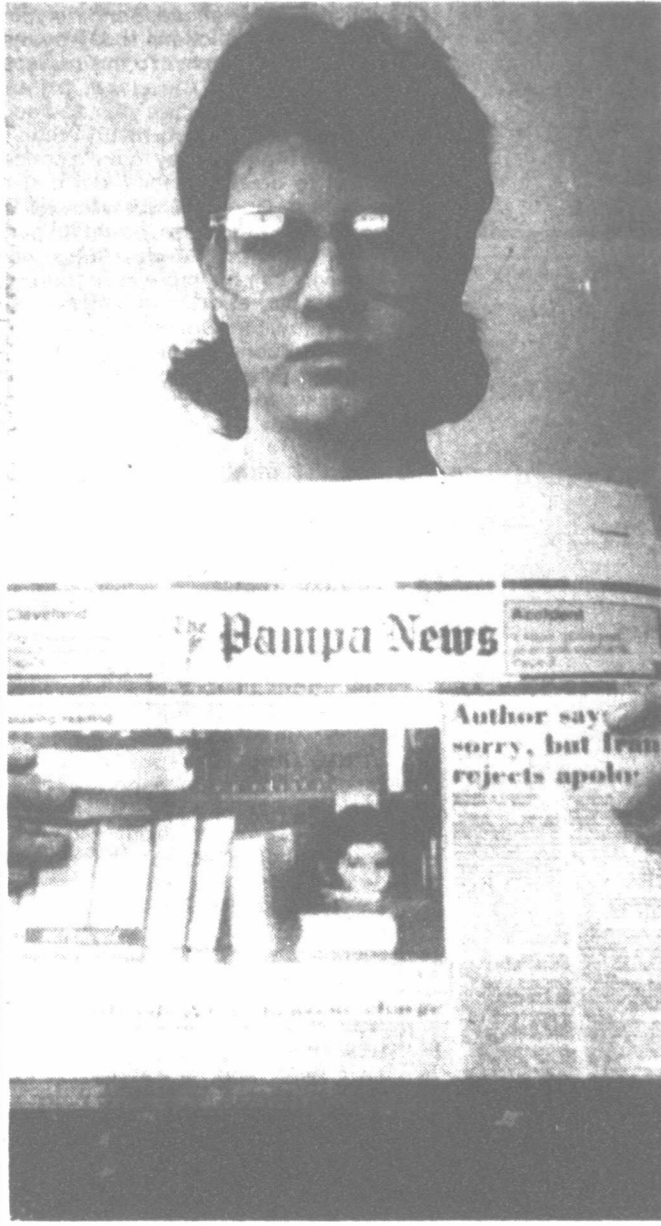
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Lifestyles

Carriers of the Month



Cory Wagner, left, and Rose Parnell, right, have been named Carrier of the Month for December 1988 and January 1989, respectively. Wagner, 13, of 1032 Crane is the daughter of Charles and Linda Wagner. She has been a News carrier for three years. An eighth grader at Pampa Middle School, Wagner says she's saving a part of her route profits for a college education. Parnell of



1337 N. Duncan has worked as a carrier for six months. She and her husband, Jeff, are members of the Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ. She joins other church members in singing at the nursing home and also enjoys bicycling, swimming and roller skating. Parnell says her job as a carrier is not an easy one, but she enjoys the people she meets on her route.

(Staff photos)

Menswear takes it easy

By Mary Martin Niepold

The big fashion news for men this spring is what you see from the waist up: shirts, vests and cardigans.

At the recent Men's Fashion Association press preview of men's spring fashions in Los Angeles, one designer after another spotlighted easier-fitting, slightly fuller silhouettes in jackets, trousers and tops. This trend, begun several years ago, continues in full force as more and more American men insist on comfort as well as good taste in menswear.

Styles for spring harken back to the tailored Hollywood glamour of the 1930s and '40s. Ronald Coleman and Gary Cooper types will choose the easy slouched elegance of double-breasted jackets and full-legged trousers, with wider shoulders offering substance.

The 1950s and '60s re-emerge in sportier styles like three-button jackets, and wildly patterned shirts and shorts. Today's popular TV shows, like "China Beach" and "The Wonder Years," also recall the spirited and loose clothing styles of those decades.

"Men want clothes that are easy: easy to wear, easy to be comfortable in, easy to take off," observes Chip Tolbert, fashion director of the MFA. "This kind of softer clothing doesn't have to look like it's just come from the dry cleaner's and pressed within an inch of its life."

This marriage of comfort and style is most evident in the newest crop of detailed dress and sport shirts. Collars can be narrow tabs or cross-over buttoned styles. The spread collar is the most popular dress-shirt treatment. In sportier shirts, one of the most popular details is the fly-front. Here, buttons are covered by a "fly," and a center point of interest is immediately established. Other details include French cuffs on dressier shirts and various pocket treatments on sportier styles.

The mock turtleneck is one of the most popular sportier tops. It can be worn with a casual blazer, sport jacket or cardigan sweater for a "dressed down" dressy look. It's classic, clean

in line and infinitely mixable — the very same kind of dressing sensibility found in the women's market.

This notion of combining classics in new ways also accounts for the popularity of the cardigan sweater for men this spring. The cardigan is now being substituted for jackets, and is sometimes buttoned over a T-shirt or mock turtleneck and worn with a sport jacket for a "vest" effect.

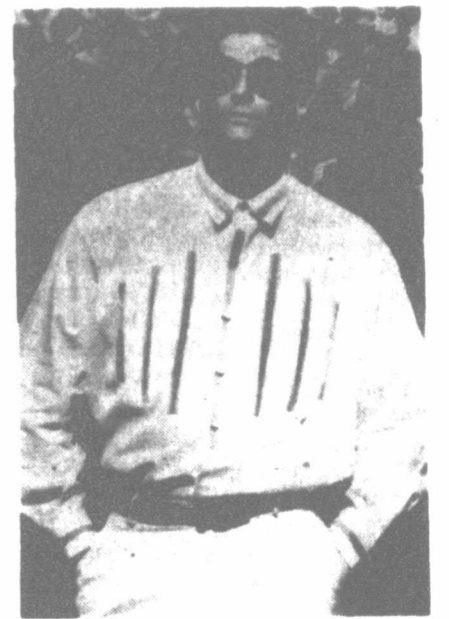
Ronaldus Shamask likes to show cardigans and V-neck pullovers topping T-shirts and worn with sport jackets. "Clothes," he says, "must be wearable... they must be adaptable to the way we live."

The way men live today is changing. Studies show that working women are doing less shopping for men, and men are more willing to be as expressive as their female counterparts. Just as more women are purchasing oversized tops for themselves in the menswear department, more men are making their own decisions about what expresses their individuality. Tops, this spring, are their surer ticket to self-expression.

The cardigan sweater, whether in solid blocks of color (soft neutrals look best) or computer-generated graphics, is just such a versatile style-maker.

"The cardigan sweater," says designer Tony Lambert, "accounts for 40 percent of my shippings for spring. A year ago, it accounted for 20 percent. Two years ago, maybe 10 percent." One of Lambert's most popular new cardigans is a madras-patterned linen cardigan in soft beiges.

Shirts are another strong entry in Lambert's collection. "The white cotton shirt in the dress-shirt department was the No. 1 seller last year," says



Gina Ferrigno's white cotton shirt detailed with vertical slashes of gold cotton at the collar, chest and cuffs.

Lambert. "Guys have been wearing T-shirts and cotton sweaters, so now people are dressing up again."

Another fashion topper this spring will be the vest. Especially for younger men, the vest is staging a knock-em-dead comeback for casual outings. That means the most popular sport outfit of the season will probably be a shirt, vest and walking shorts. Once again, taking a few separates and combining them according to one's personal taste is the big fashion news.

"Fashion," observes designer Cecilia Metheny, "is really theater. It's where men, like women, can express who they are, or would like to be."

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Readers speak up on nuisance callers

DEAR ABBY: I, too, stand by your opinion that telephoning the general public, either to sell something or to gather information for whatever purpose, is an invasion of privacy and should be abolished.

I read in the February 1989 Reader's Digest that one way to stop most "junk" phone calls is to write the Direct Marketing Association's Telephone Preference Service, 6 E. 43 St., New York, N.Y. 10017. This trade organization keeps a list of people who don't want to be bothered by sales calls. I am certainly going to write and get my name on the list.

Thank you for your many years of good, sound advice.

KATHRYN A. BEDFORD, OMAHA, NEB.

DEAR KATHRYN: And thank you for the tip. I'm also going to write to them. And if that doesn't work, read on for a stronger approach:



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I don't usually read your column, but today's on telephone soliciting grabbed me, and I want to add my support for your cause against all types of telephone intrusion.

In this case, it is unfortunate that our society has taught us that we should always be polite and considerate of others' feelings, even when they are abusing us! Most people

think that when someone calls them they must listen to the pitch or answer the questions to keep from offending the caller. In my opinion that's hogwash!

When I receive unwanted calls, I very quickly break in and tell the caller: "I object to your invading my privacy with this call. If I had wanted your product (or service) or to give you information, I would have come to you. Please remove me from your list because if I receive further calls from your company, I will report you to the Better Business Bureau and the state attorney general."

I don't remember ever having gotten a second call. Just thought I would share my solution with you.

POLITE AND FIRM
IN RADCLIFF, KY.

DEAR POLITE AND FIRM: Well, that's one way. You also can say, "I'm not interested, thank you," and hang up before the caller begins his spiel.

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All Spring Dresses... 20% Off

Rocky Mountain Jeans... 15% Off

Little Boys' and Girls' Summer Wear
Sizes 2-6 and 7-14

The Clothes Line
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Used Machine **\$39⁹⁵** and up
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Petit Point Foot Stool
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Elegant and graceful solid wood foot stool with OAK FINISH. Cushioned upholstered top in traditional tapestry pattern. Easy to assemble. 15" x 11" x 10" tall.
Powell.

5 DAY SALE
SOLID OAK CHEVAL MIRROR
Superb reproduction of the antique Cheval Mirror found in homes before the Turn of the Century. Solid Oak with adjustable full length 6 foot oval mirror. Tilt to any angle. Easy assembly. 25" x 21" x 60".
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Reg. 229.95
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Brass and Glass Serving Cart
Reg. 129.95
only **\$89.95**
Elegant display for plants & collectibles
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Reg. 39.95
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Elegant and graceful solid wood foot stool with OAK FINISH. Cushioned upholstered top in traditional tapestry pattern. Easy to assemble. 15" x 11" x 10" tall.
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NEW ARRIVAL OF PICTURES COME AND VIEW AND ENJOY. TAKE HOME IF YOU LIKE. 50% OFF ALL OLD STOCK!

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Styling to fit any home or office. Large three shelf baker's rack. Perfect for collectibles, plants, books and framed possessions. Easy to assemble. 24" x 11" x 60" tall.
Powell.

Musical Jewel Chest
only
Reg. 39.95
\$19.95
Popular reproduction of a popular fruited dresser with large mirror. Three vanity drawers provide spacious storage for your jewelry. Special fitted compartment for rings and earrings. 9" x 25" x 11" tall.
Powell.



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CHAMPIONS**

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LUBBOCK CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL GYM

PLAYOFF ACTION STARTS AT 8:00 P.M.



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**Pizza
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