

The Pampa News

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PAMPA — Twenty cases of beer heisted from a local bar may be what thirsty thieves had in mind for this weekend's party, say local police officials.

Burglars used a wooden pole to batter open the back door of Sandy's Place, 2218 Alcock, sometime between closing at 12:30 a.m. today and 6 a.m. when cleaning personnel arrived, said Officer Alvin Johnson.

Besides \$700 worth of Coors and Budweiser, thieves took a small amount of cash. The pool table, juke box and cigarette machine were untouched, Johnson said.

PAMPA — Pampa Police officials said today they have a suspect in the reported sexual assault of a six-year old girl.

The child was transported to North West Texas Hospital in Amarillo by her mother before dawn today for examination by a specially trained sexual assault nurse examiner. Sgt. Charlie Love said the girl is uninjured.

She was assaulted Wednesday evening on North Christy Street, Love said.

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — Millions of pounds of peanuts continued smoldering today at a warehouse where firefighters stood watch through the night.

"We've got mounds and mounds of smoldering peanuts right now," assistant fire Chief Bob Putnam said this morning.

Up to 16-million pounds of peanuts were inside the former meat packing plant at Cedar Creek Industrial Park when fire broke out early Thursday.

"What makes this so hard is the fire load is peanuts stored in burlap sacks and cardboard boxes," said Lt. Henry Davila, assistant fire marshal.

He said the peanuts were stacked in 110-pound bags to the ceiling of the 46,000-square foot cold storage building. Removal of sprinklers from the building added to firefighters' difficulties, Davila said. The peanuts blocked access to the flames and created thick smoke.

"You can imagine burning peanut oil on your stove," Putnam said.

Between 50 and 60 firefighters were called to the industrial park. No injuries were reported. Putnam said firefighters arrived at about 3 a.m. Thursday. The former Gooch Packing Co. building, near the city cemetery, sustained some damage.

Although it was uncertain what caused the fire, Putnam said some welding or cutting went on there Wednesday. But Davila said arson had not been ruled out. He said IDM Partners of Austin owned the building.

TOKYO (AP) — Japan will try to reach a trade compromise with the United States before a Sunday deadline but will not introduce "numerical targets" to measure market-opening progress, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said today.

The Americans insist that any agreements on steps to open Japanese markets include a system to measure progress. But Japanese negotiators have adamantly refused, saying that gauging market share violates free trade principles.

Takemura was evasive about what actions his government would take if the deadline was not met but suggested Japan would not abandon the talks.

Sub-Cabinet level officials were meeting in Washington D.C. to work out an agreement on Japanese government procurement of medical and telecommunications equipment. Takemura suggested some progress had been made.

The U.S. side has charged that the Japanese government favors domestic industries and excludes foreign products, claiming governments of other industrialized nations purchase a much higher proportion of goods from overseas.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — O.J. Simpson's lawyer today suggested there was a mystery witness who could exonerate him and demanded prosecutors turn over investigative reports on the individual before a trial set for Sept. 20.

"There is at least one witness who police have talked to some time ago... who has given testimony or evidence that is totally inconsistent with the theory of a lone assailant, and it's entirely inconsistent with the fact that Mr. Simpson is that assailant," attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. said.

"There are witnesses there that have theories of multiple assailants of different ethnic background than Mr. Simpson that we think should be pursued vigorously," Cochran added.

Deputy District Attorney William Hodgman told Superior Court Judge Lance A. Ito that police were attempting to pursue that lead, that the witness lives very close to another state and that the prosecution would turn over all reports.

Sales tax collections up 14 percent for Pampa

By RANDAL K. MCGAVOCK
Staff Writer

Pampa's sales tax totals for July rebounded strongly from slight decreases the two previous months as receipts for the month were more than 14 percent greater than expected.

Specifically, the city collected \$154,514.87 from the state in sales tax money for July, 14.14 percent more than budgeted. In 1994, Pampa has collected a total of \$1,611,413.13 or 12.48 percent more overall.

John Horst, Pampa's finance director, said he was pleased to see the increase and attributed it to area consumers having more confidence in the economy. He added that the 14 percent increase more than made up for the minor slide in sales tax totals in May and June.

State Comptroller John Sharp recently reported that the state is also experiencing strong economic growth as sales taxes have increased an average of 7 percent across the state.

"A special analysis by our office shows

that sales tax returns in cities across the state are averaging 7.57 percent ahead of the first half of last year, which is further proof that the overall local economy is growing stronger," he said in the news release. "The adjusted local sales revenue for the first half of 1993 was \$708 million, while the adjusted revenue for the same period in 1994 totals \$761 million."

Merchants collect the state's 6.25 percent sales tax and the local sales tax of two cents and send it to the state's comptroller's office with their tax returns. The state retains its share and returns to cities, counties and other taxing entities their portion of the sales tax.

This month's sales tax rebates include taxes collected on May sales and reported to the comptroller in June by businesses filing monthly tax returns. Businesses file either monthly, quarterly or annually depending on the amount of sales tax they collect.

The collection of sales tax receipts in other cities in Gray County was generally mixed, according to figures from the state's comptroller's office.

In Lefors, the city received a check for \$849.44, a considerable increase as compared to July 1993 when it received no sales tax money. For the year, Lefors has collected 15.39 percent more this fiscal year than for the same period last fiscal year.

McLean, however, received more than 13 percent this month than in July 1993 as its check from the state comptroller totaled \$1,287.39. For the year, revenues from sales taxes are down more than 26 percent as compared to the same time last year.

As for Carson County, this month sales tax receipts were also mixed as Groom and Panhandle reported increases of 0.89 percent and 19.08 percent, respectively, while the cities of Skellytown and White Deer reported decreases of 26.96 percent and 30.75 percent, respectively.

For July 1994, Groom collected \$2,044.99; Panhandle collected \$7,237.70; Skellytown collected \$508.79; and White Deer collected \$2,249.25.

Canadian, which is the only city in Hemphill County to receive money from

the comptroller's office, received a check for \$11,538.27 for July, an increase of 3.58 percent as compared to July 1993. For the year, Canadian is right on budget, having collected a total of \$83,641.94, less than one percent off target.

Like Canadian in Hemphill County, Miami is the only city in Roberts County to report sales tax figures for the state. For both the month and the year, Miami is above last year's sales tax figures as it collected \$1,323.41 this month and \$10,028.53 for the year.

In Wheeler County, in which Mobeetie, Shamrock and Wheeler report sales taxes to the state, receipts were generally mixed, according to figures released by the comptroller's office.

For July, Mobeetie collected no sales taxes; Shamrock collected \$14,638.16; and Wheeler, the county seat, collected \$4,329.18.

For 1994 so far, only Mobeetie has reported being above totals from last year. Shamrock and Wheeler have collected 3.03 percent and 4.52 percent less than in the same period last year.

Colonel Bogey Award



Tri-State Seniors Golf Association Secretary-Treasurer Floyd Sackett, right, presents the 1994 Colonel Bogey Award to Vester Smith of Higgins, center, during the association's annual tournament banquet Thursday night at the Pampa Country Club. With Smith is his wife, Martha. The award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the association. Smith is rancher and a 17-year member of the golf association. (Pampa News photo)

Washington wildfire too hot to handle

By CASEY COMBS
Associated Press Writer

CHELAN, Wash. (AP) — It was too just too hot and too fast to attack head on. In one day, the lightning wildfire doubled to 54,000 acres, scattering residents and chasing firefighters from its path.

"I've never seen people run that fast in my life. It created winds like a vortex," firefighter Lynn Lindsey said, twirling his finger in a circle.

The Tyece Creek blaze is the largest of dozens of fires covering more than 100,000 acres in Washington and Oregon since a series of lightning storms Sunday. Dozens more continued to rage across dry areas of the West today.

Lindsey had almost finished rolling the hose onto his fire engine Thursday when he saw flames race towards him across a field. The crew jumped in the engine and sped away as flames lapped at the vehicle.

"Before we could throw that five-seconds worth of hose on to the truck that field was on fire," he said.

State and federal forest managers in Oregon and Washington have asked for two U.S. Army battalions to help fight the fires. Grant Gibbs, who said he has been fighting fires 20 years, was alarmed by the Tyece Creek fire's ferocity.

"You'd have to be insane to get in front of it," said Gibbs, who was building fire lines with a bulldozer. "Even air support can't get to it."

Heat can create atmospheric turbulence, and major fires in effect create their own weather system, thwarting efforts to drop fire-retardant chemicals from above.

"These people have never seen a fire making runs like this, exploding like this, making right-angle turns and being sucked up canyons," said Marti Ames, a spokeswoman for Wenatchee National Forest.

Elsewhere in Washington, about 300 peo-

ple were evacuated Thursday from their homes along Lake Calen, 100 miles east of Seattle. About 90 miles away, fires in Colville National Forest burned almost 600 acres.

"It looks like Mount St. Helens went off" and spread ash over the area, said Colville forest spokeswoman Diana Baxter. "It's eerie out there."

— In Oregon, a 33,000-acre blaze on the

Warm Springs Indian Reservation stopped spreading early today after firefighters completed a controlled burn of 5,000 acres in its path. A half-dozen other fires burned about 16,000 acres.

— In central Idaho, the fire in Salmon River canyon more than tripled in size Thursday to 1,000 acres as 570 people worked to contain it.

Late morning accident



Two men were transported to Coronado Hospital this morning following a collision at the intersection of McCullough Avenue and Price Road at about 11:30 a.m. At least one of the two pickup trucks involved in the accident reportedly flipped two or three times as the rear portion of the truck was torn from the vehicle. Both trucks broke through a chain-linked fence and came to rest in the front yard of the house located at intersection. In all, two ambulances, three fire units, three units of the Gray County Sheriff's Department, a unit of the Pampa Police and one trooper from the Texas Department of Public Safety responded to the scene of the accident. Investigation was continuing at press time. (Pampa News photo by Randal K. McGavock)

GOP attacks open hearings on Whitewater in Senate today

By LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate launched its Whitewater hearings today with a sharp Republican attack against the credibility of White House aides who said they did nothing to influence an investigation of President Clinton's Arkansas business dealings.

"The White House has concealed, disguised and distorted the truth, all in the service of politics and the president's self-preservation," charged Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y.

The official topic for today's opening session before the Senate Banking Committee was one that was taboo for the House: the suicide of White House lawyer Vincent Foster.

"The primary function of these public hearings is to get the facts out to the American people so they may evaluate them themselves," the committee's chairman, Sen. Donald Riegle, D-Mich. said in laying down the ground rules for the session.

D'Amato and other Republicans immediately sought to discredit the testimony of White House officials who appeared before the House Banking Committee earlier this week.

D'Amato specifically cited the testimony of White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler and former counsel Bernard Nussbaum, who told the House panel that there was nothing unethical about the discussions between the White House and regulators.

Republicans also took aim at Deputy Treasury Secretary Roger Altman, contending that he was not truthful about his Feb. 2 meeting with the White House on the status of civil investigations into the collapse of the Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan.

Madison was owned by Clinton's business partner in the Whitewater land venture, James McDougal.

"Mr. Chairman, you have said you set standards for testimony before this committee," Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas said. "The testimony of Roger Altman was neither accurate nor complete."

Altman told the Senate in February that he disclosed no details about the investigation, but explained in general terms how such inquiries proceed.

But D'Amato said Altman told Clinton's deputy chief of staff, Harold Ickes, that the Resolution Trust Corp. would need an extension to continue its investigation of Madison beyond a Feb. 28 deadline if any lawsuits were to be filed.

"Armed with that inside information the Clintons could safely reject any RTC request for an extension" of the deadline, D'Amato said. "They would be in the clear after Feb. 28."

But an extension was approved anyway.

Democrats scoffed at the Republican attempts to liken Whitewater to other scandals involving the presidency.

"To compare Whitewater with Watergate and Iran-Contra, as some have done, borders on the ridiculous," said Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn.

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Looking for some action? Attend the White Deer Rodeo tonight and Saturday!!

White Deer Rodeo barbecue



White Deer resident Darin Bennett climbs into a back-hoe to assist in the digging of the barbecue pit prepared to cook the meat for tonight's rodeo in White Deer. A barbecue for spectators and participants begins at 5 p.m. with rodeo action set to start at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, the rodeo festivities continue at 4 p.m. as a parade will snake its way through downtown White Deer to the rodeo arena. Saturday night's performance will then kick off at 7:30. Following both Friday and Saturday night's performance, a dance will be held at the rodeo arena. The Singletree Band from Elk City, Okla., will be the featured performers. Admission for the rodeo is \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids 12-years-old and younger. (Pampa News photo)

Committee recommends local control of facilities money for school districts

By PEGGY FIKAC
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — The state may spend \$200 million to \$300 million over the next two-year budget period to help school districts make debt payments for construction, a state senator says.

That would service about \$2 billion to \$3 billion of construction debt, said Sen. Teel Bivins, head of the three-member Senate Interim Committee on Public School Facilities.

The committee on Thursday agreed on preliminary legislative proposals, including a decision not to bar school districts from using state construction funds for football stadiums.

Bivins, R-Amarillo, said most school construction is instruction-related. But he said that prohibiting state spending on other projects would require "facilities police."

Bivins said it would be better to leave those decisions at the local level. He cited "built-in safeguards" such as voter approval of new debt and voter election of school boards.

The state also could run into legal problems if it tries to prohibit poorer school districts from building, with the help of state money, the sort of facilities that wealthier school districts could build with solely local funds, he said.

The interim committee in September may finalize its recommendations to the 1995 Legislature.

The facilities panel — which includes Sens. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, and John Montford, D-Lubbock — was formed after State District Judge F. Scott McCown of Austin last year ordered lawmakers to come up with a way to equitably fund school construction by Sept. 1, 1995.

If lawmakers fail, McCown said he will stop issuance of new school bonds.

McCown's ruling came in a long-running lawsuit filed by property-poor school districts seeking equal financial footing with wealthier ones. The school funding system relies on state aid and local property taxes.

The Texas Supreme Court, ruling in the lawsuit, has ordered lawmakers to even out funding available to school districts with varying property wealth.

McCown last year upheld lawmakers' latest effort to meet the court order by shifting some local property tax wealth among school districts. But he said they had yet to adequately address school construction.

In the past, he said, construction funding has come "almost solely from local tax dollars, and almost solely from borrowing."

Bivins said McCown's opinion on

school construction can be read to require not just equal classrooms but "equal Astroturf."

"We can't limit what we're going to assist school districts in building. If we do, we've created the ability for rich districts to have greater buying power than poor," Bivins said.

Craig Foster of the Equity Center, a group of property-poor school districts, urged that there be standards for spending the state money.

Foster said he didn't expect there to be enough money to fund all schools' facilities demands, so those with buildings in bad shape should get preference.

Bivins said that under the preliminary proposal, the amount of state money each school district gets for construction would be tied to its wealth level, just as other funds are.

Bivins also suggested that lottery proceeds be dedicated to school facilities. Montford and Ratliff said they wanted to give that idea more thought.

Montford said is concerned about tying lawmakers' hands on how they can use lottery revenue. Ratliff said if lottery money isn't used for school facilities, general revenue funds would be. Lottery money now goes into the general revenue fund.

"I just hate to do something that really doesn't mean anything just for the purpose of making it sound good," Ratliff said.

Fossil may be ancestor of all land-dwellers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The shoreline of a swamp in what is now central Pennsylvania may have been home to one of the earliest animals to live on land, researchers report today in the journal Science.

Scientists report that a fossil found in Clinton County is at least 365 million years old — the earliest known amphibian in North America and the second oldest in the world.

Ted Daeschler, lead author of the study and a paleontologist at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, said the ancient amphibian was an evolutionary bridge between sea-dwelling animals and those that now live on land.

The fossil is of an animal that lived some 140 million years before the first dinosaur.

"This animal is in the group that is the ancestor of all later land animals — all reptiles, mammals and birds," said Daeschler. "Every limbed animal sprang from this animal or one similar to it."

The scientist said that among animals with backbones only fish don't

share an ancestry with the ancient amphibian.

The fossil uncovered by Daeschler and others is from a fragment of shoulder bone, a part of the skeleton that gives important clues to how an animal moved around.

Neil Shubin, a biology professor at the University of Pennsylvania and co-author of the paper, said the shoulder bone is large and powerful, far different from such a bone in fish.

"It is robust. It has struts and beams going across it, which suggest it once had extensive musculature," said Shubin. "The shoulder of a fish is very lightly built bone."

Daeschler said that animals would not evolve such a powerful bone unless there was a need.

"This animal could do pushups. It could lift itself up on its feet," he said. "That can't be explained if it only lived in water. That is the type of function needed to walk on land."

The researchers estimate that the animal was about 3 feet long and may have had a tail, rather like an alligator, to enable it to swim.

Shubin said the animal was almost certainly an amphibian, which means it spent part of its life breathing with gills and living in the water. As it matured, it developed lungs, legs and the ability to explore land.

"The only reason to leave the water is to avoid predators," said Shubin. Creatures living in water at the time, he said, were engaged in an evolutionary arms race, with some developing huge teeth and armored skin. All were trying to eat the other.

"There were fish in this area that were 10 to 15 feet long, with teeth the size of a man's thumb," he said. "There was some really nasty stuff in these waters. This animal survived by leaving the water."

When the first animals walked on shore, said Shubin, the only land dwellers were plants and insects.

"There was nothing on land but this creature and its relatives," he said. The only fossil of a land animal that is older than the Pennsylvania find was discovered in Scotland, he said. That fossil is 370 to 375 million years old.

Two killed, one wounded at abortion clinic

By BILL KACZOR
Associated Press Writer

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — A man with a shotgun killed two people and wounded a woman this morning at an abortion clinic, and a militant anti-abortion activist was arrested.

Paul Hill was taken into custody immediately after the 7:25 a.m. shooting at the Ladies Center for Abortion, said police spokeswoman Tonya Humphries. Hill, director of the anti-abortion group Defense America of Pensacola, was well known for advocating use of force against abortion clinics and doctors.

The wounded woman was a worker at the clinic, city spokesman Mark O'Brien said. Neither O'Brien nor police could provide any description of the two dead, and officers used sheets to block view of the bodies lying in the street.

Hill was taken into custody about 500 feet away in the parking lot of a barbecue restaurant, and police

recovered a shotgun, officers at the scene said.

The wounded woman was admitted in fair condition at Baptist Hospital, said spokeswoman Carol Trivett. The patient's identity and the extent of her injuries were not immediately available.

The clinic is in a two-story, wood-frame house in a suburban area on Pensacola's north side. On one side of the building stands an anti-abortion monument put up by protesters who opposed the clinic's work.

This conservative Florida Panhandle city has a history of violent confrontations over abortion rights. A doctor who performed abortions was killed last year in the first death ever reported at an abortion protest.

Dr. David Gunn, 47, of Eufaula, Ala., was shot to death behind Pensacola Women's Medical Services as he arrived for work on March 10, 1993. Anti-abortion protesters were demonstrating on the other side of the building at the time.

A year later, anti-abortion activist Michael F. Griffin was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

On Christmas Day 1984, two doctors' offices and a clinic were bombed by abortion foes who were convicted and imprisoned. The clinic also was bombed on June 24 of that year. In March 1986, six protesters were arrested after they stormed the same clinic, damaging equipment and injuring two women.

In August 1993, another abortion doctor, Dr. George Tiller, survived a shooting as he left his Wichita, Kan., clinic. Anti-abortion activist Rachelle "Shelley" Shannon was sentenced to nearly 11 years in prison.

News of today's shootings was followed closely at other abortion clinics, including the affiliated Ladies Clinic in Mobile, Ala. It remained open and employees would not comment.

Woman named as worst boss of year for 1994

NEW YORK (AP) — This is all you need to know about the worst boss in the United States of America: She "draws childish pictures of people she fires, tapes them to their empty chair and makes fun of them."

An entry like this made it easy to select the 1994 winner in Jim Miller's second annual hunt for the country's most despicable boss. Miller, who wrote the management how-to book *The Corporate Coach*, invited American workers to tell him about their bosses.

Boy, did they. After sifting through 1,028 entries, the winner emerged — an employee who remains an underling of her cruel leader and is understandably writing anonymously.

"I think she's the worst boss in the world. I really do," said the winner, who is surreptitiously seeking a new job. "I didn't get everything down that

I'd like to say — just the most important about what a rotten person she is."

Some of her boss' attributes, which were listed in a Top 21 format when a Top 10 proved insufficient:

- "She has the tongue of a viper, dripping with venom."
- "Fires people on Christmas Eve."

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Haiti's demonstration against American intervention is a bust

By JEFFREY ULBRICH
Associated Press Writer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — It was the 79th anniversary of the American invasion of Haiti and the army wanted to show Washington it would be unwise to try again. But Thursday's show of defiance was largely a bust.

What was supposed to be a crowded outdoor Mass in the central square of Port-au-Prince celebrated before a throng of defiant Haitians turned out to be a desultory affair with as many soldiers and police as worshipers.

"You know the Haitian people, they are struggling to find food for their children, that's why there are not many people here today," said Claudette Gourdet, a former minister of planning, explaining the poor turnout.

Demonstration organizers had more success in the afternoon, when about 2,000 chanting, drum-beating Haitians marched to the U.S. Embassy shouting "Down with the embargo!" and "Down with the occupation!" — However, many demonstrators participated only after

leaflets handed out in three markets told people to close and attend the rally. Other participants were trucked in. The demonstration was boisterous but peaceful.

The U.N. Security Council on Thursday was considering a U.S. request to authorize force to oust Haiti's military rulers. But the U.S. effort suffered a setback when a group of 32 Latin American and Caribbean nations expressed their opposition, saying diplomacy and sanctions needed more time to work.

"Haiti needs peace," said gossip columnist Aubelin Jolicoeur, an ardent nationalist. "Haiti wants to be left alone to perform its duty. Nobody can achieve it for us."

Even the poorest, most uneducated Haitian knows about the American occupation that began July 28, 1915, and lasted 19 years. That intervention resulted in thousands of deaths, widespread resentment against Americans and ultimately ended in failure.

Though many Haitians, particularly among the poor, would welcome another American military intervention, others fear the results would be very much the same as 79 years ago.

"The date is important because it was a period of humiliation, and one doesn't live easily with such a humiliation," Roger Gaillard, a historian and former rector of the State University of Haiti, said in a recent interview. "We suffered an offense to our national pride."

Dr. Georges Michel, a radiologist and historian who has written extensively about the period, said the occupation left a scar. "They have not forgotten it," he said. "Nor will they forgive it."

"If the Americans invade today, they will buy a new load of hate that will last for 50 years," Michel said. "They will win an easy victory, but they will suffer a terrible political defeat. And when they have left, we will destroy all they have imposed upon us and do exactly as we want."

The army chief and Haiti's army-installed president decided to skip the Mass on the Champs de Mars, a huge square opposite the presidential palace. A Roman Catholic bishop, who deemed the service too "political," prohibited a chaplain from conducting the service. Sen. Ebrance Cadet, a Baptist minister, was a last-minute replacement. More than 100 soldiers armed with rifles patrolled the

tree-shaded square. Policemen controlled access from the surrounding streets as the service got under way three hours late.

The Haitian capital was festooned with giant banners, placed by supporters of the army chief, Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras, reading: "Democracy Yes," "Intervention No," "Haiti Liberty," and "Hope."

Many Haitians still bristle at the thought of the first invasion. But on the shoreline at Bizoton, the spot where the Marines landed in 1915, people were anything but resistant to the idea of another try.

"That intervention is in the past," said Morose Dieufete, 24. "If the Americans come again, they will be welcome. Haitians would like to see the foreigners here. Without foreigners, nothing changes."

Haiti became the Western Hemisphere's first black republic in 1804 when former slaves defeated French colonists and created their own country in the western third of the island of Hispaniola. Through a turbulent century, Haitian leaders came to power and were overthrown more or less violently.

Richards blasts Bush for partner's interests in casino

By CHIP BROWN
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards' campaign blasted Republican challenger George W. Bush on Thursday for not knowing that a close business partner — who gave \$100,000 to Bush's campaign — has financial interests in casino gambling.

"George Bush doesn't know anything about the issues facing Texas. Why should we expect him to know about the investments of his business partners?" said Chuck McDonald, spokesman for the Democratic governor.

But Bush aide Karen Hughes characterized Bush business partner Richard Rainwater as having "a small, passive interest" in a company that took control of Las Vegas-based United Gaming Inc. last year.

On Wednesday, The Associated Press reported that Rainwater, who with Bush is part owner of the Texas Rangers baseball team, was one of several investors in New York-based Kirkland Investment Corp., which took control of United Gaming Inc. following a \$5 million investment last year.

Richards' campaign criticized Bush's acceptance of Rainwater's contribution because the GOP platform opposes state-sponsored gambling.

Bush has said he is "skeptical" of legalizing casino gaming, which is expected to be a controversy in the 1995 Legislature.

Ms. Hughes reiterated that Bush had no previous knowledge of Rainwater's interests in the gaming industry.

"Other than your husband or wife, I doubt any business partners know the full extent of each other's business and stock holdings," Ms. Hughes said.

Ms. Hughes characterized United Gaming as a company that "owns some slot machines in Las Vegas. That's what all the fuss is about."

But a recent hiring announcement by United Gaming and a review of the company's portfolio show that it has a larger stake in gambling.

According to published reports, United Gaming operates 5,000 gambling machines in 500 Nevada locations and owns or operates casinos in Las Vegas, Reno, Nev., and Vicksburg, Miss.

United Gaming also operates approximately 800 video poker devices in New Orleans and Southern Louisiana, according to information released by the company.

United Gaming on Wednesday hired Steve Greathouse, former head of Harrah's hotel-casino division, prompting Wall Street speculation that the company would expand its casino interests.

The cable TV business news network CNBC also reported that United Gaming may soon announce a deal with Lone Star Casino Corp. to open a dockside casino in Mississippi.

United Gaming will ante up \$15 million and arrange financing for the \$100 million complex, expected to be completed in 1995, according to CNBC.

"Apparently it was obvious to institutional investors across the country that Rainwater was involved in casino gambling, just not George Bush," McDonald said.

Hughes responded, "George Bush has 33,000 — and counting — contributors, and he appreciates every one of them. But it would be impossible to know, and impossible for Ann Richards to know, the business interests and holdings of each contributor."

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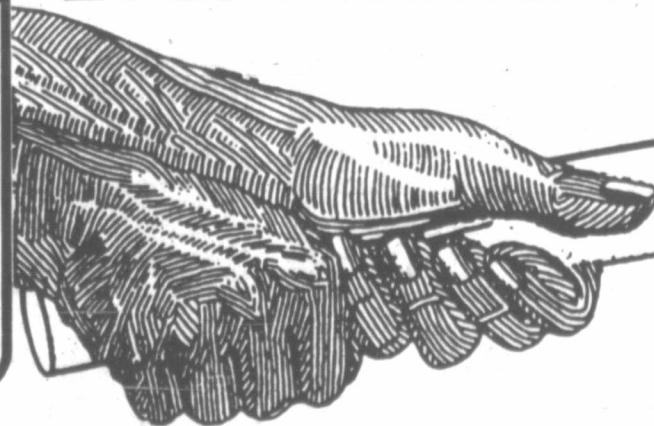
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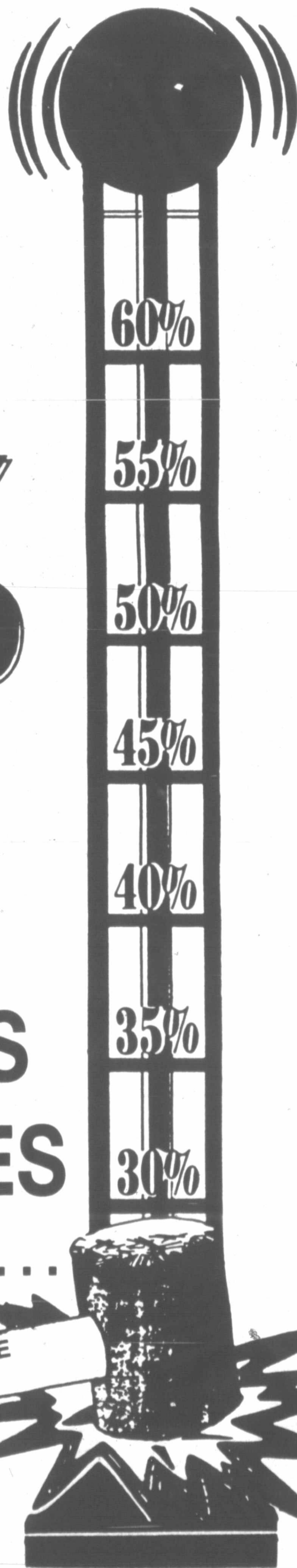
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Religion

Interim pastor draws on life experience, humor to minister

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Guest Writer

"I kid around a lot, but I'm dead serious about God."

Duncan Parish, interim minister at First Christian Church of Pampa, brings his love of entertaining to the pulpit balanced with a firm commitment to God's word.

"No matter how much I fun around, there's a lot of biblical content in my sermons," he says. "I am an entertainer, I am a storyteller, but there's a purpose to what I do."

Parish, 53, traveled a rocky road to the ministry. His careers include prison officer, probation officer, hospital chaplain, prison chaplain, and minister. He holds a degree in criminology, is a graduate of Brite Divinity School and is an ordained minister of the Disciples of Christ denomination.

"Ministry and criminology are the two main things I'm interested in," Parish explains. "What is the point of ministry? Changed life. If lives aren't changed, we're just blowing smoke in our brains. And the way I approached it, I thought of criminology as being about changed lives, too."

"I'm a person who likes immediate gratification, but in ministry or criminology, you don't have that luxury. You plant the seeds and don't know if they'll bear fruit."

Twenty years ago, few would think the Lord could find fertile ground in the person of Duncan Parish.

"I was raised in a decent home. My parents raised me well and I chose to live a different way," he says.

Despite his position as a probation officer, Parish wallowed in a pit of alcohol and drugs for 15 years. He walked out on his wife and three children because, he says, alcohol and drugs meant more to him than they did then.

Like many reformed addicts, Parish's turning point came in the jailhouse shadow. Facing five years

to life imprisonment for drug-related charges, he knew things would have to change.

"My friends on the county crime squad arrested me and threw me in jail. My parents said they would leave me. I had left my family," Parish remembers. "I lost my family. I lost everything. Self-regard went down the tubes."

"After several years of trying to be sober, I was getting to the point where I could admit I was weak. One fellow told me I had to get on my knees (to ask God's forgiveness) and I couldn't do that. I could literally worm my way across the room to get a beer, but I couldn't get on my knees."

Then he returned to Spring Branch Christian Church, an independent church he had attended many years before.

"I will always, always revere that church. They were the way a church should be. They guided me to my knees. They held out love and acceptance and helped me to my knees."

"The funny thing is, I had been a charter member of that church for years and hadn't been there," he says.

"If I ever do anything in a church, it would be to help a church be like that one," Parish vows. "I met Mary (his present wife) in that church. I courted Mary in that church, and I married her in that church."

In fact, Parish received a "call to the ministry" while on a lunch date with Mary.

"When Mary and I were dating, we would have lunch in a very old graveyard in Houston. We'd sit on this lady's headstone and have lunch almost every day. We got to know her very well," he jokes.

During one of these lunches, Parish and his wife-to-be were discussing plans for the future. He felt quite unsure about what he was going to do, he recalls.

"An actual voice said, 'You will be my minister,'" he says. "Now here I was, recovering from being a drunk,



Duncan Parish cuddles puppets he uses for children's sermons at First Christian Church. (Courtesy photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

head counselor for a skid row halfway house. The ministry was the furthest thing from my mind."

"This voice was so audible and so clear, I looked around to see who said it. I said, 'Mary, did you say something?' She said she hadn't. But then I heard the voice again, 'You will be my minister.'"

On Thanksgiving Day, 1977, Parish and Mary were married in Spring Branch Christian Church.

"Mary wouldn't marry me until after I had been sober a year," he says.

It was his parents' 39th wedding anniversary.

"Because of (Mary) and people like her, I'd rather be married than anything else I know," Parish says.

"As a person, people tell me how pretty Mary is. Inside, let me tell you, she is so beautiful!"

Dr. Mary Parish is an assistant professor at Texas Tech School of Medicine in Amarillo. She also maintains a practice associated with the school. At the time the two met,

basis to churches facing major changes or problems.

"I don't know what I do. I just go in and listen to what Jesus tells me to do," he says of his work.

"I really try to be responsive to whatever the needs of the moment are."

Parish's sermons are characterized by humorous and/or moving stories.

"Every story I tell is true," he adds, eyes twinkling. Often he leaves the congregation with a cliffhanger, finishing the story at the end of the sermon. It's not unusual for him to burst into a song from the pulpit or to pull out a puppet to help him illustrate a point.

"The laughter, the humor seems to be very healing," he explains. "Whatever I do seems to start a healing process in churches."

"Someone once asked my wife if I was a ham and she said, 'Well, if he opened the refrigerator door and the light came on, he'd break into a song.'"

"I used to be an opera singer — I sang in one opera," he quips. "I received my musical training in a tile shower."

Actually, Parish was "discovered" in the laundromat.

"While I was doing laundry, I'd sing Broadway songs. One day, a lady came in and sang with me. As she was leaving, she told me of a show, 'High Buttons,' and said I should audition for it. I said I'd never sung in a show before, but she said to audition anyway. Turned out, she was the director. I got the lead part."

Parish's acting experience includes "some major and some dinky little theaters," he says. Most recently he's performed in "Annie" and "Jesus Christ Superstar" with the Amarillo Little Theater.

His love for entertaining aside, Parish is, indeed, "deadly serious about God." He feels compelled to continue with his ministry. He describes himself as neo-orthodox theologically and biblical because "I follow the Bible to the best of my

understanding."

Parish adds, "I do believe in social theology, but the answer to that is in the Bible. I don't see the point in a sermon that's not biblically-based. If it's not there, then what you have is a nice lecture."

"It used to be that when you spoke from the Bible, people knew what you were talking about. That's not true anymore. Now you have to recap what you're talking about to the congregation."

Parish warns that the blame for this lack of Bible-knowledge should not be laid at the foot of the government.

"People complain about how the Supreme Court took prayer out of our schools," he says. "Nobody took the Bible and prayer out of our homes but the people living there. The government never legislated Bible study and prayer in our homes."

"We have scheduled God out of our lives; we've scheduled God out of our churches. One of my greatest fears is getting hooked up with a church whose main thing is maintaining a building," Parish adds. "This is the first church I've been where the staff prays on a regular basis. We have so many options, it's gotten to the point where church is another entertainment option."

"I even think of abortion as a secondary issue," he says. "What about what's causing these fetuses in the first place? Where are the morals?"

Parish's road has led him to Pampa's First Christian Church for a time, but already he sees a turn ahead — probably in October. Still he is committed to use his time, however long or brief, to minister to the congregation and to serve as pastoral counselor for Hospice of the Panhandle.

"I'm an expressive person, a cuddly person," Parish says philosophically. "I like to invest my emotions in people and as a result, they invest their own emotions in me. It's traumatic for me when I leave, but I'd rather have all the experience and have the pain, than to have not had the experience at all."

Bible school project benefits school mission

Emily Keeton, 5, Tyson Pounds, 9, Chad Platt, 11, and Jimeca Walker, 4, gathered school supplies as a Bible school project sponsored by the Women's Missionary Union of Highland Baptist Church. The pencils, pens, notebook paper and crayons will be distributed by Eunice Moreno, parent liaison at Baker Elementary, to students needing school supplies. (Staff photo by Cheryl Berzanskis)



Promise Keepers plans Saturday night broadcast

Live coverage of the Promise Keepers Conference in Boulder, Colo., will be broadcast by non-commercial American Family Radio, 90.9 FM, at 8 p.m. Saturday.

More than 50,000 men are expected to attend the conference. Six previous regional conferences this year drew over 200,000 men.

Speakers at the conference will include the founder of Promise Keepers, Bill McCartney. McCartney is head football coach at the University of Colorado. Other speakers scheduled are Gary Smalley, E.V. Hill and Chuck Swindoll.

Bible Baptist Church youth offer car wash

Bible Baptist Church youth department is planning a car wash in the parking lot of Country General on North Hobart from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Each car will be washed on a donation basis. Proceeds from the wash will go toward purchasing Bibles for Russians.

Teens want to send as many Bibles as possible with evangelist Dr. Preston Bunnell when he travels to Russia on Aug. 29.

For information call 669-7830.

Religion briefs

RANCHOS DE TAOS, N.M. (AP) — For two weeks every June, a community of parishioners comes together at San Francisco de Asis Church in the village of Ranchos de Taos to perform an obligation of love.

Every member, young and old, man and woman, pitches in to replaster the exterior of the centuries-old church with a fresh layer of adobe mud.

"All parishioners are required to participate, but for us it is an obligation of the heart," church member Johnny DeVargas told the Albuquerque Journal.

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Trinity Fellowship sponsors school supply outreach

Trinity Fellowship Church is sponsoring its second annual back-to-school outreach for children.

Children registered for the outreach will receive appropriate school supplies for grades kindergarten through 12.

To receive the supplies, children must be registered by their parents.

Registration will be accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday in the church gymnasium, 1200 S. Sumner. Parents must bring birth certificates or social security cards as identification for their children.

Supplies will be distributed at 10 a.m. Aug. 13 in the gymnasium to

only those registered.

The Rev. Lonnie Robbins reports 400 children received supplies in 1993. He said the outreach is aimed primarily toward children of single family homes who need assistance in obtaining essential supplies.

For more information, call 665-3255.

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Insurgent ordinations rattled Episcopal Church

By TED DUNCOMBE
Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — At age 11, Jeannette Piccard told her mother in 1906 she wanted to be an Episcopal priest.

"She burst into tears and ran out of the room," Piccard recalled years later. "In those days, it was bad enough to have a daughter who wanted to go to college, let alone become

a priest. She didn't know what kind of monster she had conceived." It would be 68 years before Piccard could achieve her dream.

During a sweltering three-hour service July 29, 1974, attended by 2,000 people, Piccard was the first of 11 women ordained priests in the Episcopal Church, the American branch of the Anglican Communion. The ceremony, held in open defiance of church authorities, was the

first time women were ordained priests in the Western world through the ancient "apostolic succession," a chain of authority passed on through the generations by bishops since the time of Jesus' apostles.

Most of the women ordained in 1974 will return this weekend for a commemoration organized by an ecumenical Women of Faith Task Force.

The 20th anniversary comes at a time when polarization has grown in many denominations over issues of feminist theology, women's access to top clergy jobs and the language of worship.

In recent months, Pope John Paul II affirmed the Roman Catholic Church's ban on ordaining women and controversy flared over an interdenominational "Re-Imagining Conference" last year on women and religion in Minneapolis.

Yet the Church of England also ordained its first female priests this year, moving a decades-long debate there to a new stage.

Today there are three female bishops in the Episcopal Church and about 1,500 female priests and deacons.

"In a period of time in America where there's a great backlash going on, there's also a great deal for us to celebrate," said the Rev. Janet Hess, convener of the task force and pastor of Frankford Memorial United Methodist Church in Philadelphia.

"I think that all people of faith need to listen very carefully for what is God's will and then to proceed in faith according to God's will," she said. "I think that's what the women and the men did 20 years ago in the Episcopal Church and I think that's what we need to continue to do."

The 1974 ordinations left many clergy and laypeople outraged. They were declared invalid two weeks later by the House of Bishops, which also withdrew charges against the three retired or resigned bishops who performed the ordinations and a fourth who attended.

Two years later, the General Convention approved the ordination of women churchwide. All the

Philadelphia ordinands then underwent "regularization" ceremonies.

The Rt. Rev. John M. Allin, who as presiding bishop in 1974 had urged a halt to the ceremony to preserve church unity, said in a recent interview he believes the church would have approved female priests by 1979.

"It was divisive and the difficulty was increased by that precipitous action," he said from Jackson, Miss., where he is retired.

Others think the Philadelphia ordinations changed the entire debate.

"I felt if something like this weren't done, we'd still be studying women's ordination today," said the Very Rev. Jack Hardwick, dean of the Cathedral Church of the Saviour in West Philadelphia.

Of those ordained in 1974, two today are parish priests, three teach at a seminary, one is a lawyer, one is an artist and spiritual counselor, one is a school counselor, one is a diocesan administrator and one is retired from parish and diocesan ministries. Piccard died in 1981.

The priests' journeys have been diverse and not always easy.

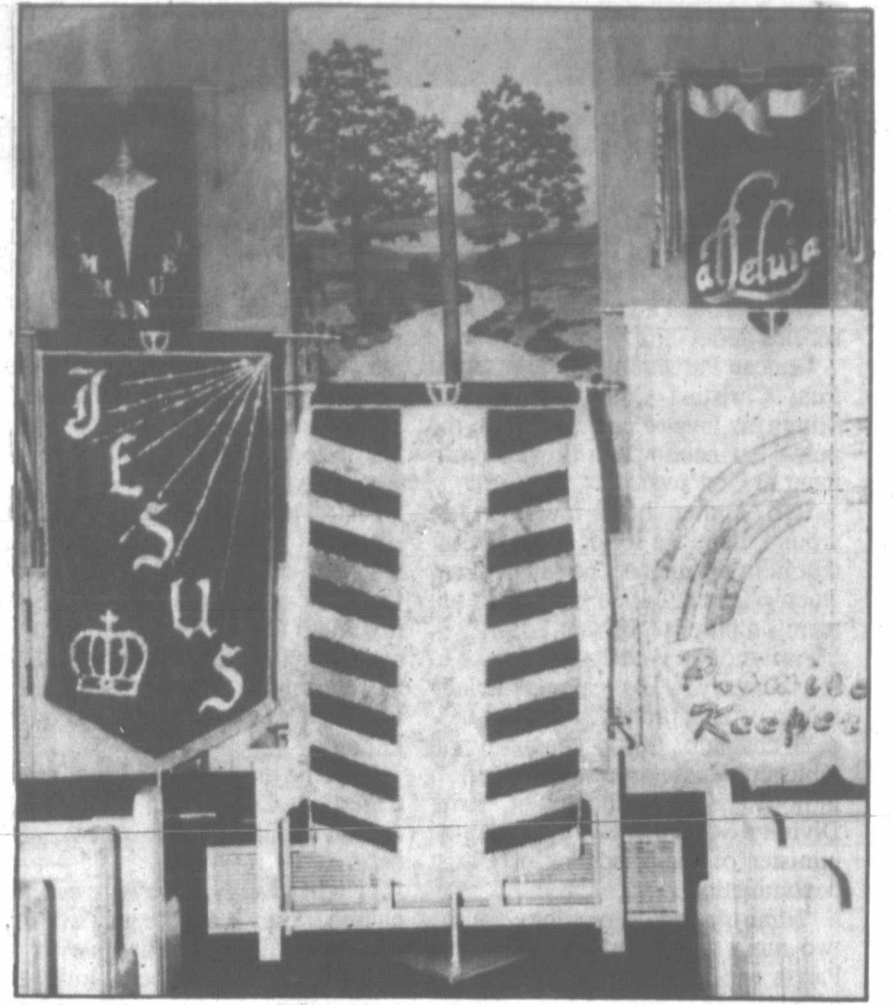
The Very Rev. Canon Nancy Wittig worked part time in a nursing home ministry for several years as she raised two children.

"For a while, the hatred was so great towards us that we all found different ways to survive," she said. "My family was a way to do that."

She said she needed about 10 years to heal but now is rector of Philadelphia's St. Andrew's-in-the-Field and plays a prominent role in the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Emily C. Hewitt opted to go to law school and became a commercial real estate attorney. Last year, she was appointed general counsel for the General Services Administration in Washington.

"I felt that for women to become effective in the parish jobs, that was another whole argument and I was somewhat unfitted for another whole round with that," she said.



Hobart Baptist to present worship banners Sunday

Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, will host a special service at 11 a.m. Sunday to present five banners made by church members.

The banners depict descriptions of God and are named "Immanuel," "Alleluia," "Jesus," "Promise Keeper" and "Majesty." A life size cross with a robe draped on it and a crown of thorns made by Robert Brewer, song director, will be presented.

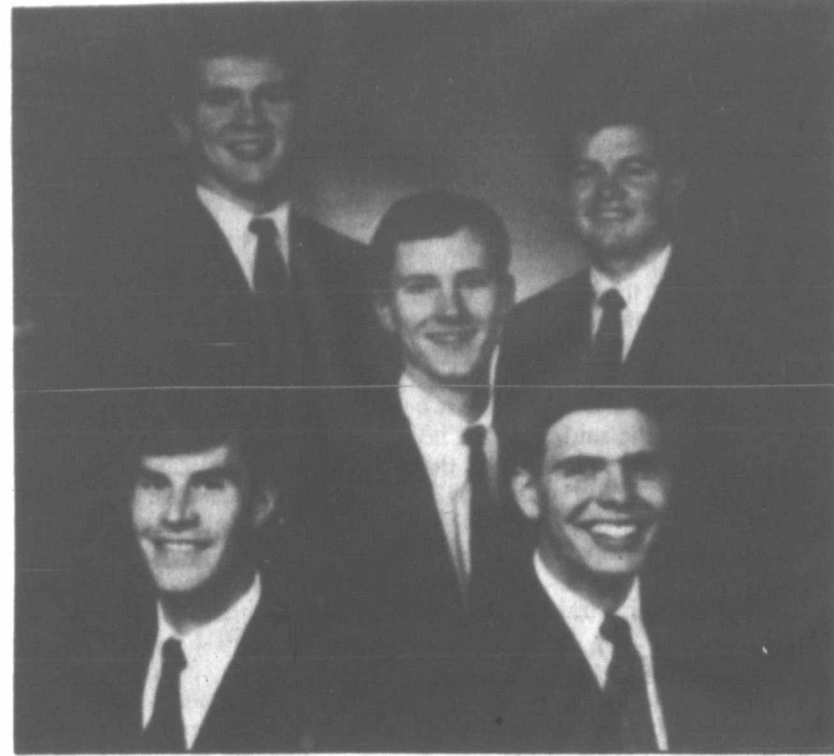
The banner project began about

two years ago and about 20 members donated time and money to the project.

Banners are made of brilliant velvets or satin with gold and silver sequins and trim. They are lined on the back and show the scripture the banner describes.

Communion will be observed Sunday along with drama and video presentations.

For more information call 669-3212.



Bible Baptist hosts Ambassadors

Professor Wayne Porter and his wife are on tour with the Oklahoma Baptist College Ambassadors of Oklahoma City, and are to sing at Bible Baptist Church, Starkweather and Kingsmill, at 9:45 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Porter will bring the morning message and teach the Sunday school lesson.

Each of the singers is planning a missionary career. They include Tim Haveman, Missoula, Mont., Joel Sloan, San Cristobal, Chiapas, Mexico, and Jeff and Joshua Wesson, both of Oklahoma City.

Joseph Holley, St. Gretna, La., is pianist for the group. They will give their personal testimonies and sing during the Sunday school and worship services.

A pot-faith dinner is planned for the fellowship hall following the morning service. A nursery is provided.

During the 7 p.m. evening service, Sabrina Palmer and Esther Hudson will provide special music.

For transportation or more information call the church at 669-7830. The public is invited to attend all church services.



Ziggy, the clown

Bible school to feature Ziggy

Hi-Land Christian Church, 1615 N. Banks, is hosting vacation Bible school 6:30-9 p.m. Sunday through Friday. Children four years old through fifth grade are invited to PARTY (Praise and Rejoice Together Yes!) with Ziggy, the clown, and his balloon animals. Besides Ziggy, the weeklong program will feature Bible stories about the gift of eternal life, organizers say.

South Texas man airs religious radio shows from home

DONNA, Texas — Romeo Hernandez has a mission.

For nearly four months, Hernandez has operated a low-power religious radio station. Throughout the day, he shares prayers and music with his listeners, mainly Catholics.

"How many times do you hear prayer on the airwaves?" asked Carol Vaughan, who tunes in to FM-91.5 to hear Hernandez's message. "It's a beautiful idea. It's very uplifting."

Eduardo Ovalle, a deacon at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Donna, said Hernandez's station has a definite place in the Rio Grande Valley.

"It's like biblical study," Ovalle said. "It's amazing that some people, through the radio, can understand what the Lord Jesus Christ is in our lives."

On a good day, the signal sent from a transmitter in his mother's home will reach five miles or more. Hernandez and Anna Ortiz, who often works with Hernandez on projects, believes that, at times, they experience divine intervention.

"When we pray, we reach farther — as far as Pharr," the 30-year-old Hernandez said. "People have been telling me, 'I wish I could get your station.'"

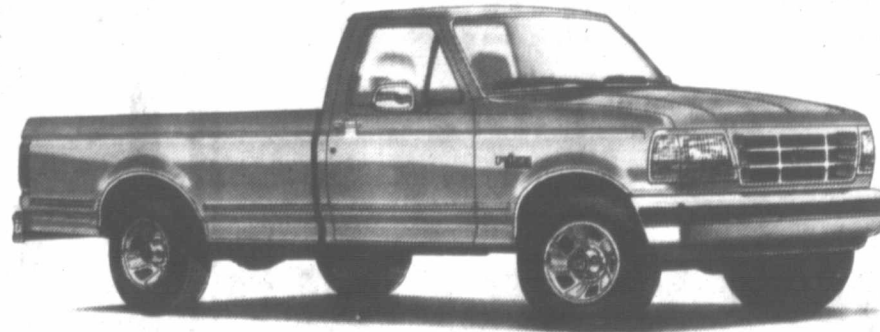
The inspiration to send a message over the airwaves came to him in his sleep.

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Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: My parents, who are what I would call "comfortably well off" financially, lent me \$2,000 interest-free. According to our agreement, I was supposed to have paid off this loan three years ago. However, some unforeseen things have happened, and I still have every intention of repaying them, but I don't know when this will be.

My parents have always sent me \$200 for my birthday. This year they sent me only a card and explained that now I owe them only \$1,800.

What do you think?
MISS NO NAME IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR NO NAME: The \$2,000 was not a gift — it was a loan. The fact that your parents deducted \$200 for your birthday — and reminded you that you then owed them \$1,800 — was their way of subtly telling you that the debt remains outstanding.

Do not let this debt go unpaid any longer. Any affordable amount paid promptly every month would be acceptable. Set up a payment schedule with your parents, and stick to it.

DEAR ABBY: My husband is a police officer, and I have a message for women: Please don't pity me, or ask me how I cope, or tell me what a brave woman I am to be married to a cop.

Yes, I know it's a dangerous job, but I try not to think about it. When he goes out the door, I know I may never see him again, but I just kiss him and ask him to pick up a quart of milk on the way home.

And yes, I'm aware of how good a uniform makes a man look, and I know I must trust him when women answer the door wearing little or nothing. I also know that young girls get crushes on cops and leave not-so-subtle messages on squad cars.

It's not easy being married to a police officer, but I don't need your pity. I'm proud to be an officer's wife.

LORI GONZALES, WIFE OF DETECTIVE DANIEL GONZALES, SAN ANTONIO

DEAR LORI: Thanks for great letter. I'm sure your husband is also proud to be married to a woman like you.

DEAR ABBY: You once wrote, "Man is the only animal who blushes. Or needs to."

Your observation causes me to recall the words of David Elton Fineblood, who wrote in his "Philosophy of Religion":

"It has been said that man is the only animal who laughs, and the only one who weeps; the only one who prays; the only one who walks fully erect; they only one who makes fires; they only one who guides his own destiny; the only one who is penitent; and the only one who needs to be."

ARTHUR H. PRINCE, NASHVILLE

DEAR MR. PRINCE: I am not the only person who made that observation about man and his need to blush. Mark Twain also said it. And he said it first.

Thank you for enhancing my collection of philosophical gems, as well as being one of my most loyal readers.

CONFIDENTIAL TO "ONLY A HOUSEWIFE": What do you mean, "only"?

The job of a housewife is an executive position. In your home, you are the director of health, education and welfare, the secretary of the treasury, the head of entertainment and public relations, and chairman of the house rules committee. And you'd have to be married to a millionaire to be paid what you're really worth!

Don't plant black walnut trees in your garden

By LEE REICH
For AP Special Features

Although the word "walnut" comes from Anglo-Saxon words meaning "foreign nut" (wealth hnutu), throughout the eastern United States, the ground is annually strewn with nuts from our native black walnut (*Juglans nigra*).

Why "foreign nut," then? The reason is because a related species, the Persian or English walnut (*J. regia*), was indeed a foreign nut when first introduced into England centuries ago.

The black walnut is a valuable tree, but not one to plant in, or even near, a garden. The tree grows an enormous canopy of leaves that will shade out sunlight, and the tree's equally far-reaching root system will steal nutrients and water from garden plants.

As if that were not enough, black walnut trees secrete juglone, a nat-

ural chemical that is toxic to certain plants. Tomatoes are among those plants susceptible to the lethal effect of juglone.

If you have the space, plant a black walnut in a field where you can enjoy the tree early in its life for its nuts, then later on for its grandeur, and finally for its wood.

A tree produces about 30 pounds of nuts, shelling out up to 6 pounds of nutmeat. Fully grown trees are truly majestic, with a height and width of 75 feet or more. This is a tree to plant for posterity, for it matures in 150 years, and might survive for 250 years (at which point it is worth thousands of dollars for its wood).

Start black walnut trees by planting either nuts or nursery-grown trees.

If you plant the nut, do not expect immediate germination. The seeds will show no signs of life until they have been exposed to cool, moist conditions for a few

months. Nuts planted outdoors receive this treatment naturally, but many end up in the bellies of squirrels.

To assure success with outdoor planting, plant a few nuts about 4 inches deep at each place where you want a tree, and protect each planting from squirrels with a square of hardware cloth laid on top of the ground.

Remove the hardware cloth at winter's end. Then, in summer, thin the seedlings to the single sturdiest plant of each group. Alternatively, store the nuts in the refrigerator in a plastic bag with some dampened vermiculite or peat, then plant them outdoors as soon as they sprout, in late winter or early spring.

If you purchase trees, choose between seedlings or grafted trees. The advantage of grafted trees is that they are clones of varieties selected or bred for some desirable characteristic, such as easy crack-

ing or large nuts. But grafted trees also are more expensive.

Given full sun, and a fertile, well-drained soil, black walnut trees grow rapidly — 2 or 3 feet each year. The trees are rarely bothered by pests, but are sensitive to salt, so do not plant near roads.

Space the trees 60 feet each way unless you grow them only for wood, in which case plant them at half that distance so they grow knot-tree trunks.

Lack of space or desire to plant a black walnut tree should not deprive you of the savory nuts. Their strong taste does not appeal to everyone, and you probably can find a tree whose owner is willing to let you clean up the nuts littering the ground. (Quite a few people do like the black walnut's flavor, though, for over 3 tons are sold commercially in years of bumper crops.)

Getting to the nutmeat is no easy task, and begins with the

messy job of removing the spongy hull. The hull leaves a brown stain that is impossible to wash off hands.

Some walnut enthusiasts don an old pair of boots, then stomp on the hulls, or else put on water-proof gloves, then give each nut a tap with a hammer and twist off the hull.

A method that has been used almost long enough to be called "traditional" is to spread the nuts in your driveway and run your car over them to squeeze the nuts from their spongy covering.

With the hull removed, you are down to the hard shell. Hold a nut on a brick and give the nut a sharp rap with a hammer. The trick is to crack the shell without creating a pile of crushed shells and nutmeats.

The nuts are rich and strong-flavored, so just a few are needed to flavor a batch of cookies.

Getting great shots with compact cameras

By RICK SAMMON
For AP Special Features

My neighbor recently came to me with a photographic problem: "I have a fully automatic point-and-shoot," she said, "but my pictures are just not coming out right. Am I doing something wrong, or is the camera to blame?"

After viewing her prints, I told her both she and the camera were to "blame," so to speak. I explained: First, even fully automatic cameras are not capable of capturing every photographic situation — the way the picture-taker would like. Second, it's important to read a camera's instruction book to learn what a camera can and cannot do.

If you own a point-and-shoot camera and have been disappointed with the results, or if you plan to purchase one, here are some basic guidelines that will help you get good results:

— On many autofocus models, the focus sensor is located in the center of the frame. Therefore,

only the subject that is in the center will be in sharp focus — unless, that is, your camera has a focus lock feature, which lets you 1) lock in the focus on an off-center subject and then 2) recompose the scene in a pleasing manner. More sophisticated (and expensive) models have several focus sensors and know where the subject is even if it's off center.

— Strong backlight can fool a camera's meter into "thinking" the main subject is brighter than it actually is. This often happens at the beach and when a subject is positioned in front of a window. If your camera has a backlight compensation button, use it for backlit subjects. If not, fill the frame with your subject so you "crop out" the background. Another way to compensate for backlighting is to activate the camera's flash.

More sophisticated cameras offer automatic daylight fill-in flash, which automatically balances the flash light to the

daylight for a natural-looking picture.

— If you use print film rather than slide film, you'll have a better chance of getting a good picture. Print film has what's called a wider exposure latitude than slide film, and can deliver a good image even in tricky lighting situations.

— All cameras have limitations, including minimum focusing distance. If you read your camera's instruction booklet and find out how close you can get to your subject, you'll avoid out of focus close-up photographs.

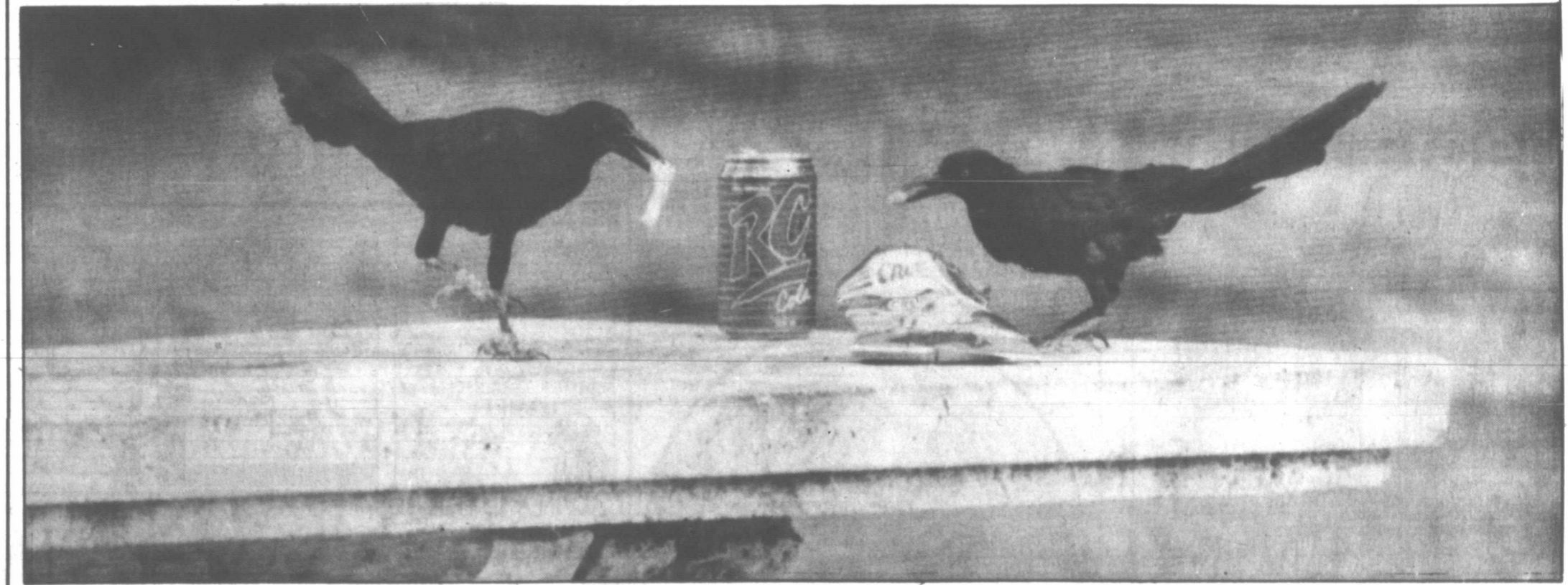
— Compact cameras have built-in flashes that are good for normal picture-taking situations around the house. However, in-camera flashes have distance limitations. Therefore, if an indoor subject (say a subject on a stage at a school play) is out of the flash range, it will be underexposed. Again, reading your camera's instruction book will provide valuable information on what your camera can and cannot do.

Giving them fits



Gloria Barron, Aledo, a former Miss Texas and a ventriloquist, entertains players, wives and guests Thursday evening during the Tri-State Seniors Golf Association tournament banquet at the M.K. Brown Memorial Civic Center. (Pampa News photo by Jeff Carruth)

A feast for two



Two grackles recently found themselves a little feast in an unattended bag of snacks and a soft drink in San Pedro Park in San Antonio. The two went ahead and helped themselves to a free lunch in the park. (AP photo/ Bob Owen)

Five U.S. Stamps honor Norman Rockwell

By SYD KRONISH
For AP Special Features

Norman Rockwell, the artist who captured the emotional mood of the common people in America, is honored with five new U.S. stamps illustrating some of his best works. The issue also commemorates the 100th anniversary of his birth.

A miniature sheet of four 50-cent stamps depicts "The Four Freedoms," based on a speech by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The freedoms portrayed are freedom of speech, freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom to worship.

The miniature sheet also includes a written tribute to the artist and a reproduction of his famed "Triple Self Portrait" — a 1960 Saturday Evening Post magazine cover.

The fifth stamp is a 29-cent adhesive featuring the "Triple Self Portrait." Appearing at the bottom of the stamps is his name, "Norman

Rockwell." The denomination "29 USA" is at the top.

Three earlier U.S. Postal Service issues display Rockwell's work. Both the Boy Scouts stamp of 1960 and the City Mail Delivery stamp released in 1963 were based on his art. The 1972 stamp showing "Tom Sawyer White Washing The Fence" was reproduced from one of Rockwell's "Adventures of Tom Sawyer" book illustrations of 1936. First day of issue postmarks are available by mail. This includes the Four Freedoms sheet of four 50-cent stamps and the 29-cent Rockwell "Self Portrait."

You may purchase these stamps at your local post office, affix the stamps to your envelopes, address the envelopes and place the envelopes in a larger envelope addressed to:

Customer Affixed Stamps, Norman Rockwell (and/or Four Freedoms), Postmaster, Stockbridge, Mass. 01262-9991.

Requests must be made by July 31.

An 8 1/2-by-11-inch envelope (or larger) is recommended for those affixing the entire souvenir sheet.

Self-Sticking Miss Liberty

The U.S. Postal Service also has released a new 29-cent self-adhesive featuring the Statue of Liberty. The stamp design depicts a head-and-shoulders view of Miss Liberty carrying the torch. It was designed by Tom Engeman, who designed the Holocaust Memorial Museum postal card in 1993.

In addition to sheetlets and strips of 18 stamps, the Statue of Liberty stamp is the first self-adhesive sold in full coils of 5,004 stamps. The Postal Service says future self-adhesive stamps also will be available in full coils.

First day of issue cancellations are available by mail. You may buy the stamps at your local post office, affix to envelopes, address the envelopes, place in a larger envelope, addressed to: Customer Affixed

Stamps, Statue of Liberty, Postmaster, Haines City, Fla. 33844-9991.

Orders must be placed by July 24.

The Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center offers first-day covers for all new U.S. issues. You may request a catalog by phoning 1-816-455-0970, or writing to: Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center, USPS, Box 449997, Kansas City, Mo. 64144-9997.

Scots & Golf

Famous holes on Scottish golf courses are featured on five new stamps from Great Britain, reports the Royal Mail. The new stamps commemorate the 250th anniversary of the world's oldest known golf club — the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers.

Courses seen on the stamps are the old Course at St. Andrews, Muirfield, Carnoustie, Royal Troon and Turnberry.

The 19 pence illustrates the Old Course at St. Andrews, which has a golfing history stretching back to at least 1552. The 25 pence shows the 18th hole at Muirfield described by Jack Nicklaus as "probably the best hole on the best Open Championship in Britain."

The 35 pence depicts the eighth hole at Royal Troon, which is known as the "Postage Stamp" because it is the shortest hole and the most slippery, like the gum of a stamp. The 30 pence pictures the 15th hole at Carnoustie.

The 41 pence has a view of the ninth hole at Turnberry's Ailsa course. Coastal weather conditions are the biggest challenge to golfers playing this rugged course.

The five mint stamps are available from the Great Britain Collectors Society, PO Box 480655, Los Angeles, Calif. 90048.

The Pampa News

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Writes
5 Awaits settlement
9 Unit of energy
12 Muslim prayer leader
13 Speed contest
14 Wide shoe size
15 Metal tube
16 Hebrew lyre
17 Prevaricate
18 Oldest
20 Gull
22 Caustic substance
23 Goddess of healing
24 Worn away
27 Let go
31 Bernstein's nickname
32 Paving stone
34 Great — of China
35 Parasites
37 Retain
39 In addition
40 Cold symptoms
42 German city
44 Make free

DOWN

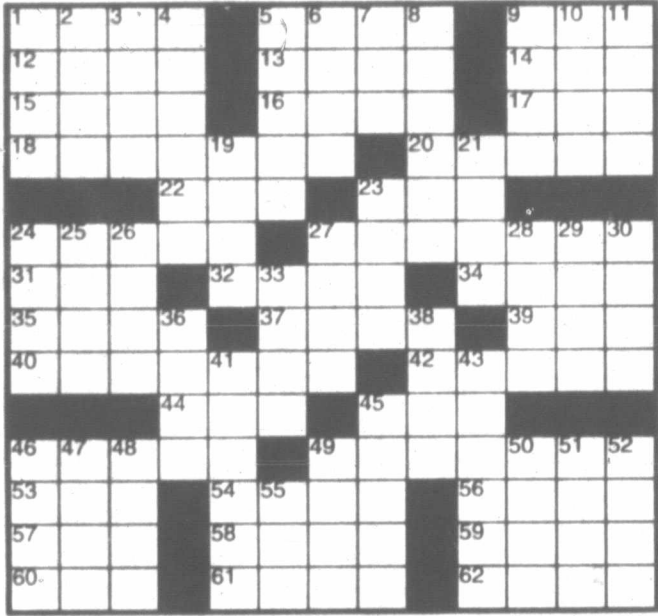
1 Fruit seeds
2 Throw off
3 California wine valley
4 Reeks
5 Green quartz
6 Orient
7 Sgt.
8 Cause to jump
9 Slippery
10 Old
11 Turns right

Answer to Previous Puzzle

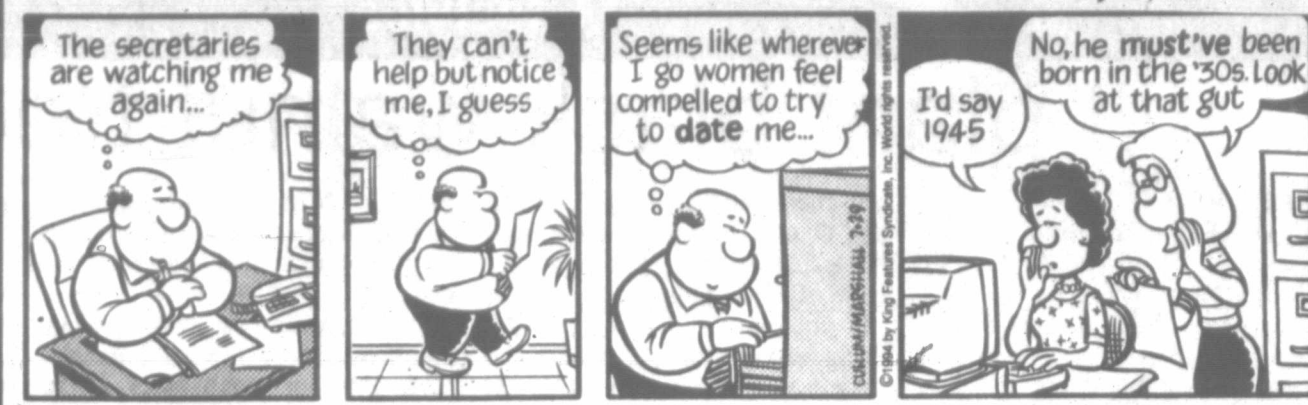
ZAP UVULA UAW
UGO MESON NAO
LEO DESPATER
USHER HEADS
TET YEAR
LISTLESS TGET
ESCALATES LOA
EAR ABATEMENT
KNEW ABSCESSA
WHIG ELL
TUBER ULTRA
EVANESCIED WOO
EEL NAIVE OWN
DAL ENDED SIE

19 Organs of sight
21 Forehead
23 Grafted, in heraldry
24 Building wings
25 Check
26 Single time
27 South-western Indians
28 Horse food
29 Wild plum
30 North Carolina college
33 Picked out
36 Finnish first name
38 Persian

fairly
41 Lap harp
43 Bagged
45 Halted
46 Diminutive suffix
47 Country of Asia
48 Glazes
49 Arm bone
50 Aware of
51 Genuine
52 Actress Carter
55 Gravel ridge

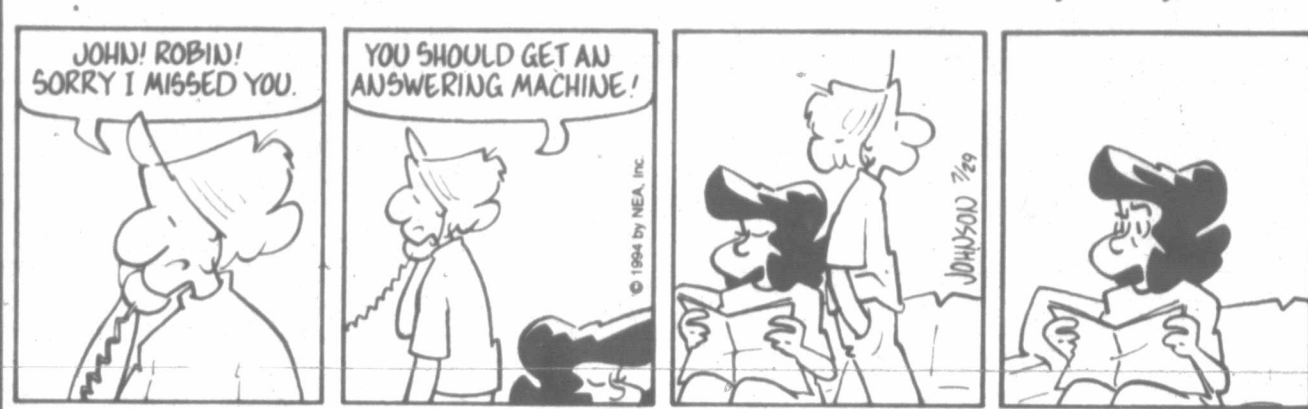


WALNUT COVE



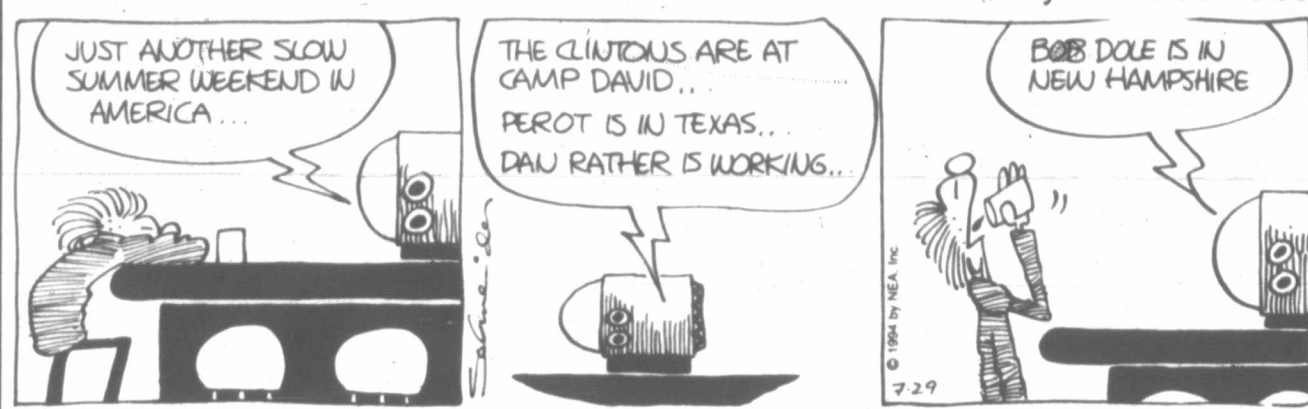
By Mark Cullum

ARLO & JANIS



By Jimmy Johnson

ECK & MEEK



By Howie Schneider

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't attempt to implement changes today that play against the will of the majority in your peer group. If you do, you might end up being a lonely orator. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, N.Y. 10163.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A skillful manipulator might try to use you as a scapegoat today by putting phrases and comments in your mouth that he/she personally authored. Don't be a patsy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Usually your innovations are pretty good time- and step-savers, but today you'd be wise to stick to traditional procedures. Save your untested ideas for another day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) There's a chance you may take fun activities a trifle too seriously today. If you participate in a social sport, don't make winning a matter of life and death.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) This is not a good day to discuss budgets or allowances with your mate or family members. Instead of resolving issues, you might create more ill will and problems.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Co-workers could be very difficult to get along with today if they feel you are foisting assignments on them you should attend to yourself. Don't pass the buck.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Think twice today before additionally funding an endeavor that has thus far proven to be a loser. Look around for something that offers better possibilities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Be careful today regarding the persons you bring home, especially if someone is at odds with a member of your family. Unpleasantness could result.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your image is rather fragile today, so don't behave in a manner that could give someone who doesn't think of you in friendly terms additional reasons to demean you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Usually you have reasonably good judgment in practical matters. Today, however, you might let someone whose information base is not as solid as yours call the shots for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today, in business matters that could affect others as well as yourself, you must be careful not to operate on your own in areas where you did not solicit their support.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Persons who were not in accord with your ideas to begin with could grow in resentment if you try to force your opinions on them. Don't awaken any additional opposition today.

MARVIN



By Tom Armstrong



MARMADUKE



By Brad Anderson

KIT N' CARLYLE

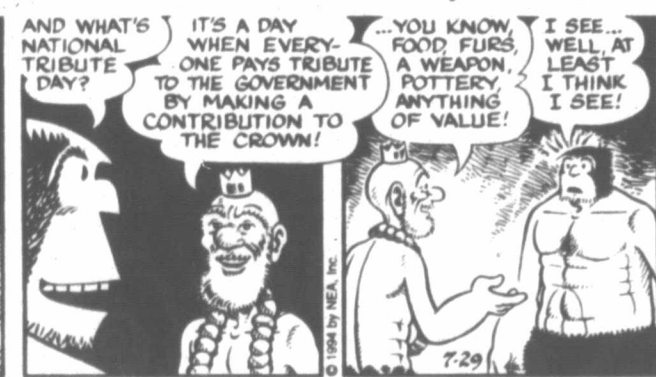


By Larry Wright

ALLEY OOP



By Dave Graue



By Lincoln Peirce

BEATTIE BLVD.



By Bruce Beattie

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

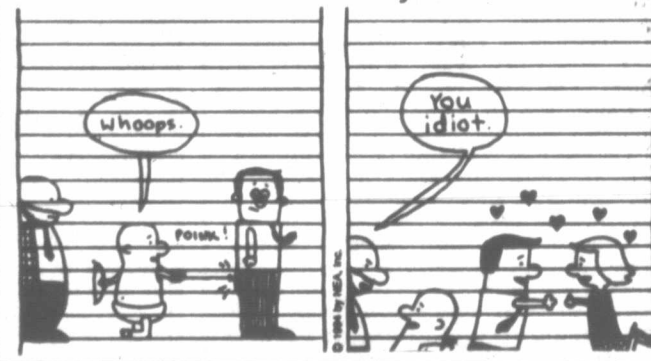


By Bill Keane

BIG NATE



By Lincoln Peirce



By Bill Watterson

THE BORN LOSER



By Art and Chip Sansom

CALVIN AND HOBBS



By Bob Thaves

PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz

FRANK AND ERNEST



By Jim Davis

GARFIELD



