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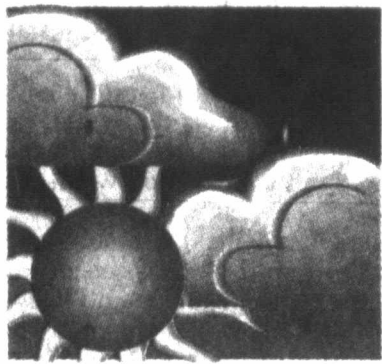
PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 90 NO: 94

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1997

PAMPA, TEXAS

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight 67.
High tomorrow mid 90s.
For weather details see
Page 2.

PAMPA - The Community Unity Organization will hold an end of summer barbecue and bake sale fund raiser on Saturday, July 26, at the South Side Senior Citizens Center.

The organization will sell sliced brisket sandwiches, potato salad a drink and all the fixings for \$4 dollars. Baked goods will be set up for sale on the side.

All proceeds go to the Mae Williams Community Center building.

PAMPA - A Craft Bazaar is set from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Aug. 16, at Church of the Nazarene.

The event, in the Family Life Center at Buckler and West, will benefit the Children's Ministry.

Crafters who would like to reserve a booth are asked to call Sharon Williams at 669-0176.

DALLAS (AP) - Cowboys players Michael Irvin and Erik Williams have settled their defamation lawsuit against a Dallas-Fort Worth television station.

A station official and Nova Bonnett, a secretary for the players' attorney Peter Ginsberg, confirmed the agreement, but would not disclose details of the settlement with KXAS reporter Marty Griffin and Lin Television Corp., parent company for KXAS.

"We have reached a resolution with Erik Williams and Michael Irvin," said Doug Adams, KXAS president and general manager, in a brief statement. "We are pleased with that, and the terms of agreement don't allow any further comment."

Dallas radio station KKDA quoted unidentified sources saying the settlement calls for the players to split a payment of at least \$2 million.

The defamation suit stemmed from the reporting of sexual assault allegations made against the two by Nina Shahravan. The former topless dancer told police that Irvin held a gun to her head while Williams and a third man raped her. Police cleared the players.

- Tim L. Epps, 39, lifelong Pampa resident
- Nellie M. Horton, 91, 20-year-employee of Osteopathic Hospital, Amarillo.
- Roxie A. Martin, 59, homemaker
- Dustin Rink, 17, Pampa High School student
- Ruby L. Smith, 84, former teacher in Skellytown

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Pampa teen, 17, dies after drinking methyl alcohol; others hospitalized

The toxic substance was mistaken for moonshine

By LAURA HALEY
Staff Writer

What started as an evening of "partying" by a group of young men has ended in tragedy with the death of a 17-year-old Pampa youth who drank from a container of methanol that he and several others mistook for moonshine.

Dustin Rink, 17, a Pampa High School student, died in an Amarillo hospital yesterday afternoon - two days after consuming the toxic chemical.

Rink, who had just completed his sophomore year, and four

other young men from the ages of 15 to 21 drank the deadly substance sometime Sunday evening, said Sgt. Terry Young with the Pampa Police Department.

According to police, the young men were "partying" and found the methyl alcohol, or methanol, in an unmarked cider jug stored in a tool shed of a relative of the 15-year-old. Apparently, because of the shape of the jug, the boys thought the substance was moonshine.

Methyl alcohol is a colorless, odorless and highly flammable

substance. Its intended use is as a fuel, oil field cleaning agent and de-icing agent. Because of its extremely flammable qualities, poison control centers warn methanol should not be used as a regular household cleaning agent or paint thinner.

In order for the group to make the methanol more palatable to consume, it was mixed with various soft drinks, including Surge, Dr. Pepper and Kool-Aid before it was drunk, officers said.

Police say they do not know how much methanol was in the container or how much was consumed by each of the five individuals, but three of them were admitted Monday afternoon and evening to an Amarillo hospital in critical and serious condition.

Rink was the first one hospital-

ized after his mother, Shannon Rink, returned home about 2:30 p.m. and found the teenager lying unconscious in his room, said police. She called an ambulance and Rink was taken to Columbia Medical Center emergency room in Pampa and was immediately taken in critical condition to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

Because family and medical personnel were baffled as to what was wrong with him, Pampa police officers went to Amarillo where they began questioning Rink's friends and relatives. Officers discovered through two friends, who were standing vigil at the hospital, what had occurred the previous night.

Later that evening after the

police left, the friends - Adam Scoggins, 18, and Richie Ivey, 16, - were admitted to the hospital after also exhibiting symptoms of poisoning. Scoggins remained in serious condition today and Ivey has been upgraded from serious to intermediate condition. Both are patients in the intensive care unit.

Officers returned to Pampa, went to the tool shed, retrieved the jug and identified its contents or former contents as methyl alcohol. The hospital was then notified as to the substance.

The 15-year-old, who is not being identified by police, has not exhibited symptoms. Another individual, aged either 20 or 21, is still being sought by police who are not clear on his

See PAMPA TEEN, Page 2

Horton interns in D.C.

By LAURA HALEY
Staff Writer

One young Pampa native is making waves in Washington, D.C., this summer.

J.B. Horton, son of Benny and Kerrick Horton of Pampa, is a summer intern for U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Tex. And, his parents couldn't be more proud.

"I think it's wonderful, and he's enjoying it a lot," said his mother, Kerrick while his father added, "We're real pleased that he has the opportunity to work with him (Thornberry). He's a very positive guy."

As for Horton, he is truly enjoying his experience in the nation's capital.

"I have learned so much already in the few days that I have been here and I know that I have a lot more to learn before I leave," he said.

Horton and his family drove to Washington, D.C., just days before his internship was to begin on July 7. They had the delight of watching fireworks celebrating America's most patriotic holiday from the capitol building steps. It was an experience Horton said he will never forget.

As an intern, Horton's duties include running errands, open-



J.B. Horton (left) and U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry in Washington, D.C., with the nation's capitol in the background.

ing and distributing office mail, researching legislative issues, sitting in on staff meetings, typing memos and letters, answering phones and attending committee briefings and hearings. During the two-

month internship, other duties will be added to Horton's list, including giving tours to visitors.

In addition to regular duties, Horton has also had the

See HORTON, Page 2

Unlabeled bottles pose big danger

By LAURA HALEY
Staff Writer

The death yesterday of a 17-year-old Pampa student who had mistaken methyl alcohol for moonshine has prompted authorities to warn teens and parents the dangers of leaving bottles unlabeled.

The young man, along with four friends, mixed the highly toxic substance with Surge, Dr. Pepper and Kool-Aid to make it more palatable. Police said they apparently found the substance in an unmarked cider jar in a relative's tool shed.

Although the relative had taken the time to scratch off the previous label before placing the toxic substance in the container, police are warning that sometimes that isn't enough. In an effort to keep such a tragedy from reoccurring in Pampa, police are asking parents to clearly relabel such materials as toxic.

And, in a message to teens, police are warning that even if a substance has a faint smell of alcohol, it doesn't necessarily mean it is

See UNLABELED, Page 2

Planned Parenthood challenges provision

AUSTIN (AP) - A state requirement for children to have parental consent before getting taxpayer-financed prescription drugs - including birth control pills - is being challenged in court by Planned Parenthood.

The provision was put into the state's 800-page, two-year budget by Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, who says it's good public policy.

Clinic workers say the provision violates teen-agers' right to confidential medical treatment; illegally restricts use of federal money; and violates the Texas Constitution because the state is not supposed to legislate through the budget measure.

"The real people that are going to be impacted are the minors in this state relying on these services for family planning," said Margo Clarke of Planned Parenthood of Austin.

Ogden said he believes the provision will survive the lawsuit, which was filed by Planned Parenthood's Houston office Monday in state district court in Austin.

"Texas taxpayers shouldn't pay for teen-agers who get contraceptives or other prescription medicine without their parents' knowledge," he said.

Tri-state tourney boosts economy

by MIRANDA BAILEY
Staff Writer

The Tri-State Senior Golf Association Tournament, one of the oldest tournaments of its kind in the country, is held in Pampa each year bringing in golfers from neighboring states including Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas. The event is very important to local merchants and Pampa's commerce, according to Nanette Moore, president of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

"It's a great week for Pampa," she said. The tournament includes several activities designed to allow the local retailers in town an opportunity to interact with the approximately 300 visitors who come into town.

Tuesday afternoon, the golf association hosted a luncheon and style show at the country club for wives of the golfers. Following the luncheon, Pampa retailers including Brown-Freeman Men's Wear, Kid's Stuff, Cuyler Street Store, Bealls, Images and VJ's Fashions and Gifts provided models showing their lines of clothing in a fashion show.

Retailers say the tournament really makes a difference for their

See TRI-STATE, Page 2



The Tri-State Senior Golf Association Tournament features bridge tournaments for the wives. From left, Margie Phillips, Bette Allbritten, Margaret Lodge and Jo Hefner get ready for the big game.

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ALL AROUND BAIL BONDS
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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

HORTON, Nellie M. — Graveside services, 4 p.m., Wheeler Cemetery, Wheeler.
SMITH, Ruby L. — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

Obituaries

TIM L. EPPS

Tim L. Epps, 39, of Pampa, died Monday, July 21, 1997. Services were today at 2 p.m. in Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Jack Lee, pastor of First Baptist Church of Shamrock, and the Rev. John Glover, associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Epps was born July 15, 1958, at Pampa and had been a lifelong Pampa resident, graduating from Pampa High School in 1976. He married Becky Taylor on June 16, 1993, at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. He was a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Becky, of the home; two sons, Chris Epps of Groom and Jerad Epps of Pampa and their mother, Leslie Smith, also of Pampa; two stepsons, Clint Ferguson of Weatherford and Cal Ferguson, of the home; parents, Lewis and Evelyn Epps of Pampa; two sisters, Barbara Crow and Della Moyer, both of Pampa; and a brother, Andy Epps of Plano.

The family requests memorials be to Shriners Burn Hospital, 815 Market Street, Galveston, TX 77550-2725; or to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, P.O. Box 190567, Dallas, TX 75219-0567.

NELLIE M. HORTON

WHEELER — Nellie M. Horton, 91, died Monday, July 21, 1997, at Amarillo. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Thursday in Wheeler Cemetery with the Rev. Toby Henson, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Horton was born Dec. 21, 1905, near Mangum, Okla. She married Dewey Logan Horton in 1938 at Wellington; he died in 1958. She was a cook at the Osteopathic Hospital in Amarillo for more than 20 years. She had been a Wheeler resident for 20 years, moving from Amarillo. She also had farmed and was a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include two sisters, Sallie B. Harris of Wheeler and Helen Ward of Houston; and two brothers, Gus Brock of Amarillo and Minor Lee Carson of Dallas.

ROXIE A. MARTIN

GALENA PARK — Roxie A. Martin, 59, daughter of a Pampa resident, died Tuesday, July 22, 1997. Local arrangements are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa. Funeral services are pending with Howard Glendale Funeral Home of Houston.

Mrs. Martin born Sept. 20, 1937, at Denton. She married Donald L. Martin on Dec. 8, 1959, at Denton. She had been a Galena Park resident for 37 years. She was a member of Galena Park Church of God.

Survivors include her husband, Donald, of the home; a daughter, Beverly Ayres of Galena Park; three sons, Edward Martin of Baytown, John Martin of Galena Park and Ben Martin of Deer Park; her mother, Bessie Kennedy of Pampa; four sisters, Jennie Conner and Georgia VonKanel, both of Pampa, Dorothy Morgan of Crowell and Venita Kennemer of Visalia, Calif.; three brothers, Mitchell Kennedy and Pharis Kennedy, both of Fort Worth, and Doyle Kennedy of Sacramento, Calif.; and seven grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Pampa Area Special Olympics, c/o Jo Ann Holt, 905 S. Filmore, Suite 535, LB-7, Amarillo, TX 79101.

DUSTIN RINK

Dustin Rink, 17, of Pampa, died Tuesday, July 22, 1997, at Amarillo. Graveside services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Doug Harvey, pastor of First Christian Church of Panhandle, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Rink was born Sept. 10, 1979, at Frankfurt, Germany. He had been a Pampa resident for a year and a half and had recently completed his sophomore year at Pampa High School.

Survivors include his parents, Guy and Shannon Rink of Pampa; two brothers, Damien Rink of San Diego, Calif., and Daniel Rink, of the home; grandparents, Marcelline Flemings of Panhandle, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Falconi of Frederick, Md.; great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. R.H. McClellan of Amarillo and Iris Dills of Goshen, Ind.; an aunt, and a great-aunt.

RUBY L. SMITH

Ruby L. Smith, 84, of Pampa, died Monday, July 21, 1997. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel with Glen Walton, minister of Bell Avenue Church of Christ of Amarillo, and Larry Brown, family life minister at Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ of Pampa, officiating. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Alma City Cemetery at Alma, Ark. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Smith was born at Alma. She had attended Harding College at Searcy, Ark., and graduated from North Texas Teacher's College at Denton in 1945. She had been a Pampa resident since 1948, moving from Denton.

She taught first grade at Skellytown for several years, retiring in the early 1970s. She was a member of Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

Survivors include a stepson, Bobby Smith of Ventura, Calif.; three half-sisters of California; and numerous cousins.

The family requests memorials be to Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ.

Police report

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

TUESDAY, July 22

Arrests

Javier Santacruz, 37, 835 E. Malone, was arrested on charges of unlawful carrying of a weapon. James Glenn Hooker, 27, 111 S. Starkweather, was arrested on charges of assault-domestic violence, simple assault and failure to appear.

WEDNESDAY, July 23

A minor in possession was reported at 400 N. Somerville.

A 30-year-old female reported domestic violence assault with minor injuries in the 300 block of East Brown.

A burglary was reported at 1511 N. Banks. A television and videocassette recorder valued at \$500 was stolen and a glass door, worth \$600, was damaged.

A 16-year-old male reported an assault with minor injuries in the 300 block of North Frost.

Arrests

Kevin Lawson Blaydes, 32, of Amarillo, was arrested on charges of assault with injuries.

Angea Gilreath Woodard, 30, 321 E. Brown #5, was arrested on charges of speeding and failure to appear.

Ambulance

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

TUESDAY, July 22

12:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of Russell on a medical call. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

5:46 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo to transport one patient to a Pampa nursing home.

9:15 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 200 block of West Kingsmill on an injury. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

Fires

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

TUESDAY, July 22

8:33 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to Lake McClellan on a controlled burn standby being conducted by the U.S. Forestry Department.

2:06 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to 808 Locust on a medical assist.

Correction

The Tri-State Senior Golf Association's "Retailer Treasure Hunt" for wives ends Thursday during the annual banquet.

A front page photo Thursday should have carried a caption identifying Barbara Rogers (left) and Mary Nelson, co-chairpersons for ladies activities at the Tri-State Senior Golf Association Tournament.

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.

PANHANDLE PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

The Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild will have its regular meeting on Thursday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lovett Memorial Library, 111 N. Houston. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 669-0568 or 665-4718.

SKELLY-GETTY-TEXACO RETIREES CLUB

The Skelly-Getty-Texaco Retirees Club will have its meeting on Thursday, July 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center.

Stocks

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

Wheat	3.23	Chevron	77	dn 5/8
Milo	1.97	Coca Cola	70	dn 1/8
Corn	4.60	Columbia/HCA	34 1/2	up 7/16
		Enron	38 3/8	NC
		Halliburton	46	up 3/4
		Ingersoll Rand	63 9/16	up 1 1/8
		KNE	41 1/2	up 1 1/16
		Kerr-McGee	67	up 1/8
		Limited	20 5/8	up 1/16
		Mapco	31 1/4	dn 1/16
		McDonald's	51 3/16	up 5/16
		Mobil	75 5/16	dn 3/16
		New Atmos	24 1/4	NC
		Parker & Parsley	37	dn 1/16
		Penny's	57 3/16	dn 1/16
		Phillips	45 3/8	up 3/8
		SLB	75 7/8	up 1/8
		SPS	38 7/8	dn 1/4
		Tenneco	47 1/16	dn 15/16
		Texaco	115 1/2	up 1 7/8
		Ultramar	33 9/16	dn 5/16
		Waj-Mart	36 3/16	up 1/16
		Amoco	91 3/8	up 1 3/8
		Arco	70 3/8	up 1/16
		Cabot	27 3/8	up 3/16
		Cabot O&G	18 1/2	dn 1/8

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:

Magellan	96.04
Puritan	20.02

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

Amoco	91 3/8	up 1 3/8
Arco	70 3/8	up 1/16
Cabot	27 3/8	up 3/16
Cabot O&G	18 1/2	dn 1/8

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

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PAMPA TEEN

identity. Sgt. Young did say, however, that this man refused treatment while visiting Rink at Northwest Texas Hospital. Apparently, he is not

showing symptoms of poisoning. There are no criminal charges expected to be filed in the case, police said. The relative of the 15-year-old, who had the substance in his tool shed for use as a paint thinner, had committed no wrongdoing, said Young.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

UNLABELED

liquor and consumable. In fact, several forms of alcohol - methyl alcohol (methanol) and ethyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) - are not consumable and can have serious side effects, including death.

The overall message to children of all ages is, "If you don't know what it is, don't drink it," said Corp. Donny Brown with the Pampa Police Department.

Methyl alcohol is actually a highly toxic and highly flammable substance used as a de-icing agent and to clean oil field pipelines. It has also been an experimental alternative fuel for the past several years.

An individual exposed to methanol, either through inhalation or direct contact, is warned to seek medical attention immediately. Methyl alcohol can burn eyes and skin, cause blindness, nausea, vomiting, dizziness and long-term damage to the liver. When burned, methanol fumes often produce formaldehyde, a dangerous preservative agent.

Despite the toxic qualities, methanol is a common product in this area and can be purchased in several area supply stores. A representative of Signal Fuels, one of the locations where the product is sold, said that most individuals buying methanol work in the oil field industry. And, although there is no age requirement to purchase the product, he said he would be extremely reluctant to sell methyl alcohol to a younger individual.

Steve Alexander, an employee of Petro Source, knows just how dangerous methanol can be. While working in a field in March of 1996, a small amount of methanol shot out of a hose and sprayed

Alexander. A static charge from a small rivet on Alexander's jeans provided enough of a spark to ignite the fuel.

Alexander suffered second- and third-degree burns on his hands, waist and other parts of his body. Since then, Alexander said the company provides ongoing training when handling dangerous substances.

Alexander and two other Petro Source employees, Jimmy Woods and Doug Hollingshead, could not believe five young men had consumed the deadly substance.

"I think they were extremely stupid and whoever had it in their garage, I would question what it was used for," said Alexander. "There is no common household use for methanol that I know of. It is extremely dangerous."

Even if homeowners have the toxic substance, Alexander, Hollingshead and Woods encourage them to clearly label the bottles as toxic and keep it in a locked area.

Methyl alcohol should not be used as a common household cleaning item or a paint thinner, warned the three men. This warning is further reiterated by poison control centers because of the highly flammable qualities of methanol.

This is not the only toxic substance that is available to the general public, however. Other highly toxic items are used in households every day. And, despite the tragedy of the recent events, perhaps it will encourage more parents to label poisons and keep them out of reach of children, said police. In addition, children, teen and even adults are being warned to use extreme caution with unknown substances.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

TRI-STATE

businesses. Robert Taylor, owner and manager of Brown-Freeman Men's Wear participated in this year's style show for the first time.

"I think it did help," he said, "I had some ladies come into the store and look at some of the shirts they saw during the show."

Taylor is also one of the 36 merchants involved in the week long "retailer's treasure hunt." The "treasure hunt" allows the women to visit participating stores and enter their names in boxes. At the golf association's 63rd annual banquet Thursday night, names will be drawn from the entry forms collected during the week and prizes donated from participating retailers will be awarded.

"It does bring people in and even if they don't always buy, it lets them know we're here," Taylor said.

Moore from the Chamber of Commerce agreed.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

HORTON

opportunity to meet some very famous individuals, including Oliver North, Jack Kemp and Congressman Sonny Bono.

However, the intern experience isn't just about politics.

"Outside my office duties has also been an experience," said Horton. "Being one of eight million people trying to get to work is a little different from rush hour on Hobart Street."

Overall, Horton is enjoying working with Thornberry.

"Mac is a great congressman to work for ... and he does a very good job," said Horton.

And this praise is returned, as Horton has definitely made an impression in Washington. According to his father, Horton has already received two job offers from the capitol city from Sen. Phil Gramm's office and Rep. Mac Thornberry's office.

Before any offer can be accepted, though, Horton must return to the panhandle and take over his political role - student body president of West Texas

"All of the participating retailers that take part in the wives' treasure hunt are more than excited to have the wives here as well as the golfers! And we enjoy having them," she said.

Pampa's visitors are also glad to be here.

Sandra Mathers of Canadian, has been coming to the tournament with her husband for the last seven years.

"I love it. There are so many things for the ladies and everyone is so nice," Mathers said, "I like it for the fun and it's the only one like it in this part of the country."

Linda Mack, from Lubbock, is in Pampa for the first time this year. Although she doesn't golf ... or "seriously" play bridge, she says she does shop.

"I have a deal with my husband," she said, "I get to spend as much as he does on golfing."

Mary McDaniel, coordinator of the style show, told the women, "Get to the stores so you can take Pampa back with you."

... it looks like Pampa may be going on a trip.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of widely scattered thunderstorms. Low in the upper 60s. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of mainly afternoon thunderstorms. High in the mid 90s. South wind 10-20 mph.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Tonight, partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Low in the middle 60s. South

wind 5 to 10 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of mainly afternoon thunderstorms. High in the lower 90s. South wind 10-20 mph. Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, a slight chance of evening thunderstorms north. Otherwise fair. Lows 65-75. Thursday, partly cloudy. High 90-100. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, fair. Lows 68-75. Thursday, partly cloudy. High 90-95. Thursday night, a slight chance of thunderstorms, otherwise fair. Lows mid 60s to lower 70s.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight,

partly cloudy. A slight chance of evening thunderstorms. Lows 72 to 82. Thursday, partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms southeast. Highs 96 to 102.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight through Thursday, isolated mainly afternoon and early evening showers or thunderstorms mostly Hill Country and Edwards Plateau. Otherwise late night and early morning clouds with partly cloudy afternoons. Lows in the 70s. Highs in the 90s.

City briefs

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

EMERGENCY JAIL Release.

24 hrs. Jack Ward, 669-9911. Adv. **DON'T PAY** Rent - 1996 Clayton 16x80 mobile home. Financing avail. 3 bdr., 2 ba., appliances. 664-1813. Adv.

EPPERSON GARDEN Market - Tomatoes, blackeye peas, squash, potatoes, okra, peaches, cantaloupe, yellow meat melons. 2 miles East Hwy. 60. Adv.

LYNDON LOYD Auctioneers (719), McKnight Auction, Sat. July 19, 1997, Sale Time - 9-47 a.m. Located - Pampa, Tx. Tractors, Farm Equipment, Shop Tools, Collectibles. For info. 806-826-5850. Adv.

DALE'S CAR Wash Detail, 807 W. Foster, 665-3341. Adv.

DEREK & Rhonda Coleman

of Amarillo, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Nathaniel Wayne on Thursday, July 3, 1997. Grandparents are Bud and Betty Welch of Pampa, Gary and Faye Coleman of Oklahoma City, Ok. He is welcome by big brother Taylor. Adv. **SPECIAL EFFEX** Nail Salon, located 915 S. Hobart. Kim Hurst, Alison Meschke, 665-0564. Adv.

NEED AUTO glass replacement or repair? Call Suntrol 3M Auto Tint and Auto Glass, 703 W. Brown, 665-0615. Adv.

SUMMER DRIVERS needed Pampa Meals on Wheels. 669-1007. Adv.

HWY. 60

Chevron, we now have bait, tackle and fishing license, cold beer, lottery. Many new items. Night crawlers, ice 99¢. Make us your next lake stop, corner of Hwy. 60 and Hwy. 70. Open until 11 p.m. Weekends. Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE

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

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN School Families: Farewell for Koglers, Korchicks, Morris, Bring hotdog, hamburger meat & buns for your family, dessert to share, all else provided, Central Park, 26th, 6:30 p.m. Adv.

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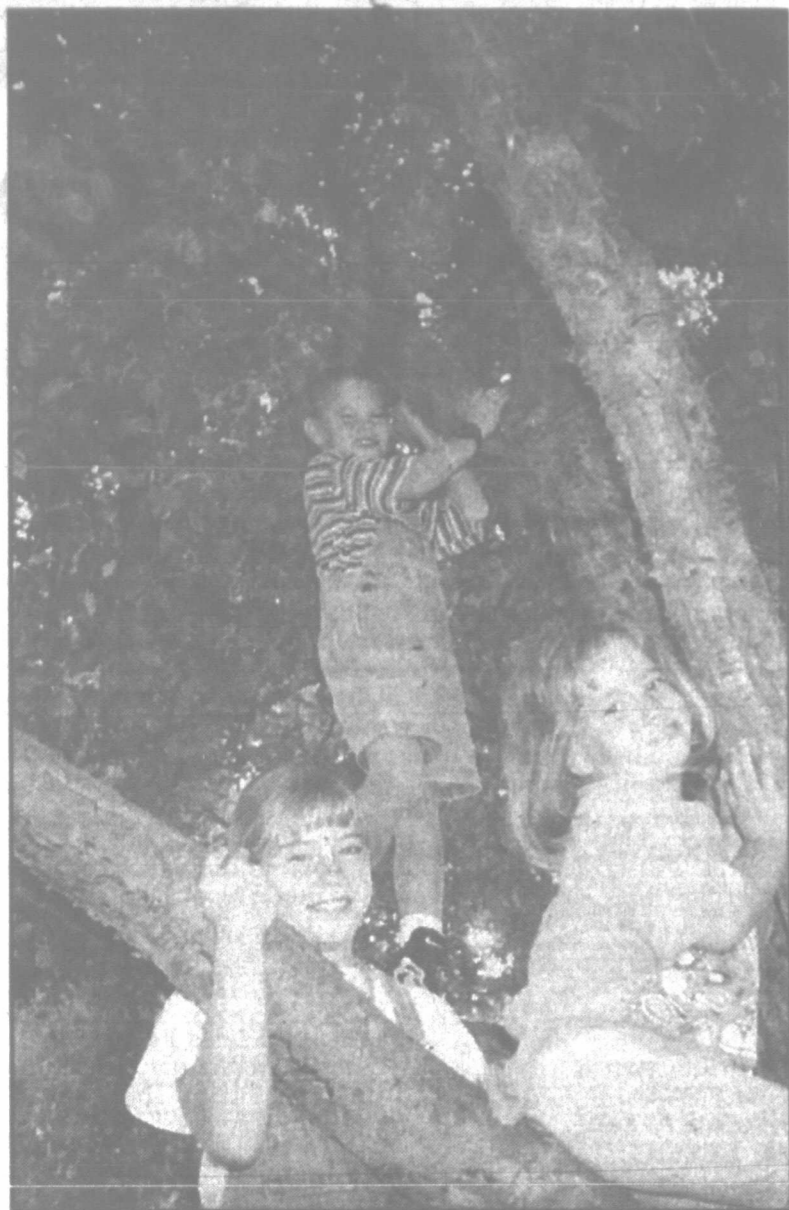
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Kids up a tree



(Pampa News photo by Miranda Bailey)

When in doubt ... go climb a tree! (left) Whitney, 10, Josh, 8, and Lauren, 4, pass the summer days away in one of Pampa's old trees.

If not now, when?

Alan Greenspan continues to hold off increasing interest rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — If not now, when? That's the question left lingering by Alan Greenspan's signal that the Federal Reserve sees no reason to raise interest rates immediately. Wall Street sent stock prices soaring Tuesday in response to the central bank chairman's generally upbeat midyear report. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 154.93 points to a record high of 8,061.65.

But he and other economists are warning that the markets may not have been paying enough attention to the chairman's cautionary lines.

Greenspan said he had "no doubt that the current stance of policy ... will need to be changed at some point." And he warned, "the Federal Reserve must be alert to the pos-

sible another wave of stimulus and makes it more likely the tightening will come sooner or be larger than it otherwise would have been," he said.

An increase in rates from the Fed this fall "remains a very live possibility," Dederick said.

Greenspan, named to head the Federal Reserve by President Reagan in 1987 and reappointed by Presidents Bush and Clinton, basked in accolades from Republicans on the House subcommittee.

"We briefly considered giving you a standing ovation and adjourning the hearing," joked Chairman Michael Castle, R-Del.

But he received sharp criticism from liberal Democrats, who complained that working families' incomes have been stagnant for 20 years and said Greenspan shouldn't even be talking about tapping the brakes just as the benefits of the economic recovery are starting to become more widely spread.

"You're resisting the good news," said Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., who described Fed policy-makers as "pessimists in search of some gloom."

Rep. Bernard Sanders, a Vermont independent and a socialist, told Greenspan: "You live in a world very separate from ordinary working people trying to survive on \$7 or \$8 an hour."

That brought an emotional response from Greenspan, who was raised during the Depression by his mother and grandparents in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood.

"The recent performance of the economy, characterized by strong growth and low inflation, has been exceptional."

—Alan Greenspan

"The recent performance of the economy, characterized by strong growth and low inflation, has been exceptional," Greenspan told the House Banking monetary policy subcommittee.

Not only is the current economic expansion — in its seventh year — the third longest in U.S. history, "inflation is lower now than when the expansion began and has shown little tendency to rebound," he said.

Greenspan was concluding his report to Congress with testimony today before the Senate Banking Committee.

Wall Street took his comments as a clear signal that Federal Reserve policy-makers once again will pass up the chance to raise rates at their next meeting, scheduled Aug. 19.

They increased a benchmark interest by just a quarter point in March but held rates steady at subsequent meetings in May and July.

"Chairman Greenspan does telegraph what he intends to do in his public testimonies," said economist Sun Won Sung of Norwest Corp. in Minneapolis. "This basically says to me, 'Forget about higher interest rates for now.'"

sibility that additional action might be called for."

He even offered a folksy analogy to explain why the Fed might raise rates even under the ideal economic conditions he described at the start of his testimony.

"A driver might tap the brakes to make sure not to be hit by a truck coming down the street, even if he thinks the chances of such an event are relatively low," he said. "The costs of being wrong are simply too high."

Ironically, by ignoring the warning, markets are increasing the chances the Fed will have to resort to higher rates to head off an increase in inflation, said economist Robert Dederick of Northern Trust Co. in Chicago.

"If the stock market soars, it gives the econ-

State briefs

Cattle ranchers restocking effort could lower beef prices

HOUSTON (AP) — Cattle ranchers are restocking their herds now that meadows are lush again after a wet spring and summer broke the 1996 drought. That has sent beef prices skyrocketing. Beef calves are selling for some \$40 more per hundred-weight than they were a year ago.

That worries some economists, the *Texas Journal of the Wall Street Journal* reported today. Some say the rebuilt herds could cause a meat glut that could bring on a collapse in beef prices.

"If we don't have a liquidation (of cattle), we'll have tremendous increases in prices in 1997, and in 1998 the first half will be good," said Ernest Davis, a livestock economist at Texas A&M University. "But then those prices will really collapse in the last half of 1998" because of oversupply.

Davis estimated the size of the nation's beef herd this year will total 34.3 million head, 1.8 million more than what is needed to support currently strong prices.

Two more perjury counts lodged against educator in wife's death

CALDWELL (AP) — A second perjury indictment has been returned against a small-town school superintendent for statements he gave after the August 1996 death of his wife.

Frank Cook, who is on paid leave from his job as school superintendent in the Brazos Valley town of Snook, was indicted on two counts of aggravated perjury Monday by the Burleson County grand jury.

The charges accuse Cook of lying twice to the grand jury about a relationship with another woman.

Investigators said Janet Cook, 38, shot herself in the chest with a shotgun last summer. Charles Sebesta, district attorney for Burleson and Washington counties, contends that her husband drove her to suicide.

"Even though it is formally ruled a suicide at this point in time, the investigation into her death continues," he told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

State Rep. Steve Holzhauser running for Railroad Commission

AUSTIN (AP) — State Rep. Steve Holzhauser, a six-term Republican from Victoria, entered the race for Railroad Commission with a blast at the federal government and a pledge to promote the state's energy industry.

Holzhauser will seek the seat being vacated by Commissioner Barry Williamson, who is running for attorney general next year.

"The nation needs an energy policy to move away from an over-reliance on foreign oil," he said Tuesday. "The U.S. is vulnerable to another round of Middle East blackmail through a new oil embargo. A new plan of action is needed."

One thing that needs to be done, he said, is for federal officials "to be sensible about where we allow drilling."

Pointing to parts of Alaska and the Gulf of Mexico, he said, "We need the federal government to allow people that risk their capital every day the opportunity to go and find those resources and produce them."

EU clears main points of Boeing-McDonnell deal

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The European Union approved "in principle" today the main points of Boeing's \$15 billion merger with McDonnell Douglas, but delayed formal approval of the deal until next week.

The EU's antitrust chief Karel Van Miert said more time was needed to study new concessions from Boeing before granting final approval of the deal. But he said the formal green light was expected next week following Boeing's last-minute offer to scrap exclusive supply contracts with U.S. airlines that the European's strongly opposed.

"We have reached a satisfactory conclusion with Boeing," Van Miert told reporters. "I'm confident we'll have a formal decision next week."

U.S. officials had warned of a trade battle with Europe if the EU's executive agency, the European Commission, had voted to outlaw the deal in Europe.

Van Miert said antitrust experts from the 15 EU nations would have to consider the package of changes to the deal that Boeing agreed to Tuesday before formal approval would be granted.

To make the merger palatable to the Europeans, Boeing offered to make a commitment to drop exclusive aspects of long-term contracts signed with three U.S. airlines and a pledge not to negotiate such contracts in the future.

Boeing also agreed to other EU demands, including a pledge to

grant competitors access to certain aviation technologies and a legal separation of McDonnell Douglas's civil aircraft business, Douglas Aircraft, from Boeing's own civil unit, Van Miert said.

Until Boeing made the surprise concessions Tuesday, the Commission widely had been expected to outlaw the megamerger as a danger to free competition in the aviation industry and the survival of European plane-making consortium Airbus Industrie.

Officials from France, which had led calls for the commission to take a firm stance, still expressed opposition to the deal today.

"The Americans have made some last-minute concessions, but in my mind they don't go far enough," European Affairs Minister Pierre Moscovici told French radio. The deal, he said, would "throw up intolerable barriers to competition."

The United States, which earlier approved the deal, had warned it could retaliate with counter sanctions if the EU took action against Boeing. It reportedly had been considering measures including duties on European aircraft imports and restrictions on flights from Europe.

From Washington, President Clinton and other senior officials tried to resolve the dispute Tuesday with telephone calls to European leaders. Administration officials said Clinton spoke to Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi and Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker, current chairman of the EU council.

Key informant in drug trial found dead following abduction

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — A key U.S. government informant was slain to keep him from testifying in an ongoing drug trial, Mexican authorities say.

The body of Hector Salinas Guerra, 42, was found in Reynosa, Mexico, on Tuesday. He had been beaten and apparently suffocated with a plastic bag found near his body, police said.

Tamaulipas State Judicial Police reported finding the body. They said Salinas suffered fractures to his head and chest.

Salinas was outside his McAllen used clothing and appliance store in McAllen last Thursday when he was forced at gunpoint into a green Chevrolet Suburban by four men wearing hats bearing the insignia of Mexican federal police.

Fire officials refused comment Tuesday on whether a burned Chevrolet Suburban found a mile from Salinas' shop is linked to the case.

Mexican police have denied any connection with the abduction, but FBI officials said Tuesday that

they had not ruled out involvement by Mexican police.

"(But) there's a lot of pseudo cop activity in the (Rio Grande) Valley," FBI spokesman John DeLeon said.

Reynosa is across the border and about 15 miles southwest of McAllen.

The body was returned to Texas, and an autopsy was ordered.

FBI officials in McAllen got a telephone call Tuesday from the Reynosa authorities who said a body had been found in the city

just across the border and about twelve miles southwest of McAllen.

Family members positively identified the body as that of Salinas, DeLeon said.

Salinas, a Mexican national living in McAllen, helped arrange a May 13 federal sting operation that smashed a drug

smuggling ring, prosecutors say.

Seven men are on trial this week on charges that they arranged to smuggle 2,971 pounds of marijuana. If convicted, the defendants each face at least ten years in prison. Some of the men are illegal immigrants only recently arrived from Mexico, their attorneys said.

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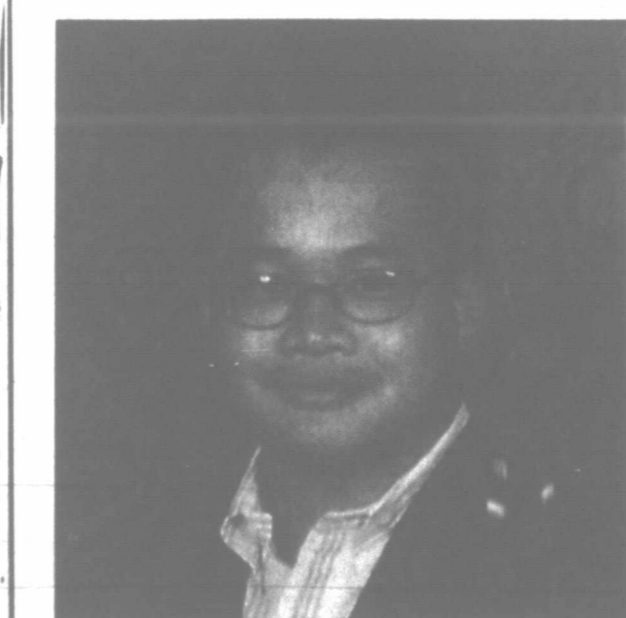
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VIEWPOINTS

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

L.W. McCall
Publisher

Kate B. Dickson
Associate Publisher/Editor

Opinion

Haiti remains rudderless

Haiti is an economic basket case, and its political infighting isn't making it any better. Haiti's impoverished people do not deserve this. They have endured enough under repressive regimes and continuing economic ruin.

Only three years ago a U.S.-led United Nations force intervened, ousted Haiti's generals, and brought back Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected president. His elected successor, Rene Preval, has reviled much-needed but painful economic reforms that Aristide blocked in his last days as president. Most recently Preval paved the way to privatize nine resource-draining state enterprises.

These and other key reforms, such as cutting 7,000 civil-service bureaucrats, don't win popularity contests in a nation where unemployment may hit 80 percent. But neither does a government paralyzed in the face of overwhelming need. The dismal five percent turnout for April's Senate elections may reflect the people's utter lack of faith in any political process. Indeed, Organization of American States election observers reported numerous irregularities and ballot tampering. Most fingers pointed at candidates from the Lavalas Family, the party recently created by Aristide.

Analysts long have suspected that Aristide, constitutionally prohibited from succeeding himself, is eyeing the next presidential elections in 2000. Some suggest that Aristide, widely revered by Haiti's struggling masses, betters his chances by making it difficult for Preval to make progress.

Only Aristide knows what's in his head and heart. But the perception of his and his party's behavior certainly isn't improving conditions for the Haitian poor and may well be disrupting the fledgling political processes.

Sadly, the Senate election led to more finger pointing, run-off postponements, and the June resignation of Prime Minister Rosny Smarth. Aristide has also increased his anti-foreigners rhetoric, questioning the merits of the international agencies in Haiti.

Worse, Preval has remained conspicuously silent amid the growing political crisis. He asked for the U.N. mission to be extended even as foreign aid provides Haiti a vital lifeline. Now, though, the rhetoric and leadership vacuum have provoked new questions as to whether the United Nations should extend its mission in Haiti beyond its currently scheduled July 31 departure.

The challenges appear overwhelming. But a president can make a difference by taking a firm stand on reforms and communicating the hoped-for benefits. The political capital may even help forge policies that offset the immediate, widespread economic pain by offering some social benefits. The agencies, too, must be reasonable if they don't want to reverse efforts already invested. Haitians, after all, can't eat democracy.

Long term, for Haiti to gain economic health, it needs to control government spending and attract investment, foreign or otherwise. It needs to encourage private enterprise to create new jobs. If Aristide has better solutions to Haiti's woes, he should offer them constructively.

Thought for today

"Good Will is the mightiest practical force in the universe."

Charles Fletcher Dole, 1845-1927
Cleveland Address

Berry's World



Don Quixote and Sancho Panza searching for the budget-surpluses windmill.

Durned ol' writer's block!

Must.
Must think.
Must think what to write.
Can't.

Ah, writer's block. It plagues the best of us... the best of us at writer's block, that is. And you really wouldn't know it from all the great literature in the world. I'm quite sure that 50 percent of all literary masterpieces came from writer's block.

All right, I'm not quite sure. I'm guessing. Yes, I'm making an educated guess, a hypothesis.

No. Never mind. There was no education involved in that guess. Truthfully, I am sincerely hoping that 50 percent of all literary masterpieces came out of writer's block, or I am up the writer's block creek.

I mean, obviously a lot of thought goes into writer's block. On top of the "trying to think what to write about" thoughts, there are the "Oh my gosh, I have writer's block thoughts," not to mention the "surely Maya Angelou gets writer's block" thoughts. Anyway you look at it, you're dealing with a ton of thoughts. Tylenol and Advil must LOVE writers. See there! I just thought of a new marketing strategy for pain reliever companies. Writer's block has to be valid.



Miranda Bailey

Pampa News staff writer

Don't tell me that Robert Frost wasn't having a case of writer's block when he wrote a poem about trying to choose which road to take. I bet you, the road LESS traveled is just a literary symbol about the fact that Robert couldn't decide what to write about! So what happens? His writer's block led him to write a poem that everyone loves, everyone knows and everyone thinks is about the symbolic road of life. And in this lies the beauty of it. "The Road Less Traveled" is so totally writer's block at its best.

And what about poor old Henry Thoreau who had to go out to Walden and live deliberately just so he could finish (or probably start) writing his book? A book that consequently is the basis for

that whole civil disobedience philosophy that got me no where with my parents during its six weeks stint in my 11th grade English class. Go figure.

Who would have known that writer's block could be so liberating? All my life, I've been complaining about something that is as American as apple pie on the 4th of July.

No. That's not what I wanted to say.

How about... It's as fundamental to the writing process as writing itself.

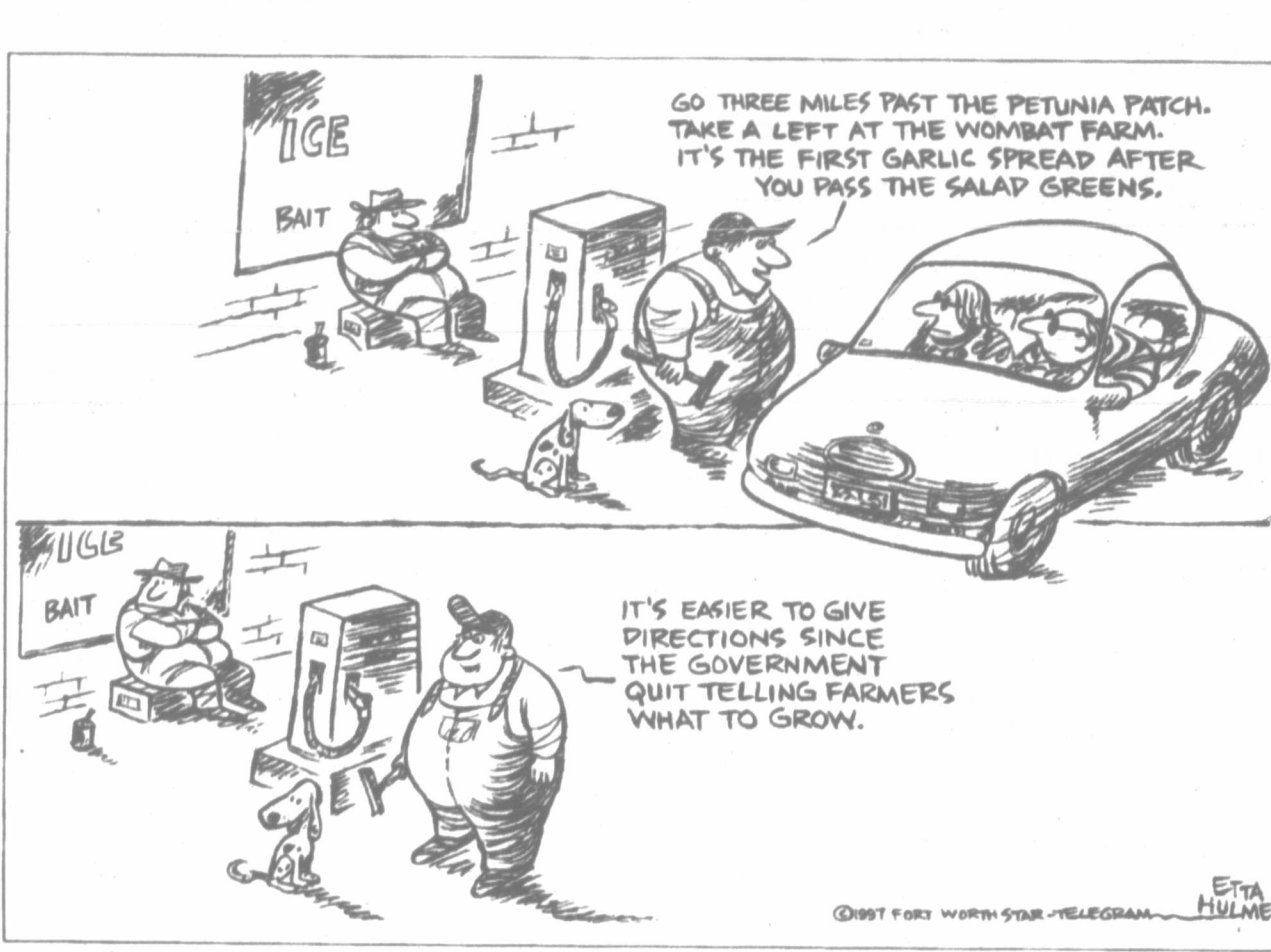
Nope. Too cliché. Do you see what I'm saying? Writing can be so damn frustrating! And then add one more element: THE DEADLINE.

Oh, the sacred deadline; the line that kills; an editor driven instrument created to mutilate, annihilate and really, really, really hurt writers. What's a poor writer to do?

I hear you're just supposed to sit down and start writing.

Yep. (sigh) That's what I hear.

Like that's going to get me anywhere at all. Besides, I probably have to die first to actually see the fruits of my writer's block labors. Or do I?



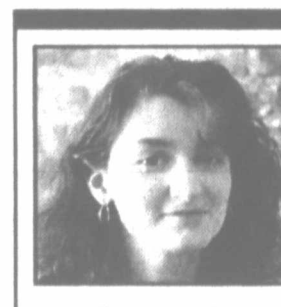
Don't cry for me, Beetle Bailey

By this time you've probably heard the news about *Beetle Bailey*. Bowing to pressure from newspaper editors, Mort Walker, the comic strip's creator, has sent the lecherous Gen. Halftrack to sensitivity training. The cartoon general has also issued a formal apology to Miss Buxley, the secretary he'd been sexually harassing for years.

You've probably also heard the verdict from the op-ed writers and TV commentators of America: that this is a perfect example of political correctness usurping the creative process.

"It is with pain in my heart that I must tell you that as of Thursday, Gen. Halftrack will quit leering at Miss Buxley," writes a columnist for the *Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer*. A scribe at the *Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel* declares it "a sad day for dirty old men everywhere... and for Americans with a sense of humor."

They have a point. It's true that this is only a comic strip, and that the people who wrote in to complain about Gen. Halftrack probably do have a little too much time on their hands. An artist's forum is not a democracy that should be subject to change every time someone gets offended. And anyway, I doubt that Halftrack posed any



Sara Eckel

great threat to the American woman's self-esteem.

(However, I'm getting a little weary of this idea that only liberals practice political correctness. I doubt we'll be seeing any new comic strips about a lovable guy who takes drugs or a sweet-natured gal who enjoys casual sex. After all, such characters would upset people; they would go against their moral codes.)

So while I agree that cartoonists shouldn't have to change their strips to please other people's sensibilities, I can't say I'm crying myself to sleep on Mort Walker's behalf. Recently, I saw a television discussion panel lamenting the plight of the poor, beleaguered Mort. Come on - this is the best thing that's hap-

pened to the 73-year-old cartoonist in decades. I mean, people are paying attention to him. People are talking about *Beetle Bailey*. Walker has been profiled in *People* magazine and featured on CNN. His syndicate has been promoting the new storyline - hell, I'll bet they're even returning his calls!

I'm also having trouble seeing how sending the good general to sensitivity classes is such a blow to the culture. Wasn't the greater crime that the strip wasn't funny - and that he'd been using the same dumb joke for the past 47 years? If anything, Halftrack's newfound enlightenment has breathed some much-needed life into what was a very tired strip. Consider the July 9 offering:

Miss Buxley: How's your sensitivity training going, sir?

General Halftrack: Good! I've decided to no longer view ANY woman as a sex object, but just as a FRIEND.

Miss Buxley: That's great, sir. I'm excited for you.

General Halftrack: Well, my wife isn't totally thrilled.

OK maybe you didn't bust a gut. But tell me you didn't chuckle.

I'll not shed any tears for the NEA

It is a measure of the puny dimensions to which Republican governance has fallen that the only matter on which the House leadership was able successfully to muster its troops was defunding the National Endowment for the Arts.

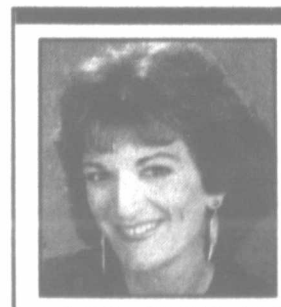
Now, there is every reason in the world to defund the NEA, and I'll get to some of them in a minute, but really, is this the best the Republicans can do?

The tax plan they are crowing about is a complete retreat from the idea of a flatter, simpler tax system that seemed a very real possibility just a couple of years ago. Nor do Republicans even dare to reduce taxes on the people who pay the overwhelming majority of taxes. Further, the so-called "balanced budget deal" they've committed themselves to will a) actually postpone reaching a balanced budget, b) contribute to the growth of government, and c) create a new entitlement to tax breaks for education expenses.

Now, most of the Republican leaders are fine people and genuine conservatives, but they have become scared of their own shadows - unwilling to make the philosophical case supporting their views, for fear of being bashed by our unscrupulous commander-in-chief.

Still, taking on the National Endowment for the Arts is not insignificant. The amount of money involved is paltry by government standards - a mere \$99.5 million. The Medicare program must spend that much in half an hour. But the abuse to cut ratio is very high indeed.

The abuse-to-cut ratio measures the degree



Mona Charen

of name-calling you must endure relative to the cut contemplated. Cutting welfare, for example, has a very large ratio, as does any cut in middle-class entitlements, like Medicare or Social Security. Cutting spending on the military entails very little abuse.

Sure enough, when the House was debating the future of the National Endowment for the Arts, Republicans were accused of being of Philistines, censors and oafs. The objectionable grants the NEA has made, argued critics, were a tiny percentage of the whole.

True, but let's review some of the grants the endowment has approved. There were the photographs of Robert Mapplethorpe and the "Piss Christ" by Andres Serrano, depicting a crucifix in a jar of urine. Those grants generated a huge outcry.

But the NEA seems a little hard of hearing because the agency has since funded a video called *Nitrate Kisses* by Canyon Cinema, depicting lesbian "listing" and oral sex, and another called *Blood Sisters*, featuring more lesbian sex acts, whippings, body piercing and sadomasochism. Golly, we do need those

Washington arts connoisseurs to elevate our art appreciation, don't we?

Supporters of the National Endowment for the Arts argue that the imprimatur of an NEA grant helps to generate private donations. But this begs the question: Do we really need government-approved art at all?

Private foundations and individuals contribute more than \$10 billion to the arts annually, and that doesn't begin to count the revenues from ticket sales, compact discs and tapes. It isn't as if the arts will shrivel and die without NEA support. Whenever nations become wealthy, they tend to invest in the arts.

Advocates for a national role see the issue in moral terms. Dozens of members of Congress argued on the floor that supporting the arts marks us as a civilized nation. But were we not civilized, and did we not appreciate music and drama, dance and painting before the agency was launched in 1965? Was that a dark age?

When the government supports art, it is taxing you to pay for something you might not choose to support with your own dollars. When it comes to essential matters, like national defense, such taxation is justified. But must I be taxed so that Serrano's sick imagination can flourish? Let him try his luck in the private marketplace.

Many supporters of the NEA seem to fear that in the absence of the agency (a remote outcome in any case since the Senate and the president are committed to it), the United States will become some sort of cultural Siberia. That is an absurdity. We worship talent in this country, and we do not need a national nanny instructing us in good taste.

Box office: 'Men in Black' top dog for third week in a row ...

By JOHN HORN
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — *George of the Jungle* couldn't swing past *Men in Black* at the box office.

Men in Black was the nation's most popular film for the third consecutive weekend, and has grossed a total of \$172.1 million so far. It should soon become the second summer movie alongside *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* to pass the \$200 million threshold.

George of the Jungle, starring Brendan Fraser as the inept jungle hero popularized by the old TV cartoon, debuted at second.

Two other new movies opened in wide release. *Nothing to Lose* finished fourth and *Operation Condor* was No. 8.

In less than 100 theaters, the animated *The Swan Princess: Escape from Castle Mountain* debuted miserably, collecting just \$50,000. *Kiss Me Guido* and *Mrs. Brown* performed well in only a handful of theaters, as did *Shall We Dance*.

Contact and *Face/Off* continued to be well attended.

Batman and Robin surpassed the \$100 million mark over the weekend, but its high cost makes the movie a financial disappointment.

The top 20 movies at North 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.:

1. *Men in Black*, Columbia, \$19 million, 3,102 locations, \$6,135 average, \$172.1 million, three weeks.
2. *George of the Jungle*, Disney, \$16.6 million, 2,506 locations, \$6,600 average, \$22.9 million, 1 1/2 weeks.
3. *Contact*, Warner Bros., \$16.1 million, 2,194 locations, \$7,345 average, \$47.4 million, two weeks.
4. *Nothing to Lose*, Disney, \$11.6 million, 1,862 locations, \$6,239 average, \$11.6 million, one week.
5. *Face/Off*, Paramount, \$8.9 million, 2,851 locations, \$3,126 average, \$86.3 million, four weeks.
6. *My Best Friend's Wedding*, TriStar, \$6.5 million, 2,376 locations, \$2,745 average, \$94.7 million, five weeks.
7. *Hercules*, Disney, \$5.2 million, 2,541 locations, \$2,043 average, \$76.8 million, six weeks.
8. *Operation Condor*, Miramax, \$4.7 million, 1,532 locations, \$3,089 average, \$4.7 million, one week.

Lottery decides to scratch lotto superhero 'Scratchman'

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Texas Lottery has scratched "Scratchman," the superhero-like character used since 1994 in instant lottery commercials, after complaints that the caped pitchman appealed too much to youngsters.

"Scratchman is flying off into the sunset," Austin-based lottery spokeswoman Leticia Vasquez told the *San Antonio Express-News*. "He's scratched."

The advertising campaign for scratch-off tickets began in January 1994. It was only this year that House Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert Junell, D-San Angelo, likened the masked character in red tights to Joe Camel, the hip cartoon animal used by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. to sell cigarettes.

"I think the same correlation can be made between Joe Camel and enticing young people to smoke as can be made with Scratchman unduly influencing young kids to become gamblers," Junell said.

Junell's committee, in a unanimous vote, ordered the Texas Lottery Commission to spend less money on advertising. Committee members were particularly critical of Scratchman.

Members of the pro-Scratchman faction said that while the character might catch a child's eye, that

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World briefs

Swiss banks find more money that may belong to Holocaust victims

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — Swiss banks took the unprecedented step today of publishing names of World War II-era depositors, and said they have found another \$15 million that may have belonged to Holocaust victims.

The advertisements — full pages of names and hometowns in tiny type — appeared in major newspaper from New York to London to Moscow, shattering the traditional secrecy of Swiss banking rules.

Some Jewish organizations say up to \$7 billion in assets and accrued interest belong to heirs of Holocaust victims who'd deposited money in Swiss accounts, and they have been pressuring for its return. Until today, the banks had maintained the true figure was less than \$30 million.

The newly found funds would raise to about \$43 million the amount bankers estimate is in accounts that they have not had contact with the owners since 1985. The banks have said, however, that many of those accounts were opened after World War II and are unrelated to the Holocaust.

Canadians threaten more blockades unless fish flow

PRINCE RUPERT, British Columbia (AP) — Angry Canadian fishermen are threatening more blockades like the recent surrounding of an Alaskan ferry if U.S. vessels keep getting between them and their salmon.

"You see a fast ship with a great big American stars and stripes on it, and it runs circles around you and tells you to get the hell out of here," Dennis Peacock, a Prince Rupert fisherman, said Tuesday.

Peacock's frustration is shared by many Canadian fishermen who feel their government has failed to stand up to American fleets that are netting salmon in the Pacific as the schools head for spawning grounds inside Canada.

The situation reached a boiling point Saturday when 300 Canadian fishing boats bottled up the Alaska-run Malaspina ferry for two days in Prince Rupert, stranding hundreds of passengers bound for Alaska.

Some fishermen have threatened to go further and blockade cruise ships or cargo vessels unless the United States agrees to reopen negotiations of a fishing treaty that expired in 1993.

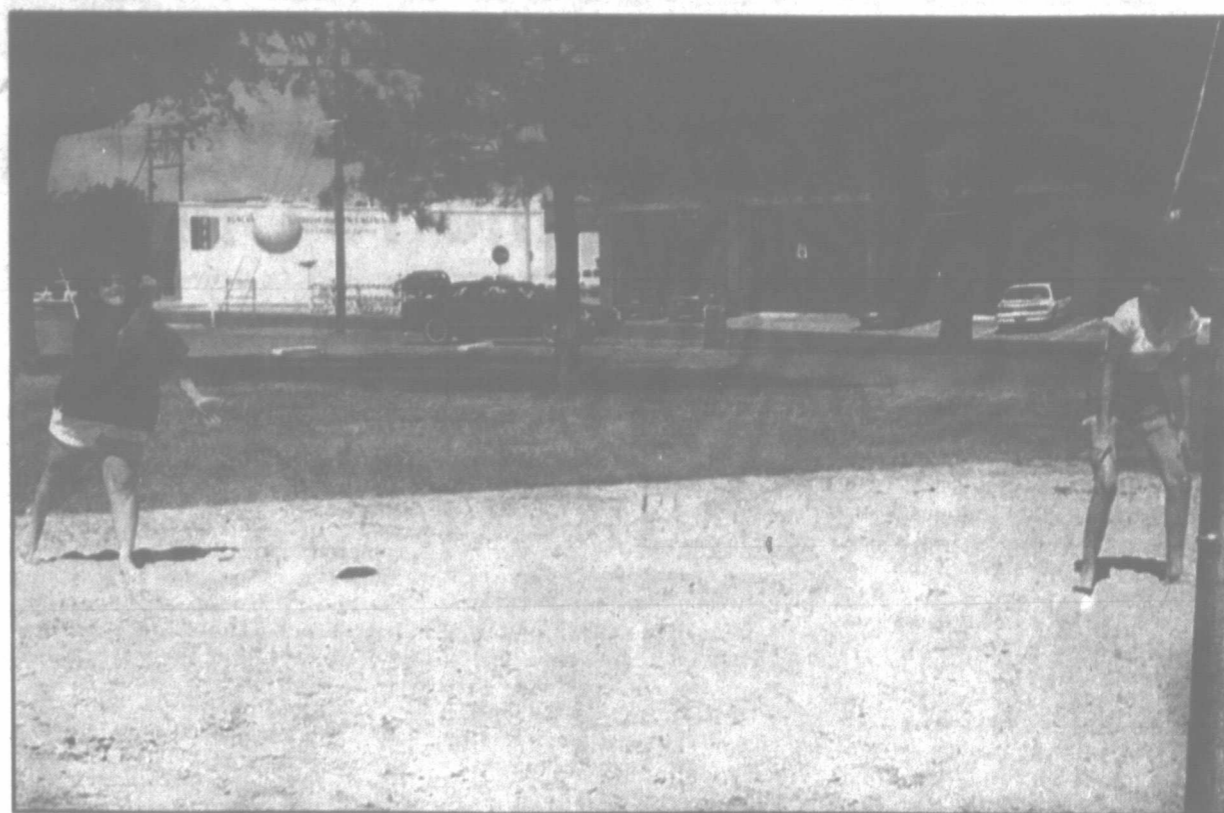
Hollywood executive wins pledge of Russian government war on piracy

MOSCOW (AP) — The American film industry's leading spokesman won Kremlin promises of an all-out war on film piracy Tuesday and said movie pirates in Russia could be stamped out within a couple of years.

Since the Soviet downfall, film piracy has become so widespread in Russia that some top Hollywood releases can be found on unlicensed video cassettes even before their European — or U.S. — premieres. Many movie houses also show pirate copies.

Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, brought a detailed plan for combating video piracy to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Tuesday and said the Russian leader fully endorsed it.

A game of volley ball anyone?



(Pampa News photo by Dianne F. Dandridge)

Ann Gilreath and Tambara Arthur challenged a couple of friends to a game of volley ball in the sand pits behind the First United Methodist Church. The girls not shown were Mariah Brooks and Kelly McCormick.

UAW strikes at GM parts plant in Warren

DETROIT (AP) — The United Auto Workers went on strike today against General Motors Corp. for the sixth time this year — this walk-out at a plant that builds transmissions for most GM vehicles built in North America.

A tentative agreement was reached early today at another key GM parts plant in Indiana, averting a strike that also could have crippled North American production.

At the GM Powertrain Group plant in the Detroit suburb of Warren, 2,800 members of UAW Local 909 went on strike shortly after midnight Tuesday.

The strike could force GM's North American assembly plants to shut down by Friday, according to a company source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We've been at it all day and into the night, but it does not appear that we have made enough progress to avert a strike at this particular moment," UAW spokesman Reg McGhee said early today.

Talks were to resume this morning, GM spokeswoman Christine D'Angela said. "We're going to continue to bargain in good faith toward an agreement that will

meet our needs and the needs of our employees."

The Warren plant makes transmissions for several front-wheel drive vehicles, including the hot-selling Pontiac Grand Prix and GM's new generation of minivans. It also produces steel wheels and control arms.

The union is upset over the No. 1 automaker's plan to transfer wheel-making operations from the Warren plant and replace it with work transferred from the Buick City complex in Flint, Mich., The Oakland Press of Pontiac, Mich., reported Tuesday. GM is expected to announce plans soon to close Buick City, which has no products scheduled after 1999.

At the GM Delphi Interior & Lighting Systems plant in Anderson, Ind., a tentative agreement on a contract covering 2,650 members of UAW Local 663 was announced early today after a strike deadline was extended twice.

"Nobody ever left work or anything," said Fred Haney, a Local 663 trustee. "The shop committee and region worked hard to get this. Everybody's real happy about this."

Issues under negotiation at Anderson included production speedups, workplace safety and numerous individual grievances, but terms of the settlement were not released.

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Woman's Passion For Bingo Gives Husband Time To Cheat

DEAR ABBY: Bingo players, beware! What does your husband or wife do while you are playing bingo five nights a week?

My friend told me she saw my husband, who is 71, get into a car with a "hussy" who is about 50. I decided to see if there was any truth to her story, so after my husband and I had dinner one night, I had him drop me off at the bingo parlor. He said he was going home, so I said I would ride home with a friend.

I had hired a detective who waited in a parking lot nearby and we followed my husband. Soon he parked his car and got into hers. What we saw made me ill, but I have never confronted him with my knowledge. Our religion frowns on divorce, so I just pray the old goat wakes up before he kills himself. He has broken my heart and if I were younger, he would be following me in the dust.

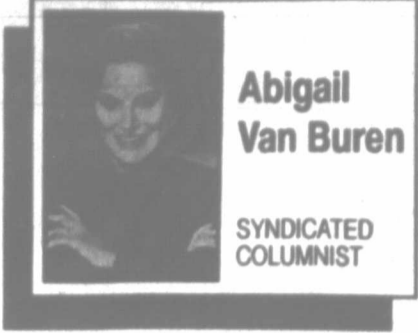
Do you think I did the right thing to quit bingo?

B-9 IN TENNESSEE

DEAR B-9: Only if giving up your game forced your husband to give up the game he was playing.

DEAR ABBY: I agree with "Sally B." who finds exposed bra straps absolutely disgusting and tacky.

I wonder why women dress this way, especially in this day and age when you can walk into virtually any department store (even discount stores) and find bras of all shapes,



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

styles and colors designed to function invisibly under almost any type of garment on the market. Many bras have convertible straps so they can be worn X-back, halter-style, one strap or strapless. They make bustiers to be worn under backless dresses, and when all else fails, they have ones like giant lace Band-Aids so one doesn't "jiggle." So the only excuse for exposed bra straps is plain laziness.

I'd like to add my pet peeve: white bras showing plainly through thin blouses. Don't these women know flesh tones exist? I hate seeing professional women who wear beautiful white blouses ruining the effect because their undergarments show through. Do they really want people looking at their bras all day?

D.B. IN COLUMBUS, OHIO
DEAR D.B.: I was caught off guard by the number of people who responded to that letter — there have been hundreds. Most of the writers agree with you and "Sally B." but a few wrote to tell me they think exposed bra straps

are sexy. Go figure. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I'm in complete agreement with "Sally B.'s" disgust with exposed bra straps. Many women do this consciously, especially teen-age girls. For some reason, they think it is sexy or attractive for everyone to know what color or how lacy their bras are. It disgusts me. Not only is it incredibly tacky, it shows complete disregard for the fact that underwear is supposed to stay under the clothing. To top it off, the women who expose their most intimate apparel act as if they didn't know there was a solution.

I worked in lingerie for about a year, and I happen to know there are bras especially made for those revealing tops. There is absolutely no need to walk around displaying your undergarments. All it takes is one quick trip to a department or specialty store to correct this embarrassing problem. Ask the salesclerk for a convertible bra — she'll be happy to help.

Is it just me, Abby, or are panty lines equally disgusting?

REPULSED 19-YEAR-OLD IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR REPULSED: I suspect that teen-agers do it out of ignorance of the fact that there's a solution to the problem, or because they are imitating Madonna — who originated the underwear-as-outerwear fad. Or, perhaps, they're so proud of the fact that they finally need to wear a bra they can't resist drawing attention to it.

time and effort can be saved today by figuring out new techniques to complete old tasks. Do not put limitations on your imagination.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Today, while others will be trying to grasp the essence of a problem, you'll be the one who'll come up with several satisfactory solutions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Usually it's not to your advantage to work under pressure. Today, however, the more you have to do, the better you're likely to perform.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Try to get as much completed as early in the day as possible, so you'll have open hours in the afternoon. A favorable option might arise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Lady Luck could be your ally today and she might help you turn a losing situation into a winning one. Make your move when you sense her presence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) In order to satisfy your restlessness today, participate in involvements that allow you to

move around mentally and physically. **PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** You are still in a cycle where you could derive benefits from situations initiated by someone else. The payoff might not be immediate, however.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) This is a fortunate period for you to establish valuable, functional contacts. Today, move to where you'll have opportunities to meet new people.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) An important career objective is achievable today, but it might require a second or third effort. Do not give up if contending with rejection.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Something long-awaited might finally come together for you today, but this is not likely to occur in the manner you've planned. Flow with events.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Bravado and brawn aren't the tools required to achieve success today. You can, however, scale the heights by using your ingenuity and resourcefulness.

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For Better or For Worse



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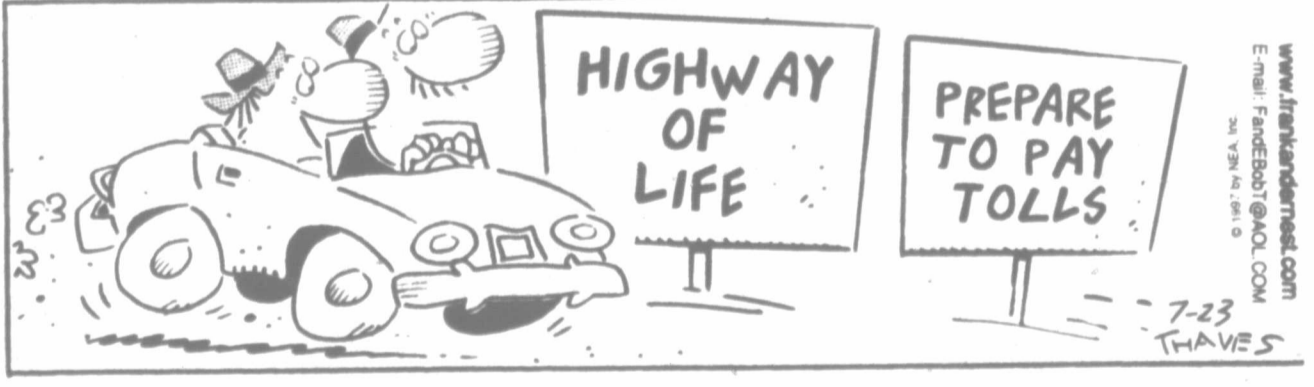
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Thursday, July 24, 1997

A considerate, loyal friend might be of great help to you in the year ahead in strengthening your financial position. He or she will look out for your interests without having to be asked.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) It behooves you to be a good listener when talking to a bright associate today. He or she could furnish you with several considerations you've been overlooking. 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.

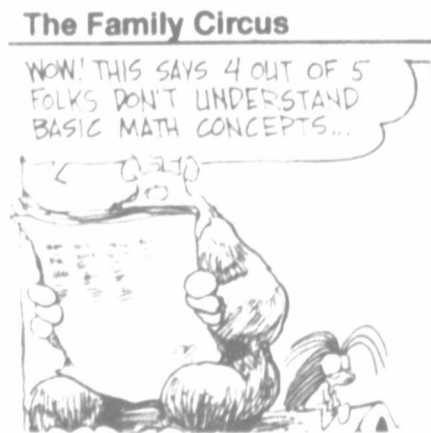
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Substantial



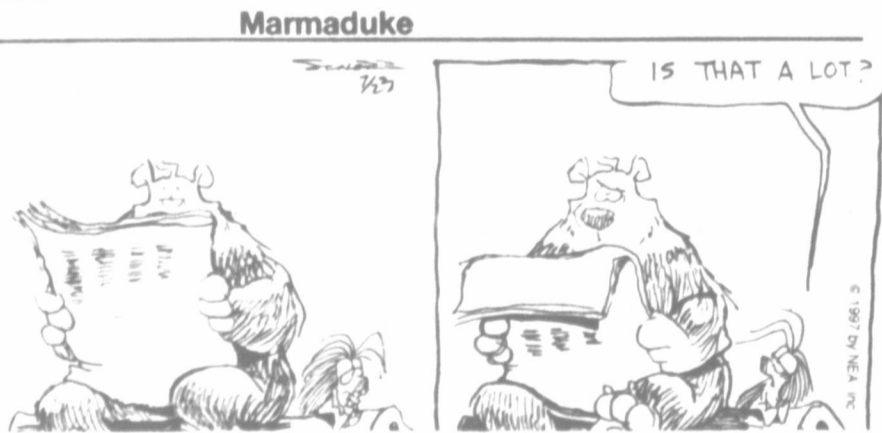
More family vacation adventures drawn from real life by our young substitute cartoonist.



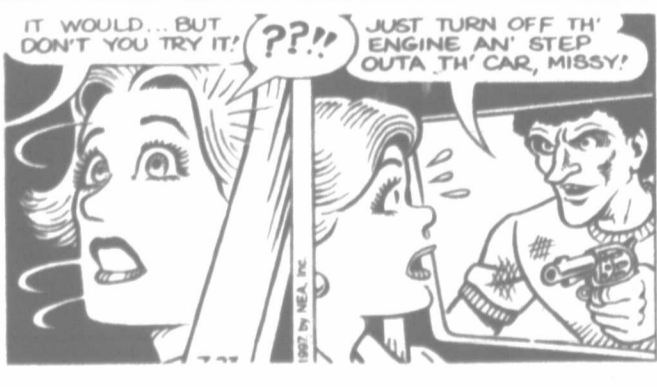
"You've eaten our lunch, grabbed a nap on the backseat, and now you want a lift home?"



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



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SPORTS

Notebook

FOOTBALL

PAMPA — There will be a Harvester Booster Club meeting at 7 p.m. July 28 in the Ready Room at Valhalla. Parents of freshmen, junior varsity and varsity players are urged to attend. Call 669-0780 or 665-6082 if more information is needed.

BASKETBALL

PHOENIX (AP) — Houston was hot, Phoenix was not, and both sides wondered whether a back-to-back game had anything to do with it.

Comets coach Van Chancellor said it did, Mercury coach Cheryl Miller said it didn't, or at least that it shouldn't.

Cynthia Cooper broke her own WNBA record with 32 points — shooting 6-for-7 from 3-point range — as the Houston Comets beat the Phoenix Mercury 77-69 on Tuesday night.

Cooper, who set the previous mark Friday night with a 30-point performance in an 82-60 victory at Sacramento, was 8-for-12 overall from the field and 10-for-10 from the line. She also had six assists.

BASEBALL

CHICAGO (AP) — Greg Maddux needed just 78 pitches to beat his former team — the fewest in a complete game in nearly seven years — as the Atlanta Braves beat the Chicago Cubs 4-1 in the opener of a doubleheader Tuesday.

Chicago won the second game 5-4, scoring the go-ahead run in the eighth on consecutive errors by shortstop Jeff Blauser and third baseman Chipper Jones.

Maddux (14-3) pitched a five-hitter, needing just 2 hours, 7 minutes to become the NL's first 14-game winner. Maddux threw 63 strikes.

Maddux won his seventh straight decision and is 6-0 against the Cubs, the team he left after the 1992 season, when he won the first of four straight NL Cy Young Awards. His ERA against his former team is 1.43.

Maddux struck out six and walked none to outpitch rookie Jeremi Gonzalez (7-3), who allowed four runs and seven hits in seven innings.

GOLF

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP) — A trimmed-down John Daly is preparing for a return to PGA competition following a five-week absence that started with his abrupt withdrawal from the U.S. Open.

Accompanied by his familiar crushing drives is another commitment to sobriety, and a push to get back to having fun with the game that thrust him into the spotlight after winning the PGA Championship six years ago.

"Everybody for the last three years has been saying go out and have fun. It's easy to say that," Daly said Tuesday while practicing at the TPC at River Highlands, site of this week's Greater Hartford Open.

"The only fun I used to have is what got me suspended," he said.

His golf bag carries more than just his clubs this time, bearing the words "God, Serenity, Courage, Wisdom." Daly said he has been attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings as often as five days a week.

Daly, 30, was suspended in 1993 after quitting during the second round of the Kapalua International. After fighting with a 62-year-old man at the World Series of Golf in August 1994, he agreed to sit out the rest of the year.

He underwent alcohol rehabilitation for the second time in four years after a drinking binge at the Players Championship in March.

The rocky road continued at the U.S. Open last month when he quit at the turn in the second round. He said he withdrew because of shakes brought on by anti-depressant medication.

Pampa All-Stars head for Arkansas

By John W. Warner
Pampa News correspondent

PAMPA — The Pampa Major Bambino all-star baseball team will leave for Harrison, Ark. at 10 a.m. today to compete in the Southwest Regional Major Bambino Tournament, said Tracy Wright, commissioner of the Pampa league.

The local 11 and 12 year-olds All-Stars are currently scheduled to take on the state champions of Mississippi in the second game of the tournament to be played Friday afternoon.

"This is still assuming that nine teams will be competing," said James E. Davis, a Texas State Babe Ruth Commissioner from Pampa. "There is a possibility that there will be 10 teams. At the present time there will be state champions from two regions of Arkansas, two regions of Louisiana, three regions of Texas, one from Oklahoma and one from Mississippi."

The tournament is double-elimination. The winner advances to the Major Bambino World Series in Florida next month.

The Pampa team defeated Tulia, Lockney and Andrews in the West Texas State Major Bambino Tournament in Tulia to set up a doubleheader with Plainview on the final day of the tournament. The all-stars came out on top 12-4 and 7-4 Saturday to win the right to advance to this week's regional tournament.

Bill Simon will replace Terry Hall as one of the coaches of the Pampa team for this tournament. Aaron Simon will replace Blake Helms as a member of the team.

Other team members include Daniel Heuston, Jordan Klaus, Ryan Zemanek, Max Simon, Daniel Williams, John Braddock, Tyson Moree, Carlos Solis, Jay Gerber, Brodie Hall and Eddie Palma.



Members of the Pampa 11-12 year-old all-star team are (bottom row, l-r) Daniel Williams, Carlos Solis, Eddie Palma, Brodie Hall and Tyson Moree; (middle row, l-r) John Braddock, Jay Gerber, Jordan Klaus, Ryan Zemanek, Max Simon and Daniel Heuston; (top row, l-r) coach Steve Williams, coach Terry Hall and manager Bill Heuston.

Division-leading Orioles turning tables on Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers should consider this payback.

Jeffrey Hammonds tied a career high with four hits and Rafael Palmeiro had a two-run homer and three RBIs as the Orioles beat the Rangers for the sixth time in seven games this season, 9-3 on Tuesday night.

The Orioles lost 10 of 13 meetings with the Rangers last season.

"We wanted to get even," Orioles manager Davey Johnson, a native Texan, said. "I don't like to lose here. When I managed in the National League, I didn't like losing in Houston. Of course I don't like losing anywhere."

Johnson has made changes in his lineup, and he likes the way it is performing with Roberto Alomar

leading off, Hammonds hitting second and Brady Anderson moving from the leadoff spot to No. 4 for the first time in his career.

Anderson responded with three hits Tuesday night, including a three-run sixth-inning double.

"My lineup worked," Johnson said. "I think everybody kind of liked it. Definitely, a lot of good things happened. Jeffrey seems to be liking it."

Hammonds has hit safety in eight of the last nine games and had his 21st multi-hit game of the season.

"I feel very confident at the plate," Hammonds said. "Hitting between those two guys, you're going to get a lot of good pitches to hit. There are worse places to be. I do what I'm told to do, which is to

bat second."

Gerónimo Berroa also had three hits as Baltimore had 16 hits against Texas.

Palmeiro has four homers and 12 RBIs in seven games this season against his former team, and 11 homers and 32 RBIs for his career. Palmeiro also homered Monday night.

Scott Erickson (12-5) allowed nine hits in 5 1-3 innings for the Orioles to earn the victory.

"It was like the old football term, bend but don't break," Erickson said. "I had a lot of runners on base, but I was able to get out of most of those situations."

The Rangers have lost five of six and seven of nine to fall to four games under .500 (47-51) for the first time since May 14, 1995.

Palmeiro had a two-run homer against Texas for the second consecutive game when his 20th homer gave the Orioles a 2-0 first-inning lead. Hammonds was on base with a double to set the stage for Palmeiro, whose two-run shot in the sixth Monday put Baltimore ahead for good in a 5-1 victory.

The Orioles knocked out John Burkett (7-9) with a four-run second. Roberto Alomar, Hammonds and Cal Ripken had RBI singles and Palmeiro added a sacrifice fly as Baltimore built a 6-0 lead.

"When you're struggling and you're down 6-0 before you can turn around, it makes for a long night," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said. "When you're playing well, things go your way. But when you're struggling — and it's

been a constant pattern since the All-Star break — it starts to get to you."

Burkett allowed six runs and nine hits in 1 2-3 innings, tying his shortest outing of the season.

Notes: Anderson hit leadoff in all 90 previous starts this season. ... Hammonds had his second career four-hit game. ... The Rippers — Cal Sr. and Jr. and Rangers infielder Billy — conducted a youth clinic Tuesday morning at a Little League field near The Ballpark in Arlington. An estimated 50 kids were instructed on the basics of infield play and hitting. ... Palmeiro has 20 or more homers in seven consecutive seasons. ... Texas surpassed two million in attendance on Tuesday, its 53rd home date.

Gray County 4-H Rodeo scheduled Aug. 22-23

PAMPA — The Gray County 4-H Youth Rodeo will be held August 22 and 23 at the Top of Texas Rodeo Arena in Pampa at 7:00 p.m. each evening. The rodeo is for all youth ages 9-18. Ages figured as of August 15, 1997.

Awards will be given to the top three winners in each event of the 9-11 age group (single go-round). Buckles, saddle blankets, and belt conchos will be awarded, respectively. A Carl Ammerman All-Around Saddle will be presented to the All-Around winner. The Adult/Youth Ribbon Roping will not count towards All-Around.

In the two older age groups (12-14 and 15-18) there will be two goarounds (one each night). A Carl Ammerman All-Around Saddle will be given to the all-around winner and a reserve buckle awarded to the runner-up in both age groups. The Adult/Youth Ribbon Roping event will not count towards All-Around in the 12-14 age group. Contestants must enter at least three events each night to be eligible for All-Around.

Entries are due in the Gray County Extension Office, HCR 2, Box 33, Pampa Texas 79065, by 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 15. Entries must be paid and notarized before being entered on the books, otherwise, the entry will be returned to the sender. There will not be notary public available in the Extension Office or at the Rodeo Grounds. No call in entries will be accepted. Contestants are now allowed to move up or down in age groups.

Events for ages 15-18 include: calf roping, pole bending, bull riding, barrel racing, pole bending, flag racing and adult-youth ribbon roping.

Events for 9-11 include break-

away roping, calf riding, goat tying, barrel racing, pole bending, flag racing, and adult-youth ribbon roping.

Boys and girls will participate in any event listed for their particular age group.

For ages 9-11, the entry fee is \$10 per event and a \$5 stock charge per roping and riding events. The 12-14 year-old age group will have an entry fee of \$15 per event with a \$7.50 payback. The older age group of 15-18 will have a \$20 entry fee per event with \$12 jackpotted. Stock charges will be \$6 for roping events and \$7.50 for riding events.

Events for Pee Wee contestants will be held Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. Events for ages 6 and under can compete in stick horse barrel race, barrel race (contestant may enter only stick horse barrel race or barrel race-not both), goat ribbon race, stick horse pole bending, and stick horse Flag race. Events for ages 7 and 8 will include goat ribbon race, barrel race, flag race, pole bending and calf riding (\$5 stock charge).

Entry fees will be \$3 per event for ages 6 and under and \$5 per event for ages 7 and 8.

An all-around plaque will be presented in each age group; a first, second and third place trophy will be presented in each event; and ribbons will be awarded through tenth place.

Information and entry blanks can be obtained at the Gray County Extension Office located in the Courthouse Annex, Hwy. 60 East, Pampa, or call 806-669-8033.

All buckles and paybacks will be mailed after the rodeo. The All-Around saddles will be ordered after the rodeo to fit the contestant.

Stock contractor will be Gleghorn of Lubbock.

OU-Texas to stay in Dallas

AFTON, Okla. (AP) — Count the University of Oklahoma athletic director among those who are happy that OU regents have decided to keep the Sooners' annual football game with Texas in Dallas until at least 2006.

"I'm excited about it," OU athletic director Steve Owens said Tuesday. "Of all the games I remember playing in Oklahoma, that OU-Texas game, in Dallas, around the fair, was not just a football game, it was a big event. I've seen in surveys in regard to great rivalries that show the OU-Texas game at the Cotton

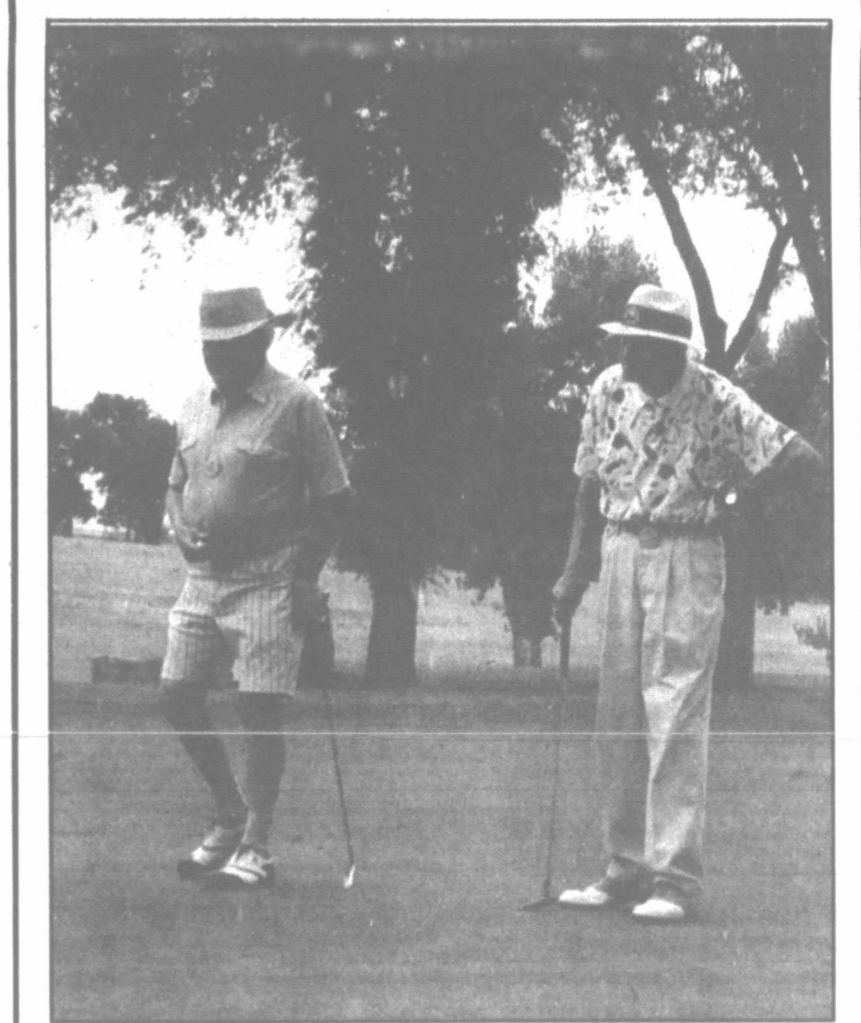
Bowl is at the top."

The 10-year extension, which was approved Tuesday and includes options to terminate the agreement after 1999 and 2002, would also allow Cotton Bowl officials to secure more sponsors for the contest.

OU officials said corporate sponsorship resulted in a payment to each school of more than \$100,000 last year.

University surveys have shown that 80 percent of the game's supporters want the 67-year tradition to continue at the Cotton Bowl.

Senior scramble



(Pampa News photo)

Retired Pampa doctors Joe Donaldson (left) and Frank Kelley tuned up for today's first round of the 61st annual Tri-State Golf Association Tournament by competing in a scramble Tuesday at the Pampa Country Club. Scramble results are as follows:

- (won in scorecard playoff) Tommy Wilson, Bill Blackman, Ben Mathers and Loyd Bowman 60;
- Frank Stovall, Don Russell, Gerald Gregory and Dick Byrd 60;
- Merrell Terrell, Gerald Creasy, Don Davis and Frank Burkman 61.

Nebraska, Texas picked to win Big 12

DALLAS (AP) — Texas and Nebraska, who met in last year's first Big 12 championship, were picked by the media to square off again in this year's title game.

Longhorns tailback Ricky Williams was picked the offensive player of the year and Cornhuskers defensive lineman-linebacker Grant Wistrom was chosen the defensive player of the year in the preseason poll of reporters.

The poll was released Tuesday in anticipation of the league's head coaches coming to Dallas for their annual two-day gathering with the media.

Nebraska had a conference-best seven players on the preseason All-Big 12 squad. Texas had the next most with five.

The predicted order of finish in the North Division was Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas State, Missouri, Kansas and Iowa State.

In the South, the media predicted the finish to be Texas, Texas A&M, Texas Tech, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Baylor.

The Big 12 championship game is scheduled for Dec. 6 in San Antonio. Texas won last year's game 37-27.

Nebraska's other all-conference players are offensive lineman Eric

New Super Alliance is formed

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — The new Super Alliance will look much like the old Bowl Alliance with a few extra twists.

Alliance officials on Tuesday named the Orange, Fiesta and Sugar Bowls to join the Rose Bowl in the new coalition, beginning after the 1998 regular season.

The four-year deal with a three-year option came as little surprise. When Alliance officials made the new deal, they held open an exclusive negotiating period during which bowls other than the Orange, Fiesta and Sugar were not considered. The deal was signed before the exclusive period ended.

With the Pac-10 and Big 10 champions in the eight-team Alliance, the Super Alliance virtually guarantees a national title game.

Another part of the deal is an agreement that will take regional considerations into account when making the pairings. For instance, the Southeastern Conference champion will play in the Sugar Bowl in years when that bowl doesn't play host to the title game. The Rose Bowl is guaranteed the Pac-10 and Big Ten champions when it isn't the title game host.

Officials at the Bowl Alliance headquarters in Birmingham did not release financial details.

The three bowls were expected to bid from \$28 million to \$30 million for the seven years.

Anderson, center Aaron Taylor, running back Ahman Green, defensive lineman Jason Peter, defensive back Ralph Brown and punter Jesse Kosch.

Texas' other picks are quarterback James Brown, place-kicker Phil Dawson, defensive lineman Chris Atkins and defensive lineman-linebacker Aaron Humphrey.

The all-conference receivers are Colorado's Phil Savoy and Iowa State's Ed Williams. The tight end is Alonzo Mayes of Oklahoma State and the other linemen are Mike Morris of Missouri, Melvin Thomas of Colorado and Todd Weiner of Kansas State.

Scoreboard

Table with multiple columns for Baseball (National League, American League), Soccer (Major League Soccer), and Basketball (Women's National Basketball Association). Includes team names, scores, and game times.

Former Bronco happy to be a Cowboy now

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Anthony Miller, the former unhappy Denver Bronco, is quite willing to speak his mind. That's one reason he's now a Dallas Cowboy. Miller felt ignored and unused last year when he started 16 games and caught 56 passes for 735 yards and three touchdowns. "I wasn't a big part of the offense anymore and that's why I wanted out," Miller said. "I want to play three more years in this league and I want to play somewhere where I'll be happy when I finish. I wasn't happy at Denver and I let them know that."

Favre set to become National Football League's highest-paid player

By The Associated Press Brett Favre plans to put a quick end to Barry Sanders' reign as the NFL's highest-paid player. James "Bus" Cook, Favre's Mississippi-based attorney, and Mike Reinfeldt, Green Bay's chief financial officer, are working out final details on a seven-year deal worth between \$44 million and \$49 million. The contract extension, which includes a signing bonus of between \$10 million and the \$11 million, would replace the last two years of the five-year, \$19 million deal the quarterback signed in 1994. Sanders, Detroit's star running back, signed a reported six-year, \$34 million deal Sunday. On Tuesday, Favre said he hopes to have the extension done in time for the Super Bowl champions'

exhibition opener Saturday night against Miami. "Well, we hope so," Favre said. "I haven't signed it yet. I'm hoping it will be done by Friday. It's going to come in Thursday and we're going to talk to them on Friday and see if we can't get it done. But we haven't locked anything up concretely." The 27-year-old quarterback has won consecutive MVP awards, and guided Green Bay to its first Super Bowl title in 29 seasons. He had an NFC-record 39 touchdown passes last year, besting his record of 38 set in 1995, and he did it after a 48-day offseason stay in a drug rehabilitation clinic, where he was treated for an addiction to painkillers. Colts Indianapolis linebacker Trev Alberts retired a day after the

NFL CAMPS ROUNDUP injury-plagued former Nebraska star failed to show up for scheduled reconstructive surgery on his right shoulder. "I could see this day coming," said Alberts, the No. 5 overall pick in 1994. "Three years ago, when I entered the NFL, I was so excited about my career. I thought I could do some great things. My body just fell apart." Alberts, who signed a six-year, \$8.15 million contract in 1994, missed 20 games over three seasons because of a dislocated right elbow, concussion, partially dislocated left shoulder and hamstring injury. "It was something that was

hanging out there that needed to be closed, and now it is," said Bill Tobin, the team's vice president of football operations. "He is going to get on with his life, and we are going to get on with our football team." Raiders Darrell Russell, the No. 2 overall pick in the April draft, signed a seven-year, \$22.05 million contract with Oakland. "It is a big relief. I look at it like it wasn't a holdout, it was like a chemist in the lab coming up with that perfect compound," said the former Southern California defensive lineman, the first of the top six picks to sign. Russell has \$8.325 million in guaranteed payments. The total package, the guaranteed amount and the average of \$3.15 million

per year are records for a rookie contract, said agent Leigh Steinberg. Broncos Denver backup quarterback Bill Musgrave retired, virtually assuring Bubby Brister, of making the roster. Musgrave played in six games last year, but slipped to fourth on the initial depth chart issued at training camp. "Bill called me last night," coach Mike Shanahan said. "He's 30 years old and he's fighting for that No. 3 spot and he didn't really know if he was going to be on the team or not. He decided to retire." "He's going to go to graduate school and kind of get on with his life. He wants to coach. I thought he was a lot smarter than that." Meanwhile, defensive end Neil

Smith's right knee injury appears to be minor. He was expected to practice Wednesday and might play in Saturday night's exhibition opener against Buffalo. "I have a slight bruise on a nerve that is really bothering me," Smith said. "My leg feels kind of funny, but nothing's damaged, which is the most important thing. It's a day-to-day process." Cardinals After three mysterious days wondering what forced Arizona star Simeon Rice to miss five practices, the Cardinals said the 260-pound defensive end has a severe viral infection. Team physician Wayne Kuhl did not say what type of infection Rice contracted, but said it would have to run its course before he returns to the team.

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MEDICAL

Combined flu, pneumonia sixth leading death cause

The flu is always new, with updated influenza strains every season.

That's why you need an updated flu shot each year, sometime between early October to mid-November. That should tide you through the flu season, which generally runs from December through March.

Combined flu and pneumonia are the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, observes the Mayo Clinic Health Letter, which also notes that less than half of people aged 65 and older — people who would benefit most — get the shots.

Influenza is a contagious disease that comes in three types of viruses — influenza A, B and C. It's uncomfortable and inconvenient for healthy children and young adults, the Rochester, Minn.-based newsletter notes, but it can be severe or even fatal for older people or those with chronic illnesses. More than 90 percent of flu deaths occur in people

over 65. Most people can tolerate the vaccine — exceptions are those who are allergic to eggs — with only some temporary soreness at the site of the shot. If you're among the exceptions, the newsletter suggests asking your doctor about antiviral drugs such as amantadine (Symmetrel) and rimantadine (Flumadine) which may help prevent Type A influenza, usually the most severe form. Antibiotics are ineffective in treating flu or any other viral infection.

"A flu shot is especially important for people over age 65, those in long-term care facilities, patients with chronic lung or heart problems or chronic illnesses such as diabetes or kidney disease," says Dr. Robert B. Belshe, director of the Center for Vaccine Research at Saint Louis University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Mo. "In addition, the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) encourages people who

provide essential community services, students or others in institutional or dormitory settings, and health care workers to receive the vaccine."

Besides getting vaccinated, other preventive measures suggested by Belshe include avoiding exposure to those who are sick (especially if you're in a high-risk group), frequent hand washing, and amantadine and rimantadine used instead of or in addition to the flu vaccine.

But if flu hits, use common sense and get plenty of rest, drink a lot of liquids, and keep warm. Tylenol or aspirin will help treat fever and muscle aches, though aspirin should not be given to children with fever. Amantadine and rimantadine can be prescribed after onset to lessen symptoms and shorten duration of the illness. Check with your doctor if productive cough or lower respiratory symptoms develop, or if symptoms persist.

Researchers grow organs for animals, plan human tests

BOSTON (AP) — Scientists have grown replacement organs for sheep, rats and rabbits using the animals' own cells and lab molds to help the tissue take shape — a technique that could be used someday to make spare parts for people.

"As surgeons, that's what we dream about — having a shelf full of body parts," said Dr. Anthony Atala, who pioneered the technique with Dario Fauza.

Their new method — to be presented Wednesday at a conference of the British Association of Pediatric Surgeons in Istanbul, Turkey — has already been used to build bladders and windpipes for sheep, a kidney for a rat, and leg muscles for a rabbit. The spare organs were built with tissue taken from both grown and fetal animals.

The two doctors said the greatest hope for the technique could be in correcting common birth defects. They have developed a method for growing replacement organs for newborns while they are still in the womb.

For example, if a fetus has a malformed trachea, surgeons could extract some of those cells from the womb, grow the new windpipe in the lab and have it ready to be transplanted when the baby is born.

"This can save lives," Fauza said.

Fetal tests on humans are set to begin within a year, and the researchers hope to get approval from the Food and Drug Administration for routine use within five years.

Cornell University researcher Thomas McDonald, who studies the development of sheep fetuses, said the method appears to be a way around the biggest obstacle to organ transplants — the body's rejection of foreign parts.

While scientists have already found ways to grow skin and cartilage, two Harvard researchers claim to be the first to have grown animal tissue from a variety of organs, including the heart, kidneys and bladder.

Normally, surgeons have been forced to use mismatched tissues to repair defects, like a piece of intestine to patch a hole in the bladder.

"It sounds like a wonderful technique and it sounds very doable," McDonald said. "It's just that nobody has tried it until now."

The procedure is tricky and requires balancing delicate laboratory work with microscopic surgery inside the womb. Doctors first detect birth defects using ultrasound, as early as 3 1/2 months into pregnancy.

They operate on the fetus two-thirds of the way through pregnancy. Through small incisions, they lower a surgical camera and long, narrow instruments into the womb. Guided by a large video monitor, they remove a pea-size sample of bladder. Drugs are used to prevent the mother from going into labor.

Then it's on to the laboratory. Under ventilation hoods, lab technicians separate different types of cells and place them in dishes of a clear solution rich in proteins and nutrients.

"With the solution — which is the key to the process — the tissue can grow in an incubator at an astounding rate. A sample the size of a square centimeter could produce enough tissue within two months to cover two football

fields.

Next, Atala and Fauza build the organ by draping fragile tissue over biodegradable scaffolds. The bladder is fashioned by layering epithelial cells on the inside of a cup-shaped structure and muscle cells on the outside. Atala said the bladder cells know which way to orient themselves to each other and grow until they fill out the scaffold.

Within six weeks of surgery, the new bladder is ready to be transplanted immediately after birth.

The researchers also hope to grow organ tissue for older people.

Five-year-old Renato Sehic is one such candidate. Born in Bosnia, he suffers from a severe defect called bladder extrophy, which left his bladder underdeveloped and sticking out of his abdomen.

"The minute he was born, the doctor said there was nothing she could do for him," said Renato's mother, Nada.

Now there's hope the boy's bladder can be repaired with his own tissue.

"When you look at organ shortages today and all the problems we experience with children and adults who end up dying before they get one, wouldn't it be nice to have a repository of tissue you can access?" Atala said.

Improved surgical methods, implants fight nerve damage

DALLAS — Improved surgical techniques and better biomedical implants are helping neurosurgeons at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas more effectively counteract nerve damage in the neck that can lead to severe disability.

Patients suffering from the compression of spinal cord nerves in the cranial-cervical junction—the point at which a person's head meets the neck—often experience excruciating pain and difficulty moving the neck, as well as loss of sensation and movement in other parts of the body.

Their condition is frequently misdiagnosed and has traditionally been considered hard to treat because of the location, said Dr. Howard Morgan, associate professor of neurological surgery at UT Southwestern.

A new generation of biomedical implants is enabling surgeons to treat these complex pathologies more precisely and with greater certainty of long-lasting solutions. Better imaging techniques also help physicians identify the source of a patient's problem more exactly and operate with increased precision.

"We feel that we can now perform surgery that can greatly improve the quality of life for most of these patients," said Morgan, holder of the Trammell Crow Professorship in Neurosurgery.

To alleviate the pressure being exerted on the nerve tissue at the crucial junction, surgeons remove the bone or soft tissue that is pressing against the nerves and then realign the vertebrae. Surgeons also are able to use bone grafting and titanium implants, custom fitted to stabilize the cranial-cervical junction. This technique prevents movement during the healing process, allowing the bone graft to fuse the head to the neck.

Compression of spinal cord nerves often results from rheumatoid arthritis or traumatic injury to the head, neck or back. In some cases, the condition arises from congenital abnormalities that become noticeable only after reaching adulthood.

Rheumatoid arthritis tends to cause many of the body's joints to deteriorate and frequently brings about instability between the first and second cervical vertebrae.

Morgan said it is important for people who experience symptoms, especially those who have rheumatoid arthritis, to see a specialist who can evaluate them for nerve compression.

If left untreated, nerve compression at the cranial-cervical junction can interfere with the ability to perform routine daily tasks because of the disabling pain. The compression of nerve communication lines can cause a numbing sensation in the arms and legs, a loss of strength and, ultimately, a loss of mobility.

Bowel and bladder problems, along with breathing and swallowing difficulties, also can develop, Morgan said.

The plague years

The deadliest plagues and epidemics in human history in millions of deaths

Type	Years	Deaths
Bubonic plague	500-650	100
Bubonic plague	1347-1451	25
Syphilis	1500-1550	10
Bubonic plague	1898-1923	12
Influenza	1918-1919	20

In the 150 years between 500 and 650, bubonic plague killed an estimated 100 million people in Europe and Asia.

High blood pressure tied to brain loss

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — In a finding that offers another reason to control high blood pressure, a new federal study suggests a link between hypertension and brain tissue loss.

The study, reported

in *USA Today*, shows that ignoring high systolic blood pressure — the higher of the two numbers in a blood-pressure reading — in middle-age could lead to brain damage and loss of cognitive ability by the early 70s.

The research on male twins shows that the longer a man lives with above-normal systolic pressure — a normal reading typically is 120 — the more mental declines he exhibits and the more healthy brain tissue is lost.

"There's been a misperception in the medical community that since systolic pressure goes up with age, it's OK to accept a level above 140," said Teri Manolio of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Buckle up — it's the law — and just plain sense

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