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Pampa

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Tourism budget ok'd by 3-2 vote

By LAURA HALEY
Staff Writer

In a 3-2 vote, city commissioners approved the 1997-98 Chamber of Commerce tourism committee budget, despite disapproval voiced about the administrative costs.

The budget, funded by a \$10,000 portion of the city's hotel occupancy tax, must be approved by commissioners before Oct. 1. In May, the commissioners unanimously agreed to give up to 10 percent, but no more than \$10,000, of revenue from the tax to the chamber's tourism committee.

Although all commissioners approved the May agreement, the 1996-97 chamber tourism budget submitted

then had caused some discord among the elected officials.

Commissioner Faustina Curry lead opposition of the submitted budget, voicing concerns about the "large" amount funding administrative costs.

A total of \$2,500 (approximately 1/4 of the revenue) for the chamber's 1996-97 tourism budget was used for administrative costs, such as mailing notices of meetings, copies of agendas, answering telephone and walk-in questions about tourism, bookkeeping and preparing and mailing tourism packets.

"Isn't that part of the chamber's jobs?" asked Curry at the May meeting.

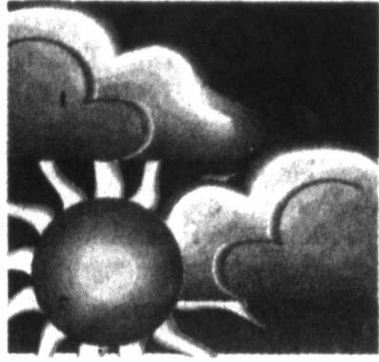
Although other commissioners also questioned the administrative costs, all decided to approve this year's

budget. Mayor Bob Neslage suggested, however, that the chamber provide a more "definitive budget" for next year's 1997-98 budget.

At Tuesday's meeting, the 1997-98 budget was presented to commissioners for approval. Commissioner Curry, still disagreeing with the administrative cost of \$2,500, voted against the proposal. Commissioner Robert Dixon also voted against the plan.

The 1997-98 budget includes the administrative cost, organizational dues of \$375, advertising and promotions in the amount of \$1,024 and funding for specific events totaling \$4,000. Also included is marketing and promotion material for unknown upcoming events in the amount of \$2,101.

See TOURISM, Page 2



Low tonight mid 50s.
High tomorrow 78.
For weather details see
Page 2.

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Convicted killer Jessel Turner, contrite and prayerful, went to his death thanking fellow Texas prisoners, his family and his victim's family for support and forgiveness for the slaying of a Houston taxi driver 11 years ago.

Turner, 37, Monday night became the 27th Texas death row inmate to be executed this year, extending a record year for the capital punishment in the state.

After his lengthy final statement, Turner gasped and grunted once and was pronounced dead at 6:18 p.m. CDT, seven minutes after the lethal drugs began flowing into his arms.

"I'd like to acknowledge and thank the many men I've been blessed to share my time with, to share my struggles with and who have allowed me to help them," he said before thanking his family, prison chaplains and the victim's family "who have offered their forgiveness and all of their prayers."

"I pray that all of God's praise be upon all of you and that you will be touched by the grace of God," he added. "Until we meet again, amen."

- Sarah Frances Colgrove, 101, homemaker.
- Marie Darnell, 81, homemaker.
- Paul Bond, 74, signed with Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, retired employee of Phillips Petroleum Company.
- Randy Taylor, 41, services pending.

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Officers find man hiding out under bed

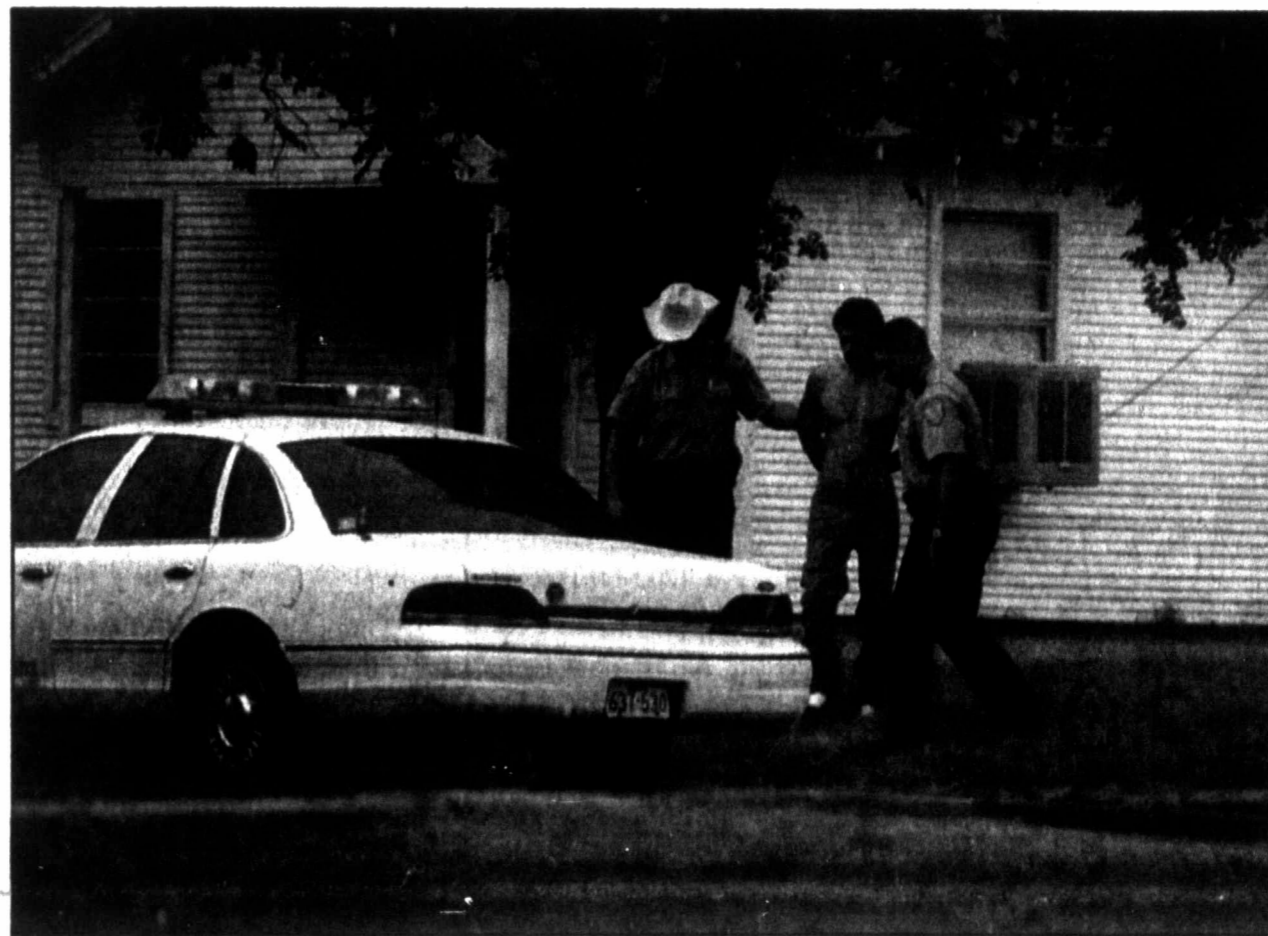
By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

A 25 year old Pampa man was in Gray County jail today after being arrested when deputies raided his home Monday afternoon.

Johnny Todd Preston was arrested shortly after 4 p.m. Monday when Gray County deputies, Department of Public Safety troopers and a district attorney's investigator kicked down the door at 701 E. Foster.

Earlier Monday, a spokesman for the Gray County Sheriff's office said today, a deputy searching for Preston for probation violations was told that Preston was in the house. Law enforcement officers surrounded the house about 4 p.m.

Armed with an outstanding felony warrant, Deputy J.R. Walker knocked at the front door, identified himself and waited. Walker and Deputy Jim Scott repeated the process at the back door before returning to the front entrance where they kicked open the door and



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Gray County Sheriff's Deputies Kenny Hays (left) and Paul Ortega (right) escort 25-year-old Johnny Todd Preston to their patrol car for the trip to the county jail. Preston was arrested for probation violations Monday.

searched the house.

Preston was discovered hiding in a bedroom under the bed.

"He wouldn't answer the front door or the back," Lt. Scott said.

Preston was on probation for

the Aug. 6, 1992, burglary of a building at 745 W. Wilks.

District Attorney John Mann said today his office filed a motion to revoke Preston's probation following several reported violations of the terms of his probation.

Judge Lee Waters, 223rd District Court, caused an arrest warrant to be issued for Preston.

Bond for Preston was denied after his arrest Monday. He remains in Gray County jail today.

Mann will prosecute old Wichita Falls case

Murder was in '91

Gray County District Attorney John Mann has been named special prosecutor in a Wichita Falls murder case.

Judge Calvin Ashley of the 89th Judicial District appointed Mann, 31st District Attorney, as special prosecutor Friday in a six-year-old murder case in Wichita County.

Wichita Falls officials said the appointment was in reaction to an internal squabble within the Wichita Falls District Attorney's office.

Officials said the case involves two brothers who are accused in the shooting death of a 17-year-old Wichita Falls High School student in 1991.

Benjamin and James Arthur Shoemaker are accused of killing Paul Harris.

Benjamin Shoemaker was originally indicted for the shooting in 1991, but according to Wichita Falls officials, prosecutors now believe his brother James was involved. Both brothers were indicted in July, 1997.

Officials said the pair's August

See MANN, Page 2

Happy ending... Dispatcher reunites family

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

It was about nine o'clock on a Tuesday morning when Rhonda Kidd's phone rang at the Gray County dispatcher's office. A woman on the other end of the line, who identified herself as Bridgette, said she was trying to locate a man named Dwayne Hillis Barnes.

"All I have is a rural route number," Bridgette said.

After establishing that it was not an emergency, Kidd agreed to see if she could find the man and have him call Bridgette in Odessa.

Kidd recognized the name but couldn't place it for a few minutes. Finally, she realized she didn't know him, but she knew his wife. Barnes was a man who had married a friend of hers in Lefors. In fact, Kidd's niece and the girl's child often played together at the other little girl's grandmother's house in Lefors.

"I was born and reared in Lefors," Kidd said.

She got on the phone and began calling people in the Gray County community. Shortly before 1 p.m., a woman returned a call explaining that she was related to Barnes.

Kidd told her about the phone call from

See HAPPY, Page 2

Mother jailed after trying to trade child

HOUSTON (AP) — A mother was jailed Monday and accused of trying to trade her 2-year-old son for a woman's custom van.

Last month, homeless mother Amanda Lee O'Dale and her son, Joshua, were befriended by good Samaritan Kim Fahmy, who noticed the two on a downtown street.

Ms. Fahmy offered the two a ride to a Salvation Army shelter in her van. En route, she says, Ms. O'Dale admired the vehicle and asked Ms. Fahmy if she wouldn't mind trading it for her child.

"She got in the van and saw that you could live in the van," recalled Ms. Fahmy. "And she says, 'Wow, I could live in this van. And I'll give you my kid and you can just give me the van and give me enough time to get across state lines and don't report it stolen until I get into Louisiana.'"

Quite frankly...

Does Pampa need more in the way of entertainment facilities?



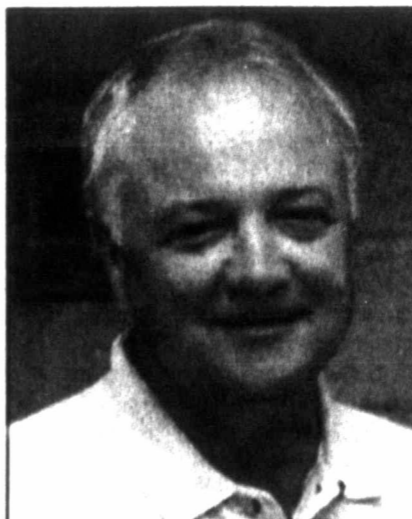
"There should be something for kids other than just the drag."

-- Lee Porter



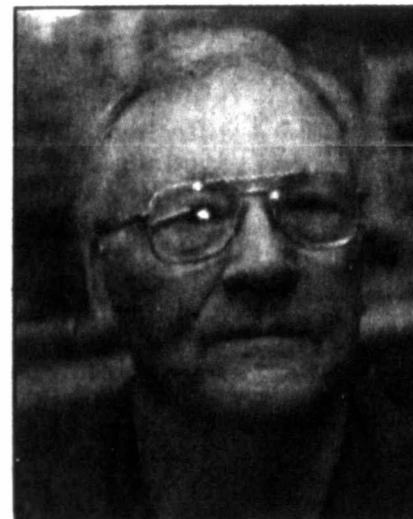
"If we had more entertainment facilities here in Pampa, we could keep more business here."

-- Fred Simmons



"I enjoy the stadium seating in new theaters these days. I wish we had them here."

-- Jerry Noles



"You need to talk to the kids and see what they would like to see."

-- Bill Jones



"I'd like a good Italian restaurant."

-- Melanie Kirksey

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Meredith House



(Special photos)

Photo at top: Sabra and Steve Patterson, standing, of First Methodist Church of Miami, spend every Wednesday morning holding church services for the tenants of Meredith House. Two regulars at the services are Nellie Maye Killebrew, left, and Callie Bailey. Photo at bottom: Central Baptist Church's Women on Mission recently presented covered door stops for tenants of Meredith House. The group featured are: (standing from left) Betty McGuire, Cinda Jennings, Meredith House program director, and Pat Denham; seated are church members Patsy Ramsey and Rubye Davis.

Campaign finance overhaul still alive in sponsors' eyes

By LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shifting away from its investigation of campaign fund-raising abuses, a Senate committee is focusing on party-building donations just as new figures show these uncontrolled contributions are soaring.

Two congressional scholars, Thomas Mann of the Brookings Institution and Norm Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute, were testifying today about a campaign finance system that both parties said was out of control.

Government figures released Monday shined new light on the problem, showing that Republicans and Democrats raised more unregulated donations — known as "soft money" — in the first half of 1997 than they did during the kick-off of the last presidential election cycle.

The sudden change of direction in the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee hearings will give its chairman, Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., a potential presidential candidate, and members of his committee a larger role if a campaign finance reform bill reaches the Senate floor this year.

To get expert testimony on the fund-raising system, the committee will give up for now stories of large donors buying access to the White House and foreign money finding its way into party coffers.

On a separate track, the

Justice Department is conducting a 30-day review of the fund-raising activities of President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore — the first step in determining whether to seek an independent counsel. Gore has acknowledged making fund-raising calls

Clinton told reporters Monday in New York City. "I am absolutely positive that we intended to be firmly within the letter of the law when we were out there campaigning and raising funds, as we should have been doing. We had to do that."

tions make so-called independent expenditures, they are not permitted to coordinate with candidates or parties meant to benefit from the effort.

The Senate officials, speaking only on condition of anonymity, added that Ickes said he was not aware of Democratic Party money being funneled to Ron Carey's campaign when he ran for reelection as president of the Teamsters union.

Federal prosecutors last week outlined a series of schemes in which they contended the Democratic National Committee, among others, was used to illegally funnel money to Carey's campaign.

The new figures showed that Republicans raised \$2.7 million from January through June, up from \$16.6 million in soft money during the first half of 1995, when the GOP was amassing funds for the presidential race. This money can go for activities such as voter outreach, but not to specific candidates.

The Federal Election Commission statistics revealed Democrats took in \$13.7 million, compared with \$10.8 million in 1995, when the party undertook a now infamous fund-raising blitz that involved wealthy donors to the White House for overnight stays and coffees with Clinton, who sanctioned the plan.

The sudden change of direction in the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee hearings will give its chairman, Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., a potential presidential candidate, and members of his committee a larger role if a campaign finance reform bill reaches the Senate floor this year.

from the White House, and Clinton said he may have done so but can't remember. A 114-year-old federal law prohibits political solicitations on U.S. property, but aspects of the statute are vague and it is not clear whether it applies to the president and vice president.

A White House memo dated Oct. 18, 1994, suggests Clinton made a fund-raising call to a wealthy California businessman who then contributed \$50,000. The New York Times reported today. The newspaper said San Diego investment banker John Torkelsen sent two checks, each for \$25,000, to the Democratic National Committee within two weeks of what the memo referred to as a Clinton phone call from the White House.

Former presidential aide Harold Ickes told Senate investigators he did not know whether Clinton actually made fund-raising calls from the White House, according to Senate officials familiar with a closed-door deposition.

Ickes, who was the main White House political staffer during the last campaign, was recalled by investigators. He has not been called to testify in public.

The ex-aide told Governmental Affairs Committee attorneys he did not coordinate with special interest groups on advertising campaigns and other expenditures. When these organiza-

Lawyer: Feds not serious about border shooting

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Federal authorities aren't really committed to a complete investigation into the shooting of a teen-ager along the Texas-Mexico border, an attorney for the victim's family says.

"I think they'd like to see it die and go away, but it won't," Pecos lawyer Bill Weinacht told the San Antonio Express-News in a telephone interview Monday.

A camouflaged Marine on an anti-drug patrol to support the U.S. Border Patrol shot 18-year-old Esequiel Hernandez Jr. to death on May 29 near the Rio Grande in the Big Bend.

Weinacht questioned why U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, postponed a promised congressional hearing on the matter last week after meeting with U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno.

A spokesman for the congressman says the hearing was delayed only until the civil rights investigation is completed and that the congressman remains "strongly committed to getting to the bottom of this."

Cpl. Clemente Banuelos, the team leader who shot Hernandez, said the youth was killed after firing twice at the four-man Marine patrol and raising his .22-caliber rifle to take a third shot.

The Hernandez family believes the youth had no idea the men were Marines and that he was hunted down and murdered in cold blood while taking care of the family's goat herd. Hernandez lived with his family near the town of Redford.

Weinacht is pursuing a negligence claim against the federal government and said the civil rights investigation is keeping him from reviewing vital evidence.

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Defendant awaits trial for three years

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — He has begged to be tried. He has had more than 20 court dates while in jail for three years, awaiting trial.

But he will have to wait for at least another month for his day in court.

Jose Manuel Torres, 38, finally went on trial last week on charges of aggravated sexual assault of a child, but two mistrials were declared — one after a prosecutor mentioned Torres' three-year jail stay and the other after a jury deadlocked during deliberations.

He was scheduled to go on trial again Monday, but it was postponed until Nov. 3 after defense attorney Arnulfo Ruiz asked for a transcript of last week's aborted trial.

The new trial could be moved up if the transcript is ready before the November trial date, court officials say.

His case file is thick with his handwritten requests for a trial date — including his petition to the 4th Court of Appeals in February. Acting without his court-appointed attorney's knowledge, he asked the appellate court to order State District Judge Mike Machado to do something about the case.

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 EMAIL: kbd@pan-tex.net • pamnew1@pan-tex.net
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VIEWPOINTS

THE PAMPA NEWS

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

Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

L.W. McCall
Publisher

Kate B. Dickson
Associate Publisher/Editor

Opinion

HMO regulators should do little

A presidential advisory commission on health care in Chicago recently explored what the federal government should do to ensure higher quality medical care for the American people.

Here's our prescription: As little as possible. That's because President Bill Clinton made it clear two years ago, when he appointed this panel of health-care experts, that they are to develop a patient "bill of rights." Sounds good. But what that really means is a long list of federal mandates that Congress and/or the executive branch will impose on managed-care insurance plans.

Democrats in Washington are itching to join the regulatory frenzy sweeping the country's state capitals. In the last two years some 36 states have passed more than 280 laws requiring health maintenance organizations to provide specific coverages — from mental health benefits to 48 hours of hospitalization following childbirth — or to desist from certain practices, such as paying bonuses to HMO staff doctors for limiting patient access to more expensive specialists.

It matters little that most HMO members, responding to surveys, say they are well-satisfied with their plans. Or that so-called "drive-through" deliveries and mastectomies are rare and almost never required by HMOs. Once this brand of thinking takes hold, liberal lawmakers line up to get tough on abuses more imagined than real.

Some of the most craven grandstanding has taken place in Illinois, where earlier this year more than 40 bills were introduced to regulate HMOs. One "bill of rights" pushed by Illinois' powerful fee-for-service physician lobby would have put HMOs effectively out of business. It didn't pass, though legislative hearings continue and at least one lawmaker has vowed to regulate HMOs "body part by body part."

The saving grace in all this is that state laws don't apply to most group health insurance plans at large companies. They are regulated instead by the federal government's permissive ERISA employee benefits law, and so far a Republican Congress has had better things to do than micro-manage private insurance plans.

But the temptation has been too much for the Clinton administration, which has been rattling off do's and don'ts for HMOs participating in the government's Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Now comes the president's advisory commission, bent on drafting a "bill of rights" covering private, ERISA-regulated insurance plans, particularly HMOs.

No doubt the panel will be told several HMO horror stories. Here, however, is the scariest of all: Every time a mandate raises the cost of insurance by one percent, some 200,000 Americans lose their coverage.

—Odessa American

Nursing home reforms

The Texas Legislature has passed a new and much needed law that sets high standards for long-term care provided in Texas nursing homes. We at the Office of the Attorney General worked closely with advocates for residents, industry representatives, officials from the Texas Department of Human Services and members of the Legislature to draft this law.

The overwhelming majority of Texas nursing homes are operated by competent and caring professionals. I applaud their commitment to their patients and to their profession.

Unfortunately, there are nursing home operators who willingly jeopardize the health and safety of their residents in order to make more money. The new law makes it perfectly clear that the State of Texas demands high quality care for senior citizens living in nursing homes. We will not tolerate neglect, abuse or exploitation of our elders.

The new legislation includes a Residents' Bill of Rights. Among the 21 specific rights set forth are:

- safe, clean and decent living conditions
- privacy, including during visits and telephone calls
- personal management of residents' own finances
- receiving mail unopened and getting help with reading or writing letters
- freedom from physical restraints or tranquilizers that are not part of a medical treatment.



Dan Morales
Attorney General for the State of Texas

—hiring a doctor of one's own choice and being fully informed about medical treatment

The range of civil penalties for persons violating or causing violations has increased: the penalty is now \$1,000 to \$20,000 for each act of violation that threatens the health and safety of a nursing home resident. This strengthens enforcement efforts substantially, as the maximum penalty under the old law was \$10,000.

Every nursing home must have a licensed administrator working full-time at the facility. The administrator has full responsibility for what happens inside the nursing home. Every facility must also have at least one licensed doctor and nurse on staff.

License applicants must now furnish proof that they are qualified to run a nursing facility and must show that they have obeyed state nursing home laws for the past five years.

Applicants can also be required to show how well they have obeyed the law in other states. These disclosure laws do not apply only to

the individual actually naming the facility. They also apply to any company that owns the home, any partners, officers and directors in the company, and the manager of the building that houses the nursing home.

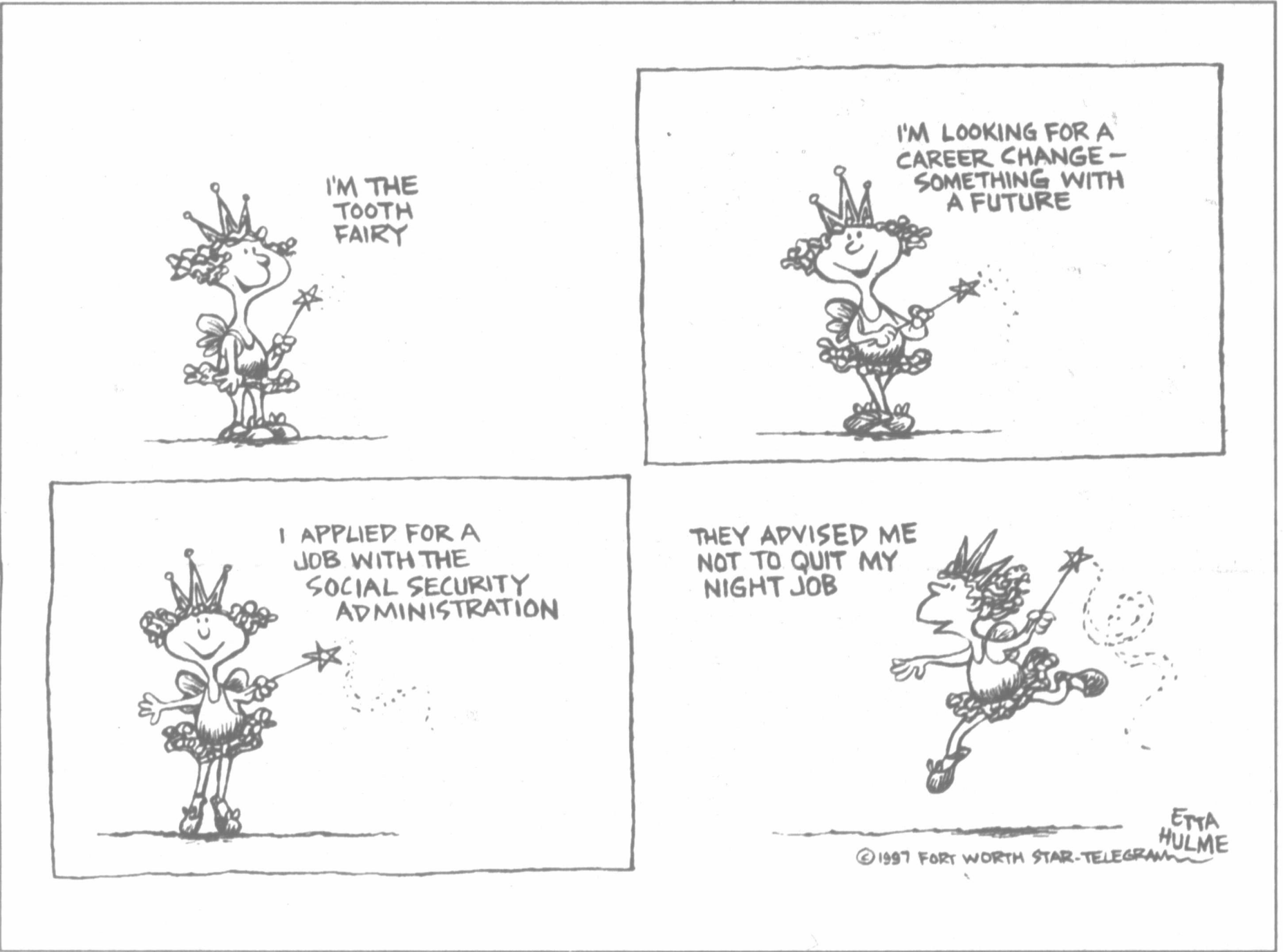
If a complaint charges that a resident has died or is in imminent danger due to conditions in a nursing home, the Texas Department of Human Services must investigate the complaint within 24 hours. The facility will not be given advance notice of the inspection, and witnesses will be interviewed in private, unless they ask otherwise.

Nursing homes may not retaliate against a resident, family member or employee who makes a complaint, nor against employees who report problems to their supervisors or cooperate with investigators. Anyone who files a complaint or reports abuse and/or neglect is guaranteed anonymity.

All nursing homes are now required to give a history of their compliance with nursing home laws to visitors, family members and the general public when requested. They must also post a notice telling people how to get a copy of the complete compliance history.

I am confident that these reforms will help ensure that all Texas nursing homes provide their residents respectful treatment in a safe environment. It is what they deserve.

To report suspected elder abuse, call the Texas Department of Human Services Toll-free Hotline at 1-800-252-5400.



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ETTA HULME

Thought for today

"Love is conquered only by flight. Against such an enemy, true courage consists in fear and retreat, in retreat without deliberation, and without looking back."

François De Salignac De La Mothe Fénelon
Telemachus

Berry's World

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Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today in History
Today is Tuesday, Sept. 23, the 266th day of 1996. There are 99 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Sept. 23, 1779, during the Revolutionary War, the American warship Bon Homme Richard defeated the HMS Serapis after the American commander, John Paul Jones, is said to have declared: "I have not yet begun to fight!"

On this date:
In 63 B.C., Caesar Augustus was born in Rome.
In 1780, British spy John Andre was captured along with papers revealing Benedict Arnold's plot to surrender West Point to the British.
In 1806, the Lewis and Clark expedition returned to St. Louis from the Pacific Northwest.
In 1846, the planet Neptune was discovered by German astronomer Johann Gottfried Galle.
In 1912, Mack Sennett's first Keystone short subject, a split-reel of two comedies starring Mabel Normand and Ford Sterling, was released.
In 1952, Republican vice-presidential candidate Richard M. Nixon went on television to deliver what came to be known as the "Checkers" speech as he refuted allegations of improper campaign financing.
In 1957, nine black students who had entered Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas were forced to withdraw because of a white mob outside.

Spear Amendment's time is now

With 155 weeks to go before the next presidential election, the nation's newspapers, magazines and airwaves are already becoming clogged with prognostication and speculation.

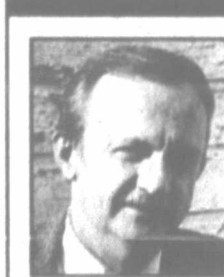
The names of approximately 35 potential candidates have been banded about. Numerous polls have been conducted. And we have had our first big dog-and-pony show — the Midwest Republican Leadership Conference held in Indianapolis last month, during which half a dozen GOP hopefuls paraded their wares.

I tell you, it is too much, and I call again for a new constitutional amendment to bring this madness under control.

"The people shall be spared the ordeal of presidential campaigning for a period of two years after each election. Violators of this provision shall be pilloried in the public square, in which place it shall be appropriate and legal for the populace to throw dross and refuse upon their persons."

This time around, the politico-media horde started chewing over Campaign 2000 before Bill Clinton had officially won his second term. The weekend prior to Election Day, the Wall Street Journal conducted a poll asking voters whether they preferred Jack Kemp or Al Gore as the first president of the 21st century.

The day after the elections, erstwhile GOP aspirant Lamar Alexander circulated a fax signaling his intention to run again. Magazine publisher/former Republican aspirant Steve Forbes quickly dispatched a similar message. Then J. Danforth Quayle started making noi-



Joseph Spear

es, as did Jack Kemp, Elizabeth Dole, New York governor George Pataki and House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas.

In the weeks since, we have heard mentioned the names of another 20 or so Republicans, including perennial candidates Patrick Buchanan and Alan Keyes; Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia; Gen. Colin Powell; Rep. John Kasich of Ohio; Sens. Phil Gramm of Texas, John McCain of Arizona, Fred Thompson of Tennessee, John Ashcroft of Missouri, Orrin Hatch of Utah and Robert Smith of New Hampshire; Govs. George W. Bush of Texas, John Engler of Michigan, Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey, Mike Leavitt of Utah, William Weld of Massachusetts and Pete Wilson of California.

Then we have the Democrats spoken of to date — Al Gore; House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri; Sen. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, Paul Wellstone of Minnesota and John Kerry of Massachusetts; and former senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey. And, of course, Jesse Jackson.

Forced as I am by the compulsive competition to raise the subject of Campaign 2000 some 900 days before the first primary election, I might as well push on and offer a few observations:

—The 1997 Didn't-He-Play-First-Base-for-the-Yankees? candidate has to be Gary Bauer, the very conservative head of the Family Research Council. Columnist Robert Novak says Bauer will run "if nobody else emerges to fill the vacuum on the right."

—Dear Danforth Quayle is still struggling to overcome his dimwit image, but the former congressman, senator and vice president is not helping his cause by attempting to portray himself as a Washington "outsider." Nor should he be spouting such lines as "the only person today that's willing to stand up to Bill Clinton is Paula Jones." Surely someone will point out that Danforth has a Paula in his own past — former lobbyist and Playboy pin-up Paula Parkinson, with whom Danforth and two other Republican congressmen took a Florida golf trip in 1980.

—Ex-Tennessee governor Alexander went down in flames in 1996, but it wasn't entirely his fault. It was that darned plaid shirt he wore in an effort to cultivate a populist image. It "got in the way of my message," he said on CNN a few weeks ago.

Think about it. If my amendment passed, commentators couldn't comment and pollsters couldn't poll and I wouldn't have to write about presidential politics until Nov. 8, 1998.

Support the Spear Amendment.

Box office: 'In & Out' debuts in first, 'A Thousand Acres' weak

By JOHN HORN
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The opening of the fall movie season was kind to the gay farce *In & Out*, while the star-packed farm drama *A Thousand Acres* stumbled in its debut.

Even *The Full Monty*, a British male stripper comedy in limited release, placed a solid fifth — ahead of *A Thousand Acres*, which stars Jessica Lange and Michelle Pfeiffer.

Returns were strong for the new noir thriller *L.A. Confidential*, playing in about one-third as many theater locations as *In & Out*. The Kevin Kline comedy was the weekend's top film with \$15 million.

The horror story *Wes Craven Presents Wishmaster* premiered below expectations, finishing third. *The Game*, a Michael Douglas thriller, dipped modestly from its debut last weekend, finishing second with \$9 million.

The top 20 movies at North American theaters. Friday through Sunday, followed by studio, gross, number of theater locations, receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks

BOX OFFICE		
Top weekend movies		
Weekend of Sept. 19-Sept. 21, 1997		
All dollar figures in millions		
Gross in theaters, number of screens	Weekend gross	
1. <i>In & Out</i> \$15, one week, 1,982 screens	\$15.0	
2. <i>The Game</i> \$9.3, two weeks, 2,433 screens	\$9.0	
3. <i>Wes Craven's Presents Wishmaster</i> \$6.0, one week, 2,502 screens	\$6.0	
4. <i>L.A. Confidential</i> \$5.2, one week, 769 screens	\$5.2	
5. <i>The Full Monty</i> \$3.0, six weeks, 650 screens	\$3.0	
6. <i>A Thousand Acres</i> \$2.9, one week, 1,208 screens	\$2.9	
7. <i>G.I. Jane</i> \$2.4, five weeks, 2,009 screens	\$2.4	
8. <i>Money Talks</i> \$2.1, five weeks, 1,942 screens	\$2.1	
9. <i>Air Force One</i> \$1.8, one week, 1,885 screens	\$1.8	
10. <i>Fire Down Below</i> \$1.6, three weeks, 2,138 screens	\$1.6	

Source: Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. AP
in release, as compiled by Entertainment Data Inc. and Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.:

1. *In & Out*, Paramount, \$15 million, 1,992 locations, \$7,540 average, \$15 million, one week.
2. *The Game*, PolyGram, \$9 million, 2,433 locations, \$3,713 average, \$28.3 million, two weeks.
3. *Wes Craven Presents Wishmaster*, Live, \$6 million, 2,502 locations, \$2,413 average, \$6 million, one week.
4. *L.A. Confidential*, Warner Bros., \$5.2 million, 769 locations, \$6,777 average, \$5.2 million, one week.
5. *The Full Monty*, Fox, \$3 million, 650 locations, \$4,649 average, \$10.3 million, six weeks.
6. *A Thousand Acres*, Disney, \$2.9 million, 1,208 locations, \$2,427 average, \$2.9 million, one week.
7. *G.I. Jane*, Disney, \$2.4 million, 2,009 locations, \$1,181 average, \$42.5 million, five weeks.
8. *Money Talks*, New Line, \$2.1 million, 1,942 locations, \$1,127 average, \$37.2 million, five weeks.
9. *Air Force One*, Columbia, \$2.07 million, 1,885 locations, \$1,100 average, \$166.1 million, nine weeks.
10. *Fire Down Below*, Warner Bros., \$1.6 million, 2,138 locations, \$737 average, \$14 million, three weeks.

11. *Hoodlum*, MGM, \$1.3 million, 1,203 locations, \$1,041 average, \$22 million, four weeks.
12. *Conspiracy Theory*, Warner Bros., \$1.22 million, 1,512 locations, \$806 average, \$72.6 million, seven weeks.
13. *Men in Black*, Columbia, \$1.21 million, 1,260 locations, \$959 average, \$240.9 million, 12 weeks.
14. *George of the Jungle*, Disney, \$1.1 million, 1,404 locations, \$764 average, \$100 million, 10 weeks.
15. *Hercules*, Disney, \$955,000, 1,170 locations, \$816 average, \$94.3 million, 14 weeks.
16. *Excess Baggage*, Columbia, \$710,000, 1,455 locations, \$488 average, \$13.5 million, four weeks.
17. *Face/Off*, Paramount, \$705,000, 776 locations, \$909 average, \$110.8 million, 13 weeks.
18. *Cop Land*, Miramax, \$671,000, 1,010 locations, \$665 average, \$43.5 million, six weeks.
19. *Mimic*, Miramax, \$637,000, 1,127 locations, \$566 average, \$24.5 million, five weeks.
20. *Contact*, Warner Bros., \$427,000, 466 locations, \$917 average, \$97.8 million, 11 weeks.

Congress part of the taxpayers nightmare, analysts claim

WASHINGTON (AP) — Everybody loves to hate the IRS, but some analysts say taxpayer anger should be directed at Congress for constantly rewriting the nation's tax laws and creating a bureaucratic monster in the bargain.

"I really believe the villain here is not the IRS," said Stephen Moore, an analyst at the Cato Institute, the libertarian think tank not known as an IRS defender. "The villain here is Congress, because the IRS has a hopeless task to administer and enforce a tax code that is ultimately unenforceable."

Moore and others hope that point will receive ample attention at this week's Senate Finance Committee hearings about allegations of abusive collection practices by Internal Revenue Service agents. The panel was to open three days of hearings today with testimony from fellow senators, authors and tax-related trade groups who will discuss the context of the agency's troubles.

But the hearings are generating quite a buzz over expected whistleblower testimony from current and former agents later in the week, some of whom will have their identities concealed. They're expected to say the agency unfairly singles out small taxpayers least likely to defend themselves for collections, an accusation the IRS says is against its procedures.

Advance media reports about such allegations prompted taxpayers on Monday to jam the office telephone switchboard of Senate Finance Committee Chairman, William V. Roth Jr., R-Del.

Seeking to minimize fallout from the hearings, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said: "I deeply regret any mistreatment of taxpayers," and asked the IRS to describe any disciplinary actions and corrective action from any abuses described to the committee.

In a letter to Roth, Rubin strongly emphasized the hearings should place any abuses in context of the agency's enormous task — collecting \$1.5 trillion annually from 209 million tax returns. About 83 percent of taxpayers pay their taxes voluntarily.

"We are working hard to reform the IRS, and it would be counterproductive at best, and very harmful at worst, if these hearings undermined morale and damaged our efforts," Rubin wrote.

He also warned that "we have seen widespread threats and incidents of violence against these public service and bomb threats against IRS facilities." In the last five years, there were 3,200 reported threats and assaults on IRS workers, he said.

Collecting taxes never has been a popular job, and it's become less so due to widely documented problems at the IRS: a failed computer modernization that's hampered the agency's ability to efficiently track and resolve taxpayer cases.

One of today's scheduled witnesses was Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., who acknowledges Congress has a role in the IRS' lack of direction.

Special seminar celebrates Amarillo International Week

CANYON — Two German officials will speak at West Texas A&M University as a part of Amarillo International Week. The seminar has been held for the past five years.

Jean N. Jacquemetton of the German Chamber of Commerce and Deputy Consul General Burkhard Rant of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Houston will conduct a seminar titled "Doing Business with Germany." The seminar will be from noon-1 p.m. Sept. 30 in the Hazel Kelley Wilson Room of the Jack B. Kelley Student Center.

The event is free and open to the public.

"International business and trade are changing fast, and the seminar encourages small to mid-size businesses to sell overseas," Dr. Syed Tariq Anwar, WTAMU professor of marketing and international business, said. Germany is the third largest economy after the United States and Japan, according to Anwar.

Jacquemetton has a law degree from George Washington University. His background includes negotiations and documentation of international and domestic transactions. He has particular focus on

asset protection, securitization, distribution, offshore structures and trade regulations.

Rant has served as deputy to the consul general of Germany for two years. He entered into foreign service for the Federal Republic of Germany in 1964. Rant has served at German diplomatic and consular missions since 1965.

Amarillo International Week is sponsored on the WTAMU campus by the T. Boone Pickens College of Business.

For more information, call Anwar at (806) 656-2491.

Area TPMHA director honored at convention

Steve Larkin, Texas Panhandle Mental Health Authority director of Outpatient Services, was honored with the Mary Holdsworth Butt award at the Texas Alliance for the Mentally Ill annual Convention Sept. 14 in League City, Texas. The plaque was presented at an Award Luncheon. Don Gilbert, Commissioner for Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation was the keynote speaker for this presentation.

This prestigious award has been presented annually

since 1990 to a person who has a strong sense of dedication and compassion for those persons served by Texas Mental Health Mental Retardation.

Mr. Larkin has worked with adult services at TPMHA for over 10 years. He was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the Panhandle Joint Committee on Criminal Justice and Persons with Mental Disabilities. The mission for the 1997 TEXAMI Convention was to foster and strengthen the alliance of family, community and pro-

professionals, in order to promote the exchange of information, ideas and insights that can lead to an improved quality of life for those who suffer from mental illness and those who love and care for them, to stimulate research toward more effective treatments of mental illness. Approximately 350 attended this annual convention and heard speakers from all over the county talk about research, medications, major mental illness, children with mental disorders, family support and the different forms of therapy.

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For more information contact **Betty Scarbrough at 663-5875**



Outstanding employee



(Special photo)

Meredith House recently recognized some of its employees for outstanding service. Eva Grays receives a certificate of appreciation from Jana Gregory, assistant director.

Modern art museum believes it has found original abstract artist

WASHINGTON (AP) - Some people who wander into art galleries - or get dragged in - are puzzled by pictures that seem to depict nothing at all. They're just lines and blobs of paint. Who started that, and why?

The Phillips Collection, the country's oldest modern art museum, thinks it has the answer in a big exhibit of paintings by an American who died in 1946. In 1911, he was "catapulted into fame," says the museum, and had a respected role in the art world between the two World Wars.

Today, Arthur Garfield Dove is not a household name even at the big auction houses, but his prices have been rising. Less than two years ago one of his paintings sold for a record \$420,500 at Sotheby's in New York.

Dove was born in Canandaigua, N.Y., in 1880. He visited France in 1908, about the same time as Wassily Kandinsky, a Russian often called the first abstract painter.

The two are believed to have never met. Yet Dove's abstract paintings of 1910-11 and 1912 "seem to parallel if not predate by maybe a year the production of Kandinsky's 'Improvisations,' generally touted as the first European paintings to dispense totally with figuration," says Debra Bricker Balken, who wrote the show's catalog.

Figuration is the depiction of natural figures. Some of Dove's pictures bear names with little resemblance to anything in the everyday world - names like "Movement No. 1" and "Abstraction No. 2." They're called "abstract" or "non-objective" paintings.

"I should like to take wind and water and sand as a motif and work with them, but it has to be simplified in most cases to color and force lines and substances, just as music has done with sound," Dove once wrote.

Not all critics believe Dove was so influential. Sam Hunter, author of the standard "American Art of the 20th Century," said Dove was a very original artist, but said his abstract painting was "fragmentary and inconclusive."

Don Kimes, who chairs the Fine Arts Department at American University, sees little doubt that Dove came first.

"A lot of Europeans came over here and were astonished to find that Americans had been doing it for years," he said.

Kelly Air Force Base workers offered jobs in Georgia

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - More than 650 workers at Kelly Air Force Base say they're willing to relocate at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

Officials from the Georgia base will visit San Antonio next week with job offers in hand.

Workers at Kelly, which is being shut down, had until Monday to volunteer to go to Georgia.

Officials said it's uncertain how many jobs will be offered with a team from Warner Robins Air Logistics Center arrives in San Antonio early next week.

But virtually all the 715 skilled jobs the Pentagon says are needed for the C-5 work could be filled by Texans.

"We're prepared to offer up to 700

(jobs)," 1st Lt. Kofi Campbell, a Robins spokesman, said Monday.

A little more than two weeks after the Air Force awarded a seven-year, \$434 million C-5 maintenance contract to Robins over three private firms willing to keep the work in San Antonio, the pace of recruiting work was rising to a crescendo.

As the final volunteer requests were being processed at day's end, Robins and its many boosters were mapping plans not only to offer jobs, but to help the San Antonians settle into new lives as Georgians.

Many longtime employees are focusing on retirement packages they stand to lose if they don't follow their jobs to Georgia, union officials said.

A spokesman for Georgia's HOPE Scholarship said Monday that Kelly workers with high school-age children likely would qualify for college grants worth up to \$3,000 a year.

The state recently waived a one-year residency requirement for the children of C-5 workers wanting to take tax advantage of the scholarships, which cover tuition, fees and a \$100 book allowance for all state universities, colleges and technical schools.

High school and college-bound students with a "B" average or better can qualify. Eligibility for students now in their senior year of high school will be based on proof that the C-5 workers' primary residence is Georgia, HOPE Scholarship spokesman Steve Tompkins said.

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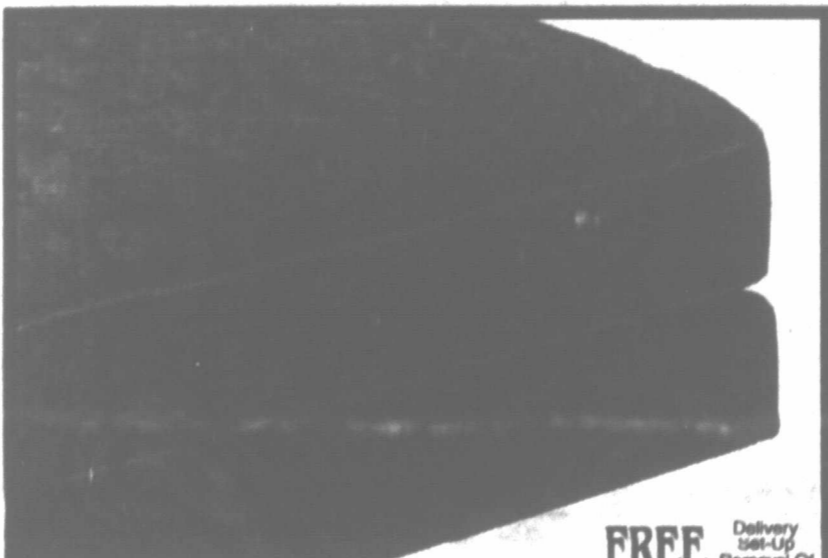
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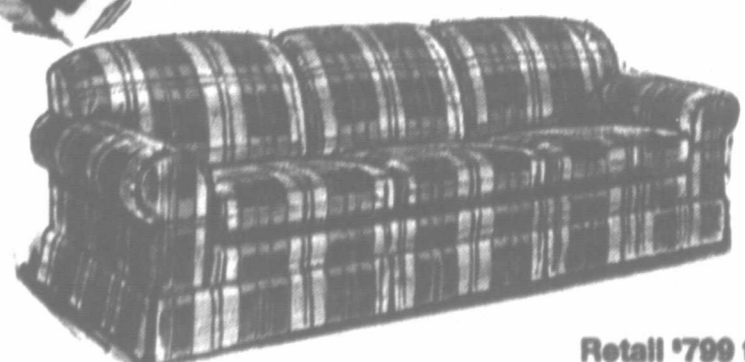


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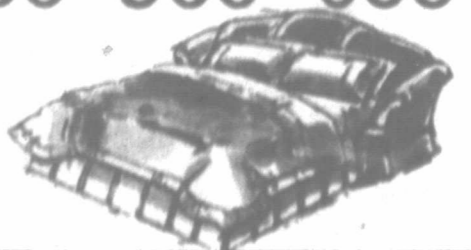


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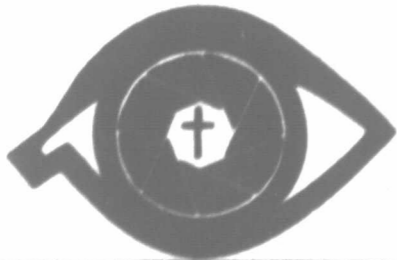
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REVIVAL MEETING

FCC publishes brochure covering Telephone Consumer Protection Act

The Federal Communications Commission has published a brochure telling consumers about their rights under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and the FCC's rules. The free brochure also tells consumers about actions they can take to reduce the number of unsolicited telephone marketing calls and unsolicited advertisements sent to their fax machines.

Under the FCC's Do-Not-Call rules, a person or entity (a business, for example) placing live telephone solicitation calls to your home must maintain a record of your request not to receive future telephone solicitations from them. Your request must be honored for 10 years.

Tax-exempt nonprofit organizations are not required to keep Do-Not-Call lists. The FCC's Do-Not-Call rules also do not apply to calls placed to business telephone numbers. Your state, however, may have laws that require a business Do-Not-Call list.

The brochure also takes the mystery out of how and why consumers with unlisted, non-listed or non-published numbers still get unsolicited phone calls. Also explained are the hours solicitations calls can be made to your home, caller identification requirements, restrictions on computerized calls and the types of permitted calls.

The FCC's rules also prohibit sending unsolicited advertising to fax machines. The

brochure explains consumers' rights and what is required of the person or entity sending fax messages.

If you believe you have received unsolicited calls or unsolicited fax advertisements in violation of the TCPA and the FCC's rules, the brochure provides details about actions you can take, such as filing suit in state court or writing a letter to the FCC.

The brochure also directs consumers to resources other than the FCC. Complaints about false or deceptive telephone solicitation sales practices, for example, should be directed to the Federal Trade Commission.

Complaints about fraudulent calls should be directed to the FBI. The U.S. Postal Service

should be contacted about information or products received by mail in connection with fraudulent telephone solicitation practices.

The FCC brochure also tells consumers how they can get their names added to lists of consumers who do not wish to receive telephone marketing calls. These lists are prepared and distributed by the Telephone Preference Service of the Direct Marketing Association, which can be reached by mail at: Telephone Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 9014, Farmington, NY 11735.

Consumers can get a free copy of the brochure by calling the FCC's toll-free National Call Center at 1-888-225-5322.

State briefs

Laney seeks ways to restore public confidence in politics

AUSTIN (AP) — Two House committees have been asked by House Speaker Pete Laney to find ways to restore the public's confidence in politics.

He asked the committees Monday to identify campaign finance practices that undermine the state's election system. He also wants their recommendation on how the public can more easily follow the money behind politics.

Campaign financing is one of several topics Laney wants House committees to address before the next legislative session in 1999.

"Campaign donations in general have been a source of controversy," Laney, D-Hale Center, told the Austin American-Statesman. "It is time to shed more light on the flow of contributions and find out if we need to make it more accountable to the public."

"Let's see if there is a need and a way to clarify who or what is putting their money behind a candidate for state office."

Klan falls in attempt to set up booth at Texas Forest Festival

LUFKIN (AP) — After they saw a press release from a klan group about "authentic Klan items" that would be hawked from a booth during the Texas Forest Festival, officials moved quickly to uninvite Michael Lowe.

Tom Manskey, president and chief executive officer of the Angelina County Chamber of Commerce, said Monday they had no idea when they accepted Lowe's \$175 registration fee that he was a klan leader who wanted to display klan material.

Festival officials said they returned the fee to Lowe and told him his exhibit of Ku Klux Klan items is inappropriate for the event.

Lowe, regional director of the Knights of the KKK, planned to hawk "authentic Klan items" at the festival, which begins Wednesday and continues through Sunday.

Manskey said the Texas Forest Festival "is looked at with a great deal of community pride, and it wasn't felt that his exhibit was appropriate for this type of event."

Pain may be eliminated for millions

(SPECIAL) — A drug that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis," and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis, relieves pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis, is available immediately without a prescription in an odorless, greaseless, non-staining cream or new roll-on liquid form. Arthur Itis, is guaranteed to work or your money back.

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Assorted Varieties, 14-16 ounce **Limit 2** **1.49** each



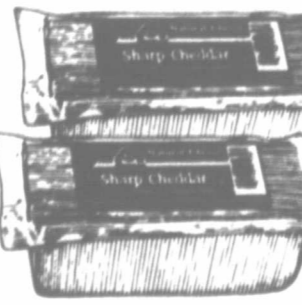
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Smack Ramen Noodles
Assorted Varieties, 3 ounce **Limit 20** **10¢** for



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Oscar Mayer, 16 ounce **Limit 2** **79¢** ea.



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Fresh Baked French Bread
Buy One Single Loaf And Get The Second Loaf... **FREE**



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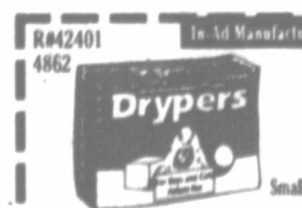
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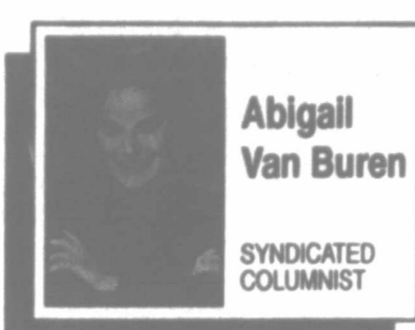
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Home-Schooling Gets Good Grade From Present Students

DEAR ABBY: I'm 11 and in sixth grade. I'd rather be home-schooled than stuck in a classroom with a bunch of misbehaving kids. When I mention the fact that I'm home-schooled to kids who go to a public school, they tell me how lucky I am.

I read on an adult level and enjoy it very much. Cooking is another thing I enjoy. I have a collection of cookbooks. Recently I became interested in writing stories and poems. I entered one of my poems in a contest for adults and got an honorable mention.

Home-schooling may not be perfect, but as far as I'm concerned, it's more perfect than anything else. These are my own words, Abby. Nothing I have written was even suggested by my parents.



Abigail Van Buren
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR RAQUEL: Thank you for sharing your opinion. It echoes the vast majority of enthusiastic letters I received from hundreds of home-schoolers and former home-schoolers nationwide. I was impressed with their level of literacy, and regret that space does not permit me to print more. Read on for a sample:

DEAR ABBY: I'm a high school junior who has been home-schooled since first grade. I have many friends that I met in the neighborhood, at church and on sports teams.

The success of home-schooling

isn't in the location, it's the spirit of the instructor. If my parents were abusive and kept me isolated, I would probably hate home-schooling, too.

Being home-schooled has taught me it's OK to look to my parents and authorities for guidance instead of my peers, who are often just as ignorant as I am. Home-schooling, though, is not a magic pill. I know home-schoolers who are one step from reform school (sometimes they've been expelled from school), and I know plenty of conventional school students who are responsible, intelligent and well-behaved. I'm proud of being home-schooled.

Please don't judge me on what you've heard about home-schooling. Judge me for myself. Thank you, Abby, for the chance to express my opinion. It's something I've wanted to do for a long time.

REGINA BURGESS,
FORT BRAGG, N.C.

DEAR ABBY: I'm in ninth grade. My 3 1/2 years as a home-schooled

student have been great. We start at 9:30 a.m. and finish around noon. The decreased time is due to the lack of distraction. At public school, if I finished early, I would have to wait for the rest of the class. Now, whenever I finish, I can just move on.

I'm definitely not isolated. We take more field trips because of the flexible schedule. There are also home-school organizations where I've made friends. Home-schooling has been great for me, but it's not for everybody. I know of families that do isolate their children, and others that don't even "do" school.

I hope my opinion on home-schooling is what the majority of home-schoolers think.

SCOTT CLEMENT,
MESQUITE, TEXAS

DEAR SCOTT: It definitely is!

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Horoscope



Wednesday, Sept 24, 1997

In the year ahead, beneficial trends may enable you to strengthen your financial base. You will be in a building cycle that will provide you with greater material security.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Be on your toes today in situations that pertain to your status and reputation. Your reactions will affect these factors for good or ill. Libra, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead 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

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Friends will try to help you today if they feel you are trying to help yourself. If you're indifferent, why should they care?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Today, your staying power may not be up to par. If you tackle complicated assignments, there is a strong probability you won't complete them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Domestic finance could be a sore spot between you and your mate today. Make sure each has the other's consent before making expenditures.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Unless there is something in it for you, you're not likely to extend yourself too far for others today. This is not your usual mode of behavior!

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your judgment in matters other than financial is on target today. Where money is concerned, you could be extravagant in some foolish manner.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Strive to keep everything in proper perspective

today. Do not make a big fuss over issues that others feel are trivial and insignificant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Customarily, you're an individual who readily forgives, but today you might harbor resentment for a series of imagined slights.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) General conditions are favorable for you today, yet you could be impeded by your attitude. Focus your energy and efforts on positives, not negatives.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) In managing your resources today, you may have difficulty discerning middle ground. Be neither too tight-fisted nor too wasteful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Regard developments philosophically today. If you're overly concerned with your self-interests, you may use unattractive tactics to achieve your aims.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Do not show partiality when dealing with friends today. The buddies you treat indifferently might feel inclined to put you at the bottom of their list.

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"I wish I may, I wish I might, blow these candles out tonight!"



"There's nothing under my hat but me!"

The Family Circus



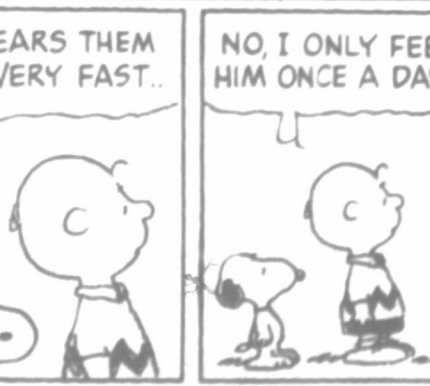
Marmaduke



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



For Better or For Worse



Arto & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



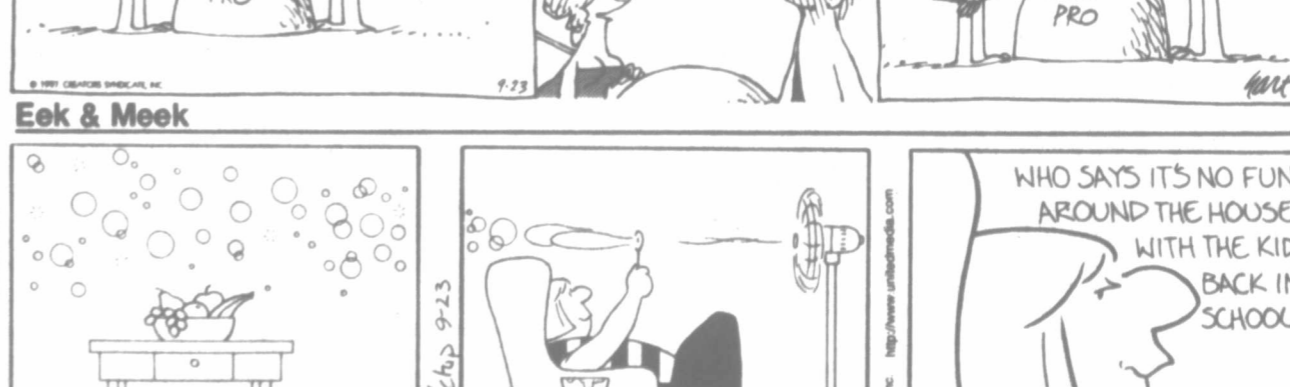
Marvin



B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank & Ernest



Toys



Mallard Filmore

Bishop incurs wrath of Spanish village

ESPINOSA DE HENARES, Spain (AP) — During the Spanish Civil War, residents of this farming town rose in defense of the nuns who inhabit a convent on its outskirts. Now, they are doing so again.

Sixty years ago, the people of Espinosa de Henares stood shoulder-to-shoulder before the white-walled convent to protect it from leftists intent on burning it and harming the nuns.

The Alamo-style church and convent are now besieged by a force cut from a very different cloth — a bishop who is one of the most senior Roman Catholic officials in Spain.

Bishop Jose Sanchez walked into the convent Monday afternoon to expel its five mostly elderly nuns and renew his threats to excommunicate them if they refused to go.

One by one and in groups most of the town's 500 residents gathered in a plaza in front of the convent.

"We baptized our son in there," said Andres Garcia.

"I took my first communion in there," said another man.

"The nuns have always helped us. They gave me work building an extension to the convent," remembered Bautista Castellot, a grizzled 76-year-old.

As the hours ticked by and the bishop remained inside, the crowd grew angrier. Some women shouted for him to come out. Five green-uniformed Civil Guard police lounging by the door looked on warily.

"We may not be very Catholic in this town, but the nuns are a part of our lives," Castellot said.

Although most Spaniards are Catholic, few regularly attend church. Relations between society and the church are smooth, if not distant. The situation in Espinosa de Henares, 45 miles northeast of Madrid, was neither.

Set alongside a river, the convent and grounds were bequeathed by a landowner in 1892 to the nuns of "Espinosa de Henares," according to papers filed with the town government.

"The property was given to the nuns of the town, not to the Clarisas, the Franciscan order to which they belong," said Gonzalez Ibanez, an attorney for the nuns.

Not so, asserts the bishop, who says the property belongs to the order and to the church. Without publicly saying why, Sanchez, bishop of the nearby city of Sigüenza and secretary of the powerful Episcopal Conference, ordered the nuns out of the convent last year.

The nuns — whose average age is 67 — wrote a desperate plea to Pope John Paul II.

"We humbly beg your Holiness, on our knees and with anguish, the singular favor of not carrying through the closure of this convent," the letter says. "We want to remain in it until Sister death surprises us, and from here pray for your Holiness and all the Holy Mother Church."

Sanchez responded by freezing the nuns' bank account — which according to Ibanez holds \$600,000, the savings of successive nuns over 100 years — and told them they faced excommunication if they were not gone by today.

A letter from the Vatican said the nuns must vacate or face possible excommunication. Ibanez said he suspected the letter was a fake, but a Vatican official, the Rev. Jesus Torres, confirmed today that he wrote it, and referred to the nuns as "rebels." However, Torres denied the Vatican would excommunicate the nuns.

Sanchez told the nuns they must leave because there are too few of them and they are frail, and because the convent is in dangerous disrepair, according to Ibanez. Sanchez said they could move to other convents.

Residents of Espinosa de Henares suspect Sanchez wants the convent because the property is valuable. The complex appears to be well cared-for.

Albert sex trial filled with wild charges, details

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.

It is clearly the expression defense attorneys are trying to drum into jurors' heads at Marv Albert's sodomy and assault trial, a lewd courtroom drama filled with graphic descriptions of rough-and-tumble sex.

The prosecution and defense agree that the veteran NBC sportscaster and the woman he is accused assaulting had a vigorous sex life in their 10-year relationship. They agree on little else.

With a jury of seven women and five men looking on, prosecutors on Monday said Albert was angered when a three-way tryst at a hotel didn't materialize, throwing down his lover and telling her: "You've been a bad girl, you didn't bring anybody."

Albert then allegedly bit her repeatedly on the back

and forced her to perform oral sex. Charged with sodomy and assault and battery, he could be sentenced to life in prison if convicted. He has pleaded innocent.

The woman was expected to testify today.

The defense contends the 42-year-old woman was obsessed with celebrities such as the 54-year-old Albert and Peter Jennings; Jennings, the ABC News anchor, later denied in a statement knowing the woman.

"How many of you have seen the movie *Fatal Attraction*?" defense attorney Roy Black asked potential jurors, referring to the movie about an obsessed woman who stalks an ex-lover.

Outlining the foundation of his defense, Black argued that the woman was lashing back at Albert because her life was falling apart — she had lost her job and Albert

had recently told her he was thinking of getting married to another woman. He was divorced five years ago.

In December 1996, Black said, the woman had been admitted to a mental hospital after a suicide attempt.

Black said the woman asked to be bitten and suggested oral sex because she did not have contraceptives with her. He accused her of meticulously planning to entrap Albert, going so far as to spit his semen into her underwear.

"She's collecting evidence," Black said.

Jurors heard even more details about the relationship between Albert and his accuser during the trial's first day. Prosecutor Richard Trodden spoke of consensual three-way sex and telephone sex conversations filled with fantasies. He said Albert asked his lover to bring women's underwear to their meetings for him to wear.



TALL CLARA GRAHAM STANDS TALL ON HER SOAP BOX AND PROCLAIMS...

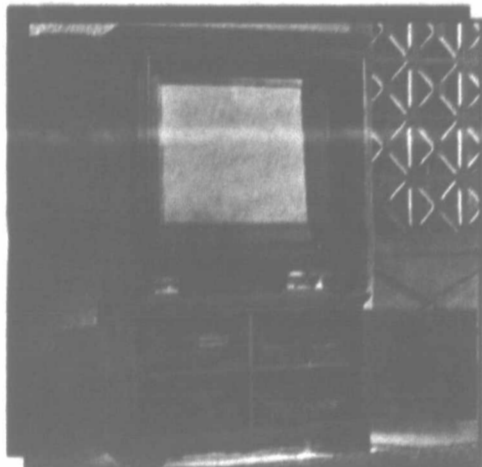
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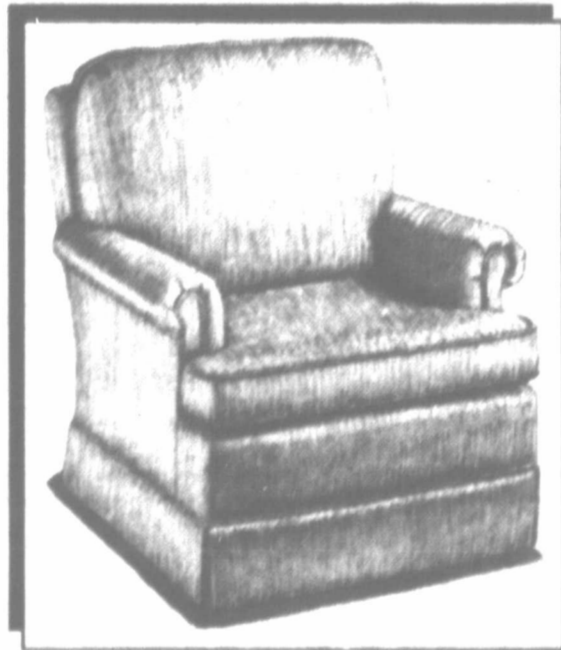
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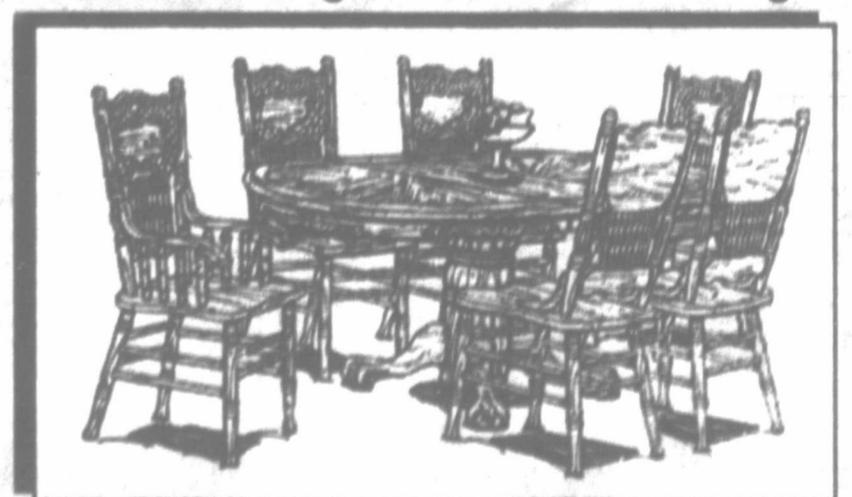
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