

The Pampa News

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JANUARY 24, 1992

FRIDAY

Payment of CED taxes raising questions

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
News Editor

School officials, tax appraisers-collectors, and many of the state's taxpayers are holding their breath - and some, their money - while waiting for the Texas Supreme Court to rule on the constitutionality of the school financing law created by Senate Bill 351 and House Bill 2885.

As they wait for a ruling, taxpayers wonder whether or not to pay their CED taxes, just in case the law is found unconstitutional. Is there some way to ensure that their money is returned? Should they wait and chance the high interest and penalties? Should they file a lawsuit, and, if so, is it worth the cost?

School officials wonder whether or not they will have the funding to even complete this school year. And if the CED taxes already collected, or expected to be collected, are found to be unconstitutional and the court orders the money returned, what then?

Tax appraisers-collectors wonder how many more times they can try to explain the tax system to confused taxpayers.

By Dec. 31, 1990, 91 percent of Roberts County taxpayers had paid their taxes. On Dec. 31, 1991, 58 percent had paid, according to Carol Billingsley, Roberts County tax assessor-collector. Roberts County ISD is among the 50 property-rich school districts in the state which have filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of CEDs. The recently-passed school finance plan shifts hundreds of millions of local property tax dollars from wealthier to poorer school districts within the CED regions.

In Gray County and Pampa Independent School District, however, no significant change has been noted, says Pat Bagley, chief appraiser of the Gray County

Appraisal District. On Dec. 31, 1990, 28.7 percent of the taxpayers had paid. On Dec. 31, 1991, 28.69 percent had paid.

"This is not a black-and-white deal," said George Dowlen, a former Amarillo district judge and now an attorney with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott. The firm collects delinquent taxes for several taxing entities in this area. "Every bit of it is gray and it may still be, even after the Supreme Court makes its decision. After all, they've already ruled on it twice and it isn't any better."

A recent editorial in the *Miami Chief* urged taxpayers to get a "temporary receipt" for their CED taxes, saying the money would then stay in an escrow account in Roberts County and may be refunded if CEDs are found to be unconstitutional. The editorial stated that this could be done because the CEDs are "under challenge."

"First of all, there's no authority to do it," said Bagley. "We could write 'dog' or 'cat' on (a receipt) and it doesn't mean anything. It has no significance, and, therefore, has no place on the receipt."

"We're having to tell (taxpayers) that we can't do that, that they'll have to file a protest through the court," said Margie Gray, Gray County tax assessor-collector.

Billingsley said she is not issuing temporary receipts for this issue, either.

Tom Grantham, a local accountant and member of the CED #14 board, contends that temporary receipts are necessary.

"To protect myself, I have to get from the collector a temporary receipt," Grantham said.

Having researched the subject for a client, Grantham says he believes the temporary receipt shows that the taxpayer is paying in protest of the legality of the tax.

"There's a difference between being illegal and erro-

neous," he said. "We're talking about an illegal tax," he said. "What we've contended is that you ought to be able to pay under protest when a tax's legality is being considered by the Supreme Court."

"I don't believe there is any provision under the law for temporary receipt," Dowlen said, explaining that if a taxpayer pays under protest, the payment would still be considered voluntary and the taxpayer would not be entitled to a refund.

Dowlen's opinion is backed by Kevin O'Hanlon, chief attorney for the Texas Education Agency, who came out publicly in an article by the Associated Press Jan. 19 and saying that, without filing a lawsuit, a tax payment is considered voluntary and is not refundable, even if the tax is later found to be illegal. O'Hanlon could not be reached for further comment by press time today.

Rule 155.43 of the State Property Tax Code, which is being used by some for requesting temporary receipts, specifically defines at the beginning of the section when the temporary receipts are to be issued: A) in the event of an appraisal appeal; B) while awaiting a determination on a joint motion alleging substantial error on the appraisal role; and/or C) while awaiting a determination of a protest of failure to give notice.

Some have also quoted Sec. 155.43 (2). However, it states that conditional payment of taxes are allowed when the property owners' property is subject to a pending protest or challenge - not when the tax itself is challenged.

To illustrate the problems involved with the CED taxes, Dowlen presented the following two scenarios: "Number one - If I walk into Gray County Appraisal District and tell Pat (Bagley) I want to pay all my taxes and he accepts my money that way, there is not grounds to refund. It is considered a 'voluntary payment' and the taxpayer can't get any relief regardless of

whether or not he signs a temporary receipt.

"The other scenario is, rather than go in and pay Pat, I go file in district court. I'd tender the money in, saying I think the tax is unconstitutional and I want the judge to rule, but because I don't want the schools to close down and I want to avoid the penalties and interest for late payment, I will go ahead and pay this now. Then, if it is declared unconstitutional, I will hope that the judge will rule that the money be returned to me.

"The real kicker is that we've never been confronted with this particular situation before, when there is such a major tax out there," Dowlen said.

No taxpayers had filed a lawsuit concerning CED taxes by late Thursday, according to Yvonne Moler, district clerk.

"The Supreme Court has come out twice and ruled what the Legislature has done is unconstitutional, but they've never indicated what is the proper way to do it," Dowlen said.

"If they keep striking this down ... we run out of options, sooner or later."

While no one knows what the Texas Supreme Court will rule, Dowlen suggests several possibilities:

- That the law is unconstitutional, and all the money collected must be refunded to the taxpayers;
- That it is unconstitutional, but allow schools to reassess taxes, allowing credit for what has previously been paid in;
- That it is unconstitutional, but treat it as if it were constitutional and let it continue for the rest of the year;
- That it is constitutional but needs fine tuning;
- And finally, the court could possibly not consider the constitutionality of the law, but rule on some other basis.

Will Dowlen have hit the mark? There's no way of knowing, until the Supreme Court rules.

Student test scores cause concern

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

Pampa public school teachers and administrators are scrambling to resolve problems that led to low scoring by students in grades 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills test last October.

District officials unveiled results of the tests at Thursday's trustee meeting at Carver Center, saying they are eager to make improvements.

Samplings of test results show only 65 percent of 11th graders meet minimum expectations in mathematics, with only 18 percent showing mastery.

High School Principal Daniel Coward told the school board, "To give you an idea of how the numbers are, and they are alarming, we had 41 students who still lack passing the writing (section of the test), 73 on reading and 90 on math."

Texas requires students pass the TAAS before they can graduate high school.

"There are some significant numbers and in order to remediate them we needed to have a way to do that," Coward said. Those students are being placed in special classes to help them attain a better grasp on the subjects prior to retesting, he stated.

In the ninth grade only 46 percent of the students met minimum math expectations, with 11 percent mastering.

For PISD seventh graders the news was even worse. Districtwide, most results showed local students at least scored above the state average. However, these results showed seventh graders scored below the state average on writing ability. Both reading and math showed slightly higher than the state average.

And only half the seventh graders taking the test met minimum expectations in reading. Eight percent - 23 students - showed mastery.

Writing was also a trouble area for Pampa third graders, with the state reporting only 4 percent of Lamar students mastering. The mastery level

was only 5 percent at Wilson.

Ten percent of Baker third graders mastered writing. Austin had the highest results in that test, with 23 percent showing mastery but 91 percent at least meeting minimum skills.

Assistant Superintendent Jane Steele said each campus leadership team is focusing on ways to improve test results.

"We have been reluctant in the past to teach to the test but we ... have come to some realizations," she said. "These are the things the state is looking at."

She said the district believes the students have the knowledge but are un-used to "regurgitating it in the way the test asks for."

Steele described the test format as being "very sophisticated."

Lamar Principal Tim Powers stated, "The students were not used to taking this type of test. Our training now includes how to take this kind of test."

Steele also noted that during each of the five years of other state-mandated tests, PISD scores would rise, showing that knowing how to take a particular test is as important as knowing the information being sought by that exam.

"There is a lot of frustration on everyone's part in knowing what is expected," Steele said. Compounding that situation is the fact that teachers are not given the tests back to see exactly what the students missed.

See STUDENT, Page 2

Well head fire



(Staff photo by Bonner Green)

Pampa firefighters attempt to extinguish an oilfield well head fire Thursday afternoon south of Kingsmill. Two oilfield workers injured in the natural gas ignition south of Kingsmill declined treatment for burns. Firefighters from Pampa were called out at 12:57 p.m. to battle a blaze they said began after one of the men lit a cigarette near where a pipe was being pulled for plugging. Jamie Perkins and Inez Laverie, both of Borger, reported being burned in the fire but refused treatment or transportation to a hospital. Captain Paul Jenkins, training officer, said the fire was finally put out around 4 p.m. by dumping a mud gel cement into the the casing and pipe.

INSIDE TODAY

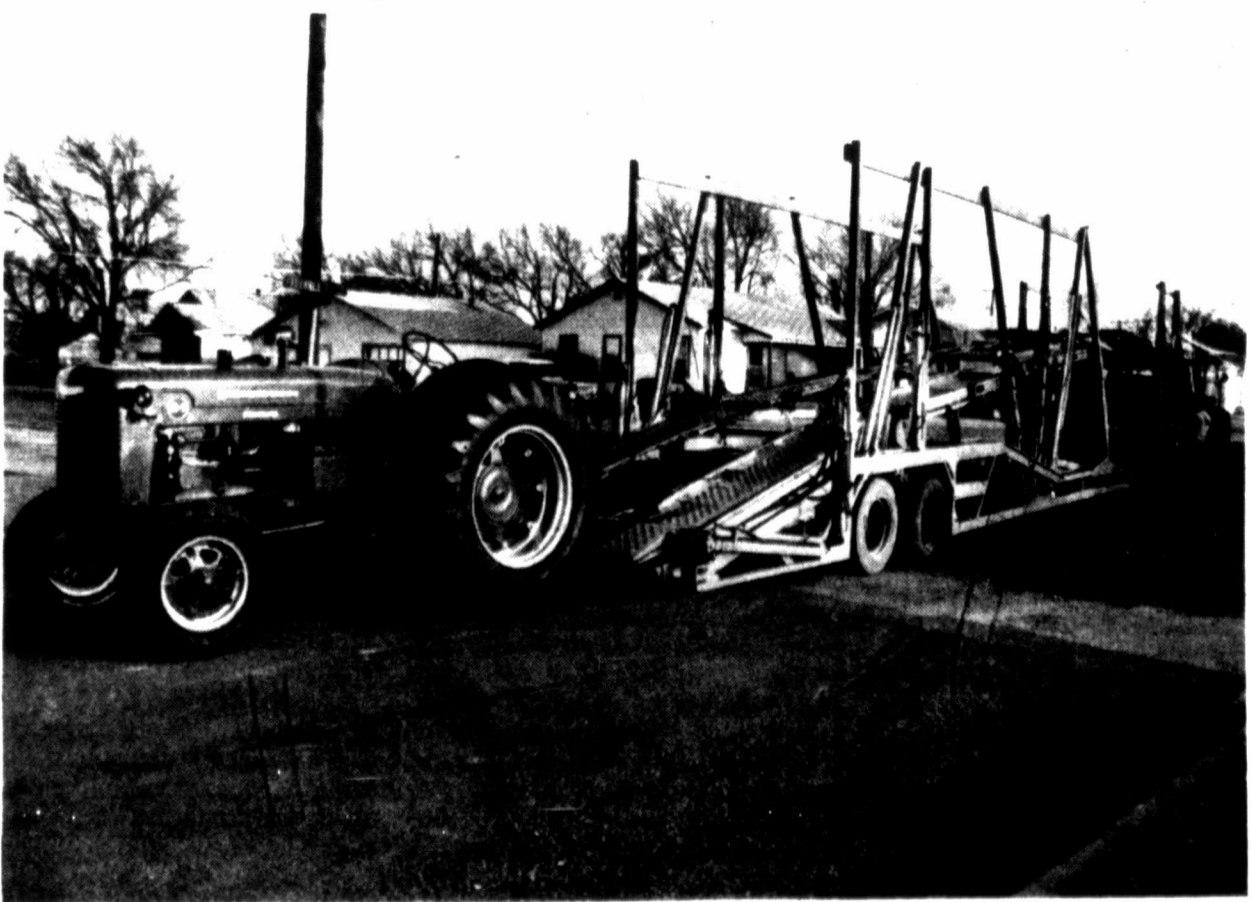
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VOL. 84,
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A FREEDOM
NEWSPAPER

Stranded transport



(Staff photo by Bonner Green)

An automobile transport remains immobile and a tractor awaits a driver at Faulkner and Rham streets Thursday afternoon, as persons involved tried to figure out the best way to clear the intersection. The transport, loaded with a single Dodge pickup destined for Robert Knowles car dealership, had high centered in the road and could not move until the truck was unloaded and the tractor pulled it off the high spot in the roadway. The intersection was blocked for the better part of an hour Thursday while officials worked to clear the road.

Lake McClellan improvements discussed

District Ranger Reggie Blackwell and forester Arnold Wilson with the U.S. Forest Service in Cheyenne, Okla., fielded questions Thursday night about the future of Lake McClellan at the monthly board meeting of Lake McClellan Improvement Inc.

The two men released for public study copies of the long-term management plan devised by Blackwell for the lake. He said as many alternatives as possible are being studied and will be presented to the public for comment.

Blackwell said it is hoped the responses can be returned to the Forest Service by Jan. 31, preparatory to assembling the final plan. A final decision for long-term management, including detailed dredging considerations, will be issued by March 15.

Copies of the improvement plan for the public may be obtained at the Soil Conservation Service office located in the Gray County Annex building on East Frederic in Pampa.

Comments about the plan should be addressed to District Ranger Reggie Blackwell, U.S. Forest Service, Black Kettle National Grassland, Route 1, Box 55-B, Cheyenne, OK 73628.

The range of alternatives in the plan are divided into two sections: recreation uses management and recreation facilities construction.

Recreation uses management addresses 12 areas: shoreline fishing, camping/picnicking, viewing

scenery/wildlife, fishing and pleasure boating, off-road vehicle use, swimming, waterskiing, organized group activities, hiking, bicycle use, horseback riding, and hunting.

The recreation facilities construction category addresses eight topics: lakebed dredging/modification, reconstruction of the south shore recreation sites, reconstruction of the north shore recreation sites, development of a new RV camping area, development of a new concession building/housing, cultural resources interpretation, development of an amphitheater area, and utilization of vegetation management techniques.

Each topic summarizes the "current situation" and then lists several alternatives that could be implemented.

The overall cost of the recreation programs, dredging and facilities construction proposed are detailed in the management plan. Dredging costs, depending upon the alternative selected, would range from \$325,000 to \$1.2 million. New facilities construction, depending upon the range of alternatives, would vary from \$800,000 to \$1.2 million collectively, bringing the total program cost from \$1,125,000 to \$2.4 million.

The report states that funding for such a project would have to come from not only the U.S. Forest Service, but also from private sources, efforts of the non-profit Lake McClellan Improvement Inc. group and funding of certain developments

by the long-term concessionaire permittee, when awarded.

Blackwell noted that a development schedule will require up to five years or longer to allow for funding to complete the major projects, such as dredging and RV camping area development. Developments will be planned in segments to allow some improvement each year as funding allows, beginning in 1992.

Much of the discussion by those attending the meeting concerned use of motorcycles at the lake. Improvement group president Gerald Wright encouraged motorcycle enthusiasts to prepare comments about the plan and send them to Blackwell for review.

In other business, the board approved Saturday, Feb. 29, as Lake McClellan Cleanup Day. Volunteers are asked to report to the concession area of the lake at noon that day. Coffee will be furnished free to workers, as will plastic trash bags for collecting refuse.

Those participating in the cleanup day will not be charged the usual fees for lake area use that day. Wright said food and other refreshments will be available at the permit office.

The board authorized Sid Mauldin to proceed with securing a band for a fund-raising dance, the time and date of which will be announced later.

The next meeting of the board was scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the Gray County Court-house.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

MONTGOMERY, Virginia — 10 a.m., Durham Baptist Church, Durham, Okla.
RILEY, Lucille — 10:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, Shamrock.
ROLES, Maggie V. — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, White Deer.
WALL, Vena Gladys — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Shamrock.

Obituaries

CHESTER K. BOWLES
 BILOXI, Miss. — Chester K. Bowles, 66, relative of Pampa, Texas, area residents, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1992. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. today at Biloxi National Cemetery by Howard Avenue Chapel of Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home.
 Mr. Bowles was a lifetime resident of Biloxi. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lillian Denham Bowles.

Survivors include two daughters, Neva Davis and Jannis Lewis, both of Pampa; four sons, Conley K. Bowles of Biloxi; Raymond D. Bowles and Phillip D. Bowles, both of Pampa; and Delmer E. Bowles of Amarillo; his mother, Morea Bowles of Pampa; one sister, Kelly Wilcox of Lefors, Texas; and 13 grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be made to St. Jude's Children Cancer Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

VIRGINIA MONTGOMERY

DURHAM, Okla. — Virginia Montgomery, 82, sister of a Canadian, Texas, woman, died Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1992. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Durham Baptist Church with the Rev. Ray Smart, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery by Rose Chapel Funeral Service in Cheyenne.

Mrs. Montgomery was born in Durham and graduated from Durham High School and attended Southwestern State College at Weatherford. She married Marshall Ernest Montgomery in 1938 at Chickasha. She had taught school in Oklahoma and Texas. She was a member of Durham Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband; a daughter, Marsha Montgomery of Dallas; a son, Max Montgomery of Durham; and five sisters, Winnie Estes of Yukon, Verona Cole of Canadian, Texas, Sarah Newton of Lafayette, Colo., Rubye Montgomery of Colusa, Calif., and Jean Baker of Beaver.

LUCILLE RILEY

SHAMROCK — Lucille Riley, 81, died Thursday, Jan. 23, 1992. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Neely Landrum, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Shamrock Cemetery by Richerson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Riley was born in Whitesboro and had lived in the Shamrock area since 1935. She married Elmo Riley in 1939 at Erick, Okla.; he preceded her in death in 1983. She was a volunteer at the Care Inn of Shamrock and was the local coordinator of commodities distribution. She was a member of First United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women Boosters.

Survivors include three sons, W.H. Riley of Shamrock, Jerry Riley of Amarillo and Robert Riley of Miami, Texas; a sister, Lula Sheegof of McLean; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

VENA GLADYS WALL

SHAMROCK — Vena Gladys Wall, 88, died Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1992. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike Chancellor, pastor, and the Rev. Clarence Jones of Amarillo officiating. Burial will be in Shamrock Cemetery by Richerson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Wall was born in Red Rock and had lived in Shamrock since 1934. She married Thomas Afton Wall in 1927 in Collin County; he preceded her in death in 1982. She owned and operated the Wall Cafe for 27 years, retiring in 1968. She was a member of First Baptist Church and the Rebekah Lodge. She was preceded in death by two sons, Freddie E. Wall and Walter W. Wall.

Survivors include a son, Tommy Wall of Shamrock; a daughter, Joyce Locke of Amarillo; 15 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Wheeler-Evans of Pampa		
Wheat	3.90	
Milo	4.13	
Corn	4.56	
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation:		
Ky. Cent. Life	6 1/4	NC
Seafco	2 1/4	NC
Occidental	19 1/2	dn 1/8
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:		
Magellan	69.16	
Puritan	14.35	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
Amoco	47 3/8	up 1/8
Arco	108 3/8	up 7/8
Cabot	36 1/2	NC
Cabot O&G	12 1/8	dn 1/8
Chevron	66 1/4	dn 1/2
Coca-Cola	74 5/8	up 1/8
Enron	33 7/8	NC
Halliburton	27 7/8	dn 1/8
HealthTrust Inc.	21 1/2	NC
Ingersoll Rand	59 1/4	NC
KNE	26 5/8	NC
Kerr McGee	38 1/2	up 1/4
Limited	29 3/8	up 1/8
Mapco	57	dn 1/4
Maxus	6 3/8	dn 1/8
McDonald's	42 7/8	up 1/4
Mesa Ltd.	Not available	
Mobil	67	up 1/4
New Atmos	21 3/8	dn 1/8
Parker & Panley	13	up 1/8
Penney's	54 7/8	N/C
Phillips	24 3/8	up 3/8
SLB	62 7/8	up 1/4
SPS	32 1/4	dn 1/8
Tenneco	36 1/8	dn 1/8
Texaco	61	up 1/8
Wal-Mart	55 7/8	up 3/8
New York Gold	353.20	
Silver	4.13	
West Texas Crude	18.47	

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

THURSDAY, Jan. 23

12:57 p.m. — Well head fire southwest of Kingsmill injured two men. Three units and seven firefighters responded. (See related story)
 2:07 p.m. — Medical assist at Finley and Locust. One unit and two firefighters responded.

Hospital

CORONADO HOSPITAL Admissions
 Mildred S. Barron, Lamesa
 Edith Faye Bruce, Pampa
 Gerald Laughlin, Pampa
 Nelda Lee Maginnis, Reno, Nev.
 Elva Christine Poore, Miami
 Emma Lou Mastella (extended care), Pampa
Dismissals
 Heather Douglas and baby boy, Pampa
 Katrina Gay Hernandez and baby girl, Pampa
 Brandi Lenderman, Pampa

Pampa
 Emma Lou Mastella, Pampa
 Karly Autumn Power, Pampa
 Winnie Slaton, Pampa
 Madeline Rowntree (extended care), Pampa

SHAMROCK HOSPITAL Admissions
 Marjorie Jones, McLean
Dismissals
 Nadine Sims, Shamrock
 J.B. Andres, Elk City, Okla.
 Saalee Pool, Shamrock

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

THURSDAY, Jan. 23

J.C. Penny's, Pampa Mall, reported a theft at the business.

The city of Pampa reported criminal mischief in the alley behind the 300 block of North Hobart. Albertson's, Coronado Center, reported a theft at the business.

Brenda Blaylock, 620 Deane, reported a burglary at the residence.

Dora Delfiermo, 1113 Montague, reported lost property at Homeland.

Frank's Foods, 300 E. Brown, reported a forgery at the business.

Municipal Judge Patsy Lee reported retaliation through verbal abuse at the city holding facility.

Police took a report of indecency with a child stemming from an incident in Midland. No other details were available.

Arrests

THURSDAY, Jan. 23

Charity Michelle DeWitt, 17, 1100 S. Christy, was arrested at 1233 N. Hobart on a charge of theft. She was released on court summons.

Larry Don Foster, 24, 2124 N. Wells, was arrested at 19th and Hobart on charges of driving while license suspended and driving while intoxicated.

FRIDAY, Jan. 24

Lloyd Keith French, 32, 616 N. Somerville, was arrested near the residence on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Accidents

The Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

FRIDAY, Jan. 24

1:30 a.m. — A 1977 Continental driven by Lloyd Keith French, 616 N. Somerville, collided with a legally parked 1982 Ford owned by Ricky Nix, 521 N. Somerville, in the 500 block of North Somerville. French was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated. He reported a possible injury.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office made the following arrest during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

THURSDAY, Jan. 23

David Wayne Shook, 18, 2314 Mary Ellen, was arrested on an indictment alleging burglary of a habitation and burglary of motor vehicles.

Calendar of events

PAMPA BRIDGE CLUB
 Pampa Bridge Club meets on Sunday at 2 p.m. in Room 11 at Clarendon College. For a partner, contact Verdalee Cooper at 669-2813.

THEE PLACE

Thee Place for Singles is open Saturdays, 7-10:30 p.m., at 520 W. Kingsmill.

SOUTHSIDE SENIORS MENU

Southside Senior Citizens menu for Saturday will be meat loaf, lima beans, carrots, hot rolls, cake.

PAMPA SINGLES ORGANIZATION

Pampa Singles will meet at 7 p.m. Saturday at 2334 Mary Ellen, for snacks and games. For more information, call 669-9569.

WORK DAY FOR ACT I

Area Community Theatre Inc. (ACT I) will sponsor a work day to build sets and prepare for the winter production at the theatre space in the Pampa Mall from 1 - 3 p.m., Saturday. All stagehand members and anyone interested in earning more about community theatre are invited. Parking available at the back entrance on the west side of the Mall. For more information, call Kayla Pursley, 669-9312.

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	665-5777
Fire	911
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	669-5700
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

Hundreds of businesses file lawsuit over new education property tax

AUSTIN (AP) — Hundreds of Texas businesses have filed a lawsuit to prevent the possibility of double taxation in case the new education property tax is thrown out by the state Supreme Court.

"If they throw out the current system, they're going to have to put something in its place," said San Antonio lawyer Edward Kliever III, who represents the 434 businesses that filed suit Thursday in Austin.

The Texas Supreme Court is considering a challenge by property-rich school districts to the new school finance law, which is designed to shift hundreds of millions of local property tax dollars from wealthier to poorer school districts within new education taxing districts made up of one or several counties.

If the county education district tax is declared unconstitutional, the so-called voluntary payment doctrine in common law could prevent taxpayers from getting refunds unless they have filed a lawsuit protesting the tax.

Kliever said the businesses simply want to ensure that they are entitled to a credit or a refund on taxes already paid and noted that the companies have a responsibility to their shareholders.

"This route is permitting them to pay their taxes and meet their obligations, and not cause hardships to schools that need this money," he said. Kliever said the businesses would pay their school property taxes by the Jan. 31 due date.

Among the business plaintiffs are General Motors Corp.; Campbell Soup Texas Inc.; various Chevron companies; Dillard Department Stores Inc.; J.C. Penny Co. Inc.; Mesa Operating Limited Partnership; Mobil Oil Corp.; Pennzoil Co.; Phillips Petroleum Co.;

Sears, Roebuck and Co.; Southwestern Bell; Temple-Inland Forest Products Corp.; and Texas Instruments Inc.

Their lawsuit says the businesses do not owe the county education district property taxes because the levy is unconstitutional.

The businesses on Thursday asked State District Judge Scott McCown of Austin to issue a temporary restraining order to ensure the taxes would not be collected and to prohibit the companies' property from being seized if they don't pay.

McCown rejected the request and scheduled a Feb. 4 hearing. The judge last year upheld the new school property tax system.

Also Thursday, West Lake Hills lawyer James Keahey filed a lawsuit against the Travis County Education District and all other CEDs. He is asking that the case be declared a class action on behalf of all Texas taxpayers, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported.

Keahey said "it doesn't seem right" that only those taxpayers who filed lawsuits before paying their taxes should get their money back if the tax is declared illegal.

Lawsuits also have been filed by Transamerica Natural Gas and its subsidiaries in Webb and Zapata counties, the newspaper reported.

The Texas Association of School Boards warned that the \$4.5 billion expected to be raised through the new county education districts is "crucial" to schools' operation.

The amount is about one-third of the funds necessary to operate Texas public schools, and many schools would close if the money is taken away and not replaced, the association said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Student

For example, some principals said, in the area of "spelling, capitalization and punctuation" it remains unknown which of those three areas students need help on.

It was also pointed out that the writing test includes several sentences that have no errors, which most students had never experienced before.

"If they saw a sentence, most of the kids assumed it must have mistakes in it or they wouldn't have put it on the test," the board was told by administrators.

"I don't think there is any doubt that teachers and students can deliver," Steele said. "We have wonderful teachers who are spending lots

of time on this. Most of this is a process problem and that's what we have spending a lot of time on. You don't want to rush in and change everything. When you find a problem area, it does not mean everything you are doing is wrong."

She said each campus will be "finding what works for them" over the next several months to raise test scores by next October when the test is again given.

In other business, trustees accepted bids of \$9,594 for six computers and related equipment for Lamar Elementary and \$3,420 for business office computer hardware.

They also issued an election order for May 2 for the seats currently occupied by Jim Duggan and Sherry McCavit, agreed to the sale

of two pieces of tax property already acted upon by the City Commission and gave permission for the high school to seek a waiver for second semester tests for students passing their classes and having good attendance.

Dr. Dawson Orr, superintendent of schools, announced there will be no Summer Academy this year due to expiration of a federal grant and failure to secure other funds.

Coward told the board the high school is considering going to a seven-period day next year to allow students more time to take electives than they have in the current six-period configuration.

Board members also approved an employee assistance program for confidential counseling through Pampa Family Services.

City briefs

BRICK REPAIR: Harley Knutson 665-4237. Adv.

ALLSTATE INSURANCE Co., 1064 N. Hobart, 665-4410. Adv.

FASTER REFUNDS with Free Electronic Filing when I prepare your 1991 Tax Return. Competitive rates. M. David Webster, 109 W. Kingsmill, 669-2233. Adv.

50 TO 75% Off at The Clothes Line all week. Adv.

PERSONAL TOUCH, Fall items 75, 70, 60, 50% Off. Register for a \$20 gift certificate to be given away every Saturday at 4 p.m. Adv.

OVER 100 pair Rocky Mountains just arrived, all \$10 Off. The Clothes Line. Adv.

CRYSTAL CREEK from Lubbock, will be performing Wednesday thru Saturday at City Limits. Adv.

SECOND HALF of Junior League Bowling now forming at Harvester Lanes. Registration January 25, 10 a.m. For more information call 665-3422 or 665-5181. Adv.

GOLF SALE: All Drivers reduced. All merchandise reduced. Shoot Out Saturday, 10:30 a.m. David's Golf Shop. Adv.

BRENDA LAMB formerly of Hair Benders has moved to Shear Elegance. Welcomes old and new customers. Call 665-7117. Adv.

PHS CLASS of 1972: Class Reunion Organizational Meeting Sunday January 26, 3:00 p.m. First Christian Church. For information call: Cindy Presnell Gindorf 665-6996 or Brenda Scott Tucker 669-2739. Adv.

RICK (STEAK Burner) Powers is no longer associated with Easy's on Perryton Parkway. Look for opening other place. Adv.

INVITATIONAL VOLLY-BALL Tournament — Panhandle, Texas, February 6, 7 and 8. Mixed League. \$40 entry fee. Deadline February 3. For more information contact Ken Jones 806-537-3604 or Christy Sams 806-537-3044. Adv.

FOR SALE Matching Sofa and chair. 665-4038. Adv.

DANCE SATURDAY Night, January 25, McLean Country Club, 8:30-12:30. Members and visitors welcome. Music by Rimfire. \$12 couple. Adv.

TRIMBLE'S SHAMROCK hiring full time. 1600 N. Duncan. Adv.

JUST ARRIVED new shipment of paper twist, sequin applique, Iron on transfer. Place your order now for your sweetheart a valentine shirt. New classes being scheduled. Call us or come by for details. Granny's Hobbies and Gifts, Coronado Center, 665-0806. Adv.

ROLANDA'S JUST received new shipment of merchandise. Adv.

TAX SERVICE & Bookkeeping, Glenda Brownlee, 825 Dwight, 665-0310 or 274-2142. Adv.

MR. DETAIL 4th Anniversary Blow Out. Wash-n-Wax \$15, all sizes. Wash-n-Wax \$24.95 all sizes. Call 665-9566. Thanks Pampa. Adv.

SATURDAYS AT Styles Unlimited, Special Shampoo and Set \$6.50. Call 665-4247 ask for Barbara. Adv.

WOULD YOU like to learn how to recycle those cookie tins you got for Christmas? Call 665-1372 for details. Adv.

FIRST METHODIST Church Mother's Day Out has some openings on Wednesday and Fridays. Call 669-9371. Adv.

SUPER BOWL Sunday Garage Sale 12 to 6 and Monday 9 to 5. 2339 Beech. First time ever! Adv.

ROBERT AND JoAnn Dixon Bookkeeping Tax Service, 1313 N. Hobart, 665-6846, 669-2113. Adv.

FOUND: MALE Boston Terrier. Austin school district. 665-6830. Adv.

BEAUTY SHOP for lease. Details at Roden's Fabric Shop, 312 S. Cuyler. Adv.

NINNY'S BUCKET: Moving sale: 75% off all fall maternity and childrens clothing. We'd rather sell it than move it. Our mall store will close January 29, at 6 p.m. Adv.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight, clear with a low in the upper 20s and westerly to northwesterly winds 5-15 mph. Saturday, sunny and warmer, with a high in the lower 60s. Thursday's high was 52 degrees; the overnight low was 25 degrees.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Mostly clear tonight. Sunny again Saturday except for partly cloudy in the far west and extreme south. Lows tonight in the 20s except lower 30s Concho Valley and upper 30s Big Bend valleys. Highs Saturday in the 60s except near 70 Big Bend valleys.

North Texas — Fair and warmer tonight. Partly cloudy Saturday. Low tonight 32 to 36. High Saturday 67 to 70.

South Texas — Fair to partly cloudy north tonight and Saturday, mostly cloudy south. Lows tonight in the 20s Hill Country, the 30s to near 40 north and in the 40s to near 50 south. Highs Saturday in the 60s north to near 70 south.

EXTENDED FORECAST

Sunday through Tuesday
 West Texas — Texas Panhandle,

generally fair Sunday through Tuesday. Highs in the mid to upper 50s cooling to the mid to upper 40s by Tuesday. Lows from near 30 to the South Plains. Low rolling plains, generally fair Sunday through Tuesday. Highs in the upper 50s cooling to the upper 40s by Tuesday. Lows around 30s. Permian Basin Concho Valley-Edwards Plateau, partly cloudy Sunday and Monday. Generally fair Tuesday. Highs in the lower to mid 50s. Lows in the lower to mid 30s. Big Bend area, partly cloudy Sunday through Tuesday. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s mountains and in the 60s along the Rio Grande. Lows in the 20s mountains to the 30s along the river.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central Texas, cloudy with a chance of showers Sunday and Monday. Decreasing clouds Tuesday. Lows Sunday and Monday in the 40s. Lows Tuesday from 30s Hill Country to 40s south central. Highs in the 50s. Texas Coastal Bend, cloudy with a chance of showers Sunday and Monday.

Mostly cloudy Tuesday. Lows in the 40s to near 50. Highs in the 60s. Lower Rio Grande Valley and plains, cloudy with a chance of showers Sunday and Monday. Mostly cloudy Tuesday. Lows in the 50s. Highs in the 60s. Southeast Texas and the upper Texas coast, cloudy with a chance of showers through Tuesday. Lows in the 40s to near 50. Highs in the 50s to near 60.

North Texas — Cooler with a chance of rain Sunday and Monday, dry Tuesday. West, lows in the 30s. Highs in the 50s. Central and east, lows around 40. Highs around 60 Sunday and Monday, and in the 50s Tuesday.

BORDER STATES

Oklahoma — Fair through Saturday with warm afternoons. Lows tonight upper 20s Panhandle to upper 30s northeast. Highs Saturday 57 to 65.

New Mexico — Mostly clear through Saturday except for increasing high clouds southwest Saturday afternoon. Highs Saturday in the upper 30s to mid 50s mountains and northwest with 50s to mid 60s elsewhere. Lows tonight zero to near 20 mountains and northwest with 20s to low 30s elsewhere.

Coast Guard continues search for six missing crewmen

GALVESTON (AP) — Rescuers continued searching the Gulf of Mexico for six crewmen missing from a Venezuelan supply ship that sank, killing at least two people.

Three other crew members who survived the ordeal were found in a life raft Thursday morning. The two victims were later discovered in another raft drifting in the gulf. Coast Guard rescuers used

infrared equipment capable of locating heat sources in the water as they searched for more survivors in the dark late Thursday.

Astronauts work on crystal growth, biological experiments

By SUSAN HIGHTOWER
Associated Press Writer

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Discovery's astronauts worked today to overcome a snag in an experiment involving growing a pure crystal that could be used to monitor radiation at nuclear power plants.

Seven crew members have been working on experiments non-stop since the shuttle roared into a 187-mile-high orbit Wednesday.

Mission Control said it had been "a fairly quiet morning": "No major problems, or any problems of significance, have been reported by the crew overnight or seen by flight controllers here."

But the crew did run into some trouble in one of 42 experiments planned, growing a mercury iodide crystal inside a bell jar. Instead of growing larger, the gleaming "seed" crystal of mercury iodide began getting numerous small crystals growing in lumps around its base.

Bob Lessels, spokesman at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., said scientists on the ground instructed astronaut Ulf Merbold reduce the temperature to try to dissolve the small crystallites and allow the larger crystal to grow. Scientists had anticipated growing the main crystal for about 100 hours.

"It will take a while to get rid of all that stuff," Merbold said this morning.

Scientists believe they can grow bigger, higher-quality crystals in the near-weightlessness of space.

On Earth, fragile mercury iodide crystals frequently have defects that may be caused by gravity.

Merbold said before the flight that the crystals should make better detectors of X-rays and gamma rays than others now used because they can operate at room temperature, instead of requiring extreme cold.

The crystals also could be used in astronomy and in medical diagnosis and therapy. Other crystal growth experiments on Discovery include several proteins that

are being subjected to varying amounts of artificial gravity and light.

Some of the seedlings have begun leaning in all directions. Scientists want to learn how gravity and light affect the direction plants grow.

Astronaut William Readdy also tested a new computer workstation specially designed to be easily used in space.

The astronauts are splitting 12-hour work shifts during the weeklong mission, scheduled to end Wednesday at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Mission Control offered birthday greetings to William Readdy, who turned 40 today. "You may be younger now through relativity," Mission Control joked.

Earlier Thursday, NASA television caught Merbold in an embarrassing moment when he was shown with his pants down around his knees. Cameras showed him in white briefs with his back turned.

announced an austerity plan at the private school. He said he wanted to complete work on Stanford's approximately \$400 million operating budget before taking on his new duties at Freedom.

Rosse downplays his fiscal expertise, saying budgeting is merely a "way of accomplishing things and rewarding the accomplishees."

His management style, he said, is to give managers "a good deal of independence while carefully balancing what can be done centrally."

"I like to give people a good deal of room to operate."

Rosse declined to discuss specific plans for the company, saying he hasn't had time to study the company's markets.

A native of Sidney, Neb., Rosse has worked at Stanford for 26 years, first as an economics professor and then as associate dean of humanities and sciences. He was named director of the Center for Economic Policy Research in 1982 and provost, the top administrative officer, in 1984.

Rosse earned a bachelor's degree

Galveston chosen as home port for USS Lexington

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Corpus Christi's selection as the new home for the historic aircraft carrier USS Lexington is the third jewel in the city's burgeoning tourism crown, its mayor says.

Navy Secretary Lawrence Garrett III on Thursday picked Corpus Christi over Mobile, Ala., and Quincy, Mass., as home for the decommissioned "Blue Ghost."

"After all factors were considered, the city of Corpus Christi was the clear choice among three outstanding applications," Garrett wrote lawmakers in a letter ending the "unintended competition."

South Texas officials plan to turn the World War II ship into a floating museum.



(AP Laserphoto)

Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock speaks to the Texas Chamber of Commerce in Austin Thursday, saying he will oppose any tax increase in the next legislative session.

Bullock opposes tax increase

AUSTIN (AP) — Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock's vow to oppose any tax increase during next year's regular legislative session has not impressed state Republican Party officials.

Karen Parfitt Hughes, executive director of the state GOP, said Thursday, "I wish he had come to that opinion earlier before passing a \$2.7 billion tax increase."

In 1991, lawmakers adopted a \$2.7 billion tax and fee bill to balance the budget. And, she added, that she took Bullock's no tax hike pledge "with a grain of salt," because Bullock denied during the election campaign that he favored an income tax.

Once taking office, Bullock, the second-highest elected official in state government, stunned lawmakers when he proposed personal and corporate income taxes.

But on Thursday, in a speech to the Texas Chamber of Commerce, Bullock said, "In light of the mood of Texans, and an economy that is sluggish at best, and in light of the unfair tax system ... I am going to oppose next session any increase in taxes."

Bullock, a former state comptroller,

has long been a proponent of tax reform, complaining that the current tax structure is unfair. But talking to reporters, he indicated that his message has not gotten across to the public.

"I've taken exactly what Texans want at face value," Bullock said. "We are at the point in Texas where if we raise those rates, frankly, we would just further prostitute an inequitable tax system."

But Bullock left himself some leeway, saying that his position could change if the courts order changes in education funding. The Texas Supreme Court currently is considering the public school finance system, and a state judge has declared the higher education funding system unconstitutional.

State Rep. Ric Williamson, House budget writing committee vice chairman, said Bullock was facing the realities of next year's state budget wars.

"Lt. Gov. Bullock is saying that in the real world of the 1992-93 debate there is no support for increasing tax revenue, therefore we will restructure the way government spends its money," Williamson, D-Weatherford, said.

Freedom Newspapers names new president

By JEFF ROWE
The Orange County Register

IRVINE, Calif. — Stanford University Provost James N. Rosse has been elected president and chief executive of Freedom Newspapers Inc. on Monday, culminating a search for a replacement for D.R. "Bob" Segal, who will retire.

Rosse, 60, will assume his new duties April 6.

Freedom Newspapers owns 28 daily newspapers including *The Pampa News*, 16 weekly papers and five broadcast television stations around the nation.

"Newspapers have a strong and long future," Rosse said. "The recession makes it look bleak, but you have to separate the cyclical from the long term. Right now we are at the low end of a cyclical period. It's important to get ourselves well-positioned when the recession ends."

Rosse has been dealing with economic difficulties at Stanford, which is grappling with a \$76 million budget shortfall. Last year, he

in economics and journalism, a master's degree in economics and statistics and a doctorate in economics and mathematics, all from the University of Minnesota.

While working at Stanford, Rosse built a newspaper consulting practice, specializing in newspaper antitrust litigation and regulatory concerns.

Freedom Chairman Bob Hardie said he was "very pleased" with Rosse's selection as president, which the 13-member board unanimously approved.

Hardie said the challenge for newspapers and broadcast media in the '90s will be "staying abreast of the changing demographics and times."

Segal, 71, will remain a member of the Freedom board of directors and a consultant for an indefinite period. Segal began his career in 1945 as a reporter with the *Orange County Register*, advancing through a series of management positions at Freedom Newspapers before being named president and chief operating officer of the company in 1978. A few years later, he was named chief executive.

on the House floor. "The sealing of documents by the House is something that I believe the House of Representatives should find abhorrent."

In his speech, Gonzalez noted that he introduced the legislation creating the House Select Committee on Assassinations in 1976. He also explained his subsequent resignation as chairman the following year after the House leadership refused to back him in a power struggle with the committee's counsel. He was replaced by Stokes.

The committee, which disbanded in 1979, produced a 27-volume report that concluded that Kennedy was "probably" assassinated as the result of a conspiracy involving a second gunman. That conclusion was at odds with the Warren Commission, which decided in 1964 that Oswald acted alone.

Gonzalez introduces resolution to open JFK files

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former chairman of a House assassinations panel has introduced a resolution to immediately open secret committee files on the slaying of President Kennedy.

Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-San Antonio, is sponsoring a resolution that would call for release of the sealed documents within 30 days after passage of the measure.

Gonzalez, a friend of Kennedy's who was in the presidential motorcade on Nov. 22, 1963, is the first congressman to introduce a measure this session to open files scheduled to remain sealed until 2029.

Another former chairman of the assassinations panel, Rep. Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, also favors release of the records and is considering introducing his own legislation to free them, spokeswoman Joyce

Larkin said Thursday.

"He'll probably introduce something separately, although it's still in the works," she said.

Many in recent weeks have called for the release of all pertinent files — including those from the Warren Commission. The renewed interest has been sparked by the recent release of Oliver Stone's conspiracy film, *JFK*.

A written message at the end of the movie notes that the House committee sealed over 848 boxes of assassination records.

The committee also probed the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., but Gonzalez' measure does not address those records.

"Until a few weeks ago, I had no idea that any documents had been sealed," Gonzalez said Wednesday in a one-minute speech

on the House floor. "The sealing of documents by the House is something that I believe the House of Representatives should find abhorrent."

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Rep. Solomon Ortiz, whose district includes Corpus Christi, said the Lexington will become one of the best tourist attractions in South Texas.

"The USS Lexington has a rich history and deserves the proper respect and maintenance due a training carrier which has served the United States and all her personnel without fail," he said.

Officials from the losing states were dismayed by Garrett's decision.

"I feel it's an injustice to the people of Massachusetts," said Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. "The Lexington was built in Quincy, it's part of our heritage, it's named for the battle that began America, and it belongs in Massachusetts," he said.

"There's no question it belongs here," said Charlie Ryberg of Plymouth, Mass., who served three years on the Lexington during World War II.

But, the retired firefighter added, "Being a member of the crew, the most important thing was to save the Lexington from being made into razor blades or scrapped."

Alabama lawmakers contended that Mobile's proposal was superior to Corpus Christi's.

Sen. Howell Heflin, D-Ala., said he was "extremely disappointed" by Mobile's loss. "But it is hard to compete with combined executive and congressional competition," he said.

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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

Market provides a favorable sign

The Great Depression started with the stock market crash of 1929. Until then, the 1920s had roared along, with business booming. On Wall Street, common stock prices more than doubled between 1925 and 1929, creating huge fortunes.

What a change from 1929 to 1991. Last year, despite a recession that some call the worst since the Depression, the stock market soared, and the Dow closing the year at 3168. Even a January correction won't erase December's luster.

In December alone, as retailers announced their worst Christmas in years, the Dow rose 274 points, close to a 9 percent increase.

One reason for the rally is clear enough: Where else can investors put their money? With interest rates at a 25-year low, many of the favorite instruments of the 1980s, like savings accounts and certificates of deposit, are out of favor. Gold, silver and real estate have lost their luster. Yes, the bond market is attractive, but investors still like the excitement of common stocks.

But how long can the Dow and the economy move in opposite directions? Obviously not for too long. If workers are being laid off, pretty soon retailers aren't selling, manufacturers aren't producing, company earnings are falling and investors aren't buying stocks.

On balance, the disjunction between Wall Street and the economy is a good sign — a sign investors think the economy is going to pick up — maybe not in the first or second quarters of 1992, but at least by the third quarter. In other words, the best bet is that Wall Street's rally is not a harbinger of a '29-style crash, but the market's forecast that the end of the recession is near.

One reason for optimism is that this bull market is not built on speculation and pyramiding, as in 1929, but on cash purchases by large funds, often mutual funds. Another is that farmers are in better shape today than in 1929. A third is that, through mutual funds, the rally is broader. In the 1920s, workers did not participate in the prosperity. Even as businesses got richer, wages remained flat and workers lacked money to invest.

True, some bad signs exist today. The distribution of income in America is less equitable than in other industrialized countries. Studies continually show that top U.S. executives earn as much as 100 times more than their average worker, compared with ratios closer to 20:1 in countries like Japan and Germany. At the same time, the American middle class has expanded considerably in the last several decades.

In the meantime, let's take the year-end rally for what it likely means: That despite tough times, lower interest rates mean the economy should be out of its nose dive by the end of the year.

That means the government must do nothing that would raise interest rates; above all, nothing that would increase the budget deficit.

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Berry's World



Jim Berry
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"When you invited me over to see the SUPER BOWL, I thought you meant...."

Federalism does have limits

WASHINGTON — Rose Cipollone began smoking Chesterfields at 16. She was still smoking — Parliaments, as it happened — when she died of lung cancer at 58. In between she smoked L&Ms and Virginia Slims. Earlier this month, the U.S. Supreme Court heard renewed argument in the suit brought by her estate against the cigarette companies.

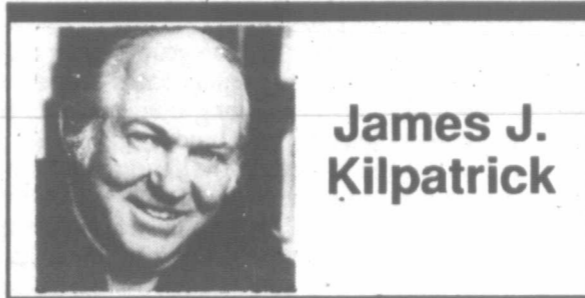
It's a fascinating case for two reasons. It involves two of the oldest principles of American life. One principle is personal — the principle that each of us is responsible for his own actions. The other is political — the principle that states have powers of their own. The high court is not much concerned with the former; a great many companies are deeply concerned with the latter.

This is the thrust of Cipollone's argument: The devil made her do it. That is, the ol' devil cigarette companies lured her into getting dependent upon nicotine. If it hadn't been for their advertising, she might never have taken up the dirty habit; she might have lived to be a hundred. It was all the companies' fault.

We hear that argument everywhere these days. It is not the fault of many teenagers that they have sex. It's peer pressure. If thousands of black youngsters drop out of school, it's because of their disadvantaged environment. If children do poorly in schools, the blame lies with the tests, TV and the teachers. It's not the kids' fault.

These contentions have a core of truth, but poet A.E. Housman had a phrase for such flummery. Such truths are beloved of liars, he said, "because they serve so well the cause of falsehood."

The larger, inescapable truth is that Rose Cipollone did it herself. She was neither deaf nor blind.



James J. Kilpatrick

She could read the English language. After 1966 every cigarette package she opened carried a warning that smoking would be bad for her health. We are, each of us, responsible for what we do with our own bodies. What's become of that principle?

In the Cipollone case, a New Jersey jury held she was 80 percent responsible for what happened. That judgment was reached under New Jersey law. The main question this month was whether the federal cigarette labeling act pre-empts suits that charge tobacco companies with failure adequately to warn customers.

The question evidently is a close one for the high court. The case was well-argued on Oct. 8. This was before Justice Clarence Thomas took his seat. Subsequently the court did something it rarely does: It ordered reargument, prompting speculation that the justices were divided 4-4.

It will be interesting to see how Thomas votes when an opinion comes down in the spring. In recent years, under Chief Justice William Rehnquist, the court steadily has been turning away from doctrines of federal supremacy. The pattern is

not wholly consistent, but it is clear that a majority of the justices incline toward the view that the states have some residual sovereignty after all.

What we are talking about, of course, is not a matter of a state's "rights" but of a state's powers. In the case at hand, does New Jersey have the power to apply its own civil law? The 1965 labeling act prohibits the states from imposing any "requirement" for additional cigarette labeling. Is such a requirement implicit in the bringing of a suit under New Jersey law?

Conservatives, I expect, will be divided on the issues. Most conservatives believe wholeheartedly in the doctrine of personal responsibility. As a general proposition, they also stand solidly behind the doctrine of federalism. This is at the foundation of the conservative's cry against "big government" and "federal intrusion." If the states are not prohibited by Congress or the Constitution from acting, our exhortation is: Use the little that remains of your sovereignty! Act away!

Even so, it is possible to carry old doctrines to excess, and in such areas as product liability it is folly to leave the states free to enact wildly conflicting regulatory laws. Too much uniformity is a bad thing, but too little uniformity can be just as mischievous. Manufacturers of cigarettes (or anything else) ought not to face 50 different laws in 50 different forums.

The Cipollone case may not provide as clear a case as one might ask, but it will tell us which way the smoke is blowing. I think the federal labeling act was intended to prevent scattershot litigation. States' rights ought not to be a cover for economic wrongs.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 1992. There are 342 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 24, 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in Northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.

On this date:

In 1742, Charles VII, king of Germany, was elected Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire during the War of the Austrian Succession.

In 1908, the first Boy Scout troop was organized in England by Robert Baden-Powell.

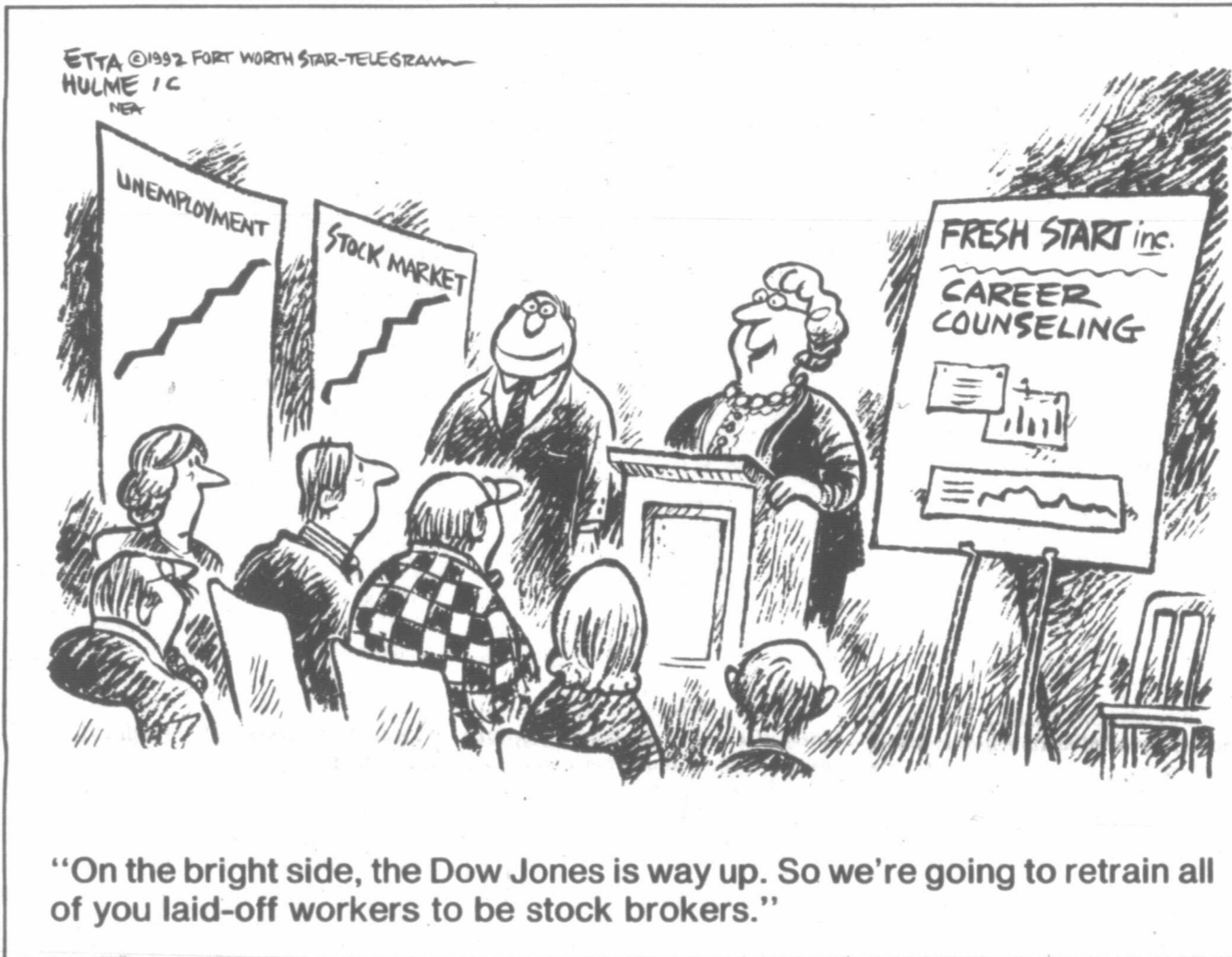
In 1916, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the federal income tax.

In 1922, Christian K. Nelson of Onawa, Iowa, patented the Eskimo Pie.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill concluded a wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco.

In 1965, former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill died in London at age 90.

In 1972, 20 years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down laws that denied welfare benefits to people who had resided in a state for less than a year.



"On the bright side, the Dow Jones is way up. So we're going to retrain all of you laid-off workers to be stock brokers."

Cholesterol control by niacin

Doctors are discovering nutrition. To their credit, Mayo and Loma Linda have had departments of nutrition for half a century. Now, with increased interest in preventive medicine, few physicians are unaware of nutrition as a tool, and gradually medical schools are coming around.

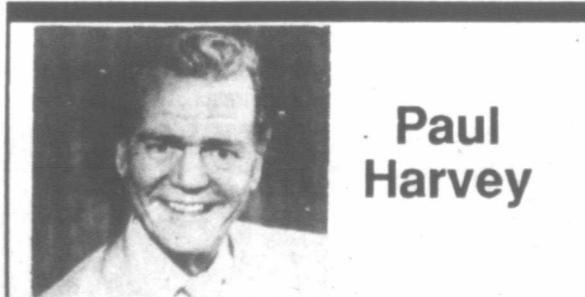
Why is acceptance so tedious, so gradual? For one thing, because different people respond to chemicals in different ways, controlled testing is complicated.

You might benefit from the same food substance which would make me sick. Thus, individual tolerances deter responsible researchers from saying unequivocally that something "is good for you."

There is another deterrent to vitamin therapy. When a beneficial drug comes out of one of the great pharmaceutical houses, that manufacturer promptly and persistently promotes that product with advertising, press releases and physician contacts.

But if some vitamin proves beneficial — a vitamin anybody can buy at any pharmacy or health food store — nobody has any financial incentive to beat the drums for it.

Take niacin, part of the Vitamin B complex.



Paul Harvey

Dr. William Parsons, since his training days at Mayo 35 years ago, has been enthusiastic about the ability of niacin to lower blood cholesterol without any dietary restriction.

Of the several drugs used for this purpose, this is "the cheap one."

Further, Dr. Parsons says, niacin is the only one that reduces "bad" cholesterol while raising levels of "good" cholesterol and reduces triglycerides.

Further, he says, niacin has been shown to reduce heart attacks and strokes, to reduce the need for cardiovascular surgery, to prolong life for individuals who have already had one or more heart attacks.

However — and Dr. Parsons is adamant about this — enough niacin to reduce cholesterol is, in

some people, enough to cause liver damage. Thus, it is essential that the dosage be regulated for each individual under medical supervision.

Again, despite its over-the-counter availability, Dr. Parsons warns that niacin should never be self-administered. Further, time-release niacin should never be administered in the same dosage as plain niacin.

So yes, there is a way to control cholesterol without dieting. But even so with aspirin, improperly administered it can be toxic.

This presents a Hobson's choice for responsible researchers.

They want you to know of any potentially beneficial drug but they don't want you to hurt yourself. And, understandably, they don't want to be sued for failure to warn you of any potential for toxicity.

In support of the research by Dr. Parsons and others over the years, the National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP) has designated niacin as one of the two "first-line" drugs for cholesterol control.

But above all, Dr. Parsons, now a Scottsdale, Ariz., internist, emphasizes that supervision by a knowledgeable physician is a MUST for safe cholesterol control with niacin.

The Alibi Age enters its third year

By JOSEPH SPEAR

This eagle-eyed correspondent was the first to peg the 1990s as the Alibi Age. All we've heard for the past two years, it seems, is excuses. I didn't do it: It was the (pick one): a) cigarettes, b) booze, c) television, d) movies, e) music, f) media, g) ozone hole, h) Prozac.

There's a flip side to this crybaby phenomenon that has less to do with excuses for things that have already been done to people and more with things they want done for them. Which is to say, nearly everything. Protect me, they plead, from (pick one): a) words, b) pictures, c) booze, d) weeds, e) drugs, f) amorous dates, g) harassers, h) sexual diseases.

They are clearly related, these syndromes. Both have to do with irresponsibility. Americans have become alibi artists, and we have developed the habit of demanding things be done for us that we ought to be doing for ourselves.

We no longer want a concerned Uncle Sam. When something goes

wrong, we want someone to fix it. We want a Mama-san.

In Japan, the Mama-san is the bar woman — hostess or proprietor — who lends an ear, pats hands and makes things right. The metaphor is not perfect, because Americans seem to want more — someone to actually solve their problems. But it does have a nice ring to it: No more Uncle Sam. Give us a Mama-san.

The concept of a Mama-san as a ubiquitous, all-knowing rectifier of errant things has actually been taking form for some time, in both public and private forums. The city council in Quincy, Mass., voted to ban cursing in public places. Mama-san protects her children from dirty words. The Walt Disney Co., whose founder sported a mustache, ordered all its park and hotel employees to shave off facial hair, trim their head hair and eschew bright-colored makeup and red fingernails. Mama-san wants all her children to look nice.

The editors of *Biblical Archaeology Review* magazine published photos

of ancient oil lamps bearing depictions of people engaged in sexual activities but perforated the pages for easy removal. Many of Mama-san's children do not acknowledge the existence of body parts. The Pentagon published a manual that advised returning Desert Storm troops how to deal decorously with their sexual needs. Mama-san's children do not frolic.

Mama-san has obviously been very busy, but her to-do list grows longer by the day. In Berkeley, Calif., a customer at Bette's Ocean View Diner was reading a *Playboy* magazine with his breakfast and a waitress told him to put it down or move to another table. Make those libidinous men read approved literature, Mama-san. In Seattle, a pregnant woman ordered a rum daiquiri and two restaurant employees refused to serve her until she had been fully informed about the effects of alcohol on fetuses. Make those mothers-to-be read the labels, Mama-san.

In St. Paul, Minn., five female employees of the Stroh Brewery Co. claimed the firm's Swedish Bikini

Team ads contributed to a sexist atmosphere in the workplace and sued for damages. We know there are laws that govern sexual harassment, Mama-san, but these commercials offend us and we would like them removed.

On *The Arsenio Hall Show*, comedian George Carlin offered a solution for the homeless problem: "Golf courses. Plenty of land that's devoted now to a meaningless, mindless activity engaged in primarily by white, well-to-do, male businessmen." Yeah, Mam-san, give the golf courses to the homeless.

There's much more Mama-san could do. Young people tell pollsters they want to be paid for voting. Feminist lawyers want to make wolf-whistling a crime. *Huckleberry Finn* is alleged to be racist and ought to be proscribed. Bungee-jumping can kill people and it should be banned. Kids have taken notice of Old Joe Camel and those ads should be pulled. Young people also watch beer commercials, so let's do away with them, too.

Make it better, Mama-san.
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Senate rejects school 'choice' along with other Bush proposals

By TAMARA HENRY
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate rejected Bush administration proposals to include private or parochial schools in education reform programs using federal money.

Democrats said the issue was taxpayer funds.

"Do we have a sufficient amount of public taxpayer money to start utilizing it in private schools or are we going to use scarce resources that are out there to try and encourage the kind of efforts that are taking place, not in every community, but in enough communities in this country to give new hope to children ... parents and ... teachers?" said Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

The Senate late Thursday voted 57-36 against an amendment by Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, to give poor families tax credits to send their children to private or parochial school. The proposal, the centerpiece of President Bush's school restructuring plan known as America 2000, sparked a heated one-hour debate.

"We are not prepared to abandon" the public schools in poor inner-city areas that serve mainly minorities, Kennedy said. "We are not going to say that we are going to privatize every school district in this country as some would."

The amendments were aimed at a bill, sponsored by Kennedy, authorizing \$850 million for state and local school improvement efforts.

Debate on other amendments was scheduled for today and Monday, with a final vote not expected until Tuesday.

Hatch's amendment, which had been strongly supported by the administration and a coalition of conservative organizations, would have spent \$30 million in fiscal 1992 to create up to six demonstration projects allowing low-income families to receive certificates equal to the tuition normally charged by the private or public school of their choice.

"I believe choice may do more for helping the poor in this country than any other initiative we will consider today," said Hatch. "We in Congress should not stonewall it any longer."

Congress received a report

today from an advisory panel that called for voluntary national curriculum standards and national tests for American schoolchildren.

But the report by the National Council on Education Standards and Testing may stir more discussions than settle questions about what students should know and when they should know it.

The group's responsibility was only to consider the broad outlines for the standards and another group must be created to oversee actual development of the standards and test.

"We presently evaluate student and system performance largely through measures that tell us how many students are above or below average, or that compare relative

performance among schools, districts, or states," said the report, "Raising Standards for American Education."

The council recommended that standards reflecting "high expectations, not expectations of minimal competency" be developed in English, mathematics, science, history and geography. The standards must be national and voluntary, not federal and mandated.

Michael Kean, chairman of the testing committee for the Association of American Publishers, complained the report "seems to suggest a centralized top-down governance structure" that would "override local control."

The Senate also rejected, 96-0, an administration proposal to include private and parochial schools in a

plan to use federal funds to create non-traditional schools, accepting instead a stripped-down version of Bush's plan to create "break-the-mold" experimental schools in each congressional district.

Under an agreement between Republicans and Democrats, the Senate also:

—Accepted the administration's name for the program of grants, "New American Schools."

—Approved using up to \$25 million as "seed money" for the program. Republicans had sought \$600 million.

—Sharply limited the education secretary's oversight of disbursing the funds.

The \$25 million is part of \$100 million already appropriated for America 2000.



An abandoned car sits amid the ashes from Mount Pinatubo's eruption after being looted on Clark Air Base outside Manila Wednesday. Massive looting is evident around the base after the United States decided to abandon it last December.

Massive looting ravages Clark Air Base

By EILEEN GUERRERO
Associated Press Writer

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines (AP) — Convoys of trucks carrying fuel, furniture and other goods roll out from this former U.S. Air Force base, ostensibly bound for Philippine military headquarters in Manila.

Instead, most of the trucks head for clandestine warehouses, where their contents are unloaded and transferred through an elaborate fencing network for sale in local shops.

Filipinos are systematically plundering Clark Air Base, one of the oldest and largest U.S. military installations abroad until it, and its contents, were turned over to the Philippine military last November.

One Filipino officer said looting is a common practice in his country. He and fellow officers provided details, speaking in interviews this week on condition of anonymity because they fear reprisals from commanders.

They said the plundering also has

involved Filipino and American troops, as well as local businessmen who see nothing wrong with selling stolen property.

"We wouldn't be selling these items from Clark if base officials were not allowing them out," said Perla Abrea, a local merchant. "Why should we be blamed if they allow the items to be taken out?"

Brig. Gen. Leopoldo Acot, chief of the Clark Air Base command, admits some troops may be involved in the looting but denies senior officers are participating.

Evidence of the pillage can be seen throughout this base, 50 miles north of Manila, and in shops near the 106,000-acre facility.

At a former U.S. military housing area near the Sapang Bato community, only the walls and roofs remain.

Gone are the doors, windows, appliances, bathroom fixtures, electrical outlets and wiring. Looters have also made off with water pumps, electrical cables, computers, vehicles and gasoline.

Those goods, many still marked

"Property of the U.S. Government," are now for sale in markets in Mabalacat, Dau and other local communities.

Small-time vandals ordinarily look for toilet bowls, heaters, light switches, hinges, and electric wires, which are easy to carry out. Some of the looters can earn up to \$4,400 a day in a country with a per capita income of \$800 a year.

The looting began in June as the Americans prepared to abandon the base because of damage suffered during eruptions of the nearby Mount Pinatubo volcano and the devastating landslides that followed.

Many of the looters come from impoverished surrounding villages. At night they climb over the wall ringing the base and make off with whatever they can carry.

More than 700 Filipino troops patrol the base and apprehend an average of about 20 looters each night, many repeat offenders. But officials admit they account for a relatively small percentage of the thefts.

Faced with loss of credit operation, Zale Corp. converts bankruptcy case

By EVAN RAMSTAD
AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Zale Corp. leaders have gone along with a creditor-induced Chapter 11 reorganization because the jewelry company's credit card operation was being jeopardized, an official says.

Zale, the nation's largest jewelry retailer, converted its three-week-old involuntary bankruptcy filing to a voluntary one Thursday, a day after banks that had supported its credit card operations said they no longer would.

The company had arranged for \$510 million debtor-in-possession financing as a contingency and invoked it with the conversion, chief financial officer Andreas Ludwig said.

Bondholders led by the Dallas investment firm Barre & Co. put Zale in involuntary bankruptcy Jan. 1 after the company said it would not make a payment on \$52 million in bonds.

Zale chairman Irving Gerstein at the time decried the Barre-led group's action for disturbing the company's plan to reorganize out of court.

But he said Thursday: "While we might prefer different circumstances, we feel that we can still achieve these goals

under Chapter 11 protection."

The involuntary petition destroyed agreements that kept Zale's credit card operations liquid. Faced with not being able to service its credit cards when a new agreement could not be reached by Wednesday night, the conversion to a voluntary filing became certain, Ludwig said.

"We had tried to reinstate that program," he said. "Our desire was to complete this restructuring out of court."

Daily operations of the company's stores — Zale's, Bailey Banks & Biddle, Gordon's and Corrigan's — will not be affected by the Chapter 11 proceeding, Gerstein said.

Plans announced last month to close 400 of the 2,000 stores also will not be disturbed.

The closures will eliminate jobs for 2,500 of Zale's 12,500 employees nationwide. Cuts are also planned at the company's headquarters in suburban Dallas.

Zale, which is privately held by Canadian and Swiss interests, has been hurt by a recession-induced sale slump and \$1.2 billion in debt, including \$500 million from the 1986 buyout that took the company private and \$300 million when the company acquired the Gordon's chain in 1989.

Reports: Billionaire offers to buy debt-ridden Macy's & Co.

NEW YORK (AP) — Laurence A. Tisch, the billionaire who heads Loews Corp. and CBS, has offered to buy debt-ridden retailer R.H. Macy & Co., published reports said today.

Tisch, who already has a substantial investment in Macy, proposed infusing an additional \$1 billion to boost his stake in a last-minute move to rescue the department store chain from insolvency, The New York Times reported today.

The Wall Street Journal also reported that Tisch offered to pump more money into Macy in a move that could make him its dominant owner. That report didn't give an amount.

A Macy spokesman, reached at

home Thursday night, declined to comment on the report. Calls to Tisch this morning were not immediately returned.

The Times cited sources familiar with talks to solve Macy's huge debt problems. It said that although talks were continuing and the proposal could change, Macy's board was expected to approve the Tisch offer in the next few days.

But the Journal cited executives who work closely with Macy as saying Tisch is one of two or three Macy shareholders who have expressed interest in buying control of the retailer.

The Journal also said executives familiar with the deliberations say talks are extremely fluid with pro-

posals and negotiating positions changing almost hourly.

The proposed purchase would bolster the holdings of Tisch, 69, who is chairman of CBS Inc.

Tisch and his brother, Preston, control Loews Corp., which has a 23 percent stake in CBS and owns Loews Hotels, CNA Financial Corp., Bulova Watch Co. and tobacco company Lorillard.

Macy, a 133-year-old retailer, is saddled with more than \$3.5 billion

debt from a 1986 leveraged buyout and remains the object of much speculation about a possible Chapter 11 filing to protect it from creditors.

Like other retailers, Macy has also been hit hard by a stubborn recession that has eroded consumers' spending power and confidence.

The Times reported that under the proposal, Tisch was expected to end up with as much as 90 percent of the company's stock.

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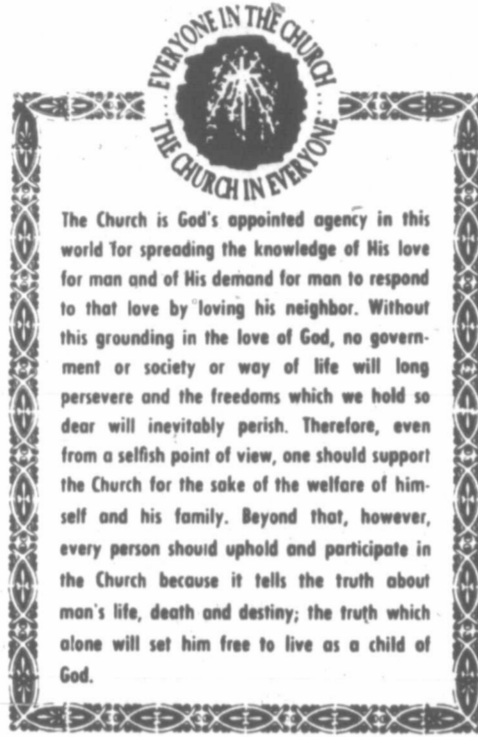
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All things in life are not so clearly marked as to their proper use. The Bible is our source and guide, our label.

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Psalm 119, 105

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Bible brought comfort, hope for hostages

By DAVID BRIGGS
Associated Press Writer

"I was near despair. But I don't think I ever gave up. Thankfully, the first book I got was the Bible." — Terry Anderson, Wiesbaden, Germany, Dec. 6, 1991.

Each in his own way — a minister, an educator, a journalist, a priest and a hospital administrator — had tried to make life a little better in war-torn Lebanon.

Yet each man, through no fault of his own, was kidnapped and forced to endure an inhumane captivity in windowless cells by captors who showed little mercy.

In these barren surroundings, one small act of compassion — the provision of a book that for centuries has comforted the oppressed and those in bondage — offered hope amid the hopelessness.

"God, I'm no Job," the Rev. Lawrence Martin Jenco said after he was first given a Bible by his captors. But he and other returning hostages said the story of a man who remained faithful despite enduring a series of undesired tribulations and other biblical accounts of faith amid despair helped them endure their ordeal.

"We were desperate people. We were reading the Bible for signs of hope, of life, of trust," the Rev. Benjamin Weir said in a recent interview.

For the relatively brief time they were all together, Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for The Associated Press; Jenco, a Roman Catholic priest; Weir, a Presbyterian minister; David P. Jacobsen, administrator of American University of Beirut Hospital; and Thomas Sutherland, agriculture dean at American University, held daily religious services in what the group called "The Church of the Locked Door."

Each day they were permitted to have a Bible, Anderson would read from it for an hour to Jacobsen, who did not have glasses.

In a letter Weir took with him when the minister was freed Sept. 9, 1985, Anderson said the other men and the Bible kept him sane.

When Anderson, the last American hostage to be released, was freed last Dec. 4, he again spoke of the importance of his faith in keeping him from giving up. When his captors provided him with a Bible, "that Bible got a lot of service."

Weir, now a professor of mission and evangelism at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, Calif., recalled how Anderson "especially took great delight in reading passages of the Scripture."

But he said the book was important to all of the hostages in their own way as they tried to make sense out of what seemed to them almost an absurd situation.

For his part, from the first hour he was taken, taped from head to foot like a mummy, Weir said he felt a desperation that he controlled by finding comfort in the passage from Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight."

Weir said he also thought about the account of Job, a good man from whom all was taken as a test of faith.

"Especially when I was first taken, I was feeling I had lost just about everything," Weir said.

But he said he gradually turned his perspective around to recognize that he was now experiencing the "underside" of life in Beirut, the deprivation, oppression and loneliness that was common to many people in the beleaguered city.

"I took the stance of trying to learn what it is now to live without all that system of support. ... to learn what it means to live in the presence of God."

For the first part of his captivity, he relied on memory for his daily Bible study. After a little more than a month, he was given an Arabic New Testament.

In re-reading Scripture, Weir said he found new meaning in many biblical passages — from the Magnificat in Luke, in which Mary praises the "Mighty One" who has lifted up the lowly, to Hannah's prayer of exaltation in 1 Samuel, in which she says the Lord "lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor." Throughout the Bible, he discovered anew how much God identified with the dispossessed and those in captivity.

Weir said that while reading the Bible as a hostage, "I felt I was really present, trying to listen to Jesus speak."

David Briggs has reported on religion for The Associated Press since November 1988. Briggs received his master's degree from Yale Divinity School in 1985.

Religion

Religious workers say private time crucial to fighting stress

By JUDY HOWARD
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS (AP) — Religious workers comfort and counsel other people. But who helps them?

When frustration saps a missionary's drive, who reminds the missionary that understanding a culture takes time? When a rabbi is depressed by the prospect of burying another member of the congregation, who consoles the rabbi? When a lay leader is on edge because of too many church duties, who advises the lay leader to slow down?

Unchecked, such circumstances may lead to burnout, say professional counselors. Combined with other factors such as fatigue, loneliness, conflict and poor health, crisis, they say, may be inevitable.

To keep their workers effective, many religious groups are increasingly teaching their supervisors and workers to recognize burnout symptoms and learn to cope with stress.

In addition, religious leaders can lessen stress by delegating some responsibilities and eking out time for rejuvenation, said Rabbi Kenneth D. Roseman at Temple Shalom in Dallas.

"Most of us in professional clergy are on duty 24 hours a day," he said. "Even when we have a day off, people have problems and emergencies and so on. A day off is not always a day off."

As in other congregations, lay workers have been empowered to

assume some duties to help shoulder the load, Roseman said.

"For example, this afternoon, I was working with a group of our men who will help conduct services at the homes of people who have had a death in their family," Roseman said. "While I take my share...these folks can do it."

At Wycliffe Bible Translators International in Dallas, the entire training program for missionaries is designed to prepare them for cross-cultural work, said Richard Gardner, international coordinator of counseling services.

"That, of course, reduces the stress, and, hopefully, their propensity for burnout," he said.

Ministry is an "open-ended job," said Gardner. More needs and problems demand more attention than one person can handle. A missionary in a foreign country may experience burnout when trying to adapt to its culture.

"You're always trying to do what's right but now always knowing what is right, and that takes a lot of energy," he said.

Risky, but worth the challenges — that's missionary work, said David Bender-Samuel, vice president of Wycliffe Organizations, a department of Wycliffe's international office.

"The answer is not avoiding stress. The answer is to help people deal with it, and deal with it in a spiritual way, with God's resources," he said.



(AP Laserphoto) Missionary Jim W. Comstock looks through a Spanish-language Bible at his home in Dallas recently. Comstock, who first went to the mission field in 1947, says private devotional time is crucial for ministers.

Link Care Center in Fresno, Calif., works with 85 missionary boards and denominations, counseling missionaries, pastors and lay people. Religious workers, sometimes including their families, may stay an average of three months.

Some religious workers must work through unresolved past conflicts, said the Rev. Ron McLain,

associate director of pastoral care. For example, Link Care has treated some missionaries who couldn't continue on the mission field until they resolved past exposure to child abuse.

Most missionaries who return home because of burnout have had conflicts with spouses and colleagues, he said.

"The frustration of learning the language and adapting to the culture usually brings out the stress," McLain said. "And when people interact with each other they are defensive. They just don't tend to communicate with each other when they are under that kind of stress."

Establishing boundaries, so there is time for personal refreshment, relieves stress for religious workers. "If you don't, you will absolutely be squashed by everybody," he said.

The boundaries may depend on the ministry. The missionary may set aside time for personal devotions, instead of skipping that discipline to prepare lessons.

The Rev. Jim W. Comstock, who first went to the mission field in 1947, returned to the states about 20 years ago to assume an administrative post for his missionary organization. He returned to Colombia as a missionary earlier this month. Private devotional time is crucial in ministry, he said. "That's my spiritual food."

Unearthing reasons why the lay worker has become overcommitted may be the first step to overcoming burnout, he said.

Do one thing well, McLain advises. "Don't be superwoman or Superman because these kinds of people end up burned out," he said.

"They hurt themselves, they hurt their families, and they leave a big void" because they were doing so much, McLain said.

Lay workers may burn out because they overload themselves to seek acceptance or to mask inner pain.

McLain said he knew a woman involved in nine ministries who became bulimic. What was bothering her, he said, was her father's unwillingness to express love toward her verbally, although he openly did so with her sisters.

Sylvia Graham, a member of Crest-Moore-King United Methodist Church, said she enjoys a period of meditation after being heavily involved in several church committees. To cope, she scaled back her commitments.

"I haven't really accepted the fact that I'm burned out," said Mrs. Graham, current president of the local unit of United Methodist Women.

"I don't like the phrase 'burned out.' But I think it comes a time in any servant's life... for regrouping, a renewal time—so you can better give of yourself."

When necessary, lay workers recognize when they have worked on a committee too long, when they are neglecting family members or letting the house go, she said.

Overburdened lay people are "kind of working against what your real goals are," Mrs. Graham said. "I feel that you could take that time and be in prayer for that group or visit the sick and shut in, or reach out by writing or making telephone calls. Ministry consists of a lot of things and not just going to meetings."

Churches join forces to seek national health care program

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
AP Religion Writer

Churches, historically trailblazers in providing hospitals, clinics and personnel to care for the sick, are joining forces to press for a national, comprehensive health care plan.

It's an old proposition, but with a new push behind it.

It has been argued since the 1930s when it was disparagingly called "socialized medicine." Most industrialized countries have established some form of it except the United States, which has resorted to lesser measures.

But it's now on the U.S. agenda, politically and otherwise. For the first time, a broad coalition of religious leaders and organizations is pooling its influence to work for basic health care for all.

The present system is a "moral outrage," with conditions showing a "massive breakdown" in it, says the Rev. Thom White Wolf Fassett, general secretary of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society.

That church was among 15 national religious bodies and 30 state ecumenical organizations whose leaders this month launched an "Interreligious Health Care Access Campaign" to promote the cause.

The campaign aims both at educating religious constituencies across the country and putting the coalition's findings and proposed principles before Congress.

They seek various approaches such as requiring companies to insure employees, or expanding Medicare and Medicaid or tax credits to the poor or other partial steps on up to nationalized universal health insurance plans.

Some are modeled after Canadian

or European systems.

With the issue also bound to figure in this year's political campaigns, the religious organizations have spent more than two years studying various proposals and developing their own health care platform.

"Many Americans are realizing that the current health care system is no longer working," said Sue Thornton of Austin, Texas, head of a 15-member interreligious steering committee that drafted the drive's working principles.

Ms. Thornton of the United Church of Christ and also drive chairwoman, said the goal "is access to primary and acute health care for every person living in the United States."

"It is time," she added, "to use some stones from the old walls to build a new structure that will provide a healthier population for generations to come."

In starting their drive, religious leaders cited numerous facts as indications of the country's rickety health care, such as:

More than 34 million people have no health insurance. Another 65 million lack adequate coverage, exposing them to out-of-pocket costs threatening family economic survival — a main cause of personal bankruptcy.

Although the United States, the world's richest country, is recognized as having the best medical facilities and personnel, and spends most per capita on health care, it ranks 19th in infant mortality rates. And 15 million people annually don't get needed medical care because they can't afford it.

Calling the present system a "moral scandal" and "national disgrace," Rabbi Alexander Schindler

of New York, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said:

"By 'pricing out' one-fifth of this country's population from health care coverage, we mock the image of God and destroy the image of God's work."

The Rev. Teri T. Taylor, Washington executive of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), said the present system is neither equitable nor accessible, and added:

"It fails the American dream of compassion and justice. Corporate society is squeezed by its high costs. Morally sensitive individuals are scandalized by its inequity. A growing number of individuals are suffering and dying because of lack of access to health care."

Most major mainline Protestant denominations, including their ecumenical body, the National Council of Churches, and also Reform Judaism back the drive. Roman Catholic bishops also have supported the cause for two decades.

Although the coalition so far is not endorsing any of the specific plans before Congress, pending further developments about them, it has worked out a consensus on principles essential to reform.

"We must stop the piecemeal approach to health care reform," the Rev. James Bell, a United Church official in Washington, told a recent House committee hearing. "Now is the time to develop and deliver a fully comprehensive reformed health care system."

Retired United Methodist Bishop Leontine T.C. Kelly of San Diego, Calif., president of the coalition's drive, said it "is rooted in our religious understanding that everyone... has a right to health care."

Religion roundup

MOSCOW (AP) — The newly refurbished Bible House in central Moscow was dedicated in a recent ceremony attended by government officials and Orthodox and Protestant church representatives.

The Rev. Alexander Borisov of the Russian Orthodox Church called opening of the center "a miracle in the light of Russian history this century."

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — New York state's Roman Catholic bishops, in a pastoral letter commemorating the birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., said "the sin of racism remains."

"It is an insidious cancer that invades the structures of our institutions," the bishops added, calling for struggle against it. "It is rooted in the hearts and minds of people who profess to know God; it is in our families, our churches, our schools and our places of work."

MAHWAH, N.J. (AP) — The Rev. John B. Sheerin, a pioneer in interfaith relations in the United States and for many years editor of The Catholic World magazine, died Jan. 13 after a long illness. He was 85.

He was a theological consultant at Roman Catholicism's reforming Second Vatican Council of 1962-65 and previously in 1956 had been one of the first Catholic observers at

a World Council of Churches meeting.

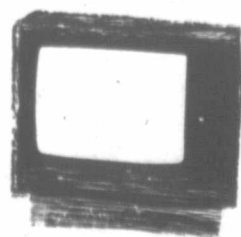
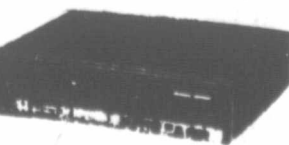
A member of the Paulist Fathers, he was trained as an attorney before entering the priesthood.

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Two die in crash of bus carrying swim team

By THOMAS P. WYMAN
Associated Press Writer

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — A bus bringing Notre Dame's women's swim team home from a meet crashed early today just miles from campus in a blinding snowstorm. Two students were killed and 34 people injured, police said.

"The bus hit an area of heavy snow and lost control about a mile west of (the) South Bend exit," said state police Cpl. Dennis Boehler. "The bus rolled over into the median, rolled over onto its top."

Several people were pinned in the wreckage for a short time, said Larry Hite, a state trooper.

"It was pretty well crunched," said Clay Township firefighter John Hayden. The two bodies were pinned in the wreckage toward the rear of the bus, he said.

The chartered bus carried 37 people: 32 swimmers, three coaches, a student manager and the driver, said Indiana State Trooper Kevin Kubsch. Head coach Tim Welsch was not hurt, Kubsch said.

Boehler identified the two dead students as Megan Beeler of Granger, Ind., and Colleen Hipp of St. Louis, Mo.

Notre Dame's public information director, Denny Moore, said a Mass was scheduled tonight at the church at the 9,000-student Roman Catholic university.

One of the injured passengers, a student, suffered a serious back injury and was undergoing surgery, said Dick Rosenthal, the university's athletic director.

The accident occurred shortly after midnight near the north edge of South Bend as the team returned from a meet at Northwestern Uni-

versity in Evanston, Ill.

The bus, chartered from United Limo Inc. of Osceola, was east-bound on the Indiana Toll Road, a major highway. Boehler identified the driver as Howard E. Dixon, 53, of Mishawaka.

"The weather was really bad on the toll road. We get lake-effect snow here," said Rose Pieterzak, the university's women's sports information director.

A snow advisory continued today. The National Weather Service warned of blowing and drifting snow, with accumulations of up to 6 inches.

Rosenthal said 15 of the injured were taken to Memorial Hospital of South Bend, where the seriously injured student had back surgery. The other 14 were treated and released.

Of the 19 taken to three other

hospitals, eight were treated and released and the others were at St. Joseph's Medical Center in South Bend, which declined to release information.

At Memorial Hospital earlier this morning, dazed and tearful students wearing neck braces, slings and bandages huddled together in the emergency room.

Notre Dame officials and priests comforted the injured, and began a telephone search for the victims' families while swimmers made calls home or hugged each other.

"They're all worried about each other," Rosenthal said. "Everyone says the same thing — 'Is everybody else all right?'"

Rosenthal said some of the students who were treated and released at hospitals were taken to the campus infirmary for observation as a precaution.



(AP Laserphoto)

Rescue workers prepare to remove the body of a victim killed early today when a chartered bus slid off the Indiana Toll Road near South Bend, Ind., during a snowstorm and rolled over. The bus was carrying the Notre Dame women's swim team from a meet at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

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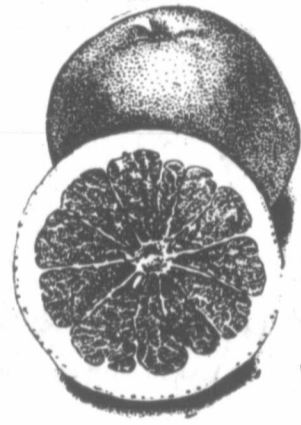
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Lifestyles



(Staff photo by Bonner Green) From left, Mayor Richard Peet talks with Rowan Hampson of Australia and Hanne Zevenbergen of Holland. The two students are making their home in Pampa as part of the American Field Service exchange program.

Students participate in orientation activities

Rowan Hampson and Hanne Zevenbergen, American Field Service exchange students attending Pampa High School will be participating in the mid-winter orientation scheduled in Pampa, Jan. 30 - Feb. 2.

The Pampa chapter will host area students from Denmark, Sweden, Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Activities will include attending Pampa High School with their host brother or sister on Friday and then attending the game and dance afterwards. Saturday will be the AFS orientation conducted by two AFS co-ordinators. Saturday evening is a pot luck dinner at Lovett Library at 6:30 p.m. for host families. The exchange students will present a program at 7:30 p.m. at Lovett, and this is open to the public. Area visitors will be leaving Pampa at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

The local AFS program was organized in Pampa in 1950 by the Kiwanis Club. It has hosted 46 students to Pampa High School. The oldest exchange program, AFS was founded in 1947 by ambulance drivers who served in World War I and World War II in an effort to promote peace by international understanding.

Leadership is focus of weekend

The Golden Spread Council of Boy Scouts of America held a Junior Leadership Training and Scoutmaster Fundamentals course at Camp M.K. Brown on Jan. 17 - 19.

According to counselor for the event, Linda Huddleston, this was the largest winter campout at M.K. Brown in about five years. There were 10 patrols of Scouts from 14 different troops in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles. The Scouts enrolled in Junior Leadership Training learned about 11 skills necessary to develop quality leaders.

The program for U.S. students wanting to go abroad includes summer, semester and year experiences, and some scholarships are available. Families wishing more information on hosting students can call Darlene Birkes, 665-2913, or chapter president Gloria Hawkins, 665-2015.

AFS provides a structured support system. They pay transportation, medical expenses, provide a 24 hour hotline, screening and orientation programs.

After arrival in the U.S., exchange students have pre and post arrival orientations, mid-winter and pre-return orientations. The IRS permits the host family a \$50 per month tax deduction.

The local chapter pays the students' transportation to the AFS Texas roundup to San Antonio each spring for Fiesta and assists with expenses for the band or choir trips. Local donors have included service clubs, businesses and individuals.

The AFS exchange experience provides a unique experience for the entire family to share, according to Birkes, plus the opportunity to study another culture and to make new friendships.

Providing leadership for the event were Bob Tribbe, scout master, Dee McGhee, senior patrol leaders, and Andy Stevens, assistant scout master.

Counselors for the boys were Synovia Lemmings, Linda Huddleston, Pat Searcy, Leonard Robertson, Mike Savage, Bob Thomson and Steve Searcy.

Bill Ripple led the Scoutmaster Fundamentals Course. Donald Huddleston, Stanley Huddleston and Stacy Huddleston cooked for the event.

Honor Roll

Grandview-Hopkins Independent School District announces honor roll students for the third six week grading period. They are:

Sixth grade - A-B honor roll: Melissa Anthony, Annie Carlisle, Ann-Elizabeth Loyd, Adam Stephens.

Fifth grade - A-B honor roll - Heather Brantley, Bryant Smith.

Fourth grade - A-B honor roll - Chris Ollinger.

Third grade - A honor roll - Stephanie Blankenship. A-B honor roll - Marci Babcock, Joel

Quisenberry, Lori Stephens. Second grade - A honor roll - Chandler Bowers, Clay Ritter. A-B honor roll - Bryce Taylor.

First grade - A honor roll - Lauren Acker, Sara Blankenship, Lance Ollinger, Tandi Quisenberry. A-B honor roll - Cody Babcock.

For the first semester, the honor roll students are:

Sixth grade - A-B honor roll - Melissa Anthony, Annie Carlisle, Ann Elizabeth Loyd, Adam Stephens.

First grade - A-B honor roll -

Wise retirees continue financial planning process

DENVER (AP) — You've reached retirement age with enough tucked away in investments, a company pension plan, and Social Security benefits to pay for a relaxed retirement.

You're one of the wise ones, right? Not necessarily.

If you really are wise, according to a survey of financial planners, you won't take the money and run. The pros say many retired clients see a continuing need for financial planning to make the most of their retirement income and assets.

About 55 percent of planners reported that their clients who are retired still pursue financial counsel, according to the 1991 Survey of Trends in Financial Planning, conducted by the College for Financial Planning, a non-profit institution based in Denver.

Among retirees who continue to seek financial guidance, according to the survey, the major areas of interest are investment planning, wealth management, and estate planning.

"It's true that financial concerns don't evaporate once you've reached your retirement savings goal," says Kathryn Ioannides, director of advanced studies for the College for Financial Planning.

Once they leave the job market, retirees must meet expenses over an increasingly large number of years from the combined resources of Social Security, their company's pension or profit-sharing plan, and their own investments.

"The only part of that group of assets that you can really control is the investment of your own resources and pattern of your spending," Ioannides says. Because at age 60, life expectancy today is almost 20 years, retirees' top concerns should be conserving and maximizing their holdings.

"Retirement doesn't mean that your cost of living and range of needs will stay fixed. The need for good financial planning practices is exacerbated by your new reliance on existing resources that are no longer

supplemented by a regular salary," she says.

In addition to seeking investment counsel to ensure that a retirement portfolio keeps up with inflation yet provides ample security, there are other financial challenges for retirees, including:

— Planning for health care coverage, including shopping for policies to bridge your transition from company-sponsored programs to Medicare; and the need for appropriate Medigap insurance.

— Gauging expenses for preventative health care; and planning for long-term care needs.

— Adjusting to the financial impact of lifestyle changes. Will your added leisure time mean you spend more, or less?

— Reviewing your insurance needs. While you won't need your disability policy now that you've stopped working, life insurance can protect a surviving spouse or take care of final expenses and estate taxes. Or, a cash-rich life insurance policy can be used for current income or to provide an "emergency fund" to add to your comfort in retirement.

— Taking advantage of tax opportunities designed for retirees, such as the one-time capital gains tax exclusion for the sale of an appreciated residence. Or, you may benefit from knowing the taxable status of your pension payments, which varies from state to state.

— Selling your business.

— Distributing benefits from your company's retirement plan.

— Establishing a sound estate plan, from arranging for a will and durable power of attorney, to balancing assets to maximize the tax benefits of the "marital trust."

"With retirement, you also have more opportunities," Ioannides says. "You have the leisure to do more learning on your own, which can help you to be a more intelligent financial consumer. If you enjoy it, you have the time to take a more active role in managing your affairs."

Estrogen may reduce cardiac risk

By Dr. MICHAEL FREEDMAN

NEW YORK (AP) — An estimated 250,000 American women die of heart disease each year, but a 10-year study indicates that women who take the female hormone estrogen after menopause can cut their heart disease risk almost in half.

It seems that estrogen has a beneficial effect on the endothelium, the lining of the coronary arteries, by preventing to a certain extent the artery from closing down and decreasing blood flow to the heart muscle.

Estrogen, produced naturally before menopause or taken in replacement therapy afterward, also helps keep women's cholesterol in check.

Estrogen is usually given with the female hormone, progesterone, since use of estrogen alone is associated with an increased risk of uterine cancer.

More about women... A recent survey by the National Cancer Institute found that 67 percent of American women ages 50 to 74 — those most at risk for breast cancer — were not getting a yearly mammogram.

Many of the women surveyed said their doctors hadn't recommended the test, and many said they didn't believe it was necessary. Or they said they were afraid the test hurt,

were scared of radiation, or could not afford it.

Older women actually have an advantage when it comes to early detection through mammography, because test results are easier to interpret.

In post-menopausal years, the glandular tissue in the breast (which secretes milk in lactating women) gradually get replaced with fatty tissue, making the mammogram easier to read and easier to discover the smallest of lesions.

Because breast cancer tends to be more aggressive in pre-menopausal women, the experts recommend annual mammograms for all women over 40 to detect cancer at its earliest, most curable stage.

With age, your aerobic capacity dwindles.

If you are a woman, you lose your bone mass at a rate of about 1 percent a year after 35; men start to lose bone mass at about 55, and usually lose about 10 percent to 15 percent by the time they reach 70.

Muscle strength decreases by about 20 percent by age 65, and you burn calories at a slower rate.

Changes in collagen structure lead to increased stiffness in joints, ligaments and tendons. Lean body mass decreases, and body fat begins to make up a greater portion of your weight.

Total blood cholesterol increases, and by age 70, your nerve impulses travel 10 percent to 15 percent slower and your ability to react is slower.

Hearing and vision losses are common, and all senses lose sharpness — contributing to a 35 percent to 40 percent increase in falls by people over 65.



Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

Generation gap made wider by grandparents' big mouths

DEAR ABBY: My siblings and I — all married with families — went "home" to spend Christmas with our parents who live in a distant state. Never again!

Our parents criticized our children the entire time we were there. For example:

To our 14-year-old daughter: "You really should lose some weight, dear... you have such a pretty face."

To our 17-year-old son (a straight-A student): "I wish you'd cut your hair. You look like a hood."

To my 21-year-old nephew: "Since when do boys wear earrings? Or are you a fruitcake?"

None of the kids want to go back to visit their grandparents, and I don't blame them.

I understand from talking with my friends that my parents are not unique in their behavior.

A word to the wise: Grandparents, if you want to see your grandchildren, please accept them as they are. Love is not genetic. It must be earned — even by grandparents.

YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS

DEAR SONS AND DAUGHTERS: I am pleased to report that your parents are in the minority. Most grandparents of this generation are much more accepting of their grandchildren

than your parents. Don't give up; some grandparents are slow learners.

DEAR ABBY: A reader asked, "What should a bride-to-be do with the shower and wedding gifts if the wedding is called off at the last minute?" (In this case, the groom changed his mind.)

You replied, "The gifts should be returned to the givers."

My question: What in the world does a person do with one piece of china, or a setting of sterling silver? Not all stores will cheerfully refund your money. In most cases, the receipt of the gift is kept only until the gift is opened and the bride-to-be has already accepted it. Without a receipt, it is virtually impossible to get your money back. Then what?

Personally, I would prefer that the jilted bride kept the gift, but she shouldn't have any more showers if and when she's engaged to be married again.

A NONI-MOUSE

DEAR NONI: I stand by my original answer. Return the gifts. The giver will eventually find some use for it. If not as a gift for another, then a gift to one's self.



(Staff photo by Bonner Green) In foreground of photo, are students, Keith Price, Lori Lockridge, Shawn Taylor, Jamie Schroeder, Ryan Schindler and Mindy Doss. Working with the students are Altrusans Joyce Williams, Mary Wilson and Leona Willis.

Club's emphasis on literacy benefits Wilson Elementary

Wilson Elementary School is the beneficiary of an increased emphasis on literacy by Altrusa Club of Pampa.

"Kids and Altrusa Together", or KAT, for short, is a result of an international thrust by Altrusa International to improve literacy rates world wide.

According to school principal Ray Thornton, Altrusa Club members are on hand nearly daily to pitch in as needed on the campus.

Altrusan Leona Willis explained, "What ever they need us to do, we do."

That includes one-on-one interaction with children through tutoring, coaching UIL competition, and assisting in the computer labs and with class preparations.

Initial contact between the club and the campus was made in the spring of 1991. Following an October 1991, orientation, the members began working with students in November. Nine Altrusans are part of the program.

While some Altrusans are self-employed or retired, Willis emphasized that some employers allow their employees to take a little extra time off for lunch so that members are able to participate in the campus endeavor.

Thornton said, "We appreciate the contact with excellent role models for our students. I have nothing but praise for this program. These ladies are a tremendous asset to this school."

Exercise helps older people as much as younger, study says

NEW YORK (AP) — Vigorous exercise increases heart function of people in their 60s to the same degree as in younger people, aiding men and women equally, a study says.

Results appeared in 110 healthy, non-smoking volunteers 60 to 71 who had not followed an exercise program for at least two years before entering the study.

Researchers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis put them on a program mostly of walking and running at least three times a week for nine to 12 months.

On average, exercisers improved their cardiovascular function by about the same degree as young adults did in previous studies; the researchers reported in the

November 1991 issue of the Journal of Applied Physiology.

"I could relate numerous stories of people who entered our study thinking they would never jog, let alone jog for five or six miles," principal investigator Wendy Kohrt said in a statement. "By the end of the study, they were jogging five or six miles at a time."

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Comic Page

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

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- Circumvent
 - Former
 - Aviator — Earhart
 - Lucky charm
 - Performing
 - Gentlest
 - Vegas
 - Alter
 - Gravel ridge
 - Basic nature
 - Spearhead-shaped
 - Remove top from
 - Make a choice
 - Mrs. Gorbachev
 - Papier —
 - Land measures
 - Business-woman
 - Lauder
 - Headwear
- DOWN**
- Idol
 - Non-profit org.
 - Cats and dogs
 - Actress — MacGraw
 - Offense
 - Wiseest
 - Rouge, La.
 - Entertainer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	I	S	A	E	N	D	C	H	A	P	
U	S	E	R	Q	U	O	A	O	N	E	
B	A	L	I	U	M	P	B	R	O	W	
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- ACROSS**
- Goshi!
 - Engraves
 - Shiny fabric
 - Member of clergy
 - Passes (law)
 - Red pigment
 - Cry of despair
 - Cult
 - Glossy
 - Jacob's son
 - Football play
 - polloi
 - Flowering shrub
 - Ellipses
 - Mouse catchers
 - Soot
 - of voice
 - Whale
 - Metal
 - Doesn't exist
 - Chemical suffix
 - Barbara — Geddes
 - Commerce agcy.
 - Singer — Damone
- DOWN**
- Sumac
 - Mouth part
 - Margarine
 - Loch — monster
 - Feminine suffix

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WALNUT COVE

By Mark Cullum

Where ya going, Joey?
I'm going to serenade Sandra from outside her window.

She thinks that just because I play in a rock band I'm not capable of being romantic.

So I'm going to sneak into her garden and croon a soft, lulling ballad to her.

She'll melt like butter.

I just hope I can find a place to plug in my amp and distortion box.

ARLO & JANIS

By Jimmy Johnson

REMEMBER, SON...

THIS IS A COUNTRY OF OPPORTUNITY!

ANYONE CAN GROW UP TO BE PRESIDENT...

IF HE DOESN'T LEAVE ANY PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

ECK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider

HEY... SOME DOCTOR JUST STARTED HIS OWN LOTTERY...

TEN BUCKS A TICKET AND THE WINNER GETS TO SEE THE DOCTOR...

OF COURSE, IF YOU HAVE A PRE-EXISTING CONDITION YOU'RE DISQUALIFIED

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

ONE NICE THING ABOUT TRAVELING WITH YOU IN THE WINTER, JOHN...

WHAT'S THAT?

THE WIND CHILL FACTOR DOESN'T COME INTO PLAY.

MARVIN

By Tom Armstrong

WHAT'S WITH JEFF?

WELL, IT ALL STARTED QUITE INNOCENTLY WITH JEFF SINGING LULLABIES TO MARVIN.

...AND THEN HE BOUGHT A "MR. MICROPHONE"

HEY, YOU'RE A GREAT AUDIENCE! NOW FOR MY NEXT NUMBER... "MY WAY" — WHETHER I'M RIGHT OR WHETHER I'M WRONG

ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue

THEN YOU THINK THOSE LEMMINGS WILL COME BACK?

I KNOW THEY'LL COME BACK!

I DON'T KNOW WHO THIS "ZARKA" IS, BUT IF HE'S STRONG ENOUGH TO GET RID OF TUNK...

... HE WON'T LET MY LITTLE SMOKE-SCREEN CHANGE HIS PLANS!

SNAFU

By Bruce Beattie

"With all the golf balls I've hit into the woods over the years, finding you was a piece of cake!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane

"I did NOT shovel dirt into my cup. It's instant coffee."

THE BORN LOSER

By Art and Chip Sansom

I'M HOME, GLADYS!

THEN I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS...

WHAT'S FOR DINNER? I'M STARVING!

WE'RE HAVING LIVER AND ONIONS!

YUCK! YOU KNOW I HATE LIVER AND ONIONS... WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT THAT?

SINCE YOU'RE STARVING, THE FACT THAT I MADE ENOUGH FOR SECONDS!

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

WHEN I WAS LITTLE AND I SAID MY STOMACH HURT, MOM USED TO BRING ME MILK AND HONEY...

IF I HAD AN EARACHE, MY DAD USED TO BLOW CIGAR SMOKE IN MY EAR...

I WONDER WHERE HE GOT THE CIGARS...

MARMADUKE

By Brad Anderson

"I think he's been watching too much Siskel and Ebert."

KIT N' CARLYLE

By Larry Wright

THE MONA LISA, IF DA VINCI HAD OWNED A CAT...

WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli

MY DAD SAYS HE'D RATHER GET HIS NEWS FROM TV THAN FROM NEWSPAPERS.

HE SAYS HE DOESN'T HAVE TO WASH HIS HANDS AFTER WATCHING DAN RATHER.

CALVIN AND HOBBS

By Bill Watterson

GO AHEAD DOWN. YOU'LL MISS ALL THOSE TREES.

YOU CAN DO IT. YOU'LL STOP BEFORE YOU GO OVER THAT LEDGE AT THE BOTTOM.

YOU WON'T GO INTO THAT POND. BESIDES, THE ICE IS PROBABLY REAL THICK ANYWAY GO AHEAD DOWN.

MY BRAIN IS TRYING TO KILL ME.

FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves

MATILDA'S DAY CARE

THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY!

GARFIELD

By Jim Davis

I GIVE UP GARFIELD

DEPRESSION

WOMEN ARE ALL ALIKE

ANGER

TO THEM I'M JUST ANOTHER CUTE GUY IN A GREAT SUIT

HALLUCINATIONS

Sports

Southwest Outdoors

By Mel Phillips



Outdoor World to offer trout-catching experts

Last week's column announced that OUTDOOR WORLD 92 will have world class experts presenting free seminars on catching more walleye and bass. Several loyal readers have called to ask if there will be any seminars about their favorite fish, the trout. Yes, the dashing and articulate author of *Fishing New Mexico*, TI PIPER, will share his fishing skills at free seminars on Feb. 7, 8, and 9 in the Amarillo Civic Center.

Joining Ti Piper at the seminar centers will be members of the Golden fly Fishers Club. They will offer hands-on demonstrations of flyrod casting and some fantastic demonstrations of tying trout flies. No aspect of fishing is as rewarding as the satisfaction of using an original hand-tied fly to fool a trout.

LAKE MEREDITH If you want to learn how to catch more fish at the Panhandle's largest lake, permit me to introduce three professional walleye anglers who will pre-fish Lake Meredith and then reveal their secrets of catching more fish.

BOB PROPST, STAN BERRY, AND DARYL CHRISTENSEN are experts on both smallmouth and walleye. They have agreed to take ole Playa Pete fishing. Regular readers of this column know that Playa Pete has challenged local officials to stop using 'cove kills' and start using a rod and reel to demonstrate the quality of fishing at Lake Meredith. While some state bureaucrats defend the wasteful practice of killing every fish in a cove, it takes a real expert to use a rod and reel.

A huge map of Meredith will even indicate where these experts recommend catching fish during all four seasons of the year. At long last the average angler can learn how to fish Lake Meredith.

For all you ICE FISHERMEN!!! Ron Simmons, the outstanding guide from EAST MORENO RANCH (505-377-6931) will explain how to catch trout in Eagle Nest Lake during the winter season. He can also discuss some fantastic big game hunting and private trout ponds located in the high country of New Mexico.

WIN A BOAT—Stop by the Y-94 radio booth and register to win a fishing boat, trailer, and motor that will be given away Sunday afternoon. Listen to Y-94 for more details and bonus chances that will be announced on the radio.

SAVE A DOLLAR—Bring this column and save \$1.00 off an adult admission to OUTDOOR WORLD 92. Limited to one discount per adult. I know a dollar isn't much but every little bit helps.

Free seminars, famous sportsmen (and sportswomen), a chance to win a new fully-rigged boat, a great selection of RV's, all the newest boats, and even a Saturday morning kids casting contest—OUTDOOR WORLD 92, the Largest Sportsman Show between Dallas and Denver.

Super Bowl hype heats up

By BARRY WILNER
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Take one quarterback with slight ankle trouble. Add in a running back with big ego problems. It makes for a lively day at the Super Bowl.

Mark Rypien turned his ankle and Thurman Thomas turned up to explain himself Thursday.

Rypien, who guided the Washington Redskins to their fourth Super Bowl in a decade with his best season, was hurt near the end of a two-hour practice session. The Redskins were working on drills inside the 20-yard line when the passing pocket collapsed around Rypien.

Several players fell on him, he limped out of the pile and threw down his helmet in disgust.

"He turned his ankle," coach Joe Gibbs said. "The trainer says it's a mild sprain and we expect him to practice tomorrow."

Rypien was not made available for comment.

Thomas, however, was around to talk. He had skipped Wednesday's media session due to what was termed "a misunderstanding" by Thomas and the Buffalo Bills.

"I was scheduled to go on at 8:30," he said. "I was in the breakfast room until 8:45 and no one came and got me. I was upset, went to my room, had some things to do, some people to call."

But he also had stormed out of a team breakfast Wednesday, apparently upset about a comment by offensive coordinator Ted Marchibroda.

Marchibroda called Kelly the Bills' Michael Jordan.

"I am the Michael Jordan. I think we have two Michael Jordans," Thomas said Thursday. "Maybe we have two, me and Jim. He does a lot of things for this football team and so do I."

Feeling unappreciated isn't unusual for Thomas, the 1991 NFL Most Valuable Player who led the league in total yardage for the third straight season. Thomas felt he was unjustly



Redskins quarterback Mark Rypien, right, stretches at team practice Thursday in Minnesota. At his side is kicker Chip Lohmiller. Rypien sustained a mild ankle sprain during the Thursday practice session.

bypassed for the MVP award in last year's Super Bowl loss. Otis Anderson of the New York Giants got it, even though Thomas outgained him and had more receptions.

"It was one of those deals where I thought I outperformed everybody on the football field," Thomas said. "I guess whoever votes thought it should go to someone on the winning team. It is something that motivates me to play a little harder."

"Being the best all-around running back in the league, that's a title I guess I'm going to have to live with."

Bruce Smith held the title of best defensive player in the league in 1990. But this season was wrecked by a left knee that healed very slowly

after arthroscopic surgery last July.

Before Thomas took over the spotlight, Smith held it. He intimated he might consider seeking employment elsewhere after receiving racist mail when he was injured during the season.

Too bad the game still is two days away. The Bills have made enough headlines off the field.

"We laugh at it," Kelly said. "We all laughed at it and Bruce and Thurman are laughing at it."

"It's no distraction whatsoever. In fact, we had one of the best practices we could possibly have had. The tempo was excellent."

The Bills have kept up a furious tempo with their no-huddle offense.

They've been nearly as frenetic making news this week.

The Redskins have been more businesslike. Their biggest potential distraction, of course, has been Rypien's ankle. And Ricky Sanders' sore quadriceps, which kept him out of practice Thursday.

Wilber Marshall, who played for the 1985 NFL champion Chicago Bears, said business as usual is the only way to approach the big game.

"We've come here to do a job. We're ready to get the job done," he said. "It's exciting every time you get a chance to play in this game. The first time, you are on Cloud 9."

And the second time? "I hope Cloud 9 — after the game."

Possible sale of Mariners to Japanese group sparks debate

SEATTLE (AP) — Baseball commissioner Fay Vincent says it is unlikely that major league baseball owners will approve a Japanese-dominated investor group's offer to purchase the Seattle Mariners for \$100 million.

The group is headed by the president of Japanese video game maker Nintendo.

Under the proposal announced Thursday, Hiroshi Yamauchi, president of Nintendo Co. Ltd. of Kyoto, Japan, would own 60 percent of the franchise. Yamauchi has been listed by Forbes magazine as one of the world's richest men.

Only U.S. and Canadian interests have ever owned major league baseball clubs.

"Baseball has addressed the issue of ownership of its franchises and has developed a strong policy against approving investors from outside the United States and Canada," Vincent said in a statement issued in New York. "It is unlikely foreign investors would receive the requisite baseball approval."

The offer must be approved by 11 of 14 American League owners and seven of 12 National League owners.

If major league baseball doesn't allow the group to purchase the Mariners from owner Jeff Smulyan of Indianapolis, baseball could face a long legal battle. The issue could even wind up in Congress.

"I have contacted as many members of our congressional delegation as I could," said Sen. Slade Gorton, R-Wash. "Without exception, they are tremendously enthusiastic and highly supportive of this idea."

Washington state's congressional delegation includes U.S. House Speaker Tom Foley.

Gorton said he brought Nintendo into the deal. Gov. Booth Gardner earlier this month also wrote to Yamauchi, requesting help in keeping the Mariners in Seattle.

"(The offer) is the result of a request from the local community, Washington state," Yamauchi said at a news conference at Kyoto. "I have received requests from the state governor and senator. After careful study, we made the decision because we felt we had to respond to the state."

"We're ready to close as soon as possible," Howard Lincoln, senior vice president of Nintendo of Amer-

ica Inc., based in suburban Redmond, told a news conference Thursday. "We have sent a letter to Mr. Smulyan and we're hopeful we can proceed immediately to meet with him and get this intent executed."

Lincoln, who is not an investor, spoke for the investor group. He said the investors intended to raise \$125 million, with the remaining \$25 million used as operating money.

In telephone interviews, Smulyan said he would take the offer to baseball's ownership committee. But he added the Japanese money is a significant factor.

"There's no question it makes a big difference — whether it's 60 percent of \$125 million or all \$100 million, whatever," he said. "There is a foreign interest, non-North American interest, putting up most of the money here, and that is something baseball is going to have to deal with."

On the issue of foreign investment, Gorton said, "Major league baseball crossed that bridge 20 years ago when it admitted two Canadian cities (Montreal and Toronto)."

But Gorton said he didn't believe it was going to take political pressure to keep the Mariners in Seattle.

"My view is when major league baseball sees what this offer is that it will accept it," he said.

Smulyan, the Mariners' owner the past two seasons, put the franchise up for sale for \$100 million on Dec. 6 to local ownership. Local bidders have until March 27 to make offers.

Smulyan was under pressure from Security Pacific Bank, which demanded he either repay a loan of nearly \$40 million or find a buyer.

"We've said we will accept any offers from Seattle from any organizations," Smulyan said. "It's really a decision that the ownership committee has to pass on at this point."

The investors also include Minoru Arakawa, 45, Yamauchi's son-in-law and president of Nintendo of America Inc.; John McCaw, a director of McCaw Cellular, a leading cellular telephone company based in suburban Kirkland; Christopher Larson, 32, of Microsoft Inc., the giant computer software company based in Redmond; Frank Shrontz, president and chief executive officer of Seattle-based Boeing Co.; and John

Ellis, president and chief executive officer of the local Puget Sound Power & Light Co.

The percentage of their investments in the offer was not released.

Ellis said the group expected approval from Vincent and the owners.

"We will tell the commissioner that this is the most highly capitalized and most financially stable operation you have ever seen in baseball, and it's healthy for baseball to have it happen," Ellis said.

Arakawa attended Thursday's news conference, but would not talk to reporters.

Lincoln said the 60 percent Yamauchi family interest in the Mariners would be managed by Arakawa. Arakawa has lived in Medina, a Seattle suburb, for the past 12 years.

Smulyan said he has lost \$20 million in his two years of ownership of the Mariners.

He paid \$76 million in 1989 to buy the club from George Argyros, a Southern California land developer. Argyros acquired the Mariners for \$13.1 million in 1981 from a group headed by entertainer Danny Kaye

that originally obtained the franchise.

The Mariners' first season was 1977, and they had losing seasons every year until 1991, when they had their first winning record.

One of the most aggressive communities attempting to land the franchise, should it leave Seattle, has been St. Petersburg, Fla., which previously failed to get an NL expansion franchise for the Florida Suncoast Dome.

Rick Dodge, St. Petersburg assistant city manager who has been leading the effort to bring baseball to Tampa Bay area, said he was not surprised that a potential ownership group came forward in Seattle.

"I think the critical issue is whether the Japanese investors will be approved by baseball," he said.

"It's been stated as recently as a week ago by the commissioner that that kind of investment was not favored. Nothing's really changed in the sense that we've always known it's up to the Seattle community to either act or not act. This is their effort, and we'll have to see if it solves the issue."

Fernandez hopes to peak against Seles

By PAUL ALEXANDER
Associated Press Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Mary Joe Fernandez has climbed one mountain to reach the final of the Australian Open. Tonight, she

faces Mt. Everest, also known as Monica Seles.

Fernandez, the No. 7 seed, unveiled a new, attacking style in ousting Gabriela Sabatini in the semifinals, two weeks after the Argentine No. 3 seed whipped her in straight sets.

But attempting a similar turnaround against Seles, the top-ranked woman and winner of the last three Grand Slams she's entered, is even more ominous. Seles has an overall 10-1 record against Fernandez and hasn't lost to her since their first meeting in 1989.

The match is scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. EST tonight, which is Saturday afternoon in Melbourne.

Fernandez is hoping she can play just a little better than she did in the semifinals here last year, when Seles escaped with a 9-7 victory in the last set.

"I was close last year and I have learned from it — I got ahead and didn't really go for it," Fernandez said after her dominating 6-1, 6-4 victory over Sabatini. "I waited for things to happen. You can't do that against a top player."

Both Fernandez and Seles played their best matches in the semifinals of the two-week Grand Slam.

Seles, plagued earlier in the tournament by a strained neck, appears fully recovered and found her lost first serve in dismantling No. 4 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario 6-2, 6-2. The performance, combined with Sabatini's loss, has made Seles the prohibitive betting favorite at 1-6.

"I definitely hit much better than any match I've played up until now. And my serve was there, so it was a big dif-

ference," said Seles, adding she got inspiration by watching the match between Richard Krajicek and Michael Stich, who combined for 37 aces.

The two women are taking very different approaches to the match. Seles says she has no game plan.

"I just tell myself to go out there and hit the ball," she said. "Sometimes when you have a little bit more pressure on yourself, your feet stop moving, and instead of hitting out, you're just hitting into the net or hitting long balls."

Fernandez, on the other hand, will employ the net-charging strategy she's adopting under new coach Harold Solomon.

"I have to return well, serve well, because she takes the initiative right away, and if you return short, she comes in and knocks the ball," Fernandez said. "It is difficult to play her. You are under a lot of pressure constantly."

Still, after being a baseliner for her whole life, she admits it still doesn't feel natural to come in to volley.

"You look at the other side and you see the player and you know that if you don't hit a great shot, you are going to get passed," Fernandez said. "But I think Harold made me realize that I had no choice if that was my goal, to be the best and improve my game."

SWC chase is 'wild'

By DENNE H. FREEMAN
AP Sports Writer

Tom Penders, Pat Foster, and the Ibas, Gene and Moe, warned it was going to be this way, a Southwest Conference basketball season without reason. So far, they've been right on the money.

Penders' Longhorns whipped Fosters' preseason favorite Houston Cougars then lost to Moe Iba's Texas Christian Horned Frogs in Fort Worth.

Moe's men then took a tumble before cousin Gene and the Baylor Bears, who have defeated Texas Tech and TCU after losing their first two games. You figure it out.

Nothing is expected to change on Saturday in what shapes up to be the wildest SWC chase in years. Having the Arkansas Razorbacks out of the league has made it a championship with numerous contenders.

"It's wild and it will probably get wilder," said Gene Iba who upset his cousin 64-63 Tuesday night in Fort Worth.

Moe agrees. "Nobody's safe," he said.

A&M is in the cellar at 0-3 but has played close in the games it lost.

Texas has a 4-1 record followed by TCU at 3-1. The comes Houston and Rice at 2-1 Baylor 2-2, Rice 1-1, Texas Tech and SMU each 1-3, and the Aggies.

In games on Saturday, SMU hosts rapidly improving Baylor in a noon (Raycom television) game at Moody Coliseum, Texas Tech is at Houston in a 2 p.m. clash, and Rice is at Texas A&M at 7:30 p.m. It will be A&M's first game since the team suffered carbon monoxide poisoning at Baylor last Saturday.

TCU hosts South Florida at 7:35 p.m. in a non-conference game which the Frogs need for the NCAA tournament computer. TCU lost 76-67 to South Florida earlier in the year. The Frogs scheduled as home and home series with South Florida to replace with South Florida to replace Arkansas on the schedule.

Texas doesn't play again until Monday night when the 'Horns host Baylor at 7:35 p.m., in a televised (Prime) game.

The Longhorns outgunned SMU 106-91 on Wednesday night while Rice showed it can play on the road with an 84-69 victory over Texas Tech.



Sweden's Stefan Edberg will face the USA's Jim Courier in the Australian Open men's finals.

Florida State knocks off No. 18 Georgia Tech

By DICK BRINSTER
AP Sports Writer

Florida State ... the road warriors. Everybody knows that. But wait a minute. We aren't talking football here.

As surely as Bobby Bowden built the Seminoles into one of the nation's preeminent football powers with upset victories on the road — in the years when the big boys wouldn't come to Tallahassee — basketball coach Pat Kennedy is making his bones in the same fashion during his team's first season in the tough Atlantic Coast Conference.

And he's listening to Bowden. "Bowden told me that one way to make a name for yourself is to become king of the road," Kennedy said after Florida State upset 18th-ranked Georgia Tech 83-79 Thursday night in Atlanta.

"Don't ask me about why we're winning on the road," Kennedy said. "It just keeps happening. The kids show great character on the road."

College Basketball

First, the Seminoles upset then fifth-ranked North Carolina on Dec. 15 at Chapel Hill. Then came victories over then-No. 19 Wake Forest and Maryland.

"Our confidence is starting to grow," said Bob Sura, who scored 16 of his 18 points in the last 12 1/2 minutes as the Seminoles overcame a 15-point deficit.

Was he discouraged after missing his first five shots?

"If you start thinking about your misses early, you'll never be able to shoot," said Sura, who made seven of his last eight shots.

The Seminoles, 4-2 in the ACC and a road loser only to top-ranked Duke, were 10-point underdogs against the Yellow Jackets.

"We're disappointed we lost the game, but Florida State's an amazing team," Tech coach Bobby Brazier said. "They're a miracle team. It just seems like they keep hanging in games."

In other games involving ranked teams, it was No. 2 UCLA 86, California 66; No. 12 Missouri 77, Notre

Dame 68; No. 17 Oklahoma 130, Oral Roberts 89; No. 19 North Carolina Charlotte 82, Johnson C. Smith 80 in overtime; No. 20 Louisville 88, Southern Mississippi 74; No. 23 Texas-El Paso 77, San Diego State 54; Southern Cal 82, No. 24 Stanford 72; and No. 25 UNLV 58, Fresno State 50.

No. 2 UCLA 86, California 66 At Oakland, Calif., the Bruins, matching their best start in 18 years, got 28 points from Don MacLean to climb to 13-0.

The last time UCLA opened with 13 consecutive victories was 1973-74. That team, led by Bill Walton, finished 26-4, but failed to extend its streak of seven consecutive national championships.

UCLA last opened 19-0 in 1972-73 as part of its 30-0 season and all-time winning streak of 88 games.

The Bruins (5-0 in the Pac-10), forced 21 Cal turnovers.

Brian Hendricks scored 22 points for the Bears (6-8, 0-4).

No. 12 Missouri 77, Notre Dame 68 At South Bend, Ind., Anthony Peeler scored 20 of his 28 points in the second half and Tiger free throws staved off a late bid by the Irish.

LaPhonso Ellis scored 25 points for Notre Dame (5-8), playing its first home game in 48 days after a nine-game road trip. But Missouri (13-2) kept the Irish at bay by making six foul shots in the final 33 seconds.

Missouri took the lead for good at 64-61 with 6:12 left on a three-point play by Lamont Frazier.

No. 17 Oklahoma 130, Oral Roberts 89 At Norman, Okla., Brent Price scored 33 points and the Sooners whipped the Titans with outstanding long-range shooting.

Oklahoma's 15 3-pointers were two shy of the school record and gave the Sooners (12-3) a 45-18 edge from beyond the stripe.

Ray Thompson led Oral Roberts (6-14) with 33 points and 14 rebounds. Sebastian Neal added 27 points for ORU and Bryatt Vann 21 for Oklahoma.

No. 19 N.C. Charlotte 82, J.C. Smith 80, OT At Charlotte, N.C., Rodney Odom blocked three late shots and Delano

Johnson hit a 15-foot jumper with 1.5 seconds left for the 49ers.

The Division II Golden Bulls (11-4) rallied from a 15-point second-half deficit to force the overtime.

UNCC (13-2) had a five-point run to overcome a four-point deficit in overtime. The 6-foot-11 Odom, who had 17 points, made his key blocks followed by a short baseline hook for an 80-77 lead with 49 seconds remaining.

Columbus Parker led the losers with 26 points.

No. 20 Louisville 88, S. Mississippi 74 At Louisville, Ky., Dwayne Morton and Everick Sullivan scored 20 points each and led a run that helped the Cardinals to their 1,200th victory.

Louisville (11-3, 2-2 Metro) made nine of 14 shots from 3-point range and scored 20 points off 17 Southern Mississippi turnovers in winning its fourth straight game. Clarence Weatherspoon led the Eagles (7-8, 1-1) with 27 points.

After Southern Mississippi pulled to 63-62 on Ron Rembert's tip-in with 8:55 remaining, Brian Hopgood started an 8-0 run for Louisville with two free throws.

No. 23 Texas-El Paso 77, San Diego St. 54 At San Diego, Marlon Maxey came off the bench to score 24 points — including four dunks — leading the Miners over the hapless Aztecs for their 11th straight victory.

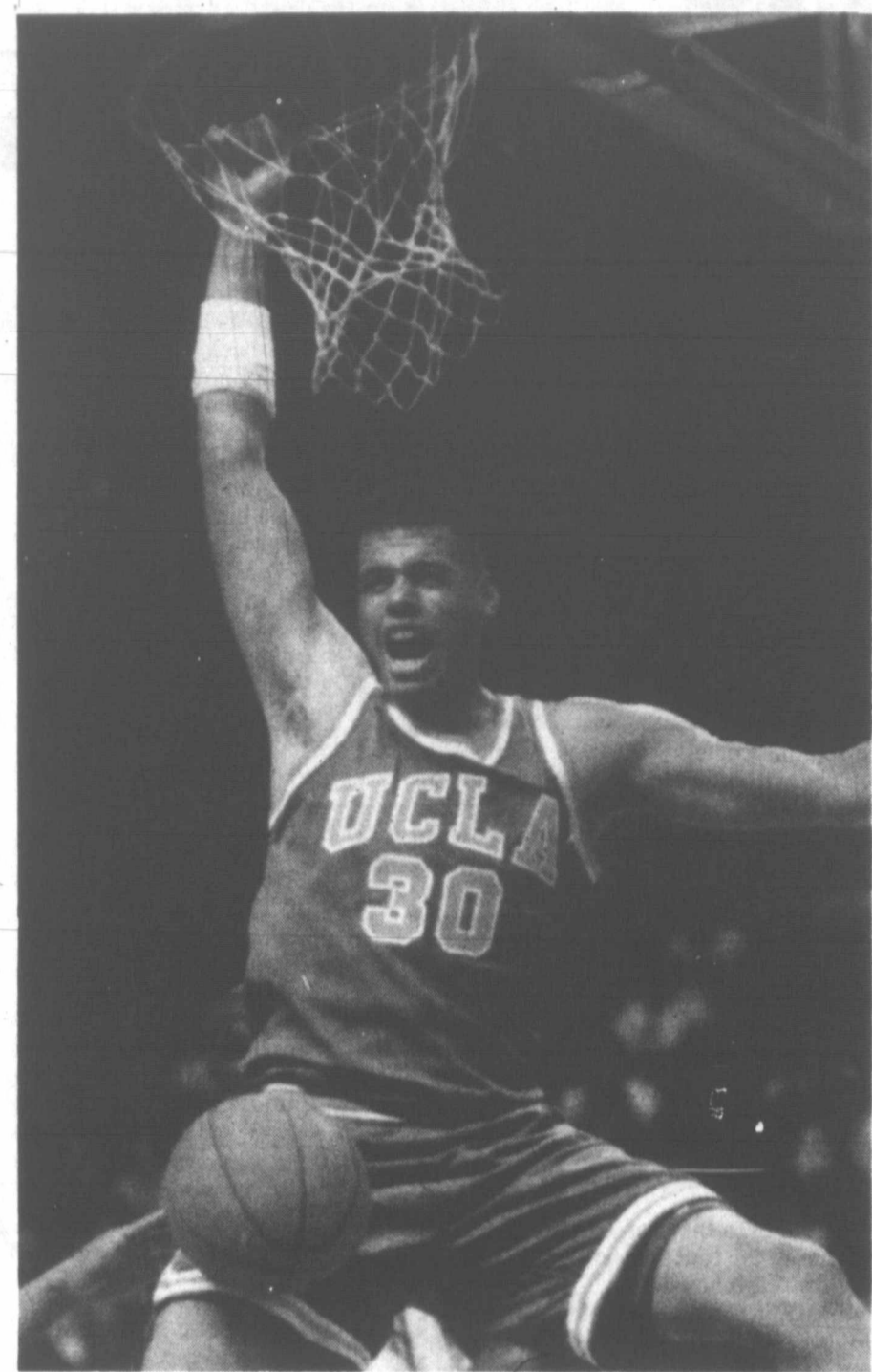
David Van Dyke added 18 points and 11 rebounds for the Miners (15-1, 5-0 Western Athletic). Maxey, sidelined by a knee injury early this season, had 20 points for the Miners in their 72-58 victory over SDSU on Saturday in El Paso.

John Molle led the Aztecs (2-14, 0-4) with 17 points.

Southern Cal 82, No. 24 Stanford 72 At Stanford, Calif., Harold Miner had 30 points and 10 rebounds as the Trojans snapped a nine-year losing streak at Maples Pavilion.

The victory was the fourth straight for the Southern Cal (12-3, 4-1 Pacific-10) since consecutive losses to Notre Dame and Arizona knocked it from the Top 25.

The Cardinal (11-2, 3-1), which lost



(AP Laserphoto) UCLA's Tracy Murray celebrates a slam dunk during the Thursday win over the California Golden Bears.

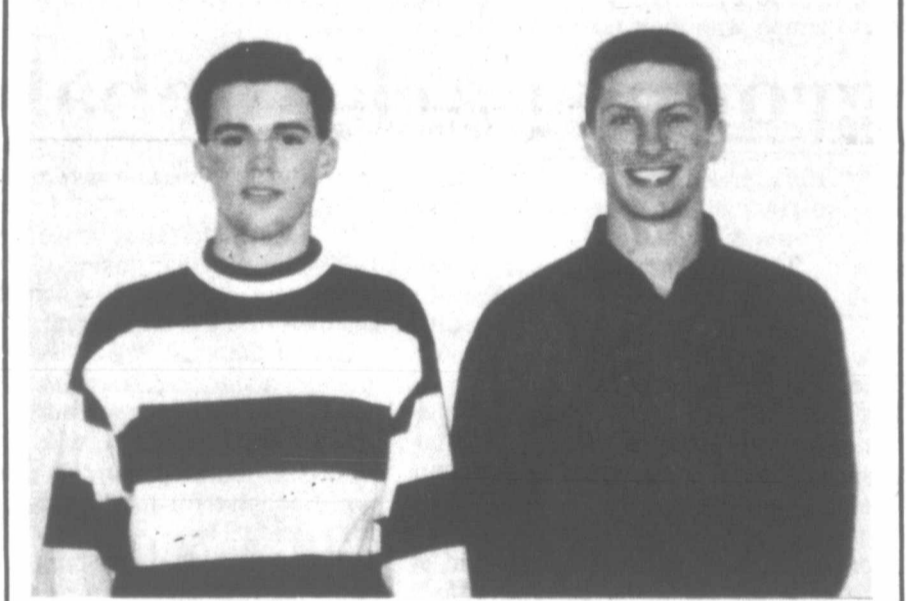
for the first time in eight home games this season, was led by Adam Keefe's 28 points and 10 rebounds.

No. 25 UNLV 58, Fresno St. 50 At Las Vegas, Dexter Boney scored 16 points to help the Runnin' Rebels overcome the Bulldogs' slowdown

game and remain unbeaten in the Big West Conference with their 13th straight victory.

UNLV (16-2, 8-0) extended its nation-leading homecourt winning streak to 43 games. Fresno State (11-0, 7-2-4) dropped its third straight game.

Athletes of the week



(Special photo) Pampa High School Harvesters Booster Club athletes of the week are basketball players David Johnson, left, and Brent Skaggs.

4-bowl alliance formed

MIAMI (AP) — Calls for a national championship have persuaded college football's powerhouses to band together in hopes of locking in a bowl game between the two top-ranked teams each year.

The landmark four-bowl alliance announced Thursday, however, wouldn't have enabled No. 1 Miami to play No. 2 Washington this year. The Pac 10 and Big 10 champions remain wedded to the Rose Bowl.

But if the teams ranked 1-2 in *The Associated Press* poll at the end of next season are found among the

Southwest, Southeastern, Big Eight, Big East and Atlantic Coast conferences or Notre Dame, they will face off in either the Orange, Sugar, Cotton or Fiesta bowl on New Year's Day.

"Where would we be if we weren't in it?" said Jim Brock, the Cotton Bowl's executive director.

The nine-year deal announced Thursday also ensures that these four bowls get the top eight teams outside the Big 10 and Pac 10 each season, ending a chaotic selection process and relegating other bowls to second-class status.

Magic to play in All-Star game

By MIKE HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

The votes are in. Magic Johnson will play in the NBA All-Star game and, very likely, the Summer Olympics.

Calls for the Australian basketball team to boycott Olympic games against the United States if Magic Johnson plays were overwhelmed Thursday by a worldwide show of support for the HIV-infected superstar.

Johnson announced his retirement from the Los Angeles Lakers last Nov. 7 after testing positive for the virus that causes AIDS. But the NBA said Thursday that Johnson could play in the All-Star Game Feb. 9 after he received the fourth-highest number of votes among Western Conference players.

International basketball officials and U.S. Olympic Committee representatives, meanwhile, were unanimous in stating there was no health reason to keep Johnson out of the Summer Games. Johnson has said he wants to keep his spot on the U.S. team for Barcelona.

"The risk, especially in a sport like basketball, is very, very, very low," said Dr. Jim Montgomery, the chief physician for the U.S. Summer Olympic team.

On Wednesday, Dr. Brian Sando, the senior medical director of the Australian Olympic Federation's basketball program, said Johnson presented a realistic threat of passing on the infection if he played in Barcelona.

"I would certainly recommend that our basketballers not compete with a team of which Magic Johnson was a member," Sando said. That risk — even though it's small — you cannot absolutely say it's never going to occur."

Several of the Australian players agreed,

but there was strong support for Magic's participation, both in the All-Star game and in Barcelona.

"We have consulted with league medical advisors and with Magic's doctors and have been assured that Magic's competing in the All-Star game should not pose any health risk to Magic or the other participants," NBA commissioner David Stern said.

The Lakers, in a statement issued through the NBA, said Sando was "ill-informed. His views do not represent the prevailing medical opinion on this subject, and that is that the chances of contracting the HIV virus through athletic competition are infinitesimal."

That stance was shared by Montgomery, who said the USOC was "in total support of Magic."

"If you read the literature until now, there has not been a single documented incident of transmission of AIDS in sports," he said.

Dave Gavitt, president of USA Basketball, was adamant in his support of Johnson, saying, "Every indication that we have been given by the International Olympic Committee, FIBA (the international basketball federation) and United States Olympic Committee has confirmed our own medical advisories that Magic Johnson's eligibility for the 1992 Games is not in question ... Our position has never changed. Magic has been selected as a member of our team and we are hopeful his health will permit him to fully participate."

Mike Moran, a USOC spokesman, said Johnson's doctors should make the final decision whether he plays in Barcelona.

"As far as we are concerned, his position with the U.S. basketball team is secure," Moran said. "There is no documentation of a single case of HIV being passed through sport. Frankly, in basketball, we feel the risk is zero."

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE FARINA
Notice is hereby given that original letters testamentary upon the Estate of Josephine Farina, Deceased, were granted to me, the undersigned, on the 20th day of January, 1992, in Cause No. 7483, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to me within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 20th day of January, 1992.

John Daniel Farina
Independent Executor of the Estate of Josephine Farina, Deceased
c/o Buzzard Law Firm
Suite 436, Hughes Building
Pampa, Texas 79065
A-19 January 24, 1992

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Pampa Independent School District, Pampa, Texas will receive sealed bids in the School Business Office, Pampa, Texas until 2:00 p.m., February 10, 1992, for Computer Equipment. Bids shall be addressed to Business Office, Pampa ISD, 321 West Albert, Pampa, Texas - 79065, and marked **COMPUTER EQUIPMENT, BID NO. 192-3COMP**. Proposals and specifications may be secured from the Business Office at 321 West Albert, Pampa, Texas - 79065.

The Pampa Independent School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive formalities and technicalities.
A-20 January 24, 26, 1992

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
1425 Alcock, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8 p.m. Monday thru Saturday 12 noon, Sunday 11 a.m. Women's meeting Sunday 4 p.m. 665-9702.

MARY Kay Cosmetics, free facials. Supplies and deliveries. Call Dorothy Vaughn 665-5117.

ROBERTS County Museum: Miami, Summer hours, Tuesday-Friday 10-5 p.m. Monday 2-5 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

SQUARE House Museum Panhandle: Regular Museum hours 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 1-5:30 p.m. Sundays.

3 Personal
MARY Kay Cosmetics, free facials. Supplies and deliveries. Call Dorothy Vaughn 665-5117.

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BEAUTICONTROL
Cosmetics and skincare. Offering free complete color analysis, makeovers, deliveries and updates. Call your local consultant, Lynn Allison 669-3848, 1304 Christine.

SHAKLEE: Vitamins, diet, skincare, household, job opportunity. Donna Turner, 665-6065.

IF someone's drinking is causing you problems, try Al-Anon. 669-3564, 665-7871.

H.E.A.R.T. Women's support group: Meet 2nd and 4th Monday, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. 119 N. Post, for more information 669-1131.

HARVESTER LANES
1401 S. Hobart 665-3422
Hours 1 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Pizza Bowl!

Pizza Hut

Starts Saturday
January 25th.
Every Saturday
night between
8 p.m. & 12 a.m. when you
make a strike on a Red
Head Pin, You win a
FREE medium cheese pizza
from PIZZA HUT!

Come Join The Fun!

Sports Scoreboard

NBA Standings

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	25	15	.625	—
New York	23	15	.605	1
Philadelphia	19	21	.475	6
Miami	18	22	.462	6 1/2
New Jersey	18	21	.462	6 1/2
Washington	14	25	.359	10 1/2
Orlando	9	30	.231	15 1/2
Central Division				
Chicago	35	5	.875	—
Cleveland	26	12	.684	8
Detroit	23	17	.575	12
Atlanta	21	19	.525	14
Milwaukee	19	20	.487	15 1/2
Indiana	15	26	.366	20 1/2
Charlotte	11	30	.268	24 1/2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Utah	26	16	.619	—
Houston	22	18	.550	3
San Antonio	22	18	.550	3
Denver	16	24	.400	9
Dallas	13	28	.333	11 1/2
Minnesota	7	33	.175	18
Pacific Division				
Golden State	26	10	.722	—
Portland	27	13	.675	1
Phoenix	26	15	.634	2 1/2
LA Lakers	24	16	.600	4
Seattle	20	21	.488	8 1/2
LA Clippers	20	22	.476	9
Sacramento	12	28	.300	16

Thursday's Games
Detroit 111, Minnesota 100

Houston 109, LA Clippers 96
Denver 115, Utah 111
Portland 113, Seattle 109
LA Lakers 108, Sacramento 105

Friday's Games
Phoenix at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Portland, 10 p.m.
Sacramento at LA Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
New York at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Denver, 9 p.m.
Utah at Seattle, 10 p.m.
New York at LA Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Bowling Results

Final standings in the Pampa Merchants Bowling Classic at Harvester Lanes are listed below:

Bowler	Total Pins
Rick Bryant	2,126
Belinda Nolte	2,057
Andy Anderson	2,113
Ken Hearn	2,065
Mike Lane	2,111
Kevin Coe	2,048

Match game scores — Nolte def. Hearn, 223-150; Nolte def. Lane, 178-168; Nolte def. Anderson, 183-157; Bryant def. Nolte, 219-193.

High game winners — Mike Lane, 256; Emma Bowler, 253; Karen Adkins, 251; Benny Horton, 260; Kevin Coe, 229; Belinda Nolte, 246; Darrell Danner, 256; Rick Bryant, 265; Randall Hardin, 266; Ken Hearn, 229.

IC Memorials

GRAY County Retarded Citizens Assn., P.O. Box 885, Pampa, Tx. 79066-0885.

HIGH Plains Epilepsy Assn., 806 S. Brian, Room 213, Amarillo, TX 79106.

HOSPICE of Pampa, P.O. Box 2782, Pampa.

MARCH of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, 2316 Lakeview Dr., Amarillo, TX 79109.

MEALS on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0939.

MUSCULAR Dystrophy Assn., 3505 Olsen, Suite 203, Amarillo, TX 79109.

PAMPA Fine Arts Assn. P.O. Box 818, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

PAMPA Sheltered Workshop, P.O. Box 2806, Pampa.

QUIVIRA Girl Scout Council, City Hall, Room 301, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

RONALD McDonald House, 1501 Streit, Amarillo, TX 79106.

SALVATION Army, 701 S. Cuyler St., Pampa, TX 79065.

SHEPARD'S Helping Hands, 422 Florida, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

ST. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Attn: Memorial/Honor Program FH, One St. Jude Place Bldg., P.O. Box 1000 Dept. 300, Memphis, Tenn. 38148-0552.

THE Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.

THE Opportunity Plan Inc., Box 907 - W.T. Station, Canyon, TX 79016.

TRALEE Crisis Center For Women Inc., P.O. Box 2880, Pampa.

WHITE Deer Land Museum in Pampa, P.O. Box 1556, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

2 Museums

WHITE Deer Land Museum: Pampa, Tuesday thru Sunday 1:30-4 p.m. Special tours by appointment.

ALANREED-McLean Area Historical Museum: McLean. Regular museum hours 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Closed Sunday.

DEVIL'S Rope Museum, McLean, Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Open Monday by appointment only.

HUTCHINSON County Museum: Borger. Regular hours 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays except Tuesday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

LAKE Meredith Aquarium and Wildlife Museum: Fritch, hours Tuesday and Sunday 2-5 p.m., 10 a.m. Wednesday thru Saturday, closed Monday.

MUSEUM Of The Plains: Perryton. Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Weekends during Summer months, 1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

OLD Mobeetie Jail Museum: Monday-Saturday 10-5. Sunday 1-5. Closed Wednesday.

PANHANDLE Plains Historical Museum: Canyon. Regular museum hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, weekends 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

PIONEER West Museum: Shamrock. Regular museum hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, Saturday and Sunday.

RIVER Valley Pioneer Museum at Canadian, Tx. Tuesday-Friday 10-4 p.m. Sunday 2-4 p.m. Closed Saturday and Monday.

ROBERTS County Museum: Miami, Summer hours, Tuesday-Friday 10-5 p.m. Monday 2-5 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

SQUARE House Museum Panhandle. Regular Museum hours 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 1-5:30 p.m. Sundays.

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ANIMAL Rights Assn., 4201 Canyon Dr., Amarillo, TX 79110.

BIG Brothers/ Big Sisters, P.O. Box 1964, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

BOYS Ranch/Girls Town, P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo, Tx. 79174.

FRIENDS Of The Library, P.O. Box 146, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

GENESIS House Inc., 615 W. Buckler, Pampa, TX 79065.

GOOD Samaritan Christian Services, 309 N. Ward, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

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403 W. Atchison 669-2525

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ATTENTION Business Leaders
One of America's Most Respected Individuals Has Formed An Explosive New Company Backed By 200 Million \$ Corporation Total Ground Floor Opportunity National Lead System Generated.
By TV and Radio, Join Us And Other Key Leaders in Kickoff Of This National Grand Opening 1-806-669-1263

14 Business Services

Income Tax Planning and Preparation
Joseph G. Dickey, C.P.A.
806-665-2336-420 Florida

14b Appliance Repair

RENT TO RENT
We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate.
Johnson Home Furnishings
801 W. Francis

14d Carpentry

Ralph Baxter
Contractor & Builder
Custom Homes or Remodeling
665-8248

14e Concrete Construction

All types of concrete construction. Experienced. Free estimates. Call day or night, 665-2462.

14f Remodeling, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. No job too small. Mike Albus, 665-4774, 665-1150.

REMODELING, additions, insurance repair. 20 years experience. Ray Deaver, 665-0447.

OVERHEAD Door Repair. Kidwell Construction, 669-6347.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, new cabinets, ceramic tile, acoustical ceilings, paneling, painting, patios. 18 years local experience. Jerry Reagan 669-9747, Karl Parks 669-2648.

CHILDREN BROTHERS, complete floor leveling, deal with a professional the first time 1-800-299-9563.

14e Carpet Service

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost... It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3451. Free estimates.

RAINBOW International Carpet Dyeing and Cleaning Co. Free estimates. Call 665-1431.

YOUNG'S Cleaning Service. Operator Jay Young, 15 years experience. Free estimate. 665-3538.

14f Decorators-Interior

SARA'S Home Interiors Sale. Verticals, blinds, draperies, carpet. Installations. 665-0021.

14h General Services

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimate. 669-7769.

Larimore Master Locksmith

Call me out to let you in 665-Keys

Snow Removal

Chuck Morgan 665-7007

INSTALL steel siding, storm windows, doors. Free estimates. Reid Construction Co. 1-800-765-7071.

WINK'S General Handyman Service

Minor work to Major additions. References. Wink Cross, 665-4692.

14i General Repair

IF it's broken, leaking or won't turn off, call the Fix It Shop. 669-3434. Lamps repaired.

14j Insulation

BLOW in attic insulation and save \$\$\$ all year! Free estimates. Reid Construction Co. 1-800-765-7071.

14m Lawnmower Service

PAMPA Lawnmower Repair. Pick up and delivery service available. 301 S. Cuyler, 665-8843.

RADCLIFF Lawnmower-Chainsaw Sales and Service, 519 S. Cuyler, 669-3395.

14n Painting

PAINTING and sheetrock finishing. 35 years. David and Joe, 665-2903, 669-7885.

14r Plowing, Yard Work

LAWN work, rototiller, lawn work, tree trimming, hauling, carpentry, general handyman. M&M's M-Provements, 665-8320.

TREE trimming, yard cleanup. Hauling. Kenneth Banks, 665-3580.

14s Plumbing & Heating

Builders Plumbing Supply
535 S. Cuyler 665-3711

BULLARD SERVICE CO.

Plumbing Maintenance and Repair Specialist
Free estimates, 665-8603

14s Plumbing & Heating

LARRY BAKER PLUMBING
Heating Air Conditioning
Borger Highway 665-4392

Terry Sewerline Cleaning

\$357 days a week. 669-1041.

SEWER AND SINKLINE

Cleaning. 665-4307.

JACK'S Plumbing Co. New construction, repair, remodeling, sewer and drain cleaning. Septic systems installed. 665-7115.

14t Radio and Television

CURTIS MATHES
TV's, VCR's, Camcorders, Stereos, Movies and Nintendo. Rent to own. 2216 Perryton Pkwy, 665-0504.

14u Roofing

COMPOSITION Roofing, competitive rates. 20 years experience. 665-6298.

21 Help Wanted

R.N. wanted. Are you tired of working evening and nights? We work 8-5 weekdays. Give us a call at Pamhandle Health Services, 665-0363.

DEMONSTRATORS

Attention: Teachers, homemakers, nurses, secretaries. 10 demonstrations per week \$200. 5 Demos per week \$125. Full benefits. No experience necessary. Work in your local area. 352-5001.

LVNS OR RN'S

Needed all shifts, competitive salary, excellent benefits. Borger Nursing Center, 273-3785.

PARENTING PROGRAM

Cal Farley's Boys Ranch/Girls, U.S.A. is currently seeking married couples with a high school education or G.E.D. to serve as home parents at our Borger campus. House parents function as role models for our boys and girls. Housing, utilities, meals, hospitalization insurance, retirement and salaries provided. If interested, please send a resume or letter of interest to:

CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH GIRLS TOWN, U.S.A. Personnel Director Amarillo, TX. 79174-0001

WORLD BOOK

Child Craft
3 Full time, 3 part time positions. Guaranteed income. Salary plus commission. Full benefits. Local work available. Call 359-1074.

AGENT wanted for Daily Oklahoman in Pampa. Call Ted Fields, 405-338-5707.

EXPERIENCED pulling unit operator. Adobe Operating, 669-2535.

HIRING Full time. Near apartment, solid work/personal references mandatory. Automotive experience helpful. Apply in person at 1600 Duncan.

NEEDED daytime, part time line attendant and waitresses. Apply in person, Western Sizzlin.

NEEDED School Bus driver, Grandview Hopkins ISD. Morning and Afternoon Route. Call or write for application. Route 1 Box 27, Groom, Texas 79039. 669-3831.

Applications will be closed January 31, 1992.

OLAN Mills has several openings for telephone sales people. No experience necessary. Apply to Bee Markham, Black Gold Motel Room 21, Pampa, TX. Tuesday thru Friday 9-11 p.m. or Call 665-7550. BOE, M/F.

WANTED office personnel with experience in computer, patient accounts, insurance claims and collections. Full resume requested with references. Reply to Box 13, Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa.

30 Sewing Machines

WE service all makes and models of sewing machines and vacuum cleaners. Sanders Sewing Center. 214 N. Cuyler, 665-2383.

50 Building Supplies

HOUSTON LUMBER CO.
420 W. Foster 669-6881

White House Lumber Co.

101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household Goods

USED appliances and furniture, some like new. Antiques, beauty supplies, beauty salon and restaurant. Abby's Country Store, 201 N. Cuyler.

RENT TO RENT

We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate.
Johnson Home Furnishings
801 W. Francis 665-3361

SHOWCASE RENTALS

Rent to own furnishings for your home. Rent by phone.
1700 N. Hobart 669-1234
No Credit Check. No deposit. Free delivery.

JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS

Pampa's standard of excellence in Home Furnishings
801 W. Francis 665-3361

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



60 Household Goods

SOFA with matching chair and swivel rocker. 669-3989.

USED beds for sale, first come, first serve, only 14 left. 665-8497, 665-1669.

62 Medical Equipment

HEALTHSTAR Medical, Oxygen, Beds, Wheelchairs, rental and Sales. Medicare provider 24 hour service. Free delivery. 1541 N. Hobart, 669-0000.

69 Miscellaneous

RENT IT
When you have tried everywhere and can't find it, come see me, I probably got it! H. C. Eubanks Tool Rental, 1320 S. Barnes, phone 665-3213.

CHIMNEY Fire can be prevented. Queen Sweep Chimney Cleaning. 665-4686 or 665-3364.

1800 watt Honda generator, excellent condition. 665-8677.

4th Cavalry Needs riders as trainers to fill vacancies. We train and furnish horse. 373-8629.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

COMPUTER Apple 2E, 2 monitors, printer, lots of programs, nice desk included. \$500. 665-3516.

FOR sale 10,000 BTU-110 air conditioner, sofa bed. 665-5613.

FOR Sale King size mattress and box springs, complete \$50. For shop manuals for 1987 Crown Victoria \$20. Need to buy queen bed frame. 665-4432.

FOR sale: Good as new Fiberglass top. Fits long wide full size pickups. \$250. 669-4190 between 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

RAILROAD Ties for sale. 665-0321.

SEASONED Firewood. Call for types and prices. 665-8843 between 9 and 5, 665-3109 after 5.

69a Garage Sales

New Location
J&J Flea Market, 409 W. Brown. Phone 665-5721. Open 9-5 Wednesday thru Sunday.

ELSIE'S Flea Market Sale. All winter clothes 1/2 price, paper bags 5 for \$1, Nice ladies spring suits, size 12. Dishes on sale. Model cars and parts, cheap. Linens, decorative flower arrangements and baskets. 10-00 a.m. Wednesdays through Sunday. 1246 Barnes.

ESTATE Sale: Saturday, January 25, 9 a.m. 1307 Duncan.

GARAGE Sale: 1200 Charles, January 25-26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lots of miscellaneous items, ladies, mens and children clothing.

GARAGE sale: 2339 Beech, Sunday, January 26 from 12 to 6 p.m. and Monday 9 to 5. First Ever!

GARAGE Sale: 921 Fisher, Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. til 7.

HUGE Sale: Furniture, clothes, tools, some of everything. Friday 8-5, Saturday 8-2. 1137 Terry.

MOVING sale: Antiques, truck parts, dishwasher, CB radio, office equipment, fitness equipment. 9 a.m. to 7, Saturday, Sunday, 1009 Mary Ellen.

TRASH & Treasure Flea Market Sale. Antique radio, antique stove, antique cabinet, lots of new items added from buying trip. Bargains galore. 407 W. Foster.

YARD Sale: Saturday 9-4. Cash only. No early sales. 1825 Hamilton.

70 Musical Instruments

PIANOS FOR RENT
New and used pianos. Starting at \$40 per month. Up to 6 months of rent will apply to purchase. It's all right here in Pampa at Tarpley Music. 665-1251.

75 Feeds and Seeds

\$2.50 bale hay: Beardless wheat, sweet feed, immature milks, wheat straw, feed seed stalk, 9% protein. Bale weight by hay type. 1-800-7149.

LEFORS - 208 W. 8th

2 bedroom, bath, fireplace, spacious family room. Investors Special \$17,000. SR-2. Bid Closing Date January 27, 1992
410 RED DEER

2 bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, spacious family room with fireplace. SR-1 \$32,000. Bid Closing Date Jan. 27, 1992
CALL ANY REAL ESTATE BROKER

75 Feeds and Seeds

Wheeler Evans Feed
Full line of Acco Feed
We appreciate your business!
665-5881, 669-2107

NUMBERT Atfalaf Hay in barn. Wellington, 806-447-5108.

77 Livestock

FOR sale Baby calves. 806-826-8022.

ROCKING Chair Saddle Shop, 115 S. Cuyler. Now supplying animal health care products. See us for all your needs.

SATELITE Cattle Exchange joins forces with Data Transmission Network to present CATTLE EXPRESS For information on buying or selling cattle on a daily basis through DTN or obtaining your own DTN machine call Hayden Walters at 537-5231 or 1-800-543-5905. Special no cost offer thru January.

80 Pets and Supplies

AKC Registered 8 week old Black Poodle puppies, 2 males \$100 each. 665-0866, 665-5338.

AKC tiny Toy Poodle puppy. Call 665-5806.

CANINE and Feline grooming. Also, boarding and Science diets. Roysie Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

DOG Training Basic Obedience and Kindergarten puppy classes starting soon. 665-3622.

FREE 1/2 Siamese kittens, gentle, 7 months old. 669-7973.

FREE Kittens. 6 weeks old, litter box trained. After 4 call 665-9267.

GOLDEN Wheat Grooming and Boarding. Puppy daycare. 669-6357 Mona.

Grooming and Boarding Jo Ann's Pet Salon 715 W. Foster, 669-1410

GROOMING, exotic birds, pets, full line pet supplies. Iams and Science Diet dog and cat food. Pets Unique, 910 W. Kentucky, 665-5102.

SUZI'S K-9 World, formerly K-9 Acres Boarding and Grooming. We now offer outside runs. Large/small dogs welcome. Still offering grooming/ACC puppies. Suzi Reed, 665-4184.

89 Wanted To Buy

TAILGATE In good condition to fit mid 1970's Chevrolet narrow bed pickup. Call 669-4190 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

WANTED 8 used, in fair condition, 8.25 R15 Low Boy tires. 669-2535.

95 Furnished Apartments

ROOMS for gentlemen. Shows, clean, quiet. \$35 a week. Davis Hotel, 1161/2 W. Foster. 669-9115, or 669-9137.

HERITAGE APARTMENTS

Furnished, unfurnished 1 bedroom. 665-2903, 669-7885.

LARGE 1 bedroom, nice furniture, dishwasher, central heat/air, carpeted. 665-4345.

NICE one bedrooms. \$175 to \$200. Ask about 10% special. Keys at Action Realty.

ONE, two and three bedroom apartments, \$100 off first months rent. Fitness center, swimming pool, jogging trail, most bills paid. Come home to Caprock Apartments, 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149.

96 Unfurnished Apts.

1 or 2 bedrooms, furnished or unfurnished, covered parking. No pets. Gwendolen Plaza Apartments, 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrigerator. All bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900.

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104 Lots



(AP Laserphoto)

Two Russian women hold a bottle of vodka, items of underwear and a winter coat which they had hoarded especially to sell at a local free market in Moscow today. The government has issued a decree legalizing all private transactions eliminating the stigma of the "black market."

Top Russian official defends reforms, presents an economic crisis budget

By MARK J. PORUBCANSKY
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's economics chief, presenting a budget to lawmakers today, said tight money and high prices are the only possible way to solve the country's economic woes.

But a top legislator complained that the government plan presented by the economics official, Yegor Gaidar, was less a budget than an incomplete collection of documents, and recommended rejection.

Gaidar presented a budget to the Russian legislature for the first three months of the year that reflected the free-market economic reforms President Boris N. Yeltsin pressed on Russia on Jan. 2.

The reforms have increased prices in food stores several times. Bare store shelves have not filled, and consumers are angry. At the same time, Yeltsin's government is trying to sharply cut back the number of rubles in circulation.

Virtually unrestricted printing of rubles in the final years of Soviet rule built high inflation into the economy.

Gaidar, in remarks reported by the Tass news agency, said the

government was determined to press ahead with its reform.

He said there had been only one choice — to sharply restrict the money supply and raise prices.

"Any other policy could have been extremely dangerous, dooming us to an automatic twist in the inflationary spiral."

— Yegor Gaidar
Russia's economics chief

Despite public protest, raising prices was "the only possible and responsible decision," Tass quoted him as saying. "Any other policy could have been extremely dangerous, dooming us to an automatic twist in the inflationary spiral."

Even so, he said the budget built in an assumption that inflation would be 400 percent. He termed that estimate "extremely conservative," Tass said.

Gaidar said total military expenditures would be cut 4.5 percent, but within the military budget outlays for new equipment would be 7 1/2 times smaller.

He also announced cuts in other government outlays, including projects carried out with credits from foreign governments unless they guarantee immediate results. Cuts of between 2.7 percent and 9

percent were announced in subsidies for industrial and farm products, and in law enforcement.

But the budget ran into immediate criticism from Alexander Pochinok, chairman of the legislative committee on budget, planning, taxes and prices.

He said the government should be given the authority to spend 519.8 billion rubles, but that the documents presented to the legislature were far from representing a real budget.

Tass didn't say what Gaidar's budget would allow lawmakers to spend, and the report did not indicate when legislators would vote on the spending plan.

"The quality and level of the documents presented do not permit them to be considered a budget," Tass quoted Pochinok as saying. For instance, they did not take into account such items as social protection of the population, converting defense industries and pension funds.

Pochinok accused Yeltsin's government of trying to push off all responsibility for the living standards of people on local governments, and charged that it is "willingly or unwillingly pushing ahead the disintegration, the regionalization of Russia."

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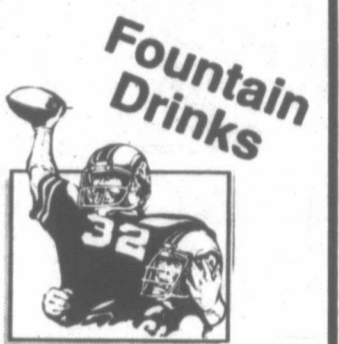
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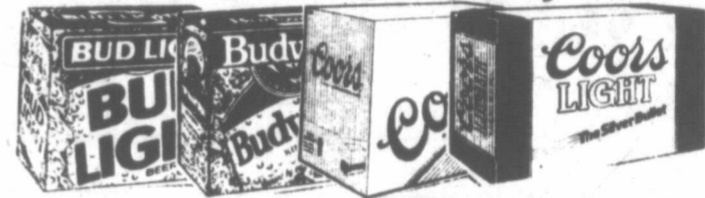
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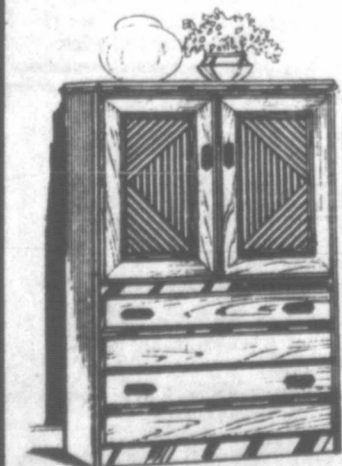
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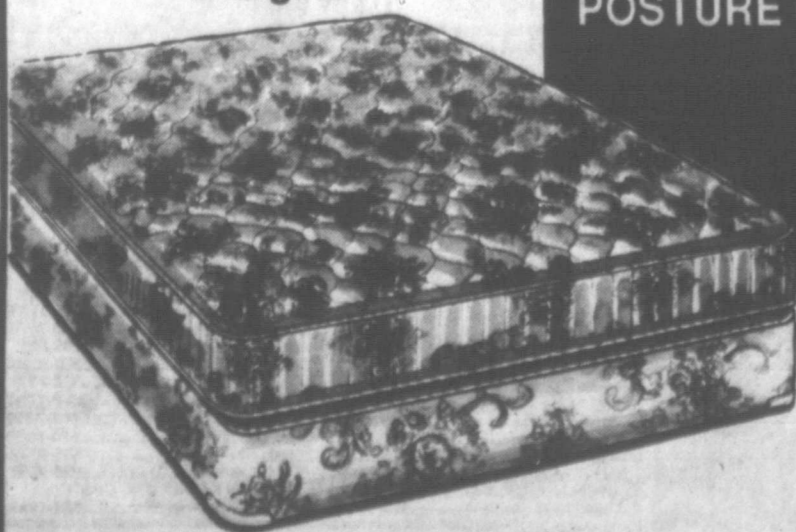
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