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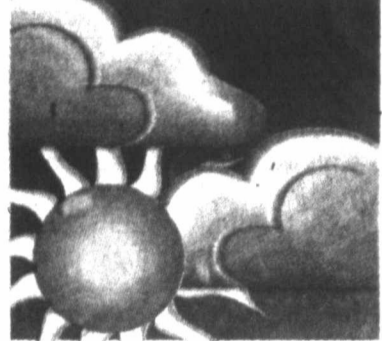
PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 90 NO: 98

MONDAY, JULY 28, 1997

PAMPA, TEXAS

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



High today 97.
Low tonight 70.
See weather details on
Page 2.

WACO (AP) — The investigation into the abduction and murder of a 7-year-old Killeen girl has produced no significant leads and the killer's trail has gone cold, police say.

"We've reached a point where we don't have a direction to go," Killeen Lt. Lee Caufield, who commands the department's Crimes Against Persons section, told the Waco Tribune-Herald. "Now, we have to back up and punt."

Police received more than 2,000 tips from the public after Danydia Betty-Jacqueline "Nee Nee" Thompson disappeared from Marlboro Elementary School on April 30.

But once the girl's badly-decomposed body was found on May 8, stuffed inside a plastic bag and dumped along a highway south of Killeen, the leads stopped coming.

"You get frustrated," Caufield admitted. "You get frustrated just because of what's involved in it. It's the loss of a small child — a wasted life."

Police say a neighbor was the last person to see the girl alive the morning of her disappearance. The witness told investigators the girl was riding piggyback-style on the back of a man not far from her school campus.

A nine-day search for the girl involving hundreds of volunteers and law officers ended on the grassy shoulder of Highway 195, about 8 miles south of Killeen, when two volunteers stumbled across a bag of human remains.

LOTTERY

One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated \$13 million and was sold in San Antonio.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 5-11-17-36-37-40.

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$4 million.

DEATHS

- **Billy Joe Bush, 66**, pipeline mechanic.
- **Larry M. Foster, 47**, member Arkansas Army National Guard.
- **Leon Higgins, 68**, carpenter.
- **Paul Mercer Jr., 67**, retired farmer.
- **Carl O. Poston, 42**, employee John Morrell Company in Sioux City.

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Belladonna use on rise by youth in Pampa area

The pretty flower is deadly. Use of belladonna as an hallucinogen has increased among the youth of Pampa this summer. So have trips to the emergency room.

"Use of belladonna has increased recently," said Terry Young with the Pampa Police Department.

Although no deaths have been blamed on use of the drug in Pampa, police and hospital officials said the increase in the number of cases in which belladonna appears to be involved has risen drastically this summer.

Belladonna occurs naturally in Jimson weed, part of the toxic Nightshade family that is indigenous to the Texas Panhandle.

The weed is usually found in poor soil, according to Gray County Extension Agent Danny Nusser.

"This is probably the perfect year for it," Nusser said. "We had moisture early and now this hot weather will bring them out."

Department of Public Safety Chemist Roy Murphy said the plant gets rediscovered every few years.

"It's dangerous," he said. "There have been people die from it."

For years, belladonna was used for medicinal purposes in a variety of remedies including eye drops and to treat diarrhea.

"We don't see it used that much anymore," said Tom Hill, pharmacist at Columbia Medical Center.

He explained that newer medicines without the side effects have replaced it. However, the drug has gained popularity among recreational users. The problem is that the drug is potentially deadly.

To complicate matters, the antidote for the poison can also be lethal.

"The antidote is extremely dangerous," said Tom Hill, pharmacist at Columbia Medical Center.

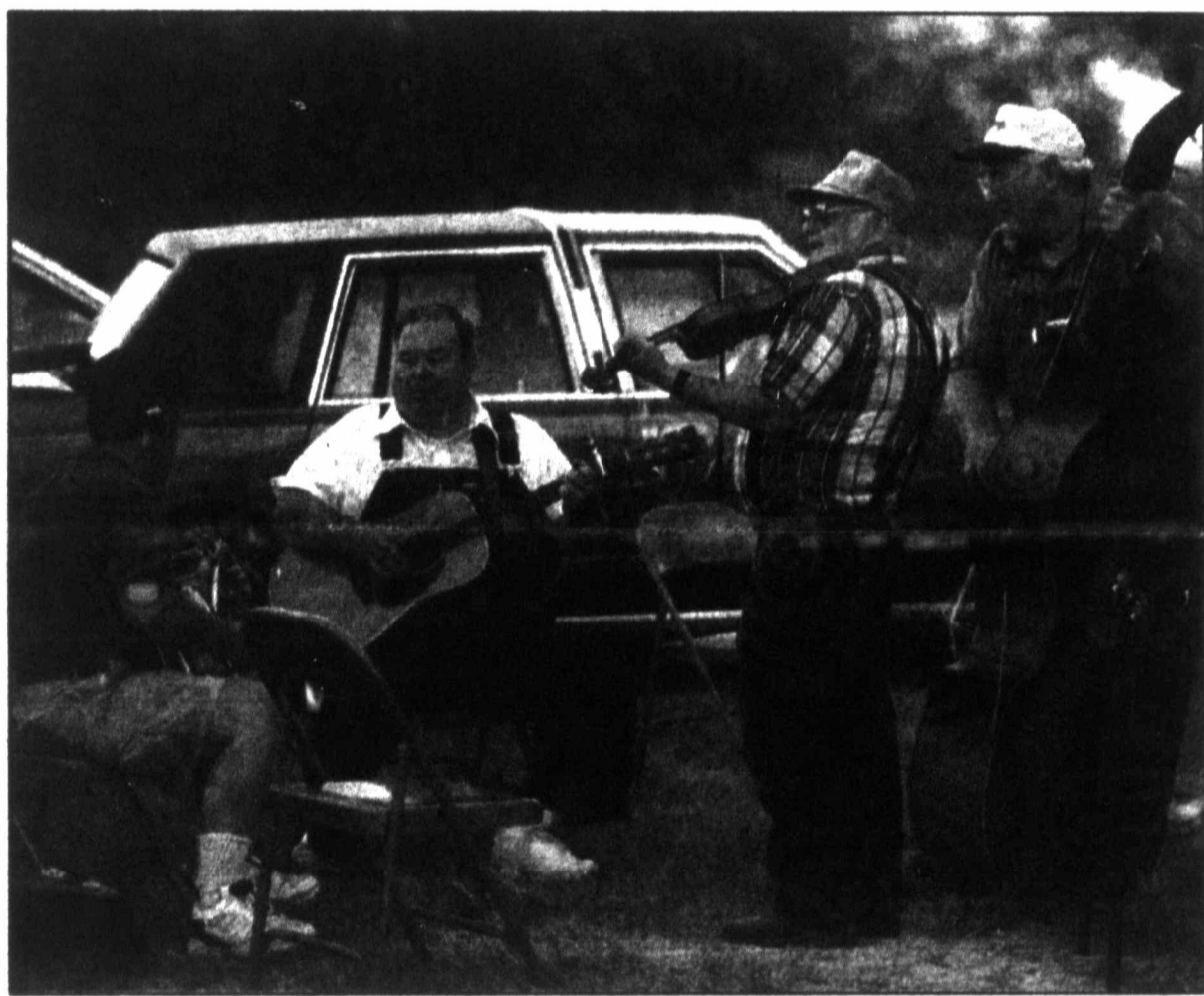
Hill said that belladonna causes the heart rate to increase. The antidote has the opposite effect. It causes the heart rate to decrease, so treatment for the ingestion of belladonna can be tricky.

Medical literature indicates that in addition to its anti-depressant and mood-elevating qualities, it also diminishes bowel functioning and increases urinary retention as well as increasing the heart rate.

"This thing has the potential to kill you," Young said.

"This thing has the potential to kill you,"

— Terry Young
Pampa Police Department



As evening shadows lengthened Saturday night, the Tri-State Bluegrass Express began warming up at the Mobeetie Bluegrass Festival. From left to right are Eddie Maxwell on banjo, Eudell Gifford on guitar, Bill Smith on fiddle and Jim Holmes on bass.

Hot time, hot tunes at bluegrass festival

By **DAVE BOWSER**
Staff writer

MOBEETIE — It was dark-thirty when the headlights from Wayne Tolbert's pickup flashed across the gathering in the pasture.

A quarter mile away, Flint Hill Special from Mayer, Ariz., was on stage, but the Tri-State Bluegrass Express wasn't scheduled to perform until 11:20 p.m. The hot panhandle afternoon had sapped Tolbert's strength so he had gone to Wheeler for a nap. A little before 10 p.m., he guided his pickup through the campground filled with tents, trailers and motor homes toward a quiet corner where the band congregated to warm up and decide which songs to play for the Saturday night finale of the Mobeetie Bluegrass Festival.

"Wayne's our spark plug," said fiddle player Bill Smith. "He gets us enthused."

The members of the band had begun making their way to this corner of the pasture as the late afternoon sun threw some shade on the still July afternoon. Banjo player Eddie Maxwell said he figured Tolbert would arrive about 9:30 p.m. As the group discussed what to play, they left room for changes that Tolbert might want to make. If he didn't arrive, like that time in Duncan,



Chase Miller, 9, hugs his great-grandmother Maida Allen during the weekend bluegrass festival in Mobeetie. Twelve of Mrs. Allen's great-grandchildren came to visit her this weekend at her Wheeler County home.

See BLUEGRASS, Page 2

Smaller Texas roads getting more deadly

DALLAS (AP) — The rural roads of Texas are becoming deadlier, and law enforcement officials say they don't know why.

In Waller County, 15 people were killed last year, compared with three in 1995 — a 400 percent increase in the 25,000-person county just northwest of Houston. The jump was one of the highest in the state for counties with more than 10 fatalities.

"Last year was just outrageous," Waller County Sheriff Randy Smith told The Dallas Morning News in Sunday's editions. "I really don't know why,

but we had a lot of three- and four-people accidents. We've never had a year that high."

Although fatalities increased on all Texas roads last year, rural county roads and two-lane state and U.S. highways posted the biggest jumps. Some speculate that the death rate was influenced by a 1996 increase in speed limits on many roads to 70 mph.

According to county-by-county traffic statistics recently compiled by the Texas Department of Public Safety, fatalities more than doubled last year in 15

See ROADS, Page 2

Catholic faithful may have to help pay \$120 million

DALLAS (AP) — Last week's \$120 million sex-abuse verdict against the Catholic Diocese of Dallas could turn into \$200 million by the time appeals are exhausted — or about \$600 for every registered Catholic in the diocese, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The prospect of tapping the 325,000 Catholic faithful in the nine-county diocese rather than selling off assets to pay the judgment has been discussed, Randal Mathis, attorney for the diocese, told the paper for Sunday editions. But the Dallas attorney declined to elaborate.

Experts who have followed similar lawsuits against other dioceses said there is no question people in the pews will feel the pinch if insurance companies won't cover the claim.

The Rev. Jay Nelson, a New Mexico priest who edits a national newsletter on religious misconduct, predicted that church officials will press church members before they liquidate major investments.

See CATHOLIC, Page 2

Lady Bird Johnson visits JFK museum

BOSTON (AP) — The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum welcomed a special guest Saturday morning when Lady Bird Johnson arrived to view the exhibit on former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy.

She was en route to Martha's Vineyard, the site where the two women last visited in 1993 before Mrs. Kennedy's death.

Museum director Brad Gerratt said Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Johnson, now 84, developed a friendship while their husbands served in the White House and remained friendly throughout the past several decades.

Accompanied by Harry J. Middleton, director of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in Austin, Texas, Mrs. Johnson spent about 40 minutes viewing the displays.

Mrs. Johnson particularly enjoyed Jacqueline Kennedy's wedding dress and former White House artifacts, Gerratt said.

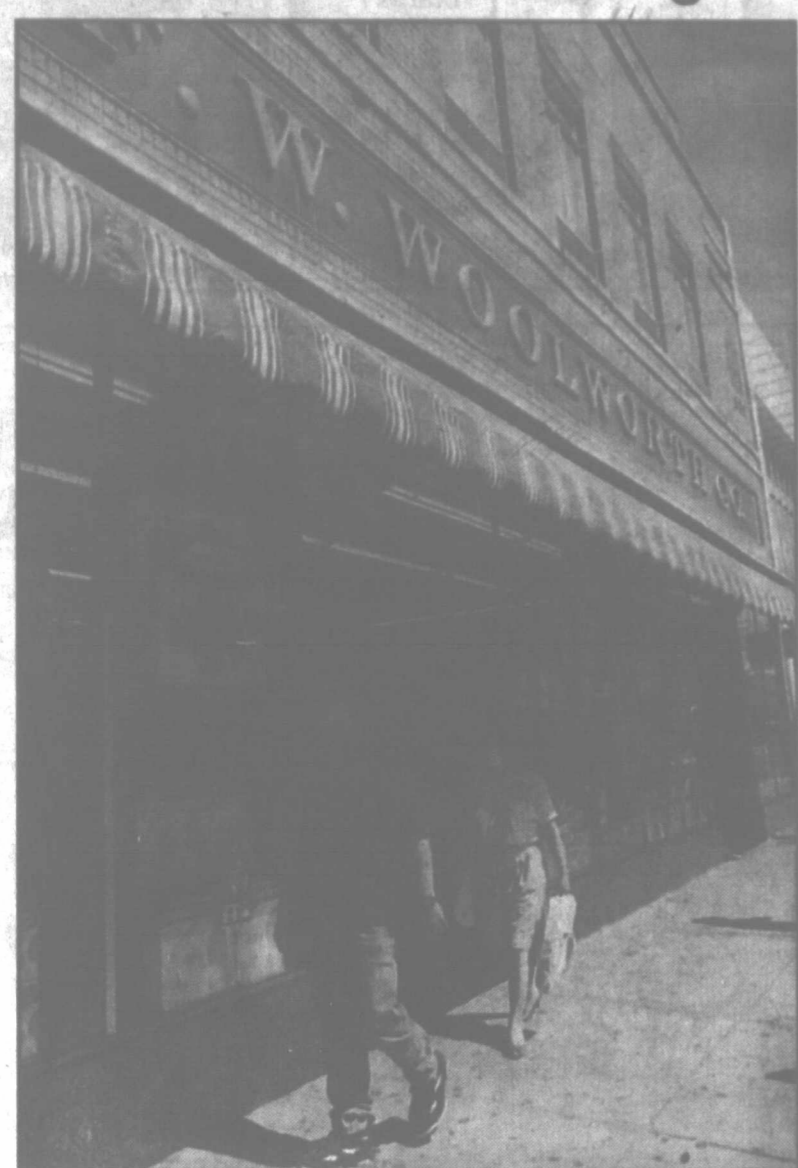
The former first lady was also moved by a childhood photo of Mrs. Kennedy with her father, Jack Bouvier.

"That photo was displayed in the White House for many years," said Gerratt. "I think it brought back some memories."

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Woolworth stores closing



(AP photo)

Shoppers walk past F.W. Woolworth store on Main Street in downtown McAllen, Texas, recently. The company has announced that it will close its five-and-dime stores nationwide after failing to compete against the big discount stores.

China being courted

Japanese nervous about competition from U.S., attempts to woo China

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — The buzzwords being thrown around the conference room are decidedly those of corporate Japan: benevolent management, superb technology, team spirit.

But the seven eager students at this training session for Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. managers are not your average bunch. They are Chinese — and represent the front line of a renewed push by Japanese industry into the huge Chinese market.

Much of the impetus for the concern over the Chinese market is defensive. Japanese corporate leaders fear the United States is becoming a stronger competitor in their backyard and they want to protect their turf.

Japan's investment in China — at \$4 billion — is about double that of the United States. And the list of Japanese companies is extensive, including the likes of Nissan Motor Co., NEC Corp. and Nisshin Steel Co.

Matsushita alone has invested \$558 million in 31 joint ventures and three fully owned companies in China.

The electronics giant has courted China since 1978, when Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, eager to modernize Chinese manufacturing, visited a Matsushita color TV plant in Japan.

Deng also met company founder Konosuke Matsushita, famous as the inventor of a quirky, uniquely Japanese management method that emphasizes zen-like character-building, such as humility, courtesy and dedication.

But, with Deng's death this year, some Japanese business leaders are worried that their old-boys network in China may be rapidly withering with age.

"The Chinese have more respect for Americans. They just see Japan as having the technology," said a Matsushita executive, Yukio Shohotoku.

Shohotoku sees disturbing signs of growing anti-Japanese sentiment among younger

Chinese, who are increasingly drawn to the democratic freedoms, superpower prowess, even rock 'n' roll of the United States.

The sagging interest in Japan is also reflected in a drop of Chinese exchange students enrolling in Japanese universities over the past two years — the first decrease in two decades.

If more and more Chinese go to the United States, Japanese officials fear, they will likely

opt to do business with the Americans they have grown to trust.

U.S. automakers, for instance, have developed an edge over their Japanese rivals by using Chinese-American employees with the language and cultural skills to serve as a bridge between the two nations.

"Japan has to catch up with the U.S. in terms of attracting Chinese people," Shohotoku said. "That's what I am most worried about when I think of the long-term future."

The image battle won't be easy. Japanese companies know they are up against the legacy of their country's military aggression before and during World War II, which left many Chinese with bitter hatred toward the Japanese.

Japanese soldiers committed atrocities in China, including massacres of civilians, sexual enslavement of Asian women for front-line brothels and a special unit that experimented on prisoners of war.

"When you think about history, there is an element of difficulty," said Akira Yokoi, Toyota Motor Corp.'s vice president in charge of its China business. "The memo-

General Motors Corp. and Boeing Co. Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's visit in September is unlikely to land similar deals for Japanese corporations.

Matsushita leads the Americans in its TV, air-conditioner and other electronics business in China. But it is likely to be at a disadvantage in winning telecommunications projects, where politics are bound to play a bigger role.

One possible plus the Japanese have is appealing to the Chinese as fellow Asians who have an intertwined history and culture.

At the recent workshop for the Chinese executives from Matsushita's joint ventures, one of the Chinese trainees said Chinese and Japanese at Matsushita work well together because they share a common outlook.

Between the lectures, the Chinese were taken on a tour of Japan's ancient capital of Nara, where centuries-old artifacts show clear influences of Chinese culture.

Some Japanese businesses also think they could benefit from U.S.-Chinese tensions over human rights, copyright violations and, more recently, allegations that Beijing may have funneled money to the Democratic Party.

Japan's investment in China — at \$4 billion — is about double that of the United States. And the list of Japanese companies is extensive, including the likes of Nissan Motor Co., NEC Corp. and Nisshin Steel Co.

World briefs

Report: Explosion in oil company building kills eleven

MOSCOW (AP) — A natural gas tank exploded in the kitchen of an oil company building today, killing at least eleven people and injuring 19.

Rescue crews worked for hours to free employees of the Lukoil-Permneft Oil Co. in Kueda, in Russia's western Perm region, the Ministry of Emergency Situations said.

The blast shattered a two-story building, part of an oil processing station, that housed a canteen on the first floor and offices on the second floor, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency. Both were occupied at the time of the blast, it said.

Chairman of troubled Thai computer firm Alphatec resigns

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — The chairman of a computer company that was supposed to be the cornerstone of Thailand's emerging high-tech sector resigned today, following allegations that \$156 million has disappeared during his watch.

Charm Uswachoke, chairman of Alphatec Electronics PCL, informed his employees by e-mail of his resignation, according to a senior company official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The resignation coincided with a report in the daily Manager newspaper that \$156 million has disappeared from the company or its subsidiaries while Charm has been chairman. Alphatec supplies computer chips to U.S. giants Texas Instruments Inc. and Cypress Semiconductor Corp.

According to the Manager report, statements filed to the

Stock Exchange of Thailand also had been falsified. The stock exchange today suspended trading of Alphatec stock, which closed Friday at 63 cents per share.

Charm could not be reached for comment and an Alphatec spokeswoman also was unavailable for comment.

Palestinians vow to rebuff U.S. millionaire's Jerusalem construction

JERUSALEM (AP) — A Palestinian activist says that an American millionaire wants to build a Jewish housing complex in an Arab neighborhood have warned they will block bulldozers with their bodies if need be to stop the project.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday that the project will not go forward, at least for now, but about 30 skeptical Palestinians gathered at a youth club to discuss what to do if construction is allowed to proceed.

"We should ... defend our land, including fighting bulldozers — chaining ourselves in front of bulldozers — so that the Israelis will understand that we are not just talking," said Faisal Hussein, the PLO official in charge of Jerusalem.

City officials issued a permit for the project Thursday. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu opposes it at this point and two city councilors submitted an appeal against the construction to the committee that approved it.

Israel radio said the move would delay any construction in the Ras el-Amud neighborhood for at least a month, and the developer, Irving Moskowitz of Miami Beach, has suggested he will not immediately use the permit.

Lott: Weld's chances slim for post in Mexico

WASHINGTON (AP) — Massachusetts Gov. William Weld's chances of being confirmed ambassador to Mexico may have disappeared when he criticized the powerful head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott said Sunday.

But Weld, a moderate Republican, indicated that he by no means is giving up. In Boston, sources close to Weld said Sunday that Weld will resign as governor to fight for the ambassadorship full time.

Weld will announce his resignation as governor, effective 5 p.m. Tuesday, at a news conference Monday, the source told The Associated Press.

It likely will be an uphill battle, if Lott's comments are any barometer. "The biggest problem right now is Gov. Weld shot his foot off," Lott, R-Miss. said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "He held a news conference and bashed the chairman of the committee that held his fate on this nomination."

Weld, who was formally nominated by the

White House last week to the Mexico City ambassadorship, has run into the possibly insurmountable opposition of Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., the conservative head of the Foreign Relations Committee.

Helms, who effectively can kill a nomination by refusing to schedule hearings, has said that Weld is unqualified for the job because he is soft on drugs. Weld has supported the medical use of marijuana and a needle exchange program for addicts.

The governor made his decision to resign and pursue the ambassadorship at a meeting Sunday afternoon at his home in Cambridge, according to the source. Among those attending were his wife, Susan, his chief of staff, press secretary and two top political advisers.

Weld has fought back, accusing Helms of "ideological extortion" and saying that Helms' opposition has nothing to do with drug policy. "I have everything to do with the future of the Republican Party. In plain language, I am not Senator Helms' kind of Republican."

Police probe slaying of high-powered dominatrix

NEW YORK (AP) — A 58-year-old woman shot to death at her dark apartment amid whips, chains and cages was a dominatrix, police said, an expert who offered fantasy bondage from "sensuous teasing to exquisite tortments."

The body of Nadia Frey — who called herself "Mistress Hilda Pierce" and dressed in a black cowgirl outfit in sex magazines — was found Saturday at her black-and-gold painted apartment.

She had been shot four times. Police said there was no sign of forced entry into the apartment on Manhattan's prosperous

Upper West Side, not far from Central Park.

Police were searching Frey's address book for leads.

Police said the woman's daughter, reportedly a dominatrix in Las Vegas, called the building supervisor when she had not heard from her mother.

Inside the apartment were costumes, whips, police said. One source told the *Daily News* that there were knives, sex toys and a "spinning-wheel device" to rotate

customers in a crucifix position. The building is on a block among salons, dentist offices and eateries. An unidentified merchant told the *Daily News* that a steady stream of limousines, Mercedes and Jaguars dropped off well-dressed men at the building.

The address book included politicians and judges, the *New York Post* reported, citing a police source. The newspaper said a police inspector's business card was also found at the apartment.

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Up-Front Breakfast Attire Takes Visiting Couple Aback

DEAR ABBY: For the past six years, my husband and I have vacationed in Florida, where our friends "Myrtle" and "Gary" share their home with us for a week. We aren't moochers; we buy groceries, pay for their meals when we eat out, and drive our car when we go places.

This year, however, something strange happened. Myrtle came to the breakfast table wearing only a transparent lace nightgown. Nothing was left to the imagination. This happened twice, but since my husband and I were guests in their home, I was reluctant to suggest that she wear a robe. Perhaps she meant nothing by it, but she made other subtle passes at my husband during our stay.

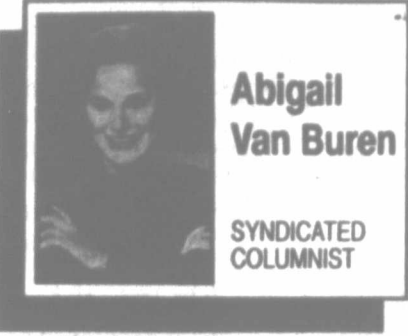
I kept quiet because I feared that if I objected or made a scene, the vacation would be ruined for everyone.

My husband was also taken aback by Myrtle's bold display. Neither of us can imagine why she behaved this way after all our years of friendship.

What should I have done? And what should I do if she repeats this seductive behavior next year?

CONFUSED UP NORTH

DEAR CONFUSED: It's water under the bridge now, but at the time, you could have talked to her privately and suggested that she cover herself appropriately, or you and your husband could have packed up and



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

moved to a hotel.

Next year, decline their hospitality and make hotel reservations — and if they ask you why, tell them.

DEAR ABBY: I have been divorced from my wife for several years and I now live with my girlfriend. My ex-wife and my girlfriend have become very friendly and spend extended periods of time on the telephone with each other. This makes me very uncomfortable.

I have made my feelings clear to both of them, but I cannot insist they stop. They have the right to choose their own friends.

Is it common for ex-wives and girlfriends to take a shine to one another, or is this unusual?

UNCOMFORTABLE IN PHOENIX

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: Consider yourself fortunate. Many individuals find it impossible to keep peace between ex-partners and the person with whom they are currently

involved. Do not assume that the two are spending time talking about you. More than likely, they simply enjoy conversing with each other. Enjoy their friendship, and let them do the same.

DEAR ABBY: Before my husband and I were married, he showered me with gifts large and small. After we married, it became my duty to send the cards and buy the gifts for family and friends.

My birthday, Mother's Day and Christmas would go by with no gift or card. I would suffer in silence, getting more and more depressed as the time went by.

Finally, after several years of this, I decided not to allow my feelings to be hurt any longer. Two weeks before the big day, I would remind him, "My birthday is in a couple of weeks, and I'd really like that dress we saw or those beautiful earrings. Why don't we go out for dinner at (blank)?"

It worked! I was happy and he was beaming with all the praise. After 37 years, he hasn't caught on yet.

MRS. D. IN FLORIDA

DEAR MRS. D.: That's an excellent, nonconfrontational solution to a very common problem. Thanks for sharing it.

Abby shares more of her favorite, easy-to-prepare recipes. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, More Favorite Recipes, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



For Better or For Worse



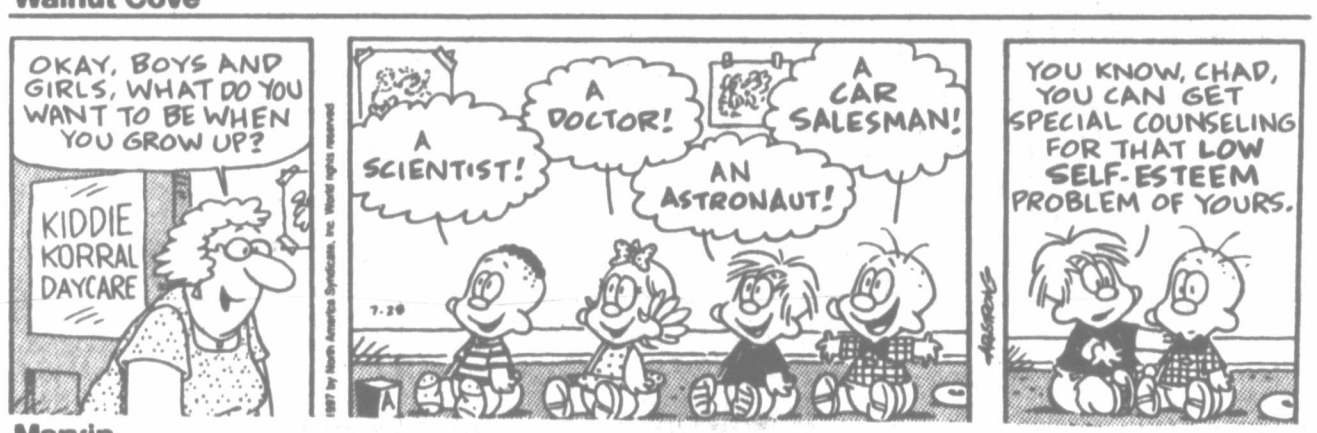
Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

In the year ahead you may have more opportunities than you've had previously to increase your material worth. Do not hesitate to ask for compensation that is on par with your talents.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Do not be a loner today and deprive others of your companionship. Involvements with friends will cheer you up and brighten your day considerably as well. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. 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) If something competitive develops today where your career is concerned, Lady Luck will do all she can to push you up front. Do not be intimidated.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Acknowledge any creative ideas that come to you today. Even if they can't be used immediately, put them on paper for future reference. They could be winners.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A person with whom you have emotional ties might prove to be a beneficial channel for you today to help bring something desirable into your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Things could work out rather well today in developments where you serve as a partner, working in conjunction with another for a common cause.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Conditions that have a benign affect upon your earning abilities look good today. Watch for immediate ways to increase your income.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You will have an A-plus day that will be very evi-

dent to others. You should be well-received wherever you go. Do not hide your light under a bushel.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Maintain high hopes today and be persistent in your endeavors. Events might not start out to your liking, but they should conclude to your satisfaction.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Dare to be a dreamer today and don't be afraid to think big. Trends are developing that could allow you to turn your wishes into realities.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Material prospects look interesting today, especially if you're teamed up with an individual who has been lucky for you lately.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today, if your outlook is optimistic, it will enhance your other attributes. Do not let negative thinkers influence you otherwise.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Others might be deceived by outward appearances, but not you. Your proudest instincts that uncover reality is one of your best assets today.

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"Kids who live in a lighthouse never hafta sit in the corner."



"He doesn't bite, but his tail is a lethal weapon."

The Family Circus



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts

Marmaduke



Peanuts

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Budget battle

Budget deal at hand, but some disputes remain

By ALAN FRAM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional leaders and White House officials are edging near a budget deal as differences narrow over who should receive a new children's tax credit. Remaining disputes include the size and scope of an effort to expand health-care coverage for youngsters.

"We're anxiously awaiting seeing the final draft tomorrow," Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici, R-N.M., told reporters Sunday evening following several hours of consultations between Republican leaders and aides to President Clinton.

Domenici and other Republicans acknowledged that some differences remained, but they minimized them.

Clinton also voiced optimism, telling a Democratic fund-raising audience in California on Sunday night: "This is a very good budget, if we can resolve the remaining problems. If we stay in a positive frame of mind, if we all work in good faith, I think we have an excellent chance to get there."

Still, he cautioned: "We're working hard to give people an appropriate tax cut without allowing it to explode the deficit."

Talks were expected to continue today and an official announcement could come Tuesday, in time to push the compromise through Congress by Friday, when lawmakers hope to begin their summer recess.

Aides spent much of Sunday drafting parts of the agreement into legislative language.

When asked what was unresolved, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., replied, "Virtually nothing." He said final versions of legislation cutting taxes and balancing the budget by 2002 would be finished by tonight.

But White House economic adviser Gene Sperling cautioned that disagreements remained over some tax-cut details and an effort to provide health coverage for many of the country's ten million uninsured children.

"There are significant issues ... that are still unresolved and critical to a sound balanced-budget agreement," Sperling said in an interview.

Republican aides acknowledged that disputes remained over whether states would decide the specific benefits children would get, as the GOP wants, or whether the federal government would do it, as Clinton prefers.

There also was disagreement over whether welfare beneficiaries who take public or non-profit jobs should be covered by worker-protection and minimum-wage laws. Republicans said those requirements could make it harder to find the jobs.

Sunday's talks seemed to finally kill a plan to boost Medicare premiums for higher-income recipients. The Senate had approved the measure last month and Clinton said he favored the idea, but House Republicans worried about retaliation by elderly voters insisted it be dropped.

Also scrapped were proposals to raise Medicare's eligibility age to 67 from 65 and to charge \$5 per visit by home health-care workers. Both were approved by the Senate but opposed by Clinton and the House.

When asked what was unresolved, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., replied, "Virtually nothing."

State briefs

Report: Bullock likely to donate campaign funds to universities

FORT WORTH (AP) — Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock likely will donate the rest of his multimillion-dollar campaign war chest to Texas universities when he leaves office in January 1999, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported today.

Bullock, 68, announced last month that he will not seek a third term in the state's second-highest elective office. The lifelong Democrat still had at least \$2.85 million in his campaign coffers at the time, according to records on file at the Texas Ethics Commission.

According to state law, officeholders may not keep unspent campaign donations. They may return the money to donors, give it to other candidates or give it to charities or schools.

In an interview last week, Bullock told the newspaper he was reluctant to discuss his plans for the money, but he conceded that he has deep affection for Texas Tech University and Baylor University, both of which he attended.

Whoever ends up with the money, there will be no strings attached, Bullock said.

Texas Tech professional schools will have fewer minorities this year

LUBBOCK (AP) — Like other universities in the state, Texas Tech's professional schools will see a drop in the number of minorities enrolled this fall, especially among black students.

Two black students are scheduled to enroll at the Tech law school this year — two fewer than in the fall of 1996, Tech figures show. The medical school, which had two black students last year, expects none this year.

Officials at Tech's law and medical schools said the Hopwood ruling, which led to

the end of race-based admissions policies at state schools, is partially to blame.

The March 1996 Hopwood ruling was handed down by the 5th U.S. Circuit of Appeals in a suit brought by four white students who argued the race-based admissions policy used by the University of Texas Law School denied them admission.

Attorney General Dan Morales interpreted the ruling to mean an end to race-based admission policies, scholarships, financial aid, recruitment and tutoring programs.

Catholic faithful may have to help pay \$120 million jury award

DALLAS (AP) — Last week's \$120 million sex-abuse verdict against the Catholic Diocese of Dallas could turn into \$200 million by the time appeals are exhausted — or about \$600 for every registered Catholic in the diocese, *The Dallas Morning News* reported.

The prospect of tapping the 325,000 Catholic faithful in the nine-county diocese rather than selling off assets to pay the judgment has been discussed, Randal Mathis, attorney for the diocese, told the paper for Sunday editions. But the Dallas attorney declined to elaborate.

Experts who have followed similar lawsuits against other dioceses said there is no question people in the pews will feel the pinch if insurance companies won't cover the claim.

The Rev. Jay Nelson, a New Mexico priest who edits a national newsletter on religious misconduct, predicted that church officials will press church members before they liquidate major investments.

"It undoubtedly will come back to the parishioners," Nelson said. "The only hope is they'll demand more accountability of their leaders."

Report: Former governor lobbying for tobacco industry

DALLAS (AP) — Former Texas Governor Ann Richards was instrumental in pushing a controversial tobacco industry settlement, *The Dallas Morning News* reported today.

A few weeks before the tobacco industry publicly announced the terms of a landmark legal settlement which would protect the industry from abolition or bankruptcy, Richards met with Massachusetts Democratic Sen. Edward M. Kennedy to pitch the deal, the newspaper said.

Richards declined comment on any aspect of her work with the tobacco industry. The

apparent goal of her visit, Senate staffers said, was to ensure that even if Kennedy didn't support the settlement, he wouldn't voice his objections loudly.

That would allow congressional Republicans to vote with tobacco companies without worrying about political retaliation, the staffers said. The tobacco companies have donated millions of dollars to the Republican party over the last few years.

When the Clinton administration was reviewing the settlement, weeks after the meeting with Kennedy, Jane Hickie, a long-

time friend of Richards' and former chief of staff, was among a delegation of tobacco lawyers who visited the West Wing of the White House, the newspaper reported.

Richards is a senior adviser at the Washington firm of Verner Lipfert Bernhard McPherson and Hand. She has registered to lobby for several firms, including Conrail, NBC, Textron Inc. and Lockheed Martin.

The firm's claim to fame, however, is handling legal and lobbying work for tobacco firms, at a fee the *National Journal* estimated this spring at \$200,000 month.

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