

The Pampa News

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WEDNESDAY



(Staff photo by Bear Mills)

Women of the Moose Clown Club members, from left, Patsy Nichols, Joann Franklin, Vircie Twigg, bingo chairman Betty Johnson and Nancy Davis present Lt. Ernest Lozano of the Pampa Salvation Army a check for \$300 Tuesday.

Women of Moose enjoy clowning around in their effort to raise funds for charities

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

Since the Women of the Moose have already given \$7,000 this year to local charities, some might say they could spend the holidays resting on their laurels.

But the Women of the Moose Clown Club is working harder than ever helping the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots to erase serious shortages in local giving.

Last weekend they raised \$249 for the Army by manning a kettle at Alco in Coronado Center, a one-day record, Clown Club officials said. They also donated another \$300 to the Salvation Army raised through bingo.

'We do it to help people around here. I want people to know we are doing good things with that money.'

— Betty Scott

Toys for Tots, meanwhile, received a \$500 donation from the organization to help their struggling effort to provide at least one new toy for needy children in Gray County this Christmas.

Nancy Davis of the Clown Club said the group is appearing all over the area for free, with the only stipulation being that the hosting company or organization make a donation to a United Way project.

"All through the rest of this week we will be helping Toys for Tots," Davis said. "Then on Sunday the 15th we will be delivering fruit baskets to both nursing

homes and then back to the Salvation Army on the 18th and 19th. We will also be at the Horace Mann Christmas party on the 20th."

Members of the Clown Club said there are such rewards in philanthropy, they have trouble understanding those who are reluctant to help the needy.

"To me we must look to the dear Lord and think of what we have and what we have to give to others," Davis said. "We need to have a little spirit. We're not rich, but we're rich in heart. If you give, that makes you rich."

Vircie Twigg, owner of the Rathskeller in downtown Pampa, said to participate in these fund-raising events means hiring someone to take her place at the restaurant, but she is glad to be inconvenienced.

"I like to give," Twigg said. "I just enjoy doing things like this."

Davis said, "To do this makes the season so joyous. To take one of those Salvation Army angels and buy that child presents, take that gift back and then wonder on Christmas Day what that child's face looks like when they open that present up - that is worth it all."

Joann Franklin said, "I do this from the heart because it makes people happy. That's the only reason."

Betty Scott, bingo chairman, said while some organizations are falling under scrutiny because of sparse amounts actually given to the needy from "charity bingo," the Moose has donated 40 percent of all the money it has received.

"We do it to help people around here," Scott said. "I want people to know we are doing good things with that money."

Keiser dismissed from sheriff's office for violations of policies

By BETH MILLER
Staff Writer

Sgt. Dave Keiser, a seven-year veteran of the Gray County Sheriff's Office, was terminated from employment on Tuesday, said Sheriff Jim Free.

Free said Keiser, 44, was fired because of violations of departmental policies listed in the sheriff's office policy and procedures manual.

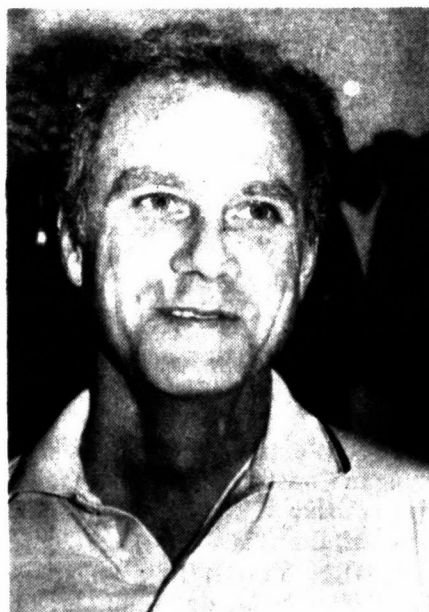
"He was given a chance to resign, but he refused to resign," Free said Tuesday afternoon.

Free said the action was taken after an internal investigation was completed on an early-morning Oct. 5 incident in which Keiser is alleged to have brutalized a prisoner who was handcuffed.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is also investigating the incident and that investigation is on-going, Free said.

On Oct. 15, Keiser was suspended with pay while the FBI and internal investigations were taking place.

The sheriff said Keiser will draw paychecks from the county through the end of this year. He said Keiser has about two weeks of vacation



Dave Keiser

and about another two weeks of comp time.

Keiser was hired on Dec. 13, 1984, by former Sheriff Rufe Jordan. He was most recently a senior sergeant on the day shift under Sheriff Free.

Free said an Amarillo attorney representing the county in various lawsuits advised him to terminate

Keiser based on the policy manual violations. The sheriff said there were about four policies that he found Keiser had violated. The policy manual was effective Aug. 1 of this year and signed by all sheriff's office employees, Free said.

One policy which Keiser is alleged to have violated reads: "An officer will at all times protect the constitutional rights of any prisoner held in custody."

Another policy which Chief Deputy Terry L. Cox said Keiser is alleged to have violated deals with the use of force as specified in Chapter 9 of the Texas Penal Code, regarding the protection of life and property.

In the Oct. 5 incident, Keiser was working as a security guard while off duty at the Caprock Apartments, the sheriff said in October.

A 20-year-old Perryton man, Gary Puga, reported that Keiser hit him in the head with a flashlight, the sheriff said, and also that Keiser had hit him in the face after he was handcuffed. Puga was transported to Coronado Hospital after his arrest on a charge of criminal trespass and he received four stitches to the back of the head, Free said.

Puga told the *Amarillo Daily News* that he was leaving a "hostile" party at the Caprock Apartments when he was hit in the head with a flashlight. A van he was riding in after leaving the party was stopped by Pampa police, and Puga said he was then thrown to the ground and put in a choke hold by the same man who had hit him with the flashlight.

Keiser said he had no comment today.

School trustees commend Lamar educational plans

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

Trustees for the Pampa Independent School District used their meeting Tuesday night at Carver Center to commend Lamar Elementary School's principal and staff on their aggressive plans for helping students succeed.

Last week *The Pampa News* unveiled ideas being formulated by the Lamar staff that could eventually see the campus going to year-round school and abolition of report cards for kindergarten and first grade students.

Lamar teachers and Principal Tim Powers have already decided the campus will begin "adopting" newborns in their area for occasional home visits until the time the children enter school.

The teachers would make suggestions to parents regarding what activities and habits will best prepare them for academic success.

Teacher Susan Parrish told the board, "I've had parents who've said they wished they had known how important it was that they let their kids scribble or cut and paste before they got into school. They tell me all they were thinking about was the mess."

And yet, she pointed out, children never given the opportunity to cut and paste and scribble have

underdeveloped motor skills that hinder their ability to keep up when they get into school.

Powers stated, "We could ignore the fact that we have unprepared children coming in our doors. But if there is something that would help them be prepared, I think we should pursue that."

Students will also be assigned to the same teacher for two years, the Lamar staff said, in an attempt to provide additional stability in the midst of an unstable world.

"This is the kind of thing I find very exciting," said trustee Sherry McCavit. "This is something for the kids and I'm very proud of what you are doing."

Jim Duggan said he wanted to dispel rumors that the Lamar plans would hinder progress by a district ad hoc committee working on how to equalize enrollments on all six city campuses.

"They (the Lamar staff) understand that all of this hinges on what is decided," Duggan said.

Orr said he would not ask Powers and his staff to stop progress on revolutionary concepts in helping students until a decision about building utilization is reached.

"Even if Lamar is only a fifth grade campus next year, these teachers would take the ideas with them," Orr said.

Duggan added, "I want these to

be ideas that are attached to the teachers, not just to Tim Powers."

Initial suggestions by the ad hoc committee were presented to trustees with the disclaimer by Orr that "these are very, very preliminary."

The plans run the gamut and include making each campus a two-grade only school, busing all students in the PISD but outside the city limits to Lamar and dedicating one campus solely to early childhood and special programs.

Trustees are scheduled to reach a final decision on which proposal to pursue by March 1.

Duggan said he has heard rumors that the board already has a plan and all the ad hoc committee's work is for public relations purposes only.

"I can promise you that is not true," he said. "No decision has been reached. What you see (from the initial report by the ad hoc committee) is as far as we have gone."

In other business, certified public accountant Lewis Meers commended the district for correcting all deficiencies during the annual audit report.

Trustees also approved a list of student trips for the spring, two grants the district has received, modified budget amendment procedures and a policy on gifted education.

Abstinence to be taught in sex ed program

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

A group of Pampa Independent School District counselors presented a plan to school board members Tuesday night that would introduce sex education into the high school and middle school.

The curriculum, called Sex Respect, is a presentation for students and their parents that teaches the only form of safe sex is abstinence, said Jane Steele, assistant superintendent.

She said the program, which is presented by Pat Socia, a former public school teacher based in Jacksonville, Texas, counters some of the questionable information being presented by Magic Johnson, formerly of the Los Angeles Lakers, who has contracted the HIV virus which leads to AIDS.

"The kids all look up to and love Magic Johnson," Steele said, "but we're not sure the message he is sending about safe sex (through the use of condoms) is the message we want to send."

Steele continued, "Naturally, the only stance we're interested in is one of abstinence. Pat Socia's presentation is not morals-based, not from a right and wrong point of view. It's based on facts."

The counselors, who saw Socia's program as it was presented to students and parents at Panhandle High School, said it is very sound and holds students' interest.

"AIDS is no longer primarily a homosexual matter," said JoAnn Jones, high school counselor. "She points this out and her stance would certainly not be in conflict with ours. She is for abstinence and says that's the only way they can assure their safety."

Board members supported pursuit of the program, but asked that it not be a one-time thing. Instead, trustee John Curry and others asked that a continuing program of follow-up be developed to remind students of the dangers of pre-marital sex.

Curry compared the importance of abstinence-based sex education with "Just Say No" campaigns against drugs.

"Drug use has definitely dropped and ... kids I work with say, 'That's all anybody ever talks to us about and that tell us (to avoid drugs) all the time.' Obviously it has made an impact and they are listening to us," Curry said.

Board member James Frugé said he supported the program but wants plenty of parental involvement as plans for implementation are developed.

Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr told the board he would like to see ideas for sex education in the schools first taken to the Pampa Ministerial Alliance for comment before they are pursued on the campuses.



(Staff photo by Bear Mills)

Lt. Col. Jack Waters of the Salvation Army encourages Pampans to adopt a giving spirit during an address to the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce.

Salvation Army leader optimistic of response to needs of the poor

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

In spite of the fact that Pampa's Salvation Army Christmas campaign is currently \$4,000 behind last year's drive, divisional commander Lt. Col. Jack Waters is optimistic people will respond to the great need of the poor in this area.

Waters' comments came following a presentation to the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce monthly membership luncheon.

"I attribute some of this to the fact that people are having difficult financial times and there is a lot of hype about it in the media," Waters said. "That has some bearing. What we are hoping is that people will realize during difficult times is when more people come

to the Salvation Army for help." He said in Pampa and across the state there is a "substantially larger number of people coming to us for assistance."

"I was talking to your local commander, Lt. Ernest Lozano, and he is about \$4,000 down in his letter appeal and that is a big amount. The Salvation Army is in a position that we will help anyone who comes to us. We need help doing that."

Waters emphasized that "we really are our brother's keeper."

"There is no question about that and what goes around comes around," he stated. "The people who today have it to give might tomorrow be in a line somewhere needing help. We ought to give to build up our community. It also helps the person who gives inside themselves."

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A FREEDOM
NEWSPAPER

Suspect captured in sniper deaths of three law officers, sheriff's wife

By JERRY NACHTIGAL
Associated Press Writer

CALIFORNIA, Mo. (AP) — A man shot and killed a sheriff's deputy when the deputy came to investigate a family disturbance, then apparently stalked and killed two other officers and a sheriff's wife before surrendering, authorities said.

James R. Johnson, 42, a National Guard mechanic, faced a hearing today after a rampage in rural central Missouri that left residents locked in their homes in "the grip of fear."

The shootings, which took place over six hours, set off a house-by-house manhunt that ended with Johnson's surrender Tuesday evening, 24 hours after the rampage began.

Johnson, a military-trained marksman, hid for hours after the rampage in an elderly woman's home. He didn't threaten her and she even made him lunch before he let her leave the house and she alert-

ed police, said Sgt. Terry Moore, spokesman for the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

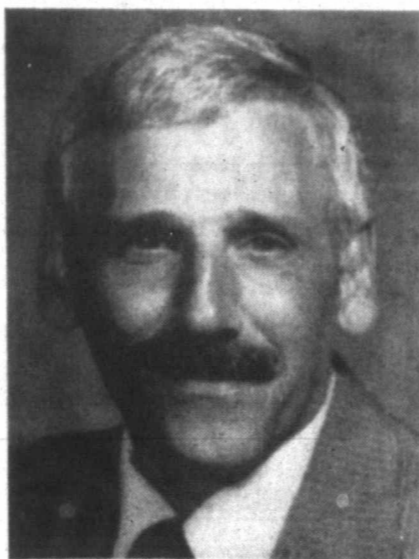
Officers surrounded the house and negotiated Johnson's surrender over the telephone. He walked out of the house and put down his guns.

Authorities wouldn't speculate on the gunman's motive, but Moore said "there's no doubt in my mind that he knew who he was after and where they were." One of the victims, the sheriff's wife, was a teacher of Johnson's stepdaughter.

Johnson, 42, was held overnight in the Cole County Jail in nearby Jefferson City and was brought to California shortly before 9 a.m. today in an orange jail jumpsuit. His hands and ankles were shackled.

Johnson sat in a Moniteau County Circuit Court room under heavy police guard waiting for the start of a hearing on a charge of first-degree murder.

The shooting spree began Monday night, when police say Johnson



James R. Johnson

killed Moniteau County Deputy Leslie Roark, 27. Roark was answering a domestic disturbance call at Johnson's home near Jamestown, about 10 miles north of this town of 3,300.

While Sheriff Kenny Jones went to help Roark, Johnson went to

him that "this Mr. Johnson became upset because my daughter and her mom were unable to attend a church service in Jamestown Sunday morning."

Then, early Tuesday, Moniteau County Deputy Russell Borts, 29, was shot at his home near the jail after he returned from investigating the death of Mrs. Jones. He was hospitalized in serious condition.

And Cooper County Sheriff Charles R. Smith, 54, and Sandra Wilson, 42, a Miller County deputy who had come to help investigate, were killed when they ran out of the jail after hearing shots. Officials said the gunman apparently had been hiding behind a storage building behind the jail.

The bodies of those two officers lay on the street for about eight hours because authorities feared that anyone going after them would be shot.

John Weed, the former husband of Johnson's wife, Gerri Johnson, said a family dispute may have triggered the violence. Weed said his stepdaughter, Dawn Becker, told

him that "this Mr. Johnson became upset because my daughter and her mom were unable to attend a church service in Jamestown Sunday morning."

He said Johnson "threatened them with a shotgun." Mrs. Johnson and Miss Becker, 17, were uninjured.

Mrs. Jones was Miss Becker's high school English teacher. A neighbor, Lloyd Grotjan, said the girl came to his home Monday night asking to use the phone, saying, "We just had trouble at home." One of the people she tried to call was a schoolteacher, he said, but he knew no details of the call.

Authorities would not comment on whether they think Mrs. Jones was killed because of her relationship with Miss Becker.

By Tuesday afternoon, about 150 officers had gone door-to-door looking for the gunman while two helicopters scoured the hills of this town about 110 miles east of Kansas City. Businesses and schools shut down for the day, the courthouse closed

and residents stayed behind locked doors.

"We're just in the grip of fear," said self-service laundry owner Jim Chaney, 80. "We've never seen a day like this."

Johnson, a helicopter mechanic with the Missouri National Guard, had earned an expert rating in pistol shooting, said Maj. Bill Ratliff, a Guard spokesman. Johnson, a Vietnam War veteran, joined the guard in 1977 and became a full-time employee about five years later, friends said.

After Miller and Wilson were killed Tuesday, Johnson's car was found at the home of county detective Sonny Connell. A shotgun was in the car.

"The logical assumption was that he drove up there to shoot at me and my family," Connell said.

Eva Mayberry, clerk at Casey's General Store, said it was good thing Johnson was not jailed here.

"He wouldn't be safe in this jail," she said. "Folks would kill him."

Former WTSU president indicted for misusing funds

CANYON (AP) — Three former West Texas State University administrators routinely used funds intended for student scholarships and other endowments to cover shortfalls in the school budget, a grand jury report says.

Former West Texas State President Ed Roach, former Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services Clarence Thompson and University Controller Gary Barnes were indicted Tuesday in state district court on a charge of misapplication of fiduciary property over \$10,000. The charge dates back to 1986.

The grand jury also criticized school leaders for mismanaging funds donated by Dallas businessman T. Boone Pickens, who served as West Texas State's board chairman in the late 1980s.

Roach and Barnes did not return repeated phone calls to their offices Tuesday by The Associated Press. Thompson could not be reached for comment.

Gary Byrd, who served as West Texas State's faculty senate president at the end of Roach's tenure, criticized Roach.

Byrd recalled Tuesday a vote of "no-confidence" in Roach by more than 80 percent of the school's faculty in 1986.

"The indictments simply confirm what we have known since 1986," Byrd said. "The faculty knew there were problems and knew there were some changes being made that didn't fit."

The indictments reopen a chapter in the school's history plagued by allegations of financial mismanagement, including a state audit's revelation in October 1990 that the school might have used state funds to cover up shortfalls in the athletic program.

The school was forced to disband its football program this year due to lack of finances.

"Using money intended for other purposes to cover shortfalls in the athletic program was probably the biggest problem," said Randall County Criminal District Attorney Randy Sherrod. "There were other deficits they attempted to use these funds to cover too."

Lynda Tinsley, director of West Texas State's financial aid office, and students who might have received scholarship funds are listed in the indictments as the persons harmed by the men's suspected criminal activity.

Mrs. Tinsley, whose phone number in Canyon is unlisted, could not immediately be reached for comment.

Sherrod said the offenses are second-degree felonies, punishable by two to 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

"We are not worried about a high bond because we don't feel these men will run to avoid prosecution," Sherrod said.

Sherrod said the grand jury's investigation showed a history of fiscal mismanagement at the

school under Roach's leadership.

"Beginning in 1986, the practice by those indicted of using restricted funds held in trust to finance the day to day operation of the university became commonplace," the grand jury said in a six-page report.

Roach stepped down as West Texas State president after 6 1/2 years on Dec. 31, 1990 to become associate deputy chancellor for academic program planning with the Texas A&M University System in College Station.

West Texas State joined the A&M System Sept. 1, 1990.

"I want to emphasize that action has already been taken to implement appropriate control and oversight to ensure that all funds are adequately protected and accounted for," Ed Davis, executive deputy chancellor of the A&M System, said Tuesday in a prepared statement.

"The state auditor (Lawrence Alwin) completed an audit this past summer, and we received high marks for having fully restored fiscal controls at WTSU," Davis said.

A state audit released in April said apparent mismanagement while Roach was president cost West Texas State the chance to increase a \$1.5 million endowment from Pickens and his company, Mesa Limited Partnership, by \$2.5 million because university officials failed to raise matching funds.

DPS offers driving tips for safe holiday travel

There is probably no other holiday that gets people in a more festive spirit than Christmas. With all the gift shopping, holiday music and the excitement of having the family all together, it's no wonder this is a favorite holiday among Americans.

But, for some Texas families, this will be a special holiday, one to be remembered forever. Not because it was such a good time, but because they have lost a friend or loved one in a traffic accident.

Maj. V.J. Cawthon, regional commander of the Texas Department of Public Safety, stated, "Last year 27 people lost their lives on Texas streets and highways during the Christmas holidays."

This year with the holiday period falling during the middle of the week, most Texans will

have three days off during the holiday. "So, the potential is going to be less than last year, but we have to be just as careful as ever," he said.

"Historically, speed and the drinking driver have been responsible for most of these holiday fatalities," Cawthon added.

Each year approximately 20,000 people die in this nation because of speeding, and that many or more will be directly or indirectly related to alcohol. Once again, extra Department of Public Safety Troopers will be on the roads watching specifically for these and other traffic violations to keep the roads a safer place for you and your family.

"Please don't become one of this year's highway death statistics," Cawthon said. "Slow down, don't drink and drive, and make sure everyone is buckled up."

Check survey shows Christmas sales healthy in Texas

HOUSTON (AP) — The next few weeks will be busy ones for Texas retailers facing a compressed Christmas shopping season, according to a survey of spending patterns by a Houston-based check payment servicing company.

Retailers canvassed by TeleCheck show the shopping season is healthy, with sales volume in Texas up about 1.9 percent from a year ago for purchases made from Nov. 15 through Dec. 7. The same 1990 period was up 4 percent from 1989.

"Our data is showing most people have waited until after Thanksgiving to buy," Ken Wait, vice chairman of TeleCheck, said. "From this, it looks like we're going to have a compressed shopping season. I foresee these next couple of weeks as pretty busy."

The average check written is for \$110.30, down 1.6 percent from a year ago, but check usage is up 3.5 percent, Wait said.

TeleCheck found Houston sales up 3 percent from a year ago and San Antonio and Austin up 2.6 percent. Dallas-Fort Worth was down 0.2 percent.

In Houston, the company surveys 1,600 retailers who deal in items traditionally given as Christmas gifts.

"We think it makes a pretty good cross-section to give us an economic indicator," Wait said. "I think Texas looks pretty sharp. I'm a little concerned about Dallas-Fort Worth. Houston probably will end up ahead 5.5 percent by the end of Christmas Eve."

Meanwhile, the weekly survey by Texas A&M and the Arthur Andersen accounting firm of large

retailers found sales last week below forecast in Houston, about even in Dallas and slightly above expectations in San Antonio.

Larry Gresham, marketing specialist at Texas A&M University's Center for Retailing Studies, said about one-third of Texas retailers are enjoying sales in the second week of the holiday buying season higher than a year ago.

"My guess is that the warmer weather had something to do with it," he said. "Also, people who were going to shop early got out

during the Thanksgiving week, and that got us off to a good start."

Cold, sometimes rainy weather helped lure consumers to stores during the weekend after Thanksgiving. The 300 stores in the survey reported sales of all products were above forecasts in the three cities that weekend.

Analysts have forecast a rough season for retailers because of the recession and sagging consumer confidence. But they said merchants had adjusted inventories and were expected to profit from the holidays.

Happy 40th Birthday! Kip!

We invite all his friends to come by the Exxon on Thursday to eat cake with us.

Love, Tanna & Billy

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Viewpoints



The Pampa News

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS
TO BE AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

Let Peace Begin With Me

This newspaper is dedicated to furnishing information to our readers so that they can better promote and preserve their own freedom and encourage others to see its blessings. Only when man understands freedom and is free to control himself and all he possesses can he develop to his utmost capabilities.

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

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

Louise Fletcher
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Under the loaded guns of Congress

As it rushed to get out of town before Thanksgiving, Congress was busy trying to figure out ways to carve up taxpayers and the Bill of Rights like two fat turkeys.

Consider three of the major proposals on the table. One proposal, passed by the Senate, would give the former Soviet Union \$500 million of taxpayers' money to dismantle the Red Army's nuclear weapons. This might seem reasonable. The money would be shifted from Pentagon spending; what could be a better defense than dismantling the Soviets' potent offense? But past arms control agreements already require the Soviets to dismantle their nukes.

Moreover, the Soviets easily could get the money needed — and more — by pulling out and demobilizing Red Army troops still occupying the now-independent Baltic republics. And U.S. aid would only postpone the day the crumbling Kremlin reckons with economic reality. Unfortunately, President Bush has approved another \$1 billion in U.S. taxpayer-backed credits — unlikely ever to be repaid — supposedly to help the Soviet economy. Don't our president and congressmen realize that U.S. taxpayers are suffering, too? And that foreign aid, of whatever sort, tends to perpetuate socialism?

The highway bill comes in two versions. The House version would cost an incredible \$151 billion, nearly \$30 billion above the Senate version (that extra amount is pure pork). The House version also would waste \$32 billion on such mass transit programs as the inefficient, perpetually subsidized People Mover in Detroit and the Metro in Washington, D.C. Some House members are still pushing for a 2 1/2-cent gas-tax increase, which would amount to a \$17 billion body-blow to the economy just when recovery is stalled.

Finally, Congress might adopt a crime bill that would impose a five-day waiting period for gun purchases. This is essentially the infamous Brady gun control bill. President Bush once opposed it. Then he flip-flopped, and now says he would support the Brady waiting period as part of a tough crime bill. Yet the waiting period would violate the Second Amendment guarantee that "the people's right to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." If someone is threatened by a criminal, to defend his family he needs to exercise his "right to keep and bear arms" now, not five days from now. The gun-control proposal is a special affront in this year of the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

President Bush opposes the congressional bill not because of the gun-control portion, but because the bill's current version excludes early provisions that would limit death sentence appeals. The president said the bill "would weaken our criminal justice system." In fact, the bill should be vetoed just to deep-six the unconstitutional gun-control provision.

Through it all we can at least be thankful for something. All these bills will push forward the movement to limit congressional terms.

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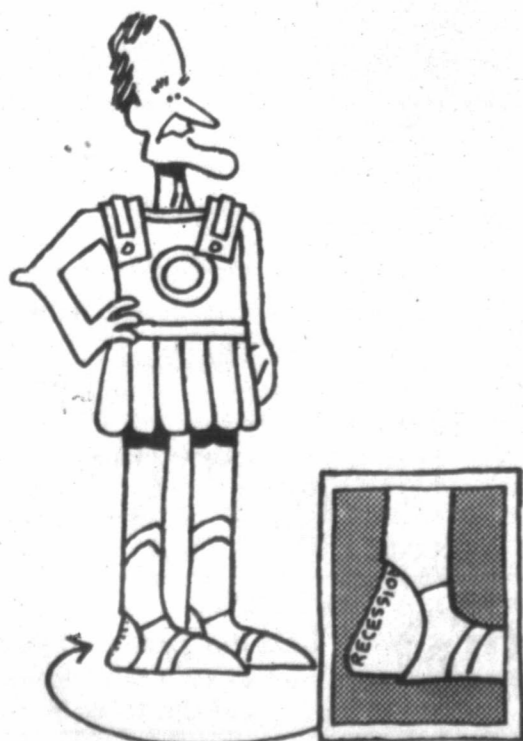
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ACHILLES' HEEL

They're suing for a better life

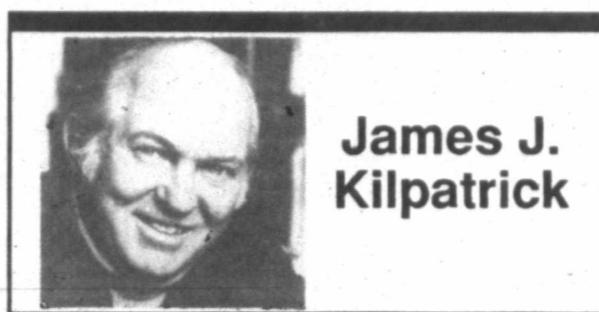
WASHINGTON — A little relief may be on the way for victims of Alzheimer's disease. A dozen victims of this dreaded affliction have filed suit in U.S. District Court. The plaintiffs represent 4 million others who will die by inches over the next few years.

The object of the suit is to compel the federal Food and Drug Administration to make available an experimental drug known as THA. For reasons that seem to me indefensible, the FDA is stonewalling every effort to release the drug. Dr. David Kessler, the commissioner, professes compassion for the victims, but he professes compassion with a heart of stone.

I have certain serious reservations about the lawsuit as such, but let me get to these reservations in a moment. The important thing is to put the identical pressure on the FDA that the AIDS lobby has put on the FDA. It worked for AIDS; it should work for Alzheimer's also.

This is a devastating disease. It is like AIDS in some ways. No one knows what causes Alzheimer's; no one knows how to cure it. The disease strikes slowly. The victim at first is unable to recall daily events. Then memory fails as to earlier events. Reasoning wavers. Judgment falters. In many cases the patient become bedridden, unable to care for themselves. The brain rots, and within six to 12 years they die.

In November 1986, a California psychiatrist, Dr. William K. Summers, published a paper in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine*. He described the results of treating 17 Alzheimer's patients with THA in combination with lecithin, a nutritional supplement that appears naturally in soybeans and other foods. Sixteen of the 17 showed improvement on one series of tests; 10 of the 17



James J. Kilpatrick

showed "dramatic improvement" on another series. Dr. Summers made no extravagant claims. He set forth his findings and concluded with this paragraph:

"Prudence in judging these results is advised. THA is no more a cure for Alzheimer's disease than levodopa is a cure for Parkinson's disease. Just as levodopa ceases to have effects in patients in the final stages of Parkinson's disease, we anticipate that oral THA will cease to have effects as Alzheimer's disease progresses. Indeed, two of our subjects have had some deterioration despite maintenance therapy with oral THA, one after 17 months and the other after seven months of therapy. However, THA is a potential palliative treatment."

The dismaying facts, set forth at length in the plaintiffs' motion, are that instead of encouraging Dr. Summers to get on with his research, the FDA "took concrete steps to discredit his work and to severely limit his future research."

The FDA leaked adverse reports on Summers' procedures to the press. Then the FDA and the National Institute on Aging entered independently into an agreement with Warner-Lambert to conduct large-scale tests. The plaintiffs contend that these

tests were "fatally flawed" from the beginning: The test protocols left out the supplementary lecithin.

Nevertheless, the Warner-Lambert studies continued until July 1990, when results were given to the FDA for review. Meanwhile, similar research was continuing in England, Canada and Sweden. The conclusions everywhere were encouraging. Roughly 40 percent of the patients appeared to improve. Some patients undergoing experimental treatment suffered liver damage, but this was small and easily reversible.

To shorten a long and sad story, this evidence was not enough to satisfy Dr. Kessler. THA, known professionally as Tacrine or Cognex, still is unavailable. Victims of Alzheimer's still are denied an opportunity to learn if THA will benefit them.

My reservations: The prospect of having federal judges second-guess the FDA leaves me uneasy. Over the past 30 or 40 years we have seen judges transform themselves into school superintendents and prison wardens. Their performance has not been impressive. Judges were not meant to be doctors.

The lawsuit is based in part on the Ninth Amendment, which says vaguely that the enumeration of certain rights in the Constitution "shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." I would regret to see judges left free to romp around in the unbounded pasture of "unenumerated rights."

Even so, this lawsuit could be a great test not only for THA but also for a towering principle of individual freedom. If we are not free to treat ourselves, after full warning has been given, the ideal of freedom is gravely tarnished. I hope the plaintiffs prevail, for the Alzheimer's victims and for everyone else.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 11, the 345th day of 1991. There are 20 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Fifty years ago, on Dec. 11, 1941, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States; the United States responded in kind.

On this date:

In 1719, the first recorded sighting of the Aurora Borealis took place in New England.

In 1792, France's King Louis XVI went on trial, accused of treason. (Convicted and condemned, Louis was sent to the guillotine the following January.)

In 1816, Indiana became the 19th state of the union.

In 1872, America's first black governor took office as Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback became acting governor of Louisiana.

In 1882, Boston's Bijou Theatre, the first American playhouse to be lighted exclusively by electricity, gave its first performance, of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*.



Las Vegas — not just gambling

Las Vegas, Nev., is two places. It is a gaudy, neon-lighted "strip," a thoroughfare of 67 resort casinos.

And it is a sprawling desert oasis of nice homes and low taxes and 443 churches.

No city has more adequate facilities or conveniences, so speaking engagements take me to Las Vegas several times each year.

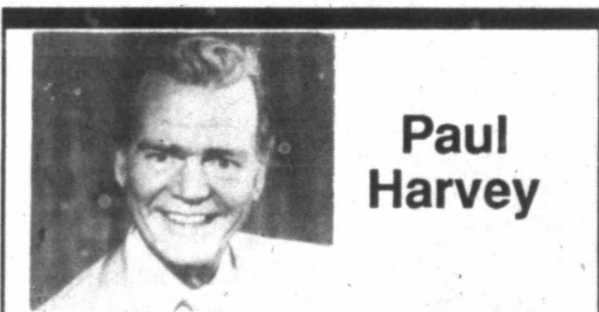
I have watched its progress with awe and admiration.

The Las Vegas which 20 years ago tried to hide any gourmet food, dancing, TV — or any other distraction which might take you away from the game tables — now offers a superb variety of entertainment.

And food: The Hilton Hotel alone has 14 restaurants!

Circus-Circus was first to make low-rollers welcome with its family entertainment and family room rates and an enviable-anywhere occupancy rate of 97 percent.

Now four enormous new hotel-casinos are going up: an MGM Theme Park Resort, Caesar's World entertainment-oriented shopping complex, another Treasure Island and the most recently announced Pyramid.



Paul Harvey

When Atlantic City threw itself open for gambling on the East Coast, many assumed that Las Vegas would atrophy. Las Vegas has thrived.

When more and more American Indian reservations began to legalize gambling and when state after state legitimized riverboat gambling, it was believed that these facilities would divert Vegas traffic and cannibalize Vegas revenues.

On the contrary, among Americans introduced to gambling on the \$200-limit riverboat cruises, there is a vastly increased appetite for the class-act, major-league gambling that Nevada has to offer.

What's not yet recognized by Deadwood, S.D., and all those riverboat promoters is that Las Vegas has become so much more than gambling.

Example: The Excalibur is decorated in medieval splendor. One feature is an enormous arena where the tales of King Arthur are re-enacted twice a night.

Families — and it's a show for which no child is too young — sit around the terraced perimeter of the arena and watch as King Arthur presides over jousting matches in which costumed stuntmen on splendid horses joust more realistically than could have been imagined in the days before the movies taught us special effects.

The audience becomes increasingly involved, booing the black knight, cheering for Sir Lancelot — who finally wins the hand of the beautiful princess.

And now — the next big attraction: a soaring pyramid of 2,500 rooms with all manner of exotic participatory adventures — a simulated spaceship will lift you to the second level of the 30-story atrium.

And so fat is Circus-Circus that this newest fantasy environment will be built without borrowing. And...

With an increased nationwide acceptance of legalized gambling, Nevada's casinos are more than ever respectable!

Is GOP obsessing on the economy?

By WILLIAM A. RUSHER

Listening to television interviews with prominent Republicans recently, I have detected an almost obsessive concern with one particular aspect of next year's presidential campaign.

The first person I heard voicing this particular concern was Ed Rollins, a former White House political adviser and guru for Republican congressional campaigns who now makes his living as a political consultant. Drawing on his supposedly vast experience, Rollins told a TV interviewer that the whole secret of winning a presidential campaign was "the economy, the economy, the economy."

But Rollins has been wrong before, and I didn't become seriously worried until I heard White House Chief of Staff John Sununu tell another interviewer that the three most important factors in any presidential campaign were (ticking them off on his fingers) "the economy, the economy, and the economy."

Now, both Rollins and Sununu are

right — up to a point. A robust economy, or at least the public's perception that the economy is improving rapidly, is almost essential to any president's campaign for re-election. The American people think, rightly or wrongly, that the president is in charge of the economy and capable of doing something about it.

If that's all Sununu and Rollins were saying, I have no quarrel with their point. But a healthy economy is, for a Republican president at least, only the beginning: the indispensable precondition of a winning campaign. It is not — certainly not necessary — enough by itself. That is because the Democrats, whose whole stock in trade consists of offering to do more for the voters than the Republicans will do (or have done), will invariably outbid the GOP when it comes to proposals for spending the ripe fruits of a husky economy.

There is nothing the Republicans can propose in (for example) the matter of health care that the Democrats won't instantly, and however irrespon-

sibly, double. The same goes for every other category of government "services": unemployment benefits, child care, help for the handicapped, protection of the environment — you name it.

That is why a Republican candidate for president must seek to turn the public's mind away from purely economic considerations to the whole series of social concerns that impelled roughly 20 percent of the American electorate to leave the old Roosevelt coalition in the mid-1960s and start voting conservative (usually meaning Republican) in presidential elections. Without the support of this key bloc, the Republican Party will swiftly shrink again to the roughly 40 percent of the electorate that it hung onto straight through the New Deal.

One man who understood this very well, and never made the mistake of running a presidential campaign on "the economy, the economy, the economy" alone, was the late Lee Atwater.

Atwater is one of three conservatives — the others being J. Edgar Hoover and Bill Casey — whom the

liberals, brave souls that they are, enjoy beating up on posthumously. They detest Atwater because he brought Bush's 1988 campaign from 18 points behind in the polls to a stunning victory by demonstrating — with the help of Dukakis' furlough policy, ACLU card and disdain for the Pledge of Allegiance — that the Democratic candidate was a liberal right down to his fingernails. When the voters realized that, the contest was over.

Americans are rightly concerned about the economy first and foremost. But once they are satisfied on that score, they can and do turn to the whole series of problems summed up in their much-misunderstood response to pollsters that "the country has gotten off on the wrong track." They believe deeply (to take only one example, but the paradigmatic one) that self-discipline is more important than free condoms and needles, and they will vote for the presidential candidate who believes it too. If the GOP forgets that in 1992, it will deserve defeat.

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(AP Laserphoto)

Yosef Ben-Aharon, center, deputy chairman of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office, meets with reporters outside the State Department in Washington on Tuesday to discuss his delegation's meeting with Syrian representatives in the second round of Mideast peace talks.

Mideast peace talks in second day

By RUTH SINAI
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israeli and Palestinian negotiators are taking another stab at settling a niggling procedural dispute that threatens to trip up already unsteady Mideast peace talks.

The first day of talks Tuesday brought Israel and Syria, two of the region's most implacable enemies, to a State Department negotiating table for more than three hours. Each side accused the other afterward of intransigence, but both agreed to keep talking today.

Israeli and Lebanese delegates held two negotiating sessions Tuesday and planned to meet again today. Israel proposed that Lebanon sign a peace treaty; Lebanon asked that Israel pull its troops out of a buffer zone against terrorist infiltrations.

Israel promised it would — if Syria removes its 40,000 troops from Lebanon and arrangements are made to guarantee the security of Israel's northern border.

But ironically, it was the negotiations where most progress had been predicted that proved most unyielding.

After meeting for more than five hours, the heads of the Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian delegations failed to break an impasse over a Palestinian demand to negotiate with

Israel in a separate room from the Jordanians.

Israel insists on negotiating jointly with Palestinians and Jordanians, who form one delegation, although Israel is willing to break up the talks into subcommittees. The Palestinians say they are a people, not a subcommittee, and they insist on separate talks.

Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubinstein said at day's end that differences remain, but "I think we narrowed the gap. ... I believe the gap is bridgeable."

"They think if we are asking for a separate room we are asking for a separate state," said Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman.

On that, at least, Israel agreed. The Palestinians, said Israeli spokesman Benjamin Netanyahu, are trying "through procedure to force independent statehood." Israel objects to an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which it captured in the 1967 Mideast war.

The United States rejected an appeal from the Palestinians to intervene. But a U.S. official expressed concern that unless the impasse was broken, the dispute could hamper progress on other fronts.

Jordan's spokesman, Marwan Muasher, said that if the sides are unable to resolve the dispute, the other Arab delegations would meet to decide how to proceed.

For the time being, the three delegation leaders confined their discussions to a pale-blue sofa in a State Department hallway, with Rubinstein in the middle. "Corridor diplomacy," was how Ashrawi described it.

At the Palestinians' hotel, several officials closely affiliated with the Palestine Liberation Organization were reporting blow-by-blow to the organization's headquarters in Tunis.

Israel has refused to include the PLO in the talks, calling it a terrorist organization.

The delegates all live under Israeli occupation and stand to gain from progress in the talks, which are designed to lead to self-rule for 1.7 million Palestinians in all aspects of their daily lives.

Substance was discussed, however, with Syria, although neither side budged from its known positions: Syria insisting on a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, captured in 1967; Israel insisting on a Syrian commitment to sign a peace treaty.

Chief Syrian negotiator Muwafak Allaf said the Israelis had tried "to talk about everything except for withdrawal from territories, rejecting the possibility of land for peace."

But Netanyahu said "you don't solve nearly half a century of conflict with two hours of negotiations."

Social Security explains SSI qualifications

Elderly people, people with disabilities and those who are blind who have limited income should know that they may still qualify for monthly benefits under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program even if their assets are over the SSI limits, if they agree to sell those assets within a specified time.

The rule permits some people to qualify immediately for much needed help from SSI, according to the Social Security Administration.

Under the SSI rules, single persons may have assets valued up to \$2,000 and a couple up to \$3,000 without affecting their SSI payment.

And some assets are excluded in figuring SSI eligibility. These may include a home and adjacent land; personal effects and household goods, with a total equity value of \$2,000 or less; a car; life insurance policies with a face value totaling \$1,500 or less per person; property used in a trade or business; burial plots or spaces regardless of value, if intended for use by a person or his or her immediate family; or burial funds set aside for individual and his or her spouse, up to \$1,500 each.

The applicant must agree to sell the assets that exceed the limits

above within a specified time (nine months for real property, three months for personal property). SSI payments received pending the sale of the assets have to be repaid out of the proceeds of the sale.

Another rule excludes any real property that cannot be sold because it is jointly owned and its sale would cause the other owners undue hardship due to the loss of housing; or its sale is barred for legal reasons; or

the owner's reasonable efforts to sell have been unsuccessful.

People who need SSI should check with any Social Security office to find out if they qualify. The Toll-Free telephone number is 1-800-772-1213.

The local Social Security office is located at 125 S. Gillespie. Office hours are 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except on national holidays.

Closing arguments due in rape trial

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — In graphic testimony setting up closing arguments today, William Kennedy Smith said the woman who accused him of rape was an aggressive, if disoriented, sexual partner.

Smith said that after having sex with the woman, he told his cousin Patrick Kennedy: "This woman's a real nut."

In 4 1/2 hours on the stand Tuesday, Smith gave a calm, step-by-step account that contradicted the woman's tearful testimony last week.

As the testimony phase of the trial moved into its final stages, prosecutor Moira Lasch today called a meteorologist, a court administrator and a telephone company employee in her effort to rebut portions of Smith's defense before the case headed to closing arguments.

The telephone company employee, James Perhach, identified records of Smith's calls from his home in Washington to the Kennedy estate in early April; the meteorologist talked about wet weather before the Kennedy defense did tests on the Kennedy estate lawn last summer.

Mrs. Lasch said she planned other rebuttal witnesses — who may discuss only new points raised by the defense after the state concluded its case — after calling six Tuesday.

Smith attorney Roy Black didn't indicate whether he planned any rebuttal witnesses before closing arguments, and Circuit Judge Mary Lupo on Tuesday told jurors they could get the case by the end of the day.

The rebuttal witnesses presented Tuesday included the accuser's mother, who testified she had gone to Saks Fifth Avenue to buy for her daughter the blue-and-black bra and black panties that jurors were shown earlier in the trial.

Smith painted his accuser as a sexually voracious

woman who enticed him into sex twice within a half hour outside his family's oceanfront mansion, then accused him of rape. His version prompted sharp, sarcastic questions from Lasch.

"What are you saying, that she raped you, Mr. Smith?" she snapped.

"Absolutely not!" Smith said.

The 30-year-old woman, who lives in Jupiter, testified for nearly 10 hours last week. She said Smith tackled her on the lawn, pinned her down, ignored her protests and brutally raped her.

Smith, the 31-year-old nephew of U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said that when he and woman returned to the Kennedy estate after meeting at a bar, the woman said "strange" things such as "I've been here before," asked to see his identification and called him Michael.

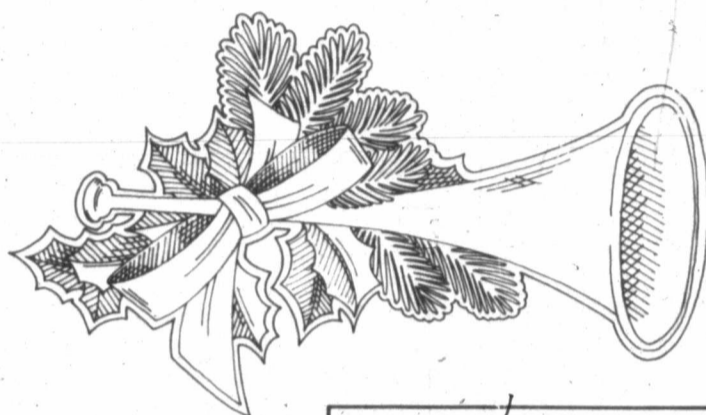
"I thought she was confused and disoriented," Smith said.

Smith said he and the woman went to the beach and kissed briefly before the woman removed her under-pants, undid his pants, rolled over on top of him and fondled him until he ejaculated.

Smith said he then took a short swim. When he got out of the water, Smith said, the woman was on the lawn, where they had sex again. He said the woman "sort of snapped" when he called her the name of a former girlfriend.

"She told me to get the hell off of her and she hit me with her hand," Smith said. Later, he said, she accused him of rape and told him she'd called the police.

Lasch challenged Smith's version as ludicrous and sarcastically asked if his "animal magnetism" spurred the woman.



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Food

Cookie recipe yields enough variations for 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'

This holiday season, bake up enough variety to give your "true love" a different cookie or sweet for each of the twelve days of Christmas. Even if your December is a storm of activity and you're pressed for time, you can create a delicious variety of cookies and bars using two simple dough recipes.

Take an all-time favorite and add a new twist with "Holiday Chocolate Butter Cookies." Shape into logs and dip the ends in melted chocolate and nuts, or make thumbprint cookies filled with fruit preserves, cherries, nuts, milk chocolate candy or flakes coconut.

Create "no trouble" truffles by rolling dough into balls, baking, then coating in cocoa powder. Or roll them in powdered sugar to make snowballs.

Build some cookies from the crust up, with "Create Your Own Bars." This recipe combines convenience and flavor to make four different cookies. To the melt-in-your-mouth buttery crust with a lemon mixture and powdered sugar for a light-fresh-tasting dessert. Or, create mini cheesecakes topped with chocolate chips for an irresistible under-the-tree treat. "Pecan Bars" make finger food of a favorite pie and "Cherry Coconut Squares" bring a cheering spark of color and fruit flavor to the assortment.

HOLIDAY CHOCOLATE BUTTER COOKIES

Cookies 1/2 c. sugar
3/4 c. butter, softened
1 egg yolk
1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1/4 c. unsweetened cocoa
Suggested Coatings: Semi-sweet real chocolate chips, melted.
Vanilla-flavored candy coating,

melted.
Suggested Toppings: Finely chopped almonds, pecans or walnuts

Candy coated milk chocolate pieces

Flaked coconut
Colored sugars
Multi-colored decorator candies
Maraschino cherries

Heat oven to 375. In large mixer bowl combine all cookie ingredients except flour and cocoa. Beat at med. speed, scraping bowl often, until mixture is light and fluffy (2 to 3 min.). Continue beating, gradually adding flour and cocoa, until well mixed (2 to 3 min.). Shape dough according to choice of variation directions. Bake for 7 to 9 min. or until set. YIELD: 3 doz.

VARIATIONS

Nut Rolls

Shape dough into 2 to 3" logs. Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Bake as directed above. Cool completely. Dip both ends of each cookie in melted chocolate chips, then in finely chopped nuts.

Fruit Filled

Shape dough into 1" balls. Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Make a depression in center of each cookie with back of teaspoon. Bake as directed above. Fill centers with fruit preserves.

Sugar-Topped

Shape dough into 1" balls. Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Flatten cookies to 1/4" thickness with bottom of buttered glass dipped in sugar. Bake as directed above.

Decorated

Shape rounded teaspoonfuls of dough into desired forms (logs, balls, flattened, etc.). Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Bake as directed above. Cool completely. Drizzle cookies with melted chocolate chips

or melted vanilla coating. Decorate with finely chopped nuts, coconut, colored sugars or multi-colored decorator candies.

Surprise-Filled

Shape dough into 1" balls. Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Make a depression in center of each cookie with back of teaspoon. Bake as directed above. Cool completely. Place one of the following ingredients in center of each cookie: nut, candy coated milk chocolate piece, maraschino cherry half or 1/2 tsp. flaked coconut. Spoon melted chocolate chips over filled center. Let stand to harden chocolate.

Snowballs

Shape dough into 1" balls. Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Bake as directed above. Cool completely. Add food coloring and favorite flavor extracts to melted vanilla coating. Dip top of each cookie in melted coating.

Funny Faces

Shape dough into 1" balls. Place 1" apart on cookie sheets. Flatten cookies to 1/4" thickness with bottom of buttered glass dipped in sugar. Bake as directed above. Cool completely. Use melted chocolate chips or vanilla coating to attach chocolate chips, candy coated milk chocolate pieces, coconut, colored sugars, multi-colored decorator candies, etc., making faces on cookies.

The more the merrier this holiday season with four variations for topping one butter crust.

CREATE-YOUR-OWN BARS

Crust 1 1/3 c. all-purpose flour
1/4 c. sugar
1/2 c. sweet cream butter, softened
Filling Choice of variation

Heat oven to 350. In small mixer bowl combine all crust ingredients. Beat at low speed, scraping bowl often, until mixture is crumbly (2 to 3 min.). Press on bottom of 9" sq. baking pan. Bake for 15 to 20 min. or until edges are lightly browned. Follow directions for variation of choice for filling. YIELD: 16 bars.

VARIATIONS

Lemon

In small mixer bowl combine 3/4 c. sugar, 2 eggs, 2 tbsp. all-purpose flour, 1/4 tsp. baking powder and 3 tbsp. lemon juice. Beat at low speed, scraping bowl often, until well mixed. Pour filling over hot crust. Continue baking for 18 to 20 min. or until filling is set. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Cool; cut into bars.

Cheesecake

In small mixer bowl combine 1/4 c. sugar, 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened, 1 egg and 1 tbsp. lemon juice. Beat at med. speed, scraping bowl often, until well mixed. By hand, stir in 1/2 c. miniature semi-sweet chocolate chips. Spread filling over hot crust. Continue baking for 18 to 20 min. or until set. Cool; cut into bars. Cover; store refrigerated.

Pecan

In small mixer bowl combine 1/2 c. sugar, 3/4 c. dark corn syrup, 2 eggs, 2 tbsp. all-purpose flour and 1/2 tsp. vanilla. Beat at med. speed, scraping bowl often, until well mixed. By hand, stir in 1 c. chopped pecans. Pour filling over hot crust. Continue baking for 30 to 35 min. or until set. Cool; cut into bars.

Cherry Coconut

In small mixer bowl combine 3/4 c. flaked coconut, 1/2 c. firmly packed brown sugar, 2 eggs, 1/4 tsp. salt and 1/2 tsp. almond



(photo courtesy Land O'Lakes)

These cookies came from the same Chocolate Butter Cookie recipe. The bar cookies, bottom, left, were made from the Create-Your-Own bar recipe.

extract. Beat at med. speed, scraping bowl often, until well mixed. By hand, stir in 1/2 c. sliced almonds and 1/2 c. chopped maraschino cherries, well drained. Spread over hot crust. Continue

baking for 25 to 30 min. or until set. In medium bowl stir together 1 c. powdered sugar, 2 tbsp. water and 1/2 tsp. almond extract. Drizzle over hot bars. Cool; cut into bars.

The inexperienced chef can offer tasty treats from the kitchen, too

By The Associated Press

Delicious holiday gifts from the kitchen don't need not to take a lot of time — or experience.

Crispy spiced walnuts are easy to make. You can vary the seasonings for Cajun-Spiced, Indian-Spiced or Mexican Chili Walnuts. Christmas Spirits, made with

creme sandwich cookies and rolled into 1-inch balls, require no cooking at all! And orange-candied walnuts, made with a thin orange candy coating, add a festive appeal.

Presented in festive tins and baskets, or packaged in decorative glass jars, these recipes make tasty, easy-to-prepare and inexpensive gifts for the holidays.

Cajun-Spiced Walnuts

2 egg whites, slightly beaten
2 teaspoons ground cayenne pepper
2 teaspoons mixed dried herbs
1 tablespoon garlic salt
2 teaspoons paprika
4 cups (1 pound) walnut halves and pieces
Coat a large, shallow, baking pan with non-stick vegetable spray. Mix egg whites with spices. Stir in

walnuts; coat thoroughly. Spread in prepared pan. Bake in a 350-degree F oven 15 to 18 minutes, or until dry and crisp. Cool completely. Makes 4 cups.

Microwave: Prepare ingredients as above. Spread walnuts in a microwave-safe dish. Cook on high (100 percent power) in four or five batches, 2 to 3 minutes for each batch, until dry and crisp. Cool completely.

Note: Prepare at least one day in advance. Flavors intensify overnight. Store in a sealed container.

Mexican Chili Walnuts

2 egg whites, slightly beaten
1 1/2 teaspoons ground cayenne pepper
1 tablespoon chili powder
2 teaspoons ground cumin
2 teaspoons salt

4 cups (1 pound) walnut halves and pieces

Coat a large, shallow, baking pan with non-stick vegetable spray. Mix egg whites with spices. Stir in walnuts; coat thoroughly. Spread in prepared pan. Bake in a 350-degree F oven 15 to 18 minutes, until dry and crisp. Cool completely. Makes 4 cups.

Microwave: Prepare ingredients as above. Spread walnuts in a microwave-safe dish. Cook on high (100 percent power) in four or five batches, 2 to 3 minutes for each batch, until dry and crisp. Cool completely.

Note: Best if made at least one day in advance. Flavors intensify overnight. Store in a sealed container.

Christmas Spirits

32 chocolate creme sandwich cookies
3/4 cup powdered sugar

1 1/4 cups toasted walnuts
2 tablespoons instant coffee powder
2 tablespoons light corn syrup
1-3rd cup brandy, coffee liqueur, or rum

Break up cookies and crush into fine crumbs in food processor fitted with a stainless steel blade (about 2 cups crumbs). Add 1/2 cup of the powdered sugar, the 1 1/4 cups toasted walnuts and 1 1/2 tablespoons of the coffee powder. Process thoroughly. Add corn syrup and gradually mix in brandy, liqueur, or rum to form a thick paste. Form into 1-inch balls.

In a small bowl, mix the remaining 1/2 cup powdered sugar and the remaining 1/2 tablespoon coffee powder. Roll balls in sugar mixture to coat. Cookies may be stored, loosely packed between sheets of waxed paper or aluminum foil, in an airtight container for up to two weeks. Makes forty-eight 1-inch balls.



(AP photo)

Gifts from your kitchen - Indian spiced walnuts, Cajun spiced walnuts and Christmas spirits are edible treats for the holidays.

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Lifestyles

Scholarship awarded



(Staff photo by Larry Hollis)
American Business Women's Association, Pampa Charter Chapter members Estelle Malone, left, education chairman, and Louise Hill, right, president, present Dian Burnett with a grant from the Stephen Bufton Memorial Scholarship Fund for the 1991-1992 school year. Burnett, daughter of O.W. and Eudell Burnett, is currently a graduate student at West Texas State University in Canyon, where she is working on a master's degree in English.

'Red Stocking Revue' began Beta Sigma Phi tradition of scholarship support

Beginning in 1964 with the "Red Stocking Revue" and continuing through the present with a New Year's Eve scholarship dance, Beta Sigma Phi has funded a yearly scholarship award for a Pampa student.

According to member Debbie Hogan, in the early 1960's the membership began to look for a permanent annual project. Some sorority members who worked as teachers suggested that a scholarship might be a worthy idea, because there were deserving students unable to afford the cost of a college education. The membership voted to adopt an annual scholarship.

That led to the "Red Stocking Revue" as a method fund raising. The revue was a musical production using members and other area residents in acting, singing and dancing roles. Cargill Productions, New York City, provided a director, costumes and music. For three weeks preceding the show, the director and cast practiced day and night for the show, which was held in the auditorium of Pampa High School. Mem-

bers sold advertising in the evening's program and sponsored "penny a vote" contests among area men and women. The revue was an annual event through 1969.

The first scholarship, which was given in 1964, was for \$1000 awarded to Anne Christie.

The New Year's Eve dance began in 1970. In 1990, the group sponsored an August style show to augment the scholarship funds.

Scholarship applications are available in the counselors' office at Pampa High. The senior provides family information, an essay and references. The applications are turned in to the counselors who then forward them to the Beta Sigma Phi scholarship committee. That committee reviews them, selects several for further consideration and submits those applications to the Opportunity Plan, Inc. office for final selection.

The Opportunity Plan makes the final choice based on guidelines drawn up by the local Beta Sigma Phi members. Hogan said that need and scholarship are taken into con-

sideration when making the award and that the student may be selecting secretarial or vocational training. The scholarship is not limited to the college or university bound.

In some years, more than one student was selected, Hogan said. In the past 28 years, \$46,000 has been given to 32 students, both boys and girls. The city council, composed of representatives of each chapter, determines the scholarship amount. The recipient and a parent are honored at the April Founder's Day banquet.

Susan Birdsell, a teacher at Pampa High School was scholarship recipient in 1982. Some others, winners are Judge Darrell Carey, 1974; Dr. Sharon Carey, 1979; Jackie Malone, a geologist, 1977; and Dr. Randy Skaggs, 1983.

The New Year's Eve Scholarship Dance is set for 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 31, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Tickets are available from any Beta Sigma Phi members.

The group also plans a spring style show. Details will be available later.

Mother's talk about sex sets record straight



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am writing this as a follow-up to the letter I wrote you in June about my 13-year-old daughter. (I told you she was getting dangerously close to the boyfriend she had been seeing morning, noon and night.)

I took your advice and spoke to her about sex. I purchased at the local drugstore several forms of birth control (condoms, contraceptive sponge and vaginal suppositories). I also bought something called a "teen pack," which contained several trial-size items introducing young females to such things as tampons, minipads, maxi-pads, shaving lotion and razors for shaving legs. When I got home, I invited my daughter to join me at the kitchen table. My husband was working late that night, so it was a perfect opportunity for girl talk.

I lined up the contraceptive devices on the table. My daughter was a bit curious. I gave her the teen pack, telling her that all the items in that package were things that we had discussed. Then I pointed to the other items on the table and said they were items that we needed to talk about.

I carefully explained to her that now that she had become a young woman having a monthly period, she could become pregnant if she had sex. I then told her that I was in no way condoning sex in someone as young as she, but that I wanted her to be informed. I then took each product and explained how it was used, and showed her the directions and how to check the expiration date on the product. After that, I opened each package and let her touch the device, examine it and ask questions.

I made sure she was aware that even if you are on the birth control pill, that still did not stop sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS. I told her that safe sex with condoms could not completely guarantee the prevention of pregnancy or disease, but that the only way to ensure not getting pregnant or a sexually transmitted disease was not to have sex.

studies and social activities.

I realize this letter is lengthy, but I wanted you to know how I dealt with this issue. My daughter, after our talk, has been a different person!

I trust my daughter, and your advice was a big help in dealing with a very difficult situation. I realize that I have a long way to go in completing the journey through her teen years, but I feel that we, as a family, will survive.

I am truly grateful, Abby. Thank you.

NORTH DAKOTA MOM

DEAR MOM: Every daughter should have a mother like you.

Tree of Love



(Staff photo by Stan Pollard)
The Tree of Love, sponsored by Hospice of Pampa, was lit on the Gray County courthouse lawn on Saturday night.

Middle school choirs set concert for Dec. 12

The Pampa Middle School Choral Department will present its Christmas concert at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 12, in the PMS auditorium.

The first and sixth period girls' choirs will sing "Hodie, It's Christmas Day," "Christmas Carillon," and "Stars that Twinkle and Shine". They will be joined by the third period sixth grade girls' choir for a combined song, "Sing We Noel". The third period choir will then sing "Ding, Dong Merrily on High", "Quem Pastores", and "Pat-a-Pan". The combined sixth grade boys' choirs will sing "Time to Sing-a Noel", "God Rest You Merry,

Gentlemen", and "Rock the Little Baby".

The seventh and eighth grade Treble and Girls' Choirs will sing "Japanese Christmas Carol", "The Coventry Carol", and "See the Little Baby". The seventh and eighth grade boys' choirs will sing "Emmanuel's Birth", "Good Christian Men, Rejoice", and "Masters in This Hall".

The Concert Girls' Choir will sing three songs they are preparing to present to the Texas Music Educators Association convention in San Antonio in February: "Personet Hodie", "Holy Valley", and "For the Beauty of

the Earth". They will conclude with "The Holly and the Ivy" and "O Come, O Come, Immanuel".

Jennifer Scoggin is the director of the sixth grade choirs, and Suzanne Wood is the director of the seventh and eighth grade choirs. Assisting will be PHS students Teryn Scoggin and Jennifer Mays.

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HOMETOWN

The Pampa News

Comic Page

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Selfish person
- Gothic arch
- Cover, as with netting
- Extended periods
- Pushed gently
- Slightest
- Unit
- Chemical suffix
- Cooking vessel
- Sheer fabric
- Small cushion
- Small sample of cloth
- Israel's Golda
- Tropical cuckoo
- Poker stake
- Drunkard
- Case
- Wholly

DOWN

- Even (poet.)
- engrossed
- 1,051
- Roman
- Trip
- Currency exchange premium
- Fast aircraft (abbr.)
- Sacred book
- Western hemisphere
- Bernstein, for assn.
- Popeye's friend Olive
- Again
- Shed
- Wore away
- Of building interior
- Having flaps for hearing
- Deny

Answer to Previous Puzzle

HER	OXIDE
CIRE	UPRISING
CLUE	MUTILATE
COD	HAT ALEE
ICI	STUN
INTACT	INDEED
COIN	ROMA SIR
EMO	CETE CORE
SENORA	SUPPED
MYTH	RAH
CERE	ODE AAA
ULULATED	UGLI
MILEPOST	LULL
SETON	ESS

2 Large antelope
3 Ancient
4 Shakespearean villain
5 Aroma
6 Hymn of thanksgiving (2 wds.)

7 Bottle-cap removers
8 Skirt part
9 Wintry glare
10 Videotape type
11 Superlative suffix
13 Actor — Estevez
18 Old Testament book
19 Historical records
20 Silly person
22 Piece of mail
23 Arizona Indian
24 Defective vision
25 Duplicates
27 Footlike part
32 Mrs. in Madrid
34 Spoke
35 Flattened
39 Pottery clay
43 Wolflike animal
45 Mine vein
47 Wife of a lord
48 Wide shoe size
49 Firearm owners' org.
50 Heart
52 Negatives
53 — fault (overmuch)
54 Jazz player Kid —

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14											
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57							58				

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It is essential that all sales floor employees be amiable and non-threatening.

Roy, I want you to meet Andrew Thomas. This is Andrew's first day with us.

Wipe that grin!! smile off your face before I slap it off.

Roy works in our collections department.

Oh. ☆#☆#
twit...

ARLO & JANIS

ARLO...

WE NEED TO TALK!

UH-OH

NOTHING GOOD EVER BEGINS WITH "WE NEED TO TALK!"

EEK & MEEK

I BUY DEODORANT, COLOGUE, SHAMPOO, HAIR GEL, MOUTHWASH, TEETH WHITENER AND FRESH-BREATH MINTS...

RECESSION OR NO RECESSION...

LOVELINESS IS BIG BUSINESS

B.C.

I HOPE MY NOSE JOB LOOKS GOOD.

SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

I'M GONNA LOOK GORGEOUS WHILE I'M STARVING TO DEATH.

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

Improvements where your financial interests are concerned is indicated for the year ahead.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) There are still opportunities available to you at this time through avenues you'd least expect. Don't rate one source as being superior to another. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences governing you in the year ahead. Send for Sagittarius' Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) This could be an extremely pleasant day for you socially. Your chart shows you might be more admired than usual by members of the opposite gender.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You're very much in sync at this time with your affluent, influential friends. If you're in need of a special favor, chances are it will be granted — if you ask.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The good news from a distant place you've been anxiously anticipating could be on its way today. Check your mailbox and, if you have to go out, leave a number where you can be reached.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Someone who is deeply concerned about you but is not particularly demonstrative, may again do something nice for you today in this individual's own, quiet way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You'll make a very favorable impression today on someone you've recently met. It will be significant enough to begin a bonding process for a good relationship.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) An endeavor you may get involved in today can give you a real sense of achievement. You'll like the way you'll handle things, and your methods will be admired by others as well.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You're much more popular with your peers at this time than you may realize. However, you may begin to start appreciating this fact today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Take control of your destiny today. Instead of waiting and hoping for changes to take place in an endeavor you're involved in, do something about it yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might have to make a rather difficult decision today, but if you let your heart, instead of your logic, rule your head, you'll automatically do what's best for all concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Conditions should be improving today where your financial interests are concerned. Be alert for developments that could enhance your material well-being.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You might have to take a circuitous route to get what you want today. If your desires are of a material nature, focus first on the human relationships involved.

MARVIN

THIS NEW "KATHY JANE" SHAPE-UP TAPE PROMISES A "3-STEP PLAN" FOR ACHIEVING A BODY JUST LIKE HERS.

OKAY, LADIES... STEP ONE: YOU'LL NEED TO SAVE BETWEEN \$35,000 TO \$75,000!

STEP TWO: CALL THE NUMBER THAT APPEARS ON THE SCREEN AND SET UP AN APPOINTMENT WITH MY DOCTOR!

AND STEP THREE: FOLLOWING SURGERY, PLAN ON SPENDING AT LEAST A MONTH AT AN EXOTIC, TROPICAL HIDEAWAY WHILE THE BRUISES FADE!

ALLEY OOP

THE THREE OF US ARE IN AGREEMENT, AVA!

IF YOU WANT TO EXPERIENCE TIME TRAVEL, WE SEE NO REASON WHY YOU SHOULDN'T!

ANY PARTICULAR PLACE YOU'D LIKE TO GO?

WELL, I'M REALLY INTRIGUED WITH ALLEY'S HOMELAND AND THE DINOSAURS HE TALKS ABOUT!

DID YOU HEAR THAT, ALLEY? AVA WANTS TO GO TO... HIS SLEEP BEFORE YOU TELL HIM, DOC!

YOU'D BETTER LET HIM CATCH UP ON HIS SLEEP BEFORE YOU TELL HIM, DOC!

SNAFU

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"If you'd hold your spoon right you wouldn't miss your mouth so much."

THE BORN LOSER

DANGER! DANGER!

Wanna stick this in that hole for me, pal?

DANGER! DANGER!

PEANUTS

I HATE WINTER!

MARMADUKE

"Where did you get that?"

WINTHROP

MY FRIEND AMY THINKS YOU'RE CLUTE AND VERY INTELLIGENT.

AMY SOUNDS LIKE A VERY SMART GIRL.

HER FRIENDS CALL HER "DUMBO!"

CALVIN AND HOBBS

SINCE YOUR MOM'S SICK, I'LL BE MAKING DINNER TONIGHT.

YOU CAN COOK?

OF COURSE I CAN COOK.

AS YOU CAN SEE, I SURVIVED TWO YEARS OF MY OWN COOKING WHEN I HAD AN APARTMENT AFTER COLLEGE.

MOM SAYS YOU ATE FROZEN WAFFLES AND CANNED SOUP THREE MEALS A DAY.

YOUR MOM WASN'T THERE, SO SHE WOULDN'T KNOW GET THE SYRUP OUT, WILL YOU?

FRANK AND ERNEST

THE RIGHT PLACE

THE RIGHT TIME

SORRY, YOU'RE THE WRONG PERSON.

GARFIELD

KISS

GARFIELD, SANTA BRINGS TOYS TO THE LITTLE BOYS AND GIRLS WHO'VE BEEN GOOD ALL YEAR, NOT JUST THE LAST TWO WEEKS.

THAT'S EXTORTION!

I TELL IT LIKE IT IS, BABY CAKES.

KIT N' CARLYLE

By Dick Cavalli

By Bill Watterson

By Bob Thaves

By Jim Davis

Groom Tigerettes race to quick start; McLean boys rip Miami

GROOM—The Groom girls are off to a fast start this season, winning their eighth game in nine outings Tuesday night.

Karen Babcock, a 6-1 junior, scored 16 points and Kristy Case, a 5-10 senior, had 14 as the Tigerettes rolled to a 54-40 win over Memphis.

Carla Henderson was top scorer for Memphis with 24 points.

Groom led by 6 points after three quarters and outpointed the visitors, 24-16, in the final quarter.

Others scoring for Groom were Marie Conrad with 8 points, Jolee Burger, 6; Misty Homer, 6; Melanie Friemel, 2; and Lesa Sweat 2.

Groom was defeated by Shamrock, 46-25, in the boys' game.

The Tigers led, 8-7, at the end of

the first quarter, but scored only four points in the second quarter, allowing Shamrock to jump ahead by seven (19-12) at halftime.

Leading the way for Shamrock was Charley Russell with 22 points.

Nick Kuehler and Wesley Hall had 9 and 8 points respectively for Groom, which has a 4-4 record.

Groom defeated Memphis, 36-30, in a girls' junior varsity game Tuesday night.

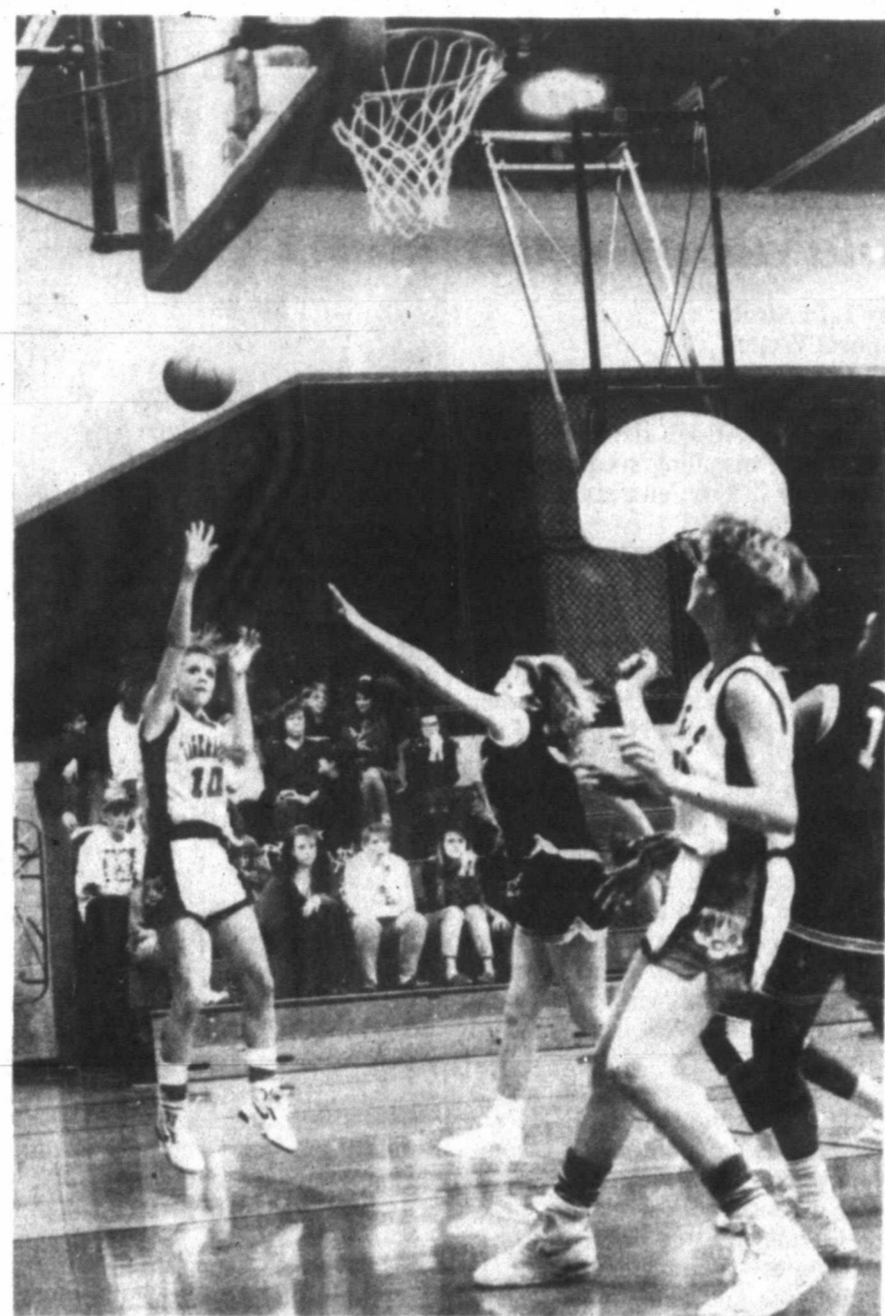
Aimee Lyles was top scorer for Groom with 12 points, followed by Andrea Payton, 9.

Tiniya Johnson scored 10 points to lead Memphis.

point run by Miami in the second quarter gave the Warriorettes a 15-point lead at halftime.

Brandy Milton topped McLean with 11 points. Joetta Bailey added 9.

Miami has a 3-5 record while McLean is still looking for its first win in seven games.



Groom's Corkey Hickey (35) goes up for a shot as teammates, from left, Wes Hall (41), Bruce Britten (33) and Bryan Crowell (15) move in to rebound.

Groom's Marie Conrad (10) launches for a two-point shot as teammate Karen Babcock (55) prepares for a possible rebound.

BRISCOE—David Hale scored 23 points as Briscoe routed Follett, 87-44, in boys' action Tuesday night.

Danny Nelson and Dallas Fillingim added 18 points for the Broncos, who raised their record to 7-2.

Gregory Frazier was high scorer for Follett with 21 points.

Follett won the girls' game, 62-38.

Holly Boone and Danielle Gex led Follett with 12 points each.

Lindsey Fillingim paced Briscoe with 18 points, followed by Missy Barr with 7.

The Lady Broncos have a 3-5 record.

MCLEAN—Jason Thomas and Christian Looney scored 19 points each to lead McLean to a 74-53 victory over Miami in a boys' game Tuesday night.

Melvin Seymour was the leading scorer for Miami with 17 points, followed by Matthew Neighbors with 14.

McLean broke open a tight game by outscoring Miami, 19-6, in the second quarter.

McLean has a 4-2 record while Miami fell to 3-5.

Miami got revenge in the girls' contest with a 57-45 win over McLean.

Janet Byrum had 14 points and Michelle South 13 to lead Miami's scoring attack.

The score was tied at 16-all at the end of the first quarter, but a 25-

High School Basketball Roundup

CLAUDE—Claude swept White Deer in a varsity basketball twinbill Tuesday night.

In the boys' game, Chris Eaton scored 20 points and Chris Skiles 18 in leading Claude to a 74-55 comeback win.

White Deer was leading at halftime, 31-28.

White Deer received a 30-point performance from Brandon Carpenter while teammate Tyson Back added 9.

Claude girls, who won, 71-39, were led by Stephanie Pratt, who had 24 points and Shairmarie Stoffle, 18.

Claude built a 40-18 bulge at halftime.

Kandi Cargal had 11 points and Stacey Phillis 10 to lead White Deer.

SPEARMAN—Brian Beck tossed in 21 points to lead Spearman to a 66-52 win over Canadian in boys' action Tuesday night.

Top scorers for Canadian were James Lusby with 14 points and Ty Goodwin, 12.

Spearman led at the half, 33-26.

Khris Kelp and Chris Strawn contributed 10 points each for Spearman.

Spearman girls also won, 51-25.

Joy Gafford was high scorer for Spearman with 11 points while Laura Pearson added 9.

Pam Goodwin scored 10 points and Jenny Wilburn 7 for Canadian.

(Staff photos by Stan Pollard)

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Athletes of the week

(Special photo)

Pampa Harvesters Booster Club athletes of the week are, top photo, left to right, basketball players Nikki Ryan, Amber Seaton and Kristen Becker; also, bottom photo, Randy Nichols and Cedrick Wilbon, basketball; Dusty Weatherly, football; and David Borsheim, wrestling.

Sports Scene

National Finals Rodeo

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Results Tuesday of the fifth round of the \$2.45 million National Finals Rodeo at UNLV's Thomas and Mack Center:

Bareback (unofficial)—1, (tie), Ken Lensegraver, Rapid City, S.D., and Ty Murray, Stephenville, Texas, 82 points, \$9,433 each. 3, Deb Greenough, Helena, Mont., 81, \$5,390. 4, Chuck Logue, Decatur, Texas, 80, \$2,695.

Steer Wrestling—1, Ote Berry, Checotah, Okla., 3.9 seconds, \$10,780. 2, Blaine Pederson, Canada, 4.7, \$8,085. 3, Byron Walker, Ennis, Texas, 5.2, \$5,390. 4, Rod Lyman, Kalispell, Mont., 5.3, \$2,695.

Team Roping—1, Mark Simon, Florence, Ariz., and K.C. Jones, Pueblo, Colo., 5.0 seconds, \$6,740 each. 2, Robert Scogin, Frierson, La., and Allen Bach, Merced, Calif., 5.4, \$5,055. 3, Bret Boatright, Enid, Okla., and Martin Lucero, Villa Nueva, N.M., 5.5, \$3,370. 4, (tie), Denton Payne, Higgley, Ariz., and Terry Selland, Dickinson, N.D.; and Bobby Hurley, Clarksville, Ark., and Dennis Gatz, Ceres, Calif., 6.3, \$843.

Saddle Bronc—1, Dan Etbauer, Goodwell, Okla., 86 points, \$10,780. 2, Kyle Wemple, Milford, Calif., 81, \$8,085. 3, Ty Murray, Stephenville, Texas, 80, \$5,390. 4, (tie), Billy Etbauer, Ree Heights, S.D., and Butch Small, Dubois, Idaho, 78, \$1,348.

Calf Roping—1, Fred Whitfield, Cypress, Texas, 9.1 seconds, \$10,780. 2, Mike Johnson, Henryetta, Okla., 11.0, \$8,085. 3, Joe Beaver, Huntsville, Texas, 11.3, \$5,390. 4, (tie), Tod Stone, Canyon Lake, Texas, and Jim Fuller of Waco, Texas, 11.4, \$1,348.

Bull Riding—1, Ervin Williams, Tulsa, Okla., 90 points, \$10,780. 2, (tie), Jim Sharp, Stephenville, Texas, and Wacey Cathey, Big Springs, Texas, 85, \$6,737. 4, Michael Gaffney, Lubbock, Texas, 82, \$2,695.

Barrel Racing—1, (tie), Twila Haller, Phoenix, and Angie Meadows, Wetumka, Okla., 14.26 seconds, \$5,898. 3, (tie), Charmayne Rodman, Galt, Calif.; Lita Scott-Price, Reno, Nev., and Rayel Robinson, Canada, 14.32, \$1,685.

NBA Standings

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE		Pct.	GB
Atlantic Division			
Boston	13	6	.684
New York	12	6	.667
Philadelphia	10	8	.474
Miami	8	11	.421
Orlando	6	12	.333
Washington	6	14	.300
New Jersey	5	14	.263
Central Division			
Chicago	16	3	.842
Cleveland	11	6	.647
Atlanta	11	9	.550
Detroit	9	12	.429
Milwaukee	9	12	.429
Indiana	9	13	.409
Charlotte	5	15	.286
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Midwest Division			
Utah	13	8	.619
Houston	10	8	.556
San Antonio	10	8	.556
Denver	8	10	.444
Dallas	8	12	.400
Minnesota	3	13	.188
Pacific Division			
LA Lakers	14	6	.700
Golden State	12	6	.667
Portland	13	8	.619
Phoenix	13	9	.591
Seattle	11	8	.579
LA Clippers	11	10	.524
Sacramento	6	13	.316

Tuesday's Games

Atlanta 118, Milwaukee 104
Indiana 109, San Antonio 102
New York 114, New Jersey 88
Chicago 108, Seattle 103
Dallas 114, Miami 110, OT
Utah 122, Orlando 103
Phoenix 102, Detroit 93
Houston 108, Portland 106
LA Lakers 92, Sacramento 90
LA Clippers 127, Golden State 117

Republics shift further from Kremlin's rule

By ALAN COOPERMAN
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin met today with military commanders to try to win their support for the new Slavic commonwealth and indicated that the officers were reassured by the talks.

The meeting came only a day after Mikhail Gorbachev tried to gauge the military's loyalty to his dissolving Soviet Union.

Yeltsin's office refused comment on his meeting with military brass, held behind closed doors at the Soviet Defense Ministry.

But a ministry spokesman was quoted as telling the Tass news agency that Yeltsin reassured them — and the world community — that he favors unified control over the superpower's 2.7 million soldiers and 27,000 nuclear warheads.

It was not clear whether Yeltsin meant control would remain in the hands of Gorbachev's government, or the new Commonwealth of Independent States of Russia, Ukraine and Byelorussia that has claimed control over military policy. The three republics, plus Kazakhstan, have all the Soviet Union's nuclear weapons.

"There can be no question about any division of the armed forces. The world public need have no worry about it," the ministry spokesman, Lt. Gen. Valery Manilov, quoted Yeltsin as telling the meeting, according to Tass.

Yeltsin, speaking later to reporters, said the meeting touched on "how to make the life of servicemen better, how to protect them and how in this very difficult period, to create a stable situation in the army, which would have an influence on other layers of society."

"It's uncomfortable for me to speak about the results myself, but I was told they were very satisfied with these conversations," Yeltsin said.

Tass disclosed today that the beleaguered Gorbachev met with the same military officials on Tuesday. Its brief report said the two sides discussed "military structures" in the Soviet Union.

Yeltsin's top deputy, Gennady Burbulis, said Tuesday the question of who is commander-in-chief of the Soviet military will be settled in the next few days.

Adding to the flurry of meetings, phone calls and rumors that have swirled around the Soviet capital this week, Tass reported that Gorbachev and Yeltsin met in the Kremlin again today. No other details were immediately available.

Gorbachev's aides say he still controls the nuclear button and still considers himself president of the entire country. They said he was a victim of a "coup d'etat" by the three Slavic republics, which on Sunday declared the Soviet Union dead and invited other republics to join them in a commonwealth.

Gorbachev has disputed their right to split, and his office said there was a "50-50 chance" he would speak to the national Supreme Soviet legislature when it considers the Slavic pact on Thursday.

The pact also is on the Russian legislature's agenda Thursday, starting with a speech by Yeltsin. Ukraine and Byelorussia approved it Tuesday.

Gorbachev has been pressing for a looser Kremlin-based federation under a new Union Treaty, and has disputed the Slavic republic's right to form a commonwealth. But a top Gorbachev adviser, Georgy Shakhnazarov, predicted his boss would soon resign after nearly seven years in power.

The importance of the military was demonstrated during the failed August coup, when many senior officers refused to follow orders from the plotters — including the minister of defense.

The army's loyalty is of special concern because of potential unrest over winter food shortages, and uncertainty over the Soviet nuclear arsenal.

Since the coup, the republics have stripped Gorbachev's central government of almost all its powers. Yeltsin has shut off funding to scores of Soviet ministries, putting Gorbachev in the humbled position of presiding over an institution that is disintegrating, discredited and broke.

Most ordinary Soviets have little sympathy for Gorbachev because they blame him for an unprecedented economic slide and dizzying inflation.

But outside the Russian Parliament building today, about 50 demonstrators stood in a circle, carrying signs denouncing the commonwealth and urging the military to support the union. They marched toward the Defense Ministry.

"If the Soviet Union breaks up, there will be civil war — real civil war, nothing like what we're living through now," said marcher Nona Semyonova, 61, a retired school teacher.

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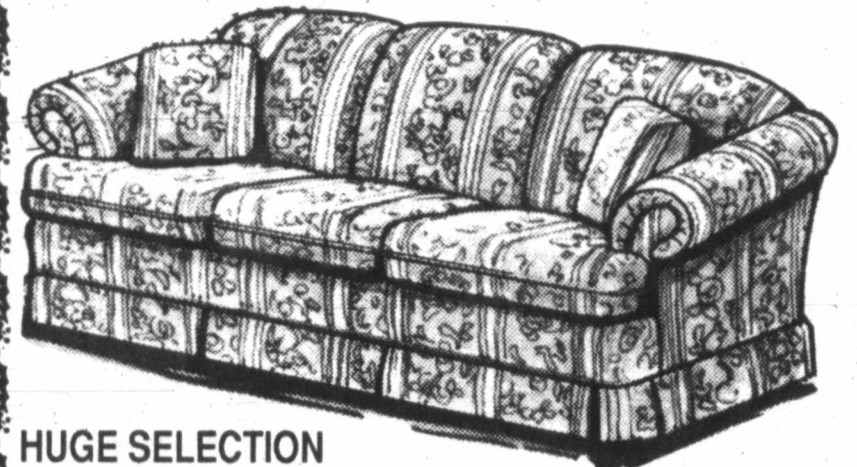
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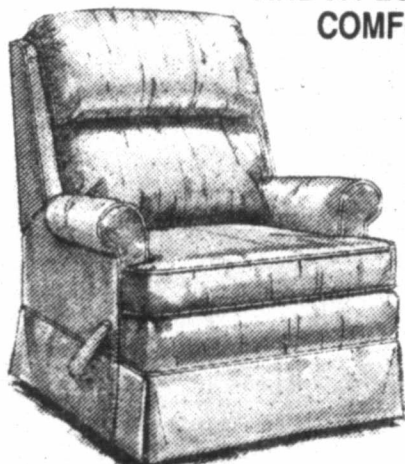
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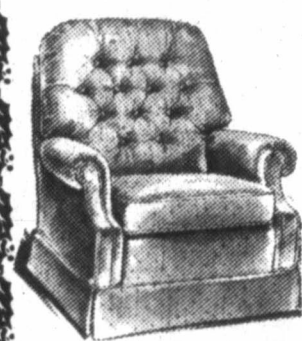
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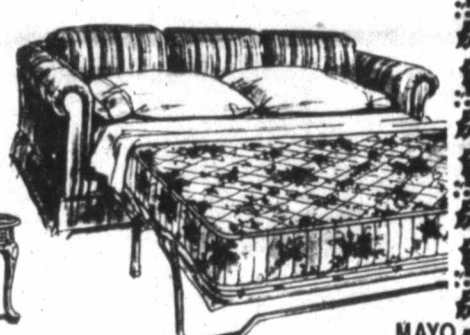


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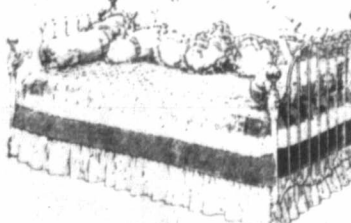


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