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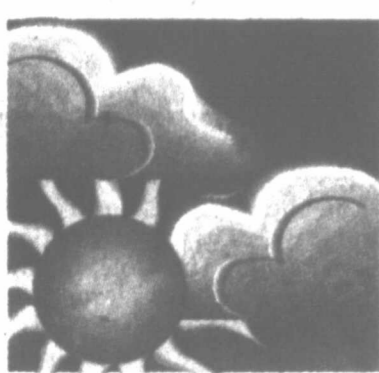
PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 90 NO: 76

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 1997

PAMPA, TEXAS

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



**Low tonight 72.
High tomorrow near
100. See Page 2 for
weather details.**

PAMPA - Immunization clinics offering vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases are scheduled for July. Protection is against Polio, Diphtheria, Lock Jaw (Tetanus), Whooping Cough (Pertussis), Measles, Rubella, Mumps, and HIB (Haemophilus Influenza Type B).

The charges are based upon family income and size, and the ability to pay.

Local clinics include: Columbia Family Health Center, Pampa 600 West Kentucky, July 10, 9-6 p.m. and July 24, 9-6 p.m.; City Hall, 1st Floor, Canadian 6 Main Street, July 21, 11-12 & 1-4 p.m.

PAMPA - The Golden Horseshoe has been found! Kevin and Jeffery Taylor of Pampa, reports Jane Jacobs, Top O' Texas Rodeo secretary. It was brought in this morning after the pair found it at the Perry Lefors statue in front of the Coronado Inn. They have won box seating, valued at \$150, for each night of the rodeo. The find signals the end of this year's contest.

BORGER - Frank Phillips College Summer Two Registration and Fall Pre-Registration is Thursday, July 3, from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at Frank Phillips College in Borger. For more information call today, 274-5311 or 1-800-687-2056.

Also, there will be an Emergency Blood Drive on Thursday, July 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Student Union Building on Frank Phillips College campus. There is a low supply of blood on hand. The center is in need of all types of blood and is desperately seeking O+ donors.

PAMPA - The American Association of Retired Persons will meet July 14 in the senior Citizens Center 500 W. Frances at 1 p.m. The speaker will be Deborah Ellett, physical therapist. She will be providing information regarding the use of physical therapy in the home.

PAMPA - The Downtown Business Association members are opening their store fronts for non-profit organizations and church groups to sell food, drinks, baked goods and other fund-raising items on the sidewalks in front of their stores the day of the Top O' Texas Rodeo Parade on July 12.

• **Helen Inez Crow, 61, homemaker.**

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New tax collection pact ok'd

By **MIRANDA G. BAILEY**
Staff Writer

Tuesday's Gray County Commissioners Court meeting marked the end of several months of debate regarding a tax collections contract. The City of Pampa, the Pampa ISD and the Lefors ISD approved Gray County Tax Assessor/Collector Sammie Morris' proposal to service their tax collection process for 1997-1998.

Contract proposals for tax collection services from both the Gray County Tax Assessor/Collector and the Gray County Appraisal District were submitted to the three entities in March.

Previously, the Appraisal District had handled tax collections for the City of Pampa, the Pampa ISD and the Lefors ISD. However, cost effective changes made recently in Amarillo's tax collection procedures prompted the reevaluation of Pampa's collection process and resulted in the bids.

The approval of the Gray County Tax Assessor/Collector proposal should save the City of Pampa, and both of the school districts a combined \$40,000 compared to the estimates proposed by the Gray

County Appraisal District.

Upon the approval of the contract, Pampa ISD Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr said, "We appreciate the value this contract represents to the people of Gray County and we look forward to working with Sammie and her staff."

In other action, Sheriff Don Copeland and jail administrator David Potter presented commissioners with three medical care personnel options for jail inmates. The department has spent \$18,000 to \$21,000 this year, taking the inmates to Columbia Medical Center's emergency room.

"We want to get out of the doctoring business, but we need someone at the jail who can determine their (inmates) needs," Copeland said.

Two of three options were proposed by the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and Office of Managed Health Care in Amarillo.

For \$24,000 a year, the first Texas Tech option provides an on site sick call/medical clinic six hours per week, on-call telephone medical consultations, and 24 hour medical triage care would be provided.

However, if an MD or physicians assistant is required

outside of clinic hours, there is a \$50 charge per hour.

The second Texas Tech option at \$18,000 a year provides similar services. But wording in the proposal made it unclear as to whether this option provides the 24 hour on-call service.

A third option by Gould Physicians, P.A. would cost \$70 per hour for a minimum of 21 hours per month. After lengthy discussion, commissioners deferred the issue until the next meeting.

"Before an educated decision can be made, I think the commissioners need to talk with the representatives of Texas Tech and Gould," Judge Richard Peet said.

Peet will invite a representative from Texas Tech to the next meeting to speak to the commissioners about the options.

In another meeting topic, a request from curator Ann Davidson of the White Deer Land Museum to terminate a security contract agreement with AllState Security was tabled.

County Attorney Todd Alvy reviewed the current contract agreement and said it was already void as far as he could tell. However, he was unable to confirm this with

See TAX, Page 2

Martindale named new assistant DA Jennings takes downstate post

By **DAVE BOWSER** and
LAURA HALEY
Staff Writers

Assistant District Attorney, Tracey Jennings, is closing her practice and heading out of Pampa.

Jennings, will be replaced in the district attorney's office by 29-year-old Pampa native, Matt Martindale, in August.

Martindale will be the new assistant district attorney for the 31st and 223rd Judicial District, replacing Jennings, effective Aug. 1, according to District Attorney John Mann.

Martindale has been in private practice in Pampa with his father, J.A. Martindale, since graduating last year from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law in Dallas-Fort Worth.

Jennings will continue in the position until July 31 and will begin her new position in the 97th Judicial District Aug. 4.

"She's taking a position with a district attorney's office downstate," said Mann.

Jennings has been named as the new assistant district attorney for

See MARTINDALE, Page 2

Bogus bills found in Gray Co. area

The Pampa Police Department has issued a warning for merchants to be on the lookout for counterfeit \$50 bills because since June 24 two banks in the Pampa area have received several bogus bills.

The bills have been 1995 series, badly wrinkled, worn and missing the security strip and most have shown up at convenience stores and fast food restaurants.

The serial numbers have been H25473526C, B19670234 C, and B32654732E, with the same number appearing on more than one bill. The numbers appear to have been made with a computer or typewriter.

The people passing these bills are believed to be a 30-35-year-old white male, 5'11"-6'1", with short blonde hair and is clean shaven. He is believed to with a 28-30-year-old female, very thin with blonde hair. The suspects are possibly driving a silver mid-size vehicle with a very nice paint job.

Two Miss Texas aspirants have ties to Pampa

By **Laura Haley**
Staff Writer

Two Panhandle women are competing for the title of Miss Texas in Fort Worth this week.

Pampa native, 21-year-old Katina Thomas, was awarded the Miss Amarillo Area title earlier this year and is competing under that title in the Miss Texas Pageant.

And, Alison Turner of Dumas will also compete in the Miss Texas Scholarship Pageant. She currently holds the Miss El Paso Area title, which she won in March.

Thomas, a 1994 graduate of Pampa High School, is a student at Texas Tech University majoring in public relations. Her par-

ents are Steve and Barbara Thomas of Pampa.

In a telephone interview with Thomas on Tuesday, she voiced her enthusiasm about the upcoming competition.

"I'm really excited - it's a great system," she said.

And, Thomas has every right to be excited. The Pampa native has done very well considering this is the first series of pageants Thomas has entered.

But, the lights and glitter are nothing new to Thomas. As a young child, she attended many dance competitions and is used to performing in front of crowds.

Thomas will have a chance to show off her dance ability during the talent section of the Miss

See MISS TEXAS, Page 2

In hopes of finding grants...



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

Representatives of a number of charitable organizations met at Boatman's Bank to learn how to operate a special computer system. Katrina Bigham, United Way; Dee Dee Laramore, Hospice of the Panhandle; Tammy Wilbon, Pampa Community Youth Services; Randy Watson, McCarley Foundation; and John Crowell, North Plains Rolling RC&D, learned how to locate available grants and funds for charitable organizations. The McFarley Foundation donated \$1,000 for the purchase of the system. Wal-Mart and Hoescht-Celanese also contributed to its purchase.



Katina Thomas



Alison Turner

Stop signs sought Issue is child safety at Gray Street corners

Residents concerned about the safety of their children are requesting stop signs be placed at the intersections of Gray and Buckler and Gray and Browning.

At least three families showed up at the special meeting of the Traffic Commission Thursday to voice their support for the stop signs. However, due to a lack of a quorum, the meeting has been rescheduled until Thursday, July 3, at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Douglas and Jennifer Evans is one couple living in the 400 block of Gray who attended the meeting last week, hoping to get action on the placement of stop signs in their neighborhood.

"We've had a few close calls with children being hit by cars," said Jennifer Evans.

There are about 10-11 children living in that area under the age of six, said Evans. And, the high speed traffic coming through the area poses a potential danger to these children.

In addition, Evans said vehicles traveling from the north often cannot see children riding their bicycles in the street or on the side of the road because the street is offset.

At least six households have been contacted about the problem and agree with the stop sign placement, said Evans.

But, this is not the first time residents have tried to get something done about traffic in their neighborhood.

Evans said she has personally contact the police department a few times about speeding traffic. And, although officers have always

See STOP SIGNS, Page 2

Hwy. 60 West **DYER'S BAR-B-QUE** 665-4401

ALL AROUND BAIL BONDS
116 West Foster • Pampa, Texas • Jack Ward • 669-9911

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

CROW, Helen Inez — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.
SETZLER, Bill — Graveside services, 10:30 a.m., Shamrock Cemtery, Shamrock.

Obituaries

HELEN INEZ CROW

Helen Inez Cros, 61, died Tuesday, July 1, 1997. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Fred Palmer, pastor of The Carpenter's Church, the Rev. James Sinyard and the Rev. Ronald Sinnyard, both associate ministers of the church, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Crow was born May 23, 1936, at Pilot Point, Texas. She has been a Pampa resident for 38 years, moving from Borger. She married Ernest Crow on Dec. 28, 1982, at Liberal, Kan.; he died July 29, 1996. She was a member of The Carpenter's Church and the Ladies Auxiliary. Survivors include two daughters and a son-in-law, Rhonda and Randy Pederson of Austin and Mary Rhoden of Pampa; a sister, Beatrice Christine Smith of Borger; a brother, Wayne Norman of Stinnett; and two grandchildren, Jimmy Atwood of Austin and Rhonda Ann Pederson of Waco.

The family will be at 1140 S. Nelson and requests memorials be to Cody Conway Memorial Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 632, Stinnett, TX 79083.

CASKET SPRAY
3 Dozen Roses \$95.00
Freeman's 806-669-3334
410 E. FOSTER

Calendar of events

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Narcotics Anonymous, a new non-profit group to aid people having problems with the use of narcotics, will have meetings at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1121 S. Hobart. For more information, call 669-6260 or 669-2665.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa

Wheat	2.99	Chevron	75 5/16	dn 1/8
Milo	1.63	Coca Cola	68 7/16	dn 3/16
Corn	4.31	Columbia/HCA	39 9/16	dn 1/16
		Enron	41 1/4	dn 3/16
		Halliburton	83	up 2
		Ingersoll Rand	61 5/8	dn 5/16
		KNE	42	dn 1/16
		Kerr McGee	64 1/8	up 1/8
		Limited	20 1/8	NC
		Mapco	32 1/2	up 1/8
		McDonald's	48 5/16	dn 5/16
		Mobil	71 11/16	up 1/32
		New Atmos	24 1/8	up 3/16
		Parker & Parsley	39	up 2 3/8
		Penney's	52 5/8	dn 1/4
		Phillips	44 11/16	up 5/16
		SLB	116	up 4
		SPS	39 1/8	dn 1/8
		Tenneco	44 3/8	dn 1/4
		Texaco	110 3/16	up 7/16
		Ultramar	33 1/4	dn 1/8
		Wal Mart	33 13/16	dn 1/8
		New York Gold	332.20	up 4.62
		Silver		4.62
		West Texas Crude		20.18

The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation

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

Magellan	91.77	
Puritan	19.47	

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

Americo	89 1/2	up 5/8
Arco	70 5/16	up 5/16
Cabot	28	NC
Cabot O&G	17 15/16	up 3/16

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	665-5777
Fire	911
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	669-5700
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Stop signs

patrolled the area, it seems to have no effect when the officers are not there.

The worst times for traffic, in the mid-afternoon to mid-evening, are also usually the

frames in which most children are outside playing. Even without the placement of stop signs, residents should be wary while hurrying home to work that children may be playing in or near the streets.

But, by placing stop signs at

these intersections, traffic will have to stop before continuing. And, residents living on Gray Street believe this will provide a safer environment for the children playing outside, as vehicles will be forced to travel at a safer, slower speed.

Bottle floats in ocean 8 years; was tossed from cruise ship

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — A sealed bottle tossed from a cruise ship in the Hawaiian islands by a Beaumont man floated for eight years before winding up off the Oregon coast.

Donald H. Taft had put his business card, with "July 15, 1989" scribbled on it, into the tightly sealed cognac bottle before flinging it from the ship's deck.

"I thought it would get broken in the storms," said the manager of a family-owned funeral parlor business. "I never even thought about it anymore."

But Taft came home Sunday to a message on his answering machine that the bottle was a well-traveled survivor.

Steven Rice, a furniture store owner who lives in McMinnville, Ore., discovered the bottle earlier Sunday while fishing for halibut two miles off the coast of Pacific City, Ore.

Taft's laminated business card was resting in an inch of water in the barnacle-encrusted, greenish-brown bottle.

"It was really in good shape," Rice told the Beaumont Enterprise for Tuesday's editions. "It looks as if it's been out there for a while."

The probabilities of a bottle surviving the several thousand-mile journey from Hawaii to Oregon are

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following calls and arrests for the 24-hour period ending 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, July 1

A theft was reported at 1207 N. Hobart. Counterfeit currency was reported at 1224 N. Hobart.

Criminal mischief was reported at 538 Maple. Criminal trespass involving an assault with minor injuries was reported at 441 Hughes.

Theft of a \$140 Murray bicycle was reported at 736 S. Barnes.

WEDNESDAY, July 2

Theft of city property was reported at Somerville and Foster. Six traffic cones valued at \$120 were stolen.

A domestic violence incident with minor injuries was reported in the 1200 block of E. Kingsmill.

Harassing phone calls were reported at 624 N. Dwight.

Sheriff's report

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

TUESDAY, July 1

Joy Bybee, 34, 617 N. Christy, was arrested on charges of theft of services and for a Skellytown municipal warrant.

Rhoda Darton, 29, of Wellington, was arrested on charges of theft of property by check.

WEDNESDAY, July 2

George Roy Reeves, 38, of Mobeetie, was arrested on an instanter warrant.

Ambulance

Rural Metro responded to the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Wednesday.

TUESDAY, July 1

8:09 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a location on Farm and Market road 282 and Tx 152 on a motor vehicle accident. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

10:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to craven and Finley on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

1:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of north Hobart on a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

6:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing home on a trauma. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

11:32 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Columbia Medical Center for a one patient transfer to a local nursing facility.

WEDNESDAY, July 2

12:03 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 200 block of south Ballard on a trauma. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department responded to the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Wednesday. The Pampa Fire Department responded to the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Tuesday.

TUESDAY, July 1

8:09 a.m. — Three units and six personnel responded to Price Rd. and 152 for a motor vehicle accident.

3:29 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to 808 Locust for a medical assist.

6:56 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 1504 W. Kentucky on a medical assist.

WEDNESDAY, July 2

12:12 a.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 701 S. Ballard for a medical assist.

Tax

AllState. The security company would not return his phone calls. Therefore, commissioners agreed not to pay further bills until contact is made with AllState Security.

Discussion was open on the Seismic Option Agreement from Perm-O-Penn Exploration. Perm-O-Penn is seeking to lease and explore land that the county has mineral rights for. The money brought in by such an exploration goes to all school districts in the county.

Commissioners asked Alvy to compare the acreage prices proposed in the current Seismic Option Agreement with those in

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

a previous 1993 agreement. Alvy found both contracts to be the same; however, there is still some disagreement on the acreage price quotes and the issue has been deferred to the next meeting so that further research can be done.

Commissioner Gerald Wright asked the court to consider his request for replacing the backhoe in his district. The thirty-year-old piece of equipment has failing hydraulics and transmission systems.

The commissioners discussed options and referred to County Attorney Alvy about the requirements of the law to lease or purchase a new or used model. No decision was made and the item

was deferred.

Other items approved by the court include:

Authorizing officer Chris Lockridge to replace a hand held radio;

Designating Calvary Baptist Church as a voting place for the August and November 1997 Constitutional Amendment Election for Precincts eight and nine;

Payment of all bills, salaries, transfers recommended by the county auditor and county intrabudget transfers.

The next Gray County Commissioners Court session will be at 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 16, on the second floor of the courthouse.

Martindale

the 97th Judicial District serving Montague, Clay and Archer counties.

When asked about the new position, Jennings replied, "It's time to move on."

Jennings has served as the assistant district attorney for the 31st and 223rd judicial districts since 1992. In addition, she has also maintained a private practice, representing many Pampa residents in various types of civil cases.

Prior to her position as the assistant district attorney, Jennings was an associate with Warner, Finney & Warner in Pampa.

She graduated cum laude from Oklahoma City University in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in political science. She obtained her law degree from the

University of Tulsa in 1989.

Although Jennings said she will miss her friends in Pampa, she is looking forward to the new opportunity. And, the district attorney, Tim Cole, for the 97th Judicial District is pleased to add Jennings to his staff.

"With her experience I know she is someone I can depend on to try a case immediately," said Cole in The Bowie News. "She also worked in similar districts, which made her an attractive candidate because she knows what we do."

The new district attorney position will pay Jennings a salary of \$59,948, with \$39,213 funded through a grant and the rest split between the three counties. In addition to her assistant district attorney responsibilities, Jennings will also be allowed to operate a private practice in her new position.

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Miss Texas

Texas Pageant.

In this section, Thomas will perform a dance medley of classical jazz, ballet and tumbling to "Anthem for a New World."

Contestant Turner is the daughter of Dan and Terrie Turner of Dumas, and the granddaughter of Paul and Minelle Turner of Pampa and the late Faye Watson.

Turner spent the June training and preparing with her manager, Mary McMullin of Haltom City. She has worked a daily regimen of running and exercise, study of current events and issues and talent training and practice. She has also had numerous appearances at schools, churches, children's clubs and hospitals. To conclude her weeks of preparation, Turner gave a preview of her wardrobe and talent to an audience at Tarrant County Junior College.

Turner's talent presentation will be a vocal selection titled "Dream Medley," a combination of "Dream in Color" and "The Power of the Dream." Her vocal coach is Myrna Hunt of Carrollton.

In addition to the talent section of the Miss Texas Pageant, each contestant will also be subjected to a personal interview with pageant judges, evening wear competition, swimsuit competition and answer an on-stage question.

During the 12-minute personal interview, the judges grill the entrants on any subject, including platform, current events, and personal opinions and beliefs.

Each woman in the scholarship pageant has chosen an issue or platform which she supports and works towards.

Both Thomas and Turner have chosen to address their platforms to school children.

Thomas' platform, "Building Character in America" focuses on how to become a C.H.A.M.P. This, she explained during the phone interview, is based on a "Gimme 5" program of Clear goals, Honesty, Appreciation for others, Mental toughness and Positive attitude, which spells CHAMP.

Turner, as her platform, developed a "S.M.I.L.E." program, which she presents to children and young people urging them to make right choices, develop self-esteem

and set high goals for themselves.

Both panhandle natives will be cheered on by their families during the four-evening competition held July 2-5 at the Tarrant County Convention Center in Fort Worth. This pageant is the official state preliminary to the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City in September.

The final competition will be held Saturday evening at Tarrant County Convention Center. This phase of the pageant will be televised on Channel 7, Saturday, July 5 at 7 p.m.

Headquarters for the pageant is the Holiday Inn South in Fort Worth. Anyone wishing to send cards, letters or other well-wishes to Thomas or Turner may do so by sending them to Katina Thomas, Miss Amarillo Area, or Alison Turner, Miss El Paso Area, Holiday Inn South, 100 Alta Mesa East, Fort Worth, Texas 76134. Flower orders and small gift orders may be made through a local florist.

Ticket information and reservations for any night of the competition may be obtained by calling Central Ticket Office at 817-335-9000.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight, clear and warm with a low near 72 and winds from the southwest at 10-to-20 mph. Thursday, continued sunny with a hot afternoon of temperatures from 95-to-100 degrees expected. The chance for thunderstorms is limited. Tuesday's high was 101.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Today, sunny with a high 90 to 95. Northeast wind 10-20 mph, becoming southeast in the afternoon. Tonight, clear with a low in the mid 60s. Thursday, sunny with a high 90 to 95. South Plains — Tonight, fair. Lows 68-75. Thursday, sunny. Highs 95-102. Thursday night, fair. Lows upper 60s to lower 70s.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight, clear with lows 72 to 77. Thursday, sunny and hot. Highs 95 to 99. Thursday

night, mostly clear. Lows 72 to 77.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country — Tonight through Thursday night, some late night and early morning clouds. Otherwise, mostly fair skies in the evening. Mostly sunny in the afternoon. Low in the 70s. High in the 90s. Upper Texas Coast — Tonight through Thursday night, some late night and early morning clouds. Otherwise, mostly fair skies in the evening. Mostly sunny in the afternoon. Low in the 70s inland to near 80 coast. High in the 90s inland, near 90 coast. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight through Thursday night, some late night and early morning clouds. Otherwise, mostly fair skies in the evening, mostly sunny and breezy in the afternoon. Low in the 70s inland to near 80 coast. High near 90 coast to near 100 Rio Grande plains. Extended forecast, Friday, partly cloudy. Highs

near 90 coast to near 100 Rio Grande plains.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight, isolated evening thunderstorms northeast. Otherwise mostly fair skies. Lows 40s and 50s mountains, upper 50s to lower 70s lower elevations. Thursday and Thursday night, mostly fair Thursday morning. Partly cloudy during the afternoon and evening with a few thunderstorms mountains and northeast. Highs upper 70s to lower 90s mountains and north, 95 to 105 southern lowlands. Lows 40s and 50s mountains, upper 50s to lower 70s lower elevations. Extended forecast,

Oklahoma — Tonight, clear. Lows in the lower to mid 70s. Thursday, clear to partly cloudy. Highs mainly in the 90s. Thursday night, partly cloudy. A chance of showers and thunderstorms north and central. Lows upper 60s to mid 70s.

City briefs

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

M&W FIREWORKS - Family Pack Drawing-July 2. New items - Bottle Rockets, Frogs, Rising Flag & Many More. Hwy 70 by the old Putt-Putt Golf Course and Hwy. 60 E., next to Watson Feed & Garden and S. Barnes str., next to Douthit Auto Sales. Adv.

EMERGENCY JAIL Release. 24 hrs. Jack Ward, 669-9911. Adv. **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING** Deadline has been changed for Sunday-to noon on Friday effective July 11, Questions? 669-2525

CAMPER PULLING Special - 1989 Chevy 3/4 ton, 4 door pickup. 10-5:30, 665-6064. Adv.

ALLERGY, ASTHMA, Emphysema or unwanted odors? Maybe we can help. 665-3672. Adv.

COTTONWOOD SPRINGS Chuck Wagon Supper, July 4th, 6:30 p.m. Rib-eye steaks. 665-7126 for reservations. Adv.

NO NEED to run out of ice this July 4th week-end! Call Top of Texas Ice at 665-2061 or 665-1841. We deliver! Adv.

RAYBAN - MEN In black sunglasses now available - Drs. Simmons & Simmons, 1324 N. Banks, 665-0771. Adv.

COME SEE Howard Wolf Holiday Fashions. For special orders. Images 123 N. Cuyler. 669-1091. Adv.

SHEAR ELEGANCE - July Special. Bring in this ad and receive \$2.00 off wet, set, and Cut. ask for Nancy. Walk-ins and Call-ins welcome!! 669-9579. 400 N. Cuyler. Adv.

DALE'S BAIT Shop - Waterdogs, night crawlers, shrimp, Alabama jumpers. 669-2462 (at old packing house). Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE - Wednesday 5-8 p.m. Meat loaf, fried chicken, spaghetti & meatballs, chicken fried steak. 716 W. Foster. Adv.

SEE The Animals. Creature Comforts. 115 N. West. Open the 4th. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 669-PETS. Adv.

Crime prevention is everyone's business

Fine arts students



(Pampa News photo by Dianna F. Dandridge)

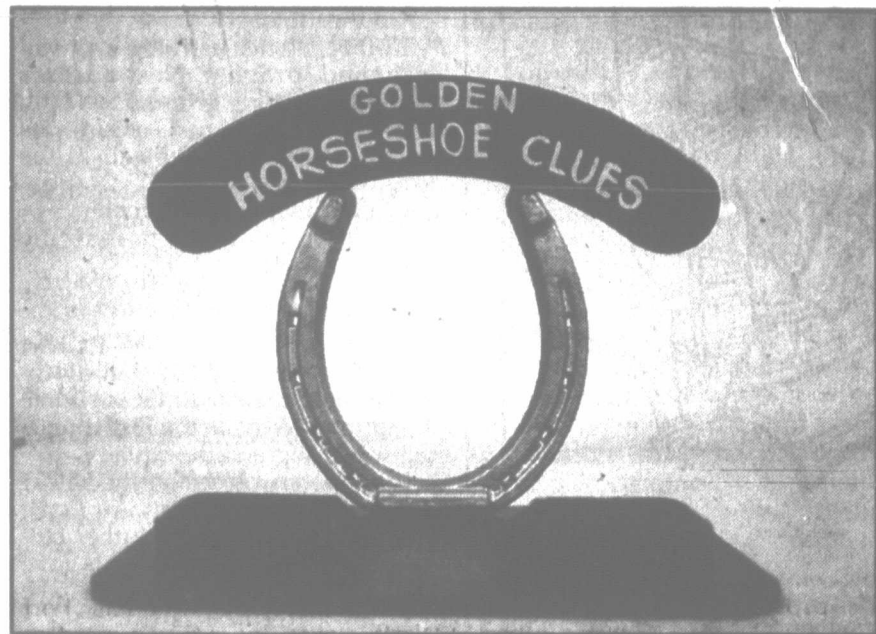
The Fine Arts Council sponsored a set of fine arts classes for young people to help instill the importance of the arts. Emily Elliott, Michelle Ward, Melissa Ward, Brittany Brazile and Audrey Dunn were only a few of the students who participated in the pastel chalk drawing classes taught last week by Amy Winton.

Outstanding staff member



(Special photo)

Meredith House presented awards during a recent staff meeting for the 2nd quarter of 1997. Blint Landers, right, was awarded a certificate as Outstanding Staff Member for the Quarter by Program Director Cinda Jennings. Landers is in charge of the kitchen at Meredith House. Her duties include planning and preparing meals. She was chosen for providing excellent quality and service.



(Pampa News photo)

The Golden Horseshoe Treasure Hunt, with a prize of a box seat for all three performances at the Top O' Texas Rodeo July 10-12, is under way. Today's clue can be found at National Bank of Commerce. Tuesday's clue can be found at Rheam's Diamond Shop. Thursday's clue can be found at a sports shop. The finder of the horseshoe should bring it to the rodeo office in the Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard, to claim the prize.

Bush's welfare vetoes aggravate labor groups

HOUSTON (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush has given organized labor a few more things to hold against him.

Bush recently angered worker groups by vetoing three welfare bills. The items were designed to regulate privatization and to protect public- and private-sector employees as Texans leave the welfare system for the work force.

"Unfortunately, we're seeing more and more instances where the

governor is putting winning a war with labor over what is good for the state," said Richard Levy, legal director for the state chapter of the AFL-CIO in Austin.

One of the bills would have barred employers from replacing existing workers with government-subsidized welfare recipients.

Another would have required the companies that administer state job-training programs to give their workers pay and benefits compar-

able to those that state employees receive.

The third would have temporarily blocked private companies from administering day-care funds for welfare workers.

Both worker-related bills were overwhelmingly passed by state lawmakers. Bush, however, said

they would have hindered the state in moving people off welfare and into jobs, as new state and federal laws require.

Bush, a Republican, added that the plans would have hamstrung efforts to turn over to private companies the running of local job-training and welfare-to-work programs.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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

Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

L.W. McCall
Publisher

Kate B. Dickson
Associate Publisher/Editor



Inside the Beltway
with
Rep. Mac Thornberry

Taxpayer Relief Act passes in House

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry cast a vote for the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, legislation that will provide the American people with \$85 billion in tax relief over the next five years. The package was approved by a vote of 253-179.

This is the first major tax reduction since 1981," Thornberry stated. "It's also something that's sorely needed. Think about all the taxes we pay during the course of a day. When we drink that first cup of coffee in the morning, we pay a sales tax. When we drive to work, we pay a gas tax. At work, we pay an income tax. When we try to save and invest what we made, we pay a capital gains tax. When we retire, we pay a tax on Social Security benefits. The government even gets us when we die, making us pay a death tax."

"We've reached a point in America where if you work hard, pay by the rules, and do all the right things for yourself and your family — then the government punishes you with higher taxes. While this legislation may not provide all of the tax relief I would like to see — particularly in the area of inheritance taxes — it's a step in the right direction and clearly something that's long overdue."

The legislation includes tax relief for college expenses, IRA-style education savings accounts, a \$500-per child tax credit, capital gains tax relief for individuals who sell their homes, relief for the self-employed and small businesses, relief from inheritance taxes, and other important pro-family and pro-growth components. Thornberry noted that the Joint Committee on Taxation recently found that over the next five years, more than three-quarters of the tax relief under the plan will go to those making less than \$75,000.

Thornberry also pointed to a recent study by the independent accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche which found that a married couple with two young children making a total of \$35,000 per year will see their federal tax burden reduced by 40% under the bill.

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Berry's World



"It's probably some government thing to take our minds off of the mess in Washington."

Of cultural rot and Disney ...



William Murchison

Now, wait a minute. If the United States can boycott South Africa, and cities like Austin and Albuquerque can rename their streets after the celebrated lettuce-boycotter Cesar Chavez, then why can't the Southern Baptists recommend withholding business from the Walt Disney Co.? So one gathers.

Something funny is going on here. Correction: What's going on isn't funny at all. America is manifesting cultural wear and tear.

Permit a high-church Episcopalian to put in a good word for the Baptist brethren and sistren. Few enough others in my all-seeing, all-knowing profession seem poised to do so.

And you know why? It's because few — painfully few in this profession — understand how the Baptists can get so riled about things like, oh, degradation, pornography and violence.

Am I saying that my profession, which speaks for the most part in the prim accents of the Liberal Establishment, lacks all sense of indignation? Why, no.

Consider how heartily, to cite a current example, we hate Demon Tobacco. Away with these noxious fumes! Save our lungs! Time was when newspapers reeked with cigarette smoke. Been there, smelled that. Today, these intellectual nerve-centers reek with sulfurous rhetoric concerning tobacco companies.

Will you encounter, this week, newspaper editorials deploring the extortion of \$368 billion from Big Tobacco, as the price of legal peace? Not likely. Tobacco, you see, hurts the body.

Bodies rippling with physical strength, glowing with beauty or both: These are what matter in the

'90s. Souls, hearts, minds — the things that Baptists, and even a fair number of Episcopallians, worry about: Such things are, uh, matters of Personal Opinion.

In the '90s, it's OK to have such opinions: What you can't do (the media cheerfully and continuously relay this diktat) is Seek to Enforce Them.

Well! Along come the Baptists, asserting the social seriousness of their concerns and urging the faithful to put their money in proximity to their mouths. It becomes the duty of the intellectual classes to give these folk the back of their hands.

There are various ways to tackle this solemn responsibility. One way is to spotlight Baptists who disagree with the boycott. Another is to link the boycotters with racists and homophobes or, better yet, homophobic racists. It is easy to force an angle of attack perfected by H. L. Mencken. It's of the poor, uneducated-boobs angle — the sad shake of the head, the knowing wink.

A question continues to dangle: Is the boycott, in

objective terms, a good thing? Maybe and maybe not.

Economic weapons are unreliable to operate and difficult to aim. Often enough, they miss the whole target, maiming innocent bystanders. The gun crews thus bring down scorn and ridicule on themselves. The Baptists have elected a perilous course of action.

But, again, wait — remember how in September 1939, the Polish lancers hurled themselves against the tanks of the Wehrmacht? Derisive weapons, lances! Got a lot of lancers killed! Even so, would any Liberal Establishmentarian in good standing argue the irrelevance of defending Poland against Hitler, with whatever weapons came to hand?

The main thing wrong with Baptist perceptions of the cultural crisis is that too few Americans share those perceptions. The choice of Disney as a target is rich in irony. It shows the depths to which we have let culture fall.

The innocent merriment in which the Disney Co. historically specialized has made room, under new management, for the sexual, the violent, the blasphemous. Disney's attempt to pass itself off as the same company made beloved by Uncle Walt is unpersuasive.

A culture that can work itself up over what goes into the lungs, while caring not a fig what invades hearts and minds, shouldn't feel great astonishment over the Baptist uprising. Though it will.

Lungs, we understand and love hearing about. Souls, that's different. What you can't see can't hurt you, humm? — I'll betcha it's the same thing they once said about ingested smoke.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, July 2, the 183rd day of 1997. There are 182 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress passed a resolution that "these United Colonies are, and of right, ought to be, Free and Independent States."

On this date:
In 1566, French astrologer, physician and prophet Nostradamus died in Salon.

In 1881, President Garfield was shot by Charles J. Guiteau at the Washington railroad station; Garfield died that September.

In 1890, Congress passed the Sherman Antitrust Act.

In 1926, the U.S. Army Air Corps was created.

In 1937, aviator Amelia Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan disappeared over the Pacific Ocean while attempting to make the first round-the-world flight at the equator.

In 1947, an object crashed near Roswell, N.M. The Army Air Force later insisted it was a weather balloon, but eyewitness accounts gave rise to speculation it might have been an alien spacecraft.

In 1961, author Ernest Hemingway shot himself to death at his home in Ketchum, Idaho.

Let's declare everyone a victim

The proposal, by a bipartisan group of a dozen congressmen, that Congress pass a resolution apologizing to our black fellow citizens for America's history of slavery is just the tip of the iceberg.

In the first place, as Clarence ("Eleanor is right") Page pointed out on ABC's *This Week*, it isn't enough. Already certain black spokesmen have begun suggesting that only "reparations" — i.e., cash — will ease the pain of the present generation of black Americans.

There is, after all, the precedent of the reparations paid by the government not long ago to still living Japanese-Americans who were interned in camps, without the slightest justification, after Pearl Harbor.

But at least in that case the people being compensated were the ones who had suffered the internment. In the case of slavery, the apology is to be made, on behalf of people who have never enslaved anybody, to other people who have never been enslaved. It would simply be a spectacular example of "feel-goodism," and would very probably have the unintended side effect of encouraging some blacks to conclude that the United States has officially conceded that it owes them a living.

But if we're going to apologize to our black fellow-citizens for the historic wrong of slavery, be assured that it won't (and in fairness shouldn't) stop there.

If there was ever a group of Americans that deserves an apology from the rest of us, surely it is



William Rusher

William A. Rusher is a Distinguished Fellow of the Claremont Institute for the Study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy.

the Indians. We whites simply landed and took over their territory, and compounded our aggression by breaking practically every treaty we subsequently signed with them.

And Lord knows Hispanic Americans (or at least those from Mexico) are entitled to an apology for the huge swaths of territory we wrested from Mexico in the 19th century. As a matter of fact, wouldn't common decency suggest that we ought to return most of the southwestern United States, from Texas to California, to Mexico?

But why must the United States do all the apologizing? Shouldn't other countries admit their derelictions too? Shouldn't Britain apologize to India and Pakistan for exploiting the whole subcontinent for 300 years? For that matter, wouldn't it be nice if the British House of Commons apologized to the 13 states that comprised their American colonies for trying to keep them in subjection against their will?

Similarly, Japan certainly ought to apologize to Americans for Pearl Harbor, not to mention apologizing to the Chinese for the Rape of Nanking. Germany should apologize to the Russians for invading them as well as to the Jews for trying to annihilate them. Turkey ought to apologize to Armenia for all the Armenians it slaughtered, and South Africa's whites owe an apology to its blacks for the long years of apartheid. (Please note, by the way, that all of those listed in this paragraph as deserving an apology are still represented by living people, who thus are as entitled as the aforementioned Japanese-Americans to cash reparations.)

Widening our focus a bit, isn't it clear that women as a whole deserve an apology from men as a whole for imposing on them the patriarchal domination of which our feminists complain?

Though, if it comes to that, aren't all men entitled to an apology from all women for Eve's having persuaded Adam to eat that apple?

The point of this whole exercise, of course, is to illustrate the absurdity of trying to right historical wrongs by apologizing for them. As Gibbon remarked, history is "little more than the register of the crimes, follies, and misfortunes of mankind." There would be no end to any serious effort to apologize for all of them, and it would eventually wind up conferring victimhood on everyone. (Though, come to think of it, that might be a solution of sorts!)

Birth control: What's so complicated?

It should be a no-brainer. Birth control reduces the rate of unwanted pregnancy and abortion. Therefore, birth control should be widely available and easy to obtain. It should be as inexpensive as possible and drug companies should be encouraged to develop safer and more reliable methods.

But, alas, this is America. And when it comes to matters of sex in this country, nothing is ever that simple. For all the obsessing we do about sex, we actually get very nervous when it comes to helping people take control of their sexuality. The United States reports the highest rate of unwanted pregnancy in the Western industrialized world; it also has the highest abortion rate.

What do countries such as Canada, France and Sweden know what we don't? Well, it's pretty simple really. They know that birth control works. But for some reason, this is a fact that we just don't want to accept here.

Consider the way our health insurance companies deal with this issue. Most traditional insurance plans don't cover reversible methods of birth control. Health Maintenance Organizations have done a better job in this score, but when it comes to indemnity insurance plans, only 33% cover oral contraceptives and only 15% cover all five available forms of prescription reversible birth control — the pill, the diaphragm, Depo-Provera, Norplant and IUDs. Contrast that with 86% that cover sterilization and 66% that cover abortion.

I feel silly explaining why this is a bad idea. First, there is the economic costs of surgical sterilization, abortion or bringing an unwanted pregnancy to



Sara Eckel

term. Second, there is the emotional cost.

Sterilization, for example, is currently the most popular form of birth control in the United States, and certainly for many women it's a desirable choice. But according to Dr. Felicia Stewart, director of reproductive services for the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, it frequently leads to devastating results for people who divorce and subsequently wish to start new families. "One of the saddest things is that we have a fairly substantial amount of regret," says Stewart. "But as a clinician we do not want to be in the position to say we will not do this because you haven't had enough children."

The shortsightedness of private health insurers can also be found in the federal government, which has reduced funding for the National Family Planning Program (Title X) by 72% since 1980. Couple that with the fact that 30% of poor Americans have neither health insurance nor Medicaid coverage, and it should come as no surprise that half of the unintended pregnancies in this

country occur because no form of birth control was used.

Then there is our national queasiness about sex education. Once again, the United States has the highest rate of teen pregnancy and abortion in the Western industrialized world, but it's not because our kids are more sexually active. Indeed the rate of teen sexual activity here is about the same as comparable nations. The difference is that American teens have lower rates of birth control use.

Finally, there are the anti-abortion activists, who have succeeded in making not just abortion but all forms of family planning a hot-button issue. "The confusion with the abortion debate has had a very significant impact on contraception development in the United States," says Rod Mackenzie, who has held executive positions at Johnson & Johnson and the Ortho Pharmaceutical Corp. "The pharmaceutical companies that develop new methods of birth control have received nothing but criticism."

The result is that there has been almost no attempt on the part of American drug manufacturers to develop safer or more effective methods of birth control. "You can spend the same amount of money and invent Prozac," says Mackenzie, referring to the extremely profitable anti-depressant.

This cannot go on. The strange form of Puritanism practiced in this country is leading to devastating results. The fact is that the rate of unwanted pregnancy can be dramatically improved. All it takes is a really cheek — that is, an admission that sex happens, and often for reasons other than procreation. As Dr. Stewart says, "If other countries can get these results, why can't we?"

Teachers union may agree to help reform tenure system

By ROBERT GREENE
AP Education Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — The nation's largest teachers union is considering endorsing a policy that once would have been unthinkable: letting teachers help schools get rid of bad instructors.

With schools and teachers under increasing pressure to improve performance, the National Education Association is trying to head off moves by states to dismantle decades-old tenure laws that critics say have protected lazy and incompetent teachers.

Just this week, Oregon lawmakers voted to replace their tenure law, and several other states are wrestling with the issue.

The 2.3 million-member NEA, which is holding its annual meeting in Atlanta this week, defends tenure laws but acknowledges some streamlining is called for. And the union would rather deal with the tenure problem without eliminating the laws entirely.

The NEA also is worried about poor public confidence in schools, and wants to change its image from that of an industrial union concerned primarily with wages, hours and working conditions.

"We have a strong interest in having the best possible people in every classroom and building," said John Grossman, head of the Columbus (Ohio) Education Association.

Later this week NEA convention members will consider a resolution that would free local unions to let teachers help fire their underperforming colleagues.

Officially, the NEA has opposed peer review since 1986, saying it puts teachers in a management role. But peer review has been in place in Columbus for eleven years. Toledo, Ohio, whose teachers are represented by another union, the American Federation of Teachers, pioneered the notion in the state twelve years ago. Cincinnati, an AFT city, has had one for ten years.

Other cities and counties nationwide are trying it. The NEA resolution, still being drafted, simply would end opposition to the practice and have locals decide whether to try it.

Under the peer review programs in place now, designated

teachers work with all beginning teachers and with veterans whose performance has been questioned. Teachers say most of the problems center on the ability of teachers to manage their classrooms. Although the emphasis is on help, the consulting teachers can recommend non-renewal or dismissal to a joint panel of union members and school district officials.

Ohio Gov. George Voinovich, a Republican, just gave his blessing to the arrangements by signing on Monday a two-year budget that will help 15 more school districts try similar plans in 1997-1998.

"We would like it eventually to be a statewide practice," said Tom Needles, an aide to the governor.

A 1994 study by the New York State School Boards Association found it took an average of 455 days and \$177,000 to dismiss a teacher.

Voinovich had been thwarted in an attempt two years ago to loosen job security provisions in the state law.

Teacher protection laws began nearly eight decades ago to prevent school officials from firing teachers over politics or giving jobs to relatives.

Under most laws, teachers are on probation for three years to five years, then cannot be fired without a good reason and a hearing. Critics said the protections have become unwieldy. Supporters say school officials don't go through the trouble to make them work.

A 1994 study by the New York State School Boards Association found it took an average of 455 days and \$177,000 to dismiss a teacher. An appeal raised the price to \$317,000. The association is pushing a bill that would require teachers and school administrators to renew their licenses every five years, but opposition by the state union, part of the American Federation of Teachers, has been strong.

"If you're a lousy teacher,



Members of the Pampa High School Cheerleading squad were recently named to the National Cheerleading Association's All-American Team during NCA Camp at the University of Oklahoma. The cheerleaders were (from left to right): Vaughn Evans, Mandy Parks, Katy Cavalier, Brooke Petty and Lacrese Ford.

Pampa cheerleaders make NCA All-American Team

Pampa High School cheerleaders recently returned from NCA Camp at the University of Oklahoma, where five team members were named to the NCA All-American Team. The five members were: Vaughn Evans, Mandy Parks, Katy Cavalier, Brooke Petty and Lacrese Ford.

Overall, eleven members from the Pampa squad received All-American nominations including: McKinley Quarles, Mindee Stowers, Lori Lindsey, Emily Curtis, Courtney Land and Beth Buzzard.

The National Cheerleading Association selects All-American Team members at each of the over 1,100 camps it administers across the United States. The cheerleaders are named to the team based on cheerleading technique, leadership and all-

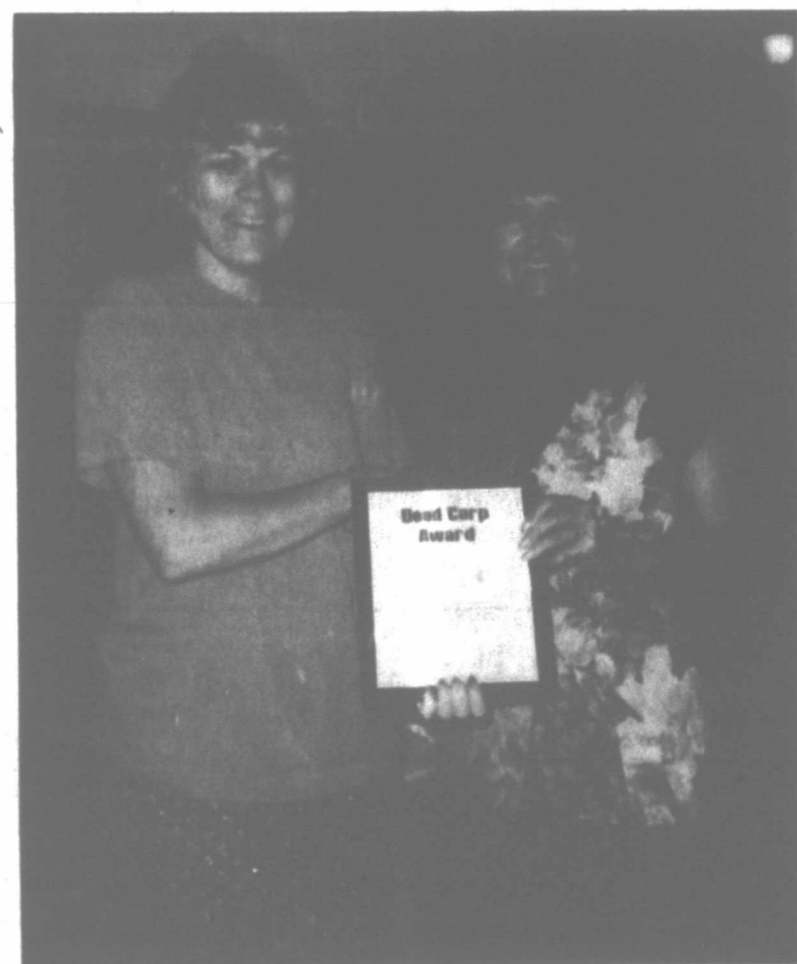
around cheerleading ability. The presentation of the NCA All-American Team award came at the completion of training in cheerleading technique, cheers, chants, jumps, partner stunts and pyramids and at the conclusion of leadership programs in sportsmanship, responsibility, organization and dedication.

The NCA has been conducting summer workshops for over 49

years and is the largest privately run cheerleading company in the world, holding cheerleading events for over 150,000 students each year.

As an All-American team member, cheerleaders are eligible to travel with the NCA and will be featured in the Jeep Eagle Aloha Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii, or the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Fla.

Outstanding employee



Meredith House presented awards during a recent staff meeting for the 2nd quarter of 1997. Jana Gregory, left, was awarded a certificate of Outstanding Performance by Program Director Cinda Jennings. Gregory, assistant program director and activities leader at Meredith House, was singled out for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Mowers awake bees

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Officials say a lawn-mowing crew apparently set off thousands of angry, swarming bees that took police and firefighters two hours to subdue.

Several ambulances and fire trucks were dispatched during the emergency in a west San Antonio neighborhood Tuesday afternoon, and police cordoned off four blocks and warned everyone to stay indoors. Command posts were set up on the side streets.

At least eight people, including a twelve-year-old girl, were stung, but all sting victims were treated by emergency medical technicians at the scene. There were no serious injuries, officials said.

The bees came from an abandoned lumber yard near an alley on Cecilia and Calaveras streets, fire department officials said.

Yolanda Alviso, 14, who lives across the street from a house where one attack took place, told the *San Antonio Express-News* that three men were using a lawn mower to cut the grass. She said they suddenly started swatting themselves and yelling.

"We were looking when all the bees were on the man. He was all freaked out. He was putting water on him. He looked scared," Alviso said. "I don't know what happened, but all the bees came out."

The man who seemed to get the most stings was mowing grass, Alviso said.

Angela Castillo Escobar, who lives down the street, said the man pushing the lawn mower took off his shirt and used it to swat the bees.

"I was outside when the man was stung," Ms. Escobar said. "I won't be afraid as long as I stay inside, but it's dangerous (outside)."

Retail beef sales remain low

Consumers looking for meat bargains will find retail beef prices attractive, according to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

During the first quarter of 1997, retail beef prices were historically low and will continue to be low through the summer, according to the cattlemen's group. Data from the NCBA/Cattle-Fax Beef Featuring Analysis Program (BFAP) shows that featured retail beef prices dropped significantly during the first three months of 1997. The lower retail prices during the last several years are the result of growing beef production and increased retail featuring activity by stores, as they attempt to move the larger supplies, NCBA officials said.

Beef prices are expected to trend lower into summer, following a normal seasonal pattern. Available supplies of beef will remain large well into the third quarter and will be accompanied with active beef featuring by retailers. Beef's share of total meat advertising space and average number of weekly ads are expected to meet or exceed historically large year-ago levels. Beef production is expected to decline late in 1997, and prices will increase accordingly. But, before this occurs, low prices and active featuring combined with beef's competitive price advantage compared to pork will make the summer and early fall great buying opportunities for consumers.

According to the latest BFAP data, beef featuring activity remained strong during April. Beef ad space increased 7.7 percent to 49.8 percent of total retail meat advertising space. This is beef's largest share of ad space since August, 1996, and is 10.8 percent larger than the previous five-year average (39 percent) for April. Ham's share of retail meat

ad space for April was 12.3 percent smaller than March (15.8 percent) and 10.4 percent smaller than the previous five-year average (13.9 percent) for April, mainly because the Easter holiday occurred in March this year. Fresh pork ad share (16.5 percent) ended the month about even with 1996, while chicken's share of retail meat ad space was 21.8 percent, which is up 2.1 percentage points from a year earlier. Beef remains competitively priced compared to pork, as average featured retail prices were nine cents below the previous five-year average for beef, while featured pork prices were three cents higher than the five-year average for April.

FOURTH OF JULY

EARLY DEADLINES CLASSIFIED ADS

Day of Insertion	Deadline
Thursday, July 3.....	Wednesday 2 p.m.
Friday, July 4.....	Wednesday 4 p.m.
Sunday, July 6.....	Thursday 2 p.m.
Monday, July 7.....	Thursday 4 p.m.

CITY BRIEFS

Friday, July 4 & Sunday, July 6.....	Thursday 4 p.m.
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CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

Thursday, July 3.....	Monday 3 p.m.
Friday, July 4.....	Tuesday 12 noon
Sunday, July 6.....	Wednesday 12 noon
Monday, July 7.....	Thursday 11 a.m.
Tuesday, July 8.....	Thursday 2 p.m.

DISPLAY ADV.

Thursday, July 3.....	Monday 3 p.m.
Friday, July 4.....	Tuesday 12 noon
Sunday, July 6.....	Wednesday 12 noon
Monday, July 7.....	Thursday 11 a.m.
Tuesday, July 8.....	Thursday 2 p.m.

Bring Your Family to...

2201 N. Hobart
-in front of
Wal-Mart

KFC.

Buffet with Small Drink only \$4.99

Dine in only •Hurry offer expires soon!

MEDICAL

Drug used against alcoholism could help smokers quit too

By MALCOLM RITTER
AP Science Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Just days after the government approved one new drug to help smokers kick the habit, a new study shows early promise for another.

Naltrexone, a drug now used for treating alcoholism, helped people in one study who were trying to quit smoking by using a nicotine patch.

Patch users who took naltrexone smoked fewer cigarettes than those taking a dummy pill. Naltrexone users also didn't gain weight, a common side effect of quitting, and they craved nicotine less.

The work is very preliminary, said Stephanie S. O'Malley, an associate professor of psychiatry at the Yale University Medical School. Only 22 people were in the study, and they were followed for only four weeks.

It's too soon to make any recommendation about using nal-

trexone to help people quit smoking, said O'Malley, who presented the results recently at the American Psychiatric Association's annual meeting. But "we think it's worth examining further," she said.

Previously, the Food and Drug Administration approved another drug — the antidepressant Zyban — to help smokers quit.

Naltrexone works differently. It blocks the effects of the brain's own feel-good substances, which mimic the effects of morphine or heroin. Alcohol makes the brain produce more of these substances, so that may be part of the kick people get from drinking. By blocking that reward, naltrexone can help people quit drinking.

There's some evidence that nicotine also stimulates the brain to produce more of the feel-good substances, O'Malley said. So scientists have tried using drugs like naltrexone in smokers, with mixed success.

O'Malley's study was funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Participants started using a nicotine patch on one day and began taking either naltrexone or a placebo the next day. Neither they nor the researchers knew which one they got until the study was over.

The study participants were tracked weekly for four weeks. At the second and third week, all the naltrexone users reported smoking fewer than six cigarettes per week. About half the placebo group did as well.

The naltrexone group still did better at the fourth week, but their edge over the placebo group was too small to be statistically significant.

In addition, the naltrexone users had lost nearly a pound on average at study's end, while the placebo users gained an average of 3 pounds.

Since many smokers say

they're reluctant to quit because they fear weight gain, it would be a definite advantage if naltrexone can be shown to block weight gain over a longer period and in a larger study, O'Malley said.

While naltrexone didn't significantly affect whether study participants fully abstained from smoking, its ability to reduce the number of cigarettes smoked eventually might translate into higher quit rates, she said.

More studies are needed, O'Malley added.

Dr. John R. Hughes of the University of Vermont agreed the study was preliminary but said the weight-gain blocking properties might be particularly important.

With about 48 million smokers in the United States, even if naltrexone became useful only for people who were worried about weight gain, that would still be a big group, he said.

Ways to beat the heat

COOL	COOLER
Reduce physical activity.	If you're gonna play, play in a pool.
Use air conditioners or electric fans when possible.	Why pay for all that electricity when you can spend your money at the movies or the mall?
Stay in the shade.	Don't spend your summer sitting under a tree. Hats, sunglasses and sunscreen are great protection against the sun's harmful rays, and you look cool.
Park the car in a shady area and roll down the windows a bit.	Wherever you decide to park your car, just remember to take all small children and pets with you.
Drink plenty of liquids, but avoid alcohol, coffee, tea or other drinks that cause fluid loss.	Nobody said you couldn't have a refreshing glass of iced tea or a double tall iced cappuccino.

Senators want cigarette taxes to fund insurance

WASHINGTON (AP) — Conservative Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and his frequent liberal adversary, Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., are teaming up to promote a bill that would extend health insurance to more children by raising cigarette taxes.

The plan drew immediate fire from Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., who tried to dissociate Republicans from what he said would be another big government program.

Rather than calling it the Hatch-Kennedy bill, the name used by the sponsors, "I prefer to call it the Kennedy bill," Lott said.

The proposal, which the two senators introduced on Tuesday, would raise the federal tax on a pack of cigarettes by 43 cents. Two-thirds of the revenue would go toward health care for the 10 million American children currently uninsured; the rest would help reduce the federal budget deficit.

Hatch, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said the plan was aimed at the working poor who "just don't make enough money to purchase health insurance, and these parents are frantic."

Hatch said the proposal fit the Republican agenda of letting states set eligibility rules for who gets insurance and fully funding new spending programs. "I'm doing my best to drag Kennedy across the center line into the right," he said.

Kennedy and Hatch also stressed that their legislation would have an equally important role in discouraging underage smoking.

But Lott said he opposed a tax increase on cigarettes. Even without it, he added, "there still would be a problem with another big government program takeover which costs billions of dollars when there are other solutions that will get the job done better."

Lott noted that 3 million uninsured poor children are already eligible for Medicaid payments to cover health costs.

Kennedy and Hatch also stressed that their legislation would have an equally important role in discouraging underage smoking.

"The increase in the tax is going to be the most meaningful step that can be taken to stop the 14-year-olds in the country from becoming addicted to cigarettes," Kennedy said.

President Clinton and congressional Democrats have been extending health insurance to children a major goal of this Congress. The administration has yet to endorse the Hatch-Kennedy approach, but Kennedy said he was confident Clinton would support it and that his endorsement would be "the major lift to move this over the finish line."

Medical briefs

Typhoid fever is bacterial infection

HOUSTON — Typhoid fever can be a problem in many areas of the world.

Typhoid fever is a bacterial infection of the gastrointestinal tract acquired through food or drink contaminated with human fecal material, said Dr. Wayne J. Riley, director of the Travel Medicine Service at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Often it results from eating food prepared by a carrier of the disease.

There are vaccines available for typhoid fever, but they are not 100 percent effective.

"You're generally safe if you eat and drink within the international hotel circuit," Riley said, "but, outside of that, exercise caution by following the rule of 'cook it, boil it, peel it or don't eat it.'"

Behavior key to preventing AIDS

HOUSTON — Compared to many other infectious diseases, AIDS is not particularly contagious, and thus it is fairly easily avoided, even in countries in which the disease is rampant.

The virus that causes AIDS is transmitted primarily through blood or semen, said Dr. Wayne J. Riley, director of the Travel Medicine Service at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

The major risks involve sharing infected needles, transfusion of contaminated blood or certain kinds of sexual contact with infected people.

In developing countries, avoid injections, dental procedures or skin-piercing activities, Riley said. If a medical condition, such as diabetes, requires regular injections, carry your own needles along with a letter from your physician.

Also, avoid risky sexual behavior, particularly condom-less sex, and blood transfusions that are not absolute life-saving measures.

Lyme vaccine approval nears

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Citing good results in a large test of a Lyme disease vaccine, a company announced it will seek Food and Drug Administration approval by the end of the year.

Preliminary results of the vaccine in a two-year study of 10,000 people looked promising, according to Connaught Laboratories, a Swiftwater, Pa.-based subsidiary of Rhone-Poulenc Group.

"We're happy enough with the results that we've seen so far to apply for this license" from the FDA to distribute the vaccine, director of clinical research Dr. John Zahradnik said.

Connaught and SmithKline Beecham PLC are leaders in the search for a vaccine to prevent the deer tick-borne disease that first was discovered in Lyme, Conn., in 1976.

Connaught, which completed clinical trials in May 1996, said it would apply for FDA approval before the end of the year. For its study, the drug company used volunteers in

five states where Lyme disease is a big problem — Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Wisconsin.

SmithKline, a British company with U.S. headquarters in Philadelphia, announced plans in February to seek FDA approval for its vaccine. In January, it completed an 11,000-person clinical study.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have received 98,042 reports of Lyme disease cases from state health departments since 1982. Last year, about 13,800 cases were reported, CDC spokeswoman Sharon Hoskins said.

Connaught's vaccine could be on the market next year, but approval might take up to two or three years, Connaught spokesman Len Lavenda said.

Few deaths have resulted from Lyme disease, which causes a rash, arthritis and flulike symptoms. It can be treated early with antibiotics, but if left untreated can lead to heart, nervous system and joint problems.

Amarillo Suicide Hotline
1-800-692-4039

When you can't take any more

24 Hour Prescription Service
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COLUMBIA Homecare

Amarillo (806) 358-8051
Borger (806) 273-5644
Clarendon (806) 874-5251
Childress (817) 937-6328

Dalhart (806) 249-5611
Dumas (806) 935-6861
Lubbock (806) 799-2927
Pampa (806) 665-7085

COLUMBIA Medical Center of Pampa

Robert Mitchum dies of lung cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Robert Mitchum's road to Hollywood was as rough-and-tumble as any of the mavericks he played in more than 100 Westerns, war movies and dramas.

He drifted into acting from a gritty life similar to that of the characters he went on to play. He was arrested for vagrancy as a young man, and claimed to have dug ditches, cleared swamp brush and built roads while serving time on a Georgia chain gang. He escaped and eventually hopped a freight car to Los Angeles.

Mitchum, who was a star for a half-century but never won an Academy Award, died in his sleep Tuesday at his Santa Barbara County home after a yearlong battle with emphysema and lung cancer. He was 79.

Just a week earlier, he had begun radiation treatments.

From a menacing ex-con in 1962's *Cape Fear* to a private eye in *Farewell, My Lovely* in 1975, Mitchum was a prolific actor who earned his ticket to stardom. But he eschewed glitz and glamour.

"He was a legend, a giant, bigger than life," said Bruce Dern, who co-starred with Mitchum in 1982's *The Championship Season*. "I was lucky enough to work with him. He was always at the top of his game."

On screen and off, Mitchum was hard-drinking and surly. Over the years, he told so many tall tales about his youth that it became hard to sort out the truth.

He was proud of his humble beginnings and talked of jobs as a prizefighter in Sparks, Nev., a coal miner in Pennsylvania and a laborer in Chico. Before he got into acting he worked in an airplane factory.

His arrival in Los Angeles aboard a freight car in 1937 was just another scene in the drama he lived every day. He remembered getting off at the Santa Fe freight yards.

"Five Mexicans were under a water tower with 3

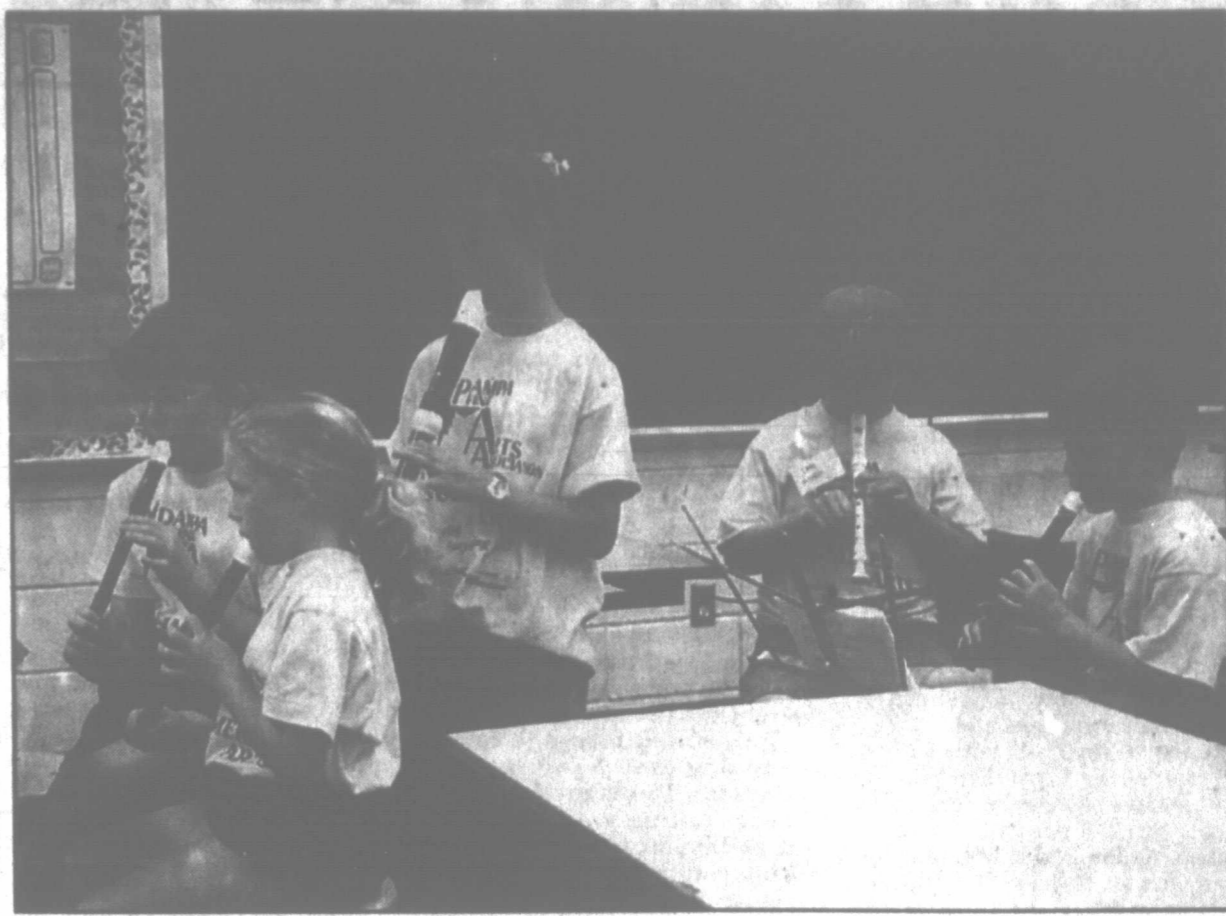
His arrival in Los Angeles aboard a freight car in 1937 was just another scene in the drama he lived every day.

gallons of wine," he recalled years later. "They called me over, gave me some wine and told me how to get out of the yards. I thought, 'Jeez, a welcoming party for the bums! This is home!'"

He was born Robert Charles Duran Mitchum on Aug. 6, 1917, in Bridgeport, Conn.

In 1937, Mitchum headed for Long Beach and became involved in local theater at the urging of his sister Julie. In 1940, he married his childhood sweetheart, Dorothy Spence.

Fine arts seminar



(Pampa News photo by Dharma F. Dandridge)

Students participating in fine arts classes got the chance to learn storytelling, music, drawing and pottery during last week's fine arts seminar. Jackie Gerber, Breanna Bigham, Mary Alice Warner, Ian Kissell and Kasey Trimble practiced with their recorders Friday before the open house for their parents.

DPS offers 4th of July safety tips

AMARILLO — Independence Day is one of the most celebrated holidays in the United States. Trooper L.B. Snider, public information officer for the Texas Department of Public Safety, states this should be a time to remember and celebrate, but for too many it will be a time of senseless tragedy because of driving errors.

"Motor vehicle accidents have claimed more lives than all our military conflicts combined," says Snider. "Military people have sacrificed their lives to gain and preserve safeguards for the freedoms of our nation, which earns them honor."

Snider asks, "Where does one find honor with dying in a traffic accident?"

"Four factors contribute to many of these deadly accidents," says Snider.

The deadly four are: fatigue, alcohol, speed and tempers/attitudes.

Fatigue entombs those who try to travel too far without adequate rest. Alcohol and other drugs often cause drivers to believe they have great driving abilities, when, in fact, they slow the driver's reactions and cripple needed driving skills.

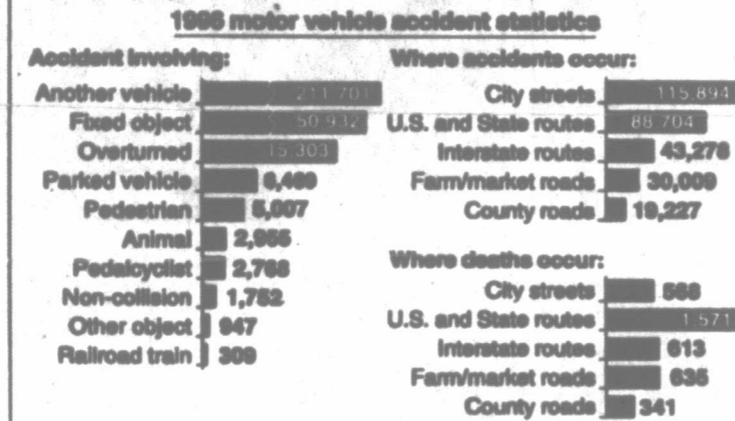
Speed can be considered as the urge to drive faster than we can afford to crash, he said, while uncontrolled tempers and attitudes cause many drivers to react incautiously.

"Any one of these factors is dangerous," states Snider, "yet when we combine them, it magnifies the likelihood of a deadly collision." Trooper Snider reassures,

Keeping an eye on Texas

Driving on the 4th? Return home safely

Summer vacations in Texas include trips to beaches, parks and family outings, and returning home safely. More than 298,000 accidents occurred on Texas streets, roads and highways in 1996, with 3,738 fatalities—people who didn't make it home. Please, drive with care.



"There is no honor in these deaths and they are needless."

Snider reminds motorists that all available DPS troopers along with officers from local agencies will be on duty this holiday looking for drivers affected by fatigue, alcohol, speed and tempers, as well as other dangerous factors. These troopers and officers will also be on the lookout for stranded motorists.

Snider says that even with the increased coverage there are not enough officers to be on each stretch of road; however, motorists with mobile/cellular phones who come upon errant drivers or

stranded motorists may call toll free 1-800-525-5555.

When calling this toll free number, motorists are asked to give reasonable location information such as road number/name, approximate distance from a nearby town and what type of assistance is needed. However, if the call is urgent, motorists may opt to dial 911.

Trooper Snider again asks motorists to steer clear of the deadly factors and use their best driving attitudes and skills to cut down the needless deaths on our road this Independence Day.

World briefs

Tanker dumps 3.9 million gallons of oil near Japan

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP) — A supertanker ran aground today and dumped an estimated 3.9 million gallons of crude oil in Tokyo Bay, the worst spill in Japanese history.

Authorities feared that a spark could set the 3 1/2-mile-wide slick on fire. A dozen coast guard boats patrolled the fouled bay, warning fishermen to keep their distance and avoid using cigarette lighters or matches.

The spill released noxious fumes that sickened more than a dozen people on shore, mostly children.

The 147,012-ton, Panamanian-registered Diamond Grace ran aground about 22 miles south-east of Tokyo, less than four miles off Yokohama. Officials said the oil apparently had stopped leaking by noon, about 1 1/2 hours after the accident.

By nightfall, the tanker had been dislodged with the help of two tugboats and was moving under its own power to nearby Kawasaki, where its remaining oil was to be removed.

"This is the worst oil spill Japan has ever experienced," Transportation Minister Makoto Koga said.

The slick was drifting north toward Tokyo, having moved about six miles from the accident site by late afternoon.

Yeltsin fires justice minister following scandal

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin sacked his justice minister today, less than two weeks after the emergence of a videotape that appeared to show the minister in a sauna with several nude women.

The furor surrounding ousted Justice Minister Valentin Kovalyov has been a novelty in Russia, where corruption cases are routine but political sex scandals are extremely rare.

The grainy videotape, which has been shown frequently on Russian television, appears to show the minister, along with a group of naked women, in a sauna allegedly frequented by one of the country's most notorious mafia gangs.

Yeltsin's decree dismissed Kovalyov and gave the post to Lt. Gen. Sergei Stepashin, former chief of the Federal Security Service, the main successor agency to the KGB.

Kovalyov had been suspended since June 21, when the scandal erupted. A Moscow tabloid newspaper broke the story by publishing photos from the tape. The newspaper, *Top Secret*, also

suggested that Kovalyov had ties to a banker jailed on suspicion of embezzling millions of dollars.

Magazine publishes photo of beheading suspect

TOKYO (AP) — Breaking with Japanese media tradition, a Tokyo magazine published a photograph today of the junior high school boy who confessed to the beheading of a younger boy. Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto harshly criticized the magazine, *Focus*, which is known for sensational articles and risqué photographs.

It was unclear whether the magazine violated any laws, but the move was highly unusual in Japan, where media traditionally honor police requests to keep information about juvenile suspects private.

Japanese law prohibits publishing names and photographs of minors charged with or convicted of a crime. The suspect in this case has not yet been charged.

Police arrested the 14-year-old Saturday after he confessed to killing eleven-year-old Jun Hase and leaving his severed head at the entrance gate of a junior high school on May 27.

Frank Phillips names new director

BORGER — Micah Dial is the new director of institutional research at Frank Phillips College.

During a recent visit by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the importance of creating a position dedicated to college-wide research and analysis was stressed.

Institutional research is an essential component of any institution's planning cycle, and in this position, Dial will support many of the college's offices by evaluating and implementing data collecting systems. He will also assist college faculty, staff and administrators in preparing for the upcoming accreditation visit by the Southern

Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dial comes to Borger from the Houston area. He has served as an educational consultant in research and evaluation for the Houston Independent School District and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and is a partner in Evaluation and Data Analysis Service Inc.

Phone leads to arrest

HOUSTON (AP) — A 25-year-old man has been sentenced to 70 years in prison for raping a ten-year-old girl as her parents slept down the hall.

Derrick Mark Gailles and a friend broke into a house and found the girl on the bottom of a bunk bed with her younger sister asleep on the top. Prosecutors said they warned her that they'd kill the whole family if she cried or screamed. Then they raped her.

Gailles must serve 30 years before he'll be eligible for parole.

Prosecutors said although the men broke into the house with the intention of burglarizing it, they left with only a cellular phone.

That led to their downfall.

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 Jim's Hardware Shop
 274-2370
 512 N. Main • Borger, Texas

DEPENDABILITY
 an important word when you need a prescription after hours

B & B PHARMACY
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Dennis Roark
 Pharmacist

FISH Now is the time for Pond & Lake Stocking of Hybrid Bluegill, Florida Hybrid Bass, Channel Catfish, Fathead Minnows and Triploid Grass Carp. Permit Required For Triploid Grass Carp.

The Hybrid Bluegill can REACH the weight of 2 1/2 to 3 lbs. We furnish your Hauling Containers. We guarantee live delivery. Supplies, Spawning Mats, Turtle Traps, Fish Traps, Liquid Fertilizer, Pond and Lake Surveys and Gift Certificates. Delivery will be Sat., July 12, at the times listed for the following towns and locations.

- Spearman - Spearman Equity • 659-2420 • 7:00-8:00 a.m.
- Borger - TNT • 273-9773 • 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- Pampa - Watson's Feed & Garden • 665-4189 • 11:00-12:00 noon
- Canadian - Canadian Equity Coop • 323-6428 • 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- Briscoe - County line Coop • 375-2321 • 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- Shamrock - C-H Supply • 256-2124 • 5:00-6:00 p.m.

To Place Your Order Call: 405-777-2202 • Toll Free 1-800-433-2950 • FAX 405-777-2899 Or Contact Your Local Feed Dealer. Fishery Consultants Available. Discounts And Free Delivery Are Available On Larger Orders.

DUNN'S FISH FARM, INC.
 P.O. Box 85, Fittstown, OK, 74842

When a group of people at Alamo Iron Works pitched in \$2 a week to play LOTTO Texas, something incredible happened. They all became millionaires.

Prize: \$18,430,863.37*

Winning Numbers: 4 12 14 21 49 50

Their System: 10 Quick Picks every Wednesday and Saturday.

First Phone Call: Bernie called Josie, Josie called Joe, Joe called Ted, Ted called Carlos, Carlos called Miguel, Miguel called Concepción and so on.

Best Part About Winning: "Being able to share this great moment with friends."

*Paid over 20 years.

ALAMO IRON WORKS WINNERS

LOTTO TEXAS

OVER 200 MILLIONAIRES AND STILL COUNTING

"The best thing about winning as a group is you have something in common."

(Yeah, about 18 million things in common.)

Pets Left Alone In Cars Are Thoughtlessly Endangered

DEAR ABBY: It's happening again! What is the matter with people? Year after year, pet owners leave their poor animals in hot cars. It is so hard for me to understand how they could be so lacking in common sense.

I'm enclosing a clipping from the Albany, N.Y., Times Union describing our first reported case. It was an 90-degree day and the poor dog was left in a closed car for 70 minutes!

I live near a tourist area, and every summer people visit the outlet malls and leave their dogs in the car with a window only slightly cracked. This infuriates me!

Please, Abby, tell your many readers to either leave their pets at home, or have one person remain in the car with the pet while the others shop. A simple rule of thumb is: If you can't sit in your car with the windows cracked for 5, 10 or 15 minutes because you're too hot, then so is your dog, who's wearing a fur coat. And remember, a day can be breezy and feel cool, but the sun is still very hot and can heat up a car in a matter of minutes.

Thanks, Abby, for helping to take care of these defenseless animals.

ALBANY, N.Y., ANIMAL LOVER

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: Thank you for a letter that may save some thoughtless pet owner a good deal of grief.

The Animal Protection Institute, P.O. Box 22505, Sacramento,

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

to, Calif. 95822, sells cards that can be placed under the windshield wipers on the cars of thoughtless pet owners.

The printed message reads: "Your dog may be dying! We understand you meant to be kind by taking your dog with you today, but you could be risking your pet's life."

"On a hot summer day, the inside of a car heats up very quickly. On an average 85-degree day, for example, the temperature inside your car — with the window slightly opened — will reach 102 degrees in 10 minutes. In 30 minutes it will go up to 120 degrees. On warmer days, it will go even higher."

"A dog's normal body temperature is 101.5 to 102.2 degrees Fahrenheit. A dog can withstand a body temperature of 107 to 108 degrees Fahrenheit for only a very short time before suffering irreparable brain damage — or even death. The

closed car interferes with the dog's normal cooling process, that is, evaporation through panting.

"If your dog is overcome by heat exhaustion, you can give immediate first aid by immersing him or her in cold water until the body temperature is lowered."

These cards sell for only \$3 per 100. Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery.

DEAR ABBY: Three years ago, my 58-year-old husband had a brief affair with his secretary. It was no secret; all the tongues in this little town were wagging a mile a minute.

Once, when I found a motel key in his coat pocket, he had the gall to tell me that he got tired of driving, so he checked into a motel to take a little nap. (Three miles from home!)

Well, last year he had some surgery that left him impotent, and since then, I couldn't ask for a more devoted husband. He sends me flowers, and phones if he knows he's going to be half an hour late. He even takes me on business trips, which he never did before.

Of course, I'm enjoying all this attention, Abby, but in your opinion, why has my husband turned over a new leaf?

WONDERING

DEAR WONDERING: Probably because there's not much left under the old one. Enjoy your good fortune.

Horoscope

Thursday, July 3, 1997

The wanderlust within you may be gratified in the year ahead in both your physical and mental realms. Exciting developments are likely the more you move around.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Satisfaction is probable today in matters in which you play a significant role. Be patient, because you may have to overcome some reticence by associates. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Friends and coworkers will appreciate you more if you

don't attempt to upstage them. Keep a low profile and make a move for the back burner today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A situation that worked out successfully for a friend can also work to your advantage today, provided that you abide by his or her techniques to the letter.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Major achievements are possible today, so do not be afraid to elevate your sights higher than usual. The challenge will enhance your desire to win.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Your ability to envision positive end results will enhance your effectiveness to achieve them. Make sure that you use them in conjunction with one another.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Something that could have a positive effect on your material well-being might swing in a favorable direction today. Do everything to maintain the momentum.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You may have to make a decision today that could have far-reaching effects. If you study all of your alternatives, your judgment will

reflect wisdom.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Today you might be a bit of a slow starter, but once you get moving, you'll discover that being industrious and consistent is more fun than goofing off.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You may come upon an opportunity today that draws you closer to someone you recently met and already like. If this occurs, focus on building bonds.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your ability to gage the wants and requirements of others is a constructive asset that can be used to your advantage today both socially and commercially.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You are better equipped in this cycle for mental pursuits than you are for physical ones. Use your skills to bring in bucks instead of building bulging muscles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) This can be a profitable day for you if you manage your resources sensibly and use your shrewdness for buying and selling. These assets blend for positive results.

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"Look! A centimeter worm!"



"He has to inspect everything new that comes into the house."

The Family Circus



Marmaduke



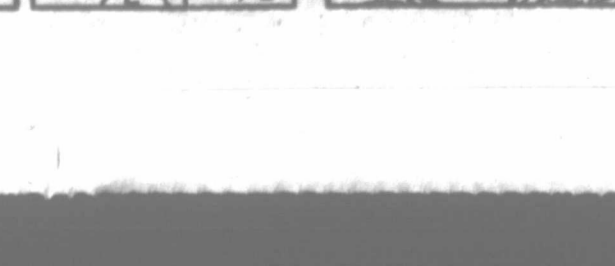
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



For Better or For Worse



Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



Eek & Mook



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore



SPORTS

Notebook SOCCER

PAMPA — The second annual Green Storm Rising Soccer Camp is set for July 28-Aug. 1 at the Pampa Soccer Association fields.

The camp is open to any boy or girl that is U-6 through U-19 years of age. Proceeds benefit both the Pampa Soccer Association and Pampa High School boys' soccer program.

Camp tuition is \$65 for U-8 through U-19 and \$35 for U-6. A deposit of \$35 (U-8-19) and \$20 (U-6) is needed by July 15.

The camp will be headed by PHS boys' coach Warren Cottle, who has 22 years of playing and coaching experience. He has a USSF "D" coaching license. Former San Angelo State University men's coach Randy Swick and current Angelo State player Ronnie Kister will also be instructing. Swick has been involved in coaching for 36 years either as a player or coach. Kister has been playing soccer for 17 years and has a USSF "D" coaching license. They will be assisted by members of the Pampa boys' soccer team. Other coaches will be brought in as needed.

Camp features include a special camp t-shirt, awards, evaluations, training games and techniques of the game.

Call 665-3333 for further information.

TRACK

AUSTIN — Canadian's Denise Lee, the Class 2A state champion in the 1600 meters, has been named to the 1997 cross country-track all-star team by the Texas Girls Coaches Association. Members of the team will participate in a cross country-track demonstration July 11 at the TGCA coaches clinic in Austin. They will be honored at halftime of the all-star basketball game that night.

Lee, who will run at South Plains College in Levelland this fall, helped the Lady Wildcats to the Class 2A state track championship in May. She won the 1600 in 5 minutes, 20.58 seconds and ran a leg on the 1600 relay, which finished fifth. Last fall, she was third at the state cross country meet.

RODEO

HIGH RIVER, Alberta — Four-time National Finals Rodeo steer wrestling qualifier and two-time Canadian steer wrestling champion Lee Laskosky of Viking, Alberta, dislocated and fractured his left wrist in three places while competing at the Guy Weadick Memorial Rodeo, June 21-22 in High River, Alberta.

Laskosky, 39, underwent surgery and is expected to be out of competition for eight weeks.

TENNIS

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Tim Henman, buoyed by a rollicking Centre Court crowd, ousted defending champion Richard Krajicek today, putting two British men in the quarterfinals for the first time in 36 years.

In a match that had been suspended Tuesday after three sets, Henman picked up where he left off and completed a 7-6 (9-7), 6-7 (7-9), 7-6 (7-5), 6-4 victory.

He needed 36 minutes today to join fellow Brit Greg Rusedski in the quarterfinals. It's the first time two British men have reached the final eight since Mike Sangster and Bobby Wilson in 1961.

Henman is the first British player to beat the defending Wimbledon champion since Roger Taylor downed Rod Laver in the fourth round in 1970.

"I'd say today, for the sustained quality of tennis, this is the best I've ever played," said Henman, who also reached the quarterfinals last year. "Playing the Wimbledon champion you have to play pretty well."

In a country desperate for its first men's champion in 61 years, Henman has generated huge support from the Wimbledon crowds.

Optimist girls to meet Dumas for District crown

CANADIAN — The Pampa Optimist Club Girls' 9-10 year-old all-star softball team won the Area championship Tuesday night with a 17-7 win over Spearman in a game that was called in the fourth inning because of the 10-run rule.

Spearman scored two runs in the first inning and held Pampa scoreless. It was the first time the Pampa All-Stars had trailed in the tournament.

In the top of the second inning, Spearman scored four runs and led 6-0 before Pampa erupted for seven runs in the bottom of the inning. The inning saw Pampa send 11 batters to the plate, including a base on balls, a stolen base, a run scored and an RBI single by Amy Youree; an RBI single and a run scored by Autumn Schaub; an RBI single, a stolen base and a run scored by Ashlee Lucas; a base on ball and a run scored by Morgan Meharg; an RBI single and run scored by Jenny Rogers; an RBI single, stolen base and run scored by Teryn Garner; a two-run ground rule double, stolen base and a run scored by Skye Niccum.

Spearman failed to score in the third inning due in part by a line drive snared by Pampa's second baseman Schaub and two putouts by the pitcher Rogers.

Pampa added two runs in the third inning on a single, stolen base and run scored by Jackie Gerber; an RBI single and run scored by Meharg, and an RBI single by Jaclyn Spearman.

In the top of the fourth inning, Spearman closed the Pampa lead to 9-7 by scoring a run on two hits. Pampa ended the game in the last half of the inning with base on balls and runs scored by Niccum, Youree, Schaub, Gerber, Lindsey Dyer and Meharg; singles and runs scored by Rogers and Garner; and Niccum's second ground rule double of the game.

Each member of the Pampa All-Stars displayed extraordinary effort and remarkable team spirit, according to their coaches.

SOFTBALL

Noteworthy performances included Jenny Rogers, complete game pitching win; Jaclyn Spearman, catching the entire game with the temperature near 100 degrees, and the defensive star of game one, Raeanna Cowan, unable to play because of a broken nose suffered during practice on Monday, assisting the coaches and team any way she could.

Pampa plays Dumas for the District championship, beginning Monday at 4 p.m. in Canadian.

This will be the best 2 out of 3 series with the second game scheduled for Tuesday at 7 p.m., and if necessary, the third game Wednesday at 7 p.m.

"The drive is short, admission is free and the entertainment is grand, so go to Canadian Monday evening and support these young ladies," said coach James Schaub.

WHEELER — After losing their first game, the Pampa 11-12 year-old all-star team came back to defeat Eastern Panhandle, 26-6, in the Area Girls' Softball Tournament last weekend.

Stephanie Clark had two home runs and a triple to lead Pampa's hitting attack. Chelsea Davis had a triple and Hollie Gattis a double for the other extra-base hits.

The game was called after five innings due to the 10-run rule.

Winning pitcher was Lindsey Ledbetter, who struck out eight and walked two in four innings. Karissa Intemann came in and pitched one inning, striking out two and walking three.

Stephani Goldsmith had an outstanding defensive game, catching three flyballs.

Pampa lost its opening game to Spearman, 16-6.

On Tuesday night, Pampa was eliminated from further tournament action by Spearman.

McCarty-Hull team



(Special photo)

McCarty-Hull posted an 8-1-1 record to win the Major League softball title this year. Team members are (front row, l-r) Morgan Meharg, Kendall Stokes, Raeanna Cowan, Teryn Stowers, Stefani Goldsmith, Hollie Gattis, Krissy Holman, April Amador and Sam Conner; (middle row, l-r) Jessica White, Megan Shannon, Nikki Brown, Tamra Henthorn, Karissa Intemann and Skye Niccum. Coaches are (l-r) Teresa Gattis, Kim Goldsmith and Ace Amador. The Major League is for girls' 9-10 years of age.

Dodgers turn back Rangers, 6-3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eric Karros and Mike Piazza have provided the Los Angeles Dodgers with quite a 1-2 punch since the beginning of June. Unfortunately, it hasn't done them much good.

"Mike and I had about as good a month as we're going to have, and I think we were below .500," Karros said after hitting two homers to lead the Dodgers to a 6-3 victory over the Texas Rangers on Tuesday night, getting July off to a good start.

"It takes 25 guys, not one or two. You win as a group and you lose as a group."

The Dodgers were 13-16 in June and haven't been above the .500 mark since June 1. Now, they're 40-42 with five games remaining before the All-Star break. They

begin a two-game series at Anaheim tonight.

"I'm just glad to win a game, that's all," Karros said. "Wins have been few and far between. We knew the other (NL West) teams had lost, so we gained some ground. That's the important thing."

The Dodgers entered the game having lost six of their previous nine outings.

Karros, who had a total of 66 homers during the last two seasons, hit nine in June and has driven in 33 runs in his last 37 games.

Piazza hit 431 in June and also had nine homers as well as 25 RBIs and a major league-leading 47 hits.

"I've been swinging the bat well since June 1," Karros said. "Things have been going well for me. I just got in some bad habits. I watched

some tapes, I was able to make an adjustment."

Karros homered twice in a game for the second time this season. The first also was in an interleague game, at Seattle on June 14.

"I'm sure if we had played interleague games in May, I wouldn't have gotten any hits," he said.

Karros' second homer of the game and 18th of the season after Piazza's ground-rule double in the sixth put the Dodgers on top 4-3.

Raul Mondesi hit his 17th homer two pitches later to knock loser Julio Santana (3-4) out of the game.

Winner Darren Dreifort (3-0), pitching in relief of Tom Candiotti, blanked the Rangers on two hits for three innings before Todd Worrell worked a scoreless ninth for his 17th save.

Cowboys' Haley ready to retire

STRAFFORD, Mo. (AP) — While the Dallas Cowboys are preparing for training camp, defensive end Charles Haley is getting ready to retire.

Haley, a winner of five Super Bowls, said Tuesday he will make his retirement official before the start of the season because of back injuries.

"Nah, I'm not playing," he said before taking part in a tribute to Pat Jones, father of team owner Jerry Jones, at a tourist attraction in southwest Missouri.

Asked when it would be official, the 33-year-old defensive end said: "The boss has to tell me."

"Something has to be done," Haley said. "I think they have a game plan for me, they just probably haven't told me."

The boss, Jerry Jones, refused to confirm Haley's decision.

"We have not had a meeting," Jones said Tuesday. "There's no doubt in my mind he could go out there and play a few games. But it would probably get him some back surgery, too."

"And that's something Haley would like to avoid."

Haley, described Tuesday by coach Barry Switzer as "the greatest defensive rushing end in pro football," has had three back operations in four years, forcing him to miss 16 games.

He is signed through 1999 and could save the Cowboys \$2 million in base salary if he retires. When pressed about his retirement during a news conference, Haley stammered until teammate Herschel Walker interjected, "He's just old."

No matter his future status, Tuesday he was still a Cowboy when he joined Jones, Switzer, Walker, two cheerleaders and 150 well-wishers in a tribute to Jones' father.



(Pampa News photo)

John Braddock of the Pampa 11-12 all-stars waits his turn to bat during practice Tuesday at Optimist Park.

Los Angeles catcher leads National League voting

By RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Piazza was the top-getter for the National League All-Star team, and Tony Gwynn was picked for the game for the 13th time.

The Los Angeles Dodgers catcher received 2,626,213 votes in final totals released Tuesday, nearly 888,127 behind the AL's leader, Seattle outfielder Ken Griffey Jr.

Piazza, the MVP of last year's All-Star game, will be appearing for the fifth consecutive year, his fourth straight as a starter.

Also elected to the NL infield for the July 8 game at Cleveland were Houston first baseman Jeff Bagwell (1,494,752), Astros second baseman Craig Biggio (1,161,610), Cincinnati shortstop Barry Larkin (1,160,651) and San Diego third baseman Ken Caminiti (1,438,736).

Larkin, selected for the ninth time in 10 years, will miss his third All-Star game because of an injury.

He strained his left calf June 16 and won't resume workouts until this weekend.

Atlanta's Kenny Lofton (2,174,613), Colorado's Larry Walker (1,732,886) and Gwynn

(1,603,730) were elected to the outfield. Lofton, an AL starter the past three seasons when he was with the Indians, is disabled because of a pulled left groin muscle but is eligible to be activated Friday.

Gwynn, San Diego's seven-time NL batting champion, overtook San Francisco's Barry Bonds in the final week of voting to win the third outfield spot by 44,417, the smallest victory margin of any starter. He will be on the NL team for the ninth straight season, but missed last year's game because of injury.

Biggio will be on the team for the sixth time in seven years.

Bagwell and Caminiti will be making their third appearances, while Walker will be making his second with the first in 1992.

Caminiti gets a \$50,000 bonus, while Bagwell, Biggio, Lofton and Walker get \$25,000 each. In addition, Bagwell gets a no-trade clause from the Astros for 1998 because he was elected.

Griffey, who got \$50,000 for his election to the AL team, gets an additional \$50,000 because he was the top vote-getter among all players.

The AL starters were announced Monday and reserves for both teams will be announced Wednesday.

Major League Standings

National League				Pittsburgh 3, Chicago White Sox 0				Monday's Games			
At A Glance				Cincinnati 8, Milwaukee 1				Chicago Cubs 8, Kansas City 7			
All Times EDT				Atlanta 3, N.Y. Yankees 1				Montreal 2, Toronto 1			
East Division				Baltimore 4, Philadelphia 1				Detroit 14, N.Y. Mets 0			
W	L	Pct.	GB	St. Louis 2, Minnesota 0	Florida 8, Boston 5	St. Louis 2, Minnesota 1	St. Louis 2, Minnesota 1				
Atlanta	53	29	.646	Cleveland 8, Houston 9 <td>Baltimore 8, Philadelphia 1 <td>Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3 <td>Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3 </td></td></td>	Baltimore 8, Philadelphia 1 <td>Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3 <td>Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3 </td></td>	Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3 <td>Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3 </td>	Cincinnati 4, Milwaukee 3				
Florida	48	33	.593	Los Angeles 6, Texas 3 <td>N.Y. Yankees 1, Atlanta 0, 10 Innings <td>Cleveland 8, Houston 4 <td>Cleveland 8, Houston 4 </td></td></td>	N.Y. Yankees 1, Atlanta 0, 10 Innings <td>Cleveland 8, Houston 4 <td>Cleveland 8, Houston 4 </td></td>	Cleveland 8, Houston 4 <td>Cleveland 8, Houston 4 </td>	Cleveland 8, Houston 4				
Montreal	45	35	.562	American League				San Francisco 8, Seattle 6, 10 Innings			
New York	45	35	.562	At A Glance				Pittsburgh 3, Chicago White Sox 1			
Philadelphia	23	57	.288	East Division				Texas 3, Los Angeles 2			
Central Division				W	L	Pct.	GB	Colorado 11, Anaheim 7			
St. Louis	40	41	.494	Baltimore	62	27	.698	San Diego 15, Oakland 8			
Houston	40	43	.482	New York	46	34	.575	San Francisco 8, Seattle 6, 10 Innings			
Pittsburgh	38	43	.469	Toronto	37	41	.474				
Cincinnati	35	48	.422	Detroit	37	42	.468				
Chicago	33	49	.402	Boston	37	44	.457				
West Division				W	L	Pct.	GB	Tuesday's Games			
San Francisco	47	35	.573	Cleveland	41	35	.539	Montreal 2, Toronto 1 <td>Chicago Cubs 8, Kansas City 1 </td>	Chicago Cubs 8, Kansas City 1		
Colorado	43	40	.518	Chicago	40	40	.500	Anaheim 4, Colorado 1 <td>Oakland 8, San Diego 6 </td>	Oakland 8, San Diego 6		
Los Angeles	40	42	.488	Milwaukee	37	41	.474	Seattle 15, San Francisco 4 <td>Detroit 8, N.Y. Mets 6 </td>	Detroit 8, N.Y. Mets 6		
San Diego	36	46	.439	Kansas City	36	42	.461	Boston 9, Florida 2 <td>Pittsburgh 3, Chicago White Sox 0 </td>	Pittsburgh 3, Chicago White Sox 0		
Tuesday's Games				W	L	Pct.	GB	Cincinnati 8, Milwaukee 1 <td>Atlanta 3, N.Y. Yankees 1 </td>	Atlanta 3, N.Y. Yankees 1		
Montreal 2, Toronto 1	Chicago Cubs 8, Kansas City 1	Anaheim 4, Colorado 1	Oakland 8, San Diego 6	Seattle	48	34	.585	Baltimore 4, Philadelphia 1 <td>St. Louis 2, Minnesota 0 </td>	St. Louis 2, Minnesota 0		
Cleveland 8, Houston 9	San Francisco 8, Seattle 6, 10 Innings	Detroit 8, N.Y. Mets 6	Boston 9, Florida 2	Oakland	35	46	.437	Cleveland 8, Houston 9	Los Angeles 6, Texas 3		

Indians bounce back to beat Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — When the Houston Astros scored five runs in the fifth inning, the Cleveland Indians were doing their best to just survive.

"I was just thinking, let's get some outs and get out of this thing," Indians manager Mike Hargrove said. "Things like that tend to snowball. One bad thing happens and then another and pretty soon you're going to get out of it. We were fortunate to get out of it with five runs."

The Astros scored three runs on an inside-the-park homer by Tim Bogar, and added two more on an error by shortstop Omar Vizquel and a wild pitch by Eric Plunk to take a 6-3 lead.

But in the seventh, Sandy Alomar got a hit for the 27th straight game and Matt Williams and Tony Fernandez, each had two-run hits, as the Indians rallied for an 8-6 victory Tuesday night.

Alomar's 27-game streak tied John Flaherty for the second-longest hitting streak for a catcher in major league history. Benito Santiago set the record of 34 in 1987 with San Diego, and Flaherty had his 27-game streak last season for the Padres.

"Streaks are just things that happen, if you're on a streak, you just manage to get a hit," Alomar said. "It helps. When you're 0-and-3 and coming to the plate and you know it's your last chance, it really makes you bear down."

The Astros' big inning started when Bogar hit a line drive down the right-field line that rolled under the bullpen bench. Indians outfielder Manny Ramirez believed it was a ground-rule double, and Bogar circled the bases for an inside-the-park homer.

"You're supposed to know standard procedure at any ballpark you find out the ground rules," Hargrove said. "Usually when the ball gets buried under the bench it's a dead ball but here it's not and we should have known that."

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'Face/Off' strong-arms 'Hercules' at box office

By JOHN HORN
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — *Hercules* failed in its effort to be the box office strongman over the weekend as the action-packed *Face/Off* edged the latest animated Disney film for the No. 1 position.

Face/Off, starring John Travolta and Nicolas Cage, opened with \$23.4 million in ticket sales. *Hercules* took in \$21.5 million for second place, according to figures released Monday.

The national release of *Hercules* fared only slightly better than last year's *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, which made \$21 million. It trailed the debuts of Disney hits *The Lion King* and *Pocahontas*.

Meanwhile, *Batman and Robin* slipped 63 percent in its second weekend for a take of \$15.7 million.

Another action movie sequel, *Speed 2: Cruise Control*, slumped some 46 percent in its third week. The \$120 million picture may fail to gross even \$50 million.

My Best Friend's Wedding, a romantic comedy starring Julia Roberts, was in a relatively strong fourth place, while *Ulee's Gold* was popular in limited release.

The top 20 movies at North

BOX OFFICE	
Top weekend movies	
Weekend of June 27 - 29, 1997	
All dollar figures in millions	
Rank	Weekend gross
1	Face/Off \$23.4, two weeks, 2,821 screens
2	Hercules \$21.5, two weeks, 2,872 screens
3	Batman and Robin \$15.7, two weeks, 2,942 screens
4	My Best Friend's Wedding \$15.0, two weeks, 2,134 screens
5	Con Air \$12.5, four weeks, 2,564 screens
6	The Lost World: Jurassic Park \$12.2, six weeks, 2,607 screens
7	Speed 2: Cruise Control \$11.8, three weeks, 2,438 screens
8	Liar Liar \$11.7, six weeks, 960 screens
9	Austin Powers \$10.0, nine weeks, 993 screens
10	Gone Fishin' \$17.4, five weeks, 851 screens

Source: Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. AP

American theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by studio, gross, number of theater locations, receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks

in release, as compiled Monday by Entertainment Data Inc. and Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.

- Face/Off*, Paramount, \$23.4 million, 2,821 locations, \$8,923 average, \$23.4 million, one week.
- Hercules*, Disney, \$21.5 million, 2,872 locations, \$7,470 average, \$23.7 million, three weeks.
- Batman and Robin*, Warner Bros., \$15.7 million, 2,942 locations, \$5,349 average, \$75.2 million, two weeks.
- My Best Friend's Wedding*, TriStar, \$15 million, 2,134 locations, \$7,037 average, \$49.2 million, two weeks.
- Con Air*, Disney, \$12.5 million, 2,564 locations, \$2,301 average, \$78.5 million, four weeks.
- The Lost World: Jurassic Park*, Universal, \$12.2 million, 2,607 locations, \$1,740 average, \$213.2 million, six weeks.
- Speed 2: Cruise Control*, Fox, \$11.8 million, 2,438 locations, \$1,528 average, \$38.1 million, three weeks.
- Liar Liar*, Universal, \$11.7 million, 960 locations, \$1,330 average, \$172.9 million, 15 weeks.
- Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery*, New Line, \$10 million, 993 locations, \$676 average, \$50 million, nine weeks.
- Gone Fishin'*, Disney, \$17.4 million, 851 locations, \$744 average, \$17.4 million, five weeks.
- Ulee's Gold*, Orion, \$603,000, 103 locations, \$5,857 average, \$1.2 million, three weeks.
- The Fifth Element*, Columbia, \$372,000, 662 locations, \$562 average, \$60.7 million, eight weeks.
- Jungle 2 Jungle*, Disney, \$351,000, 472 locations, \$744 average, \$57.9 million, 17 weeks.
- Chasing Amy*, Miramax, \$348,000, 366 locations, \$950 average, \$10.3 million, 13 weeks.
- Addicted to Love*, Warner Bros., \$342,000, 555 locations, \$616 average, \$33.4 million, six weeks.
- Brassed Off*, Miramax, \$318,000, 231 locations, \$1,377 average, \$1.3 million, six weeks.
- Father's Day*, Warner Bros., \$290,000, 610 locations, \$475 average, \$28.3 million, eight weeks.
- Volcano*, Fox, \$289,000, 482 locations, \$600 average, \$46.7 million, 10 weeks.
- Gross Pointe Blank*, Disney, \$225,000, 371 locations, \$606 average, \$27.2 million, 12 weeks.
- Anaconda*, Columbia, \$206,000, 200 locations, \$1,028 average, \$61.6 million, 12 weeks.

Nation briefs

Report: Aberdeen battalion commander suspended

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. (AP) — The Army commander who oversaw the training of seven drill sergeants charged with sexual misconduct has been suspended, *The (Baltimore) Sun* reported today.

Lt. Col. Martin T. Utzig, a 20-year Army veteran, was suspended as the Army Inspector General prepared to release a report critical of commanders at the Ordnance Center, a post spokesman told the newspaper.

"As far as we know, it's an administrative action, not judicial in nature. There are no (criminal) charges that we know of," said Ed Starnes, a spokesman at the Ordnance Center, about 20 miles north of Baltimore.

Utzig, 41, has been commanding officer of the Ordnance Center and School's 143rd Ordnance Battalion since July 1995. Utzig didn't immediately return telephone calls seeking comment.

Among those in his battalion was Delmar Simpson, who in April was convicted of raping six women and became the first Aberdeen drill sergeant to be convicted of rape in a sex scandal that has spread to U.S. military bases worldwide.

Abortion-rights group to give out abortion pill

NEW YORK (AP) — A small abortion-rights group is planning to make the abortion pill available for free to 10,000 U.S. women in research trials as a stopgap measure until the drug can be distributed nationally, *The New York Times* reported today.

Lawrence Lader, president of the New York-based Abortion Rights Mobilization, will announce the plan today, the *Times* said.

The group already provided the drug, mifepristone, to 1,000 women in clinical trials in Rochester, N.Y., Bellevue, Neb., Burlington, Vt., Kalispell, Mont., New York, San Francisco and Seattle.

With new funding from the John Merck Fund, the nonprofit group plans to announce additional sites in New York, Texas, Maryland and Florida.

California releases computer database on sex criminals

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Donald Balch stopped by the sheriff's office to access a new database that tells him if any sex offenders live in his La Jolla neighborhood.

"When I pulled up my zip code, there were 98 people on it," said Balch, the father of a four-year-old girl and four-month-old boy. "I was a little surprised."

California made detailed information on 64,000 criminals available to the public Tuesday on CD-ROMs designed to give just the sort of information obtained by Balch to Californians everywhere.

The state's compilation of the CD-ROM is one of the most aggressive attempts yet to keep people informed of sex offenders in their midst. It is part of the wave of state and federal laws that fol-

lowed the 1994 rape and murder of seven-year-old Megan Kanka by a repeat sex offender living in her Hamilton Township, N.J., neighborhood.

Fast-moving fire chars 1,500 acres

AZUSA, Calif. (AP) — A fast-moving fire charred 1,500 acres of brush in the foothills of Southern California's San Gabriel Mountains, injuring four people and destroying two homes and two outbuildings.

The blaze Tuesday was caused by a private landowner clearing vegetation with a weed-wacker, which could have hit a rock and possibly produced a spark that ignited the fire in the dry brush, U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Linda Christian said.

Aided by seven air tankers and six helicopters, more than 600 firefighters attacked the blaze 25 miles east of Los Angeles. It was moving toward an area that burned last year, which officials hoped would slow the fire down and make containment easier.

Astronauts to complete mission

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Columbia's astronauts picked up where their aborted mission left off three months ago, today conducting a variety of experiments, including some on how flames spread in weightlessness.

The space shuttle and the same crew of seven that flew in April lifted off Tuesday afternoon despite a slim chance of acceptable weather. Although it rained at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida 1 1/2 hours before the scheduled launch, the sky cleared and Columbia took off just twelve minutes late.

NASA hopes this time the astronauts will be able to complete all of the fire, plant, crystal and metal experiments, worth a total of \$100 million and considered precursors for the future international space station.

"It's good to be back," Janice Voss, the astronaut in charge of the 33 examinations, said as she opened the shuttle labora-

tory within hours of liftoff.

The astronauts didn't get very far in conducting the experiments on their first flight, which was shortened from 16 days to four because of a faulty generator. Before their trip home on April 8, they were able to ignite only 14 of 142 fires they were supposed to set to see how flames spread in weightlessness.

On this flight, Columbia's four scientists are to ignite 144 small fires in closed chambers using hot wires and fuels. The need for such research was highlighted by a dangerous fire aboard Russia's Mir space station in February.

Also during this mission, which will cost NASA between \$60 million and \$70 million, the astronauts will run tests on about 50 spinach, clover, sage and periwinkle plants. The results are intended to benefit future space travelers who would need to grow their own food to live on the moon or fly to Mars.



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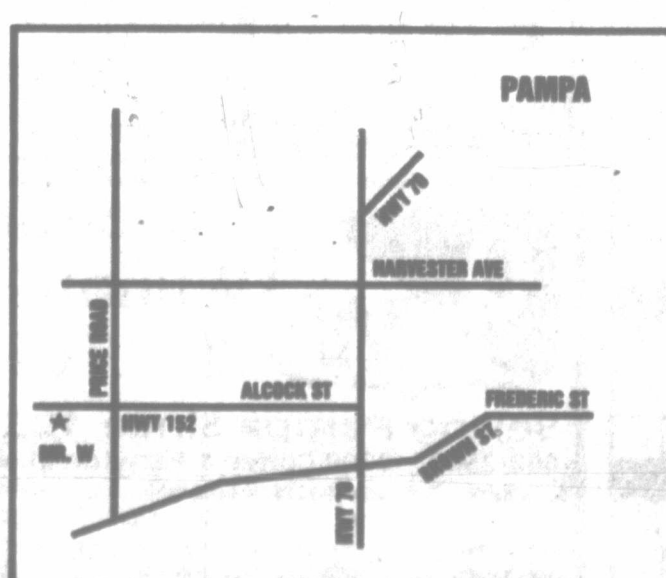
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