

Football

Harvesters in close loss to Amarillo High, 20-16, Page 9

The Pampa News

Genesis House

Youths find family love and discipline, Page 3

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SEPTEMBER 17, 1989

SUNDAY

Syrians, Christians ignore plea to end battles

By MOHAMMED SALAM
Associated Press Writer

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Syrian and Christian gunners skirmished with mortars and machine guns around Beirut on Saturday, ignoring an urgent plea by the Arab League for an immediate end to the bloodshed.

Police said at least 12 people were wounded in sporadic clashes that continued hours after an Arab League mediation committee issued its latest call for a truce and said it is

sending an envoy Sunday to implement a peace plan.

A police spokesman, who by custom is not named, said he doubts the fighting will abate before the arrival of the delegate, Algerian diplomat Lakhdar Ibrahim.

A source at Christian Gen. Michel Aoun's army command accused the Syrians of "maintaining the provocative firing against our positions."

"Our officers have strict orders to practice maximum self-restraint. But they can't sit and watch others

attacking them without defending themselves," the source said on condition of anonymity.

Aoun did not immediately comment on the truce call, which was welcomed by his chief rival, acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss.

"This is a chance to end the crisis that might not be repeated," the Sunni Moslem leader said in a statement.

Syria also welcomed the truce call and urged "all Lebanese parties" to cooperate with the Arab League envoy, according to the

official Syrian Arab News Agency.

"The Syrian government is convinced that the implementation of these security measures will lead to preventing bloodshed and will pave the way to solving the Lebanese crisis," it quoted an unidentified official as saying.

In the United States, the call was praised by the Bush administration and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The White House welcomed the declaration as "a constructive basis upon which all parties to the conflict

in Lebanon can engage in a political process devoid of violence and coercion."

White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said the administration plans to restaff its embassy in Beirut as soon as its diplomats "can be reasonably safe and effective."

Washington evacuated its 30 diplomats in Beirut on Sept. 5 after Aoun reportedly threatened to take Americans hostage. The Maronite Catholic general denied making such a threat.

He has accused Washington of favoring Syria, saying any action against that nation could harm eight Americans held by Iranian-backed Shiite Moslem groups in Lebanon. Syria is Iran's main ally and has pledged to help free the Americans, among 16 Westerners missing in Lebanon.

Aoun, who is armed by Iraq, has vowed to drive Syria's 40,000 troops from Lebanon, charging they have betrayed an Arab League peacekeeping mandate by siding with the Moslems.

S&Ls face uncertain future, Olney exec says

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
News Editor

Despite the passage of "The Bush Bill," legislation designed to handle the Southwest's present financial crisis, the nation's financial institutions face an uncertain future, an Olney Savings & Loan executive told the Pampa Kiwanis Club Friday.

"I don't think any of us knows what the future holds as far as financial institutions are concerned," said Jeff McClatchy, Olney's executive vice president of marketing and development.

McClatchy termed the last 11 months for Olney as a "rough" period involving the combination of 11 savings and loans from throughout the state. He said the task has been a "monumental" one, but feels that much progress has been made.

"We're sensitive to the fact that some of the decisions we made, some of the things we had to do, made some people unhappy, and we're sorry about that," he said. "If you're still with us, thanks for bearing with us. If you left us because of it, give us another chance."

The time of changes for Olney and the entire banking industry will continue in the years ahead, he said.

On Aug. 9, President Bush and Congress passed legislation called "FIRREA" which McClatchy says will "create major changes in the thrift and banking industry." FIRREA stands for Financial Institutions Reform Recovery and Enforcement Act.

The bill incorporates four main features, McClatchy explained. First, it addresses the huge

Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) deficit, he said. FSLIC died with the passage of the bill.

Also, a number of savings institutions now in the marketplace will be consolidated, the savings and loan executive said. He predicted that at least 200 savings and loans will be closed in the near future.

FDIC now holds the insurance for all accounts, but it is divided into the Bank Insurance Fund (BIF) and the Savings Association Insurance Fund (SAIF).

All deposits will continue to be insured up to \$100,000 per account, but the insurance programs will be maintained separately, he said. "There will be no co-mingling of funds. And all will be a part of the Treasury Department," he said.

Second, McClatchy said FIRREA will restructure federal regulations to fit the framework of governing thrifts (savings and loans). The newly formed Federal Home Loan Bank, the federal lending avenue for savings and loans, will no longer be involved in the regulation and supervision of the banking industry, he added. It will function as a bank only.

The new regulatory and supervisory agency, McClatchy said, will be the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) that is subject to review by the Secretary of the Treasurer. OTS and the FDIC will be jointly responsible for the regulation of the nation's financial industry, he said.

Third, the new laws will require thrifts to become more like banks. McClatchy said he expects savings and loans to be required to have a broader capital base than they have in the past.

"This will move banks and thrifts closer to being the same type of institutions," he said. "I think in time we'll have 'a' financial institution."

Fourth, and perhaps the most frightening, McClatchy said, is the expansion of enforcement powers with the formation of Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC), a liquidating company that will handle the liquidation of property turned back to the financial institutions.

"There's a lot of concern about how (RTC) will behave and how they'll go about doing their job," McClatchy commented. The agency will have control of approximately \$5 billion in property in Texas alone, he said. Its handling of the property could have a profound effect on real estate in Texas' already troubled economy, he said.

McClatchy predicted that though managers of financial institutions are in for "rough" times ahead as they implement the new legislation, the consumers will probably benefit from the changes.

"The competition will be great," he said, explaining that crossovers between banks' traditional commercial deposits and savings and loans' home loans will translate to the consumer as better services and more competitive rates.

"We've got a bunch of great people up here," McClatchy said, referring to Pampa Olney's Bill Duncan and Joan Vining, the institution's Eastern Division head Ed Sweet, and Western Division head Bill Zimmerman of Amarillo. "I think with them and all the hard work they've done we can begin to get closer to normal. But don't get me wrong, there's still some rocky road out there. The story's not over. We're not through with the chapter yet."



(Staff photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

McClatchy addresses Pampa Kiwanis members at their Friday luncheon meeting.

Dr. Malcolm Brown Jr. hailed for his cellulose research

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles about former Pampa science fair winners and their careers and accomplishments since then. Elaine Ledbetter is a former science instructor at Pampa High School.

By ELAINE W. LEDBETTER
Guest Writer

Dr. R. Malcolm Brown Jr. has earned an international reputation for his work with cellulose.

Cellulose is the chief substance that makes up the cell wall and fibers of all plant tissues. Cotton and wood are the main sources of cellulose, which is essential to the manufacture of many important products.

Among these products requiring cellulose are paper, photographic film, adhesives, explosives and numerous hospital materials such as gauze, bandages, etc.

Although many laboratories throughout the world are engaged in the study of various aspects of cellulose, Dr. Brown and his associates are concentrating on its biosynthesis. This involves the production of cellulose in a test tube — away from a living cell.

Since this is a difficult and complicated process, only very few research teams have undertaken it.

However, Brown has been a pioneer in that field, and through his efforts the few laboratories that are also pursuing this area of research are able to communicate with each other.

Brown explains the importance of such research in this way:

"We are using a cellulose-producing bacterium which grows in a culture medium of glucose (sugar) fortified with certain vitamins and supplied with oxygen.

"Cellulose produced in this way has several advantages over that produced by wood or cotton. First, we can alter the physical characteristics of it while it is growing; secondly, microbially produced cellulose cuts many of the expensive and time-consuming operations required in conventional methods of production."

He looks forward to the time when this process can be used commercially to produce large quantities of cellulose inexpensively.

During the past 12 years, Brown and his students have been able to disrupt the crystallization phase of the cellulose microfibril assembly by using fluorescent brightening agents and cellulosic dyes. According to him, "These studies have increased our understanding of the various mechanisms leading to microfibril formation."

In 1976, Brown was able to see and photograph bacteria actually making cellulose. This provided the first confirmation of a theory which had been previously proposed.

The close relationship between scientific discoveries and technology is clearly evident in this breakthrough. Without the electron microscope, video cameras and photographic film that is extremely light-sensitive, time lapse pictures of such cellular activity would be impossible.

As though to confirm this relationship, Dr. Brown said, "Our lab here at the University of Texas has the finest optical equipment money can buy. Among other things, we have a \$300,000 electron microscope which is one of the most advanced in the world. It can magnify molecules almost one million times, which is comparable to reading a deck of cards on the moon while standing here on earth!"

This laboratory complex was designed by Brown and his research assistant, Richard Santos. It contains a cell culture lab, a germ-free room for the preparation of cultures, rooms with variable light and temperature control, and a walk-in refrigerated room.

In addition, they have in connection with this biochemistry lab, a word-processing room and labs for special purposes. Work areas for students are also provided.

Brown first became interested in botany while taking a course from Dr. Harold Bold at the University of Texas. His work as a lab assistant to Dr. Bold led to his acceptance for a summer study at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass., in 1959 while still an undergraduate student.

He received the bachelor of arts degree in botany with minors in chemistry and zoology from UT in 1961 and earned the Ph.D. in botany there in 1964.

He was appointed assistant professor in 1965 and in 1968 spent a sabbatical year at the University of Freiburg in Germany under a grant from the National Science Foundation.

While there studying with world-renowned research scientists, he improved his skills with the electron microscope and learned a number of new techniques. One of these was known as "freeze etching." It was by using this technique that he was able to obtain the first convincing proof that cellulose is assembled on the cell surface.

In 1969, Brown accepted an assistant professorship at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he taught courses, directed the electron microscopy laboratory and continued his research for 13 years. In 1982, he returned to the University of Texas to assume the Johnson & Johnson Centennial Chair in Plant Cell Biology.

Among the various awards Brown has received are the Darbaker Prize in Phycology, 1979, for meritorious study of freshwater algae; the Lamb Award, which is presented annually by the University of Nebraska to an outstanding American botanist, 1980; and the Anselme Payen Award presented by the Cellulose, Paper and Textile Division of the American Chemical Society, 1986.

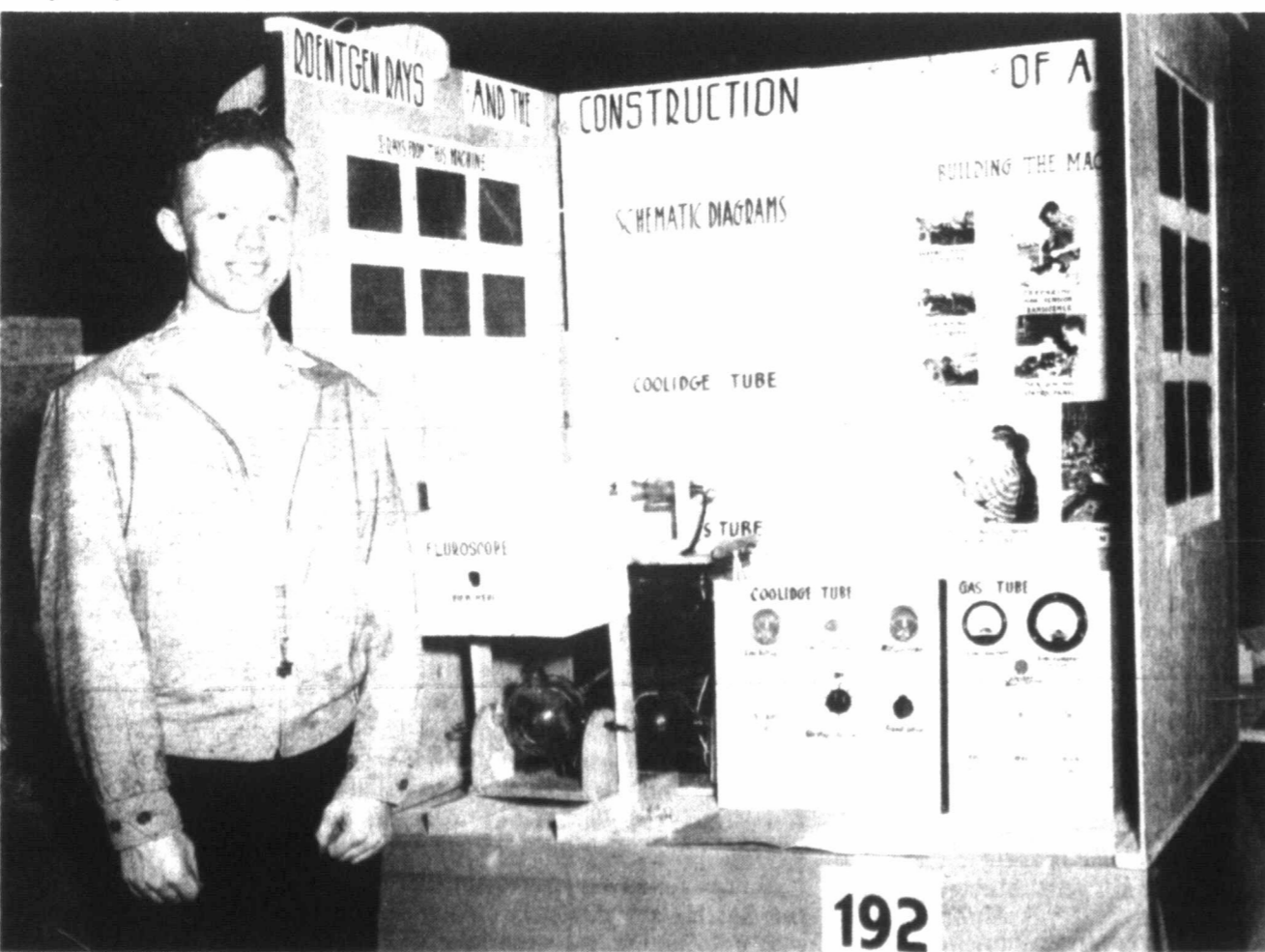
In 1983, Brown was elected a fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science. In addition, he has organized and chaired numerous international symposia and has been invited to present papers and seminars worldwide. He holds several patents and has authored three books and more than 100 publications.

The fact that Brown's work has attracted visiting faculty from seven foreign countries as well as many universities here in the States and that foundations, laboratories and commercial companies have contributed some \$2.5 million to support his research indicates the impact it is having throughout the world.

Dr. Brown graduated from Pampa High School in the spring of 1957. It was that spring that the very first Panhandle Regional Science Fair was held. His project was judged one of the two best in the fair, earning him a trip to the National Science Fair in Anaheim, Calif.

He was on the annual staff three years and served as the editor of *The Harvester* yearbook his senior year. He won the biology award in his sophomore year, was vice president of the National Honor Society, was a member of Quill and Scroll and was voted most talented boy all three years.

See BROWN, Page 2



Brown with his winning science fair project at the National Science Fair in Anaheim, Calif., in 1957. He had constructed an operable X-ray tube.



Dr. Brown discusses a research problem with one of his students.

Plane crash kills six people, including a reunited couple

MAYFIELD, Ky. (AP) — A plane crash killed all six people aboard, including a man and his wife who had just been reunited after she was reported missing and then found wandering on a Florida beach.

Belinda Yancey, 33, who police believe was abducted Monday, was traveling home with her husband, Charles, when the plane's wing struck a tree and crashed into a nearby open field at 9:20 p.m. CDT Friday, authorities said. Charles Yancey had traveled to Florida to bring back his wife.

The other victims were identified as pilot John Haag, of Georgia; and Mayfield residents Terry Sanders and his wife, Melissa; and the Rev. Charles Nelson. Ages of the other victims were not immediately available.

The twin-engine Beechcraft BE-10, which departed from Orlando, Fla., was approaching the runway at the Mayfield-Graves County airport near this southwestern Kentucky community in the fog.

A state police dispatcher said the weather may have caused the crash. "This is a real nasty night," she said, declining to be identified.

Family members had been

relieved by the discovery of Mrs. Yancey.

When she was located on Thursday afternoon, Mayfield police Capt. Bob Crawford said, "We're thankful that she is unharmed. She is safe and I know the family feels their prayers have been answered."

Mrs. Yancey, who taught the hearing impaired at Mayfield High School, was found when she wandered up to a lifeguard on a beach at Daytona Beach, Fla., and reported that she was lost, authorities said.

She was disoriented and didn't know her name, said Sgt. Carroll Rountree of the Volusia County, Fla., Rangers. Mrs. Yancey finally remembered her name and hometown after talking to Rountree for about two hours, he said.

Based on statements she made to Florida authorities, Mrs. Yancey may have been drugged with Valium by her abductor, who remained at large, Crawford said.

Mrs. Yancey told authorities that "they kept giving me little blue pills," Crawford said.

In interviews with authorities and relatives, she could not recall how she got to Florida and was unable to identify who drove her there, Crawford said.

Nursing home deaths trial attracts crowd

By LISA PERLMAN
Associated Press Writer

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) — Along with the 14 jurors, about 60 people have been crowding daily into a Kent County courtroom to hear details of what was either the senseless murder of five nursing home patients or an elaborate lie by a jilted lesbian lover.

The first two days of testimony in the murder trial of former nurse's aide Gwendolyn Graham have shocked many spectators in this conservative community, many of whom have relatives in the home where the alleged 1987 slayings occurred.

Graham, 26, of Tyler, Texas, is charged with five counts of first-degree murder and one count of conspiracy to murder for allegedly suffocating five severely incapacitated patients with a washcloth. If convicted, she faces mandatory life without parole.

The prosecution continues presenting its case Monday.

Ruth Cain's mother was a patient at Alpine Manor Nursing Home in Walker when the alleged slayings occurred. The elder Cain still resides there, mainly because there's a two-to-three-year waiting list to get into other area nursing homes.

"I remember Gwen Graham from my visits," Cain said. "One day she'd be really decent, and the next day she'd act like she didn't know you."

Cain remembers one other thing about Graham: She always had a washcloth dangling from

her back pocket, something Cain thought strange even then.

"I knew you weren't supposed to use the same washcloth from one patient to the next," she said.

Jan and Gary Hunderman, daughter and son-in-law of alleged victim Marguerite Chambers, have vowed not to miss a day of testimony.

"I want to be here for mom," Mrs. Hunderman said, holding back tears.

They have heard Catherine Wood, Graham's alleged accomplice and now the prosecution's key witness, describe the alleged suffocation of Chambers, who suffered from advanced Alzheimer's disease.

"Marguerite was making noises ... she was jerking," Wood testified last week.

Wood, 27, has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for her part in the alleged crimes. She and Graham lived together as lovers between the summers of 1986 and 1987. The alleged slayings occurred in the first half of 1987.

Wood has testified Graham killed the patients "because it relieved tension" and found pleasure in bathing the body of one victim to prepare it for the funeral home.

Wood said she went along with the killings, sometimes acting as a lookout, because the two had made a pact they hoped would bind their love.

The nursing home has brought in a psychiatrist to deal with patients, their families and employees while the highly publicized trial continues, Alpine Manor spokeswoman Ginny

Seyferth said Friday.

"Many of them didn't know them, so they can separate themselves," Seyferth said of the patients. "It's the goriness, the bizarreness of the story that they're afraid of or don't understand."

Testimony in the case has included explicit details about the large percentage of lesbians working at the home and their sexual practices.

"At Alpine Manor, everybody was sleeping with everybody," Wood testified. She also said bondage was not unusual for the pair, but that Graham once tried to suffocate her when she was tied to their bed and another time threatened her with a gun during sex.

Defense attorney James Piazza contends Wood invented the story as a means of revenge against Graham for leaving her for another woman.

In cross-examination, Wood admitted she once believed she would not be charged because she was cooperating with police. Wood faces up to life imprisonment but will be eligible for parole in 10 years.

Graham left Michigan after the slayings occurred and took a job at a hospital in her Texas hometown. Wood said she decided to confess because Graham allegedly told her she was tempted to kill babies at the hospital.

"I had to stop her somehow," Wood testified Thursday.

The prosecution's case is based almost entirely on Wood's testimony. The soft-spoken woman, who said her weight once reached 450 pounds, cried often during her two days of testimony.

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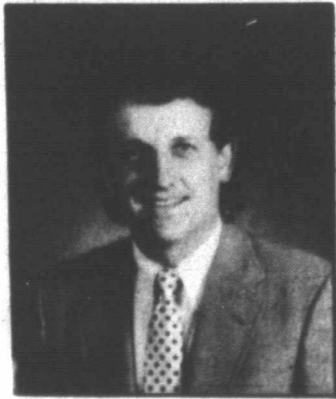
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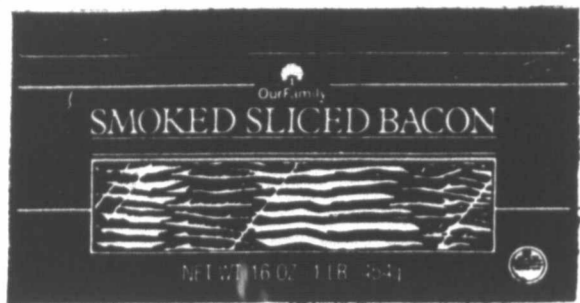
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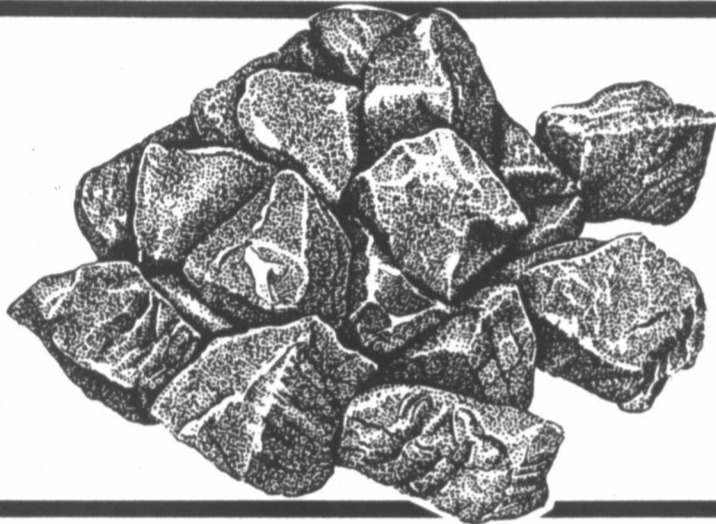
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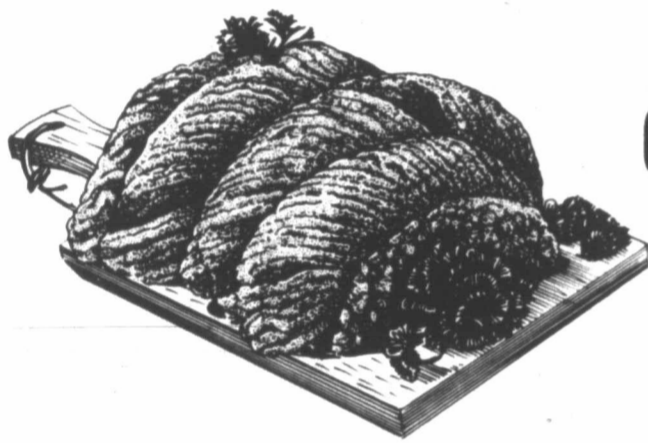
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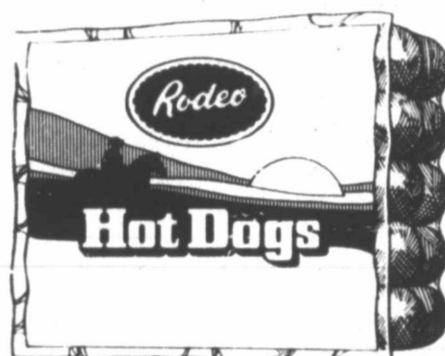
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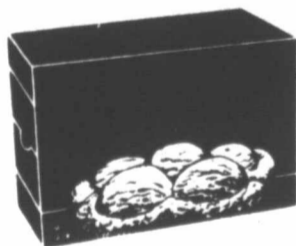
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Participants in the Special Bowling Tournament and Fundraiser sponsored by the Men's and Women's Bowling Association include (front row, from left): George Pierce, Trent Loter, Mary Albus. Back row: Gaylynn Smith, David Wagner, Greg Counts, Taisey Phillips and Jamie Arabela.



Over 40 volunteers from the community donated their time to bowl in the special tournament. Participants include (front row): Amy Hammer, Jennifer Rhoden and Shelia Coble. Back row: Steve Counts, Donald Stewart, Hank Vinson, Shane Chaney and Angie Richardson.

Pampa Sheltered Workshop

*Meeting the Needs
of
Some Very 'Special People'*

Mental retardation is not mental illness.

Mentally retarded individuals are more like you than different, only the individual's ability to learn and development is slowed down.

"Socialization is the key," says Ruth Durkee, director of Pampa Sheltered Workshop and Activity Center adding "Special Olympics has helped to bring mental retardation out of the closet."

Pampa Sheltered Workshop is a business that offers employment and recreational activities for mentally retarded individuals in the community. Community contracts include putting together boxes for Titan Industries; shrink wrapping greeting cards for "State of the Heart" a locally owned business formed by Betty Hallerberg and Mary Eita Smith; assembling picnic packs for Warner Horton and Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ; packaging Dyer's party favors; preparing mail-outs for Haydon Chiropractic Clinic, collating cookbooks and safety manuals for the Chamber of Commerce; and stripping copper wire received from Celanese.

According to Durkee, individuals must be 21 years of age to be able to work at the Sheltered Workshop. All workers are paid every two weeks on a piece-rate basis commensurate with his or her ability.

Success stories, individuals who have gone out into the community and are employed by local businesses, include Peggy Goad and Angie Richardson, who work for IRI; Randy Sewell, who works at Wal-Mart; Mark McMinn, who works for Cabot R&D; and David Wagner, who works for Food Emporium.

The Workshop is a participating Agency in the Pampa United Way and is supported on many levels by community organizations through donations and volunteer activities.

The Workshop is governed by a board of advisors made up of teachers, parents and professionals from within the community.

Altrusa Club is hosting an open house for Pampa Sheltered Workshop on Oct. 10 beginning at 7 p.m.

Area residents are invited to tour the workshop setting and visit with Durkee, her staff and volunteers about the program. Certificates of appreciation will be awarded to local businesses and organizations for their continued support of the program.

In 1968, services for the mentally handicapped began in Pampa with a program for "special" preschool children. In 1969 a post-school program was started for teens and youth in their early 20s. The workshop was officially started in 1975 in cooperation with the Amarillo State Center for Human Development. There it operated until May 1984 at the First-Presbyterian Church, when the workshop moved into its present location at 1301 W. Somerville. Gray County Association for Retarded Citizens (GCARC), Imogene McMinn, president, raised the funds through community support that provided the new building and its maintenance.

McMinn says the GCARC provides athletic opportunities through Special Olympics for the 26 individuals in the Sheltered Workshop program and those individuals in special classes in the Pampa Independent School District special education system. They provide registrations fees and as needed medical exams, which are required of all athletes participating.

GCARC also gives medical assistance for eye glasses, hearing aids, and other items needed by the workshop's clients. They also furnish scholarships to educational seminars related to programs for the retarded and scholarships to area camps (New Dawn and Camp Wigwam). McMinn adds that these camps for retarded citizens help them experience what it's like to be away from familiar surroundings and home and is a definite growth experience.

In 1989, the GCARC spent more than \$7,000 for Special Olympics for area and state competitions in field and track, basketball and bowling.

Since 1969 individuals from

Pampa Sheltered Workshop and within the school system have been bowling free every week at Harvester Lanes.

The Pampa Women's and Men's Bowling Association sponsored for the second year a special bowling tournament and fund raiser for GCARC to help benefit the Workshop and Special Olympics.

This year the tournament raised more than \$2,115. Individuals and businesses who made donations to the tournament include: Earnestine B. Ammons; Auto Specialists; B&B Solvent; T.W. Bartlett Lumber Co.; Vernon & Jo Bell; Rena Bonds; James Bradley; Eudell Burnett; C&H Tank Truck; Cabot Corp., Technology Div.; Elizabeth Carr; Case Power & Equipment; Clark's Propane; Bob Conway - Speck's Chemical; Mable Crossland; Gene & Ruth Durkee; Dyer's Barbecue; Jim Eakin; First National Bank; First Bank & Trust Co.; Gene Gregurek, Jr.; Jolene Hapeman - Little Chef; Harvester Lanes Cafe.

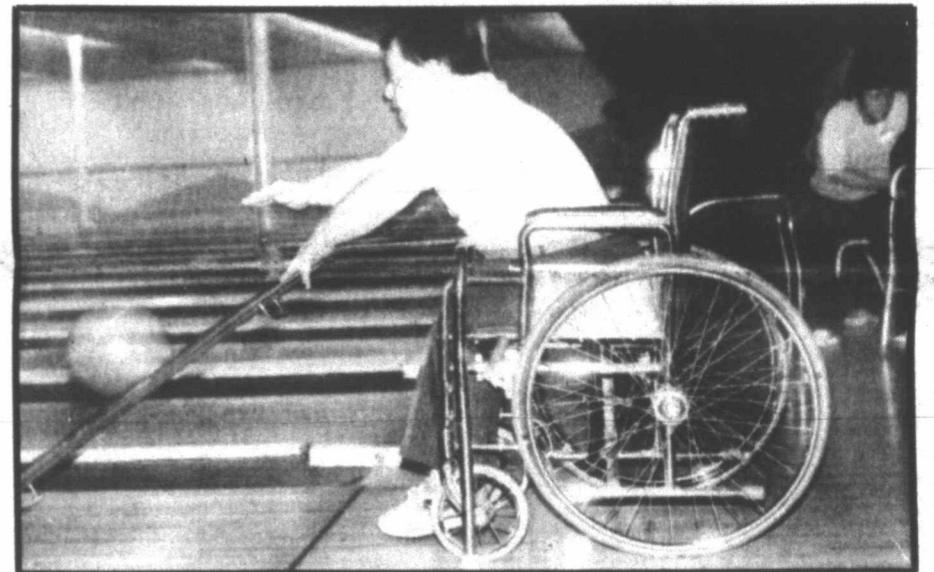
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Donations and memorials can be made to the Gray County Association for Retarded Citizens by writing P.O. Box 885, Pampa, 79066-0885.



Funds raised in the amount of \$2115 will go to the Gray County Retarded Citizens Association to help send individuals to the Special Olympics. Standing are Gary Carr and Ronald Sigler. Seated front from left: Danny Goad, Jay Koch, Waunetta Knott and Peggy Goad.



Dicky Hendricks has been working at the workshop for about 10 years and lives in one of two group homes sponsored by the Workshop. He uses a bowling ramp to aid in getting the ball down the lane.



Eudell Burnett, president of the Women's Bowling Association, started off the day's bowling activities with a welcome to all the players and thank you's to all the sponsors. Front row: Hector Estrada, Laqueta Smith and Velva Biggs. Back row: Liberty Bloxon, Cordell Schneider and Mark McMinn.

Lifestyles

Story & Photography by Kayla Pursley



Following the invocation given by Mark McMinn, bowlers took up their places and the fun began. Front row: Debbie Shay, Dickie Hendricks and Randy Sewell. Back row: Teresa Trask, Mary Helen Rivera, Joel Harmon, David Dean and Anita Thompson.



Jim Eakin, president of the Men's Bowling Association, introduced the bowlers and their sponsors. Participants included (front row): Rita Diaz, Brent Massey and Linda Beth Salmon. Back row: Steve Counts, Randy Swires and Greg Counts.

WTSU plans Career Day for students Sept. 21

The West Texas State University office of career planning and placement and the Amarillo College office of student job placement will host more than 100 employer representatives at the annual Career Day Thursday, Sept. 21. Career Day is open to all interested individuals from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Activities Center Ballroom, Room 202, on the WTSU campus.

"This is not a job fair and even though some of the companies may have openings, the purpose of Career Day is the dissemination of information," Gene Parker, director of career planning and placement at WTSU, said.

"This is an excellent opportunity for students as well as for individuals in the community who have been displaced, are considering job changes or are returning to school." Company agents available on

Career Day represent the government (state and federal), education, business and industry, health care agencies, the military and the professions.

"Most of the representatives are human relations specialists for personnel departments who understand the variety of careers their companies offer. Career Day is a preview for the job search and can inform individuals about the qualities and abilities people need in order to enter certain positions," Parker said.

Career Day, beneficial to hour-and-wage personnel as well as salaried employees, is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the office of career planning and placement at West Texas State University at 806-656-2345 or the office of student job placement at Amarillo College at 806-371-5314.

From cowpokes to cattle drives, Neiman Marcus goes western

By CHIP BROWN
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Neiman Marcus, seller of sumptuous fantasies for 81 years, is inviting its well-heeled clientele to put on a pair of spurs and recapture the Wild West.

The Dallas-based retailer Tuesday began delivery of its Christmas catalog, the annual wishbook of the wealthy. For one cowpoke with \$108,000, Neiman Marcus will sell a hand-tooled saddle by Edward H. Bohlin Co., lavishly furnished with sterling silver and 18-karat gold.

A cowboy ain't a cowboy without a horse, so for \$4,000 and up Neiman Marcus is offering a selection of champion bloodline painted horses from the Real Ranch in Kerrville. Buyers can choose from 1989 weanlings and up — from black to

bay.

Those wishing to relive the great cattle drives of the Old West can reserve a pony to chase herd a weekend at the Y.O. Ranch, also near Kerrville. There is room for 150 people to attend the ranch's 110th anniversary in April 1990.

"I do not recommend this for pussyfooters," said Jan Roberts, a Neiman Marcus spokeswoman.

To give prospective ropers across the country an equal shot at the event, Neiman Marcus has set 11 a.m. CDT Oct. 18 as the time it will begin taking reservations. The weekend costs \$627 for a double occupancy room.

"Texas is really in right now,"

Ms. Roberts said. "From the president to Lonesome Dove, Texas and the West are in vogue. And because Neiman Marcus is from Texas, we thought we should get back to our roots and pay tribute to our heritage."

The catalog includes more whimsical gifts with a Western flavor, including teepee salt and pepper shakers and a replica of the badge deputized lawmen once fashioned.

In recent years, Neiman Marcus has offered a spangled cat, his-and-her mummy cases and giant hot air balloons.

The catalog always contains several pages of furs and a coat of Rus-

sian lynx bellies selling for \$150,000 ranks.

For fisherman who can't wait to see what they are reeling in, an 8-foot glass-bottom boat is available for \$1,800.

The catalog does not leave out the pet or pet lover. In a section titled "From Santa Paws," the catalog features townhouses for tomcats and beds for bulldogs along with a cat collar lined with fish-shaped pearls.

The 130-page catalog does not simply cater to those just under royalty either, Ms. Roberts said.

"This year we have six pages dedicated to gifts for \$26 or less," she said.

No truth to stinky story of Stalin at Yalta Conference

DEAR ABBY: After reading about those smelly non-bathers in your column, I was reminded of something I had read some years ago. It was reported that the course of history might have been changed if one very powerful dictator had been a more frequent bather.

As the story goes, when Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt and Joseph Stalin met at Yalta in 1945 for the Yalta Conference, Russia's strongest bargaining chip was the fact that Stalin's body odor was so overpowering that Roosevelt and Churchill would have given him anything he wanted just to end the meeting and get some fresh air!

I was told that this was a true story.

TOM E. CLARKE, SEATTLE

DEAR TOM: In order to verify this story, I contacted James Roosevelt (now 81), the eldest son of the last President Roosevelt, since James' official title had been "assistant to the president." James said: "I wasn't at Yalta with my father, but I seriously doubt if there's any truth to that story about Stalin. Why don't you call my brother, Elliot? Perhaps he knows something about it." Then he gave me Elliot's telephone number.

I called Elliot (now 79), who said: "I wasn't at Yalta either — our sister, Anna, was. Anna died in 1975 at the age of 69, but if Stalin had smelled that bad at Yalta, I'm sure Anna would have gotten wind of it."

DEAR ABBY: I recently became engaged and have been researching wedding etiquette. My most valuable source has been your book, "Dear Abby on Planning Your Wedding." However, I have a particular problem that was not addressed in your book.

Several years ago, I was engaged to another man, and I asked "Debbie," who was my dearest friend at the time, to be my matron of honor. She readily accepted. Within six months, my fiance and I realized it would be a mistake to marry, so we amicably split.

During the last several years, Debbie and I lost the close contact we once had. (She now lives out of state.) I am making plans for my wedding, and want to know if I should ask Debbie to be my matron of honor again since it was promised to her once but not delivered. Or am I free to ask someone else? I would ask Debbie to be one of my bridal attendants, but reserve the matron of honor position to someone with whom I now have a close, warm friendship.

PLANNING MY WEDDING

DEAR PLANNING: The wedding you are now planning has an entirely new cast of characters — beginning with your leading man. So you need not feel even the slightest tinge of guilt for selecting a new matron of honor.

Debbie surely is aware that you are no longer the close friends you once were, so she



Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

should be delighted to be included in your bridal party. Under the circumstances, I think you are being very considerate.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law's wedding anniversary is coming up, and, unfortunately, she will not be celebrating it with her husband because he passed away four months ago. He was my favorite brother, and I was a bridesmaid in their wedding party 29 years ago.

Would it be appropriate for me to remember my sister-in-law on her anniversary date? And if so, have you any suggestions for me? Thank you.

SISSIE

DEAR SISSIE: If she lives in your city, invite her to have dinner with you on the anniversary date. If she lives in another city, send her flowers or a lovely card with a warm message saying, "Could I forget this date? Never!" And sign it, "With love, Sissie."

DEAR ABBY: My husband's former wife, Velma, with whom we have remained on fairly good terms, invited us to her home for a party. She is now married to a very well-to-do man.

Velma told me it was going to be a costume party, so my husband and I dressed up like a couple of rabbits.

Imagine our surprise when the butler opened the door and ushered us into a room filled with men in tuxedos and women in stunning gowns! We felt like a couple of fools. Velma laughed and said she thought it was funny. I was very upset to have been made the butt of her joke, so I got myself a glass of punch and spilled it on her gown. Then I laughed and told her I thought it was funny. However, she didn't see anything funny about it.

My husband isn't speaking to me, and he thinks I owe Velma an apology. What should I do?

A WIFE IN NEED

DEAR WIFE: Send Velma a bunch of carrots, and tell her you're sorry.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has a terminal illness. The doctor said they don't know how long he'll last. Would it be proper for me to wear a large black picture hat with a wide brim and a black sheer veil over it for his

funeral? My friend says veils are worn only with small hats, but I am a large woman and don't look good in small hats. Also, could I wear a black tailored gabardine suit with a green and blue flowered blouse? Or must I wear all black? If I wear all black, would it be all right to wear one large piece of costume jewelry? And if I wore black hose and black gloves, would people think I was overdoing it?

PREPARING AHEAD

DEAR PREPARING: Don't go overboard on getting an outfit together — he might live!

DEAR ABBY: I wanted to call up my postmaster and tell him a thing or two because I knew he ate my pension check, but I couldn't find his telephone number in the book. I called information, and that's when I found out he had an unlisted number! That really made me mad, so since I knew where he lived, I drove to his house and told his wife off.

Abby, as a taxpayer, I would like to know why a public servant like a postmaster would have an unlisted telephone number?

TAXPAYER

DEAR TAXPAYER: It is probably to protect him from people who "know" he ate their pension checks.

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America is home of the free and the brave — and the fat

By PAUL RECER
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States may be land of the free and home of the brave, but it's also the country of the fat.

A researcher on obesity says that 33 million adult Americans, about 20 percent of the adult population, are significantly obese, giving the United States one of the highest populations of fat people in the world.

"It's clear that significant obesity appears to be more prevalent in the United States than elsewhere," Dr. George A. Bray, a professor of medicine at Louisiana State University, said.

"The greater the excess weight, the greater excess risk" of resulting health problems, he said.

Obesity is a public health concern only in Europe and North America, and the percentage of significantly

overweight people is highest by far in the United States, Bray said.

The scientist said researchers don't know why there is a higher percentage of fat adults in America than elsewhere, though he suggests it could be because of the highly mechanized U.S. civilization that makes it easy to avoid walking or climbing stairs.

Bray says statistics suggest Americans are eating a better diet now — avoiding meats and other foods high in animal fats — but the number of significantly obese people "continues to creep up."

The effects of excess weight is showing up in health studies that show the obese are suffering more heart attacks, more high blood pressure, more diabetes and more gall bladder disease.

Being extremely fat, Bray said, is only slightly less of a health risk than smoking two packs of cigarettes a

day. Bray, president-elect of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity, said doctors consider significant obesity to be a weight about 30 percent above what would be ideal for a person's age, stature and gender.

Thus, a man whose ideal weight is 170 to 180 pounds becomes "significantly" obese if his weight balloons to 221 to 234. At that point, he becomes almost twice as likely to develop a life-shortening ailment, Bray said.

But numbers on the weight scale don't tell the full story.

"It's not just how fat you are, but where the fat is located, that will determine your risk," said Bray.

Researchers now believe that fat located within the abdominal cavity poses a greater health hazard than

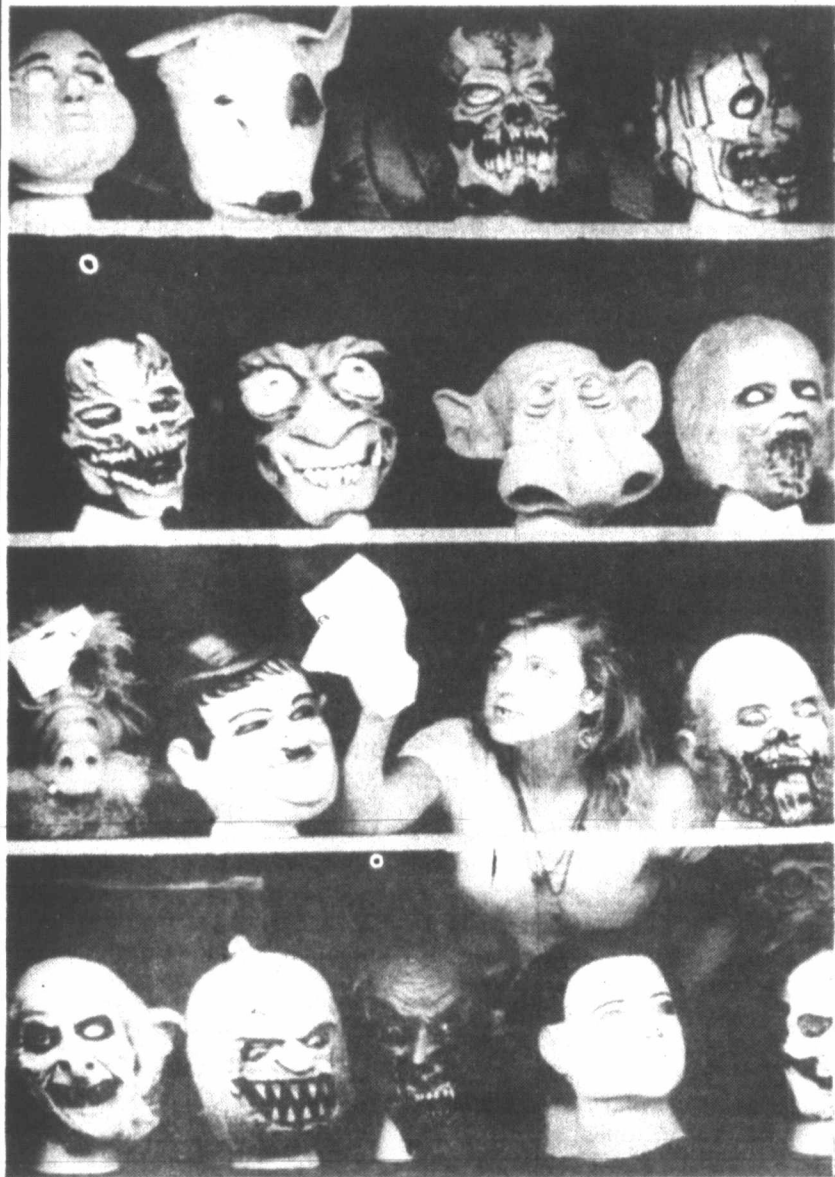
does fat located in the extremities or just under the skin. "The reasons for this are not clear," said Bray. "The most widely accepted explanation is that when you've got more fat in your belly around your organs, it is that fat that is released when you eat fatty acids."

Because of its proximity, such fat is thought to go directly to the liver, where "it sets up risk factors that we associate with heart disease, diabetes, hypertension and gall bladder disease," he said.

Adult men, said Bray, seem most at risk of developing this unhealthy deposit of abdominal fat. Age also plays a factor, he added, because few children or young adults develop this type of fat deposit.

"For women, the visceral fat doesn't seem to increase until there is a lot of total fat," he said. "Women are protected against visceral fat to some degree, for some reason."

Head case



(AP Laserphoto)

Jean Fry of the Utopia costume store in Norwak, Conn., cleans the front window of the store apparently oblivious to all the weird characters crowding around her. The store is preparing for the upcoming Halloween season by displaying the various masks it has ready to sell to would-be goblins and haunts.

U.S. youth suffer from videos, poor diets

By LEE BYRD
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's youngsters are suffering an "ominous" decline in cardiovascular health from poor eating habits, inadequate physical training at school and their growing preference for video games over the playground variety, according to a decade-long study.

An annual random sampling from the millions of boys and girls who participated in the Chrysler Fund-Amateur Athletic Union's fitness testing program shows a 10 percent decline in average scores for distance runs — the component measuring aerobic endurance, or heart and lung strength.

And, in the same 1980-89 period, there was also a major dropoff, from 43 percent to 32 percent, in those who achieved at least "satisfactory" scores in the entire test, despite some improvement in muscular strength.

"We've really got a problem here," said Wynn F. Updyke, direc-

tor of the Chrysler-sponsored AAU Physical Fitness Program, which now enrolls 9.7 million youngsters aged 6 to 17.

"The cardiovascular trend is ominous, based on what we know about the link between heart disease and inactivity and nutritional bad habits," he said.

'Kids are saving their competitive instincts for Nintendo ... instead of kick-the-can.'

At a news conference, Updyke, an associate dean at Indiana University, cited a variety of causes for the poorer aerobic showings, including less emphasis on physical training in the schools. Only one state, Illinois, now requires physical education for children in all grades, he noted.

And "technology, at best, has been a mixed blessing," he said, because "kids are saving their competitive instincts for Nintendo and other computer games instead of

kick-the-can and other physical activity."

The program's printed report, based on a sample of 12,000 youngsters whose test scores were picked at random each year, also applied the word "ominous" to the creeping weight gain observed for most age groups over the decade. Children of all school ages, 6 to 17, were measured by the tests.

There was no perceptible increase in height for the various age groups, so the weight gains were attributed to poor dietary and physical habits, it said. For example, girls aged 12 and 13 averaged 61.5 inches in height in both 1980 and 1989, but they were 9.2 pounds

heavier, at 112, this year. Boys aged 14-17 actually were more than an inch shorter, on average, this year — at 5 feet 7 1/2 — but weighed nearly five pounds more, at 142.

The program involves a battery of AAU tests dating to 1943, though the report released Thursday was the first decade-long study based on annual testing.

For all age brackets, it consisted of an endurance run, pullups (boys) or flexed arm hang (girls), a "sit and reach" test for flexibility, regular situps and one of five optional events to demonstrate motor skills — long jump, sprint, shuttle run, modified pushup, isometric pushup or isometric squat.

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City trying out recycling

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The city is looking for neighborhoods willing to take part in an experimental recycling program in which residents would sort their garbage and separate disposable plastic, glass and metal.

Proposals are being solicited from contractors who would act as Corpus Christi's materials broker for the recyclable items and determine how much reusable waste residents produce.

"Recycling is no longer a buzz word," said Mayor Betty Turner. "It

is a national necessity."

The voluntary program would last 18 to 24 months, and require participation of at least two garbage routes that include 1,800 to 2,000 residences, said Assistant City Manager Jesus Garza.

Specially tagged bags would identify the sorted contents to be picked up on a special garbage route. The city has not yet determined how to select the test neighborhoods, but officials are hoping that groups of residents will volunteer.

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Today's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS 56 Lair

- 1 Illuminated
4 Breakfast food
9 Fleur-de...
12 Not high
13 Lincoln Center offering
14 Light... feather
15 Beerlike drink
16 Very unpleasant
17 Heart
18 Actor Sal...
20 Diving gear
22 LL.B.
23 Commandment
26... even keel
27 What mascara is put on
29 Spoil
30 Non-Jew
32 Well-informed
33 Voodoo cult deity
35 More zesty
38 Openings
39 Actor Ron...
40 At all
42 Salary increase
44 Oklahoma Indian
45 Eastern title
46 Rare gas
50 Women's patriotic soc.
51 Put
52 Vanity
53 Guido's high note
54 Opposite of post
55 Leers at

DOWN

- 1 South American animal
2 Crystalline gem
3 Score
4 Singer Sonny
5 Wallaba tree
6 These (Fr.)
7 Food scrap
8 Negatives
9 Gap
10 Line on map
11 Plastic wrap
19 Monocle
21 Funny plays
23 Resembling wool
24 Star-shaped

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Crossword grid showing the previous puzzle's answers: THY ROYAL TYE, HOI EMERY HOT, ESP CATER EGO, NEEDY IRWIN, DCC DCI, THE LOSE SEGO, HOW EFTS ESAU, IRED FIAT TIT, SARI ERLE ENS, LAR TSE, ROLLS TEACH, HOE HAIFA TIO, EPI FLAT TAR, ASS STONE YON.

- 25 Barnyard sound
28 Civil War general
31 Lower limb
33 Camp
34 Pacifier
36 Avoided
37 Entertain
38 Seize
41 Showed anew
43 Montreal ballplayer
44 Units
47 Energy unit
48 Zero
49 Elaborate poem

Crossword grid for today's puzzle.

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GEECH

By Jerry Bittle



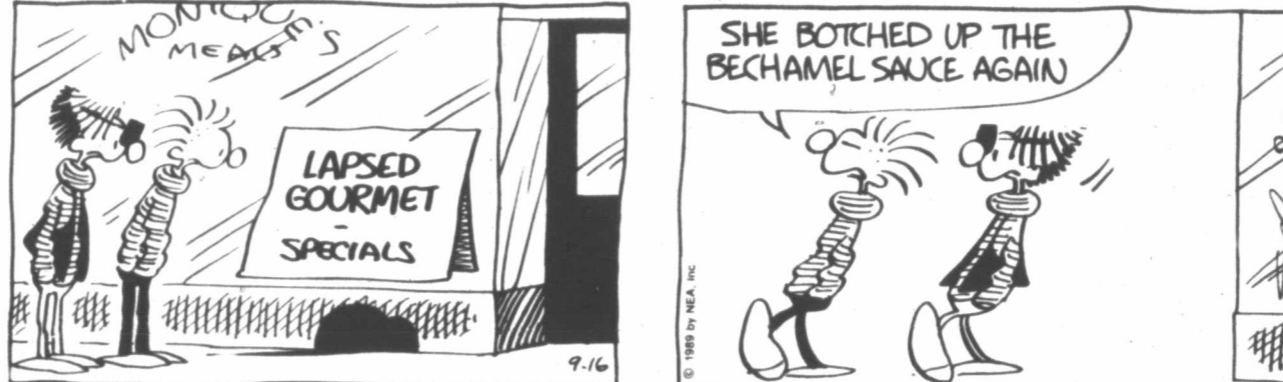
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



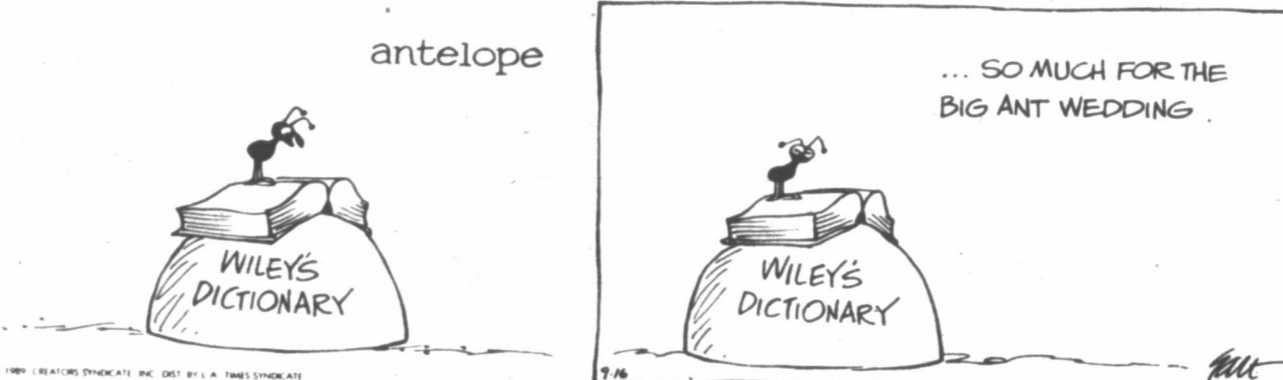
EEK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



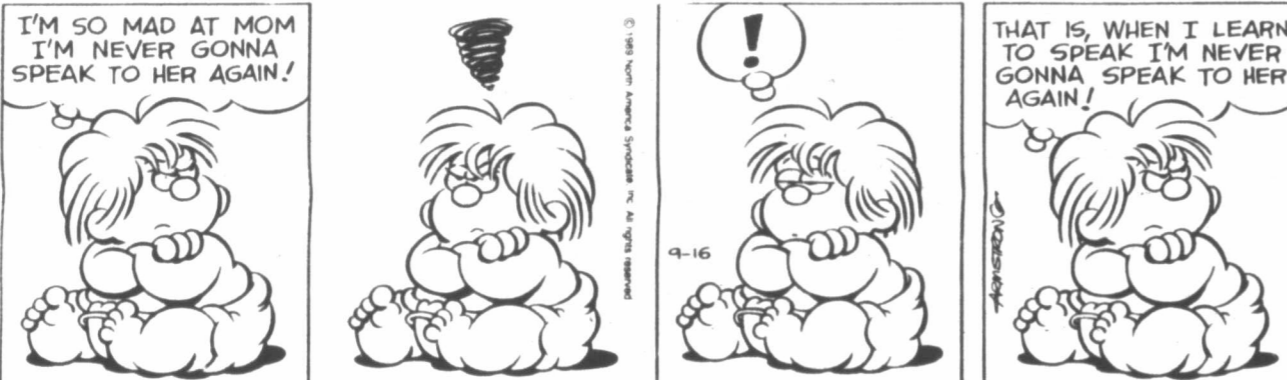
Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today will prove you right for having stood firm on a recent decision. Someone else who is also involved will be glad you were not dissuaded from your position. Major changes are ahead for Virgo in the coming year. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today. Mail \$1 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong



MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson



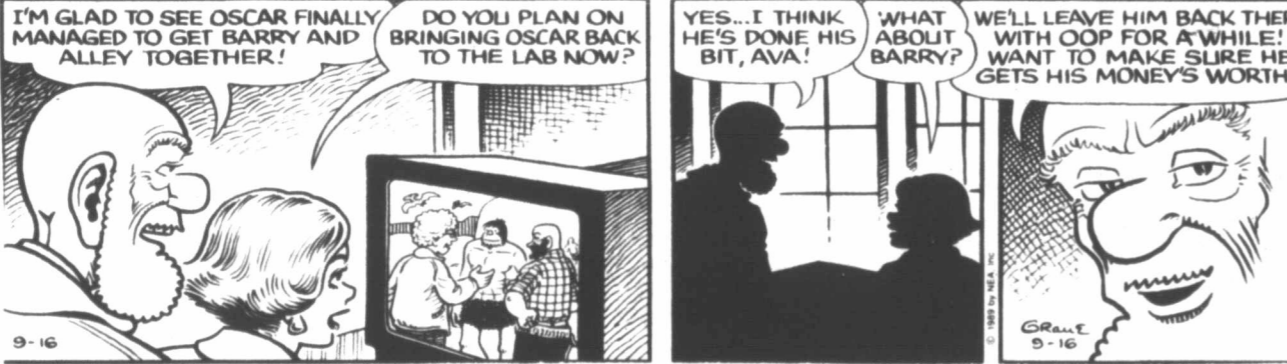
KIT N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright



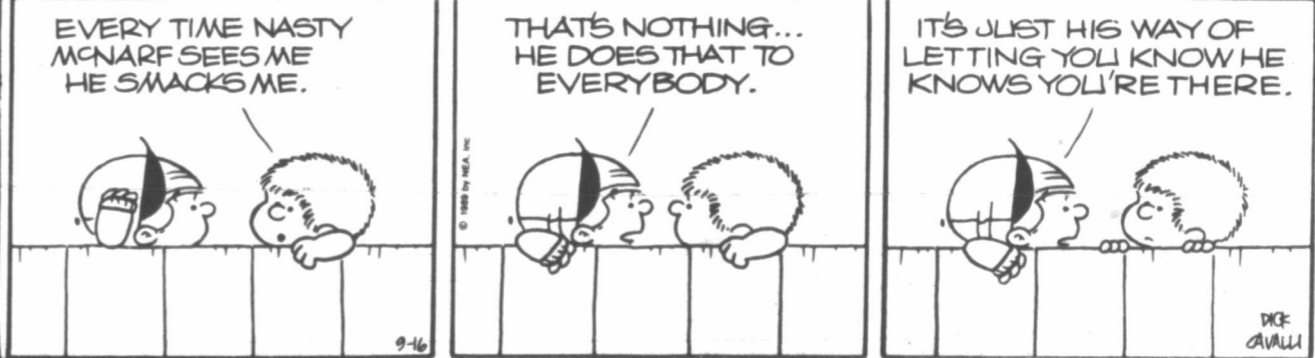
ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue



WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli

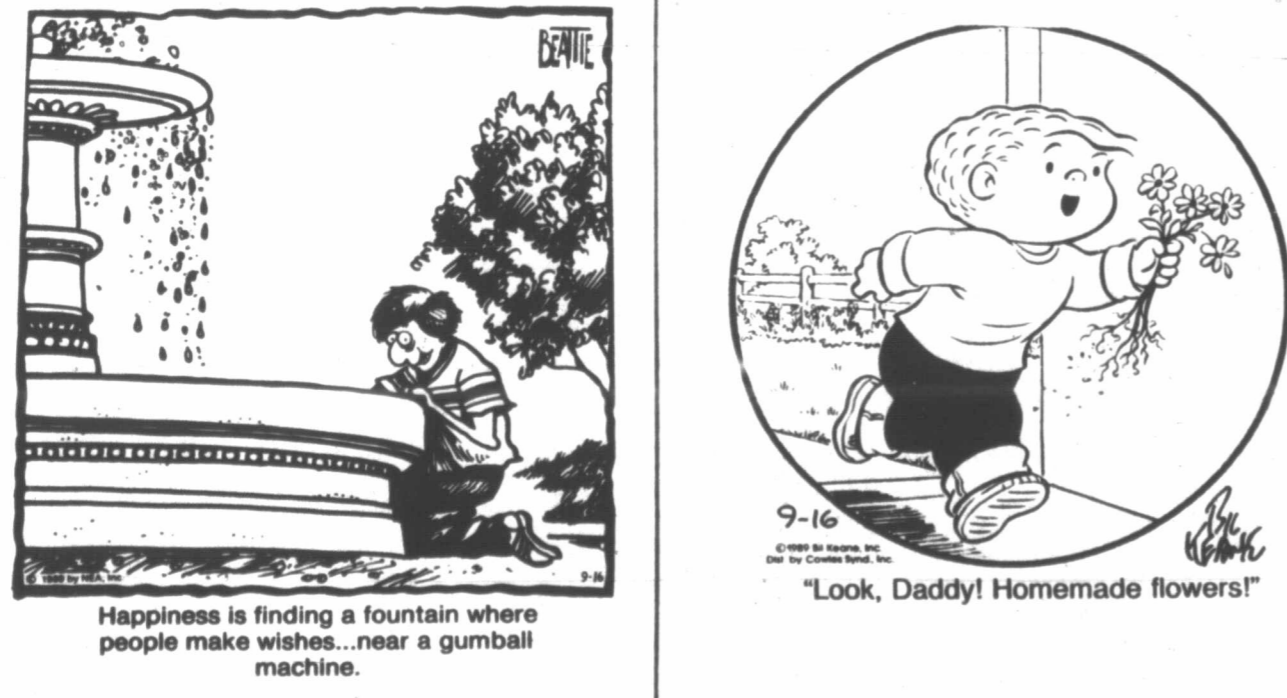


SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



CALVIN AND HOBBS

By Bill Watterson



THE BORN LOSER

By Art Sansom



FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves



PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schultz



GARFIELD

By Jim Davis



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2. Suspension and Steering - Visual Inspection of front suspension and steering for damaged, loose or missing parts, parts showing visible signs of excessive or unusual wear, Check shocks for proper operation.
3. Brakes - Check hoses and lines for visible leaks. Check lining and pads for thickness. Checks surface condition of rotors while wheels are off for rotation.
4. Wheels and Tires - Check tires for unusual wear pattern, excessive wear or damage. Check tires for proper inflation.
5. Exhaust System - Visually inspect exhaust system for leaks or damage.

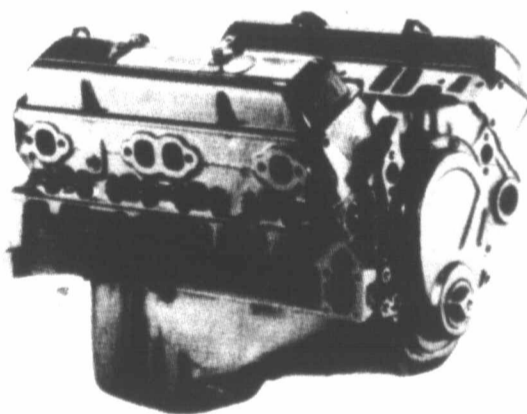
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6. Fuel System - Check System for leaks, damage and proper support of lines.
7. Throttle and Choke Linkage - Check operation of throttle and choke linkage for binding or damage, lubricate if necessary.
8. Engine Drive Belts - Visually inspect all belts for wear, tension, fraying and cracks.
9. Bumper System - Inspect visually, front and rear bumper systems for proper alignment and clearance.
10. Drive Train - Check for leaks, damage and condition of universal joints.
11. Miscellaneous - Check lights, turn signals, brake lights, wiper blades, wiper operation, mirrors and glass.

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'World's greatest gate crusher' looks toward pearly gates

By MARY FOSTER
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Pinky Ginsberg doesn't get around much anymore. The days of dining with royalty, infiltrating big events and thumbing his nose at officials are gone.

"I don't know who remembers me anymore," he says. "There was a time when they all knew me, though. There was a time when my name was magic."

The man who once walked into Adolf Hitler's office and asked for an autograph, attended the coronation of King George VI, crashed 37 World Series, 12 presidential inaugurations, eight Olympics and many other events is a little short of magic these days.

Hyman Ginsberg, 84, who bills himself as the world's greatest gate crusher, now spends his days in a tiny apartment on the edge of the French Quarter.

An old man's gait has slowed his travels. So has an old man's bankroll.

"Social Security. It's enough to keep you from starving, but not by much," he says. "I get \$400 a month and that doesn't go far. In my time I made and lost \$15 million. I spent \$100,000 on a little redhead so quick you wouldn't believe it."

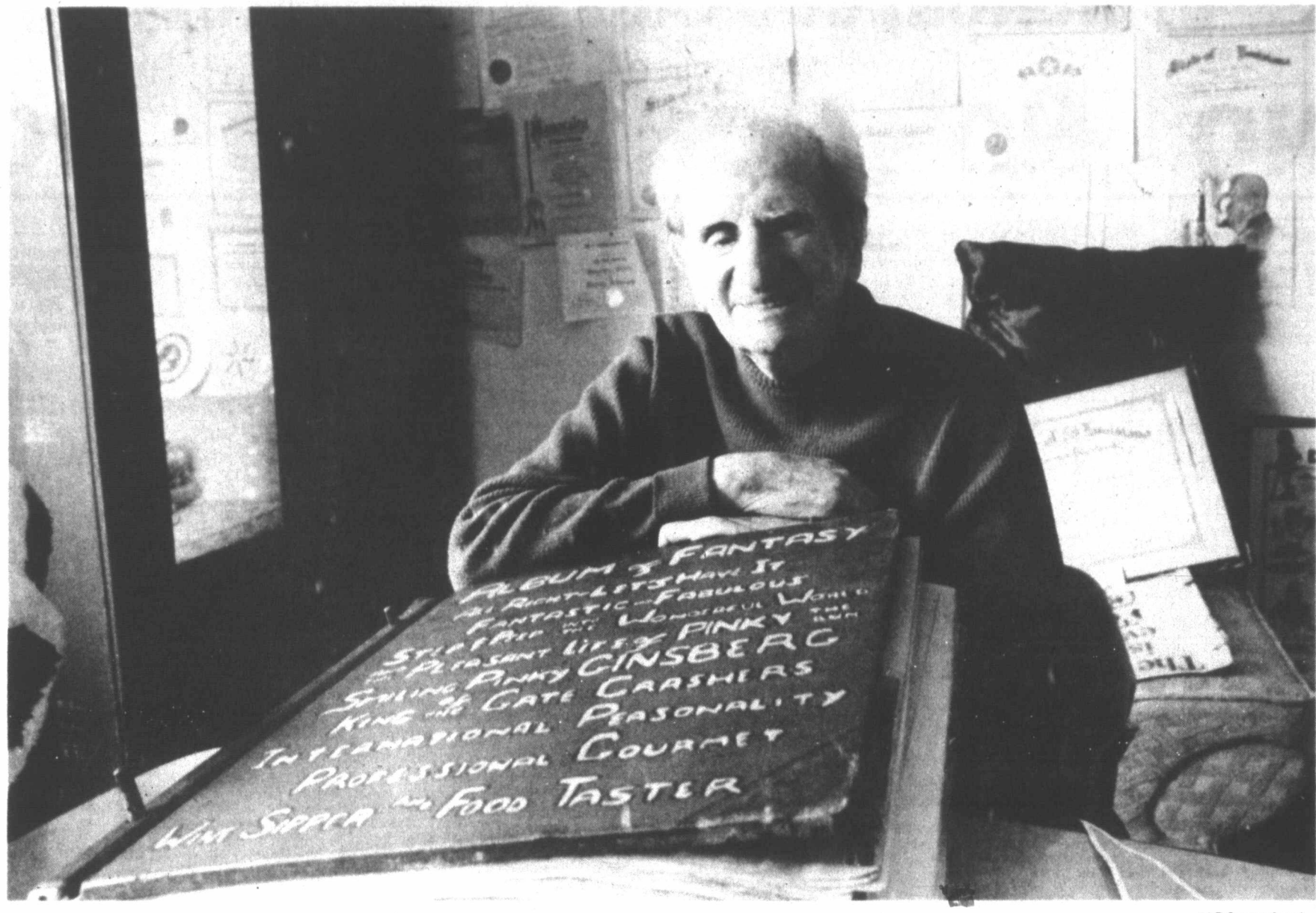
"In those days it came easy and it went easy. I was a bookie. I owned several nightclubs in the French Quarter. Chez Paris on Bourbon Street, that was mine. I owned a place called Punch and Judy's, another one next to Arnaud's Restaurant."

His thin fingers thumb through his scrapbook, fondling the clippings that yellow there. Clippings in French, Spanish, German, English, along with letters and photographs fill the book and testify to his many adventures.

The legend on the front of the book reads: "Album of Fantasy, Alright — Let's Have It, Fantastic — Fabulous, Step & Peep into the Wonderful World and the Pleasant Life of Pinky the Bum. Smiling Pinky Ginsberg, King of the Gate Crushers, International Personality, Professional Gourmet, Wine Sipper and Food Taster."

The citations making him honorary mayor, colonel, senator, sheriff, cop and quarterback are taped to the wall.

"I can document everything I tell you," he says. "I have letters from people. See this pin? President Bush sent it to me when he was vice president. I've met 12 presidents, crashed 12 inaugurations. I used to walk in and out of the White House like I owned the joint. All I did was carry some papers under my arm and they thought I was a senator or



(AP Laserphoto)

Pinky Ginsberg holds the scrapbook that chronicles his exploits as 'the world's greatest gate crusher.'

something. You can't do that now. The assassinations changed all of that."

The last thing Ginsberg crashed was the 1988 Republican National Convention.

"Easier than I would have guessed," he says. "I just copied the pass and walked right in. They put me through the metal detector to see if I was carrying a gun, but nobody even tried to stop me."

Ginsberg began his gate-crashing

career at the World Series in 1920.

"It was Cleveland against Brooklyn," he says. "I came from a poor family and didn't have the 50 cents for a ticket. I bought six newspapers for two cents each, wadded them up and started a fire. When the guy on the gate ran out to put it out, I went in."

He crashed many other major sporting events, he said. Superbowls — "Nothing to it." The Muhammad Ali-Leon Spinks fight in the Super-

dome — "A piece of cake." The 1988 NCAA Final Four in the same building couldn't keep him out either.

"It's just a matter of looking things over, figuring out the best way in and them acting like you know what you're doing," he says. "Once you start, don't stop and don't look back."

Ginsberg was in Berlin in 1939 and decided he had to get into Adolf Hitler's office. With six white shirts,

which he says were hard to get in Germany then, he bribed two guards to turn their backs while he walked past.

"I went in and there he was sitting at the desk," Ginsberg recalls. "Now I sure didn't want to introduce myself with a name like Hyman Ginsberg, so I just gave him a big 'Heil, Hitler!' and asked for his autograph. He hit the ceiling. Bells started going off. A couple of guys came in and grabbed me and

threw me out on the street."

He crashed King George's coronation in England wearing a rented tuxedo decorated with a yard of red ribbon and three rows of medals bought at a pawn shop. The same ploy got him into the wedding of the daughter of Spanish dictator Francisco Franco.

He got into a lot of Sugar Bowls and a couple of Cotton Bowls with a \$2 camera and a 'Press' button he says he got off a Coke machine.

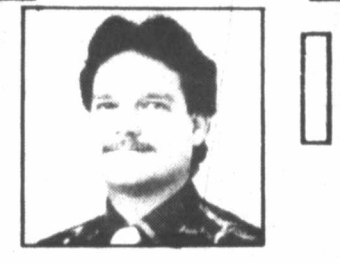
"I always had an angle," he says. "I had a knack for getting along with people and for getting by people. If they had had television when I was in top form, I'd be a household word today. I was the best at one time. Everybody said so."

His career isn't over, Ginsberg says, although he concedes time has turned against him and all the fancy security and electronic devices have made it harder for anyone to crash a gate.

"If it's big enough, I could still come up with something. I still like a challenge. You know, they tell me that St. Peter is a hard man to con and that's a hard gate to crash. Hell, I guess I'll give it a try, though, when the time comes."

YOUR HEALTH

By Dennis Roark



High-tech surgery: doctors at the Boston University School of Medicine are combining lasers with magnetic resonance imaging. The targeting ability of the imager aims the laser beam perfectly.

Dermatologists at Yale University are studying the skin's immune system activators. When skin is injured, these cytokines signal for repair. When overactive, they may cause eczema or psoriasis.

New method of birth control is being studied by French and Israeli scientists. They use antagonists to the hormone-like platelet activating factor to block ovulation or implantation in the womb.

Screening test for bladder cancer is being developed at the National Cancer Institute. It spots the presence in the urine of the protein cytokine, known as a cancer marker.

First aid for burns: a cold, wet compress. Treatment not only lessens the pain but reduces tissue damage, according to a report in Post-graduate Medicine. Never apply grease or butter.

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