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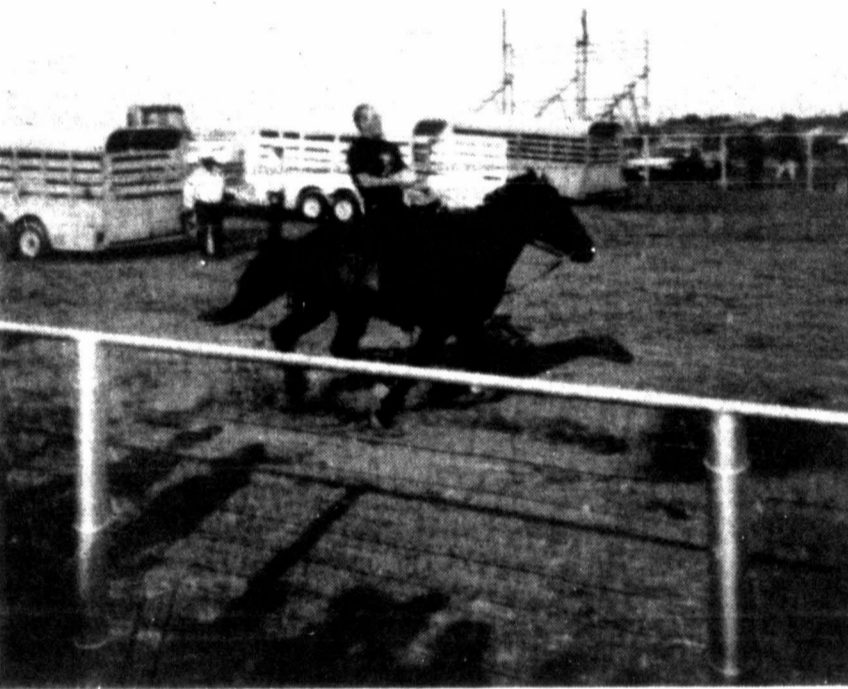
FRIDAY

Friday the 13th



(Staff photo by Jean Streetman-Ward)

Friday The Cat surveys his handiwork in preparation for Friday the 13th. Being a black cat makes him less superstitious than some persons, Friday says. To him, Friday the 13th is nothing to be afraid of.



(Photo by Vic Laramora)

Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce Manager Red McNatt hangs on for dear life while riding in the 1990 Top O' Texas pickup relay. McNatt and partner, Joe VanZandt, Gray County Agricultural Extension Agent, won their heat but failed to make it past the semi-finals.

Pick-up relay adds fun for rodeo opening night

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
News Editor

It doesn't say so in the rules, but the object of the annual Top O' Texas Rodeo pick-up relay is to get through the event without making a total idiot of one's self. Twenty teams of two persons tried — some with more success than others — to do just that Thursday evening prior to the opening night of the 1990 rodeo.

The grandstands were filled with spectators eating free barbecue prepared by the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association members and cheering on the efforts of the relay riders.

Now in a pickup relay — something that must have been dreamed up by organizer Donald Maul — a team of two contestants jump out of a pick-up truck; one runs behind the truck to unload the horse from a trailer while the other carries the blanket and saddle from the front of the pickup to where the horse is.

Next they saddle the horse, one contestant jumps on the horse, rides it at breakneck speed down the arena, around the barrel and back. The riders trade places and the next contestant races down the arena and back. Once back, the horse is unsaddled, loaded, and the saddle and blanket put in front of the truck. Finally the riders jump into the pickup, shut the doors and turn the headlights on.

This may sound complicated — and it is — especially for those who haven't been on a horse in several years. Most of the contestants

hadn't. Teams are made up of one experienced rider and one inexperienced rider, guaranteeing an interesting race if nothing else.

Two of last night's contestants didn't show up for the contest — Mayor Richard Peet and City Manager Glen Hackler. They say it was because a City Commission meeting lasted too long. A likely story ... Linda Hawley of Special Effects Salon filled in for Hackler, while Greg Greenhouse rounded up Wiley McIntire to take Peet's place.

Jim Richardson and Gary Gattis lasted through one heat, a semi-finals and finals match to emerge as winners of this year's relays. They split a purse of \$380. Dr. Bill Horne, Gray County veterinarian, and Gray County Judge Carl Kennedy ran the winning pair a close second.

Horne and Kennedy won their first heat with ease. Raymond Henry and Police Chief Jim Laramore overcame a minor technical problem and Laramore's widely proclaimed aversion to horses to complete the heat, while Nick Fortner and this reporter, riding a willing — but slightly pregnant mare, managed to come in last.

Joe VanZandt, Gray County Agricultural Extension agent, and Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce Red McNatt won their heat, despite McNatt's apparent efforts to slow his horse down.

John Oxley and Gene Winegeart, both of the city of Pampa, emerged

See RELAY, Page 2

City Commission approves plan for paying off debt service early

By BETH MILLER
Staff Writer

Pampa City Commission on Thursday unanimously OK'd paying off a debt early through money in the debt service fund.

By that action, the city will be able to utilize funds for the general fund that have been put forth for debt. City Manager Glen Hackler explained. Current funds of \$71,000 had been earmarked for debt service, and that money will now be used to help recoup some of the revenue lost due to a declining tax base and loss in valuation.

The debt is known as City of Pampa, Public Property Finance Contractual Obligations, Series 1988.

The commission, in a separate but related action, unanimously approved a resolution calling for an escrow agreement with Ameritrust Texas National Association related to the defeasance of the debt.

In unrelated action, the commission approved a resolution to remove a traffic signal light at Alcock and Faulkner. The traffic light has been labeled as "unwarranted" by the Texas Department of Highways and Transportation. The Traffic Commission and city staff agreed with the determination and recommended it be removed.

In related action, the commission unanimously approved the first reading of an ordinance establishing a school zone near the Alcock and Faulkner site, which is near Horace Mann Elementary School. The ordinance also calls for a 20 mph speed zone on Alcock Street from Banks to Sumner streets.

Hackler said school crossing guards would continue to be utilized during the school year. The state will pay for the upkeep and power for the flashing lights, he said.

The City Commission also unanimously approved a resolution submitting an application to the Texas Department of Commerce for money in the Texas Community Development Program.

The application is for \$203,762 in grant funds to carry out street, flood and drainage improvements along certain portions of streets in the

southern part of the city.

The city agrees, in its application, to commit \$45,000 in cash and \$20,000 of in-kind labor and equipment from its general fund as a contribution toward the construction activities of the project.

In other action, the commission:

- Approved the minutes of June 26 work session and regular meeting.
- Held a public hearing regarding the condemnation of a structure at 703 Lefors. No one, with the exception of David McKinney, building official with the city, spoke during the public hearing. The commission later unanimously voted to condemn the structure because it is a fire and safety hazard.
- Unanimously approved the firm of Brown, Graham and Co. of Amarillo to serve as the city's auditing firm for three years, at a cost of \$18,900 during the first year.
- Unanimously declared a 1979 refuse truck as surplus property.
- Unanimously approved an amendment to the city's contract with Operating Management International Inc. regarding operations and management of the water and wastewater plants.

The amendment lowers the fee to be paid to OMI by the city from \$478,000 last year to \$462,000 for the 1990-91 fiscal year, a savings of \$16,000.

Commissioner Ray Hupp said, "I would like to commend the city staff for some hard-nose negotiating."

Unanimously approved the following seven people to serve on the Highway 70 Reconstruction Committee: Lynn Bezner, Lee Cornelison, Ladin Moore, Steve McCullough, Buz Tarpley, Bud Welch and Rex McAnelly.

The committee is considered advisory and has two basic responsibilities: the development of considerations, including but not limited to safety and liability, the future of the street and business impact regarding the Highway 70 widening project; and the development of all possible courses of action relative to such a project.

The committee is to report to the city manager by Aug. 24.

• Awarded, by a 3-2 vote, a bid to Western Industrial for the purchase of 100 1-inch cold water meters at a cost of \$67.20 each. Mayor Richard Peet and Commissioner Hupp opposed the award of the bid.

Mayor Peet said before the vote that he was concerned about the track record of the thermo-plastic bottom meter as opposed to the cast-iron and bronze bottoms currently used by the city. The mayor also said he wondered if the city had given local businesses enough time to get the thermo-plastic bottom meters so they could place a responsive bid.

City staff said they had contacted seven businesses, of which four responded with bids. Only two of those bids were for the thermo-plastic bottoms. "The staff said thermo-plastic bottoms, when exposed to freezing temperatures, are designed to break free of the meter, unlike cast-iron or bronze bottoms.

• Awarded a bid of \$6,595.60 to Western Industrial for sprinkler system repair parts.

Commissioner Robert Dixon commended the city staff for the fireworks display on July 4. "I think the city did a super bang-up job," Dixon commented during the meeting.

Dixon also commended the VFW for organizing the speaker for the event.

In a work session prior to the special meeting on Thursday, the City Commission discussed re-insurance quotes for the city's health plan and the upcoming mandate by the state that, beginning Sept. 1, landfills cannot accept tires unless they have been quartered, split or shredded.

The group also discussed designating about \$900,000 out of \$1.2 million in 1987 bond money for water distribution system improvements. The money was originally earmarked for water rights, but Hackler stressed the improvements are needed at this time to keep the system up-to-date.

Hackler also told the commission that the city has 176 days from the date of the awarding of the prison bid to get permanent water and sewer on the site. The project, to be paid through revenue bonds, is estimated to cost \$2.5 million.

Cool breezes greet first-night rodeo crowd

By KAYLA PURSLEY
Lifestyles Editor

Cool breezes, reminiscent of football weather, didn't distract from the hot action in the rodeo arena last night as spectators enjoyed the opening night festivities of the Top O' Texas PCRA Rodeo.

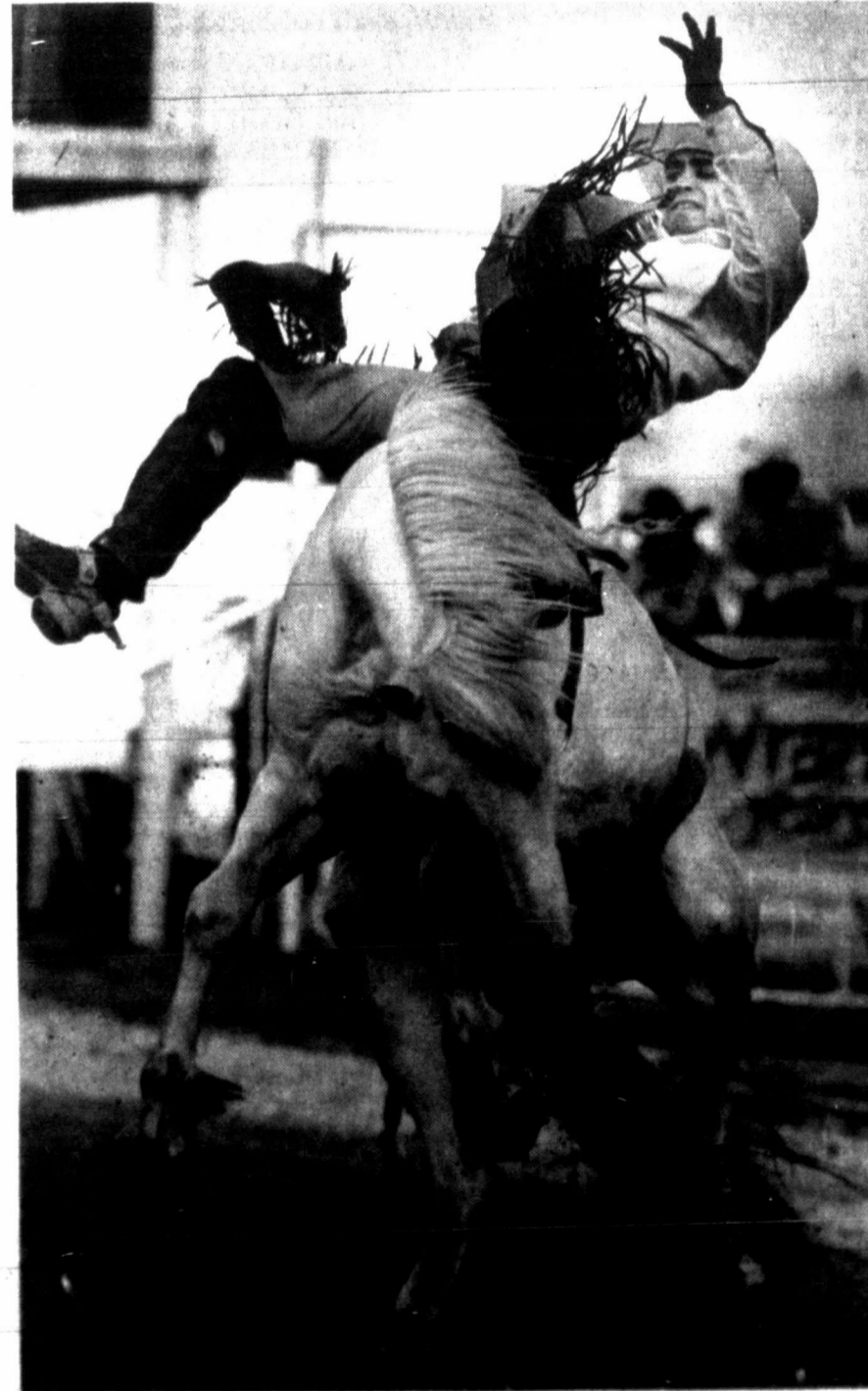
Clem McSpadden welcomed fans and kept up a running commentary on each contestant, giving the crowd a special insight into the chosen careers of the cowboys and cowgirls. McSpadden, who also is the official announcer for the steer wrestling event at the National

Finals Rodeo, will be inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame in August.

The Jack Selby Family played country and western music throughout the night and the Pikes Peak Rangereettes from Colorado Springs, Colo., entertained rodeo fans with their precision drill horsemanship.

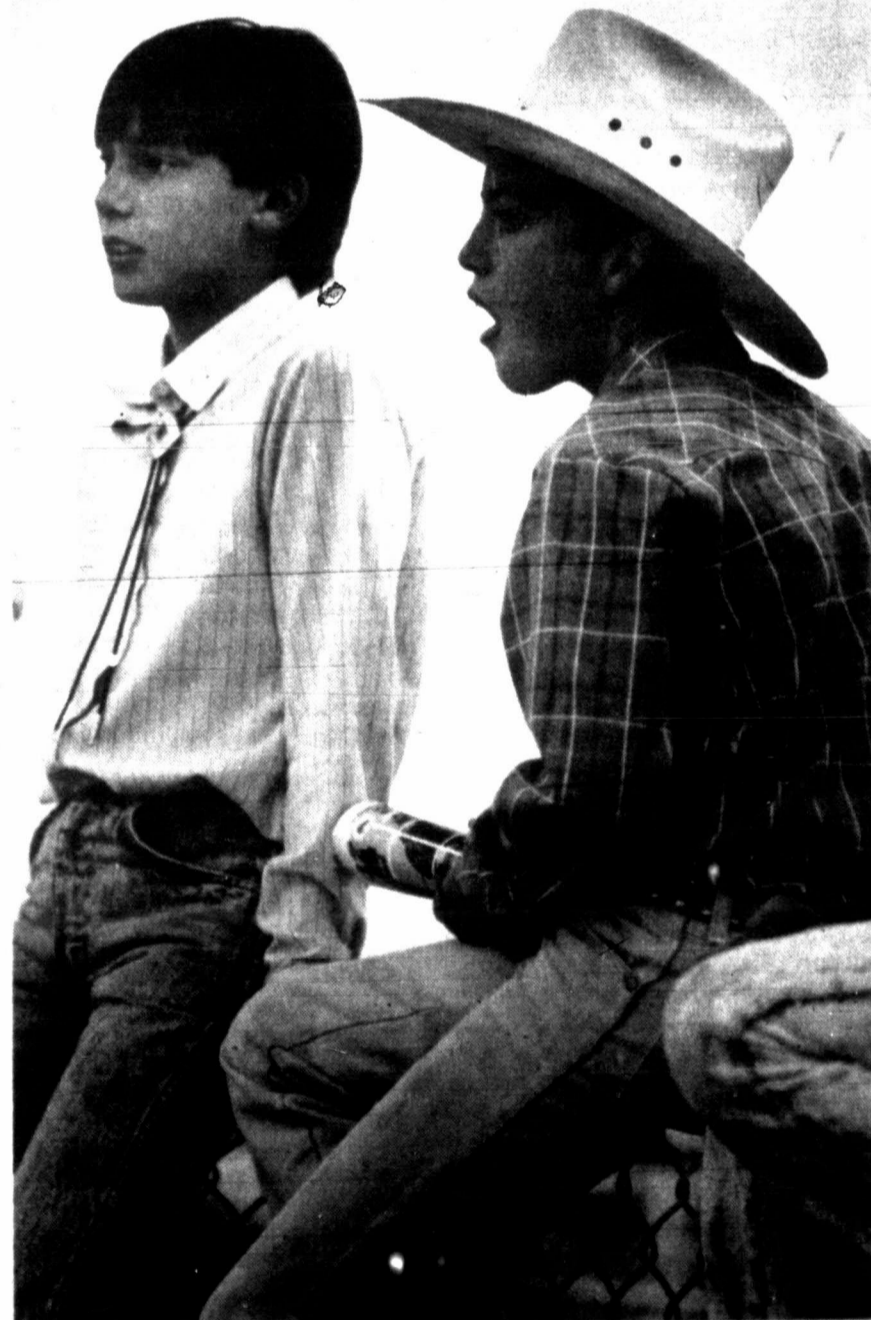
Bruce Lehmueller, professional Rodeo Clown of the Year, was a delight to kids and adults alike.

Bareback bronc riding, sponsored by Citizen's Bank & Trust, started off the evening's events and was won by D.J. Johnson, Rookie of the Year, with a score of 75. Second



(Staff photo by Jean Streetman-Ward)

Bareback bronc rider Jack Sims of Hutchinson, Kan., leans back for a wild ride as the first contestant on the opening night of the 1990 Top O' Texas Rodeo.



(Staff photo by Jean Streetman-Ward)

Future cowboys, from left, Kenny Fritzt, 12, and Chad Hapeman, 12, both of Pampa, perch on the fence at the Top O' Texas Rodeo arena to watch the first-night events.

best time went to Randy Slaughter with 72. Completing the list of contestants were Travis Howe, 68; Jack Sims, 67; Hyde Kramer, 67; Ty Murray, 66; Vernon Gardner, 66; and Greg Truex, who was disqualified coming out of the chute.

Calf roping, sponsored by Enron, is a timed event where, after roping the calf, the cowboy must dismount, go the calf, throw it by hand and tie three feet that must hold for six seconds.

Jeff Frizzell had the top time with 11.3 seconds. Following close behind was Gary Dean with a time of 11.8 seconds. Also competing and earning times were Roger Davis, formerly of Pampa, now of

Elk City, 13.5; Kyle Dudley, 17.5; and Wade Helton of Pampa, 20.3. The calves won against Jim Cade, James Zant, Johnny Emmons, Rocky Patterson and Rod Cleveland.

The saddle bronc riding event was sponsored by Golden Spread Co-op Inc. Top score of 74 went to Ty Murray, defending all-around world champion from Stephenville.

Twenty-year-old Murray, the youngest ever world champion, went to the National Finals last year wearing the No. 1 back number identifying him as the top money-earner of the regular season.

See RODEO, Page 2

Two shiploads of Albanian refugees reach Italian port

By MARY BETH SHERIDAN
Associated Press Writer

BRINDISI, Italy (AP) - Two shiploads of tired but joyous Albanians reached this Adriatic port today as ferries began evacuating 4,500 asylum seekers from three Western embassies in Europe's last hard-line Communist country.

The mass evacuation aboard West European ships was expected to ease one of the Albanian regime's worst crises in decades, which began late last month when Albanians frantically clambered over or crashed through embassy fences to seek asylum.

The first ship, the Italian-chartered Espresso Grecia, arrived at this southern Italian port shortly after 9 a.m. (2 a.m. CDT) after a seven-hour trip across the Adriatic Sea from the Albanian port of Durres.

The first person off the ship was a newborn baby wrapped in an orange blanket and rushed to an ambulance by a Red Cross nurse.

"I feel so many emotions, so much liberty," said a beaming young woman in Italian as she got off the ship. Police whisked her away before she could give her name.

The second ship to arrive pulled in about 90 minutes later, the Italian news agency ANSA reported. It said the Appia carried 1,098 Albanians; the Espresso Grecia, about 950.

Three other ships also went to Albania on Thursday to pick up most of the thousands of refugees who have packed the Italian, French and West German embassies in the capital, Tirana, in the last two weeks.

At the poorly lit docks in Durres, there were no police in sight when the five buses carrying the French Embassy's 545 refugees arrived to be boarded on the

Orient Star, according to a French reporter. The Appia's captain, in a ship-to-shore telephone conversation with ANSA, also said the boarding in Durres was orderly.

"It only took us an hour and one quarter, and as far as I can tell, the other four ships were also loaded quickly," Sergio Degli Ivanisovich, was quoted as saying.

An Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman said earlier this week there was concern that other Albanians seeking to flee their country would try to mob the ships, so exact details of the operation were not released in advance.

Hungary's official news agency reported that 40 Albanians who sought refuge in the Hungarian mission in Tirana would be put aboard a special flight tonight for Budapest. Other refugees already have been evacuated from the Czechoslovak Embassy.

The Albanian government of Communist leader Ramiz Alia agreed to let the refugees leave the embassy compounds after supplies of food and medicine ran low and hygienic conditions deteriorated.

The refugees were transported from Tirana to Durres 20 miles to the west, then put aboard the ferries for the 85-mile trip to Brindisi. The port is in the heel of Italy, about 330 miles southeast of Rome.

As the Espresso Grecia pulled into the Brindisi harbor, hundreds of Albanians lining the decks clapped and cheered. One man hoisted a baby in a white sweater up and down. A woman punched the air in victory. Other Albanians shouted, "Italia!"

Many of the Albanians boarded trains for West Germany after a quick breakfast of hot milk and croissants provided by the local government.

There is no U.S. Embassy in Tirana, since Washington has no diplomatic relations with Albania.



The Italian ferry Espresso Grecia enters Brindisi Friday morning with its load of Albanians. (AP Laserphoto)

Sandinistas celebrate strike accord

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) - The Sandinista-led strike forced concessions that left the government's free-enterprise plan "bleeding," the business community says. But the Sandinistas celebrated what they called a preservation of the gains of their revolution.

The crippling strike was settled Thursday with an accord that grants hefty wage hikes to government workers - and puts some key elements of the new administration's plan to return Nicaragua to a free-market economy on hold.

The accord also calls for suspension of a decree to return land confiscated in the 1979 Sandinista revolution to the original owners. Former President Daniel Ortega says Sandinista land reform was a basic "conquest of the revolution."

President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro and her aides have said the settlement prevented more bloodshed and unrest and made it possible for Nicaragua to get back down to business.

During the last six days of the strike, street fighting broke out

between strike supporters and opponents, claiming at least four lives and turning the capital into a maze of bonfires and barricades.

Ortega, unseated by Mrs. Chamorro's U.S.-backed United National Opposition coalition in Feb. 25 elections, said the strike showed the Sandinistas still wield considerable power in Nicaragua.

But the nation's business leaders were busy counting up the costs.

"The government lost. The Sandinistas lost. The people lost," said Gilberto Cuadra, president of the nation's leading business group, the Superior Council of Private Enterprise.

The business council, known by its Spanish acronym COSEP, described the walkouts by public employees an attempt to destabilize the government, a charge Ortega denied.

"It wasn't a strike; it was mob action," Cuadra said in an interview Thursday.

He said COSEP estimates economic damage at between \$35 million and \$50 million in lost busi-

ness, property damage and diminished crops.

Central Bank President Francisco Mayorga had earlier said the strike was costing about \$2 million a day.

About 95,000 workers, mostly from federal offices and state-run farms, walked off their jobs demanding more participation in economic policy making and job security, Sandinista union leaders said.

The strike hit during the planting season and Cuadra said the cotton crop, crucial to this agricultural nation, may be 30 percent less than expected.

Chamorro, who inherited a bankrupt government and a crippled economy, has promised to reverse more than a decade of leftist Sandinista rule with measures such as privatization and trimming a bloated public payroll.

The Sandinistas, who held power for more than a decade after the uprising that ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza, have waged a campaign of labor unrest since Chamorro's April 25 inauguration.

Zodiac killer still free; dartman suspect arrested

NEW YORK (AP) - A police dragnet based on astrological research failed to turn up the Zodiac killer and cost the city as much as \$30,000 in overtime for undercover officers sent out as decoy prey.

"Maybe he read in the papers that we were beefing up," Chief of Detectives Joseph Borrelli said Thursday after the all-night hunt.

"I'm happy he didn't shoot anyone. I'm not happy we haven't caught him yet," Police Commissioner Lee P. Brown said.

Investigators activated "Operation Watchdog" because they feared the gunman would strike according to a 21-day, Thursday pattern he has followed over four months in attacks on four people.

In another prominent New York crime spree, police arrested a 33-year-old man with a history of psychiatric problems as a suspect in the "Dartman" dart-blowing attacks.

In the past few weeks, 55 well-dressed women have reported being jabbed by homemade darts in the

buttocks, legs and arms as they walked down streets, mostly in midtown Manhattan.

Of the "Night of the Zodiac," Borrelli refused to say how many officers scoured the city in search of the gunman, who said in letters to police and news organizations that he chooses his victims by their astrological signs.

All four of the Zodiac's victims, including one who died, were shot on Thursday nights between midnight and dawn.

The 21-day cycle of shootings started March 8, with other shootings on March 29, May 31 and June 21. The time between the second and third shootings was 63 days, a multiple of 21.

The gunman vowed in letters to police and news media to shoot 12 people - one for each sign of the Zodiac.

At least two men who resembled

a sketch of Zodiac were picked up by detectives, questioned and released during the dragnet. Borrelli estimated the operation cost the city as much as \$30,000 in overtime for officers.

Borrelli said the absence of a Zodiac shooting early Thursday "is not inconsistent with him because there was that period" of 63 days between the second and third shootings.

In the Dartman case, authorities said Jerome Wright, 33, of the Bronx, a messenger with a criminal record and admitted psychiatric problems, was charged Thursday in the firing of darts made from straight pins, sewing needles and paper.

Wright was identified in a lineup by three women Wednesday night and was charged with three counts each of reckless endangerment, criminal possession of a weapon and harassment.

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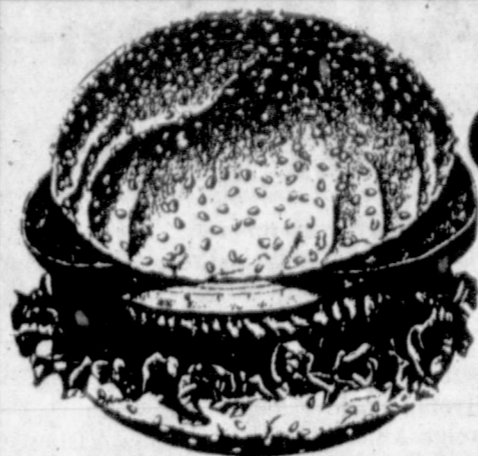
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Senate OKs tough crime bill with weapons ban, S&L fraud provisions

By MIKE ROBINSON
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Senate has approved a broad crime bill that stiffens prison terms for savings and loan fraud, bans nine semiautomatic weapons and makes three dozen federal offenses punishable by death. The election-year measure sailed through the Senate on Wednesday, 94-0, with opposition coming largely from critics of capital punishment.

"This is the toughest and most comprehensive crime bill in our history," said Judiciary Chairman Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del. He said the measure could cost up to \$2 billion in 1991 and added the source of the funds was uncertain.

At the last minute, the Senate added \$162.5 million to combat savings and loan fraud and tough prison terms for those convicted in the scandal, including life for "kingpins." Whistle blowers could collect rewards of up to \$300,000 for turning in S&L looters.

The bill would add hundreds of savings and loan fraud investigators and allow the government to seize

the assets of S&L looters in the same fashion that it now confiscates those of drug kingpins.

Lawmakers said they have felt distinct pressure from back home to step up prosecution of S&L offenders.

"We need to be cracking down on the orgy of fraud and lawbreaking that occurred in the savings and loan crisis," said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

Among the provisions settled earlier was the ban on import or domestic manufacture of nine kinds of semiautomatic assault weapons, approved over the fierce opposition of the National Rifle Association.

Under the Senate bill, the following guns would be banned for import or domestic manufacture:

Norinco, Mitchell and Poly Technologies Avtomat Kalashnikovs (including the AK-47); Action Arms Israeli Military Industries Uzi and Galil; Beretta AR-70 (SC-70); Colt AR-15 and CAR-15; Fabrique Nationale FN-FAL, FN-LAR and FNC; MAC-10 and MAC-11; Steyr AUG; INTRATEC TEC-9 and the Street Sweeper and the Striker.

Senators also had agreed on provisions allowing executions for 34 federal offenses including treason,

hostage-taking and presidential assassination. It is already possible under current law to seek capital punishment for drug kingpins who commit murder and terrorists who kill Americans overseas.

Other parts of the crime bill would streamline the appeals system with an eye to ending delays of a decade or more in carrying out executions, tighten money laundering laws and provide for 1,000 new FBI agents, 1,000 narcotics agents, 500 Border Patrol officers and 480 federal prosecutors.

Additional features range from an increase in funding for "boot camp" prisons to tougher penalties for sale of the new drug "ice."

The House currently is fashioning its own version of a comprehensive crime bill.

The Bush administration has been cool to the Senate package, largely because of its gun features. The administration has banned import of a number of "non-sporting" semiautomatic weapons and has urged a limit on the size of ammunition clips, but opposes a ban on semiautomatics manufactured here.

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh issued a state-

ment Wednesday afternoon, however, saying he wanted to "commend the Senate action" in adopting an amended version of the crime bill with "most of President Bush's proposals to combat crime and institute much needed criminal justice reforms."

"While there are some provisions of the Senate-passed bill that the administration opposes, I am convinced that with continued bipartisan cooperation the 101st Congress will help achieve the president's goal," Thornburgh said.

The Senate bill started life as President Bush's crime package but over the last year was virtually rewritten on Capitol Hill. The process has been punctuated by potshots back and forth between Bush and Senate Democrats.

The crime bill being fashioned by the House Judiciary Committee contains only minor firearms provisions. But a gun bill that already has been approved by the panel would outlaw domestic weapons that fail to meet the administration's "sporting purposes" test.

Gun-owner organizations say that bill could be tougher than the one approved by the Senate.

Boys with 'the Right Stuff' will be boisterous fellows

By HARRY F. ROSENTHAL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - For nearly 30 years of space flight, NASA looked the other way when its high-spirited astronauts tested the rules of behavior that governed their lives.

After all, boys with the right stuff will be boisterous.

This week, the space agency departed from tradition and suspended two veteran and highly regarded shuttle commanders for stepping over the line. For Navy Capt. Robert L. Gibson and Navy Capt. David M. Walker, both in their mid-40s, the suspensions might be the end of their NASA careers.

"There was a violation of policy," Donald R. Puddy, the astronauts' boss as director of flight operations, said in an interview. "I think it's clear across the board that we had established a policy, written it down and communicated it to all parties involved. I think they were all aware of what we were trying to do."

Gibson's transgression was flying a stunt plane in a race at an air show last Saturday in New Braunfels, Texas. His plane and another collided, killing the second pilot.

Walker was grounded for unspecified violation of flying rules. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration sought to make clear that his near-collision with an airliner last year was only one factor that led to the suspension.

"It was an incident that was considered, you might say it was one of the more severe incidents," Puddy said. He declined to elaborate, saying only that the space agency had become concerned about "some things in the manner which he was flying."

Walker, a Navy captain who had flown in space twice, was replaced on a Defense Department mission set for March 1991 and suspended for 60 days from flying NASA's T-

38 jet trainers.

At the same time, NASA announced a one-year suspension for Gibson. Neither astronaut had any public comment.

Before the written guidelines, NASA tolerated some dangerous outside activities.

Gordon Cooper, one of the Mercury Seven astronauts, was fond of fast cars and was about to make his professional driving debut when NASA stopped him. Four-time space flyer James Lovell fractured his arm and shoulder while skiing. Apollo 7 astronaut Walter Cunningham fractured a vertebra on a trampoline.

It is been just over a year since astronaut S. David Griggs was killed while performing aerial stunts in his World War II-vintage plane, practicing for a weekend air show.

When it came to space flying, however, NASA had a no-nonsense way of exerting discipline.

Scott Carpenter, the fourth American in space, overshot his landing mark by 250 miles and never got another flight. He started a new career as an underwater researcher.

The crew of Apollo 7 - Wally Schirra, Donn Eisele and Walt Cunningham - were cranky with mission control throughout their 11-day flight. All three resigned soon afterward.

Astronauts David Scott, Al Worden and Jim Irwin smuggled some stamps aboard their Apollo 15, planning to sell them later. NASA found out, reprimanded them and they left quickly.

Puddy's order bars astronauts in training for flight from taking part in "risky recreational activities ... where there exists exposure of major, or even fatal, injury." That includes: "Auto, boat, airplane or motorcycle racing; parachute jumping; and snow skiing."

NASA's astronaut corps has 85 members, 62 of whom are in training for 12 future shuttle flights.

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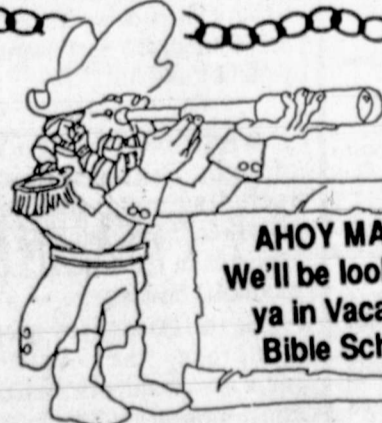
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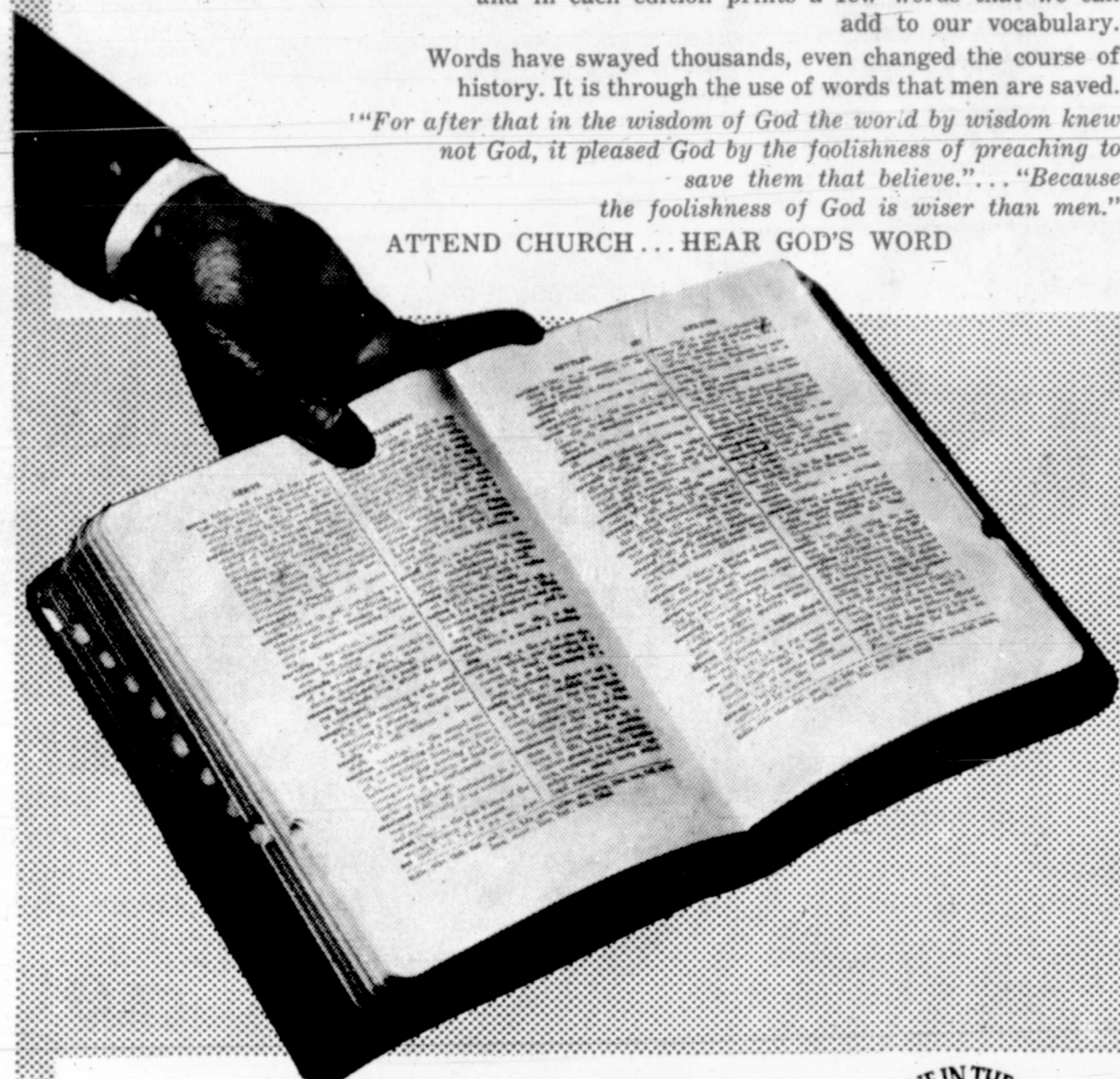
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His Touch

By Charlotte Barbaree

Scripture: *And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.* (Matthew 18:5 NIV)

During a time of testimony in a worship service, individuals in the congregation were invited to share who the most influential person was in his/her Christian life.

A friend said: "My neighbor when I was a little girl ... she didn't just take me to church for a while, but for 10 years she came out of her way to pick me up and take me to church."

I was intrigued by such commitment and asked the friend to tell me more. Her story follows:

"I grew up on a farm, and my parents didn't attend church. Our neighbor, Laura, had been by our house to invite my family to church several times with no results. When I was about six, she asked my parents if they would mind if she took us kids to church, and my parents agreed. From then on, every Sunday, Laura drove the mile out of her way to pick up me, my sister, and my two brothers. She faithfully provided transportation until I turned 16 and got my driver's license.

"During those 10 years, Laura's personal circumstances weren't the best. Her husband had fallen off a grain elevator and was paralyzed from the waist down. On Sunday mornings, she loaded him in the front seat, loaded his wheelchair, and rounded up her own kids ... all that before she ever got to my house. By the time we all got in the car, we were packed in. At church, Laura kept the nursery. The point I'm making is that she had enough responsibilities without taking on the chore of getting a carload of neighbor kids to church. She was a tremendously caring person.

"I continued to go to church with Laura (I had a choice; my family didn't care if I didn't go) because I felt such love from the church people. I made the decision to accept Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior at Bible School when I was 11 years old. My decision was based on having heard the Word all those years that I was in church by the good graces of my selfless neighbor and the encouraging love of that little country church.

"During those years, my parents never did attend church on a regular basis as Laura had hoped they would. But a few months ago, my mother prayed the believer's prayer and was saved. I'm convinced she was led to Christ through the seeds planted so many years before and through the sustained prayers in her behalf by so many who loved her.

"I still get emotional when I think about Laura's faithfulness; I belong to Jesus today because she cared."

© 1990 Charlotte Barbaree

Religion roundup

CHICAGO (AP) - The presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has rebuked retired Swedish Bishop Krister Stendahl for supporting the irregular ordination of three homosexuals into the church's ministry.

In a letter, Bishop Herbert W. Childstrom chided Stendahl for identifying himself in the matter as "bishop emeritus" of Stockholm, and said:

"It is inappropriate and confusing for you to employ your status in the Church of Sweden to lend credence to an unapproved action in the ELCA."

Stendahl, a Lutheran and retired bishop of Stockholm who now is chaplain at Harvard Divinity School, had said the ordinations in San Francisco last January "stood well before God."

WASHINGTON (AP) - Leaders of eight national religious bodies, including some that rarely work together, have backed a proposed increase in the federal excise tax on alcoholic beverages.

In a letter to members of Congress, they said such an increase could discourage alcohol consumption and raise revenues to help reduce the federal deficit.

"Historically, our nation has used excise taxes as a mechanism to support societal goals," the letter says. "We need to do so again to curb the terrible toll alcohol is taking."

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) - Pollster George Gallup Jr. says that years of research by his polling organization have found gaps between what Americans say they believe and how they live.

"We want the fruits of religion, but not the obligations," he told the Evangelical Press Association's annual convention.

Gallup said most Americans say they believe in God and Jesus and trust the Bible. But he said statistics show Americans are ignorant of the doctrines and history of their chosen faiths.

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Religion

Church to mark first year

Carpenter's House Church will celebrate its first year anniversary on Sunday. Following the Sunday morning service, the church will have a covered dish luncheon.

The church, beginning with about 14 people, met at a business on East Frederic Street for about two months. As the fellowship grew in number, the former Harrah United Methodist Church building, at 639 S. Barnes St., was purchased.

New families have increased the number of the fellowship to 130,

and the church now has a special children's ministry with puppets each Sunday morning under the leadership of the children's pastor, Tony and Debra Ferrell.

Working in the teaching and music ministry, Assistant Pastor Allen Thompson and wife, Lory, lead in church visitation. With Johnny Hoke as the music director, Delores Hudson at the piano and Lory Thompson at the organ, a choir has been formed.

The church has Sunday school

for all ages as well as Sunday morning church services at 11 a.m., Sunday evening Bible class at 6 p.m., Sunday night services at 7 p.m. and Wednesday night services at 7:30 p.m.

Several family fellowship dinners during the year, picnic and games at the park, ski trip to Red River, and trips to Amarillo's Wonder Land Park are a few of the outside activities of the church.

The church invites the public to visit the church.

Watson sets concert at First Methodist

First United Methodist Church, at Foster and Ballard, will host a special concert at 6:30 p.m. Sunday with Johnny Ray Watson of California.

Watson was raised in Lorenzo and was the only surviving child of a black family living in a predominantly white, segregated community.

When the civil rights wave hit Lorenzo, he became a prime player on the newly-integrated high school basketball team. Picked to be on the Texas All-State Team, he had athletic scholarship offers from 32 different colleges.

Despite the 83 percent white majority, he was named "Mr. Lorenzo High School" by his classmates

in his senior year.

He attended McMurry College in Abilene where his skill on the basketball court distinguished him quickly. In 1971, he was All-Conference and was the league's leading rebounder and scorer. The prospects for a pro career with the Seattle Super Sonics was cut short with a knee injury that ended his competitive career.

With his Christian faith severely tested in the following few years, he made a commitment to serve God through his singing gift.

Watson delivers his southern gospel style in a low bass range. His musical gifts have been utilized by some of America's great ministries, including the Billy Gra-

ham Evangelistic Association, the Professional Athletes Outreach, Prison Fellowship, the American for Jesus rallies, and numerous churches and smaller organizations. His itinerary has included appearances in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and the Caribbean.

Watson lives in Southern California with his wife, Brinda Kay, and four children, Tony, 18, ShPwan, 13, Lloyd, 9, and Lisa, 8. He serves as a musical ambassador for Priority Living, an outreach ministry to the business and professional community based in Southern California.

A love offering for Watson will be taken. The public is invited to attend the concert.

Volunteer minister



The Rev. Emmett Barnard counsels with cystic fibrosis patient Stefanee Buford, 4, and her mother, Loretta Buford, after Stefanee was admitted to Women's and Children's Hospital in Odessa recently. After Barnard was severely injured in a 1967 car accident, he committed himself to God, and eventually entered the ministry.

Attend the church of your choice on Sunday

Moderate middle might direct Presbyterians to brighter future

By DAVID BRIGGS
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) appears ready to turn the corner on one of the largest membership losses in the history of Christianity, according to a new three-year study of the church.

The Rev. John Mulder, president of Louisville Presbyterian Seminary and one of the directors of the study, said a group of people are emerging within the church to find a middle ground between the battle lines set up by strident liberals and conservatives.

"What we're seeing in the '90s is this mobilization of the moderate middle," Mulder said. "I would look toward the middle or the late '90s as the point the Presbyterian Church would begin to reverse some of the losses, or at least stabilize."

The Presbyterian Church, which reached a high of about 4.4 million in the mid-'60s, lost more than 43,000 members last year to fall to below 2.9 million.

The church adopted evangelism and church development as its two priority goals at its General Assembly last year.

At the recent General Assembly meeting here, Stated Clerk James E. Andrews, the denomination's chief executive, indicated the effort is starting to pay off.

Declaring "ours is a vital denomination," he reported increases in adult and infant baptisms. He also said professions of faith increased after years of steady decline, "a preliminary indication that our steady loss of membership can be reversed."

Newly elected Moderator Price Henderson Gwynn III of Charlotte, N.C., said the denomination could grow to 5 million members by the year 2000 as long as it stops the internal bickering.

"If we shoot ourselves in the foot because of internecine warfare or denominational myopia, we are going to have to answer for it."

The study entitled "Presbyteri-

ans in the 20th Century: A Case Study of American Protestantism," involved 55 different research projects done by 65 researchers, Mulder said. The first volume of a projected seven-volume series on the study was released last month.

The study was privately funded by the Lilly Endowment.

In an interview at the General Assembly meeting, Mulder said demographics played a large role in the denomination's decline. The post-war baby boomers have delayed marriage and having children, and are having fewer children overall.

But that doesn't fully explain the disproportionate losses endured by mainline churches, he said.

He said the research showed many young people who grew up in mainline churches are not leaving for other churches, but are giving up on organized religion. Mulder said the "porous" kinds of religious traditions in the churches makes it "easy to join, but it's also easy to leave."

The study found an increasing pluralism in beliefs and moral behavior that puts the church at "risk of losing a clear and well-defined identity," Mulder said.

In addition, he said the church dealt itself some "self-inflicted blows" by reducing its support for new church development and campus ministry.

But Mulder said there are hopeful signs within the denomination, which has gone beyond a "massive denial" of membership trends to a growing awareness of the problem.

In the Presbyterian Church, where surveys have shown most members take neither extreme conservative or liberal positions, Mulder said over the last two or three years groups such as Presbyterians for Renewal have developed that offer an alternative to the special interest groups that he said have sapped much of the church's energies.

"One of the things that I think is going on is the emergence of a moderate middle," he said.

Religion roundup

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Noting that the Soviet Communist Party in 1988 had publicly repented of the sins of Joseph Stalin and of the party, the Southern Baptist Alliance has formally repented of a past "sin of slavery."

The alliance, a wing of Southern Baptists, said at its spring convocation that "there is a significant sin in our own heritage for which we have never publicly repented."

Citing protection of the "institution of slavery" as a key motive in the 1842 formation of the Southern Baptist Convention, a resolution voiced repentance for "condoning and perpetuating the sin of slavery" in that period.

MILWAUKEE (AP) - Milwaukee's Roman Catholic Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland says the latest draft of the proposed U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on women is so unsatisfactory that it might as well be abandoned.

weekly, Catholic Herald, he said the "very credibility of the document comes into question" in treating the issue of women's ordination.

He said that the document emphasizes women's equality, but fails to deal with the traditional link between church authority and ordination, a role the document rejects for women, as does the pope.

NEW YORK (AP) - The recently approved reorganization plan of the National Council of Churches has been put into action.

Day-to-day work of the ecumenically cooperative organization now is being carried on by four new units, instead of the previous 11 units.

The four, planned by a council transition team over the past nine months, are: Church World Service and Witness, Prophetic Justice, Unity and Relationships, and Education, Communication and Discipleship.

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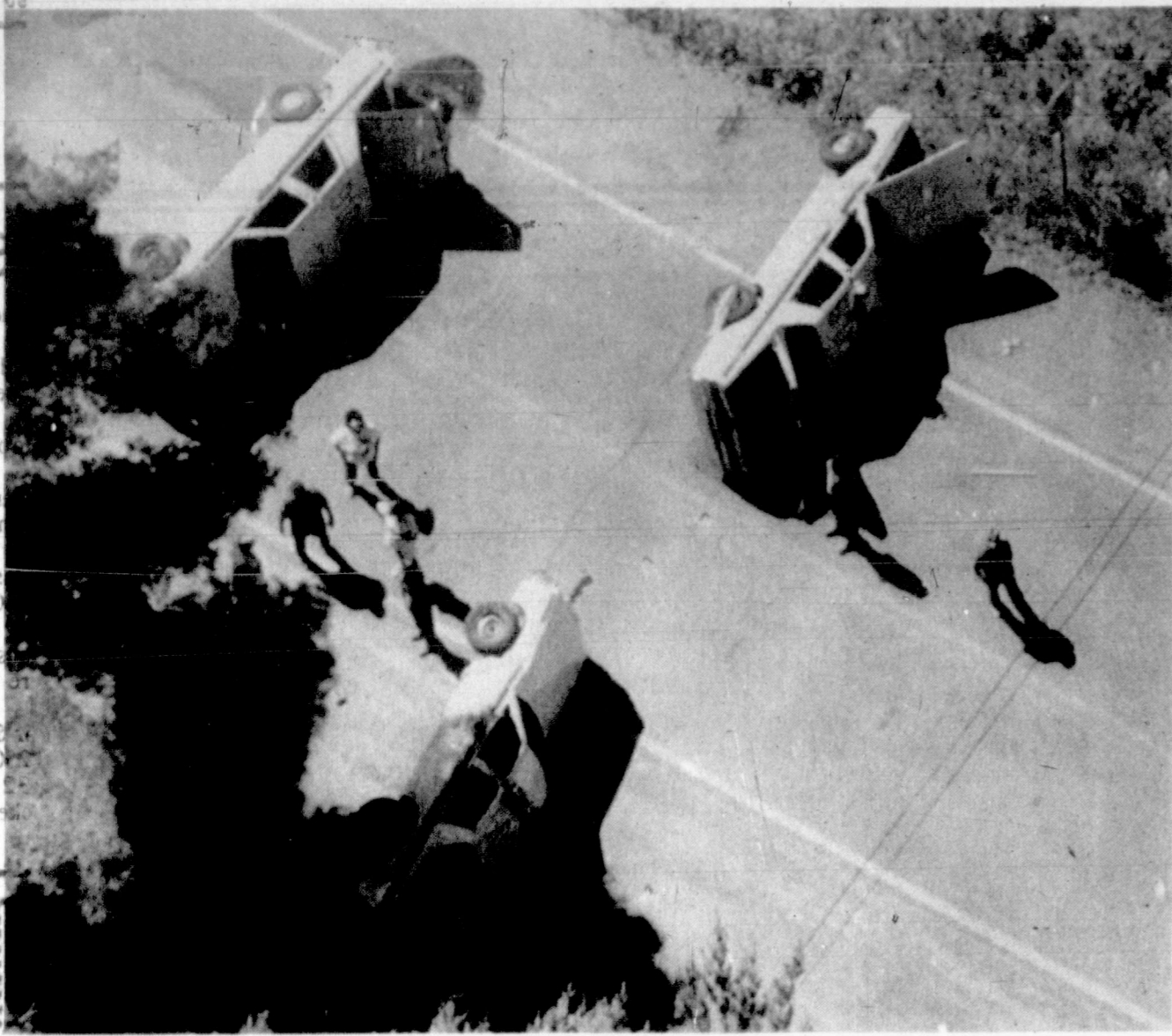
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(AP Laserphoto)

Mohawks look skyward after warriors turned three provincial police cars on their sides with a front end loader to form a barricade after police fled Wednesday in the wake of a shootout over disputed land.

Mohawk Indians dig in after police raid, shootout over land in Canada

OKA, Quebec (AP) — Mohawk warriors dug in and reinforced their barricades with wrecked cars and men after fighting police over a golf course addition the Indians say encroaches on tribal land.

A police officer died Wednesday morning when the 4-month-old dispute between natives and this town near Montreal escalated into a gunbattle.

Both sides accused each other of opening fire first. About 100 police had moved to dismantle the barricade of cement blocks and barbed wire the Indians had built on the access road to the disputed land but were driven back by 200 armed Mohawks in war paint.

Officials were unsure whether the slain police officer was shot by a Mohawk or a fellow policeman.

After the fight, the Indians dug defensive trenches with a commandeered earth mover and welcomed reinforcements from other reserves. They patrolled the edge of the golf course in stolen cars, preparing for another attack.

The natives claim title to a small pine forest that the leaders of Oka, a picturesque town 18 miles west of Montreal, want to cut down so the golf course can add nine holes. The police had intervened at the request of Oka's mayor.

The Mohawks said that Quebec Security Minister Sam Elkas had promised them police would not attack during the night or this morning unless they were fired on first.

Several Mohawks confirmed that reinforcements had arrived in the form of other Mohawk warriors from the Kahnawake reserve, south of Montreal, and the Akwesasne reserve south of Cornwall, Ontario.

No figures were immediately available. "I know that if they (police) come in we'll be ready for them," said Harvey, a Mohawk who declined to give his last name.

The Indians took advantage of the retreat to seize four police cars and two vans, then used the commandeered earth mover to crush the vehicles, forming a barricade on a hill across the main highway through the region.

Their position overlooked a police roadblock at the bottom of the hill.

Elkas, the security minister, rushed back from his vacation to brief Robert Bourassa, the province's premier. The province's native affairs Minister, John Ciacia, refused to meet reporters.

Earlier in the week, he had pleaded with the Oka Town Council to put its plans for the golf course expansion on hold.

Bourassa blamed the violence on the Mohawks: "What we saw this morning was revolting and intolerable."

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who was in Houston for the summit of the Western industrial powers, said he told federal authorities to offer assistance to provincial authorities and that "the matter was being properly handled by the authorities in Quebec."

On Tuesday, Oka Mayor Jean Ouellette had asked police to enforce a court injunction ordering the removal of the Mohawk barricade, which was set up three months ago on the access road.

"The reason we moved was because the Mohawks were breaking the law," police spokesman Richard Bourdon said. "They were blocking a public road and this is a criminal act."

Mohawk tribe members reacted angrily to the police attack.

"We're not savages, we're proud to be Mohawks. We were pushed around for centuries and we're being pushed again and we're getting awfully tired of it," said tribe member Eleanor Montour, 67.

Senate ties food handling by AIDS patients to latest scientific findings

By ROBERT GREENE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — House and Senate negotiators Thursday approved major civil rights legislation for disabled Americans after agreeing on a provision that would help protect the jobs of AIDS-infected workers who handle food.

Sponsors predicted quick final action in both chambers and said the legislation could reach President Bush's desk by the weekend.

The legislation prohibits discrimination against disabled Americans — 43 million, according to congressional estimates — in employment, access to restaurants, stores and other commercial establishments, transportation and telecommunications.

The AIDS provision, approved by the Senate 99-1 Wednesday night, would allow owners of restau-

rants, packing companies and other food businesses to reassign AIDS-infected workers only if medical evidence shows a need.

Health and Human Services Secretary Louis W. Sullivan has said no evidence exists for removing AIDS-infected people from food-handling jobs.

Most scientists believe AIDS is more difficult to spread: through intimate sexual contact, punctures with needles or other contaminated objects, and transfusions of contaminated blood products.

"It's a clear message that AIDS needs to be dealt with in a responsible way and we need to reject appeals to prejudice and bigotry," said Gregory King, a spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a gay rights group.

Male homosexuals and intravenous drug users have been the chief victims of the fatal disease.

The vote Wednesday represents a reversal of a previous Senate vote and a defeat for Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., who said the fear of AIDS would drive any restaurant out of business if the public learned a chef or other employee were infected.

He cast the lone negative vote. Supporters say the bill is the most comprehensive piece of civil rights legislation since the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed discrimination against blacks.

President Bush has asked Congress to speed up passage of the bill, which the Senate approved last September by a 76-8 vote.

The House passed its version in May, 403-20, after including an amendment giving employers the right to reassign food-service workers with AIDS or other contagious diseases, regardless of how they are spread.

Cultures clash at prairie dog shoot

By ELLEN MILLER
Associated Press Writer

NUCLA, Colo. (AP) — A festival atmosphere is building for the first Top Dog World Championship Prairie Dog Shoot this weekend. The sheriff is just hoping the combination of cowboys and animal-rights activists doesn't get someone killed.

In this isolated southwestern Colorado town, ravaged by drought and the closing of most of the uranium mines that were the economy's backbone, residents hope to have some fun and make a little money off the competition.

Stores are selling T-shirts, hats, pins, bandannas and whatever else they can get a prairie dog logo on. All 52 rooms in the area's only two motels, in tiny Naturita five miles away, have been booked for the first time in two years.

The event has drawn 106 shooters from as far away as Texas and California. Some 50 protesters, many of whom plan to make a nine-hour drive from Denver, are also expected to show up for the two-day hunt starting Saturday.

"Those people over there carry guns, but if they don't like our attitude, tough. We have a First Amendment right to protest," said Robin Duxbury of the Rocky Mountain Humane Society. "There's no good reason to shoot prairie dogs."

It's shaping up as a clash of cultures — urban, liberal animal-rights advocates coming into a rural, conservative valley where many residents moved to avoid city hassles. The combined population of Nucla and Naturita is about 1,500.

Gov. Roy Romer has refused protesters' demand that he protect them with the National Guard, and local authorities are concerned about the possibility for violence.

Sheriff Tom Gilmore said he will have at least 25 officers on hand, some from the state and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

"If we can just keep the protesters away from the locals and the locals away from the protesters, we'll be OK," he said.

Animal-rights activists are demanding that Romer issue an

executive order to stop the hunt. At a rally last week, cartoonist Berke Breathed and author Cleveland Amory called the prairie dog a "lovable, innocent, defenseless animal."

Many rural Westerners, however, regard prairie dogs as disease-ridden rats, dangerous to livestock and children. Teen-agers routinely spend summer mornings shooting the critters.

"The problem is, they're called prairie dogs, not rats or mice," said rancher Bob Dyer.

"I got hassled in the Denver airport last week, but they quieted right

down when I told them I'd ship as many prairie dogs to 'em as they wanted. For \$50 a pair, I'll even put them through sheep dip and get the fleas off."

Mike Mahew, the shoot's organizer, said the hunters competing for more than \$7,000 in prizes will have to follow strict rules.

They'll shoot from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., with rangemasters along to supervise scoring.

No spectators or booze will be allowed.

"We'll wait and see," Mahew said. "That's all anybody can do."

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If you have been thinking of **BUYING a black lacquered bedroom group think no more, Just come in and react to tremendous savings on this contemporary bedroom that you would expect to pay \$1289. for! But not now you can save exactly 1/2 price on this exciting bedroom group that consists of a triple dresser, twin landscaped mirrors, a large 5 drawer chest, a queen size headboard and matching 2 drawer night stand, all accented with brass trim. \$1289. VALUE FOR \$644.50 SAVE 50% IF YOU ACT FAST!**

Spruce up your bedroom with this good looking country styled bedroom suite that consists of a 2-door triple dresser, a large oval etched mirror framed in oak wood, a large door chest, Queensize headboard with storage shelves and mirrored back and matching 2-drawer night stand. Hurry in and save 45% on this 5pc. suite. \$1285-VALUE FOR \$699. SAVE 45% IF YOU HURRY!

If you appreciate the best in style and quality! Here is your chance to have the best at exactly 1/2 price. This beautiful WALNUT 6 pc. Bedroom suite by Stanley consists of a large triple door dresser, mirror, a super large 2-door chest, a queen size headboard and two matching night stands all with mirrored backs. \$4000- VALUE FOR \$2000 SAVE 50% BUT DON'T HESITATE!

A STORE FILLED WITH LIVING ROOM FURNITURE
SOME UGLY! SOME BEAUTIFUL!
BUT ALL OF IT IS PRICED TO SELL FAST!

Here is just a couple examples of livingroom furniture to give you an idea of the tremendous savings you will enjoy if you hurry and take advantage!

Here is a sofa and love seat that I predicted wouldn't sell the day it came in to the store. I admit that it's good looking and that it's made by Karpen an excellent manufacture of fine livingroom furniture. Yes it's comfortable and durable! But it's upholstered in a wide stripe cover of an off white and peach and a pin stripe of Teal. Everybody that we show it to thinks it's sharp. But they think it will show soil quick and you know something they are right! But we are reducing it 57% and that will buy a lot of upholstery cleaner or clear plastic covers. \$1899. VALUE FOR \$799. NO NEED TO HURRY IT WILL BE HERE!

This is my favorite but no one else seems to like it! It's probably a big seller in New York City, but not in Pampa. It's a good looking 3 pc. sectional upholstered in grey on grey pattern cover. We are also pricing the 3 matching occasional tables to go with it, all with glass tops and Black Faux marble bases. All 6 pc. we are reducing 60% So go New York city Style and live in style. \$4375- VALUE FOR \$1750. HURRY IF YOUR FROM THE EAST

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Lifestyles

See my new boots



(Staff photo by Kayla Pursley)

Misty Roach, left, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Butch Roach, and Brandi Lenderman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lenderman, select the outfits they will model at the American Cancer Society "Old Fashioned Barbecue" fundraiser set for July 21. In addition to the fashion show provided by Wayne's Western Wear, guests will dine on barbecue catered by Dyer's and will be entertained by the Jack Selby family; folk music by Phoebe Reynolds and Katrina Hildebrandt; and Cindy Epperly. The Bob Mack family, north of Pampa will host the event.

Seed bank saves heirloom multiplier onions

By JAMES E. WALTERS
PHOENIX (AP) — Tohono O'odham I'toi's — named after a deity — are tiny, multiplier onions cultivated in the arid Southwest for centuries.

No one seems sure where they originated. But they grow easily in desert gardens with a minimum of water and can remain in the ground for harvesting year after year. The flavor, something like a shallot, is a delight in salads or cooked foods.

Do such heirloom crops have a future role in a water-short era? Native Seeds-SEARCH, a non-profit, seed conservation group incorporated in 1983, is sure of it.

Its seed bank at the Tucson Botanical Garden includes more than 1,000 varieties of grains, beans, melons, spices, squash and other crops. Supplies of many are now sufficient to offer for sale in a 1990 catalog, which says, "We invite you to join us in maintaining these crops."

The genetic erosion in Southwest crops began around 1920, with the emergence of mechanical irrigation methods.

"Increased water supplies temporarily lessened the need for drought-hardy, locally adapted varieties," Gary Paul Nabhan, assistant director of Phoenix's Desert Botanical Garden and president of Native Seed's board of directors, said in a talk at an ethnobotany symposium.

"Since the region's water problems have again deepened, interest has been renewed in using remaining native crops directly or as a plant breeding material."

Preserving the seed genes selected by generations of desert farmers led to formation of Native Seeds-SEARCH. SEARCH is an acronym for Southwestern Endangered Arid-

land Resource Clearing House. As of January, there were almost 2,500 members.

The usual reason given for preserving genes of plants is they someday may be needed to make cultivated crops pest -or disease-resistant. The Irish potato famine after crop failures often is cited.

To such concerns, Native Seeds adds ecological considerations such as drought and heat tolerance and suggests certain crops may help in control of some nutritional diseases.

Nabhan, now on sabbatical from the Desert Botanical Garden, is researching native food plants with gummy fibers and mucilages that may be useful in control of diabetes. Diabetes has increased greatly among Southwest Indians in recent years, and some scientists blame a diet change from traditional foods.

So the reasons people join Native Seeds-SEARCH can be var-

ied. But the seed catalog must be high on the list. Interested in trying to grow Hopi Blue corn? It's available. So is the Chiapas wild tomato, with sweet and flavorful, cherry-size fruit.

And, of course, the Tohono O'odham I'toi's, which are best planted in the fall in the low desert and in the spring in cooler regions. The latest catalog calls them an early introduction by the Spanish, who once ruled this area. It was more romantic when I bought my first ones in 1984.

I'toi, a deity of the Tohono O'odham tribe, is said to live in the Baboquivari Mountains of southern Arizona. Indian families harvested the multiplier onion only in the wild for years, according to the original

story, before growing it around their desert homes.

The multiplier is definitely different from the common desert onion (*Allium macropetalum*), or any onions or shallots available from the conventional sources.

Plant the bulbs 1 inch deep and 12 inches apart. They multiply into clumps. After the tops die back in the summer, the clumps are harvested and stored in a cool place. Or they can be left in the ground to continue multiplying. In that case, harvest as desired. Just be sure to save enough for future crops.

The catalog is available for \$1 from Native Seeds-SEARCH, 2509 North Campbell Ave., No. 325, Tucson, Ariz., 85719. Seed packets are \$1.25, plus shipping.

Judges sought for barbecue contest

NEW YORK (AP) — The Second Annual Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational Barbecue will be held Oct. 27 in Lynchburg, Tenn. And the contest is once again looking for amateur judges.

"This is a chance for all those folks who crave barbecue to help determine the finest, slow-cooked sizzlings in the world," says Frank "Frog" Bobo, resident barbecue expert for Lynchburg.

If interested, write an essay explaining why you are a barbecue expert. State how you determine what tastes good, what makes you think you're a barbecue expert, and where you've gained your barbecue experience.

Send your letter to: Frank "Frog" Bobo, The Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, TN 37352. Entries must include full name, home address and a daytime telephone number. The deadline is Sept. 1, 1990.

Fifteen amateur judges will be selected. In addition, 15 "expert" judges from culinary, sports and media circles will judge the event.

Thirty barbecue teams will compete in five categories: pork ribs, pork shoulder, beef brisket, poultry and whole hog. There is also an optional sixth category for the best Jack Daniel's sauce.

Lynchburg is the home of the Jack Daniel Distillery.

Preacher of the Good Book can't be judged by the cover

DEAR ABBY: Some time ago, you ran a wonderful article about a group of church people who were looking for a new pastor, but couldn't decide on which one to choose. Then they came across an application from a man who admitted having been in jail, never having stayed in one place for longer than three years, and causing a lot of trouble wherever he had been. I can't remember the rest of it, but it had a very good message. Will you please run it again?

JESSIE JOHNSON,
THORNFIELD, MO.



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

DEAR JESSIE: I recall the letter well. It was submitted by the Rev. C.W. Kirkpatrick, Union Church of Christ, Ludlow, Mass.

I gave permission to hundreds of people who wanted to include it in their church bulletins. And here's the letter:

DEAR ABBY: One of the toughest tasks a church faces is choosing a good minister. A member of an off-

cial board undergoing this painful process finally lost patience. He'd watched the Pastoral Relations Committee reject applicant after applicant for some fault, alleged or otherwise. It was time for a bit of soul-searching on the part of the committee. So he stood up and read a letter purporting to be from another applicant.

"Gentlemen: Understanding your pulpit is vacant, I should like to apply for the position. I have many qualifications. I've been a preacher with much success and also have had some success as a writer. Some say I'm a good organizer. I've been a leader most places I've been.

"I'm over 50 years of age. I have never preached in one place for more than three years. In some places I have left town after my work caused riots and disturbances. I must admit I have been in jail three or four times, but not because of any real wrongdoing.

"My health is not too good, though I still get a great deal done. The churches I have preached in have been small, though located in several large cities.

"I've not gotten along well with religious leaders in towns where I have preached. In fact, some have threatened me and even attacked me physically. I am not too good at keeping records. I have been known to forget whom I have baptized.

"However, if you can use me, I shall do my best for you."

The board member looked over the committee. "Well, what do you think? Shall we call him?"

The good church folks were aghast. Call an unhealthy, trouble-making, absent-minded ex-jailbird? Was the board member crazy? Who signed the application? Who had such colossal nerve?

The board member eyed them all keenly before he answered. "It's signed, the Apostle Paul."

Do the twist with Oreo cheesecake

NEW YORK (AP) — The Oreo Chocolate Sandwich Cookie is among the most popular cookies in the United States, according to Nabisco Brands, which says it expects to sell more than 8 billion Oreo cookies this year.

"Most people attribute the enduring success of Oreo to its taste and the fact that it's fun to eat," says Sandy Putnam, marketing director for Nabisco cookies. "Some twist them apart, others dunk, and some eat them whole. Americans have been growing up with Oreo for nearly 80 years."

The following recipes are provided by Nabisco:

Oreo Twist

1 cup any flavor ice cream, softened
1/2 cup milk
12 Oreo Chocolate Sandwich Cookies

In an electric blender container, blend ice cream, milk and 8 cookies until well-mixed and smooth. Pour into four 6-ounce glasses. Garnish with remaining cookies. Makes 4 servings.

Cheesecake

One 20-ounce package Oreo Chocolate Sandwich Cookies
1-3rd cup margarine, melted
Three 8-ounce packages cream cheese, softened
3/4 cup sugar

4 eggs, at room temperature
1 cup dairy sour cream
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Whipped cream, for garnish
Fresh fruit, optional

Finely roll 30 cookies; coarsely chop 20 cookies. In bowl, combine finely rolled cookie crumbs and margarine. Press on bottom and 2 inches up side of a 9-inch spring-form pan; set aside.

With mixer, beat cream cheese and sugar until creamy; blend in eggs, sour cream and vanilla extract; fold in chopped cookies. Spread mixture into prepared crust. Bake at 350 degrees F for 60 minutes or until set.

Cool on wire rack; chill at least 4 hours. Halve remaining cookies; remove side of pan. To serve, garnish with whipped cream, cookie halves and fruit. Makes 12 servings.

Club News

Pampa Charter Chapter A.B.W.A.

Pampa Charter Chapter A.B.W.A. met July 6 in the home of Barbara McCain, president. Losers of the attendance contest acted as hostesses for the winners. In business, names were drawn for secret pals in the upcoming year, and plans were finalized regarding workers in the rodeo booth. McCain appointed her committees for the year. The rocket fund was won by Jan Allen, and door prizes were won by Mary Dell McNeil and Gloria Williams. The next meeting is planned for Aug. 6 at the Coronado Inn.

Altrusa Club

Altrusa Club of Pampa met July 9 in the Starlight Room of Coronado Inn, with Joyce Williams, president, presiding. Lt. Helene Wildish of the Salvation Army in Pampa, was guest speaker. Wildish, also an Altrusan, presented slides from last year's summer camp, where Altrusa sponsored two children. Leona Willis, Altrusan and Salvation Army board member, spoke to the club about the benefits of camp for the children and recent fund-raising activity held by the Salvation Army to send children to camp this year.

The Accent was given by Pat Johnson, who gave a brief history of the International ABC (Action, Builder, Citation) Grants.

In business, Mary McDaniel, finance chairman, announced that the club would sponsor a golf tournament at Hidden Hills on Oct. 6. Rena Belle Anderson served as greeter and the International Relations Committee was responsible for the noon meeting. The next meeting of the club is to be held July 23 in the Starlight Room of the Coronado Inn.

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- 36 to 50 Longs

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Today's Crossword Puzzle

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 12. Roman
- 4 Muscular
- 9 Birds — feather
- 12 Mountains (abbr.)
- 13 City in Vietnam
- 14 Blockhead
- 15 Flammable gas
- 17 Harper Valley —
- 18 Clip
- 19 Intense beam
- 21 Associate
- 25 — Broadway
- 28 Adjective ending
- 29 Preposition
- 33 Paddle
- 34 Trickle
- 35 Name of a thing
- 36 City of David
- 38 Small bills
- 40 Japanese

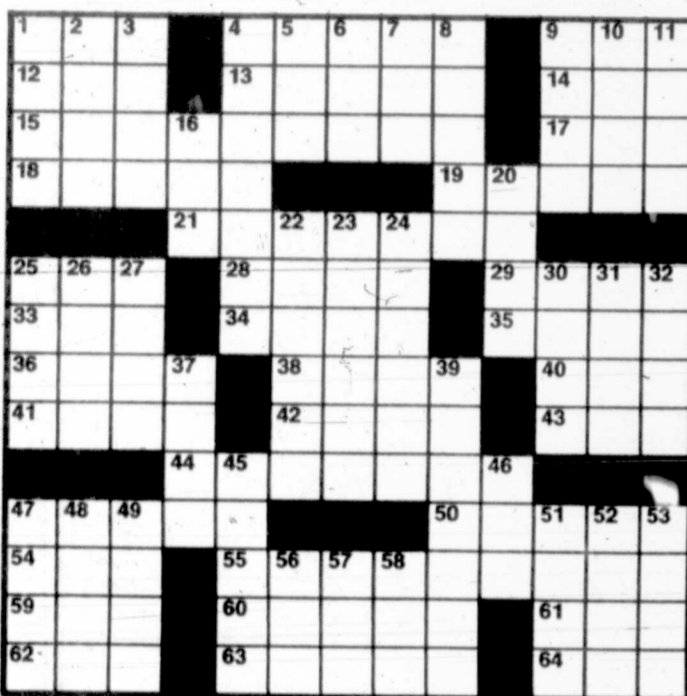
DOWN

- 41 Columnist — Bombeck
- 42 Cult
- 43 Tennis equipment
- 44 Summer drink (2 wds.)
- 47 Trousers fabric
- 50 Decorate with wood-working
- 54 Grain
- 55 Wastes away
- 59 Military school (abbr.)
- 60 Turkish decree
- 61 Feminine garment
- 62 Actress Myrna —
- 63 Spouses
- 64 Drunkard
- 1 Dec. holiday

Answer to Previous Puzzle

J	A	G	S	Y	N	E	S	Y	N	C
O	E	R	T	A	O	S	T	E	E	L
B	R	A	E	K	E	S	A	L	M	A
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E	R	I	N	S	H	A	G	S	S	T

- 2 Hankering
- 3 Two words of under-standing
- 4 Neck gland
- 5 Actor March
- 6 Chemical suffix
- 7 Finished first
- 8 Cede
- 9 Fumbler's exclamation
- 10 Destiny
- 11 At a distance
- 16 Tic — toe
- 20 Vast period of time
- 22 Dejected
- 23 Befouled
- 24 Appearance
- 25 Exude
- 26 Equitable
- 27 Off
- 30 Part of the day
- 31 Toothpaste container
- 32 Step — !
- 37 Metal fastener
- 39 Russian plains
- 45 Assert
- 46 Joyful exclamation
- 47 Mechanism
- 48 Texas city
- 49 — bitny
- 51 Pen tips
- 52 Architect — Saarinen
- 53 Future atty's. exam
- 56 Singing syllable
- 57 Mouse's cousin
- 58 Poem



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GEECH



By Jerry Bittle

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your judgment is reasonably good today, but you might lack faith in your decisions and let others do your thinking for you who can't think for themselves. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences which are governing you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$1.25 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

LEO (July 2-Aug. 22) Today if you blurt out something that would be better left unsaid, don't call attention to your blunder. Trying to clarify your comments could make things worse.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Someone who likes you will be a bit put out today if you ignore this person and fawn over a new acquaintance who has yet to prove loyalty.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Motivation and initiative could break down rather early for you today. This is why you might not achieve an objective that actually was within your reach.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Someone might ask you for an explanation today pertaining to something you pretend to comprehend but really don't. The probe could be embarrassing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Try not to be the underwriter of unworthy causes today. There is a possibility you might make a loan to a person who is an extremely poor credit risk.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Just because someone talks louder or longer than you do, it doesn't mean this person's judgment is better than yours. Stand your ground if you think you're right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you do little and expect a lot, disappointment is likely today. Rewards you receive will be commensurate to the services you render or the work you perform.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Today you might innately sense you'll fit more comfortably in a small group than you will in a large one. There is a chance you may be right, so avoid crowded gatherings if possible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you're entertaining at your place today be meticulous regarding the guest list. Matching up the wrong dinner partners or inviting one who doesn't fit could make for an uncomfortable event.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You might not be too well attuned to your listeners today. Be careful you don't gore a sacred cow or dominate conversations with topics only of interest to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Do not snatch defeat from the hands of success today in your commercial involvements. Guard against inclinations to oversell or change a good deal into a bummer.

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ECK AND MEEK

By Howie Schneider



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



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By Tom Armstrong



ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue

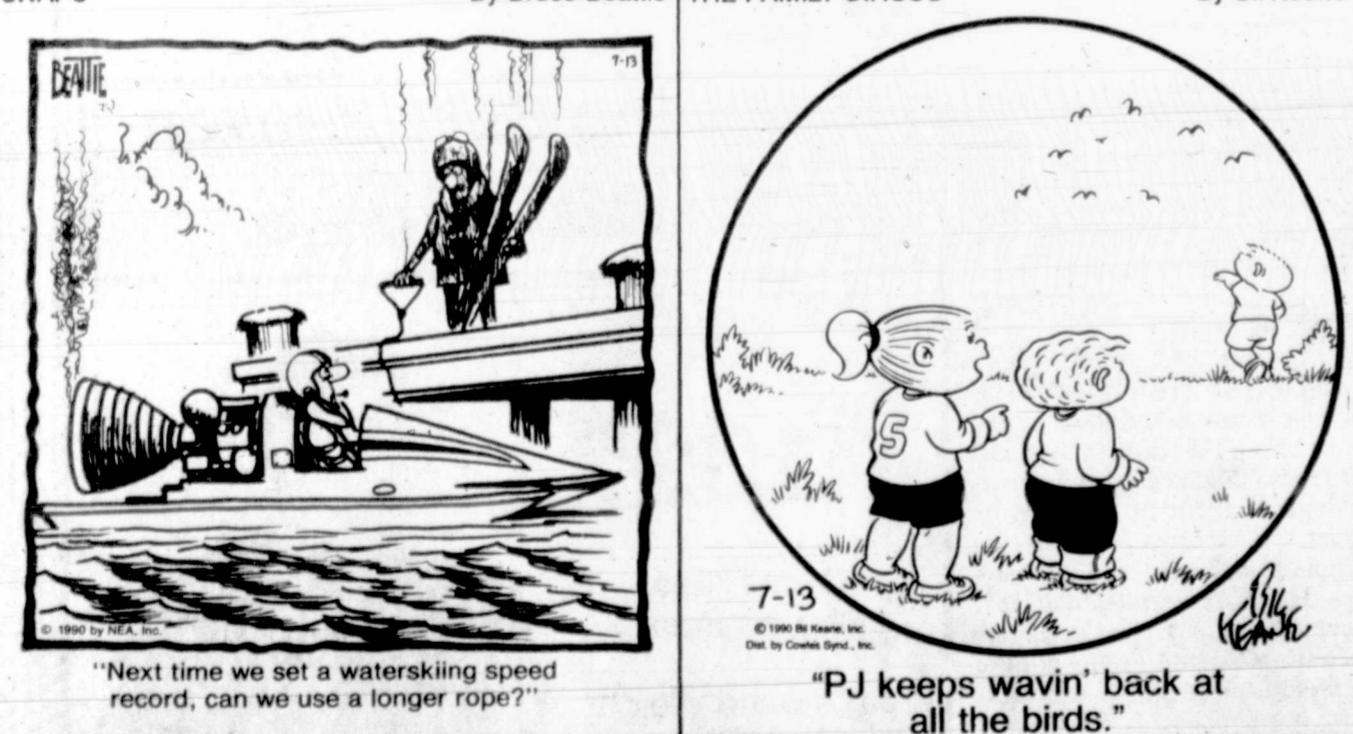


SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



THE BORN LOSER

By Art and Chip Sansom



PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

KIT 'N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright



ARLO & JANIS

By Jimmy Johnson



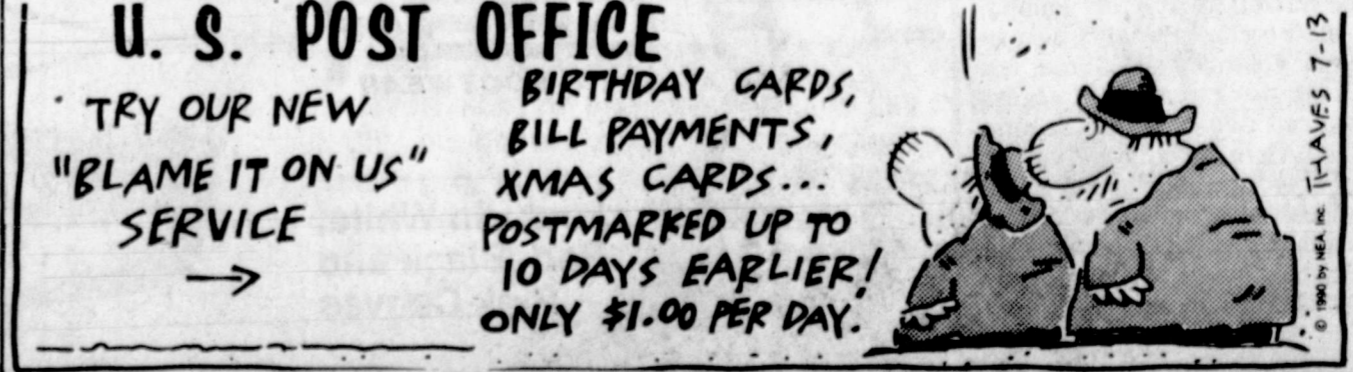
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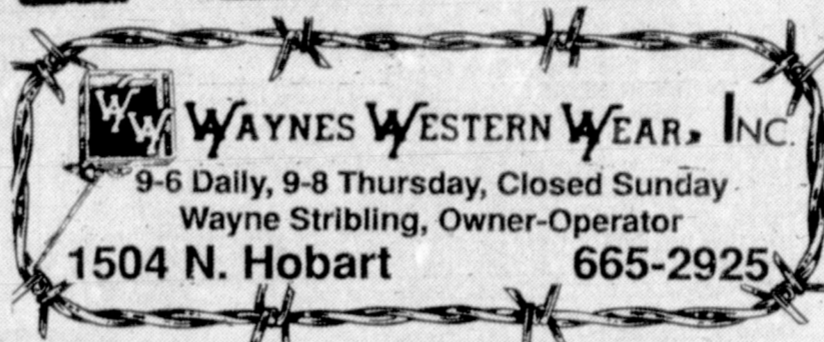


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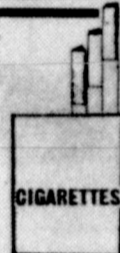
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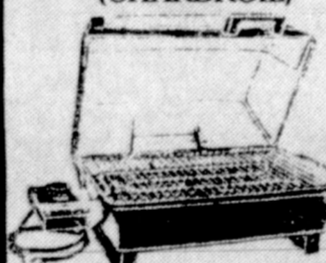
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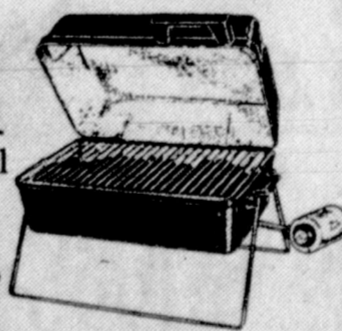
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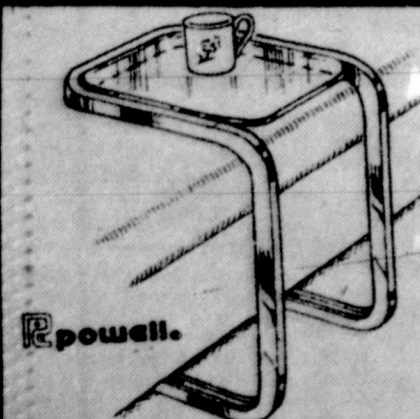
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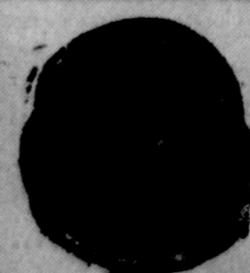
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