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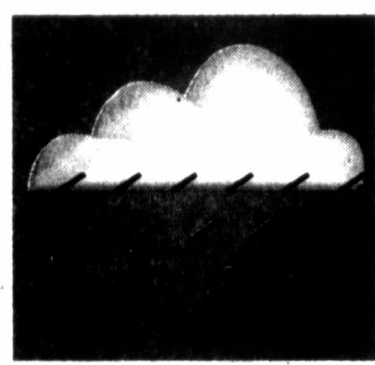
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PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 273

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



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

PAMPA — State Rep. Warren Chisum will make an introduction of Susan Combs, of Austin at a reception for her at 9:45 a.m. Friday at Chaney's Restaurant.

Hosting the reception are members of Gray County Republican Party organization and the Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club.

Combs will be recognized for her involvement in Texas government and agriculture. She served two years in the Legislature following her election in 1992, and after leaving office, she was the state liaison for U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison.

The reception is open to the public.

AUSTIN (AP) — Even people who liked last week's demonstration ride on Capital Metro's RegioSprinter rail car aren't ready to support a proposed local rail system, agency officials heard at a town hall meeting.

Speakers Wednesday blasted Capital Metro, saying it has failed to work well with neighborhoods where the rail would run, citing contracting problems and complaining about late buses. The meeting ended with a pep talk from General Manager Justin Augustine III, who urged patience.

"All of us are human. We make mistakes," Augustine said. "We try to minimize the mistakes... We know the community is frustrated."

Capitol Metro's board of directors Monday will choose a route for a proposed \$182.3 million rail starter line that would run from Leander — a suburb north of Austin — through East Austin and into downtown.

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket would have been worth an estimated \$8 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 2, 20, 27, 31, 45 and 50.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$14 million.

AUSTIN (AP) — Parents of juvenile criminals would be responsible for paying court-ordered restitution under a bill filed in the Texas House.

Rep. Norma Chavez, D-El Paso, on Wednesday filed what she calls a "parental responsibility" bill.

"Every parent in Texas must know that they are ultimately responsible for paying for the damage caused by their children, be it graffiti, vandalism or destruction of property," Ms. Chavez said.

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Rain, floods kill three in North Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Heavy rains and flooding that have killed at least three people were expected to continue today in North Texas, officials said.

Dean Harrold Olson, 50, of Fort Worth, was struck by lightning and killed about 12:20 p.m. Wednesday after getting out of his truck because of an accident on Interstate 20 in Hutchins, southeast of Dallas.

Olson was hit while walking back to check on the occupants of a van that he had struck, said Sgt. David Landers of the Hutchins police. The driver of the van suffered minor injuries related to the wreck, he said.

In the northeastern suburb of Wylie, a 22-year-old Plano man was killed when his compact car swerved on a slick road and slammed head-on into a pickup.

Ryan Patrick Ellis died shortly after the 1:45 p.m. accident on FM 544.

In Denton County, north of Fort Worth, an 18-month-old toddler drowned after he was swept out of a car after Janet Lynn Rayburn of Decatur, his mother and twin brother escaped the submerged vehicle, Sgt. Roland Ridge of the Denton County Sheriff's Office said.

The toddler was found in knee-deep water in a field south of Texas 114 after an extended search, Ridge said.

Justin Aaron Rayburn was taken to Denton Community Hospital, where he died.

Flash flooding stalled traffic in some areas and kept residents from their homes.

"It was up to the buildings all the way back from the middle of the highway," said Tommie Alvice, a resident of suburban Saginaw, which had flash floods up to 5 feet deep.

Rainfall across north central Texas averaged about an inch, but some areas reported more than 3 inches, said Lori Bovitz, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Fort Worth.

Rainfall of 1.77 inches Wednesday at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport broke the record of 0.8 inch set in 1941, she said.

So far this year, Dallas-Fort Worth has recorded 5.88 inches of rain for the month and 6.21 inches for the year. The normal

year-to-date level is 2.38 inches, Ms. Bovitz said.

The unusual winter rains have been caused by a strong upper-level storm system over northern Mexico, coupled with moisture spreading north from the Gulf of Mexico.

Light rains fell across the Panhandle region late Wednesday, continuing through this morning. More rains are forecast to continue in the region through Friday morning, with the possibility of turning to light snow during the night as the temperatures drop below freezing.

(Pampa received an additional 0.14 inch of moisture in the 24-hour period ending at 6 a.m. today, bringing the two-day total to 0.24 inch. Wednesday's high was 42, while the overnight low dipped only a couple of degrees to 40.)

Numerous flash flood watches and warnings were posted around the state during the night and early today the waves of thunderstorms moved northward across the state.

A tornado watch was in effect today for a large area of Central Texas and South Central Texas as waves of thunderstorms moved across the state, dumping flash flood producing rainfall and causing the deaths of three people in North Texas.

The watch was issued today for an area along and 80 statute miles east and west of a line from 60 miles west southwest of Victoria to 35 miles north northwest of Fort Worth.

The rain will be ending on Friday over most areas.

Cooler temperatures are on the horizon as the rainy weather moves out of the area.

West Texas will have decreasing cloudiness late tonight and partly cloudy skies and cooler temperatures on Friday.

Showers and thunderstorms will continue across North Texas through Friday morning. Most of the rain on Friday will be confined to central and eastern area.

Much cooler temperatures are expected in North Texas on Friday.

South Texas didn't get as much rainfall as the rest of the state although some flash flooding was reported in western areas.

Swearing in



(Pampa News photo by Sherry Cromartie)

Gray County Appraisal Review Board members Jack Reeve, left, and Gerald Laughlin, appointed to serve two-year staggered terms, are sworn in by Neil Quattlebaum, right, in Wednesday's meeting. The two-year terms started Jan. 1. The board voted by acclamation that current officers would remain in their positions for the new term — Chairman Curt Beck, Vice Chairman Darville Orr and Secretary Jack Reeve. Tony R. Smitherman is the other board member. Beck, Orr and Smitherman began serving their two-year terms Jan. 1, 1996. In a brief meeting following the swearing-in ceremony, the board approved adjustments in an appraisal value complaint under Section 25.25 (d), and approved clerical changes in the current appraisal roll.



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

Third grade teacher Beverly Morse, fourth grade teacher Leslie Schafer and fifth grade teacher Eric West were three of the teachers who were instrumental in helping 70 percent of the students at Baker Elementary School pass the reading and mathematics portion of the TAAS test, which helped the school earn Distinguished rankings from TEA.

Baker, Wilson elementary schools gain Texas Education Agency Title I honors

Two Pampa schools received Texas Education Agency Title I honors last week.

Title I program takes special note of schools with high percentages of economically disadvantaged students and recognizes the efforts made by teachers and students to achieve the high scores commonly found in schools with fewer economically disadvantaged students.

Baker Elementary School met the criteria for recognition as a Title I Distinguished School and Wilson Elementary School was recognized as Commended.

To receive Distinguished status, a school had to have 70 percent or more of the participating Title I students pass the reading and mathematics portions of TAAS tests for 1995-96 and 1994-

95 school years and 65 percent or more participating students pass the reading and mathematics portions of TAAS in 1993-94.

"This is a three-year program, and we have reached the highest honor under that program," said Baker Principal Sam Porter. "The credit has to go to the teachers. They know what needs to be done and they do it. Their dedication and determination to give these students the best education possible is the reason we were able to receive this honor."

Wilson Elementary has reached the first goal of being named a Commended school and is continuing to work towards the next level, which will give them Honored status.

Being named as a Distinguished school only adds

to the long list of awards earned by Baker Elementary.

Last year it received Honored status under the Title I program, The Governor's Certificate for Texas Successful Schools and the Texas Migrant Education Award.

"We try to make the students understand that learning is fun. We have a curriculum with a well-founded structure, and our teachers are always willing to go the extra mile," said Porter.

Pampa has four schools which qualify for the Title I program. The honors are school wide and each child in a qualifying school contributes to the status of the school.

Both campuses will be honored at an awards ceremony during the Association of Compensatory Educators of Texas Conference in April.

Thornberry: Repeal inheritance taxes

AMARILLO — U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (TX-13) held a news conference Wednesday morning at an office supply store in Amarillo to talk about a bill he introduced last week that would help family-owned farms and small businesses by repealing the federal inheritance and gift taxes.

"Part of the American dream has always been to work hard and leave a better life for our kids," Thornberry stated. "But in America today, the federal government has set up a roadblock by imposing a tax which stands in the way of making the American dream a reality. It's called the inheritance tax, and it works like this.

"When a person dies, the IRS places a tax up to 55 percent on everything that person owns that's valued at over \$600,000. This includes land, equipment and anything else a person has spent a lifetime working to achieve. The results can be devastating. More than 70 percent of all family-owned businesses do not survive through second gen-

eration, while 87 percent never make it to a third generation.

"If the inheritance tax makes little sense as a family policy, it makes even less sense as a federal one," Thornberry continued.

Taken as a whole, inheritance taxes account for just 1 percent of all federal revenue, the congressman noted. Studies have also shown that nearly three-quarters of the money collected through the inheritance tax never makes it to the treasury. Instead, it goes to pay overhead and administrative costs at the IRS.

"Inheritance taxes produce too many headaches for too little return," he said. "Studies show that repealing them altogether would pump more than \$80 billion dollars into the economy, create 250,000 new jobs and boost private savings by \$640 billion over the next eight years. It would also help bring down the deficit because of the added economic output such an action would produce.

"In short, repealing the inheritance tax is an idea whose time has come, and something that

would produce tremendous benefits for people in Texas and elsewhere across the country — especially farmers and small business owners who want to leave their business to their family," Thornberry said.

Thornberry noted that abolishing the inheritance tax is something that has been of interest to him for some time. As a youth, Thornberry wrote to then-Senators Lloyd Bentsen and John Tower, and then-Representative Jack Hightower urging them to support repeal of the tax.

"I had heard my father and grandfather talking about how we could keep the ranch in the family," he said. "Thousands of small businesses still face that problem, which is one of the reasons I've introduced this bill."

Thornberry introduced his legislation last Thursday, Feb. 13. Also referred to as H.R. 802, the bill calls for a complete repeal of the inheritance tax, as well as the gift tax (which is levied at the same rate as the inheritance tax, excluding \$10,000 per recipient each year).

Balanced budget drive loses key backer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Freshman Sen. Tim Johnson has decided to oppose a proposed balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, Democratic sources said today, dealing a sharp blow to the measure's chances for passage.

Johnson, D-S.D., voted for the same amendment two years ago while a member of the House. But the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he had been heavily influenced by concerns that Social Security would be threatened by the amendment.

Johnson arranged an early afternoon news conference in his home state to announce his position.

His opposition would give foes of the amendment 33 sure votes, according to tallies kept by vote-counters on both sides of the issue, one shy of the total needed to assure its defeat.

Sources said Johnson planned to announce he would vote for an amendment that sheltered Social Security from deficit calculations. Thus far, Republican leaders have declined to make any changes along those lines to

secure enough votes for passage.

Other than Johnson, only two lawmakers remain publicly uncommitted on the issue, which is expected to come to a final vote in the Senate by early March. Like Johnson, both are newly elected Democrats: Sens. Mary Landrieu of Louisiana and Bob Torricelli of New Jersey.

A fourth freshman Democrat, Sen. Max Cleland of Georgia, announced last week he would vote for the measure. By most counts, that made it 65 senators in favor.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

HENDERSON, Floyd V. — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

HINTON, Georgia Mae — Graveside services, 4 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.

RICHMOND, Jimmy N. — Graveside services, 2:30 p.m., Sunset Memorial Cemetery, Stinnett.

SLOVACEK, Carroll E. — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church Chapel, Borger.

STUEBGEN, Emil Bernard — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Obituaries

FLOYD EARL DALRYMPLE

AMARILLO — Floyd Earl Dalrymple, 65, died Thursday, Feb. 13, 1997. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday in St. Martin's Catholic Church with the Rev. Francis Crowe officiating. The body was donated to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock. Arrangements are being handled by the family.

Mr. Dalrymple was born at Shamrock and had been an Amarillo resident since 1938. He was a self-employed paint contractor and a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Korean War.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia; two daughters, Earlene Read of Amarillo and Vickie Basile of Kansas City, Mo.; a son, Mike Dalrymple of Amarillo; three sisters, Mary Barnes of Cole Camp, Mo., and Laverne Fritts and Margaret Acklin, both of Amarillo; two brothers, Neal Dalrymple and Curtis Dalrymple, both of Amarillo; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to the American Heart Association, 2404 W. 7th Ave., Amarillo, TX 79106.

FLOYD V. HENDERSON

Floyd V. Henderson, 87, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1997, at Amarillo. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. Dale Moreland, associate pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Henderson was born July 8, 1909, at Ector, Texas. He had been a lifelong Pampa resident and 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.

NELLIE EMILY HEWETT

MONAHANS — Nellie Emily Hewett, 84, sister of a Pampa resident, died Sunday, Feb. 16, 1997, at Odessa Medical Center. Services were at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Christian Fellowship Church with Sam Jordan and Everett Hewett officiating. Burial was in Monahans Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Harkey Funeral Home.

Mrs. Hewett was born Oct. 1, 1912, in Melrose County, N.M. She married Howard C. Hewett on Jan. 11, 1928, at Lefors; he preceded her in death. She had been a Monahans resident since 1949 and was a homemaker and a member of Christian Fellowship Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Dorothy Hamilton of Pasadena; six sons, Hugh A. Hewett and Joe Dale Hewett, both of Odessa, Thomas Hewett of Kingsville, Jack Hewett of San Jose, Calif., Albert Hewett of Victoria and Everett Hewett of Monahans; three brothers, James Edward Van Houten of Clearview, Calif., Ira H. Van Houten of Sacramento, Calif., and W.C. Van Houten of Pampa; 13 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

GEORGIA MAY HINTON

Georgia May Hinton, 85, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1997. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Friday in Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Paul Nachtigall, pastor of Highland Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Hinton was born July 5, 1911, at St. Louis, Mo. She married Leon Hinton at Pampa; he preceded her in death. She had been a Pampa resident since the 1940s, moving from New Mexico. She was a member of Highland Baptist Church and Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary.

She was also preceded in death by a brother, Clem Jack.

Survivors include three sisters, Margarite Marr and Lorena Finner, both of Chula Vista, Calif., and Freda Anderson of Pierre, S.D.; and several nieces and nephews.

The family will be at 1032 E. Fisher and requests memorials be to Hospice of the Panhandle.

Stocks

The following stock quotations are provided by Intercontinental Exchange:			
Wheat	4 1/4	dn 1/4	4 1/4
Mil.	1 1/4	dn 1/8	1 1/4
Corn	3 1/4	dn 1/8	3 1/4
The following discount prices are which these securities sold near the time of completion:			
Occidental	24 1/8	dn 1/8	24 1/8
The following show the price of 100 shares which these mutual funds were held at the time of completion:			
Mutual	45.29	up 1/8	45.37
Paritan	18.11	dn 1/8	18.03
The following show the N.Y. Stock Market quotations as furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:			
Americo	86 1/4	up 1/8	86 5/8
Arco	127	dn 5/8	126 1/2
Cabot	24 1/2	up 1/8	24 3/4
Cabot OAG	17	dn 1/2	16 1/2

Emergency numbers

Energas	665-5777
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

Obituaries

JIMMY N. RICHMOND

DALLAS — Jimmy N. Richmond, 75, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1997. Services were to be at 11:30 a.m. today in First United Methodist Church in Richardson with the Rev. Harold Rooker officiating. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. Friday in Sunset Memorial Cemetery at Stinnett with the Rev. Landrum Medlock, pastor of Stinnett United Methodist Church, officiating. Local arrangements are under the direction of Brown Funeral Directors of Borger. Other arrangements will be handled by Restland Funeral Home.

Mr. Richmond was born at Celeste. He graduated from high school at Panhandle and attended West Texas State University and Louisiana Tech University. He had been involved in the oil and gas investments business for the past several years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marines, achieving the rank of first lieutenant while serving in World War II and the Korean War. He was a lifetime member of the Masonic Lodge, serving as Master Mason of the Borger Lodge. He was a Methodist.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Billie; two daughters, Karon Franklin and Paula Reese, both of Dallas; two sons, J. Pat Richmond of Amarillo and Neal Richmond of Dallas; a brother, M.K. Richmond of Los Angeles; and four grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be in lieu of flowers to First United Methodist Church of Richardson.

CARROLL E. SLOVACEK

BORGER — Carroll E. Slovacek, 76, stepfather of a Shamrock resident, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1997. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in First Baptist Church Chapel with the Rev. Gregg Simmons officiating. Burial will be in Garden of Beatitudes at Westlawn Memorial Park under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors.

Mr. Slovacek was born at Beaver, Okla. He married Dollie Weder in 1934 at Stinnett. He had been a Borger resident for 12 years and was a truck driver for Carbox Liquidair. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during World War II. He was a member of First Baptist Church and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Dollie; a daughter, Becky Carnes of Booker; a son, Shayne Slovacek of Norman, Okla.; six stepdaughters, Jane Riordan and Carrie Dickenson, both of Fritch, Linda Archer of Shamrock, Dena Hileman of Panhandle, Billie Jo DeShields of Borger and Verna Green of Miami, Okla.; three stepsons, Doyle Quimby of Woodward, Okla., Gary Quimby of Hennessey, Okla., and Mark Quimby of Ames, Okla.; three sisters, Jo Woodard of Stinnett and Marie Walthall and Virginia Brane, both of Booker; a brother, Wayne Slovacek of Houston; 26 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

EMIL BERNARD STUEBGEN

BLOOMFIELD, N.M. — Emil Bernard Stuebgen, 85, died Monday, Feb. 17, 1997. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel at Pampa, Texas, with the Rev. Darrell Evans, pastor of First Christian Church in Pampa, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Stuebgen was born Sept. 29, 1911, at Muskogee, Okla. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II.

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 Janie Stuebgen of Borger, Texas; 12 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Accidents

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

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19

A 1987 Plymouth Reliant driven by Thelma Moon Webb, 73, 400 N. Sumner, and a 1989 Pontiac Grand Am driven by Mary Linn Eakin, 22, of White Deer were involved in an accident in the intersection of Hobart and Gwendolen. According to police reports, Webb was stopped at the stop sign on Gwendolen, then pulled out in front of south bound Eakin. Eakin's car struck Webb's, causing Webb's car to spin out of control. Webb was ejected from the car. Her car went over a curb and flattened a stop sign. Webb was transported to Columbia Medical Center with a possible dislocated shoulder. Citations are pending.

Police report

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

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19

A 32-year-old male reported an assault/domestic violence in the 900 block of East Campbell. He reported only minor injuries.

Criminal mischief was reported at Harvester and Hamilton. Approximately \$800 damage was done to the windows and paint of a 1996 Thunderbird.

Fires

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

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19

3:51 p.m. — Three units and six personnel responded to the 700 block of North Hobart for a motor vehicle accident.

5:56 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 2701 Rosewood on a carbon monoxide alarm.

Clarendon College plans alumni reunion

CLARENDON — The 59th Clarendon College Annual Alumni Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, April 12, and Sunday, April 13, honoring the classes of 1947, 1972 and 1987.

Registration and all scheduled events begin at 9 a.m. in the Bairfield Activity Center at the Clarendon campus, where coffee, juice and donuts will be served. Anniversary pictures will be taken during registration of all the honor classes.

Arrangements for tickets and reservations are being taken now by contacting the Clarendon College Ex-Students Association, P.O. Box 968, Clarendon, TX 79226, in care of Hazel Guy.

Tickets can be purchased for banquet and/or Sunday luncheon events separately, at \$8.50 and \$5 each, respectively, or \$22 per couple for the alumni entertainment package. Due to special seating arrangements, members of the 50th, 25th and 10th

anniversary graduate classes are urged to pre-register for the banquet and other events.

Tickets for the *Always ... Patsy Cline* musical production are included in the banquet and show price, at \$12.50 per person or \$22 per couple.

The stage musical is produced and performed by the Amarillo Little Theatre, which chronicles the life and legend of the songstress Patsy Cline. It will be staged in the Harned Sisters Auditorium on campus, starting at 8 p.m. Saturday following the alumni banquet, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Clarendon College Dining Hall.

Other activities Saturday, April 12, include the annual C-C Spring Intramural and Alumni Rodeo going on all day at the Clarendon Community Arena, located on the county road behind the Chamberlain Motor Co. off Hwy. 287 South.

Former Dean of Students and

the recently retired Tex Selvidge will be the special guest at the banquet Saturday evening.

According to Christi Ross, public information coordinator at the college, past and present students are encouraged to send in their favorite "Tex Story" to the editors of *The Clarco*, the new quarterly Clarendon College newsletter. She said as many stories as possible will be presented at the banquet for the enjoyment of all. Mail stories to Editors-The Clarco, P.O. Box 968, Clarendon, TX 79226.

On Sunday, April 13, the churches of Clarendon are open for all to attend services of their choice, and then join in the Bairfield Activity Center for the annual luncheon and business meeting.

New officers will be elected and discussions will be held on ex-student participation in planning the upcoming 100th Anniversary of Clarendon College, during 1998-1999.

Clarendon College Foundation board elects officers

CLARENDON — Clarendon businessman Walt Knorpp has been elected as the 1997-98 chairman of the Clarendon College Foundation board.

Dorothy Stowers of Pampa was elected as vice chairman and Christi Ross, Clarendon College's public information and marketing coordinator, was named secretary-treasurer.

Founded in 1990, the Clarendon College Foundation is dedicated to promoting the inter-

est of education at Clarendon College by assisting and extending financial support, as needed.

Since its founding, the Foundation has assisted in the building of two new campus buildings: the Courson Ranch and Feedlot Operations Building and the Bairfield Activity Center, a new recreational center for both students and area residents. Numerous scholarships also have been supported by the efforts of the Foundation.

"One of the Foundation's directions this year will be to assist in the development of a new college library," Knorpp said. "It is imperative to the college's students and staff that we expand and update the current facility."

The Foundation's next meeting will be Friday, May 2, at Clarendon College's Bairfield Activity Center. For more information, contact Christi Ross at (806) 874-3571.

Ambulance

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

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19

12:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1700 block of Duncan on a lifting assistance. No one was transported.

2:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of West 25th on a lifting assistance. No one was transported.

3:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2100 block of Beech for a welfare check. No one was transported.

3:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of North Hobart on a motor vehicle accident. One patient was transported to Columbia

Medical Center emergency room.

7:59 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1700 block of Duncan on a lifting assistance. No one was transported.

9:53 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing home on a fall injury. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center emergency room.

THURSDAY, Feb. 20

12:03 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of North Hobart on a motor vehicle accident. No one was transported.

5:41 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing home on a fall injury. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center emergency room.

Calendar of events

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

A blood pressure check and blood sugar tests offered from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday in the Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. A donation is accepted to cover expenses.

PAMPA AREA SINGLES

The Pampa Area Singles will have a pot luck supper and dance, featuring Indian Summer, on Saturday, Feb. 22, at the M.K. Brown Auditorium and Civic Center, 1000 N. Sumner. Meal starts at 7

p.m., and the dance will be from 8-11 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person. Bring a covered dish, if possible. No smoking or alcohol use permitted. For more information, call 669-7370 or 665-2829.

EIGHTH GRADE PARTY

PLANNING MEETING

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

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents and arrests for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 18

Gray County deputies responded to a McLean nursing home to investigate a narcotics drug law violation.

Gray County deputies responded to the 600 block

of Powell on a reported theft.

Arrests

Darren Kyle Mexon, 18, 1413 S. Barnes, was arrested on a charge of assault causing bodily harm. He was bonded out.

Ricky Rivera, 18, 832 E. Brunow, was arrested on a charge of burglary of a habitation and two warrants. He remains in custody.

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.

HOAGIES DELI

Coronado Shopping Center. Try a Beekeeper Sandwich. Mounds of Italian Roast Beef, sauteed peppers and onions topped with melted Provolone Cheese on a French Roll. Free delivery. Adv.

FOR LEASE

March 1st, 109 W. Kingsmill. Ground floor location, office or retail. Ray Duncan 669-3333. Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE

Thursday 5-8 p.m. Chicken and dumpings, pork chops, barbeque Polish, chicken fried steak. 716 W. Foster. Adv.

FINAL MARKDOWN

Clearance! 50-75% off. 665-3668. Bow With It! Pampa Mall. Adv.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight, cloudy with scattered rain showers, possibly mixed with snow late in the night. Low near 30 with northerly winds 10-20 mph. Friday, chance for light rain in the morning, then clearing. High near 50. Northerly winds 10-20 mph. Friday night, clear and colder with a low in the upper 20s. Wednesday's high was 42, the overnight low was 40. Pampa received 0.14 inch of moisture in the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Panhandle: Tonight, mostly cloudy with a chance for light rain, possibly mixed with snow late. Lows in mid 20s to near 30. Friday, cloudy with chance of light rain and/or snow in the morning, then decreasing cloudiness. Highs from low 40s to near 50. South Plains: Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers early, then decreasing

clouds. Lows in low 30s. Friday, partly cloudy, windy and cooler. Highs in low to mid 40s.

North Texas — Flash flood watch east tonight. Tonight, cloudy and cooler. Chance of rain west. Rain likely central. Rain and thunderstorms east, some severe with heavy rainfall. Lows 40 northwest to 60 east. Friday, a chance of rain early central and east. Otherwise mostly cloudy and cool. Highs 48 northwest to 67 southeast.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, mostly cloudy with a chance of evening showers or thunderstorms. Lows in low 50s, mid 40s Hill Country. Friday, partly cloudy with a slight chance of rain early. Highs in mid 60s, near 60 Hill Country. Upper Coast: Tonight, cloudy and breezy with occasional thunderstorms, some possibly severe with large hail and damaging winds. Heavy rain and flash flooding possible. Lows in upper 50s inland to near 60 coast. Friday, mostly cloudy

with a slight chance of showers early. Highs in mid 60s inland to low 60s coast. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, cloudy and breezy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows near 60 coast to mid 50s inland. Friday, mostly cloudy. Highs in upper 60s, mid 70s Rio Grande plains.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight, mostly cloudy north with a chance of snow showers. Partly cloudy south. Lows near 10 to upper 20s mountains and north with mostly 30s southern lowlands. Friday, colder with a chance for snow showers northeast half, partly cloudy southwest. Highs upper 30s to low 50s mountains and north with 50s to low 60s southern lowlands.

Oklahoma — Tonight, rain ending west and central. Lows low 30s northwest to mid 40s southeast. Friday, a chance of showers east early, otherwise decreasing cloudiness and windy. Highs in the 40s.

Good Samaritans



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

Members of the Haven House Kids, Zion Lutheran Church, spend time helping out at Good Samaritan every month. Angela McCarty, Samantha Ford, Trey Ford, Michael Leland, Elizabeth Loyd and Jack Leland donate their time sacking dried beans or hanging donated clothing. Each month the group works on different projects to help their adopted organization.

Committee considers legislation targeting families too poor to afford child coverage

AUSTIN (AP) — Deborah Sosa lives in a Dallas suburb and works in a doctor's office. But as a single parent with three children, Ms. Sosa says she can't afford to insure her children's health.

"I live day-to-day wondering what I will do if one of my children gets seriously ill," Ms. Sosa told lawmakers Wednesday. "I have to struggle to figure out how to get my son a physical in order for him to play football or to make sure my daughter gets her annual gynecological exams."

Ms. Sosa and other parents like her are the targets of a bill meant to encourage health care coverage for 1.3 million Texas children who are currently uninsured. The bill was considered by the House Public Health Committee Wednesday and was left pending.

The focus of the bill is low-income families who make too much to qualify for welfare but who live paycheck to paycheck.

Ms. Sosa said her employer had been investigating group

health insurance plans for over a year. But the cheapest plan would have cost her \$300 per month — just to cover her children.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, would provide incentives to insurance companies and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for children currently uninsured.

The measure also would create a nonprofit corporation overseen by the state to help match parents seeking coverage for their children with licensed insurance providers.

A six-member board, appointed by the governor, would determine which children were eligible for coverage under the new program and also would set requirements to be met by insurers.

The bill met opposition from Rep. Kyle Janek, R-Houston, a physician, as well as from the conservative Texas Eagle Forum.

Berlanga, chairman of the committee, said he believes providing incentives to insurers would help make coverage for children more affordable.

"This will help reduce costs for working parents in Texas so they can take care of basic needs," Berlanga said.

Janek said he didn't think costs would come down and feared the state would create another bureaucracy.

"As someone who has taken care of these kids in the emergency room, I want to do the right thing," Janek said. "I recognize that we have a problem, but we don't need more government regulation."

Berlanga disagreed, saying the state would have a "small role" in facilitating the program.

"We are simply creating a vehicle to address the problem," Berlanga said.

Insurance groups, HMOs and the Texas Medical Association support the bill, which Berlanga said would save the state money by moving children off Medicaid.

Police had trouble determining what, if anything, may have been taken during the slayings. But through friends and relatives, police learned that the coat, answering machine and an unknown type VCR were missing from Ms. Prescott's apartment.

Still, other items such as computers and televisions were inexplicably left behind.

"We don't attach any special significance to what was taken other than the fact that we were able to identify that these things were taken," Anderson said.

Police did note the holiday season in which the goods disappeared. Family members found the body of the teacher's aide early Dec. 25 in her apartment.

"Right around the Christmas timeframe is when these items out of Wendie Prescott's apartment would likely have shown up somewhere," Anderson said.

The missing coat bears a Margo's label, has fake fur on the collar and cuffs, zippers on the front and pockets and has diamond-shaped stitching.

Police display items believed stolen from victims

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Police are hoping an imitation black leather coat and an answering machine believed stolen from one of two women found strangled in the same apartment complex will help them solve the crimes.

The coat and machine were displayed for reporters Wednesday with hopes that someone will recognize the stolen items and provide a link to the killings.

"We're releasing this today obviously with the hope that someone will have seen these items in a place they don't belong," Arlington police spokesman Dee Anderson said.

Police have made no arrests in the deaths of Wendie R. Prescott, 22, and Christine Vu, 25, whose naked and bound bodies were

found in their bathtubs three months apart.

However, detectives have narrowed a list of suspects by 30 percent and the investigation is "very active," said Anderson. He would not reveal the number of people under suspicion.

"Obviously the person who committed these two crimes is comfortable and has some relation to that apartment complex," he said. "That's been a big focus of our investigation from the beginning."

Police planned to distribute fliers with information about the stolen item to residents in the Peartree apartment complex where the two educators lived about 150 feet apart and to residents in southeast Arlington.

Because the women lived alone,

Both sides rest in Burzynski case; closing arguments set for Friday

HOUSTON (AP) — A cancer doctor on trial for illegally marketing his unapproved treatment used incorrect codes on insurance claims, an American Medical Association employee has testified.

Dr. Stanislaw Burzynski, charged with 75 counts of mail fraud and violating FDA regulations, commonly used two AMA-designated codes when seeking payment from insurance companies for the physician's unapproved antineoplastons treatment. Conviction could get him up to 290 years in prison.

Burzynski contends antineoplastons, a compound found in human urine, serve as biochemical switches that "turn off" cancer genes by interrupting signals for cells to multiply.

Grace Kotowicz, a senior research associate for the AMA, who was called by prosecutors as a rebuttal witness Wednesday, said the insurance codes used by Burzynski for patients who treated themselves at home with antineoplastons were "inappropriate."

Since 1966, doctors have translated treatment and procedures into a number code on insurance claim forms using the AMA's Current Procedural Terminology system. The CPT code system is a sort of shorthand used by insurance providers, which quickly informs insurance companies what was done to the patient.

"If there is not a CPT code specific to exact procedures and service, a code that is most applicable could be used," said Mrs. Kotowicz.

Burzynski used these two codes specifically when submitting claims for out-of-state patients who picked up the experimental treatment in Houston and took it home. The treatment can be taken either intravenously or in pill form.

When doctors are unsure of which code is to be used, they or their staff call the AMA for a determination. Mrs. Kotowicz and her co-workers in the AMA's CPT coding and nomenclature department answer 30,000 calls annually.

One code in dispute was 99358 — used by doctors when billing actual minutes spent conferring with others about a patient's case or updating that patient's records. The other — 99414 — is supposed to be used when a physician or someone authorized by the physician administers a treatment to a patient in the doctor's office or outpatient clinic.

Prosecutors contend the patients were self-administering the drug, meaning Burzynski fraudulently was claiming for services he did not render.

Both sides in the case rested Wednesday after prosecutors called rebuttal witnesses. Closing arguments begin Friday.

Prosecutors called Mrs. Kotowicz to counter several days of emotional testimony provided by defense witnesses. Burzynski's patients and family tearfully told jurors how the Poland-born doctor was their last hope.

Bill bars same-sex marriages in state

AUSTIN (AP) — Same-sex marriages couldn't be recognized in Texas under legislation filed as a pre-emptive strike against gays and lesbians who might want their unions to give them the same rights as heterosexual couples.

The bill would "define the traditional family unit as being one male, one female, and I think would make a very strong statement about what many of us believe a marriage represents," said Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound.

She is sponsoring the measure in the Senate. Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, is the House sponsor.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF LEFORS
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The City of Lefors will hold a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 1997 at City Hall in regard to the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for a Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) Grant. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TCDP funding available, all eligible TCDP activities, and the use of past TCDP funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of the TCDP application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Virginia Maples, City Secretary, at the City Hall to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

A-29 Feb. 20, 1997

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Viewpoints

THE PAMPA NEWS

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

Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Transition in Hong Kong getting closer

For residents of Hong Kong, the path to July 1, when the mainland Chinese government is scheduled to take over political control of the coastal trading city, is unlikely to be smooth.

It got a little rougher recently when a subgroup of the Preparatory Committee, appointed by China to lay the groundwork for the transition from British to Chinese rule, voted to roll back some essential freedoms once the takeover is complete.

This policy is by no means set in stone. But the decision of this group to warn that Hong Kong citizens in the future might not have the same liberties they enjoy today is one more early warning signal that the Chinese government is likely to indulge its almost instinctive taste for destroying liberty and expanding central power at the expense of Hong Kong residents.

Under the draft just approved, portions of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights would be repealed. The Bill of Rights has been developed over the last five years as it became obvious that Great Britain really intended to honor a treaty calling for Hong Kong to revert to Chinese control in 1997. The new governmental authority would have the power to ban peaceful demonstrations, tighten controls on links with foreign organizations and weaken the ability of Hong Kong residents to keep personal data about themselves private.

On the other hand, the draft calls for leaving intact Hong Kong's liberalized broadcasting laws, which assume mostly private ownership of broadcast facilities. And the legislature would still have the power to summon public officials to testify at hearings.

This kind of give-and-take is to be expected right up until the moment China assumes control of Hong Kong, and probably for some time afterward. The Chinese government knows it faces a ticklish transition. It has pledged to uphold Hong Kong's uniquely capitalist system for 50 more years and has an interest in at least maintaining the appearance of doing so - both because of the money Hong Kong generates and because so much of the world (especially Taiwan) is watching.

But the Chinese government shows little understanding of the mutually reinforcing nature of freedom. Economic freedom is most effective at generating wealth when accompanied by political freedom and secure property rights. The Chinese government - because it, to some extent, still believes in socialist control and because it wants to place its stamp on Hong Kong - seems to have a powerful hankering to limit political freedom. Like most governments, it has little desire to acknowledge the possibility that it can best serve humanity by getting out of the way.

Hong Kong residents and activists already have begun protests at this most recent evidence of flirtation with the totalitarian temptation. They are right to do so. Let's hope they are effective as well.

The South's shameful immaturity

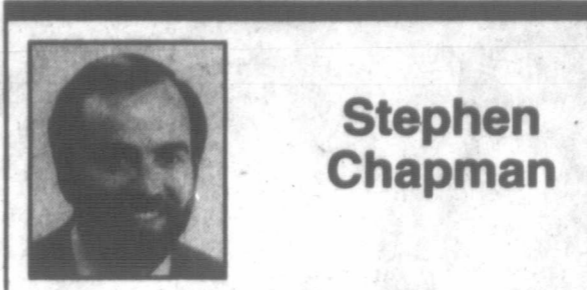
It's common knowledge that the South is becoming more indistinguishable from the rest of America every day, but that process is not complete just yet. Only a couple of weeks ago did the Virginia senate finally feel enough embarrassment to vote to retire the state song, *Carry Me Back to Old Virginia*, which contains these lyrics: "There's where the old darkey's heart am long'd to go, / There's where I labored hard for Old Massa." Not exactly in the mainstream of national attitudes, are we?

The song is one of those symbols of the Old South that stoutly resist being relegated to the past. The most familiar of these is the Confederate battle flag. It still flies over the South Carolina capitol 132 years after Appomattox, and it is conspicuously incorporated into the state flags of both Georgia and Mississippi.

It's also emblazoned on bumper stickers and T-shirts and waved at football games. One peculiarity of the South is that many people who would stomp anyone burning an American flag proudly embrace the banner of those who tried to destroy the country that the American flag represents.

Most black Southerners object to such exercises in nostalgia, and many whites are coming around to the same view. Georgia Gov. Zell Miller tried and failed to change his state flag, South Carolina Gov. David Beasley may likewise fail in his effort to persuade the legislature to remove the red flag with the blue St. Andrew's cross from atop the statehouse in Columbia.

Miller and Beasley face a lot of opposition among their white constituents, many of whom think you cannot be a proud southerner without also being proud of the Lost Cause. Defenders of the Confederate flag say they have good reason to cherish it.



Stephen Chapman

"It's certainly not about race from our position," Christopher Sullivan of the Southern Heritage Association recently told *The New York Times*. "It's about the courage and valor of Confederate soldiers on the battlefield." A letter issued by South Carolina Republican legislators who favor the flag said that if it is removed, "the day will come when the children of South Carolina will be taught to be ashamed of their history and their heritage."

I have a surprise for those lawmakers: The children of South Carolina should be ashamed of some parts of their history and their heritage, particularly the part that involved treating human beings as property to be used and disposed of by other human beings - and the part that involved a determined effort to demolish the Union rather than accept any interference with this barbarous practice.

Having been born and raised in Texas, I have nothing but affection for the South. But I'm not the only Southerner who was taught from an early age that there was a right side and a wrong side in the Civil War and that the South was on the wrong side. It was on the wrong side because the Confederacy was first and foremost an effort to

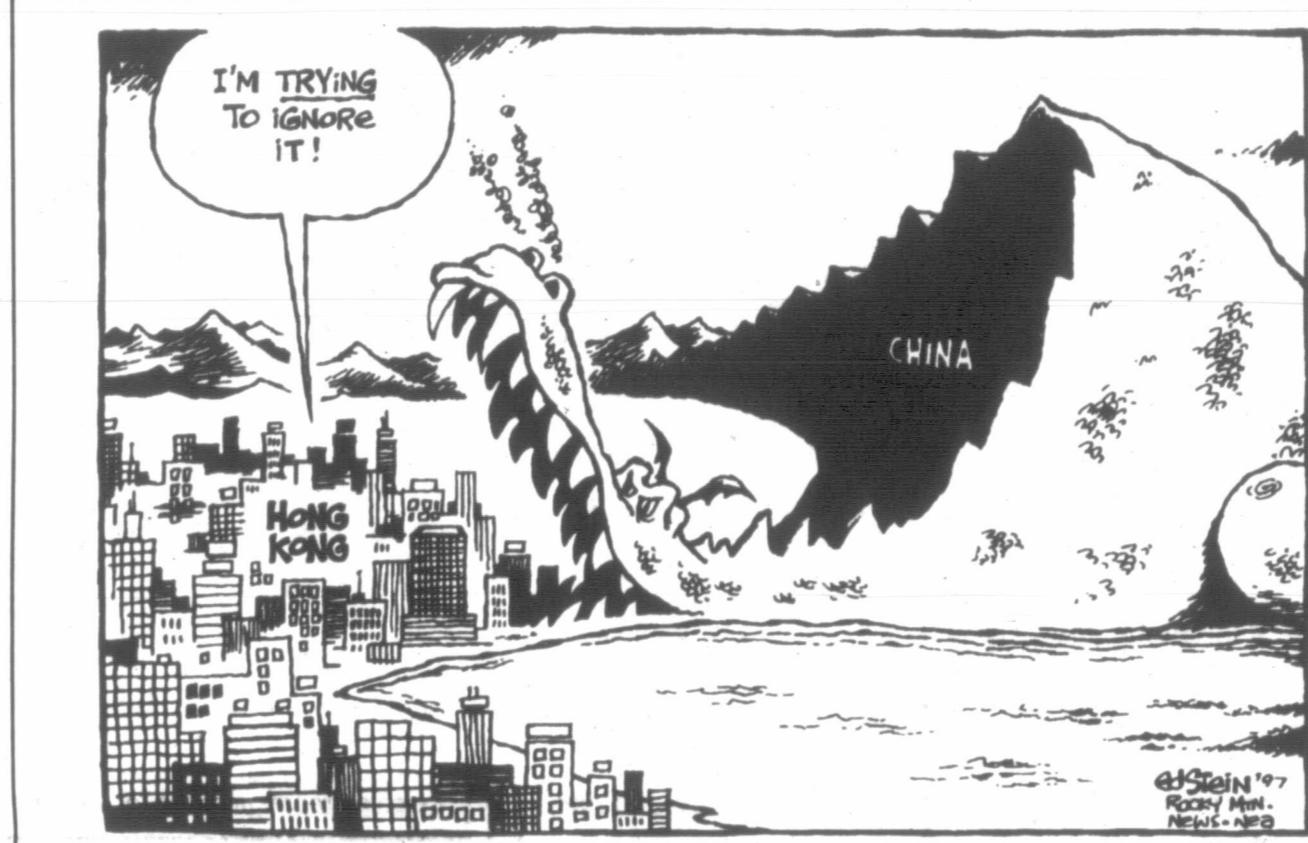
defend the enslavement of black people as a moral right and an economic good.

It's true that brave and decent people fought and died to preserve the Southern way of life, but that doesn't make the Confederacy a noble undertaking. Brave and decent people fought to keep the American colonies under British rule. Brave and decent people fought for Germany under Hitler. We can respect the sincerity and sacrifices of all those people without revering what they were trying to achieve.

Displays of the Confederate flag are not really about honoring the courage and valor of the men in gray. It came into vogue only during the modern civil rights movement to express opposition to racial integration and equality. South Carolina didn't start flying it over the state house until 1962. That's when many white Southerners were vowing, with George Wallace, "Segregation forever." Abandoning official displays of the banner would be a public sign that white Southerners have moved beyond the darkest elements of their past, as many of them have and all of them should.

It's not a matter of "cultural genocide," as the flag's defenders claim, for Southerners to symbolically renounce the evil of slavery and secession - any more than it's cultural genocide for Americans in general to recognize that our ancestors were wrong to try to exterminate the Indians or to deny basic rights to women or to burn witches. It's a matter of simple honesty and maturity.

We owe our forebears a lot, but we don't owe them blind, unreasoning worship. What is good in Southern culture - and there is a lot that is - deserves to be preserved. But the first step in preserving the good is separating it from the bad.



Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, Feb. 20, the 51st day of 1997. There are 314 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 20, 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit Earth as he flew aboard the Friendship 7 Mercury capsule.

On this date:
In 1790, Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II died.

In 1809, the Supreme Court ruled the power of the federal government is greater than that of any individual state.

In 1839, Congress prohibited dueling in the District of Columbia.

In 1895, abolitionist Frederick Douglass died in Washington, D.C.

In 1933, the House of Representatives completed congressional action on an amendment to repeal Prohibition.

In 1938, Anthony Eden resigned as British foreign secretary in a dispute with Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain.

A mother's tale of lies and deceit

Charley Reese

The mother of Timothy McVeigh, the accused bomber of the Oklahoma City federal building, has a message for you: She hopes you never have to go through what she and her family have had to endure.

"Hopefully, none of you ever have to walk in our shoes, but if you do, be prepared for the media blitz, harassment, intimidation and lies of many people who supposedly know it all," she wrote in an open letter to the public entrusted to me.

So far as I know, I'm the only journalist Mildred "Mickey" Frazer has agreed to speak to since McVeigh's arrest about two years ago. The only prior public statement she made was two years ago when, in a written statement read by a deputy, she expressed her "deep sympathy for the victims and their families."

Frazer believes that her son is innocent. More on that in the next column.

After two years of being involuntarily thrust in the media-government spotlight, however, she has very little sympathy for the press or the government. She recounts her frustrations in a long letter she handed me in her modest home in South Florida.

It is written in the second person, addressing either the public or particular people she writes about. The letter is too long to quote in its entirety, but I will summarize some of it and quote the rest. After all, she's entitled to have her say.

Frazer is especially incensed that it has been widely reported that she divorced McVeigh's father when Tim was ten-years-old. When the first

story appeared, she complained about the errors and was told they would stick by their reporter's second-hand information from a neighbor and other stories (making the same mistake) in the electronic database. Now think about this: This tabloid rejected first-hand testimony from a principal involved in favor of hearsay.

Tim's mom gave me a copy of her divorce papers. She was separated in 1984 and divorced in 1986. Tim was born in 1968. As she says in her letter, "You do the math."

Furthermore, she says in her letter that she did not leave Lockport, N.Y., where Tim and his father lived, until 1989. In other words, Tim was 18 - not ten as widely reported - when she divorced his father, and 21 before she left the small town where they both lived.

Next she addresses a Florida reporter who obtained the references she supplied to an employer. This reporter then called at least one of the people, pretending to be a prospective employer, and asked questions about her personal life.

At the end of the conversation, the reporter told the woman who provided a reference that he had to inform her that he was a reporter with the local newspaper. Tim's mom writes: "She immediately hung up and

reported the incident to me. Deception and fraud?" "And shame on the person in personnel who gave him my files," Frazer continues. "I hope you received an incentive for your deed. You should be fired."

Then McVeigh's mom turns to an unnamed reporter in Lockport who, she says, has quit his job to work full time on a book about her son and his family:

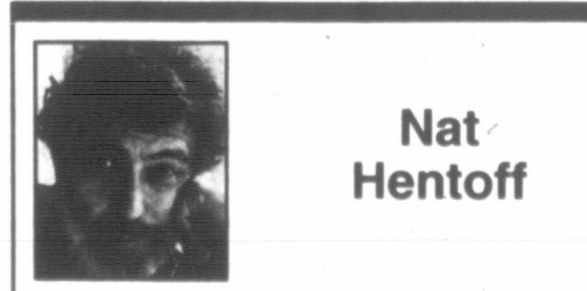
"Apparently you have received an advance from somewhere to pursue your quest for fame and fortune. No one in my family has agreed to speak to you and will not in the future. I understand you are telling people otherwise. You had better check and double-check your so-called facts." The next part of the letter tells about people talking about her in the stores, and neighbors watching her every move. She writes, "Then a woman goes up to another neighbor's house up the street and tells him, 'I quit. I am tired of spying,' and he retorts, 'Then you will go to jail.'"

Remember, Frazer, a working woman in her early 50s, is no millionaire celebrity who gets paid to be hounded everywhere she goes. She's just a working woman and mother trying to lead a normal life. McVeigh's arrest for the bombing caused an explosion in her life so that she was suddenly the focus of attention not only by the national press but also by government agents.

In the next column, Tim's mother will talk about the government and the question of McVeigh's guilt or innocence.

The double jeopardy of O.J. Simpson

Nat Hentoff



Justice William O. Douglas used to say that the history of liberty is the history of due process - and its abuse. For example, he cited the practice in England, during the reign of the Stuarts, of frequently discharging a jury "during the course of a trial if the prosecution saw the proof was deficient, so that better evidence could be secured for a second trial."

Douglas considered this form of double jeopardy "abhorrent" and noted it was finally condemned by British judges in 1746. Justice Hugo Black, moreover, stated with his customary vigor that "the State should not be allowed to make repeated attempts to convict an individual ... thereby subjecting him to embarrassment, expense, and ordeal and compelling him to live in a continuing state of anxiety and insecurity."

Yet O.J. Simpson, acquitted of murder in a criminal trial, has now been held liable for the deaths of Nicole Simpson and Ronald Goldman in a civil trial. While there were no state prosecutors in the second trial, the state provided the judge and the rules of procedure. The verdict does not send Simpson to prison, but it effectively - for most of the nation - condemns him as a murderer despite the verdict in the first trial.

Although it was a civil trial, he has been tried for the same crimes twice, and very few of the legal experts and other commentators seem concerned by this basic violation of due process, even though it is permitted.

And certainly the huge number of non-lawyers rejoicing at the second verdict had no due process qualms. They were convinced of Simpson's guilt, regardless of the first trial, and were now delighted that at last, as a *New York Daily News* front page headline put it, "O.J. Must Pay."

One of the few who brought up the subject of

double jeopardy before the verdict was Bruce Morton, a political analyst for CNN: "Yes, this is a civil trial, not a criminal trial. It takes a preponderance of evidence, not evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, to vote (him) 'responsible'... This jury can't sentence him to death or imprisonment, but it can sentence him to being in debt for the rest of his life."

This is a second trial for the same offense with real penalties... in that sense, this is double jeopardy. And because the civil trial has lower standards of proof, it is obviously easier to convict the second time around.

Yale Kamisar, a professor of constitutional law at the University of Michigan, told the *New York Times*: "It's really a second crack at O.J. The reason most people don't mind is because most people, or most white people, think that O.J. did it. It's so easy to forget about principle."
Not only Simpson has been placed in double jeopardy by a second bite of the apple. Among others have been the police who were seen beating Rodney King and Bernhard Goetz (acquitted of criminal assault in the shooting of four teenage attackers on the subway but then held liable for \$43-million in a civil suit.)

In Simpson's ordeal - to use Justice Black's term - he was held liable and punishable for these crimes even though the prosecutors in the first trial could not convince that jury he did it. This isn't double jeopardy?

What makes these second trials all the more diminishing of due process is the fact that if the jury verdict in the first is widely unpopular, it can be very difficult for juries in the second trial to resist the popular pressure that they must now do "justice."

William O. Douglas told of a woman in Lancashire, England, who had been acquitted of witchcraft at trial. She had been charged with summoning Satan to help her murder Christopher Nutter. She and her ingenious associate allegedly turned a clay image into an instrument of his death.

The acquittal was wildly unpopular and so, in 1612, she was tried again, convicted and hanged. O.J. Simpson was lucky.

With the right of habeas corpus slipping away, it's not surprising that this other guarantee in the Constitution is also being eroded. Habeas corpus goes back to 1215 (the Magna Carta), but double jeopardy has even older roots in Greek and Roman law. Millions of Americans, however, are so happy that O.J.'s second trial has - as many of them say - restored their faith in the justice system.

Most Americans are not experts in the law and react viscerally when they believe a murderer has been allowed by "the system" to go free. Yet, if the charge had been that Simpson had murdered his first wife, who was black, would the public and legal experts have been interested for more than a month? And if Simpson had been acquitted of that crime in a criminal trial, would there have been a second civil trial?

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Deng Xiaoping, leader of China's economic reforms, dies at 93

BEIJING (AP) — Deng Xiaoping, the Communist revolutionary who guided China from political chaos and economic ruin toward prosperity in the post-Mao Tse-tung era, died Wednesday. He was 93.

Deng suffered from the advanced stage of Parkinson's disease, complicated by lung infections, and died from respiratory and circulatory failure after emergency treatment, the Xinhua News Agency said.

It said Deng died at 9:08 p.m. (7:08 a.m. CST) and an announcement was issued to all Communist Party, government and military offices.

The announcement referred to "our beloved Comrade Deng Xiaoping." It gave his age as 93, although his birthday was previously given as Aug. 22, 1904, which would have made him 92.

Deng's death was expected to sharpen political maneuvering among top party leaders that has been going on behind the scenes for several years.

There were no signs of troop movements in Beijing early Thursday, but four armed guards with AK-47s stood outside the alley to Deng's home, near the palace China's emperors used for 500 years.

China's Central Committee proclaimed "with profound grief to the whole party, the whole army and the people of all ethnic groups throughout the country that our beloved Comrade Deng ... passed away."

Confirmation of Deng's death came after days of rumors that his health had worsened swept the capital.

No one is immediately expected to supplant Jiang Zemin — China's president and Communist Party general secretary — and the other younger, technocratic leaders Deng put in place and who in effect govern China.

Neither Jiang, Premier Li Peng nor the others have Deng's stature with the all important military and remaining party elders. His successors will have to continue to rule by building consensus among the powerful constituencies.

President Clinton called Deng "an extraordinary figure on the world stage" for the past two decades and credited him with being "the driving force" behind China's decision to normalize relations with the United States.

"China today plays an important role in world affairs in no small part because of Mr. Deng's decision to open his country to the outside world," Clinton said.

Deng, who weathered three political purges during his seven decades as a Communist Party member, rose to the pinnacle of power in 1978, two years after the death of Mao, his revolutionary mentor.

He inherited a country paralyzed by fear and poverty after the decade-long Cultural Revolution, one of the ugliest periods in modern Chinese history in which millions were persecut-

ed or killed for political reasons.

Deng immediately set about putting China on the road to a market economy, opening the nation to "the outside world" and encouraging the world's most populated country to set about making money.

"It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white, as long as it catches mice," was his most famous saying.

He abolished farming communes, allowed some private enterprises and opened China to foreign investment by establishing special economic zones to produce goods for export. Under his economic reforms in the 1980s, peasants and workers for the first time could afford such luxuries as televisions, refrigerators and washing machines.

But he chastised Westerners who hoped China was turning capitalist, and said his aim was to prove that socialism can achieve prosperity. He called his mix of market economics and state ownership "socialism with Chinese characteristics."

Deng, a barrel-chested man who stood 4-foot-11, married three times and had five children. He was born to a landowner in the southwest province of Sichuan. At age 16, he went to France on a work-study program and joined the Communist Party.

He worked in a Renault car plant and churned out a communist journal, Red Light, earning the nickname, "doctor of mimeography."

Back in China, he became a guerrilla leader and party officer. Purged briefly in the 1930s for backing

Mao's unorthodox guerrilla tactics, he joined the revolutionary leader on the 1934-35 "Long March" flight from Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists.

Noted for his sharp intellect and superior organizational skills, Deng became a political commissar of the 129th division of the Communist 8th Route Army, fighting the Japanese in 1937-45 and the Nationalists in the 1945-49 civil war.

Three years after the 1949 founding of the People's Republic of China, Deng became vice premier. By 1956, he was on the Politburo Standing Committee — the most powerful ruling body.

But Deng's pragmatic economic philosophy and his ties to Mao's rivals within the Communist leadership twice put him in political disfavor during the Cultural Revolution.

Sent to work at a tractor factory, Deng returned to the leadership in 1973, only to be purged once again in 1976.

In 1977, he was rehabilitated and once again named vice premier.

Deng is believed to have given final orders for the military suppression of the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests which claimed hundreds, perhaps thousands of lives.

Despite that ugly finale to a remarkable career, Deng is credited more than any other leader with the modernization of China.

"I wish I could live until the year 2000 to see what China will be like," he once said.

Nation briefs

Rapist arrested in woman's slaying

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Three weeks after learning his neighbor had been convicted of raping a teen-age hitchhiker and chopping off her forearms, Danny Sales walked a deputy to the man's front door.

Lawrence Singleton answered, dressed in shorts and a T-shirt, his chest and face covered with blood, Sales said. A woman's naked, bloody body lay on his living room floor, and Singleton was arrested.

"They framed me the first time, but this time I did it," Singleton said as he left a police station with his hands cuffed behind his back for the trip to jail.

Singleton, 69, was charged with murder Wednesday night, ten years after his parole in the California rape angered prosecutors and struck fear into residents.

The woman found in Singleton's home died of multiple stab wounds in her upper body, said Hillsborough sheriff's Lt. David Gee said. She was not immediately identified and her

Christian network cancels Pat Boone's show

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pat Boone's fans may not be in the same mood for metal as the gospel singer.

Boone said Wednesday that a Christian television network canceled his weekly gospel music show after thousands of viewers called in outrage over his dabbling into heavy metal.

The Trinity Broadcasting Network on Tuesday canceled GospelAmerica, which appeared on 400 stations worldwide. Trinity officials said Boone was invited to appear on another show to explain himself, and "GospelAmerica" will stay off the air in the meantime.

The singer said a charity golf tournament in Tennessee that he

Surgeons will use a computerized probe to give them a three-dimensional view of the growth, which was scheduled to be removed today at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Dr. Martin Cooper, clinical chief of neurosurgery at Cedars-Sinai, will lead the team to remove the tumor located behind the left ear.

Cooper is the neurosurgeon who successfully treated George Burns after the comedian suffered head injuries in a 1994 bathroom fall, hospital spokesman Ron Wise said.

Latest computer technology for Taylor's brain surgery

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A neurosurgeon who successfully treated George Burns will lead the team of doctors chosen to remove a benign tumor from Elizabeth Taylor's brain.

Mitch says, my dad provides the same dependable service my grandpa J.S. (Jap) McBride has for over 30 years, plus he is fully insured, bonded and carries workers comp for your protection. Can your plumber say that?

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has hosted for 20 years also may sever ties with him.

Boone, 62, said he apparently offended many fundamentalist Christians when he appeared in black leather and fake tattoos on the American Music Awards show on Jan. 27.

Boone is the neurosurgeon who successfully treated George Burns after the comedian suffered head injuries in a 1994 bathroom fall, hospital spokesman Ron Wise said.

A show of appreciation ...



(Pampa News photo by Dianne F. Dandridge)

James Rice, acting on behalf of the Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Agency, expressed their thanks to the Pampa Fire Department and Pampa Fire Chief Claudie E. Phillips for their efforts in fighting a rural fire in the form of a check for \$150. The money will go to the loss prevention program. The insurance company believes fire departments have done much to reduce the loss by fires and fire prevention and hopes these small donations will help continue the effort.

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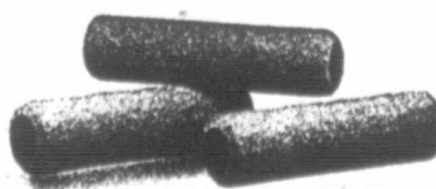
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'Art for Heart' donor artist



Local artist Billie Osborne created and donated seven paintings for the American Heart Association's "Art for Heart" auction scheduled Friday, Feb. 21, at the M.K. Brown Auditorium from 6-9 p.m. There will be wine and hors-d'oeuvres. The silent auction will begin at 6 p.m. with the live auction beginning at 7 p.m. There will be many unique works of art, donated by local and area artists for bidding. Tickets, at \$10 per person, may be purchased by calling Dee Barker or Chrys Smith at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 665-0356.

Lake prepares for confirmation hearing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., is the only senator to state publicly that he will vote against the nominee. Still, Helms said he expects Lake to be confirmed.

But he's getting into shape. Weeks ahead of his March 11 appearance before the Senate Intelligence Committee, aides posing as hostile senators are peppering the CIA director-designate with a raft of questions he's expected to be asked.

These sessions are known within the executive branch as "murder boards," and the moniker suggests what may lie ahead for President Clinton's former national security adviser.

"Anthony Lake deserves a fair, but thorough and rigorous series of confirmation hearings," said Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., chairman of the Intelligence Committee. Privately, Shelby tells his Republican colleagues, "Keep your powder dry."

Concerned that Shelby may be trying to delay the nomination into oblivion by twice postponing the hearings, Clinton says Lake deserves not only a fair hearing but a vote on the Senate floor.

"If someone has some reason to oppose him, let them oppose him in a hearing and then in a vote on the floor," Clinton said.

Although many senators have been critical of Lake, Senate

Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., is the only senator to state publicly that he will vote against the nominee. Still, Helms said he expects Lake to be confirmed.

Here, based on interviews with senior Intelligence Committee members, Senate staffers, White House aides and CIA officials, are some of the major issues likely to be raised at the hearing and the likely answers Lake will provide:

—Iran-Bosnia. Lake played a lead role in supporting a secret administration decision to raise no objections to Iranian arms shipments to Bosnia. Republicans say the 1994 policy gave Iran's radical Muslim government a foothold in Europe. They also criticize Lake for failing to inform lawmakers and question the veracity of his later statements to congressional investigators.

Lake's likely response: The secret initiative helped Bosnia at a desperate time and cleared the way for the later peace settlement.

"It was Tony Lake who came up with a strategy that we implemented to end the bloodiest war in Europe since World War II," Clinton said.

The U.S. policy had to stay secret to avoid angering U.S. allies who wanted to maintain a strictly neutral posture in the Balkan conflict. Lake admits that senior lawmakers should have

been informed. But he was under no legal obligation to consult Congress. A Justice Department probe found no evidence Lake was untruthful in later statements to congressional investigators.

—Energy stock. Three times in 1993, White House lawyers told Lake to divest some \$280,000 in energy industry stock to avoid any conflict of interest. Lake jotted a note to his secretary on the matter, but his broker never got word and the stocks remained in Lake's portfolio for more than two years, netting Lake \$24,000 in capital gains and about as much in dividends. White House officials informed Lake of the oversight in 1995 and he sold the stock.

Lake's response. In a civil settlement reached with the Justice Department, Lake said he never reviewed written information from his broker that would have alerted him to his failure to sell the shares, other than to check

the overall value of his portfolio. Lake paid \$5,000 to the U.S. Treasury to settle the case.

—Campaign contributions. The Senate Intelligence Committee delayed Lake's hearing for a second time last week to pursue White House documents showing that a member of Lake's National Security Council staff met three times with a Thai businesswoman who made illegal campaign contributions to the Democratic National Committee.

Lake's response. Meetings involving his aides occurred "from a foreign policy rather than a domestic political point of view," Lake wrote the committee. A White House review of logs and other documents showed that, far from mixing foreign policy and politics, Lake scrupulously sought to keep them separate, advising Clinton several times to avoid meetings or photo opportunities with certain individuals.

State briefs

Civil court rules against state in drowning deaths

AUSTIN (AP) — A civil court jury has ruled that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department was responsible for the 1987 deaths of two brothers who drowned while fishing at Pedernales Falls State Park.

Jurors awarded the survivors of Wilton Wilson, 55, and Wilford Wilson, 61, \$2.5 million this week. The actual award will be capped at \$500,000, the maximum the state allows itself to be held liable for.

The brothers were fishing in the Pedernales River on May 16, 1987, when they were swept away in flash flooding.

A siren that was supposed to warn people along the river of an approaching flash flood did not sound and they were caught without warning, lawyers for the survivors contended.

Witness, Judge, DA schemed to avoid prosecution of teen

LAREDO (AP) — Defense lawyers are attempting to force a discredited forensics expert to testify at a hearing in connection with a 1991 triple ax murder.

A hearing will be held today in Volusia County, Fla., to force Fred Zain, the former Bexar County chief serologist, to respond to a subpoena, defense lawyers in the case told state District Judge James Barlow on Wednesday.

The testimony came during an appeals hearing for Miguel Angel Martinez, who confessed to the murders and was sentenced to death. Another man accused in the slayings awaits trial on capital murder charges.

Martinez's attorneys argue that he did not receive a fair trial because a secret deal was reached to keep Milo Flores, the son of state District Judge Manuel Flores, from being prosecuted. The judge and a representative of Webb County District Attorney Joe Rubio denied the accusations.

Martinez's lawyers also contend he deserves a new trial on grounds of incompetent trial counsel, evi-

dence lost by Laredo police and perjured testimony by Zain.

Judge denies evaluation for cheerleader mom

HOUSTON (AP) — A state district judge has ruled that the so-called "cheerleader mom" will not have to undergo a psychological evaluation before she is released from prison.

Wanda Holloway was accused of attempting to hire a hit man to kill the mother of her daughter's rival in cheerleader tryouts at a junior high school in Channelview, a Houston suburb.

In 1991, a jury convicted Ms. Holloway of solicitation of capital murder and sentenced her to 15 years, but the conviction was overturned when it was discovered that a juror was on probation. She then pleaded no contest and was sentenced to ten years in prison for her role in the 1991 murder-for-hire scheme.

She is scheduled to be released from prison on Feb. 28, the date when she will have completed a six-month term commonly called "shock probation."

Legal technicality may free confessed child killer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A legal technicality may force authorities to dismiss a murder charge against a man who confessed to stabbing his toddler son to death because he wouldn't stop crying for his imprisoned mother.

The 4th Court of Appeals Wednesday ordered 226th District Judge Sid Harle to hold a hearing to determine if prosecutors had a good reason for not getting a timely indictment against Anthony John Torres, 39.

Torres told authorities in 1995 that he slit his three-year-old son's throat, packed his body in a picnic basket and disposed of it in a trash dumpster.

The appeals court ruled that if "no good cause" is found for the delay in obtaining the capital murder indictment, the indictment is to be dismissed with prejudice, meaning it cannot be refiled.

FCC establishes non-emergency number

WASHINGTON (AP) — Your dog has wandered off, or a middle-of-the-night party next door wakes you up. Should you call 911?

If you said yes, then you're part of a problem that has clogged the emergency calling system with irksome but not urgent situations — delaying police response to genuine emergencies, such as crimes in progress, accidents and fires.

The Federal Communications Commission on Wednesday designated 311 as the number for reporting nonemergencies. Communities will have to activate the 311 system before it can be used.

The FCC acted in response to a request from President Clinton last July for a number that would be "as easy to use and remember as 911."

To help combat crime, Clinton asked the agency to designate a number for community policing and other nonemergency calls

to take the pressure off the 911 emergency calling system.

Available for use nationwide, the 311 code could improve the effectiveness of 911 service by cutting down the number of calls made to it, the FCC said. In Los Angeles alone, 325,000 callers to 911 hung up two years ago because the jammed line denied them immediate help.

"It's a three-digit solution to the pressing problem of 911 congestion," said FCC Chairman Reed Hundt. Attorney General Janet Reno agreed.

The FCC's action does not require local governments to use 311 but ensures the number will be available if they choose to.

Baltimore, where more than 60 percent of 911 calls are estimated not to be for emergencies, became the first city — and according to the FCC the only one so far — to institute 311 service.

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Consumer prices edge up only slightly

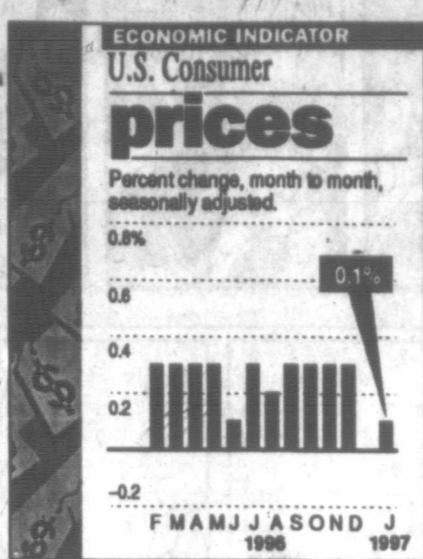
WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer prices edged up a barely perceptible 0.1 percent in January, as the year began with little sign of inflation outside of energy costs.

The seasonally adjusted price gain was the smallest since last June, the Labor Department said Wednesday, and even better than the moderate 0.3 percent increase anticipated.

"It's another wave of good news," said economist Oscar Gonzalez of John Hancock Financial Services in Boston. "The economy is growing at its potential and employment is growing at a healthy pace and still inflation is nowhere to be seen."

Energy costs, propelled by a record gain in natural gas prices, advanced 0.8 percent, the fifth consecutive monthly increase. But food prices fell 0.3 percent, the sharpest drop in 3 1/2 years. Outside of the volatile food and energy sectors, prices inched only 0.1 percent higher.

Separately, the Commerce Department said America's trade deficit last year soared 8.7 per-



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

cent to an eight-year high of \$114.2 billion, dampening economic growth but relieving price pressures. In December alone, the deficit jumped 29.6 percent to \$10.3 billion.

"Ironically, it's been a blessing in the near term," said economist Mark Zandi of Regional Financial Associates in West Chester, Pa. "If the trade balance had not deteriorated, we'd be experienc-

ing much more significant wage and price inflation." Last year, consumer prices rose 3.3 percent, the biggest increase in six years, pushed up by higher food and energy costs. But, excluding food and energy, the underlying inflation rate was 2.6 percent, the best in 31 years.

Economists are looking for overall inflation to ease to about 3 percent this year. That would make 1997 the seventh consecutive year with inflation at that level, a record unmatched since the 1960s.

It all adds up, they said, to the kind of stable inflation environment that should permit the Federal Reserve to avoid increasing short-term interest rates.

The January gain in energy prices was propelled by a 4.8 percent increase in natural gas costs, the steepest since the department began keeping track in 1952.

Natural gas prices have increased 15.9 percent over 10 months. Gasoline, up 0.7 percent in January, has risen 15.6 percent in 14 months and is now just 5.4 percent below its Gulf War

peak in December 1990.

Food prices were led by a 5.3 percent fall in fresh fruit costs, the biggest drop in 4 1/2 years. However, analysts cautioned that a late-January freeze in Florida would push up fruit and vegetable prices when they're measured this month.

Prices fell for beef, eggs, dairy products and cereal and baked goods and rose for chicken and pork.

Airline fares dropped 3.2 percent, the sharpest in 13 months, reflecting the expiration of the 10 percent federal airline ticket tax.

Medical care costs, once an area of strong inflation, rose just 0.2 percent in January and were up only 2.9 percent from a year earlier.

In a separate report, the Labor Department said inflation-adjusted average weekly earnings fell 2 percent in January, the biggest decline since August 1973. The drop came entirely from a decline in average hours worked and economists said that was related to winter storms that kept employees from work — not economic weakness.

School board finds principal guilty of tampering with tests

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (AP) — Like many parents at the prestigious Stratfield School, Len Scinto credits the principal with turning it into one of the most acclaimed public elementary schools in the country.

So Scinto was stunned Wednesday night when the school board suspended Principal Roger Previs after an eight-month investigation found him responsible for changing answers on standardized tests to inflate pupils' scores.

The board voted 8-1 to suspend Previs with pay and begin termination hearings against him.

Board members said their own investigation confirmed an earlier finding of tampering on the 1996 Iowa Test of Basic Skills that showed many wrong answers had been erased and changed to correct ones.

The decision angered many in the crowd of more than 700 parents and teachers who attended a special meeting to announce the results of the board's probe.

"What are we supposed to tell our children?" one parent shouted.

Many said they still do not believe that tampering occurred and criticized the board for accusing Previs, a popular prin-

cipal who has worked for more than 30 years as a teacher and administrator in Fairfield schools.

The scandal at Stratfield, a school that consistently outscored other elementary schools on Connecticut skills exams, shocked parents, some of whom had moved to this city of 53,000 north of New York City to enroll their children.

In 1987 and 1988, Stratfield won blue ribbons from the Department of Education. In 1993, *Redbook* magazine listed it as one of the nation's best elementary schools.

"The school got to the pinnacle of its success ... due to the direction and efforts" of Previs, said Scinto, whose son is a first-grader.

Previs, who early in the investigation voluntarily took and passed a lie detector test, would not comment on the board's action.

At a packed PTA meeting in May, Previs drew a standing ovation when he spoke briefly to the audience about the scandal.

"I ask for your help in saying, 'Yes, we're upset; there's a cloud over our school.' But we're going to get to the bottom of it," he said at the time.

World briefs

Ruling party holds first-ever nominating convention

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's longtime ruling party broke with decades of tradition by nominating a candidate for Mexico City governor in an open convention viewed as a watershed in the nation's politics.

Chanting and waving banners, delegates of the Institutional Revolutionary Party staged a nominating fiesta Wednesday that was more akin to modern American political conventions than past closed-door political struggles.

Veteran party operative Alfredo del Mazo won in open balloting

with 141 of the 189 votes cast by Mexico City borough delegates of the party, known as the PRI, which has dominated national politics since 1929.

"Del Mazo! Del Mazo!" delegates chanted after del Mazo, a former energy secretary and onetime governor of the neighboring state of Mexico, handily defeated two rivals.

"We will have a clean, intense and strong campaign," Del Mazo pledged.

Wildcat pilots' strike disrupts Air France flights

PARIS (AP) — Air France pilots staged a wildcat strike today, stranding passengers at

French airports.

The unions called the 24-hour walkout to protest the airline's restructuring. Air France Europe is merging with its parent company, the state-run Air France, later this year.

The strike affected only domestic flights, forcing cancellation of at least half the trips.

The pilots and navigators of Air France Europe will have their paychecks cut with the restructuring and some jobs may be eliminated. The airlines say the restructuring is necessary to simplify operations and trim costs.

Two villages in Peru virtually destroyed by mudslide

LIMA, Peru (AP) — President Alberto Fujimori placed a boy's slack body in a coffin and watched rescue workers pull still more corpses from the earth — victims of an Andean mudslide believed to have killed as many as 300 villagers. Rescuers held out little hope of finding any survivors today.

The disaster happened before dawn Tuesday when the side of a hill saturated by rains let loose and roared down onto two sleeping mountain villages in the district of Tamburco, southeast of the capital, Lima.

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Bitter Love Triangle Divides Friends As Well As Spouses

DEAR ABBY: This is a common situation, so you must have covered it before. However, I don't recall seeing it recently.

"Jane" and "John" were married for a number of years and had teenage children. "Mary," John's childhood sweetheart, already divorced from an alcoholic husband, came on the scene. John divorced Jane and married Mary.

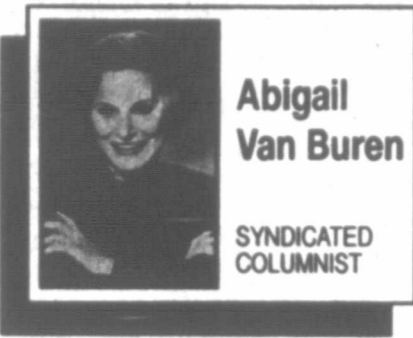
Many of Jane's friends despise Mary and feel that she "stole" Jane's husband. We are fond of John and both Jane and Mary. We feel that regardless of who made the first call, John must have been unhappy in his marriage, or nothing would have happened. We don't think anyone can "steal" someone's spouse. Besides, it was John who filed for divorce, and if Jane's friends are mad at anyone, it should be him and not Mary.

Obviously, when Jane spreads the fiction about her husband being "stolen," she is compensating for her inability to hold onto her husband.

Abby, I think a lot of folks would be interested in your viewpoint.

FRIEND OF ALL THREE

DEAR FRIEND: I agree, nobody can "steal" anyone's spouse, but in this case, the woman let the object of her affection know that she was interested and available, which was sufficient to get an affair going. And in the presence of such blatant temptation, it can be very



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

difficult to preserve a marriage — so don't be too hard on Jane.

DEAR ABBY: How do you deal with relatives who have pets that are treated just like people? I have two sets of family members who own dogs. One has three and the other has one, and they treat their dogs as though they are members of the family. I like dogs, but I'm not a "dog person." I don't think it's cute when their dog climbs on my furniture or begs at the dinner table.

When they visit me, they not only allow their dogs on my furniture, they actually let the dog sleep in bed with them underneath the covers.

These relatives were visiting recently, and we were having a nice family dinner when their dog came to the table, put her front paws on the table and her nose in my plate. The owner remarked, "She's just curious about what's going on." He didn't tell the dog to get down.

I have a small baby, and the dog was very curious about her. I think a dog licking a baby's mouth and face is disgusting. When the dog came over to investigate my baby, I felt uncomfortable pushing it away, since it's not my dog. The owner didn't do a thing. When the dog licked my baby's mouth, she simply said, "She's just curious about what's going on." Abby, I thought I'd die!

I don't feel comfortable reprimanding someone else's dog, especially one they think is a human, but what should I do when the owners give these animals no discipline? What people do in their own homes with their pets is their business, and if I happen to be visiting them, I will bite my tongue and deal with the dogs at the dinner table and on the furniture. But when someone comes to my home, I would like some respect for my property, and I certainly do not want dogs near my baby. Am I being selfish?

DOGGED OUT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR DOGGED OUT: Selfish? No. A wimp? Yes!

For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Horoscope

Friday, Feb 21, 1997

You are now in the primary stages of a beneficial cycle in which you may be able to acquire some of the material things you've always wanted. Go slow in the beginning, however, and refrain from buying what you don't need.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your ambitious urges might ebb today and they could be further diminished if you associate with individuals who lack drive, initiative and purpose. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The way you

behave socially today could cause others to see you in an unflattering light. Keep your thumb out of the pudding and your foot out of your mouth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Even though they may appear to be, no one is perfect, especially some of the people with whom you'll be involved today. Keep your expectations reasonable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A friend may pick up some things for you while he or she is shopping. Write down what you want and be very explicit, or you may end up with a pig in a poke.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Subdue inclinations to spend money today in order to impress others. In the final analysis, acceptance is not predicated upon pretense.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Treating others in a condescending manner today could provoke undesirable results. Keep in mind that everyone is equal. No one is better and no one is worse than you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Watch what you eat and drink, and avoid all forms of overindulgence today. If you want your

waistline to stay trim, don't gratify a fatty whim.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You could be pegged as a shallow individual today if you use flattery to further your purposes. Do not say anything that could be perceived as insincere.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Putting on airs today will dull your image in the eyes of others. If you want to make a dynamic impression, be low-key and sincere.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Instead of analyzing situations realistically today, you might color the facts to suit your requirements. Unfortunately, this technique won't work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Do not expect more than you're legitimately entitled to today and you won't be disappointed. There aren't any free rides on the Easy Street railroad.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) A harmless flirtation might be perceived quite differently by your special someone who is viewing it from a distance. Be mindful of his or her feelings.

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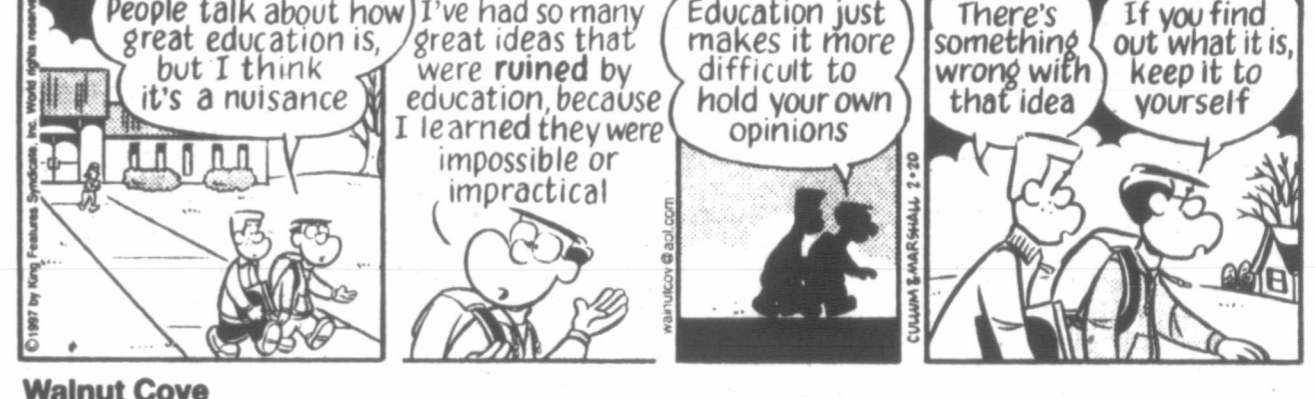
For Better or For Worse



Arlo & Janis



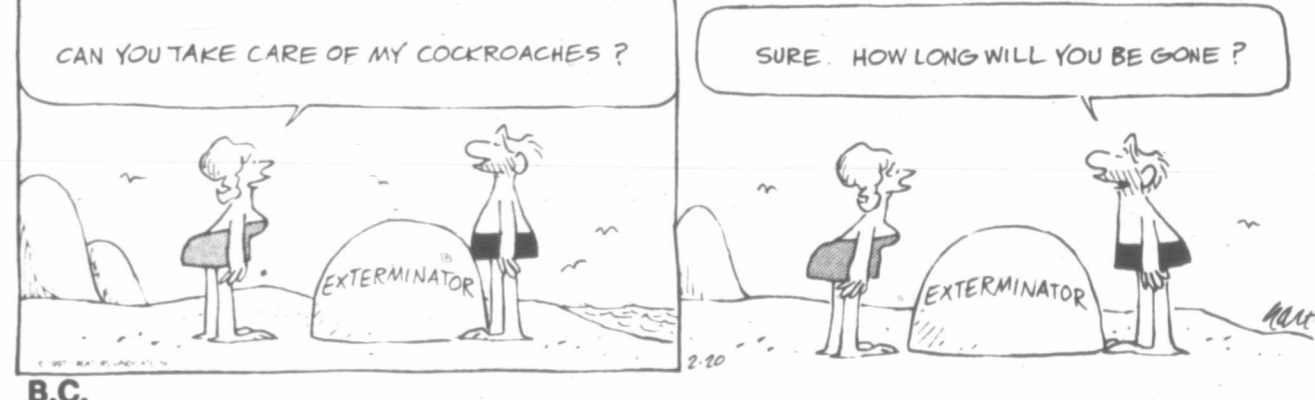
Garfield



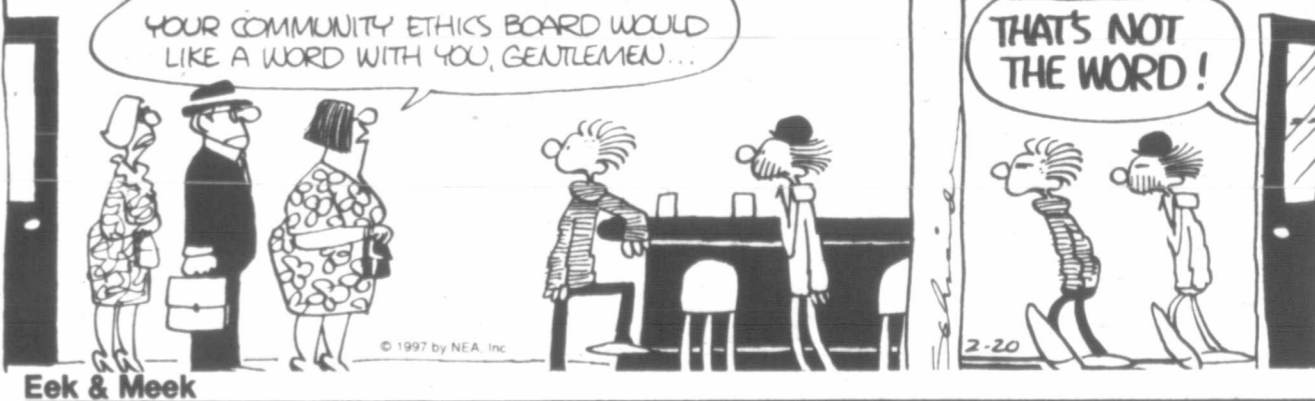
Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



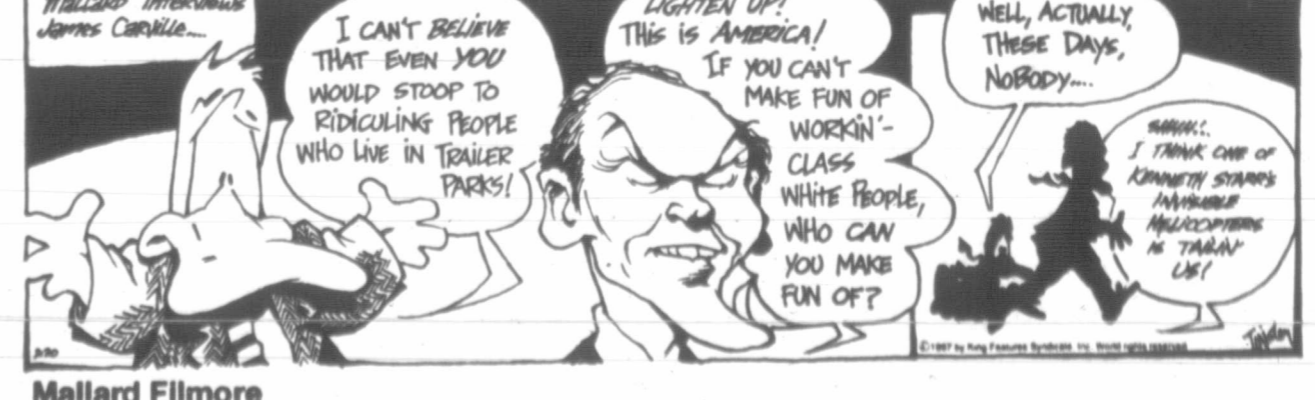
Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank & Ernest



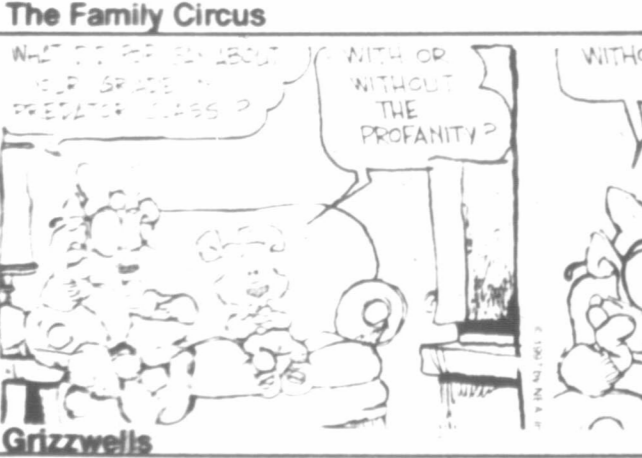
Mallard Filmore



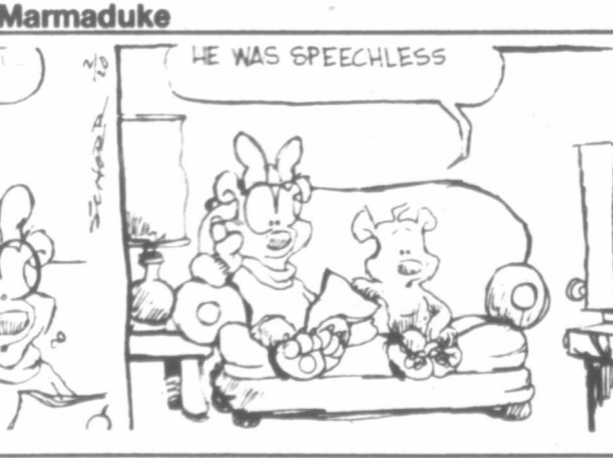
"Grandma makes her chairs wear bibs in case of spills."



"Wouldn't it be better if I carried the umbrella?"



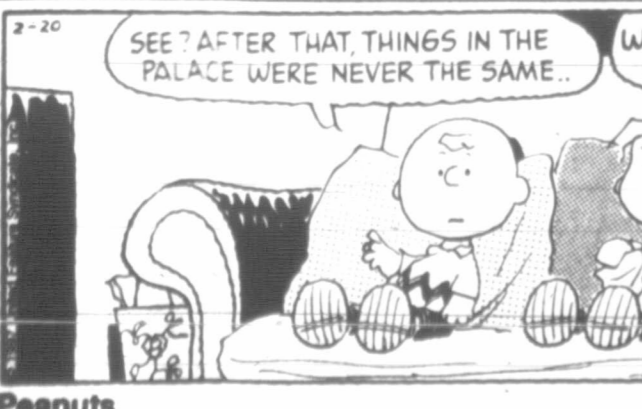
The Family Circus



Marmaduke



Grizzwells



Peanuts

Sports

Notebook

BASEBALL

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers have rejected a long-term contract proposal from Ivan Rodriguez that could have paid the All-Star catcher up to \$85 million over 10 years, Rodriguez's agent said Wednesday.

California attorney Jeff Moorad said he received a fax Wednesday from team President Tom Schieffer that rejected the proposal.

The fax "offered some thoughtful, instructive analysis" but no hope of an imminent deal, Moorad said.

Rodriguez avoided arbitration by agreeing Jan. 19 to a \$6.65 million, one-year contract. He'll be eligible for free agency after this season, and the Rangers have so far been hesitant to sign him to a long-term deal.

"Somebody has asked if the process had been a waste. You really can't call it a waste when you've been able to reach a one-year, \$6.65 million contract," Moorad said.

He said negotiations, which were never close to yielding a deal, will be suspended until after the 1997 season, increasing the likelihood that the Rangers could lose him through free agency.

"Unfortunately, we were not able to work out a longer term deal at this stage. So now we've agreed to let Pudge focus on getting ready for the coming season," Moorad said.

Telephone messages left at the Rangers' spring-training complex in Port Charlotte, Fla., were not returned Wednesday evening.

Rodriguez had asked the Rangers for a \$38.75 million, five-year contract with options that could make the deal worth \$85 million over 10 years.

Both sides had talked about getting a long-term deal done before this season. Rodriguez had set last Saturday — the first scheduled workout of spring training — as a deadline.

HUNTING

LAS VEGAS — Flambeau Products corporation and Ducks Unlimited, Inc., have joined forces to raise money for waterfowl and wetlands conservation. The partnership makes Flambeau decoys the official waterfowl decoy of Ducks Unlimited.

Flambeau Products will contribute a portion of its revenues to Ducks Unlimited from the sale of the corporation's waterfowl decoys. The agreement makes the decoy, hunting products, and fishing tackle manufacturer one of the conservation organization's largest corporate supporters.

TRACK & FIELD

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Australian Emma George broke her own pole vault world record by clearing 14 feet, 11 inches tonight at the Melbourne Grand Prix track and field meet at Olympic Park.

George, 22, bettered her mark of 14 feet, 9 inches, set earlier this month at the Victorian state championships, with her third jump of the night.

She was cheered on by 12,000 fans in her hometown.

George, a 22-year-old former sprinter and long jumper who has been competing in the pole vault for just over two years, also holds the world indoor record.

The former trapeze artist in the Flying Fruit Fly Circus is preparing for the world indoor championships to be held in Paris next month and for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

George set her 10th world record — eight outdoors and two indoors — but failed at three attempts at 15-3.

She felt lucky to set the new mark after skimming the bar. "I knocked it a bit, not too bad, but I thought 'please don't come down,'" she said.

"I've still got a bit of work to do on my plant, but what I do in the air is not too bad. I've still got to improve on my speed and strength — but that's going to take a while."

Longhorns post key win over Top 10 team

By The Associated Press

Texas beat a Top 10 team for the first time since 1991 as a tip-in by Dennis Jordan with 3.3 seconds to play gave the Longhorns a 57-56 victory over No. 7 Iowa State.

"They made a great play at the end of the game with the offensive tip, otherwise we would be talking about how great we played on the road tonight," Iowa State coach Tim Floyd said.

Wednesday night's loss left Iowa State in a three-way tie for second place in the Big 12, with Texas and No. 21 Colorado, which beat Kansas State 67-57. All are 9-4 in the conference, trailing No. 1 Kansas (12-1), which was idle Wednesday night.

In other Big 12 games, Oklahoma beat Texas Tech 66-60, Oklahoma State stopped Texas A&M 72-55 and Baylor downed Nebraska 71-60.

Texas (15-8), playing before an enthusiastic home crowd in Austin, worked its way to a 55-49

lead with 3:40 to play, then missed two shots and turned the ball over twice as Iowa State (18-5) battled back. A 3-pointer by Dedric Willoughby pulled the Cyclones to within 55-54 with 1:08 left.

Gabe Muoneke, who led Texas with 14 points, missed the front end of a 1-and-1 with 29 seconds remaining and Iowa State's Kenny Pratt hit a layup with 11 seconds to go, giving the Cyclones a 56-55 lead.

Then Al Coleman dribbled the length of the court and put up a 16-footer that ticked off the rim, but Jordan tipped it in and sent Texas fans into a deafening roar.

"I just saw Al going to the hole, and Coach always told us to anticipate the miss," said Jordan, who had 12 points and seven rebounds. "I just went up, got my hands on it and, thank God, it went in."

After a timeout, Iowa State attempted a full-court pass but Kris Clack intercepted it and dribbled out the clock.

The victory was the first over a

Top 10 team for the Longhorns since they beat No. 3 Arkansas 99-86 in 1991. And coach Tom Penders said it should improve the team's chances for post-season play.

"To get in the tournament, you have to have a winning record in a power conference, and we have played one of the toughest schedules in the country," he said.

Colorado's Chauncey Billups had 23 points and 11 rebounds as the Buffaloes snapped a two-game losing streak in beating Kansas State.

"It was a step forward in that we won," said Colorado coach Ricardo Patton. But that was about all he had to say that was good.

Colorado (18-7) was coming off road losses to Oklahoma and Kansas by a combined 65 points, led by 14 points at halftime and by as many as 20 points in the second half. But Kansas State (9-14, 2-11) cut Colorado's lead to 10 points with a 14-4 run late in the game but could get no closer than nine after that.

"It might have been one of the worst basketball games in the history of basketball," said Kansas State coach Tom Asbury. "For us to have been within 10 points tells you they didn't play very well either."

Manny Dies led Kansas State with 17 points.

Oklahoma State's small lineup came up big against Texas A&M. The Cowboys were forced by injury and foul trouble to use a lineup with no player taller than 6-foot-6, and it worked well for them.

"I think when we have the large lineup we tend to be a little less aggressive because we feel a little bit more secure," said Chianti Roberts, who had 18 points and a career-high 11 rebounds. "But I think when we go with a smaller lineup, we're definitely much faster, more athletic."

The small look was the result of center Brett Robisch having four fouls and forward Maurice Robinson having a broken hand.

Robinson suffered the injury in the first half and is lost for the season.

Roberts and Desmond Mason, both 6-6, were the tallest players on the floor when the Cowboys (14-11, 6-7) took control of an ugly game.

Roberts scored nine points and Adrian Peterson had the other five in a 14-0 run that gave Oklahoma State an 18-point lead with just over 10 minutes remaining. Texas A&M (8-15, 2-11) got within seven later on, but no closer.

Oklahoma had lost five straight road games before winning over Texas Tech at Lubbock.

Nate Erdmann's 22 points and a crucial dunk inside the last two minutes Wednesday night preserved the Sooner victory.

Down 60-56 with 1:40 left, Tech's Rayford Young forced a turnover only to see teammate Cory Carr fling a wild 3-point shot off the rim. Eduardo Najera grabbed the rebound, dished to Heskett, who passed on for Erdmann's decisive dunk.

Pampa, Caprock boys meet for first place

PAMPA — With three regular season matches left, Pampa and Caprock are tied for first in the District 5 boys soccer league race.

Both Pampa and Caprock have 4-1 records and the two teams meet at 2 p.m. Saturday in Amarillo to decide sole possession of first place.

Pampa defeated Randall, 4-1, and Caprock downed Borger, 5-2, Tuesday.

The Harvesters, 9-4 overall, got goals from Chris Welch, Mike Weatherly, Lucas Jaramillo and Julio Silva in the win over Randall.

Pampa dominated the match almost from the beginning. It was much the same way in the first meeting between the two schools as the Harvesters came away with a 5-0 win.

Caprock's Ramon Casteneda scored two of the three goals in the Longhorns' win against Borger.

Pampa and Caprock are about

as close to being equal in talent as any two teams can get. Any match between them would be rated a tossup. In the first meeting, Pampa came away with a 2-1 win in a shootout. The score was tied 1-1 at the end of regulation play.

Pampa's only district loss was 1-0 to Borger in a shootout.

The top three teams in each district advance into the post-season playoffs.

The Lady Harvesters will try for their second win in a row in district play against Caprock on Saturday.

Lucy Silva and Marisol Resendiz scored shootout goals as Pampa outlasted Randall, 3-2, Tuesday. Nicole Cagle, with an assist from Resendiz, accounted for Pampa's lone goal in the regulation period.

The Lady Harvesters are 2-3 while Caprock is the district leader in the girls' division with a 4-1 record. Pampa lost, 3-2, in the first match against Caprock.

PHS girls open track season at Tiger Relays

PAMPA — The Pampa High girls' track team opens the season Friday and Saturday at the Tiger Relays in Frenship.

"We've looking good. We've got a lot of young, talented freshmen, much like we had last year. That gives us a strong combination," said head coach Mike Lopez.

The Lady Harvesters return distance runner Jenny Fatheree, who qualified for the state meet as a freshman in the 1600 and 3200. Fatheree led the girls cross country team to the school's first state championship in the fall, and most of those athletes run track.

District champions Robin Williams (300 hurdles) and Katy Cavalier (triple jump) are also back for the Lady Harvesters. The sprint relayers, which won

district a year ago, lost only one team member to graduation.

"All three of our relay teams should be strong. In fact, we're basically covered in every area," Lopez said. "We're ready to go."

Shot putter Barbara Wine and triple jumper Tiffany McCullough placed third in last year's district meet and Lopez looks for both these athletes to contend for the gold this spring.

The Lady Harvesters finished second in the Tigers Relays last year. Fatheree set meet records in both the 3200 and 1600. Wine won the shot and Williams won the 300 hurdles as Pampa collected 108 points, second to Big Spring's 152.

The annual Top O' Texas Relays, held in Pampa, is scheduled for March 1 at Randy Matson Field.

ABL begins first playoffs

By ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

As its inaugural season draws to a close, the women's American Basketball League is preparing for the playoffs despite some grumbling about the format.

The Columbus Quest play the San Jose Lasers and the Richmond Rage take on the Colorado Xplosion when the postseason starts Sunday.

Although five regular-season ABL games remained Wednesday and Thursday, the playoff picture was solidified with the Lasers' 78-76 double-overtime victory Monday over Columbus, the league's top team.

The Quest, who jumped out to an 11-0 record to start the season and went on to capture the Eastern Conference title, appeared virtually unbeatable until teams started to catch on to their motion offense.

"I think we can take them down," Lasers coach Jan Lowrey said, boosted by her team's victory earlier this week.

San Jose is 2-0 against Columbus at home, but 0-2

against the team in Ohio. The Lasers and the Rage are the only two teams to beat the Quest more than once.

The way the best-of-3-games series is set up, Columbus must travel to San Jose for the first game. The Lasers, runners-up in the Western Conference to Colorado, play the final two games at Columbus.

It's a format that doesn't sit well with Brian Agler, the Quest's coach and general manager.

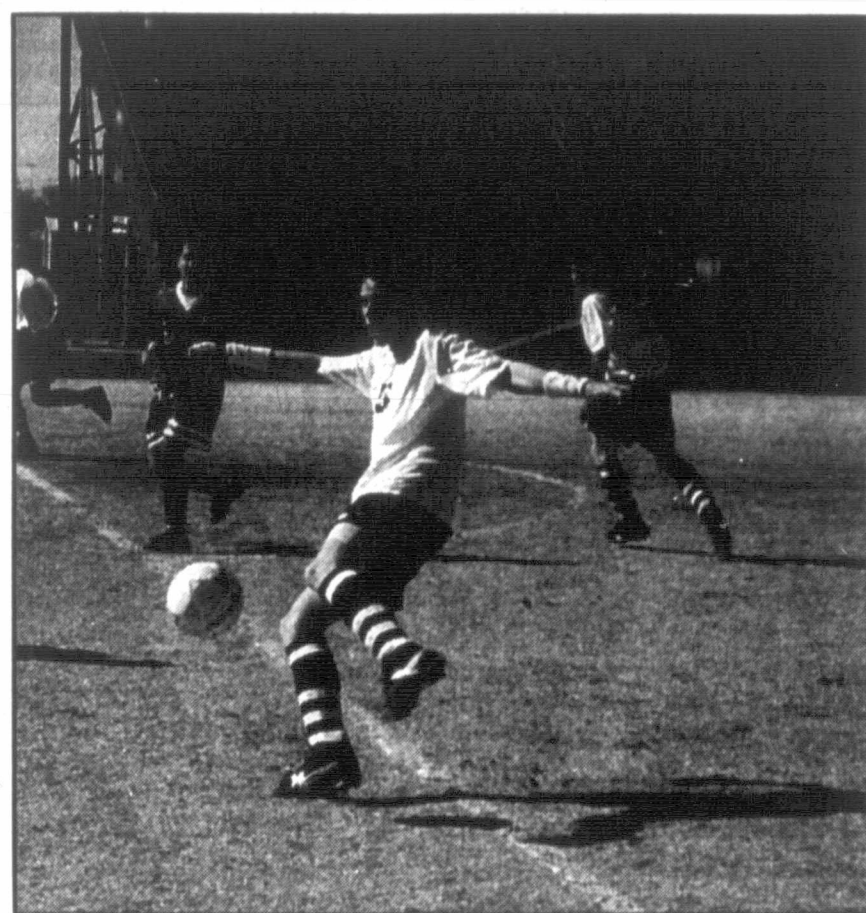
"In most cases, the team that finishes in first place usually plays at home," he said.

Olympian Nikki McCray, who is among the league's top scorers with an average of 20.1 points per game for Columbus, agreed with her coach.

"I wish we could play our first game at home. With our record, we should," she said.

McCray admitted, however, that the Lasers would be a tough opponent either way, considering the Quest's defeat Monday.

"We've played tough games on the road, so we're just going to have to dig deep and focus," she said.



(Pampa News photo)

Chris Welch (pictured above in a recent match against Canyon) scored one of four Pampa goals against Randall Tuesday at Harvester Stadium.

Local gymnast wins second straight meet

ODESSA — Gymnastics of Pampa student Erin Coffey dominated the competition once again at a District 1 qualifying meet at Odessa College. Coffey won her second straight district meet in the Optional Division and leads the competition going into next week's District Championships to be held in Lubbock.

Coffey led the meet in nearly every event by placing first on vault — 8.15 (tie), first on bars — 8.35 and first on floor exercise — 8.9. She tied for second place on the balance beam — 8.5. Coffey's all around score of 33.90 was good for the gold medal and was more than a point higher than her nearest competitor.

Coffey lives in McLean and drives three times a week to train at Gymnastics of Pampa with Coach Kristi Hughes-Fatheree.

Joining Coffey in the Optional Division, Abby Cavalier tied for third place in the All Around with a score of 32.35. She tied for second on the balance beam — 8.5, was third in vault — 8.1, fourth on floor exercise — 8.2 and fifth on bars — 7.55. Cavalier is also one of the favorites in the All Around at the Optional District Championships next weekend.

Along with the District Qualifying Meet, Odessa College held an invitational meet for beginning gymnasts levels four through six with level four being the lowest and six being the highest level. Gymnastics of Pampa entered four gymnasts in the level five competition where each one

brought home All Around medals.

Amanda McKendree led Pampa in level five competition by winning the silver medal in All Around with a 32.90 score, her highest ever. She won first on bars with a personal best of 9.0, first on beam with another personal best of 8.9, third on floor exercise — 8.25 and fifth on vault — 6.75. McKendree was entered in the nine- and ten-year-olds competition.

Joining McKendree in the nine- and ten-year-old division was Jaelyn Spearman and Rebecca Middlebrook in their second meet. Both girls had personal bests on nearly all of their events. Spearman won the bronze medal in the All Around with a 32.20. She was second in floor exercise — 8.8, third on balance beam — 8.7, fifth on bars — 8.0 and sixth on vault — 6.7.

Middlebrook placed fourth on beam — 7.6, fourth on vault — 6.8, sixth on floor — 7.55, sixth on bars — 7.85 and sixth in the All Around — 29.80.

In the eight-year-old level five competition, Amy Youree took fifth place in the All Around with a 26.95. She was second on floor exercise — 7.85, third on beam — 7.35, fifth on vault — 6.2 and fifth on bars — 5.55. She was competing in her second meet also.

The level five gymnasts will compete in an invitational meet next at weekend in Lubbock that will be held in conjunction with the District 1 Optional Championships.

San Antonio buried by Raptors, 125-92

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Toronto coach Darrell Walker was not comfortable with his team's 16-point halftime lead.

So he implored the Raptors, who have blown several large leads lately, to play the second half with the same intensity and focus that

they had in the first.

The Raptors took their coach's words to heart and allowed him to relax for most of the second half, scoring the first 10 points of the third quarter and cruising to a 125-92 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Wednesday night.

"I told them the game was not over and to come out and play with the same aggressiveness they did in the first half," Walker said.

Toronto led by as many as 35 points in the fourth quarter in handing the Spurs their biggest loss of the season.

Alomar out for a month

By The Associated Press

Forget about that spring training meeting between Roberto Alomar and John Hirschbeck. Baltimore's all-star second baseman will miss most of the exhibition season because of a sprained left ankle.

A test on Alomar's ankle revealed a moderate to severe strain, and the Orioles said Wednesday the seven-time all-star could be sidelined up to four weeks.

"I can't be disappointed. There are worse things that happen in life," Alomar said at Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "I'm in good shape, so all I need is a week or a week and a half to get ready to play."

Alomar, who is on crutches, twisted the ankle on a wet floor at home in Puerto Rico, then aggravated it while playing in a charity basketball game a week ago.

"It'll probably be more like three weeks," Orioles general manager Pat Gillick said. "He'll get therapy every day and aggressive treatment."

Alomar certainly won't be in uniform on March 17, when the Orioles play the Boston Red Sox at Fort Meyers in an exhibition game that will be worked by umpire John Hirschbeck, whom Alomar spit on last September after being ejected from a game in Toronto. Hirschbeck's first regular-season game with the Orioles is scheduled for April 22, when the Chicago White Sox are at Camden Yards.

Alomar was given a five-day suspension for the spitting incident and will sit out the first five games of the 1997 season.

White Sox
Baseball's other bad boy, Albert Belle, reported for his first camp with the White Sox and issued a written statement saying he didn't gamble on his own sport.

"I want to make one thing clear: I have never bet on baseball," Belle's statement said, adding that this would be his last comment on the subject.

"I was never asked during the deposition if I bet on baseball," Belle said at Sarasota, Fla. "Each year, major league baseball officials speak to all of the major league teams and emphasize that betting on baseball is forbidden by major league baseball's rules. I have always faithfully adhered to those rules."

Belle, who until now had spent his entire big league career with Cleveland, promised to answer baseball-related questions on Thursday. He said during a deposition that he lost as much as \$40,000 gambling on sports other than baseball.

Yankees

Cecil Fielder, who has demanded the Yankees trade him by March 15, was a no-show on the team's voluntary reporting date. Manager Joe Torre said he expects Fielder to report Thursday, when the Yankees hold their first full squad workout.

Scoreboard

TENNIS						
Pampa individual records as of Feb. 16 at the varsity level are as follows:						
Name	Singles	Doubles				
Emily Walters, jr.	7-6	5-7				
Carri Stone, jr.	4-8	8-3				
McKinley Quisles, jr.	8-4	10-9				
Mandy Wells, soph.	16-2	1-0				
Valerie Lee, soph.	7-4	14-5				
Kellen Walters, soph.	7-1	9-3				
April Lopez, jr.	0-0	5-2				
Emily Curtis, jr.	0-0	14-5				
Armanda Browning, soph.	3-2	0-0				
Totals:	52-27	33-17				
Boys						
Name	Singles	Doubles				
Kyle Easley, sr.	3-8	4-7				
Jamison Hancock, sr.	4-8	5-7				
Russell DuBoise, soph.	11-8	8-5				
Dustin Laycock, jr.	8-5	10-8				
Jason Vickary, jr.	13-3	8-6				
Ryan Witt, sr.	2-5	9-5				
Bryce Hudson, soph.	0-1	3-7				
Brandon Coffie, jr.	2-1	0-3				
Totals:	43-39	24-26				
PRO BASKETBALL						
National Basketball Association						
At A Glance						
By The Associated Press						
All Times EST						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
W	L	Pct	GB			
Miami	40	12	.769	—		
New York	38	14	.731	—		
Orlando	25	25	.500	14		
Washington	24	28	.462	17		
New Jersey	15	38	.294	24 1/2		
Philadelphia	12	39	.232	27 1/2		
Boston	11	41	.212	29		
Central Division						
Chicago	46	6	.885	—		
Detroit	38	13	.745	7 1/2		
Atlanta	34	17	.667	11 1/2		
Charlotte	32	21	.604	14 1/2		
Cleveland	29	22	.569	16 1/2		
Dallas	24	27	.471	21 1/2		
Milwaukee	24	27	.471	21 1/2		
Toronto	18	34	.346	28		
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Midwest Division						
Utah	37	14	.725	—		
Houston	34	18	.654	3 1/2		
Minnesota	26	27	.491	12		
Dallas	17	32	.347	19		
Denver	17	32	.347	19		
San Antonio	12	39	.235	25		
Vancouver	11	45	.196	28 1/2		
Pacific Division						
L.A. Lakers	37	15	.712	—		
Seattle	36	15	.706	1/2		
Portland	28	25	.528	9 1/2		
Sacramento	24	29	.453	13 1/2		
L.A. Clippers	21	27	.438	14		
Golden State	20	30	.400	16		
Phoenix	19	35	.352	19		
Tuesday's Games						
Miami 111, Philadelphia 83						
New York 95, Phoenix 94						
Utah 113, San Antonio 105						
Chicago 134, Denver 123						
L.A. Clippers 87, Dallas 69						
Sacramento 95, Minnesota 84						
Wednesday's Games						
Charlotte 123, Phoenix 115						
Atlanta 100, Indiana 87						
Detroit 100, Washington 85						
Orlando 95, Portland 84						
Toronto 125, San Antonio 92						
Minnesota 84, Vancouver 73						
Cleveland 103, L.A. Lakers 84						
Golden State 112, Boston 101						
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.						
Friday's Games						
Denver at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.						
Portland at Miami, 7:30 p.m.						
L.A. Clippers at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.						
Houston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.						
New Jersey at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.						
Chicago at Washington, 8 p.m.						
Golden State at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.						
Milwaukee at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.						
Cleveland at Phoenix, 9 p.m.						
New York at Seattle, 10 p.m.						
Vancouver at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.						
COLLEGE SCORES						
Wednesday's College Basketball Major Scores						
EAST						
Colgate 81, Lehigh 53						
Villanova 65, St. John's 54						
Wisconsin 49, Penn St. 45						
SOUTH						
Boston College 59, Miami 57						
Florida 76, Tennessee 64						
Florida St. 94, Alabama St. 49						
Kentucky 75, Alabama 61						
Maryland 76, Georgia Tech 68						
Mississippi 84, Mississippi St. 61						
N.C.-Wilmington 91, Va. Commonwealth 81						
North Carolina 74, Wake Forest 60						
Old Dominion 99, American U-61						
Richmond 65, Wofford 55						
Southern Miss. 70, Miss. Valley St. 66						
Vanderbilt 85, Georgia 80						
Virginia 55, N. Carolina St. 46						
William & Mary 82, James Madison 74						
MIDWEST						
Akron 98, Cent. Michigan 55						
Detroit 66, Cleveland St. 60						
Ill.-Chicago 53, Loyola, Ill. 50						
Kent 73, East St. 58						
Memphis 56, St. Louis 56						
Miami, Ohio 64, Bowling Green 59a						
Northwestern 70, Michigan St. 58						
Tulane 69, DePaul 61						
W. Michigan 82, E. Michigan 77						
SOUTHWEST						
Baylor 71, Nebraska 60						
Oklahoma 66, Texas Tech 60						
Oklahoma St. 72, Texas A&M 55						
Southern U. 77, Ark.-Pine Bluff 76						
Texas 57, Iowa St. 56						
Texas Christian 79, Southern Meth. 71						
FAR WEST						
Colorado 67, Kansas St. 57						
Hawaii 74, San Diego St. 62						
Oral Roberts 70, S. Utah 53						
UCLA 82, Southern Cal 60						
HOCKEY						
National Hockey League						
At A Glance						
By The Associated Press						
All Times EST						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Philadelphia	33	16	9	75	190	143
New Jersey	29	17	11	69	153	134
Florida	28	18	13	69	165	137
N.Y. Rangers	28	24	9	65	201	167
Washington	23	29	6	52	151	166
N.Y. Islanders	19	29	10	48	156	171
Tampa Bay	20	29	7	47	153	177
Northeast Division						
Buffalo	30	19	10	70	170	148
Pittsburgh	31	22	5	67	213	186
Montreal	22	29	11	55	190	215
Hartford	22	28	8	52	163	188
Ottawa	20	26	12	52	164	170
Boston	20	31	7	47	166	204
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central Division						
Dallas	34	22	4	72	179	150
Detroit	28	19	11	67	184	138
St. Louis	28	26	6	62	182	185
Phoenix	27	28	4	58	169	180
Chicago	23	28	8	54	154	155
Toronto	22	36	2	46	175	215
Pacific Division						
Colorado	36	14	8	80	198	135
Edmonton	29	25	6	64	189	174
Calgary	24	29	7	55	160	174
Vancouver	26	29	2	54	185	197
Anaheim	23	29	6	52	168	177
San Jose	21	31	6	48	151	192
Los Angeles	19	33	8	46	156	205
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 1, New Jersey 1, tie						
Hartford 2, Philadelphia 2, tie						
Detroit 4, Calgary 0						
Edmonton 6, Toronto 5						
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.						
Friday's Games						
N.Y. Rangers at Hartford, 7 p.m.						
N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.						
Calgary at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.						
Colorado at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.						
TRANSACTIONS						
Wednesday's Sports Transactions						
By The Associated Press						
BASEBALL						
American League						
ANAHEIM ANGELS—Signed RHP Geoff Edsall, RHP Pete Janicki, RHP Fausto Macey, LHP Matt Perisho, C Bret Hemphill, and INF Chris Pritchett to one-year contracts.						
BOSTON RED SOX—Signed OF Adam Hyzdu, OF Roy Padilla, LHP Rafael Orellano and LHP Ron Mahay to one-year contracts.						
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Signed RHP Travis Driskil, RHP Mike Gordon, LHP Mike Matthews, RHP Teddy Warrecker, LHP Casey Whitten, INF Damian Jackson, INF Richie Sexson and OF Bruce Aven to one-year contracts.						
TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with 2B Edwin Diaz on a one-year contract.						
National League						
ATLANTA BRAVES—Agreed to terms with INF Mike Mordecai on a one-year contract.						
CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with INF Rey Sanchez on a one-year contract.						
CINCINNATI REDS—Signed INF Aaron Boone to a one-year contract.						
National Basketball Association						
NBA—Fined Toronto Raptors coach Darrell Walker \$7,500 for verbally abusing the referees and failing to leave the court in a timely manner following his ejection from a Feb. 17 game at Indiana.						
LOS ANGELES LAKERS—Placed F Robert Horry on the injured list.						
PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS—Activated C Arvydas Sabonis from the injured list.						
Released G Ruben Nemhard.						
WASHINGTON BULLETS—Placed G Tim Legler on the injured list.						

Tar Heels back in ACC basketball race

By The Associated Press

On Jan. 11, North Carolina was 0-3 in the Atlantic Coast Conference for the first time ever. Five weeks later, it's a different story.

The 12th-ranked Tar Heels moved within 2 1/2 games of first place Wednesday night with a 74-60 victory over No. 4 Wake Forest.

"We're on a roll right now," said North Carolina's Antawn Jamison, who had 12 points and 10 rebounds. "I told you at the beginning of the season that once this team gets to where we need to get, it's going to be very scary, and you are kind of seeing that now."

The Tar Heels (18-6, 8-5) moved into a fourth-place tie with Clemson, one game behind Maryland and Wake Forest (20-4, 9-4), who are tied for second behind Duke.

As positive as things are looking for North Carolina, they are going the other way right now for the Demon Deacons, who lost consecutive games for the first time since the middle of the 1994-95 season — a span of 75 games — and lost on the road for the first time this season.

"Our team is a little down right now, I'm not going to sit here and tell you it's not," Wake Forest coach Dave Odom said. "We've probably lost a little confidence, a little edge that we had. We have to get that back, and I think it's possible to do

that. I have a lot of faith in our team."

In other games involving ranked teams Wednesday night, it was No. 2 Minnesota 60, Ohio State 48; No. 3 Kentucky 75, Alabama 61; Texas 57, No. 7 Iowa State 56; No. 14 Maryland 76, Georgia Tech 68; No. 17 UCLA 82, Southern California 60; No. 19 Villanova 65, St. John's 54; and No. 21 Colorado 67, Kansas State 57.

Vince Carter scored 21 of his career-high 26 points in the first half for the Tar Heels, who led 38-18 at halftime. He was 9-for-10 from the field in the first half and finished 11-for-16.

"It was just amazing to me," Carter said of his shooting. "That hasn't happened to me since I had a big game like that in high school. It was like, 'Wow, that's what it felt like.'"

All-America center Tim Duncan finished with 20 points and 17 rebounds for the Demon Deacons, who trailed by 24 points and closed within seven with a furious 23-6 rally. But Jamison scored on a layup and Shammond Williams hit a 3-pointer as the lead reached double digits again with 6:24 left.

"They made it interesting," Smith said. "You knew they would."

No. 2 Minnesota 60, Ohio St. 48

Bobby Jackson had 15 points to lead the Golden Gophers (23-2, 12-1 Big Ten) to their eighth straight victory and 18th in 19 games. Minnesota extended its

lead to 3 1/2 games over Purdue with five games to play as the Gophers look for their first conference championship since 1982. Damon Stringer scored 17 of his 21 points in the first half for the visiting Buckeyes (10-12, 5-8).

No. 3 Kentucky 75, Alabama 61

Ron Mercer had 23 points, including two key 3-pointers down the stretch, as the visiting Wildcats (25-3, 11-2 Southeastern Conference) won despite shooting just 38 percent. Brian Williams had 18 points to lead the Crimson Tide (14-12, 4-9), who played their third straight game with three players on suspension and with only eight scholarship players on the active roster.

Texas 57, No. 7 Iowa St. 56

Dennis Jordan's tip-in with 3.3 seconds left gave the Longhorns (15-8, 9-4 Big 12) a 3-21 record against Top 10 teams in nine seasons under coach Tom Penders. Kenny Pratt's layup with 11 seconds to play gave the visiting Cyclones (18-5, 9-4) a 56-55 lead before Jordan scored off Al Coleman's miss. Gabe Muoneke led Texas with 14 points, while Dedic Willoughby had 16 points for Iowa State.

No. 14 Maryland 76, Georgia Tech 68

Keith Booth scored 11 of his 26 points over the final 10 minutes as the Terrapins (20-6, 9-4 ACC) pulled away late. Maryland beat the Yellow Jackets (9-14, 3-10) in

Atlanta for only the second time since Bobby Cremins became the Georgia Tech coach in 1981. Matt Harpring led the Yellow Jackets, who lost their third in a row, with 19 points.

No. 17 UCLA 82, Southern California 60

Toby Bailey scored 24 points and the Bruins (16-7, 11-3) pulled away in the second half to retain sole possession of first place in the Pac-10. UCLA closed the first half with an 11-0 run for a 29-28 lead and then took control with a 17-4 early in the second half. David Crouse led the visiting Trojans (14-9, 10-4) with 18 points.

No. 19 Villanova 65, St. John's 54

Alvin Williams, who averaged 26 points in the previous two games, had 18 to lead the Wildcats (19-7, 10-5 Big East), who survived some second-half foul trouble. Zendon Hamilton scored 18 points and had 11 rebounds for the visiting Red Storm (11-13, 6-10), who had won two straight after losing six in a row.

No. 21 Colorado 67, Kansas St. 57

Chauncey Billups scored 23 points and grabbed 11 rebounds as the Buffaloes (18-7, 9-4 Big 12) snapped a two-game losing streak that saw them lose to Oklahoma and No. 1 Kansas by a combined 65 points. Manny Dies had 17 points for the visiting Wildcats (9-14, 2-11).

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State senator arrested by undercover police officer

AUSTIN (AP) — State Sen. Drew Nixon faces up to 180 days in jail after his arrest in front of a church on a charge of soliciting an undercover police officer for sex.

Austin police on Wednesday said Nixon, R-Carthage, was arrested Tuesday night in a prostitution sting.

The East Texas lawmaker was charged with a Class B misdemeanor that carries a maximum punishment of up to 180 days in jail and a \$2,000 fine. He posted a personal bond Wednesday and was scheduled to appear in Travis County District Court on March 19.

Nixon, a 37-year-old businessman, has served in the state Senate since 1995. He declined to comment in a brief interview outside police headquarters. A spokesman, John Doner, later said the senator had no plans to resign.

A fellow Republican, Gov. George W. Bush, said he was troubled by the incident.

"I think Sen. Nixon deserves his day in court, but if what I heard is true, my heart goes out to his family," Bush said.

"I'm very troubled — troubled because he's got a place of public trust and this is going to send a mixed signal that is one I don't respect or appreciate," Bush said.

Nixon is married. The couple have no children.

In an affidavit, undercover officer Christine Shelton said Nixon offered her \$35 to perform oral sex.

Ms. Shelton also said Nixon had a 9 mm handgun in his car at the time of his arrest.

Municipal Judge Kenneth Vitucci rejected an attempt to charge Nixon with illegal possession of a firearm. Police spokesman Mike Burgess said the department was continuing to investigate.

Nixon didn't attend Wednesday's Senate session and wasn't in his Capitol office.

It was the second time Nixon's name has been linked to prostitution.

According to Dallas police records, Nixon had three prostitutes in his car when he was stopped by officers in east Dallas in 1993.

At the time, Nixon denied knowing the women were prostitutes. Police said all three were known prostitutes. Nixon pleaded no contest to a related weapons charge after a handgun was found in the car.

Bush said he had not talked to Nixon and Nixon had not approached the governor's office. The governor said he would advise the lawmaker "to get help."

Boulder couple suspects in case

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — The parents of six-year-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey haven't been eliminated as suspects in her killing, prosecutors said in asking that search warrants for the couple's property remain sealed.

A request filed Wednesday is the first public document in which an official connected to the case has included John and Patricia Ramsey among the suspects. Boulder police haven't identified any suspects in the slaying.

"The owners of the property subject to these searches have not been eliminated from suspicion," reads the motion signed by William Nagel, chief appellate deputy district attorney for Boulder.

He was referring to the Ramseys' Boulder home, where JonBenet was found dead Dec. 26. Search warrants were also issued for the family's 1995 Jaguar four-door car and a 1996 Jeep Cherokee.

Boulder police also want Chicago officials to seal the autopsy report and death certificate of John Ramsey's daughter from his first marriage, the *Boulder Daily Camera* reported today.

The paper quoted an unidentified source as saying the request is "just a normal part of the investigation. We're trying to cover all of our bases."

Elizabeth Ramsey, 22, one of John Ramsey's two daughters with his first wife, died in a car accident in Chicago Jan. 8, 1992. Her boyfriend, the driver, also died.

In Boulder, District Judge Diane MacDonald sealed all the affidavits and warrants in the case Jan. 7 and extended the period on Feb. 4 for an additional 15 days.

Gov. Bush remains optimistic about property tax relief plan

AUSTIN (AP) — Three weeks after proposing a property tax relief plan to the Legislature, Gov. George W. Bush says he's not discouraged by mounting questions from lawmakers.

The Republican governor said he expects both tough questions and vigorous debate.

But he also said he expects lawmakers to hear from the same Texans he hears from — and they want property taxes cut.

"I'm very optimistic that the folks who were elected and who are deliberating in this Capitol are beginning to hear the voices of people who are severely affected by high property tax increases. That's the people who work every single day for a living," Bush said Wednesday.

"The people who pay property taxes have no choice but to either pay or sell their homes."

Bush's comments followed an analysis by the Legislative Budget Board that said his plan would lower overall taxes by an average of 2.9 percent when figuring in property tax cuts and new taxes that would be imposed.

The governor has proposed raising the homestead tax exemption by \$20,000; rolling back local tax rates by 20 cents; spending \$1 billion in state funds on tax relief; raising the 6 1/4-cent sales tax to 6 3/4 cents; and replacing the corporate franchise tax with a new business activity tax.

The LBB report given to a House tax study committee Tuesday night also said the plan would benefit the wealthy more than the poor. Families earning \$75,000 to \$100,000 a year would get an overall tax break of 3.8 percent. Households with an annual income of

\$10,000 to \$20,000 would see taxes fall 1.8 percent.

Among questions that have been raised are whether new business taxes would be passed on to consumers through higher prices; whether a business tax would cost jobs; whether renters would benefit; and whether savings from the property tax cuts would be offset by the other levies.

Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, heads the special House tax study committee. He said the LBB analysis indicated the difficulty of the issue.

"It's always difficult to convey the facts of a very complex subject matter to the public," Sadler said. "That's why we have a committee process and a debate over it."

Sen. Ken Armbrister, D-Victoria, is heading a similar Senate panel. He said it's hard to know what the full impact of the governor's proposal might be.

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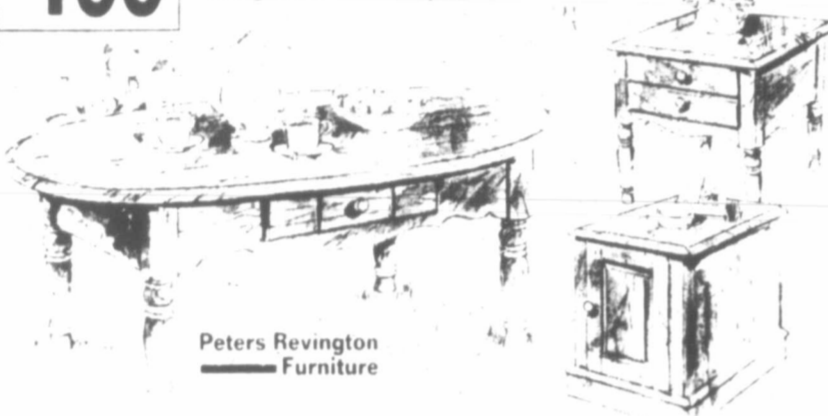
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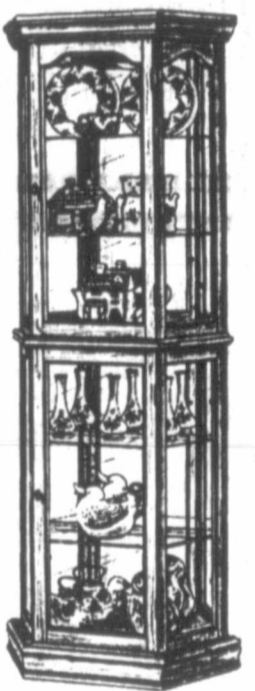
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