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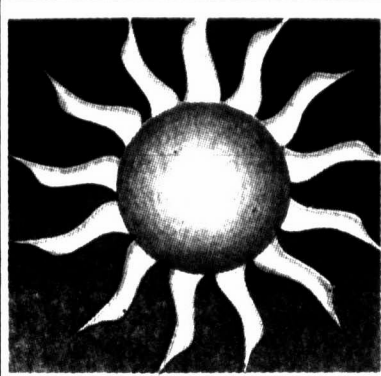
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Pampa

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50¢ Daily • Sunday *1



High today 82.
Low tonight 50.
For weather details see
Page 2.

LUBBOCK (AP) — A former West Texas sheriff was sentenced to 13 months of confinement and ordered to pay \$75,000 in restitution today for embezzling more than \$20,000 from his own department.

Thirteen-year Nolan County Sheriff Jimmy Allen Blackley, 55, admitted to stealing the money from 1989-95. U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings ordered him to spend half his sentence at the federal prison in Big Spring and half at an Abilene halfway house.

Cummings denied a request by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Mateja to force Blackley to serve his entire sentence behind bars.

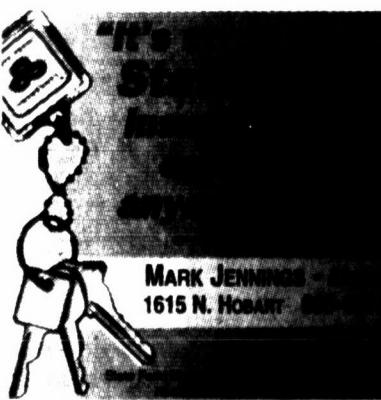
"I still find it hard to believe I'm standing in your court in a criminal case," Blackley said in a brief statement before Cummings. "I do accept responsibility for doing here. There's no one to blame but myself."

Blackley faced the federal embezzlement charge because some of the money he skimmed was supplied by the government to pay for the county's housing of federal prisoners. He pleaded guilty in January.

Current Sheriff Donnie Rannefeld said an audit early last year turned up missing money and property, including seven guns. Though there had been whispers of misdeeds during their 1996 race, Rannefeld said he didn't make it a campaign platform.

- Eva J. Bennett Buzzard, 69, member of Texas Panhandler Camping Club.
- Clifton Lee Peiffer, 80, retired employee of Phillips Petroleum Company.
- Lola Mae Roach, 85, former teacher.

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MARK JENNINGS
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If Pampa pick for processing plant, citizens to have final vote, PEDC says

By JEFF WEST
Staff Writer

"Whether the economic development corporation uses tax money will be put to the taxpayers. When the time comes to decide we're going to let the citizens of Pampa decide this issue," said Lewis Meers, president of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation board of directors.

"We feel on something that can have this large of an impact it's only fair to take it to the citizens," Meers said. The election would come if Pampa is chosen for the site of a new Seaboard Industries hog processing plant.

"Have, they taken their noses up there (Guymon) and smelled? That's the question that I asked people. Have you been up there and smelled it yourself?"

— Wayne Stribling, PEDC board member

Meers was addressing citizen protests during a PEDC meeting Tuesday night about the possibility that a plant may be located near Pampa.

Seaboard is considering several Panhandle cities as potential sites for a plant that will be patterned after its operation in Guymon, Okla.

Two men came to the meeting separate-

ly to say that Pampa and the PEDC should not rush into any decision about encouraging a processing plant to locate here.

Lloyd E. Harvey, who lives outside the city said, "There may be some business owners who will benefit but there are a lot of citizens who just live here who won't benefit in any way and it may cost them tax dollars."

In reply, Wayne Stribling, a PEDC board member said, "There's not 2,400 jobs of any kind that come up very often, and that's what we are charged to do is to bring jobs to Pampa."

Harvey countered, "I understand that you are feeling the pressure but that's not my concern. My concern is the good of Pampa. I don't know that in my experience any type of hog processing would not be worth it to me or my kids."

Harvey said he couldn't believe the plant wouldn't have a bad odor like the IBP beef processing plant near Amarillo. He said he has talked to others who feel the same way.

See HOG PLANT, Page 2

What's up?



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)

Matt Hinton of Larry Beck Electric excavates dirt so new electrical plugs can be installed along Somerville. The plugs will be used for the Festival of Lights, he said.

Man gets seven years in prison in assault case

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

A 40-year-old Pampa man was sentenced to seven years in prison and fined \$5,000 today in 31st District Court after being convicted of aggravated assault in the knifing of a man at a barbecue restaurant.

Randy Harris, 40, was convicted of aggravated assault in connection with charges that he pulled a knife and cut David Bratcher, 44, on Dec. 22, 1995.

Authorities said Harris apparently approached Molly Johnson, 37, at Dyer's Bar-B-Que, where she was working, about 8:30 a.m., upset over a man that Johnson was seeing.

Harris testified Tuesday afternoon that Johnson had divorced him about two months before the incident at the restaurant.

Randy Harris, 40, admitted he met Molly Johnson, 37, outside the restaurant that morning and slapped her and hit her, breaking a bone in his right hand.

"I got a little physical with her," he said.

Harris said he had gone into her house that morning and found a Christmas card to the man.

Harris admitted he met Johnson outside the restaurant

See MAN, Page 2

Treatment plant remedies could cost big dollars

By KATE B. DICKSON
Associate Publisher

Taxpayers could be out a half million dollars or thereabouts in order to upgrade Pampa's sewage treatment plant so it can comply with federal and state regulations.

But to make sure just what needs to be done, city commissioners Tuesday authorized the hiring of an engineer who will evaluate the situation.

The biggest — and most costly — problem to correct is purchasing equipment to limit ammonia discharge, public works director Richard Morris told commissioners. When the plant was designed and built, in 1975, there were no ammonia controls taken because it was not required. It was in 1995 the ammonia-limiting regulations were enacted.

Until recently, Morris said, tight operational standards at the plant have kept the ammonia discharge within permit levels — something it can't continue to do because of ongoing mechanical problems.

See TREATMENT, Page 3

Norris new director for Good Samaritan

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
Staff Writer

John Norris has been made director of services for Good Samaritan in Pampa. As a 12-year volunteer for the organization, Norris said he worked with past director, Bill Ragsdale, for much of that time.

"I worked pretty closely with Bill for the last 12 years," Norris said.

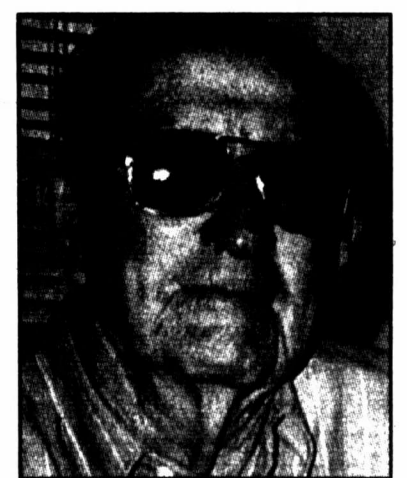
Good Samaritan is a non-profit organization that has grown in 15 years from providing six-to-eight families a day with food and household items to providing as many as 20 families with the necessities of living.

Last year, the group helped 14,430 families with food and in other various capacities, he said.

Nominated by a search committee, Norris, who has been involved with the daily operations of food supply, said he is filling in for the director position, "until they find someone else who will do it."

Although, he noted, Ragsdale said the same thing some 15 years ago. Norris said the nature of the appointment to the position, which has no term limits, is something he would like to change as director.

But other than that, Norris said, he has no plans to make major changes as far as the



John Norris

operations of the organization go.

"We have good volunteers. I don't foresee any big changes," he said. "If something's not broke, you don't fix it."

John has been a resident of Pampa since 1965. He retired from a career intertwined in the oil and gas business.

Deputies nab escapee

PANHANDLE — Carson County sheriff's deputies hope an escaped prisoner they captured is back in Kentucky today.

Carson County officers were called out about 3:30 a.m. Tuesday when a prisoner being transported across county escaped from Kentucky deputies at a Conway motel. The escaped prisoner first headed west, then back-tracked and was captured about 6:45 a.m. as he hid among tractor-trailer rigs

parked behind Love's Country Store in Conway.

A spokesman for the Carson County sheriff's office said the man had suffered minor injuries during the escape. He was treated by ambulance personnel and released back into the custody of the Kentucky deputies Tuesday morning.

"Hopefully, they're in Arkansas by now," a Carson County deputy said shortly after noon Tuesday.

Cable rates to rise in June

Cable television viewers will have a price rise in the June billing when the basic service rate will go up 20 cents a month and extended basic service will rise 30 cents.

Susan F. Winn, Marcus Cable district manager, appeared before the Pampa City Commission Tuesday to answer any questions about the hike. She attributed the price rise to increased programming fees, investments in new technology, service improvements and other operating costs.

Last year, increases in basic and extended basic services amounted to 67 cents.

Asked if the price increase will yield any new programming, Winn said it will not, noting, "We (Marcus Cable) are on the market (for sale) and we

The cable company has 8,334 customers in the district which includes Pampa, McLean, White Deer and Panhandle. About 7,300 of those are in Pampa.

are not going to make any changes now."

The cable company has 8,334 customers in the district which includes Pampa, McLean, White Deer and Panhandle, she said. Of those, about 7,300 customers are in Pampa.

TEXAS ROSE STEAKHOUSE

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

Daily Record

Obituaries

EVA J. BENNETT BUZZARD

Eva J. Bennett Buzzard, 69, of Pampa, died Tuesday, March 24, 1998. Services will be at 4 p.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Dr. Jerry Lane of Pampa officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Roach was born July 1, 1928, at Decatur, Ala. She grew up in Wetumka, Okla. She married Bill E. Bennett on Nov. 1, 1946, at Wetumka; he died Oct. 7, 1992. She later married Mark A. Buzzard on Jan. 21, 1995, at Yuma, Ariz.

She had been a Pampa resident since 1966, moving from Phillips where she lived from 1946-66. She was a member of United Methodist Church and Texas Panhandlers Camping Club. She enjoyed wintering in mild southern places since 1986.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and four sisters, Elizabeth Foster, Albie Baker, Evelyn Oldacre and Billie Hughes.

Survivors include her husband, Mark, of the home; two daughters, Kathy Winborne of Pampa and Cindy Stokes of Amarillo; two stepdaughters, Jana Meyers of Pampa and Sheri Ray of Shallowater; two stepsons, Charles Buzzard of Pampa and Danny Buzzard of Austin; four sisters, Burnice Hatfield of Foxboro, MA, Ledgel Lawyer of Borger, Colleen Watson of Wooster, Ohio, and Delores Dalton of Kerens; two brothers, Bobby Oldacre of Talala, Okla., and Wendell Oldacre of Wills Point; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family will be at 1700 Coffee and requests memorials be to Hospice of the Panhandle, Box 2795, Pampa, TX 79066-2795.

CLIFTON LEE PEIFFER

BORGER — Clifton Lee Peiffer, 80, father of a White Deer resident, died Monday, March 23, 1998. Graveside services were to be at 3:12 p.m. today in the Garden of Love at Westlawn Memorial Park with Richard Kasko, minister of the Church of Christ, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Garden Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors.

Mr. Peiffer was born at Neosho, Mo. He married Eloise Mae Brown in 1937 at Muskogee, Okla. He had been a Borger resident since 1939, moving from Oklahoma City, Okla. He was a field supervisor for Phillips Petroleum Company and was a member of Johnson Park Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Eloise; two sons, Arthur L. Peiffer of Missouri City and Lyle O. Peiffer of White Deer; a brother, Arthur E. Peiffer of Borger; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice.

LOLA MAE ROACH

Lola Mae Roach, 85, of Pampa, died Monday, March 23, 1998. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Bill Morrison, pastor of Wheeler Church of Christ, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.



Mrs. Roach was born May 26, 1912, at Toronto, Kan. She graduated from high school in 1929 at Trinidad, Colo. She attended Nebraska Westland College for a year before transferring to West Texas State College in Canyon, receiving her teaching degree in 1931. She married Frank "Red" Roach on Nov. 11, 1931, at Sayre, Okla.; he died April 4, 1997. She had been a Pampa resident most of her life. She was a member of First Christian Church and was past president and Life Master of Pampa Duplicate Bridge Club.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Charlie Kiel; and a sister, Grace Snyder.

Survivors include two daughters, Debra Stubblefield and Dennie Haynes, all of Pampa; a brother, Victor Kiel of California; and four grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Hospice of the Panhandle, Box 2795, Pampa, TX 79066-2795.

Calendar of events

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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

TOASTMASTERS

The Toastmasters will meet every Wednesday night from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at the Coronado Inn.

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM

The White Deer Land Museum (112-116 S. Cuyler) visiting hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. There will be history of the White Deer Land Co., and the early area settlers and outstanding arrowhead collection and art gallery. Elevator.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Antebay Grain of Pampa:		
Wheat	2.99	
Cor.	3.94	
Soybeans	4.45	
	5.82	
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation:		
Occidental	29 15/16	up 1/8
Puritan	20 9/8	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:		
Amoco	87 7/8	up 3/4
Arco	81 9/16	dn 1/8
Cator O&G	37 15/16	up 1/8
	21 13/16	up 1/8
Chevron	86 1/16	up 5/8
Coca-Cola	75 15/16	dn 1/16
Columbia/HCA	30 15/16	up 3/8
Enron	47 5/16	dn 1/16
Halliburton	51	up 1/4
IRI	12 7/16	up 1/16
KNE	57 7/16	up 1/8
Kerr-McGee	71 3/8	up 3/8
Limited	29 3/16	up 1/4
Magnco	53	dn 1/16
McDonald's	52 13/16	up 5/16
Mobil	79 3/8	up 1 1/4
New Atmos.	29 1/8	dn 1/16
NCE	49 13/16	up 1/8
Penney's	74	dn 1/4
Phillips	51 3/4	up 3/8
Pioneer Nat. Res.	26 5/16	dn 1/8
SIB	77 3/8	dn 1/4
Tenneco	42 3/4	dn 1/4
Texasco	61 7/8	up 5/16
Ultramar	35 7/16	up 1/2
Wal Mart	50 1/2	dn 1/2
New York Gold		299.60
Silver		6.26
West Texas Crude		15.73

Police report

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

Tuesday, March 24

Rosa Linda Rivera, 27, 738 Brunow, was arrested on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

A report of forgery was reported in the 200 block of N. Cuyler. A \$270 check was reportedly passed.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of Prairie. A plate glass window had \$200 in damage reported.

Sheriff's Office

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

Tuesday, March 24

Thomas Herving, 20, 1013 Kingsmill, was arrested on charges of violating probation.

Dustin Miles Fuller, 17, 1605 N. Zimmers, was arrested on a grand jury indictment for burglary of a habitation.

Jonathan Aaron Phelps, 19, 916 S. Banks, was arrested on a grand jury indictment for burglary of a habitation.

Allan Keeton, 44, 1105 Sandlewood, was arrested on charges of violating probation.

Ambulance

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

Tuesday, March 24

1:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo.

2:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of N. Hobart. No one was transported.

5:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Roberta and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

10:10 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2000 block of Coffee and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

11:08 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of N. Russell. No one was transported.

Fires

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

Tuesday, March 24

2:56 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of N. Hobart on a medical assist.

5:20 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to the 600 block of N Roberts on a medical assist.

8:19 p.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway on a false alarm.

Court report

January and February

Prudencia G. Rodriguez pled no contest to charges of Harboring a Runaway Child and received a \$500 fine, 45 days in Gray county jail, one year of probation, 60 hours of community service and \$199.25 in court costs.

James Virgil Smith has been issued an alias capias warrant for his arrest pending an NISI judgement regarding a \$1,500 bail bond.

Gilbert Gene Carl was found guilty of Driving at an Unsafe Speed and was issued a \$100 fine and \$115 in court costs.

Shannon Ray Nall pled no contest to charges of Driving at an Unsafe Speed and received 60 days probation, a \$165 fine, and \$109.25 in court costs.

Garland Tre Walls was dismissed on Driving While Intoxicated charges because the case has been disposed of in an alternate manner.

Thomas Randall Townsend was dismissed on charges of Unlawfully Carrying a Weapon because the evidence was insufficient.

Carter Richard Young was dismissed on charges of Assault Causing Injury - Domestic because the evidence was insufficient.

David Robert Elder was issued an alias capias warrant for his arrest due to an NISI judgement concerning a \$500 bail bond.

Javier Perez was dismissed on Theft of Property by Check charges because court costs and restitution payments have been made.

William Guyer pled no contest to Possession of Marijuana Under 2oz. and received a \$250 fine, \$135 in court costs, \$140 in restitution payments, six months probation and 24 hours of community service.

Christopher John Bybee pled guilty to Possession of Marijuana Under 2oz. and received a \$600 fine, 100 days of Gray County Jail time, 18 months of probation, 68 hours of community service, and \$199.25 in court costs.

Joel Hein was found guilty of Criminal Mischief \$20-\$500 and received a fine of \$200, 25 days in Gray County Jail and \$174.25 in court costs.

Kelli Lee House pled guilty to charges of Driving While Intoxicated and received a \$500 fine, 45 days of Gray County Jail, one year of probation, \$210 in court costs, and 45 hours of community service.

Curtis Andrew Camp pled guilty to Deadly Conduct and was issued a \$750 fine, \$135 in court costs, 70 hours of community service, and nine months of probation.

Richard Lloyd Bowers pled guilty to Driving While Intoxicated charges and was issued a \$700 fine, 60 days of Gray County Jail, 50 hours of community service, \$199.25 in court costs, and two years of probation.

HOG PLANT

Stribling asked, "Have they taken their noses up there (Guymon) and smelled? That's the question that I asked people. Have you been up there and smelled it yourself?"

"What I understand is that there are a lot of students after graduating from college who are returning (to Guymon) because there are some white collar jobs there that did not exist before," said Richard Stowers, a PEDC board member.

Harvey said, "The plant doesn't concern me as much as the possibility of somebody saying there's a plant right there and with a few (hog) pens I can cash in the same way as a lot of people have."

"Quite frankly, that's free enterprise and that's the problem. If there's a profit to be made in it there's going to be some people who are going to have some hog farms," Stribling said.

"One last point," said Harvey. "It's been published about problems with health hazards. In Oklahoma they are passing laws to limit feed lots and why do we want to bring those problems here?"

Also speaking was Jay Spearman who said, "I'm a life long Pampa resident, interested in the welfare of

our city and the surrounding cities. I think we need to study this before we make a decision that's going to have this large an impact on Pampa. I have three concerns, our water quality and abundance, our air quality and how it's going to affect our public school system. We need to get the information out, pros and cons, to everybody so we can have an intelligent discussion about it."

Chuck White, a Gray County resident, who was there on another matter, asked if the vote being discussed will be just for the residents of the city or will include Gray County. Meers said he understood it will be the city commission calling an election just for Pampa.

PEDC board member Roger David said, "I have a lot of doubts about this deal but it is our job. We must absolutely explore this kind of thing. That's what we have to do. We can't ignore 2,400 jobs, if that's what it is. But in my mind it's jobs and community impact and if they offset each other then I don't think it's a good deal."

David said, "I think there are many many miles to go before we cross any bridges on that. I have people come to my office every day or drop off letters both pro and con and to the best of my knowledge we're a long way away from knowing anything specific about the project."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

MAN

that morning and slapped her and hit her, breaking a bone in his right hand.

"I got a little physical with her," he said.

When Johnson went into the kitchen to get her keys, Harris said she took off running, knocking over a bowl of potato salad and slipped and fell. Harris said he went over to help her up when two guys grabbed him.

Harris said he grabbed a knife with the thumb and forefinger of his right hand and told the men if they didn't want to get hurt, to let go of him. When they released him, he said he dropped the knife.

"One guy stepped in front of me," Harris said, "and pushed me. I hit him, and he went down."

Harris said that when the man got up, there was a gash on his head across his ear. Harris insisted he hit the man with his left hand and did not have a knife in his hand at the time.

Johnson testified Tuesday afternoon in the courtroom of 31st District Judge M. Kent Sims that she had lived with Harris for about nine years.

She testified that she met Harris outside the restaurant that morning and he accused her of lying about a man she had been seeing.

"He threw me down and started beating my head on the sidewalk," she said.

Johnson said Harris insisted they go to his house, and she went into the kitchen of the restaurant to get her keys. David Bratcher, John Davis and Donna Jones came to her defense in the kitchen, she said.

Johnson said she was afraid of Harris, but did not see him cut Bratcher with a knife.

Bratcher testified that he was in the kitchen that morning when Johnson came running in screaming, "stop, stop" at Harris who was chasing her.

Bratcher said he had positioned himself between Harris and Johnson when Harris picked up a knife off the table and, holding it in his right hand, said, "Do you want to die?"

Bratcher said he had to have three stitches to close the cut over his eye and 14 stitches to his ear. He said he had a four-inch scar behind his ear, along his hairline.

While Bratcher's testimony was detailed, Scott asked him about a statement he gave to then Gray County Chief Deputy Charlie Morris later that day saying that he didn't remember falling on the floor or falling against a cart in the kitchen.

"He hit me and that's all I can remember," Scott quoted from Bratcher's statement.

Testimony began about 11 a.m. Tuesday with Paul Sublett as opening witness following the selection of a seven-woman, five-man all-white jury. He said Harris, accompanied by his brother, surrendered to officers at the sheriff's office about 10 a.m. that day.

Nancy McBrayer, a mother of four who works as kitchen cook at Dyers, told the jury that Johnson left about 8:15 a.m. but returned a few minutes later followed by Harris. McBrayer said Johnson came back into the kitchen saying, "No, Randy, leave me alone."

"He had a look in his eye like he could hurt somebody," McBrayer said.

McBrayer said Harris was across a table from Johnson, pulling on her hair. She said Bratcher and Davis, another restaurant employee, came to Johnson's aid, but Harris picked up a steak knife from the table and threatened them.

Harris told everyone in the kitchen, McBrayer said, to leave him alone or he would hurt them. She said he swung the knife at Davis, who had grabbed him from behind, but missed. Davis let go, and Harris attacked Johnson, McBrayer said, kicking her and stomping on her hand.

The cook said she called 911 while Bratcher tried to pull Harris off Johnson. She testified that Harris knocked Bratcher down, but she did not see Harris cut Bratcher with a steak knife.

Davis told the jury that Bratcher stood between Harris and Johnson and that Harris threatened them all with the steak knife.

"He held the knife and asked if we wanted to die," Davis said.

Davis said he saw Harris hit Bratcher and knock him down, but he never saw Harris cut Bratcher. Davis said Harris ran out the front door of the restaurant after knocking Bratcher down a second time. Davis said Harris ran across the restaurant parking lot and jump into a white car and speed away toward town.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Sunny, windy and warm today with a high of 82 and southwest winds of 10-20 mph. Tonight, clear with a low of 50 and southwest winds of 10-15 mph. Tomorrow's high should be 80 and there is a chance of some late day thunderstorms.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Tonight, partly cloudy with a low near 50. South wind 10-20 mph with higher gusts. Thursday, partly cloudy and windy with a 20 percent chance of afternoon thunderstorms.

High in the lower 80s. Southwest wind increasing to 25-30 mph with higher gusts by afternoon. Extreme Southern

Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, Partly cloudy. Lows

in the 50s. Thursday, Partly cloudy and windy. highs 80-85. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Tonight, Partly cloudy. lows from the lower 40s to around 60. Thursday, Partly cloudy and breezy. Highs from the upper 70s mountains to the lower 90s along the Rio Grande.

NORTH TEXAS — Wind advisory today west and central. Tonight, some late night low clouds, otherwise partly cloudy. Lows 58 to 64. Thursday, windy. Some morning low clouds, otherwise partly cloudy. Highs 76 to 82.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, low clouds returning by late evening. Widely scattered showers or thunderstorms north-hill country late. Breezy with lows in the mid 60s. Thursday, some morning low clouds

becoming mostly sunny by mid-day. Breezy with highs near 80. BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Tonight, partly cloudy west with a chance for showers or thunderstorms. Fair to partly cloudy skies east. Lows 30s to mid 40s mountains with 40s to mid 50s lower elevations. Thursday, windy with scattered showers and thunderstorms spreading from west to east across the state. Cooler west and not as warm east. Highs upper 40s to lower 60s mountains and northwest with mostly 70s lower elevations south and east.

OKLAHOMA — Tonight, partly cloudy. Becoming cloudy toward morning except northwest. Lows from the mid 50s to lower 60s. Thursday, mostly cloudy and windy. Highs in the 70s.

City briefs

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

EMERGENCY JAIL Release.

24 hrs. Jack Ward, 669-9911. Adv.

PANSIES, DIANTHUS, violas, perennials and other cool weather bedding plants arriving this week at Watson's Feed & Garden, Hwy. 60 East. Adv.

NEW SHIPMENT of Easter & Spring Flags in stock at Watson's Feed & Garden. Adv.

CNA CLASSES starting Mon. Mar. 30th, 8-5 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. - more info. call Clarendon College, Pampa. Adv.

CABBAGE, BROCCOLI, cauliflower, celery & other vegetable plants arriving Wed. Seed potatoes & onion sets also in at Watson's Feed & Garden. Adv.

TIME TO fertilize pecan & fruit trees with Fertillome fruit tree food & Ionate avail. at Watson's Feed & Garden. Adv.

COME AND check out Spring floral arrangements and Spring and Easter hair bows at Shortcuts, 1712 N. Hobart. Adv.

KINGSIZE BEDROOM Suite

for sale, 5 pieces. 669-6287. Adv.

SNOW WHITE Good Luck Bouquets at Celebrations, 1617 N. Hobart. 665-3100. Adv.

WHY NOT treat yourself to a Hot Oil Manicure, Karin Sutherland, manicures & acrylics. Hair Junction, 665-2233. Adv.

AUNT NONIE'S has changed to Sew What! Embroidery and moved to 110 E. Francis. Come see us for your Embroidery Needs. Caps, jackets, etc. or call 665-5993. Adv.

ROLANDA'S JUST received Root votive candles & room spray, 301 W. Foster. Adv.

NOW OPEN at 206 N. Russell - Sumthin' Old Sumthin' New, inside the Credit Bureau. Antiques, collectables, crafts & more. Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE - Wed. 5-8 p.m. Meatloaf, fried chicken, chicken spaghetti, chicken fried steak. After dinner attend VFW Bouquets. Adv.

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TREATMENT

He said aeration rotors, which pump ammonia-controlling oxygen into the oxidation treatment ditch, are beginning to fail structurally and must be replaced.

In addition to excess ammonia output, the plant was also cited by the EPA for a single chlorine limit permit violation, Morris said the violation resulted when a plant operator was focused instead April 12 on the repair of three rotors that failed within one day of each other.

To correct the problem, Morris said the operators have been counseled on the importance of maintaining proper sampling and chemical feed control during times of unusual operational environments. The violation has not reoccurred.

Another problem Morris noted is that flows have exceeded 75 percent of the plant's three million gallon per day capacity continuously since the last state inspection. He blames the excess flow rate on heavy rains that have infiltrated the system, and not actual sewage.

Seventy-five percent of capacity is a benchmark because at that point EPA requires that plans for a new, larger plant must be under way. Previously, Pampa was granted a 75 percent waiver because the city could show, in part, declining population.

To get back below 75 percent, Morris said an accurate flow measure is required at the plant. While manual overflow bypasses to pretreatment ponds have been made during heavy rains, the lack of accurate measurement has made it difficult to verify compliance.

To correct that, the city's contracted plant operator, OMI, will purchase two special metering devices to be installed soon, the public works director said.

Commissioners briefly touched on funding for plant upgrades but put off specifics in anticipation of the engineer's recommendation.

"We knew this was coming," City Manager Bob Eskridge told commissioners. "It was just a matter of time. It's a lot cheaper to spend \$500,000 on rotors than \$5 million for a new plant."



(Community Camera photo)

Edna Hickman, left, modeling fashions from Images, will be at the CattleWomens Style Show and Brunch March 28 at the Country Club. Amanda Youngblood, left, and Michelle Gomez appeared at Country General wearing fashions by Wayne's Western Wear for the upcoming style show.

CattleWomen to hold style show

Top O' Texas CattleWomen's Annual Style Show and Brunch will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 28 at the Pampa Country Club with 11 merchants participating and a showing of over 75 of the latest and best of spring fashions.

The models will be wearing a unique variety of fashions and accessories for this spring and summer — from casual to dressy, daytime to evening, western and western-inspired for all ages.

Brunch will be served buffet style. Numerous door prizes will be given away plus lottery tickets drawn for added excitement.

Derenda Begert of Allison will narrate the fashion show and Judy Cornell also of Allison will provide additional entertainment.

Top O' Texas CattleWomen include members from Pampa, Brisco, Allison, Miami, Perryton, Canadian, Shamrock, Wheeler, White Deer, Groom and Panhandle. Proceeds from the event will be used to promote beef, education and scholarships.

Participating businesses include: Dunlaps, Beals, Images, VJ's, Cuyler Clothing, Kid's Stuff and Wayne's Western Wear, all located in Pampa; House of K, Peppermint Tree and Canadian River Originals, all located in Canadian; and Appearances located in Wheeler.

Join the Top O' Texas CattleWomen with your friends and relatives for an exciting, fun fashion show and brunch!

Former mistress sent to federal prison

By MARK BABINECK
Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — The ex-mistress of former Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros was sentenced to 3 1/2 years in federal prison today after admitting she lied to federal authorities about receiving hush money from him.

Linda Jones had pleaded guilty on Jan. 15 to 28 charges related to a 3-year-old probe into whether Cisneros lied to the FBI about \$185,000 he allegedly gave her before his Cabinet nomination.

Cisneros, who awaits a Nov. 4 trial in Washington, wasn't named in this case. Ms. Jones, 48, also faces two more obstruction counts in Washington. The two were lovers in the late 1980s while both were married to others. They lived in San Antonio at the time and Cisneros was the city's mayor. Ms. Jones was a political fund-raiser who went by her married name, Medlar.

Ms. Jones had been seen as a key witness early in the Cisneros investigation, but her agreement does not compel her to testify in the government's case against Cisneros.

Prosecutors say Ms. Jones violated an immunity agreement by lying to them and concealing evidence, including original versions of taped conversations with Cisneros.

"My definition of a criminal is someone who committed a crime against society or against another person," said Ms. Jones, making her first public statements in years on the issue. "By no means do I think I am a criminal, that I ever have been or that I ever will be."

She said she pleaded guilty to ensure a lighter sentence to protect her daughter and ailing 87-year-old mother.

Ms. Jones chose not to make a statement before the court as U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings accepted the plea agreement.

God misses television appearance; church leader humble but unbowed

By TED ANTHONY
AP National Writer

GARLAND, Texas (AP) — He stood at the edge of his lawn and talked of his enduring certainty — that God would indeed come, that the signs were all there, that Earth was poised at the edge of a fresh epoch desperately needed to renew humanity.

But in the end, Chen Heng-ming had to face one cold fact: He'd said the Lord would appear on Channel 18 at 12:01 a.m. today to announce the impending new era. And by all accounts, even the Taiwanese religious leader's own, the Lord simply didn't.

So "Teacher Chen" backed off into contrition. Sort of. "Because we did not see God's message on television tonight, my predictions of God arriving on March 31 can be considered nonsense," he said early today.

"But don't call us liars," he added. "Keep watching."

So ended an odd, unsettling day of religion and spectacle in Garland, a pleasant Dallas suburb that Chen and his "zhen dao," or True Way, movement, known as God's Salvation Church, said they selected because "Garland" sounds like "God's land."

By the time everything wound down, deep into the night, the

local, regional and international reporters who gathered outside 3153 Ridgedale Drive and spent hours asking church members if

for the group and wished its members well in finding their way.

Implied in the intense media and police attention was the notion that

Kaufmann of nearby Mesquite, a doughnut-shop worker who came to see the spectacle.

It was certainly different for Garland, which mobilized more than 70 police officers and emergency personnel to make sure events proceeded with as little turmoil as possible. Police issued press credentials for the neighborhood Tuesday morning and set up a "media corral" near the house.

"In the last 48 hours, this thing just mushroomed on us," said an exhausted Garland police Lt. Don Martin. "And we did OK. We pulled it off."

He said next week's deadline for God's arrival — 10 a.m. on March 31, which Chen refused to rule out completely — might still be a security issue, depending on how many reporters show up. From attitudes this morning, it might not be many.

"Are you a false prophet?" one local TV reporter demanded of Chen.

The group's prophecies came almost exactly a year after the Heaven's Gate sect committed mass suicide in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. Heaven's Gate members said they believed that, if they "shed their containers," they would be picked up by a spaceship hidden by a passing comet. Thirty-eight people died.

"Because we did not see God's message on television tonight, my predictions of God arriving on March 31 can be considered nonsense," he said early today.

they planned suicide were snickering and calling Chen a "phony."

He said his 140 followers who came with him from Taiwan are free — as they always have been — to find their own routes to happiness. He also pledged to "take responsibility" for the financial losses they sustained by giving up their jobs, though he did not elaborate.

Chen said he would remain in Garland and continue to study the teachings of God and his religion.

To his side, his followers — most dressed entirely in white, including white cowboy hats — watched soberly, their small children standing at their feet and not knowing quite what to make of their leader or the battalion of television cameras lined up before him.

His appearance came only moments after the Garland cable system's Channel 18, a religious-oriented station, offered prayers

church members might take drastic or unexpected action if God didn't appear. But Chen and his followers insisted from the outset that they didn't plan to harm themselves.

"Mass suicide is never an option," said Lo Szu-kuan, a church member and former doctor. Though extreme in that they involve "God's spaceships" and a more immediate holy visitation, some of True Way's Christian-Buddhist tenets do reflect principles in mainstream American religion.

"You have groups saying these kinds of things all over the South. This one just happens to speak and be Chinese," said Rebekah Miles, who teaches Christian ethics at Texas Christian University's Brite Divinity School.

"This isn't so different from what we hear in church," agreed Karen

Customs officers seize marijuana

PRESIDIO, Texas (AP) — It's not a good idea to get too nervous when you're stopped by the U.S. Customs Service.

The driver of a tractor-trailer truck didn't have all the necessary paperwork when he was stopped on Monday at the Presidio Port of Entry. The officers said they became suspicious of the driver when the 31-year-old Chihuahua man became increasingly nervous.

Then, a drug-sniffing dog named "Bokkie" alerted the officers to the possible presence of narcotics in the vehicle's tires and officers soon discovered 20 of the truck's 24 tires had marijuana in them.

Customs officials say they confiscated 762.6 pounds of marijuana, valued at \$762,000. Before, the largest marijuana seizure was July 1996, when officers seized 731 pounds.

The driver was arrested, but not identified.

Tri-City Community Concert Association to present final concert for 1997-98 season

BORGER — Tri-City Community Concert Association will present its final concert for the 1997-98 season April 3. Lainie Nelson, singer, dancer and actress, will perform "The White Cliffs of Dover: Songs of World War II" beginning at 7 p.m. in the Borger High School Auditorium on April 3.

Nelson has appeared in Broadway musicals, TV variety shows, Las Vegas revues and cabaret shows across the country and has been a guest soloist with numerous symphony orchestras. With a company of five musicians and singers, she will entertain the audience with more than 25 sentimental songs of the 1940s.

Pampa Community Concert Association members are invited to attend this special performance.

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 TELEPHONES: (806) 669-2525
 1-800-687-3348 • FAX: 669-2520
 EMAIL: kbd@pan-tex.net • pamnews1@pan-tex.net

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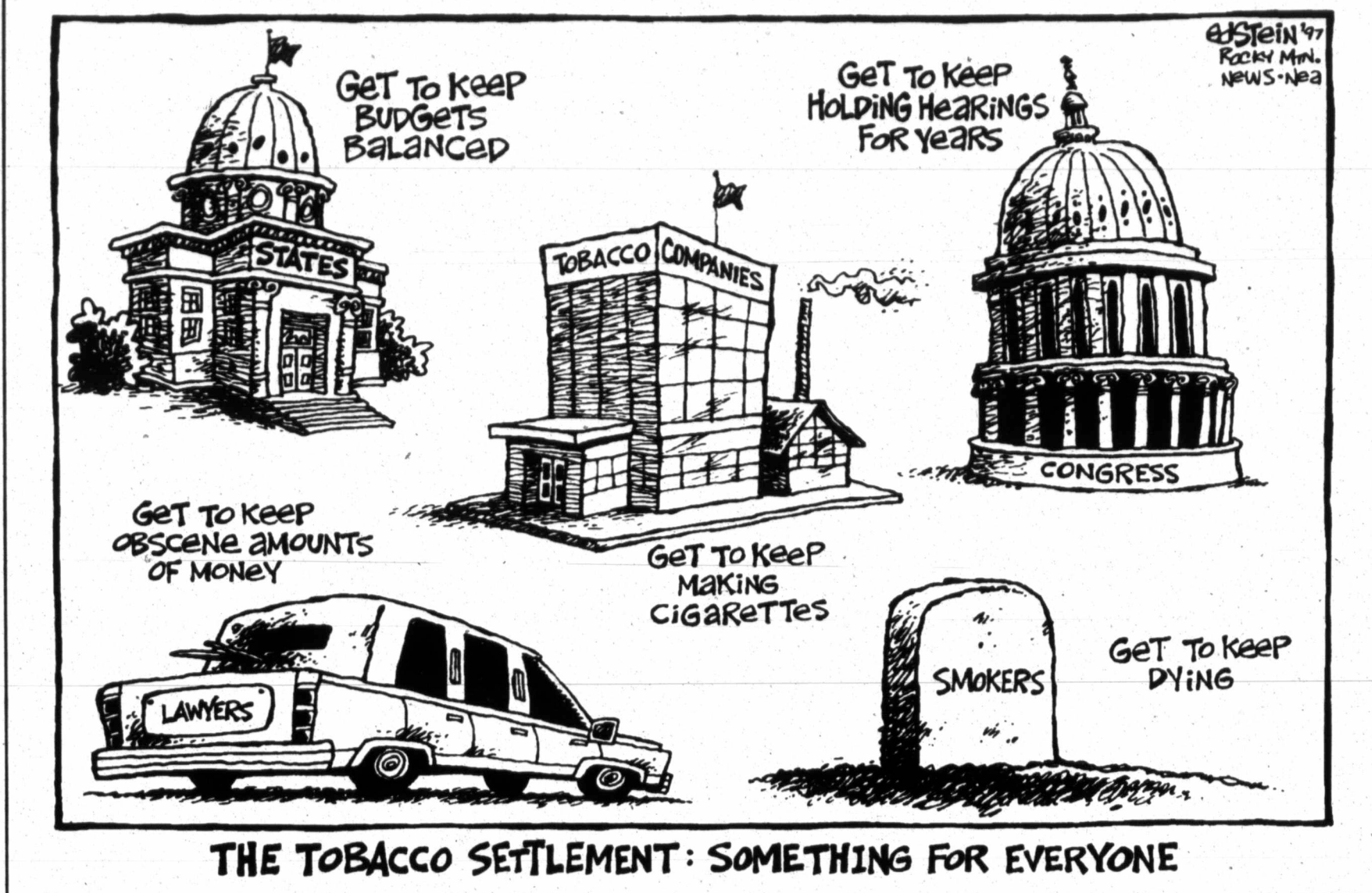
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Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion from Texas newspapers:

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal on insider trading:
 Small investors always have cause to be cautious about planting dollars in the stock market, which has a temperament of its own and is dominated by financial wizards. They may be wondering now, in the wake of new Wall Street shenanigans, how many of those wizards are unscrupulous profiteers capitalizing on "inside" dope.

Recently, authorities nailed 10 individuals in yet another trading scheme at the New York Stock Exchange, the nation's largest securities market. According to the allegations, the scheme netted the group \$11 million.

So what if it took them five years to rake in the dough. All that was involved in the conspiracy was the setting up of some false trading accounts and some split-second timing in buying and selling.

According to authorities, two owners of a brokerage house plotted with eight floor brokers at the NYSE to illegally book personal trades. This violates a law forbidding a form of insider trading by brokers having access to front-line information by virtue of being on the floor of the exchange.

Floor brokers get commissions to conduct trades for brokerage clients and their customers, but law restricts them from buying or selling for themselves or for any account in which they have a financial interest.

Knowing when a big trade is imminent, floor brokers are in a position — were it not prohibited — to jump in seconds before the big transaction is processed or made public to do some profiteering. In this case, the defendants allegedly used disguised accounts for the illegal transactions and later doctored trading records to hide their tracks.

According to The Associated Press, this marks the first time that federal prosecutors and the Securities Exchange Commission have pressed charges against anyone for making such personal trades.

This is a good news-bad news situation.

The bad news is that authorities do not believe that last week's case is an isolated instance of insider trading.

The good news is that authorities' crackdown will continue. Said FBI agent Timothy Dorch: "I want to assure the investing public that the heat is on."

In addition to criminal charges, the SEC has filed a civil case against the defendants and their companies to recover any illicit profits. The defendants also will be fined and banned for life from the securities industry.

Those steps, and further prosecutions, are needed to strengthen investor confidence in the fairness of U.S. stock markets. Keep the heat on, we say.

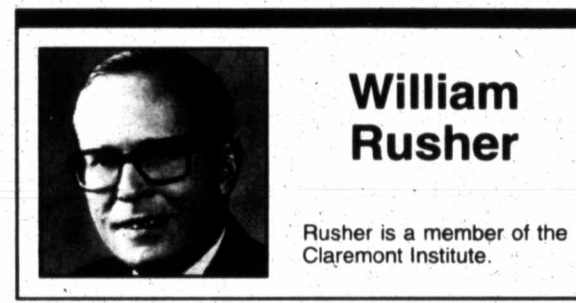
Cool words on a hot topic

Just as the national war on tobacco seems poised to win its most stunning victories — forbidding smoking just about anywhere save in one's own home or the Great Outdoors, and forcing the tobacco companies to pay hundreds of billions of dollars to governmental agencies for the right to continue selling a perfectly legal product — a few calm voices of reason are being raised to protest the mounting hysteria.

In mid-December, London's respected Economist magazine warned that "the attack on tobacco has crossed the admittedly fuzzy line that distinguishes moral-enthusiasm from illiberal vindictiveness, and at such a time good fun should yield to good thinking ... Because they are nursing their dudgeon and savoring their victories rather than thinking with care, anti-smokers believe themselves to be upholding liberal social principles when, in fact, they are traducing them."

Now there will be published, on April 8, a whole book on the controversy. "For Your Own Good: The Anti-Smoking Crusade and the Tyranny of Public Health," by Jacob Sullum (Free Press), is a calm and comprehensive look at the long history of attacks on tobacco, with special emphasis on developments in the past three decades.

As the book's subtitle suggests, Mr. Sullum is broadly critical of those developments, but he never raises his voice and is scrupulously fair to tobacco's foes. A man who has never smoked a cigarette himself, his preoccupation with the issue is easily explained by the fact that he is a



senior editor of Reason magazine, a libertarian journal of opinion. For the convenience of low-minded detractors, however, he has appended an Author's Note acknowledging that the R. J. Reynolds company once paid him for the right to reprint an article he had written on second-hand smoke, and that Philip Morris has contributed to the Reason Foundation (which publishes Reason) and has also advertised in the magazine itself. The donations and ad revenues combined have always totaled less than one percent of the foundation's budget.

Opposition to tobacco goes much further back beyond former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop than you may suppose. In 1604, King James I published "A Counterblaste to Tobacco" ("Shall we ... abase ourselves so farre, as to imitate these beastly Indians?"), and the battle has gone on, hot and heavy, ever since. For centuries, tobacco kept on winning; it was only in the middle of this century, when smoking's causative relationship to lung cancer (which Mr. Sullum readily concedes) became

established, that the tide began to turn.

Even then tobacco's opponents faced a logical dilemma. Tobacco's harmful effects were recognized almost universally, yet nearly a quarter of adult Americans chose to smoke. By what right could they be ordered to stop?

The answer descended like manna from heaven in 1990, when the Environmental Protection Administration released a draft of a report classifying secondhand smoke as a "known human carcinogen," and followed that up in December 1992 with an estimate that it causes three thousand cases of lung cancer every year. The roof promptly caved in on tobacco.

Mr. Sullum spends many pages evaluating these superheated allegations, and concludes that "people who live with smokers for decades may face a slightly higher risk of lung cancer. According to one estimate, a nonsmoking woman who lives with a smoker faces an additional lung cancer risk of 6.5 in 10,000, which would raise her lifetime risk from about 0.34 percent to about 0.41 percent ... [But] there is no evidence that casual exposure to secondhand smoke has any impact on your life expectancy."

Will a book as calmly and persuasively reasoned as this one have any perceptible effect on the anti-smoking brigade? I doubt it. With California already making it unlawful even to open a restaurant or bar exclusively for smokers, and serviced by employees who smoke, we are past reasoned argument. Do as you are told.

Thought for today

"Men are never so likely to settle a question rightly as when they discuss it freely."

Thomas Bagington, Lord Macaulay
Southey's Colloquies

Berry's World

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"Teacher spin on the terrible test scores of American students is ..."

Today in history

By The Associated Press

In 1634, Maryland was founded by English colonists sent by the second Lord Baltimore.

In 1865, during the Civil War, Confederate forces captured Fort Stedman in Virginia.

In 1894, Jacob S. Coxey began leading an "army" of unemployed from Massillon, Ohio, to Washington, D.C., to demand help from the federal government.

In 1911, 146 immigrant workers were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Co. in New York City.

In 1913, the home of vaudeville, the Palace Theatre, opened in New York City.

In 1947, a coal mine explosion in Centralia, Ill., killed 111 people.

In 1957, the Treaty of Rome established the European Economic Community.

In 1990, 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants, were killed when fire raced through an illegal social club in New York City.

In 1992, Soviet cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev, who'd spent 10 months aboard the orbiting Mir space station, thereby missing the upheaval in his homeland, finally returned to Earth.

Clinton's game plan not clear ...

President Clinton was playing for laughs when he told a lawyer joke but stopped short of the punch line, saying it was privileged and so couldn't be told.

That was at dinner, a night out.

Now it is back to the dead serious dispute over his effort to use executive privilege to limit or avoid the questioning of two White House aides in the grand jury investigation of sex and cover-up allegations.

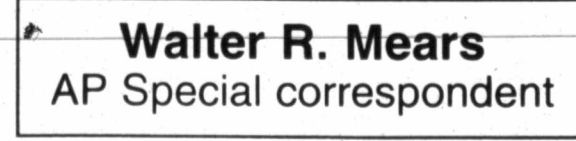
The White House moved gradually and apprehensively to the point of using the claim of executive privilege in the Monica Lewinsky case, wary of the political risk in taking a route last traveled by Richard Nixon.

Clinton's defenders would have preferred to limit the questioning of aides Bruce Lindsey and Sidney Blumenthal by negotiating with the special prosecutor instead of invoking executive privilege. That didn't work, so Kenneth Starr and Clinton lawyers argued the executive privilege issue Friday, before a federal judge.

Executive privilege is a doctrine defined by practice dating from George Washington, by its use and by court rulings ever since, but still murky because it never has been spelled out by law. The premise is that presidents should be able to get unvarnished advice from their aides without having to turn it over to Congress or the courts, which would inhibit future advisers.

The testimony at issue now presumably involves strategy discussions the president had with his advisers. Presumably, because it is all secret.

"I can't say without knowing what the questions are whether executive privilege is or isn't legitimate," said Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass.



That will be settled in court, possibly in the Supreme Court, which ruled unanimously against Nixon's executive privilege claim in Watergate, 24 years ago.

That will take time. Indeed, Clinton critics contended that was the point, that the White House is bent on delay and this fits the slow-down strategy.

The political argument won't wait. It was on television all weekend.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said executive privilege is meant to protect private discussions about public policy, "but that's not what we're talking about here."

"The only president who's tried to invoke executive privilege in this manner was President Nixon," she said on CBS.

"I think it's damaging," her colleague, Sen. Olympia Snowe, said. "And it's sending another wrong message that he's not willing to be forthcoming with the American people."

"I think they've made a mistake," Sen. Trent Lott, the Republican leader, said on NBC. "It looks like they're hiding something."

"And it is the first time where there has been some direct correlation between actions they're taking to keep from having to say things and what happened in Watergate."

"Both Ronald Reagan and George Bush waived executive privilege with respect to Iran-Contra, which was far more a question of national security than the president's con-

duct," said Rep. Dick Armey, the House majority leader, on Fox TV.

"Executive privilege is reserved for national security issues, not for personal conduct," Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, added on CNN.

Even Lewinsky's father, Dr. Bernard Lewinsky, had his say on the subject, complaining that the executive privilege dispute would only slow the process. "As far as the delay, it bothers me a lot because my daughter continues to be in limbo," he said.

The Nixon precedent is not only a political problem; while that 1974 case is not necessarily controlling now, the reasoning that went into it is hardly encouraging for Clinton's claim.

Nixon was trying to prevent the release of 64 White House tape recordings demanded by the Watergate special prosecutor, one of which basically clinched the impeachment case that led him to resign.

Ruling against Nixon, the Supreme Court held that "absent a claim of need to protect military, diplomatic or sensitive national security secrets," the confidentiality of presidential communications would not be significantly diminished by producing evidence needed in a criminal proceeding.

This White House lost an earlier attempt to shield Whitewater notes on grounds of attorney-client privilege, denied by the court because they were the work of government lawyers.

"A lawyer and a client walk into a bar," Clinton said in his jokingly truncated joke at the white-tie Gridiron Dinner Saturday night. "The lawyer turns to his client and says — 'No, wait. It's privileged.'"

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Congressional leaders swap charges over impeachment

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats are accusing Republicans of plotting to use a planned review of the Justice Department as a way to prepare for a possible impeachment inquiry.

"I must now come to the House to report that the Republican leadership is now planning to surreptitiously commence ... an impeachment investigation without any notice to the Congress, to the Democrats on the Judiciary Committee or to the American people, without a vote from the House of Representatives," Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., said from the House floor.

Earlier in the day, a House Judiciary Committee meeting erupted in a shouting match after Conyers, the committee's highest ranking Democrat, accused Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill., of shutting Democrats out of discussions of how to spend a proposed \$1.3 million increase in the panel's budget.

Before abruptly leaving the committee room, Hyde said plans for the money were no secret and that Republicans had kept Conyers' staff informed.

He said the money will be used for the Justice Department review, the first in 19 years. As part of the review, new staff will look at all of the department's agencies, but they would be able to move into impeachment-related issues if needed, Hyde has said.

"We intend to look at the Justice Department from aardvark to Zimbabwe to find out all we can about it to make it cost effective and to exercise oversight in the fullest extent of the term," a testy Hyde told Conyers. "Your counsel has been notified all along about this."

"Well, what about me, sir?" demanded Conyers. "The hell with my counsel. You are the chairman and I am the ranking member. I don't have to go see my counsel to find out what's on your mind."

Conyers and Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., said a letter released by Hyde and House Speaker Newt Gingrich indicates the money will be used to investigate the Clinton administration for political purposes.

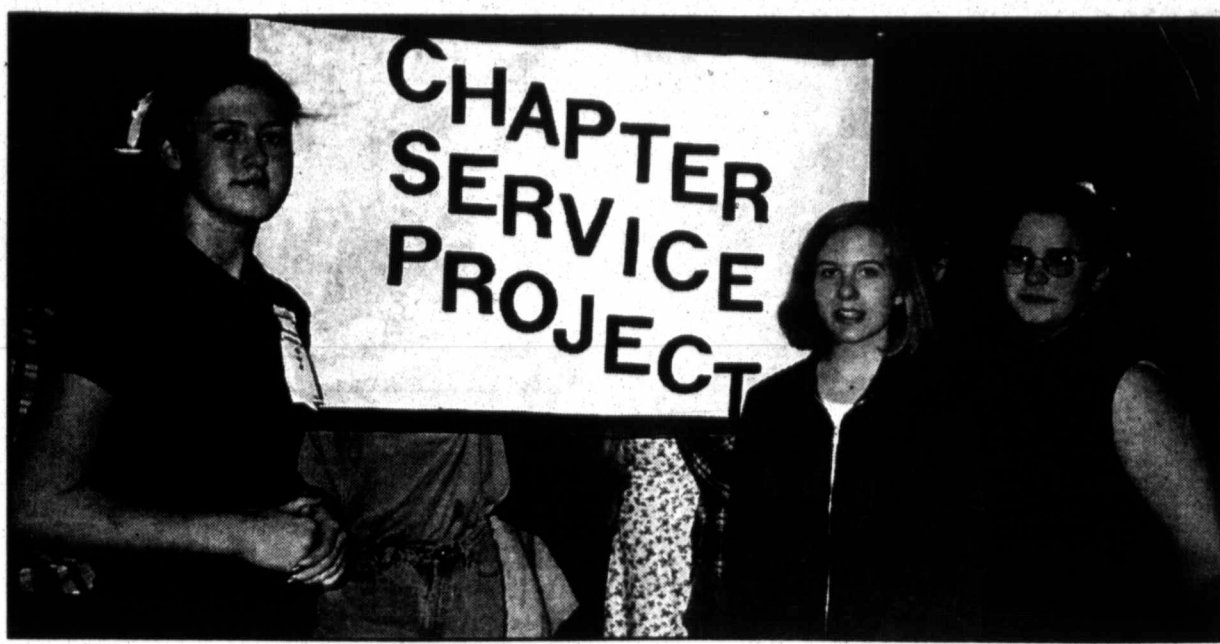
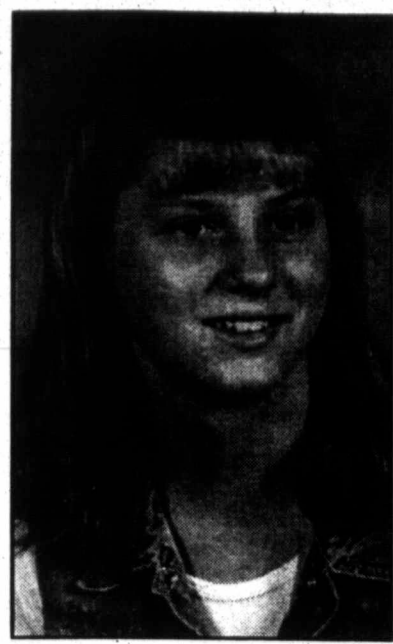
In the letter, Hyde said Attorney General Janet Reno's "recent decision not to seek the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate the president, vice president and former energy secretary is but one of a series of dubious Justice Department judgments. Under our oversight responsibilities we must investigate the investigation. We must get the answers the department has wrongfully refused to give."

Conyers said those matters "have already been investigated by the committees in the Senate and the House and personally, Mr. Chairman, I see no need to provide yet more taxpayer dollars to recycle or duplicate these hearings."

Hyde said Conyers was "entirely wrong. We're not going to rehash things we've already looked at. We're going to look at the various agencies of the Department of Justice."

He also said that in the future he will speak personally to Conyers about all matters. "I will deal with you in the most formal terms from this moment on and not make the mistake of talking to your counsel," Hyde said. "I apologize for assuming your staff would tell you what we told the staff. How naive of me."

A Hyde aide also disputed Conyers' assertion that Hyde had not bothered to speak to him personally about the Justice Department review, saying Hyde had privately with Conyers at least twice, the last as recently as last Thursday.



Valorie Johnson, left, was elected and installed as a Regional FHA Officer and will serve as Vice President of Achievement. Lindsey Hampton, right, left-right, Carrie Jennings and Vickie Fossett placed second in the Chapter Service Project Event at the Regional FHA/HERO conference.

Pampa FFA students shine at regional meeting in Odessa

The Pampa chapter of Future Homemakers of America attended the Region I Conference held recently in Odessa. Chapter members were among 1,000 delegates attending the two day conference. The youth-developed theme, "A Sea of Opportunities with FFA/HERO," was carried out through workshops and general sessions where members discovered ways to become actively involved in issues facing today's youth. Some of the issues addressed at the meeting were family ties, substance abuse, self-esteem, child abuse, leadership, etiquette, handwriting analysis and home economics careers.

The Pampa FFA participated in Students Taking Action for Recognition Events — competitive events in which members participate at regional meetings. These events allow members to showcase life skills in different areas of competition.

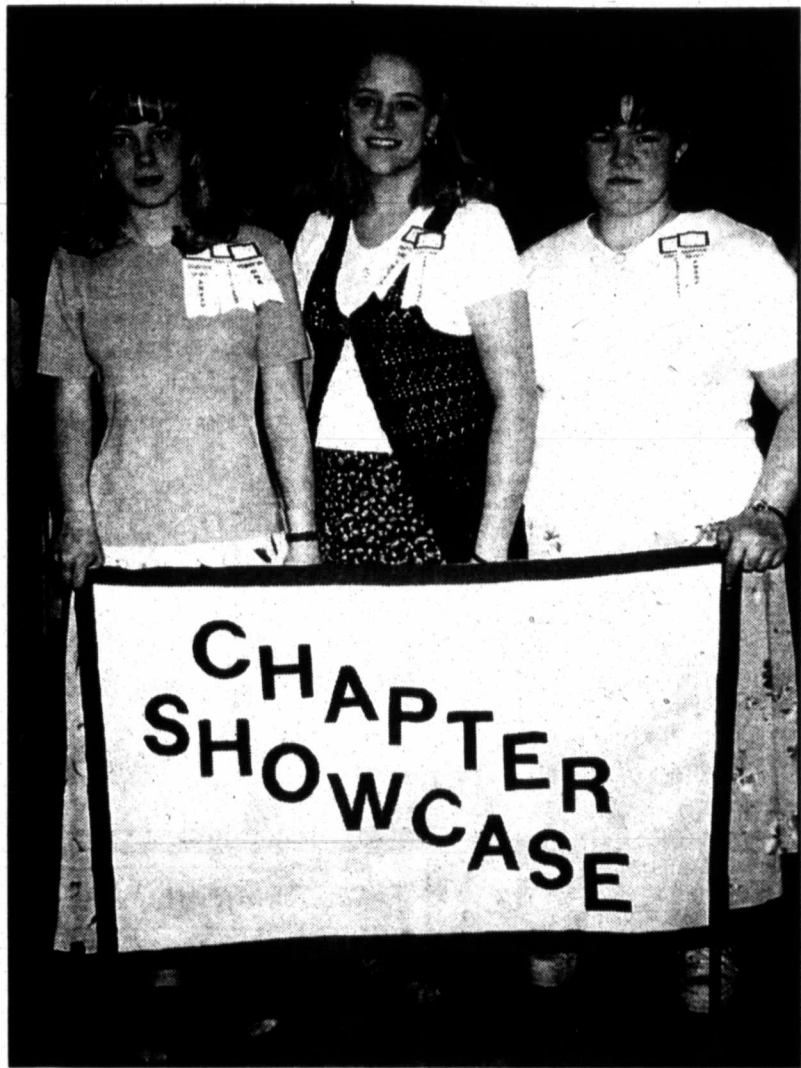
Participants in the Chapter

Showcase event were Kris Ann Rogers, Kim Jones, and Rachel Ledford. This team placed first. Participants in the Chapter Service Event were Vickie Fossett, Lindsey Hampton and Carrie Jennings. They placed second. Both teams won the right to participate in the state contest to be held in April at Houston.

Valorie Johnson was elected a regional officer. She will be the Vice President of Achievement and will be an officer for the 1998-99 school year.

Fifteen members were recognized for completion of Power of One.

Future Homemakers of America is a youth organization that has the family as its central focus. FFA is considered the "best kept secret." Members learn leadership and life skills related to parenting and child development, management, interior design, food science, institutional maintenance, hospitality and career awareness.



(Left) Rachel Ledford, Kim Jones and Kris Ann Rogers placed first in the Chapter Showcase Star Events at the Regional FHA/HERO conference.

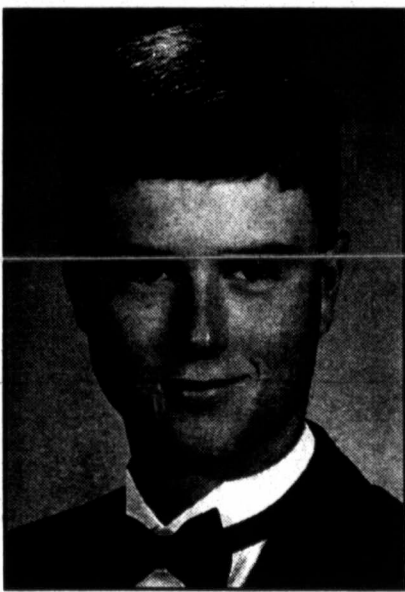
Wrangler selects McLean teenager as member of all star rodeo team

DENVER, Colo. — Leaders of the National High School Rodeo Association, the oldest youth rodeo organization in America, appointed Shandon Stalls, McLean Rodeo Club, McLean High School, to the Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team, the first-ever corporate-sponsored youth rodeo team.

The Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team is fashioned after Wrangler's Champion Pro Rodeo Team which includes superstars like Ty Murray, Joe Beaver, Dan Mortensen and Hall-of-Famer Jim Shoulders. Stalls earned a position on the Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team based on leadership qualities, academic eligibility and athletic achievements.

"We are excited to expand Wrangler's rodeo sponsorship program at the high school level," said Karl Stressman, special events manager for Wrangler Rodeo. "It gives us a tremendous sense of pride to associate the Wrangler brand with promising young men and women. We're confident each member of the team will be an outstanding goodwill ambassador for the sport of rodeo."

Members of the All Star Rodeo Team receive official competition apparel consisting of Wrangler Twenty X shirts embroidered with the team logo and two pairs of competition jeans. In addition, team members receive an official team certificate signed by rodeo greats



Shandon Stalls

Shoulders and Murray. "Wrangler's NHSRA sponsorship is a natural extension of our professional and collegiate rodeo programs," said Louis Russo, director of Western Wear marketing for Wrangler. "We are confident the NHSRA partnership will reinforce Wrangler brand loyalty with the youth market."

"The NHSRA owes much of its success to the support of its national sponsors," said Kent Sturman, general manager of the NHSRA, "and we are excited to have a prominent company like Wrangler step forward to help us meet the ever increasing challenges facing our young people today."

"Cowboys can always depend on Wrangler to support the infrastructure of rodeo," Sturman continued. "Our members are thrilled to have Wrangler as a sponsor and are proud to wear their products in and out of the competition arena."

The mission of the NHSRA is to help today's youth become responsible, dedicated adults through the sport of rodeo. High school rodeo has come a long way since its start as a single event held in Hallettsville, Texas, in 1947. It now features over 13,000 members and 1,100 sanctioned rodeos in 38 states and four Canadian Provinces.



Presented by Pampa Elementary Chorus
7:30 p.m. on March 27 - 28, 1998
H. B. Brown Auditorium

COMING

TUESDAY MARCH 31ST

Pampa Pride '98

A SPECIAL EDITION

FEATURING STORIES AND PICTURES ABOUT PAMPA AND THE PANHANDLE

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LIMITED SUPPLY OF EXTRA COPIES - AVAILABLE WHILE THEY LAST.

Senator Simon

U.S. Senator Paul Simon is coming to Hillsboro Saturday morning to receive the Mont-Board's Road to the Red Rooster Inn and that's just the beginning of the Senator's visit. He will be participating in a long governmental service reer.

Hurst-Rosche Engineer

Hillsboro's City Council will have a regular session Tuesday night to give approval to the Pampa Bank will fund the project.

Visit us on the World Wide Web:
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Mom's Long-Kept Secret May Be Cause Of Daughter's Pain

DEAR ABBY: My young-adult daughter, "Ellen," dated for several years before meeting "Tom," to whom she is engaged. Before she fell in love with him, Ellen cut short several relationships because the men wanted to have sex, and she was saving herself for marriage.

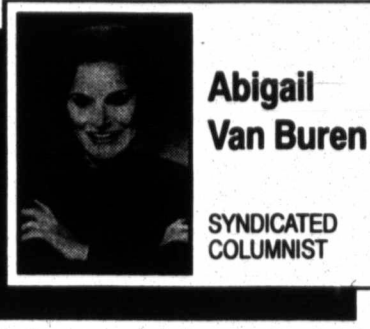
Tom and Ellen's wedding is in two months, and we just received a letter from her informing us that she is pregnant! In her letter, she said she would understand if we wanted to disown her.

I called her immediately and told her that we love her, we know she loves Tom, and everything will be all right. Although I know she heard me, she still seemed upset.

Abby, I have never shared this with my daughter, but her father and I made love before we were married. He has been the only man in my life, and I never felt hypocritical teaching Ellen to wait for sex until after marriage. Now that I see how bad she's feeling, I'm wondering if it would make her feel better to know I understand more than she might guess. Should I tell her?

WANTS TO HELP

DEAR WANTS: Since your husband is half the equation, ask him if the "secret" should be revealed to your daughter. I'm not at all certain it would make your daughter feel better to hear that she had been held to a standard that you didn't meet. In fact, she might resent it and feel she had been misled.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

Before reaching a decision, read on:

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing this letter for all of those well-meaning people who subscribe to the notion, "What he or she doesn't know, won't hurt them."

After my father was killed at his restaurant during a robbery (at age 48), my mother and I were at his attorney's office to start proceedings, and the question of "date of marriage" came up. Mom said, "Aug. 23, 1925," and I said, "No, Mom — it's 1924." She turned to me and said, "Hush. We'll talk about this later."

I was 22 years old when I learned I had escaped illegitimacy by just 34 days! First I felt betrayed, then foolish because in mom's large family, I was the only one who was unaware of this fact of my birth. When I asked her, "Why, Mom, why?" she said, "Because Dad made me promise you would never know of it in his lifetime."

Apparently this proud man could not bear the thought that I might consider him imperfect. It was easy for Mom to go along with it because she always tried to protect me by withholding unpleasantness.

Abby, all this happened 50 years ago, and I have long since forgiven them. But I have not altogether forgotten that I was deceived by those I trusted most.

CAN'T FORGET IN L.A.

DEAR CAN'T FORGET: It is for that specific reason that I advise parents never to lie to their children.

DEAR ABBY: In response to "Doesn't Look Handicapped," who is walking tall in the Midwest — I, too, have a handicapped placard. I had a car accident in 1990, breast cancer in 1991 and a heart attack in 1992.

I look OK, and I'm not a whiner. I have a standard answer for anyone who tells me, "You don't look handicapped." I say, "You don't look ignorant, either. It just goes to prove you can't tell by looking!"

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA., RETIREE

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.)

Horoscope

Thursday, March 26, 1998

In the year ahead, you could be endowed with more clout than you ever had previously in both work and social situations. Each area will offer significant opportunities.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Critical information from an unusual quarter could work to your benefit today, provided you respond promptly to this new report. Time is not your ally. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Involvements with friends today could turn out to

be both fun and constructive. Your personal clique may put something together in which you'll be included.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) This could be an interesting day for you. Conditions look more favorable than usual in matters that affect your career, your popularity, or perhaps both.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Things should work out to your ultimate benefit today, because Lady Luck might single you out for special attention. It is now your turn at bat.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Someone to whom you've helped over the past year has cherished your thoughtfulness. He or she might reciprocate with a unique gesture today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Several of your peers might ask you to speak for them in a matter of importance today. They selected you as their candidate, so fire your best shot.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Appropriate help will be available for something you thought you would have to do unaided. Today's developments could make your

job much easier.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You could be more fortunate today in situations that have elements of chance, but this does not give you a pass key to gamble on the unknown.

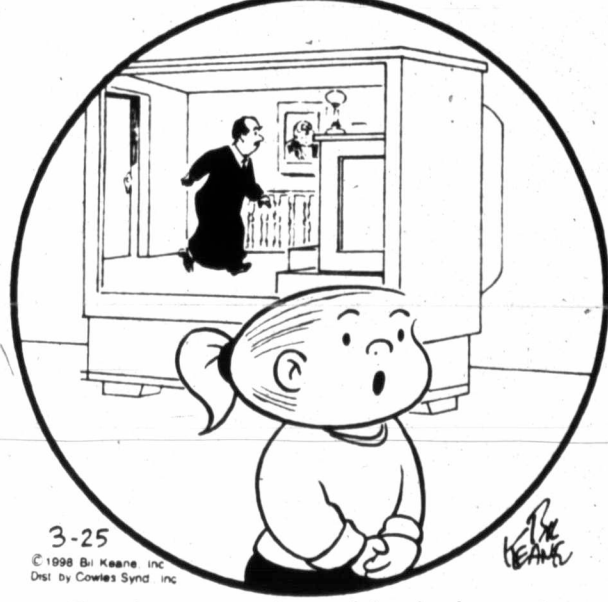
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Be optimistic today about the outcome of important events. If you think like a winner, you'll act like one and do what needs doing in a successful sequence.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might meet someone new and interesting today. If this should happen, take immediate measures to cultivate the relationship. It could be meaningful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Good things you have going for you financially can be expanded upon and made even better. Work on ways today to enhance your opportunities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A buzz of excitement may reverberate among your friends today. It might be a bulletin about something nice that could happen for you.

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"Don't wear a long black dress to court, Mommy. That's what judges like to wear."

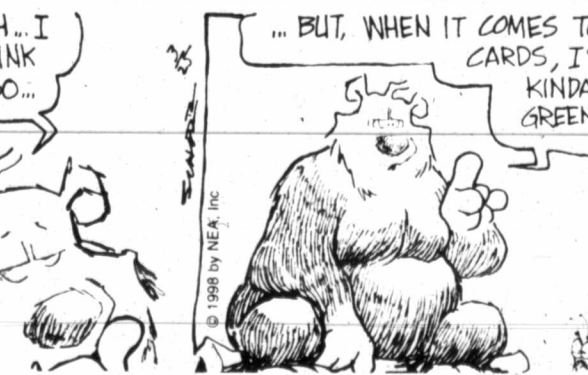


"Phil, could you unteach him to wipe his feet before entering the house?"

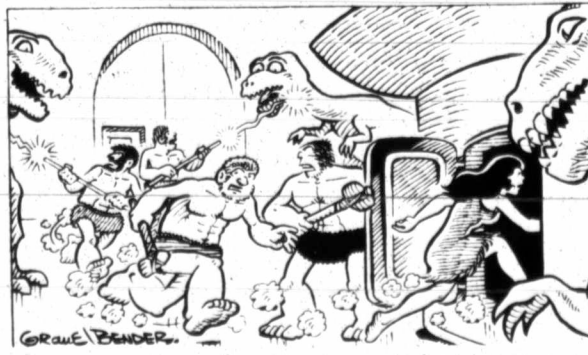
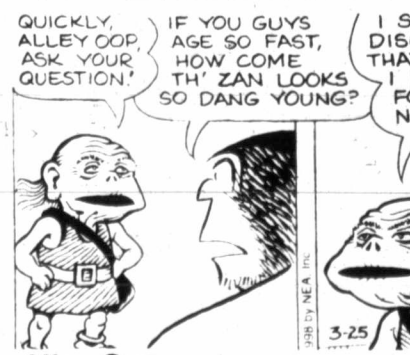
The Family Circus



Marmaduke



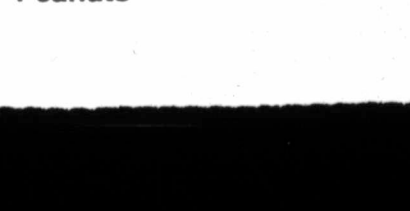
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



For Better or For Worse



Arlo & Janis



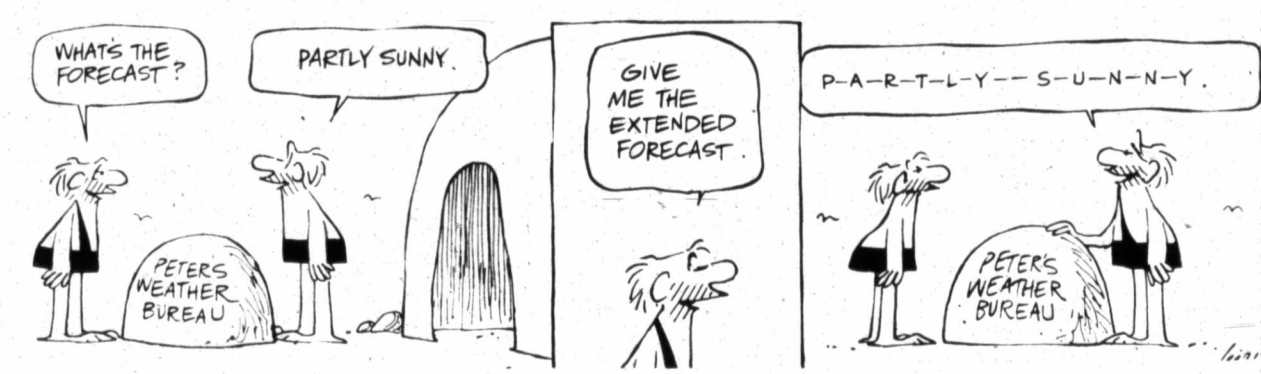
Garfield



Walnut Cove



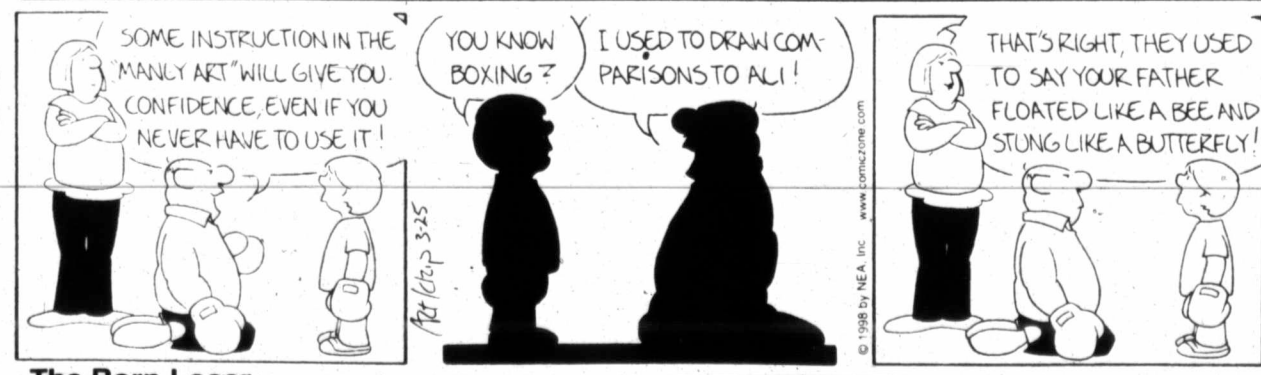
Marvin



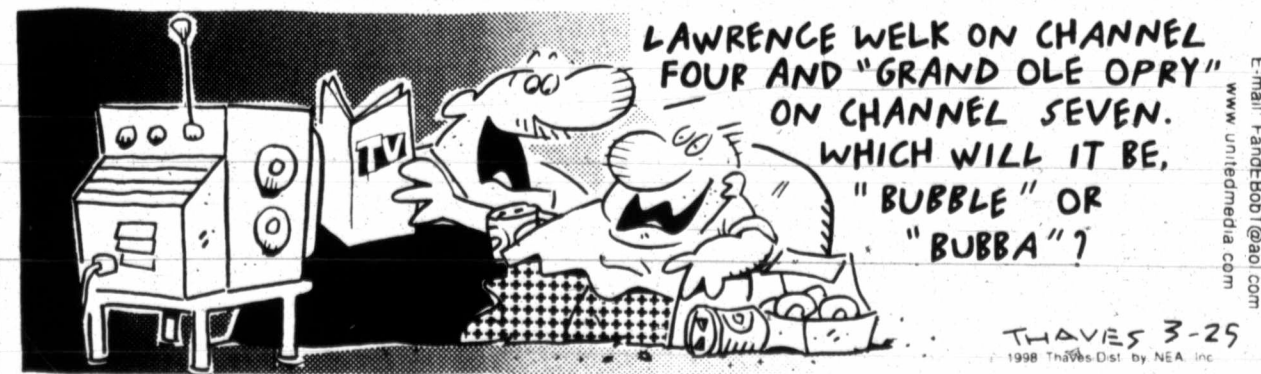
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Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



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SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — The annual Pampa High School boys' basketball banquet is set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall. Persons planning to attend should call the basketball office at 669-4832 as soon as possible so a number count can be made.

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Former Dallas Mavericks star Roy Tarpley was free after spending two nights in jail on a warrant accusing him of misdemeanor assault. Police arrested Tarpley on Sunday night after responding to a disturbance call at an Arlington apartment complex.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Citing his 72.5 percent winning record, six trips to the Final Four and two national championships, Louisville gave coach Denny Crum a four-year contract extension through the 2001-02 season.

FIGURE SKATING

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Nicole Bobek withdrew from the World Championships because of a lingering hip injury.

Bobek, third in the U.S. nationals before a disastrous Olympic performance, aggravated the injury during practice Monday in Richmond, Va. The championships are next week in Minneapolis.

FOOTBALL

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Sean Gilbert, who sat out last season in a dispute with the Washington Redskins, agreed to a contract with the Carolina Panthers that would make him the NFL's highest-paid defensive lineman.

The six-year, \$40 million deal is contingent on the Panthers working out a compensation package with the Redskins. Gilbert's contract, worth an average of about \$6.7 million per season, surpasses the five-year, \$32.5 million deal given to defensive tackle John Randle by Minnesota.

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The San Diego Chargers added depth at linebacker and on special teams, signing unrestricted free agent Gerald Dixon to a \$1.7 million, two-year contract. Dixon started 13 of 15 games played last year for Cincinnati and led the Bengals with eight sacks.

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Ronald Curry, considered the nation's top high school quarterback, said he signed a letter of intent last week with North Carolina, where he also plans to play basketball. The Hampton High School star gave a nonbinding commitment to Virginia in September.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Every year, the NFL talks about instant replay, talks some more, then votes it down.

It's likely to happen again today when the owners vote on reinstating instant replay to enable officials to review calls.

"We all agree we want to get the plays right. But we've spent five years trying to come up with a system, and we find something wrong with all of them," said Rich McKay, the co-chairman of the competition committee and an opponent of replay.

This year, the committee approved by a 4-3 vote one of two plans that will be voted on. But that vote hardly guarantees passage — replay needs the vote of 23 of the 30 teams to be implemented, and last year it got just 20.

The committee proposal is last year's version, the "challenge" system — with one change.

Coaches will be allowed two challenges per game on disputed calls, with the referee to determine the outcome by viewing a monitor on the field. The one change: Instead of automatically losing a timeout if it challenges, a team will lose it only if the challenge fails.

The other was made by the Atlanta Falcons and is basically the same the league used from 1986-91.

Kentucky sends veteran squad into Final Four

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — First-year Kentucky coach Tubby Smith knew Rick Pitino was the right person to call about getting his team ready for the NCAA Final Four.

Smith succeeded Pitino as coach of the Wildcats last May, inheriting a program that won the national title in 1996 and was runner-up last season. He reached Pitino, who is now with the Boston Celtics, by phone in Chicago on Monday.

Pitino's advice was to try to control the environment the team will be in, keep the players focused and make sure they understand their goals and "be businesslike, because they'll have plenty of time for fun after it's over with," said Smith, who was Pitino's assistant at Kentucky

from 1989-91.

While Smith has never been to the Final Four as a coach, he took Tulsa (1994-95) and Georgia (1996-97) to the NCAA tournament, with three advancing to the round of 16. He has a 10-4 record in NCAA play.

"The preparation is where you're most concerned because it's a unique situation, and the atmosphere around the Final Four is so different," said Smith, who sends his team against Stanford (30-4) in San Antonio on Saturday.

Smith believes beating Duke 86-84 in the South Regional final on Sunday, rallying from a 17-point deficit in the final nine minutes, will help his team heading into the national semifinals.

"We feel like we're playing

pretty well, especially a come-from-behind game that will give us confidence going into the Final Four," he said Tuesday. "We were off yesterday. Our guys look fresh now. Obviously, they're excited about going."

While this is Smith's first trip to the Final Four as a coach, it's familiar territory for most of his players.

Five of the Wildcats were members of the national championship team in 1996, and seven players on the current roster played on the team that lost in the final to Arizona last season.

"I was very fortunate we had talented players returning and the program was in good shape," Smith said.

Allen Edwards, Cameron Mills, Nazr Mohammed, Jeff

Sheppard and Wayne Turner were around in 1996, but only Edwards and Sheppard played against Syracuse in the final.

"It's special, but the last two years were just as special," Edwards said of going back for a third consecutive season. "It's fun. We still have a goal in mind and that's winning another title."

Sheppard was redshirted last season, while newcomers Jamaal Magloire and Scott Padgett along with Turner started in the championship game.

"They're going to be a big help to all the newcomers like myself," Smith said of the veteran players.

He said one of the biggest decisions he made after becoming coach was naming the seniors — Sheppard, Mills and Edwards —

as tri-captains.

"I think by their actions, deeds and work ethic, which they have shown all year long," he said of their contributions this season. "I think leading by example is the best way they help."

Sheppard said the Wildcats have embraced Smith's concept of unselfish play all season long. Kentucky (33-4) takes an 11-game winning streak into the national semifinals.

"We've won some close games and lost some tough games," said the senior guard, who leads the Wildcats with 13.3 points per game. "We know we have to play as a team. That's how we win. We understand that's the only way we can win."

Harvesters notch 7-5 win over Plainview

PLAINVIEW — Pampa received solid pitching performances from Jesse Francis and Aaron Whitney as the Harvesters downed Plainview, 7-5, in a non-district baseball game Tuesday afternoon.

Brandon Hill delivered the key hit for the Harvesters, a bases-loaded double that drove in three runs. There were two outs and two strikes on Hill when he delivered the deciding blow.

"We got good pitching from both Francis and Whitney. We played great defense, making only one error, and ran the bases well," said Pampa head coach Dennis Doughty.

Francis started and went four innings, giving up four runs. Whitney gave up one run in a three-inning stint.

"Whitney looked good in relief. He got a little tired near the end, but he was throwing the ball hard," Doughty said.

The Harvesters' record is now 4-10 for the season.

"I think the most important thing about this game is that we got some clutch two-out hits. We struck out less and put the ball in play more than we have been. We forced Plainview to make the plays," Doughty said.

"They didn't and we took advantage."

Pampa travels to Randall

Saturday to open the District 1-4A season. Gametime is 1 p.m.

Randall opened district play yesterday with a 19-0 trouncing of Caprock. The Raiders are the defending district champions.

"We've got a good team attitude going into district," Doughty added.

Hereford downed Canyon, 3-1, in another 1-4A opener Tuesday.

Pampa lost to Sanford-Fritch, 13-1, in a freshmen baseball game Monday afternoon at Harvester Field.

Leading Pampa in hitting were Tanner Hucks and Vivian Botello with one double apiece and Jeff Warren, a single.

The Pampa freshmen are 1-1 on the year and play Dumas on Friday afternoon. Starting time is 4:30 at Dumas.

"It was a tough game for us. We were just coming off spring break and a lack of practice time hurt us. I have to give Sanford-Fritch credit, though. Their coach said it was the best game they've played all year. They had good pitching, hit the ball well and made some good plays on us," said Pampa coach Jason Murphree.

The next home game for the Pampa freshmen is April 2 against Caprock.

Soccer star signs



(Special photo)

Erin Turner, Cedar City Lady Longhorn senior soccer star, recently signed a letter of intent to play for Dallas Baptist University. She is the granddaughter of Billie James and Peggy Turner of Pampa. The Lady Patriots recruited Turner as center midfielder. With her at the signing are Erin's parents, Pam and Randy Turner (seated); Lady Longhorn coach Heather Parks and Cedar Hill Athletic Director Mike Hagan. Turner was a four-year starter and two-year captain, who scored 54 goals in three seasons and was named the district's most valuable player for three years and player of the year three times. Turner selected Dallas Baptist over Western Baptist College, University of Central Oklahoma and Texas A&M University.

A Tribute to Mickey

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Several former New York Yankees are scheduled to attend when a statue of Mickey Mantle is unveiled and dedicated April 16 at Oklahoma City's new ballpark.

The unveiling will be part of opening day ceremonies at Southwestern Bell Bricktown Ballpark, the new home of the Oklahoma RedHawks. The RedHawks are the Triple A farm team of the Texas Rangers.

Mantle's family and Yankee teammates and friends including Yogi Berra, Enos Slaughter, Tony Kubek, Ralph Houk, Bobby Richardson, Ralph Terry and Bobby Murcer are scheduled to attend.

Others scheduled to participate in the ceremony include Oklahoma baseball greats Warren Spahn and Ferguson Jenkins.

Mantle died of cancer in 1995. The Commerce native played for the Yankees from 1951 to

1968 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1974.

The RedHawks commissioned artist Blair Buswell to design the statue, which will be in a plaza in front of the ballpark's third base entrance.

The statue features Mantle in a left-handed, full-swing pose. It is 7 1/2 feet tall and will be placed on a granite base standing 3 feet tall. Mantle's accomplishments will be listed on the base.

The Yankee players who attend the ceremony will have their handprints and signatures cast in stone and placed around the base of the statue.

A rendering of Mantle in full swing with his signature over his jersey No. 7 will be on the end of each row of seats in the ballpark.

The \$32 million stadium is nearing completion in Bricktown, a warehouse district of downtown.

Bliss turns down Texas A&M offer

ALBUQUERQUE (AP) — New Mexico basketball coach Dave Bliss has withdrawn from consideration for the head coaching job at Texas A&M, saying his task with the Lobos was not completed.

"We love what we've been able to accomplish here," Bliss said at an afternoon news conference Tuesday. "We know we aren't the finished product yet, but we're getting better and better every year."

Bliss has led the Lobos to the NCAA tournament five of the past six years and six times in his 10 seasons at New Mexico. But none of his teams have been able to get beyond the second round.

"The part we all felt, whether it's our staff or our family, is that our task really isn't completed here yet," he said.

Bliss said Texas A&M received permission from UNM to talk to him and he had discussed the job with Aggie officials. But he said he "respectfully declined."

He said his decision was in no way meant to be anything against Texas A&M.

"If you told me before I got to New Mexico that I'd have a chance to coach at Texas A&M, I'd hug you because that's one of my favorite schools," he said.

But he said he and his staff appreciate the program at New Mexico and the players who have committed to the Lobos. He cited players such as Kenny Thomas, who has said he will remain at New Mexico for his senior season rather than going to the NBA, and Roland Hannah and Damion Walker, who Bliss said transferred to New Mexico "under the good faith that we would help them have an opportunity to be successful basketball players."

"That really excites us," Bliss said.

He has come under some criticism from fans for the Lobos inability to do better in the NCAA tournament, falling in this year's second round to Syracuse.

And speculation that he might leave for Texas A&M has been the subject of stories in local papers and a hot topic on radio talk shows in Albuquerque.

Over the last three seasons, the Lobos are 77-and-21, the best three-year record in school history.

Bliss said this year's 24-8 club, which was ranked in the Associated Press Top 25 all season, had arguably the best year in the school's history.

"What we try to do each year is continue to make progress," said Bliss, whose teams have compiled a 221-98 during his tenure at New Mexico.

His contract at New Mexico runs through the 2001-2002 season, and he said he and Rudy Davalos, UNM's athletic director, have discussed a contract extension.

His base salary is \$122,000 a year although he earns significantly more than his base salary through incentives and other perquisites.

Bucks beat Rockets, end nine-game losing streak

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The Milwaukee Bucks ended their nine-game losing skid. Now they need to stop losing players.

Ray Allen scored 33 points, Armon Gilliam had a season-high 29 and rookie Jerald Honeycutt added a career-best 19 as the Bucks also halted the Houston Rockets' six-game winning streak with a 118-108 victory Tuesday night.

But the injury-decimated Bucks, who have been without their three best players in Glenn Robinson (leg), Terrell Brandon (ankle) and Tyrone Hill (back), lost forward Michael Curry to a sprained right ankle midway

through the second quarter.

"Michael Curry was red hot before he joined the injured list," Bucks coach Chris Ford said with a sigh. "He's sore, but he's a trooper."

Curry, who had 11 points when he went down with 6:18 left, did not return. His status for Thursday night's game at Charlotte is unknown.

The Bucks are hoping Hill and Robinson can return against the Hornets.

Hakeem Olajuwon scored 22 and Othella Harrington 18 for the Rockets, who were depleted themselves as Clyde Drexler (groin) and Charles Barkley

(shoulder) did not make the trip.

"They left two Dream Teamers at home, but they still had one of the Top 50 players of all time in Hakeem," Ford said. "We just played well."

"We knew they were in the same situation we were in with Charles and Clyde out," Allen said. "I'm sure they felt they could grab one here."

Elliot Perry had 16 assists and Ervin Johnson 15 rebounds for the Bucks, who led 58-50 at half-time and 89-77 after three quarters.

The Rockets cut it to 89-81 on forward Eddie Johnson's long-range jumper with 10:39 remain-

ing. After a timeout, the Bucks put the game away with a 14-4 run that included eight points from Allen.

"I'm disappointed it wasn't more of a game," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said.

The Bucks' losing streak was their longest since they dropped a franchise-record 15 straight two years ago. They hadn't won since March 5 and averaged just 85.3 points during the slide.

"This is a team we could have run on," Eddie Johnson said. "But we didn't stop them defensively. We were always taking the ball out of bounds. You can't get easy baskets like that."

"If we were healthy, this is a game we could have had," Johnson added.

That's a line that's been reserved for the Bucks of late.

Notes: The Bucks' losing streak coincided with the absence of Robinson, the NBA's fourth-leading scorer, who went on the injured list March 10 with a bone compression to his left leg. ... The Bucks released forward Jeff Nordgaard, who was signed to a 10-day contract on March 13 to take Robinson's place on the roster. ... Allen shot 13-for-23 (57 percent) after having made just 30.5 percent of his shots in the previous four games.

Sheffield, Bonilla give dismantled Marlins hope

By KAREN TESTA
Associated Press Writer

MELBOURNE, Fla. (AP) — Call it a tease. Call it wishful thinking. There were at least two glimmers of hope Tuesday for the dismantled World Series champion Florida Marlins.

Gary Sheffield looked nearly good as new in his first start of spring, hitting a two-run homer. The Marlins overcame Mark McGwire's sixth home run to beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-4.

Earlier in the day, third baseman Bobby Bonilla took his first cuts at batting practice with full-speed pitches after undergoing surgery on his wrist and Achilles' tendon in the offseason.

And both players said afterward they felt good.

"To have Gary back is a great feeling and to see Bobby responding the way he's responding..." manager Jim Leyland said, his voice trailing off. "But I don't want to get carried away."

With good reason.

Once healthy, Sheffield and Bonilla will be the mainstays of this team, which cut its payroll by nearly half in the offseason after becoming the youngest team ever to win a World Series.

Until then, Leyland is faced with an opening day roster that could include as many as five rookies.

Bonilla, 35, was placed on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday, meaning he definitely will not be on the field next week when the Marlins open their season against the Chicago Cubs.

Sheffield, who saw his first action in right field, said he thinks he'll be ready. He says his back ailment no longer hurts him on the field; he has said it was a factor in his subpar 1997 season, when he hit .250 with 21 homers and 71 RBIs.

"The more pitches I see, the more relaxed I get," said Sheffield, who had gone 0-for-7 in two DH appearances this spring. "Once you get back in there and things start happening naturally, your instincts take over and you don't really think about injuries."

Expos 6, Dodgers 1

At Jupiter, Fla., Montreal ended its 14-game losing streak, beating Los Angeles behind five shutout innings from Javier Vazquez.

Rondell White hit a two-run single for Montreal, 4-21 this spring.

"We know we are better than a lot of people believe," manager Felipe Alou said. "We have been trying several things and have not been playing our best offensive team much."

Red Sox 2, Phillies 1

At Clearwater, Fla., Mike Gallego singled home the go-ahead run in the eighth inning and Rich Garces picked up his sixth save of the spring as Boston beat Philadelphia.

Garces has allowed no runs and only three hits in nine innings.

Rangers 9, Reds 4

At Sarasota, Fla., Rusty Greer went 4-for-5 and Kevin Elster doubled twice and drove in a

pair of runs as Texas topped Cincinnati.

The Rangers (18-8) need one more victory to equal the team mark of 19, set in 1992 and matched in 1996.

Mets 5, Orioles 1

At Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Rick Reed pitched six strong innings and New York capitalized on errors by Brady Anderson and Cal Ripken to beat Baltimore.

Reed allowed one run and three hits. He struck out six and walked one.

Royals 15, Astros 0

At Haines City, Fla., Terry Pendleton, trying earn one of Kansas City's final roster spots, hit a grand slam and Sal Fasano drove in five runs day against Houston.

Chris Haney pitched six shutout innings for the Royals.

Tigers 4, Braves 3

At Lakeland, Fla., third baseman Ray Holbert made a throwing error that allowed two runs to score in the seventh inning as Detroit defeated Atlanta.

Curtis Pride and Eddie Perez homered for the Braves.

Blue Jays 8, Devil Rays 6

At Dunedin, Fla., Juan Samuel hit his fifth spring homer and Ed Sprague had a two-run double as Toronto topped Tampa Bay.

Shawn Green had four hits and scored twice for Toronto. Fred McGriff hit a three-run homer for Tampa Bay.

Mariners 7, Angels 5

At Tempe, Ariz., David Segui hit two solo home runs and Seattle roughed up Anaheim starter Jack McDowell.

Segui and Jeff Housen each had three hits for Seattle. Dan Wilson hit a solo homer off McDowell in the third and also doubled.

McDowell gave up 11 hits and seven runs in 4 2-3 innings.

Cubs 15, Athletics 7

At Phoenix, Sammy Sosa, Manny Alexander and Brant Brown each homered and Henry Rodriguez hit three doubles as Chicago beat Oakland.

Sosa drove in four runs and Brown drove in three. Rodriguez scored three times and Lance Johnson had three of the Cubs' 21 hits.

Ben Grieve and Dave Magadan homered for the Athletics.

Diamondbacks 6, White Sox 3

At Tucson, Ariz., Jorge Fabregas homered twice, doubled and drove in four runs, leading Arizona over Chicago.

Fabregas hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning off Tom Fordham for a 4-3 lead. He had a solo home run, his fourth of the spring, in the eighth.

Padres 7, Giants 4

At Peoria, Ariz., Ken Caminiti hit his first homer of the spring, a two-run shot that helped San Diego defeat San Francisco.

Tony Gwynn doubled and singled, extending his hitting streak to 11 games.

Rockies 8, Brewers 5

At Tucson, Ariz., Edgard Clemente, nephew of Hall of Fame outfielder Roberto Clemente, had two hits and scored twice as Colorado beat Milwaukee.

Kirt Manwaring went 3-for-4 for Colorado, which took advantage of four Brewers errors.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

National Invitation Tournament At A Glance

All Times EST
First Round
Wednesday, March 11
Georgia Tech 88, Seton Hall 78
North Carolina State 59, Kansas State 39
Penn State 82, Rider 68
Auburn 77, Southern Miss 62
Dayton 85, Long Island University 92
Georgetown 71, Florida 69
Marquette 80, Creighton 68
Memphis 90, Ball State 67
Minnesota 77, Colorado State 65
Alabama-Birmingham 93, Missouri 86
Vanderbilt 73, St. Bonaventure 61
Gonzaga 69, Wyoming 55
Georgia 100, Iowa 93
Fresno State 73, Pacific 70
Hawaii 90, Arizona State 73
Thursday, March 12
Wake Forest 58, North Carolina-Wilmington 52
Second Round
Monday, March 16
Georgia Tech 80, Georgetown 79, OT
Penn State 77, Dayton 74
Minnesota 79, Alabama-Birmingham 66
Fresno State 83, Memphis 80
Marquette 75, Auburn 60, OT
Hawaii 78, Gonzaga 70
Tuesday, March 17
Vanderbilt 72, Wake Forest 68
Georgia 61, North Carolina State 55
Third Round
Wednesday, March 18
Penn State 75, Georgia Tech 70
Minnesota 73, Marquette 71
Thursday, March 19
Georgia 79, Vanderbilt 65
Fresno State 85, Hawaii 63
At Madison Square Garden
New York Semifinals
Tuesday, March 24
Minnesota 81, Texas State 89, OT
Penn State 66, Georgia 60
Thursday, March 26
Third Place
Fresno State (21-12) vs. Georgia (19-15), 5 p.m.
Championship
Minnesota (19-15) vs. Penn State (19-12), 7:30 p.m.

MIDWEST REGIONAL
First Round
Friday, March 13
At Chapel Hill, N.C.
Florida International 59, Marquette 45
North Carolina 91, Howard 71
Saturday, March 14
At Knoxville, Tenn.
Western Kentucky 88, Stephen F. Austin 76
Tennessee 102, Liberty 58
At Ames, Iowa
Rutgers 79, Oregon 76
Iowa State 79, Kent 76
At Champaign, Ill.
UC Santa Barbara 76, Vanderbilt 71, OT
Illinois 82, Wisconsin-Green Bay 58
Second Round
Sunday, March 15
At Chapel Hill, N.C.
North Carolina 85, Florida International 72
Monday, March 16
Tennessee 82, Western Kentucky 62
At Ames, Iowa
Rutgers 92, Rutgers 61
At Champaign, Ill.
Illinois 69, UC Santa Barbara 65
Regional Semifinals
At Nashville, Tenn.
Saturday, March 21
Tennessee 92, Rutgers 60
North Carolina 80, Illinois 74
Regional Championship
Monday, March 23
Tennessee 76, North Carolina 70

WEST REGIONAL
First Round
Friday, March 13
At Iowa City, Iowa
Kansas 72, Tulane 68
Iowa 77, Massachusetts 59
Saturday, March 14
At Stanford, Calif.
Stanford 77, Harvard 67
At Gainesville, Fla.
Virginia Tech 75, Wisconsin 64
Florida 85, Montana 64
At Durham, N.C.
Louisville 69, Utah 61
Iowa 92, Middle Tennessee State 67
Second Round
Sunday, March 15
At Iowa City, Iowa
Kansas 62, Iowa 58
Monday, March 16
At Stanford, Calif.
Stanford 77, Harvard 64
At Gainesville, Fla.
Florida 89, Virginia Tech 57
At Durham, N.C.
Duke 69, Louisville 53
Regional Semifinals
At Oakland, Calif.
Saturday, March 21
Duke 71, Florida 58
Arkansas 79, Kansas 63
Regional Championship
Monday, March 23
Arkansas 77, Duke 72

NCAA Women's Tournament At A Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EST
EAST REGIONAL
First Round
Friday, March 13
At Norfolk, Va.
New Mexico 59
Old Dominion 92, St. Francis, Pa. 39
At Raleigh, N.C.
Youngstown 91, Memphis 80
North Carolina 81, Maine 64
At Tucson, Ariz.
Virginia 77, Southern Methodist 68
At Storrs, Conn.
Connecticut 93, Fairfield 52
George Washington 74, Georgia 72
Second Round
Sunday, March 15
Alabama 91, Texas State 89, OT
Old Dominion 75, Nebraska 60
At Raleigh, N.C.
North Carolina State 88, Youngstown State 61
At Tucson, Ariz.
Arizona 94, Virginia 77
At Storrs, Conn.
Georgia 75, George Washington 67
Regional Semifinals
At Dayton, Ohio
Saturday, March 21
North Carolina State 55, Old Dominion 54
Connecticut 74, Arizona 57
Regional Championship
Monday, March 23
North Carolina State 60, Connecticut 52

MIDWEST REGIONAL
First Round
Friday, March 13
At Lubbock, Texas
Notre Dame 78, Southwest Missouri State 64
Texas Tech 87, Granting State 75
At Tuscaloosa, Ala.
UCLA 65, Michigan 58
Alabama 94, North Carolina-Greensboro 46
Saturday, March 14
At West Lafayette, Ind.
Colorado State 81, Drake 75
Purdue 88, Washington 71
At Ruston, La.
Clemson 60, Miami 49
Louisiana Tech 86, Holy Cross 58
Second Round
Sunday, March 15
At Lubbock, Texas
Notre Dame 74, Texas Tech 59
At Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Alabama 75, UCLA 74
Monday, March 16
At West Lafayette, Ind.

Purdue 77, Colorado State 63
At Ruston, La.
Louisiana Tech 71, Clemson 52
Regional Semifinals
At Lubbock, Texas
Saturday, March 21
Louisiana Tech 71, Alabama 57
Purdue 70, Notre Dame 65
Regional Championship
Monday, March 23
Louisiana Tech 72, Purdue 65

KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Options OF Jermaine Dye to Omaha of the PCL. Reassigned 1B Carlos Mendez to their minor-league camp. Placed OF Roderick Myers on the 15-day disabled list. Released LHP Chris Hammond.

SEATTLE MARINERS—Options LHP Greg McCarthy to Tacoma of the PCL. Assigned RHP Dave Holdridge to their minor-league camp. TEXAS RANGERS—Released INF Scott Cooper from his contract with Oklahoma of the PCL.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Released OF Jacob Brumfield. Reassigned RHP Luis Andujar to their minor-league camp. NATIONAL LEAGUE ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Reassigned RHP Dave Paves to their minor-league camp. CINCINNATI REDS—Claimed OF Tony Tarasco off waivers from the Baltimore Orioles. COLORADO ROCKIES—Assigned INF Nelson Lirio to their minor-league camp.

FLORIDA MARLINS—Placed 3B Bobby Bonilla on the 15-day disabled list. Options RHP Rob Stanley and RHP Manuel Barrios to Charlotte of the International League. Assigned RHP Nelson Lara to their minor-league camp.

NEW YORK METS—Named Kevin Morgan assistant to the director of player personnel. BASKETBALL National Basketball Association

CHARLOTTE HORNETS—Waived F Tony Farmer. CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Activated F Danny Ferry from the injured list. Placed F Henry James on the injured list.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS—Waived F Vincent Askew. TORONTO RAPTORS—Placed F Sharonne Wright on the injured list. FOOTBALL National Football League

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed DT Sean Gilbert to a six-year contract, pending compensatory agreement with the Washington Redskins. SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Signed LB Gerald Dixon to a two-year contract.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Named Dave Pearson director of public relations. HOCKEY National Hockey League

ANAHEIM MIGHTY DUCKS—Traded D Dmitri Mironov to the Detroit Red Wings for D Jamie Pushor and a 1998 fourth-round draft pick. BUFFALO SABRES—Traded RW Jason Dawe to the New York Islanders for F Paul Kruse and LW Jason Holland.

CALGARY FLAMES—Returned LW Todd Hlushko, C Jim Dowd and C Hnat Domenchelli to Saint John of the AHL. COLORADO AVALANCHE—Traded C Joseph Marha to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks for LW Warren Rychlik and a conditional 1999 draft pick.

DALLAS STARS—Traded LW Bob Errey, RW Todd Harvey and a 1998 fourth-round draft pick to the New York Rangers for RW Mike Keane, C Brian Skrudland and a conditional draft pick in 1998 or 1999. Acquired RW Mike Kennedy from the Toronto Maple Leafs for a 1998 eighth-round draft pick.

DETROIT RED WINGS—Returned G Norm Macarae to Adirondack of the AHL. FLORIDA PANTHERS—Traded RW Ray Sheppard to the Carolina Hurricanes for G Kirk Melnik. Traded RW Tom Fitzgerald to the Colorado Avalanche for the rights to LW Mark Parrish and the Anaheim Mighty Ducks' 1998 third-round draft pick.

LOS ANGELES KINGS—Recalled C Jason Morgan from Springfield of the AHL and RW Vitali Yachmenev from Long Beach of the IHL. Agreed to terms with G Mike Buzak and assigned him to Long Beach.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Signed D Rich Pilon to a multiyear contract. Traded C Mark Janssens to the Phoenix Coyotes for a 1998 ninth-round draft pick. Recalled D Ray Schultz and D Vladimir Chelidze from Kentucky of the AHL.

NEW YORK RANGERS—Returned C Marc Savard, RW Vladimir Vorobiev and G Dan Cloutier to Hartford of the AHL. Traded G Jason Muzzatti to the San Jose Sharks for D Rich Brennan. Traded RW Ryan Vandenbussche to the Chicago Blackhawks for D Ryan Risakdre.

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Traded D Janne Niinmaa to the Edmonton Oilers for D Dan McGillis and a 1998 second-round draft pick. PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Acquired C Sean Pronger from the Anaheim Mighty Ducks for the rights to G Patrick Lalime.

ST. LOUIS BLUES—Traded RW Joe Murphy to the San Jose Sharks for D Todd Gill. Traded C Harry York to the New York Rangers for C Mike Eastwood.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Traded C Jason Wiener to the Calgary Flames for RW Sandy McCarthy and 1998 third- and fifth-round draft picks. Traded D Bryan Marchand and D David Shaw to the San Jose Sharks for LW Andrei Nazarov, future considerations and a conditional exchange of 1998 first-round draft picks.

Recalled D Mike McBain from Adirondack of the AHL. TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS—Traded D Jeff Brown to the Washington Capitals for D Sylvain Cote. Traded D Jamie Macoun to the Detroit

Scoreboard

Red Wings for the Tampa Bay Lightning's 1998 fourth-round draft pick. VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Traded D Dave Babych and a 1998 sixth-round pick to the Philadelphia Flyers for a 1998 third-round pick.

PRO BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association At A Glance

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Miami	48	21	.696	—
New York	38	31	.551	10
Washington	36	33	.522	12
New Jersey	35	34	.507	13
Orlando	35	34	.507	13
Boston	30	38	.441	17 1/2
Philadelphia	25	43	.368	22 1/2

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Chicago	52	17	.754	—
x-Indiana	48	20	.706	3 1/2
Charlotte	44	24	.647	7 1/2
Atlanta	41	27	.603	10 1/2
Cleveland	37	31	.544	14 1/2
Detroit	33	36	.478	19
Milwaukee	30	38	.441	21 1/2
Toronto	15	53	.221	36 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Utah	51	17	.750	—
x-San Antonio	47	22	.681	4 1/2
Houston	36	32	.529	15
Minnesota	35	34	.507	16 1/2
Dallas	17	52	.246	34 1/2
Vancouver	16	52	.235	35
Denver	8	62	.114	44

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Seattle	51	17	.750	—
x-L.A. Lakers	49	19	.721	2
x-Phoenix	45	24	.652	6 1/2
Portland	37	31	.544	14
Sacramento	26	44	.371	26
L.A. Clippers	15	53	.221	36
Golden State	14	55	.203	37 1/2

x-clinched playoff berth.
Monday's Games
Detroit 94, Philadelphia 79
Chicago 111, Boston 88
Dallas 91, Minnesota 87
L.A. Lakers 107, Denver 86
Seattle 109, Sacramento 83
Vancouver 106, L.A. Clippers 95
Tuesday's Games
Charlotte 105, Toronto 89
Atlanta 85, Orlando 73
San Antonio 85, Cleveland 85
Utah 92, Phoenix 73
Milwaukee 118, Houston 108
Washington 99, Portland 87
New York 88, Golden State 75
Wednesday's Games
Miami at Boston, 7 p.m.
Houston at Indiana, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Denver, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Washington at Seattle, 10 p.m.
New York at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Cleveland at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Portland, 10 p.m.
Seattle at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

TENNIS
Pampa High School individual varsity records as of March 15 are as follows:

Name	Girls	
	Singles	Doubles
Emily Waters, soph.	15-4	18-5
Mandy Wells, jr.	29-3	21-1
McKinley Quastles, sr.	12-7	30-6
Valene Lee, jr.	20-6	21-8
Karen Waters, jr.	9-4	24-6
Emily Curtis, soph.	11-2	34-5
Amanda Browning, jr.	6-3	5-2
Katy McCormick, jr.	0-1	2-3
Helen Orr, soph.	4-3	3-1
Kim McKandless, sr.	2-0	0-3
Andrea Abbe, jr.	2-0	0-0
Rebekah Warner, soph.	0-0	0-0
Kimberly Cory, soph.	0-0	1-0
Jennifer Muns, soph.	0-0	1-0
Celeste Stowers, jr.	0-0	1-0
Totals:	110-33	81-20

Name	Boys	
	Singles	Doubles
Dustin Laycock, sr.	7-18	15-20
Russ DiBose, jr.	21-10	16-9
Jason Vickery, sr.	18-9	24-7
Bryce Hudson, jr.	4-16	15-20
Michael Cornelison, jr.	14-8	8-5
Matt Rains, soph.	7-11	11-4
Brandon Coffee, sr.	1-1	22-8
Brian Sprinkle, sr.	0-0	11-7
Kerry Turner, soph.	0-0	1-0
Jeremy Nicholas, soph.	0-0	1-0
Bryce Jordan, jr.	1-0	0-0
Ryan Mills, soph.	1-0	0-0
Totals:	74-73	62-40

Second Longhorns' basketball player plans transfer

AUSTIN (AP) — University of Texas basketball player Gabe Muoneke says he plans to transfer from the school because of difficulty adjusting to coach Tom Penders' system, the Austin American-Statesman reported today.

The newspaper quoted Muoneke as saying, "It's kind of like transferring out of a biology

class you're having trouble in and starting over in another one. I just didn't do well in Tom Penders' 101."

Muoneke, a sophomore forward, is the third Longhorn who wants out. Freshman guard Luke Axtell and sophomore guard Anthony Goode also have said they plan to leave.

Goode, who made his plans

known late in the season because of a lack of playing time, said he hasn't determined where he will go to school next year.

"Coach Penders and I agreed we'd sit down and talk about it after spring break. He said he'd help me out," Goode said.

Muoneke and Axtell were among four players who met with UT Athletic Director DeLoss

Dodds on March 9 to voice complaints about the basketball program.

Muoneke said he hadn't received a formal release from Dodds. Axtell got permission to leave the school earlier this month.

"I've suggested I want it. I haven't put it in a position where he has to give it to me," the player said.

Pampa News Classified

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Notice is hereby given that the business of STEVE'S CAR & TRUCK SHOP, Pampa, Texas, after January 17, 1998, will be conducted without change of firm name of STEVE'S CAR & TRUCK SHOP, INC., a Texas Corporation, at Pampa, Gray County, Texas. This notice is given pursuant to Article 1302.2.02 of the Texas Miscellaneous Corporation Laws Act. D-90 March 18, 25 & April 1, 8, 1998

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MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skin-care. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095.

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Hrly. pay, f.l. Bradford Trucking, 806-966-5164/800-522-5164.

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DRIVERS needed. Must be 25 yrs. old, have class A CDL, 3 yrs. exp., good dr. record, off weekends & holidays. Bonuses & major medical pd. 800-435-3836.

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THE Carson County Sheriff's Department is currently accepting applications for the position of **Jailer/Dispatcher** (part time). Part time officers may be advanced to full time status after an opportunity to evaluate performance. Applicants must be eligible for licensing under TCLEOSE and Texas Commission on Jail Standards criteria. Preference will be given to applicants who currently possess a Basic Jailer License. Applications are available by calling 806/537-3511.

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Manufacture distributor for oil & gas products in Panhandle area. Knowledge gas plants, production & pipe line helpful. Salary, commissions, plus expenses. Send resume:

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Pampa, Tx. 79066

RN's and LVN's Needed. Must have 2 years experience in home health care. Call 779-2485. EOE

HOUSEPARENT-requires high school diploma or equivalent. Prefer some experience as a houseparent or in related field plus special training in human growth and development, and other areas related to specific resident needs. Ensures optimal functioning of individuals with mental retardation through development of skills or modifying behaviors which communicative and physical development. Shifts available vary. Overnight required. Salary \$1,361 plus State of Texas benefits package. Work location in Pampa. Apply at the Amarillo State Center, 901 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Veteran's Preference Granted.

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BABYSITTER needed for 2 children, 8 mos., & 5 yrs. Contact Jeanine at 665-8117.

SPANISH speaking marketing secretary required. Full time or part time. Business Spanish a must. Computer literacy preferred. Call Wastewater Processing 835-2812.

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Rent one piece or house full Tv-VCR-Camcorders Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom
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"So that's your story, you 'hate to be late'!"

69 Miscellaneous

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'Titanic' rolls up record breaking 14th weekend at top of charts

By MICHAEL WHITE
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) - "Titanic" only tied the record for Academy Awards at 11 statuettes, but it broke the box-office record with 14 weeks at the No. 1 spot.

The film's stint at the top of the box office is the longest since studios began publishing weekly tallies in the early 1980s, John Krier, an analyst with Exhibitor Relations, said Monday. The previous leaders were the 13-week No. 1 runs of "Tootsie" (1982) and "Beverly Hills Cop" (1984).

The Oscars won by "Titanic" include best picture and best director. It ties with "Ben-Hur," which won 11 in 1959.

James Cameron's \$200 million movie has earned nearly \$500 million in North America, also tops the all-time record.

The top 20 movies at North American theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by studio, gross, number of theater locations, receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. and Entertainment Data:

1. "Titanic," \$17.1 million, Paramount, 3,169 locations, \$5,417 average, \$494.5 million, 14 weeks.
2. "Primary Colors," Universal, \$12 million, 1,965 locations, \$6,130 average, \$12 million, one week.
3. "The Man in the Iron Mask," MGM, \$11.1 million, 3,101 locations, \$3,572 average, \$34.5 million, two weeks.
4. "Wild Things," Sony/Columbia, \$9.6 million, 2,177 locations, \$4,420 average, \$9.6 million, one week.
5. "U.S. Marshals," Warner Bros., \$7.2 million, 2,817 locations, \$2,565 average, \$43.5 million, three weeks.
6. "Mr. Nice Guy," New Line, \$5.4 million, 1,463 locations, \$3,589 average, \$5.4 million, one week.
7. "Good Will Hunting," Miramax, \$4 million, 1,805 locations, \$2,231 average, \$115.6 million, 16 weeks.
8. "As Good as It Gets," Sony/Tristar, \$3.2 million, 1,604 locations, \$2,032 average, \$125.8 million, 13 weeks.
9. "The Wedding Singer," New Line, \$3.2 million, 2,065 locations, \$1,576 average, \$68.4 million, six weeks.
10. "The Big Lebowski,"

Box office	
Top weekend movies	
Week end of March 20-22, 1998	
All dollar figures in millions	
Gross to date, weeks in release, number of screens	Weekend gross
● Titanic \$17.1, 14 weeks, 3,169 screens	\$494.5
● Primary Colors \$12, one weeks, 1,965 screens	\$12.0
● The Man in the Iron Mask \$11.1, two weeks, 3,101 screens	\$34.5
● Wild Things \$9.6, one weeks, 2,177 screens	\$9.6
● U.S. Marshals \$7.2, three weeks, 2,817 screens	\$43.5
● Mr. Nice Guy \$5.4, one weeks, 1,463 screens	\$5.4
● Good Will Hunting \$4.0, 16 weeks, 1,805 screens	\$115.6
● As Good as It Gets \$3.2, 13 weeks, 1,604 screens	\$125.8
● The Wedding Singer \$3.2, six weeks, 2,065 screens	\$68.4
● The Big Lebowski \$1.8, three weeks, 1,123 screens	\$13.7

Source: Exhibitor Relations Co., Inc. AP

Gramercy, \$1.8 million, 1,123 locations, \$1,630 average, \$13.7 million, three weeks.

11. "Twilight," Paramount, \$1.6 million, 1,354 locations, \$1,200 average, \$13.2 million, three weeks.
12. "L.A. Confidential," Warner Bros., \$1.5 million, 723 locations, \$2,070 average, \$57.5 million, 27 weeks.
13. "Hush," Sony/Tristar, \$1.2 million, 1,591 locations, \$786 average, \$12.6 million, three weeks.
14. "The Apostle," October, \$1.1 million, 712 locations, \$1,643 average, \$16.6 million, 14 weeks.
15. "The Borrowers," Polygram, \$1 million, 1,241 locations, \$839 average, \$20.6 million, six weeks.
16. "Everest," MacGillivray, \$620,262, 20 locations, \$31,013 average, \$2.3 million, three weeks.
17. "Dark City," New Line, \$415,245, 512 locations, \$811 average, \$13.5 million, four weeks.
18. "Caught Up," Live Entertainment, \$369,448, 347 locations, \$1,065 average, \$5.9 million, four weeks.
19. "The Full Monty," Fox Searchlight, \$364,703, 285 locations, \$1,280 average, \$44.3 million, 32 weeks.
20. "Dangerous Beauty," Warner Bros., \$356,414, 276 locations, \$1,291 average, \$2.9 million, five weeks.

Proposal would aid competition in electricity market

WASHINGTON (AP) - The administration is proposing a \$3 billion federal fund to promote conservation and continued assistance to low-income consumers in an increasingly competitive electricity market, according to sources familiar with the plan.

The proposal is part of a long-awaited administration package for electricity competition to be announced at a news conference today.

Congress has been considering what federal legislation is needed as part of a growing movement in many states to allow electricity providers to compete for customers.

Environmentalists and social activists have feared that while competition may bring lower prices, it also would dampen utilities' interest in conservation programs and assuring the poor get continued service.

The proposals were to be unveiled by Energy Secretary Federico Pena and Carol Browner, head of the Environmental Protection Agency.

A general outline of the proposal was provided late Tuesday to The Associated Press.

While the environmentalists praised creation of a conservation assistance fund, they expressed disappointment that the administration plan apparently does not include direct regulation of carbon dioxide emissions from electric power plants.

Some environmentalists have hoped that the administration's electricity restructuring package would be a centerpiece of early action on global warming by calling for caps on carbon dioxide emissions.

Carbon dioxide, which is produced from burning fossil fuels, is the principal greenhouse gas that many scientists say is threatening to cause a warming of the Earth if not contained. Power plants account for about a third of carbon dioxide emissions.

By not addressing the carbon emissions cap issue "they've missed an opportunity" to get utilities to take steps on global warming, said Alden Meyer of the Union of Concerned Scientists. "This is not going to move the industry well down the road to achieving the Kyoto agreement," he added.

The global warming agreement reached in Kyoto, Japan, in December calls for the United States to reduce greenhouse emissions 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2008-2012. It is subject to ratification in Congress, where it faces sharp opposition.

A cap on carbon dioxide emissions from power plants reportedly had been a subject of some debate within the administration with EPA officials favoring a proposal to regulate such releases as the agency now does smog-causing chemicals.

But the president's economic advisers as well as the Energy Department had opposed such a move, arguing it would all but doom any legislation on electricity industry restructuring in Congress.

Money for the federal conservation fund would come from a surcharge on electricity customers of 1/10th of 1 cent per kilowatt-hour, according to sources. That would bring in nearly \$3 billion for the fund, industry experts estimate.

David Nemtsov, president of the Alliance to Save Energy, said that if such a fund were created, "it would be a significant amount" and roughly match what utilities were committing to conservation when efficiency programs were a peak priority five years ago. Since then, many utilities have pulled back on their conservation programs, partly because of competitive pressures.

The administration proposals also would: -Require that utilities produce a share of their electricity from renewable sources.

-Establish federal right-to-know disclosure requirements to protect electricity consumers in a competitive market.

-Establish federal standards for competition, but allow states to decide whether to participate.

-Leave the issue of "stranded costs" - such as those incurred in the past from building nuclear power plants - for states to resolve.

Church official to speak at local Assembly of God

"My goal is to place chaplains among people who do not have the usual opportunities to attend church because of incarceration, employment or physical restriction," says Ricky O. Davis, Assemblies of God field representative.

Davis, the Assemblies of God Division of Home Missions Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy Department field representative, will speak at First Assembly of God Church at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25 at First Assembly of God Church, 500 S. Cuyler and Hwy 60, according to the Rev. Mike Moss, pastor.

Fortifying existing ministries and creating new outreaches are the main thrusts of Davis' work. In addition to prisons and hospitals, chaplains also serve in more unusual locations, including rodeos, truck stops, factories, racetracks, police departments and airports. "With more than one and a half million imprisoned persons, 7,000 hospitals that average 970,000 patients per day, 250,000 people living on the 'backside' of racetracks, and 2 million truckers, there is ample opportunity for service," says Davis. Currently, 140 chaplains serve under Davis' supervision.

Prior to accepting his current position, Davis served as Protestant chaplain at the 2,300 man Wynne Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Huntsville.

Born in Fairbanks, Alaska, and raised in



Rick Davis

He and his wife Brenda have two children. The public is invited to hear Davis share his vision on Wednesday, March 25. For more information, please contact the church at 665-5941 or 665-6060.

Alabama, Davis earned a bachelor of arts from Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God in Lakeland, Fla., a master of divinity from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., and a master of science from Troy State University in Montgomery, Ala. He is an ordained Assemblies of God minister with the Alabama District.

Teens ambush school in Arkansas

JONESBORO, Ark. (AP) - A 13-year-old boy warned friends "he had a lot of killing to do" after he was jilted by a girl. A day later, he and his 11-year-old cousin lured classmates out of school with a false fire alarm, then mowed them down with gunfire.

Four girls and an English teacher who shielded a student from the attack were killed in the ambush Tuesday. Eleven others - 10 students and a teacher - were injured.

Hearings for the boys were scheduled for today, while authorities searched for answers to how the boys got their weapons and why they attacked. "There's no explanation in my opinion why an 11-year-old or 13-year-old would do something like this," Craighead County Sheriff Dale Haas said. "It breaks my heart."

Police did not offer a motive, but classmates at Westside Middle School said the 13-year-old had recently broken up with his girlfriend and said a day earlier that "he had a lot of killing to do."

Another student said she saw

the 11-year-old by the fire alarm, then saw him running out of the school once it was triggered.

Authorities said as many as 27 shots were fired. Youngsters scrambled as some of their classmates fell bleeding and cried as they waited for emergency workers.

The dead students were identified as Natalie Brooks, Paige Ann Herring and Stephanie Johnson, all 12, and Brittany R. Varner, who was 11. Teacher Shannon Wright, 32, died Tuesday night after surgery for wounds to her chest and abdomen, the county coroner said. Students said she stepped in front of another student as the shots rang out.

Students described the older suspect as a troubled boy who had recently begun bragging about involvement with a gang and was upset over a breakup with a girlfriend. Students said he made numerous threats Monday.

"He told us that tomorrow you will find out if you live or die," seventh-grader Melinda Henson, who described herself

as a good friend of the boy, said in an interview with The Jonesboro Sun.

"He told me yesterday that all the people who broke up with him, you know, he's going to come to school tomorrow and shoot them," said 12-year-old Charles Vanoven, another seventh-grader. "I thought he was just kidding around."

Vanoven said the 13-year-old also had pulled a knife on another student Monday. Other students said the boy was specifically targeting one of the girls wounded.

"He said he was definitely going to shoot Candace because she had broken up with him," sixth-grader Kara Tate, 11, told the Sun.

Kim Candace Porter, whom several students described as the boy's former girlfriend, was listed in stable condition at St. Bernards Regional Medical Center.

The school has 250 students in sixth and seventh grades. Jonesboro is a university town of 52,000 about 130 miles northeast of Little Rock.

Forum announces award nominees

AMARILLO - Amarillo Area Women's Forum recently announced nominees for the 1998 Distinguished Service Award. The forum will name this year's recipients at a noon awards luncheon on Saturday, April 18, in the ballroom of Amarillo Country Club.

Organizers created the Distinguished Service Awards in 1975 to honor outstanding women who have helped to shape the development of the Texas Panhandle through their contributions of talent and skill. Almost 200 women from all 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle have received the Distinguished Service Award. The award recognizes and publicizes the visible examples set by the recipients for others to follow.

A representative panel of Texas Panhandle residents selects the honorees from nominations submitted on the basis of contributions and

achievements of significance to the region.

This year's nominees include Sallie B. Harris of Wheeler plus Ilene Balliett, Pat Chandler, Sharon Jelinek, Harriet Nichols, Robin Rice, Sydney Roach, Karen Tomlinson, Joan Urban and Sharla Valdez, all of Amarillo, Bert Clifton of Dumas, Helen Crisman and Pauline Hammons Johnsey, both of Memphis, and Helen French Judd and Gaynell Riffe, both of Stratford.

Former recipients from Pampa are Clotilde Thompson, Vickie Moose, Dorothy Neslage, Georgia Mack, Nina Spoonemore, Dona Cornutt, Marilyn Keagy and Louise Fletcher.

To make reservations for the luncheon, send a check for \$20 per person to Women's Forum, c/o Judy Hathcock 2613 Travis, Amarillo, TX 79109 or call (806) 372-1179. The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 15.

Mother accused of suffocating her daughters in dead of night

DALY CITY, Calif. (AP) - In the quiet of the night as her parents and brother slept, Megan Hogg taped her daughter's mouth, nose and hands with duct tape and then held her tight until she stopped breathing, police said. Then she went back for her second daughter, and finally, the third.

When Ms. Hogg's parents went at dawn to rouse their three granddaughters from slumber, they were already dead, their pajama-clad bodies lying next to their unconscious mother.

The young mother left two notes, one detailing how she would carry out the killings and a second saying she had completed the deed, police said. Then Ms. Hogg, 25, mixed herself a drink of cocoa laced with prescription drugs - but she never finished it.

Ms. Hogg, who lived with her parents, faced arraignment today on three counts of murder. "In 29 years, I've seen a lot of evil," police Lt. Steven Lowe said Tuesday. "Nothing like this."

"The children were smothered. She duct-taped their hands, their nose and mouth. Then she held them and suffocated them," said Lowe.

Autopsies confirmed that the girls - 7-year-old Antoinette Marden, 3-year-old Angeliqne Roberts and 2-year-old Alexandra Hogg - were suffocated.

Ms. Hogg overdosed on several prescription drugs in what

Lowe called "a suicide gesture. I don't think she intended to kill herself."

Questioned after doctors pumped her stomach, Ms. Hogg said she couldn't remember which child she killed first, Lowe said.

"This wasn't a passive act - we're talking about actually suffocating somebody," Lowe said. "I don't think there can be an explanation for killing three kids, much less your own."

Family members said they last saw Ms. Hogg around midnight and heard nothing in the night.

"It takes about five minutes to suffocate someone," said Lowe. "Multiply that by three."

Friends and relatives said Ms. Hogg was an adoring and gentle single mother who gave no hint she was depressed or unhappy.

"She was very devoted to the kids," said Daisy Hogg, her aunt. "She tried her best for them."

At the family's cream-colored house in a quiet middle-class neighborhood of Daly City south of San Francisco, decals of Easter eggs and bunnies decorated the windows.

"I walked past the house and I tried to send them a prayer," said Serena Doss, who lives down the same street.

The girls were taken from the house - swaddled in white sheets - by emergency crews who placed them on the front lawn Monday. There they were declared dead as distraught family members, including the two younger girls' father, looked on.

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