

Lifestyles

Billionaire's college offer creates bond between two generations

By CRAIG HORST
Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Ewing Kauffman is a robust, elderly white man, a billionaire who lives in a mansion in one of the wealthiest suburbs in America and owns a major league baseball team.

Jermaine Davis is a black sophomore at Westport High in midtown Kansas City, a school where many of his classmates tell stories about how difficult it is to find the time to study while working part time and helping out at home.

So why are the two hugging each other?

Because Kauffman believes in his story of a man who started out with nothing and made it big. His philosophy is simple: Seize an opportunity, work hard and you'll succeed.

And because Davis accepted the Kauffman challenge: Stay off drugs, study and make good grades, graduate from Westport and you've got a free ride to college.

"I love this man," Davis said at a recent ceremony where Kauffman signed up his fourth — and last — class at Westport for his Project

Choice program. "He has inspired me to move rapidly into the business world. I want to accomplish everything he did and more."

Kauffman, 75, graduated from Westport some 60 years ago. Four years ago, he made an offer to what is now the senior class at Westport. After graduation next June, Kauffman will pay through his charitable foundation for college tuition, books, room and board, and other expenses for any of the 161 seniors expected to graduate.

They can go to school wherever they want. That means Kauffman will

pay \$2,000 for someone to go to Penn Valley Community College just down the road — "where I went and I've done pretty damn good" — or \$80,000 for someone to go to Harvard.

Offers similar to Kauffman's have been made to students in more than a dozen cities since 1981, when Eugene Lang first told a class of New York City sixth-graders that he'd pay for their college education. Some have already graduated from college, and thousands of other young people have been "adopted" by wealthy people inspired by Lang.

"It really means a lot to be a Kauffman kid," said Gladys Burtin, the counselor at Westport.

"These kids probably could not have looked forward to college," she said. "This means to them that 'I can do what I want to do.'"

Westport's students are mostly black, but there also are Hispanics, Vietnamese, Chinese and whites. An estimated one-quarter of the students don't speak English.

There's a shortage of textbooks. Most students know the security guards by name. There are gangs.

But then there's Melba Meleathes, a senior who plans a career in psychology and is headed for Central Missouri State University. Alicia Sanchez, a

senior, wants to major in biology and political science at St. Louis University and become a doctor.

Michael Starr, who works part time as a cook, is a junior who hopes to attend a culinary arts school. Sandra Lopez is only a sophomore, but is intent on a career in international business. Leroy Cox, a junior, loves math and wants to be an accountant.

"I just wouldn't have thought to go anywhere. I probably would have had to work three or four jobs just to get along," Alicia said.

Said Sandra: "There are so many obstacles you have to overcome. To my dad, education is very important. But in Mexico, he had to quit school to go to work in the fields. I have a lot of responsibilities."

Parents are a big part of Project Choice. The contract the students signed with Kauffman includes a requirement that parents help their children study and participate in school and Project Choice activities.

The program offers the support of counselors — Mrs. Burtin's school district salary is supplemented by the Kauffman Foundation — and other help such as tutoring.

Kauffman seems most proud the students apparently don't use drugs. Random testing is required as a part

of the program, and in the last round 99 percent of the tests were negative.

"Attendance is better, discipline is better, grades are better," Kauffman said. "The idea that they don't use drugs. No school in the United States can say that. A number of parents have indicated to us that they are closer as a family, it has opened up communication. They work together more."

The Kauffman Foundation plans to release figures next year it said would help measure the success of the program. Mrs. Burtin said 233 students signed up four years ago, and 147 of the 161 who will graduate are in Project Choice. Most of the original 233 not graduating either moved away or transferred to another school, she said.

With the latest freshman class, more than 1,000 students are involved in the program. Kauffman said Project Choice will end after the freshmen graduate. Students will be followed for 10 years to determine how the program worked.

"You can't slack off," Melba said. "Last year, I took seven classes and played basketball. This year, I'm only taking four classes, but I don't get off work until 1 a.m. But if you get behind one day or miss one lesson, you can never catch up."

Students of Myrna Orr present recital

Piano and organ students of Myrna Orr were presented in recital Dec. 15 at Tarpley's Recital Hall. Students performed on the piano, organ and clavichord.

Selections played at the 2 p.m. recital included "The Christmas Song" performed by Mindy Randall, "Everything I Do," by Laura Duggan, "Jolly Old St. Nicholas" by Joanna Wheeley, "O Christmas Tree" by Jennifer Fischer and "In the Hall of the Mountain King" by Alison Piersall.

Others performing in the recital were Kelly Stowers, Marsha Donnell, Carolyn Morse, Cody Elliott, Rebecca Gaddes, Layne Duggan, Matt Piersall, Lindsey Donnell, Sean Stowers, Anne Gaddes, Lindy Sells, Jennifer Rushing and Catherine Morse.

Two group piano selections were

played: "Here Comes Santa Claus" featuring Ginger Hannon, Jennifer Fischer, Stephanie Crocker, Mindy Randall, Laura Duggan and Mrs. Orr, and "Greensleeves" featuring Leanne Dyson, Andrea Abbe, Jennifer Fischer, Lindy Sells, Ginger Hannon, Julie Snider, Jennifer Rushing, Kellen Waters, Jennifer Fischer and Mrs. Orr.

Some of the selections presented at the 3:15 p.m. recital included "I'll be Home for Christmas," played by Carrie Caswell, "White Christmas" by Amy Eakin, "What Child Is This?" by Leanne Dyson, "A Little Dance" by Christina Carr, "Angels We Have Heard on High" by Andrea Abbe, "The First Noel" by Emily Waters, "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer" by Stacie Carter, and "Carol of the Bells," by Amy Houseman.

Others playing selections for the recital were Lindsey Cree, Iris Macadangang, Julie Snider, Jessica Leos, Kellen Waters, Tara Coffee, Kristi Carter, Mandy Thomas and Leanne Dyson.

"Parade of the Toy Soldiers" was played by Ginger Hannon, Kristi Carter, Laura Duggan, Emily Waters, Jennifer Fischer, Jennifer Rushing, Amy Houseman, Leanne Dyson, Stephanie Crocker, Mindy Randall, Amy Eakin and Mrs. Orr.

"Jingle Bells" was played by Ginger Hannon, Jennifer Fischer, Stephanie Crocker and Mrs. Orr. "Here Comes Santa Claus" was presented by Amy Houseman, Kristi Carter, Ginger Hannon, Julie Snider, Stephanie Crocker and Mrs. Orr.

Those unable to play because of illness included Jessica Lemons, Julie Rushing, B.J. Schuneman, Suzanne Gattis, Brooke Brown and Vanessa Vining.

Small successes bring major achievements within reach

DEAR READERS: My New Year's column has become an annual tradition since 1973. These New Year's resolutions are based on the original credo of Alcoholics Anonymous. I have taken the liberty of using that theme with some variations of my own:

Just for today I will live through this day only, and not set far-reaching goals to try to overcome all my problems at once. I know I can do something for 24 hours that would appall me if I felt I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for today I will be happy. Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." He was right. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. I will chase them out of my mind and replace them with happy thoughts.

Just for today I will adjust myself to what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those things I cannot correct.

Just for today I will improve my mind. I will not be a mental loafer. I will force myself to read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for today I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll make an honest effort to quit. If I'm overweight, I'll eat nothing I know to be fattening. And I will force myself to exercise — even if it's only walking around the block or using the stairs instead of the elevator.

Just for today I'll do something I've been putting off for a long time. I'll finally write that letter, make that phone call,

Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

clean that closet or straighten out those dresser drawers.

Just for today, before I speak I will ask myself, "Is it true? Is it kind?" and if the answer to either of those questions is negative, I won't say it.

Just for today I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will look as good as I can, dress becomingly, talk softly, act courteously and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today I'll not improve anybody except myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it, thereby saving myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions.

To one and all: Have a happy, healthy new year. And to ensure a happy new year for everyone else, if you're driving, don't drink, and if you're drinking, don't drive. Have a designated driver or take a cab.

— LOVE, ABBY

P.S. God bless our men and women in uniform in every corner of the world where our flag is flying. And let us not forget those patriotic Americans who are serving their country in the Peace Corps, as well as those who have served and are now in veterans' hospitals and nursing homes.

Beta Sigma Phi seeks 'Woman of the Year' nominees

Members of Beta Sigma Phi are soliciting nominations for a woman to be named "Woman of the Year", to be announced in March.

The local membership, which opened its first Pampa chapters in 1945, seeks to honor a woman in the area who is positive and active in

the church, community and family life, according to Tracy Skinner, Beta Sigma Phi member. The group, she said, is looking for nominations

of women who give unselfishly of their time and talent in all phases of community activities.

Deadline for nominations is Jan.

24. The selection will be made near the end of January, and the winner will be honored in March.

To nominate a woman for the award, forms may be obtained from any Beta Sigma Phi member. For information call Tena Conner, selection committee chair, 665-0677.



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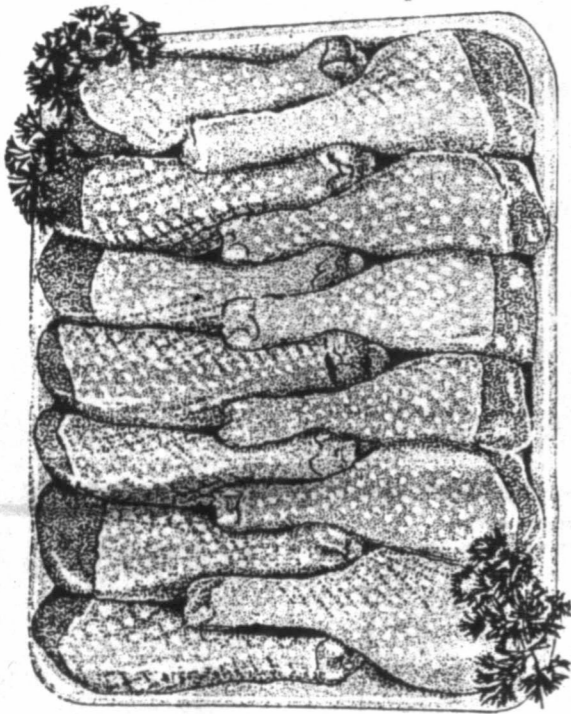
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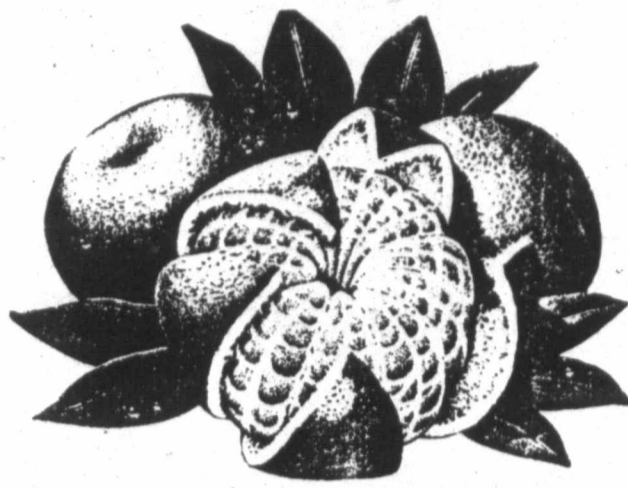
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The Pampa News

Comic Page

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Thrifty
- Most independent
- A micro-organism
- Expose to air
- Bicycle for two
- Lighting device
- Printer's measures
- Cupid
- Fedora, e.g.
- Feeling
- At a distance
- Night music
- La Douce
- Groups of three
- Elevate
- Twirled
- Certainly
- Existence
- Cut out
- Car assem-

blers' assn.
46 Cafe au—
47 Actress
Thurman
50 Projecting rim
53 Transported on floating device
55 Slicker
56 Make current
57 Reliable
58 Vain bird's mate

DOWN

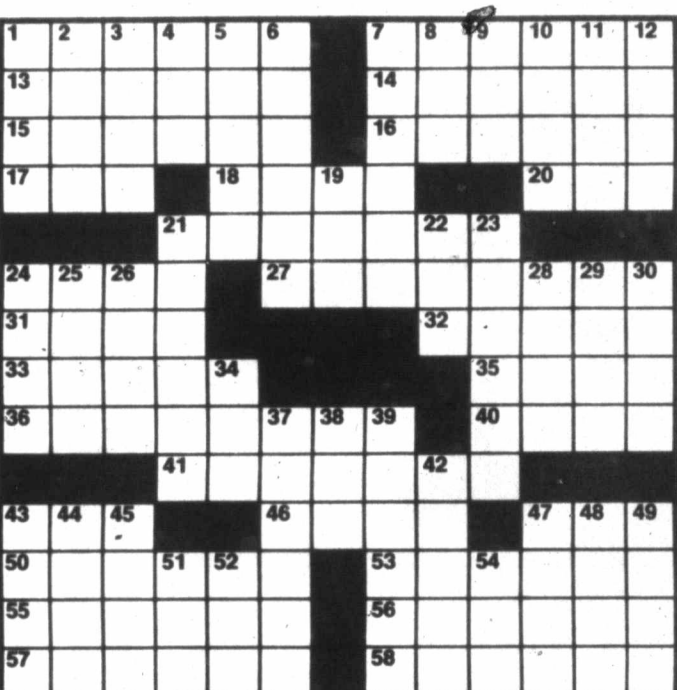
- Destiny
- Enlarge (a hole)
- Plant containers
- Divine being
- At right angles to ship
- Actor Jack
- Cloth

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	C	O	R	E	D	B	I	F	F		
L	U	G	O	S	I	U	R	S	U	L	A
A	T	R	E	S	T	N	O	I	S	E	S
G	E	E	E	T	A	T	N	E	A	P	
A	D	O	R	I	N	G					
B	Y	T	E	A	D	E	F	E	U		
A	A	R	O	N	C	Y	P	R	E	S	S
S	P	I	N	A	C	H	S	O	U	S	E
E	S	P	S	A	N	A	D	E	S		
S	H	R	I	V	E	R					
B	I	L	E	E	D	O	M	O	B	I	
S	L	O	T	H	S	L	I	C	H	E	N
A	L	L	I	E	S	A	L	U	M	N	I
S	A	N	E			R	E	D	S	E	A

8 Female sandpiper
9 Time period
10 Apiece
11 Colonnade
12 Camper's dwelling

19 Ear (comb. form)
21 Destroyed
22 Baseball player Mel—
23 Took care of
24 Affected manner
25 German Mrs.
26 Moslem prince
28 Tears
29 Intellect
30 Slave
34 Chemical suffix
37 Detective Queen
38 Ocean
39 Instigate (2 wds.)
42 Day's march
43 Flying saucers (abbr.)
44 Disembarked
45 Cloth ridge
47 Mormon State
48 Measure
49 Arabian port
51 TV's —
Peoples
52 Food fish
54 A federal org.



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WALNUT COVE

By Mark Cullum

Andrew, do you think people can really be possessed by demons?

I don't know. Maybe.

If I were suddenly possessed by one, could I be cured?

That would depend, I guess...

On whether anyone found an exorcist?

On whether anyone noticed.

ARLO & JANIS

By Jimmy Johnson

KITCHY, KITCHY

ONLY ONE DRAWBACK TO THE DESIGNATED DRIVER PLAN...

SOMEONE HAS TO GO HOME WITH A SOBER SPOUSE!

ECK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider

HEY, HITLER'S ALIVE!

REALLY?

HE HAD PLASTIC SURGERY DONE TO HIS FACE AND HE'S BEEN LIVING IN AN ARTIST'S COLONY ALL THESE YEARS...

HE SAYS HE'S A CHANGED MAN NOW AND WANTS TO BE JUDGED PURELY ON THE BASIS OF HIS ART

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

MY COMPUTER KEEPS FLASHING INSULTING MESSAGES LIKE: "LOOK IT UP, YOURSELF, STUPID."

OH... YOU MUST HAVE ONE OF OUR NEW "USER SURLY" MODELS.

MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong

AWWWAAA... YOU LOOK SOOOO PRECIOUS IN YOUR LITTLE SWEATER BITSY!

IF YOU COULD TALK, I'LL BET YOU'D CALL GRAMMA AND THANK HER FOR KNITTING IT!

IF I COULD TALK, I'D CALL THE HUMANE SOCIETY AND REPORT HER FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY

ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue

HOW DO YOU KNOW THE LEAMMANS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR DIGGING THAT HOLE IN THE GROUND?

'CAUSE TH' SIDES WERE ANGLED INWARDS!

...IF A MOOVIAN HAD DUG IT, THEY'D HAVE BEEN STRAIGHT!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

LEAVING SOME SIGNS!

THESE TURKEYS ARE GOING T'GET AN UNEXPECTED PRESENT WHEN THEY COME BACK T'CHECK THEIR TRAP!

SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

MARRIAGE COUNSELOR

"It all started because we thought it would be cute to think up each other's New Year's resolutions."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane

DEC. 31 TUES.

"1991 is all used up, so we're gonna get a new year tomorrow."

MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

"Oh, close your mouth. No one is going to drop food in it!"

KIT N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright

I THINK MY DESIGNATED DRIVER STOLE MY CAR

WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli

I TOLD MY MOM I WAS GOING TO GIVE MY ROOM A GOOD CLEANING.

WHAT DID SHE SAY?

NOTHING... SHE TOOK MY TEMPERATURE.

CALVIN AND HOBBS

By Bill Watterson

HELLO SUSIE, THIS IS CALVIN. I LOST OUR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT. CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO READ FOR TOMORROW?

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT CALLING FOR SOME OTHER REASON?

WHY ELSE WOULD I CALL YOU?

MAYBE YOU MISSED THE MELODIOUS SOUND OF MY VOICE

WHAT ARE ALL CRAZY? ALL I WANT IS THE STUPID ASSIGNMENT!

FIRST SAN YOU MISSED THE MELODIOUS SOUND OF MY VOICE.

THIS IS BLACKMAIL!

THE BORN LOSER

By Art and Chip Sansom

BZZZ BZZZ BZZZ

I HEARD THAT! IT SO HAPPENS THAT THIS IS CALLED A CUMMERBUND, AND IT'S PART OF THE TUXEDO! IT IS NOT A TUMMY-TUCK!

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves

TONIGHT! MARCEL MARCEAU MIME TROOP

I KNEW A MIME, ONCE.

WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

I DON'T KNOW. HE SPOelled IT WITH ALL SILENT LETTERS.

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

AND TO START OFF TONIGHT WE'RE SERVING A SPECIAL GREEN SALAD WITH THOUSAND ISLAND DRESSING...

HOW ABOUT SEVEN HUNDRED?

GARFIELD

By Jim Davis

ABANDON SHIP!!!

TWO TIPS!

OOPS. TIPS'S OUT

Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

Situations that start off on a sour note should not be written off too readily in the year ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You're apt to be lucky today dealing with older individuals who possess sober and practical outlooks rather than with optimists who have flighty natures. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for Capricorn's Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead 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.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Your greatest asset at this time is your ability to turn negative developments into positive and hopeful endeavors. There are indications this talent will be used effectively in several instances.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) An important arrangement you share with another should go off as planned today. Lady Luck might help adjust the variables for collective benefits.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If at all possible, try to spend time today with not just your immediate family, but with a few of your dearest friends. It could make this a memorable day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) This is a good day to start moving on an endeavor you have already thought through. Be certain first, however, that those you're involved with share your frame of mind.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You and your mate can be extremely effective today in furthering a shared interest. The key is to completely agree beforehand as to how and when you want things to be done.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) New year resolutions you make today have excellent chances of being fulfilled, especially if they pertain to things that affect your work or earnings.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) In this cycle, there are four individuals who could play favorable roles in your future affairs. There is a possibility you might encounter at least two of them today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Loved ones in your chart can benefit from constructive measures you take on their behalf today, particularly if they are a bit insecure at the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your chart indicates your optimism is justified concerning projects that are large in scope. Good things could begin to develop for you over the coming weeks.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A material opportunity that might not sound too exciting at first is worthy of additional study. Upon review, you may begin to appreciate its potential.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Because you're likely to be the first to show concern for the needs of others today, you'll be in a favorable position when it comes time for them to see to it that your wants are gratified.

North, South Korea initial pact on nuclear-free Korean peninsula

By PAUL SHIN
Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea and North Korea today initialed a pact that would forbid the manufacture of nuclear weapons and allow each side to inspect the other's nuclear facilities, officials said.

However, the question of how to carry out joint inspections of suspected nuclear weapons sites on both sides — one of the most contentious issues between the rival nations — still is not resolved.

Without agreement on this, the pact would be no more than "an expression of principles," said Lee Dong-bok, a South Korean delegate to the talks.

The agreement came after nearly eight hours of talks in the border village of Panmunjom, officials said. A formal agreement is to be signed by the two Korea's prime ministers in January, they said.

Leading indicators down 0.3 percent for latest report

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's chief forecasting gauge of future economic activity fell 0.3 percent in November, its biggest setback in 10 months, as consumer confidence and a number of other business barometers turned down sharply.

The Commerce Department said the drop in its Index of Leading Economic Indicators marked the fourth consecutive month that the collection of 11 forward-pointing statistics has flashed signs of widespread weakness.

The index, which had been racing ahead earlier in the year, posted no gain in August, dropped 0.2 percent in September and edged up a tiny 0.1 percent in October.

If October's small gain had been a negative, it would have marked three consecutive declines, often an ominous sign of an impending recession.

Economists are split over whether the economy, which fell into recession in July 1990 and appeared to be emerging from the slump last spring, has toppled into another downturn.

Pessimists cite such monitoring gauges as the leading indicators to support their view that overall growth, as measured by the gross domestic product, turned negative in the October-December quarter and will be negative again in the first three months of the new year.

However, other forecasters have taken heart in recent days at the big runup in stock market prices, which they hope will shore up sagging business and consumer confidence in the early months of 1992 and help to avert a recession.

Wall Street in recent days has chosen to dismiss evidence of a renewed recession and instead focused on the dramatic moves by the Federal Reserve to lower interest rates to boost economic prospects.

The lowest mortgage rates in nearly two decades were credited for a 5.4 percent jump in sales of existing single-family homes in November, the second consecutive monthly gain.

However, other analysts worry that the Fed's efforts have come too late to avert another downturn. They noted that the biggest decline in November's leading index was in consumer confidence, which fell to a level below the steep 1981-82 recession.

The Conference Board reported Monday that consumers remained deeply apprehensive about their economic future in December with its consumer confidence index posting another decline.

In all, seven of the 11 components of the leading indicators posted declines in November.

After the drop in consumer confidence, the biggest negative factors were a big increase in weekly claims for unemployment benefits, a drop in permits for construction activity, a decline in the level of unfilled manufacturing orders, a drop in new orders for consumer goods, weaker growth in the nation's money supply and a drop in stock prices.

Three of the indicators made positive contributions in November, with the biggest strength coming from an increase in plant and equipment orders: This was followed by a rise in sensitive materials prices, often seen as a sign of increased demand, and slower delivery times on business orders.

One indicator, the length of the average workweek, was unchanged in November.

The 0.3 percent decline in the index was the sharpest setback since a 0.6 percent fall last January.

Michael Boskin, the president's chief economic adviser, has said recently that he expects the economy to remain weak in the upcoming January-March quarter before starting to build momentum.

The administration will not unveil its official economic forecast until its new budget is released on Feb. 3. However, President Bush is expected to concentrate heavily on the country's economic problems in his State of the Union message on Jan. 28.

Experts believe North Korea, one of the last hard-line Communist states, could have the ability to make a crude atomic bomb in a few years, though the North has insisted that its nuclear programs are not weapons-related.

Today's agreement commits North Korea to abandon nuclear weapons programs, and it would create a joint watchdog group that would arrange "rules and methods" for conducting inspections of each other's nuclear sites.

"We hereby initial a joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in order to remove the danger of a nuclear war and create a good atmosphere for peaceful unification of the fatherland," a joint statement said.

The agreement came less than a week before President Bush is to visit Seoul to discuss trade topics and security concerns. Washington and Seoul had been

increasing pressure on the North to reach a nuclear agreement.

Under the pact, the South and North will not test, manufacture, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons.

However, officials said that South Korea will continue to remain under U.S. nuclear umbrella protection and will allow American planes and ships carrying nuclear weapons to fly over or make port calls.

The United States has 40,000 troops stationed in South Korea but has refused — as a matter of policy — to say if it stored nuclear weapons there. However, South Korean President Roh Tae-woo on Dec. 18 declared that his country was nuclear-free, increasing pressure on the North to follow suit.

Washington had also postponed a round of troop withdrawals until the nuclear question was resolved.

Failure to resolve the issue had threatened to cripple

a landmark reconciliation accord signed on Dec. 13. The two Koreas, divided since 1945, fought a war from 1950 to 1953. They remain technically at war and are separated by the world's most heavily armed border.

Today's agreement requires both Koreas to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes only, said spokesman Choi Byong-bo of the Unification Board, a South Korean government ministry.

The two Koreas agreed to conduct inspections, separate from mandatory international inspections, but did not decide on the delicate issue of procedures. A joint nuclear control committee to be formed within one month after adoption of the pact is to take up this question.

The breakthrough in the negotiations came after both sides agreed to remove two contentious clauses from the pact, Choi said. One was a South Korean demand that North Korea sign a nuclear safeguards agreement by Jan. 15.

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