

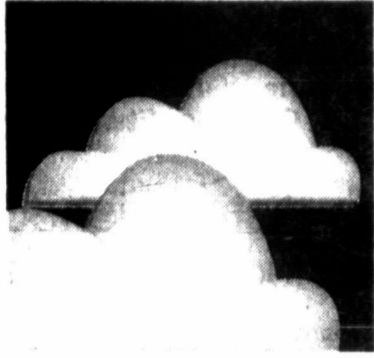
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PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 20

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight near 30.
High tomorrow in mid
50s. See Page 2 for
weather details.

MASTERTON — U.S. Highway 287 was blocked briefly today when a cattle truck caught fire south of here before dawn.

Although details were sketchy, Potter County deputies said a cattle truck was reported burning shortly before 6 a.m. today in the northbound lane of U.S. 287 between three to five miles south of Masterton.

Officers said that by 8 a.m. today the fire had been extinguished and authorities were rounding up loose cattle.

By The Associated Press

One ticket sold in Kountze correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated \$4 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 1, 6, 7, 11, 21 and 32. There were 177 tickets purchased matching five of six numbers, worth \$879 each. Matching four of six numbers were 9,126 tickets, with a prize of \$61 each.

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$4 million.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The countdown for the middle-of-the-night launch of space shuttle Discovery was on schedule today, with predictions of mostly favorable weather. A small problem with unwanted oxygen apparently went away.

A small adjustment changed the probable launch time to 2:55 a.m. CST Tuesday. Discovery's seven-man crew plans to latch on to the Hubble Space Telescope and bring it in to the shuttle cargo bay for upgrading some instruments and return it to free flight in a slightly higher orbit.

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Sen. Strom Thurmond was back at work today, just hours after he was released from a Washington hospital where he spent 11 days being treated for a bout of the flu.

Thurmond, at 94 the oldest person ever to serve in Congress, was present to preside over the noon opening of the Senate, spokeswoman Chris Cimko said.

Thurmond, who is president pro tem of the Senate, entered Walter Reed Army Hospital on Jan. 30 after coming down with flu symptoms that also hit several others in the South Carolina Republican's office.

"He's fine. It's no big deal," Ms. Cimko said.

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Clinton gives economic report to congressmen

WASHINGTON (AP) — Low unemployment rates need not produce rising inflation, President Clinton said today in his annual economic report to Congress.

"The combination of unemployment and inflation is the lowest it has been in three decades," Clinton noted in a message that accompanied the report.

And there is no reason that cannot continue, said the report, produced by the president's Council of Economic Advisers. Just as high inflation and slow economic growth — stagflation — coexisted in the late 1970s, low inflation and strong growth can go hand in hand, it said.

Although the administration has generally refrained from criticizing the Federal Reserve, the argument seems pitched at the politically independent central bank, which controls key short-term interest rates.

The Fed has not raised short-term rates in two years. But minutes of its meetings show policymakers were concerned about tight labor-market conditions and were poised to slow the economy by raising interest rates at the first sign of an inflation outbreak.

As recently as a few years ago, economists believed that an unemployment rate consistently below 6 percent — the so-called natural rate of unemployment — would trigger inflation as employers paid higher wages to

retain experienced workers and raised prices to cover the cost.

But the jobless rate — 5.4 percent in January — has been below 6 percent since September 1994, with little evidence of worsening inflation, the report noted. It argued that the natural rate of unemployment has moved closer to 5 percent.

The Council of Economic Advisers thus is forecasting that, on average, inflation will be held to 2.7 percent and the unemployment rate to 5.5 percent through 2003.

If valid, that means the best labor market for job seekers in seven years need not be sacrificed to protect lenders, bond investors, people living on fixed incomes and others hurt by inflation.

The report offered several explanations for the decline in the natural rate of unemployment.

— The work force, on average, is aging and more mature workers switch jobs less often.

— Workers' aspirations for higher wages have not caught up with the improved productivity growth of the last few years.

— Increased competition, caused by regulatory reform and new trade agreements, helps keep a lid on wages.

The report also disputed what has been a hallmark of Federal Reserve policy under Chairman Alan Greenspan — the notion that interest-rate increases should be pre-emptive, slowing the econo-

my and easing potentially inflationary strains before prices actually start to accelerate. The theory is that it would take a more wrenching slowdown in growth to squelch inflation once it starts climbing.

But the White House report advocated a "cautiously expansionary policy" and said "in today's stable environment, runaway inflation is not a threat."

Moreover, the report strongly argued that a long-cherished goal of the Federal Reserve — zero inflation — would harm the economy far more than it helped. Encouraged by Greenspan, Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fla., and other conservative lawmakers have proposed legislation to make price stability the sole focus of monetary policy.

But, the report said, "in a zero-inflation world, layoffs would be more common." That's because businesses facing stiff competition now can allow inflation to eat away at the real value of the wages they pay without resorting to layoffs.

Eliminating inflation also would remove an important Federal Reserve tool for fighting recessions — stimulating economic growth and borrowing by lowering interest rates below the rate of inflation.

Zero inflation "would be a permanent boon to people with large cash holdings — many of whom live abroad or are engaged in illegal activities," the report said.

Tobacco lawyer: FDA lacks jurisdiction

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Congress has never given the Food and Drug Administration jurisdiction over tobacco, an R.J. Reynolds lawyer argued today as the industry tried to block regulation of cigarettes as a drug.

New FDA rules begin taking effect Feb. 28 with a rule requiring young people to present a photo ID for proof of age before purchasing cigarettes. Rules taking effect later would restrict advertising to cut smoking by teen-agers.

The major tobacco companies consider the rules a threat to the First Amendment and claim the FDA lacks authority to regulate sales and advertising.

"Before us today is an extraordinary exertion of power by a federal agency," R.J.R. lawyer

Richard Cooper said at a hearing before U.S. District Judge William Osteen, who was a tobacco industry lobbyist two decades ago. "The FDA wants to exert its jurisdiction over the entire tobacco industry."

Cooper said the cigarette makers believe the FDA wants to "ban this industry."

A government attorney told the judge that just because the FDA did not exert authority over tobacco earlier does not preclude it from doing so now.

"If Congress wants to preempt the FDA from exerting jurisdiction, it can do so," Justice Department lawyer George Phillips said. "It has not done this."

The judge said it would take him five to 10 weeks to rule on the lawsuit. "This case is too

serious for both sides to give it any less consideration," he told lawyers.

FDA Commissioner David Kessler, who has said he will step down later this month, was among those in the crowded courtroom.

The judge was asked to decide without a trial that the FDA lacks legal authority to regulate cigarettes. The industry also could seek an injunction to block the regulations from going into effect until a trial of its lawsuit is over.

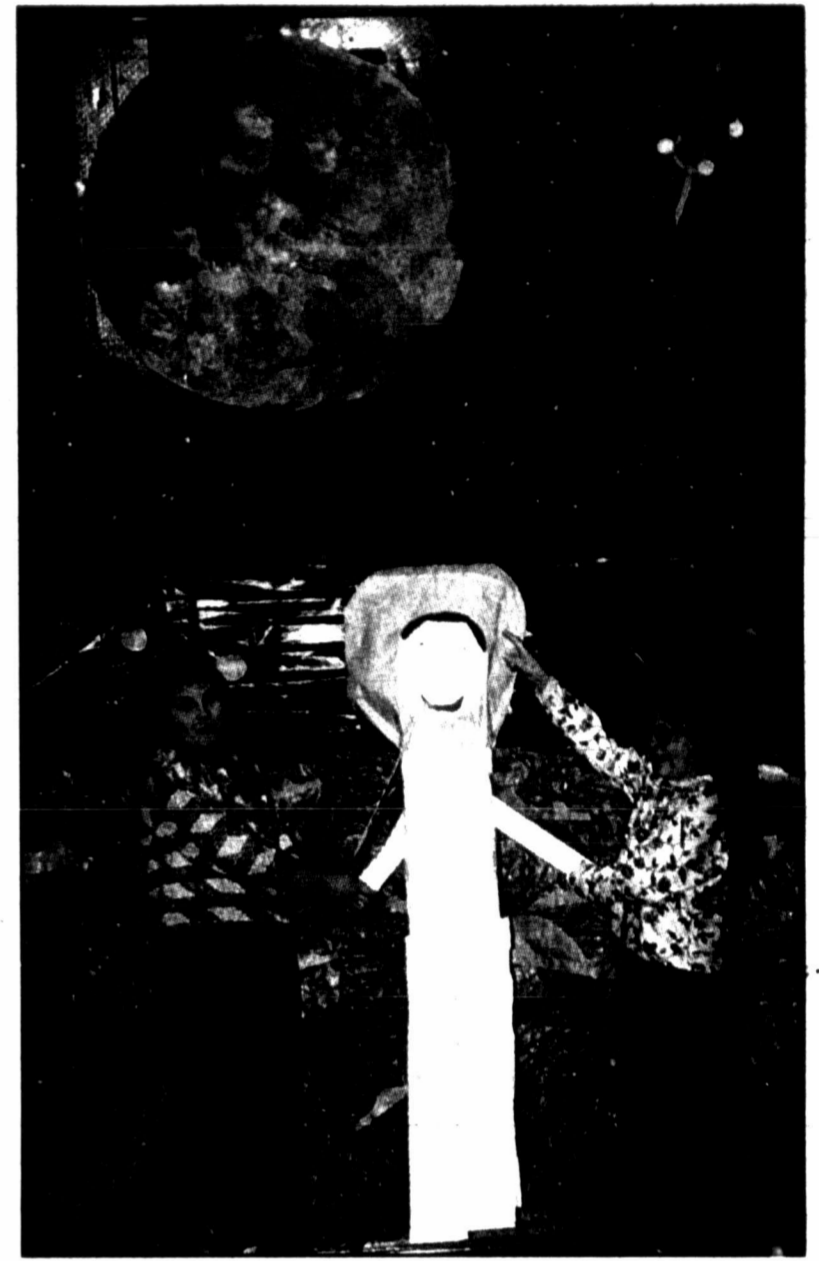
"The tobacco industry sees this as the first shot over the bow in the effort to outlaw cigarettes," said Wake Forest University law professor David Logan, who has closely monitored a legal battle over the regulations.

Teddy bears for the police



Pampa Police and School Resource Officer Fred Courtney accepts some teddy bears from Best Western Northgate Inn owner Craig Jones. The teddy bears are part of the program officers use to help calm children during traumatic situations. Jones donated approximately 75 12-inch cream colored bears to the department to be used as needed.

Blasting off ...



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

Jacqueline Cooper and Suzanne Parks admire the decorations of the fourth grade hall at Horace Mann Elementary School. The hall was decorated with stars, planets, rockets and little green men to encourage the students to "Blast Off for Accelerated Reading." Each of the fourth grade classrooms have a different space theme in addition to the hall.

Pilots, American set to begin negotiations on contract disputes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seeking to head off a strike at American Airlines, representatives of the airline and its pilots' union were in Washington today for federally mediated talks in hopes of resolving the contract dispute.

With only five days left in a mandated cooling-off period, the Allied Pilots Association and AMR Corp., parent company of American Airlines, were scheduled to take their dispute before the National Mediation Board this afternoon.

They have until 11:01 p.m. CST Saturday to reach agreement or the 9,300 pilots promise to walk out, grounding the airline during the busy Presidents Day weekend. American offers more domestic flights than any other U.S. airline, and carries 200,000 thousands passengers a day on national and international flights.

Last week, after meeting with American President Donald Carty and other top airline managers, union President Jim Sovich said a strike is "more likely than not."

The union has created a "war room" to keep track of pilots this week to inform them if a strike is called and help them if they become stranded.

The airline also is preparing, including sending notices to its 90,000 employees that they could be laid off soon.

To pay the bills in case a strike ends flight operations, American has borrowed \$1 billion from an existing credit line and has pledged its fleet as collateral for another \$1 billion in credit. The funds are in addition to more than \$1 billion the airline has on hand.

The money would support the company through a three-month

strike, based on AMR projections showing that for each 30 days of a strike the company would lose \$1 billion, or all of 1996's profits.

The pilots have not had a basic wage increase since their contract became amendable in 1993. They are seeking raises of about 11 percent over four years, plus increased stock options.

The company had agreed in the tentative contract, voted down by the union last month, to increase salaries by 3 percent this year and 2 percent in 1999.

But the issue that may be the stickler involves who will fly regional jets.

AMR's proposed purchase of 67 small jets to be flown by its commuter operation, American Eagle, also was in the tentative contract. American Eagle is a separate division of AMR and its pilots are paid significantly less than American pilots, causing job security worries.

"It's not a question whether we want these jets or not ... we just want to be the pilots to fly them," said Capt. Rich Rubin, a union spokesman. "We've flown American Airlines high-performance jets for years, and we deserve the right to continue to fly high-performance jet aircraft in the future."

Eagle pilots are not members of the union and average \$35,000 a year in salary, compared with a \$120,000 average for American pilots. Even so, AMR says it will ground its commuter planes if American pilots go on strike because they utilize the same reservation and ground support system.

American Eagle spokesman Mitch Baranowski said the jets would be used mostly on routes now served by some of its 205 turboprops.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BUSH, Lillian Johnson — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Wheeler.
GARRETT, Eva M. — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.
KITCHENS, Truman Carter Jr. — Graveside services, 1 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.

Obituaries

LILLIAN JOHNSON BUSH

WHEELER — Lillian Johnson Bush, 86, died Sunday, Feb. 9, 1997, at Parkview Hospital. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Toby Henson, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Bush was born March 27, 1910, at Cookville, Texas. She married J.D. Johnson on Dec. 20, 1928, at Mount Pleasant, Texas; he died in 1968. She later married Edward Bush on Jan. 3, 1970, at her home in Wheeler. She had been a Wheeler resident since 1935. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She was preceded in death by a son, David R. Johnson, in 1953, and by a grandson, J.C. Tipton Jr., in 1948.

Survivors include her husband, Edward, of Wheeler; two daughters and sons-in-law, June and J.C. Tipton of Borger and Helen and Melvin May of Pampa; a son and daughter-in-law, J.T. and Edwina Johnson of Wheeler; three step-daughters, Mary DeBusk of Corryton, Tenn., Barbara Fagan of Soldotna, Alaska, and Carole Phillips of Panama City, Fla.; a niece that she raised, Imogene Shirey of Perryton; a brother, Joe Brown of McLean; eight grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

FLORENCE CUNNINGHAM

McLEAN — Florence Cunningham, 75, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 1997. Graveside services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Amarillo with the Rev. J. Alan Ford, pastor of Southwest Baptist Church, officiating. Burial arrangements are under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors of Amarillo.

Mrs. Cunningham was born at Woodson. She married Luther Norris Cunningham in 1940 at Haskell; he died in 1981. She had been a McLean resident for more than 50 years. She was a homemaker and a member of Southwest Baptist Church at Amarillo.

Survivors include two daughters, Alice Brown and Dora Faye Smith, both of Amarillo; a son, Luther Norris Cunningham Jr. of Arlington; two sisters, Myrtle Underwood of Longview and Leona Martin of Beckville; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

The family will be at 2826 Porter in Amarillo.

EVA M. GARRETT

Eva M. Garrett, 90, of Duncan, Okla., a former Pampa resident, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 1997, at Duncan. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa with the Rev. John Glover, associate pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Garrett was born May 10, 1906, at Wayne, Indian Territory, Okla., to Nathaniel and Effie Mae Manor. She married William Homer Garrett on Jan. 20, 1924. He died Sept. 25, 1961. She had been a Skellytown resident from 1948 until moving to Pampa in 1961. She had been a Duncan, Okla., resident since 1990. She was a homemaker and attended Immanuel Baptist Church at Duncan. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Pampa and had worked in the nursery for many years.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by a son, Bill Garrett, on Dec. 5, 1994.

Survivors include a son, A.G. "Salty" Garrett of Duncan, five sisters, Fern Wilson of California, Winnie Scott of Tecumseh, Okla., Joyce Dixon of Tulsa, Okla., Joann Farris of Danville, Ill., and Fran Clader of Fort Worth; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until noon Tuesday at the funeral home.

JIM HEFLEY

ELECTRA — Jim Hefley, 62, brother of a Shamrock resident, died Feb. 7, 1997. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Southside Church of Christ. Burial was to be in Electra Memorial Park under the direction of Dutton Funeral Home.

Mr. Hefley was born at Twitty. He married Patsy Emmons in 1960 at Lubbock. He had been an Electra resident for 27 years, moving from Weatherford, Okla. He attended Texas Tech University and Southwestern Oklahoma State University, receiving a pharmaceutical degree from SOSU in 1969. He formerly owned Goldsmith's Drugstore.

He was a member of the American Quarter Horse Association and the Church of Christ. He was past president of the Electra Riding Club and the Electra Rotary Club in the early 1970s.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy; three sons, Jay Hefley of Wichita Falls, Russell Hefley of Binghampton, N.Y., and Kendall Hefley of Rowlett; a sister, Peggy Agan of Salado; two brothers, Billy Hefley of Shamrock and J.R. Hefley of Twitty; and two grandchildren.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Arthur's Grain, of Pampa:

Wheat	4.10		
Milo	1.90		
Corn	4.80		

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds could have traded at the time of compilation:

Occidental	25 3/8	up 1/8
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The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:

Magellan	83 7/8	
SPS	18 1/2	
Puritan	18 1/2	

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:

Amoco	86 1/8	dn 1/4
Arco	128 3/8	dn 1/8
Cabot	23 1/4	up 1/4
Cabot O&G	17 1/8	dn 1/8
Chesley	65 7/8	up 1/8
Energy	59 1/4	up 1/4
Energy/AE A	51 1/4	up 1/4
Enron	41 1/8	up 1/8
Halliburton	68 1/2	NC
Ingersoll Rand	49 1/8	up 1/4
KSE	1 1/4	NC
Kroger	67 1/8	dn 1/8
Limited	38 1/8	up 1/2
Mapco	54	up 1/8
McDonald's	46	up 5/8
Merill	128 7/8	dn 3/8
New Atmos	24	NC
Parker & Parsley	32	dn 5/8
Permar	47 1/2	NC
Phillips	44	up 1/8
SLB	104 5/8	dn 1/8
SPS	35 7/8	up 1/4
Tenneco	99 1/4	up 5/8
Texas	102	NC
Ultramar	29 3/4	NC
Wal-Mart	24 1/4	up 1/8
New York Gold	340 5/8	
Silver	4 88	
West Texas Crude	22 60	

Obituaries

JESSIE MORGAN HOWELL

Jessie Morgan Howell, 71, of Pampa, died Sunday, Feb. 9, 1997. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Howell was born May 15, 1925, in Glasscock County, Ga. He married Mary Frances Carey on May 30, 1948, at Cadley, Ga. He had been a Pampa resident since 1982. He retired from the military after 24 years of service, having served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He achieved the rank of HMC, working on the Health Benefits Council to the U.S. government. He had worked at Kips Chevron for the past 10 years. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Frances, of the home; three daughters, Kathryn L. Tennant, Karen L. Howell and Kirsten L. Sturgill, all of Pampa; two sons, Ronald J. Howell of Pampa and David A. Howell of Inman, S.C.; three sisters, Janie Evans of Warrington, Ga., Naomia Edmonds of Thompson, Ga., and Ila Mae Stone of Gray Court, S.C.; and six grandchildren.

RUBY LEE KITCHENS

SILVERTON — Ruby Lee Kitchens, 74, of Silvertown, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 1997, at Lockney. Services were to be at 3 p.m. today in Silvertown Church of Christ with Ted Kingery and J.D. Nance officiating. Burial will be in Silvertown Cemetery under the direction of Myers-Long Funeral Directors of Silvertown.

Mrs. Kitchens was born Oct. 31, 1922, in Briscoe County, Texas. She married Louie Kitchens on Dec. 22, 1940, in Briscoe County. She was active in 4-H Club and Home Demonstration Club and was a member of Silvertown Church of Christ. She enjoyed cooking and gardening.

Survivors include her husband, Louie, of Silvertown; a son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Carolyn Kitchens of Silvertown; her mother, Zoe Steele of Lubbock; a sister, Polly Jarrett of Lubbock; five grandchildren, Brandon Kitchens of Pampa, Jana and Rick Beesinger of Abilene and Heather and Chad Davis of Abilene; and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials to be Silverton Volunteer Ambulance Service or to a favorite charity.

TRUMAN CARTER KITCHENS JR.

TAHOKA — Truman Carter Kitchens Jr., 75, a former Pampa resident, died Sunday, Feb. 9, 1997, at Lynn County Hospital. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday in Memory Gardens Cemetery at Pampa with the Rev. Marvin Gregory, pastor of First Methodist Church at Tahoka, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of White Funeral Home of Tahoka.

Mr. Kitchens was born Aug. 1, 1921, at Desdemona, Texas. He attended Pampa schools. He married Doris Marie McCord on Jan. 11, 1946, at Pampa; she died May 24, 1996. He had been a Tahoka resident since 1995, moving from Spearman. He had been a Spearman resident for 38 years. He was a pumper for Amoco Production Company, retiring in 1984. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during World War II. He attended First Methodist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Sandra Williamson of Tulsa, Okla., and Barbara Jaquess of Tahoka; three sisters, Faye Jenks of Austin, Billie Laramore of Pampa and Mary Conine of Denison; a brother, Nelson Kitchens of Pampa; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrest for the 40-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

SUNDAY, Feb. 9

The Taylor Mart at 600 E. Frederic reported a theft of a pack of cigarettes.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of Sloan. Approximately \$50 damage was done to a window.

Arrests

Thomas Joseph Carpenter, 31, 427 1/2 N. Russell, was arrested on a capias warrant. He paid his fine and was released.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents and arrests for 40-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

SUNDAY, Feb. 9

Gray County deputies responded to a report of harassment at Windy Acres.

Gray County deputies responded to Hall County for an agency assist.

Arrests

Ronald Jay Jones, 31, Needles, Calif., was arrested on a charge of probation violation in Dallas County. He remains in custody.

Benito Lopez, 18, 736 E. Craven, was arrested on a warrant from Hall County.

Calendar of events

TOASTMASTERS

Smooth Talkers and Knee Knockers Toastmasters Club meets 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the dining room of Coronado Inn. For more information, call Daniel Silva at 669-6351 or Gary Casebier at 665-4212.

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON

Clean Air Al-Anon will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-0407 or 669-3988.

RED CROSS DISASTER CLASSES

The Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross will be holding disaster classes every Tuesday evening from Jan. 28 through March. The classes, held at the Red Cross office at 108 N. Russell, begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public. For more information, call 669-7121.

SENIOR PROM MEETING

An organizational meeting for the 1997 Pampa High School senior prom will be held at 8:15 Tuesday, Feb. 11, in the PHS library. All parents of seniors are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Ron or Katie Easley at 665-0508.

Roddenberry's, Leary's ashes to be in space

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's the final frontier for "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry. For LSD guru Timothy Leary, it may be his strangest trip.

Their ashes were loaded on a rocket strapped to the wing of a jet Sunday that left California for Spain. The next destination: space.

Their remains were among those of 24 people packed in lipstick-sized capsules and loaded into a metal canister by the newly formed Houston-based Celestis Inc.

The others include space physicist Gerard O'Neill, rocket scientist Krafft Ehrliche and a 4-year-old Japanese boy.

Their families each paid \$4,800 for the service, which included a 25-character inscription of their choice on the small capsule to be launched next month.

The enterprising venture seemed a perfect final trip for Roddenberry, who sought to take TV viewers and filmgoers to "the final frontier" on the show about outer space.

"Who better deserves to go into space than Gene Roddenberry?" his widow, Majel Barrett-Roddenberry, said Sunday. "He would want a chance to be part of the space industry."

Roddenberry died in 1991 and was cremated, but his wife wasn't sure what to do with his remains and neither scattered nor buried them. NASA took a vial of the ashes on a space shuttle mission.

Leary urged people to alter their consciousness through another kind of trip: psychedelic drug use. He made his own decision on the space flight when he learned of the idea shortly before his death at age 75 last year.

Celestis sent a company videotape and their kit, which includes a beaker, a funnel, a small scoop and two test tube-sized containers — one as a backup — designed to hold 7 grams of ashes.

Accidents

The Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents for the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

FRIDAY, Feb. 7

A 1989 GMC Sierra pickup driven by Marie Ann Williams, 18, 317 N. Starkweather, and a 1982 Jeep Scrambler driven by Casey Nicole Andreen, 16, 1708 Dogwood, collided in the 1200 block of North Hobart. Williams was cited for failure to yield right of way and no insurance.

SATURDAY, Feb. 8

A 1995 Mitsubishi driven by Jennifer Renee Winegart, 21, 112 N. Nelson, and a 1996 Mercury Sable driven by Ronald Eugene Ebel, 37, 2302 Fir, collided in the 1400 block of North Hobart. Winegart was cited for following too closely. Ebel was cited for no liability insurance.

Fires

Pampa Fire Department reported the following incidents for the 40-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

SATURDAY, Feb. 8

8 p.m. — Two units and three personnel responded to 410 S. Starkweather on a medical assist.

9:44 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to 1 Medical Plaza for a medical standby.

SUNDAY, Feb. 9

12:04 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 1341 Christine on a motor vehicle accident.

6:50 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 1112 Terry on a medical assist.

8:22 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 2125 N. Christy on a carbon monoxide alarm.



Father Joe E. Blixenman, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, presents Dr. Megan Walsh with a certificate naming her a 1997 NCEA Catholic Elementary School Distinguished Graduate.

Dr. Walsh honored as distinguished Catholic elementary school graduate

St. Vincent Catholic School, in cooperation with the National Catholic Education Association, has named Dr. Megan Walsh of Pampa a 1997 NCEA Catholic Elementary School Distinguished Graduate.

The award goes to Dr. Walsh for outstanding personal and professional achievements. She graduated from St. Vincent Catholic School in 1975. She received her medical degree in pediatrics from the University of Colorado.

Dr. Walsh devotes her time and talents to her profession as a pediatrician and to the

Pampa community.

She is chairman of Quality Assurance at Columbia Medical Center of Pampa and volunteers at the Public Health Clinic. She is a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Gray County Latch Key board, Tralee Crisis Center, Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Chi Sorority and Altrusa International of Pampa.

Dr. Walsh has this to say about Catholic education: "Catholic education combines spiritual motivation with educational excellence and lends to encouragement of well-rounded students with strong positive values."

Ambulance

Rural/Metro reported the following calls for the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

SATURDAY, Feb. 8

9:43 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 600 block of South Reid on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

1:55 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Highway 60 and Gray 12 on a motor vehicle accident. Two patients were transported to Columbia Medical Center.

2:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of North Hobart on motor vehicle accident. Two patients were transported to Columbia Medical Center.

7:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of South Starkweather on a medical assist and transported one patient to Columbia Medical Center.

SUNDAY, Feb. 9

7:17 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of Hamilton on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

12:06 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of Mary Ellen on a motor vehicle accident. No one was transported.

6:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Terry on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

10:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of Davis on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

10:43 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing home on a medical assist and transported one patient to Columbia Medical Center.

City briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisements.

TAX SERVICE: Glenda Brownlee, 625 Whittenburg, Borger — 274-2142 or 800-600-2670. Adv.

BACON AND PANCAKES, all trimmings, St. Matthews Parish Hall, 727 W. Browning, Tuesday 11th, 5-8 p.m. Adults \$4, preschool free. Adv.

INCOME TAX PREPARATION - Wm. L. Arthur, 1103 E. Harvester, 669-3928. Adv.

NOMINATION FORMS - PHS Harvester Hall of Fame available at all schools, Lovett, and Chamber. Due February 28. Adv.

VALENTINE'S DAY: Bring your sweetheart to the Club Biarritz for a candle light dinner and champagne, featuring Beef Wellington, steaks or chicken and special dessert. Also offering special hotel rates for those having dinner with us. Call 669-2506 for reservations. Adv.

HEART SALE at All Its Charm through February 15th. 109 W. Francis. Adv.

MASSAGE THERAPY Valentin's Special Gift Certificate, call Cathy Potter 669-0013, Susan Fisher 669-0033. Adv.

ONION SETS are in, white bermuda and 1015Y Super-sweets. Watson's Feed & Garden, Hwy. 60 East, 665-4189. Adv.

ACT I presents "Love Letters", a Valentine's Day Special Dinner - readers Theater, Friday, February 14th, 7:30 p.m. at Chaney's, 716 W. Foster. \$6 dinner and \$7 for show (\$13 per person). Act I season ticket holders - \$6 for dinner. Seating is limited, make reservations now! 665-3710. Adv.

TIME To apply pre-emergent weed and feed. Kills the weeds before they come up, available at Watson's Feed & Garden. Hwy. 60 East. Adv.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight, cloudy with a low near 30 and southeasterly winds 5-10 mph. Tuesday, mostly cloudy with a high in the mid 50s and southerly winds 10-20 mph. Tuesday night, cloudy with a low near 30 and a chance of rain or snow. Sunday's high was 44; the overnight low was 21.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Panhandle: Becoming cloudy. Lows from low to upper 20s. Tuesday, mostly cloudy with highs in upper 40s to mid 50s. South Plains: Tonight, increasing clouds. Low in upper 20s to mid 30s. Tuesday, mostly cloudy. Highs 50-55.

North Texas — Tonight, mostly

clear. Low clouds forming late in the west, with fog developing late in the east. Lows 29 to 39. Tuesday, mostly cloudy west. Morning fog in the east, becoming partly cloudy. Highs 51 to 58.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, cloudy with patchy dense fog and cool. Lows near 40. Tuesday, cloudy with patchy dense morning fog and a slight chance of rain west. Highs in upper 50s.

Upper Coast: Tonight, fair and cold. Lows in upper 30s inland to mid 40s coast. Tuesday, mostly sunny with increasing clouds late in the day. Highs near 60 inland to mid 50s coast. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of light rain or drizzle. Lows near 50. Tuesday,

mostly cloudy and breezy with a slight chance of showers. Highs near 60 coast to mid 60s inland.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight, areas of low cloudiness and fog developing southeast by midnight. Mostly fair skies north and west. Lows from 5 to 25 mountains and northwest with 20s to mid 30s at lower elevations. Tuesday, increasing cloudiness west and north with mostly cloudy skies southeast. A slight chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms western third with a few showers southeast. Highs in mid 30s to near 50 mountains and northwest with 50s to low 60s elsewhere.

Oklahoma — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the 20s. Tuesday, increasing cloudiness. Highs upper 40s to upper 50s.

Columbia faces even tougher reprimand from administration

WASHINGTON (AP) — First the United States put his country on a list of pariah nations that include some of the world's most corrupt dictators. Then it revoked his visa, making him and Fidel Castro the only Western Hemisphere leaders barred from visiting the United States at will.

Now Colombian President Ernesto Samper — accused of accepting millions of dollars from the Cali drug cartel — faces the likelihood of an even tougher reprimand from the Clinton administration.

On March 1, the United States will decide whether to "decertify" Colombia as an ally in the drug war for the second year in a row. Such a move would affirm the country's outcast status and set the stage for trade sanctions.

Most of the cocaine and a growing portion of the heroin consumed in the United States comes from Colombia.

"There is every reason to believe that Samper has been complicit with international criminals," White House drug policy director Barry McCaffrey said in an interview with The Associated Press. "The time for talking is over. We need to see results."

Colombian officials, coffee producers, flower growers, bankers and others are coming to Washington in an attempt to convince U.S. officials that Samper and Colombia deserve a second chance.

"We have had many successes which show a generalized commitment from the ... government and the state in the fight against narco-trafficking," said Juan Carlos Esguerra, Colombia's ambassador-designate to the United States.

But Colombia's hopes of getting certified faded after two powerful drug dealers — brothers Gilberto and Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela — received prison terms of only five years last month.

U.S. officials say the flow of illicit narcotics leaving Colombia continues unabated despite the jailing of the country's top drug lords and the eradication of thousands of acres of coca crops. McCaffrey noted that cocaine seizures in Colombia were down last year, and production of coca leaf, cocaine's raw material, was up.

"Our short-term relations with Colombia will be dominated by the drug issue," the retired Army general said.

For Colombia, the first democracy ever to be fully decertified as a drug-war ally, it is a matter of dollars and cents. Decertification means less American aid and the loss of U.S. support in multilateral lending institutions.

So far, Washington has refrained from imposing trade sanctions, instead creating a blacklist of 359 alleged Colombian front companies with whom U.S. firms are forbidden to do business.

This year, the administration is facing growing calls to accompany decertification with sanctions, especially from Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., Samper's most vocal critic in Washington.

Some U.S. officials argue that further isolating Samper will hurt honest Colombians who have achieved some success in fighting drug traffickers, as well as alienate U.S. allies in the rest of Latin America.

But others say that reducing the pressure sends a message of American acquiescence in Colombia's failure to check a corrupt leader.

After evidence emerged that Samper knowingly accepted \$6 million from the Cali gang in the 1994 election campaign — evidence that included the sworn testimony of two senior aides — a Colombian Congress infiltrated by drug interests absolved the president of all charges.

Homebound Seniors Project



Members of Altrusa International Inc. are busy filling gift bags and making final plans for their new Homebound Seniors Project. The main purpose of the project is to draw attention to Pampa's homebound citizens and let them know they are important and have not been forgotten. Showing some of the gift bags are, from left, are Altrusa members Donna Stephenson, Mary Wilson and Traci Stackhouse.

(Special photo)

Classroom stress prompts educators to look for new career opportunities

FORT WORTH (AP) — At school, they're hit in the face, harassed in the hallways and worried about making it through class.

They're not the students. Teachers, under stress from disruptive students and sometimes combative parents, are thinking more often about leaving their profession. Some have already bailed out.

The final insult in Scott Tuomey's classroom career came the day the Fort Worth science teacher was poked in the face by an angry grandmother because of a child's lost textbook.

"There's a general lack of respect for teachers," said Tuomey, a swim coach who left Morningside Middle School after five years in the science lab. "I loved teaching. I have moments now when I think about throwing everything away and going back.

Then I have flashes of reason."

Although surveys have identified more teachers dissatisfied with their careers, one educator is now studying job turnover.

"Teacher attrition is a hot topic," Diane Beltz told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "It's no longer salary that drives them out. It's paperwork. Red tape. They are frustrated with parents and the community. They are feeling devalued. That leads to burnout. Morale sinks."

The Arlington second-grade teacher is surveying Tarrant County teachers for a master's thesis from the University of North Texas on teacher turnover.

"A lot of people don't look at teachers as professionals," said Ms. Beltz, 29, adding that most teaching jobs require a college degree. "Society has placed such high demands on teachers, yet

given them such little respect."

Fifty of the 90 vacancies in the Fort Worth Independent School District haven't been filled since the school year started for lack of qualified applicants, according to J.D. Shipp, assistant superintendent for personnel.

The district employs 4,259 teachers.

One-third of public school teachers nationwide quit in the first three years, with a growing number citing stresses from unanticipated demands in and beyond the classroom, according to "Teaching for America's Future," a September report of the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future.

Cheryl Walz, a former Fort Worth PTA president, disagreed that parents are a problem.

"Most parents are supportive and respectful of the teachers, but there's always going to be a few who are not," she said.

Convicted murderer volunteers for execution

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Frances Kunkel remembers how her youngest daughter, Mary Beth, would meet her boyfriend for lunch at a Lockheed plant in Kingsville, their hometown.

"I wish now she never went there," Mrs. Kunkel says.

The regular visits by the 19-year-old former high school homecoming queen captured the attention of one of her boyfriend's co-workers, Richard Brimage Jr., an electrician and a convict on parole for forgery.

That was 1987. This evening, Brimage, now 41, is set to be executed for killing Mary Beth Kunkel.

"She used to take lunch to her boyfriend and he (Brimage) got jealous," Mrs. Kunkel says.

Brimage has ordered that no

appeals be filed on his behalf, virtually guaranteeing he will become the 108th Texas inmate to receive lethal injection since the state resumed executions in 1982.

Brimage would be the first this year and just the fourth since 1995 because a legal challenge — recently rejected by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals — slowed the pace of capital punishment in the state.

Court records indicate Brimage lured Miss Kunkel to his parents' house Oct. 5, 1987, under the pretext he had some tools to take to her boyfriend. Once inside the house — empty because his parents were away on vacation — he raped her. When she resisted, he injected her with cocaine.

Testimony showed the fresh-

man at what then was Texas A&I University — now Texas A&M University at Kingsville — died either of strangulation or by suffocation from a sock jammed down her throat.

Then he bound her body and stuffed it into the trunk of a car belonging to his parents.

Two days later, Brimage's uncle, state District Judge Max Bennett of Nueces County, entered the home after Brimage became a suspect. Court records show Bennett reported he had found cut-up women's clothing and evidence of a violent struggle and told police they needed to enter the house.

They subsequently found her body in the car parked in the garage.

Other testimony showed Miss Kunkel's car was found near Brimage's house. She had been observed the morning of her disappearance near his house and was wearing a red blouse when last seen. A suitcase Brimage abandoned at a motel contained what appeared to be a piece cut from a red blouse, which also appeared to be stained with blood.

Wilson School gets Regional Alliance grant

CANYON — Area students will create a kid-sized mini mall and a hot-air balloon as part of a science and mathematics project this year.

Last semester, Dr. Nella Bea Anderson, West Texas A&M University assistant professor of education, helped organize a Regional Alliance for Science, Engineering and Mathematics for Students with Disabilities (RASEM) conference at WTAMU. Conference sessions on how to write a RASEM grant request paid off last month as five Panhandle schools were awarded grant money for projects that incorporate math, science and engineering.

A grant for \$2,586 was awarded to Woodrow Wilson Elementary School in Pampa. Debbie Robertson, principal at the school, said students will use computer programs to construct a miniature version of a hot-air balloon using math, science and engineering skills. Once built, the balloon should fly as a real hot-air balloon would.

Hart Elementary School received a \$2,500 grant that will be used to create its version of a mini mall. Students will incorporate engineering skills to build the four booths that make up the mini mall, according to Nenaida De La Fuente, a special education resource teacher.

Palo Duro High School in Amarillo will use its \$2,500 grant to construct a small boat, which will require students to incorporate math formulas. The boat, according to Debbie Nance, lead science teacher, will hold one person who will navigate it across a swimming pool.

Students at Robert E. Lee Elementary School in Amarillo will use their \$2,055 grant to research plants through experimentation and will conduct other research for the project through the Internet, Principal Carolyn Parker said.

Sleepy Hollow Elementary School in Amarillo received a \$2,300 grant and will conduct experimentation with plants, ac-

ording to Principal Doneice Ray, Anderson, the coordinator of the Northwest Texas Region for the RASEM Teacher Mini-grant Project, will provide assistance to the five schools. Anderson refers the teachers to WTAMU math, science and engineering faculty members if the teachers need advice relating to their project.

"WTAMU is in collaboration with New Mexico State University (NMSU) to acquire funding through RASEM for area teachers," Anderson said. "The five Panhandle schools that received mini-grants are doing various projects that will give students with disabilities more opportunities to learn about math, science and engineering."

RASEM, through NMSU, was awarded a National Science Foundation Grant to be distributed to public schools throughout its surrounding area, which includes the Texas Panhandle.

For more information about the school projects, contact Anderson at (806) 656-2906.

World briefs

Thousands gather to pray before 'weeping' icon

KYKKO MOUNTAIN, Cyprus (AP) — Thousands of pilgrims led by the head of Cyprus' Greek Orthodox Church gathered Sunday at a mountain monastery to pray before an icon of the Virgin Mary and the child Jesus that reportedly has begun to weep.

Many Greek Cypriots regard the 400-year-old icon's tears both as a miracle and a sign from God that a major calamity is impending.

Monks at the 11th-century Kykko Monastery first reported last weekend that they noticed tears forming in the eyes of both the Virgin and Jesus and flowing slowly down the icon.

Hundreds of pilgrims have since traveled to the monastery, but Sunday's congregation, estimated at 2,000, was by far the biggest in a single day. More than 20,000 stopped at the icon throughout the day, said Nikiforos, the monastery's abbot.

The F/A-18D Hornet had been on a routine training mission over Korea with another jet when it crashed Sunday into waters off Taean, 60 miles southwest of Seoul.

U.S. military officials identified the missing soldiers as pilot Capt. Mark R. Nickles, 29, of Mesa, Ariz., and weapons and sensors officer Maj. Danny A. D'Erredita, 38, of Syracuse, N.Y.

The crash occurred in relatively clear weather, and the second jet reported seeing no parachutes or rafts. The cause of the crash was not immediately known.

Yeltsin sends security chief to inauguration

MOSCOW (AP) — Working from his country residence outside Moscow, President Boris

Yeltsin today instructed his national security chief to attend the presidential inauguration in Chechnya.

Yeltsin said Ivan Rybkin, secretary of the presidential Security Council, would be his personal envoy Wednesday when Aslan Maskhadov is sworn in as president of the breakaway republic.

The Russian president also called on the government to earmark funds to restore Chechnya's ruined hospitals and schools and pay pensions and other social benefits to the region, which was devastated by a 1994-1996 war between Russian troops and Chechen separatists.

The conciliatory moves, announced by the presidential press service, were seen as an part of an effort to rebuild relations with Chechnya.

South Korea searches for U.S. Marines after plane crash

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — With helicopters and ships, South Korean soldiers searched today for two U.S. Marines whose jet crashed in the Yellow Sea between South Korea and China.

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Viewpoints

THE PAMPA NEWS

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS
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Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Hypocrisy over Jones lawsuit

Whether or not the Supreme Court delays Paula Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit against the president, her case spotlights the hypocrisy of the feminist movement and the national media.

"Women don't lie about sexual harassment" was a constant feminist refrain when Anita Hill charged Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas with sexual harassment during the Bush administration. The same feminists — now silent in the face of Paula Jones' far more serious allegations about Bill Clinton — have apparently revised that philosophy. Women don't lie about sexual harassment, feminists might now say, unless those women have big hair, a low paying job and are targeting a Democratic president. Women who accuse liberal politicians should not only be ignored, but apparently should be savaged as "trailer-park trash."

Not all liberals, however, discount Jones' testimony simply because she is from a working-class background. Attorney Stuart Taylor Jr., a liberal who had previously written an account critical of Jones, wrote a lengthy analysis of the Jones case in the November issue of *The American Lawyer*. His article questions not only the president's defense, but the national media's reluctance to fairly cover the issue.

Jones' evidence includes clear proof, scattered through the public record, that then-governor Clinton's state trooper-bodyguard interrupted the then-24-year-old state employee on the job on May 8, 1991, and took her to meet Clinton — the boss of Jones' boss — alone in an upstairs suite at Little Rock's Excelsior Hotel, for the apparent purpose of sexual dalliance. The evidence also includes strongly corroborative statements made to me by two of Jones' friends, complete with tellingly detailed, seamy specifics, Taylor wrote.

The media have echoed the administration's carefully orchestrated campaign to smear Jones, while ignoring the issues raised by Taylor's article. They've also emphasized that Jones was supported by right-wing Clinton detractors who were using her to get at the president.

There's some truth in that statement. But it is strange that the media rarely mentioned that Hill's charges against Thomas were bolstered by an assortment of left-wingers who saw it as an opportunity to scuttle a conservative Supreme Court nominee.

"What the Hill-Thomas and Jones-Clinton episodes have in common is that each of them prompted a rush to judgment by people on both sides of the ideological divide whose conclusions were derived not from evidence, but from ideological bias," Taylor wrote.

But because feminists promoted Hill or conservatives support Jones doesn't in itself, undermine the veracity of the claims. Partisans will certainly choose their sides based on reasons other than the evidence. But the national media should attempt to fairly dissect the facts, not simply cheer for the side that helps the liberal cause.

Based on the evidence, Taylor concludes that Jones has a strong and serious case. It is understandable, therefore, why the president's attorneys are so anxious to have the matter delayed until after his term is completed.

It will be several months before we know when Jones will get her day in court, but it is never too late for the media to give the case the serious and in-depth coverage that it deserves.

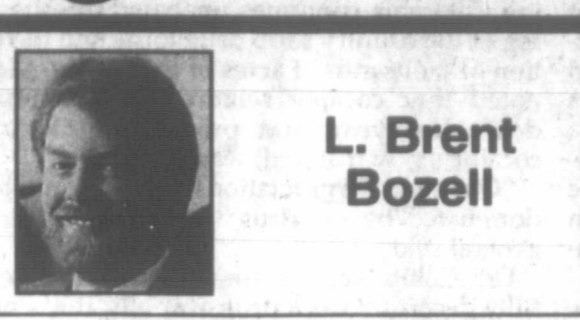
Muckraking or muckfaking?

What do you call it when an undercover reporter working for a national television network, investigating the sanitation of a grocery store with a hidden camera, films a dirty meat slicer and then mutters obscenities when an employee ruins the fun and cleans it up? Or when, posing as a worker in the store's meat department, puts what the producer knows to be spoiled chicken on sale and then instructs a cameraman to film it? Or when the producer's network airs footage of an employee talking about cooking out-of-date chicken, but edits out the part where she says her manager instructed her to throw the chicken away?

"Time honored," "valuable, important," "basically right" is how you defend the tactics of ABC's *Prime Time Live* and its report on Food Lion, which report has earned the network a \$5.5 million fine by a jury that was obviously repulsed by the shoddy state of journalism today.

In a nutshell, in 1994, ABC planted two producers (with fake credentials provided by the United Food and Commercial Workers union, which has publicly vowed to destroy the right-to-work Food Lion grocery chain.) The ten minute national television story purported to show serious sanitation problems at Food Lion; Food Lion responded with a lawsuit and in the discovery phase was able to acquire the 45 hours of footage ABC had compiled undercover, footage that showed the producers actually staging events in order to show Food Lion in the worst possible light. The food chain chose not to sue for libel — proving malice is next to impossible — instead opting to charge the network with fraud and trespassing. A jury agreed with the complaint and slapped the multi-million dollar fine on ABC.

In the wake of yet another public embarrassment, journalists are circling the wagons.



L. Brent Bozell

Newsweek's Eleanor Clift told *McLaughlin Group* viewers that the Food Lion story was "accurate" and in the "tradition of muckraking in this country." For NPR's Nina Totenberg, on *Inside Washington*, it was an example of "a time-honored way of getting at a story you can't get otherwise." It was "a very valuable, important story," according to *Time* magazine Managing Editor Walter Isaacson. *Newsweek's* Evan Thomas said, "For the press it was a very scary verdict (because) the story was basically right." *The Washington Post's* Juan Williams cited the story as an example of "good journalism." Reporters repeatedly — and disingenuously — stated that since Food Lion didn't sue for libel, it wasn't challenging the accuracy of the story.

Thomas McArdle of *Investor's Business Daily* reviewed the outtake footage for *National Review* and has found even more troubling things which these commentators don't mention. For example: "For some reason, (ABC producer) Dale has left the store at 9:30 am. The videotape is blacked out, but the audio can be heard clearly. 'I'm gonna lose my job,' she nervously tells one of the technicians. Right before the tape cuts off, the technician is heard telling her, 'throw that tape away.' Food Lion is convinced that what Mrs. Dale had just

been doing was removing a 10-inch wire from the water heater to make it impossible to clean the store's meat department that day." To wit: A plumber has testified that the heater had been vandalized.

Furthermore, McArdle asks that "if ABC had nothing to hide, why did it originally leave out key segments of the tapes when ordered to provide Food Lion with copies? Why did the copies provided by ABC, which owns the best in high-tech video equipment, seem to be copies of copies of copies, at least one segment re-recorded on used tape? Why were multiple 'cutting signatures' found on the tapes?"

Good questions. But few in the supposedly skeptical world of journalism seem to care to seek the answers.

That television newsmagazine shows would doctor the evidence to tell a preconceived story isn't really news: Our eyes should have been opened to these "journalists" when *Dateline NBC* rigged a GM truck to explode a few years ago. The new twist in the story is the way journalists are defending the dirty muckraking practices of ABC. Those who defend the use of hidden cameras would be more credible if they were willing to criticize their misuse. But in the face of overwhelming evidence, many journalists still can't seem to bring themselves to do it. It is this form of arrogance, this holier-than-thou elitism that rates journalists on par with used car dealers on the credibility scale in the eyes of the American public.

Rather than defend the indefensible, sober journalists out to be asking themselves a serious question: What do we do to regain public trust? A first step is easy.

Acknowledge, unwaveringly, that what ABC did was wrong.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Monday, Feb. 10, the 41st day of 1997. There are 324 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Feb. 10, 1949, Arthur Miller's play "Death of a Salesman" opened at Broadway's Morosco Theater.

On this date:
In 1763, France ceded Canada to England under the Treaty of Paris, which ended the French and Indian War.

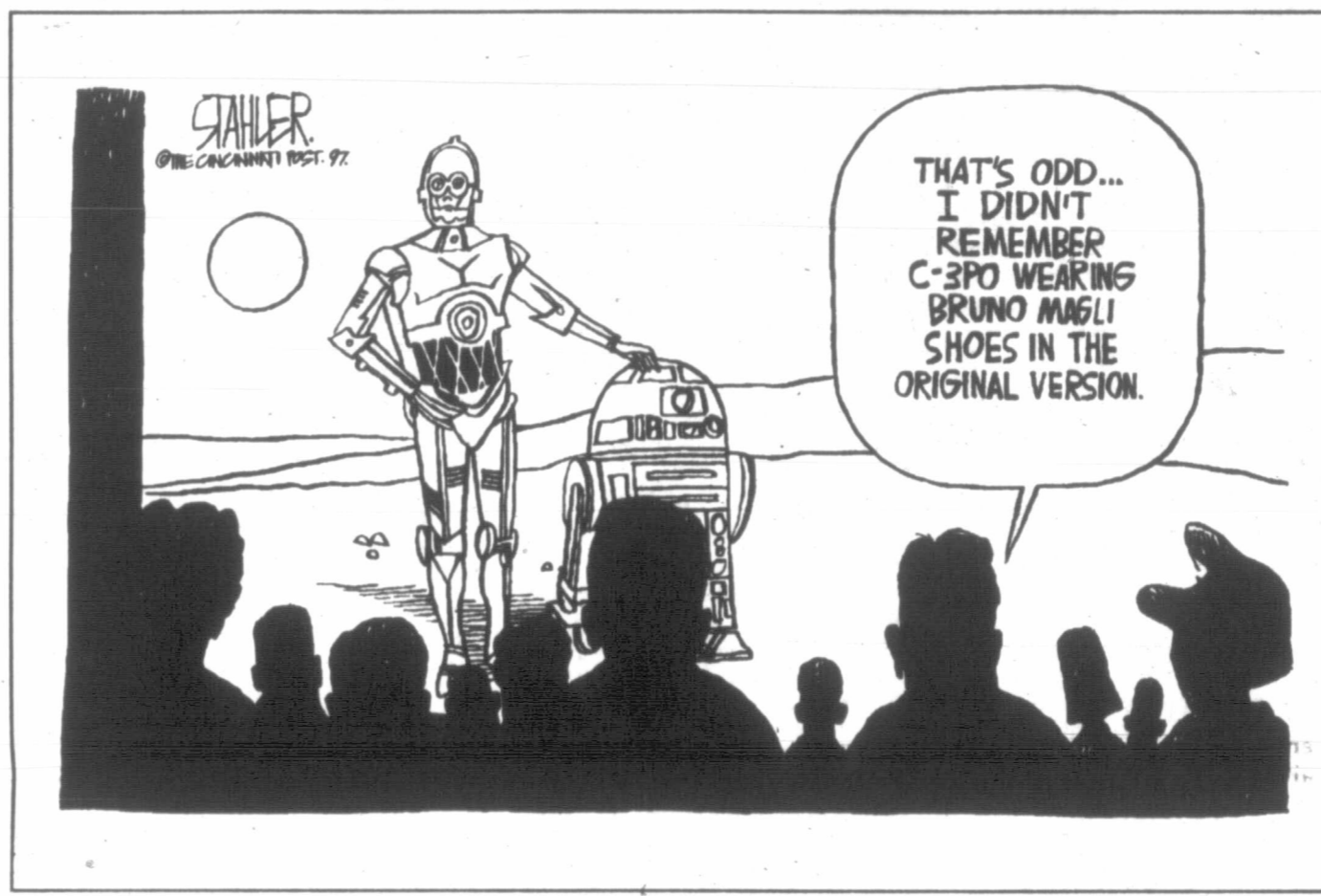
In 1840, Britain's Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

In 1846, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Mormons, began an exodus to the west from Illinois.

In 1863, showman P.T. Barnum staged the wedding of General Tom Thumb and Mercy Lavinia Warren — both midgets — in New York City.

In 1893, comedian Jimmy Durante was born in New York City.

In 1933, the first singing telegram was introduced by the Postal Telegram Company in New York.



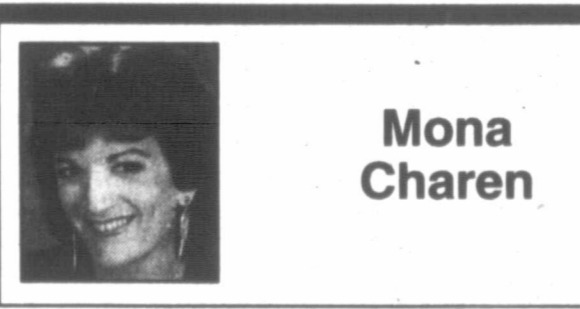
Panel not sold on mammograms

An expert panel was asked by the National Institutes of Health to provide a recommendation: Should women in their 40s get routine mammograms?

At the end of last month, the panel held a press conference to release its recommendation. The science, said the doctors and other experts, offers no clear guidance. While there is no controversy that mammograms every year or two for women in their 50s are beneficial (decreasing by 30 percent the likelihood of dying of breast cancer), the data for mammograms on younger women are inconclusive.

Accordingly, concluded the panel, women in their 40s, in consultation with their doctors, will have to make their own decisions. Pretty tame stuff, right? Wrong. The recommendation, which everyone assumed would go the other way, was greeted with outrage and fury by the assembled physicians and interested observers. Members of the panel were called frauds and worse. They were accused of condemning thousands of American women to death. The report and its "surprising" conclusions led the evening news.

What goes on here? Well, first, there is the matter of money. Mammography is big business in the United States. Who has not been moved by the beautiful television commercials reciting that one in eleven of our "mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, grandmothers ..." will get breast cancer? The ads are disturbing but reassuring, too, conveying as they do the message that early detection is the key to survival. Medical centers and radiologists would like us to believe that.



Mona Charen

But the truth about mammograms is more complicated. According to the NIH panel, mammograms miss 25 percent of malignant tumors in women in their 40s, compared with ten percent in older women. This makes it more difficult to see tumors on X-rays. Moreover, if mammograms are done routinely on women in their 40s, the tests will produce 30 percent to 40 percent false-positive results — meaning needless anxiety and possible surgery and other medical interventions that are not without risk.

The truth is that we have all been over-terrified about breast cancer (heart disease kills more women) and oversold on mammograms. Alas, not every tumor starts small and can be rendered harmless by early detection. Some just explode seemingly overnight. Some are deadly no matter how early they are found. Others will not kill even if left untreated for years. I even heard a famous breast cancer specialist, Dr. Susan Love, express doubts about monthly self-examination. To be

sure, it does no harm, she said. But women who don't do it should not feel guilty.

The New York Times explained the risk/benefit balance by quoting Dr. Donald Berry, a Duke University statistician and member of the panel: At best, "98.5 percent of women in their 40s will get no benefit" from mammograms. "The other 1 1/2 percent have their lives extended by 200 days."

Of course, any individual woman who believes that she is at higher than average risk for breast cancer should go ahead and be X-rayed. The question the panel was addressing was whether it was, on balance, beneficial for everyone to be tested.

Why is it so difficult to be told to make our own decisions? When we're pregnant, we know that having amniocentesis carries the risk of causing a miscarriage. For women under the age of 35, the risk of conceiving a baby with Down's syndrome and other genetic problems is lower than the risk of losing the pregnancy because of the amnio. Accordingly, most women under 35 (except those with a family history of certain problems) forgo the test. Most women over 35 (except those who would not abort under any circumstances or who do not feel the need to prepare for the birth of a disabled child) have the test. Women make these decisions all the time, weighing benefit against risk. Why should it be different for mammograms?

Breast cancer is perhaps at its most ghastly when it strikes young women, particularly mothers. But the bleak truth that the panel confronted and its critics won't is that mammograms do not provide a sure-fire answer.

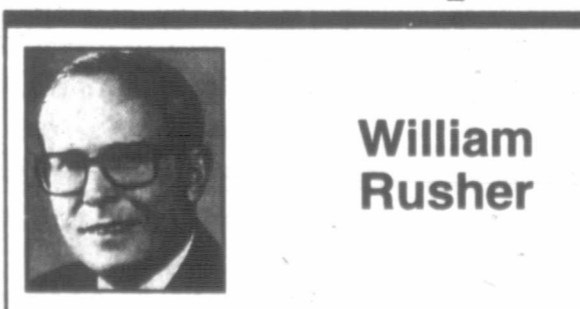
How desirable is bipartisanship?

Washington is currently in the midst of an orgy of avowed bipartisanship. What's more, it apparently thinks that's what the public wants. As President Clinton put it in his inaugural address, "The American people returned to office a president of one party and a Congress of another. Surely they did not do this to advance the politics of petty bickering and extreme partisanship they plainly deplore."

But if you think all this talk is actually going to result in an era of good feeling, I've got a bridge to the 21st century that I'd like to sell you. In the first place, it is by no means clear what the voters are aiming for when they elect a divided government. There can't be many people naive enough to put two scorpions in a bottle and then expect them to set up housekeeping.

On the contrary, if my mail is any indication, many people vote systematically for a president of one party and a Congress of the other in the frank hope that "they'll spend so much time fighting each other that they'll leave us alone." I have never regarded that as a particularly elevated political strategy, but there's no doubt that, up to a point, it works. The result is called "gridlock."

What's more, Clinton to the contrary notwithstanding, it was not "the American people" who chose to elect a Democratic president and a Republican Congress. The great majority of voters cast their ballots for presidential and congressional



William Rusher

candidates of the same party. According to one exit poll, only seven percent split their tickets. Whatever the actual figure, it was relatively small — yet enough to give Clinton his margin over Sen. Dole, and to keep the GOP in control of Congress.

There is no reason, then, to assume that the great majority of American voters are in a particularly lovey-dovey mood right now. On the contrary: The evidence seems clear that the American electorate is splitting right down the middle, and that the gap between the two halves is widening.

The trend was first evident in the 1994 congressional elections. Conservative Republicans, especially in the South, ousted many Democrats who qualified, in Democratic terms, as "moderates." The Democrats who held on to their seats were by and large liberals from northern urban constituencies well to the left of the national main-

stream. That is why the Democratic minorities in the House and Senate today are, broadly speaking, far more liberal than the country as a whole, and indeed far more liberal than the current version of Clinton.

Between 1994 and 1996, a large number of relatively conservative congressional Democrats either changed parties or retired from Congress. The result was simply to leave the Democratic caucuses even pinker than before. Meanwhile, several relatively liberal Republican senators similarly rode the tea leaves and decided not to run for re-election. Almost to a man (and woman), they were replaced on Election Day by Republicans well to their right. The Senate in particular, therefore, is distinctively more conservative than it was just two years ago.

The net result is that the 105th Congress is, ideologically speaking, divided even more sharply than the 104th, and far more so than any other Congress in recent times.

Moreover, don't lose sight of the fact that this sharp division simply reflects the sharp division between the voting blocs that sent these people to Congress to represent them.

If Mr. Clinton could clone himself, he would no doubt try to sit on both sides of the fence, as he did at the Army-Navy game. But, since he is just one person, he has been trying for about a year now to do the splits. No wonder he longs for bipartisanship!

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736
- State Sen. Teel Bivins
Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
- U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry
Washington Address: 412 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
Washington Phone: (202) 225-3706
- U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison
Washington Address: 283 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Phone: (202) 224-5922
- U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm
Washington Address: 370 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934

Berry's World



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Notebook

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The Pampa 9th grade girls basketball team completed the 1996-97 season with a 13-8 record and third place in the district standings.

Pampa competed in the district tournament last weekend at Dumas and defeated Borger, 58-36.

Pampa team totals in the game were 31 rebounds, 25 steals, 12 assists and 12 of 17 free throw attempts. Team members are Teresa Brown, Candace Cathey, Emily Curtis, Jessica Conner, manager; LeVonne Evans, Mary Grace Fields, Anne Gaddis, Amanda Jenkins, Kristi Walling and Emily Waters.

HOCKEY

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Stars were skating on some tired legs Sunday night when they got a lift from an unlikely source.

Neal Broten, the oldest member of the team at 37 and the franchise's career scoring leader, scored with 43.1 seconds left in overtime to lift Dallas to a 2-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings.

The Stars were dragging in overtime after playing four games in five nights before Broten knocked in a rebound of Derian Hatcher's shot off the mask of Kings goalie Stephane Fiset.

The win gave Dallas a 3-1-0 record in its last four games and a 4-0-0 mark in its last four home games.

AUTO RACING

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Maybe it's the championship he won two years ago in NASCAR's truck series, but Mike Skinner doesn't act or sound like a Winston Cup rookie.

He will drive his first full season on NASCAR's premier stock car circuit as teammate to seven-time series champion Dale Earnhardt and part of team-owner Richard Childress' first two-car team.

But, as Skinner says, "I don't intimidate easily."

Skinner is a 39-year-old driver with 20 years of racing experience, including 15 Winston Cup races scattered over 11 years, who suddenly has made giant waves by winning the pole for the Daytona 500.

Surprising? Yes. Shocking? No.

"We're going into this season knowing we want to sit on a pole or two," Skinner explained. "We want to win a race. And we want to win the rookie of the year title. It won't be the end of the world if we don't reach these goals, but I feel like we can do it."

The first pole came a little sooner than even Skinner expected, with his fast lap Saturday of 189.813 mph on Daytona International Speedway's 2 1/2-mile oval beating all the big-name drivers.

"Richard said earlier (Saturday) that I could sit on the pole," Skinner said. "I said, 'Yeah, right!' I really didn't think we could. We were hoping for a top 10 start."

But Skinner is no stranger to the pole at Daytona. He took the top qualifying spot for last year's Daytona ARCA 200. Skinner finished third in that race.

Almost as surprising as Skinner's pole was the second-place run of Steve Grissom, who didn't even have a ride for the second half of last season.

Grissom, now in the Hedrick Racing seat previously occupied by Ricky Craven, turned a lap of 189.318 and briefly held the top spot until Skinner knocked him off.

Still, the top two qualifying positions are locked in for next Sunday's Daytona 500, while everyone else must wait until Thursday's Twin 125-mile qualifying races to see where they start — or even if they will start — in what is expected to be a 42-car lineup.

Marks fall as Rice leads East to All-Star win

CLEVELAND (AP) — Wilt Hondo and the Big O stood in the spotlight. Magic, Moses and the Big E waved to the adoring masses. The Pearl, Tiny and Dr. J-soaked in the cheers.

The best dunkers and dribblers, shooters and setup men, rebounders and rejectors — 50 years worth of them — threatened to turn the NBA All-Star game into an afterthought.

Then Glen Rice, Michael Jordan and 22 other stars from this era put on a memorable show that featured wonderful individual performances, eye-popping aerial maneuvers and a sensational comeback.

Rice broke two scoring records to win MVP honors, Jordan had the event's first triple-double, and the East rallied from a 23-point deficit to beat the West 132-120 Sunday.

"I was very nervous. I haven't been nervous in these situations in

a long time," said Jordan, who had 14 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists for his first triple-double since coming out of retirement 23 months ago.

"I set back and looked at all the great players who paved the road for myself and others who play today," the Chicago Bulls star said. "It's a great feeling to go out there and pay gratitude to them. I was in awe pretty much the whole time."

Jordan, himself one of the 50 greatest players ever, was introduced first for the emotion-packed halftime ceremony. He was followed by 46 others, as only Shaquille O'Neal, Jerry West and the late Pete Maravich didn't show.

Wilt Chamberlain entered Gund Arena and stood alongside former rival Bill Russell. Elgin Baylor and Julius Erving, high-flying predecessors to Jordan and today's even younger skywalkers, drew loud ovations from the crowd of 20,562. The lovefest continued for the likes

of Larry Bird and Magic Johnson, Isiah Thomas and George Mikan, and so on and so on.

Then halftime ended and Rice put on a show of his own.

The Charlotte sharpshooter scored a record 20 points in the third quarter and made it 24 in the second half for another All-Star game mark as the East completed the rally that began at the end of the first half.

Rice, an eighth-year forward, can't yet claim to be one of the top 50 players ever. But for one 11-minute stretch Sunday, he was the best hired gun in the world.

"It was a great event they had going out there," said Rice, who finished with 26 points. "It was enjoyable to look at the guys you've always admired. I think most of the guys were in awe, willing to step up and see what kind of path these guys had laid for us, trying to maintain that status." Rice did just that, hitting three 3-

pointers in a 49-second span early in the third quarter as the East pulled away. Jordan was only 5-of-14 from the field, but he sparked the 27-7 run that got the East close at the end of the first half, slamming home a missed free throw.

Vin Baker, Christian Laettner, Penny Hardaway and Terrell Brandon also played major roles for the East, while Gary Payton and Latrell Sprewell led the way for the West.

Injured All-Stars O'Neal, Charles Barkley, Alonzo Mourning, Clyde Drexler and Patrick Ewing weren't even missed. In fact, their absences provided opportunities for others to show their stuff.

"I can sit here and say I represent young people," said Minnesota's Kevin Garnett, at 20 the kid among All-Stars. "We like to run and gun and alley-oop and holler and jump up and down." Former greats Chamberlain and

Hal Greer witnessed all the alley-ooping and hollering. They also witnessed Rice breaking their longstanding All-Star records. Chamberlain set the mark for points in a half, with 23 in 1962 (Tom Chambers had tied it in 1987). Greer held the record for most points in a quarter, 19 in 1968.

Rice was too hot for either Chamberlain or Greer to keep their records.

The West led 53-30 midway through the second quarter. But led by Jordan, Hardaway, Laettner, Scottie Pippen and Grant Hill, the East pulled to 60-57 by halftime.

The most memorable moment came with 43 seconds left. Hill missed a free throw and Jordan, who had been standing next to Mitch Richmond near the 3-point arc, streaked in, glided past flat-footed Hakeem Olajuwon and Shawn Kemp, and power-jammed the ball through the basket.

Baseball season is just around corner

PAMPA — The high school baseball season arrives on Feb. 18 as Pampa opens against Palo Duro on the home field.

PHS head coach Dennis Doughty returns seven starters, including all-district second baseman Jamisen Hancock and honorable mention all-district first baseman-pitcher Ryan Schumacher. Hancock has led the Harvesters in hitting the past two seasons. He hit .439 last year with 35 runs batted in.

Schumacher, also a senior, posted a 3-1 mound record last year while batting .371 with 17 RBI.

Other returning starters include catcher Ryan Davis, shortstop August Larson, third baseman Seth Haynes, outfielder-pitcher Duane King and outfielder Jeremy Knutson. Davis, Larson and Haynes all hit over .300 last year.

Three lettermen are back, including Jerren Miller, outfielder-pitcher; Francis Juan, infielder, and Blaine Northcutt, infielder-pitcher.

Doughty, who begins his fourth season as head coach, will be looking to newcomers Keith Jacoby, outfielder; Jarred Prock, first baseman; Josh Blackmon, infielder-pitcher; Jason Benton,

pitcher, Clint Curtis, outfielder, and Sean Harris, designated hitter, to help bolster the team.

The Harvesters were 17-10 overall last season and finished third in the District 1-4A race.

Pampa opens district play against Randall on March 22.

Pampa scrimmages Sanford-Fritch at 1 p.m. Saturday in Fritch. Doughty will be assisted by Neil Hugg and John Darnell.

1997 Pampa schedule

Feb. 18-Palo Duro, 4 p.m. home; 22-Frenship, 1 p.m. away; 27-Sanford-Fritch, 4 p.m. away.

March 1-Plainview 1 p.m. away; 6-8-Dumas Tournament; 10-Tascosa, 1 p.m. away; 11-Elk City, Okla., 1 p.m. home; 14-Weatherford, Okla., 1 p.m. away; 18-River Road, 4 p.m. away; 22-Randall 1 p.m. home; 25-Dumas 4:30 away.

April 1-Hereford 4:30 home; 4-Canyon, 4:30 away; 5-Borger 1 p.m. home; 8-Caprock 4:30 away; 12-Randall 1 p.m. away; 15-Dumas 4:30 home; 19-Hereford, 1 p.m. away; 22-Canyon 4:30 home; 25-Borger 4:30 away; 26-Caprock, 1 p.m. home. *district games

Ball control



Pampa's Brian Johnson controls the ball during the Harvesters' district soccer win over Amarillo Caprock last week. Pampa was scheduled to meet Borger on Saturday, but the match was re-scheduled for Thursday at Borger.

Miami meets Samnorwood in district playoff contest

MIAMI — Miami goes against Samnorwood at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Wheeler High School field-house to determine the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds from District 5-1A.

Miami finished the regular season with a 19-7 overall record while Samnorwood was 19-5.

"We split games with them in district play. They beat us and their place and we beat them at our place," said Warriors' head coach Dwight Rice.

Senior inside players Jared Neighbors and Shane Mitchell, both 6-2, lead Miami's scoring assault. Neighbors averages 20 points per game and Mitchell 17.

"We've been playing very well as a team. Besides our two big kids inside, we've got a couple of

sophomores, Mike May and Blake Hurst, who have stepped in and played well," Rice added. "Bradley Hale and Marshall Flowers are also playing well for us."

Miami beat Samnorwood, 63-61, in an overtime thriller Feb. 6 in Miami. The Warriors came from behind in the fourth quarter to tie the score at 52 and send the contest into overtime. Mitchell had 21 points and Neighbors 20. It avenged an earlier loss to Samnorwood, 89-76.

The Warriors clinched the first-place tie with a 65-36 win over Lefors last Friday night.

This is the fourth year in a row for the Miami boys to make the playoffs.

Money man O'Meara makes it two straight

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Mark O'Meara could have faltered on the closing holes of the Buick Invitational, like everyone else.

He told himself otherwise and walked away with another title, another \$270,000, another car and a nice dose of consistency.

O'Meara shot a 1-under-par 71 Sunday on the tough Torrey Pines South Course to finish two strokes better than a pack of seven golfers tied for second place.

O'Meara became the first player to win consecutive tournaments since Peter Jacobsen also won at Pebble Beach and then the Buick Invitational in 1995.

O'Meara, who tops the money list, has collected a whopping \$710,460 in four tournaments.

Feeling the toll of his one-stroke win over Tiger Woods at Pebble Beach and struggling with his tee shots all weekend at Torrey Pines, his home away from home, O'Meara paused on the ninth fairway and told himself to dig deeper. His goal was to play the back nine in 5-under, which he'd done on Thursday.

He did it in 3-under, good enough to win.

"I was mentally tough today," O'Meara said.

That's the reputation that O'Meara, who turned 40 last month, is making for himself.

Of his 14 career wins, two came in 1995 and another two last year. Now he's won titles on consecutive Sundays.

"I think that I'm kind of a wiser player, you might say. I don't necessarily consider myself a dominant player," O'Meara said. "I think I'm learning more about myself day in and day out, and how to control my emotion. And I've always thrived on the fact that when I've had a chance to win, I get the job done."

O'Meara, who played at Torrey Pines all the way from junior golf through college, recently moved from nearby Escondido to Orlando, Fla.

The heavy rough, fast greens and tough pin placements on the 7,000-yard South Course helped keep the winning score to 13-under 275, the highest in relation to par in five events this year.

Texas uses speed to upend OSU

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Next time somebody asks Eddie Sutton how the Texas schools will adjust to playing the former Big Eight programs in the Big 12, he probably won't talk about how Texas can't run on the road.

That's what the Oklahoma State coach said last fall at the Big 12 media day — that the run-oriented Longhorns would have trouble unclocking their speed game on foreign floors such as his own Gallagher-Iba Arena.

But when the Cowboys went to Texas earlier this season, they lost by 34. And Saturday night at Oklahoma State, the Longhorns again proved too much in a 90-73 victory. Hitting a season-high 53 percent from the floor, Texas became the first visiting team to score 90 points in Gallagher-Iba Arena since Kansas in the final game in 1993.

"I don't want to say all of a

sudden we're an offensive machine," said Texas coach Tom Penders. "That would be far from the truth."

In Big 12 action on Sunday, No. 1 Kansas proved it was only going to put up with a one-game losing skid, winning 69-62 at No. 6 Iowa State. And Missouri, which vanquished the previously unbeaten Jayhawks by two points in double overtime Tuesday night, lost 73-65 to No. 2 Wake Forest.

In other Saturday games in the Big 12, No. 15 Colorado defeated Texas A&M 77-64, No. 23 Texas Tech downed Nebraska 87-74, and Kansas State halted a 10-game losing skid by beating Oklahoma 67-63 at home.

At Stillwater Saturday, Reggie Freeman led Texas with 25 points and the Longhorns never trailed after taking a 4-2 lead.

"We never could put any pressure on them," Sutton said. "We were always playing catch-up."

It was Sutton's worst loss at Gallagher-Iba since he took over at his alma mater seven years ago.

"Texas ran today, but I think if you put a stopwatch on who was on offense the longest, I think they were," he said. "...Texas gets a lot of points today off their defense. I don't think their fast-

breaks gave them as many points as they got off their defense."

Chauncey Billups had 19 points for Colorado, but the 6-foot-3 sophomore guard left the game with fatigue in the second half.

"The only way we thought we could beat them was to get Billups out of the game, because the fewer touches he has, the better off you are," A&M coach Tony Barone said with tongue in cheek.

Texas A&M had pulled within 40-38 when Colorado coach Ricardo Patton pulled Billups, who complained of chest pains. Billups left after hitting a free throw, then the Buffs went on an 11-point run instead of folding up when their star left the game.

"It was fun on the bench today," Billups said. "I was glad to see they stepped it up. People were looking for good shots."

Shanne Jones had 23 points for the Aggies, while Tracey Anderson had 19 and Calvin Davis 11.

At Lubbock, Cory Carr scored 21 of his 33 points in the second half for Texas Tech and Tony Battie added added 17 rebounds. Mikki Moore had 20 points and Tyrone Lue 19 for Nebraska.

Don't Forget Valentine's Day Friday, February 14

Red Roses

With Baby's Breath and Greenery

19.99

Dozen White Supplies Last

Prices good Wednesday, Feb. 13 thru Friday, Feb. 14.

HOMELAND. A Good Deal Better!

Issue Of Children Is Sore Spot In Otherwise Happy Marriage

DEAR ABBY: I am 24 years old and happily married to a 35-year-old man who has had a previous marriage and has two children, 14 and 12.

We have been married for two years and are completely happy with each other. However, the problem is I want a child of my own and he does not.

When we were dating, we often discussed it, and he would say that he has two and that's all he needs, although he might consider more in the future.

Well, Abby, it's the future now, and I am ready to take on the responsibility of a child. Now he tells me that he wants to get himself "fixed" because he has decided not to have more children. I don't think it's fair to me, being young and healthy and wanting to have at least one child of my own.

I love him dearly, but this has put a big damper on our marriage, and I am not sure how to handle this. Please help.

UNSURE IN FLORIDA

DEAR UNSURE: Consider this: A man who says he wants no more children and is considering getting himself "fixed" to ensure that he will have no more is a poor candidate for fatherhood. True, he did promise to consider it, but it is obvious that he wants no more children. I recommend counseling for both of you. If he refuses to get

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

counseling — go without him.

DEAR ABBY: I have often wanted to write about the following, but hoped that someone else would write and provide the answer first.

I am a pre-op transsexual and usually dress in women's clothing, complete with wig and makeup.

My question is, which rest room should I use when I go out in public?

Abby, please inform your readers that most of us transsexuals and transvestites are in the ladies rest room to use the facilities or to repair our makeup — nothing more.

MISS "X"

DEAR MISS "X": When you are dressed like a woman, you should use the women's rest room.

DEAR ABBY: Excuse me for being an old fuddy-duddy, but what

has happened to basic good manners?

In my day one did not indulge in kissing in public places — unless one was bidding goodbye in an airport, train or bus station.

I find it embarrassing to witness public displays of affection between my nephew and his current girlfriend at family gatherings in nice restaurants. Often they have to stop right in the middle of the restaurant on the way out to engage in a long, soulful kiss. Since the couple have been living together for several months, it would seem that they could hold off the kissing until they were alone. This has gotten to the point that it is downright embarrassing for the rest of the family to go out with them.

Don't get me wrong, Abby. I am all for hugging and kissing one's true love, but not on the way out of a nice restaurant with a room full of strangers to witness the spectacle.

Am I hopelessly outdated on this?

OLD-FASHIONED

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: Outdated? Not Jealous? Maybe!

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Your new course will be more beneficial and rewarding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The odds appear to be working with you instead of against you in commercial dealings today. Press for benefits, because you should be able to get what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If there is something significant you can't do on your own today, you may be able to get someone to do it for you. Be sure to repay favors and generosity later.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Impediments where your career is concerned might be eliminated today through a very strange chain of events.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You haven't yet decided whether you'll participate with friends in a new involvement, which could prove beneficial. Don't let negative thinking hold you back.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Conditions that directly affect your security might begin to undergo improvement today. Losing situations could turn out to be lucrative.

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For Better or For Worse



Ario & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Mervin



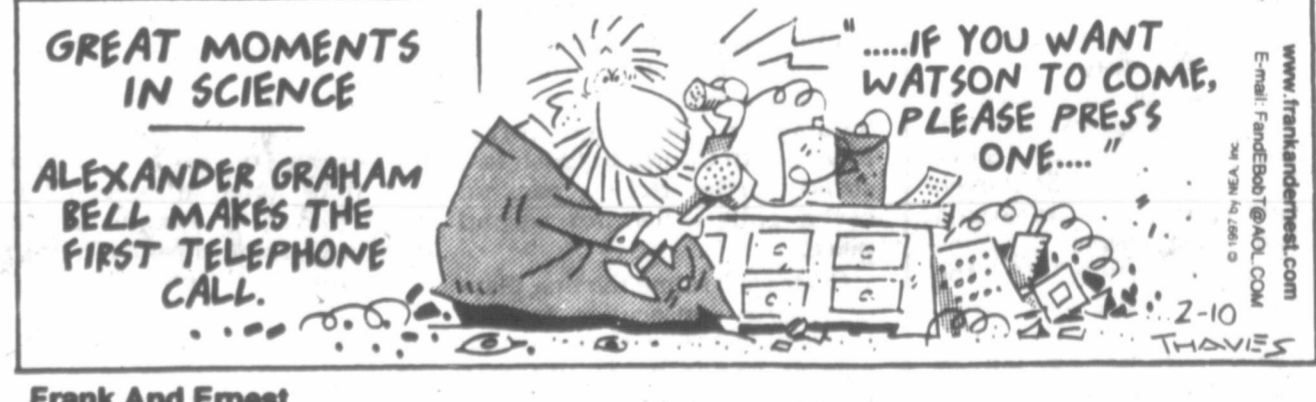
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Tuesday, Feb. 11, 1997

Impressive triumphs could be in store for you this year, both socially and commercially. Do not deviate from your game plan, and continue to include persons who started with you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Your imaginative frame of mind today brings ideas that could have merit and promise. Try them out, even if others don't understand their potential. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A unique

arrangement may develop today that could present you with material advantages. It must be handled skillfully, because eventually others may get involved.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) An associate who disagreed with you regarding a critical issue isn't as locked into his or her position as you first thought. Rehash your proposition.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) This is a good day to put into practice some of the labor-saving concepts you've recently come up with. The test will prove their worth.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may receive an invitation for an interesting event from someone you know only casually. Don't reject it — it could be both fun and informative.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A stalled situation that could be meaningful to you financially might suddenly start today. Be ready to move on it quickly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might make a sudden change in direction today regarding an objective you've been pur-

suing. Your new course will be more beneficial and rewarding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The odds appear to be working with you instead of against you in commercial dealings today. Press for benefits, because you should be able to get what you want.

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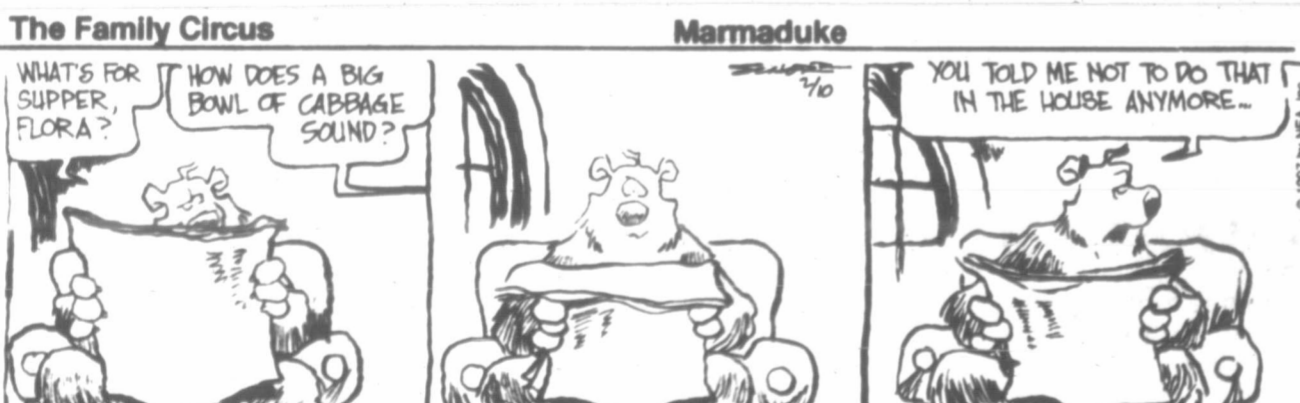
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"The snow wants to get into that house."



"I'll say this about winter: It doesn't hurt to be dragged through the snow."



Peanuts

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Livestock association meeting



(Pampa News photo by Dave Bowser)

Frances and Adolf Schmidt of Wellington admire the art work of Janie Hathoot, right, of Canadian during the annual meeting of the Panhandle Livestock Association Saturday in Amarillo. The association announced scholarships to Ty Lawrence of Dalhart for West Texas A&M University and Eric Waters of Quail and Ridge Watson of Mayhill, N.M., for Clarendon College. In addition to their annual business meeting, the group heard from Dr. Margaret N. Maxey, director of the Clint W. Murchison Sr. Chair of Free Enterprise at the University of Texas, concerning property rights issues and danced to the music of the band Young Country.

'TEXAS' auditions scheduled at WTAMU

CANYON — TEXAS musical drama directors will hold an audition in Canyon on Sunday, Feb. 15, to find actors, singers, dancers, technicians and staff to fill 140 paid positions for the nation's best attended outdoor drama.

The audition, to be held at West Texas A&M University's Mary Moody Northern Hall, is one of the seven hosted in cities throughout the United States.

Selected talent will make the 32nd season of TEXAS come alive in the Pioneer Amphitheater near Amarillo. The outdoor stage features a 600 foot cliff of the Palo Duro Canyon State Park as a backdrop, and intimate seating for the nearly 100,000 spectators the cast plays to each year.

Last season, guests traveled from every state and 94 countries to see the production that was selected as the program cover for the first ever White House Conference on Travel and Tourism.

TEXAS cast and crew members receive expert instruction from director Neil Hess as they unfold a tale of Texas Panhandle romance and history through song, dance and drama.

The latest in digital sound, lighting and pyrotechnics, designed by L. Lynn Hart and D. Scott Linder, are coordinated by production manager Christopher Laue, who was production manager for the 1997 Superbowl half-time show. Special effects — including a thunderstorm that seems so real that visitors often reach for umbrellas — enhance this Texas story, written by Pulitzer Prize winning author Paul Green.

The script calls for 14 actors/actresses, 26 dancers, 34 singers, six instrumentalists, 17 technicians and 40 hospitality members.

Rehearsals begin May 18 for the season that runs June 11 through Aug. 23, Monday through Saturday.

Audition Requirements

- Individuals must bring a photo and references.

- Actors will present a memorized scene, not to exceed three minutes, that accentuates outdoor voice and presence.

- Actors also should prepare vocal number.

- Singers will present one number of their choice. No pop or rock hits. An accompanist will be provided or singer may bring

one. All voice ranges are required in chorus, solos and men's quartet's.

- Singers also should prepare a one to two minute, memorized scene or monologue that accentuates outdoor voice and presence.

- Dancers are auditioned as a group. Ballet or modern dance training is required. Dancers should wear appropriate work-out clothing.

- Musicians must be experienced in string bass, acoustic guitar, banjo, accordion or violin.

- Dancers register at 9 a.m., and audition as group at 9:30 a.m. All others register before 10:15 a.m., and audition when dance auditions are completed.

- Hospitality crew members will be selected from auditions. This group of 40 is the show's first and last contact with patrons. They sell tickets and programs, work concessions, conduct tours and entertain on the patio.

For more information, contact TEXAS Musical Drama, 806-655-2181.

Other audition sites are Canyon, Feb. 17; Salt Lake City, Utah, Feb. 22; and Chapel Hill, N.C., March 22.

Nation briefs

Air traffic controller criticized in close encounter

NEW YORK (AP) — A military air traffic controller was partly to blame for a close midair encounter between two National Guard jets and a passenger airliner, *The New York Times* reported today.

"We know what happened, basically," a civilian investigator told the newspaper on condition of anonymity.

On Wednesday, a civilian air traffic controller directed a Nations Air 727 en route to Kennedy International Airport from San Juan, Puerto Rico, through restricted air space.

When a Navy controller sought to clear the zone for military use, the civilian controller reported that the 727 and a United Parcel Service DC-8 were passing through the zone.

Investigators said they don't think the military controller transmitted the details of the locations of the two civilian planes to the F-16 pilots.

The Navy controller "went through the motions of finding out what kind of aircraft are there," the investigator said, but then "just turned loose the F-16s."

DNC asked for contributions following coffee sessions

BOSTON (AP) — The Democratic National Committee solicited campaign contributions from people after they attended White House coffee sessions with President Clinton, the former committee chairman told *The Boston Globe*.

Donald Fowler, whose term as DNC chairman ended last month, said the coffees were legal because no money was sought or received at them.

"They wouldn't get the message at the meeting," Fowler told *The Globe* in today's edition. "Somebody would call them and ask them. One would be naive to say that the call was purely coincidental."

Soliciting campaign funds at the White House would be illegal.

White House special counsel Lann Davis said coffee participants were not required to donate, but he acknowledged there may have been solicitation after the coffees.

Second consecutive award for 'Frasier' supporting actor

LOS ANGELES (AP) — For the second consecutive year, David Hyde Pierce was honored with an American Comedy Award for his role as the pompous psychiatrist brother of the title character on TV's *Frasier*.

Pierce, who plays Niles, was named funniest supporting male performer in a television series on Sunday. He received the same award last year.

Rosie O'Donnell was named funniest leading female performer in a television series, while John Lithgow from *3rd Rock from the Sun*, was named funniest leading male.

The 11th Annual American

Comedy Awards were presented at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. The show will be broadcast on ABC on Feb. 17.

More than 4,000 producers, directors, writer, agents, bookers, executives and others nominated the performers. Final selections were made by 1,000 comedy performers.

Veterans Carol Burnett and Mel Brooks also won awards for their guest appearances on TV's *Mad About You*.

Lifetime achievement awards went to Walter Matthau and Debbie Reynolds.

Frances McDormand was honored as the funniest leading actress in a motion picture for her role in *Fargo*, while Nathan Lane held the honor as funniest leading actor for his role in *The Birdcage*.

The other winners were: — Julia Louis-Dreyfus, funniest supporting female performer in a TV series, *Seinfeld*.

— Dianne Wiest, funniest supporting actress in a motion picture, *The Bridge*.

— Cuba Gooding Jr., funniest supporting actor in a motion picture, *Jerry Maguire*.

— Kathy Bates, funniest female performer in a TV special, *The Late Shift*.

University vice president says he felt pressure to support Bullock campaign

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A state university's vice president says he was coerced into donating money to Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock's campaign and later demoted when he refused to comply with a fund-raising effort.

In total, higher education officials in Texas have contributed \$170,850 to Bullock's campaigns since 1992, the *San Antonio Express-News* reported in a copy-right story Sunday.

The newspaper's survey of Texas Ethics Commission records found contributions to Bullock from 122 university presidents, vice presidents, deans, current and former regents and spouses of high-ranking officials.

Bullock, who has raised more than \$10 million in the past five years, presides over the Senate and wields much influence over how state money is used, including funding for state universities.

Campaign records on file with the state show that checks came in from officials at 14 of the 15 campuses in the University of Texas System.

On the same days each year, the Friends of the University Political Action Committee and its directors received \$38,050 in donations, with the largest chunk going to Bullock.

Contributions also came from regents and officials from the Waco-based Texas State Technical College system, a Texas A&M official, and two members of the Texas Higher

Education Coordinating Board.

The contributions came to light after Jude Valdez, University of Texas at San Antonio vice president for extended education, filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against campus President Samuel Kirkpatrick.

According to the suit, Kirkpatrick told Valdez to write a check for at least \$100 to a political candidate who is not identified in the lawsuit. Valdez complied in 1992, but he was effectively demoted in 1993 when his check was late, the lawsuit says.

Larry Daves, Valdez' attorney, said the money went to Bullock as part of a systemwide drive that began when UT System Chancellor William Cunningham took office.

"It's particularly offensive to me then that someone, just because of their status as a public employee, could be required to make contributions to particular political candidates," Daves said.

Cunningham released a statement Sunday denying that he pressured any system employee into supporting any political candidate. He said he knew of no instance in which he or his staff used state property or resources to support any candidate.

His statement continued, "I am also confident that none of the presidents of the U.T. System component institutions has pressured any of their employees in an effort to support candidates or elected officials."

Kirkpatrick, who has given

\$1,325 to Bullock since 1992, denied that he coerced Valdez.

He said he talked "in general" about campaigns with his vice presidents and other high-ranking school officials, who gave Bullock a total of \$4,075.

Bullock, a Democrat, was elected lieutenant governor in 1990 and re-elected in 1994. He could not be reached for comment. Spokesman Tony Proffitt said the Bullock campaign typically receives about 3,000 contributions a month and doesn't track the dates of donations from organized groups.

"Of course he wouldn't condone anything but a voluntary contribution," Proffitt said.

Ed Sharpe, a UT-Austin vice president and special consultant to Cunningham, told the *Express-News* that details of the Bullock drive spread by word of mouth among campus officials.

UT-Austin administrators "could either send them (checks) in directly, or provide them to someone. In one case, it was me," Sharpe said. "It is something that is completely voluntary."

Using state time and resources and time to work on a campaign is prohibited by state law and UT System policies. University of Texas rules forbid employees from coercing students, staff or faculty to take part in politics.

Violators could be terminated. They could also face misdemeanor or felony charges, said Karen Lundquist, general counsel of the Texas Ethics Commission.

Mules used to install hi-tech fiber optics

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — No manner of modern mechanical technology could get over or around the rugged terrain confronting electricians trying to install fiber optic cable through the Ozarks.

So they shifted their sights from high-tech to low-tech and hired Festus, Jake, Red and I.B. — four Missouri mules — to string 40 miles of cable through southwestern Missouri.

"Today's thought is 'fast and done quick and make the big money,'" said mule skinner James King, who works the mules for B&L Electrical Contractors. "A lot of people have forgot the fastest way to get through the country is on a mule or a horse."

Even through city traffic, the mules are getting the job done. The idea first came about when Empire District Electric Co. was looking for contractors to install fiber optic cable. The cable was to run along the path of a power line strung in 1912. More than 80 years later, it was deemed inaccessible to vehicles in most places because of steep hills, trees or other impediments, such as chain-link fences.

B&L submitted a bid based on doing the work with mules. The

estimate was tricky since the company had never used mules. And if they couldn't do the job, a backup plan would have cost much more.

"This is extremely rugged terrain. You couldn't get any motorized vehicles in there," said Clint Lam, manager of B&L. "You could build a road through there, but cost-wise, it would be so expensive."

Empire didn't know the estimate was based on mule power. But when they learned of the idea, it seemed logical, said Darrell Wilson, Empire's telecommunications foreman. He told colleagues at a recent training seminar about the mules' success.

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scoreboard

BASKETBALL

Pampa-Caprock statistics from the first game of the season on Feb. 7

Player	2-pt	3-pt	FT-A	Total
August Larson	2	0	3-4	3
Jamarcus Osborne	0	0	3-8	3
Davin Lamons	2	0	2-3	8
Kaleb Meek	3	0	1-3	7
Gabe Wilson	3	0	0	0
Tyson Alexander	0	0	0	0
Shannon Reed	0	0	0	0
Jared Knipp	0	0	0	0
Lynn Brown	2	1	2-2	9
Shawn Young	1	2	0-2	8
Totals:	14	3	21-26	56

Player	2-pt	3-pt	FT-A	Total
Marcus Mendoza	0	0	0	0
Ernest Brown	0	0	0	0
Joe Mungia	0	0	2-4	2
Ryan Fiel	4	1	4-5	15
Gale Morales	1	3	0-1	11
Tommy Allison	1	0	2-2	4
Michael Sorio	0	0	3-6	3
Quincy Nodine	2	0	3-4	7
Miguel Morales	3	0	2-8	8
Totals:	11	4	21-31	51

The Top Twenty Five

By The Associated Press
The top 25 teams in The Associated Press college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 9; total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and last week's ranking:

Rank	Record	Pts	W
1.	Kansas (67)	23-1	1,770
2.	WakeForest	19-2	1,699
3.	Minnesota (4)	20-2	1,621
4.	Kentucky	22-3	1,598
5.	Utah	17-3	1,438
6.	Duke	19-5	1,387
7.	Clemson	19-4	1,323
8.	Cincinnati	17-4	1,244
9.	Iowa St.	16-4	1,168
10.	Maryland	18-5	1,127
11.	Arizona	15-5	1,076
12.	South Carolina	17-5	948
13.	New Mexico	18-4	901
14.	Michigan	17-5	791
15.	Colorado	17-5	730
16.	North Carolina	15-6	723
17.	Louisville	18-5	606
18.	Villanova	17-6	454
19.	Xavier, Ohio	16-4	375
20.	Illinois	17-6	300
21.	Texas Tech	14-6	248
22.	Stanford	13-7	171
23.	Tulane	16-7	153
24.	UCLA	13-7	144
25.	Col. of Charleston (21-2)	14-1	—

Others receiving votes: Tulsa 129, St. Joseph's 102, Iowa 83, Texas 78, California 75, Georgia 75, Providence 68, Southern Cal 59, Pacific 55, Indiana 51, Boston College 42, Marquette 21, New Orleans 21, Hawaii 20, Miami 18, Temple 18, Princeton 10, Fresno St. 7, Illinois St. 7, Missouri 5, Virginia 5, West Virginia 5, N. Arizona 4, N.C. Charlotte 4, E. Michigan 3, Mississippi 3, Oregon 3, Oral Roberts 1.

Saturday's Major College Basketball Scores

By The Associated Press	Score
EAST	
Brown 63, Columbia 56	
Bucknell 77, Lafayette 59	
Canisius 41, Fairfield 45	
Central Carolina 55, Md.-Baltimore County 48	
Cornell 60, Yale 56	
Dartmouth 74, Penn 70	
Fairleigh Dickinson 70, Robert Morris 68	
Hartford 81, Towson St. 78, OT	
Holy Cross 72, Colgate 65	
Maine 57, New Hampshire 53	
Massachusetts 64, Rhode Island 61	
Monmouth, N.J. 81, St. Francis, NY 61	
Navy 109, Lehigh 73	
Pittsburgh 79, Seton Hall 71	
Princeton 78, Harvard 51	
Rider 103, Longwood 97	
St. Bonaventure 70, Dayton 69	
St. Francis, Pa. 64, Marist 44	
St. Joseph's 79, Xavier, Ohio 65	
St. Peter's 57, Niagara 44	
Syracuse 77, Georgetown 74	
Vermont 89, Delaware 87	
Virginia Tech 50, Fordham 32	
Wagner 82, Mount St. Mary's, Md. 69	
West Virginia 90, Providence 78, OT	
SOUTH	
Ala.-Birmingham 71, DePaul 66	
Alcorn St. 53, Jackson St. 62	
Appalachian St. 68, W. Carolina 66	
Auburn 78, LSU 72	
Austin Peay 92, Tenn.-Martin 75	
Bethune-Cookman 89, Florida A&M 84	
Campbell 82, Cent. Florida 76, OT	
Charleston Southern 79, N.C.-Greensboro 72	
Citadel 81, VMI 74	
Clemson 80, Maryland 68	
Col. of Charleston 62, Stetson 44	
Coppin St. 82, Morgan St. 68	
Davidson 79, Furman 68	

FLORIDA STATE

Florida State 73, Florida Atlantic 61

Team	Score
Fla. International 73, Florida Atlantic 61	
Georgia St. 74, Centenary 61	
Hampton U. 86, Howard U. 66	
Jacksonville 71, Texas-Pan American 64	
James Madison 67, George Mason 63	
Liberty 66, Winthrop 63	
Louisiana Tech 75, Arkansas St. 61	
Marshall 81, Georgia Southern 66	
McNeese St. 67, SW Texas St. 70	
Miami 53, Rutgers 50	
Morehead St. 83, SE Missouri 80	
N. Carolina A&T 87, Delaware St. 66	
N.C.-Wilmington 74, Old Dominion 73	
NE Louisiana 81, Sam Houston St. 60	
NW Louisiana 68, Stephen F. Austin 63	
Nicholls St. 106, Texas-San Antonio 101	
North Carolina 81, Virginia 57	
Radford 87, N.C.-Asheville 79	
S. Carolina St. 70, Md.-E. Shore 64, OT	
SE Louisiana 84, Mercer 71	
South Carolina 76, Florida 68	
Southern U. 102, Alabama St. 92	
Tennessee 65, Alabama 61	
Tennessee St. 84, Murray St. 68	
Tennessee Tech 77, Middle Tenn. 68	
Troy St. 70, Youngstown St. 64	
Va. Commonwealth 72, American U. 61	
Vanderbilt 87, Arkansas 83, OT	
William & Mary 57, Richmond 50	
Wofford 86, Army 72	

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Western Conference 132, Western Conference 120, All-Star Game

Team	Score
Colorado 32, Utah 28	
Edmonton 27, Vancouver 25	
Anaheim 21, Phoenix 20	
Calgary 21, San Jose 20	
Los Angeles 19, St. Louis 18	
Montreal 18, Toronto 17	
Ottawa 16, Dallas 15	
San Jose 14, Phoenix 13	
Edmonton 12, Vancouver 11	
Phoenix 10, St. Louis 9	
San Jose 8, Dallas 7	
Los Angeles 6, Montreal 5	
Calgary 4, Toronto 3	
Ottawa 2, Dallas 1	
San Jose 1, Phoenix 0	
Edmonton 0, Vancouver 0	
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1 Food for Dobbin 41 Kentucky blue grass

9 — one's foot down (be firm) 42 Heating apparatus

12 Leave out 43 Evergreen trees

13 Forearm 49 Comical bone 52 Aware of (2 wds.)

14 A Gerashwin 53 Born 54 Sailors

15 Geographical division 54 Sailors 55 Beehive clotheswise

16 Spiffiest, 55 Beehive clotheswise 56 — Miss

18 Perfume 56 — Miss 57 Author Gardner

20 Lingerie 57 Author Gardner 58 Alone

21 Edgar Allan — 58 Alone

22 Ms. Zadora 58 Alone

24 Certain 1 Seep 2 Singer 3 Cans 4 Soaked 5 Pound part 6 Wings 7 Explosive initials. 8 Fez, e.g. 9 Bridge support 10 — Major (constellation) 11 Makes lace

17 Construction beam (2 wds.) 19 Neither's follower 22 Southern bread 23 Irritate 24 Actor 25 Tennis pro 26 Mary had one 27 Deer 28 — first you don't... 29 Word-processing choice 30 Child's toy 32 Yours and

35 — alai 36 Earnest 38 Palindromic name 39 Costa del — 41 Sheriff's band 42 Two words of dismay 43 Author Jean M. — 44 Diving duck 45 Throw 46 — Thin Air 47 And others (2 wds.) 48 NYC district 49 Map abbr. 51 Rower's need

31 When I was 32 Barnyard sound 33 Egg — yong 34 Edge 35 Popular month for weddings 36 Wacky 37 Get on the train again

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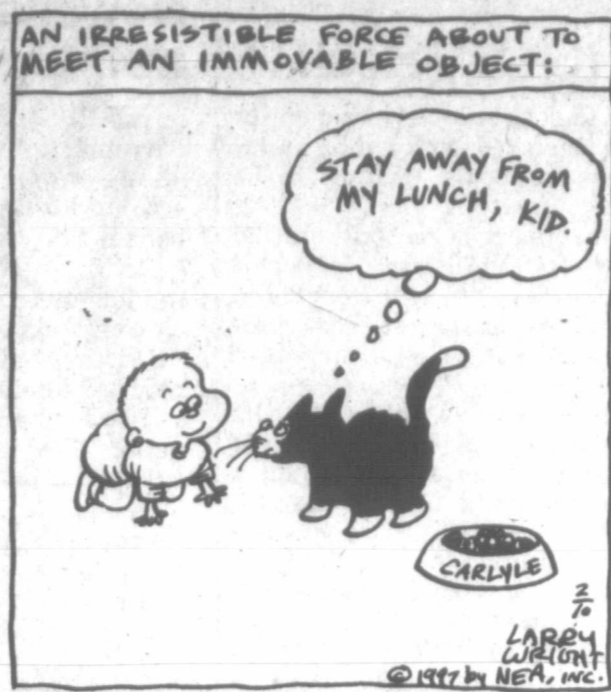
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California man accused of exploiting system

HOUSTON (AP) — A California man has found an apparently legal way to make millions of taxpayer dollars by brokering the sales of low-income apartments across the country, the *Houston Chronicle* reported.

Housing activists accuse Jack Stern and his Santa Monica, Calif.-based American Housing Corp. of taking advantage of an obscure federal law written to protect the nation's poor from higher rents.

Stern acts as a broker who brings the government together with nonprofit groups that promise to keep low-income housing affordable. He collects fees from both parties plus 2.5 percent of the closing price, the newspaper reported Sunday.

In the case of one complex, the 248-unit Yorkshire Village Apartments in Houston, a proposed \$3.5 million deal brokered by Stern would earn him nearly \$90,000.

If he closes all the deals now pending, Stern stands to earn millions from a program that received \$1 billion in its first five years, the *Chronicle* said.

Stern would tell the newspaper little about his business, including how much he expects to earn from the low-income housing deals. But he said his expected profits are "peanuts in money."

"The president gave \$14 billion to Mexico. So, if you're talking \$1 billion for the whole program, what are you talking about?" he said.

Critics, however, say he has found a way to take advantage of a vulnerable federal program.

"There's no question that Jack Stern exploited the program for his own ends," said Michael Bodaken, president of the National Housing Trust in Washington.

The *Chronicle* reported that American Housing Corp. over the past six years has put together deals in at least four states and in 17 cities.

The process apparently is legal under the Low Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act, a 1990 law written to curb the possible sale of 900,000 federally insured apartments to private interests that would raise rents.

The idea was to sell the complexes to nonprofit groups that presumably would keep rents stable while also allowing tenants to help manage the projects.

Offering his services as a consultant, Stern has arranged the sales of at least 17 low-income housing projects in Texas, Florida, South Carolina and Georgia.

Most of the deals are pending before the

U.S. Housing and Urban Development or local housing agencies. In Florida alone, Stern has ten proposals waiting to be approved.

The Houston project is the only one to run afoul of HUD District Inspector General William Hartnett, who concluded that a nonprofit organization Stern produced to buy Yorkshire Village was a "sham."

The Yorkshire sale came to HUD's Houston office in August 1994. By 1996, the HUD inspector general was looking for a case study to determine if the law was vulnerable to fake nonprofits. Yorkshire became that case study.

"What actually took place raised some questions," Hartnett said.

The *Chronicle* reported that, instead of waiting for nonprofit groups to step forward, Stern creates tailor-made nonprofits to buy the projects he wants to sell.

"It's a very slippery slope with Jack. Basically, he got ahold of the owners and if they weren't too sophisticated, he would work out an agreement with them where they would pay him," Bodaken said.

There also have been criticisms that Stern's nonprofits don't work in the spirit of the law to empower tenants.

Newspaper: Women, blacks fail jet training more often than white men

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Anything from bigotry to uneven admission standards could account for figures showing that women and blacks are more likely to flunk Navy combat pilot training than white men, Navy officials and military scholars say.

The *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* reported Sunday that its analysis of Navy training records determined that women and blacks fail at four times the rate of white men.

Last year, the Navy graduated 183 jet pilots, of whom 168 were white men. The jet training, at \$1 million a student, prepares students to fly attack aircraft like fighters and bombers.

Officials and scholars interviewed by the newspaper said the disparity could reflect any of several possible problems, including racial and gender bias in training or lower entrance standards for women and minorities.

The newspaper analysis showed that 80 percent of


women and 81 percent of blacks completed both intermediate and advanced stages of jet strike training in 1996. Ninety-five percent of white men finished.

Of the 937 students who entered naval aviation training, 46 were women, while 62 were black and 55 were Hispanic.

The records, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, came from the Chief of Naval Air Training in Corpus Christi. The office oversees training of Navy and Marine Corps pilots and naval flight officers at naval air stations in Corpus Christi; Kingsville; Meridian, Miss.; Pensacola, Fla.; and Milton, Fla.

Lt. Cmdr. Karen Hyde, an industrial psychologist at the naval air training command, said she monitors programs for women and minorities and has reviewed every failed student pilot's records for the past few years.

She said she can't pinpoint a cause for the disparity.



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