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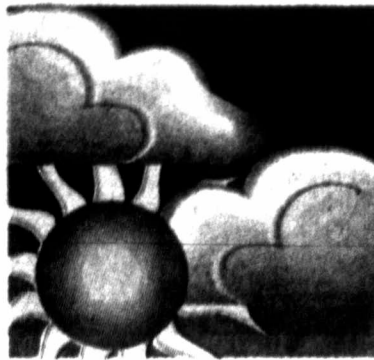
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PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 272

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



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

PAMPA — The American Heart Association's Tri-County Area will be having its third annual "Art for Heart" Auction on Friday, Feb. 21, at the M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium from 6-9 p.m.

Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served beginning at 6 p.m., with a silent auction opening the event. The band Indian Summer will be playing music during the silent auction portion.

The live auction will begin at 7 p.m. Many local and area artists have donated watercolors, pastels, oil paintings, wood carvings and sculpture. Area merchants have donated items for the silent auction.

Tickets at \$10 a person may be purchased by calling Dee Barker or Chrys Smith at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency at 665-0356. There will also be tickets available at the door.

PAMPA — The Pampa Fire Marshal Office and the State Fire Marshal have completed their investigation into the cause of a structure fire Sunday at 820 Locust that took the life of Penny Gardner, 47.

Their findings indicate the fire was caused by a combination of an extension cord and electrical wall receptacle in the kitchen area of the house. The fire was ruled accidental.

Due to the circumstances of the fire resulting in a fatality, an autopsy was performed in Lubbock. Cause of death was ruled accidental due to smoke inhalation.

PAMPA — The Pampa school board will hold its monthly scheduled meeting on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 6 p.m. in the Carver Center board conference room.

Among the action items on the agenda are consideration of asbestos removal bid for Travis and Lamar, election order for May 2 for school board election, as well as time and place to canvass results of the election, and the consideration of bids for phase II site/work excavation and concrete.

The board is scheduled to consider approval of the Multi-Purpose Facility design documents and insurance policy bids as well as the consideration of a Public Schools Week Resolution.

In non-action items, the board will hear the architect's status update, an attendance zone report and student transfer policies.

PAMPA — An organizational meeting to plan the eighth grade party will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, in the Pampa Middle School library.

All parents of eighth grade students are encouraged to attend.

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Court: Police can order passengers out of cars

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police can order passengers, as well as drivers, to get out of vehicles during traffic stops, the Supreme Court said today.

Ruling 7-2 in a Maryland case in which Attorney General Janet Reno argued as a friend-of-the-court, the justices said the need to protect police officers' safety justifies the "minimal" intrusion on a passenger's rights.

"Regrettably, traffic stops may be dangerous encounters," Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist wrote for the court. He noted that 11 police officers were killed and thousands more were assaulted during traffic stops in 1994.

"Danger to an officer from a traffic stop is likely to be greater when there are passengers in addition to the driver in the stopped car," the chief justice said.

Today's ruling reversed a Maryland appeals court decision that said crack cocaine found during a 1994 traffic stop could not be used as evidence because the officer did not have the right to order a passenger out of a car.

A Maryland state trooper had stopped the car in Baltimore County after clocking it for speeding and noticing it did not have a license tag. While speaking to the driver, the trooper noticed that a passenger seemed very nervous.

The trooper ordered the passenger, Jerry Lee Wilson, to get out of the car. When Wilson stepped out of the car, crack cocaine fell to the ground and he was arrested.

Wilson sought to have the cocaine suppressed as evidence, contending the officer violated his Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures when he ordered him out of the car.

A Maryland trial judge and state appeals court ruled for Wilson. The state's highest court refused to hear the case.

Maryland appealed to the Supreme Court, and Reno supported the appeal in a 10-minute argument that marked her debut before the high court.

Reno argued for allowing police to make a "brief, temporary stop" of car passengers, while Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran went further and said officers also should be allowed to require passengers to remain at the scene until the officer releases the driver.

The justices said officers can order all passengers out of cars stopped for routine traffic violations. But the court did not say whether officers can require passengers to remain on the scene.

Rehnquist noted that when police stop a vehicle, a driver is

suspected of committing a traffic offense but there is no such reason to stop a passenger. But he added that as a practical matter, a passenger already has been stopped and that in being ordered out of the car, "the additional intrusion on the passenger is minimal."

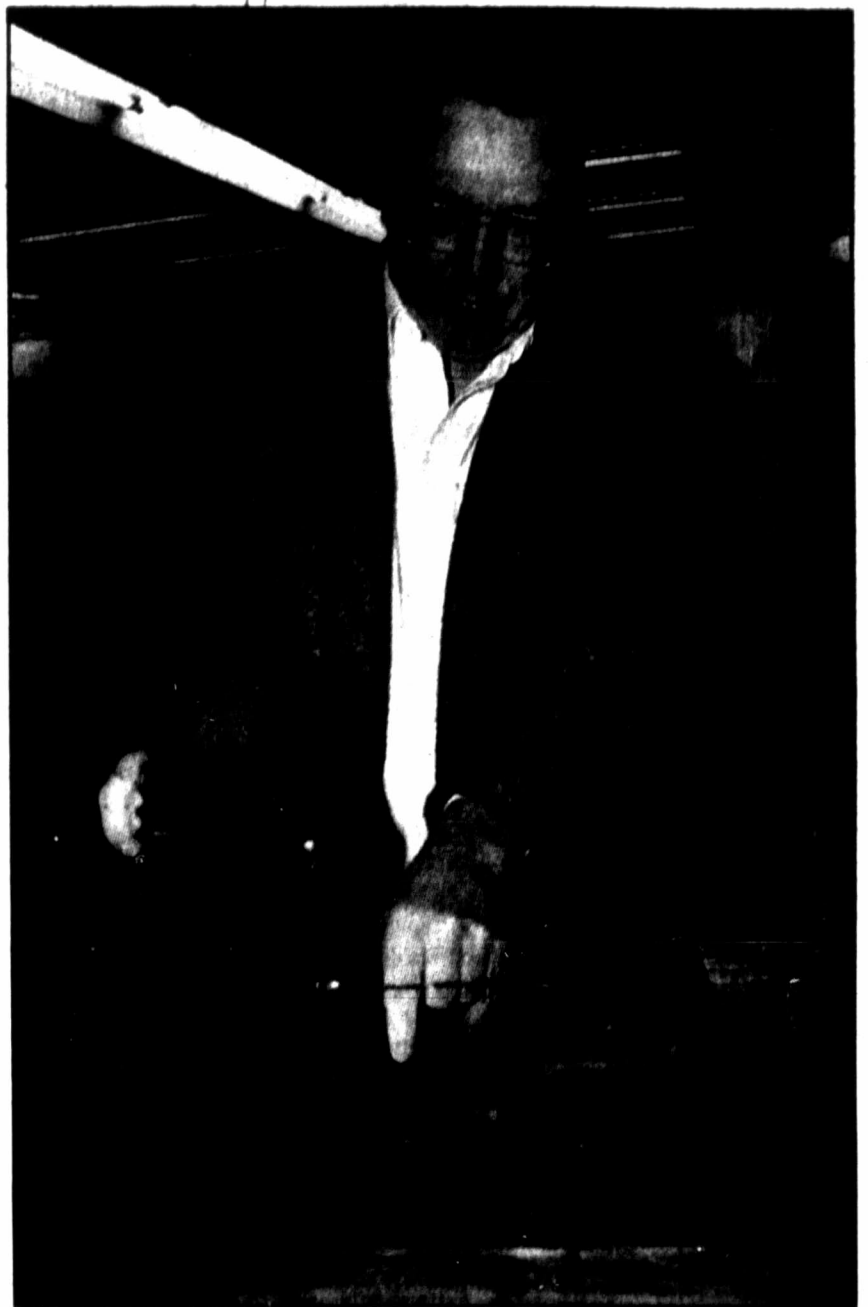
Today's ruling extended a 1977 Supreme Court decision that said motorists stopped for routine traffic violations can be ordered by police to get out of their cars. That decision was aimed to protect police officers' safety.

Rehnquist wrote today, "The same weighty interest in officer safety is present regardless of whether the occupant of the stopped car is a driver or passenger."

His opinion was joined by Justices Sandra Day O'Connor, Antonin Scalia, David H. Souter, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer.

Justices John Paul Stevens and Anthony M. Kennedy dissented. Writing for the two, Stevens said, "The Constitution should not be read to permit law enforcement officers to order innocent passengers about simply because they have the misfortune to be seated in a car whose driver has committed a minor traffic offense."

The case is Maryland vs. Wilson, 95-1268.



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

Members of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts learned a thing or two about the making of barb wire and the role the prickly material played in the settling of the plains states. Above, Delbert Trew demonstrates how the wire was originally made and how it changed through the years during the SWCD meeting at the Devil's Rope Museum in McLean on Tuesday.

Area SWCD leaders discuss water usage

McLEAN — The Panhandle Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' regular business meeting focused on the new laws which will greatly impact the water usage in the drought ridden areas of Texas.

Paul Robertson, a member of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, explained legislation regarding brush control which has gone before a budget hearing panel. The undesirable brush, weedy and tree-like growths which use up valuable water resources and are not part of wildlife conservation program, cost Texas farmers approximately \$38.5 million per year.

Mel Davis, another member, said Senate Bill 1 changes the water code, brush control regulations and water management practices.

"The water shortages have been felt statewide," said Davis. "Now the Legislature is looking at better management practices for a non-renewable resource."

Speakers encouraged members to contact representatives with thoughts concerning the water and natural resource management programs which will affect not only this region, but

the state as a whole.

Another matter of concern was the reduction of the personnel at the USDA office. Under President Clinton's new budget, 1000 USDA jobs will be eliminated by either combining duties or not replacing workers who retire or leave.

The new budget will combine the Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Among the other points of discussion was a range camp for students in the local area. The annual range camp in Junction is an excellent means of giving hands on range and wildlife management experience to students who are interested in the field. SWCD officials said Unfortunately, the camp at Junction is often inaccessible to the students in this area.

The Panhandle Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts is looking into sponsoring a range camp at Cedar Canyon for seventh, eighth and ninth graders.

The three-day camp will allow 10 to 25 area students to experience range management and ecology practices while having fun.

System brings welcome rains

From AP and Staff Reports

Showers and thunderstorms are expected across most of the state tonight and Thursday following rains from Tuesday night and this morning.

A developing low pressure system moving into the state from the west will combine with a cold front moving southward into the state from the Great Plains.

Pampa received 0.10 inch of moisture by 6 a.m. today, with an overnight low of 38. Forecasts call for more light rain in the Panhandle regions continuing through Thursday morning.

It will be cloudy across West Texas with a chance of rain

across the entire area with some thunderstorms forecast. Clouds will be decreasing late Thursday.

A flash flood watch is in effect for North Texas through Thursday where rain is forecast along with some isolated thunderstorms. Some of the thunderstorms will produce heavy rainfall and some could become severe, forecasters say.

Showers and thunderstorms will be accompanied with locally heavy rainfall across South Texas.

Light rainfall was reported early today from El Paso to the South Plains in West Texas and some light rain fell during the night in North Texas.

2-year-old girl dies after falling into well

CLYDE, Texas (AP) — A 2-year-old girl died after falling into a collapsing well in her grandmother's yard Tuesday despite frantic efforts to rescue her from the 35-foot hole.

Shyana Steele and another girl were playing in the front yard when earth around the well collapsed, officials said.

"The other little girl looked back from the porch and saw

that (Shyana) was gone," said Clyde Volunteer Fire Department Asst. Chief Billy Dezern.

Shyana apparently tumbled into 10-12 feet of water after the ground buckled.

The hand-dug well was lined with bricks and covered by an 18-inch-by-18-inch wooden box, said volunteer fire Chief Rick Gilmore.

"She went through the side of the well. The bricks caved in and

took her with it," he said. Gilmore said recent rains apparently loosened dirt around the well and caused the collapse.

Gilmore said rescue crews were unable to get into the well without causing another cave-in.

Authorities used a special hook to reach down and grab the child's clothing. They were able to pull the unconscious girl out more than an hour after she had fallen.

Analysts say Bush's tax cut only 3 percent

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush's property tax proposal would cut taxes paid by the average Texas household by less than 3 percent a year, according to the Legislature's budget analysts.

Bush has said the average Texas homeowner would see a 30 percent to 40 percent reduction in school property taxes. But Bush did not calculate the effects of the second half of his proposal — increasing sales and business taxes to help pay for the tax cut.

On Tuesday, legislators were given a look at what would happen to Texans' overall tax bills when the additional taxes are factored in.

The Legislative Budget Board told a House committee the average Texas household would get an overall tax break of 2.9 percent.

John Keel, LBB director, said Bush's plan would do relatively little for average Texans. Homeowners' taxes would be cut by 24 percent, Keel said. For the 40 percent of Texans who live in rented properties, Keel predicted that landlords would pass to their tenants 20 percent of their property tax cuts. That would mean an average drop in rent of \$5 a month.

"People are hearing this plan will reduce their property taxes by 40 percent," said Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, chairman of the committee. "That's not the case."

Karen Hughes, Bush's spokeswoman, said she hadn't seen the budget board figures. But she said the governor's plan is fair.

"It is a significant benefit for the people of Texas," she said. "It lowers the total tax burden by more than \$1 billion."

New trail signs



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

The City of Pampa Parks Department honored J. Kirk Duncan for his long-time support of the parks system by naming the Hike and Bike Trail which runs from Duncan to West Coronado in his honor. Duncan's daughter Brenda Noles, her husband Jerry and Duncan's wife Jean look at the last of the signs to be placed at Central Park this week.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

GARDNER, Penny — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
GUERRERO, Andrew Jade — 2 p.m., Kitch Funeral Home, Liberal, Kan.

Obituaries

PENNY GARDNER

Penny Gardner, 47, of Pampa, died Sunday, Feb. 16, 1997. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. M.B. Smith, retired Baptist minister, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Gardner was born Nov. 8, 1949, at Fort Smith, Ark. She had been a Pampa resident since 1979. She attended the Pampa Sheltered Workshop.

She was preceded in death by her father in 1976.

Survivors include her mother, Willie Donnell of Pampa; a brother, William Henry Talley of San Angelo; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

The family will be at 420 N. Lowry.

ANDREW JADE GUERRERO

LIBERAL, Kan. — Andrew Jade Guerrero, 20, grandson of a Miami, Texas, resident, died Friday, Feb. 14, 1997, at Wichita. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Kitch Funeral Home with the Rev. Barnette officiating. Burial will be in Liberal Cemetery.

Mr. Guerrero was born at Vernon, Texas. He had been a Liberal resident since 1981, moving from South Carolina with his family. He was a Liberal High School graduate.

Survivors include his father, Steve Guerrero of Liberal; five sisters, LaLania Wilson of Liberal, Donda Tolbert of Amarillo, Texas, Adina Barnette of Fritch, Texas, Wa-Landa Browning of Houston, Texas, and Sonja Tolbert of Omaha, Neb.; four brothers, Michael Tolbert of Borger, Texas, Chris Tolbert of Florida, Dicky Tolbert of Mullinville and Tim-Bo Tolbert of Amarillo; and his grandmother, Elodia Guerrero of Miami.

Friends may call at the funeral home from until 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Thursday.

FLOYD V. HENDERSON

Floyd V. Henderson, 87, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1997, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Henderson was born July 8, 1909, in Ector County, Texas. He had been a lifelong Pampa resident. He had worked in the oil field as a driller. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during World War II.

Survivors include a son, Tommy Henderson of Orlando, Fla.; three grandchildren, and special friends, Ralph and Kathleen Hipkins of Pampa.

EMIL BERNARD STUEBGEN

BLOOMFIELD, N.M. — Emil Bernard Stuebgen, 85, died Monday, Feb. 17, 1997. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa, Texas.

Mr. Stuebgen was born Sept. 29, 1911. Survivors include his wife, Josephine, of Farmington, N.M.; three daughters and sons-in-law, Joan and Terry K. Oliver and Julia and Jonathan Smith, all of Farmington, N.M.; and Sandra and Chuck Medberry of San Angelo, Texas; a son and daughter-in-law, Edward Lee and Jamie Stuebgen of Borger, Texas; 12 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Amberg Grain of Pampa:

Wheat	4.05	Chicot	67.12	du.12
Milo	1.24	Coca Cola	61.34	du.14
Corn	3.00	Columbia/BX	44.34	du.18
		London	42	du.38
		Halliburton	68.75	du.18
		Ingersoll Rand	48.14	du.14
		KMI	18.14	du.8
		Kerr-McGee	64.34	du.8
		Limited	17.5	du.
		Maxco	11.5	du.
		McQuay	46.75	du.
		Medco	11.5	du.
		New Amco	21.34	du.
		Parker & Passie	6.55	du.
		Perco	45	du.
		Phillips	42.5	du.
		SLB	15.5	du.
		SPS	15.5	du.
		Thurston	15.49	du.
		Texas	15.5	du.
		Texaco	15.5	du.
		Ultrama	24	du.
		Wul Mart	24	du.
		New York Stock	59.2	du.
		West Texas	11.5	du.
		West Texas	11.5	du.

The following 90-day S&P 500 Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:

Amco	15.5	du.18
Amco	15.5	du.14
Clack	24.15	du.18
Clack	24.15	du.14

Police report

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

TUESDAY, Feb. 18

Theft of an undetermined amount was reported in the 300 block of North Somerville. Criminal mischief was reported at Recreation Park. Approximately \$100 damage was done to plumbing fixtures in the restrooms.

A 37-year-old female reported an aggravated assault in the 400 block of Ward.

A 21-year-old female reported a domestic violence in the 700 block of Browning.

Arrest

Johnathon Paul Munn, 32, 1037 Varnon Dr., was arrested on a charge of aggravated assault. He remains in custody.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro reported the following calls for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, Feb. 18

9:28 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo to transfer a patient to Columbia Medical Center.

10:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of Cinderella on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

12:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Columbia Medical Center to transport one patient to a local nursing home.

2:14 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Columbia Medical Center to transport one patient to a local nursing home.

3:31 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1400 block of East Browning on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

3:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 500 block of North Faulkner on a fire assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

6:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1000 block of North Dwight on a possible trauma. Two patients were transported to Columbia Medical Center.

7:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of North Wells on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

9:53 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of East Kingsmill on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, Feb. 18

3:27 p.m. — Four units and seven personnel responded to 509 N. Faulkner for a structure fire. One bystander was hurt when glass blew out of the house.

7:53 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to 1717 Duncan on a medical assist.

Calendar of events

TRALEE CRISIS GROUP COUNSELING

Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler, is offering group counseling for battered and abused women 11 a.m. to noon Mondays. Facilitator is Priscilla Klempeter, LMFT. For more information, call Ann Hamilton at 669-1131. Space is limited. Call ahead.

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT GROUP

The Pampa Alzheimers Support Group will have its next regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20, at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 2225 Perrytown Pkwy. Dan Snider from Lovett Memorial Library will be speaking on what books and resources are available at the library and how to access them.

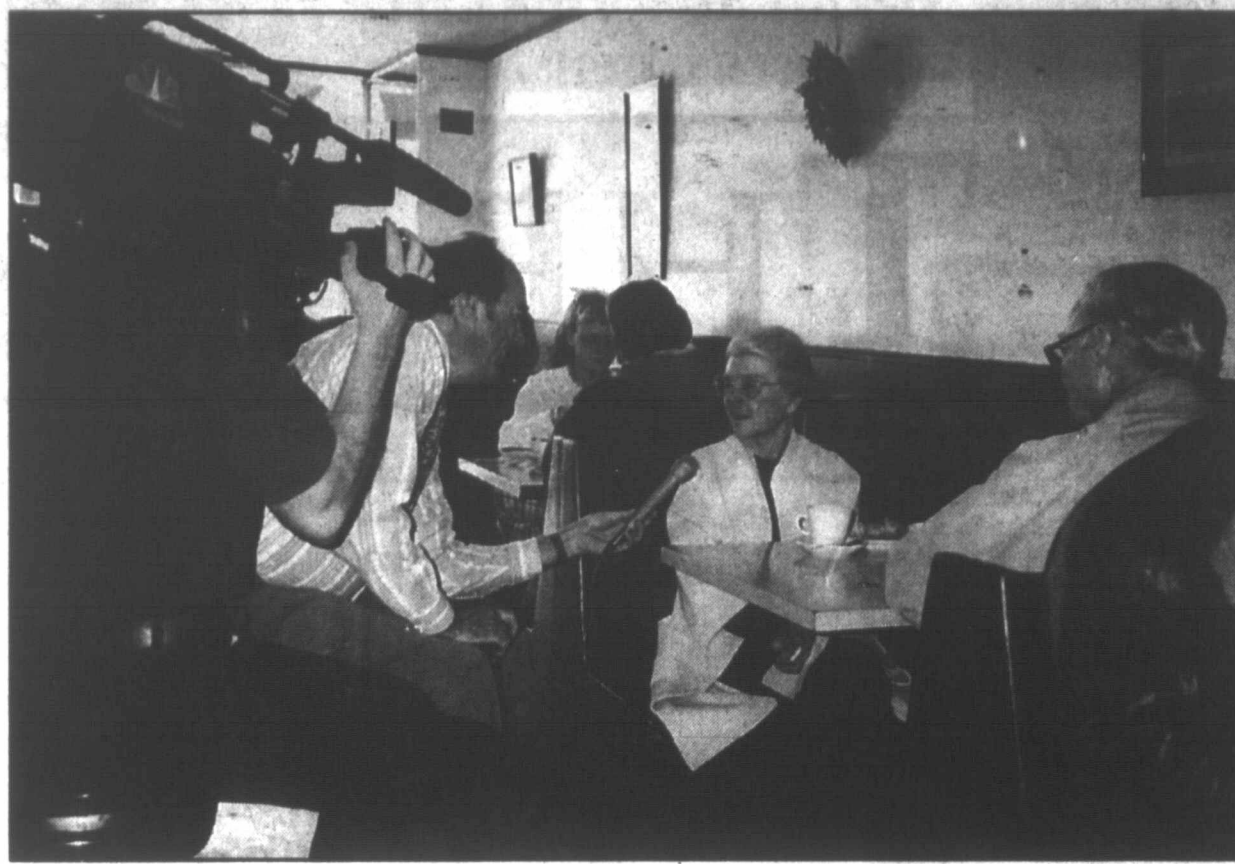
EIGHTH GRADE PARTY PLANNING MEETING

An organizational meeting to plan the eighth grade party will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, in the Pampa Middle School library. All parents of eighth grade students are encouraged to attend.

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Energy	665-5777
Fire	911
Police emergency	911
Police non-emergency	669-5700
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

Smile - you're going to be on TV



(Pampa News photo by Sherry Cromartie)

KAMR-TV (Channel 4) news reporter Rich Vaughn, is shown interviewing long-time Coney Island Cafe customers Crystal Tucker and her husband, Denver Tucker, having lunch while sitting in a favorite booth at the Coney Island Cafe. The Tuckers told Vaughn they've been eating Coney Island hot dogs and chili burgers and homemade pie with the Gikas brothers at their cafe for over 50 years. Vaughn and his cameraman, Allan Gwyn, have visited several Pampa businesses recently, gathering feature stories to be shown on Channel 4-TV News at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday, the week of Feb. 24-28. Vaughn's feature topics cover Pampa's tornado destruction and rebuilding period; a well known Pampa business, Coney Island Cafe; Zach Thomas - growing up; Pampa's industrial progress; and Gray County's agricultural outlook.

Father admits killing children in religious dispute

F NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — In a surprise admission on the day his murder trial was to begin, a man sobbed as he told the judge how he strangled his 12-year-old daughter and killed his 10-year-old son during a custody battle over their religious upbringing.

"I held my hands around her neck for about five minutes with my face pressed to hers," Avi Kostner said Tuesday in court. "I cried ... 'Please forgive me. Please God forgive me.'"

Kostner said he drugged the children and put them in the back of a car. He killed the girl after she awoke but said couldn't bring himself to strangle the boy, so he gave him more of a tranquilizer. He also used a hose to fill the car with its exhaust fumes.

Kostner, a taxi driver and part-time Hebrew teacher, surprised even his own lawyer when he suddenly asked to address the court after the judge had sent the newly selected jurors to lunch. He then pleaded guilty and confessed to the killings, which came during a battle over custody and whether the children would be raised as Jews.

"We were not sure he was going to do this," said lawyer Cathy L. Waldor, who contends that Kostner is mentally ill.

Kostner, who could be sentenced to death, had admitted to

police that in June 1994 he killed his children and gave himself an overdose of tranquilizers. He then pleaded innocent, but the statements would have been admissible at trial.

Later, he discussed pleading guilty with his lawyers, but his admission in court still caught them by surprise, Ms. Waldor said.

Kostner, 52, was obsessed with raising his daughter, Geri Beth, and son, Ryan, as Jews. He told the court Tuesday that he wanted them to die as Jews. His ex-wife, Lynn Mison, had converted back to Christianity after their divorce in 1988. She and her new husband planned to move to Florida with the children, and she wanted Geri Beth and Ryan to decide their religions for themselves once they turned 18.

"No court had the right to take away what God had given me," Kostner said of a judge's order awarding custody to Ms. Mison.

The children's bodies were found covered by a sleeping bag in the back of a borrowed car idling in a parking lot near a police station. Kostner was slumped unconscious over the steering wheel.

After treating the children to dinner, a movie and bowling that night, Kostner said he gave them

the tranquilizer, which he told them was Vitamin C.

When Ryan began to stagger, Kostner said, he put both children in the car, started the engine and fed the exhaust into the cabin so he and the children would die of carbon monoxide poisoning.

But Geri Beth regained consciousness, so Kostner strangled her, he said. He didn't want to strangle the boy so he gave him another pill. An autopsy showed Ryan died of asphyxiation and poisoning from the tranquilizer Xanax. Despite Kostner's claims, prosecutors have said they do not believe he was trying to kill himself.

Ms. Waldor had planned to argue that Kostner had "diminished capacity" at the time of the slayings. She will use the argument in seeking life in prison rather than the death penalty when the jury hears testimony next week in the penalty phase.

Diminished capacity is a legal defense in which it must be shown that the accused suffered from a mental disease or defect that prevented him from knowingly or purposefully committing murder.

"We're going to be arguing he's so mentally ill and has been for such a long period of time that his ability to reason is impaired," she said.

Galileo nears Europa

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Scientists who believe there may be life on Jupiter's moon Europa will get their closest look yet at the icy surface when the unmanned Galileo spacecraft speeds by.

Europa, with an ocean that could be 60 miles deep, appears to have a fractured crust of icy slabs that may be sliding on a warmer layer of slush or water.

If true, that would give Europa two ingredients essential for life: water and a source of internal heat.

The spacecraft will come within 360 miles of Europa on Thursday morning, said William J. O'Neil, the Galileo project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

City briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

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

NEED CHURCH Secretary - entry level position. Experienced in Microsoft Word, Windows 95 and reception work. Non-smoking, mature person need only apply. Come by First Christian Church office, 1633 N. Nelson, 8-5 to pick up application. Will need resume and 3 current recommendations. Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE - Wednesday 5-8 p.m. Meat loaf, chicken fried steak, jambalaya, shrimp etouffee. 716 W. Foster. Adv.

HOAGIES DELI - Coronado Shopping Center. Try a Chicken Eater Sandwich. Grilled chicken piled high with sauteed onions and peppers. Topped with melted Provolone cheese on an onion roll. Free delivery. Adv.

OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPER delivered. Home or business. Daily 3 months \$13.95, Sunday 4 months \$14.20. 669-1956. Adv.

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

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

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST
 Tonight, cloudy with chance of light rain. Low in the mid 30s with northeasterly winds 10-20 mph. Thursday, clearing with a high in the low 50s and northerly winds 10-20 mph. Friday, partly cloudy with a high near 50. Tuesday's high was 64, the overnight low was 38. Pampa received 0.10 inch of moisture in the 24-hour period ending at 6 a.m. today.

REGIONAL FORECAST
 West Texas - Panhandle Tonight, generally cloudy with a chance for light rain. Lows in mid to upper 30s. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a continued chance for rain early, then clearing later in the day. Highs from near 50 to mid 50s. South Plains. Tonight, rain likely, otherwise cloudy. Lows in low 40s. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a chance of rain in the morning.

Decreasing clouds afternoon. Highs around 60.

North Texas - Flash flood watch tonight and Thursday. Tonight and Thursday, rain and thunderstorms, rain may be heavy at times. A few storms possibly severe central and east Thursday. Lows 52 northwest to 60 southeast. Highs 58 northwest to 68 southeast.

South Texas - Hill Country and South Central. Tonight, cloudy with showers or thunderstorms likely. A few storms could be severe with locally heavy rainfall. Lows in low to mid 60s. Thursday, cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs in low to mid 60s. Upper Coast: Tonight, cloudy with showers or thunderstorms likely. Lows in low to mid 60s. Thursday, cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms, some possibly severe with locally heavy rainfall. Highs in upper 60s to near 70. Coastal Bend and

Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, cloudy with showers and thunderstorms likely. Lows in mid 60s coast to low 60s inland, upper 50s Rio Grande plains. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs in mid to upper 70s.

BORDER STATES
 New Mexico - Snow advisory through midday south central mountains. Tonight, a chance of lowland rain and mountain snow showers central and southeast, otherwise decreasing clouds and colder. Lows teens and 20s mountains and north with 30s to low 40s elsewhere. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs upper 30s to near 50 mountains and north with mostly 60s elsewhere.

Oklahoma Tonight, occasional showers with a chance for thunderstorms. Lows upper 30s northwest to low 30s southeast. Thursday, occasional showers with a chance for thunderstorms. Highs in upper 40s to mid 50s.

Lake Meredith places restrictions on campfires

Fritch Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument (LAMR AEFU) Superintendent John Benjamin has announced restrictions on campfires at the lake area.

Benjamin said the fire danger readings are high to extreme and are expected to remain in this condition until the grass and other vegetation greens up.

With abundant vegetation in the lake area due to last summer's rains and with temperatures and winds on the rise a serious fire danger situation has been created, he noted.

Due to this condition it has become necessary to ban campfires throughout the LAMR AEFU area.

"We are allowing the use of charcoal in grills and camp

stoves in ten designated campgrounds," Benjamin said.

The designated campgrounds are located at Bugies, Blue Cross, Chimney Hill, Blue Cross, Rosita Flats, Harbor Bay, Fort Fortness Cedar Camp, Birch and Yake and Spring Camp.

"Fires of all kinds are banned outside these designated areas," he said.

Benjamin said he and other lake officials are asking visitors to be extra careful with their campfires by keeping the fires small and completely extinguishing the charcoal after its use. Visitors are also asked to be careful with their cigarettes and ensure they are completely out when disposed of.

Visitors also are asked to avoid brush and grass with their vehicles in order to avoid having a wildfire started by the exhaust

systems, particularly the catalytic converter.

"Wildfire prevention cannot be successful without the cooperation of all park visitors," Benjamin said. "Wildfires are a dangerous threat to property, wildlife and human lives. Please be careful."

Benjamin also reminded visitors that other park rules and regulations will be enforced.

These include no possession of alcoholic beverages by those under 21, no keg or party balls without special permit and prohibiting open containers of alcohol in or on all vehicles, as well as laws against operating any motor vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Also, rules against illegal use or possession of weapons and firearms will be enforced.

Air Force, National Transportation Safety Board determine pilots acted properly in air encounter

By JOHN DIAMOND
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the words "Tally ho!" the F-16 pilot notified his ground controllers that the unidentified aircraft approaching the New Jersey coast was in sight.

Already informed by radio that he was dealing with a commercial Boeing 727 airliner, the Air National Guard pilot gradually approached the plane from the rear. Unbeknownst to the fighter pilot, this maneuver, conducted in clear weather on the afternoon of Feb. 5, set off collision alarms in the cockpit of the Nations Air jet. The commercial pilot put his plane into a dive and then a climb, with the F-16 tailing him all the way.

After a little more than three minutes, a Navy air traffic controller, having been contacted by his civilian counterparts, ordered the fighter away.

The incident was described in detail Tuesday in separate reports issued by the Air Force and the National Transportation Safety Board. Both concluded that the F-16 and commercial pilots did



Military air safety

New regulations announced Tuesday:

- Restricted flights in Atlantic and Gulf Coast warning areas, pending review.
- Air Force review of all special-use air space. Also, a review of all Atlantic Coast operations with the Federal Aviation Administration and the Navy.
- Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) training for Air Force air crews and air controllers.
- New procedures for pilots attempting to gain clearance from other aircraft in military air space.

Donald L. Peterson at a Pentagon news conference. He called the hot dogging charge "an irresponsible comment."

Greg Feith, an NTSB investigator, said the F-16's approach was "a controlled procedure; it was done in a methodical manner."

Peterson concurred. "He was completely legal," Peterson said. "If you asked, could he have done something differently, certainly."

The pilot might have backed off as soon as he was informed the unidentified plane was a commercial airliner. Peterson said he continued to pursue to make sure the airliner cleared out of the military training air space. Peterson said he would recommend against any punishment.

Corrective steps unveiled by the Air Force include exhausting other means before resorting to visual identification of an unknown aircraft.

In addition, all Air Force pilots will receive training on the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System used by commercial liners.

The F-16 pilot was apparently unaware that by pulling close to the airliner, he would be set-

ting off alarms in the airliner's cockpit.

Feith said the planes were in no danger of collision and the fighter jet broke away when instructed to leave by a military air traffic controller.

The F-16 approached within 1,000 feet behind the airliner and within 400 feet of its altitude, Feith said.

The incident led to a suspension of military training maneuvers along the East Coast and changes in training to stress the problems of approaching too close to airliners. The Air Force said it expects to lift the training suspension later this week.

That incident and three others on the following Friday in which civilian and military planes had close encounters sparked concern about the dangers of the sky.

Last year there were more than 1,300 incidents where airliners maneuvered to avoid nearby aircraft, Peterson said. Of those, seven percent involved military aircraft.

The Nations Air plane was being directed through a military area on the way to New York when two F-16s entered the region.

their jobs properly. Both reports cleared the fighter pilot of any "hot dogging," as Nations Air executives had initially charged after the close encounter.

"We absolutely don't tolerate it," said Air Force Maj. Gen.

AIDS group pulls ads following complaints in North Texas

DALLAS (AP) — An AIDS charity has pulled a nationwide ad campaign declaring that "Prayer won't cure AIDS — Research will" from buses and billboards after complaints in North Texas.

The American Foundation for AIDS Research campaign, which was to have continued through March in 19 major markets, met opposition in Dallas-Fort Worth earlier this month and was canceled by transit agencies in both cities.

Two other ads in the campaign read:

— "Sexual abstinence won't cure AIDS. Research will."

— "Red ribbons won't cure AIDS. Research will."

The foundation killed the campaign Tuesday, saying there was

scattered criticism from across the country.

"The controversy and negative take on the ads was obscuring the underlying message," said Sally Morrison, vice president of external affairs for the foundation, a pet charity of actress Elizabeth Taylor. "The most vocal problem was in Dallas and Fort Worth."

L.B. Lyon, news director of Christian radio station KCBI, told *The Dallas Morning News* that a few listeners called him earlier this month to complain about the prayer and abstinence signs on buses operated by Dallas Area Rapid Transit.

"I suggested they call DART, and then I also called DART," he said.

DART spokesman Morgan

Lyons said the agency tries to avoid controversial ads, including public service announcements like AmFAR's.

"We have kind of our own standards of good taste," Lyons told *The Associated Press* late Tuesday. "In conversations with the marketing staff, we just made the decision to take the PSAs down."

DART board member Jesse Oliver questioned whether the agency's staff had acted properly.

"We should not be catering to small groups that have differences of opinion," Oliver said. Pulling ads from buses is "a policy matter for the board" to decide.

In Fort Worth, a handful of people complained after the prayer ads went up, said Mary

Herring, marketing director for the city transit agency.

"They were covered up the same day," she said. "You don't have to belittle someone else's beliefs to play up the benefits of AIDS research."

That certainly wasn't AmFAR's intention, Ms. Morrison said.

"We weren't saying people shouldn't believe in prayer as a healing force — it is one," she said. "Our point is it's not enough... We need a cure."

Lou Giordano, regional manager for a company that handles bus billboards for both transit agencies, said the company will continue to use its own AIDS-awareness message, "AIDS research life," on area buses this year.

State briefs

Report alleges Kelly labor leaders misused funds

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — An investigation of the Kelly Air Force Base labor union alleges its leaders misused donations and spent dues on steak dinners and horse track outings, the *San Antonio Express-News* has reported.

Local union officials have failed to act on the internal report, which was issued in September.

Meanwhile, rank-and-file members of the American Federation of Government Employees Local 1617 say they are losing faith in their leaders, the *Express-News* reported in its copyright story Tuesday.

Lou Georges, union president, dismissed the report as the product of infighting. He would not answer specific allegations, but said the national union office had cleared him and other local officials of any wrongdoing.

"This is all internal union business. It's a dead issue," Georges said.

Hoyt has said Aldape Guerra should be retried or set free.

Aldape Guerra, 34, an illegal immigrant who had only recently arrived in Houston, once came within three days of execution before receiving a reprieve. The case has drawn much attention in Mexico, which does not have the death penalty.

The district attorney, however, won this week's hearing before a retired Texas Court of Criminal Appeals justice, Frank Maloney, who is to decide if a capital murder charge against Aldape Guerra should be dismissed because of Hoyt's 1994 decision. Maloney says his decision likely would be issued in mid March.

Senate passes bill making it harder to reverse convictions

AUSTIN (AP) — State appeals courts couldn't throw out criminal convictions for "harmless errors" that occurred at trial under a bill passed by the Texas Senate under the banner of victims' rights.

"Crime victims all across the state are asking the Legislature to make it very, very clear that criminals are entitled to a fair trial. They're not entitled to a perfect trial," said Sen. J.E. "Buster" Brown, R-Lake Jackson, author of the bill.

The measure passed Tuesday and goes to the House for consideration.

Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, said he supports crime victims but voiced concern that the bill would upset the balance between their rights and those of defendants.

IRS seizes Madalyn O'Hair's property in \$250,000 tax lien

AUSTIN (AP) — The bizarre case of missing atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair has taken another twist with the Internal Revenue Service seizure of her home and property to pay \$250,000 in back taxes.

Ms. O'Hair, whose 1962 lawsuit led to the U.S. Supreme Court banning school-sponsored prayer, has been missing for about 18 months.

Stuart Bradford, a spokesman for the IRS in Texas, said the agency filed a lien on Ms. O'Hair's property on Jan. 21 for personal taxes unpaid in 1980, 1986, 1987 and 1988.

Agents showed up with moving trailers at 11 a.m. Tuesday to take possession.

Two trailers were parked outside of Ms. O'Hair's northwest Austin home, where ten IRS agents were taking an inventory of property and removing items from the home, including furniture, boxes and televisions.

The agency expected to finish removing the items today.

"It wouldn't take us a day and a half if it was (left in good con-

dition)," an agent said of the home's interior. He asked not to be identified.

Bradford said the house and personal possessions will be auctioned soon to pay the debt. Auction dates haven't been set.

Ms. O'Hair or anyone with power of attorney could appeal the seizure and could pay off the debt any time before the auction to save the property, he said.

Missing along with Ms. O'Hair are her son, Jon Murray, and her adopted daughter, Robin Murray.

Ms. Murray is the daughter of Ms. O'Hair's estranged son, William Murray. He had sought custody of his mother's estate, but recently dropped the court matter.

William Murray did not return calls for comment Tuesday.

American Atheists, one of Ms. O'Hair's organizations, refused to answer questions. Jody Helman, an Austin attorney appointed to represent Ms. O'Hair in the estate battle, is not commenting on the O'Hairs, according to a secretary in his office who would not give her name.

Police dispute claims of misconduct in Guerra case

HOUSTON (AP) — Police say they took precautions and followed proper procedures while interviewing witnesses to the shooting of a fellow officer that resulted in a Mexican man going to death row.

Harris County prosecutors are revisiting the case this week at an evidentiary hearing where they are trying to counter a federal judge's finding that they and police were guilty of misconduct in obtaining a tainted conviction and death sentence for Ricardo Aldape Guerra.

U.S. District Judge Kenneth

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Community Calendar

Note: Civic clubs, organizations, church groups and others wanting their special meetings and activities listed on the community calendar should contact the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce office, 200 N. Ballard, or call 669-3241, at least two weeks before the scheduled event.

February

AL-ANON will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky. For more information, call 669-0407.

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.

CLEAN AIR AL-ATEEN will hold weekly meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, contact 669-0407 or 669-3988.

VFW POST #1657, 105 S. Cuyler. Charity Bingo every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open at 12 noon. Public is welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS of the Texas Panhandle Inc. has an office open in Pampa. For information as a volunteer, or if you have a child who would qualify for the program, call 665-1211.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE CHARITY BINGO every Monday at 7 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 403 E. Brown. Doors open at 6 p.m. Public welcome. License #1-751616469-0.

MEN OF THE MOOSE CHARITY BINGO every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 403 E. Brown. Doors open at 6 p.m. Public welcome. License #1-75-0769811-0.

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS project will hold regular workshop meetings at 6:30 p.m. Mondays at 2125 N. Hobart. Anyone wishing to help with the project is invited to attend any work session.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER, 308 S. Cuyler, is offering group counseling for battered and abused women 11 a.m. to noon Mondays. Facilitator is Priscilla Kleinpeter, LMFT. For more information, call Ann Hamilton at 669-1131. Space is limited. Call ahead.

19 - "THE GLORY AND THE FIRE" dramatic presentation, First Assembly of God Church, 500 S. Cuyler (Cuyler and Hwy. 60), 7 p.m. nightly. This drama portrays scenes of life as people confront the reality of heaven and hell. Nursery provided through age 3. Children under age of 12 should be accompanied by adult, and parents should be advised that the intensity of this presentation may not be suitable for children under 12. Admission is free, but an offering will be received. For more information, contact Rev. Mike Moss at 665-5941 (office) or 665-6060 (home).

20 - PAMPA AREA CANCER SUPPORT GROUP will meet from 7-8 p.m. in the Columbia Medical Center cafeteria. Program will be on Emotion and Illness: Are They Connected, with discussion of their effects on cancer victims and their families. For more information, contact Kathy Gist at 665-4742.

20 - CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL BANQUET and naming of Citizen of the Year. 7 p.m., M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium and Civic Center. Featuring Dan Willis, cowboy poet/storyteller from Cranfills Gap, Texas. Tickets, \$15 per person. For more information, call the Chamber at 669-3241.

21 - "ART OF HEART" AUCTION at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium from 6-9 p.m. Local merchants are donating items for the silent auction at 6 and 7 p.m. Area artists have donated paintings, pottery, jewelry, etc., for the live auction. All tickets are \$10. Tickets may be obtained by calling Chrys Smith or Dee Barker at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 665-0356.

22 - FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS at 6 p.m., Clyde Carruth Pavilion. Pot luck supper. For more information, call 665-8067, 665-0190 or 665-7896.

22 - VFW POST #1657 will have a covered-dish social at 6 p.m. for members and guests at the Post Home, 105 S. Cuyler. For more information, contact Jean Dietrich at 669-6579.

23-24 - ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 727 W. Browning, will host "Lenten Preaching Mission" with the Rev. James V. Thomson, associate rector, Trinity Episcopal Church, Tulsa, Okla. Feb. 23 at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Feb. 24 at 12 noon, 7 p.m. (dinner will be served in the Parish Hall at 6 p.m.) Invitation extended to all church community people interested in the Christian Mission. For more information, call Nelda Rogers at 665-8779.

24 - CREATIVE ARTISANS NETWORK will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Lovett Memorial Library annex. For more information, call Grant Johnson at 669-9887 or Kelly Ebel at 665-2825.

25 - PAMPA CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY ASSOCIATION will meet on the second floor of Coronado Inn, first meeting room to the left of the stairs, at 7 p.m. In addition to payment of dues for 1997, election of officers for 1997 will be held. For more information, call 669-6386.

27 - PANHANDLE PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Lovett Memorial Library, 111 N. Houston. Visitors are welcome.

March

2 - WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM will be presenting a video on the New Deal on the Texas plains in conjunction with the New Deal exhibit at 2:30 p.m. The video viewing is sponsored by the Gray County Historical Commission and is open to the public. For more information, call the museum at 669-8041.

4 - PANHANDLE DAY IN AUSTIN. Day-long visit with Texas legislators in Austin. For more information, contact 669-3241.

9 - FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, 1700 Alcock, will be "singing" from 2-4 p.m., with the public invited. For more information, contact Mina Towery at 665-3361 or 665-8529.

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Viewpoints

THE PAMPA NEWS

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS
TO BE AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Missile defense idea still sound

If the idea of building a missile defense system had emerged recently rather than during the Cold War there probably would be less controversy about it.

The idea of building a system that could shoot down incoming warheads before they cause death and destruction was pushed by President Ronald Reagan in the mid-1980s. Leading Democrats who were against Reagan's defense build-up dug in their heels.

They derisively used the term "Star Wars" to deride the anti-missile plan, and suggested it would bankrupt the U.S. treasury and fuel a new arms race. The collapse of the Soviet Empire short-circuited the debate and put the deployment of a missile defense system on the backburner.

The issue re-emerged after Republicans gained control of Congress in 1994 and after many defense analysts opined that the new post-Cold War world isn't much safer than the old one. The disintegration of the Soviet Union left nuclear stockpiles in the hands of various republics, and evidence shows that North Korea, Iraq and other rogue nations have embarked on nuclear weapons programs that could ultimately threaten America.

These new realities should cause Americans of all political stripes to take a fresh look at the missile defense issue. The central issues are whether a limited missile defense system — as opposed to the satellite-based, full-fledged Strategic Defense Initiative promoted during the Reagan era — is cost-effective and feasible.

A nation that spends billions on nation-building schemes in places that most Americans couldn't place on a map would be better off spending a few billion dollars offering real protection to its citizens. Currently, if a nation launched a nuclear warhead toward America, there's nothing we could do other than launch a retaliatory attack.

A law already exists mandating the development of a missile defense system. Though he signed the Ballistic Missile Defense Act into law last year, President Bill Clinton has refused to follow the law or to spend the full amount Congress has authorized on the program.

GOP lawmakers filed suit against the executive branch, noting that the president could have vetoed it. By signing the law but refusing to abide by its tenets, Clinton flaunts the Constitution.

The Senate is also developing new legislation to push America to deploy an anti-ballistic missile system by 2003. Debate over that measure should reach the Senate floor in the coming months.

"We cannot afford to gamble that all heads of state will be responsible," former ambassador Edward L. Rowley wrote in the *New York Times*. "During the Cuban missile crisis, Fidel Castro urged nuclear attacks on the United States... Had Saddam Hussein possessed a nuclear weapon with intercontinental range, he may have been tempted to use it during the Gulf War..."

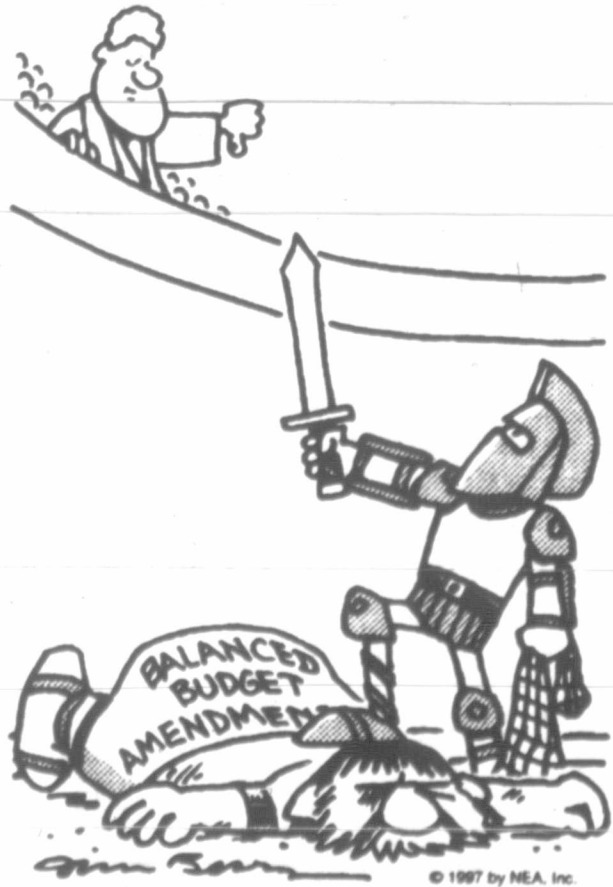
A leading Chinese military official in recent years made veiled threats to American officials about lobbing a missile toward Los Angeles if America interfered with China's intimidation of Taiwan.

The Clinton administration and other missile defense opponents should put aside their knee-jerk, Cold War-era reactions. Protecting America against current missile threats is a wise course in a world that remains as unsafe as ever.

Your representatives

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Berry's World



Study: Rating system is a flop

A few weeks ago, I devoted this space to a preliminary look at the new, much-ballyhooed parental-guidance ratings for prime time television. Like so many others, I suggested the age based rating system wouldn't work.

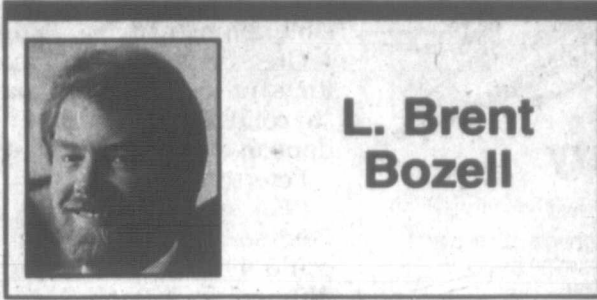
The Parents Television Council recently analyzed 150 hours of programming on ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX, UPN and WB during two weeks of prime time television, and the results of this new study, a TV-ratings report card "F" for failure, prove my theory.

The ratings system, launched in January, called for the networks to rate their own products with one of four classifications: G, PG, TV-14 and TV-M (for mature audiences). But when we allow the fox to guard the hen house and pass judgment on the quality of the chicken therein, the results are predictable.

The networks gave the G rating to 18 percent of their shows on prime time television, a rating that is considered generally a safe haven for children of all ages. But this is not an absolute. During this study period, TV shows with vulgarities, like "ass" and sexual jokes about breasts, garnered G ratings.

The PG rating, according to the ratings guidelines, means the show may include "some material that some parents may find unsuitable for younger children." In fact, the PG label was applied to more than three-fifths of all programming (61 percent) but is still hopelessly vague. Some shows, like *Promised Land* (CBS) and *Dangerous Minds* (ABC), received PG ratings for the mildest of violence or language; other shows with far more sexual innuendo, vulgarities, obscenities and explicit violence received the identical rating.

Obscenities appeared in 52 percent of all PG-rated shows. Terms such as "ass," "bastard," "son of a bitch" and so on are now typical. But you can add a new one that researchers caught three times on PG-rated shows which, though "bleeped" out,



L. Brent Bozell

was clearly understandable when uttered: "f***ing." And here's a new low: On one episode of FOX's *X-Files*, one character calls another a "f***er" in Spanish. And to add insult to injury, the subtitle on the screen translates it into "bastard." So much for "some material" that parents "may" find unsuitable for younger children.

The shows that garnered a more advanced TV-14 rating got it for violence, not language or sexual content, as a rule. Twenty-one percent of the programs on prime time received TV-14 ratings, and while 68 percent of those shows had obscenities or vulgarities, rarely were they any stronger than the PG fare.

Amazingly, nothing on prime time network television received a TV-M rating, not the steamy sex scenes on *The Pretender* (NBC), not the naked women on *Orleans* (CBS), not the gruesome violence on *Moloney* (CBS), not the jokes about masturbation on *Life's Work* (ABC) and not the obscene language on *Pearl* (CBS). Nothing on prime time network television is seen as necessarily objectionable for youngsters.

There is no inter-network consistency. Jay Leno's *Tonight Show* on NBC gets a TV-14 rating, but until just recently, *The Late Show* with David Letterman on CBS got only a PG; *Saturday Night Live* gets an automatic TV-14 on NBC, but reruns of SNL get a

PG on the comedy channel. There's no intra-network consistency, either; ABC gives *NYPD Blue* a TV-14 rating primarily because of its language, and yet the same network's *Life's Work*, which contains far more sexual innuendo and more graphic obscenities (and, for good measure, appears during the so-called "family hour"), gets a PG.

And to make matters even more confusing, there's no consistency within various episodes of the same series. On the Jan. 9 episode of CBS' *Moloney* a girl shot her uncle. There was no blood in the scene; he simply fell over dead. That episode was rated TV-14. One week later, a man put a razor blade in his wife's hand, clasped it between his own and violently, graphically squeezed, which forced the blade to slice into her hand and coated it completely with blood, all while he quoted scripture and extolled her to commit suicide. That gory torture scene received a benign PG.

The age-based ratings system on television today is hopelessly confusing, inconsistent, contradictory and meaningless. If the networks really want to be responsive to the wishes of tens of millions of parents around the country, they'll ditch this fatally flawed and irrational system and undertake a real one, one that is content based, one that gives parents the choice they are demanding.

HBO has one such system already in place. And an industry caucus whose members include Norman Lear, Aaron Spelling and Rob Reiner backs another, with guidelines under which TV shows would receive gradations of S, V and L (for sex, violence and language). *Court TV*, which is exempt from the ratings system altogether, is voluntarily proposing to launch its own system that it promises will be even more comprehensive.

The point is this: It can be done, and it should be done, and it better get done if Hollywood doesn't want the feds to take over.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 1997. There are 315 days left in the year.

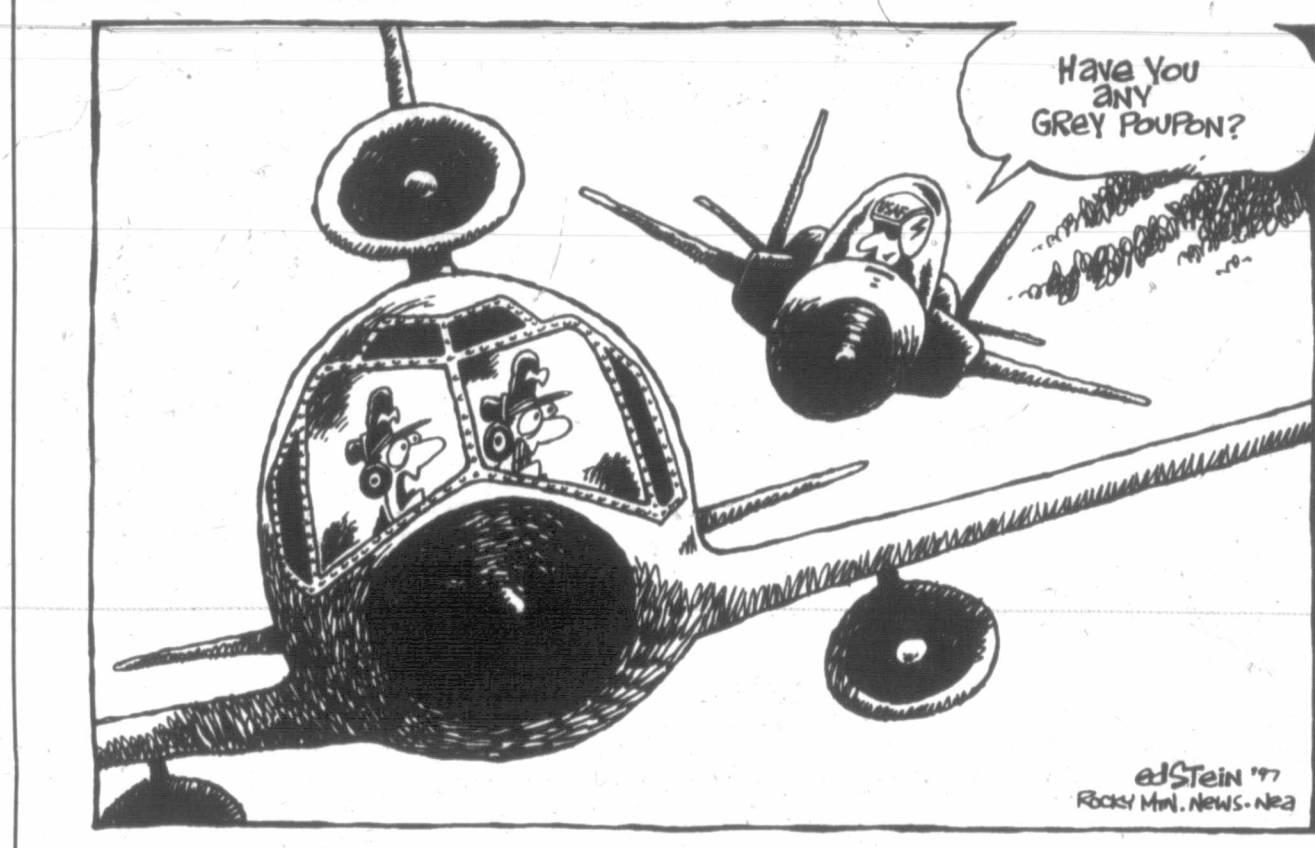
Today's Highlight in History:
On Feb. 19, 1945, during World War II, some 30,000 U.S. Marines landed on the Western Pacific island of Iwo Jima, where they encountered ferocious resistance from Japanese forces. The Americans took control of the strategically important island after a monthlong battle.

On this date:
In 1473, the astronomer Copernicus was born in Torun, Poland.

In 1803, Congress voted to accept Ohio's borders and constitution. (However, Congress did not get around to formally ratifying Ohio statehood until — believe it or not — 1953.)

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was arrested in Alabama. (He was subsequently tried for treason and acquitted.)

In 1846, the Texas state government was formally installed in Austin.



edStein '97
Rocky Mtn. News - NCA

Republicans and education issues

"We haven't yet figured out," a Republican senator told me the day after the president's State of the Union message, "how to respond to President Clinton's little initiatives."

Indeed they haven't. Republicans managed to rouse themselves — eventually — to oppose the president's health care proposal three years ago. But these piecemeal efforts seem to have left them flummoxed. Watching the president successfully steal the education issue is a case in point.

Education ought to be a natural Republican issue. But in the 1996 election, it was one of the most important factors accounting for the huge gender gap. (The gender gap was not caused by abortion — of the 13 percent of voters who said abortion was one of the two most important issues affecting their choice of candidate, 50 percent voted for Dole, and 39 percent voted for Clinton.)

Education, on the other hand, was cited by more than 50 percent of women as affecting their vote. Bob Dole fumbled the education issue with his unenlightening and unexplained opposition to the Department of Education. He said only that we should abolish it. Voters will be forgiven (just barely) for assuming that this signified lack of interest in education by the Republicans.

President Clinton, by contrast, has ambitious plans. He envisions a corps of volunteers (paid volunteers being the Clinton specialty) to teach all eighth-graders to read. He wants new federal funds to connect every high school to the Internet and to raise teachers' standards. He proposes Hope Scholarships (in the form of a refundable tax credit) to those who maintain a B average in



Mona Charen

school and tax deductions for college tuition. My, what a busy bee our president is. Let's take a closer look at his proposals — though to do so may violate his call for letting "politics stop at the schoolhouse door."

The first proposal, the corps of "volunteers" (\$2.45 billion over five years) to teach reading, is the most revealing. If 40 percent of our eighth-graders cannot read at grade level, doesn't that suggest that something fundamental has gone awry with our education system? Yet the president proposes no serious reform for the failing system, only a flying buttress of volunteers to prop it up. Oh, and oodles more taxpayer money (an increase of two-thirds in the federal education budget.) George Santayana said, "Fanaticism consists in redoubling your efforts when you have forgotten your aim."

Why does the president request more federal money to connect every high school to the Internet and to raise teachers' standards? Assuming that schools have already budgeted for computers, all you need to connect to the Internet is a phone line

and a modem. Does this require a federal program? And what about raising teachers' standards? How about just changing the tenure rules so that poor teachers can be fired? That would be free, economically if not psychically, since it would require taking on the teachers unions.

The infusion of yet more government cash into higher education will backfire. Instead of reducing the cost of a college education, it will inflate it.

Of course, nothing President Clinton proposes to reform primary and secondary education will be truly bold because he will not challenge the iron grip of the teachers unions. In an interview several years ago, Secretary of Education Richard Riley told me it was his "mission to defend the public schools." That is, the schools, not the pupils.

Republicans can still own the education issue. But to do so, they must do more than recite their support for school choice. Americans are still committed to the idea of a public education system that instills civic virtues. But the idea is not the reality. Republicans should attack the curriculum. American kids need to compete with the world in reading, math and science, not self-esteem and environmentalism. And they need to be grounded in the fundamentals of democracy, not the political platitudes of the American left.

It will take time and patient effort to build support for school choice — failed referenda in states make that clear. But that doesn't mean Republicans should abandon the fight to improve the public schools. President Clinton sees a failed system and says "give it more money." Republicans ought to say "fix it."

That balanced budget amendment ...

Don't amend the Constitution? Why ever not? That's the point of the amendment process, isn't it — addressing changed circumstances or just cleaning up legislative and judicial debris?

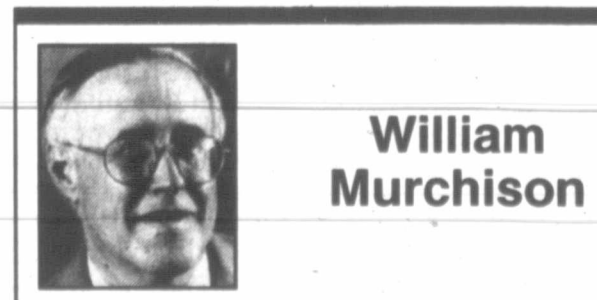
Lately, foes of the balanced budget amendment have been school-marmishly cautioning us against too eager experimentation with our organic law. These learned defenders of the Founding Fathers' handiwork instruct us that the Constitution is too basic — yea, too sacred — a document to subject, except on the rarest of occasions, to an amendment.

Rather than amend, we should work within the system. When the budget is out of balance, just balance it. The White House, hoping to thwart ratification of an amendment it fears and opposes, makes essentially this argument.

After a while, the smarmy piety starts to curdle, and a rude question arises: If the Founding Fathers' vision of a capable but modest federal establishment held sway, why has the budget been out of balance for nearly 30 years, and why do federal taxes consume a third of the national wealth?

Others might ask additional questions. How did abortion, formerly a crime, become a human right? How did God lose the modest status he enjoyed in American classrooms for two centuries? How come a supposedly sovereign state, Colorado, can't prevent the carving out of special rights for homosexuals?

The answer in every case is that federal lawmakers and jurists have said, "To heck with the founding vision" — and gotten away with it. Raw power will give you that kind of destructive zeal;



William Murchison

immunity from likely consequences will kindle it. The need to amend the Constitution formally is the consequence of successful attempts to amend it informally — to make it say things that were never in the minds of those whose handiwork the anti-amenders say they revere.

To call the idea behind a given amendment crummy is well and good — not to mention expressive — of that liberty guaranteed in the First Amendment. To argue that most constitutional amendments are bad, because they clutter up the Constitution is ridiculous. What do you mean, "clutter up"? Are we, in the interest of good housekeeping, to abstain from tightening up our national understanding of what government does and doesn't do? We have 27 amendments right now. Which would the national housekeepers want to sweep up? Abolition of slavery? Votes for women? Repeal of Prohibition? In fact, there would be nothing wrong with a Constitution that had 200 amendments instead of 27, provided the

ideas behind the 200 were sound. Take the balanced budget. The Clintonites say, "Look, you don't want to tie government's hands — not when we're about to balance the budget."

Three responses are necessary:
1) The reason we want to tie government's hands is that we don't like where government has been reaching for 60 years, namely into the inmost recesses of our wallets.

2) We're not "about to balance the budget," we're merely pointed in that direction with (at present) the big cuts scheduled for after Clinton leaves office. Would President Gore feel free to cancel the deal rather than see Democratic constituencies (the prime beneficiaries of federal spending) revolt over severe cuts?

3) So, we balance the budget once — does that mean we're sure to balance it year after year, world without end?

There is, in fact, a reputable argument against a balanced budget amendment. It is that the real enemy is the level of federal spending and that the main task is to reduce the federal share of Gross National Product. This isn't the argument the Clintonites use. Spending is what they enjoy. Reduce the federal share of the GNP and this constricts their ability to do favors for grateful voters.

Plainly, a balanced budget amendment isn't the silver bullet for our economic woes. Congress overspends because it like to. Maybe, the best we can do is render joyless a pastime costly to the people's treasures and liberties. In which case, my brothers and sisters, let's do it.

'Star Wars' still on top for third straight week

By MICHELLE DeARMOND
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The revamped *Star Wars* earned \$21.3 million to remain No. 1 at the box office for a third consecutive weekend, easily topping Clint Eastwood's new thriller, *Absolute Power*.

Absolute Power, which stars Eastwood as a burglar who witnesses a killing involving the president, debuted in second place with \$16.8 million.

Dante's Peak fell to third with \$14.3 million following a record February opening last week.

The weekend take could push the re-release of *Star Wars* near the \$100 million mark. Last week the second debut helped it become the first movie to break the \$400 million domestic-gross mark.

The second part of the George Lucas space trilogy, *The Empire Strikes Back*, comes out Friday.

Chevy Chase's *Vegas Vacation* opened in fourth place with \$13.1 million, followed by *Fools Rush In*, another film seeking to capitalize on the popularity of NBC's *Friends*. The sitcom's Matthew Perry co-stars with Salma Hayek in the romantic comedy.

That Darn Cat, Disney's remake of a 1965 comedy, was sixth with \$6.5 million.

Dangerous Ground, a drama set in South Africa that stars rapper Ice Cube and actress Elizabeth Hurley, opened outside of the top ten with \$2.7 million.

Final weekend box office figures were to be released today.

The top ten films at the box

BOX OFFICE	
Top weekend movies	
Weekend of Feb. 14-17, 1997	
All dollar figures in millions	
Gross to date, weeks in release, number of screens	Weekend gross
1. <i>Star Wars</i> \$98.6, three weeks, 2,104 screens	\$21.4
2. <i>Absolute Power</i> \$16.8, one week, 2,568 screens	\$16.8
3. <i>Dante's Peak</i> \$36.3, two weeks, 2,727 screens	\$13.7
4. <i>Vegas Vacation</i> \$12.8, one week, 2,054 screens	\$12.8
5. <i>Fools Rush In</i> \$9.7, one week, 1,674 screens	\$9.7
6. <i>That Darn Cat</i> \$6.4, one week, 1,891 screens	\$6.4
7. <i>Jerry Maguire</i> \$127.7, 10 weeks, 1,730 screens	\$5.2
8. <i>The English Patient</i> \$47.7, 14 weeks, 1,115 screens	\$4.6
9. <i>Shine</i> \$20.1, three weeks, 851 screens	\$3.5
10. <i>Scream</i> \$79.1, nine weeks, 1,431 screens	\$3.3

Source: Exhibitor Relations Co., Inc. AP

office from Friday through Monday:

1. *Star Wars*, \$21.3 million.
2. *Absolute Power*, \$16.8 million.
3. *Dante's Peak*, \$14.3 million.
4. *Vegas Vacation*, \$13.1 million.
5. *Fools Rush In*, \$10 million.
6. *That Darn Cat*, \$6.5 million.
7. *Jerry Maguire*, \$5.3 million.
8. *The English Patient*, \$5 million.
9. *Scream*, \$3.6 million.
10. *Shine*, \$3.5 million.

Mexico fires drug czar following accusations

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The army general appointed to bring toughness and integrity to Mexico's war on drugs has been arrested on suspicion of taking bribes to protect a leading drug lord, less than three months into his new job.

The ouster of Gen. Jesus Gutierrez Rebollo shook Mexico's military and political establishment and dismayed the United States' own drug czar, who had lauded Gutierrez' "reputation of impeccable integrity" when the career army man was appointed to head the National Institute for Combating Drugs.

Defense Secretary Gen. Enrique Cervantes Aguirre announced Gutierrez' firing and arrest at a news conference Tuesday night, while Gutierrez was in a military hospital recovering from an apparent heart attack suffered when authorities confronted him with the evidence against him.

"This is very painful for us to report," Cervantes Aguirre said — a statement echoed by President Ernesto Zedillo, who called it "concealment and deceit ... and betrayal of the army."

Authorities said a number of law enforcement officials and military officers who worked with Gutierrez were also under arrest, but gave little additional information.

Gutierrez and his associates are sus-

pected of receiving money and favors from Amado Carrillo Fuentes, one of Mexico's most notorious drug lords. Mexicans call Carrillo Fuentes the "Lord of the Skies" because he uses an airplane to transport illegal drugs across the border into the United States.

By U.S. estimates, three-quarters of the South American cocaine smuggled into the United States goes by way of Mexico.

Gutierrez' appointment had been seen as an encouraging sign that the military — generally considered less corruptible than civilian drug agents — would take on a larger role in Mexico's war against drugs.

The revelations on his alleged double-dealing come at a particularly delicate time in relations with the United States. The State Department must deliver its annual certification to Congress on March 1 that Mexico is making its best efforts to combat the drug trade, or Mexico will lose key U.S. aid.

In Washington, U.S. drug policy czar Barry McCaffrey supported Mexico's decision to oust Gutierrez but said he was "extremely disappointed that corruption may have reached such a level in Mexico."

"Mexico is taking the right direction," said McCaffrey, a retired Army general. "This demonstrates that Mexico is seriously threatened by corruption and vio-

lence but will take strong steps to root them out."

In December, McCaffrey had welcomed Gutierrez' appointment, saying he "has a reputation of impeccable integrity, and he is known as an extremely forceful and focused commander."

Gutierrez, 62, is the first high-ranking Mexican officer ever to be formally accused of involvement with drug traffickers. Cervantes Aguirre said Gutierrez' actions violated national security and set back the fight against drugs.

Cervantes Aguirre said authorities became suspicious earlier this month when Gutierrez moved into a posh apartment in Mexico City, allegedly owned by one of Carrillo Fuentes' top lieutenants, Eduardo Gonzalez Quirarte.

"On Feb. 6, we received information that General Gutierrez Rebollo had moved into a luxurious apartment in the capital whose rent he could not possibly afford on his salary," Cervantes said.

The same day, questioned about the apartment in Cervantes' office, an anxious, upset Gutierrez appeared to have a heart attack.

Besides the alleged payoffs, federal prosecutors say they also are investigating allegations that Gutierrez allowed the transport of drugs, weapons, and smuggled goods.

Constitutionality of religious freedom law being argued

WASHINGTON (AP) — A battle over building permits between a Catholic church and officials in a tiny Texas town has become a Supreme Court test of the constitutionality of a 1993 religious freedom law.

The case being argued before the justices today has been billed as one of the most important religious freedom cases ever before the high court.

"It would be difficult to overstate the importance of this case to the religious community," said Mark Chopko, general counsel of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. "It's of extraordinary importance because it tests a number of ideas that clash and compete."

At issue is the constitutionality of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a 1993 federal law aimed at limiting government interference with religion. The justices are expected to rule by July.

The original question was far more narrow: Does St. Peter the Apostle Church have the right to tear down all but the facade of its building to expand its sanctuary?

Squeezed for space because of a growing congregation, St. Peter's petitioned to expand its 230-seat sanctuary. The town of Boerne refused to give permission in 1994 on grounds that the church, an imposing Spanish-style structure built in

1923, is in a historic district.

The Catholic archbishop of San Antonio sued, saying the 1993 law shields the church from historic preservation ordinances. A federal judge sided with Boerne, a town of some 4,000 people a half-hour's drive from San Antonio, finding the law unconstitutional.

The archdiocese appealed to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which reversed the judge. The town then appealed to the Supreme Court.

Boerne officials are asking the Supreme Court to rule that the law violates the 10th Amendment rights of states and local governments by forcing them to allow more protection for religious

World briefs

Singapore dealers apologize for software piracy

SINGAPORE (AP) — Ten computer dealers published an apology to Microsoft today for selling pirated software to customers, and said they will make it up by donating personal computers to local children's charities.

In a full-page advertisement in the *Straits Times* newspaper, the Singapore dealers apologized to the U.S. firm for illegally loading its software on personal computers for sale as an extra incentive to customers.

The advertisement was part of an out-of-court settlement under which the dealers also paid Microsoft \$160,000, Microsoft said in a statement issued today. It didn't give details of the donation of PCs to the charities.

It is the first public apology and direct restitution to result from stepped-up efforts by international software firms and industry watchdogs to combat computer piracy.

Talks on Korean defector make little headway

BEIJING (AP) — Talks on the asylum request of a top North Korean official were at an impasse today despite signs that his government has resigned itself to the defector.

While China wants a quick end to the standoff over the fate of Hwang Jang Yop — the highest-ranking North Korean ever to defect — the talks had made little headway, South Korean diplomats said. In the meantime, Hwang remains in the South Korean consulate in Beijing, where he sought asylum Feb. 12.

"Negotiations with China have not progressed enough to discuss specific issues," Ryu Kwang-suk, chief of the South Korean Foreign Ministry's Asia-Pacific Bureau, said in Seoul.

Ryu said South Korea had requested China's assessment of a rare public comment Tuesday by North Korean leader Kim Jong Il declaring that his country had no need for "cowards" and that those who wanted to leave should go.

The broadcast, monitored in Tokyo, made no mention of Hwang, but came just one day

after North Korea indicated it might accept Hwang's defection.

Sado-masochists lose case in European court

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Authorities can jail sado-masochists for inflicting pain for pleasure on consenting adult partners, Europe's highest human rights court decided today.

In a test case, the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France, ruled against three men jailed in Britain for "causing bodily harm and wounding," even though their supposed victims were willing participants.

"The state was entitled to regulate the infliction of physical harm," the court said. "The determination of a tolerable level of harm where the victim consented was primarily a matter for the state authorities."

The men and their supporters had claimed Britain violated the European Human Rights Convention by meddling in their private lives.

But the court backed Britain's argument that such interference was justified "for the protection of health or morals."

Zaire shows some willingness for peace talks, U.N. says

KINSHASA, Zaire (AP) — Zaire's neighbors and the United Nations pressed the government to make peace in the country's escalating civil war, getting back some slight signs that leaders might be ready for talks with rebels.

The U.N. Security Council urged an immediate halt to the fighting in eastern Zaire, as part of a five-point plan adopted late Tuesday to end a war that threatens cities and refugee camps with attack.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, meanwhile, repeated pleas for the largest refugee camp in Zaire to be demilitarized and armed Rwandan Hutu extremists separated from genuine refugees.

Sadako Ogata said Zairian army commanders have promised U.N. officials they will stop arming refugees in Tingi-Tingi camp.

Cowboys players testify against former American ticket agent

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Cowboys defensive end Charles Haley has testified he bought airline tickets at bargain prices from a man accused of cheating American Airlines on the sales.

The testimony came Tuesday in the trial of Michael Nasser, 38, a former American Airlines ticket agent. Prosecutors said Nasser stole more than \$120,000 by selling passenger tickets and not turning over the money he received.

Investigators say Nasser hid the transactions by bypassing the company's computer system.

Three Cowboys — Haley, Kevin Williams and Hurvin McCormack

— testified Tuesday, but only Haley testified with jurors present in the courtroom. All of them identified Nasser and said they bought tickets at bargain prices for cash in 1994 and 1995.

Defense lawyer Knox Fitzpatrick has said that his client is innocent of the charges.

Haley said he was introduced to Nasser in early 1995 by fellow players while playing pool at the Cowboys Sports Cafe near the team's practice facility at Valley Ranch in suburban Irving.

"When I met him, I told him exactly when I wanted to leave and where I wanted to go," Haley said. "Then I picked up the

tickets at our next meeting."

Haley said he paid \$556 for a flight in April 1995 and \$1,620 for another trip in August 1995. He said that dealing with Nasser enabled him to get discount fares normally available only on seats purchased in advance. He said he paid cash to avoid sharing his credit card number and met with Nasser at the cafe because it was convenient for him.

Assistant District Attorney Laura Barzune told jurors to expect "long and tedious" testimony about computer ticket records and other documents.

Prosecutors and defense lawyers spent most of the day

D'Amato: Law says funds must go to state

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Alfonse D'Amato defended funneling federal campaign contributions to Gov. George Pataki and other state candidates, saying it not only builds the party but that election law requires it.

"It was absolutely public," he said at a news conference. "We're talking about strengthening our farm team, those candidates who run on a local level, who run on a state level. That is part of the national party agenda."

However one contributor said he believes such transfers should be illegal and said Tuesday he wants his money back.

"I wanted the money to go to elect Republican senators," said Dr. William Jordan of

Fayetteville, N.C., who contributed \$50,000 to the National Republican Senatorial Committee and saw it end up in Pataki's campaign account.

The money is included in \$1.9 million channeled to Pataki's campaign committee at the end of last year by the New York State Victory Committee, an arm of the NRSC. Until the end of last year, that Washington-based Senate GOP committee was headed by D'Amato, a New York Republican and Pataki mentor.

Of the \$1.9 million, \$1.5 million amounted to a transfer from the New York Republican State Committee. It had conducted joint fund raisers with Pataki to collect that money.

But the rest of the money came

from 18 individual contributors, according to records filed with the state Board of Elections. That money was diverted to Pataki's campaign by the national GOP Senate campaign committee.

At least three of those 18 donors told *The New York Times*, which reported the transfers on Tuesday, they thought their money was supporting GOP Senate candidates across the country.

According to Craig Engle, an NRSC attorney, the Federal Election Commission requires the committee to spend 35 percent of its total candidate contributions on state and local races.

"What we did was not only within the bounds, it was absolutely necessary," D'Amato said.

Detroit, New Orleans worst cities for child poverty

WASHINGTON (AP) — Children in big cities are more likely than U.S. children in general to be underweight when born, live in welfare-supported homes and drop out of high school, a children's advocacy group says.

Among the 50 largest cities, the highest children's poverty rates were in Detroit and New Orleans, 46 percent, and Miami, 44 percent; the lowest were in Virginia Beach, Va., eight percent; Honolulu, eleven percent; and San Jose, Calif., 13 percent.

The poverty figures in the City

Kids Count report Tuesday from the Annie E. Casey Foundation are based on 1990 census data.

Overall, the foundation looked at ten factors affecting young people, including infant mortality, high school dropout rates, youth unemployment and single-parent households.

While some data used in assembling the report are five or six years old, they still can help policy-makers understand the plight of urban children, said foundation spokesman Bill Rust.

Big-city children were worse off than the national average in all ten of the categories studied. Nine percent of big-city children were low-birth weight babies in 1994 compared with 7.2 percent nationwide.

In 1990 dropout rates for children aged 16-19, urban children outpaced children nationally 14 percent to eleven percent. Twenty-one percent of city children under 15 were living in homes receiving public assistance, compared with twelve percent nationally.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday February 19

Page 6

'Big Apple' Traces Its History To Racetrack In New Orleans

DEAR ABBY: I can help out your reader who asked why New York City is called "the Big Apple."

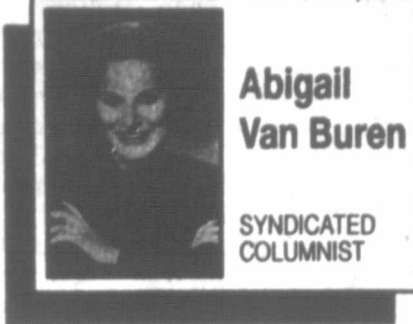
Attorney/sleuth Barry Popick spotted two 1920s articles which clarify that John J. FitzGerald, racing editor for the New York Morning Telegraph — a leading horse-racing newspaper of the day that later became the Daily Racing Form — heard "the big apple" mentioned in a conversation between two African-American stable hands in New Orleans (January 1920). The term referred to the New York City racetracks as the big time in horse racing.

FitzGerald picked up the term and popularized it in his newspaper, still in reference to the NYC racetracks.

In the 1930s, black jazz musicians then applied the term to Harlem specifically, and New York City in general, as the big time in jazz.

In 1971, Charles Gillett, president of the New York Convention and Visitors Bureau, revived the term as part of a public relations campaign on behalf of New York City. He readily acknowledged deriving "the Big Apple" from the 1930s jazz scene.

The term itself goes back ultimately to the big red Delicious apples developed in Iowa in the 1870s. They were regarded as something extra-special. And for jockeys active in the "bushes," the New York City tracks represented the big time, the big treat they looked forward to, i.e.,



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

"the big apple."

GERALD COHEN, PROFESSOR OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ROLLA
P.S. I am the former president of the American Name Society. Your 1988 column on "the Big Apple" was the stimulus that led to my research on the term: a book (1991) and two updates.

DEAR PROFESSOR COHEN: Thanks for straightening this out. I heard from several readers offering varied explanations about the origin of the nickname for New York City. Helen Tovey of Summerville, S.C., described a Harlem nightclub called the Big Apple that had a big red apple over the entrance. She included a Roxy Theater program, dated Sept. 3, 1937, in which was featured a new dance called "The Big Apple" — introduced by the contest winners from the colleges

of North and South Carolina."

I also heard from Barry Popick, author of the article on the Big Apple published in the January/February issue of Irish America magazine, which is fitting since the name originated with an Irishman. Mr. Popick related that on Jan. 29, he appeared before the New York City Council in support of a permanent "Big Apple Corner" street sign at West 54th Street and Broadway, John J. FitzGerald's address for the last 30 years of his life. (The measure was approved.)

If anybody has any information about Mr. FitzGerald, Mr. Popick can be contacted at: bapopick@aol.com. Mr. Popick also mentioned that my original 1988 "Big Apple" column was what got everything started. Howda ya like them apples!

DEAR ABBY: In response to the English teacher in San Francisco who would like to have "frank talks" with her students regarding sex, but is afraid to lose her job. Good! She is an English teacher, not a biology/science or sex education instructor. She should stick to what she is employed to teach.
BRIAN CHIEDO, DALLAS

Horoscope



Thursday, Feb. 20, 1997

You might experience minor delays in what you hope to accomplish. Be patient, because when you make your move it will be significant.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Occasionally doing things in a routine manner is better than experimenting with untested methods. Time could be wasted today by departing from established patterns. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O.

Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Persons who talk a lot but have little to say will make you feel uncomfortable today. Simply avoid them rather than alter your plans.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Watch your subordinates today, but try not to be unduly critical of minor infractions. No one is perfect, including yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your salesmanship might not be up to par today since you have a tendency to omit salient points. Take time to tell the entire story in detail.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Avoid individuals who are reluctant to share with others. Their approach might cause you to say something better left unsaid.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Associates usually know exactly where you stand on pertinent issues, but today it might be difficult for you to make up your mind, and your confusion could confuse them as well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Someone who has no business prying into your personal affairs might do so today. His or

her clever probing could get you to reveal more than you should.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Do not discuss something you hope will happen too freely with others today. If it doesn't happen as you intended, detractors might make a big thing of it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You are able to cope relatively easily with major impediments today. Be very careful, however, not to blow petty annoyances out of proportion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your criticism will not be well received. If you can't say something complimentary today about another's ideas, change the subject or say nothing at all.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If you purchase anything of significance today, be sure the guarantees and warranties are in writing. Verbal promises will not mean very much.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You are a quick thinker today, but you might be inclined to jump around too much for your own good. Focus on a purpose.
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For Better or For Worse



Ario & Janis



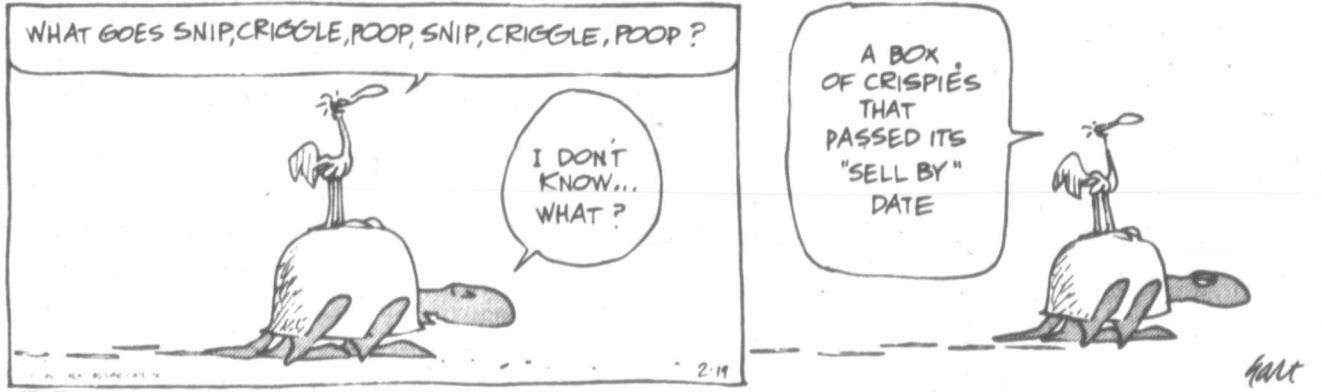
Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



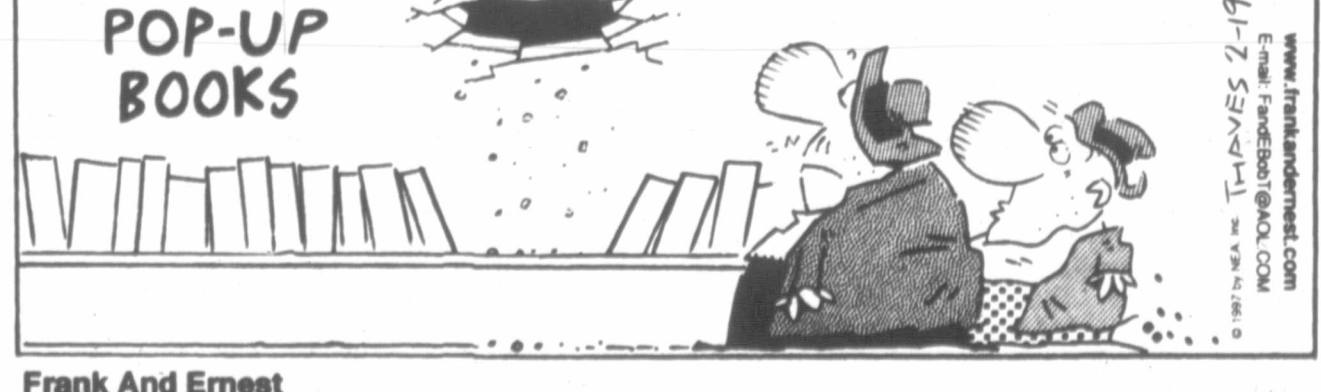
B.C.



Eek & Meek



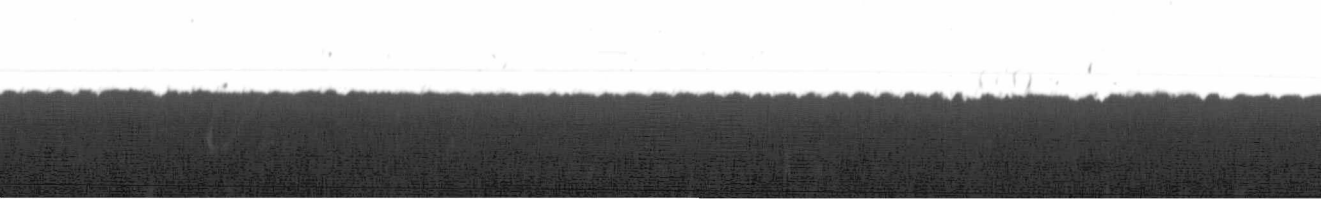
The Born Loser



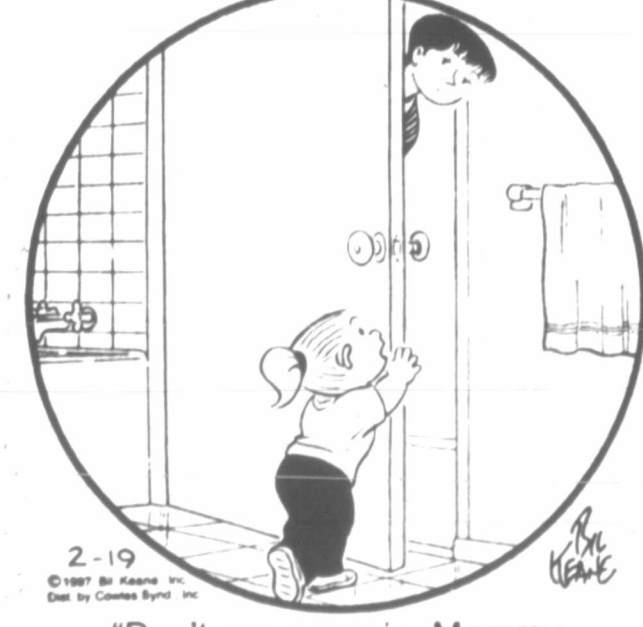
Pop-Up Books



Frank And Ernest



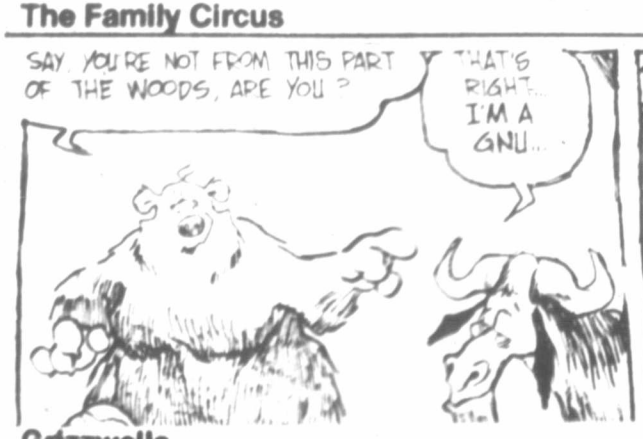
Mallard Filmore



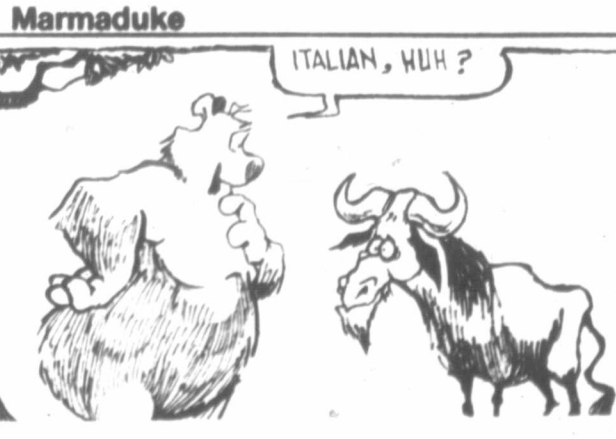
"Don't you come in, Mommy. I need my privaseat."



"I wish the neighbors would hire a security guard for their yard sales."



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



Peanuts

Sports

Notebook

BASKETBALL

ALLISON — April Purcell and Amanda Shields of Fort Elliott have been named to the All-District 1-A Girls' Basketball Team for 1996-97. Purcell is a senior and Shields a junior.

Susie Luttrell, also of Fort Elliott, made honorable mention. Luttrell is a sophomore.

Shields and teammate Tara Hefley were named the All-District 1-A Academic Team. Hefley is a junior.

The players were selected by district coaches.

The complete all-district team is listed below:

All-District 1-A Team

Kelli Altmiller, junior, Follett; Brandi Burke, senior, Follett; Mindi Burke, junior, Follett; Amber Dyer, junior, Allison; Keri Grayson, junior, Allison; Jaicee Herren, freshman, Allison; April Purcell, senior, Fort Elliott; Rebecca Robertson, junior, Follett; Amanda Shields, junior, Fort Elliott; Stephanie Smith, junior, Higgins.

Honorable mention:

Stephanie Arnall, sophomore, Follett; Shanelle Aspaugh, junior, Follett; Amie Boydston, junior, Allison; Guilia Bussard, junior, Higgins; Susie Luttrell, sophomore, Fort Elliott.

All-District 1-A Academic Team

Kellit Altmiller, junior, Follett; Shanelle Aspaugh, junior, Follett; Mindi Burke, junior, Follett; Guilia Bussard, junior, Higgins; Amber Dyer, junior, Allison; Tara Hefley, junior, Fort Elliott; Cristi Holmes, senior, Follett; Rebecca Robertson, junior, Follett; Amanda Shields, junior, Fort Elliott; Stephanie Smith, junior, Higgins; Brooks, Terrel, junior, Follett.

HOCKEY

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Thankfully for the Dallas Stars, they have seen the last of Kelly Hrudey and San Jose. They hope the same can be said of their slumping power play.

Hrudey made 29 saves and the Sharks killed seven Stars power-play opportunities to complete a sweep of the season series with a 3-1 victory Tuesday night.

Two of Hrudey's saves came at point-blank range late in the game as San Jose defeated the Central Division-leading Stars for the fourth time this season.

"Kelly has been unbelievable in every game we've played against them," San Jose's Dody Wood said.

Hrudey, who has faced the Stars in all four games this season, owns a career 11-4-5 mark against Dallas.

"We had a million chances, as many chances as we had in our last four games combined," Dallas coach Ken Hitchcock said. "When you get as many chances in a road game as we did, you've got to capitalize. When you miss those chances, especially on power plays, it comes back and haunts you."

The Stars continued to have problems with their power play, getting shut out in seven attempts Tuesday night. The Stars are 1-of-23 in power-play attempts in their last six games.

"Watching the last couple of teams play against our power plays, it's obvious they've come to know our system," Stars center Mike Modano said.

"We've been a little inconsistent lately," said Neal Broten, who scored the Stars' lone goal at 10:48 of the first period. "We struggled on the power play, and it makes a big difference when you score a power-play goal."

In the four games between the Sharks and Stars this season, Hrudey has allowed four goals while San Jose has scored 10.

"I don't know what it is about playing Dallas, and I don't get that deep," Hrudey said. "I just know we've beaten them four times."

"They've played some good games against us," Dallas center Joe Nieuwendyk said. "They kept a tight game, obviously much tighter than against some of the other teams they've played."

Is he "Nellie the Fox" or "Crazy Nellie?"

DALLAS (AP) — In New Jersey, basketball fans think Don Nelson is an alias for Santa Claus.

In Dallas, fans are toasting him for dumping a bunch of under-achievers. Is he "Nellie the Fox" or "Crazy Nellie?"

Unfazed by the buzz he created by sending the Dallas Mavericks' starting lineup to the New Jersey Nets for four players, "Trader" Don was working the phones again Tuesday. But why? Who's left?

"There's no law that says you can't sell what you just bought," Nelson said, laughing. "I do what I think is right. If I find good reason, I do it."

In just 11 days on the job, fresh from unemployment in Hawaii, general manager Nelson has flushed away what he called the Mavericks' "bad attitude" of players sleep-walking through their jobs.

"Some people think I'm a risk taker," he said. "But I feel comfortable with what I've done so far. It will take a while to see. Half the peo-

ple think it was a good deal. Half of the people think it was a bad deal. And to quote Yogi Berra, The other half of the people don't care."

He added: "Things were in bad shape with the Mavericks. I had to make a change. I was shocked by some of the things I found. It made me sick."

A change? An asteroid hitting Reunion Arena couldn't have made a bigger impact than Nelson's scorched earth policy.

Nelson fired uncaring center Oliver Miller, traded unhappy Jamal Mashburn to Miami for three players, and completed the overhaul Monday night with a nine-player trade that sent Jim Jackson to the New Jersey Nets along with All-Star Chris Gatling and three others.

The Mavericks got 7-foot-6 center Shawn Bradley, forward Ed O'Bannon and point guards Robert Pack and Khalid Reeves. The Nets also received guards Sam Cassell and George McCloud and center Eric Montross.

The trade is believed to be the largest between two NBA teams in the last 25 years.

The blockbuster swap followed Friday's trade of Mashburn to the Heat for three players and the December deal that sent Jason Kidd to Phoenix for Cassell, A.C. Green and Michael Finley.

The ballyhooed three J's — Jackson, Mashburn and Kidd — were on the cover of the media guide last year. They're all gone now. "This team needs leaders and none of them was willing to accept that responsibility," veteran guard Derek Harper said. "All they saw was losing, losing, losing. That was frustrating for them."

The players with the longest tenures on the Dallas team are rookie Samaki Walker, who was drafted in June and signed in August, and Harper, who signed as a free agent in July.

Harper has been rumored in trade talks with Houston. "Houston hasn't called, so maybe

I should call them," Nelson said. "But Derek will be on the team if he wants to be on the team. He and I have a great relationship. A trade will only happen if he wants it to happen."

"I would welcome a trade to a team like Houston," Harper said. "But, if not, I'd rather stay put." Nelson was chuckling over the stir his trades started.

"One of the NBA executives going over the contracts wanted to call back to see if I was sane," Nelson said.

The New York Daily News didn't think so.

"If you're a Mavs fan today, you can't wait for the Cowboys to head to Austin for training camp," the newspaper said.

However, there was a different spin in Dallas. Nelson was on a Dallas radio station Tuesday and didn't get a single negative call.

"We'll let the results of the trades be the judge," Nelson said.

"Hopefully, we'll start getting some immediate results."

Rookie coach Jim Clemons, whose team was 17-32 after an 87-69 loss to the Los Angeles Clippers Tuesday night, wasn't sure what to expect next.

"Hopefully, this will come to a point in time where we can get settled for the rest of the year," he said. "When you look at what has to be done, what needed to be done, and then it happens all at once, it kind of takes your breath away."

On Monday night, Dallas beat Vancouver 100-95 with only eight players. The Mavericks played the Clippers with what they're calling "The Great Eight" — starters Sasha Danilovic, Greg Dreiling, A.C. Green, Michael Finley, and Derek Harper and reserves Walker, Martin Muursepp and Erick Strickland.

The new Mavericks will join the team for Thursday night's home game against Milwaukee. That's also the night of the NBA trading deadline.

And Nelson will be close to his phone.

Pampa soccer teams sweep past Randall

PAMPA — The Pampa High girls soccer team picked up its second District 5 win Tuesday, defeating Randall, 3-2, in a shootout at Harvester Field.

The Lady Harvesters have a 2-3 record, but are just two games out of first place in the district standings.

"I feel like we beat the best team in district. Randall has an awesome team. They'll probably go the rest of the way undefeated and hopefully we'll come in second," said Pampa coach Matt Gantz.

The top three teams advance to the playoffs.

With the score tied at 1-1, Pampa's Lucy Silva and Marisol Resendiz locked up the victory with one goal each in the shootout.

Pampa's goal in regulation time was scored by Nicole Cagle with an assist from Resendiz in the first half.

Pampa goalie Christi Walkup drew lots of praise from Gantz.

"We call her the 'midget goalie.' She's really not built like a goalie, but she's probably the best one in district," said Gantz.

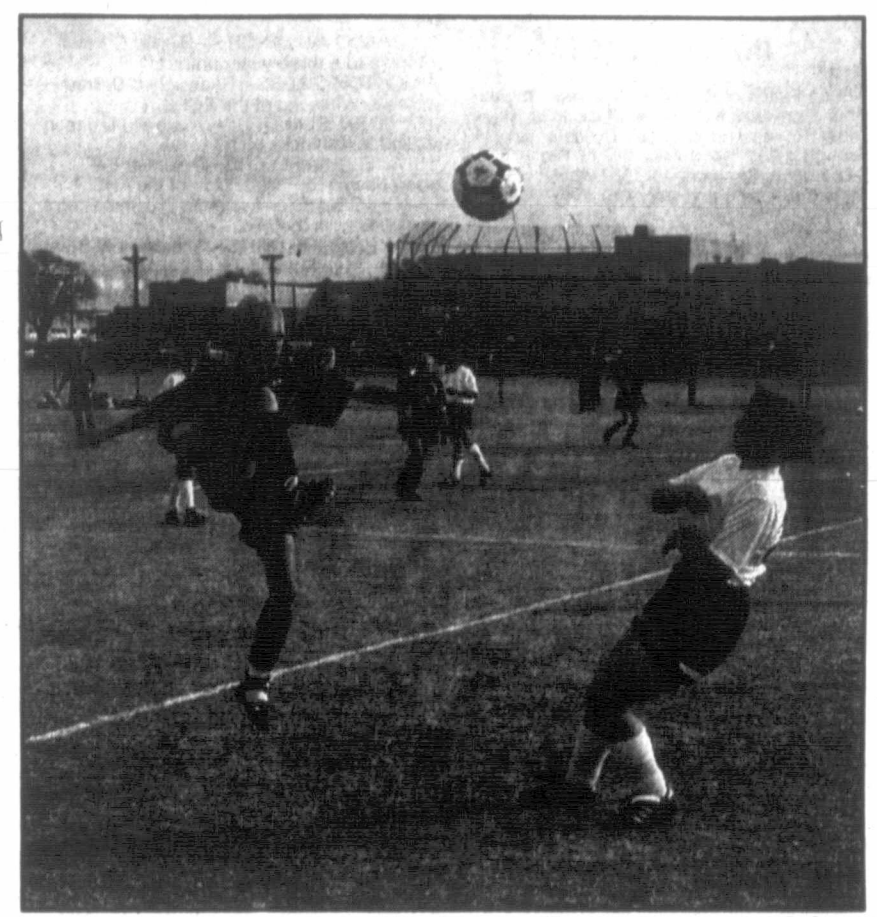
During the regulation period, Walkup turned back 27 of 28 Randall shot attempts. Of five shootout shots, only one got through against her.

"I was extremely impressed with Christi. Randall took shot after shot against her and they only scored two goals, one in the shootout," Gantz said.

Randall's district mark drops to 3-2.

Pampa pushed its record to a district leading 4-1 with a 4-1 win over Randall in the boys match.

The Pampa teams play Caprock in Amarillo on Saturday with matches starting at 2 p.m.



The Lady Harvesters' Tina Dwight (right) waits for the ball to come down after it was kicked by a Randall player in district soccer action Tuesday.

Alomar arrives at spring camp amid more questions

By The Associated Press

No surprise, Roberto Alomar showed up at spring training, and right away the questions started all over again about umpire John Hirschbeck.

"The only thing I can say about that is it's already over and I don't even want to talk about it," Alomar said Tuesday after reporting to the Baltimore Orioles' camp in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

"I don't want to bring that issue up," Alomar said. "It's already over and I have to move on. I've said what I have to say about that whole situation. I just want to play the game of baseball and have some fun at the game."

Alomar will serve a five-game suspension at the start of the regular season for spitting in Hirschbeck's face last September. It might be a while, though, before Alomar is playing second base for the Orioles.

Alomar arrived in camp on crutches, nursing a badly sprained left ankle that could keep him sidelined for a week or two.

Hirschbeck is scheduled to work the Orioles' exhibition game against the Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers on March 17, but Alomar's injury might shelve a possible meeting between the two.

Orioles owner Pete Angelos

says Hirschbeck owes Alomar an apology, claiming the umpire provoked the second baseman with a profane epithet.

Yankees David Wells' career with New York took a second turn for the worse, and he hasn't even thrown a pitch yet.

Wells, who broke his left hand in a fight outside a bar on Jan. 12, found out that he has gout.

The pitcher, who left Baltimore and signed a \$13.5 million, three-year contract with the Yankees, thought he had hurt toe. But tests performed Monday detected gout, a condition caused by excess uric acid in the blood. It can cause joint inflammation, and the condition sidelined the 248-pound pitcher for two weeks last season.

"It's been a bad year," he said at Tampa, Fla. "I'm frustrated because I want to get out there and participate. It's fun to do that. It's no fun sitting in here icing my foot and talking about my injury. I rather be out there and talking about baseball."

Padres NL MVP Ken Caminiti, still recovering from major surgery on his left rotator cuff, arrived a day early despite taking the long way to camp.

Caminiti's drive from Houston to Peoria, Ariz., was delayed for 17 hours when his pickup broke

down in west Texas on Sunday. Caminiti unloaded his Harley-Davidson motorcycle and drove about 40 miles to the nearest town. The auto parts store was closed, so he had to call an emergency number to get someone to open up and sell him the part he needed.

"I was about ready to pull over to the side of the road, get a flight in here and tell my wife I totaled the truck or something," Caminiti said.

In his first workout in Peoria, the switch-hitter took left-handed swings off tosses from hitting coach Merv Rettenmund, but took batting practice right-handed, sending balls to the fence and over it.

"Left-handed has been giving me a problem," said Caminiti, who also took grounders at third. "Right-handed, I could go out and play today."

Tigers Manager Buddy Bell says his wife wants him at spring training, but he insists on making frequent trips to their Cincinnati home as she is treated for tonsil cancer.

"I'm glad to be here," Bell said at Lakeland, Fla. "I think I would've driven Gloria crazy if I wasn't (in Florida), but it's good because it gets my mind off the situation for a while. Not completely. It's something I'm always

thinking about, but I'm really looking forward to the season, so it's good to get started."

Bell said he expects to miss a day or two out of every 10 during spring training, although that could change.

"If I have to go home, then I'll go home no matter what," he said. "The club has been phenomenal about understanding that."

Bell's wife is expected to have five-days-a-week radiation treatments that are to end around the same time spring training ends. Doctors have told Bell she has an 85 percent chance for a full recovery.

Cardinals Dennis Eckersley worked out again Tuesday, a day after St. Louis closer had an MRI for his sore right elbow. An MRI revealed only swelling.

"This is something that I had from last year," the 42-year-old reliever said. "I thought it would be better to get this done now and find out instead of waiting until three weeks before the season. If there was something wrong, then we would know and take care of it. I'll still throw in practice and keep an eye on it."

Cardinals manager Tony La Russa has had Eckersley as his reliever for nine seasons, including seven with the Oakland Athletics.

Harvesters rout Palo Duro in baseball opener

By Matt Hutchison Sports Writer

PAMPA — The Pampa Harvester baseball squad used an impressive show of force to down the Palo Duro, 15-2, in a game that ended early after four and a half innings Tuesday at Harvester Field.

The win marked the beginning of the 1997 season for the Harvesters, and was the first outing for the Dons as well.

Three of Palo Duro's six hits and all of their runs came in the first inning, starting off with Mike Zanchellin's base hit. That was followed by a single by Luke Long and was concluded by Luis Deanda's two-bagger that drove in both Zanchellin and Long for Palo

Duro's only runs. After the short streak by the Dons, Pampa's starting pitcher Ryan Schumacher responded by striking out the next two batters to retire the side and bring the Harvesters to the plate.

The Harvesters took the game to Dons' starting pitcher Aaron Corea and immediately came out swinging. Leadoff man Jeremy Knutson connected with a Corea pitch for a single. Jerren Miller then lined a double toward right field that drove in Knutson and put Pampa on the board.

After unproductive second and third innings for the Dons, Pampa came to the plate in the bottom of the third ready to take control of the game. Another double by Miller led off the inning and was

followed by three more doubles by Jamisen Hancock, Schumacher and Duane King. But the inning was far from over. Seth Haynes laced a single up the middle before Shawn Harris nailed a base hit to drive in Haynes. Ryan Davis hit a shot for a double, driving in Harris, and was followed by a Knutson walk before bringing up Miller, who had led off the inning, back to the plate. A single by Miller led off another Pampa hitting streak before a Haynes groundout ended the nightmarish inning for the Dons.

After Pampa's 11-run third inning, a homer by Josh Blackmon in the fourth inning turned out to be icing on the cake.

In the top of the fifth, Schumacher

was replaced on the mound by Aaron Whitney. Schumacher faced 17 batters, striking out 7, allowing 5 hits and 2 runs in his four innings of work. Only one of the runs was earned. In the inning and a half he pitched, Whitney struck out two and allowed one hit against the four batters he faced.

Miller led Pampa at the plate, going 4 for 4 with 3 doubles and 4 RBI. Hancock was 2 for 4 with a double and 2 RBI; King 3 for 4 with 2 doubles and 2 RBI; Schumacher 2 for 4 and 4 RBI; Blackmon 1 for 1 with a home run.

"I was very pleased with our hitting and very pleased with our pitching, but I was a little concerned with our defense. We made two errors and Palo Duro didn't

put the ball into play that many times," said Pampa coach Dennis Doughty. "That's too many errors when a team doesn't put the ball into play very much."

Pampa visits Frenship on Saturday for its next game and the Harvesters could face Duite Welch, regarded as one of the top high school pitchers in the state.

"He's a Division 1 type pitcher and he's visited the University of Miami and the University of Texas," Doughty said. "That's going to be a real tough test for us if we have to face him."

Frenship has won the District 2-4A title five consecutive years. The Tigers opened the 1997 season with a 10-0 win over Tascosa.

Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

Pampa Recreation Department Basketball League Standings

Team	Won	Lost
Computer Sales & Tech.	3	0
De Squad	2	0
Rain	2	1
Cabot Corp.	1	1
Hochst-Celanease	1	1
Country Chevrolet	1	1
Pampa Machine	1	1
Trinity Fellowship	1	2
City of Pampa	0	2
Oryx	0	3

Team	Won	Lost
Suntrol Window Tint	1	0
Hochst-Celanease	1	0
Snappy Services	1	0
Rick's Body Shop	0	1
Bourland & Levenich Subway	0	2

(Standings as of Feb. 14)
League Scoring Leaders (minimum 2 games)

Player	Team	Points
Heath Stevens	Country Chevrolet	25
August Larson	Relay	21
Dustin Miller	C.S.T.	19
Cody Rodgers	Trinity Fellowship	19
Myron Jolly	Pampa Machine	18
Marty Cross	Cabot	15
Dean Crockett	Oryx	15
Chris Roden	C.S.T.	15
Ivan Guernaz	Oryx	14
Phil Jeffrey	Da Squad	14

Player	Team	Points
Shawna Austin	Snappy Services	15
Jennifer Stamp	Rick's Body Shop	15
Jacy Broome	Snappy Services	14
Laura Lachewicz	Suntrol Window Tint	12
Heather Petty	Subway	12
Dina Lewis	Hochst-Celanease	11

Chicago 134, Denver 123
L.A. Clippers 87, Dallas 69
Sacramento 95, Minnesota 84
Wednesday's Games
Phoenix at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Toronto at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Cleveland at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Boston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Miami at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Boston at Utah, 9 p.m.
New York at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Texas and Rich Steaton (Llano, Texas), team roping, 10.5 seconds in two rounds, \$3,333 each.

San Jose 21 31 6 48 151 192
Los Angeles 19 33 6 48 156 205
Monday's Games
Montreal 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
New Jersey 2, N.Y. Rangers 2, tie
Dallas 2, Los Angeles 1
Detroit 3, Tampa Bay 3, tie
Anaheim 5, Edmonton 1
St. Louis 4, Chicago 2
Tuesday's Games
Pittsburgh 4, Florida 2
Calgary 5, Buffalo 5, tie
Ottawa 6, Washington 1
Colorado 3, Boston 2, OT
Phoenix 6, Los Angeles 1
Toronto 6, Vancouver 5
San Jose 3, Dallas 1
Wednesday's Games
N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Hartford at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Ottawa at St. Louis, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Tuesday's Sports Transactions

BASEBALL
American League
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with 3B Scott Broslus on a one-year contract.
National League
CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with OF Glenn Murray on a one-year contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with BHP Alvin Brown on a one-year contract and RHP Mike Harkey on a minor-league contract.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS—Placed C Kevin Duckworth on the injured list. Activated C Dwayne Schintzius from the injured list.
ORLANDO MAGIC—Fired Brian Hill, coach. Named Richie Adubato interim coach.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
CHICAGO BEARS—Acquired QB Rick Mirer from the Seattle Seahawks for their 1997 first-round draft pick.
DENVER BRONCOS—Agreed to terms with TE Toliver on a four-year contract and TE Luther Morris. Released OL Jason Childs.
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed NT Gilbert Brown.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Named Pat Morris tight ends coach.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS—Re-signed TE Dave Moore.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NHL—Suspended Colorado Avalanche LW Brent Severyn for two games without pay for going off the boards to investigate a fight against Phoenix on Feb. 13.
EDMONTON OILERS—Reassigned D Jason Holland to Kentucky of the AHL.
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Returned LW Jason Bowen to Philadelphia of the AHL.
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Assigned D Jamie Rivers to Worcester in the AHL.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Recalled LW Brent Peterson from Adirondack of the AHL.

BRIEFS

Tuesday's Sports in Brief
BASKETBALL
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The Sacramento Kings struck a deal on naming rights for Arco Arena and formally accepted the terms of a \$70 million loan offered by the City Council.
Team owner Jim Thomas raised \$20 million through an agreement on naming rights for Arco Arena, the Kings' 9-year-old home court.
At least one possible impediment remains: A group of citizens filed a lawsuit in Sacramento County Superior Court seeking to block the loan.
CINCINNATI (AP) — Mike Mathis said he expects to become the third NBA referee indicted for federal income tax evasion, but denied any wrongdoing.
Mathis said that federal officials told all NBA referees they were being investigated.
Last week, Henry Armstrong and George Toliver were indicted by separate federal grand juries in Virginia for their alleged practice of cashing in league-provided airline tickets for less costly tickets and not reporting the cash difference they received as income.
Mathis' attorney, Terry Grady, said Mathis will defend himself "very vigorously" against a possible indictment.
CLEVELAND (AP) — The Cleveland Cavaliers will retire Brad Daugherty's No. 43 jersey on March 1, and the shirt will be hoisted high above the playing floor.
Daugherty is Cleveland's career leader in points (10,359) and rebounds (5,227). His last game was in February 1994, when he had to leave with a sore back. He had surgery to remove two herniated disks in his spine that pressed against his nerves.
The five-time NBA All-Star held out hope until last July that he could return to the Cavaliers.
COLLEGE
OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Former Nebraska receiver Abdul Muhammad was ordered to stand trial on charges of possessing marijuana with intent to deliver.
Muhammad, 23, is free on \$1,000 bail after his Jan. 23 arrest at a mall store after signing for a package that contained four one-pound bricks of marijuana. Muhammad was the leading receiver on Nebraska's 1994 national championship football team.

National Basketball Association At A Glance

All Times EST

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	40	12	.769	—
New York	38	14	.731	2
Orlando	24	25	.490	14 1/2
Washington	24	27	.471	15 1/2
New Jersey	15	36	.294	24 1/2
Philadelphia	12	39	.235	27 1/2
Boston	11	40	.216	28 1/2

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	36	6	.855	—
Detroit	37	13	.740	8
Atlanta	33	17	.660	12
Charlotte	31	21	.596	15
Cleveland	28	22	.560	17
Indiana	24	28	.460	21
Milwaukee	24	27	.471	21 1/2
Toronto	17	34	.333	28 1/2

Western Conference	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	37	14	.725	—
Houston	34	18	.654	3 1/2
Minnesota	25	27	.481	12 1/2
Dallas	17	32	.347	19
Denver	17	36	.321	21
San Antonio	12	38	.240	24 1/2
Vancouver	11	44	.200	28

Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	37	14	.725	—
Seattle	36	15	.706	1
Portland	28	24	.538	9 1/2
Sacramento	24	29	.453	14
L.A. Clippers	21	27	.438	14 1/2
Golden State	19	30	.385	17
Phoenix	19	34	.358	19

Monday's Games
Washington 95, Milwaukee 93
Cleveland 108, New Jersey 101
Indiana 105, Toronto 103
Charlotte 124, Orlando 110
Houston 127, Atlanta 98
Dallas 100, Vancouver 95
Seattle 113, Boston 108

Tuesday's Games
Miami 111, Philadelphia 83
New York 95, Phoenix 94
Utah 113, San Antonio 105

RODEO NOTES

Brian Fulton of Valentine, Neb., won the all-around cowboy title at the Black Hills Stock Show, Rodeo and Wrangler Bullfight Jan. 31 through Feb. 2 and Feb. 6-9 in Rapid City, S.D. Fulton, 34, earned \$5,337 while competing in calf roping and steer wrestling.

1992 World Champion Bareback Rider Wayne Herman of Dickinson, N.D., had a good birthday when he won the bareback average title at the Black Hills Stock Show, Rodeo and Wrangler Bullfight, Jan. 31 through Feb. 2 and Feb. 6-9 in Rapid City, S.D. Herman, who turned 33 on Jan. 10, scored 162 points in two rounds to take home a total of \$4,840. Herman also placed at the Bell County PRCA Rodeo, Feb. 6-8, in Belton. He scored 78 points and placed third in the bareback riding event.

Danny Elbauer of Goodwell, Okla., tied for first place in saddle bronc riding with a rodeo cowboy from Dublin, Tex., at the Southwestern International Livestock Show and Rodeo in El Paso, Jan. 30 through Feb. 8.

Elbauer of Goodwell and Johnny Pollock of Dublin tied for first place in the saddle bronc riding event with a pair of 79-point rides to earn \$4,036 each.

Lance Crump, a four-time National Finals Rodeo qualifier from Cooper won the bareback riding title.

Crump, 27, said the win is the first time he has placed at the El Paso rodeo.

"It is one of my bigger circuit rodeos," he said. "I was just lucky enough to have a good horse."

Crump scored 84 points on Harry Vold Rodeo's Big Valley to win \$4,161.

"I saw him at the National Finals Rodeo and I saw him all last summer," he said. "He's the one you want on and he's good to ride. You can really score high on him."

Other winners in El Paso were Buck Ernst (Comer, Ga.), bull riding, 85 points on Harry Vold Rodeo's No. 181, \$5,442; Cody Coy (Orchard, Texas), calf roping, 19.5 seconds in two rounds, \$3,376; Ote Berry (Checotah, Okla.), steer wrestling, 7.8 seconds in two rounds, \$4,356; and Tee Woolman (Llano,

HOCKEY

All Times EST

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	33	16	8	74	188	141
Florida	28	18	13	69	165	137
New Jersey	29	17	10	68	152	133
N.Y. Rangers	28	24	8	64	200	188
Washington	23	29	6	52	151	166
N.Y. Islanders	19	29	10	48	156	171
Tampa Bay	20	29	7	47	153	177

Northwest Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	30	19	10	70	170	148
Pittsburgh	31	22	5	67	213	186
Montreal	22	28	11	55	190	215
Ottawa	20	26	12	52	164	170
Hartford	22	28	7	51	161	186
Boston	20	31	7	47	166	204

Western Conference	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	34	22	4	72	179	150
Detroit	27	19	11	65	180	138
St. Louis	28	26	6	62	182	185
Phoenix	27	28	4	58	189	180
Chicago	23	28	8	54	154	155
Toronto	22	35	2	46	170	209

Pacific Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	34	14	8	82	198	135
Edmonton	28	25	6	62	183	189
Calgary	24	28	7	55	160	170
Vancouver	26	29	2	54	185	197
Anaheim	23	29	6	52	166	177

Malone scores 37 as Jazz beat Spurs

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Utah Jazz had to keep Karl Malone and John Stockton on the floor longer than usual to overcome their lethargy and the San Antonio Spurs.

Malone had 37 points, eight assists and seven rebounds in 42 minutes Tuesday night as the Jazz beat the Spurs 113-105. That was his longest stint since he played 45 minutes in an overtime win at Houston on Jan. 25.

Stockton had 19 points and 10 assists in 37 minutes, his longest since a victory at Seattle before the All-Star break.

The Spurs played without David Robinson, Chuck Person, Sean Elliott, Charles Smith and Monty Williams. They dressed just nine players and lost Vernon Maxwell to a sore knee after the

first half.

"I understand all the circumstances," Jazz coach Jerry Sloan said of Utah's lackluster effort. "We're at home and will be for a while. They're short-handed. But it's still hard to accept."

"Sometimes it comes too easy for us," Malone said. "Then we make it hard on ourselves."

Dominique Wilkins led San Antonio with 32 points and 12 rebounds.

"We had a tough time dealing with Dominique Wilkins," Sloan said. "He had a great game for them. We were having a tough time dealing with the pick-and-roll again."

Utah broke a 38-38 tie with an 8-0 run late in the second quarter. Malone had two assists and two points in the spurt.

Utah steadily pulled away

from there, moving to a 60-46 halftime lead.

The Jazz led 66-46 after Greg Ostertag's tip-in with 9:56 left in the third quarter, but Vinny Del Negro scored 13 of his 28 points as the Spurs closed to 83-74 entering the final period.

The Spurs pulled within eight on Del Negro's 3-pointer with 11:29 remaining in the game, but that's as close as they got.

"The effort was there, but Karl Malone is a handful," Del Negro said.

"We played a team that was beat up and they gave us a run for our money," Stockton said. "We're not good enough to take nights off and beat anybody. We have to be ready to play every minute of every game. If we do that, anything is possible."

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Knicks' center
 - 6 Actress Collins
 - 10 Like O'Henry's stories
 - 12 Poetic foot
 - 14 Go back on a promise
 - 15 Iron grating
 - 16 Annapolis grad
 - 17 Author Anais
 - 19 T of TV
 - 20 Quotas
 - 23 Praise
 - 26 Indignation
 - 27 Timber tree
 - 30 Shrimp (spicy dish)
 - 32 Holiday drink
 - 34 Ended Type of solution
 - 35 Type of solution
 - 36 Popeye's gal Olive
 - 37 Actor Brynner
 - 39 Stories
 - 40 Get away
- DOWN**
- 1 Emerald Isle
 - 2 Songbird
 - 3 Charged particles
 - 4 Compass pt.
 - 5 Musician's job
 - 6 Food container
 - 7 Leaves out
 - 8 Competent
 - 9 — and void
 - 11 Penny
 - 12 Refuses to notice
 - 13 View
 - 18 Roman three
 - 20 Word used before beer or canal
 - 21 Narrow streets
 - 22 Make invalid
 - 23 Resound
 - 24 Medical picture
 - 25 Drivage
 - 27 Dye
 - 28 Corn bread
 - 29 Grows old
 - 31 Instruct
 - 33 Pleased
 - 38 Map abbr.
 - 40 Burst open
 - 41 Type of stick
 - 42 Actor
 - 43 Kind of test
 - 44 Prod
 - 46 Concern
 - 47 Dramatic conflict
 - 48 Decade numbers
 - 50 Greek letters
 - 52 Lincoln's nickname
 - 53 Crimson

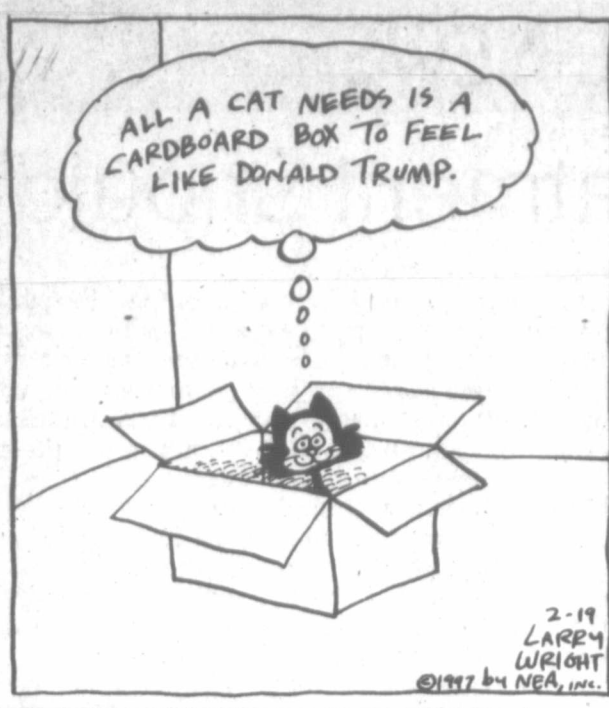


Answer to Previous Puzzle

ELA GREED ELK
EAR AUGER EEE
LIMESTONE REY
STYLE GROSS
IOG ESS
CAPSULAR VOWS
ELL SEME PRAY
TOOL AINU NIN
ETTIA THOMBONE
GREET RIGOR
EAT TETATETE
ERA EWING MTS
SAL REESE SOT

- 19 T of TV
- 20 Quotas
- 23 Praise
- 26 Indignation
- 27 Timber tree
- 30 Shrimp (spicy dish)
- 32 Holiday drink
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- 47 Dramatic conflict
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- 50 Greek letters
- 52 Lincoln's nickname
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MEDICAL NEWS

Flu or pneumonia? Special treatment should not be delayed

NUTLEY, N.J. — You've got a particularly miserable case of the "flu," complete with fever and chills that won't go away. Could it be pneumonia?

Knowing the difference can be crucial. Pneumonia affects an estimated four million Americans each year. Left untreated, it can lead to additional serious infections. In fact, pneumonia is the leading cause of death from infectious diseases in the United States.

"People with colds or 'flu,' which are caused by viruses, generally recover without treatment within a week or two," says Alan Tice, M.D., an infectious disease specialist with Infections Limited in Tacoma, Wash., and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Washington in Seattle.

"But pneumonia is usually a bacterial infection, which needs to be treated promptly with antibiotics," he said.

Tice added: "Unfortunately, many people put off seeing a doctor, because they're afraid that if they do have pneumonia, they will have to be hospital-

ized and will lose time from work or school. But with new treatments available, this is no longer true."

Diagnosing the Difference

People often talk of having the "flu" when they have any infection that causes a sore throat, runny nose, fatigue and a cough. The real "flu" — caused by the influenza virus — can have even more severe symptoms of muscle pain, chills, headaches, cough and fever of 102 or 103 degrees.

When the immune system may be weakened by a viral infection such as influenza, bacterial pneumonia can occur at any time. Pneumonia symptoms may include chills and fevers as high as 105 degrees. Additionally, there may be chest pain and a cough that produces thick, dark or blood-tinged sputum. Some people experience shortness of breath or a confused state.

"The difference in symptoms between influenza and pneumonia can be subtle, but other viral infections generally produce much milder dis-

ease," Tice points out.

"If you think you have a virus but feel the symptoms are getting worse, see a doctor because you may need antibiotics right away," he said.

While you can't confirm pneumonia on your own, doctors can diagnose it with a physical exam, chest X-ray, and blood tests. A sputum sample can also help reveal the cause of infection.

New outpatient treatment options

Some pneumonias can be treated with antibiotics given by mouth. But someone who is seriously ill may need a higher concentration of antibiotics in the bloodstream. This can be achieved with intravenous (IV) treatment.

According to Tice, in the past, patients who needed IV antibiotics were always admitted to the hospital, but that's not the case any more. New technologies for easier administration, and antibiotics that need to be given only once a day, now make it possible for many patients to be treated in the doctor's office or at home. Even some of the patients

who are admitted to the hospital for the IV antibiotic therapy can be discharged early and complete their course of treatment at home.

"In many cases, outpatient IV antibiotics are an ideal option for patients who do not want the disruption or cost of hospitalization, and, also, patients can avoid being exposed to additional, hospital-based infections," he said.

Tice reports that patients appreciate the opportunity to return to work, school or other activities during the course of treatment. According to a recent study he conducted, more than 95 percent of over 500 patients who'd been treated with IV antibiotics at home said they would choose outpatient therapy over hospitalization if the need arose again.

"So there really is no reason to put off seeing the doctor if you have the symptoms of pneumonia. Early treatment probably doesn't have to disrupt your activities, and it could save your life," he advises.

Stroke drug saves money by cutting medical bills

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Even at \$2,200 a dose, the clot-dissolving drug TPA for stroke victims appears to be that rarest of medical innovations — a new treatment that actually saves money.

TPA, already a mainstay of heart attack treatment, last June became the first medicine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for stroke victims. Until then, medical care of this condition focused entirely on rehabilitating victims after their strokes, not stopping a stroke in progress.

Doctors know that when used properly, the medicine can spare patients from a lifetime of paralysis, speechlessness and intellectual damage. For this reason alone, it is worth using.

But the question remained: What does it do to medical bills?

Now it appears that, unlike almost all new medical innovations, TPA reduces the need for hospitalization, rehabilitation services and nursing homes so much that it saves money in the long run.

Dr. Lewis B. Morgenstern of the University of Texas at

Houston has presented data showing that one year after a stroke, savings total \$1.2 million for every 1,000 patients treated with TPA. Over 30 years, the savings amount to nearly \$5 million.

"TPA is a win-win situation," Morgenstern said. "It improves disability. It saves money. The long-term economic benefits are huge."

About 500,000 Americans suffer strokes annually and 150,000 of them die, making them the third-leading killer after heart disease and cancer. It is also one of the most expensive. Medical costs alone total an estimated \$18 billion, and lost wages more than double the total price.

Morgenstern outlined the economics of TPA at the recent 22nd International Joint Conference on Stroke and Cerebral Circulation. The analysis was based on data from a National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke study that led to the FDA approval last summer.

In that study, 624 stroke patients at nine hospitals were randomly assigned to get either

TPA or dummy pills. It found that stroke victims who got TPA within three hours of initial symptoms were at least one-third more likely to recover or have minimal disability.

Morgenstern said this translates into a 1 1/2-day shorter average stay in the hospital for TPA patients. Furthermore, only half of the TPA patients had to go to nursing homes or rehabilitation units after they got out, compared with two-thirds of the untreated patients.

Nevertheless, the savings come largely from avoiding expensive care after hospital discharge. Even when the shorter hospital stays are figured in, using TPA actually increases hospital costs by \$1.5 million for every 1,000 stroke patients.

Dr. Harold Adams of the University of Iowa noted that typically Medicare pays hospitals between \$5,000 and \$6,500 for each stroke patient. Adding TPA to the bill means they lose money.

"The overall benefit to society is great," he said. "But we have to come up with some strategy to

reimburse medical institutions for the \$2,200 cost" of TPA.

Regardless of the economics, most stroke victims still do not get TPA, in part because it is an unusually difficult drug to use properly.

Patients must get to the hospital and begin treatment within three hours of the start of stroke symptoms. Furthermore, hospitals must do a CT scan first to make sure the stroke is caused by a blood clot in the brain. About 20 percent of strokes result from broken blood vessels in the head, and TPA can be fatal if given to these patients.

Genentech Inc., which makes TPA, estimates that in December 15 percent of all U.S. stroke victims who could have benefited from TPA actually received the medicine.

Some patients cannot take TPA because of other medical factors, such as use of blood thinners. Genentech estimates that in all, about 240,000 U.S. stroke victims could be given TPA if they arrived at the hospital soon enough.

Study endorses cholesterol lowering for bypass patients

BOSTON (AP) — Aggressively lowering cholesterol can help keep people's bypass operations from going bad years after their surgery, a study found.

About 400,000 Americans have bypasses each year to reroute blood around clogged heart arteries. Over time, though, these detours can fill up with fat and cholesterol, too. When this happens, people may need repeat surgery.

Now, a large, federally sponsored study finds that cholesterol-lowering drugs can slow this process.

"This means physicians should now be aggressively lowering cholesterol to keep bypass grafts open. This is the first evidence we have had of that," said Dr. Michael Domanski of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute in Bethesda, Md.

Several studies have shown that drug called statins can slow clogging of the arteries that feed the heart. The latest work shows the same is true for the grafted vessels.

The study was done on 1,351 men and women who had undergone bypass operations from one to 11 years earlier. In all of them, doctors had used pieces of vein to make their bypass grafts.

Surgeons prefer to use bits of artery salvaged from the chest for this job, since they are much less prone to clogging.

However, the artery is too short to make several repairs, which most bypass patients require. So typically surgeons resort to a mixture of artery and vein grafts.

At the start of the study, the patients had levels of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol that ranged from 130 to 175. LDL is the form of cholesterol that clogs the arteries.

The patients were randomly assigned to take either high doses or low doses of the cholesterol-lowering drug Mevacor, known generically as lovastatin. The goal was to get their LDL cholesterol below 100.

The results after four years of treatment were published in Thursday's issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. LDL levels in the high-dose group averaged 93, while in those getting low doses it averaged 136.

The high doses significantly slowed clogging of the patients' vein grafts. Tests showed that 27 percent of the high-dose patients' vein grafts had gotten worse, compared with 39 percent of the vein grafts among the people getting low doses.

A low-fat diet alone is helpful but probably not enough for these people. Typically, diet can lower LDL levels by about 10 percent, and most bypass patients probably need sharper reductions in their LDL.

Want long life? Then eat less

SEATTLE (AP) — Eat less, live longer.

This sad rule has long been known to be true for lab rats. But now scientists are beginning to show that higher animals — perhaps even people — also may live longer and better if they stop eating before they feel full.

The theory is that lowering calories resets the body's metabolism so it operates more efficiently.

For 60 years, researchers have observed that holding back on food significantly extends the lives of various kinds of bugs, worms and rodents in the laboratory. But proving the same is true for people is next to impossible.

So for the past 10 years, researchers from the National Institute on Aging in Bethesda, Md., have been doing this experiment on the closest thing to people they can find — rhesus and squirrel monkeys.

Initial results indicate good results for the animal.

Study shows moderate drinking linked to less arterial disease for men in legs

DALLAS (AP) — A drink or two a day may put a spring in your step.

Researchers have linked moderate drinking by men with a one-third lower risk of arterial disease that squeezes blood flow to the legs.

The alcohol apparently helps keep arteries open by increasing levels of the "good cholesterol" in the blood.

The findings echo those of previous studies suggesting that moderate drinking reduces the risk of circulatory disease in the brain and heart.

Many doctors are uneasy with the notion that drinking can be good for your health.

"This is not a situation where if a little is good, more is better," said the study's lead author, Dr. Charles H. Hennekens of Harvard Medical School.

"Nondrinkers shouldn't start drinking and occasional drinkers shouldn't increase their alcohol

intake," he cautioned.

The findings were published in the February issue of *Circulation*, a journal of the American Heart Association.

Past attempts to tie drinking and reduced hardening of the leg arteries found either no association or only a weak link. That could be because so many people who drink also smoke, greatly increasing their risk of circulation problems in the legs.

In the new study, researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard surveyed 22,071 apparently healthy male doctors, only 11 percent of them smokers.

During 11 years of follow-up, 433 developed peripheral arterial disease, or hardening of the arteries in the legs.

After adjusting statistically for smoking, the scientists found a 32 percent lower risk among men who reported having one or two

drinks per day, compared with the men who said they had less than one drink per week.

A drink was defined as 12 ounces of beer, four ounces of wine or 1 1/2 ounces of 80-proof alcohol.

Dr. Thomas A. Pearson, a cardiologist with the Columbia University School of Public Health, said the study is valuable because it isolated the benefits of drinking from the harmful effects of smoking.

"That gets this out of the way so we can be even more alarmed about smoking than we are," Pearson said.

Redford Williams, director of the Behavioral Medicine Research Center at Duke University, cautioned against taking up drinking for the health benefits.

"For one thing, alcohol use is not without its risks," he said. "I think there are plenty of other healthy lifestyle choices people can make."



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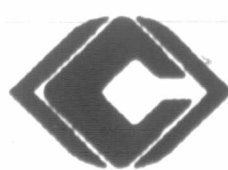
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