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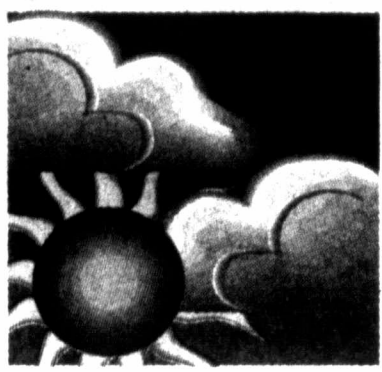
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# PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 284

Pampa, Texas

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Low tonight near 30.  
High tomorrow near 70.  
See Page 2 for weather  
details.

**PAMPA** — The Pampa Independent School District Board of Trustees has called a special meeting for Thursday, March 6, at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of Carver Center.

Action items on the agenda include the consideration of a health textbook adoption and the approval of the textbook selection committee for the 1997-1998 school year.

The board will also consider athletic bids for the Fall of 1997, the policy for gifted and talented students, the ISD technology plan and modifications of the telephone system at the elementary schools.

Non-action items include a Teen Leadership report, the 1997-98 school year, student transfer policies and the Region 16 board of directors election.

The meeting is open to the public and residents will have the opportunity to voice concerns regarding school board items.

**LEFORS** — The Lefors PTO will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 6, in the school cafeteria.

Donna Brauchi, Gray County Extension agent — family and consumer sciences, will be the guest speaker.

The PTO organization also will be recognizing the Lefors teachers to show its appreciation for the outstanding job they do. Everyone is invited to join the organization in supporting the school.

Free babysitting will be provided in the music room by the Junior Class.

**FORT WORTH** (AP) — A newly enacted agreement in Oklahoma will allow Texans who hold concealed weapons permits to now carry their guns across the Red River.

Officials said Tuesday it is one of the first such agreements allowing Texans the right to carry guns outside the state's borders, and it is not likely to be the last.

Legislation drafted by Rep. Bill Carter, R-Fort Worth, would allow licensed residents from other states to carry their weapons in Texas.

In addition, a Florida congressman is pushing a bill that would make all states that have concealed weapons laws to accept permits issued by other states — like drivers' licenses.

Assistant Oklahoma Attorney General Judy Terry told Texas authorities that Texas permits will be recognized in her state because Texas has a law that meets its standards. "Your state meets these requirements, and Oklahoma will recognize licenses or permits issued by your state," Terry told the Texas Department of Public Safety Feb. 6.

Classified .....10  
Comics .....8  
Editorial .....4  
Medical .....6  
Sports .....9

## Balanced budget amendment falls by only one vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — The one-vote defeat of the balanced-budget amendment in the Senate shifted attention to congressional and White House attempts to come up with a real balanced budget by 2002.

Both sides say they want that, and each is already accusing the other of political deceit.

The demise of the constitutional amendment Tuesday for the third time in three years appeared to erode what's left of the bipartisan spirit that heralded the start of this Congress.

Republicans said President Clinton's plan to balance the budget by 2002 was based on false premises and demanded he rewrite it. Democrats said it was inexcusable for Republicans to ask Clinton to rewrite his budget when they haven't produced their own.

The White House said Republicans shouldn't complain until they draft a balanced-budget plan. "If they don't like our budget, they ought to have the decency to produce one of their own," press secretary Mike McCurry said today.

House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt today sent a letter to Speaker Newt Gingrich urging

immediate action on the fiscal 1998 budget to avoid a repeat of last winter's government shut-down. "The House is sliding into irrelevance in this community and in the government," he told reporters.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, frustrated again in his longtime quest for a balanced budget amendment, attacked Clinton for opposing the amendment while displaying a "lack of fiscal integrity" in his own plan.

"What kind of a fool does he think we are?" Hatch asked.

Clinton said he was pleased with the amendment's defeat but added, "At the same time, let me be clear: While I oppose a constitutional amendment, I am committed to achieving the bipartisan goal of balancing the budget by 2002."

The vote on the balanced budget amendment was 66-34, one short of the two-thirds majority needed to amend the Constitution. That was identical to the vote in 1995, when a single Republican, then-Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon, voted against it. Last year the vote was 64-34.

See BUDGET, Page 2

## City prepares for barbecue thanks to bet by Gov. Bush

ALTUS, Okla. (AP) — Preparing to feed 5,000 people takes a little work, as the residents in Altus are finding out.

Members of an organizing committee have been putting in long days getting ready for the "border barbecue" to be held March 22 at the football stadium.

The barbecue is the result of a wager between Gov. Frank Keating and Texas Gov. George Bush. Bush lost the bet when the Oklahoma Sooners beat Texas in football last October.

"It's well more than what I expected when I was first asked to serve on this committee," said Willie Tarleton, director of related services for Altus public schools.

But, he said, "Everybody's really upbeat about it and ... willing to pitch in and just do whatever is necessary to be done to make sure this thing is a success."

The Texans will provide the 1,500 pounds of beef, but it's up to Oklahomans to prepare it.

Barbecue Chairman Herschal

Crow said he never expected Texas to offer more than the beef, especially since Keating wanted to have so many people attend.

"If it had come down to a dinner for 20 or 30 people, then the governor of Texas would have been glad to furnish all of the money and all of the food," Crow said.

Organizers don't seem bothered that they're spending more effort and money than Texas to hold the event. Many local residents see it as an economic development opportunity, a chance to show off the southwestern Oklahoma community to people in both states.

Organizers estimate there will be 80 gallons of beans and 320 loaves of bread to go along with the brisket.

The organizing committee has accepted about \$8,000 in donations, mostly from individuals and companies that have given more than \$500. They also have had offers, from restaurants and individuals, to cook all but 300 pounds of the meat for free.

## Three workers hospitalized after collapse of drilling rig

KERMIT, Texas (AP) — A drilling rig collapse left three workers hospitalized today as federal regulators examined the wreckage at an oil and gas well site.

The 130-foot derrick fell Tuesday as a crew was installing casing to a depth of 9,000 feet in the shaft.

James Kirby, 31, was in serious condition at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock with multiple fractures. Robert McBride, 27, was in good condition at Odessa's Medical Center Hospital with a fracture.

Both men are part of a Hobbs, N.M.-based team from Allen's Casing Crew Inc. of Odessa, Texas.

David Nunez, a 34-year-old employee of Patterson Drilling Co., was in stable condition at Winkler County Memorial Hospital in Kermit with a bruised elbow and bruised ribs.

"It is a miracle that we did not have any fatalities," said

Ed Cosgrove, area director for the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration in Lubbock. "The rig was really a mess."

An OSHA compliance officer returned to Patterson's Rig No. 71 today in an investigation that Cosgrove said would likely take several weeks to complete.

Mark Cullifer, safety director of Snyder-based Patterson, said engineers would also examine the derrick to determine why it collapsed.

Winkler County Sheriff Robert Roberts said Tuesday that metal fatigue on the derrick's frame could have caused the 6:45 a.m. collapse. But Cullifer said engineers were more qualified to make that judgment.

The well is about six miles southwest of Kermit, about halfway between Kermit and Wink near the southeastern corner of the Texas-New Mexico border.

## Water spout



(Pampa News photo by Laura Haley)

The streets of Pampa were a little wet Tuesday, at least along part of Hobart Street, when a water line at the corner of Hobart and Francis burst, spouting water about 40 feet into the air. According to witnesses, the water line erupted when workers from the Texas Department of Transportation accidentally drilled into the line while trying to place a sign on the corner of the two streets. City workers turned on two hydrants to lower the water pressure, which would allow them to work on the burst pipe. After about 30 minutes, the gusher was reduced to a bubbling pool of water at the site of the leak. It took city workers about one and a half hours to repair the water line.

## State welfare official calls truce on funding

HOUSTON (AP) — Warned that Texas risked billions of federal dollars by moving forward with a welfare privatization plan without explicit approval, the state's top welfare official is going easy on the plan.

Mike McKinney, state commissioner of Health and Human Services, had declared last week that nothing short of states' rights was at issue in the feud over the multibillion-dollar proposal.

Now, he's calling a truce to protect federal welfare funding.

"We're not going to endanger federal funds. I'm not stupid," McKinney said in Tuesday's *Houston Chronicle*.

"Because they did respond,

negotiations are ongoing. We're still working with the federal government. We're still trying to get their approval," he added. "I'm not going to unilaterally thumb my nose at them and put (the offer for bids) on the street."

McKinney and Gov. George W. Bush believe Texas has implicit federal approval to move ahead based on a federal rule that requires a definitive response to state proposals within 60 days. Bush spokesman Ray Sullivan said.

McKinney suspects national labor unions of contributing to a three-month delay of approval for the plan, the *Chronicle* reported from Austin. He said he retains the option to start seek-

ing bids for the contract.

With Bush's approval, McKinney had planned to begin seeking bids on the contract within two weeks.

The contract would let a private technology company create and possibly run a system to screen applicants for more than \$8 billion in welfare benefits. The project includes 21 social service programs. Some have estimated it could lead to as many as 7,000 state job cuts.

Lockheed-Martin, IBM, Electronic Data Systems, Unisys and Andersen Consulting are among the companies that have shown interest in the contract, worth about \$2 billion over five years, the *Chronicle* said.

## Lawmaker seeks new agency for child support

AUSTIN (AP) — Seeking to remove the state's child support collection system from elected officials, a lawmaker has filed a bill to strip the agency from Attorney General Dan Morales' control.

"If we didn't feel we were absolutely forced against the wall, we wouldn't be doing it," said Rep. Leticia Van De Putte, D-San Antonio.

Ms. Van De Putte's bill, co-sponsored by 28 House members, would move oversight of the \$126

million, 1,450-employee division to a new independent commission.

She said such a commission would be more responsive to legislative mandates and, by focusing only on child support, would be better at collecting the billions of dollars owed to custodial parents.

Under the bill, also filed in the Senate by Sen. Chris Harris, R-Arlington, a six-member Texas Family Support Commission would be appointed by the governor and include a family law

judge, a district clerk, a child advocate and a family practice lawyer.

Morales' spokesman, Ron Dusek, said the legislations is, at best, uninformed, and at worst, politically motivated.

Those who want the new commission "have not paid enough attention to facts and the record to come to a clear understanding that this would be a very foolish move," he said.

Duties related to child support constitute more than half of Morales' budget and employees.





(Pampa News photo by Sherry Cromartie)

**Al'Louise Ramp, from the Daughters of American Revolution Comancheria Chapter at Canadian, presents a historical review on the DAR organization and the nation's government in a special program Monday for the students at Pampa Community Christian School.**

### Area DAR leader discusses history issues with students

By SHERRY CROMARTIE  
Staff Writer

Al'Louise Ramp of Canadian, representing the Daughters of the American Revolution Comancheria Chapter, joined with local members of the Las Pampas Chapter Monday to present a brief historical program to the students of Pampa Community Christian School.

The students participated in the opening flag ceremonies and sang the Star Spangled Banner, under the leadership of DAR Las Pampas Regent Willie Mae Mangold, prior to the start of the program. Others representing the Las Pampas chapter were Betty White and Lillian Skelly.

Ramp addressed the students on the reasons the American Constitution was written and that our nation's government was formed on the principals of God, home and country. "The Nation's government was founded on these principals and it is the only government formed on Christian concepts and Christian morals," she told the students.

Wearing hats designed from the 1776 era, the four program presenters read historic quotes from the composers of the Constitution, including John Quincy Adams and George

Washington, relating to the importance of the organizations of the Daughters of American Revolution and the Sons of American Revolution and their efforts at promoting education, history and patriotism.

The DAR was formed in 1890, and Caroline Scott Harrison was its first president general, according to Ramp.

Ramp is a candidate for Texas DAR vice regent's office this year, and plans to attend the state conference in San Antonio March 12 through 15. She is the current state treasurer and past corresponding secretary.

She was first initiated into the organization as a young woman, and has served for more than 33 years. She is a charter member of the Canadian DAR Comancheria Chapter and is credited for organizing that chapter in 1973.

Ramp suggested the young people of Pampa might consider forming a local organization of Children of American Revolution, a more recent movement sponsored by DAR and SAR in several states.

She said educational programs presented by the area chapters are available to any student group. To request a program in Pampa, Regent Willie Mae Mangold can be reached at 669-7259.

### Woman serves two days for tardiness

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — A Graham woman who reported late for jury duty has been released after serving two days in a federal detention center.

U.S. District Judge Joe Kendall sentenced Judy Smith, 55, to spend three days in the federal detention center for women at Mansfield, south of Fort Worth.

He found her in contempt of court when she was tardy for jury duty in a trial last month in a federal courtroom at Wichita Falls.

Kendall announced his sen-

tence on Monday. She was released Tuesday.

The judge said he ordered her release early because he had made his point.

"Everyone there at the jail was happy they allowed me to leave," Ms. Smith told the *Wichita Falls Times-Record News* Tuesday. "No one thought I deserved to be there."

The judge said he hopes that Ms. Smith and anyone else doubting the importance of jury service learned their lesson.

## GOP moves to distance itself from fund raising inquiry

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans are moving to limit their investigation into 1996 presidential campaign fund-raising abuses while increasing pressure on Attorney General Janet Reno to appoint an independent counsel.

"The scope should be limited to illegal activities in the presidential campaigns last year" and other related practices by the two major political parties, said Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., who is trying to appease GOP objections to expanding the probe into congressional races and campaign finance reform.

"The system isn't broken, the laws have been broken," Lott told reporters Tuesday.

He also proposed a non-binding resolution calling on Reno to appoint an independent counsel to investigate possible criminal wrongdoing by Democratic Party fund-raisers and President Clinton's re-election campaign.

Additionally, Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said he would ask the panel's Republican members to sign a letter formally requesting Reno to appoint an independent counsel.

Under the independent counsel law, Reno would have 30 days to respond to the request. "I doubt that she'll refuse," Hatch said.

Sens. Russell Feingold of Wisconsin and Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York are among prominent Democrats who also have urged an independent counsel be named in the growing controversy over questionable Democratic fund-raising, plus Clinton's White House coffees and Lincoln Bedroom sleep-overs for big money donors.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., likened the Democratic campaign abuses to the Watergate scandal of the 1970s that brought down the presidency of Richard Nixon.

"This is not some random accident," Gingrich said. "This is the most systematic, large-scale effort to get around the law that I think we've seen certainly since Watergate. And in its total effort is much bigger, I think, than Watergate."

Lott said Vice President Al Gore's aggressive fund-raising actions during the re-election campaign raise a "serious question" of wrongdoing and warrant investigation by a special prosecutor.

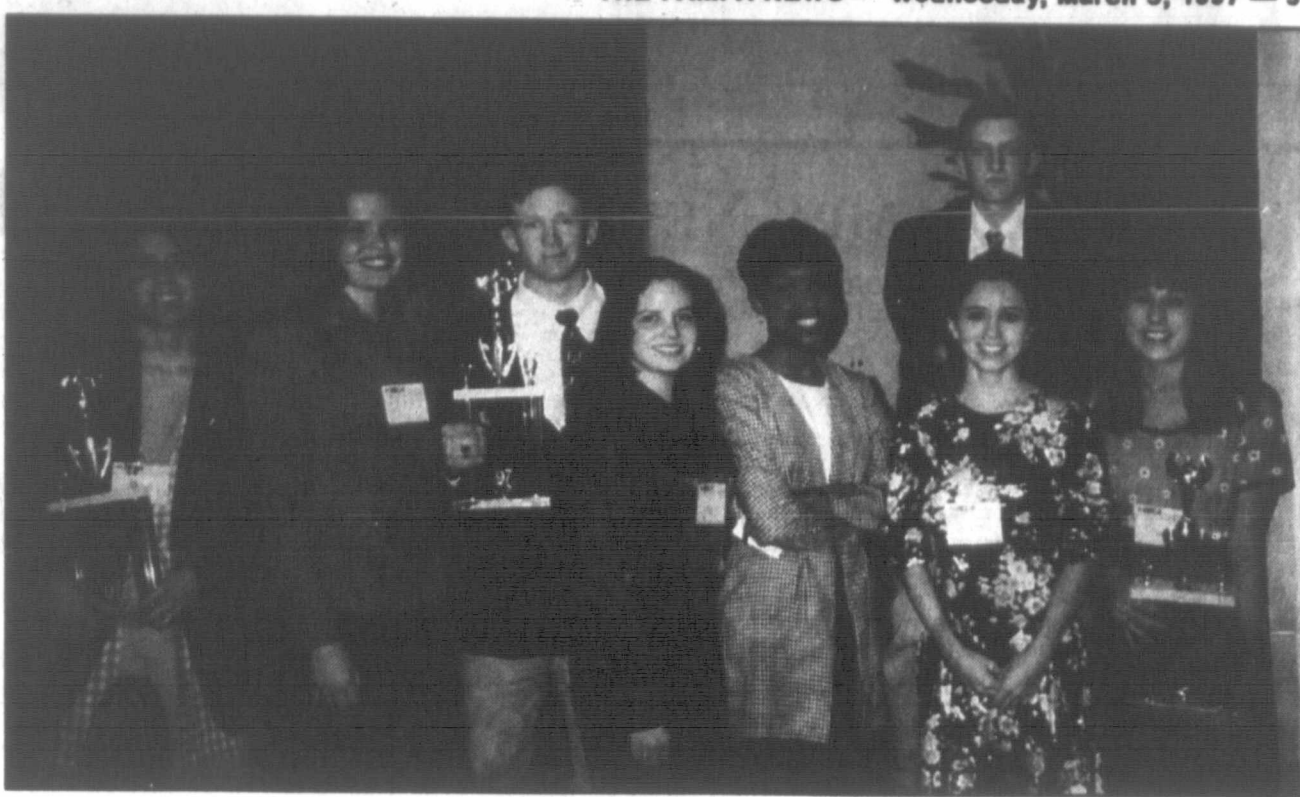
Gore on Monday acknowledged that "on a few occasions" he used White House telephones to solicit campaign money during the 1996 campaign. Gore said he did nothing illegal, but promised not to do it again.

Lott said proposals for campaign-finance reform "should be considered and it should be considered separately," from the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee investigation headed by Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn.

Lott said he expected the Senate would scale back the \$5.7 million budget sought by Thompson. "We haven't made a final decision but I assume the money will be reduced some," he said.

Thompson had agreed to a Democratic proposal for a wider investigation that would include congressional races — an agenda that was unanimously approved by the panel.

Democrats, meantime, have called for spending just \$1.8 million on the investigation and have threatened to filibuster the larger amount proposed by Thompson.



(Special photo)

**Pampa High School participants in the state DECA conference include, front row from left, Valarie Bruner, Nicole Watson, Matt Rhine, Tami Graves, Aretha Brown, Lorena Medley and Jamie Leach, and, at back, Jeff Jenkins. Not pictured is Brandon Campbell.**

## Four DECA students going to national

Four Pampa High School DECA students qualified to go to national competition after earning state finalist posts at the 51st Annual Career Development Conference for DECA, Texas Association.

Nine marketing education students from Pampa participated in the state conference held Feb. 26 through March 2 at the downtown Hyatt Hotel in Houston.

Recognized as state finalists at the Grand Awards Assembly on Saturday, March 1, were Matt Rhine, Valarie Bruner, Jamie Leach and Lorena Medley.

They and other state finalists earned the right to compete at the National DECA Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Calif., on April 28-May 4, with part of their expenses paid by the Texas Association of DECA, according to local chapter advisor Donna Crow.

Rhine placed first in the Entrepreneurship Participating

Event with his business plan on a stock trailer business. Bruner's business plan for a ladies apparel store also won her a first place ranking in the Entrepreneurship Participating Event.

Leach and Medley were the chairpersons for the Pampa Chapter Public Relations Project that earned first place honors. The public relations project was a Christmas Store the DECA members organized for the students at Lamar Elementary School in Pampa.

Aretha Brown was named an alternate in the Fashion Merchandise Promotion Plan Event. Her project consisted of developing a back-to-school promotion plan for Bealls.

Also representing the Pampa DECA chapter at the Houston conference were Nicole Watson, state officer candidate; Brandon Campbell and Jeff Jenkins, Travel and Tourism Management Decision Team Event; and Tami

Graves, Entrepreneurship Written Event and state officer candidate.

In addition to business meetings, career workshops and educational tours, students participated in curriculum related competitive events which allowed them to compare their knowledge and skills about various concepts in marketing, merchandising and management with those of students from over 500 high schools across the state.

There were approximately 2,500 DECA members and their advisors taking part in the state conference.

DECA is a 51-year-old youth organization with almost 12,000 members statewide and 150,000 members nationwide.

DECA's unique role is to provide leadership experiences and recognition for its members as they prepare for dynamic careers in marketing, management and entrepreneurship, Crow said.

## Hump of high water miles long threatens Louisville

WARSAW, Ky. (AP) — A hump of high water several miles long snaked down the Ohio River, pushing water levels higher than they have been in at least three decades and forcing even the most stubborn residents to evacuate.

Ollie Perdue and his wife Mary Lee were in the basement of the Unity Fellowship Church outside Warsaw on Tuesday. Church members had finally persuaded them to leave their small clapboard home along the river in this small town about

35 miles southwest of Cincinnati.


"The '37 flood run us out," Perdue said. "The last time we got run out was '64," mentioning the two floods along the Ohio by which most others are measured.

"We don't like to tear up and move. We had to."

Fed by heavy rains and runoff upstream as far as Pittsburgh, the river was expected to crest this morning in Louisville, the state's largest city, and surge again on Friday.

The river was engorged by

runoff from record downpours over the weekend that already had forced thousands of people from their homes along smaller streams in Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. A total of 50 deaths have been blamed on the flooding and the weekend's tornadoes.



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# THE PAMPA NEWS

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## Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas  
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis  
Managing Editor

## Opinion

### Taking anti terrorism too extremes ...

We still don't know what caused TWA Flight 800 to explode last July, although investigators say there is little evidence to suggest either a terrorist bomb or a missile. But, as often happens, fear triggered by such a tragedy was enough to spur the government to take action: President Clinton imposed new airline safety regulations and convened a commission headed by Vice President Al Gore.

The commission endorsed some immediate steps and recently proposed more regulations and safety measures.

It's time to start asking whether these expensive new mandates are worth the cost, either in money or in freedoms endangered.

Because of the new security measures implemented last July, the Federal Aviation Administration and the airlines recommended that passengers arrive at the airport for their flights a half hour earlier. In 1995, travelers took about 390 million trips on U.S. airlines. The FAA uses a value-of-time estimate of \$48 an hour for business travelers and \$42 an hour for non-business travelers. Thus these new delays have cost travelers about \$9 billion a year.

Now, the commission has recommended installing more explosive-detection devices in airports. But the FAA has certified only one such device, and a General Accounting Office review found it frequently yields false alarms and doesn't process baggage as quickly as claimed. It would cost \$2.2 billion to put such machines in the 75 busiest airports in the country. That wouldn't guarantee safety from terrorists, but would guarantee even more delays for passengers.

The commission also recommends only partial bag-matching, a theoretically automated system that would set off an alarm if a passenger doesn't get on the plane he has placed a bag on. Bag matches are now required for international flights, and the procedure takes an extra hour. So a full bag match - besides costing the airlines \$2 billion a year to perform - would cost travelers another \$9 billion or so in lost time.

The commission says partial bag matching will be supplemented by "profiling" of passengers, a system in which law-enforcement agencies would develop a profile of the "typical" terrorist and check it against the characteristic of passengers. Passengers, of course, would be required to give more information about themselves than just their credit card number. The full monetary cost of such a system is almost impossible to calculate, but the cost in privacy would be enormous, not to mention the cost to innocent people who are detained or harassed because they fit a profile.

Robert W. Hahn, a Carnegie-Mellon University economist, has done a calculation of all the costs associated with these new airline security measures (necessarily an estimate, since federal officials have been notably reluctant to talk about cost.) He assumed the mandates would be 100 percent effective that no terrorist incidents would occur in the future. About 548 people have died in airline sabotage-incidents in the United States since 1982, about 37 a year. Saving those 37 lives each year would cost \$200 million per life saved. The figure, pending the investigation's outcome, includes passengers on Flight 800.

It's a harsh exercise to view the situation in those raw cost-benefit terms, and harder still to know where to draw the financial line.

Combating terrorism, lowering the odds of success of such international outlaws, is surely a worthwhile goal. But the costs as outlined in the commission's report sound high for an effect that in all likelihood won't bullet-proof the nation from terrorism - or whatever caused the failure of Flight 800.

## Thought for today

"Let us a little permit Nature to take her own way; she better understands her own affairs than we."

Michel De Montaigne

## Your representatives

### State Rep. Warren Chisum

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## Viewpoints

# Crusading on 'Chicago Hope'

In the late 1980s and early '90s, liberal political advocacy was commonplace on prime-time television. *Head of the Class* constantly belittled conservative personalities and causes from Ronald Reagan to Dan Quayle, from SDI to the Second Amendment. *L.A. Law* presented leftist spins on abortion, the U.S. invasion of Panama and the Los Angeles riots, to name just a few issues. *Designing Women*, *A Different World*, *MacGyver*, *thirtysomething*: The list of ideologically charged series was long and depressing.

With the arrival of Bill Clinton, political bashing all but disappeared from the small screen (though cultural activism continues unabated.) On Feb. 17, however, CBS' drama *Chicago Hope* offered a blast from the past, a double barreled shot of support for socialized health care "reform."

In the episode, Tommy Wilmette (Ron Silver), the owner of Chicago Hope Hospital, travels to Washington to testify before a Senate subcommittee on children's health care. Tommy is accompanied by Kate Austin (Christine Lahti), a surgeon at Chicago Hope. Both establish their liberal credentials early. Tommy remarks to Kate, "A lot of people have lost faith in government, but these guys actually have the power to do something useful." Kate comments that she "can't forget (Washington's) corruption and scandal, (but) then there's the romantic side of me." "Romantic" and "useful," in this sense, refer to a New Frontier/Great Society-style faith in what the federal government could accomplish if only it had the funding. If only those damn conservatives would just get out of the way.

Later, at the hearing, Tommy is welcomed by the subcommittee chairman, Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), playing Himself. Of course, in the real world, Kennedy doesn't chair didly-squat because in the real world, Kennedy's socialist ideas have been consigned to the trash heap of public policy. But this is Hollywood, where you can invent titles - and statistics, too.



L. Brent Bozell

to Kennedy wonders, "Do we have the political will to provide health insurance to cover 10 million uninsured children?"

What ten million? As Michael Tanner and Naomi Lopez write in the February issue of the newsletter *MediaNomics*, three million of those children are eligible for Medicaid but are not enrolled; another 1.5 million children come from families earning over \$40,000 per year; many more families choose not to insure their youngsters, preferring to pay their medical expenses out of pocket. Moreover, many programs, both public and private, already provide for uninsured children. And child-only policies cost about \$100 a month - easily within reach for most families.

But back to the show's hysteria. On the tear jerking scale, Wilmette easily tops Sen. Kennedy: "American medical arrangements are out of control. We need to disconnect profit from care. There should be no profit from the pain and misfortune of others. No profit from sick children. No profit from the dying. Health care is a right, just like education is, just like equal justice under the law. The marketplace may be efficient, but it is amoral. The system is sick, and it is killing us."

That night's eleven o'clock newscast on CBS' Washington affiliate, WUSA, noted that Sen.

Kennedy wrote his own lines and that he appeared on the show because Silver asked him to do so. During the WUSA report, Silver asserted that CBS had been "courageous in allowing the argument about health care reform to be made in this episode."

Argument? The episode was thoroughly one sided. No conservative health care position was stated. Presumably for the sake of bipartisanship, Jack Kemp appeared briefly in another scene - saying hello to Silver's character.

So why this episode, at this time? After Bill and Hillary's health care plan was defeated in 1994, its backers claimed this happened largely because its opponents - led by two fictional characters, Harry and Louise - won the public relations war. Now that the Clinton administration has announced a new campaign for socialized health care, you can bet your bottom tax dollar it will use very communication outlet at its disposal - especially the cultural weapon of entertainment television - to get its message across.

And it has a willing mouthpiece in Silver, a long-time liberal activist who has been especially loud on this issue. He told CNN in 1992 that "it's time for a single-payer national health plan," and in 1991, he said on CNBC that "when the people have the information, (they will) create a political climate for radical change" regarding health care. Evidently, Silver and the producers of *Chicago Hope* felt the public still didn't have the information - hence their propaganda onslaught.

On the other hand, maybe the American people know more about health care than Silver and other liberals think they do. Maybe they know that our system is the world's best. And maybe that's why no one is leaving the United States in favor of those socialist countries already offering the utopia promised by Ron Silver, Ted Kennedy and Bill and Hillary.

## Today in history

### By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 5, the 64th day of 1997. There are 301 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On March 5, 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who had been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people. (Two British soldiers were later convicted of manslaughter.)

On this date: In 1766, Spanish official Don Antonio de Ulloa arrived in New Orleans to take possession of the Louisiana Territory from the French.

In 1867, an abortive Fenian uprising against English rule took place in Ireland.

In 1868, the Senate was organized

into a Court of Impeachment to decide charges against President Andrew Johnson.

In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote, enabling it to join with the Nationalists to gain a slender majority in the Reichstag.

In 1946, Winston Churchill delivered his famous "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo.

In 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died at age 73 after 29 years in power.

In 1970, a nuclear non-proliferation treaty went into effect after 43 nations ratified it.

In 1976, the British pound fell below the equivalent of \$2 for the first time.

In 1977, President Carter took questions from 42 telephone callers in 26 states on a network radio call-in program moderated by Walter Cronkite.

In 1982, comedian John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose in a rented bungalow in Hollywood; he was 33.

Ten years ago: President Reagan called on Congress to approve the final installment of a \$100 million aid package for Nicaraguan Contra rebels.

Five years ago: Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey dropped out of the race for the Democratic presidential nomination. The trial of four Los Angeles police officers charged with beating motorist Rodney King opened in Simi Valley, Calif.

One year ago: Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole swept the Junior Tuesday primaries. Rep. Enid Greene Waldholtz, R-Utah, tangled in a financial mess that she blamed on her estranged husband, announced she would not seek a second term.

Today's Birthdays: Actor James Noble is 75. Actor James B. Sicking is 63. Actor Dean Stockwell is 61. Actor Fred Williamson is 59. Actor Paul Sand is 53. Actor Michael Warren ("In the House") is 51. Singer Eddy Grant is 49. Violinist Eugene Fodor is 47. Rock musician Alan Clark (Dire Straits) is 45. Actress-comedian Marsha Warfield is 43. Magician Penn Jillette is 42. Rock singer Charlie Reid is 35. Rock singer Craig Reid is 35. Model Niki Taylor is 22.

# Truth about partial birth abortion

Imagine if you will that a leading figure in the pro-life movement issued a statement that he had "lied through his teeth" in the debate over partial birth abortion.

How do you suppose the story would be played? Is there any doubt that it would make Page One?

Well, a leading abortion supporter did exactly that. Ron Fitzsimmons, executive director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers, acknowledged that he had "lied through his teeth" during the partial birth abortion debate. In a 1995 appearance on *Nightline*, Fitzsimmons offered the party line, namely that partial birth abortions were very rare (only 400 or 500 per year) and were performed only to preserve a woman's health or when the fetus had severe abnormalities.

Just recently, Fitzsimmons admitted that pro-life advocates had been right all along. Partial birth abortions are not rare - Fitzsimmons estimates that there are between 4,000 and 5,000 per year. Moreover, most are performed on healthy women with healthy babies.

*The New York Times* put the story on Page A12, and *The Washington Post* placed it on Page 4.

To their credit, NBC and ABC gave the story prominent play (*Nightline* devoted another program to the subject), though their discomfort with the news was palpable. One female reporter noted sadly that this revelation of duplicity would play into the hands of those who want to ban the procedure for everyone. Jo Ann Silberner of National Public Radio reported the story with so many caveats and explanations that listeners could scarcely tell by the end of her account



Mona Charen

must what Fitzsimmons had done wrong.

Fitzsimmons explains that he had a guilty conscience for lying to *Nightline*. He had done his own research on the prevalence of partial birth abortions when the issue was first raised and knew that the procedure was neither rare nor performed only for medical necessity. He now says that lying about it made him feel "like a dirty little abortionist with a dirty little secret." Was it only lying that made him feel that way? Fitzsimmons was not alone. That's what makes this story so significant. The lies he told were the lies the entire pro-choice movement purveyed at the time. Pro-life advocates had proof that partial birth abortions were being performed on viable fetuses of healthy mothers. They had the testimony of doctors who performed the procedure. Dr. Martin Haskell had told *American Medical News* that only 20% of the partial birth abortions he performed were for medical reasons. Dr. James McMahon testified that only nine percent of his procedures involved "maternal health" and, of these, the most common was depression.

At first, the press obediently reported the lies of pro-choice advocates as fact. But in time, sprouts of truth pushed through the concrete.

*The Bergen Record* newspaper reported that just one clinic in New Jersey performed 1,500 partial birth abortions in one year. *The Washington Post* reported that many partial birth abortions were performed on healthy teenagers who waited until their pregnancies were advanced because they could not come to terms with reality before then.

Fitzsimmons now says that his lies did a disservice to the pro-choice cause, since there is nothing to be ashamed of. But is it morally justifiable to partially deliver a viable fetus, only to kill it on the verge of birth? How is that distinguishable from infanticide?

Pro-choice fanatics know that there is little difference between partial birth abortion on late term fetuses and infanticide. The web of lies they wove to obscure the truth is unraveling.

The only question that remains now is whether President Clinton has enough integrity to reverse his position and his veto. He relied, after all, on the lies Fitzsimmons has now acknowledged. "There are a few hundred women every year," President Clinton said in his veto message, "who have personally agonizing situations where their children are born or are about to be born with terrible deformities, which will cause them to die either just before, during or just after childbirth."

If President Clinton now reverses himself, we will know that he was honestly misled. If he declines to do so, his motives will open to darker interpretations.

# Is Hubbell being paid to keep quiet?

The exposure of the alleged misdeeds of President and Mrs. Clinton and various members of the administration has recently taken a sharp and - for the Clintons - an extremely ominous turn.

Hitherto the impact of the successive revelations has been softened by their very complexity. The tangle of financial crimes summed up in the word "Whitewater" simply defies easy explanation.

True, every once in a while something simple but mysterious happens in broad daylight: Mrs. Clinton's legal billing records (which had been subpoenaed many months before) turn up, inexplicably, on a table in the White House residential quarters; torn fragments of a suicide note allegedly written by Vince Foster are found in his briefcase after it has been shaken vigorously and proved empty; the FBI files of 900 Republican officials are handed over, without explanation, to a White House personnel director whom nobody can remember hiring. But the trails quickly grow cold, and we are left trying to answer Sen. Christopher Dodd's mocking question, "So what?"

But now, at last, as the story of the Democratic Party's illegal fundraising activities unfolds, we are moving into subject matter that is positively easy to understand. And nowhere is this truer than in the case of Webster Hubbell, Hillary Clinton's ex-partner in the Rose Law Firm.

Hubbell was a major crony of the Clintons, and when Janet Reno was named attorney general Clinton designated him as deputy attorney general (the second ranking job in that vital depart-



William Rusher

ment), quite obviously to keep an eye on things for the Clintons. Unfortunately Hubbell was soon under investigation on charges of cheating his clients and his own law partners back in Little Rock, and was obliged to resign his post at the Justice Department. Eventually, he plea bargained himself into a fairly short stretch in prison, from which he was recently moved to a "halfway house."

One can imagine what forebodings must have filled the minds of President and Mrs. Clinton in 1994, as prison loomed before Web Hubbell. Here was a man who unquestionably knew far more about the Clintons' private affairs, financial and otherwise, than it was safe for any talkative person to know. Up till then he had always been dependably close mouthed; but who knew what he might be persuaded to reveal in return for a lighter sentence, or none at all?

At just that point occurred another of those mysterious events that seem to characterize the Clinton administration. Web Hubbell - under

investigation, out of Justice, and quite clearly facing indictment, conviction and jail - was suddenly hired, in his capacity as a private lawyer, and paid a large sum of money for his services. The sum of money has been variously described as \$250,000 and simply as "more than \$100,000." The services he performed for that fee are, at this point, unknown.

But what puts the maraschino cherry on the sundae is the identity of his new client. It was none other than the Lippo Group. A company owned by the Riady family, the Indonesian billionaires who funneled hundreds of thousands - perhaps millions - of dollars to the Clinton campaign, and whose former employee, John Huang, first had a gaudy career as a Democratic fundraiser and then was named deputy assistant secretary of Commerce by Clinton.

What could a prospective jailbird like Web Hubbell do for the Riadys that would be worth more than a hundred grand? Or were they simply paying him hush money at somebody else's request?

Hubbell, when asked to produce documents bearing on this question, told congressional investigators that he is invoking his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination to avoid producing them. But, as he well knows, that privilege will protect him against having to testify, but not against having to produce documents.

Clinton insists he knows nothing about the matter. A lot - an enormous lot - depends on Web Hubbell's agreeing with him.

## State briefs

### Board of Education member takes tough stance

AUSTIN (AP) — A veteran State Board of Education member says colleagues backed by religious conservatives should resign if they cannot support state laws governing school curriculum.

"The Legislature of this state is the primary decision-maker on public education. ... And if you don't believe in what they tell you, then you ought to get off this board and make your outcries on your pedestals back home," said board member Will Davis of Austin, a Democrat.

He spoke at a standing-room-only meeting Tuesday intended to air several board members' concerns and hear testimony from the public concerning Texas' curriculum revision. It was attended by nearly 400 people.

"The Legislature created this body, and it can destroy it before the end of May of this year. And you'll find out in a big hurry how important you are," Davis, who has served on the board since the 1980s, told his colleagues. "They told you to write this curriculum in these areas. Now, let's get about it."

### Black Panthers, upstart group face off over name

DALLAS (AP) — They come wearing black berets, dark sunglasses and insist upon standing throughout school board meetings. Proud, angry and defiant, they are the New Black Panthers.

But former members of the group that stormed the California Legislature in the 60s say these upstarts are racists and bullies.

"We're totally against the race baiting and bully tactics that they use among people in the community and the image they project to our youth," said Fahim Minkah, a member of the original Black Panther Party.

"They fraudulently claim to be us re-emerging and not a single one of them were former members of the Black Panther Party."

The New Black Panthers say their predecessors are a toothless, do-nothing organization that won't let go of a legacy.

### Bill would help fund fugitive apprehension

AUSTIN (AP) — Redirecting some of the surplus in the state's Crime Victims' Auxiliary Fund could be one of the best ways to keep Texans from becoming crime victims, said Sen. Jerry Patterson.

The Pasadena Republican said the crime victims' fund, which gets money from court cases settled by the state and from donations, collected \$48 million last year and spent \$28 million.

The \$20 million surplus brought the fund's balance to \$90 million as of Aug. 31, 1996.

Patterson is sponsoring a bill to allocate some of that surplus to the Texas Department of Public Safety's Special Crimes Service, which is responsible for tracking down parole violators and the state's ten most wanted criminals.

"The best assistance to crime victims is avoiding being a crime victim," Patterson said Tuesday. "If we apprehend parole violators, there won't be victims."

### Industry, Morales spar over estimates

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawyers for the tobacco industry say Attorney General Dan Morales hasn't produced the mathematical "model" being used to calculate damage estimates in the state's \$14 billion lawsuit against the industry.

But Morales' office says the tobacco defense is blowing smoke.

"We provided them with the information that we were required to provide under the court's order," Ron Dusek, spokesman for Morales, said Tuesday. "This is just another effort by the tobacco industry to try to delay the trial."

In a motion filed in U.S. District Court in Texarkana on Monday, the tobacco companies charged that the attorney general's office failed to produce a final model for damage calculations and the supporting information.



Ramona Lee Perez

## Pampa girl competing in Miss Texas National Pre-Teen Program pageant

The Miss Texas National Pre-Teen Program is the official state program for the Miss National Pre-Teen pageant to be held in Orlando, Fla., in November 1997. This is the 17th year of competition for girls ages 9 to 12.

Ramona Lee Perez of Pampa has been selected as a candidate in the 1997 competition scheduled March 14-16 at the Waco Convention Center and Holiday Inn in Waco. Ramona, the daughter of Venancio and Betsy Perez of Pampa, is competing in the Texas pageant for her second time.

Ramona, 11 1/2, is a sixth grade student at Pampa Middle School and a member of the "Darling Dimples" club at her school, made up by several girls at the school because of their dimples.

She plays the flute instrument in the Pampa Middle School Band and is a past member of the DARE program. According to her mother, she is a strong believer in the anti-drug program and has supported the slogan, "Just Say No" to drugs, since before she was in the fifth grade.

The current Miss National Pre-Teen program is teamed up with "Just Say No" as the official national service organization,

and candidates are encouraged to join existing clubs or volunteer organizations to help in the education of students to not use drugs.

In the Waco competition, contestants will be judged on academics/achievements, gown presentation, interview and personality. Optional talent, sportswear and photogenic competition will be held during the state event. Her family will accompany her to the Waco competition.

She has two sisters who will probably follow in her footsteps, said Mrs. Perez. They are Noemi, who is a third grade student, and Lamelia, who is a fourth grade student in Pampa elementary schools. She has a brother, Manolito, who is in the seventh grade at the middle school.

Her local sponsors include Avon representative Ina Mae Johnson, Titan Specialties, Top O' Texas New and Used Cars, Bartlett's Ace Hardware, Lulac Council 4528 of Pampa, Bill Allison Auto Sales, Perez Painting and Contracting of Pampa, Raven General Contracting and Construction, and Paul Clay, Insurance Accountant.

The current title holder for Miss Texas National Pre-Teen is Olivia Vickers of Kingsville.

## Discovery Center planning its Spring Eggstravaganza

AMARILLO — Spring Eggstravaganza, hosted by the Don Harrington Discovery Center, will take place March 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Discovery Center invites children ages two through eight to participate in Amarillo's biggest egg hunt. In addition to age specific hunts on the outside grounds, families can enjoy a variety of fun and "egg-citing" activities including Science Eggsperiments, Egg Spoon Races, Egg Toss, Bunny Toss, Bunny Walk, BunnyCrawl to the Stars and the Bunny Chopper.

Eggs filled with surprises will cover the north lawn of the Discovery Center for each scheduled hunt. Egg hunts begin at 9:30 a.m. with seven and eight year olds. Age five and six start at 10 a.m., four year olds at 10:30

a.m., three year olds at 11 a.m., and two year olds at 11:30 a.m. One make-up egg hunt will be available at noon.

A ten speed bike will be raffled off the day of the event. Interested parties can enter the drawing by filling out the stub on the admission ticket.

Discounted tickets can be purchased at the Discovery Center Gift Shop beginning March 7. Ticket prices are \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members in advance and \$4 for members and \$6 for non-members if purchased the day of the event.

Gift Shop hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Gift Shop is closed on Monday. For further information, contact Julie at (806) 355-9548 Ext. 20.

## Quarter horse show to air on ESPN

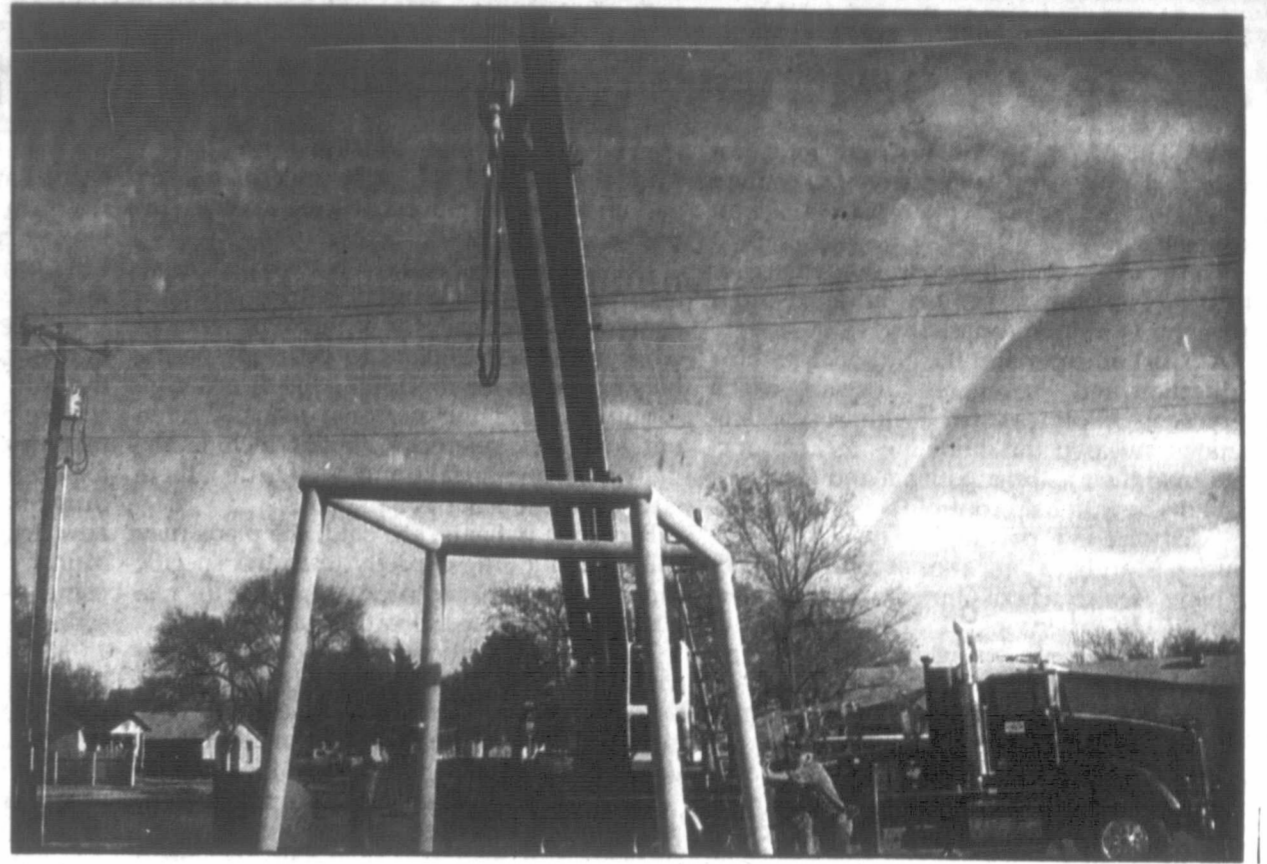
AMARILLO — America's Horse, the only television series dedicated to the American Quarter Horse, will air as a half-hour broadcast twice a month on the cable sports network ESPN.

March broadcasts of America's Horse highlight the American Quarter Horse in action from the cutting pen to the rodeo arena. Cutting competition from the National Cutting Horse Association Augusta Futurity in Augusta, Ga., will be featured on the March 9 broadcast of America's Horse on ESPN and rebroadcast on March 12.

The second March program features the 1996 National Finals Rodeo timed-event champions; the 1996 AQHA/Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association/Women's Professional Rodeo Association Horses of the Year; and the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame inductees. The program airs on ESPN March 19 and

will rebroadcast on March 26. Since 1989, America's Horse has been produced by Winner Communications of Tulsa, Okla. Hosted by Jeff Medders and commentators Mike Perkins, Tom Dawson and Tracie Wilson, America's Horse is presented by Breyer and sponsored by the Bayer Corporation, Buick Motor Division, GMC, Sooner Trailer Manufacturing and Wrangler.

## Bringing in the 'copter pad



(Pampa News photo by Dianne F. Dandridge)

The Freedom Museum USA received some much needed help from the K&K Inc. construction company of White Deer in moving a steel stand which will be used to display a WWII War Bird Helicopter on the museum property later this year. Museum board members help guide the stand to the new location while a K&K employee work the controls of the giant crane during moving operations Monday.

## McVeigh's lawyers decide delay not in best interests

DENVER (AP) — Timothy McVeigh can get a fair trial despite a newspaper story on his purported confession, his lawyers said after they decided not to seek a delay for the trial scheduled to begin on March 31.

The defense team made the decision Tuesday, after discussing options with McVeigh, and then meeting with U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch and prosecutors.

"We've talked about it among ourselves, debated it, gone back and forth, and slept on it, as they say, talked to our client and we're comfortable with the decision that's been made," defense attorney Stephen Jones said.

"That's what our client wants and that's what we want and I think that's what everybody wants."

Prosecutor Pat Ryan said he did not believe a delay was necessary.

"I share the confidence of Mr.

Jones and the court that the people here will be able to give Mr. McVeigh a fair trial," he said.

The meeting came a day after Jones said he was considering a 90-day delay because of a story published by The Dallas Morning News. The paper cited a defense memorandum that said McVeigh admitted to driving the explosives-laden truck that demolished the Oklahoma City federal building in April 1995.

Jones accused the newspaper of basing its story on a document he said it stole from his computer files. The defense later said the confession was a ploy to elicit statements from someone else the defense suspected in the bombing.

In Oklahoma, a reporter told Oklahoma City radio station KTOK that an investigator for the defense team had written the "hoax document" and had shown it to him about a year ago.



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## MEDICAL NEWS

## Experts set new asthma treatment guidelines

WASHINGTON (AP) — Find new homes for Fido and Kitty. Stop taking over-the-counter inhalants. And make a written plan to care for yourself.

Those are among the new guidelines for treating asthma, a serious lung disorder affecting 14 million Americans.

A panel of experts in the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program, which represents 35 professional health care organizations, released the guidelines to help doctors treat their asthma patients and to advise patients how to help control their illness.

"Medicine is a partnership now," said Dr. Shirley Murphy, a professor at the University of New Mexico school of medicine and chairman of the experts panel. "Patients need to take a greater responsibility for managing their chronic disease."

Among the recommendations are for asthma-prone families to protect newborns from all types of smoke and to get rid of any furry or feathered pets. They also are urged to control dust mites, the microscopic insects common in many households and the source of misery for many asthmatics.

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory lung disease that can severely affect the ability to breathe. The incidence of the disease among Americans has increased from fewer than 7 million cases in 1980 to more than 14 million in 1994. The disease causes thousands of hospitalizations annually, often on an emer-

gency basis, and many deaths.

"Asthma is still the most underdiagnosed and undertreated chronic disease in the country," said Murphy.

The new guidelines, which are so extensive and detailed that they will be released on a computer disk, call for asthma patients to work with their doctors to develop specific personal plans for controlling the disorder.

Murphy said the personal plans, written out for quick reference, would include the daily medicines to take and what to do if there is an asthma crisis.

For some patients, she said, the plans may call for daily lung-capacity tests and specific directions on what medications to use to "rescue" themselves in a breathing crisis.

Also included are methods doctors can use to diagnose and start treatment of asthma at a very early age. Murphy said experts now know that early control of inflammation helps to preserve lung function later in life.

The new guidelines, which update those issued in 1991, are needed because in the last six years new medicines have been developed and clinical studies have given a sharper understanding of how to treat the disease, Murphy said.

Highlights of the new guidelines include:

— A reclassification of asthma status into four stages: mild intermittent, mild persistent, moderate persistent and severe persistent. The mildest form involves symptoms appear-

ing less than twice a week, with only brief exacerbations, or breathing crises. The severest form includes continual symptoms, prolonged crises, limited physical activity and a lung function of less than 60 percent of normal.

— The precise use and dosage of medication for each step of the disease. Murphy said the plan emphasizes the use of inhaled corticosteroids in various doses to control inflammation and the use of inhaled beta-2-agonist for crisis symptoms. Daily use of the beta-2 drugs is not recommended, while the use of new drugs for long-term control is discussed. Murphy said patients also are urged to stop using over-the-counter inhalants. New prescription drugs, she said, are more effective.

— Skin tests to identify allergy-causing substances in the home that must be removed or controlled. In addition to dust mites, smoke and warmblooded pets, Murphy said patients need to identify and avoid foods that aggravate allergies and to keep the humidity low in the air they breathe.

— Doctors are urged to establish formal and written personal treatment plans for each patient. This includes written instructions for what drugs to use and actions to take in the event of a breathing crisis.

— Full pulmonary function tests should be conducted when asthma is first diagnosed and then repeated every year or two so that disease control efforts can be monitored.

## Harrington Cancer Center and CMC to open outreach clinic operations in Pampa

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center of Amarillo, in cooperation with Columbia Medical Center, announce the opening of the Harrington Cancer Center Pampa Outreach Clinic on Thursday, March 6.

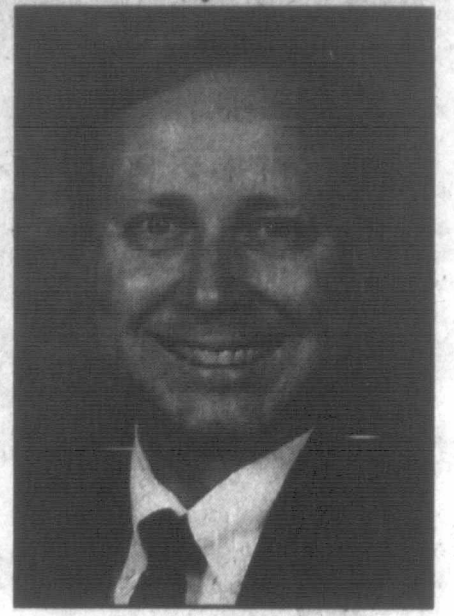
The clinic is located at 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 108, in Pampa.

The Outreach Clinic will be open from 9:30 a.m. to noon every other Thursday of each month.

Patient examinations and medical consultations will be offered initially, with an expansion of services as needed.

The primary physician of the Pampa Outreach Clinic is Charles Nash, M.D., FACP and medical director of the Harrington Cancer Center.

Dr. Nash completed his residency in medicine at Metropolitan General Hospital/Case Western Reserve School of Medicine in 1977 and his fellowship in hematology and medical oncology at the University of Arizona School of Medicine in 1979.



Charles Nash, M.D., president and medical director of Harrington Cancer Center.

Dr. Nash holds certifications in internal medicine and medical oncology.

Anyone interested in scheduling an appointment may call Lisa Melendez at (806) 359-4673 or 1-800-274-4673.

## AIDS deaths show first significant drop nationwide

ATLANTA (AP) — With the help of better drugs and treatments, the number of AIDS deaths has dropped significantly for the first time since the epidemic began in 1981, the government reports.

"Years ago, before we had this medication, people who would come in would die within six months," said Dr. Harold Kafner, who treats AIDS patients in Macon, Ga. "Now, they leave the hospital and go back to work."

AIDS deaths in the United States fell 13 percent in the first six months of 1996, to 22,000 people, down from 24,900 deaths in the same period a year earlier, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported.

The CDC also said that while the number of people diagnosed with AIDS continues to climb, the growth rate is slowing. In 1995, about 62,200 people were diagnosed, an increase of less than 2

percent over the 61,200 new cases in 1994. The growth rate from 1993 to 1994 was 5 percent.

"This is one of the first bright spots we have seen in this epidemic," said Christopher Portelli, executive director of the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association in Washington. "But we hope it is seen as a call to arms rather than a chance to relax and breathe a sigh of relief."

President Clinton also said this was no time to let up in the fight against AIDS.

"In the months and years ahead, we must continue to work together as a nation to further our progress against this deadly epidemic," he said.

The first signs of the drop in AIDS deaths came in January, when New York City reported a 30 percent decline in 1996.

The CDC credits better treatment for AIDS patients, including

new drugs, and better access to treatment through state and federal programs.

What's still unclear is the impact of a new class of drugs called protease inhibitors. The AIDS death rate leveled off in 1995, before those medicines became widely available.

Not all doctors are sure that AIDS is making an about-face.

"In my view, this decline is unfortunately only a lull," said Dr. Irvin S.Y. Chen, director of the AIDS Institute at UCLA. "Not all patients are responding as effectively as the majority of patients. There are some patients for whom the drugs are not effective."

A growing number of people are living with AIDS each year, the CDC said. In June 1996, 223,000 Americans age 13 and older had the disease — a 10 percent jump from mid-1995 and a 65 percent increase over 1993.

And some advocates point out that AIDS patients, as they live longer, will need more help, not less.

"We are concerned that people will misinterpret this news," Portelli said. "We would hope to see more money and support for better access to medical services. New drugs are not all we need."

As of December 1996, 581,429 Americans had been diagnosed with AIDS since 1981: 488,300 men, 85,500 women and 7,629 children.

And some new trends are worrying health officials. Blacks accounted for more cases of AIDS than whites for the first time in 1996 — 41 percent compared to 38 percent. Hispanics accounted for 19 percent, and other races 2 percent.

Also, the proportion of women with AIDS is still increasing. In 1996, women made up 20 percent of new cases. AIDS deaths have not declined among women or heterosexuals.

## Groom nurse serves on staff of CMC Golden Phoenix Unit

Columbia Medical Center of Pampa is introducing J'Lynna Finck, RN, as a member of the nursing staff of the Center's Golden Phoenix Unit.

Originally from White Deer, Mrs. Finck currently resides in Groom, where she and her husband, Slim, are raising their three young boys, Daniel, Kelvin and Andrew.

In 1995, Mrs. Finck received her associate degree in nursing from Amarillo College. She has been a part of the Golden Phoenix team since its opening in April of 1995. The Golden Phoenix Unit is a mental health program for senior citizens located on the second floor of the hospital.

Her responsibilities, along with all the other Golden Phoenix nursing staff, is to develop comprehensive nursing care plans which take the patient's total needs into account, utilize assessment data and integrate this information into the medical care plan.

All nurses are responsible for providing the patient with safety, privacy and confidentiality. Hospital officials say one of Finck's greatest strengths is the provision of nursing staff leadership.

When asked what attracts her to psychiatric nursing, Finck replied, "It's exciting and different. There is always something new and challenging."

She also stated it is interesting



J'Lynna Finck

to work with patients using the team approach.

Finck said not all of her patients have critical medical conditions; however, she must be prepared for that possibility at any time. In addition to observing for therapeutic effects from medication, she must be aware of their mental health needs at all times.

Finck particularly likes working with older patients because she feels we have a great deal to learn from them.

"Their courage to seek treatment, despite the stigma attached, shows me that people are never too old to improve their quality of life," she said.

## Flu cases drop

ATLANTA (AP) — The flu bug is on its way out as the season winds down.

The number of states reporting flu outbreaks dropped from a peak of 38 in December to 21 through the first two weeks of February, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

Alaska, Arizona, Iowa, Nevada, Vermont and Virginia still have widespread flu. Twenty-six states and the District of Columbia are reporting some flu cases, but no outbreaks. Colorado, Maine and Wyoming have no flu cases.

The peak of flu season usually extends from December to early March. The CDC keeps track of flu cases through the middle of May.

## Couch potatoes should take exercise cautiously

HOUSTON — Couch potatoes may trade the couch for "ouch" if they pursue an exercise program too aggressively.

"It's not uncommon at this time of year for patients to complain of chest-wall pain near the rib cage," said Dr. Wayne J. Riley, a general internist and an assistant professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

"Often, they are sedentary people who have made a New Year's resolution to exercise. Instead of getting back into shape slowly, they try to achieve their athletic goals immediately by playing basketball for six hours or doing 50 stomach crunches on an abdominal-flexor machine," he said.

The chest-wall pain usually stems from a sprained muscle or an inflammation of the rib cartilage.

"If your left side hurts when

your press on your ribs or take a deep breath or move your shoulder, that's a strong indication you have injured a chest muscle or rib cartilage," Riley said.

The injury can be treated with over-the-counter nonsteroidal drugs that decrease inflammation and pain. Riley also recommends applying an ice pack to the chest during the first two days after the injury.

If the intensity of the pain does not increase within 48 to 72 hours, see your physician. X-rays may be needed to determine whether you have broken a rib or dislocated a shoulder.

Rest at least a week before exercising again to allow time for the muscle to recover.

"When you resume exercising, start at a lower level of intensity and pace yourself to avoid re-injuring the muscle," Riley said.

His recommendations:

• Instead of doing 50 abdominal crunches at the start, begin with 10 and increase the number by five each day until you reach your goal.

• Start weight-lifting routines with a moderate load and perform repetitions several times a week. Increase the volume by five to 10 percent as you become comfortable with the weight load.

• Limit tennis, basketball and other sports that require strenuous shoulder-arm movements to an hour of play the first few times, and build up to more strenuous workouts.

"Those good intentions to improve your health by exercising can be salvaged if you expand your workout gradually and give your body time to adjust," Riley said.

IPAP

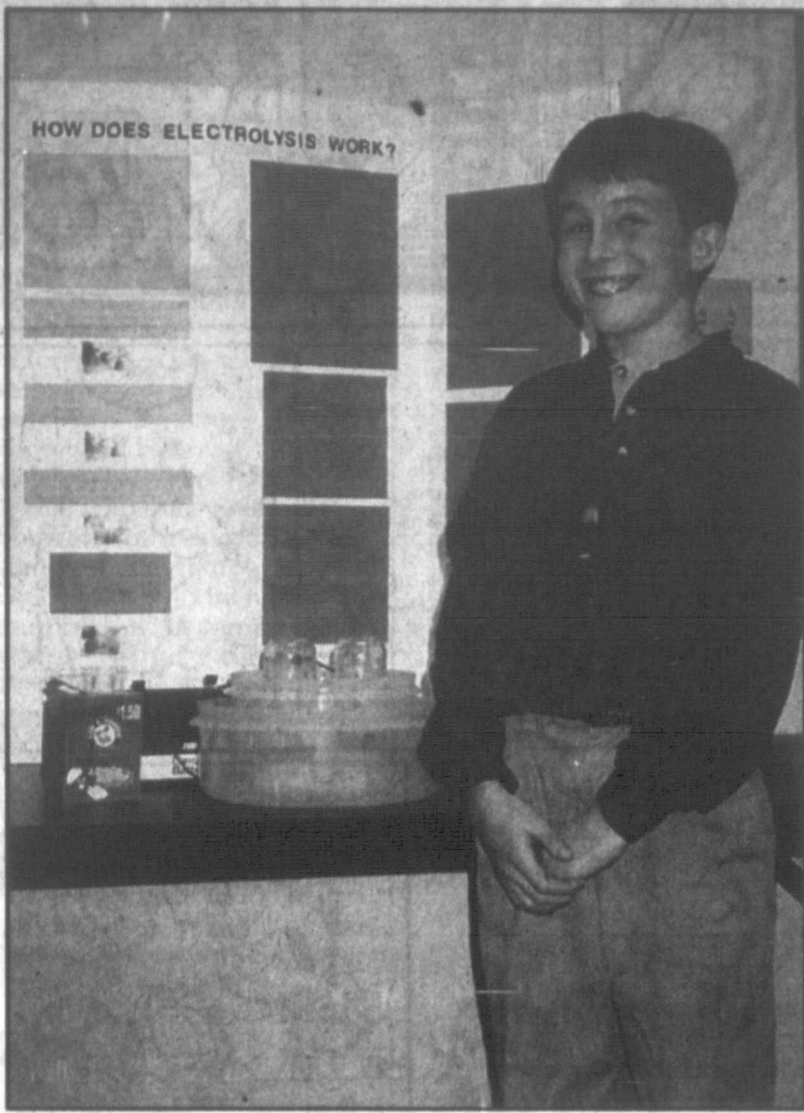
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### PCCS Science Fair winner



(Pampa News photo by Sherry Cromatite)

Evan Ladd, sixth grade student at Pampa Community Christian School, earned the sixth grade first place award and the "overall" winner's recognition at his school in the Science Fair held Friday, Feb. 28. Ladd presented his exhibit and experimental demonstration on "Electrolysis." He will attend the Regional Science Fair sponsored by the Association of Christian Schools International, where there will be approximately 250 competing entries, in Amarillo April 11 at the San Jacinto Christian School. The local first place winners will also attend, as well as second and third place winners. Other first place winners for PCCS include Nicholas Robbins for third and fourth grades; Joseph Kochick, sixth grade; Sarah Fraser, Life Sciences - seventh grade; Matt Bell, Physical Science - seventh grade; Jared Kochick, eighth grade; and Austin Smith, ninth grade. Jo Kochick is their science teacher.

## Albania sends troops, tanks to crush revolt

TIRANA, Albania (AP) — Government warplanes bombed a town to try to quell a growing revolt in the south, Albania's opposition claims. The allegation was backed up by the defection of two fighter pilots, who say they fled in their MiG-15 rather than obey orders to fire on civilians.

Government tanks rolled through southern streets and police arrived with shoot-to-kill orders on Tuesday, six weeks into an intensifying rebellion triggered by the collapse of little-regulated pyramid schemes.

Crowds looted state grain reserves, trashing factories and firing guns at will. In the southern port city of Vlorë, gunfire killed a four-year-old girl as she played in her yard.

Across the country, Albanians stocked up on staple foods as special forces in black uniforms and ski masks manned roadblocks, backed by men in civilian clothes carrying rifles.

The government imposed censorship, forbidding reporters to travel to the south and restricting what Albanian news media can say about the unrest. Because of that, it was impossible to get a complete picture of the situation in the region.

Only the ruling party's newspaper published Tuesday; all independent and opposition papers refused to submit their stories to the government censor for approval.

Even the government has acknowledged that much of southern Albania is out of its control after protests over the failed invest-

ment schemes escalated into general anti-government violence.

In Vienna, former Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said he would lead a delegation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to help mediate between all political groups.

The European Union also said it would soon send ministers to the country, and NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana ruled out military intervention. "Politics has to be done, diplomacy has to be done," Solana said in London.

But dialogue seemed far away. President Sali Berisha ruled out a coalition between his Democratic Party and the opposition Socialists, accusing them of having ruined "the constitutional order and Albanian democracy through armed rebellion."

Albanian opposition leader Gramoz Pashko said the fault was all Berisha's.

"I blame Berisha ... because first he didn't handle the crisis," Pashko said from the United States. "He thought that he could have dealt with Albanians by setting up a pyramid of lies and promises. ... The other thing is that he is going on and on repeatedly making mistakes, like the state of emergency, so I think that unless this man is going to withdraw from these positions, even resign, Albanians will not have peace."

State television reported Tuesday that tanks had arrived in Gjirokastra, 120 miles south of the capital, Tirana.

Despite blanket police presence in Tirana overnight — 48 people were arrested for breaking the 8 p.m.-7 a.m. curfew — a cafe popular with journalists and political opposition members was firebombed.

Two air force pilots defected to Italy, saying they were requesting political asylum after being ordered to open fire on a column of civilian vehicles.

"We fled because they gave us the order to fire on a column of civilian vehicles near Gjirokastra," Capt. Agrae Dasci told reporters in Lecce, southern Italy.

Britain's Channel 4 television, which had a reporter in the southern city of Saranda, quoted armed opposition members arriving from Delvina, twelve miles away, as saying that the small town had been bombed by government aircraft. There was no word on casualties and no independent confirmation.

Channel 4 also said Saranda's pro-government mayor had been beaten Monday night and gone into hiding.

Vlorë, 60 miles south of Tirana, also appeared to remain outside state control. Residents were staying inside their homes, too terrified by the relentless shooting to venture out, one resident said by telephone, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The resident said looters broke into state grain reserves in Pusi i Mezinat, just outside Vlorë, and that trucks waited in line for loading. State news media later said 3,000 tons of grain were carted away.

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### Union asks Congress to keep Mexican trucks off U.S. roads

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Teamsters president is urging Congress to prevent Mexican trucks from traveling freely in U.S. border states under the NAFTA trade agreement, contending the vehicles jeopardize highway safety and increase drug trafficking.

"There is no enforcement at the border," Teamsters President Ron Carey said Tuesday. These trucks "are a ready-made pipeline to bring more drugs into our schools and our neighborhoods."

Under the North American Free Trade Agreement, commercial truck traffic from each country is permitted throughout the other's border states. But the Clinton administration has delayed putting those provisions into effect after complaints that Mexican trucks are older, heavier and their drivers less trained.

Now, Mexican freight carriers may travel only within a 20-mile border trade zone.

Carey said the restrictions should remain in place, arguing NAFTA has harmed families economically.

"The trucking provisions should be renegotiated to protect working families on both sides of the border," Carey said in testimony prepared for delivery today to the House International Relations international economic policy and trade subcommittee. He further contended trucking

companies have applied political pressure on Clinton to implement the provisions but said those companies are simply "poised to begin exploiting drivers from Mexico."

In December, the governors of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas sent a letter asking Clinton to lift 20-mile limit on trucks because it "robs the entire U.S.-Mexico border region of the full economic benefits that the North American Free Trade Agreement promises."

Opponents of NAFTA, including House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., note that the U.S. trade deficits with NAFTA partners Mexico and Canada increased last year — to \$16 billion and \$23 billion, respectively. They also claim U.S. jobs were exported along with goods.

The administration blames the peso crisis and the strong dollar. Carey also urged the subcommittee to refuse Clinton's request for so-called fast-track authority that would speed up the process of adding Chile and other South American countries to NAFTA.

"The huge problems created by NAFTA should be solved before we even consider expanding the trade deal to other countries," Carey said.

The United States enjoys a \$1.9 billion trade surplus with Chile, which would ease its eleven percent tariff on imports under a free trade pact.

### Congress to consider resolution

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Alabama judge's fight to keep a wood carving of the Ten Commandments on display in his courtroom has gotten the attention of Congress.

The House was taking up a resolution Tuesday sponsored by freshman Rep. Robert Aderholt, R-Ala., putting Congress on record in support of displays of the Ten Commandments in government offices and courthouses.

"Our nation was built upon the Judeo-Christian principles which are embodied in the Ten Commandments," Aderholt said in a letter to House Majority Leader Dick Armey, who agreed to put the resolution up for a vote.

"At a time when these religious traditions are under assault, I believe it is imperative to re-emphasize the truth about our nation's heritage," said Aderholt.

Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, said he would oppose the resolution because it represents "a

symbolic endorsement of one particular religion. This type of intolerance is fundamentally un-American."

The American Civil Liberties Union filed suit two years ago to stop Etowah County Circuit Judge Roy S. Moore from displaying a wood carving of the Ten Commandments in his courtroom and from opening court sessions with prayer.

The ACLU argued that Moore's courtroom religious practices violate the Constitution's mandate of a separate church and state. Montgomery County Circuit Judge Charles Price agreed, ordering Moore last year to stop opening court sessions with a prayer by a Protestant minister.

Price initially ruled that Moore could keep displaying his plaque of the Ten Commandments, but reversed himself last month after visiting Moore's courtroom. He said Moore must remove the plaque or make it part of a larger display with nonreligious and historical artifacts.

## Woman Feels Like Cutting Ties With Family's Wagging Tongues

**DEAR ABBY:** Six months ago I found a lump in my breast. After a diagnosis of cancer, I decided to have a radical mastectomy. My husband and I told no one except our closest relatives.

My sister-in-law got up in church and announced to the entire congregation that I'd had surgery. My mother told all my acquaintances and even an old boyfriend.

I am very upset about this. No one should discuss someone else's medical matters unless given permission (and had I been asked, I would have said emphatically, "No!").

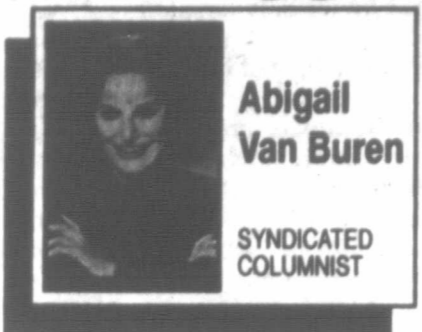
I feel betrayed and hurt, and I find it hard to be civil to my sister-in-law and mother now. I'd really like to move away and never see any of them again. I think they used me to get attention for themselves.

Please tell your readers to consider the person who is ill before talking about private family matters, and to ask before announcing them publicly.

HURTING IN KANSAS

**DEAR HURTING:** If you told your mother and sister-in-law that you wanted your surgery kept confidential and they betrayed your confidence, then what they did was wrong. You have my sympathy for your painful ordeal.

However, I hope that you will reconsider your stance on this



**Abigail Van Buren**  
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

and not let your anger stand between you and your family. You all need each other right now. Consider the idea that they were acting out of love, and were seeking prayers and support for you from the community, as well as trying to cope with their own fears.

**DEAR ABBY:** My boyfriend and I have been dating for 2 1/2 years. We are both 22 years old and love each other very much and have been talking about marriage.

The problem is that Sam says that before we get married he would like to date other girls. He says he's had steady girls all through high school and never had a chance to "sow his wild oats."

I can see his point, but I'm worried that I might lose him forever. Am I crazy to agree to this?

SCARED IN DENVER

**DEAR SCARED:** If you are

seriously considering marriage to a young man who's asking for permission to sow his wild oats, I advise you to postpone the wedding until he is completely done. That way, you won't have to pray for a crop failure.

**DEAR ABBY:** I read your column daily and enjoy it very much. I have wanted to tell you about something my oldest son did that made me very proud.

When he was a junior in high school (a very small school in the Midwest), the mothers were asked to prepare the banquet dinner for the Junior-Senior Prom. While the students were dancing and enjoying the prom, several of us mothers stood near the door of the gym proudly watching our children.

To my surprise, my son came over and asked me to dance. He had a date, but he wanted to dance with me for one dance. I felt so honored and proud.

My son is now a prominent man in the business world and has a lovely family of his own.

I hope his loving gesture will inspire other young men to honor their mothers in similar ways.

PROUD MOTHER

**DEAR PROUD MOTHER:** You have reason to be proud of your sensitive and appreciative son. He is a credit to your loving parenting. You raised him well.

however, so don't waste time overanalyzing developments.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Do not be intimidated by persons who appear to have power and position today; most of this is likely to be a facade.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** If you believe Lady Luck favors you as much — or more — than others today, developments could turn out to support your premise.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** It isn't necessary for you to settle for the status quo today, even if situations are running reasonably well. Try to make good things better.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Fiscal trends tend to favor you today, but you must move rapidly to capitalize on your advantage. Roll up your sleeves and get an early start.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** Too much deliberation could impede your progress today and affect your judgment. Conversely, your spontaneous urges could lead you to success.

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## Horoscope

Thursday, March 6, 1997

Do not be reluctant to assume more responsibility and authority this year where your career is concerned. You have what it takes to help run the show and you'll be rewarded proportionately to your contribution.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** Conditions in general are rather unusual today. Projects over which you have no authority could work out better for you than situations where you rule with an iron hand. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10116.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** You are in a beneficial cycle where new endeavors are concerned. Focus exclusively on how you intend to succeed, and dismiss any thoughts failure.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Do not let others dissuade you today from establishing lofty objectives. You know your reach and your own abilities.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Today you should be able to pick up a little useful knowledge from everyone with whom you have personal dealings. What you learn will prove helpful later.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** You will be gifted with a greater range of vision than others today. Focus on things that appear to be opportunities, even if associates disagree.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** If you depend on getting compliments from cohorts, you'll be less effective today. You have to please yourself; live up to your standards and abilities.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** There should be ample career opportunity around you today. It might be of a fleeting nature.



For Better or For Worse



Arlo & Janis



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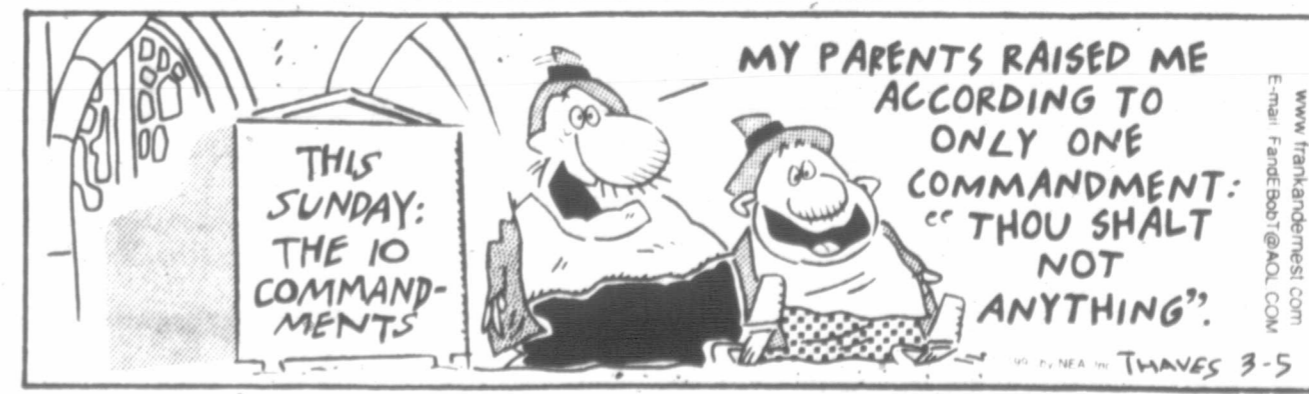
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank & Ernest



Mallard Filmore



"I guess Paul Harvey's teacher didn't tell him we don't read the page number out loud."



"This is the only doghouse I've seen with attic space."

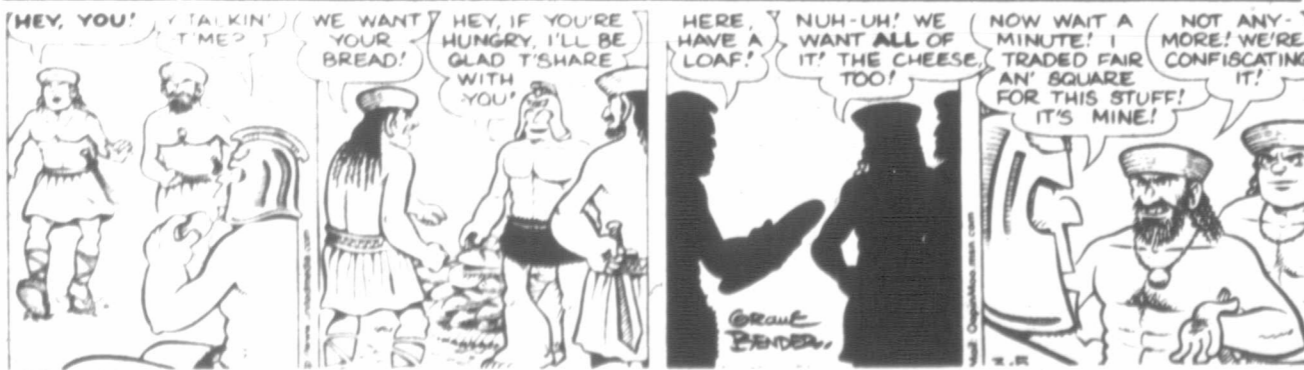
The Family Circus



Marmaduke



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts









## Nation briefs

### Search uncovers imprisoned, mentally disabled woman

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Detectives hunting for clues about the bank robbers that shot up Hollywood last week discovered a mentally disabled woman locked in a squalid room owned by the mother of one of the gunmen.

The 44-year-old woman was living in a Pasadena building owned by the mother of Emil Matasareanu, who died during the furious battle with police Friday.

The room had neither a toilet nor food, Pasadena police Cmdr. Mary Schander said Tuesday. The unidentified woman told police the home was "awful and frightening." She also told police she had not taken her medicine, eaten or seen anyone in more than a week.

The gunman's mother, Valerie Nicolescu, ran a care home out of her Altadena house until authorities shut it down recently.

Also Tuesday, a spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said the agency has traced all the firearms recovered in Friday's shootout. He declined to provide any details.

### Report: Avis faces new claims of discrimination

**ARLINGTON, Va. (AP)** — Avis Rent-A-Car, already accused of discriminating against blacks, now faces assertions from former employees who say they were told to discriminate against Jews, *USA Today* reported today.

The paper quotes former workers at the company's customer service center in Tulsa, Okla., as saying that as recently as last month they were told to avoid giving corporate accounts or discounts to certain Jewish-owned businesses.

It quotes former employee Elaine Rodgers as saying in a sworn declaration filed Monday in Raleigh, N.C., that the instructions pertained to businesses owned by ultra-orthodox Hasidic Jews. Her statement was part of testimony in a racial bias suit previously filed in North Carolina, the paper said.

She says in it that agents were told to listen for accents and be suspicious of callers from heavily Jewish areas such as New York, *USA Today* said.

### Black actor's portrayal of Jesus sparks controversy

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)** — Eric Hafen knew he would get some telephone calls when he cast a black man to portray Jesus Christ in an annual play.

But he did not expect death threats.

"The first call that I got, the woman asked me, 'When is the white actor playing because I don't want to see the black thing,'" Hafen said Tuesday.

Hafen, artistic director for the Park Theater Performing Arts Center in Union City, selected Desi Arnaz Giles to play Jesus in *Passion Play*, a story of Jesus' final days.

This year is the 82nd season of the play, which draws many people and bus groups from all over. Giles' first performance came Sunday.

"It is the most important role of my life," Giles said. "I will never do anything more important than this."

### Ecodyne recalls Sears water filter cartridges

**ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)** — Ecodyne Water Systems is voluntarily recalling about 14,000 Sears drinking water filter cartridges because some may contain nickel chloride, which can make people ill if ingested.

Although no customers have reported becoming sick, drinking water containing nickel chloride can cause abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, the St. Paul distribution company said Tuesday.

Ecodyne said the problem cartridges — Sears Model No. 42 34275 — initially cause the filtered water to taste metallic and turn green.

### Scientist transplants innate animal behavior

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — A scientist has found a way to implant the natural behavior of one animal into another species, creating a chicken that acts like a quail.

"It turns out there's a part of the quail's brain that I can transfer into a chicken that makes the chicken move its head like a quail when it's crowing like a chicken," said Evan Balaban, experimental neurobiologist at San Diego's Neurosciences Institute.

A chicken also sang like a quail after Balaban transplanted cells from a part of a quail's brain that dictates its distinctive sound patterns.

Balaban's work, the result of twelve years of research, was published Tuesday in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

## Kicking off Texas Public Schools Week



(Pampa News photo by Danny Cowan)

Students at Wilson Elementary School kick off Texas Public Schools Week on Monday evening with a special PE performance at the McNeely Fieldhouse at Pampa High School. Each class performed a special dance to show their parents the importance of physical education. The fourth graders in particular did a special dance to honor Texas Public Schools Week.

## 'TEXAS' names new publicist

**CANYON** — Luanne Brownd has joined the administrative staff of the musical drama *TEXAS* as publicist.

Brownd previously was director of corporate promotions and amateur activities for the American Quarter Horse Association and field editor for the *The Quarter Horse Journal*. Two of Brownd's *Journal* stories received first place honors from the Livestock Publications Council, and other work was recognized by the Amarillo Advertising Society.

Brownd serves on the communications committee of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce and is a board member for the Texas Plains Girl Scouts Council.

She is a member of First Baptist Church of Canyon.

Brownd received a degree in agricultural journalism from Texas A&M University, where she was president of Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow and editor of the *Saddle & Siroloin Club* yearbook. She is a native of Crockett, Texas and is married to Gary Brownd of Canyon.

Mary Allison, the former *TEXAS* publicist, joined KVII-TV Channel 7 to anchor the 5 o'clock news. She will continue her involvement with *TEXAS* as spokesperson.

*TEXAS* will open its 32nd season June 11 and will continue through Aug. 23. The outdoor musical, staged in the Palo Duro Canyon State Park, plays nightly except Sunday. For ticket information, call (806) 655-2181.



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