

Board approves restructuring of Texas Education Agency

By PEGGY FIKAC
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Education Commissioner Lionel "Skip" Meno says that by reorganizing the Texas Education Agency, he hopes to ensure it provides the services school districts need, leading to improved student achievement.

State Board of Education members, meeting as a committee, on Thursday approved a reorganization plan that includes the transfer of millions of dollars and dozens of jobs to education centers around the state.

A final vote is scheduled for Saturday.

"We're doing it (the reorganization) to get better student results," Meno said to a packed hearing room. The crowd overflowed into two nearby rooms equipped with sound systems.

But because the plan will not be in place until January, Meno said he didn't expect to see those results until about the spring of 1994.

Carolyn Crawford of Beaumont, head of the board, called the reorganization plan "historic."
"It is the first time that the Texas

Education Agency has truly been reorganized since its inception" in 1949, she said.

The plan would immediately reduce the agency work force by 87 positions, including six executive jobs, to 1,179. But no one has been fired because a hiring freeze has been in place and several people have resigned, Meno said.

The plan includes a new Office of Field Services to give school districts a direct connection to the education commissioner.

As part of that office, it calls for 60 positions to be transferred to the state's 20 regional education ser-

vice centers. People hired for the jobs will act as "ombudspeople" for local districts, Meno said.

An additional 20 service center jobs would be to help schools with reform efforts.

A total of 20 other positions would be transferred in 1992 and 1993. And, if federal approval is granted, 30 positions from the Child Nutrition Program would move from the agency to the regional offices.

In addition, \$5.86 million would be transferred from the agency to the service centers. That includes dedicated fees, federal funds, and

\$4.2 million — or 17.5 percent — of the agency's state general revenue.

The reorganization is part of Meno's drive to give school districts flexibility, then hold them accountable for preparing students to succeed in the "real world."

Officials have said that the need for improvement can be seen in test scores. For example, Texas students' math and verbal scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test still lagged behind the national average in 1990-91. And black and Hispanic students have lower scores than white students.

Among other changes, the reorganization plan also would consolidate the offices of curriculum and assessment; set up a professional development office; and create a special office to focus on improving student achievement and school instructional practice.

Gov. Ann Richards, who appointed Meno, praised the reorganization in a letter.

"You are doing nothing less than making the TEA accountable for improving student achievement, rather than just monitoring processes and compliance with rules," Richards said.

Skull identified as that of man missing 4 years

DAMON (AP) — Harris County medical examiners have identified a skull found near Damon as that of a Clute man who disappeared four years ago.

Dale Henry Hulsopple, 27, apparently was a murder victim, the medical examiners said Thursday.

Hulsopple left the fast-food restaurant he managed in Brazoria on June 27, 1987, telling a co-worker that he was going to help a friend with car trouble.

Someone later called the restaurant, saying the car had been fixed and Hulsopple's assistance was no longer needed, Brazoria County Sheriff Joe King, said.

But Hulsopple was not seen again.

A skull was found by ranch workers Saturday in a thicket on County Road 18, about five miles from where investigators found Hulsopple's abandoned car four years ago, King said.

Some of Hulsopple's clothing also was found in the area.

Going up?



(Staff photo by Stan Pollard)

Children at Wilson Elementary School crane watch as Pampa firefighters, Grant Gikas and Tom Hoover, demonstrate how the ladder extends on the Pampa Fire Department's ladder truck. The demonstration was a part of the local fire department's observance of National Fire Prevention Week.

Fort Worth nursing home placed under court control

FORT WORTH (AP) — A Fort Worth nursing home has been placed under temporary court supervision amid allegations that the facility has abused patients, maintained unsanitary conditions and inadequate staffing.

The action against the 145-bed Webber Nursing Center came after a yearlong series of inspections by state investigators.

Attorney General Dan Morales described the allegations of improper care against the nursing home as "cold-hearted disregard" by the nursing home for some of its residents.

District Judge Joe Bruce Cunningham set an Oct. 18 hearing to consider Morales' request for an order banning patient neglect and forcing improvements at the facility.

Cunningham appointed nursing home consultant Henry Adams of Fort Worth as trustee to manage the facility, which is owned by Texas Home for the Elderly Inc.

Nursing home administrator Christine Moss refused to comment, referring all questions to Adams.

Adams said today after evaluating the nursing home Wednesday and Thursday that he found a "group of happy, content patients and tremendous interaction

between staff and patients." "Their needs are being met," Adams said. "There are some technical problems that can be repaired with some retraining. But they are problems of a minor nature."

When Adams was asked about the seriousness of the actions and allegations brought by the state, he replied: "I don't necessarily think it was an overstep," Adams said. "But I can't speak for allegations brought up before I arrived (this week). I have just evaluated the patients and staff from the time I got here (Wednesday)."

Late Wednesday, Cunningham issued a temporary restraining order against the nursing home, based on a lengthy list of health and safety code violations cited by the Texas Department of Health and Morales' consumer protection division.

Morales' lawsuit included these accusations of health code violations, compiled in inspections between Sept. 5, 1990, and Sept. 17, 1991:

— Physical and verbal abuse of patients — including an instance of a nurse choking and threatening to kill a patient. The patient died soon after the Feb. 23 incident, choking on vomit.

— Unauthorized administering of tranquilizers to a patient.

Pickens warns U.S. not to depend on foreign oil

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Major oil companies should be at the forefront of the movement to increase the use of clean-burning natural gas, says take-over strategist T. Boone Pickens.

In a speech to the National Press Club on Thursday, Pickens challenged Congress and U.S. oil interests to reduce oil imports and convert to natural gas.

"What's wrong with converting to a domestic resource that is environmentally superior, creates jobs, reduces the trade deficit, is a domestic resource that is cheaper than the alternative and doesn't require an army to guard it?" asked Pickens, general partner of Dallas-based natural gas producer Mesa Limited Partnership.

"I see it as a very easy sell,"

Pickens said, calling natural gas a cheap, clean-burning and safe alternative to gasoline.

The major oil companies — which own 60 percent of domestic natural gas resources — should be leading the switch to natural gas, said Pickens, the newly-elected chairman of the Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition.

Instead, they have been reluctant to develop compressed natural gas because it will disrupt the existing gasoline refining and marketing infrastructure, he said.

"They made it very clear to me they were afraid of what's developing," he said. "Today, I think the majors are seeing that natural gas has a real chance of competing in transportation."

In the last six years, America has increased by 60 percent its reliance on foreign crude oil, which accounts for more than half of the nation's energy consump-

tion, Pickens said.

He urged congressional approval of an energy bill that would encourage fleets to convert to CNG. Fleets account for 30 million of the 187 million vehicles on U.S. roadways, he said.

He also challenged the oil companies to place CNG refueling pumps in all gas stations and suggested the federal government should convert its 500,000-vehicle fleet.

It costs up to \$2,500 to convert a gasoline-powered vehicle to CNG, but Pickens said the environmental and long-term economic benefits should outweigh the cost. An estimated 30,000 vehicles in the United States are CNG-powered.

Last month, Pickens converted his Cadillac to natural gas and turned the garage of his Dallas home into a filling station. A \$2,500 refueling unit takes natural

gas from the line that heats his home and compresses it for his car.

America's car manufacturers should concentrate on developing CNG engines instead of wasting time on other alternatives, Pickens said. Electric vehicles are a gimmick, ethanol is too costly and methanol eventually would become a form of imported energy like crude oil, he said.

The natural gas equivalent of a \$1.20 gallon of gasoline goes for about 60 cents. Pickens has said he believes natural gas prices will turn upward by 1993, but he doesn't think they will rise above the cost of gasoline.

Mesa has been pinched by the five-year slump in natural gas prices. Last year, the company lost more than \$200 million. In the first two quarters of this year, Mesa lost \$20.8 million on revenues of \$121.2 million.

Morales probes alleged fixing of beer prices

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Attorney General Dan Morales says an investigation by his office into allegations of price-fixing in the beer industry is still in the early stages.

"At this point all I can tell you is that we are relatively early in the investigatory stages, and we are not yet to a point where a decision has been or needs to be made relative to whether any action is going to be taken," Morales said.

Morales has ordered volumes of records dating to January 1987, according to documents received by The Associated Press.

Records being sought pertain to the relationship between different distributors and the ties between distributors and retailers, which sell beer to consumers, according to the notice received by one Texas beer distributor.

Investigators are requesting a mountain of documents, including sales records, telephone logs, salesmen's call reports, travel reimbursement vouchers and beer price lists.

In addition, documents on competition, supplies, product demand, and market conditions have been ordered.

Morales described the probe as a "routine investigation," but said the order for such detailed records was necessary.

Morales declined to say how many distributors were being questioned.

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'Chunkendales' - big bodies, big hearts

By NANCY PLEVIN
Associated Press Writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — They're fat. They're 40-ish. And they're sexy!

At least that's what people are saying as the "Chunkendale" dancers — a group of middle-aged Albuquerque men who parody the more muscular Chippendale dancers — lumber into the hearts of female audiences.

"They're gorgeous," gushed sisters Mary Ramkowsky, 26, and Stephanie Molina, 24, during the group's performance Thursday night.

Local disc jockey Phil Sisneros said he formed the Chunkendales in June after seeing an ad for the Chippendale dancers. "I thought, 'What do they have that we don't?'"

When he asked his radio audience if it would like to see big guys like himself dance he said the phones rang off the hook.

So Sisneros, 39, made his debut at the American Rock Cafe nightclub two weeks later with his five cohorts: Dave "Boom Boom" Riley, Tony "The Coach" Anaya, Jim "The Hardware Man" Gruessing, Frank "Mr. C" Cortinas and Terry Riley.

Since then they've been featured on the nationally syndicated Sally Jessy Raphael television talk show,



(AP Laserphoto)

Radio disc jockey Phil Sisneros bumps and grinds with two unidentified fans Thursday night at a nightclub in Albuquerque, N.M. Sisneros is one of six hefty, 40ish men who formed the Chunkendales, dancing to raise money for charities.

in the supermarket tabloid the Globe and on CNN.

People magazine is working on a spread on the dancers and a London talk show performance is reportedly in the offing.

Ranging in age from 39 to 49 — and in weight from a wispy 230 pounds to a robust 280 — the six performed again Thursday at the American Rock Cafe, this time to the

cheers of some 200 enthusiastic patrons.

Jody Jackfert, the club's assistant manager, said she was astounded by the Chunkendales' wide appeal.

"I was really surprised at the turnout the first time," she said. "But once they'd seen it, I thought that would have been enough."

Riley, who struts his abundant stuff in an open-backed hospital

gown to the strains of Weird Al Yankovic's "Living with a Hernia," said he, too, was taken aback.

"I am loving every minute of it," said Riley, 43, who owns a medical equipment sales and service company. "But we never would have bet a nickel that this would have gone as far as it has."

On Thursday, Riley stripped to black bikini underpants, a collar and cuffs, while women stuffed bills into his waistband.

Even some men in the audience cheered.

"It's about time the big guys got their turn," said a stocky Art Vazquez, 36.

Nora Peralta, 59, said the dancers spoke for "a lot of us heavy people."

"It makes us feel and look thinner," she said.

The Chunkendales' earlier performance raised more than \$1,200 for Children's Hospital of New Mexico. They planned to donate proceeds from Thursday's show to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Riley said he also wants the troupe to make a statement.

"We have an opportunity to stand for normalcy. ...," he said. "None of us has a perfect tan and we definitely don't have perfect bodies, but we have a perfect sense of humor. We're laughing at ourselves."

Gulf reservists, Guardsmen told to return overpayments

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Soldiers in the Gulf War received housing benefits they weren't entitled to, according to Pentagon officials who say they want the money back.

The Defense Department has ordered thousands of Army reservists and National Guardsmen to repay overpaid housing allowances given to them when they were discharged, said Virginia Johnson, spokeswoman for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Indianapolis Center at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

She blamed most of the problem on soldiers receiving an entire month's benefits even though they served only a fraction of that month before being sent home.

"So many people were discharged at the same time, there was such an influx, the system couldn't catch up with taking them off the system," Mrs. Johnson said.

Letters were mailed to the soldiers telling them they have 30 days to repay the balance. An 8 percent interest and \$15 handling charge will be tacked on for those who pay in monthly installments.

Any balances past due after 90 days will be assessed an addition-

al 6 percent interest rate, according to the letters, which were signed by G.J. Letterman, director of accounting and debt management operations for the finance center.

Many of the overpayments stemmed from bachelor quarters allowances, paid to personnel to maintain homes while they are on duty elsewhere.

The allowances run from \$278 to \$500 for soldiers through the rank of captain with dependents, said John Randt, an Army spokesman at Fort Harrison.

Rep. Frank McCloskey, D-Ind., wrote a letter Thursday protesting the collection letters to Army Secretary Michael Stone. He said the 30-day deadline is a financial burden, and he urged the Army to waive the interest penalty.

Amy Vidal of Evansville, whose husband, Sgt. Joseph Vidal Jr., got a bill for \$397.50 last month, said they didn't have the money to pay. He is a reservist with the 380th Quartermaster Company.

"The United States spent billions of dollars on this war," she said. "I think it's a small amount, even if they were overpaid, to take their life in their hands."

Health care reform in the works, but not immediately

WASHINGTON (AP) — White House budget director Richard Darman says the Bush administration will propose comprehensive health care reforms "in due course."

"I personally hope that will be before the (November 1992) election, not after," he told members of the House Ways and Means Committee on Thursday.

In any event, he predicted that comprehensive reforms would be passed and signed into law "in the second Bush administration term."

Darman and Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan were questioned by the committee for more than three hours, and they defended the administration against charges that it is ignoring the nation's health care problems because it has failed to propose wide-ranging changes.

"We will have our comprehensive plan in due course," Darman said.

In the meantime, they said, the administration has proposed incremental changes designed to ameliorate some of the problems, though Darman said they would not be enough by themselves to put the brakes on soaring health costs.

These measures include malpractice reform, increased use of managed care in the Medicare and Medicaid programs and more equitable tax policies.

Health care costs have been rising at more than twice the rate of general inflation, a pace Darman calls "unsustainable," and will exceed \$650 billion this year.

Health care spending currently accounts for about 12 percent of the gross national product, yet an estimated 34 million Americans have no health insurance and lack access to routine health care.

"The main reason we don't have a plan now," Sullivan said, "is that we're not done yet" debating the issues and building a consensus for a workable solution.

Sullivan and Darman pointed out that about 30 different health-care reform plans are circulating on Capitol Hill.

But some committee members said they were frustrated that the administration has talked more about what it won't support than what it will support.

"I'd like to see you engage yourself in this debate as you have in the tobacco issue," Rep. Robert Matsui, D-Calif., told Sullivan, who has become the administration's crusader against smoking.

"People are hurting and they want our help," said Rep. Thomas Downey, D-N.Y. "They need your help — they don't want you calling for summits, they want you to come up with a plan."

Sullivan said the administration has proceeded cautiously because health care reform is a complicated and emotional issue. He noted the furor that prompted Congress to repeal the catastrophic illness plan it passed several years ago.

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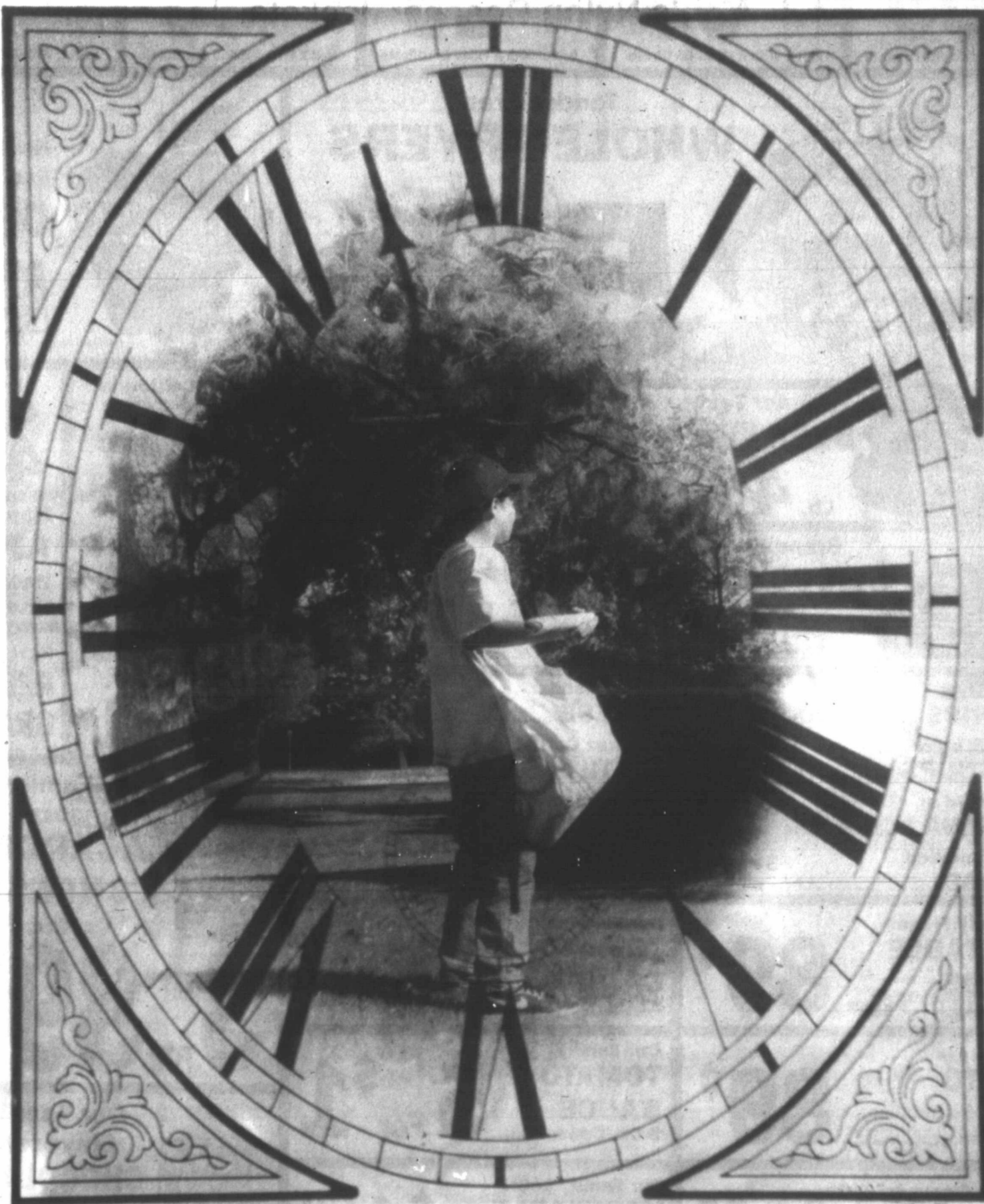
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Carrier Day Saturday, October 12, 1991

The
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Kerry Adams makes his deliveries.

Photo by Stan Pollard

Witness: Drug cartel money helped elect former Panama president

By RICHARD COLE
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI (AP) — A Panamanian president received at the White House by President Reagan was elected with the help of millions of dollars from Colombian drug kingpins, according to a witness in Manuel Noriega's trial.

Nicholas Ardito Barletta was received in the Oval Office by Reagan in July 1984, two months after his election. Reagan then sent Secretary of State George Shultz to his inauguration, and Barletta later agreed to help the United States isolate the leftist government in Nicaragua.

The Medellin cartel's alleged sup-

port for Barletta surfaced Thursday in prosecution testimony at Noriega's drug-trafficking trial by the former head of the Panamanian Air Force, Col. Lorenzo Purcell.

Noriega is accused of taking bribes from Colombia's Medellin drug cartel to ensure safe passage of cocaine through his country to the United States.

He faces up to 140 years in prison if convicted on all 10 drug and racketeering counts.

Purcell said that in a meeting of the general staff, he, Noriega and others were told two Colombians were angered about a May 1984 raid on a cartel drug lab in a remote Panamanian province.

The Colombians said they had

paid millions of dollars to Noriega's aide, Col. Julian Melo, to protect that lab, with the understanding Noriega was to receive part of it.

"It was also said that the ex-President Ardito Barletta — that part of the money was used to support the election that had taken place a few weeks earlier," Purcell testified.

Barletta was later overthrown by the military after trying to set up a commission to investigate charges that Noriega had a political rival killed.

Prosecutors have said the Medellin cartel paid about \$6 million to protect the lab, and that Noriega had to return the bribe after the dispute was mediated by Fidel Castro in Cuba. The raid on the laboratory was an error made by uninformed military officials who mistook it for a guerrilla camp, prosecutors contend.

Purcell said that at that same staff meeting, Noriega strongly denied any knowledge of the bribe and had Melo investigated by five

colonels. They kicked Melo out of the military and turned him over to civilian authorities. Melo was never tried in a criminal court, however.

Lead prosecutor Michael Sullivan suggested that Melo was used as a scapegoat to protect Noriega.

Purcell was followed on the stand by former Noriega co-defendant Eduardo Pardo, who has pleaded guilty to flying \$800,000 in laundered drug money from Fort Lauderdale to Panama.

Pardo testified that on one occasion in 1983 he flew cartel chief Gustavo Gaviria into Panama City, where he was met personally by Melo, Noriega's secretary, who embraced him warmly.

"Where did he get those affectionate embraces from?" Pardo said he asked Melo.

"He's a friend of the house," responded Noriega's aide, according to the witness. Pardo was to undergo cross-examination when the trial resumes Tuesday.

Immigrants queuing up in hope of a green card

MERRIFIELD, Va. (AP) — They were told not to come, but they did anyway — immigrants with "lots of dreams" lining up near a Washington-area post office, hoping their applications for residence visas will be among the 40,000 the State Department will accept beginning at 12:01 a.m. Monday.

Tac Shibata has been here a week, first in line at the only post office designated to receive an expected 5 million "green card" applications.

But the Japanese student's application may not be among the first 40,000 the government will accept from eligible foreigners.

"We've tried to tell them," a State Department official said Thursday. "But no matter how many times you tell them, they're going to believe that being in line is going to be the best way."

Shibata, 27, drove from New York City with two friends and arrived Oct. 3.

"Everybody has lots of dreams," said Shibata, who is taking English lessons at night and wants to enroll fulltime. "American people think Japanese are rich. We are poor," he said, pointing at his friends.

As of Thursday, about 30 people had set up camp at a gas station next to the post office. The State Department expects thousands to mass outside the office by Monday morning, but it doesn't recommend lining up: the post office will not process mail delivered in person until noon Monday — 12 hours after it begins processing applications

delivered by mail. Mailed applications received before midnight will be rejected.

"Mail coming from wherever — say Los Angeles, mailed on Thursday — may or may not have a better chance of getting delivered to the (State Department)," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The official said the department tried to discourage queuing up to give those living abroad an equal chance for the green cards, which allow foreigners to live and work in the United States.

The 1990 law that authorized the special green card program gives the Irish a better chance; it requires that 40 percent — or 16,000 of the permanent residence visas — go to Irish living abroad or in the United States.

Although the Irish post office is on strike, Irish postal workers on Wednesday took green card applications and made sure they were on flights to the United States on Thursday, according to U.S. Postal Service spokesman Bob Hooving.

Some fear authorities won't be able to handle the post office crowds.

"People are very, very serious," said Kazumi Sakao, who came here to assist Shibata. "It spells trouble. There is no trouble with 140 people in line, but in two days, it's going to be big trouble."

Walter Baryla, a native of Poland, drove to the area from Chicago with four friends.

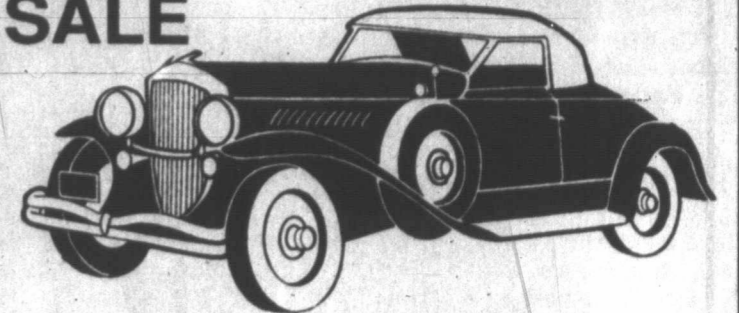
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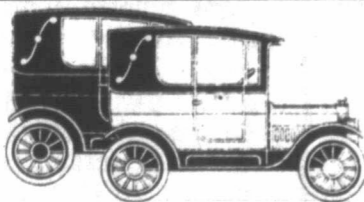
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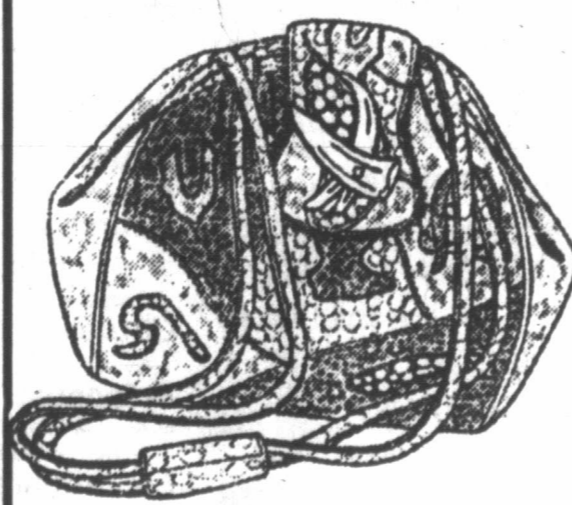
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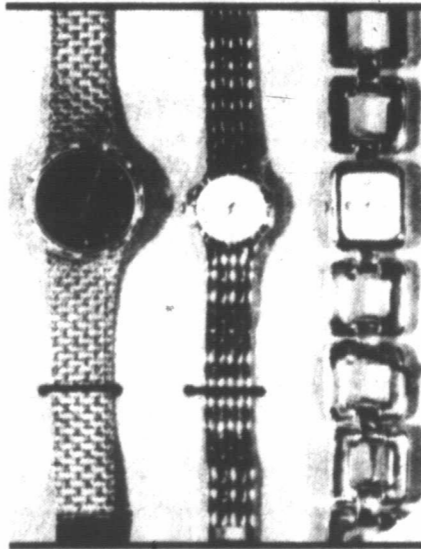
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- Apostolic**
Pampa Chapel Rev. Howard Whiteley, Pastor..... 711 E. Harvester
- Assembly of God**
Calvary Assembly of God Rev. Jimmy Robinson..... Crawford & Love
First Assembly of God Rev. Charles Shugart..... 500 S. Cuyler
Skellytown Assembly of God Church Rev. Lee Brown..... 411 Chamberlain
New Life Worship Center Rev. Allen Poldson..... 318 N. Cuyler
- Baptist**
Barrett Baptist Church Steve D. Smith, Pastor..... 903 Beryl
Bible Baptist Church Rev. Williams McCraw..... 500 E. Kingsmill
Bible Baptist Church (to do en espanol) Rev. Alfonso Lozano..... 500 E. Kingsmill
Calvary Baptist Church Rev. Lyndon Glaseman..... 900 E. 23rd St.
Central Baptist Church Rev. Norman Rushing..... Starkweather & Browning
Fellowship Baptist Church Rev. Doyle Ross..... 217 N. Warren
First Baptist Church Dr. Darrel Rains..... 203 N. West
First Baptist Church Rev. Ralph W. Hovey Pastor..... Mobeetie Tx.
First Baptist Church (Lefors) Lewis Ellis, Pastor..... 315 E. 4th
First Baptist Church (Skellytown) J.C. Burt, Pastor..... 306 Roosevelt
First Baptist Church (Groom) Rick Burton..... 407 E. 1st
First Baptist Church (White Deer) Calvin Winters, Minister..... 411 Omohundro St.
First Free Will Baptist L.C. Lynch, Pastor..... 731 Sloan St.
Grace Baptist Church Brother Richard Coffman..... 824 S. Barnes
Highland Baptist Church Bob Birdwell, Pastor..... 1301 N. Banks
Hobart Baptist Church Rev. Jimmy W. Fox..... 1100 W. Crawford
Iglesia Bautista Bete (en espanol e ingles) Rev. Axel Adolfo Chavez..... 1100 W. Crawford
Macedonia Baptist Church Rev. L.L. Patrick..... 441 Elm, St.
Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana Rev. Silvano Rangel..... 807 S. Barnes
Progressive Baptist Church..... 836 S. Gray
New Hope Baptist Church Rev. V.C. Martin..... 912 S. Gray
- Bible Church of Pampa**
Roger Hubbard, Pastor..... 300 W. Browning
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St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church Father Joe E. Bixeman..... 2300 N. Hobart
St. Mary's (Groom) Father Richard J. Neyer..... 400 Ware
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Hi-Land Christian Church Tim Moore..... 1615 N. Banks
- First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)**
Dr. John T. Tate..... 1633 N. Nelson
Director of Membership Mrs. Shirley Winborne
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Rev. John Schmidt..... 600 N. Frost
- Church of Christ**
Central Church of Christ B. Clint Price, Minister..... 500 N. Somerville
Church of Christ Billie Lemons, Minister..... Oklahoma Street
Church of Christ (Lefors) Ross Blasigame, Minister..... 215 E. 3rd
Church of Christ Dean Whaley, Jr., Minister..... Mary Ellen & Harvester
Daryl Miller, Minister Salvador Del Fierro..... Spanish Minister
McCullough Street Church of Christ Jerold D. Bernard, Minister..... 738 McCullough
Skellytown Church of Christ Tom Minnick..... 108 5th
Westside Church of Christ Billy T. Jones, Minister..... 1612 W. Kentucky
Wells Street Church of Christ Church of Christ (White Deer) Don Stone..... 400 N. Wells
Church of Christ (Groom) Alfred White..... 501 Doucette
Church of Christ (McLean) Steve Roseberry..... 4th and Clarendon St.
- Church of God**
Rev. Gene Harris..... 1123 Gwendolen
Church of God of The Union Assembly Rev. Harold Foster..... Crawford & S. Barnes
- Church of God of Prophecy**
Pastor Wayne A. Mullin..... Corner of West & Buckler
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**
Bishop R.A. Bob Wood..... 29th & Aspen
- Church of the Nazarene**
Rev. Jerry Wilson..... 510 N. West
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St. Matthew's Episcopal Church The Rev. Dr. William K. Bailey Rector..... 721 W. Browning
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Open Door Church of God in Christ Elder H. Kelley, Pastor..... 404 Oklahoma
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Zion Lutheran Church Rev. Art Hill..... 1200 Duncan
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Church plans annual service for women

New Hope Baptist Church, 404 Harlem St., will hold its annual women's day service at 3 p.m. Sunday with Joyce Mims of New Covenant Baptist Church in Amarillo as guest speaker.

A prayer breakfast will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday in the fellowship annex. It will be hosted by the brotherhood department of the church.

The public is invited.



The Pattersons Church to host Canyon couple this Sunday

Bill and Vicki Patterson will minister in music and preaching at Faith Christian Center, 118 N. Cuyler, at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday.

Vicki is formerly of Pampa and is the daughter of Joe and Norma Autry. She has traveled across the United States with her husband in ministry.

While at West Texas State University, she put together the music group, "Vicki and the Roy-laires" and traveled with them several years.

They founded and pastored a Full Gospel church in Houston that was known as the fastest growing church in the southwest at one time. They now reside in Canyon, where she teaches school and he is in private business.

The couple travels and ministers on weekends and they have been to Faith Christian Center several times in the past two years.

Pastor Ed Barker and the church invite the public to attend the special services on Sunday.

A nursery will be provided for children through three year olds.

Religion brief

WASHINGTON (AP) - Comparing recent Roman Catholic events to the unsuccessful attempt to remove Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and his reforms, a noted Roman Catholic theologian says:

"We Catholics have been living these past 13 years through a prolonged, slow-motion coup of our own against the reforms of Pope John XXIII and the Second Vatican Council."

The Rev. Richard McBrien of the University of Notre Dame told a conference on the church's future that although "no phone lines have been cut and no one placed under house arrest, it is a coup nonetheless, fueled by the ideology of the defeated minority of Vatican II and their heirs."

As examples, he cited the "disciplining of theologians, the re-imposition of loyalty oaths, the resistance to the legitimate aspirations of women ... the pull-back on ecumenism ... and finally, the packing of the hierarchy with institutional hard-liners."

Crisis pregnancy group sets Monday meeting

Jenny Dixon, director of the Amarillo Area Crisis Pregnancy Center, will be the guest speaker at a 7 p.m. Monday meeting of the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Pampa.

The meeting will be held at Lovett Library. For more information, call Sheila at 669-1462 or Cindy at 669-1921.

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Religion

Houston-area church is one of nation's fastest growing

By **CECILE HOLMES WHITE**
Houston Chronicle

MISSOURI CITY (AP) — The Rev. Joe Ratliff is building one of America's fastest-growing churches with a formula that is one part vision, two parts people.

At Brentwood Baptist Church this year's budget is \$2.5 million, but income should exceed that. However the books balance, 10 percent will go back out. That's the people part — individuals giving and receiving.

Ratliff brings the vision to the Brentwood equation. His enthusiasm and determination have transformed the 400-member church to a congregation of 8,000 in 11 years. Brentwood also has built a new sanctuary to seat 1,800, bought more land, for a total of 15 acres, and broadened community service.

The 40-year-old pastor is riding the wave of baby boomers returning to religion as shepherd of a sociological subset known as a "megachurch." Such congregations typically average 3,000-plus attendance for Sunday worship services, attract many younger churchgoers and have programs ranging from divorce-recovery workshops to huge family life centers including gymnasiums.

At Brentwood, more than half the church members are under 40. About 60 percent of households have incomes of \$28,000-\$40,000 a year. The church hopes to build a family life center, plus its 1991 handbook lists 20 organizations new members can join.

Ratliff is influencing American Christianity by:

- Pastoring a church in the nation's top 1 percent in church growth for the past two years.
- Leading a church that is an almost totally black congregation in the mostly white Southern Baptist Convention, the nation's largest Protestant group and politically powerful in Texas and nationally. His congregation is large and active enough that it will help shape the black church's witness from now to the 21st century.
- Brentwood is a congregation of doers. Ratliff's activist-style works

well in this setting, building on his knack for combining preaching, theology and salesmanship.

Ratliff is convinced church involvement helps assure a better future for blacks. That's one reason his congregation ties in to the SBC, rather than one of three predominantly black national Baptist bodies.

The SBC's size, structure and programming, not its politics or history, draws black churches like Brentwood, according to a national SBC agency leader.

"The Southern Baptist Convention is not now what it was historically," said Emmanuel McCall, Ratliff's friend and director of the SBC Home Mission Board's black church extension division. "The SBC does have a ministry emphasis and style. Many black churches are looking for that. How do you help the black community? How do you lift the black race? Southern Baptists provide the strategy."

Ratliff said, "You can do more together than you can do apart."

His outlook is that sometimes a black voice crying in a wilderness of white ones does the Lord's work.

For example, he believes Texas Baptists spoke out against apartheid and for divesting holdings in South Africa, in part, because of churches like Brentwood. But he shuns the Baptists' 12-year national internal struggle as a "white boys' fight I'm not involved in."

"Black theology and style would probably put me in the moderate camp if I was forced to have to do that. I'm in the middle of the road, very neutral."

Ratliff takes the same tack in secular politics, describing Brentwood as a church blending Democrats, Republicans and independents.

Voting matters, not party label.

The day they join, new Brentwood members are asked if they're registered to vote. Ratliff estimates the voting rolls gain 500 people a year, courtesy of Brentwood.

"Politics here are varied," he said. "It's the commonalities in the struggle politically that matter."

His personal politics also are pragmatic. "I voted for George Bush, and I don't regret the vote. However, the people who are advis-



(AP Laserphoto)

Pastor Joe Ratliff's indomitable outlook and enthusiasm for faith have put his church in the nation's top 1 percent in growth for the past two years.

ing him are not advising him well. For example, issues like the Civil Rights Bill. Our position ... would probably be the one of the Democratic Party."

The 1960s tradition that linked Southern blacks' goals to the Democratic Party nurtured Ratliff. He grew up in Lumberton, a town of 20,000 deep in the tobacco country of eastern North Carolina. The product of a teen-age pregnancy, Ratliff was cared for by his grandparents when his mother, Mary Ratliff, went away to boarding school to finish high school. He finally met his father many years after his mother had married another man.

But he grew up living and feeling like the eldest of nine children after his mother returned to North Carolina, married Charles Armwood and had eight more children. He still keeps in touch with his family, including his brother, Keith Armwood, who plays basketball for Texas Southern University.

The black tradition of politically active pastors also shaped young Joe Ratliff. He played piano at their services as a teen-ager, studied under them as a college student. He thought he wanted to be an attorney until his junior year at Morehouse College in Atlanta, when he decided to become a minister.

"In going to Atlanta, which was really the hotbed and the seat of all the flux and change, I began to see the impact that the church really had," Ratliff says.

He took his first pastorate as a college senior but went on to earn his master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Atlanta's Interdenominational Theological Center. In 1988, he was a research fellow at Harvard University for a semester.

Before coming to Brentwood in 1980, he served Cobb Memorial Church in Atlanta and as acting dean of chapel at Morehouse College. His Morehouse students included filmmaker Spike Lee

and Martin Luther King III, now a county commissioner in Georgia.

In 1980, Ratliff married Doris Gardner, a senior sales director for Mary Kay Cosmetics. They have no children. They spend their free time traveling, and Africa is a favorite destination.

One of Ratliff's most important lessons came when he spent several summers there as a young man. In Africa, he started collecting elephant figures, and the elephant remains a significant symbol for him.

"It's part of my identifying with the continent," he says, surveying the carved wood, ceramic and crystal elephants that line his office's bookshelves. "In East Africa, the elephant is symbol for survival."

He wants the same thing for his own people.

They meet for worship under a geodesic dome in a sanctuary that blends the traditional and contemporary. Doctors, attorneys, engineers

and other less affluent find belonging here.

HISD board member Rod Paige is a deacon. Former delegates to the GOP National Convention put money in the collection plate.

But lesser-known single parents like 32-year-old Margaret Hynds, a receptionist at Motorola, feel just as welcome.

"There's a lot of support here," she said. "And it's close to home. I was looking for a church where I would really enjoy the service. There's also a lot of activities — and lots of community help. There's a (food) pantry, the job-informing board."

Planted in tree-shaded-suburbia, Ratliff's congregation is besting many of its white contemporaries in Sunday morning attendance, congregational involvement and missions. Many at Brentwood are young black professionals.

They're movers, looking for better lives and eager to work under a forward-thinking leader. At Brentwood, megachurch means more than size; it applies to style, outlook, approach to ministry and pastoral vision.

Worship is lively without being raucous. Politics and world affairs matter. So do community problems. Brentwood recently sent a team to Tchula, Miss., a poor community with only one physician. The 40 teenagers and adults were to lead Vacation Bible schools and do home repairs.

In racial composition, the church has followed neighborhood trends. Started in 1965 as an all-white congregation that vowed to disregard race in membership, it became, in 1969, one of the first Southern Baptist churches to take in black members. By 1976, it was more than 90 percent black.

There is an AIDS ministry and other social programs. All reflect Ratliff's "great heart," says fellow clergyman John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church.

"He (Ratliff) is extremely intelligent. You can start to discuss something and get halfway through a sentence and he can finish it for you," Bisagno says. "He has great vision. He preaches a relevant message that people can understand."

Revival to begin Sunday at First United Methodist

Revival services are set for Sunday through Wednesday at First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Kerry Hurst of Childress preaching.

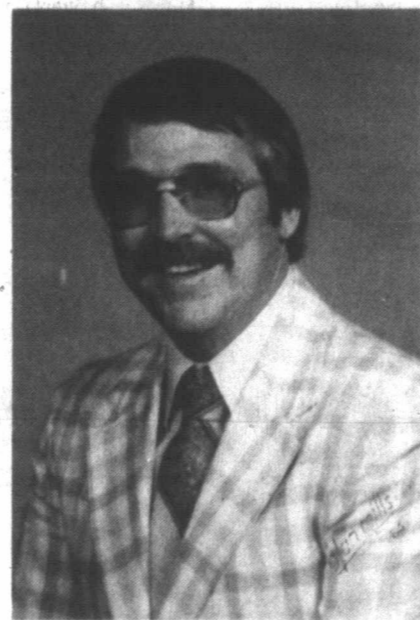
Services will begin with morning worship at 10:30 on Sunday. Morning services Monday through Wednesday will begin at 7 a.m. Evening services Sunday through Wednesday are set for 7 p.m. In addition there will be special times for youth and children each day.

Along with Hurst, Todd Sons of Lubbock will work with the youth and children; and Steve Ross, music minister of First United Methodist Church in Pampa, will lead the music.

Hurst is a native of Lorenson and has been the pastor of First United Methodist Church in Childress for the past four years. He and his wife, Kim, have three children.

Sons is a native of Lubbock and a graduate of Texas Tech University. He is involved in youth evangelism and ministry, having led numerous youth workshops and retreats. He led a "back-to-school" event sponsored by Youth Outreach United of Pampa at the beginning of the school year.

The public is invited to attend the services. The church is located at 201 E. Ballard.



Kerry Hurst

Religion roundup

NEW YORK (AP) — New York's Roman Catholic archbishop, Cardinal John O'Connor, says there are "new signs of hope" that the anti-abortion movement is gaining ground.

In a statement issued in connection with the observance last week of the 20th annual "Respect Life Sunday," O'Connor said the legality of abortion is being questioned more and more severely than was the case just a few years ago.

He also said several state legislatures have passed laws restricting abortion for the first time since it was legalized by the Supreme Court in 1973 and that polls have demonstrated a majority of people oppose abortion on demand.

O'Connor, head of the U.S. Catholic bishops' anti-abortion activities committee, also said the news media now sometimes carry reports critical of the practices of abortion clinics.

BERLIN (AP) — The Evangelical Church in Berlin-Brandenburg has publicly affirmed homosexuality as "neither sinful nor a sickness, but a different expression of human sexuality," the first German Lutheran church to take that position.

READING, England (AP) — The United Bible Societies says that its personnel in Moscow distributed more than 6,000 New Testaments to Soviet soldiers during the height of tension during the recent failed Soviet coup attempt.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The mayors of 30 American cities,

including many of the large ones, have urged the United States to approve Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees to help absorb newly arrived Soviet Jews.

NEW YORK (AP) — The Greek Orthodox Church in the Americas has declared a 40-day period of mourning over the death last week of Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I, spiritual leader of the world's 300 million Eastern Orthodox Christians.

OSSINING, N.Y. (AP) — The Maryknoll Sisters are beginning celebration of the 80th anniversary of their founding with an exhibit of photos and other materials documenting the order's history. Started in 1912, the order has 843 sisters serving in 21 countries.

NEW YORK (AP) — The Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, a widely read Christian author and former Lutheran minister, now is a Roman Catholic priest. Neuhaus, 55, was ordained Sept. 7 by New York's Cardinal John O'Connor. He is continuing his work as director of the Institute of Religion and Public Policy in Manhattan.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The Assemblies of God reports that its worldwide membership increased by more than 5 million members in the past two years to a total of 21.5 million in 124 countries.

U.S. membership, currently listed at 2.5 million, increased by 30,000 in the two-year period. The figures were given by general secretary

Joseph Flower at the denomination's recent biennial general council meeting here.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Southern Baptist Convention plans to launch a nationwide TV ad campaign next year to try to improve an image tarnished by a decade of in-house squabbles.

Mark Coppenger, the denomination's vice president for public relations, says TV public service announcements are being prepared portraying Southern Baptist concern for traditional values and family life.

The project was initiated after an executive committee action that cited a "large amount of negative publicity" toward Southern Baptists and urged a multimedia campaign to counter such impressions.

Baptist officers say the venture is an outgrowth of worries by many Baptists that the SBC has been demoralized by a 13-year-long power struggle in which conservatives won control, ousting moderates from key positions.

NEW YORK (AP) — Retired Army Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Kelly, back from a visit to Israel, says the occupied West Bank involves "critical terrain" essential to Israel's security.

Kelly, former U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff operations director, became a familiar figure to television viewers in his briefings on the Gulf War. He said "Without the West Bank, Israel is only eight miles wide at its narrowest point. That makes it indefensible."

Priest-congressman works for Guatemala's poor

By **SHELLEY EMLING**
Associated Press Writer

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — He is called a guerrilla, communist, a disgrace to his cassock. None of it stops Andres Giron, Roman Catholic priest and congressman, from championing Guatemala's millions of poor.

He became one of the 116 congressmen in January and is believed to be the first priest to hold public office in this country.

Bishop Fernando Gamalero of Giron's native Escuintla state threatened him with excommunication and forbade him, in keeping with Vatican rules, to administer church rites if he took office. The priest, who now lives in Guatemala City, said the ban did not apply in the new jurisdiction and ignored it.

Giron, 44, heads the congressional committee on human rights, and his attacks on the military and landed elite are making some enemies.

Luis Alberto Reyes, president of a landowners' association, accused him of "dangerous and illicit acts that seriously jeopardize the stability of the country."

Reyes has demanded Giron's resignation or expulsion from office. Giron shrugs off criticism as part of the job.

Crowds wait for hours outside his tiny office on the second floor of the congressional building, hoping a priest will pay more attention to their needs. They line up, some crying and others shouting through an open office window.

"They are here before I get here," said Giron, who wears his cassock to work. "They want money or American visas. I cannot give them these things and that is painful for me."

He hopes to give them land, however. Giron has

proposed a law that would give small groups of peasants plots of at least seven acres of unused public and private land to farm as cooperatives. The government would buy unused land at prices based on tax assessments, which generally are well below actual value.

"We want to get all the land that is sitting idle and give it to the landless," he said. "I ran for office because I felt I could do more public service work as a congressman than I could as a priest."

"I don't believe in the traditional church anymore, which only gives sacraments. ... I believe in the service aspect of the church to its community."

Giron left a parish of 120,000 people to become a congressman. He now preaches on Sundays to about 200 people at a small seminary school outside the capital.

"There are congressmen who ... think he is crazy, but for the most part, people take him seriously," said Edmond Mulet, a longtime legislator. "Most people respect him."

Previous government efforts at land reform have accomplished little.

When President Jacobo Arbenz introduced Guatemala's first land-reform law in 1952, he was called a communist by United Fruit. The U.S.-owned company was the country's largest landowner, with holdings of more than 500,000 acres.

Arbenz was overthrown two years later by a CIA-backed coup. His reform law was annulled and expropriated property returned to its former owners.

Another bill planned by Giron would create a commission to investigate disappearances. More than 40,000 Guatemalans have vanished during a sporadic 30-year-old war with a small, stubborn leftist insurgency, most of them in the past decade.

Gospel singing planned Sunday at local church

First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, will host a gospel singing from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the church.

Singers and musicians from the local church as well as from churches in the area will be coming together to worship in song. The event is scheduled to last only two hours to give visitors time to return to their homes in time for evening services at their local churches.

According to Pastor Albert Maggard, the music will feature a variety of beloved gospel hymns, choruses, special selections and spirited camp meeting and revival songs.

The public is invited to attend.

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Trouble in Southern Russian; Ukraine approves economic union

By THOMAS GINSBERG
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — The Ukraine promised Thursday to sign a crucial economic cooperation pact with other republics, but power struggles raged unabated in southern areas of the fragmented Soviet Union.

Muslim nationalists in the Chechen-Ingush autonomous region of Russia took over the offices of their government, saying it supported Communist hard-liners, the news agency Interfax reported. Russian lawmakers voted to send mediators to Grozny, capital of the region.

In South Ossetia, an ethnically distinct region of the Georgian republic, seven people were

wounded overnight when Georgian militants opened fired on secessionists. Shells also hit Tskhinvali, the largest city in South Ossetia, which wants to split from Georgia.

More than 250 Ossetians, who are mainly Muslims, have been killed and 480 wounded in battles with ethnic Georgians for control of the area.

Tass said attackers also blew up a water intake facility supplying Nagorno-Karabakh, a predominantly Armenian region, lying within Azerbaijan, whose residents seek unification with Armenia.

More than 20 Armenians and Azerbaijanis have been killed since the signing Sept. 24 of an agreement brokered by Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin and Kazakhst

an President Nursultan Nazarbayev to end the conflict. Tass said Kazakh officials Thursday appointed officials to monitor the agreement.

In the Ukraine, Prime Minister Vitold Fokin told reporters on Thursday that his republic would send an envoy to Moscow for a meeting Friday with the national interim ruling State Council.

The State Council, chaired by Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev and including leaders of the 12 Soviet republics, was scheduled to consider a draft agreement on creating an economic union.

The draft was initialed last week in Kazakhstan, but several republics later backtracked, saying

the pact would violate their sovereignty without an accompanying political treaty to guarantee self-rule.

Fokin insisted that the economic treaty must be signed before discussion of a new confederation to replace the former Soviet Union.

His views contradicted those of Russian Vice President Alexander Rutskoi, who said Wednesday the political treaty must come first.

Yeltsin returned home late Thursday after a 17-day absence from the capital, during which his government was convulsed by feuding. Rutskoi said he had been unable to reach Yeltsin by telephone for the last two weeks, Tass reported.

An economic or political union

has a slim chance of survival without Russia or the Ukraine, which together account for more than three-quarters of the Soviet population and much of its industrial and agricultural might.

The Ukraine, mindful of centuries of Russian imperial control, is apprehensive about Russia ascending in the power vacuum left by the collapse of national Communist Party rule since the Aug. 18-21 Kremlin putsch.

Byelorussia inched toward greater self-rule on Thursday. Its prime minister, Vyacheslav Kebich, signed a friendship treaty with Poland, the only foreign country to recognize Byelorussian independence.

Kebich, in Warsaw, also report-

edly was asking Poland to consider sending Byelorussian grain to help it through the winter, Interfax reported.

Meanwhile, the head of the Russian KGB told the republic's legislature Thursday that the political conflict in the Chechen-Ingush region in southern Russia was critical and could have dramatic consequences.

The Chechen and Ingush are Sunni Muslims who share a heritage in the Caucasian Mountains. Chechens fought both Russian and Soviet rule and along with the Ingush were deported from the region under Josef Stalin. They were allowed to return in 1957; the autonomous republic has a population of about 1.2 million.

Jewish settlers claim they had government backing

JERUSALEM (AP) — Jewish settlers who took over six homes in Arab east Jerusalem said Thursday several government ministers knew about the operation and state agencies were active in establishing it.

"They knew exactly what was going to happen," Avi Maoz, a settler leader, told a news conference. He did not name the ministers.

In an interview on state television Wednesday, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon conceded that he knew about the settlers' plans to move into the Silwan area, but said he didn't know when they intended to do it.

Maoz' claim came after several Cabinet members had criticized the settlers for moving into the Silwan neighborhood Wednesday under the cover of darkness.

Several ministers feared it generated bad publicity for Israel just days before Secretary of State James A. Baker III was due to make his eighth trip to the Middle East to try to convene an Israeli-Arab peace conference. The future of Jerusalem is likely to be a contentious issue.

Israel captured the eastern sector of the city from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed it.

Also Thursday, settler leaders from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, who oppose peace talks, have decided to step up settlement activity before Baker's arrival, the Yediot Ahronoth daily said. It described the Silwan move as the "first course for Baker."

Israel radio reported Thursday that a new settlement was being established south of the West Bank town of Hebron on the site of a former army base. Four mobile homes were moved to the area Wednesday night, it said.

If confirmed, it would be the fourth new settlement in the Hebron area — and the sixth in the occupied territories — since Baker started his Middle East shuttles shortly after the Persian Gulf War.

The United States has urged Israel to freeze settlement construction before the peace talks and reported-

ly has linked the demand to Israel's request for \$10 billion in U.S. loan guarantees to help absorb Soviet Jewish immigrants.

Maoz said his group, the City of David Association, has been working for seven years to acquire land and homes in Silwan, which is just south of the ancient Old City's walls.

A 12-acre section of Silwan is known to Jews as the "City of David," where the biblical King David founded the capital of the Kingdom of Israel.

Maoz said half the City of David area is under state control or has been purchased by Jews. He said state agencies controlled by the Justice and Housing ministries were involved and several ministers knew about the project, but he did not give details.

According to Maoz, the Housing Ministry's property management division, Amidar, agreed to rent at least eight Silwan homes to the settlers and, in some cases, the settlers were negotiating to buy homes from Arabs.

Maoz did not say how Amidar acquired control over the Arab homes, and Amidar spokeswoman Rachel Primor did not return telephone calls.

Maoz said some of the homes were owned by "absentee landlords," including Palestinians who now live in Jordan. The Justice Ministry can confiscate titles to such properties and has the right to rent them out.

Ehud Gol, spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, said Shamir "knew there was a plan to do something (in Silwan), but his position was that it should have been done according to the law."

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek said in a statement Thursday that the Silwan takeover "is something which should not have happened even in a bad dream." Police removed most of the settlers Wednesday, several hours after the takeover, saying they posed a security risk.

Iraq denies H-bomb project

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iraq denied Thursday that it planned to manufacture a hydrogen bomb, insisting that any materials it possessed that could be used to produce such a weapon were purely for scientific research.

The official Iraqi News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted an unnamed deputy chairman of Iraq's Atomic Energy Organization as saying United Nations officials have "grossly exaggerated" Iraq's nuclear potential.

U.N. officials and experts at the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency said Wednesday that Iraq has manufactured some lithium-6, a material used only in hydrogen bombs, and that it was kept at the Al-Athir weapons facility, 40 miles south of Baghdad.

The site has been monitored by spy satellites, U-2 flights and other surveillance to prevent the Iraqis from removing or burying the lithium-6, the officials said.

The Iraqi official pointedly denied charges made Wednesday by the regulatory agency's director, Hans Blix, who said the Iraqis had plans to produce more than 220 pounds of lithium-6 a year.

"These allegations are absolutely false and devoid of any truth," the

Iraqi official said, adding that Iraqi scientists were engaged only in "theoretical and practical research at laboratories."

"Iraq has no project for the production of lithium, not even in the smallest quantities required for the development of the tiniest hydrogen bomb," the official said.

He said the latest accusations were part of "a systematic campaign of exaggeration and intimidation targeting Iraq's scientific research" and intended to "justify aggression against Iraq and prolong the economic siege that had been imposed against the Iraqi nation."

Under a Security Council resolution that established a cease-fire in the Persian Gulf War, Iraq agreed to disclose the extent of its nuclear program as well as its chemical, biological and ballistic weapons capabilities to United Nations experts.

But teams that have visited Iraq over the past six months have complained that Baghdad is trying to conceal information.

A U.N. team was due in Iraq on Friday for a 12-day inspection to search for evidence Iraq manufactured lithium-6 and planned to use it to build a hydrogen bomb, the team leader, Dimitri Perricos of Greece, said Thursday in Manama, Bahrain.

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Lifestyles

Unseen hospital department - medical records - integral to facility service

Gathering, abstracting, categorizing and storing information is an important part of the job of the Medical Records department at Coronado Hospital, said Bruce W. Reinhardt, administrator, in honor of National Medical Records Week.

"Medical Records is one of those departments in the hospital that the public doesn't see when they use our facility, but they are absolutely vital to our operation. Of course, it is mandatory that the patient's records be kept efficiently and orderly, but this department's role has grown over the last few years into much more than a record-keeping place," Reinhardt said.

Anne Martin, director of the department at Coronado Hospital, said that her department's focus really changed when the Prospective Payment System was introduced by the federal government in 1984.

"When Medicare changed to this system, it instituted DRGs (Diagnosis Related Groups)," she said. "My department is responsible for insuring that all patient illnesses or injuries are properly classified in to the correct DRG. Using the incorrect classification could cost the hospital hundreds of dollars because there's a lot of difference in payment for different categories."

Mrs. Martin explained that Medicare originally set up 468 DRGs, assigning a description and a payment amount to each one. "For example, the difference between a vascular procedure and a vascular procedure with complications is \$3200. Also, Medicare audits charts, and if we get too many classifications wrong, the hospital could be penalized."

"We've had a computer program since DRGs began which helps us calculate the correct classification, but it is still complicated," she said.

Martin explained that her department is responsible for all the paper



Anne Martin, left, and Erma Dean McKee look at a section of files in medical records department of Coronado Hospital.

work generated when a patient is treated.

"Every thing that is done must be recorded. We keep the lab reports, the nurses' notes, the physician's dictation ... everything that pertains to the patient treatment must be kept," she said. All records are microfilmed after about two years for storage. "Texas statutes don't state how long records must be retained, but we try to keep them for an indefinite period of time," she said.

Because every piece of information about the patient's treatment comes through her department, she is always concerned about confidentiality. "Patient's rights demand that records be kept confidential. Other departments in the hospital have access to bits and pieces of information about the patient, but only Medical Records knows the whole picture. Every employee in my department signs a confidentiality statement when they come to work for me," she said.

She said she maintains very strict rules on the release of a

patient's records. "Legally, the patient is the only one with the right to his records. I won't give information over the phone because of that. The only way we can release records is with the patient's consent or by court order. In an emergency situation, we would release records to a physician who was treating the patient. We really view the safekeeping of that information as a sacred trust," she said.

Martin, who has been in the profession for 17 years, has been department manager at Coronado since 1987, coming to Pampa from Highland Hospital in Lubbock.

Others in the department include Barbara Huffman, assistant manager since 1989; Carolyn Froggé, inpatient discharge analyst for 14 years; Tracie Ramirez, transcriptionist, employed since 1984; Erma Dean McKee, medical records clerk since 1981; Karen Mendoza, transcriptionist since 1983; Jodi Hill, LVN, transcriptionist for two years; and Julie Maness, outpatient data analyst for one year.

Saturday and Sunday set for annual arts and crafts festival at M.K. Brown auditorium

The 25th annual Top O'Texas Fine Arts and Crafts Festival will be Oct. 12-13, in the Heritage Room of M.K. Brown Auditorium.

Sponsored by the Pampa Fine Arts Association, the festival will be open 10 a.m.-6 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 12, and noon to 5 p.m., on Sunday, Oct. 13.

Exhibitors will be present from the Texas Panhandle, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, and other parts of Texas.

A range of works including oil, acrylics, watercolor and pastel paintings, jewelry, pottery, soft sculpture dolls, stained glass, wood art, wood sculpture, ceramics, copper enamel, pencil drawings, silver-smith, fiber art, wheat weaving, wreaths and decor art.

A picture "Sampler", by Judith Ann Maiewski, will be raffled at 4 p.m., on Oct. 13.

Those exhibiting at the festival are: John Carson (silversmith), Jack Towles (stained glass), Jerry Darrow (wood crafts/furniture), Peggy Palminter (copper enamel), Mary Noel (ceramics), Ann Pearce - Auntie A's (jewelry-semi-precious stones), Evelyne Epps (oil and acrylic painting), Gail Kincaid (jewelry-lost wax casting), Maricard Popwell (wood and clothing painting), Arhell Gibson (gold/silver jewelry), Evelyn Tiberghien (soft sculpture dolls, jewelry), Jill Koehn (wheat weaving), Bob Westby (burl clocks, tables), Lois Minnick (oil painting/clothing), Joy Webster (porcelain angels), Debra Schuman (hand crafted rugs and baskets), Betty Cochran (wood crafts/clothing), Tammy Atkins (porcelain earrings/button covers), Vicky Pugh (handscreened clothing), Bea Mor-

ton (quilting), Ann Rapstine (south-west painting/beaded work), Ray Hallmark (woodwork), Sherry Meeks (tole-painting), Kyllie Watts (baskets/wood items), and Del Bradley (applied clothing).

Also will be Euleen Thompson (jewelry/clothing), Carolyn Poage (clothing/painting), Bobbie Rinehart (mop dolls), Berneta Baird (hand-woven rugs), Melanie Smith (clay decorations), Cleola Kingcade (fabric baskets), Waunell Murphy (scarves/wreaths), Dee Wampler (padded baskets), Joyce Johnson (wood dolls/cradles), LaTonne Douglas (wood items), Rhonda Willard (painted wood), Judy Ramsey (clothing), Randy and Linda Reimer (wood/appliqued clothing), Peggy Furr (acrylic jewelry/clothing), Debbie and Rita Shields (leather, jewelry), and Eddie Walker (metal sculpture).

'New Perspectives', an anger management program offered by Tralee Crisis Center

Tralee Crisis Center is implementing a new resource for men who become abusive in relationships, according to Brenda Wilkinson, director of victims' services. "New Perspectives" is one of only about 20 such programs in the state of Texas, she said.

Wilkinson said, "We're hoping

this program will be a major contribution to stopping violence in our community. It will focus on finding alternatives to behavior through group support and counseling." Attendance will be based on self-referral or a condition of the court, she explained.

The group will offer therapy,

education and awareness to the clients. The topics covered will be anger management, stress, communication, recognizing anger about to go out of control and understanding the effects of anger on children.

For more information call, Wilkinson at 669-1131 for more information.

Honor Roll

Lamar Elementary School announced honor roll students for the first six week grading period.

Mrs. Deason's self-contained classroom - honor roll - Shelly Videon; super citizen - Russell Strnad.

Mrs. Doughty's self-contained classroom - super citizen - Amanda Victor.

Mrs. Cash's kindergarten - super citizens - developmental kindergarten - Rose Albear; regular kindergarten - Stacy Aitchley, Reid Ferrell, Jonathon Humphrey, Samuel Silva.

Mrs. Garton's transitional first grade - super citizen - Dannie

Meza. Miss Hick's first grade - super citizen - Tiffany Marchman.

Miss Parrish's first grade - super citizen - Tamara Silva.

Mrs. Barker's second grade - honor roll - Keenan Davis, Jeffery Sweeney; super citizens - Brooke Best, Dawn Lowther, Angela Phillips.

Mrs. Depee's second grade - honor roll - Sixto Albear, Angela Allsup, Dasirae Davis, Seidrick Drew, Mikel Hartley, Maria Silva, Angela Wood; super citizen - Sixto Albear, Angela Allsup.

Mrs. Ditmore's third grade - honor roll - Shauna Buck, Cassie

Hamilton; super citizen - Venancia Silva.

Mrs. McBride's third grade - honor roll - Amy Lowrance, David Sanchez; super citizen - Teddy Tolleson.

Mrs. Boynton's fourth grade - honor roll - Jeremy Buck, Shannon Oxley, Shawn Stone; super citizens - Jeremy Buck, Shannon Oxley, Mima Solis, Shawn Stone.

Mrs. Diggs' fifth grade - honor roll - Bethanea Stevenson; super citizens - Tiffany Fletcher, Cynthia Davis, Bethanea Stevenson.

Mrs. Stones' fifth grade - honor roll - Stacey Brown; super citizens - David Davis, Nicola Moore.

Mary McFadden chooses textiles for museum

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Fashion designer Mary McFadden has hand-picked fabrics from around the world and from throughout the ages as guest curator at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

The exhibition, "The Designer's Eye: Mary McFadden Selects Textiles from the Permanent Collec-

tion," is made up of some 20 pieces she's chosen from the institute's collection of more than 4,500 items — ranging from 5th-century Egyptian fabrics to ultra-modern textiles.

McFadden was especially attracted to fabrics showing off skilled craftsmanship and design, from around the world, the institute said. The show

runs from Sept. 20-Jan. 5, 1992.

Her selection represents a broad range of textiles from Europe, Asia and the United States, including American Indian, Guatemalan and African work. Among the chosen pieces are curtains, wall hangings, embroidery, French silks, Turkish towels and an American beaded bag.

Kiwanis Club leaders, 1991-1992



The 1991-1992 officers for the Top O' Texas Kiwanis club were installed Tuesday night at the 61st annual installation banquet at the Pampa Country Club. Front row, from left, Peggy Smith, second vice-president; and Kelley Gaddis, secretary. Back row, left, Enrico Chen, board of directors; Wayne Slater, president; Steve Randall, first vice-president; and Robert Ellison, board of directors.

Perfumes combine hundreds of ingredients

By TOWN & COUNTRY For AP Special Features

Perfume contains hundreds of different ingredients that combine in the orchestration of three different notes — top, middle and bottom.

A good perfumer, according to an article in the current issue of Town & Country, must be able to distinguish 2,200 scents to blend all the right notes.

The top note is the scent that hits you when you first open the bottle. The function of a top note is to awaken interest in the perfume and to provide impact. It is unusually light and volatile — generally consisting of citrus, fruit and spices. Bergamot, a pear-shaped orange whose rind yields an essential oil, is a popular top note.

All too many people purchase perfume based only on the top notes and wonder why their fragrance doesn't smell on them the way it did in the store.

The top note lasts no more than 30 minutes. Then, as the alcohol evaporates or "dries down," the middle note or bouquet emerges. This is the true heart of any fragrance. It is here you smell all the flowers — rose, jasmine, tuberose, ylang-ylang.

The bottom note is the heaviest, the one that fixes the scent and makes it last. It's usually woody — sandalwood, patchouli, cedarwood — and warm.

"Warm" refers to the animal ingredients perfume contains — amber from sperm whales, musk from the musk deer, castoreum from beavers and civet from the civet cat.

Nowadays most perfumers use synthetic replacements. They can actually reproduce the molecules found in nature, recreating the aromas of such flowers as lily of the valley and gardenia, which don't have obtainable essential oils.

All women's perfume divides into three classes — floral, oriental and chypre. Within each family are subdivisions.

Floral has seven subdivisions, starting with floral green. Balmain's Vent Vert (1945) is the original and Ralph Lauren's Satan a '90s example.

At the other end of the spectrum is Floral Sweet — florals sweetened with vanilla, honey, tonka beans. Oscar by Oscar de la Renta (1977) is the trendsetter in this category, which includes Bijan, Guerlain's Samsara and Dior's Poison.

The remaining florals are fruity, fresh, pure floral and aldehyde. Coty's Muguet des Bois (f936) leads the fresh category, Hermes Amazone is fruity, Joy is pure floral.

Aldehydes are synthetics used to create original scents. The most famous is Chanel No. 5 (1921).

The chypre group consists basically of floral, whose sweetness is tempered by woody-mossy accents. The name originates from Coty's now-extinct Chypres perfume of 1907.

For orientals, think of Yves Saint Laurent's Opium or Margaretha Ley's Escada. The original oriental is Guerlain's Jicky, created in 1889 and the oldest perfume still on the market.

Perfume as we know it — essential oils blended with an alcohol solution — was created in

the 14th century, apparently at the command of Queen Elizabeth of Hungary.

Perfume became the rage, especially in Renaissance Italy. When Caterina de' Medici married Henri II of France, she brought her personal perfumer, Rene, to Fontainebleau. It is said Rene opened the first Italian perfumery in Paris.

Once a perfume bottle is opened, perfume should be used up within six months, or its notes begin to

concentrate and go haywire.

For that reason they should not be stored next to bright lights or in a heated area. Keeping them in the bathroom in front of a mirror is the worst possible place.

There are three basic types of scent, Jane Wilkens Michael wrote in Town & Country. Perfume is approximately 20 to 30 percent perfume oils. Eau de Parfum is 18 percent and eau de toilette, 12 to 15 percent. The rest is alcohol and water.



Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

Teen's questions about will could be cause for concern

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old girl who often reads your column. I was wondering how I could get — or make — a legal will. I have few valuables, so it's mostly personal stuff that I want given to certain people.

I don't want my parents to know. Please send me some information on this. Thank you.

NO NAME, PLEASE

DEAR NO NAME: It is rather unusual for a 14-year-old to inquire about how to make a legal will. I am concerned about why a person so young would want this information.

Regardless of how strict your parents may seem to be, in times of serious trouble they are your best friends. However, since you do not want your parents to know, please talk to your school counselor. And please don't be afraid to tell the counselor what it is that troubles you. Only if you discuss your problems can you get the help you deserve.

Please talk to the counselor immediately, and then write again and let me know how you are. I care.

DEAR ABBY: Can you stand one more story about a phony money-making scheme?

My mother, a widow who lives on her Social Security, received a telephone call advising her that she had won three prizes — an automobile, \$10,000 in diamonds, and her choice of a vacation in Hawaii, California or Florida! Well, Mama thought she had died and gone to heaven!

What teen-agers need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with their peers and parents is now in Abby's updated, expanded booklet, "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61064. (Postage is included.)

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The Pampa News

Comic Page

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Make a sweater
- 5 Actor — Kristofferson
- 9 Slate-cutting tool
- 12 Wild buffalo
- 13 Othello villain
- 14 Tree
- 15 Boater
- 17 Actress — Arthur
- 18 Tax agcy.
- 19 Holds dear
- 21 Join
- 24 Anti-prohibitionists
- 25 Seafarer
- 27 Biblical character
- 31 Universal language
- 32 Trickle
- 34 Wheel covering
- 35 Japanese aborigine

DOWN

- 1 Actress Francis
- 2 Firearm
- 3 Ship's backbone
- 39 Be situated
- 40 Buckwheat
- 42 Drank greedily
- 44 Single part
- 46 Stokes
- 47 One of the reindeer
- 50 That thing's
- 51 Rage
- 52 Grinding implement
- 57 Mongrel
- 58 — Dinesen: "Out of Africa" author
- 59 Long heroic poem
- 60 Uncle
- 61 Mexican shrub
- 62 Amount owed

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	Y	P	E
B	R	E	T
B	O	O	S
A	R	E	S
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
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R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A
R	E	T	A

ACROSS

- 8 Piano piece
- 9 Oxlike animal
- 10 To the sheltered side
- 11 Dec. holiday
- 16 Sign of the times
- 20 Future
- 21 L.L.Bs. exam
- 22 Eskimo boat
- 23 Gymnast — Comaneci
- 24 Golf clubs
- 26 Most twisted
- 28 Aircraftman
- 29 Valley on moon
- 30 Bay window
- 31 Requires
- 33 Church seat
- 34 No
- 38 Picks up
- 41 Weak
- 43 Felt strong desire
- 45 Leprechauns' nationality
- 47 Chop finely
- 48 — lily
- 49 Dry
- 50 Actress Chase
- 53 Medieval poem
- 54 Unclose (poet)
- 55 Head (sl.)
- 56 Superlative suffix

DOWN

- 3 Business abbreviation
- 4 Pacific island
- 5 Show affection
- 6 Male sheep
- 7 — at the office

owners' org.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12										

WALNUT COVE

By Mark Cullum

Bart Craven always winks an eye at girls in our class.

I asked him why he never winks at me...

He said in my case it was best to just shut both eyes.

He's just a jerk, Carmen.

He winks at me now. He's got one eye swollen shut.

ARLO & JANIS

By Jimmy Johnson

LISTEN TO THIS CLASSIFIED!

DESPERATE TO SELL, LARGE SAILBOAT.

MONEY SECONDARY. JUST WANT OUT. PLEASE, MAKE OFFER.

SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD DEAL!

EEK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider

HEY, LISTEN TO THIS...

THEY'RE PUTTING A WETLAND IN THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

PROBABLY GOING TO HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICES THERE

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

GUESS WHAT! MY NEW DIET BOOK MADE THE BEST SELLER LIST.

WHAT DIET BOOK?

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT GLUTTONY BUT WERE TOO FULL TO ASK.

MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong

MARVIN'S TEETHING IS REALLY BOTHERING HIM.

HERE, TRY THIS.

THE BABY BOOK SUGGESTS YOU GIVE YOUR BABY A RAW CARROT TO CHEW ON.

SOB!

NYAA... WHAT'S UP, DOC?

ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue

WHAT'S IN THE BUNDLE?

A COUPLE OF CLOAKS! I FIGURED THEY'D HELP MASK OUR MOVEMENTS IN THE DARK!

HERE! PUT THIS ON BEFORE THEY LOWER THE URN!

HERE WE GO! EASY DOES IT NOW!

OKAY, ALLEY. LET'S GO AND PAY THE SPARTANS "GODS" A LITTLE VISIT!

SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

"Instead of hunting a bear for my winter coat, how 'bout going after a bunch of those little minks?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane

"The children are winterized, too."

THE BORN LOSER

By Art and Chip Sansom

BUGZINKSGMUBO?

COME RAPZINKL, FORGET THE EARTHLING...

THERE WILL BE AMPLE TIME FOR ROMANCING PRETTY GIRLS LATER!

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

WE HAVE SOMETHING NEW AT OUR HOUSE..

WHEN I GET HOME FROM SCHOOL, MY DOG MEETS ME IN THE YARD WITH MILK AND COOKIES..

I SEE THE MILK, BUT WHERE ARE THE COOKIES?

THEY GOT TIRED OF WAITING SO THEY LEFT..

MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

"This is ridiculous! Who ever heard of a haunted doghouse!"

WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli

I'M TRYING TO MEMORIZE THE EMPEROR CALIGULA'S NAME FOR TOMORROW'S TEST.

CALIGULA, CALIGULA, CALIGULA, CALIGULA, CALIGULA, CALIGULA...

YOU SOUND LIKE A TRAIN RUMBLING ON BLIMPY TRACKS.

CALVIN AND HOBBS

By Bill Watterson

ARE THE COALS HOT?

YES, THEY'RE VERY HOT. I'M JUST ABOUT TO PUT ON THE HAMBURGERS.

BEFORE YOU DO, COULD YOU TOSS IN THE CAN OF LIGHTER FLUID AND MAKE A GIANT FIREBALL?

I'VE GOT THE MOST BORING DAD IN THE WORLD

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves

OKAY, YOU HUNT, YOU GATHER, AND I'LL FINE-TUNE THE ECONOMY.

GARFIELD

By Jim Davis

YOU KNOW, DOC, THERE'S A LOT ABOUT ME YOU DON'T KNOW.

I KNOW YOU HAVE FOUR PENS AND THREE PAPER CLIPS IN YOUR SHIRT POCKET.

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

I CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH YOU, ARBUCKLE.

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

Your entrepreneurial instincts will be substantially heightened in the year ahead. You could be very fortunate in ventures or endeavors you originate or manage.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You'll think fast on your feet today, and you'll be able to express yourself in eloquent terms. This is a good day to make verbal presentations. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Financial patterns are starting to improve for you at this time. In fact, beginning today you may see some bright rays of hope shining through.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) If your paths cross, either deliberately or unintentionally, you'll be treated with consideration and respect today by those who are in a position to help you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your stronger qualities will be aroused today when confronted by challenging developments. Once the will to win is awakened, you'll be a tough cookie to beat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your observations and comments will carry a lot of weight with your peers today. You'll have answers that can benefit the group even more than they do single individuals.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you vent your imagination today, you could become fearful of what might happen. However, should it be necessary to deal with a critical situation, you'll be remarkably courageous.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Balance and order might be restored today in an arrangement that has been somewhat unsettling. All involved are anxious for improvement.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Something you've been earnestly working on can be brought to a successful conclusion at this time — if you press a bit harder. It will be worth the effort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) If you give your mate's concerns the same priority that you give yours today, your partner will be very appreciative. You don't have to do more, just don't do less.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You could be rather fortunate today in the reward you'll derive both materially and mentally from things on which you labor. Go for gratification, as well as gain.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Material objectives can be achieved today through a circuitous route. You'll be luckier working with human relationships than you will be directly striving for things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Sometimes, it's wise to leave your credit cards at home when shopping, but today could be an exception. There's a possibility you might find what you've been wanting at real bargain prices.

States adopt own AIDS guidelines, setting up conflict with feds

By MITCHELL LANDSBERG
Associated Press Writer

If President Bush signs legislation designed to protect people from AIDS-infected health care workers, it could put Washington on a collision course with state capitals that have adopted guidelines of their own.

Several states, including New York, California and Michigan, have policies that differ from the federal mandate, passed by Congress last week.

The congressional legislation initially required states to adopt a policy written by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. It asks health care workers to be voluntarily tested for AIDS, and says infected workers should stop performing certain "exposure-prone" procedures.

In a compromise, Congress agreed to allow states to adopt an equivalent policy of their own. But some states have policies that differ significantly from the CDC guidelines, and it isn't clear how flexible the federal officials will be.

"I don't think we know exactly how 'equivalent' will be defined," said Dr. Ronald Davis, chief medical officer for the Michigan Department of Health. CDC officials said they hadn't decided yet.

It is not a minor point. States that don't comply with the federal policy could lose all federal Public Health Service funds. In Michigan alone, that could be more than \$30 million a year, Davis said.

Dr. Lloyd Novick, community health director for the New York State Health Department, said his state stood to lose tens of millions of dollars, perhaps more.

"It would be the heart of our public health service function in New York state," he said. The funds allow the state to immunize children and fight tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS.

The health care issue has emerged as one of the most contentious in the evolving national debate over AIDS policy.

The aim is to prevent a recurrence of a Florida case in which a

"It is the position of NASTHO that this is an issue that should be dealt with by the states..."

— Dr. Lloyd Novick
New York health official

dentist, the late Dr. David Acer, transmitted the AIDS virus to five patients. He is the only health care worker in the country who is known to have transmitted the virus to a patient.

Those who favor strong measures to protect against infected health care workers were given a compelling voice in Kimberly Bergalis, who is dying of AIDS that she contracted from Acer.

In testimony before Congress, Ms. Bergalis pleaded that the government require health care workers to undergo AIDS testing. "so other patients and health care providers don't have to go through the hell that I have."

But even before her testimony, many states were passing laws, or

enacting administrative policies, to protect patients from infected health care workers.

Some go well beyond the CDC guidelines. A law signed last week by Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar requires infected health care workers to notify their patients; if they don't, the state will dig into their medical records and do it for them. The American Civil Liberties Union has said it may challenge the law on the basis that it violates a constitutional right to privacy.

A law in Texas bans infected workers with open sores from participating in any direct patient care — not just surgery.

Some other states' policies, however, are somewhat less restrictive than the CDC's.

Michigan, California and New York all have policies allowing workers to continue performing "invasive" procedures such as surgery even though they are infected with the AIDS virus.

Michigan's policy says AIDS-infected health care workers should refrain from surgical procedures only if they have open sores or some physical or mental impairment.

Davis said state officials saw no point to the CDC's more restrictive standard, "given the extremely low risk of transmission from an infected health care worker to a patient."

Similarly, some state officials disagree with the CDC's requirement that patients be notified that their health care provider is infected with HIV, the AIDS virus.

"That is not a practical requirement," said Novick, the New York health official. New York's guidelines call for a panel of experts to review whether an infected worker poses a threat.

If the panel finds there is no risk, "there is no need for notification,

and notification could effectively end these people's practices," Novick said.

Beneath their disagreements with the CDC over the best way to protect against AIDS transmission from doctors and nurses to patients, state health officials also harbor resentment over the decision by Congress to mandate national standards at all.

Novick is chairman of the HIV Committee of the National Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. "It is the position of NASTHO that this is an issue that should be dealt with by the states," he said.

Even the state epidemiologist of Georgia, among the first states to adopt the federal guidelines in their entirety, believes they might not be best for every state.

"The HIV epidemic is so different in different parts of the country," said Dr. Joseph Wilber. "You know, I think in Iowa or Idaho, this is a pretty remote situation and they should be able to make their own rules."

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