

Community Calendar

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

May

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

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-0407 or 669-3988.

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

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

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

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

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

CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS project will hold regular workshop meetings at 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at 100 S. Price Road. Hobart. Anyone wishing to help with the project is invited to attend any work session.

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

TOP O' TEXAS RODEO PAGEANT COMMITTEE is now accepting entries for Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo and Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo Teen. For more information, contact Sonja Longo at 665-1413, Jamie Greene at 665-8850 or the rodeo office at 669-3241.

HIDDEN HILLS LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION has its playdays every Monday with tee off at 6 p.m. Ladies of all ages and abilities are welcome. For more information, call Christine Babb at 665-7640.

TOP O' TEXAS TRADE DAYS - Entries are being taken for events in the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association's Trade Days, set for May 3-4 at the Clyde Carruth Pavilion and rodeo grounds. Events include chili cookoff, brisket cookoff, arts and crafts booth, and team penning competition. For more information on these activities, call 669-3241.

1 - **PAMPA ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT GROUP** will meet at 7 p.m. at Shepard Crook's Nursing Agency. Speaker will be Shannon Pierce, a representative of Pfizer Inc., who will discuss the drug Aricept and TriAD, a disease management program. For more information, call Chryis Smith at 665-0356.

3 - **MARKET MORNING** presented by Country General, which will make its parking lot available for animal exhibition. The opportunity to buy, sell, trade or show off small animals benefits not only the animal owner but also the interested observer. No charge to buy, sell or look. For more information, call 665-077.

3 - **HOSPICE OF THE PANHANDLE 1997 BENEFIT GOLF SCRAMBLE** at 9 a.m. To register, call Hidden Hills Golf Course, 669-5866.

3 - **TOP O' TEXAS RODEO ASSOCIATION Chili Cook-Off** at 12 noon at Clyde Carruth Pavilion. For more information, contact Jane Jacobs at 669-3241.

3 - **GRAY COUNTY 4-H ANNUAL GERANIUM SALE** in the Coronado Center and the Dobson Cellular parking lots from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 669-7319.

3-4 - **TOP O' TEXAS RODEO ASSOCIATION TRADE DAYS** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Clyde Carruth Pavilion. Includes Chili Cook-Off, Brisket Cook-Off, arts and crafts booths, and team penning competition. For more information, contact Jane Jacobs at 669-3241.

4 - **TOP O' TEXAS RODEO ASSOCIATION TEAM PENNING** at 1 p.m. at the Top O' Texas Rodeo Arena. For more information, contact Jane Jacobs at 669-3241.

'Volcano' not as hot as 'Dante's Peak'

By LYNN ELBER
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) - *Volcano* was the top money-maker at the box office, but its relatively modest \$14.6 million take was a disappointment to 20th Century Fox.

The film's weekend earnings were \$4 million below the opening receipts for another volcano film, *Dante's Peak*, in February.

"I think everybody really would have liked to have done more," said Fox executive Tom Sherak. "You just wonder if the audience gets tired very quickly. There are so many pictures out there."

Other films have displayed box office stamina. *Liar Liar*, the Jim Carrey comedy, is 1997's biggest grossing film with \$143.8 million. The reissued *Star Wars* has soared more than \$135 million in ticket sales.

Last weekend's No. 2 film was the Disney comedy *Romy and Michele's High School Reunion*, with \$7.4 million. Although that's half the take of *Volcano*, the comedy's per-screen average wasn't far behind that of the bigger-budget disaster film.

Anaconda, in first place for two weeks, was bumped to No. 3 by the two new films. It grossed \$7.3 million for a healthy \$43.2 million so far.

BOX OFFICE

Top weekend movies

Weekend of April 25-27, 1997

All dollar figures in millions
Gross to date, weeks in release, number of screens

Rank	Movie	Weekend gross
1	Volcano	\$14.6
2	Romy and Michele's High School Reunion	\$7.4
3	Anaconda	\$7.3
4	Liar, Liar	\$7.2
5	The Saint	\$5
6	Murder at 1600	\$4.8
7	Grosse Pointe Blank	\$3.1
8	Scream	\$1.4
9	The Devil's Own	\$1.2
10	Chasing Amy	\$1.1

Source: Exhibitor Relations Co., Inc. AP

Among films out in limited release, the family movie *Shiloh* took in \$115,700 on 70 screens while the urban coming-of-age drama *All Over Me* snared \$27,200 on five screens.

The top 20 movies at North American theaters Friday

Woman makes anonymous donation

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) - She's being celebrated throughout this city. They are even calling her saintly. And nobody knows her name.

Only that she is wealthy. Only that she has never been here and has no ties to the region that was torn asunder by massive flooding almost two weeks ago.

Only that she has made the anonymous pledge to give \$2,000 to each household swamped when the Red River rampaged through Grand Forks and neighboring East Grand Forks, Minn. With an estimated 5,000 households eligible for payments, the pledge could cost the woman a total of \$10 million.

State and local officials say the checks are already being written. About 300 recipients lined up to get checks Tuesday at the Grand Forks Air Force Base, which is serving as a shelter for flood refugees.

"I'm going to hold on to it, get some stuff to get started, like some clothes, and then probably put the rest in the bank," said Steve Maragos, 29, an unemployed Grand Forks resident.

Kevin Dvorak, president of the North Dakota Community Foundation, a nonprofit corporation that is distributing the money, said the donor transferred more than \$2 million into its account Tuesday.

He said between 300 and 500 payments were immediately made totaling \$600,000 to \$1 million.

through Sunday, followed by \$1.1 million, 553 locations, \$2,011 average, \$3.9 million, four weeks.

11. *That Old Feeling*, Universal, \$1.09 million, 1,344 locations, \$810 average, \$15 million, four weeks.

12. *McHale's Navy*, Universal, \$911,900, 1,861 locations, \$490 average, \$3.7 million, two weeks.

13. *Jungle 2 Jungle*, Disney, \$789,200, 1,058 locations, \$746 average, \$53.9 million, eight weeks.

14. *The English Patient*, Miramax, \$657,700, 516 locations, \$1,275 average, \$75.3 million, 24 weeks.

15. *Selena*, Warner Bros., \$627,000, 527 locations, \$1,190 average, \$33 million, six weeks.

16. *8 Heads in a Duffel Bag*, Orion, \$593,300, 1,514 locations, \$392 average, \$3.3 million, two weeks.

17. *Paradise Road*, Fox Searchlight, \$577,700, 350 locations, \$1,650 average, \$948,800, three weeks.

18. *Sling Blade*, Miramax, \$548,100, 425 locations, \$1,213 average, \$21.7 million, 22 weeks.

19. *Dante's Peak*, Universal, \$508,300, 535 locations, \$950 average, \$65.6 million, 12 weeks.

20. *Jerry Maguire*, Sony, \$416,900, 579 locations, \$720 average, \$149.7 million, 20 weeks.

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James Holley

Mike Royko dies

CHICAGO (AP) - Mike Royko, 64, a columnist who embodied the no-nonsense voice of Chicago's working class and delighted in exposing greed and absurdity at the highest levels, died Tuesday.

He had undergone surgery last week for an aneurysm.

Royko was a Pulitzer Prize winner whose syndicated column appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*.

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Ashes Of Loved Ones Rest In Peace In Many Homes

DEAR READERS: When I recently asked to hear from people who kept the ashes of their loved ones, I had no inkling of the blizzard of letters that would hit my desk. It seems I was right when I said the practice was not all that unusual. Read on for a sample:

DEAR ABBY: My husband was a wonderful man. When he died, I was too old to drive to the cemetery, and I knew I couldn't care for his grave, so I had him cremated and kept the ashes. However, I do not keep them displayed. They are kept in my bedroom, and every time I dust, I tell him how much I miss him. I am alone now, but happy at 77 years old.

MARIA IN RENO, NEV.

DEAR ABBY: My mother died this past June. My father, brother and I had her cremated. Her ashes are in a nice wooden box with a gold plaque stating her date of birth, etc. My grandmother (Mom's mother) was upset because she wanted Mom to be buried in New Jersey with the family. My father suggested that my mother's ashes be buried with my grandmother when her time comes. She loved the idea. For now, though, Mom is on the mantel, and no, we don't think it's strange at all.

SUSAN IN PRINCE GEORGE, VA.

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: My son died in 1993. He wanted to be cremated. I have his ashes in a nice urn in a private corner of my house. When the time comes, my husband will have this urn placed in his coffin with me. It will be done at the last closing, so the public will not see.

ASHES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR ABBY: I displayed the ashes of my late husband in a beautiful Chinese urn on the coffee table. Only a select few knew the contents of the urn, among them a man I had begun to seriously date. Rather than being bothered by it, he said he loved anyone who had loved me. And in keeping with that generosity of spirit, when he asked me to marry him, he toasted me by first clinking my wine glass, and then leaning forward to clink the urn. When it comes to love, I am twice blessed.

J.R. IN BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: I have had my lovely wife's ashes in my home for two years and 10 months. I'm proud to have them with me. I talk to her ashes and say good morning and good night to them each day. I also kiss her picture when I get up and when I go to bed. I see nothing wrong with this. I miss her so much, and sometimes this helps. We were married 47 years. Anyone who tells me to get rid of the ashes can take a hike!

ASHES IN BATH, PA.

DEAR ABBY: We are a military family and don't plan to stay in this area. Four months ago, our 2 1/2-year-old son died after a 19-month battle with kidney tumors. The idea of burying him and later leaving him here was unthinkable, so we chose to have him cremated. Because we wanted to make his urn personal, but didn't have much money, we used a bronze box urn and placed it inside a large Winnie-the-Pooh, Joshua's favorite cartoon character, that now sits on Joshua's bed.

Keeping our son's ashes in the house doesn't mean we can't love our other children (No. 2 is due in four months). Likewise, the widow probably still loves her late husband, but that doesn't mean she can't also love the man who wrote to you. He should respect the relationship she once had and not be so threatened.

ERIN IN TUSTIN, CALIF.

Horoscope



Thursday, May 1, 1997

In the year ahead, you might have numerous opportunities to successfully utilize your sales abilities and promotional skills. There will be a market for what you have to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Persons who are not directly involved in your financial affairs shouldn't be encouraged to audit your books today. Interference could generate a liability. 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. ©1997 this newspaper. P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill

Station, New York, NY 10156

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Be careful not to become too closely involved with individuals who objectives aren't in harmony with yours. Stick with proven allies today.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your inner urges might impel you to be industrious today and they should be heeded. Be sure to dedicate your time and talents to a worthwhile task.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Even if conditions are financially tight today, it's best not to borrow from friends. Iron out the lumps in your monetary affairs yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You are in a far stronger bargaining position than you may realize today. Do not yield to terms that do not directly serve your needs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Today's impediments are likely to be figments of your imagination. Once you swing into action, you'll know how to circumvent these false impressions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) If you boast about your material worth today, it won't impress anyone but yourself. Others will be stirred by your humility, not your

greenbacks

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Friends who participate in endeavors with you today will find you pleasant and refreshing. Smile, and the whole world will smile with you!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In order to achieve an important objective today, a second effort might be required. Do not call it quits if your initial attempt falls short.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Your judgment in most situations will be quite keen today. The one exception, however, could be in your financial affairs. Be prudent and conservative.

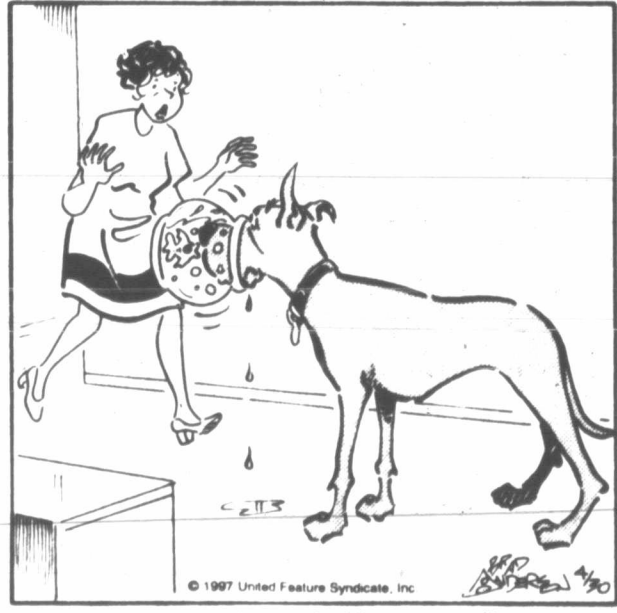
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A development that has stymied your ambitions could take a turn for the better today. As these barriers are eliminated, you may be victorious.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You have the potential to reap substantial gains from joint endeavors today, but be sure your choices of partners are wise and realistic.

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"Sometimes I get my shoes on the wrong feet, but I always get my socks right."



"How many times do I have to tell you, don't drink the goldfish water!"

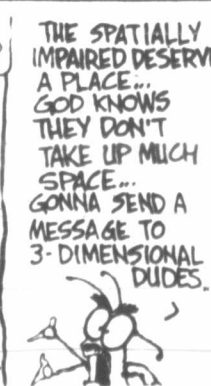
The Family Circus



Marmaduke



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



Mallard Filmore



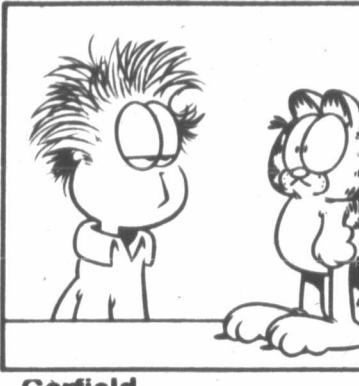
Frank And Ernest



For Better or For Worse



Ario & Janis



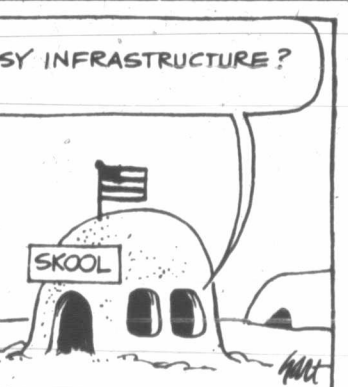
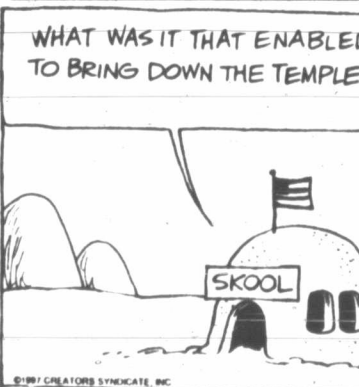
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Walnut Cove



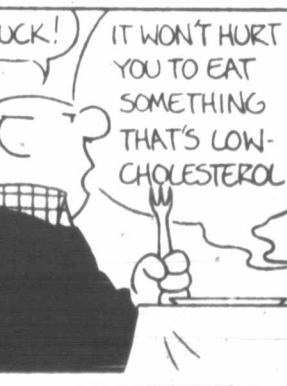
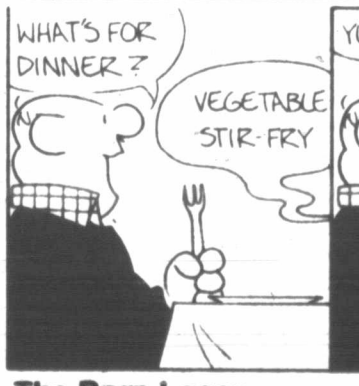
Marvin



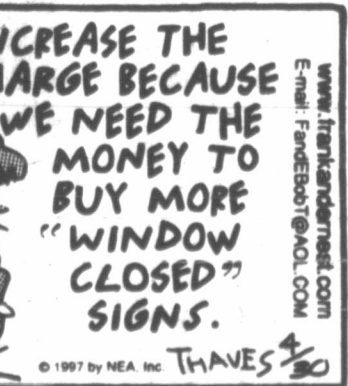
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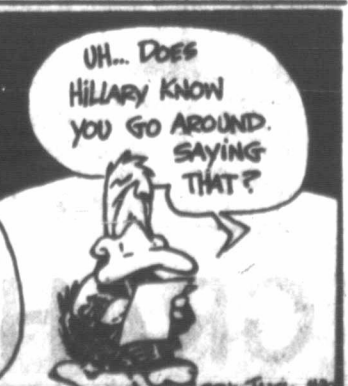
Eek & Meek



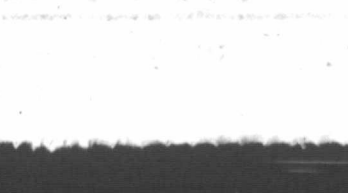
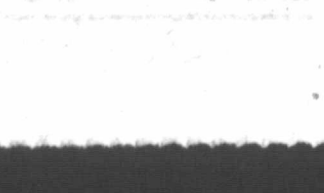
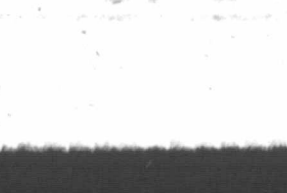
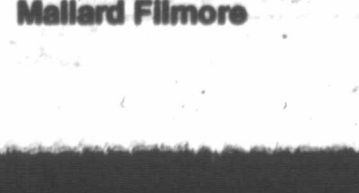
The Bom Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore



Scoreboard

Table with baseball game results including National League and American League scores for various teams.

Basketball game results under the heading 'NBA Playoff Glance'.

Hockey game results under the heading 'National Hockey League Playoff Glance'.

Table with various sports results and team names.

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Astros end three-game loss streak

HOUSTON (AP) — Donne Wall addressed one of the Houston Astros' problem areas. Now, manager Larry Dierker is wondering when the offense will show up.

game homestand 2-3. They hit just .198 (32-for-161), and after winning Friday against San Francisco, didn't lead in a game until winning Tuesday.

ting .248 as a team. Tuesday's win enabled the Astros to tie the club record for wins in the month of April with 15.

Advertisement for Bob Clements fur store, featuring a fur coat image and the text 'FURS - FURS - FURS - FURS It's Time Again To Store Your Furs In Our Refrigerated Fur Vault -- With Controlled Temperature & Humidity. Bob Clements Fine Tailoring, Dry Cleaning, Suit Bar 1437 N. Hobart - 665-5121'

Stars lose in overtime

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Stars finally scored on Curtis Joseph in Reunion Arena but they couldn't beat him.

Lottery advertisement featuring a family photo and the text 'Actually not every member of the Lane family said "Yahoo" when they won LOTTO Texas. One or two of them may have said "Yippee." Price \$10,789,254.90*

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14 Business Services CARR's Beauty Shop. The Perm Place. Check out my prices. 669-0029.

14d Carpentry OVERHEAD Door Repair. Kidwell Construction, 669-6347.

14h General Services CONCRETE Work. All type concrete work. Remove and Replace Foundation and Floor repairs. Call Panhandle House Leveling 669-0958.

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14t Radio and Television Johnson Home Entertainment We will do service work on most Major Brands of TV's and VCR's.

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MEDICAL

Bladder infection vaccine showing promise in mice

By PAUL RECER
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A vaccine that disarms a germ that causes millions of painful bladder infections could be ready for tests on humans by next year, researchers reported.

Solomon Langermann, a scientist with MedImmune Inc. of Gaithersburg, Md., said that tests of the vaccine in mice show that it blocks the attack of nearly all types of a bacterium, called E. coli, that causes more than 90 percent of all urinary tract infections.

Langermann is first author of a study published last week in the journal *Science*.

Bladder infections are one of the most common of all infections, affecting 7 million to 8 million Americans. E. coli is a common bacterium in the colon, where it has a beneficial effect.

The infection usually occurs when E. coli is transferred from the rectum to the urinary tract and then up that tract to the bladder. About 95 percent of all such infections are in women.

Bladder infections can cause fever, painful and frequent urination, and blood and pus in the urine. They usually are treated successfully with antibiotics, but some E. coli are becoming increasingly resistant. In uncommon cases, usually in patients who already are seriously ill, bladder infections can spread to the kidneys and can be a contributing factor in deaths, experts say.

Langermann's co-authors on the study were researchers at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

Dr. Jerry Blaivas, a professor of urology at Cornell University's New York Hospital, said a vaccine against E. coli urinary tract infections "would have an enormous impact" on general public health.

"It is the second-most-common cause of morbidity (illness) in the

country," said Blaivas. "If there was a vaccine to prevent 90 percent of urinary tract infections, that would be fantastic."

But Blaivas cautioned that such a vaccine would have to be tested carefully to assure that it does not alter the normal action of E. coli in the gut or allow other bacteria to bloom and cause other types of infections.

Langermann said the vaccine creates antibodies against a protein that E. coli uses to establish infection in the bladder.

"These bacteria have pili (stalk-like structures) that look like hair coming off the surface of each bacterium," said Langermann. "At the very tip of the pili is a protein called adhesin that allows it to stick to the tissue of the bladder."

The vaccine causes the body to make antibodies that prevent adhesin from locking onto the cells of the bladder wall. Instead of causing an infection, the disabled bacteria are washed out of the body when the bladder is emptied.

Langermann said the vaccine was tested on hundreds of mice. After the test animals were injected with the vaccine, human E. coli bacteria were injected into their urinary tract. A similar number of mice got the bacteria after placebo vaccine shots.

"In all of the mice that received the vaccine, there is a greater than 99 percent reduction in colonization by E. coli," said Langermann. The researchers also gathered a number of different strains of E. coli from women and children patients, he said, and test tube experiments showed the vaccine was effective against 94 percent of all these strains.

Monkey studies of the vaccine are under way at the Karolinska Institute in Sweden, said Langermann. This research will not only determine if the vaccine is effective against E. coli urinary infections in primates but also look for side effects.

Tips for long rides with blood clots

HOUSTON — Long airplane rides can be uncomfortable for anyone, but, for people prone to blood clots, they can be dangerous.

"On long flights, particularly transoceanic flights, it is important that people prone to blood clots keep their blood moving by taking a few simple steps," said Dr. Wayne J. Riley, director of the Travel Medicine Service at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

The same need exists for long rides in cars, buses or trains. For long flights or rides and to avoid discomfort during shorter flights or rides, Riley recommends walking the length of the plane, bus or train at least once an hour.

If you're in a car, stop hourly, get out and walk around for a while. Some other tips:

- Flex your ankles up and down when sitting. Blood tends to collect in the lower extremities, and this simple exercise will encourage movement.
 - Avoid really tight clothing. It can restrict the free movement of blood throughout the body.
 - Avoid sleeping for long periods.
 - Drink lots of water. Good hydration is important for blood volume and circulation.
 - Take one adult-size aspirin before departure. This helps prevent the formation of blood clots.
 - Wear thigh-high support stockings or panty hose. Riley cautions against any hose that cuts off at the knee.
- "Even if you have no history of blood clots, these tips will make for a more comfortable ride," Riley said.

Study: Vitamin E can help slow Alzheimer's

By DANIEL Q. HANEY
AP Medical Editor

BOSTON (AP) — Researchers have found that ordinary vitamin E pills modestly slow Alzheimer's — the first time any treatment has been shown to change the course of the mind-robbing disease.

Patients with moderately severe Alzheimer's who took high doses of the vitamin in a two-year study delayed such major milestones as going into a nursing home by about seven months.

The study also found that selegiline, or Eldepryl, a standard prescription drug for Parkinson's disease, does the same thing and seems to work about as well as vitamin E.

Both appear to help by protecting brain cells from the damaging effects of oxygen. Experts say this offers an important clue for finding other drugs that will be even more effective.

Dr. John Growdon of Massachusetts General Hospital, one of the researchers, said he has begun routinely giving his Alzheimer's patients vitamin E, the cheaper of the two treatments.

"This is not an overwhelming effect, but it is the first time we have seen long-term benefit," Growdon said. "I find that very encouraging."

The study was directed by Mary Sano, an associate professor of clinical neuropsychology at Columbia University, and was published in last week's issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

It found that both vitamin E and selegiline decreased Alzheimer's patients' loss of their

ability to bathe, dress, handle money and do other routine chores by about 25 percent.

"It opens up another encouraging avenue for the families of patients with the disease," said Edward Truschke, president of the Alzheimer's Association.

It also raises the possibility that vitamin E might also protect those who are still healthy from eventually getting the disease, although this has not been studied.

"The obvious question is, 'Should I take vitamin E?'" Truschke said. "Because of the other health benefits it has, it probably can't hurt. But at the same time, there are some mild side effects. Anyone taking a new medication should consult with their physician."

Indeed, vitamin E is turning out to be a remarkably versatile nutrient. Some believe it wards off cancer, and there is strong evidence that it is good for the heart.

Last year, one major study found that daily vitamin E reduces heart attacks by 75 percent in people who already have had hearts. Another found evidence that foods rich in vitamin E — such as mayonnaise, margarine, salad dressings, vegetable oil and eggs — reduce women's risk of heart disease by two-thirds.

High doses of vitamin E can occasionally cause bleeding, however.

The latest study was conducted on 341 men and women who lived outside nursing homes but needed supervision. They were randomly assigned to one of four daily treatments: 2,000 international units of vitamin E, 10 milligrams of selegiline, the two together or placebos, which are dummy pills.

The researchers measured the time it took for these people to reach one of four major milestones: admission to a nursing home, inability to perform basic daily activities, progression to severe dementia, or death.

They found that after an average of 440 days, at least one of these things had happened to the people taking placebos. However, these events took 230 days longer to happen to those on vitamin E and 215 days longer for those taking selegiline.

For reasons that the researchers could not explain, the patients using the two drugs together fared considerably worse. Their slide was delayed by just 145 days.

"It reminds us that two drugs are not necessarily better than one," Sano said.

It also raises questions about whether doctors should combine vitamin A or selegiline with the two other Alzheimer's drugs already on the market — tacrine, or Cognex, and donepezil, or Aricept — which mildly improve some patients' mental capacity but do not slow the disease.

Sano cautioned that while the treatments slow Alzheimer's, they do not make patients seem any better. And because of the often erratic course of the disease, "it would be very difficult for a family member to determine whether any patient had actually benefited."

The dose of vitamin E given in this study, 2,000 international units, is more than 60 times the recommended dietary allowance of 30 international units a day.

Vitamin E and other antioxidants work by soaking up hazardous oxygen molecules called free radicals.

Experimental vaccine protects chimps from AIDS virus

NEW YORK (AP) — An experimental AIDS vaccine made from HIV genes has protected chimpanzees for more than a year, raising doctors' hopes the approach will work in humans.

Two chimps got the vaccine and then a stiff dose of HIV — 250 times the amount needed for infection.

"It's the first time that a so-called DNA vaccine has squared off against HIV in chimps."

"We're encouraged but cautious," said David B. Weiner, senior author of the study.

Preliminary tests in people have begun already to look for side effects and see how the vaccine affects the body's defenses against disease. No results are available yet.

Weiner is an associate professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He reported the work in the May issue of the journal *Nature Medicine* with colleagues there and elsewhere, including Apollon Inc. of Malvern, Pa.

The work is "another step toward developing new concepts for vaccines," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"But the success with regard to protection is not any more or less than several other concepts that we've seen in the chimp."

Harold McClure, who studies AIDS at the Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center at Emory University in Atlanta, called the results very promising.

He said it will be important to follow the chimps longer to see if an HIV infection emerges. The researchers are doing that. So far there is no sign of infection at 53 weeks after the HIV dose, Weiner said.

Each chimp got two versions of the vaccine, made from certain altered HIV genes. The animals

got six injections over 15 weeks, then two boosters.

Scientists gave so many shots because they were studying the immune system response. If the vaccine proves useful in people it probably won't require as many shots, Weiner said.

Two months after the last booster, the two chimps got the dose of HIV. Researchers found signs of a slight and temporary HIV infection six weeks later in one animal and eight weeks later

in the other, but there was no further trace of infection after that.

Another chimp that didn't get the vaccine became infected within two weeks of getting the HIV dose and stayed infected.

Vaccines make the body's immune system build defenses against particular germs. Some vaccines use live but weakened germs; others use dead germs or germ parts. But DNA vaccines like the one in this study take a different tack.

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