

Robert Knowles
AUTOMOTIVE

806-669-3233 - 101 N. Hobart - 800-299-6699

Boyd Financial Services

Eddie & Ernie Boyd
Hughes Building Suite 190A
665-6165 -or- 1-800-678-3662

ROBERT KNOWLES
WEST TEXAS

FORD • LINCOLN • MERCURY
701 W. BROWN 665-8404

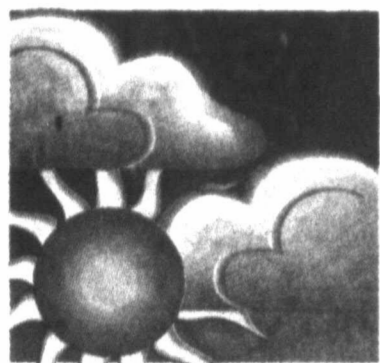
PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 90 NO: 95

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1997

PAMPA, TEXAS

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



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

LONGVIEW (AP) — A man arrested in West Texas during April's Republic of Texas standoff has received a probated sentence for a 1991 theft used as the basis for the arrest.

James Leslie Williamson Jr., 29, of Lone Oak, pleaded guilty June 5 in the 124th state district court to the theft charge out of Gregg County. Visiting Judge Larry Starr gave Williamson a five-year probated sentence.

Williamson and six others were arrested at a truck stop about 70 miles from Fort Davis, where Republic of Texas leader Richard McLaren and followers were holed up during a standoff with law enforcement officers.

Inside the vehicle officers found five semiautomatic rifles, one shotgun, one .45-caliber pistol and several hunting knives, Texas Ranger Sgt. Steve Foster said.

Some of the people in the vehicle were carrying Republic of Texas identification cards, officers said.

The outstanding warrant issued from Gregg County for Williamson led to his arrest. He was accused of stealing merchandise from a Longview Wal-Mart store where he once worked.

Officers said Williamson and another man stole the merchandise, which was pawned, sold or returned to other stores for refunds. Wal-Mart officials valued the items at \$20,528.

The other man pleaded guilty in 1991 and was sentenced to 30 years in prison as a habitual criminal.

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn for the \$8 million grand prize jackpot Wednesday night in the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 10-18-22-24-31-39.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$13 million.

- **Olivia Abercrombie**, 91, piano teacher
- **Gilbert Hampton**, 85, retired dock foreman, farmer
- **Lester Howard Lindsey**, 66, former Phillips Petroleum employee
- **Roxie A. Martin**, 59, homemaker
- **Dustin Rink**, 17, Pampa High School student

Classified10
Comics8
Editorial4
Sports9

Arrest made in insurance scam

By LAURA HALEY
Staff Writer

Pampa residents conned out of as much as \$1,000 may not be able to retrieve their money any time soon, but may find solace that at least one man police say participated in the insurance scam has been arrested.

Anthony Richard Stewart, 42, of Fort Worth, was arrested July 16 in Kerrville on a Randall County burglary warrant and parole violations after Amarillo Police traced fingerprints on a drinking glass at one of the victim's homes to Stewart. Since his arrest, Pampa Police have also charged Stewart with two counts of burglary.

The identity of the two other people still under investigation are not being released, but Det. David Lee with the Pampa Police Department said one is a relative of Stewart's and another is a paroled friend.

Burglary charges from Amarillo and Pampa were entered against Stewart after

entering at least four people's homes under the false pretense of selling insurance, said Lee.

Stewart came through the Pampa area in early June targeting elderly residents — aged 72 through 90, said Lee.

Stewart claimed to be an underwriter for the victims' insurance agencies and promised residents he would issue two months free coverage if the victim would pay a year's premium to purchase a living trust, said police. Checks were made payable to "T.R. Stewart" in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

He is described by police as a "smooth-talking man" who discussed church affairs and various illnesses with the victims before deceiving them of their money. Stewart was very convincing, said police, because he had personal knowledge of each victim's insurance agency. Police are still investigating how Stewart acquired the information about the various insurance agencies and policies.

At least three of Pampa's senior resi-

dents fell for the ploy and paid Stewart the cash. Only one check was cashed, however, at the time of Stewart's arrest in Kerrville, said Lee. Stewart could be sentenced restitution and ordered to pay back the victims of the scam, but it could be a lengthy process before the Pampa victim's cash is returned.

After learning of the insurance scam in Pampa, Lee notified Sgt. Henry Kelly with the Amarillo Police Department. Kelly notified Amarillo banks and publicized the information, which eventually led to Stewart's arrest.

Bank personnel throughout the city of Amarillo identified Stewart when he entered to cash these large checks, said Lee. In addition, Stewart was also identified through photographs and fingerprints left on a drinking glass at one of the victim's homes.

Stewart's fingerprint was on file with the Amarillo Police Department due to a prior arrest, allowing him to be quickly identified. Warrants were issued, which

led to Stewart's arrest in Kerrville.

It is not known at this time whether any residents in Kerrville fell victim to the scam, but at least five citizens from Amarillo and Pampa were conned.

The exact total amount of money stolen from the scam is unknown because police believe that many more residents may have fallen prey to the con-artist but are unwilling to step forward.

Because most of these individuals are elderly, said Lee, they are afraid to admit they were conned because family members may deem them unable to care for themselves. Many would much rather keep their independence than recoup their loss of money, said Lee.

Lee notes, however, that because of Stewart's personal knowledge of the victims, persons of any age would have been conned.

Any other individuals victimized by Stewart are encouraged to contact the Pampa Police Department at 669-5700. Stewart remains in Randall County Jail.

You're up next

The Tri-State Senior Golf Association hosted a "Seniors' Wives Putting Tournament" Wednesday morning at the Pampa Country Club. It was one of many activities spouses took part in during the group's visit here. From left, awaiting their turn to putt, are, Peggy Davis, Rhonda Short, Nedra Garrett and Nola Pearman. The awards banquet will be tonight at the country club and some 150 golfers will wind up their tournament tomorrow.

(Pampa News photo by Miranda Bailey)



Two teens discharged from care

By LAURA HALEY
Staff Writer

Just one day after the tragic death of Dustin Rink, 17, from methanol poisoning, two other Pampa teens that also drank the deadly substance were released yesterday from Northwest Texas Hospital in good condition.

Rink, Adam Scoggins, 18, Richie Ivey, 16, and two others drank the methyl alcohol Sunday evening after finding the substance in a cider jar in a relative's tool shed.

The five teens, aged 15-21, assumed the content of the jug was moonshine because of the shape of the container and mixed the methanol with Suge, Dr. Pepper and Kool-Aid, police said.

Methanol, a highly toxic substance, is clear and odorless. According to police, the relative of the 15-year-old had apparently been using the methanol as a paint thinner. Often a reaction to methyl alcohol is delayed, as was the case with three of the teens that consumed the poison.

Rink was rushed to Columbia Medical Center Emergency

See TEENS, Page 2

Oilfield theft nets prison, \$10,000 fine

BORGER — A Borger man has been sentenced to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for his part in a scheme to steal and sell hydrocarbon liquids.

Terry Lee Neugin, owner of T&N trucking in Borger, was punished Tuesday after pleading guilty to a lesser theft charge.

Others accused in the \$500,000 scheme include Ronald Jo Whitmire of Fritch, Raymond Brown of Borger, Cynthia Neugin Audrain of Borger and Joseph Lee Potts, who turned himself into authorities Monday.

All except Ms. Audrain, Neugin's sister, are former Phillips employees. All are free on bond, though Neugin was expected to report to jail.

The indictment stems from the theft of hydrocarbon liquids from GPM Gas Corp.

Prosecutors alleged that the former Phillips workers accepted cash payments in exchange for allowing Neugin and Ms. Audrain to steal liquids from various GPM facilities.

Report: Texas Supreme Court favors business, government

AUSTIN (AP) — The Republican-controlled Texas Supreme Court continues to lean in favor of businesses and government agencies, issuing fewer and fewer pro-consumer decisions, says a new report.

But Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas Phillips says there's not enough data to accurately label the court as leaning in any direction and that an apparently "pro-business" decision could benefit consumers.

"Every judge takes an oath to follow the constitution and laws. We do our best on a case-by-case basis," Phillips said after the report was released Wednesday.

Texas Citizen Action analyzed the 117 cases decided by the state's top civil court between Aug. 30, 1996, and July 9, 1997. In 55 "traditional injury" cases, Texans who sued

business or government agencies lost 71 percent of the time, according to the group.

"The big winners ... are the insurance companies, the medical community and the government," said Walt Borges, director of the Citizen's Court Watch program. "The court has tilted the playing field in favor of defendants. There is an appearance that the high court's justice is reserved for the moneyed, not the many."

Phillips said one case may involve several legal questions, some decided in favor of consumers and others for defendants. He added that too many lawsuits and judgments against businesses and government could drive up consumer prices and regulatory costs.

"Is a legal system that prices products out

of the market or sends jobs to other countries ... best for consumers?" Phillips asked. "There simply are not enough data to reach any reliable conclusions" about the court's decisions.

Borges said in the worst case, the nine-member court ruled that hospitals can't be held liable if doctors who work in their facilities commit acts of malpractice.

In another case, the court, controlled by seven Republicans including Phillips, made it harder for "legitimate" scientific evidence to be shown in court, Borges said.

"There has to be a balance" between pro-consumer and pro-business decisions, he added. "A sense of justice is what is missing."

Phillips said, "Justice is not partisan."

Suit costing taxpayers \$140 million

AUSTIN (AP) — A deal gone sour between the state and an air-quality testing firm will cost Texas taxpayers \$140 million.

Attorney General Dan Morales and attorneys for now-defunct Tejas Testing Technologies settle a 1995 lawsuit Wednesday. The company filed the lawsuit after the state dumped an auto emissions-testing program for which Tejas had won a

seven-year contract. The money will be paid from general state funds beginning with a \$70 million payment on Aug. 31.

The agreement must be approved by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Austin, which is overseeing Tejas' payment of debts.

The company spent millions of dollars establishing 55 inspection stations in Dallas-

Fort Worth, Houston-Galveston and Beaumont-Port Arthur, where federal officials had ordered emissions testing.

Shortly after Tejas stations opened in January 1995, drivers protested the tests as cumbersome and costly.

Lawmakers reacted by killing the program. They have since instituted another testing program that's met less opposition.

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

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

Armey, Delay apologize for actions during coup attempt

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Apologizing to the Republican rank-and-file for their lapses during an abortive plot against House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Texans Dick Armey and Tom DeLay appear to have silenced calls for their ouster from leadership.

During an extraordinary closed-door session of House Republicans on Wednesday night, Armey, DeLay and another leader implicated in the cabal apologized to Gingrich and their colleagues alike.

Lawmakers emerged from the late-night session voicing confidence in the entire leadership roster, saying the meeting soothed wounds incurred during the two-week-old palace intrigue.

The meeting was "filled with emotion, filled with passion," said Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio. "Every member stood up and spoke from the heart."

Armey, DeLay and Rep. John Boehner of Ohio acknowledged to their colleagues that they made mistakes, in particular by not immediately defusing the uprising.

In what was described as an especially cathartic moment, DeLay confirmed

what had been widely rumored for a week: That he told the dissidents in a July 11 meeting that he would vote with them if they brought a resolution to topple Gingrich.

"He said that he made a mistake in judgment," said Rep. C.W. Young of Florida. DeLay aides said that their boss was mentally exhausted from an 18-hour day when he made the pledge.

DeLay's admission earned the respect of his peers, Bonilla said. "It was very hard for him to say what he had to say, and I think people appreciated that ... it took a lot of courage for him to stand up and say the things he did."

While many Republicans said they have no heart for any further near-term leadership upheaval, some were eager to put Gingrich's lieutenants on the hot seat. There had been talk of attempting to unseat Armey, who as majority leader is No. 2 behind Gingrich, third-ranking DeLay or fourth-ranking Boehner.

That talk was silenced, to hear members tell it.

"I think if we had taken a vote we would have had a unanimous vote of confidence in the leadership," said Rep. Kenny Hulshof, R-Mo.

Rep. Ray LaHood of Illinois, who was the impetus for the laundry-airing cau-

cus, said: "I trust the leadership implicitly."

Armey and Boehner had earned the wrath of many for their repeated denials in recent days of involvement with the anti-Gingrich forces.

Under siege, the three worked feverishly to shore up their support — though their defense often came at the expense of one another.

In a letter to the editor Wednesday in a Capitol Hill biweekly, *The Hill*, Armey cast blame elsewhere, saying that to his "bitter disappointment" the rebels had received "encouraging words from someone in the leadership."

Good Samaritan sock donation



4-H members (bottom) Jennifer Myers, Brianna Roberts, Emily Elliott, Ande Shark, (top) Kaylee Shark, Sarah Myers, Maggie Ayers, Jennifer Greer and Treva Rowland donated socks to the Good Samaritans House Monday. Bill Ragsdale (far right) accepted the donation and explained to the 4-H students the purpose of Good Samaritans.

(Special photo)

Fire bug strikes: Scores of small blazes cropping up in Lubbock area

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Theories abound as to the motive of the Lubbock serial bush burners. Bored teens? Anti-juniper activists? Substance-abusing vandals?

One thing's for sure. If fire investigators have any solid clues regarding more than 130 suspicious small fires this year, they're not saying.

"There is no way to predict it," Lt. Mark Ethridge,

spokesman for the Lubbock Fire Department, talking about his least favorite subject these days. "There

have been a lot of fires in a specific area of town. Even with the eyewitness accounts we've had, it's real difficult to pinpoint any one person."

"We've had a lot of leads, a lot of information. We're just looking for one little corner piece of the puzzle."

Recently, reports had Lubbockites on the lookout for a Ford Bronco, the third vehicle associated with the rash of blazes that Ethridge says have engulfed more than \$100,000 in bushes, trees and fences.

So far, no one has been injured and no structures have been seriously damaged. A four-week-old cat, nicknamed "Sparky" by rescuers, was singed Tuesday when vandals torched its juniper hiding place during a three-fire spree.

It's the longest serial arson campaign Ethridge said he can remember over 19 years in the department.

"It's hard for me to envision why they'd do it," said Bill

Maloy, who is handling a \$2,000 reward being offered by a group of office park tenants that have seen five flora-flaming blazes this year. "One happened at 11 o'clock on a Monday morning right adjacent to a building where a lot of people were working. A police officer was on the property at the time."

The arsonists, or arsonist, haven't followed a discernible pattern. While many fires have

occurred in the more prosperous and heavily landscaped southwest side of Lubbock, others have happened miles away.

The vandals have struck at all hours, leaving few clues and fewer witnesses. The fires have occurred in spurts of three or more in a day, and Maloy said some sort of accelerant is being applied.

The conflagrations began earlier this year, when fences were the primary targets. Bushes have taken the brunt this summer, particularly junipers, non-native plants popular in landscaping here.

"That would be the only link, that some guy doesn't like juniper bushes," Maloy puzzled. "They burn real well because they're so dense underneath. Their needles accumulate at the bottom."

Texas Tech psychiatry instructor Dr. Margaret Weidow said motivation for such crimes depends on age. Teens might do it for cheap thrills, while adults could have deeper reasons.

The vandals have struck at all hours, leaving few clues and fewer witnesses.

Couple may be forced from home by rebuilding rules

JONESTOWN, Texas (AP) — Buddy Stueve, who turns 67 Friday, doesn't want the government to help him rebuild the 900-square-foot home he constructed with his own hands on Lake Travis.

He just wishes the Federal Emergency Management Agency — touted by disaster officials as offering safety nets for flood victims — wouldn't turn "my all American dream into a nightmare."

Stueve, whose roof was topped by three feet of water in recent flooding, faces regulations that weren't in place when he started constructing his home 25 years ago. Back then, there weren't federal rules saying that once a home receives 50-percent flood damage, it must be elevated one foot above the 100-year flood level.

The requirements threaten to take Stueve's home away from him, the Austin American-Statesman reported Wednesday.

"I'm not going to bother Jonestown, and I'm not asking for a dime from the government. Why can't they just let me be?" Stueve said. Jonestown has grown up around his home since he built it.

Pete Baldwin, director of emergency management for Travis County, said it's likely that other homeowners are in the same situation in the wake of flooding that affected an estimated 189 homes in Travis County alone.

There is not enough federal disaster money available to buy out these homeowners, Baldwin said. Asked what would happen to people such as the Stueve and his wife, Baldwin said, "I don't know."

The foundation of Stueve's blue-with-white-trim cabin is made of railroad ties and telephone poles hammered together with 16-penny nails. The roof is covered with tar paper and shingle roll — "and it's nailed down darn well, I'll guarantee it," Stueve says.

The only things on their property that weren't underwater in June were the tops of twelve shade trees and the flagpole that Stueve, a Korean War veteran, keeps in his yard.

Damage to the home was put at \$18,000 by Jonestown's building code inspector, over the government's 50 percent benchmark. If anyone is going to continue liv-

ing there, it must be elevated 23 feet on stilts.

Stueve, who with his wife has a monthly fixed Social Security income of just over \$1,000 a month, has no idea how he would pay the six-figure cost of elevating the home. He would like to simply repair his home himself, a little at a time.

FEMA disaster relief spokeswoman Jo Morris says there are three safety nets available for such flood victims: private insurance, a Small Business Administration disaster loan and a family grant.

But Stueve said the couple couldn't afford \$300 annually in insurance premiums. He doesn't see how he would qualify for a disaster loan, because he wouldn't be able to repay it.

A FEMA personal assistance grant, meanwhile, has a maximum value of \$13,100 — far short of what's needed to elevate his house or buy a new one.

"Do you know where we can buy a \$13,000 home?" Stueve asked. "And I can't pay a \$700 month mortgage payment. I might try, but they'd have to evict me in 30 days."

Get It Now • Get It Done • Get A Deal

HOT SAVINGS!

PAINT

Our best selling paints with a 12-year warranty.

A-100® and Classic 99®

EXTERIOR PAINT **INTERIOR PAINT**

No peeling, no fading! Excellent durability. Washable, great coverage! Smooth, rich finish.

SAVE \$5.00! **\$15.49** Per Gallon
Flat Reg. \$20.49
Similar savings on other finishes!

WeatherPerfect® EXTERIOR PAINT

A great value with a 6-year warranty.

SAVE \$4.00! **\$13.49** Per Gallon
Flat Reg. \$17.49
Similar savings on other finishes!

SALE PRICES EFFECTIVE THROUGH JULY 31, 1997. ALL SAVINGS ARE OFF REGULAR PRICES.

WALLPAPER

All In-Stock Wallpaper
\$4.99-\$8.99 PER SINGLE ROLL
Wallpaper packaged in double rolls.

LOW PRICE GUARANTEE!
Find a lower price, we'll match it!

ON SALE NOW!

Great Selection!
Select Custom Order Patterns & Borders **33%-64% OFF**
Ceiling papers, lining papers and fabrics found in sample books not included.

Premium® Brushes **\$2.99-\$7.99**
Reg. \$4.99-\$10.49

Krylon® Living Color NEW **\$3.99**
Latex Spray Paint/Can Reg. \$4.49

©1997 The Sherwin-Williams Company. Not responsible for typographical or artwork errors. Sherwin-Williams reserves the right to correct errors at point of purchase.

WHERE TO GET IT™
Only at your **SHERWIN-WILLIAMS Store**

Pampa • 2109 N. Hobart St. • 806-665-5727

CINEMA 4
Coronado Shopping Center

Hercules (G)
Men In Black (PG-13)
Batman & Robin (PG-13)
Face/Off (R)

\$5.00 Per Person
Showtimes • Call 665-7141

The Donut Stop Several Varieties & Flavors

Convenient Location
1328 N. Hobart • 665-1710

THE PAMPA NEWS

SERVING THE TOP 'O TEXAS FOR 83 YEARS

403 W. ATCHISON • PAMPA, TEXAS
TELEPHONES: (806) 669-2525
1-800-687-3348 • FAX: 669-2520

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays and holidays by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: L.W. McCall
Associate Publisher-Editor: Kate B. Dickson
Advertising Director: Rick Clark
Office Manager: Helena Ellis
Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch

MISS YOUR PAPER?
Circulation department hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Sundays.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE
The entire contents of The Pampa News, including its logotype, are fully protected by copyright and registry and cannot be reproduced in any form for any purpose without written permission from The Pampa News.

SINGLE COPIES
Daily 50¢/Sunday 1.00
Member: Associated Press

SUBSCRIPTION RATES	
CARRIER HOME DELIVERY	
1 yr.	\$4.00
6 mos.	\$2.00
3 mos.	\$1.00
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	
Mail In Roberts, Gray, Carson, Wheeler And Hemphill Counties In Texas	
1 yr.	\$10.00
6 mos.	\$5.00
3 mos.	\$2.50
Mail All Other Areas In U.S.	
1 yr.	\$14.00
6 mos.	\$7.00
3 mos.	\$3.50
Single Copy Mail	
Daily	1.50
Sunday	2.50

No mail subscriptions are available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid 3 months in advance.

HOME DELIVERY
All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the News Office any payment that exceeds the current collection period.

Employee of the Month



(Special photo)

Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency Employee of the Month for July, Debby Dancel, receives an award from owner Suzie Wilkinson recently. Dancel, an RN, has worked for Shepard's for four years and does admissions, patient care and helps with the paper flow to the physician's offices. She is a member of the Staff Involvement Committee, works on the annual Food Drive in Pampa and is an active supporter of Helping Hands. In addition, she has served with the American Heart Association as president, president-elect, chairman of the Heart Walk (two years), chairman of the Art Auction and is currently development chairman.

World briefs

British government to end free education for university students

LONDON (AP) — Saying the university system is short on cash, the British government is scrapping the longstanding tradition of free university education.

The end of the program, a basic precept of Britain's welfare state, means that the 1.1 million full-time students at Britain's 90 universities — who now pay nothing for their schooling — will have to pay their own way or take out loans.

A government report proposed charging tuition of \$1,680 per student and ending grants for living expenses, raising about \$1.7 billion a year.

"We must get more money into our university system," Prime Minister Tony Blair told the House of Commons on Wednesday, noting increasing taxes was "something people would not tolerate."

While tuition is the norm at most American universities — where total costs can reach \$30,000 per year — Britain and other European countries have strongly supported free education.

Blair and Education Secretary David Blunkett outlined the government's plans after the publication of the 1,700-page report on higher education that was started by the previous Conservative government. The government will begin phasing in the changes next year.

Former rebel leader declared winner of Liberian election

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Charles Taylor, the former rebel chief who initiated Liberia's seven-year civil war, today was officially declared the winner of presidential elections.

Liberia's elections commission said it had counted more than 90 percent of the ballots from Saturday's election and that Taylor received 75 percent of the vote.

His closest opponent, former United Nations official Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, received 9.5 percent.

None of the other eleven candidates received more than four percent of the 621,888 votes counted so far, said Independent Elections Commission chairman Henry Andrews.

Taylor's National Patriotic Party is assured an overwhelming majority in the 26-member Senate and 64-member House of Representatives, whose seats will be distributed to parties according to the percentage of votes their candidates received.

Taylor, whose inauguration is set for Aug. 2, is thus guaranteed almost total control over the country founded by freed American slaves in 1847.

Taylor, 49, was a favorite from the start but had been expected to face Johnson-Sirleaf, 58, in a runoff next month.

Golf scramble



(Pampa News photo)

Monday's Wives Golf Tournament was held at the Pampa Country Club. A four person scramble was the game of the day.

Poll: One in four initially refer to selves as Texans

AUSTIN (AP) — Nearly one-fourth of the state's residents consider themselves first a Texan and second an American, a new poll finds.

That's a stunningly high rate of identity with a state, and it's probably unmatched in any of the other 49, pollster Frank Luntz said Wednesday.

"I would argue that there's no state in the country that would have a higher state personal identification than Texas does," said Luntz, who operates a Washington-based consulting firm.

In his survey, 500 Texans were asked: "If you had to choose one or the other, would you consider yourself a Texan first or an American first?"

Twenty-three percent said Texan; 73 percent said American; and three percent said both. Others said they either didn't know or declined to answer.

Luntz said he was startled by the response.

"That almost one out of four see themselves first as Texans is remarkable," he said.

"There is something special about this state. There is a community here that doesn't exist in other states. Even though it's

so large, even though the population is so diverse."

Luntz said he's never scientifically polled on such a question in other states, but he has asked it of participants in smaller focus group discussions.

"They just don't understand what I'm asking," he laughed.

He attributed the Texas loyalty in part to the state's unique history. After rebelling against Mexico, Texas was an independent nation before joining the United States in 1845.

"I think it began with how Texas became a state, how it left Mexico and became a state. And it has not changed. A lot of people who were born here stay here. And people who move into the state tend not to move out. That's why you're growing so fast."

An unexpected finding, he said, is that the Texas identity isn't confined to the cowboy legend.

"I had assumed that there was this 'cowboy mythology' that people who lived in this state for generations had this identity to the flag, to the ranch. And it's not there. It doesn't exist that way," Luntz said.

Cadet excelled at academy, father says

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AP) — She was in excellent physical condition: a runner who at 5-foot-3 inches, 103 pounds had a washboard stomach.

And when Cadet Third Class Stephanie Louise Pollard took a fitness test before entering the Air Force Academy she did more sit-ups and pull-ups than most of the men, her father said.

So when El Paso, Texas, native Pollard died after going into cardiac arrest during a field training exercise Monday night, no one expected the tragedy.

"She had no physical ailments, no weaknesses," said her father, John.

Pollard, 19, experienced trouble breathing during a survival training exercise at 9,500-foot

Saylor Park in the Pikes Peak National Forest, then went into full cardiac arrest, said academy spokeswoman Lt. Maureen Metzger.

She was transported by a Flight For Life helicopter to Penrose Main Hospital in nearby Colorado Springs, where she was pronounced dead.

An autopsy found the cause of death to be acute pulmonary edema caused by altitude sickness.

The standout cadet had just returned to the Air Force Academy from her Texas vacation.

Coroner Dr. David Bowerman said pulmonary edema causes a buildup of fluid in the lungs which can cause heart failure.

Bowerman said fluid accumulation could have been caused by an abrupt change from near-sea level altitude in Texas to the high altitude of the training site where she was stricken.

"This is not unusual. In the Rocky Mountains or the Andes, this will happen to people when they go from a low altitude to a higher altitude," said Bowerman.

Pollard excelled at the academy. As a freshman, she won the prestigious Superintendent's Pin, which is awarded only twice per year to the one cadet who has the best marks in academics, military training and physical conditioning.

A freshman winning the award is "unheard of, and she almost won it again," her father said.



If you, or someone you know, is the slightest bit Quirky ... Unique ... BIZARRE...

interesting ... wonderful!
or just-plain-fun-to-know... Write it down. Bring it by and let's get to know

OUR NEIGHBORS...

A series of stories on the people, for the people and by the people!

Person Nominated..... Phone

Your Name..... Phone

Tell us a little something about this person:

Drop this form off at The Pampa News - 403 W. Atchison or
 Mail to: Attention - Miranda Bailey
 The Pampa News • P.O. Drawer 2198 • Pampa, TX 79066-2198
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!

Home Health Care Supplies
DEAN'S PHARMACY
 2217 Perryton Parkway
 669-6896

Century 21 PAMPA REALTY INC.
 For All Your Real Estate Needs
669-0007

Sandra Bronner.....	665-4218
Jim Davidson.....	669-1863
Robert Anderwald.....	665-3367
Marie Eastham.....	665-5436
Henry Gruben (BKR).....	669-3798
Sue Baker.....	669-0409
Katrina Bigham.....	665-4678
Twila Fisher (BKR).....	665-3560

Opening Private Practice August 4th



DR. CHUONG PHAM Obstetrics-Gynecology

•Bachelor of Science: University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

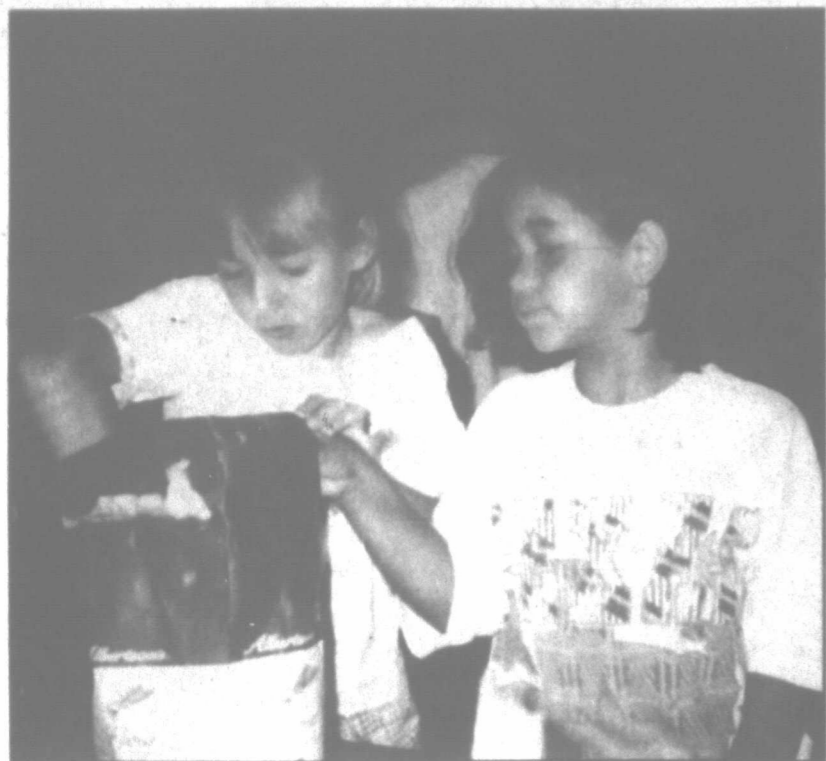
•Medical School: University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX.

•Residency: Jackson Memorial Hospital University of Miami, Miami, FL. Chief Resident

100 West 30th • Suite 102 • Pampa, Tx.

To make an appointment, please call Columbia Medical Center Central Scheduling between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday at
806-663-5775

Bread baking workshop



(Special photos)

Top photo: Alicia Kirkwood and Alexandra Long scoop out just the right amount of flour to make turnovers and foldovers during a bread baking workshop on Monday. The workshop was held for girls in the 4-H Club. Thirteen girls participated in the class, taught by Donna Brauchi, at the Gray County Annex. Photo at right: Ande Shark, Treva Rowland and Jennifer Greer practice making turnovers and foldovers during the workshop.



Protestants shoot down compromise guidelines

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) - The guns are silent in Northern Ireland - and so, in a way, are the politicians. They still haven't found a way to talk to each other across the Protestant-Catholic divide.

The British and Irish governments spent a year crafting a compromise to allow IRA supporters to join in Northern Ireland peace talks, searching for a way to satisfy both Protestants and Catholics.

But the guidelines that they developed - which would have let in the IRA-allied Sinn Fein while assigning an international commission to work on disarming the Irish Republican Army and pro-British paramilitary groups - were rejected Wednesday.

Protestant "unionist" parties voted it down because they wanted a detailed schedule for disarmament.

That left the IRA and its allied Sinn Fein party refusing to consider any disarmament plan, the largest Protestant party refusing to speak to Sinn Fein until it does and two other Protestant parties refusing to talk to Sinn Fein no matter what.

"No one ever thought this would be easy," said former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell, who has spent 13 months chairing the talks.

"There is a pattern here of, for every step forward, a step backward occurring. But the general direction is the right one," he said.

In London, Prime Minister Tony Blair told the House of Commons his government would keep trying to find a way out of the impasse.

Pentagon: Nearly 100,000 troops exposed to poison gas

By ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Pentagon now says 98,900 U.S. troops were exposed to trace amounts of poison gas from exploded Iraqi weapons shortly after the Gulf War but that none received doses high enough to cause noticeable health effects.

Even though the estimate of troops exposed is five times the Pentagon's earlier guess, it is sticking to its view that the chemical release on March 10, 1991, appears unrelated to the mysterious illnesses reported by Gulf War veterans.

The latest numbers, which are higher than generally expected, were revealed by defense officials Wednesday on condition they not be identified. The Pentagon scheduled a news conference today to make the official announcement.

Scientists and others attempting to find the cause of Gulf War illnesses such as chronic fatigue and respiratory problems have suggested chemical exposure. Exposure to biological poisons, fumes from oil well fires and the

aftereffects of wartime stress also have been offered as possible explanations.

The defense officials said the new estimate of troop exposures is based on more complete information about circumstances when U.S. troops demolished the

In an earlier estimate ... the Pentagon and CIA had said about 20,000 American troops might have been exposed.

Khamisiyah ammunition depot in southern Iraq on March 10, 1991. Unknown to the troops, hundreds of 122mm rockets with sarin gas in their warheads were among the weapons blown up that day.

None of the troops involved reported ill health effects at the time, and the fact that Iraqi chemical weapons were present at

Khamisiyah did not come to light until 1996.

In an earlier estimate made with incomplete data on such factors as wind shifts, troop locations and the purity of the chemicals in the Iraqi rockets, the Pentagon and CIA had said about 20,000 American troops might have been exposed.

Computer modeling based on more complete information showed the plume carrying minute amounts of chemical agents traveled as far as 300 miles, the officials said. The 98,900 troops were under that plume between March 10 and 13.

Officials stressed that none of the 98,900 was exposed to amounts of gas that would cause even minor immediate symptoms such as runny nose or dimmed vision. Even so, all 98,900 will be surveyed as part of a continuing Pentagon effort to determine if there are delayed or long-term health effects to exposure to trace amounts of chemicals.

A lethal dose of the poison gas would be 100 milligrams per cubic meter, and an incapacitating dose would be 35 milligrams. Initial

effects such as dimmed vision are seen at an exposure level of 1 milligram per cubic meter. None of the 98,900 who were in the Iraqi gas cloud got even 1 milligram exposure, officials said.

For more than five years after the war against Iraq, the Pentagon strongly denied there was any evidence that American troops had been exposed to chemical weapons.

In June 1996, however, the Pentagon acknowledged the demolition of the Khamisiyah ammunition depot in southern Iraq in March 1991 had resulted in the release of toxic chemical agents in the vicinity of American troops. But it didn't know the degree of exposure or the number of troops possibly affected.

Last month the Pentagon said it had established the exact whereabouts of U.S. forces on the day of the demolition, and just last week it estimated that about 500 chemical-filled 122mm Iraqi rockets had been blown up at Khamisiyah.

The conclusions in the report to be released Thursday were drawn

by matching the troop location information with newly derived data on the size, density and movement of the chemical-bearing plume created by the demolition.

When the Pentagon initially estimated that 20,000 troops may have been exposed it surveyed them to determine such things as ill health effects they suffered. Of the 7,400 who responded, 26 reported medical problems that could be associated with exposure to gas. Nine of the 26, however, were not in the area of the plume created by the Khamisiyah demolition, officials said.

Pampa's Leading Mortgage Lender

FirstBank Southwest
National Association
Pampa

Member FDIC

300 W. Kingsmill • 665-2341 • Pampa, Texas

Nation briefs

O'Connor lawyer says Perzigian doesn't deserve even \$1

LOS ANGELES (AP) - A verdict of even \$1 in a convicted cocaine user's slander lawsuit against Carroll O'Connor "would be a tragedy," the actor's lawyer told jurors.

Harry Perzigian's lawyer put things in a different light, saying the songwriter has been defamed by the TV star - who blames Perzigian for his son's drug-induced suicide - and deserves vindication.

Jury deliberations were expected to begin today.

Hugh O'Connor, 32, shot himself in March 1995 after a long battle with cocaine addiction. Perzigian sued Carroll O'Connor for slander after the *All in the Family* actor went on television to describe Perzigian as "a partner in murder" for supplying his son with cocaine for years.

Andrew Cunanan found dead in houseboat stormed by SWAT team

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Andrew Cunanan, the suspected serial killer who eluded a nationwide manhunt for nearly three months, shot himself to death in a houseboat just 2 1/2 miles from where Gianni Versace was gunned down.

"All across the nation, our citizens can stand down and breathe a sigh of relief. The reign of terror brought upon us by Andrew Cunanan is over," police Chief Richard Barreto said today.

More than 100 police and FBI agents surrounded the floating, two-story home Wednesday night after a report of a gunshot coming from inside.

Police officers shouted, "Come out! Come out!" but the man believed hiding inside did not respond. Officers then fired tear gas and six SWAT team members dressed in black flak jackets and armed with rifles and a shield moved in.

Cunanan's body was found several hours later.

"There was an unprecedented level of pressure put on this man by law enforcement and media exposure," Barreto said. "I think he was a desperate person."

Heard-Jones HEALTH MART
114 N. Cuyler - Open 8:00-6:00 - 669-7478
SAVE THURSDAY-FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Red Hot Savings

CORONET PAPER TOWELS	SOFT N GENTLE BATH TISSUE
2 Rolls 99¢	4 Roll Pkg. 79¢
Limit 4 Rolls	

\$1.39

All Types 6/12 Oz. Cans
COCA-COLA or DR. PEPPER

FRESH PIES BAKED DAILY

HEALTH MART The Drugstore You Knew As A Child And Trust As An Adult
OVER 825 STORES NATIONWIDE

FREE CITY WIDE PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY
We Honor All 3rd Party Plans

- Fast, Accurate, Professional Service
- Senior Citizen Discount
- Proud Parents Discount
- Free Consultation On Prescription And Over The Counter Drugs
- 24 Hour Emergency Service 669-3107

Bill Hite, Owner Pharmacist | Dick Wilson, Pharmacist

KODAK ADVANTIX 3600 IX Auto Focus Camera 200-zone auto-focus lens; close focus to 2 ft. Information Exchange (IX) for better pictures from each roll Easy, error-free drop-in load \$119.99	ALL NAME BRAND CIGARETTES ALL SIZES, ALL TYPES CARTON \$15.99 KLEENEX FAMILY SIZE FACIAL TISSUE 250 Ct. Box \$13.99 20" 3 Speed 13 Box Fan \$13.99	New! KODAK GOLD Max film Self-Adjusting for virtually any conditions \$1.49 CLOROX BLEACH 1 Gal. 99¢
---	--	--

Assembly line



(Special photo)

Maggie Ayers, Sarah Myers, Alicia Kirkwood, Sarah Schwab and Lori Stephens form an assembly line while making foldovers and turnovers at the Gray County Annex Monday. These girls, through the 4-H Club, attended a bread making class on Monday. The class was taught by Donna Brauchi.

GOP under fire:

Ex-party chairman Haley Barbour deposition contradicts testimony, documents

WASHINGTON (AP) — Contradicting other testimony and documents, former Republican Party Chairman Haley Barbour told Senate investigators he didn't learn until this year that foreign money was used to guarantee a \$2.1 million loan to his GOP think tank.

In deposition testimony taken last weekend and obtained by The Associated Press, Barbour placed himself at odds with statements that he was informed of the foreign money as early as August 1994.

Barbour has told Senate Governmental Affairs Committee investigators he's eager to tell his side of the story in today's hearing on campaign finance abuse. Minority Democrats have called him a witness as they try to build a case that Republicans were just as culpable as the Democratic Party in allowing foreign money to finance election campaigns.

Asked when he learned that money to guarantee the loan was wired from Hong Kong in 1994, Barbour said in his deposition last Saturday: "The first time I ever received any information that I considered credible" was earlier this year, when the loan documents were retrieved from a warehouse. Documents from Barbour's National Policy Forum think tank

were subpoenaed for the hearings, now in their third week.

"As they were reviewed, there was in the loan documents some sort of record. I don't recall exactly what it is, but there was a reference

Barbour, who headed the Republican National Committee and the think tank at the same time, acknowledged that he received a letter on Sept. 17, 1996, that mentioned the foreign money.

in the loan documents," Barbour said.

Barbour, who headed the Republican National Committee and the think tank at the same time, acknowledged that he received a letter on Sept. 17, 1996, that mentioned the foreign money. But he said he discounted the letter, written by one of Barbour's predecessors as Republican chairman,

because it was filled with inaccuracies.

The think tank could legally receive contributions from overseas businesses, but the Republican National Committee could not. However, Democrats contend the National Policy Forum was inseparable from the party organization — a view that Barbour hotly denies.

Testimony and documents demonstrated on Wednesday the policy forum was able to obtain a \$2.1 million loan from a U.S. bank, after Hong Kong businessman Ambrous Young guaranteed it with certificates of deposit.

The policy forum then sent \$1.6 million to the RNC to repay loans from the party organization that had kept the think tank afloat.

The RNC then sent the money to the states for party-building activities, just before Republicans won control of the House in November 1994 for the first time in 40 years.

Michael Baroody, who served as Barbour's first president of the non-profit forum, testified Wednesday that Barbour ignored his warning to avoid foreign money. Baroody said that while the forum could legally accept foreign funds, he believed it would be "not right, inappropriate, unseemly and imprudent."

In his deposition, Barbour found himself at odds with:

—Young's sworn statement, describing his first meeting with Barbour at a Washington dinner in August 1994, when Barbour brought up the need for a loan. The businessman told investigators that he told the Republican chairman he needed time, "so that we can present it to (the) YBD (Young Brothers Development) Hong Kong board of directors for further consideration."

—Testimony on Wednesday from Young's U.S. attorney, Benton Becker, that in September or October 1994, he discussed the transfer of money from Hong Kong with David Norcross, the general counsel to the Republican National Committee.

—Young's description of a conversation with Barbour in the summer of 1995 in Hong Kong. Young testified he told Barbour he could not forgive the loan as Barbour desired.

—The Sept. 17, 1996, letter from former Republican national chairman Richard Richards, who by then was working for Young. Richards recited the history of the loan, writing Barbour, "funds were transferred from Hong Kong to Young Brothers USA, a Florida corporation of which I am the president."

Senator: Disaster loans now available for Texas counties

WASHINGTON — Businesses that are dependent upon farmers and ranchers in eight Texas counties are eligible to apply for low interest disaster loan assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration, according to Sen. Phil Gramm.

Gramm said the areas are eligible for disaster assistance by the SBA due to excessive rain which occurred during April.

Specifically, the senator said, the loans can help a business meet installments on longterm debt, accounts payable and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disasters not occurred. The deadline for filing an application is March 2, 1998.

Due to the damage, many producers experienced crop losses and were not able to purchase goods and services at normal levels. Businesses that are dependent upon these producers may have experienced decreased

sales, reduced gross profit margins, increased accounts receivable or difficulty in moving inventories at normal levels. To the extent these problems have caused the business difficulty in meeting its normal obligations, these loans may be of assistance, Gramm said.

The program covers businesses which are without commercial credit. The interest rate available is four percent with a maximum of 30 years allowed for repayment. Refinancing of longterm debt is not eligible under this program, the senator noted.

The SBA provides assistance to small businesses which have sustained substantial economic or physical injury resulting from natural disasters.

To obtain an application or to receive additional information, interested business owners may call the SBA toll free at 1-800-366-6303.

FPC to host fall extravaganza

BORGER — Frank Phillips College will be hosting a Fall Kick Off Extravaganza from 1-6 p.m. Aug. 15, and from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 16, on campus between the BCAC and the Student Union Building. The public is encouraged to come and see what FPC has to offer.

There will be free hot dogs and cokes and free coloring books for the kids. Faculty, staff and administrators will be on hand to provide academic consultations, transcript reviews and general information about the college and its programs. For more information, contact FPC's Office of Student Services at (806) 274-5311 or call 1-800-687-2056, ext. 721.

Perfect Eyes. Perfect Lips.

Done once... Done right... Done always.

Permanent Cosmetic Makeup from the Advanced Skin Treatment Center is a perfect solution for women who have more important things to do than apply makeup. Because it's done once and done right. No need to reapply or worry about eyeliner smearing. You save time, but always have a consistently beautiful look. Plus, you can be confident that all procedures are supervised by a board-certified dermatologist. Call today for a priority evaluation to discover what Permanent Cosmetic Makeup can mean for you.



Elaine Cook, M.D.
Board Certified Dermatologist
More than 13 years of experience
Member: A.A.D., I.M.A., A.S.D., T.D.S., A.A.P.S.
American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery, Inc.

Waffle Village • Amarillo
(806) 258-1117
Surrounding area 1-800-417-SKIN



Don't Age. ADVANCE

H.I.S. - BUGLE BOY - LEE - RIDDELL

ANTHONY'S **NOTHING HELD BACK!**

TOTAL INVENTORY LIQUIDATION SALE

THE ENTIRE INVENTORY IS BEING SOLD AT DISCOUNT PRICES!

NOW SAVE

25 TO 60%

PRICES SLASHED AGAIN !!

SAVE 10% OFF LEVI'S, HANES, NIKE & DOCKERS

HURRY IN FOR BEST SELECTION!

DON'T MISS OUT!! SHOP NOW!!

EVERYTHING WILL BE SOLD!

ANTHONY'S

CORONADO CENTER • PAMPA, TEXAS

VAN HEUSEN - PLAYTEX - TEDDI

CASH, VISA, & MASTERCARD CARD ACCEPTED. NO RETURNS, REFUNDS OR EXCHANGES. ALL QUANTITIES LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND. ALL SALES FINAL. NOT ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE IN ALL STORES.

S
n
se

land
nt in
in a
y still
lk to
stant-

verning
a sup-
thern
g for
stants

they
have
Fein
nial
harm-
Army
itary
ected

arties
they
le for

allied-
con-
n, the
using
does
arties
in no

for U.S.
p has
the

of, for
back-
neral
" he

nister
se of
ment
way

er

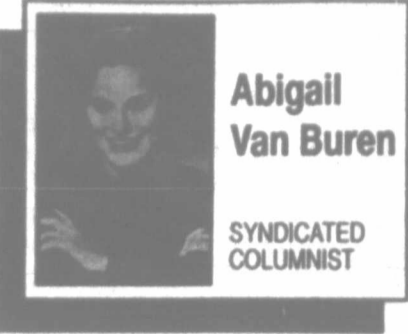
Trust In Husband Disappears Along With Savings Account

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 27 years. Two years ago, my husband was laid off from his job after 31 years. I had always saved our money, and lived with an eye toward the future. We had taken out loans occasionally at my husband's credit union. Each time he got a raise, I'd put some of it away for that "rainy day."

One Saturday when the mail arrived, there was a letter in it from the credit union saying my husband was two payments behind on a loan. When he returned from playing golf, I told him I'd seen the dun and it was a mistake; it had to be his brother's. (His brother also worked for the same company.) I said if that's the way they did business, I'd meet him on Monday and we'd withdraw all our money and put it into another bank.

The following Monday, on my way to work, we met at the place the company had set up for out-placed employees. My husband seemed nervous and said we needed to talk. He then informed me that the \$75,000 to \$80,000 that was supposed to be in the account was gone. He had spent the money. I had been able to deal with his losing his job and my going to work full time, but this was too much. I exploded.

I asked him what he'd done with the money. He said he spent it on the family. Well, Abby, I know what kind of lifestyle we have lived, and we have nothing to show for that



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

amount of money. We went to counseling. I thought I was losing my mind. I loved this man, had his two children, and have never been with anyone else. The counselor told me I was not crazy. But when I'd talk with my husband, he made me feel like an idiot. The counselor told him that all I wanted to know was what he had done with the money. My husband insisted he didn't know what he had spent the money on.

Things went from bad to worse. Then I found girlie magazines in the back of our closet. I could only imagine the kinds of things he had been up to through the years.

We are now separated. When I see him, he swears that he has changed. But he still hasn't taken any responsibility for his dishonesty.

Abby, will I ever be able to trust him again? I thought I knew him. He says he doesn't need help. Can you advise me?

NEEDING PEACE
IN WASHINGTON

DEAR NEEDING PEACE: Should you trust him again? Why should you? He is clearly a liar. He knows how he spent the money.

Although he swears he has changed, leopards don't usually change their spots, especially those who don't cooperate in counseling. It's time to look out for yourself and do what's best for you.

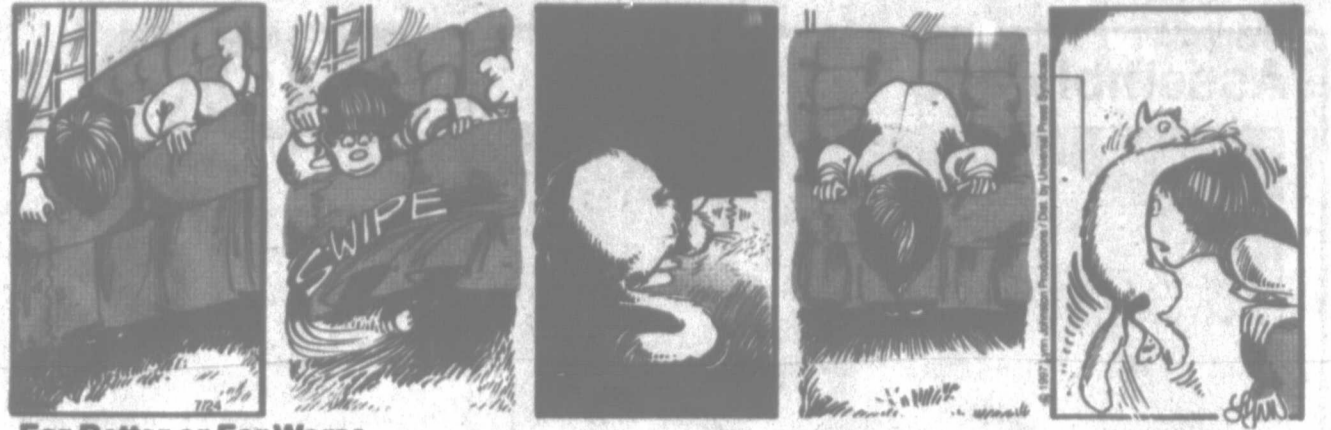
DEAR ABBY: I need some advice. I am a cat lover and own three declawed and lovable cats. I have a neighbor who periodically visits me and panics when the cats walk by her. She keeps asking me to remove them from the room. I have tried reassuring her that they will not harm her, but she still over-reacts.

Should I confine them in a separate room, or should I graciously tell her that this is my home, and my cats' home, and they are free to roam as they please?

CATFUSED IN CANADA

DEAR CATFUSED: The cats may be lovable to you, but not everyone is a cat lover. Also, many people are allergic to animal fur.

When your neighbor visits, keep the cats in a separate room with food and water. She will appreciate it.



For Better or For Worse



Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Friday, July 25, 1997

New experiences will enhance your leadership qualities in the year ahead. Destiny may place you in the forefront of something impressive; it'll help show you're made of the right stuff.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today you're likely to be both imaginative and lucky. This is a winning combination that could express itself in benefits for you. Devise ways to improve your lot in life. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Play your hunches today, especially those that you feel can contribute to the security of your loved ones. Your perceptions are feasible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Mixing with a large group could turn out to be advantageous for you today. People who are in positions to help you might be in attendance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Conditions are becoming more receptive, and soon you should be reaping rewards from ambitious seeds you've been planting. Keep tending your garden.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Assignments that will be easy for you to perform today might be too difficult for your associates. Do not delegate critical tasks; do them yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Persons whom you've considered to be lucky charms could work their magic once again for you today, especially in commercial endeavors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) This is a good day to negotiate a significant con-

tract. Be fair with your counterpart and you might receive some benefits without requesting them.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The kinds of opportunities that surround you today at the workplace are grander than usual. Anything is possible, so make something happen.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The impression you'll make on others today will be of a lasting, favorable nature. Your actions and demeanor will draw people to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) It is to your advantage today to seek closure or tie down situations that are financially meaningful to you. Profits are probable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Fun and excitement could be waiting for you today out where the bright lights are shining. Do not deprive yourself of having a good time by being a loner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) There are a number of possibilities for material gains that could be rearing their appealing features for you today. Be sure to exercise your Midas touch.

©1997 by NEA, Inc.



Billy continues to report highlights of their vacation trip.

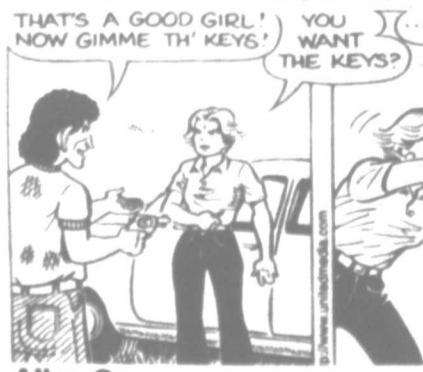


"It wouldn't hurt you to miss a cookout now and then."

The Family Circus



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts

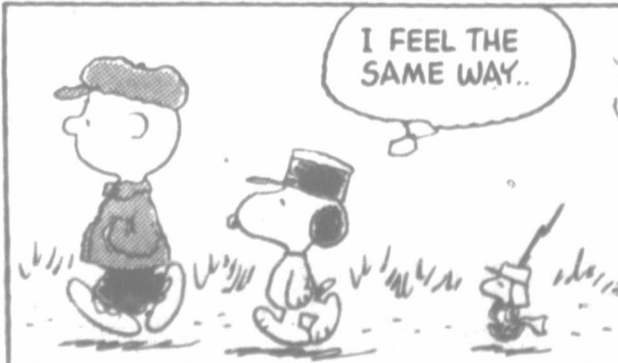
Marmaduke



Pet Store



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Drug maker lobbying states against generic blood thinner

WASHINGTON (AP) — In at least 20 state capitals, from Sacramento to Albany, a major drug-maker is lobbying lawmakers to slow down the marketing of a cheaper generic version of Coumadin, a blood thinner taken by 1.8 million people.

The company, DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical, took its campaign to the states a year ago after a competitor sought approval for its generic version — and a share of the \$500-million-a-year market for the drug.

Coumadin is one of a small class known as "narrow therapeutic index" drugs. That means the dosages must be tightly controlled. Slightly too little, and the medicine is ineffective; slightly too much, and it can be toxic. DuPont Merck, a joint venture between DuPont Chemical and drug-maker Merck, says it is worried that substitution of a generic could endanger patients.

"Washington has a one-size-fits-all mentality," said Bob Perkins, the company official who is coor-

inating the lobbying effort. "These decisions are best made closest to the patient."

But the Food and Drug Administration says the brand-name drugs are no different from their generic competitors. Critics, including a competing company whose generic alternative has just won FDA approval, say DuPont Merck is more worried about profits than patients.

"They are using scare tactics to frighten people and make them believe this is a patient safety issue and using that to protect their monopoly," asserted Bruce Downey, chairman of Barr Laboratories, which is ready to market a generic version of Coumadin at a price up to 40 percent lower.

Dr. Roger Williams, a senior FDA official and former head of its Office of Generic Drugs, said DuPont Merck's lobbying campaign is "in the class of an economic challenge" rather than a scientific one. He questioned putting medical decisions in the hands of state lawmakers.

"The agency (FDA) since 1984 has been making these judgments about bioequivalence. We have tremendous expertise in doing this," Williams said. "It's not a matter of law, it's a matter of science."

Although the FDA approves drugs for use, each state retains the authority to regulate the practice of medicine and pharmacy. After losing battles with the Washington regulators, DuPont Merck turned its appeal to the states and began hiring local lobbyists.

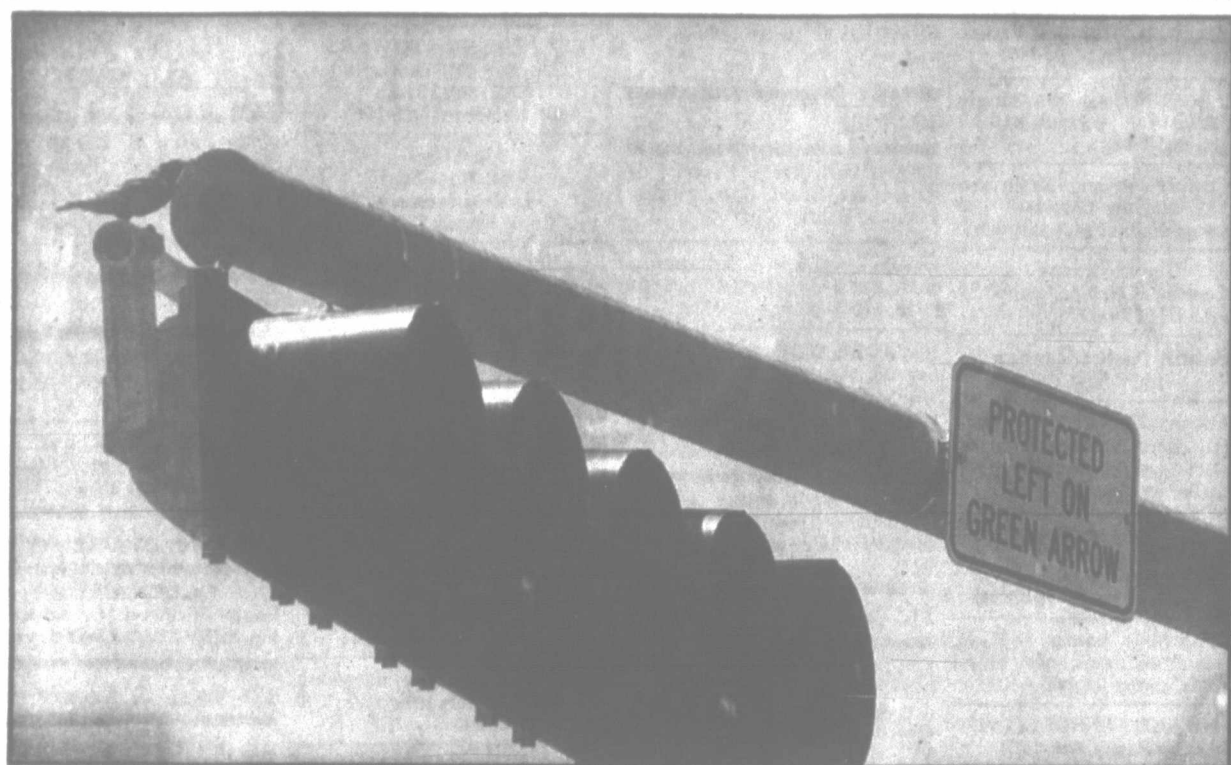
In January the company launched the Health Alliance for NTI Patient Safety, run by the Washington public relations firm Goddard Claussen with a \$75,000 grant. The PR firm began recruiting such allies as the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association and the United Seniors Association. It pointed to anecdotal evidence of problems with drug substitution, often involving epileptics who had seizures after switching brands of medicine.

One of the first skirmishes came in North Carolina, where a bill requiring that doctors approve generic substitution of such drugs went not to the Legislature's health committee but straight to the rules committee. "That's a tipoff," said Democratic state House member Paul Luebke of Durham. "It was a special-interest bill."

A month later, Gov. Jim Hunt signed it into law. DuPont Merck had similar fortune in Texas, where Gov. George W. Bush signed a bill June 20. Barr Labs hired its own lobbyists to head off DuPont Merck, and results have been mixed in other states.

In Virginia, DuPont Merck hired the grassroots lobbying firm Bonner and Associates to send a letter to lawmakers on patient safety signed by scores of doctors and pharmacists. The letter did not disclose that the drug company was behind it. The Legislature ultimately demurred and referred the issue to the state pharmacy board.

Temporary refuge



(Special photo)

A family of feathered traffic directors took up residence in the stop lights at the intersection of Alcock and Hobart earlier this month. The mother bird relayed food to her chicks as rush hour traffic chugged along in the summer heat below. By the end of July, the birds had apparently flown the coop.

Border shooting:

Marine's attorney denies reports teenager shot in back ...

HOUSTON (AP) — The attorney for a Marine who killed a Texas teenager near the U.S.-Mexico border is disputing reports that the high school student was shot in the back.

Jack Zimmermann, a civilian attorney retained by Cpl. Clemente Banelos, summoned reporters on Wednesday to respond to what he called "disinformation" since the May 20 shooting.

The lawyer passed out 8-by-10 photographs of the baby-faced Marine and insisted the 22-year-old broke no laws when he shot Esequiel Hernandez Jr. Zimmermann, a retired Marine Corps colonel who took the case earlier this month, spoke out as Presidio County District Attorney Albert Valadez prepared to present findings to a grand jury in the next week or two.

"Cpl. Banelos fired only as a last resort and, in our judgment, he did not violate any criminal law of the state of Texas or of the United States," Zimmermann said.

Military officials say Hernandez, a Redford high school student who was tending his goat herd, was shot after firing twice at a four-man Marine surveillance team that was watching a suspected drug route at the request of the Border Patrol.

The military maintains that the 18-year-old had raised his .22-caliber rifle for a

third shot when Banelos fired his M-16.

The Marine Corps has said it stands by its personnel, but civilian investigators have said Hernandez might not have seen the camouflaged troops and that the evidence doesn't match the soldiers' accounts. An autopsy indicated that the teenager was not facing the Marines when he was shot.

"He was not shot in the back," Zimmermann said. "He was shot in the right front rib cage."

There has been speculation that the teenager might have thought he was shooting at an animal or a rock.

Zimmermann, who just returned from visiting with his client at Camp Pendleton, Calif., dismissed that theory.

"They were clearly identifiable as people," he said. "They were carrying a black water can ... they had communications gear, they had full packs on, the camouflage paint was off their faces, they didn't have helmets on."

He added: "In their view, there was no question that they had been recognized."

Zimmermann said the Marines had been on duty for three days and had sweated off the camouflage paint that helps them to blend into the West Texas landscape. He conceded, however, that Hernandez was at least 200 yards away when he fired his rifle, and Zimmermann could not say how big the water can was.

GROCERY DELIVERY SERVICE

Call For Details - 665-5453

FRANK'S THRIFTWAY

1420 N. Hobart - Only



THE NEW BREED OF BOOT
"Experience The Comfort"

Ropers & Lacers

WAYNES WESTERN WEAR

Open 9-6 Daily; 9-8 Thursday, Closed Sunday
1504 N. Hobart 665-2925

"your prescription for good health"

Keyes Pharmacy

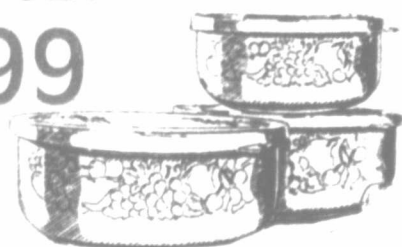
928 N. Hobart
669-1202
1-800-423-3866

SUMMER SANTA SAVERS



Just Arrived ... Our 1997 Christmas Trim Is In!

Acme 6 Piece BOWL SET
\$5.99

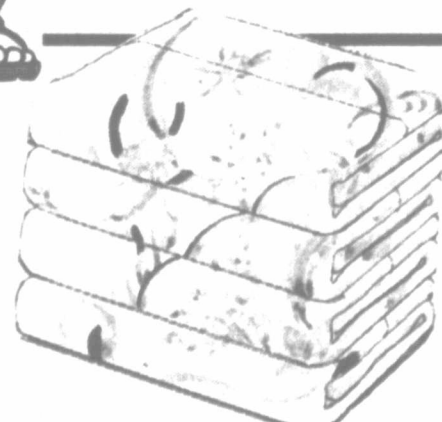


SPECIAL SALE!
WASH CLOTHS
99¢

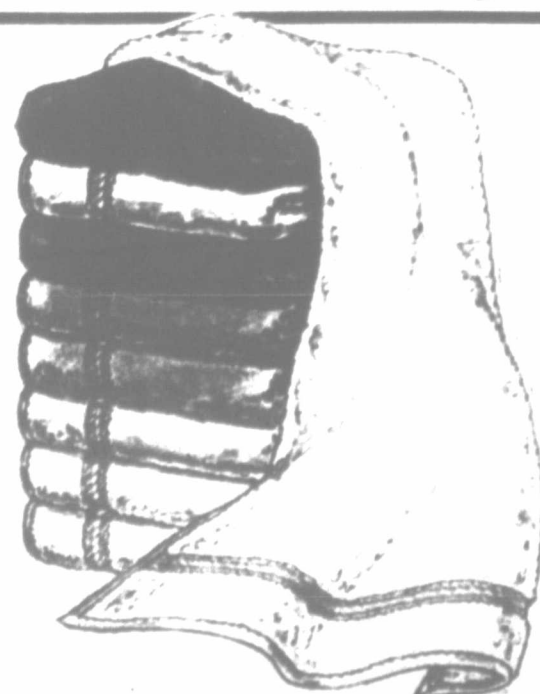
Come See The Huge Selection Of Decorative Items And Save 25%
Reg. \$6-\$45

7 Piece COOKWARE SET
\$24.99
Reg. \$32

4 Piece SAUCE PAN SET
\$12.99
Reg. \$18



Royal Linens First Quality SHEET SETS
Save 50%
Twin, Full, Queen, King
Reg. \$40⁰⁰ - \$80⁰⁰



Coordinated TOWELS
Bath 2/ \$10
Hand 2/ \$5
Wash 2/ \$3
Thick & Thirsty

BED PILLOWS Super Sale!
\$10⁹⁹
All Sizes
Reg. \$15-\$20

21" Rolling CARRY ON BAG
\$29.99
Black & Green, Reg. \$80

Heirloom QUILTS
\$39.99
Special Group, Reg. to \$110

DUNLAPS

669-7417 • Coronado Center