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The Pampa News

Pampa, Texas

TUESDAY, November 15, 1994

25c

Good Evening!

AREA

PAMPA — Small business owners who want to get their products into the international marketplace will get some pointers at the "Exporting Seminar: The Global Marketplace," to be conducted Wednesday at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium and Civic Center.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and sessions will be conducted all day. The registration fee is \$25 and registration will be accepted at the door. The fee covers the cost of lunch, refreshments and seminar materials.

Donie Sasser, an international trade assistant with the U.S. Department of Commerce, will speak on "Key Factors in Successful Exporting," and Teresa de Onis of the Texas Department of Commerce will talk on "Marketing Programs, Trade Missions, Etc."

"Getting the Product to the Buyer" will be the topic of a discussion by Linda Adams Galbraith, president of Trans-Trade Inc., a customhouse broker and freight forwarder based at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

Eduardo G. Sosa, export finance manager for the Texas Department of Commerce, will speak on "Loan Programs Available to Exporters."

For more information about the seminar, contact Jack Ippel at the Pampa Economic Development Corporation (665-5554) or Mary Blinderman at Southwestern Public Service Co. in Amarillo (806-376-2378).

PAMPA — There will be a lot of noise at Pampa Middle School Thursday as students there join middle school and junior high students from around the state in the Giant Texas SmokeScream.

The SmokeScream, part of the annual Great American Smokeout sponsored by the American Cancer Society, is designed to prevent people in their early teens from taking their first puff on a cigarette. The Cancer Society says that most smokers pick up the habit at about age 13, and that if children don't start smoking in school, they probably never will smoke.

Pampa Middle School students will join others in the state through a teleconferencing network, and at 2 p.m. they all will "just scream no" to smoking.

The SmokeScream is just part of a week of activities in which tobacco education will be incorporated into classes.

BRISCOE — The Fort Elliott school board, in its regular meeting Monday night, appointed a 12-member textbook committee to recommend which books should be adopted by the district.

In addition of Superintendent Bob Downs and Principal Dave Johnson, other committee members are Pat Graham, Brad Logan, Samie Corse, Kathy Hathaway, Rolanda Meadows, Pam Jones, Gina Heard, Barbara Hodge, Gaye Hale and Kathie Jackson.

Johnson said the committee's recommendations will be presented to the school board in the spring.

In other business Monday, the board voted to advertise for bids for a new 53-passenger school bus to replace the 1976 model now in use.

PAMPA — Employees of the Pampa office of the Texas Department of Health will host an open house at their new office at 600 W. Kentucky from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday.

"We just want the public to be familiar with our facilities and the services we provide," said Teresa Curfman, director of the Pampa office.

The department moved into the offices from a downtown location in September.

Officials from the Texas Department of Health regional office in Lubbock will attend and refreshments will be served.

The local health department office provides services such as pre-natal care, immunizations, adult health care and HIV testing and counseling.

WEATHER

Tonight

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NO. 195

10 PAGES

ONE SECTION

First National to merge with Boatmen's

First National Bank of Pampa has entered into a merger agreement with Boatmen's Bancshares Inc., it was announced today.

Making the joint announcement were First National Bank officials Floyd Watson, chairman, and Don Babcock, president and chief executive officer, and Don Powell, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Boatmen's First National Bank of Amarillo.

First National Bank of Pampa and Boatmen's Bancshares have entered into a definitive agreement and plan of merger on a stock exchange basis between First National Bank, Boatmen's Bancshares Inc. and Boatmen's Texas Inc.

"We are pleased to join with a strong regional financial organization that has

a demonstrated commitment to our trade territory and to our philosophy of relationship banking based on community involvement, depositor confidence, excellent customer service and prudent lending," Watson said.

"With this new relationship, we bring to our existing and potential customer the availability of expanded lending authority from Texas' largest agricultural lender, trust service from one of the nation's largest and highest performing providers of individual and corporate trust services, the availability of retail brokerage and mortgage lending service, and new services and locations for our customers," Watson added.

Babcock said the merger agreement will be presented to shareholders for their vote. The agreement also will be

subject to normal regulatory procedures for final approval, which may take up to six months, he said.

When the merger gains final approval, the Pampa bank will change its name to Boatmen's First National Bank of Pampa, Babcock said. The bank will still have its national bank charter, he added.

Powell said one of the most important things is that "the bank will still have the same faces," adding that the Pampa bank officials will remain the same.

"This is a merger, not an acquisition," he said.

First National Bank of Pampa, established in 1906, has been among the strongest banks in Texas for many years, Watson said. Its history takes it through the Great Depression with a "proud

record of service to Pampa and Gray County."

As of Sept. 30, 1994, First National had total assets of \$168 million and total deposits of \$137 million. The combined banks would have total assets of \$1.357 billion and total deposits of \$943 million, including Boatmen's pending merger with Citizens State Bank of Dalhart.

Customers of these banks can conduct banking business at any of 14 combined offices and 28 ATM locations in Pampa, Amarillo, Childress, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas and Vega.

Boatmen's First National Bank of Amarillo is affiliated with Boatmen's Bancshares of St. Louis, Mo., a growing regional network of banks and financial institutions with total assets of \$28 billion.

A treat for the kids



Pam Richardson, 1933 N. Dwight, walks her children home from Wal-Mart Monday after treating them to the trip to the store and treats to encourage her son Kris to keep doing good in school. Her children are, from left, Kris, a kindergarten student at Travis Elementary School; Stephanie, 3; Alicia, 2; and Justin, a first-grader at Travis. Richardson said Monday was the first day Kris had gotten his school work in on time and she felt that deserved a special treat. (Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Prosecution rests in trial of attempted murder case

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

The prosecution rested its case before noon today against a Pampa man accused of shooting another man in 1993, causing him to become a quadriplegic dependent on a ventilator to keep him alive.

Accused of attempted murder and aggravated assault is Kizer Kip Grays, 21, who is free on bond. He faces a seven-woman, five-man jury in 223rd District Court who are to decide whether the single gunshot wound to 17-year-old Shawn Hancock, now in a Weatherford nursing home, is what caused Hancock's injuries.

Testimony showed the shooting occurred near midnight March 12, 1993 in front of a club called BJ's or Foxes, in the 600 block of South Gray, where a group of Pampa and Amarillo men had been drinking beer and gambling earlier that evening. When an argument broke out, the Amarilloans left the club and jumped in a car to leave.

At the noon recess, a witness for the defense, Thalamus Malone, 17, who served 1 1/2 months in a Moore County juvenile detention facility for his part in the shooting, testified he fired three times from the curb with a .38-caliber revolver into the Buick where the four were riding as they left the club.

Malone told the jury he walked to the club from the south and saw people running toward him saying a gun had been fired inside BJ's. He said he saw Grays shoot at the brown Buick from the middle of Gray Street and began to shoot also with a borrowed gun he carried in his pocket. Malone testified he did not know the men in the Buick but heard someone say Grays had been shot.

Also testifying today were Dr. Patrick Cenderich, an Amarillo neurosurgeon, who told

the panel Hancock is permanently paralyzed due to a severed spinal column. Hancock has no control over his bodily functions and requires a ventilator for life, he said. The bullet remains in Hancock's body, the doctor said. He estimates the bullet to be between a .32-caliber and .380-caliber projectile.

A Department of Public Safety firearms and toolmark expert, Russell Johnson of Austin, testified the bullet in Hancock's body most closely resembles a .380-caliber bullet compatible with the gun retrieved by local officers from Grays' home during the investigation.

Johnson said he drew the conclusion using X-rays to measure the bullet inside Hancock's neck and comparing it with other types of bullets.

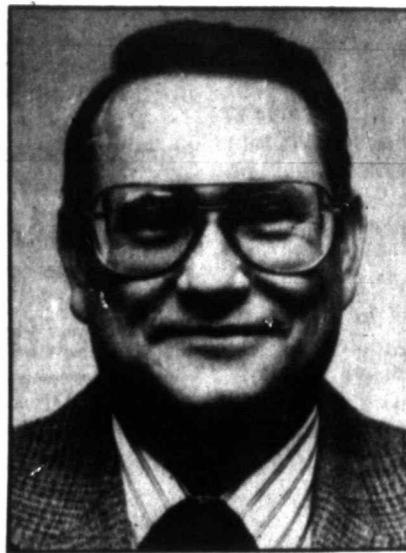
Defense attorney Harold Comer asked Johnson if a three dimensional approach to determine the volume of a bullet might not be more accurate in figuring the caliber of the projectile.

Johnson replied a bullet might gain or lose volume depending on its path and what it picked up or had knocked off in flight. He told the jury he examined only .380-caliber hulls and bullets, although he recalled possibly being told another gun was shot on March 12.

He agreed with Comer the diameters of a .380-caliber and .38-caliber bullet differ only by 1/1000 of an inch - not visible to the naked eye. They differ in length primarily - the .380-caliber is a "short, squat" bullet while the .38-caliber is longer, he said.

Officer Morse Burroughs of the Pampa Police Department, who worked for the Criminal Investigation Division at that time, told the jury Monday he investigated the shooting in the early hours of March 13, 1993 and discovered two .38-caliber casings in the circle drive in front of the club, a .38-caliber casing near a sign and six .380-caliber hulls in South Gray Street.

See TRIAL, Page 2



Wayland Thomas



Louise Fletcher

New publisher named for The Pampa News

Wayland Thomas, who rose through the ranks of the Clovis, N.M., News Journal to become general manager, has been named publisher of The Pampa News, announced James N. Rosse, president and CEO of Freedom Newspapers Inc.

Thomas replaces Louise Fletcher, who is retiring after 44 years with The Pampa News.

"Once again we have reached within the management of Freedom and found an outstanding publisher candidate in Wayland Thomas," Rosse said. "At the same time, we want to salute the contributions of Louise Fletcher during her long service with Freedom."

Thomas first worked in Clovis in 1957 as a carrier and inserter while attending high school. He moved to the production department after graduating and eventually became production manager. In 1990, Thomas was named general manager of the newspaper.

"I am looking forward to working with the community and the associates of The Pampa News," Thomas said.

Fletcher came to The Pampa News in 1950 as secretary to then-publisher Ralph Julliard and coordinator of national advertising. She was eventually promoted to general manager and in 1980 was named publisher in Pampa.

"I'm going to miss the newspaper and especially the people; they have been so loyal to me here," Fletcher said.

The newspaper began as The Pampa Weekly News in 1907, reporting on the growth and changes of Gray County. The Weekly News evolved into The Pampa Daily News in 1925 in response to the needs of the growing population.

Freedom acquired the newspaper in 1936. The newspaper, later changing its name to The Pampa News, currently has a circulation of 7,000.

More Cuban children may be admitted to the U.S.

By MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration may grant humanitarian asylum to families with young children among the Cuban refugees at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay and in Panama.

"That's where we are headed," an administration official said today.

There are about 32,000 Cuban being given shelter in Guantanamo and Panama, of whom perhaps 25 percent are members of "nuclear families," the official said, asking not to be identified.

The administration announced last month it would use the humanitarian parole process to grant entry visas to nearly 300 Cubans — all of them sick, over the age of 70, and children not accompanied by adults.

Some 40 Cuban boat people — including six orphaned children — who had been transferred from Guantanamo to camps in the Panama Canal Zone were given U.S. visas Sunday.

Some Cubans at both Guantanamo and the Canal Zone have mounted hunger strikes to

pressure Washington to grant more U.S. visas.

The Cuban exile community in South Florida has taken up the cause of the Cubans at the Guantanamo Base and in Panama, prompting concern here of demonstrations at the time of the hemisphere summit meeting set for Miami in four weeks.

One official said the administration probably would have come to same conclusion regarding parents with young children irrespective of the summit meeting. President Clinton will play host to more than 30 democratically-elected heads of government at the Miami meeting.

"The issue is what's best for the kids," the official said.

Cuban government officials have expressed deep reservations about any U.S. government decision to allow refugees at the two sites to resettle in the United States.

They are concerned that any such move could provoke a new exodus of boat people from Cuba.

All of the Cubans being housed at Guantanamo and in Panama were picked up by Coast Guard cutters as they attempted to flee to South Florida this past summer.

Gingrich says GOP ideas can transform American society

By ALAN FRAM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican ideas can transform society "within two or three years," the likely next House speaker says as his party lays plans for a break-neck 100 days of pushing the first part of their agenda through Congress.

The House will work seven days a week, if necessary, on their showpiece bills to cut taxes, reform welfare, toughen criminal penalties and take other steps, Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia and other Republican leaders said Monday.

Gingrich and hundreds of his GOP colleagues made a campaign pledge to have votes on the measures within 100 days of taking control of the House.

"We're going to transform the federal government," Gingrich told a dinner attended by contributors to GOPAC, his political action committee. "We're going to

ask of every dollar, 'Is this better spent by a bureaucrat or by you?'"

President Clinton, meanwhile, said today in Jakarta, Indonesia, that he and the Republicans should be able to produce a bipartisan welfare reform plan and work together on a line item veto and reducing the size of government.

"We do need a lot more changes, and we can do them together if we are determined to put America first and not put partisanship first," said Clinton after an economic summit with leaders of countries from both sides of the Pacific. He reserved judgment on the idea of a constitutional amendment to restore prayer in public school.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, meanwhile, said regardless of last week's election returns, "I think the president has to stand for what he stood for and has to stick with his principles and protect the progress that has been made."

"I don't think the American public wants Medicare cut dramatically. I don't think they want to see the gains in cutting the deficit reversed" or loans for middle-class

college students eliminated, she told reporters while touring elsewhere in Indonesia.

Taking heed of the new political landscape, White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta planned an afternoon "courtesy call" to meet with Gingrich and Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole on Capitol Hill. Their topics include the legislative agenda and when Clinton himself can get together with the GOP leaders.

A week after the election that gave Republicans control of Congress for the first time since 1954, leaderless Democrats grappled among themselves over command of their minorities in the House and Senate come January.

Outgoing Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., was facing at least one challenger to be House minority leader, but was the odds-on favorite. Sens. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., who have received scant national attention, were in a close battle over the Senate minority leader job. Decisions are three weeks away.

But the focus was on Republicans, still jubilant over their Election Day stampede. The conservative Gingrich met with Dole on a sun-drenched Capitol balcony to discuss their plans for 1995.

"We need to coordinate whenever we can. That doesn't mean we are never going to disagree," said Dole, who is less ideological than the Georgian.

Gingrich said they discussed removing the Social Security trust fund from budget calculations, to alleviate seniors' fears of benefit cuts and make it harder to mask federal deficits.

And Gingrich told nearly 200 GOPAC contributors that Republican ideas for cutting taxes, shrinking the size of government and encouraging private initiative would pay off.

"If you'll take up the moral cause of re-establishing for every American the pursuit of happiness, I believe within two or three years we'll have dramatically less drug addiction, dramatically less alcoholism," Gingrich said.

Cancer patients subjected to radiation experiments

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government sponsored at least eight Cold War experiments in which cancer patients were bombarded with total-body radiation to learn more about radiation's effects, researchers say.

Documents uncovered by the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments show that in many of the cases the radiation treatment had little or no therapeutic value because the patients suffered from radiation-resistant diseases, according to a committee staff report.

Gary Stern, a senior researcher for the committee, said in presenting the staff findings Monday that in many cases it is unclear whether the cancer patients had been adequately advised of the risks involved.

The experiments — all on civilian patients — were carried out from the 1940s to the early 1970s.

The existence of such experiments, especially those at the University of Cincinnati in the 1960s, has been generally known. But the staff report is the broadest documentation so far of the extent of the total-body radiation experiments and the Defense Department's involvement.

The advisory panel was created by President Clinton last December to look into the extent of experimentation on humans during the Cold War. One aspect of the panel's review is to determine whether sick patients were subjected to radiation doses for purposes other than treating their illnesses.

The staff report said 20 experiments were documented as occurring in the 1940s through 1974, but it said the review is not yet complete and others are likely to be found.

The report focused on 10 experiments in which the therapeutic value of the radiation appeared to be minimal or there was sponsorship by either the Defense Department or the 1940s Manhattan Project.

The 10 experiments involved as many as 1,000 cancer patients, including several hundred that suffered from radiation-resistant types of cancer making the whole-body exposure questionable on medical grounds alone, the staff report suggested. Eight of those experiments had government sponsorship.

While some of the patients were extremely ill, others appeared to be in relatively good health given their medical condition and lived for months, even a year or more, after treatment, according to uncovered documents.

The military's interest in total-body radiation stemmed from a need in the 1940s and 1950s to learn more about the impact of radiation exposure to military personnel in nuclear war.

One set of experiments involving 263 cancer patients from 1951 through 1956 at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston caught intense Defense Department interest because officials hoped it would help the Air Force learn more about how radiation might affect pilots of a proposed nuclear-powered airplane.

"A number of patients were given a series of psycho-motor tests to perform before and after receiving specified doses" in the M.D. Anderson experiments, the staff report said.

Federal funding for many of the experiments occurred despite an agreement by high-ranking defense officials in the late 1940s against using human subjects in whole-body radiation experiments, said Daniel Gutman, the advisory panel's executive director.



Johnnie Mertel works on repairing a boot at his shop in McLean. (Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

McLean resident prepares to mark 50 years in family shoe repair shop

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

McLEAN — Johnnie Mertel wasn't born in McLean, but he got here as soon as he could.

The slight, soft-spoken man was two years old when his parents, John and Julia, moved from Chicago to the wilds of the Texas Panhandle in 1914. Both parents had come from Czechoslovakia and had met and married in Chicago.

Mertel's father was a shoemaker who had learned his trade in Berlin, Germany. Friends in the Pakan Community in Wheeler County persuaded him to bring his wife and family to Texas.

After stepping off the train in McLean, he opened a shoe repair shop. When the first shop burned in 1917, he opened another one and eventually built it into a department store with the shoe repair business in back.

"McLean was a lot bigger in those days than it is now," Mertel said. "At

that time the county courthouse was in Lefors."

The younger Mertel grew up in the thriving community, graduating from high school there in 1932. Within a few years, he had opened one of the first service stations on the then-new Route 66, the mother road that connected Chicago with Los Angeles.

After a stint in the U.S. Army during World War II, Mertel returned to McLean to buy out his father and take over the family store.

"I've been in this place a long time," he said, looking around his shop in downtown McLean. "Next year, it will be 50 years."

The store on Main Street has been partitioned off. An arts and crafts shop now occupies part of it. Mertel runs a boot shop in the remaining part, putting to work what he learned from his father.

"We used to sell a lot of boots," he said. "We had a lot of business until the highway bypassed the town."

Business dropped off, he said,

after Interstate 40 replaced old Route 66.

"We do a little shoe work," he said, "but that's about all."

At a time in his life when most people would retire, Mertel keeps his shop open.

"I never had any hobbies," he said. "This is all I know."

Well, not exactly.

When he's not repairing shoe leather, he's burning it up.

"I do like to dance," he grinned. "I like every kind of dancing."

There's little doubt from his enthusiasm that he could dance the new soles right off the old boots of most of his customers. But like the traffic from the mother road, there are fewer regular customers.

"We used to have a lot of cowboys around here," he said. "There are not as many as there was."

But those that are left know where they can get new life put into an old pair of boots.

"I try to make them as good as new," Mertel said.

Gordon sweeps by Florida

MARATHON, Fla. (AP) — Tropical Storm Gordon brought little more than coastal flooding and high winds to South Florida today after creating deadly havoc in the Caribbean.

One traffic death was blamed on the storm in Florida.

As darkness fell and the tide rose Monday evening, waves smashed into waterfront homes and crashed along Atlantic Coast sea walls. This morning, the slashing rain and wind gusts still made for a slow, treacherous commute for workers throughout South Florida.

"It's just water, water and more water," office worker Ruth Diaz said while gassing up her car before her morning commute. "The crazies, that's who you've got to worry about. The weather isn't what's going to kill you here. It's the crazy drivers."

At 6 a.m. CST, Gordon was about 25 miles southeast of Key West and creeping westward at 6 mph through the Florida Straits, the 90-mile ribbon of sea between the Florida Keys and Cuba. The storm was centered at 24.3 degrees north latitude and 81.4 degrees west longitude.

Sustained winds were about 50

mph near the storm's center.

Authorities temporarily closed an 18-mile stretch of U.S. 1, the highway connecting the mainland to the Florida Keys, but it was open again this morning.

About 25,000 Florida Power & Light customers were without power today, down from 218,000 earlier, the company said. Southern Bell reported scattered telephone interruptions, and space shuttle Atlantis, which was to land at Cape Canaveral, had to be diverted to California.

Gordon was headed into the Gulf of Mexico and was not expected to change course until late this afternoon. Scott Carroll, a meteorologist at the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables, said the storm could eventually hit land again at some point on the rim of the Gulf.

"There's a lot of coast surrounding it and it's got to go somewhere," he said.

Heavy rain in South Florida that began early Monday was expected to last through most of today. Rainfall totals at 7 p.m. varied from 2 1/4 inches at Fort Lauderdale to less than two-thirds of an inch at the Miami airport.

Young boys killed crossing highway

AUSTIN (AP) — Two 7-year-old boys were killed after being hit by a car as they held hands and tried to cross a busy highway during rush hour, police said.

Nathaniel Johnson and Timothy Moreno were pronounced dead after being hit while attempting to cross U.S. 290 East in northeast Austin shortly before 6 p.m. on Monday, Austin police spokesman Mike Burgess said.

"It appears that they were holding hands trying to cross the highway," Burgess said Tuesday. "This is just a terrible tragedy."

Burgess said the driver of the car

that hit the boys won't be charged with any wrongdoing.

"Our investigation shows there was nothing the driver could do," Burgess said. "The driver was driving the speed limit and there was no wrongdoing on her part. It was dark. The children were small and wearing dark clothing."

"There is something hopefully people will get out of this tragedy, that no pedestrians — adults or children — should be walking on highways," Burgess said.

CINEMA 4
Coronado Shopping Center

The River Wild	(PG-13)
Mary Shelley's Frankenstein	(R)
Forrest Gump	(PG-13)
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PAMPA MALL

Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: My husband will be retired at Christmas time this year. We will then be on a fixed, limited budget, and our Christmas funds will be much smaller than in the past.

We have eight grown sons and daughters, and 15 grandchildren. The grandchildren are now getting married, so there will be wedding gifts to buy.

Our children protested the suggestion of putting everyone's name in a hat, then everybody buying a gift only for the person whose name he or she draws.

Some of our children ask for cash instead of gifts. We have even been asked, "How much will you and Dad be giving us for Christmas this year?" And, "May I have it now so I can buy what I want?"

A couple of our grandchildren have already come over to get their money and gifts, and we probably won't see them again until it's their birthdays.

We had some big medical bills this year, and my husband's retirement benefits nowhere compare to his former salary. I said, "Let's forget the Christmas gifts this year — Dad and I want to invite the entire family out for a nice Christmas dinner." That idea was voted down. Do you have any suggestions, Abby? We are already....

WORRIED SICK

DEAR WORRIED: Yes. I think you and your husband should treat yourselves to a nice trip somewhere; then telephone you children and wish them a Merry Christmas. And don't come home until you're good and ready.

DEAR ABBY: As an electrical engineer, I must take exception to your answer to "A Young Widow" concerning the tragic death of her husband who was killed when he touched a "live" electrical wire while standing in the swimming pool.

The electrical installation had absolutely nothing to do with it. The accident would have occurred in these circumstances even if the installation had been done by the very best of electricians.

Your answer should have been: "Never touch anything that carries electricity — be it a wire, connector, appliance or other equipment — while any part of your body is in water. It does not have to be a swimming pool or bathtub; standing on wet, or even damp, ground is enough because the current will always flow to the ground — even if it has to do so through your body."

G.P. SCHUCK-KOLBEN,
WEST COLUMBIA, S.C.

DEAR G.P. SCHUCK-KOLBEN: Thank you for pointing out what I should have figured out — but failed to do so.

DEAR ABBY: In your response to "Humiliated," you said, "It is inappropriate for fathers to tell their daughters dirty jokes."

Abby, isn't it just as inappropriate for fathers to tell their sons dirty jokes?

What's the difference?
**KRIS GRAVEN,
FLAGSTONE, ARIZ.**

DEAR KRIS: Very little, actually. But assuming there are degrees of impropriety, it would seem more inappropriate for fathers to tell their daughters dirty jokes.

DEAR ABBY: Do you have room for one more "udder" story?

A bee flew into a cow's ear. The next day, it showed up in the milk can.

A simple case of "in one ear and out the udder."

**MILLIE CLECKLER,
HOUMA, LA.**

The technical dynamics of creating concrete

By POPULAR MECHANICS
For AP Special Features

Q: Like many homeowners, I've mixed small quantities of concrete for repair jobs, by combining portland cement, sand, gravel and water. And, like many homeowners, I have no idea of the technical dynamics involved in how this actually creates concrete. I know I would find this information interesting, and I'm sure many other homeowners would also.

A: Concrete consists of portland cement mixed with sand and gravel or crushed stone. Portland cement cements the sand and gravel or crushed stone together. The cement is made of calcium (usually finely ground limestone), silica (sand), aluminum, iron ore and small amounts of other materials (sometimes fly ash, for instance). These materials are quarried,

crushed, ground and blended. Then, they are fired in a kiln with an average temperature of about 2700 F — hot enough to melt steel. The material emerges from the kiln as marble-size pellets known as clinkers. These are ground into a fine powder, and this is bagged or delivered in bulk as portland cement. The beauty of portland cement is that, to form a rocklike mass, all you do is mix it with sand, gravel or crushed stone and then add some water. The chemical properties of portland cement are such that it reacts with water in a process known as hydration.

Here's how hydration works: Water and cement particles form a solution. To the naked eye, this solution appears as a paste that coats each grain of sand and each piece of gravel or stone. If you could see the paste at a molecular level, you would notice that water molecules arrange themselves around each particle of cement

(each particle is a fraction of a millimeter in diameter). In the process, heat is generated as the molecules rub against each other and arrange themselves. Excess water molecules make their way to the slab surface and evaporate off into the atmosphere. Other water molecules are locked out of the hydration process by the bonds formed by the hydrating cement particles. It takes decades for this water to escape, and this is why concrete gets harder as it gets older. The water that was involved in the hydration process remains behind indefinitely as a crystal known as water of hydration. Under ideal circumstances, concrete takes its own sweet time arranging these cement-water-of-hydration particles. By the time the hydration process is essentially complete (it takes several weeks), you have a well-organized mass of sand and stone bonded in a matrix of cement-water-of-hydration parti-

cles. Because this bonding takes place at a molecular level, it's extremely thorough and very strong. And, as an added bonus, the concrete grows stronger with age.

Q: The top of my chimney (I have a gas furnace) ends quite a bit below the highest level at the top of my roof. I have heard that this could be dangerous in the event of a moderate wind that could cause a backflow of gases into my home. I would appreciate any comments you might have and suggestions for corrections if needed.

A: The fact that the top of the chimney is below the top of the roof is not necessarily a problem — as long as the chimney is terminated properly. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 211 states that chimneys for residential-type

appliances must extend at least 3 feet above the highest point where they pass through the roof of a building, and must be at least 2 feet higher than any part of the roof within 10 feet measured horizontally. The measurements must be made from the high side of the roof to the side nearest the top of the chimney. This is sometimes referred to as the 3-foot, 2-foot, 10-foot rule. It applies to both masonry and metal chimneys, whether the chimney is connected to a central heating system, fireplace or stove.

If you need to increase the height of your chimney, you can build it up or perhaps simply add a chimney pot or top vent assembly.

* To submit a question, write to Popular Mechanics, Reader Service Bureau, 224 W. 57th St. New York, N.Y. 10019. The most interesting questions will be answered in a future column.



Beta Sigma Phi scholarship committee members make plans for the sorority's annual New Year's Eve Scholarship Dance. The dance will be from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the M.K. Brown Auditorium and Civic Center. Proceeds from the dance will benefit the Beta Sigma Phi scholarship fund. Each year, Beta Sigma Phi awards scholarships to area students. In the front row from left to right are Debbie Mitchell, Sherri Schaible and Terry Harrison. In the back row from left to right are Angie Baird, Pam Harris, Lisa Crossman, Kimberly Lopez, Sandy Clark and Nancy Brogdon.

Newsmakers

Twelve students from the Pampa area are among the more than 114,000 students included in the 17th annual edition of *The National Dean's List* recently published by Educational Communications Inc.

Pampa students making the list include Crystal R. Brown, Frank Phillips College; Andrea M. Erwin, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; Richard D. Hill, University of Texas at Austin; Larry Reed, Navarro College; Susan R. Thornton, Evangel College; Cory C. Wagner, Frank Phillips College; Christa D. West, Rockhurst College; and Paula L. Winkleblack, Midwestern State University.

Also making the list are Heidi L. Campbell of McLean and Katherine N. Browning of Miami, both students at Clarendon College; and White Deer students Troy W. Cummins, Texas Tech University, and Bryan D. Kinsey, Texas State Technical College, Amarillo.

Marine Lance Cpl. Vince D. Remy, son of Carol B. Remy of Wheeler, recently completed the Basic Disbursing Course.

During the 12-week course at Marine Corps Service Support Schools, Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune, N.C., students received classroom instruction consisting of regulations, pay and allowances, travel entitlements, disbursing aspects of public funds, auditing techniques and disbursing office organization and management.

Remy, a 1993 graduate of Wheeler High School, joined the Marine Corps in January 1994.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Ricky D. Cloud, son of Bob Cloud of Pampa, recently returned from operations off the coast of Haiti aboard the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Cloud was in support operations for Navy and Army helicopter oper-

ations in Haiti. After returning from Haiti, the USS Eisenhower resupplied in Norfolk, Va., and departed in late October for a six-months overseas deployment.

A 1987 graduate of Pampa High School, Cloud joined the Navy in June 1988.

AMARILLO — Benny R. Cooper of Pampa and **Charles Shields** of Shamrock are among 25 Texas State Technical College, Amarillo, students honored as *Who's Who in American Junior Colleges* nominees at a dinner Friday, Nov. 12, in the new Student Activity Center.

The nominations were made by a faculty selection committee. "These 25 men and women are representative of the high achievements attained by many members of our student body," said interim president Ronald Abrams. "They will be the outstanding 'techno-professionals' in industry, after graduation."

Book Review

Man finds second chance at love in "The Book of Reuben"

Armادillos and Old Lace by Kinky Friedman

When it becomes summer in New York City, Kinky Friedman transports himself and cat to Texas to reunite with his roots, to commune with his dad, and to blow the city soot from his brain. As Kinky arrives at his family's combination ranch/summer camp, he finds urgent messages from the local justice of the peace expressing concern because little old ladies in the area are dropping dead at an alarming rate. Can Kinky solve the mystery?

The Book of Reuben by Tabitha King

Reuben Styles was born in the small working-class community of Nodd's ridge, Maine, and spent his entire life there. Raised by an embittered abusive father, Reuben wants everything in life to turn out right. He marries the woman of his dreams, starts his own business, and has children. But middle age finds his wife departed with their children, having emptied Reuben's bank account and his self-respect. At his lowest point, he meets Pearl and is given an unexpected second chance at love.

The 13th Juror by John T. Lescoat
Lawyer/investigator Dimas Hardy seeks to defend Jennifer Witt, accused of murdering her husband and son, as well as her first husband, who was

thought to have died of a drug overdose nine years earlier. Hardy discovers that both men had abused Jennifer, but she denies this, thereby destroying his defense strategy. As he seeks a new defense, the trial progresses, the truth sifts and bends, and Jennifer's fate will be up to the "13th juror"—the judge—who has the power to determine the outcome.

James Herriot's Cat Stories by James Herriot

The world's most beloved veterinarian now brings his storytelling magic to the world of cats and kittens in this enchanting collection of stories about one of Herriot's favorite animals, each story as memorable and heartwarming as the last. Over 30 full-color illustrations throughout.

Nine Lives: From Stripper to Schoolteacher by Lynn Snowden

In one year, freelance journalist and former model Lynn Snowden managed to get herself hired for nine very different jobs ranging from the top of the social ladder to the very bottom. She worked as a pyrotechnician for a heavy metal rock band, worked in a chocolate factory, taught high school math in Virginia, and even became a stripper on New Orleans' Bourbon Street. Snowden's uncensored account of her undercover adventure will open your eyes to how America

really works.

The Camera Never Blinks Twice by Dan Rather

Globe-hopping CBS anchorman Dan Rather picks up where he left off in *The Camera Never Blinks*. He talks about his extraordinary return to Vietnam with General Norman Schwarzkopf; describes his historic interview with Saddam Hussein during the crisis in the Gulf; and recounts how he walked into an unscheduled interview with Gorbachev on a crowded Moscow thoroughfare. Rather confronts his television "clash" with George Bush and recreates the other stories that have gripped the world, providing insight into the news of the world—and the world of news.

OTHER NEW FICTION

Sanctuary by Kelleman
Body of Knowledge by Dawson
Wild Horses by Francis
Insomnia by King
Talos by Rice
China White by Maas

OTHER NEW NON-FICTION

Motherless Daughters by Edelman
Cooking Light 1994
My Life So Far by Wagner
Last Train to Memphis by Guralnick
Dolly by Parton
Couplehood by Reiser

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The Pampa News

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Roman 12
- 4 Nuli and
- 8 Field
- 12 Married woman's title
- 13 Author of Picnic
- 14 Above Dr.'s org.
- 16 Sioux Indian
- 17 Sounded a bell
- 18 Neighborhood playing area
- 20 Book of maps
- 21 Tree fluid
- 22 St. relative
- 23 Electrical unit
- 26 Off center
- 30 — Jima
- 31 Dressing gowns
- 33 Actor's signal
- 34 Actor — Gulager
- 35 Small island
- 36 Barbie's boyfriend
- 37 Actress — Parsons
- 39 Actor —

Mac-Lachlan

- 40 Workers' assn.
- 41 Roman 3
- 43 Itinerary
- 46 Depict
- 50 Cry of pain
- 51 Type of skirt
- 52 — and outs
- 53 Heraldic bearing
- 54 Yale students
- 55 Compass pt.
- 56 Autocrat
- 57 High —
- 58 Neighbor of Fr.

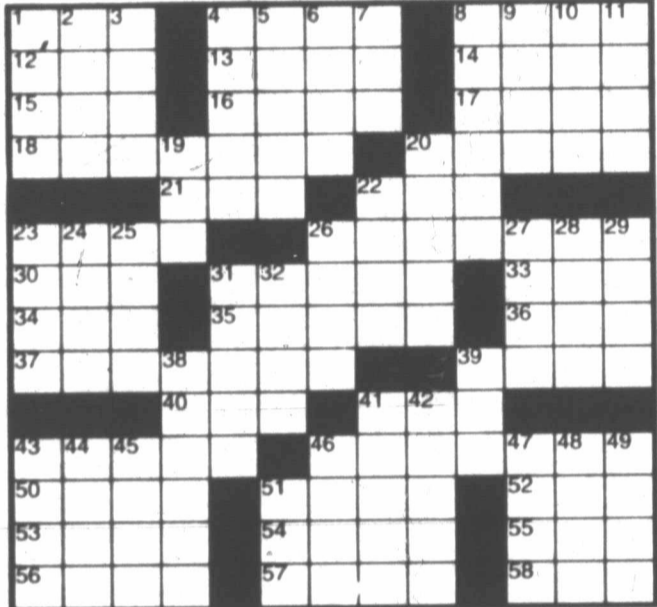
Answer to Previous Puzzle

LIVES VIATS EPT
 VALE CREE MER
 EDITORIAL ANE
 VEATS ORMANDY
 OWES ALLA
 OFF ASOF ITEM
 TRAWLS INSIDE
 TIRADE VEYOED
 BYEN NEER NNE
 WEN DOVE
 WEDDING EXISTY
 ALL PUTSSANCE
 GAL UKES LION
 ENS PERT YATS

- Home 39 Outfit
- 11 Units of 41 Relating to
- energy a Greek
- 19 Aug. time island
- 20 Sailor's 42 Type of
- command whiskey or
- 22 Busy as coffee
- 23 Miami — 43 Source
- (TV show) 44 Yours and
- 24 Night birds mine
- 25 Bumpkin 45 W. Coast
- 26 Competent 46 Heap
- 27 Sticky (sl.) 47 Article of
- 28 Author jewelry
- Jean M. — 48 Actress
- 29 Unaspi- Archer
- rated 49 River in
- 31 Valley on Belgium
- the moon 51 Encoun-
 tered
- 32 Capital of Norway
- 38 One or the other

DOWN

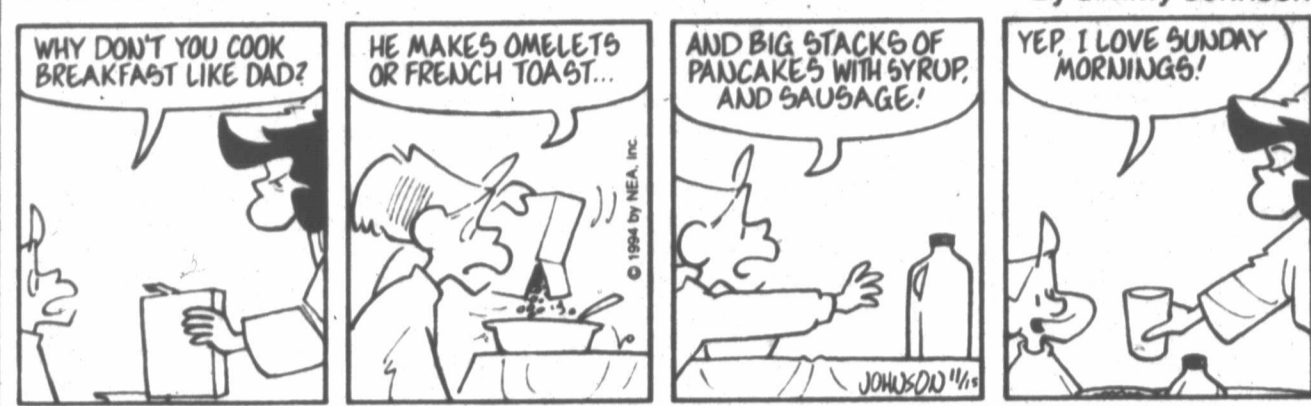
- 1 Dec. holiday
- 2 — La Douce
- 3 No man — island
- 4 Stringed instrument
- 5 High up (2 wds.)
- 6 Rhythm
- 7 Poor grade
- 8 Whirlpool
- 9 Egg-shaped
- 10 Singer



WALNUT COVE



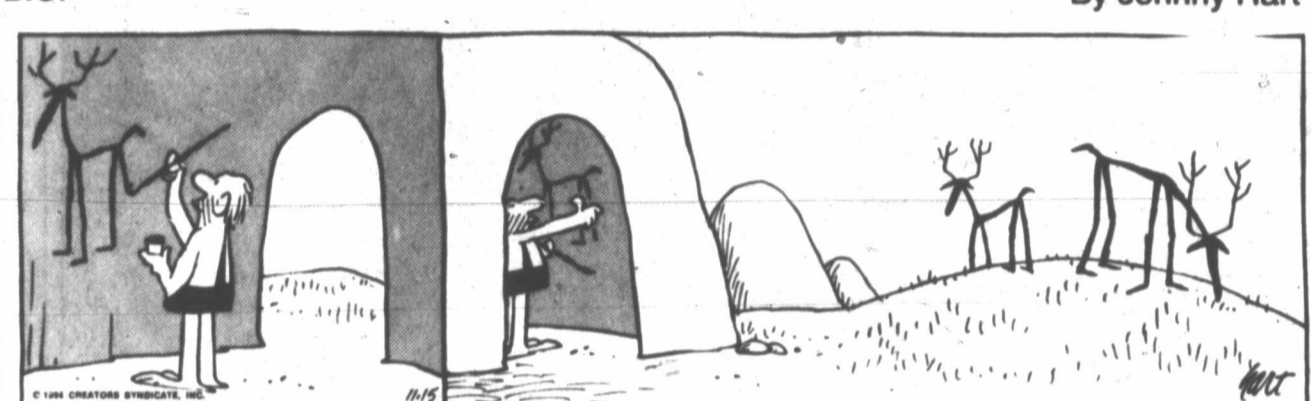
ARLO & JANIS



ECK & MEEK



B.C.



Astro-Graph By Bernice Bede Osol

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Today you might face an unusual amount of opposition. If this is the case, there is probably a good reason for it. Examine and correct your behavior. Scorpio, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1.25 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, NY 10163. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your attitude could make assignments unnecessarily complicated. Lighten up and try to see the positive aspects in your tasks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Someone with whom you share a mutual dislike may be in your circle of friends today. Avoid this person. Nothing will be resolved and old wounds might be reopened.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Today, try not to tease someone who is important to your future. You may come off as rude and abrasive, and he/she might not laugh it off.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you talk to a person you don't respect about a matter concerning you, keep an open mind. He/She might surprise you today and teach you something valuable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your jealousy of friends is self-defeating. It could be particularly destructive today because you may want to say something you'll regret.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you want to have your way today, leave plenty of room for others to do the same. If you don't show a little empathy, your usual supporters may decide to throw tacks in your tracks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Resist lazy inclinations today. Do not try to delegate your responsibilities; those you ask may say no. Don't try to sweep everything under a rug, either, you're not fooling anybody.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Let the majority rule today. If your ideas differ from your friends', be flexible and try to follow their lead.

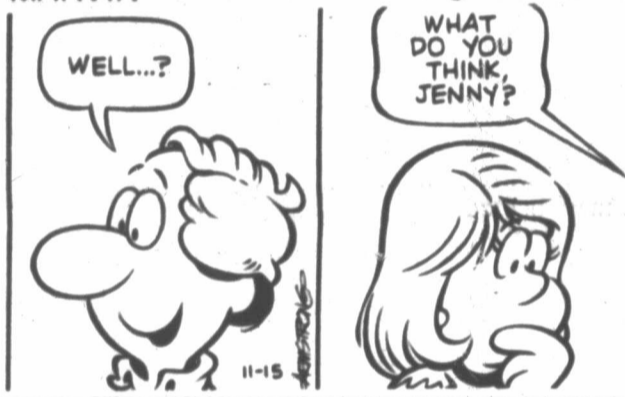
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your support system might not be as solid as you think today. It could be surprisingly easy to alienate your friends, so don't rock the boat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Chart a course for today or you may find yourself running around in circles. A wasted day is more than likely if you don't plan ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Be wary of your financial judgment today. The shots you may be tempted to call could be disastrous.

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MARVIN



By Tom Armstrong



By Dave Graue

MARMADUKE



By Brad Anderson

KIT N' CARLYLE



By Larry Wright

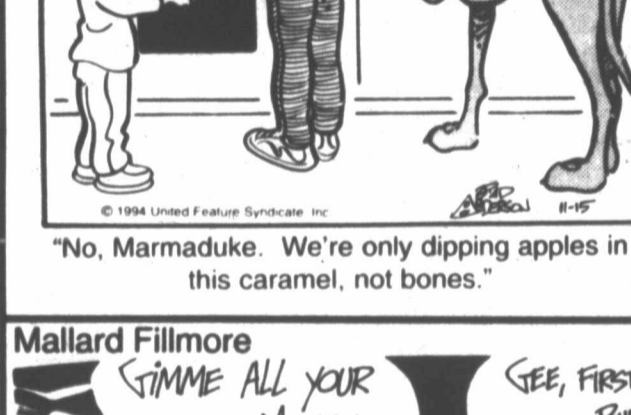
ALLEY OOP



By Bruce Beattie



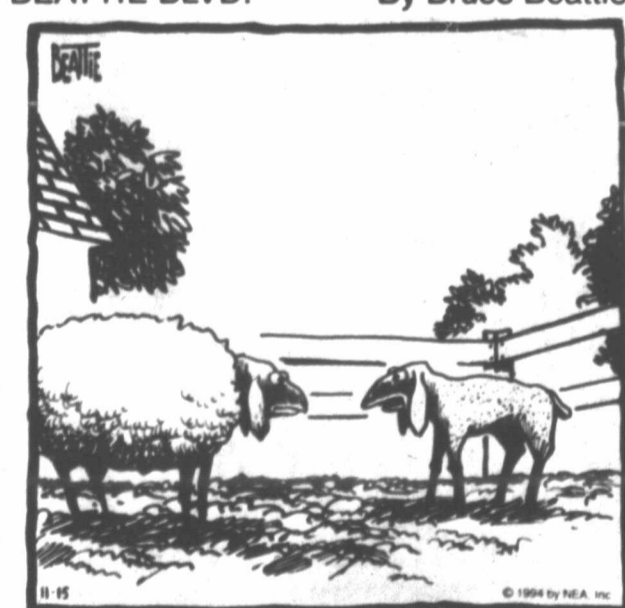
By Bill Keane



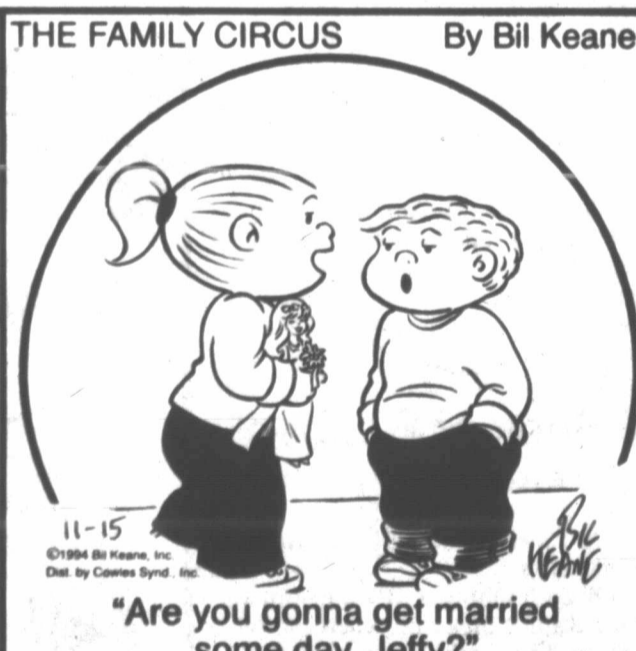
Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley

BEATTIE BLVD.



By Bruce Beattie



By Bill Keane



CALVIN AND HOBBS

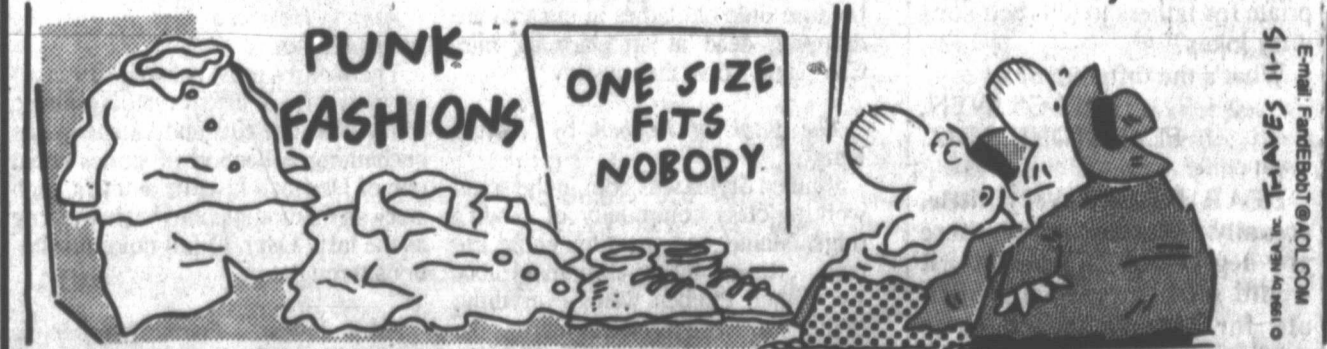
By Bill Watterson

THE BORN LOSER



By Art and Chip Sansom

FRANK AND ERNEST



By Bob Thaves

PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz

GARFIELD



By Jim Davis

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2 Museums WHITE Deer Land Museum: Pampa, Tuesday thru Sunday 1:00-4 p.m. Special tours by appointment.

3 Personal WANT to lose weight? I lost 40 pounds, 27 inches/4 months. Lee Ann Stark, 665-7004.

5 Special Notices ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

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13 Bus. Opportunities LOCAL vending business - available immediately. Great 1 person business. \$2500/week possible. 1-800-995-8311.

14a Plowing, Yard Work TREE trimming. Feeding. Yard clean-up. Hauling. Kenneth Banks, 665-3672.

14b Appliance Repair RENT TO RENT RENT TO OWN We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs.

14c Carpentry Ralph Baxter Contractor & Builder Custom Homes or Remodeling 665-8248



103 Homes For Sale Bobbie Nisbet Realtor 665-7037

120 Autos For Sale KNOWLES Used Cars 101 N. Hobart 665-7232

14n Painting PAINTING reasonable, interior, exterior. Minor repairs. Free estimates. Bob Gorson 665-0033.

50 Buildings Supplies 50 Building Supplies White House Lumber Co. 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

89 Wanted To Buy INSTANT Cash Paid for good clean appliances, coolers, and etc. 669-7462, 665-0255.

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104 Lots FRASHER Acres East-1 or more acres. Paved street, utilities. Claude Balch, 665-8075.

114 Recreational Vehicles COACHMEN RV'S Enjoy the good life with a "COACHMEN"

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14e Carpet Service NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...it pays!

14f Radio and Television Johnson Home Entertainment We will do service work on most Major Brands of TV's and VCR's.

21 Help Wanted NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

29 Situations Top O Texas Maid Service Bonded, Jeannie Samples 883-5331

69 Miscellaneous CHIMNEY Fire can be prevented. Queen Sweep Chimney Cleaning. 665-4686 or 665-5364.

96 Unfurnished Apts. 1 and 2 bedrooms, covered parking, washer/dryer hookups. Gwendolen Apartments, 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

102 Bus. Rental Prop. OFFICE Space for lease. Call Action Realty, 669-1221.

SHED REALTY, INC. 900 N. Hobart 665-3761

14g General Services COX Fence Company Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. 669-7769.

75 Feeds and Seeds Wheeler Evans Feed Full line of Acco feeds We appreciate your business Hwy.60 Kingsmill 665-5881

80 Pets And Supplies CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Royse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

97 Furnished Houses 3 bedroom mobile home with water well, about 20 acres, good location. 669-9846.

102 Bus. Rental Prop. NBC PLAZA Office Space 665-4100

103 Homes For Sale 1-1/2 story brick, 2 levels, double garage with 2 levels. Shed Realty, Marie, 665-5436.

115 Trailer Parks RED DEER VILLA 2100 Montague FHA approved Wagner Well Service 669-6649

14h General Services HOME Remodeling. All repairs. Plumbing, painting. Ornamental iron. 669-0624.

14i General Repair IF its broken or won't turn off, call the Fix It Shop, 669-3434. Lamps repaired.

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106 Mobile Homes 4 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home on private lot. Owner will carry. 665-4842.

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Quake and tidal wave kill at least 45 in Philippines

By OLIVER TEVES
Associated Press Writer

MALAYLAY, Philippines (AP) — A strong earthquake leveled villages on a central Philippine island today, unleashing a tidal wave that swept away dozens of sleeping villagers.

At least 45 people drowned or died when their homes collapsed.

"I need you! I need you!" Purina Rosales screamed as she knelt in a one-room schoolhouse where the bodies of her husband, daughter and 13 other people had been brought and placed on benches. "Why didn't you use your strength and swim?" she cried to her husband.

The quake flattened Mrs. Rosales' bamboo home, and moments later, a three-foot-high tidal wave carried her from the rubble. Like others in her village of huts and dirt roads, she said she grabbed hold of a coconut tree to escape the surging waters.

Hours later, she found the bodies of her husband, Eduardo, and 4-year-old daughter, Alesa, hundreds of yards from their home.

The quake and the tidal wave killed at least 45 people, injured 135 others, left eight missing and destroyed as many as 200 homes along the northern coast of Mindoro Island, said Rodolfo Valencia, one of its two governors.

About 900,000 people live on the island, and about 20,000 on the north coast where the quake struck.

The island was still recovering from a typhoon that hit last month, destroying much of its coconut and rice crop. Hundreds of people who survived the typhoon gave up

and fled the area today after the quake destroyed everything they had left.

The earthquake, which struck at 3:15 a.m., and at least one of its 888 aftershocks rocked buildings in Manila and other areas of the Philippines, but no damage or casualties were reported. Aftershocks were still hitting the island this afternoon.

President Fidel Ramos, who is at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum in Indonesia, ordered \$200,000 in aid to help rebuild destroyed homes. Food, drinking water and medical supplies were rushed in on military helicopters.

The earthquake cut off all electricity to Mindoro Island and destroyed many of its water mains, said Valencia.

The quake had a magnitude of 7.1 and was centered in a strait six miles north of the island, said the Philippine Institute of Vulcanology and Seismology, Manila, the capital of 8 million people, is 75 miles north of the epicenter on Luzon, the Philippines' main island.

Ted Sandoval, a specialist at the institute, said the temblor was one of the strongest ever to occur on the active Lubang fault.

A magnitude 6 quake can cause severe damage if centered under a populated area, while a magnitude 7 quake indicates a major quake capable of widespread, heavy damage.

The Philippines, a Pacific archipelago of 7,100 mountainous islands, sits on at least four major faults. An earthquake in 1990 killed nearly 2,000 people on the main island of Luzon.

China protests village shelling by Taiwanese troops on island

By ELAINE KURTENBACH
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China reported today that artillery fire from Taiwanese soldiers on an island 1 1/2 miles from the mainland wounded four villagers. Taiwan acknowledged a routine drill in the area but said if any shells hit China it was "accidental."

The shelling — the first such reported incident since 1979 — could worsen tensions between Beijing and the Nationalist government in Taiwan, which fled the Chinese mainland in 1949 after losing a civil war to the Communists.

China condemned the shelling as a "vicious incident that sabotaged the peaceful atmosphere across the Taiwan Straits," the official Xinhua news agency reported.

Xinhua said at least a dozen artillery shells hit Tatou village in southeastern Fujian province on Monday, wounding four people.

Taiwan's military expressed "deep regret" for what it termed "a non-hostile accidental shelling," according to a statement today.

Taiwanese Defense Minister Sun Chen told the legislature that troops had fired short-range artillery near the Taiwan-controlled island of Quemoy during a routine drill.

Sun said it appeared unlikely that shells could have hit Chinese territory, but he ordered an investigation and said any victims would be compensated.

Military officials in Taiwan confirmed that troops fired 40mm air-defense artillery in tests Monday and that some shells might have

failed to explode and fallen in Chinese territory, just 1 1/2 miles away.

The tiny island in the Taiwan Straits, also called Jinmen, is used primarily as a military base. Civilians are not allowed to visit without special permission, and most facilities were built underground in anticipation of attack from the mainland. The island is about 120 miles from Taiwan.

In 1958, the Communists pounded Quemoy with shells for 44 days, killing some 600 people. The U.S. 7th Fleet intervened, providing logistical support and escorts for Nationalist convoys supplying Quemoy until the Communists backed down.

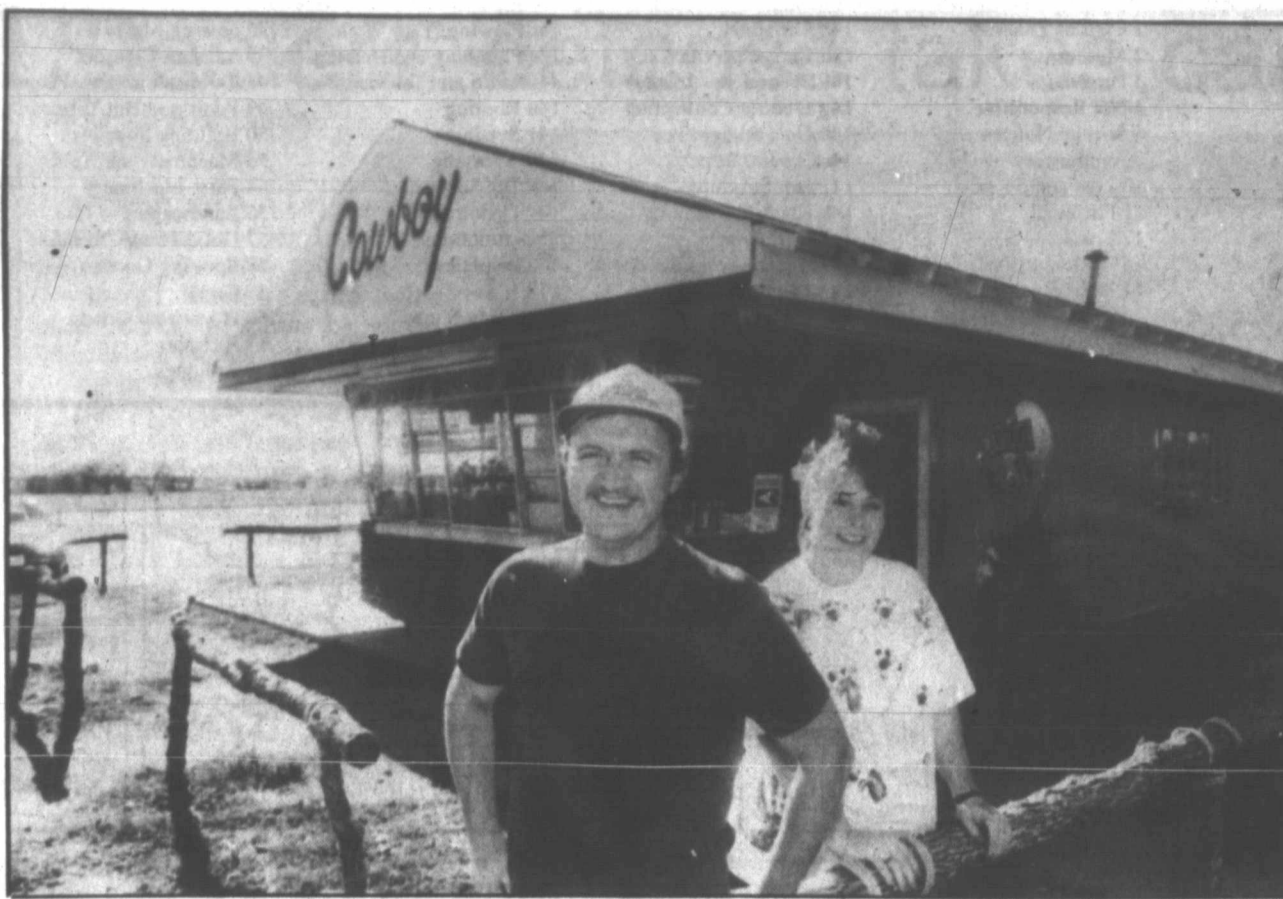
The Communists then switched to shelling Quemoy only every other day, using shells containing propaganda. The Nationalists fired back their own propaganda.

This conflict continued until 1979, when Washington switched diplomatic ties from Taipei to Beijing.

There has been a trend toward reconciliation between China and Taiwan since 1987, with a gradual opening of trade and tourism. But they still maintain strong coastal defenses on both sides of the Taiwan Straits.

Beijing views Taiwan as a renegade province of China and demands that all nations with which it has diplomatic ties sever formal links with Taipei.

Taiwan has sought in recent months to break out of its diplomatic isolation, provoking harsh protests from China.



Shaun and Amanda Crawford stand in front of their Cowboy Cafe in McLean. (Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Cowboy Cafe offers country cooking — and lots of french fries on the plate

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

McLEAN — If you like french fries, you'll love the Cowboy Cafe.

"My favorite complaint is that there are too many french fries on the plate," said Shaun Crawford, who has the cafe along with his wife, Amanda.

They moved to McLean eight years to be near Shaun's grandparents, Pete and Zella Mae Brown, who farm and ranch southeast of town. Shaun is from Amarillo. Amanda is from Canyon.

"We only claim McLean now," Shaun said. "After a year of living down here, there wasn't any going back."

Two and a half years ago, they took over the Cowboy Cafe. Because of

their proximity to Interstate 40, Shaun said they get a lot of tourists. A lot of their customers are German tourists, he said, returning to McLean to visit the World War II POW camp that used to be east of town.

The walls of the cafe are covered with photos and local memorabilia of the area and area people.

"Amanda's a photo buff," Shaun said.

A lot of the rest of the decorations were brought in by friends and customers.

"Everybody in town brought something," Shaun said. "One man brought in the cow skulls, one man brought in the horse hames, one man brought the horse shoes."

The wood paneling is from an old house that Shaun tore down. Outside, the couple built hitching

rails to protect the building.

"After the post office got run into about the third or fourth time, we figured we'd better do something to protect our place," Shaun laughed. "We have people who'll ride their horses into town and tie them up out there."

Shaun had worked for big restaurants before moving to McLean, but decided he wanted a cafe when he went out on his own.

"This is just the right size," he said.

He said he doesn't have to worry about having the latest fad in decaffeinated herbal tea.

"It's just a country cafe," he said. He makes the cream pies, Amanda makes the fruit pies, and the daily special always includes french fries — lots of french fries.

Drug rehab prisons to be converted to lockups

AUSTIN (AP) — Several of the new substance abuse rehabilitation prisons are being converted into more secure lockups to house higher-risk criminals that are backed up in county jails.

The cost to convert the facilities, many of which are under construction, could go as high as \$6 million, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported Monday.

Prison officials say the move won't derail the drug and alcohol treatment initiative that had been touted as a major step in stopping the cycle of crime.

And, they said, it will save the state millions of dollars in reimbursement payments to counties that are housing state felons in local jails.

"We always thought all of the substance abuse beds wouldn't be filled

right from the start," said Andy Collins, executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

"We're simply increasing the security design so we can hold other types of inmates there" in the short term, he said.

"I don't think anybody would want us to have (prison) beds sitting there empty," he said.

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"You're gonna like what you see!"

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