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OCTOBER 31, 1989

TUESDAY

Preparing for the fall



(Staff photo by Bear Mills)

Members of First Assembly of God, from left, Errol Hainer, Shannon Pope and Gloria Robbins, make last-minute preparations for tonight's Fall Festival and Carnival at the Family Life Center on the church property, 500 S. Cuyler. Robbins said children could wear costumes so long as they did not include blood, gore, occultic leanings or aggrandize characters from slasher films. Hainer and Pope are helping to organize the Fall Festival as part of their work with Master's Commission, a discipleship training program for students from around the Panhandle.

Judge denies motion to reduce bond for alleged kidnap suspect

By BETH MILLER
Staff Writer

A defense motion to reduce the \$80,000 bond of Michael Frank Greene, charged with the alleged kidnaping of his estranged wife and their three children, was denied Monday by 223rd District Judge Don Cain.

In a separate action, Cain also granted the state's motion to deny bond to Robby Dale Burton, who has three prior felony convictions. Burton was most recently charged with burglary of a motor vehicle and numerous traffic offenses.

Greene, 37, last known address of Inola, Okla., is being held in Gray County jail in lieu of a \$50,000 bond on the kidnaping indictment and in lieu of a \$30,000 bond set by Judge Cain on an appeal of his probation revocation.

Attorney James "Rowdy" Bowers represented both Greene and Burton in the court proceedings.

Greene testified during the motion hearing that he had no money and could not make a bond as high as \$80,000.

He said his father, from Inola, Okla., had told him on Sunday that if the bond could be lowered, he might be able to help him.

Asked if there was a possibility that he might harass his estranged wife and her family if released on bond, Greene said, "There's no possibility of it. We have family trouble and I've let her go."

Greene also told Judge Cain that he would stay away from alcohol. "I want to get back home," Greene said.

District Attorney Harold Comer argued that bond should not be reduced on Greene, citing his past

behavior and his prior promises to the court which he broke.

"He (Greene) gives assurances he will no longer be a problem to his wife and children. That same assurance was given at the time his probation was extended. He violated that condition of probation by kidnaping his wife," Comer said.

The district attorney said he did not think the court could rely heavily on Greene's promise, based on his past experience.

"We think the bond is not excessive," Comer said. "It is commensurate with the offense he is charged, given the background of the defendant. He might be a risk to his family."

Bowers said, "He has testified he has let her go," adding the \$80,000 bond had the same effect as denying bond since Greene is broke.

See JUDGE, Page 2

Parents, ministers object to Halloween

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

A growing number of parents and ministers in the Pampa area are suggesting that because of the satanic overtone of Halloween, it should be removed as a holiday from local school classrooms.

However, Dr. Harry Griffith, superintendent of schools, said some of the concern may be overreaction to a perceived threat.

"I am a little concerned that the more noise we make, the more we stir it up," Griffith said. "When a parent sends out a child to trick or treat wearing (a devil costume), it is not satanic."

"Teachers use the holiday for variation and motivation. If there is concern about some of the symbols, it's wholly appropriate to be sensitive to that."

Pastor Herb Peak of First Assembly of God and Jim and Deb Erwin, members of First Baptist Church, are just three of a growing number of community members, from a variety of Christian denominations, who insist symbols are not the issue. They said Halloween could easily be replaced by another celebration or form of motivation.

Peak said he could sum up his primary objection to Halloween in one anecdote.

"Last night after the service, a little girl in the second or third grade came up and asked me what she could do," Peak said, "because they'd been singing scary songs about witches and ghosts in her school and she was having trouble sleeping."

"She was waking up in the middle of the night afraid. The whole spirit of Halloween is fear. That's the start, but it goes much deeper."

The Erwins said they became concerned about Halloween after several parents at their church told stories of children greatly distressed

by activities at the school which glorified witches and other characters associated with the occult.

"There were songs and videos that had caused some kids to not be able to sleep," Mrs. Erwin said. "Sometimes it is hard to approach a teacher, though, because of fear the child will be (adversely) affected."

Griffith emphasized that going to the teacher is exactly what should be done.

"I know our teachers, and they would feel terrible if they knew something they did or showed in class was causing some child to not be able to sleep," he pointed out.

Mr. Erwin said everything about Halloween is associated with the occult and satanism, as proven by Encyclopedia references to its ties to the Druids and Wiccans (witches).

"The whole concept of Halloween deals with the spirit world," Mr. Erwin said. "Demons, goblins, ghosts, werewolves - it epitomizes those characters that are ghastly. There are the Freddy Kruegers (from *Nightmare on Elm Street*) and

Jasons (from *Friday the 13th*) that keep coming back to life. That's all spiritual."

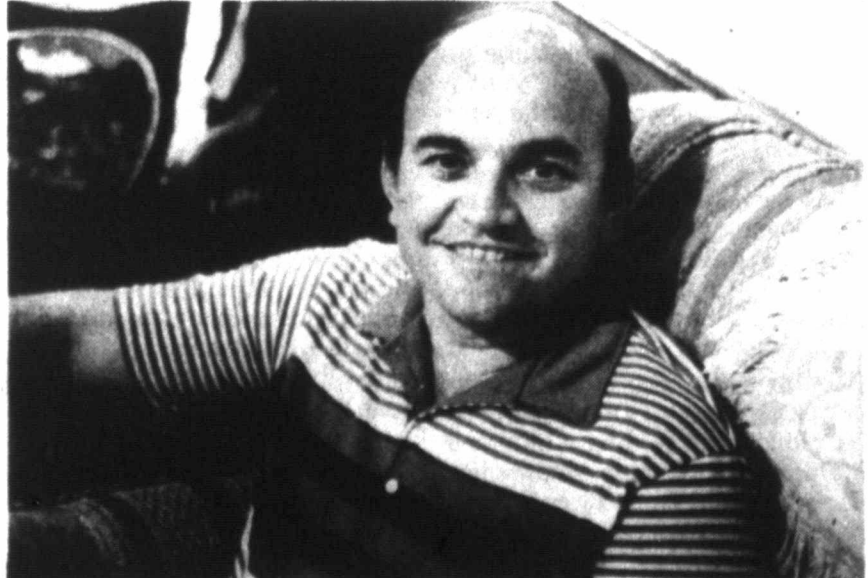
To the suggestion that their concern is overreaction, Mr. Erwin responded, "I may be overreacting. But if we're really concerned about teen suicide and mass murders like happened in Matamoros (associated with devil worship) and satanism, let's get rid of the holiday that promotes them."

Griffith said movies or stories in the schools that frighten children are the exception rather than the rule.

"Our schools are made up almost entirely of Christians in practice," Griffith said. "When I hear that we should abolish Halloween because it's recognized as a satanic holiday, that concerns me."

Peak said the difference between Halloween when most adults were children and today is that satanic and occult forces have now gone on the offensive in every phase of society.

"There's no doubt that satanism and the occult are more flagrant



(Staff photo by Bear Mills)

Jim Erwin discusses his position on Halloween.

County commissioners hear prison pros, cons

By BETH MILLER
Staff Writer

Gray County Commissioners Court on Monday approved a letter of assurance to the Texas Department of Corrections concerning the incentives the county is offering for a new prison in Pampa.

And the first opposition of the prison at a public meeting was made by a Pampa couple.

A special meeting of the Commissioners Court was called for Monday due to the timetable of getting the third proposal to the TDC in the mail.

"As a result of some of their (Board of Criminal Justice members) questions and comments, those putting together the proposal recognized it needed some clarification of what the city and the county are proposing," said County Judge Carl Kennedy.

The four board and two staff members flew to Pampa Oct. 18 to review the proposed prison site and ask questions of the Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Foundation, city and county officials.

The letter of assurance is a means of letting the prison officials know the county stands behind all that it has offered, Kennedy said. Precinct 2 Commissioner Jim Greene abstained from the vote. The other four members of the Commissioners Court endorsed the letter.

"This is probably our last opportunity to make it clear what we're doing," Kennedy said.

Speaking against the prison proposal were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Daugherty, who live 2 1/2 miles from the proposed prison site.

"In 1988, 10,351 convicts escaped from U.S. prisons and only 76 percent were recaptured," Mr. Daugherty said.

"I just wonder if you guys are going to have any remorse, one in three prisoners in the United States escape. Will you guys have any remorse when these guys escape and murder a family?" one of the Daughertys asked.

"I haven't found one person that's for this prison. I've been in the cafe every morning asking people. I don't know if I'm for it or against it," Mr. Daugherty said. "One man in the cafe said, 'I'm 60 percent against it and 40 percent for it.' Maybe that's the way I feel about it."

Mrs. Daugherty, too, said she had not found a single person in the beauty shop, church or in the grocery store she frequented who is for a prison. "No prison; no prison," they say," Mrs. Daugherty said.

Kennedy pointed out that in a newspaper poll completed before the groups started trying to get a prison in Pampa, about 74 percent of those responding supported efforts to get a prison.

Bill Waters, president of the Industrial Foundation, said, "I don't think I need to make any speeches to you as to why this is necessary. I can tell you that when we first started talking about a prison three years ago my reaction was lukewarm."

However, Waters said that he soon realized that an industry was not going to come to Pampa bringing with it 800 new jobs, which a maximum security prison such

as the one Pampa is vying for would bring, officials have said.

"There is concern in the minds of some of the detriment or possibilities of risk a prison would bring ... But every city in Texas that has had any experience with a prison is now begging for another one."

Waters added that if Pampa is eliminated from this effort, the area will stand less of a chance in the future of getting a prison because the larger cities in Texas, such as Dallas and Fort Worth, will be getting involved in the action.

Waters said there are two main steps considered by the Board of Criminal Justice in determining who will receive a prison - incentives and politics.

"We need that package to be as large and attractive as we can present," he said. "We have attempted to contact all of our friends and political acquaintances and asked them to put in a good word for Pampa."

Pampa and 25 other cities remain in the competition for six prisons. That number will be cut to 13 or 14 by Nov. 8 and the remaining six should be announced on Nov. 13.

"If we don't make the next cut we're dead in the water," Waters said.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Joe Wheeley admitted that he had reservations about the prison up until last Friday when he contacted the county judge in Walker County, of which Huntsville with six prison units is a part of.

"I called the judge to find out what it's like having a prison in your county. He told me he had lived in the county for 73 years and the TDC unit had been the best neighbor any farmer could have had. His farm adjoins one of the units."

Wheeley said he was told a prison would be a "very, very large asset and not a liability."

Jim Morris, chamber president, told commissioners, "We're seeing all of our major oil companies selling leases to independents. The overall economy on oil and gas is dwindling. I feel like this is an opportunity for industrial development."

Morris reminded commissioners that the 800 positions that would come with a maximum security prison would have salaries ranging from \$20,000 to \$60,000 a year for the warden. A minimum security facility would have 250-300 jobs. Of the six new prisons to be built, three will be maximum security.

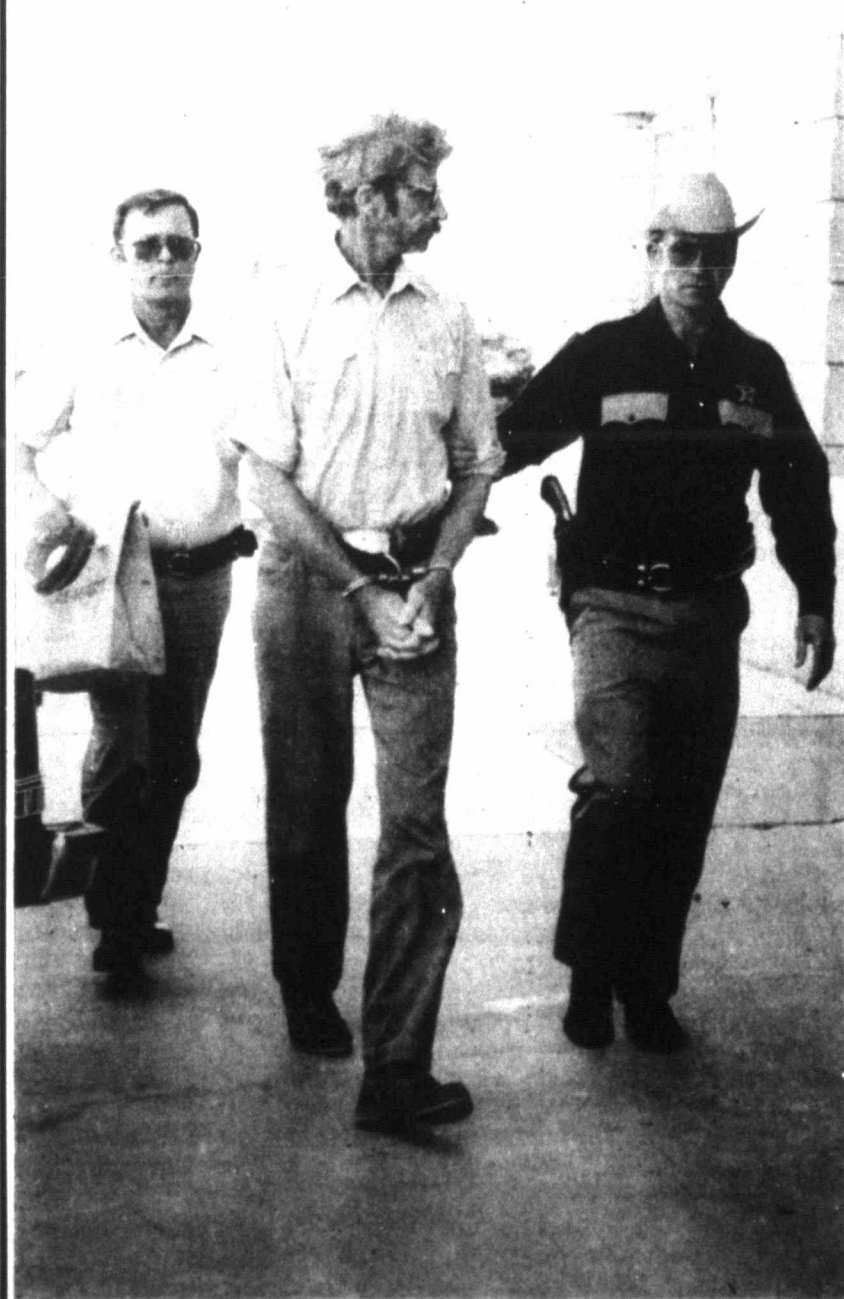
Kennedy pointed out that on Jan. 1, 1985, the county hit the high point in its tax base. As of the beginning of this year, he said, the tax base had decreased by 23.45 percent.

W.A. Morgan said he is in support of the prison proposal. "There is no question that 800 jobs will be a big boost to a community this size. I certainly think we should go all out to get this prison in the local community. In order to keep the community viable, we have to have new facilities and new people coming into our community."

Gray County Treasurer Scott Hahn gave his support of the prison. "I think the Industrial Foundation has done its best in trying to expand our tax base. They've not been dragging their feet ... I'd rather see GM build a

See PRISON, Page 2

Owens returned



(Staff photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

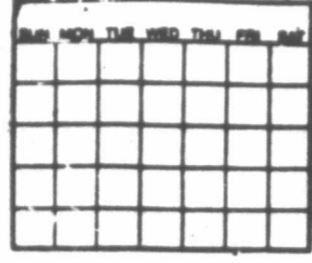
Thomas Owen, center, is escorted to Gray County Jail by Sheriff Jim Frerking, right, and Othai Hicks, corrections officer, Monday afternoon. Owen signed a waiver of extradition from Arapahoe, Okla., on charges of aggravated robbery and aggravated kidnaping. The charges stem from the robbery and kidnaping of a Taylor convenience store employee Oct. 15. Owens remained in jail early today in lieu of a combined bond of \$75,000.

See related Associated Press story on Page 8 today.

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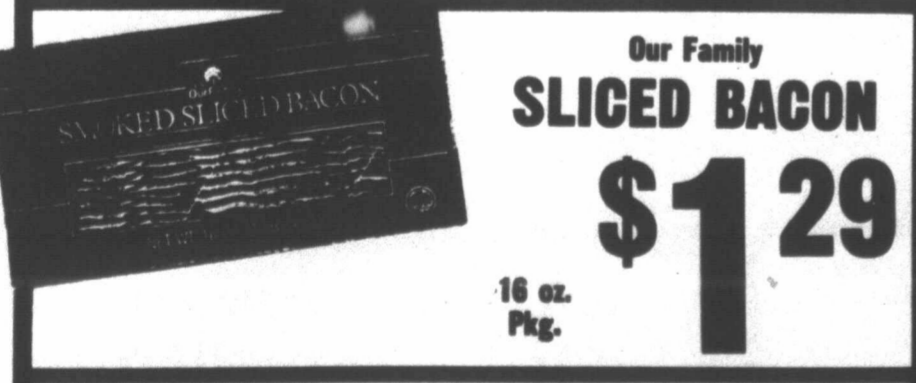
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BEEF CUBE STEAK
\$2.79
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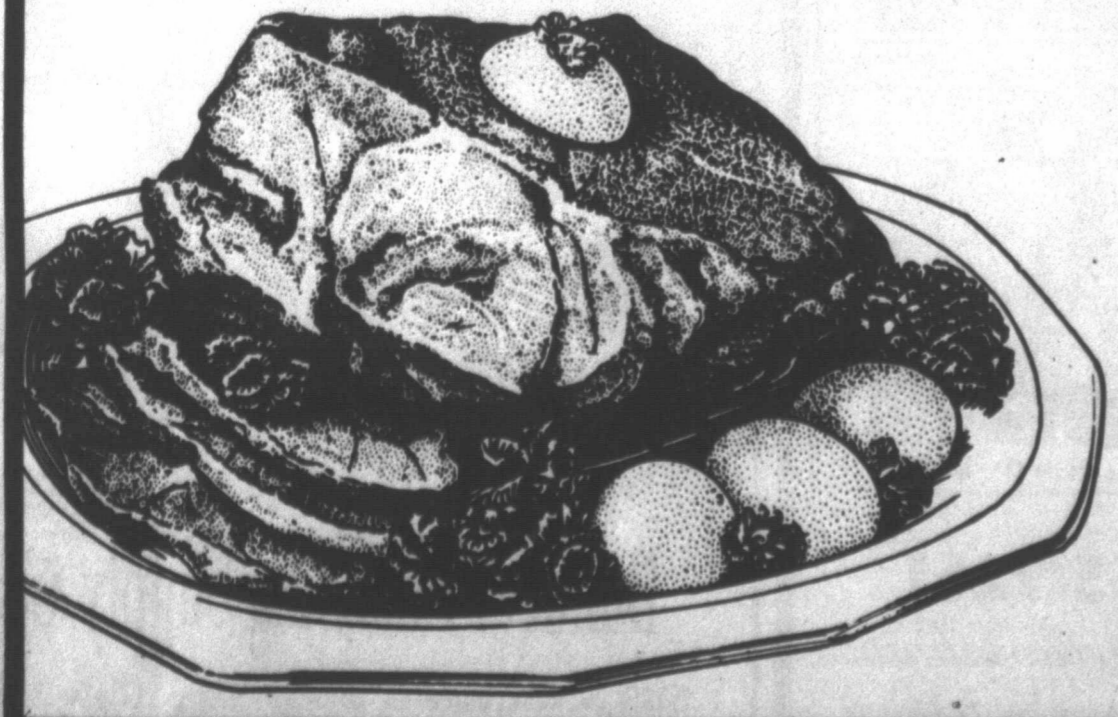


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(AP Laserphoto)

Penny Simkin, an internationally recognized childbirth educator and author from Seattle, conducts a class for birth partners. She has written a guide for fathers, medical caregivers and others who help women give birth.

Birth guide destined to become classic

By **GEORGE TIBBITS**
Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — If you became a father in the past three decades, odds are you could experience what your father couldn't: being there.

If you became a mother, you may have avoided what to many women of your mother's generation was a humiliating experience.

Credit your parents and yourselves for the change, says Penny Simkin, an internationally recognized childbirth educator and author of a new guide for fathers, medical caregivers and others who help women give birth.

Simkin, a physical therapist and a mainstay of the Childbirth Education Association of Seattle, has written "The Birth Partner: Everything You Need to Know to Help a Woman Through Childbirth."

Simkin and CEAS' Janet Whalley and Anne Keppler already have won Seattle a reputation within the natural childbirth movement, and wrote a widely used text for new parents, "Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Newborn," published in 1984.

"It's one of the most accepted books in the childbirth field," said Trudy Keller, president of the International Childbirth Education Association.

Since the late 1950s, treatment of pregnant women and fathers-to-be has change, mostly because parents have demanded it. Realization that pregnancy and birth "really are conditions of health and not illness," Simkin said, has "given consumers more leeway in what kind of care they can get."

It wasn't long ago that giving birth meant

being drugged, shaved and strapped to a table and stirrups while husbands waited in the hall. It's common for women to resent the humiliation they felt, even long after their children are grown. "Wherever I go, a woman comes up and says, 'When you talk about remembering...' and she gives me this story about how she was hurt."

While medical intervention often is critical, in most normal births the mother should call the shots, Simkin says, and tells birth partners: "Your main role ... is to help her have the kind of birth she desires."

Her book, published by Harvard Common Press, has been hailed by experts, including La Leche League International co-founder Marian Tompson, who said it's "destined to become the birth partner's bible."

"It's very much needed. I think it will be very helpful for a husband, for anyone, supporting a woman in childbirth," Sheila Kitzinger, a leader of the natural childbirth movement, said from her home near Oxford, England.

As recently as the 1970s, "natural childbirth" meant birth without pain medication, but still with the mother on her back, feet in stirrups and usually undergoing an episiotomy, or incision to widen the vagina, Simkin said.

Today, three-quarters of new mothers get childbirth education, and women who want to avoid drugs are encouraged to do whatever helps them relax. Having the father at her side to encourage, steady and coach is crucial, Simkin said. "I would say the father is the sine qua non. I think the love and the intimate knowledge of the woman can't be replicated

anyone else."

CEAS started in the 1950s, and is the third-oldest group associated with the International Childbirth Education Association. Simkin, 51, didn't become involved until 1968, when she and her husband, Peter, a professor of medicine at the University of Washington, moved to Seattle with their four children. She thought teaching CEAS classes would be a good part-time job.

"I was not sure childbirth education was really helpful — I had had four babies without it." But at a reunion following her first class, she was taken by the enthusiastic response from the new parents. "I really got hooked."

CEAS, which has about 40 instructors, teaches more than 2,500 families a year. Simkin estimates she has taught over 4,500 families in 21 years.

"So often things we emphasize in childbirth class really haven't been explored in a relationship," Simkin said. "It's not sexual, but intimacy. How she likes to be touched, how she likes to be talked to. A lot find they learn about their partner things they've never known."

The classes also teach how a woman can negotiate with a doctor or hospital for the birth she wants. While most caregivers now accept natural childbirth as the norm, and many hospitals give their own classes, "I think there are people in this field who still resent women and partners who want to participate." "I guess the message I would give to medical caregivers would be: 'This woman will never forget this day in her life and she will never forget your part in it. And you have a choice in how you will be remembered.'"

Parents question Halloween celebrations in public schools

By **The Associated Press**

Pumpkin festivals are sprouting in some school districts, where parents are trying to keep Halloween out of the hallways and off school grounds because of its connection with witches and Satan.

In Alachua County, Fla., Robert Guyer gathered the signatures of about 200 fellow parents who think the holiday is a religious celebration of Wicca, a modern pagan witchcraft cult.

When teachers dress up like witches, "what happens to these little Christian kids like mine?" asked Guyer, a University of Florida law student. "How are they going to feel when it's dress-up day and they don't dress up?"

Officials in Alachua County left the decision on Halloween to school principals.

In neighboring Levy County, the superintendent asked schools to avoid using Halloween decorations and to cancel school celebrations.

Halloween, which is being celebrated Tuesday night, apparently sprang from an ancient ceremony honoring the Celtic god of death. In medieval England, it came to be known as All Hallows' Eve, celebrated before the feast day of All Hallows, now All Saints' Day. As is the case with the pagan Christmas tree, few pay attention to its religious origins.

But Guyer cites a recent 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling

in Atlanta that found that prayers before high school football games violate the constitutional separation of church and state.

"As Easter has been banned in favor of spring holiday, as Christmas has been banned in favor of winter holiday, so, too, Halloween should be banned in favor of fall holiday," he said.

The Rev. Bill Ligon of Brunswick, Ga., agreed: "Some of the symbolism used for Halloween is used also by recognized religions. I think the law as interpreted by the 11th Circuit should be impartially applied to any religious activity at school."

Halloween's defenders say it has become a non-religious holiday. "The witches and goblins of

Halloween are no more believable than Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny or the Tooth Fairy. ... Are they going to ban those, too?" asked Charley Mack, a father of six in Tallahassee, Fla., where several schools are inaugurating "harvest festivals" in place of Halloween.

In Texas, Harlingen Superintendent T. Carl McMillan responded to parents' anxieties by asking principals to tone down celebrations.

"I asked them to review their practices and if they had anything that depicted blood and gore to try to eliminate that," McMillan said.

An elementary school in Amarillo planned to celebrate Pumpkin Fun Day rather than Halloween.

And in Frederick County, Md.,

three elementary schools have discontinued Halloween events. At least one decided to hold a fall celebration instead.

"I personally have trouble defending ghosts and goblins in our instructional curriculum," said John Thompson, a county school official.

Parents are upset by lurid descriptions of devil worship on television and in rock music, said Fred Eisenbraun of the Rapid City Cops for Christ, in South Dakota.

Eisenbraun was in Worthington, Minn., last week to conduct an Occult Awareness Seminar for teachers, parents and teen-agers.

"Satanists do not isolate themselves to New York, to Denver or to Dallas," Eisenbraun said. "They like rural areas, like Worthington, Minnesota, or Rapid City, South Dakota, where there's an availability of abandoned buildings, animals, and wide-open areas where there aren't enough cops to check on them."

Police blame DC's record murder toll on drugs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The District of Columbia's 1989 homicide toll already equals last year's record of 369 killings — with more than half blamed on drug-related violence — and officials say they see no end in sight.

With two months remaining in 1989, district police reported that five slayings discovered during a seven-hour period over the weekend brought the tally to last year's record death total.

Three of the weekend killings were linked to drugs. The other two were a 13-year-old girl and her aunt who were found stabbed to death in their apartment Saturday.

Police blame more than 60 percent of the district's slayings on drugs, particularly the arrival of crack cocaine.

The federal government is mak-

ing the nation's capital a test case for national anti-drug strategies, and city police are working long hours trying to curb drug-related violence.

"It's awful. But people in this community are resorting to deadly violence to resolve conflict," said police spokesman Lt. Reginald Smith.

The most recent victim of the weekend was a 41-year-old man found dead of multiple gunshot wounds early Sunday. He had \$11,000 cash and a large quantity of heroin in his pockets when his body was found, according to police detectives.

At the end of 1988, police had said 372 people were killed in homicides, but they revised that number downward Sunday by subtracting three victims of police shootings from the official total.

D.C. Mayor Marion Barry, whose political fortunes are slipping partly because the murder rate is skyrocketing, calls the problem "unstoppable."

National Drug Policy Coordinator William J. Bennett acknowledged recently that the district's drug and crime problem — the focus of special attention from his office — will be difficult to solve.

"No one should be surprised to learn that the nation's capital is still plagued by a serious drug problem," Bennett said while reviewing federal efforts in the district's drug war.

"The drug-related murder rate is intolerably high, the prisons are too crowded, drugs continue to be sold openly around schools, parks and housing projects," Bennett has lent federal prison

space, special agents and investigative tools to the city's anti-drug effort, and city police have been working 12-hour shifts patrolling drug-infested neighborhoods and housing projects.

But on Friday, President Bush vetoed the city's annual spending bill, delaying a special \$32 million federal anti-crime package.

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Report: no ideological tests for U.S. scientific jobs

NEW YORK (AP) — Aspirants to top scientific jobs in the federal government will not have to pass an ideological test on abortion and other political issues, according to a published report today.

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan said in a speech Sunday that the so-called "litmus test" would not be used to gauge applicants for jobs in his

department, The New York Times reported.

Sullivan told the Association of American Medical Colleges that the decision was meant to end the controversy over such political tests and "to clear the air and not have a cloud hanging over these positions."

But, in an interview with the Times, he said it was appropriate for President Bush to use the litmus test

at the level of assistant secretary of health in order to select people who share his views.

Sullivan said he met with other administration officials last week to express his concerns about the politicization of scientific jobs in the department. He said that high-level White House officials agreed no ideological tests were necessary for top scientific jobs.

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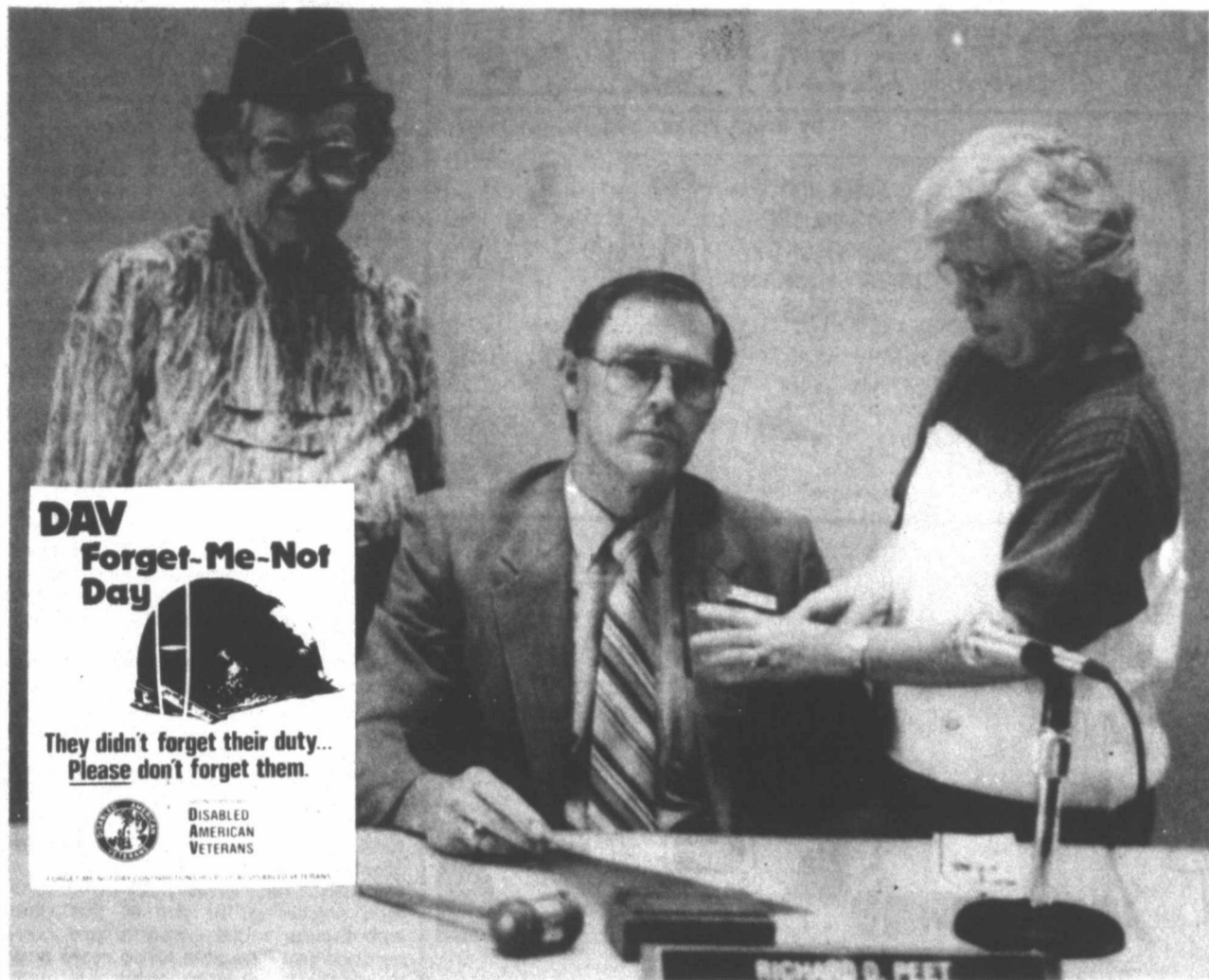
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Forget-Me-Not Days Nov. 3-4



Erma Carlson (left) and Barbara Morrow provide Mayor Peet with a Disabled American Veterans Forget-Me-Not in preparation for the annual event scheduled for Nov. 3-4. Volunteers will be going around town seeking contributions to help local disabled veterans. (Staff photo by Bear Mills)

Arizona artist carves eggshells—carefully

BY JOHN PACENTI
Associated Press Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — At the turn of the century, Karl Faberge created treasured art by adorning eggs with jewels, gold and fine fabrics for the Russian czars. Bob Hoke of Scottsdale has taken the art of the egg to a new level.

Hoke carves the surface of ostrich and eggs of other large birds with high-speed dental equipment, creating detailed images surrounded by swirls, flowers and other background decoration.

The finished product on the eggs, some with shells only one-sixteenth of an inch thick, resembles porcelain, with detailing similar to that found in some ivory carvings.

"As far as I know I am the first one to do this," Hoke says. "Faberge cut a doorway into the egg and would find ways to decorate it, but I know of no one who has used the egg to do relief work."

Hoke's work is receiving some recognition. He traded one egg with a family's coat of arms on it for a Jeep. Ripley's Believe It or Not bought two eggs last year for \$600 to place in its museums in the Virgin Islands and Grand Prairie, Texas. Hoke also sent an egg to former President Reagan.

The highest price paid for one of Hoke's works so far is \$1,200 for a carved goose egg which was on display at the Valley National Bank Building in Phoenix last spring.

Jo Ann Johnson, concourse events coordinator for the Valley Bank Center, says Hoke's work "is part of a larger show that has been going on every Easter for nine years. Many of the eggs have ethnic designs, such as Polish art, or are painted. But on the other hand Bob carves his eggs with his own designs. I think his eggs are quite beautiful."

Hoke says one egg can take any-



Bob Hoke of Scottsdale, Ariz., executes his craft with a high-speed dental drill, and when he's finished it looks more like fine porcelain or delicately carved ivory than the shell of an ostrich egg. (AP photo by Jeff Robbins)

where from 180 to 400 hours to complete, depending on the type and the design.

"I believe this is absolutely on par with the great masters in terms of hours spent on the actual art," he says. "When I take a blank egg shell, it's like a blank canvas, but it's so much more difficult to work with."

Hoke, 37, used to sell water softeners. Now he delivers pizza. He says he "dropped out of life" about three years ago, around the time he bought some dental equipment with the idea of doing some etchings on glass or steel.

"I didn't really like working with all those micro-bits of glass, so I started playing around with eggs," says Hoke, who had once seen a

goose egg with some basic flowers carved in it.

He began to work on goose eggs and then moved to rhea and ostrich eggs. Hoke buys the unfertilized eggs from the Phoenix Zoo.

"The bigger eggs are quite durable," he says. "You can actually stand on them."

Hoke's process of turning an egg into art begins when he cuts a hole in the bottom of an egg and drains it. He draws the design on the egg before beginning the tedious task of carving background designs and adding the detail relief work.

"Let's face it" he says, "we all come from eggs. In some cultures the egg is very spiritual. I take that meaning and add another meaning of my own and create unique art."

Go into business for yourself

By CHANGING TIMES
The Kiplinger Magazine
For AP Newsfeatures

Want to go into business for yourself with a good chance of succeeding?

Try franchising. More and more people are trying to break into franchising, particularly in the booming field of innovative services and conveniences.

The lure: A low cost, if you can get in at the beginning. And franchising is usually a safer venture than starting a business from scratch. About 90 percent of franchise businesses survive their first 10 years, compared with an estimated 20 percent of all small businesses, according to the Small Business Administration.

But investing in a brand-new enterprise, even in a new franchise, entails special risks. Minimizing the risks takes a particular kind of sleuthing.

The federal government helps by requiring that franchisor companies give prospective franchisees a disclosure document.

In most cases you'll get the Uniform Franchise Offering Circular (UFOC). Or you might receive the Federal Trade Commission disclosure document, which contains similar information.

The UFOC must cover 22 categories of information, including the company's history, its franchise fees, royalties and other costs, the background of its principals, their bankruptcy history, any litigation against them or the company, the duration of the franchise agreement, the franchisor's financial statements, and the contract you sign with the franchisor.

But the UFOC is just the beginning. It doesn't give you all you need to know, and the government doesn't check it for accuracy.

You may spend several months researching companies on your own. You will need to focus on five areas: the market and concept, the franchise management, the financial health of the franchisor, the franchisor's master plan, and your prospective fellow franchisees.

Even the best concept won't get off the ground without strong management. The UFOC will give you five years of background and 15 years of bankruptcy information on the franchise's principals. The FTC disclosure document

also goes back five years on background but only seven years on bankruptcy. Ask about earlier years, suggests Changing Times magazine.

The ideal franchisor team, says Michael Seid of Growth Decisions, a Dallas franchise-consulting firm, would include someone who has already managed a franchise or who has had a big part in one.

It's even better if the team's experience is in the same industry. The franchisors also should have prototypes to work out the kinks and to develop a business system that can be successfully replicated.

You've also got to feel comfortable with the franchisors. One way to find out is to work with them, even if briefly and without pay. At the very least, spend a day at the company's headquarters.

While you're there, go over the entire UFOC with the principals. They should be willing and ready to answer your questions.

If the company offers two weeks of in-depth training, for example, you'll want to know who the teachers are, what their qualifications are and what subjects they cover. Visit the training facilities and look at the manuals.

Getting a reading on the financial health of the franchisor is also critical. The franchise company's financial statements in the UFOC should be audited, but exceptions may be made for a new franchisor. Study the capital structure, source of earnings, nature and amount of indebtedness and credit status with an accountant who is familiar with franchise financing.

The company's growth plan should be realistic. A study by Growth Decisions found that it typically takes more than a decade for a franchise to reach 100 outlets. Slow growth that begins regionally — perhaps within a 500-mile radius of the franchise headquarters — is best because that keeps the franchisees close enough to get help quickly should they need it.

When it comes to how much you might be able to earn from the business, the UFOC offers scant help. Some companies that don't provide earnings projections might let you and your accountant look at the numbers generated by prototypes.

If not, franchisees may be the only source for real numbers showing what you can expect to earn. They're also the only folks who can

tell you whether the parent company is living up to its promises of support, training, marketing assistance and all the other parts of the deal.

Also find out about the training, advises Changing Times.

If you must buy materials or equipment from the franchisor, are the prices competitive? Most companies assess a national advertising fee, often 2 percent to 4 percent of monthly gross sales. Is the advertising fee used well?

Franchisors must provide in the UFOC the names and addresses of either all franchisees in your state or the 10 nearest to you. Many identify all franchisees.

Call all of them if practical, and visit at least a few. Ask to hang around for a day to see how the enterprise actually works.

Find out how much they've invested in the business. Were the start-up costs and working capital requirements that were listed in the UFOC on target?

How much do they take out in salary? Are they breaking even? Perhaps most telling, find out whether they would buy in again, knowing what they know now. If a high percentage of franchisees have bought additional units, that can indicate an operation that supports its franchisees.

Federal law mandates that you wait 10 days after receiving the UFOC to sign up with a franchise. The waiting period gives you, your lawyer and your accountant time to analyze the terms of the franchise agreement.

(You can find the names of lawyers and accountants in your area who specialize in franchising in the Council of Franchise Suppliers Registry, available for \$6.55 from the International Franchise Association, 1350 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005.)

One of the sections of the UFOC that you and your lawyer will want to pay special attention to is a list of lawsuits involving the franchisor or its principals. If a suit has been brought by a franchisee against the franchisor, check it out with both parties as well as with the other franchisees.

Diabetes is dangerous if it remains undetected

DEAR ABBY: Please tell your readers about a disease that is fast approaching epidemic proportions. It is diabetes. Most Americans think this disease is controllable and not life-threatening. Unfortunately, in order to properly treat people with diabetes, they must first be diagnosed. Statistics reveal that an estimated 11.5 million Americans have diabetes, but only 6 million of them have been diagnosed and are being treated. The many other millions of Americans are walking around as virtual human time bombs. Diabetes, if left untreated, can cause blindness, stroke, heart disease and even death!

The incidence of diabetes is extremely high in minority groups such as Hispanics, blacks, Native Americans and Asian Americans. Also at risk are pregnant women and women who have given birth to babies of 9 pounds or more, people over 50, and those with a family history of diabetes.

To reach the millions of Americans with undiagnosed diabetes, the American Diabetes Association is launching a public education program called, "Diabetes. Take the Test. Know the Score."

The campaign is designed to urge all adult Americans to take a simple blood test that can determine diabetes quickly and early, when it can be treated easily. It's surprising that in the health-conscious United States, people are flocking to their doctors for high blood pressure and cholesterol tests, yet few understand the need to have their blood sugar level tested as well.

Through your column and our education program, we are hoping to



Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

eliminate unnecessary health problems and even deaths caused by untreated diabetes by encouraging your readers to see their doctors. Will you help us?

SHERMAN HOLVEY, M.D., PRESIDENT, AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

DEAR DR. HOLVEY: A resounding yes. Here's your letter. I hope it helps to alert the millions of Americans who have diabetes but are not aware of it.

Readers: See your doctors. Take the test. Know the score.

DEAR ABBY: My friend and I have a friendly wager on the solution to this question: If John and Mary are first cousins, what is the relationship of John's children to Mary, and to each other?

I say that John's children are Mary's first cousins once removed, and their children are second cousins to each other.

My friend says that John's chil-

dren are second cousins to Mary, and third cousins to Mary's children.

Who is right? A steak dinner is riding on your answer.

SUSIE AT A-1

DEAR SUSIE: According to the Los Angeles Family History Center, you are correct. Your friend owes you a steak dinner.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I recently learned she is pregnant. This is good news for us, so we both told our families and friends.

When I told my co-workers that I was going to be a father, several of them asked me flat out if this was "planned." I told my wife about this, and she said she had been asked the same question. Abby, these are good people, meaning no harm, but don't they realize that they are asking a very rude question? In my mind, they are essentially asking if an accident had occurred. This is nothing new. We have heard other expectant parents asked the same personal question.

I realize this is not an earthshaking problem, but can you suggest a good response the next time this happens?

PROUD PAPA-TO-BE

DEAR PROUD: You acknowledge that these are good people, meaning no harm, who are asking a rude question. In a very pleasant tone, say, "Now that is a very personal question." Smile when you say it, then change the subject.

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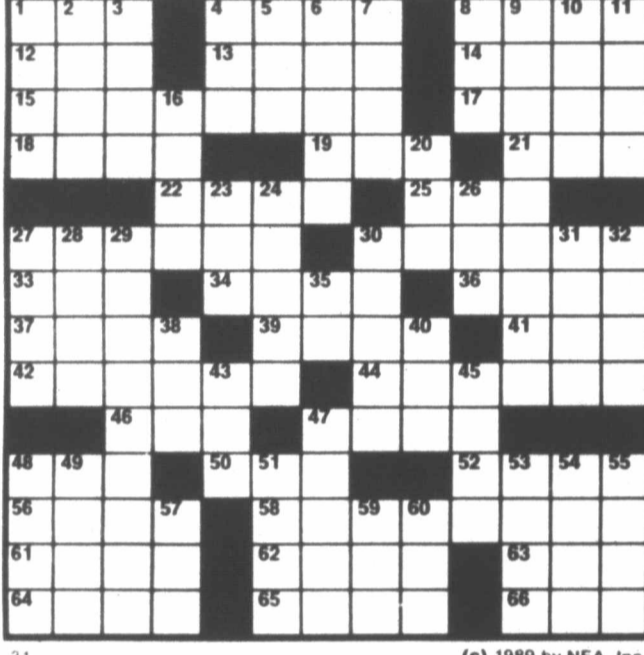
Today's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 12. Roman
- 4 Baginner
- 8 Western
- 10 Sarah plant
- 12 3000.
- 13 Roman
- 14 Pertaining to dawn
- 15 Went quickly
- 16 Friendly
- 17 Fencing
- 18 "Auld Lang"
- 19 Snoop
- 21 Eagle
- 22 Buckle
- 25 Comparative suffix
- 27 Scary
- 30 Medicinal root
- 33 Electrical unit
- 34 Video-game movie
- 35 Songstress
- 36 Cantrell
- 37 Slender pipe
- 39 Flying saucers (abbr.)
- 41 Urgent wireless signal
- 42 Reeks
- 44 Devotion of nine days

DOWN

- 11 First garden
- 16 Whale
- 20 Kennel
- 23 Likely
- 24 — Vance
- 26 Snake-like fish
- 27 Beds
- 28 Baba au
- 29 Adorn
- 30 — ear
- 31 Soon
- 32 Italian house
- 35 From
- 38 Yale student
- 40 Short for Solomon
- 43 Sign of the zodiac
- 45 — vidi vici
- 47 Poison
- 48 Mackerel's relative
- 49 Arrow
- 51 Table d'
- 53 Singer —
- 54 Advise
- 55 Aroma
- 57 Acct.
- 59 Former Japanese statesman
- 60 Relative of un



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EEK & MEEK



B.C.



MARVIN



MARMADUKE



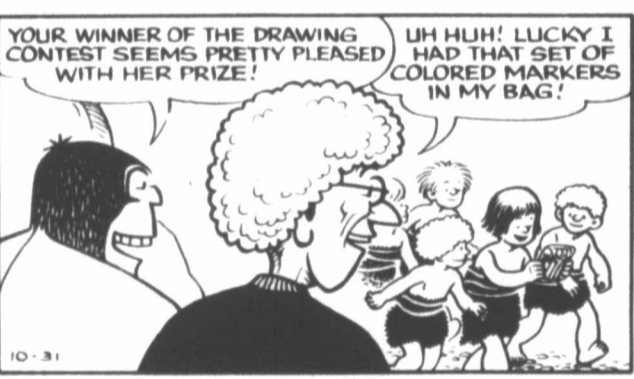
KIT N' CARLYLE



ALLEY OOP



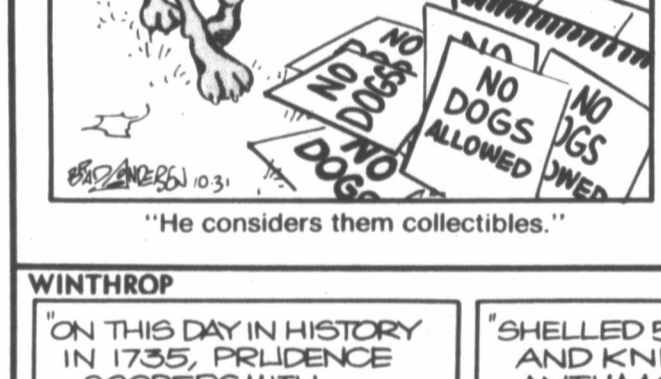
SNAFU



The Family Circus



WINTHROP



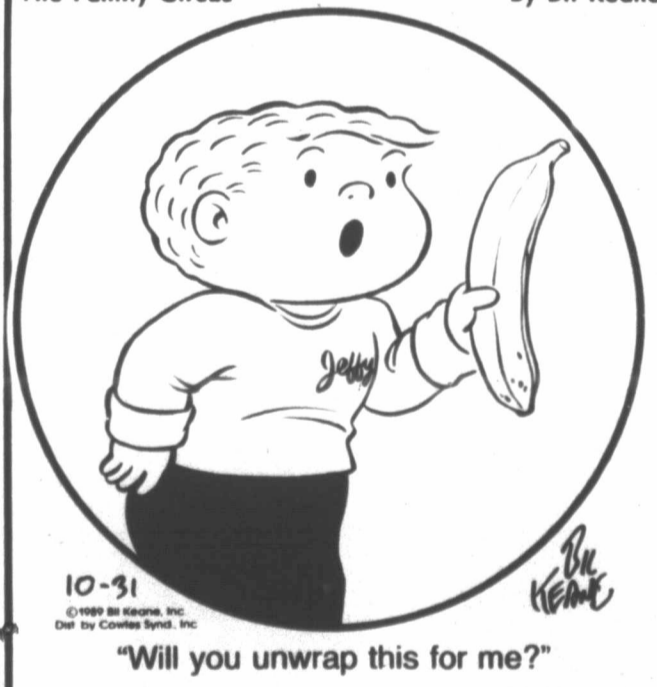
CALVIN AND HOBBS



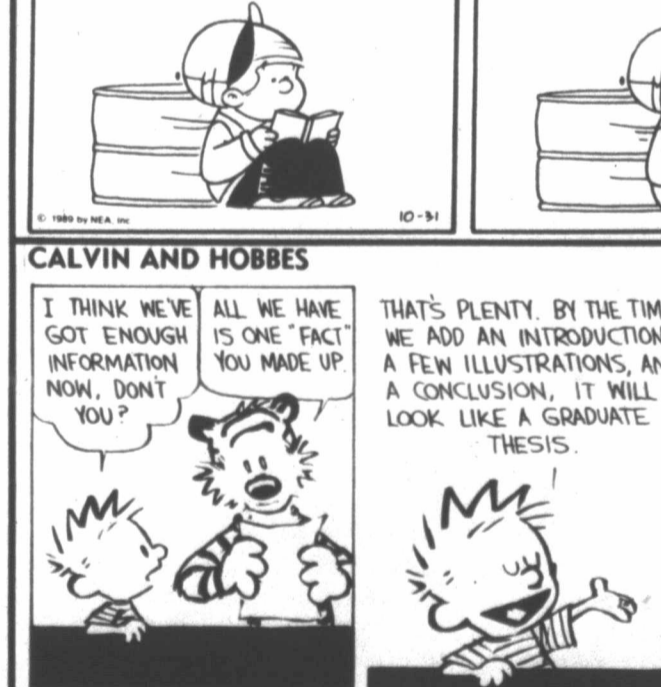
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



PEANUTS



GARFIELD



Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Not only are you a good conceptualist today, you'll also instinctively know how to implement your ideas in a productive fashion. Put these bright gifts to good use. Scorpio, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) This is a good time to remind a person who is indebted to you of his/her overdue obligation. Your possibilities for stirring up a positive response look hopeful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Use your innate practicality to bring your dreams into being today. Something for which you're hoping is achievable, provided you take the logical steps to achieve it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You have some extras going for you today that should enable you to fare well in competitive developments. One is your persistency and the other is people who are secretly working on your behalf.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) There is no reason today why you can't be successful in a situation similar to one where you experienced victory in the past. What you did before you can do again.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Someone with whom you are closely affiliated might be instrumental today in opening a channel for you that could lead to personal gain. It's an individual who has been helpful to you previously.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) It looks like you may derive some type of lasting benefit today from a cherished partnership arrangement. You have an ally who can be depended upon.

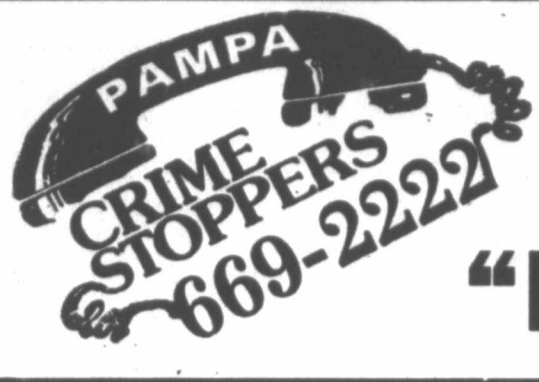
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your earning potential appears to be better than usual today owing to your industrious attitude. Zero in on situations that offer the greatest returns.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Conditions look promising for you at this time where your social contacts are concerned. You'll be able to do more now to generate greater good will with others.

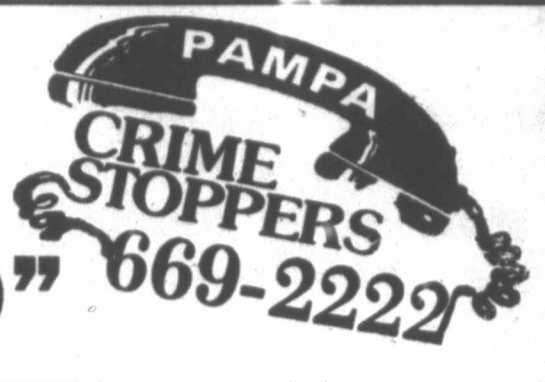
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your possibilities for success are stronger today if you continue to proceed along lines that have been productive thus far. Forego experiments.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Tackle situations today that should be treated with the seriousness and respect they deserve. Orderliness is extremely important, because it will make everything easier.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your financial aspects look very strong at present. You are now in the type of cycle where the benefits you generate could continue to come in for a long time.



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765, 1009 Terry \$32,000
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665-7232
1984 Buick Century 4 door. Loaded. 58,000 miles. Call 669-2990, 665-4363 after 6 p.m.
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120 Autos For Sale

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1990 Oldsmobile SALE
List Sale
1980 Cutlass Calais 12,643⁰⁰ 11,662⁰⁰
1990 Cutlass Ciera 16,736⁰⁰ 14,625⁰⁰
1990 Cutlass Supreme 18,477⁰⁰ 16,364⁰⁰
1990 88 Royale 17,770⁰⁰ 15,761⁰⁰
1990 Regency 21,494⁰⁰ 18,821⁰⁰
1990 Toronado 22,945⁰⁰ 19,896⁰⁰
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Sincerely, owner *Frank Morrison*

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SHURFINE ASSORTED POTATOES 5 1/2 OZ. BOX 79¢		SHURFINE PANCAKE MIX 32 OZ. BOX 99¢		SHURFINE SALTINE CRACKERS 16 OZ. BOX 59¢		SHURFINE LARGE RIPE PITTED OLIVES 6 OZ. CAN 99¢	
SHURFINE BEEF/CHICKEN BOUILLON CUBES 25 CT. SIZE 89¢		SHURFINE PANCAKE SYRUP 24 OZ. BTL. 99¢		SHURFINE REG. OR LITE FRUIT COCKTAIL 16 OZ. CAN 69¢		SHURFINE STUFFED SPANISH OLIVES 5.75 OZ. JAR \$1 19	
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SHURFINE FRENCH SLICED GREEN BEANS 2 16 OZ. CANS 99¢		SHURFINE APPLE JUICE 64 OZ. JUG \$1 59		SHURFINE REG. OR MINI. MARSHMALLOWS 2 10 1/2 OZ. BAGS 99¢		SHURFINE MANDARIN ORANGES 11 OZ. CAN 59¢	
SHURFINE WHOLE GREEN BEANS 16 OZ. CAN 59¢		SHURFINE CRANAPPLE CRAN RASPBERRY DRINK OR CRANBERRY JUICE 48 OZ. BTL. \$1 69		SHURFINE FANCY FLAKE COCONUT 14 OZ. PKG. \$1 29		SHURFINE LIGHT CORN SYRUP 32 OZ. BTL. \$1 29	
SHURFINE SPINACH 2 15 OZ. CANS 99¢		SHURFINE CRU., CHU., OR SLICED PINEAPPLE N JUICE 2 15 1/2 OZ. CANS 99¢		SHURFINE CORNBREAD OR CHICKEN STUFFING MIX 6 OZ. BOX 79¢		SHURFINE APRICOT NECTAR 46 OZ. CAN \$1 29	
SHURFINE WHITE OR GOLDEN HOMINY 3 15 OZ. CANS 99¢		SHURFINE WHOLE SWEET POTATOES 2 16 OZ. CANS 99¢					
SHURFINE SMALL WHOLE BEETS 2 16 OZ. CANS 99¢		SHURFINE ASSORTED SWEET PICKLES 22 OZ. JAR \$1 49					
		SHURFINE ASSORTED CHOCOLATE CANDY 5 OZ. PKG. 99¢					

Shurfine Fall Sale

SHURFINE HICKORY SMOKED SLICED BACON 1 LB. PKG. \$1 39	SHURFINE BONELESS FULLY COOKED TURKEY HALF HAMS LB. \$1 69 2 TO 3 LB. AVERAGE	SHURFINE BONELESS FULLY COOKED-93% LEAN WHOLE HAMS LB. \$1 99 6 TO 8 LB. AVERAGE	SHURFINE BONELESS FULLY COOKED-93% LEAN WHOLE TURKEYS LB. 69¢ 10-14 LB. AVERAGE WITH TENDER TIMER
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SHURFINE ASSORTED QUARTERS MARGARINE 1 LB. BOXES 3 99¢ FOR	SHURFINE ASSORTED ICE CREAM 1/2 GAL. SQ. CTN. 99¢	ALL PURPOSE RUSSET POTATOES 10 LB. BAG \$1 19	TEXAS RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT 7 \$1 FOR
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SHURFINE ASSORTED CRANBERRY SAUCE 16 OZ. CANS 2 99¢ FOR	SHURFINE LIQUID BLEACH GAL. PLASTIC JUG 69¢	SHURFINE ASSORTED DOG FOOD 25 LB. BAG \$3 99	SHURFINE POWDERED OR BROWN SUGAR 2 LB. BAG 99¢	SHURFINE PURE VEGETABLE OIL 48 OZ. BTL. \$1 59	SHURFINE ASSORTED LAUNDRY DETERGENT 42 OZ. BOX \$1 19	SHURFINE EVAPORATED MILK 12 OZ. CAN 39¢	SHURFINE "REAL" CHOCOLATE CHIPS 12 OZ. PKG. 99¢	SHURFINE ASSD. LAYER CAKE MIXES 18 1/2 OZ. BOX 69¢
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SHURFINE COFFEE FILTERS 2 100 CT. PKGS. 99¢	SHURFINE TEA BAGS 100 CT. PKG. \$1 99	SHURFINE COFFEE CREAMER 11 OZ. JAR 89¢	SHURFINE CRISPY RICE 13 OZ. BOX \$1 49	SHURFINE FROSTING 16 OZ. CAN \$1 19	SHURFINE CHOCOLATE SYRUP 24 OZ. BTL. \$1 29	SHURFINE RICE 2 LB. BAG 89¢	SHURFINE POPCORN 32 OZ. BAG 89¢	SHURFINE PLAIN PEANUTS 16 OZ. JAR \$1 99	SHURFINE APPLE CIDER 64 OZ. JUG \$1 59	SHURFINE PEARS 18 OZ. CAN 69¢
SHURFINE KITCHEN BAGS 20 CT. PKG. \$2 39	SHURFINE BABY WIPES 80 CT. PKG. \$2 59	SHURFINE PLASTIC WRAP 100 FT. ROLL 79¢	SHURFINE ALUMINUM FOIL 18-37 1/2" ROLL \$1 19	SHURFINE DISH DETERGENT 32 OZ. BTL. \$1 19	SHURFINE DISH DETERGENT 56 OZ. BOX \$1 69	SHURFINE DEODORIZER 14 OZ. SIZE \$1 19	SHURFINE IODIZED SALT 28 OZ. CTN. 29¢	SHURFINE WATER PELLETS 10 LB. BAG \$3 19	SHURFINE CAT FOOD 4 LB. BAG \$1 69	SHURFINE INSTANT COFFEE 8 OZ. JAR \$2 99
SHURFINE POTATO CHIPS 7 OZ. BAG 79¢	SHURFINE ELBO RONI 2 12 OZ. BAGS 99¢	SHURFINE SPAGHETTI SAUCE 32 OZ. JAR \$1 49	SHURFINE APPLESAUCE 25 OZ. JAR 79¢	SHURFINE PIE FILLING 20 OZ. CAN 99¢	SHURFINE PEACHES 16 OZ. CAN 69¢	SHURFINE FACIAL TISSUE 100 CT. BOX 79¢	SHURFINE VANILLA CHERRIES 2 OZ. BTL. \$1 39	SHURFINE NAPKINS 60 CT. PKG. 39¢	SHURFINE CINNAMON 4.1 OZ. CAN \$1 69	SHURFINE PUMPKIN 16 OZ. CANS 39¢
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