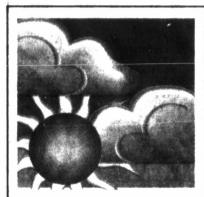
Vol. 91 No. 81 • Pampa, Texas 50° Daily • Sunday *1



High today 95 Low tonight low 70s For weather details see Page 2.

DEER PARK, (AP) -Residents of this South Texas town finally get their chance to tell the Navy what they think about a shipment of napalm that's headed their

But first, a U.S. Congressman wants to give his opinion on the controversial topic.

U.S. Rep. Ken Bentsen, D-Houston, has planned a ravs conference for 3 p.m. Wednesday at Deer Park City Hall. Three hours later, the Navy has scheduled a public hearing on the matter.

"He believes there needs to be a place where hard-hitting questions can be asked," Bentsen press secretary Vince Willmore told The North (San Diego) County Times of Escondido, Calif. The congressman considers the later meeting "more of an open house," Willmore

The Navy agreed earlier this month to hold off on shipping about 3.3 million Vietnam-era napalm from just north of San Diego to Texas for at least a month to allow for public input.

Environmental Protection Agency officials want all the napalm moved for recycling by July 15.

An Indiana company dropped a controversial \$28 million contract to recycle the napalm after residents and elected officials protested. Bentsen said four Texas firms have bid on the project, but Navy officials won't confirm that report.

 Carrie Hutchison Outhier, 90, longtime Pampa resident. Marie K. Stewart, 83,

retired teacher.

Comics 6 Editorial 4

Good Service. Good Price. Good Neighbor Agent. Three good reasons to insure your car with State Farm.

Mark Jennings Agent 1615 N. Hobart • 665-4051





Fire erupts in furniture warehouse



(Pampa News photo by Danny Cowen)

Pampa Fire Chief Claudie Phillips and a firefighter discuss the best way to handle a smoky fire at Graham Furniture this morning.

Heavy smoke blanketed the area; traffic detoured

A late morning fire broke out in the 1400 block of North Hobart in the Graham Furniture

The warehouse is believed to hold mostly mattresses for the furniture company.

While no flames were spotted outside the building, smoke filled the sky in the area and nearby streets had to be blocked.

According to Fire Marshal Gary Stevens, the call came in at 10:52 and because of the quick response of the Pampa Fire Department, he said none of the other businesses in the strip mall were in danger.

Two fire units and command vehicles responded along with police vehicles for traffic control and a Rural/Metro ambulance which was standing by.

A television station crew from Amarillo's NBC affiliate (Channel 4) was in town filming

No cause of the fire could be determined immediately but Fire Marshal Gary Stevens said he will investigate when the danger is

a commercial for Graham Furniture. One of the station's cameramen said they were planning to enter the warehouse before the fire was discovered.

No cause could be determined immediately but Stevens said he will investigate when the danger is past.

Despite dry spell rain totals ahead of normal count

Pampa is still ahead of the norm es. for moisture, and thunderstorms the last two days have helped.

Darrell Sehorn, Pampa's weatherman, said today that the city has had a total of 11.67 inches of rain for the year. That's well ahead of the 7.80 inches Pampa normally has received by this time of year.

Sehorn reported that the city received only 0.09 inches from late afternoon and evening thunderstorms Tuesday. That brings July's total rainfall to 2.58 inches.

Despite roaming thunderstorms Tuesday, rain reports across the area were spotty. "We got some but not enough

to amount to much," said Sharon Keener in Canadian. Hemphill County Sheriff Dean

Butcher reported a half inch. Ann Bryant with the Roberts County Sheriff's office said Miami received only 0.02 inches of moisture from Tuesday afternoon's storms, bringing their cent tonight.

The "Fast \$50" list includes:

Despite an extended dry spell, monthly total to a scant 0.55 inch-

Pat Childress reported enough rain to cause puddles at Briscoe. "They're the first puddles I've

seen in three months," she said. Rosa Bilderback said thunderstorms Tuesday afternoon dropped about a half inch of rain in White Deer. Evening storms brought more rain giving the Carson County community a

total of 1.25 inches for Tuesday. Sam Pakan of the Pakan Community near Shamrock said they didn't receive any rain out of the clouds that built up Tuesday.

"But we could smell it," he said wishfully.

Amarillo weather service reported 0.29 inches in the central panhandle while Etter, north of Dumas, reported 1.24 inches.

Perryton reported 0.60 on an inch of rain.

Quick way to get \$50

The Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers is once again starting

the "Fast \$50" program. It is a list of misdemeanor fugitives. A \$50

reward will be paid to the first person who supplies information that

Callers must report information to the Crime Stoppers Hot line at

669-2222 to be eligible for the award. All fugitives are also listed on

the Crime Stopper web site linked to www.pan-tex.net. A list of the

"Fast \$50" is also located at the Pampa Police Department, Gray

See QUICK, Page 2

County Sheriff's Office and the Municipal Court Building.

The weather forecast calls for a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms today increasing to 30 per-

Staying on an upset calf isn't as easy as it looks as one young cowboy found out at the Kid Pony Show Tuesday night.

After first night delay, Pony Show gets going

After being knocked out of the saddle by a severe thunderstorm Tuesday evening, all was on go last night for the Top O' Texas Kid Pony

Another performance takes place at 7 tonight at the rodeo grounds and the make-up show for the first night will be Sunday at 1 p.m. Results of Tuesday's 1998 Top O' Texas Kid Pony Show are as follows:

Wing, Dalhart - first place; Austin Pritchett, Pampa - second place; Cody Elam, Dalhart third place.

FLAG RACE GIRLS GROUP III: Bridget Craig, Pampa - first place; Keeley Longo, Groom - second place; Shea Craig, White Deer - third place.

See PONY SHOW, Page 2

Bigger rodeo purses help draw top cowboys

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer

The hot, dusty winds is blowing in some changes for this week's Top O' Texas Rodeo, and if everything goes well, the winds of change will continue for next

leads to the arrest of any fugitive on the list.

"We changed a few things around this year as far as what we're going to do," said Michael Craig, secretary of the Top O' Texas Rodeo, Horse Show and Fair Association this year.

This year's rodeo won't have steer tripping. There just hasn't been that much interest in it in years past, Craig

There will be free barbecue with admission before Thursday's rodeo performance. Friday night, Susie Luchsinger will return.

explained, but the money from that event will go to increase purses for other events.

"We're trying to put more money back in the pot for the cowboys," Craig said. "We're trying to cut back on the things that weren't making us money."

The association that stages the rodeo every year hopes that the fatter purses will draw some of the bigger names on

the Professional Rodeo Cowboys

Association circuit. Of course, some events will return.

"We're going to have our Kid Pony Show again this year," said Craig, a Pampa native with trophies from the 1967 Kid Pony Show. "Boys Ranch is back this year along with Cal Farley's Girlstown. We're going to be taking donations to help

ay their kids entry fees. We've done the last couple of years, and the kids have really enjoyed it.

There will be free barbecue with admission before Thursday's rodeo performance. Friday night, Susie Luchsinger will return "I think we would have had a lot better

turn out for her last year, but we had a massive rain storm right before the rodeo," Craig said.

He said a lot of people indicated they wanted her back.

"We'll have our double mugging as our amateur event," he said, "and there will See RODEO, Page 2

LENTZ CHEVRON 806-665-3281

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Services tomorrow

STEWART, Marie K. — 10 a.m., Texola Baptist Church, Texola.

Obituaries

CARRIE HUTCHISON OUTHIER

DALLAS - Carrie Hutchison Outhier, 90, a former Pampa resident, died Tuesday, July 7, 1998, at Richardson. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Fairview Cemetery at Pampa with Lloyd Hutchison, Church of Christ minister, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of

Mrs. Outhier was born June 17, 1908, in Texas County, Oklahoma. She married F. Melburn Outhier on June 26, 1931; he died in 1970. She had been a Pampa resident from 1937 until moving to Guymon, Okla., in 1975. She had been a Dallas resident for the past four years, moving from Guymon. She was a member of Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ in Pampa.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Jewell Ralstin, on June 12, 1998.

Survivors include a daughter, Ann Erwin of Dallas; a son, Frank Edmond Outhier of Nashville, Tenn.; a sister, Irene Quesenbury of Meade, Kan.; four brothers, David Hutchison of Clayton, N.M., LeRoy Hutchison and Lloyd Hutchison, both of Guymon, and Russell Hutchison of New Mexico; six grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The family requests memorials be to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, 2222 Welborn, Dallas, TX 75219; or to David Lipscomb University at Nashville, Tenn.

MARIE K. STEWART

Marie K. Stewart, 83, of Pampa, died Monday, July 6, 1998, at St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Texola Baptist Church at Texola w ith Brother Charlie Floyd officiating assisted by Paul Nachtigall. Burial will be in Mayfield Cemetery at Mayfield, Okla., under the direction of Fatheree-Albert Funeral Home of Erick, Okla.

Mrs. Stewart was born May 10, 1915, at Mayfield, to Bonnie and Bill Kerr. She grew up in Mayfield, attending school there until her senior year, graduating valedictorian in 1932 at Erick. She attended Southwestern State University at Weatherford, receiving a teaching certificate, and later earned a master of science degree from Oklahoma State University where she was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi. She married Orville Stewart on Dec. 22, 1934, at Erick. The couple lived in Stillwater, Mayfield, Gould, Okla., Sweetwater and Saguache, Colo. She had been a Pampa resident since 1993, moving from Saguache.

She taught school at Mayfield, Stillwater and Moffat and retired at Saguache in 1985 after 31 years of service. She did post graduate work mainly in journalism at Adams State College at Alamosa, Colo., the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley and New Mexico Highlands University at Las Vegas. She was a member of Texola Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and by a brother, Charles R. Kerr.

Survivors include her husband, Orville, of the

home; a son, Joe E. Stewart of Santa Fe, N.M.; two sisters, Irene Reed of Erick and Celia Miller of Burwick, Pa.; and two grandchildren. The family requests memorials be to Ronald

McDonald House, 1501 Streit Drive, Amarillo, TX 79106 or to Mayfield Cemetery.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are	Chevron83 1/8	up 5/8
provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.	Coca-Cola86	up 1/16
	Columbia/HCA 29 5/16	dn 1/16
Wheat 2.69	Enron54 7/16	NC
Milo	Halliburton43 3/4	up 1 5/16
Com	IRI11	NC
Soybeans 5.86	KNE53 1/16	up 7/16
, boyocans	Kerr McGee58 7/8	up 3/8
The following show the prices for	Limited32 15/16	dn 7/16
which these securities could have	McDonald's73 11/16	dn 7/16
traded at the time of compilation:	Mobil77 1/8	up 1/4
	New Atmos 29 3/4	dn 1/4
Occidental26 1/16 dn 3/16	NCE46 1/8	dn 3/16
The following show the priors for	Penney's71 7/8	dn 3/16
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at	Phillips48 13/16	up 1/4
	Pioneer Nat. Res23 7/8	dn 3/16
the time of compilation:	SLB68 1/16	up 1 5/16
Magellan 112.31	Tenneco37 1/2	up 3/16
Puritan	Texaco59 1/16	dn 5/16
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock	Ultramar 30 3/4	dn 1/2
Market quotations are furnished by	Wal-Mart61 15/16	up 13/16
Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.	Williams 34 7/16	dn 3/16
Amoco	New York Gold	292.20
Arco	Silver	5.27
Cabot	West Texas Crude	13.83
Cabot O&G19 9/16 dn 1/16		

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	
Fire	
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	
SPS	
Water	669-5830

Police report

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

Tuesday, July 7 Alfredo Campos, 41, 736 McCullough, was arrested on charges of theft.

Shanna Leigh Cornsilk, 17, Bartlesville, Okla. was arrested on charges of harboring a runaway. Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of S. Banks.

Wednesday, July 8 Joel David Gillis, 28, Stinnett, was arrested on charges of theft by check.

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, July 7 Heather McGuire, 27, Albuquerque N.M., was arrested on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana.

Ambulance

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

10:15 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of N. Sumner and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

12:59 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to Columbia Medical Center and transported one to the VA Hospital in Amarillo.

1:14 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of W. 25th and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

3:33 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo.

6:55 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of N. Russell and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

Wednesday, July 8 2:17 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2600 block of Dogwood and transported one to

Fires

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

Tuesday, July 7 10:19 a.m. — Two units and four personnel

Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo.

responded to the 100 block of N. Sumner on a medical assist. 5:00 p.m. — One unit and one personnel

responded to 23rd street on an investigation. 5:20 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the alley between the 1400 block of Francis and Kingsmill on a downed power line.

9:29 p.m. — Two units and three personnel responded to the 1000 block of Fisher on a power

Wednesday, July 8 2:19 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2600 block of Dogwood on a

Correction

On July 1, Stephen Darryl Buchanan was listed as one of the Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers Ten Most Wanted. Buchanan is no longer wanted for any offense. Crime Stoppers apologizes for the error.

Calendar of events

TOASTMASTERS

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

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.

EMMAUS REUNION

Emmaus Reunion Group meets the second Thursday of each month. For more information call 669-3426 or 669-9226.

PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

Regular meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis. Visitors welcome. For more information, please call 669-0568 or 665-4718

EASTERN STAR GAVEL CLUB Will meet Wednesday July 8th at ll:30 a.m. at

the Pampa Senior Citizen Center for their monthly meeting

City briefs

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

EMERGENCY JAIL Release 24 hrs. Jack Ward, 669-9911. Adv. SHORTCUTS HAIR Salon has opening for 1 stylist. High traffic, many walk-ins. 669-7131 ask for Ann. Adv

21 FT. Doughboy pool & deck, \$1500 firm. 665-7807. Adv.

LANDSCAPING ROCKS, stepping stones & statuary. Sale continues on bedding plants & shrubs. Watson's Garden Center, 125 N. Somerville. Adv.

MECHANICS GARAGE for Sale or Lease. Work for yourself. 1600 Duncan. 669-6582. Adv.

STOREWIDE INVENTORY Clearance 15% off today thru Sat. only. Celebrations, 1617 N. Hobart. Adv.

Use Community Camera!

It's fun to share reunion, church, civic and other event photos with readers of The Pampa News.

PONY SHOW

FLAG RACE BOYS GROUP III: Austin Pritchett first place; Tanner Cochran, Pampa - second place; Stormy Wing - third place.

FLAG RACE GIRLS GROUP IV: Karra Longo, Groom - first place; Jorden Douglas, Pampa - second place; Sarah Zybach, Briscoe - third place.
FLAG RACE BOYS GROUP IV: Cass Cooper,

Gruver - first place; Taylor Reeves, Pampa - second place; Ryan Lewis, Pampa – third place.
POLE BENDING GIRLS GROUP III: Shea Craig –

first place; Keeley Longo - second place; Cheyenne Noble, Clarendon - third place.

POLE BENDING BOYS GROUP III: Loagan Helton, Pampa - first place; Austin Pritchett - second place; Cody Elam – third place.
POLE BENDING BOYS GROUP IV: Bailey Reid,

Morse - first place; Taylor Reeves - second place; Clayton Wilcox, Miami - third place. POLE BENDING GIRLS GROUP IV: Karra Longo, Groom - first place; Karli Douglas, Pampa

second place; Jorden Douglas - third place.

CALF-RIDING BOYS GROUP IV: Austin Morton,

these youth would not have been able to participate in the Kid Pony Show.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

QUICK

Neta Britton, white female, age 40, Pampa, is wanted on charges of issuance of a bad check. James D. Conner, white male, 41, Amarillo, is wanted on charges of theft by check.

Jimmie Fitzer, white male, 37, Pampa, is wanted on charges of theft by check.

Hollie C. Gandy, white female, 43, Pampa, is wanted on charges of issuance of a bad check. Lane Hill, white male, 51, Miami, is wanted on

charges of theft by check. Eric Wayne Johnson, white male, 22, Midland, is wanted on charges of theft by check/probation violation.

Tammy Jones, white female, 32, Pampa, is wanted on charges of theft by check. Vicki Mau, white female, 36, Panhandle, is

wanted on charges of issuance of a bad check. Jo May, white male, 45, Miami, is wanted on charges of issuance of a bad check.

Shirley Mays, white female, 48, Miami, is wanted on charges of theft by check.

wanted on charges of theft by check. Skip Mitchell, white male, 43, Canadian, is

Brook McNeely, white male, 28, Pampa, is

Pampa - first place; Tyler Lane, Morse - second

GOAT UNDECORATING GIRLS GROUP III: Cheyenne Noble - first place; Tamara Loya, McLean - second place; Kelsey Alders, Skellytown

GOAT UNDECORATING GIRLS GROUP IV:

Sarah Zybach – first place; Jorden Douglas – second place; Amber Giordano, Cal Farley's – third place.

BARREL RACE GIRLS GROUP III: Cheyenne Noble – first place; Keeley Longo – second place;

BARREL RACE BOYS GROUP III: Loagan Helton

first place; Cody Elam - second place; Hadley

Mann, Clarendon – third place.
BARREL RACE GIRLS GROUP IV: Karli Douglas

first place; Karra Longo, Pampa - second place;

BARREL RACE BOYS GROUP IV: Jeremy

All contestants were awarded blue participant

ribbons. Top O' Texas Rodeo Association thanks

The Cal Farley Children without whose donations

Pritchett, Pampa - first place; Hawk Tucker, Pampa

- second place; Clayton Wilcox - third place.

place; Cass Cooper - third place.

Kelsey Alders - third place.

Sarah Zybach - third place.

wanted on charges of issuance of a bad check. Billy Mullens, white male, 31, Pampa, is wanted on charges of theft by check.\

Connie Newman, white female, 34, Kansas, is wanted on charges of theft by check. Betty Paul, white female, 43, Clayton, N.M., is wanted on charges of theft by check.

Richardo V. Ramirez Jr., white male, 33, Amarillo, is wanted on charges of issuance of a

bad check. Verna Thomas, black female, 21, Pampa, is

wanted on charges of theft by check. Michael D. Wallace, white male, age unknown, Borger, is wanted on charges of issuance of a bad

Paula Winebrinner, white female, 21, Pampa, is wanted on charges of theft by check.

Denise Michelle Winegeart, white female, 28, Pampa, is wanted on charges of theft by check.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RODEO

be mutton busting for the kids during the rodeo. This year they have to furnish their own head gear to ride.

Bennie Beutler of Beutler and Gaylord Rodeo Company from Elk City will be back this year with his rough stock.

"We do have our Wrangler bullfight back," Craig said. The rodeo also has some new sponsors.

"Taylor Petroleum stepped in and donated to several things this year," Criag said.

Other sponsors include Wrangler and Dodge. "Albertson's is helping with the barbecue. Mundy and Danko are also helping with the arbecue.

"There are a number of event sponsors that we'd like to thank for helping us put this on," Craig said. "Anyone wanting to make a donation for those Boys Ranch kids, we'd appreciate that,

While there are changes this year, perhaps the biggest change could come next year.

For several years, there has been talk of creating a rodeo circuit within a circuit. A few years ago, representatives from Pampa, Woodward and Elk City gathered to discuss developing a circuit among their annual rodeos, all sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association. While there was some interest by the Pampa and Woodward rodeo officials, Elk City backed out.

Now, there appears to be a new round of interest, this time by Pampa, Woodward, Guymon and

"I got together with Guymon, Dalhart and Woodward to see if we can get a circuit going," Craig said.

Elk City was invited.

"We were thinking about calling it the Twister Circuit or something," he said. "It would help our

Craig's planning on getting back together with the other cities after this year's Top of Texas Rodeo. In the meantime, they're looking for a

major sponsor. Money, as always, could be a limiting factor. "It's getting harder and harder every year to put

on a rodeo," Craig said. Insurance and other costs keep going up.

Craig's hoping that with more cowboys involved, they can get more participation from the surrounding towns. Jerry Foote, a past president of the Top O' Texas

Rodeo, is also enthusiastic about such a proposition. Pampa enjoys a good geographical location in relation to the other cities, as well as the traditional time of it's rodeo.

Guymon's rodeo is in May. Woodward's Elks Rodeo is a week after Pampa's. Dalhart's XIT Rodeo is the first weekend in August.

"Dalhart switched over to PRCA two years ago," Craig said. "Dalhart had one of the biggest amateur rodeos around. I'd go up there and ride in it myself. I'd ride in the Pony Express Race, and they'd come down here. The first time I went to the Dalhart rodeo in 1986, you couldn't stir them with a stick. The parking lot was full."

But Dalhart was having too much success. The rodeo became big enough that it was too expensive without attracting national sponsors. That's when they decided to join the PRCA circuit.

'They're a good bunch of people," Craig said. They're the ones that started pushing this circuit

The Oklahoma Panhandle, on the other hand, has close ties to the PRCA. "Guymon, they have a heck of a rodeo," Craig

said. "They have some PRCA cowboys right there.' With the top-rated college rodeo team at Panhandle State University just a few miles down

the road and people like former World Champion Saddle Bronc riders Robert and Billy Etbauer in the neighborhood, rodeo is major event in 'I want to get a committee together," Craig said. "I like to have a meeting in each town. Everybody

was interested. They really were interested. I

think we can get it going."

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST Partly cloudy today with a high of 95 and a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Partly cloudy tonight with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms and a low in the low 70s. Tomorrow, partly sunny with a high of 90 and a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Rainfall measured

REGIONAL FORECAST WEST TEXAS — Panhandle

Tonight, mostly cloudy with thunderstorms. Locally heavy rainfall possible. Low in the upper 60s. East wind 5-15 mph. The areal coverage of rain will be 40 percent. Thursday, partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. High in the lower 90s. Variable wind 5-15 mph. Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, isolated to widely scattered evening thunderstorms, then becoming fair. Lows 70-75. Thursday, partly cloudy. Isolated afternoon thunderstorms western sections. Highs around 100. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 70s. Thursday, mostly sunny. Highs around Plateau - Tonight, mostly clear. the upper 70s. Thursday, partly around 102.

storms. Highs in the mid 90s.

Bend Area — Tonight, a slight chance of evening thunder-Rio Grande. Thursday, partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms. Highs from the lower 90s mountains to around 110 along the Rio Grande.

through today Thursday for most of central and east Texas. Afternoon heat index values of 105 to 115 degrees over most of central and east Texas. Tonight, partly cloudy. A slight chance of thunderstorms north. Lows 76 to 82. Thursday, partly cloudy. A slight chance of thunderstorms north and east. Highs 98 to 105.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Excessive heat advisory in effect for extreme western

Lows 75-80. Thursday, mostly cloudy. Very hot. Highs near 100 sunny. Highs around 100. Far east to 107 extreme west West Texas - Tonight, a slight Southeast Texas and Upper chance of evening thunder- Texas Coast — Tonight, fair storms, otherwise partly cloudy. becoming partly cloudy. Lows Lows around 70. Thursday, in the mid 70s inland to near 80 partly cloudy with a slight coast. Thursday, partly cloudy chance of afternoon thunder- with isolated afternoon showers or thunderstorms near coast Guadalupe Mountains/Big Highs in the upper 90s inland to near 90 coast. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains storms, otherwise mostly clear. Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows Lows from the mid 60s moun- near 80 coast to the upper 70s tains to the upper 70s along the inland. Thursday, mostly sunny and hot. Highs near 90 coast to near 100 inland. **BORDER STATES**

NEW MEXICO — Tonight

through Thursday night, partly NORTH TEXAS — Heat cloudy with scattered nighttime and afternoon thunderstorms most numerous north and west Lows in the mid 40s to low 60s mountains with 60s to mid 70s at lower elevations. Highs in the 70s and 80s mountains with mid 80s to near 102 elsewhere.

OKLAHOMA — Tonight partly to mostly cloudy. A chance of showers and thunderstorms northern and central Oklahoma. Lows in the 70s. Thursday, partly cloudy. A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms north central 100. Concho Valley/Edwards sections. Tonight, clear. Lows in Oklahoma. Highs in 90s to

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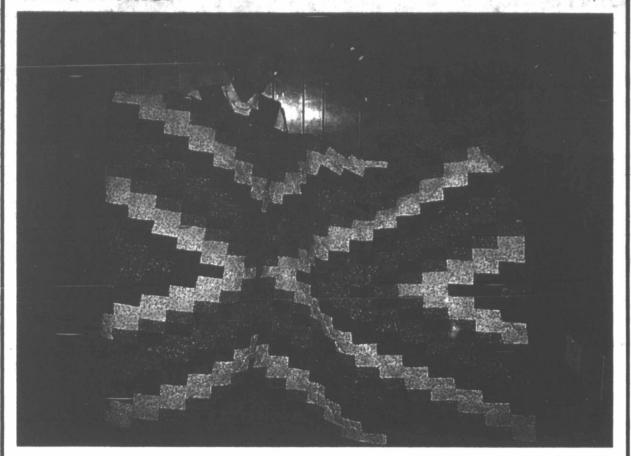
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Barbara Smith (left) was the proud winner of king size quilt raffled off at a garage sale last month. Mildred Thrasher made the quilt in a record time of one month.

Bargainers pessimistic despite longer-than-usual talk session

By BRIAN S. AKRE **AP Auto Writer**

DETROIT (AP) — Bargainers held one of their longest sessions yet to end the United Auto Workers strikes at two General Motors Corp. parts plants, raising hopes that a settlement may be

Negotiations resumed at both plants this morning. Talks had gone late into the night Tuesday at the Delphi Flint East plant, while discussions at the Flint Metal Center didn't recess until shortly after midnight.

"We're very pleased with that," GM spokeswoman Mary Irby said today. "They wouldn't have met that long if it weren't for good reason. It fits in with where we want to be in terms of sticking with it until there's a settlement."

High-level talks between UAW and GM executives also continued Tuesday, but neither side American car group. would comment on the substance of the discus-

mism in the tone of a statement made Tuesday by the price of the Ram cargo van to \$2,000 off the Donald C. Hackworth, vice president of GM's Eagle Talon sports car. North American car group. He noted that for the first time Hackworth didn't attack the UAW's position.

"There's been a noticeable change in tone,"

Girsky said. "It's different from what it has been."

billion. The resulting parts shortages have caused GM to idle 26 of its 29 major, wholly owned North American assembly plants.

The strikes by about 9,200 workers are over staffing levels, work rules and health and safety issues at the Flint Metal Center, a stamping plant, and the Delphi Flint East plant, which makes instrument clusters, spark plugs and other engine components.

About 162,000 GM workers at assembly and parts plants throughout North America remained idled by the strikes. GM said it idled an additional 400 skilled trades workers Monday at its Kansas City, Kan., assembly plant.

Through June, GM estimated the strikes had cost production of 227,000 vehicles, or about \$1.2 production at a high-volume assembly plant, said Donald C. Hackworth, who heads GM's North The Wall Street Journal reported today.

Also Tuesday, Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler Corp. announced several new rebates and financ-Analyst Stephen Girsky of Morgan Stanley ing discounts for the rest of the model year. today. Dean Witter said he saw some reason for opti- Chrysler's summer rebates range from \$500 off

> Ford's summer rebates remain mostly unchanged. They range from \$750 off the Ford for immune system illnesses allegedly caused by ited, the paper said. Taurus-Mercury Sable models and Ford Mustang to \$2,000 off the Mercury Villager minivan.

Both automakers are offering low financing The strikes are the costliest for the No. 1 rates as alternatives to the rebates. All the rebates automaker since a 67-day walkout in 1970. GM's and discounted interest rates are for 1998 models strike-related losses through June totaled \$1.18 and are scheduled to expire in early October.

Odds and ends

On the hunt for Godziila

CHESAPEAKE, Va. (AP) — Godzilla is loose! Godzilla is a big lizard — a monitor, to be exact, about eight feet long. That's not as big as its movie namesake, of course, but more than enough lizard to bend the bars of its temporary cage Monday and

Police are on the lookout for the carnivorous former pet and are warning that the animal may become aggressive.

"Zoo officials feel the animal will prey on other animals that it feels it can handle, such as rodents and even small cats," said police spokesman Dave

The lizard got loose when its owner put Godzilla in a dog cage to clean its usual cage. It wasn't nearly strong enough to hold Godzilla.

Dennis McNamara, reptile manager at a pet store in Virginia Beach, said Godzilla could survive for a couple of weeks without food or water and could hide all summer in a wooded area.

"If that thing was up in the woods, no one would ever see because he's afraid of people," McNamara said. "He'd probably end up hiding more than hanging out.

Romantic stroll anything but

Young love, a romantic stroll — and nearly being run over by a train.

It started like this: Brett Lay proposed to Mandy Cook and she said yes. So the two 17-year-olds decided to follow up Monday evening's happy occasion with a walk along the railroad tracks, and then to a wooded trail they knew.

The tracks turned out to be a big problem.

"All we saw were lights — and it was too late," said Ms. Cook as she stood at her fiance's hospital

The couple had walked about 50 feet of a 68-footlong railroad bridge when they realized a train was

"We couldn't run. We would've fell," Ms. Cook said. "So we started walking fast — but we didn't

Lay pushed Ms. Cook out of the way, but the train clipped his leg. They were able to scramble to safety. He was in fair condition Tuesday.

As if that's not enough, Butler County authorities have indicated that both teens can expect to face criminal trespassing charges. Ms. Cook's father has already received the paperwork.

There's nothing like a few cats

REDDING, Calif. (AP) — A woman is vowing to put up a cat fight in order to keep 80 stray felines.

Elizabeth Peterson-Lacey went before the City Council on Tuesday, asking it to amend its ordinance that limits six animals per household. Thirty-five neighbors presented a petition opposing any changes

The council took no action, but a city attorney said Mrs. Peterson-Lacy could apply for a residential kennel license to keep her pets.

The 31-year-old office manager said she would do just that in order to keep her pets, despite opposition from her neighbors.

"They are going to have a fight on their hands." I'm not going to give up," she said. "My animals; don't go outside. You don't hear them, see them or

smell them." In addition to the cats, Mrs. Peterson-Lacy also. shares her three-bedroom home with her husband; and her parents.

HAMILTON, Ohio (AP) — Ah, to be engaged. Monument company callers get ear full

PERRY, Okla. (AP) — Grieving relatives have been getting an earful of lively sex chat due to an error in a local Yellow Pages.

The toll-free number for Perry Monument was printed wrong by one numeral. Instead of being connected to Perry, callers are put through to the "Penthouse I ive Sex Line," and told how they can talk to "uncensored phone mates" for \$4.95 per

'Any wrong number would be bad, but this is as bad as it could be," said Cindy Branscum, who owns Perry Monument with her husband, Ron.

About 63,500 of the 1997-98 Southwestern Bell directories were distributed in Perry and 16 other towns and surrounding areas.

A spokeswoman for Southwestern Bell said it would not charge Perry Monument for the listing and is crediting \$150 to Perry Monument's account

Report: Dow Corning to agree \$3.2 billion bankruptcy plan

tatively agreed to a bankruptcy plan that would implants. billion. That's the equivalent of about one year's pay \$3.2 billion to about 400,000 women for ailments related to ruptured silicone breast implants,

The settlement between Dow Corning and reprebankruptcy court in Bay City, Mich. as early as

The deal, which calls for Dow Corning to end its the paper said.

NEW YORK (AP) — Dow Corning Corp. has ten-silicone and to receive payments for ruptured

Women could also choose to receive \$5,000 to have the implants removed, the paper reported.

The agreement is similar to a November 1995 deal signed by other corporate defendants, includsentatives for the women could be announced by a ing Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., in which women have received an average of \$26,000. The Dow Corning deal calls for women to receive an average of \$31,000 for disease and disability compensation,

three-year stay in Chapter 11 bankruptcy protec- Women who prefer to litigate rather than accept tion, opens the way for women to be compensated the payments may do so, but amounts will be lim-

Massachusetts weighs \$20,000 signup bonus for new teachers

BOSTON (AP) — If the simple Birmingham, a Democrat. desire to teach isn't enough to Massachusetts legislator is proposing a \$20,000 signing bonus to lure top college graduates to become teachers

"We're never going to pay teachers what corporate lawyers get, but that doesn't mean you can't do something to attract better people," Senate President Thomas Birmingham said in today's Boston Globe.

Of nearly 1,800 prospective teachers who took Massachusetts' first teacher certification test this year, 59 percent failed.

Nationally, schools must replace 2 million of their 2.7 million teachers during the next eight years, and a few school districts have offered signing bonuses for new teachers, according to the Globe.

But the amounts are much smaller: Dallas offered \$1,500; Baltimore offered \$5,000 toward a new house.

Bonuses of \$20,000 would compare favorably with recruiting offers from other fields, said

Armageddon (PG-13) Daily 1:45, 7:00 & 9:40 1" Run • Dolby Dr. Dolittle (PG-13) Dally 2:00, 7:10 & 9:00 2nd Week • *1 Movie The X-Files (PG-13) **Dally 2:00** 3™ Week The Horse Whisperer (PG-13) Dally 7:30 SPECIAL - 1 WEEK ONLY! Mulan (0) Daily 2:00, 7:15 & 9:00 3" Week . "2 Movie

maybe cold cash will. A top \$26,000; top salaries reach about said

Average starting salary for a Part of the state budget could draw the best to the classroom, teacher in Massachusetts is pay for the bonuses, Birmingham

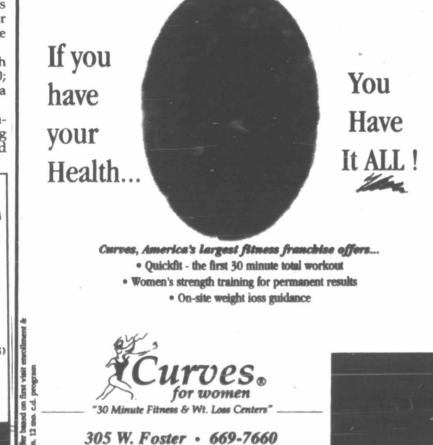
Court upholds death sentence

AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals today upheld the death sentence of a Harris County man sentenced to die for a 1995 robbery-slaying at a convenience store.

Daniel Angel Plata was convicted and sentenced to death for the May, 6, 1995, robbery and shooting of Murlidhar "Mike" Mahbubani at a Harris County convenience store.

Plata, whose case was appealed automatically to the Court of Criminal Appeals because it's a death penalty case, didn't challenge his conviction but only his death sentence.

Among other things, he challenged the jury's determination that he would be a continuing danger to society, which is one of two questions a jury must answer in a death penalty case.



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Opinion

Creating trade balance could be an evil move

Protectionism simply doesn't get the job done in today's

We better get used to the hysterical predictions from labor unions, Buchananites and other opponents of free trade. They point to record-high U.S. trade deficits to justify their calls for pro-

They say that when Americans buy more goods from foreigners than we sell to them, that it erodes the nation's industrial base and makes us more dependent on other countries. This argument has a certain gut-level appeal, but its logic doesn't hold up to scrutiny.

Free trade certainly wreaks havoc on the most inefficient American industries, but it creates far more jobs than it takes away. And open trade is the most conducive to individual freedom. Few things are more important for individual liberty than the right to run a business and sell your products or services to whomever wants to buy them in this country or elsewhere.

Protectionism lets government bureaucrats and politicians, rather than the sovereign consumer, pick and choose economic winners and losers. It rewards those companies who may be terribly run and provide poor products to Americans, but who may have made savvy political contributions or who have friends in high places.

The focus of recent debates about the trade deficit and free trade in general is usually on the jobs won or lost because of these policies. Lost in the debate is the benefit to consumers. A competitive market provides the best goods at the lowest costs. Protectionism, then, isn't so much an attack on other nations, but on U.S. citizens. When trade quotas and tariffs are imposed, prices go up – benefiting certain small groups of workers and business owners at the expense of everyone else.

That is terribly unfair.

If American politicians are serious about tackling the so-called trade-deficit problem, there is an easy way to handle it. According to Daniel T. Griswold, author of a new Cato Institute study on the trade deficit, "the surest and swiftest way to tackle it would be to engineer a deep recession." Griswold, of course, is being facetious. But his point is an important one: Trade deficits are a "problem" mainly facing prosperous, job-producing nations, not economically troubled ones.

The trade-deficit numbers will make good campaign-trail fodder, especially in parts of the nation where older industries are closing and newer ones have yet to take their place. But no crisis is at hand.

"Our trade deficit reflects the benign fact that America remains an attractive haven for international investors," Griswold wrote. "The trade deficit allows Americans to maintain a level of investment in our future productivity that would be impossible if we were required to rely solely on our current level of savings.

Those deficits, he added, "cannot be blamed for unemployment or slower growth, nor are they a sign of unfair trade practices abroad or declining industrial competitiveness at home." Instead, they may result in greater prosperity because they allow "a nation's productive resources ... to flow to the best and highest use, raising the nation's overall standard of living.

The late Murray Rothbard, a renowned free-market economist, explained that a national economy isn't so different from a family's economy when it comes to the trade deficit. If a family were to insist that it did not run a trade deficit - that it sold outsiders more

goods than it bought – its members would soon die of starvation. That America runs a trade deficit is merely a sign of its relative. prosperity. It is foolishness to risk that prosperity in a pointless

-Odessa American

Your representatives

State Rep. Warren Chisum Pampa Address: 100 N. Price Road, Pampa TX 79065 Pampa Phone: 665-3552

State Sen. Teel Bivins

campaign to balance the trade books.

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Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington Phone: (202) 224-5922

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Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934 Texas Gov. George W. Bush P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711. Constituent Hotline: 1-800-843-5789 **VIEWPOINTS**



Art and taxpayer money

While most of the nation baked in a heat wave, some people in the arts were pulling on sweaters and cranking up furnaces. They felt a severe chill emanating from Washington after the Supreme Court ruled that artistic freedom does not mean taxpayers are obliged to finance works intended to outrage those same

A few years ago, many Americans were displeased to learn that the National Endowment for the Arts was cheerfully dispensing money so that creative sorts could do such things as submerge crucifixes in urine. Congress shared this displeasure and voted to instruct the agency that in the competition for federal grants, "artistic excellence and artistic merit are the criteria by which applications are judged, taking into consideration general standards of decency and respect for the diverse beliefs and values of the American

suggest that decency is inseparable from artistic merit, which is undoubtedly true: "Schindler's List" would not have been critically acclaimed if it had portrayed the extermination of the world's Jews as a commend-

But many people in the arts tend to believe that artistic excellence is wholly incompatible with the loathsome values of middle-class America. A shocked audience is usually taken as a sure sign that the artist is doing something right. Until the backlash of the 1990s, the NEA shared this assumption, with one of its panels declaring that a work that is "disturbing" is therefore "worthy of consideration."

So the new congressional instructions were treated by some artists as the second coming magazine and not Hustler without trampling of Joe McCarthy. Four performance artists



Steve Chapman

Chapman is a nationally syndicated columnist

whose applications were rejected by the NEA's advisory council went to court, arguing that their constitutional right to express themselves freely had evaporated with the passage of the law - even though two of them later received grants from the agency. But, with only one dissenting vote, the court told them they were mistaken.

The majority opinion, noting the impossibility of handing out federal grants without exer-Most people would read that mandate to cising discretion, said the decision to finance one project and reject another is not the equivalent of permitting one project and censoring another. No one objects to funding only those artists whose works meet the test of "artistic excellence," even though that standard compels the government to favor some types of expression at the expense of others.

> Federal law says the NEA should use its money to encourage public "understanding and appreciation of the arts." Does the Constitution require it to also fund works carrying the message that the arts are worthless?

When the government subsidizes artists, as when it funds public libraries, it has to decide that some works are more valuable than others. A library may subscribe to Newsweek the First Amendment rights of pornographers.

As long as it doesn't decree that certain points of view are beyond the pale, the court said, Congress has the right to make judgments about what it wants to pay for.

The people who complain about the suffocating conformity imposed by the appeal to decency didn't complain when the NEA was upholding a different set of values. Joseph Epstein, a Northwestern University professor who served on the National Council of the NEA, recalls that "by the end of my term, every member of the council had been appointed under the Reagan or the Bush administrations - and yet, despite this, the reigning spirit in the room, as among the staff of the Endowment generally, was preponderantly liberal-left. Time and again, when arguments about standards and quality came up against what was taken to be democratic fairness and sensitivity to minorities, the latter invariably won the day."

The NEA officers, writes Epstein, felt a "special obligation" toward "cutting edge" art which, he says, "almost invariably was anti-capitalist, anti-middle class, anti-American." What the critics mind is not NEA discrimination against certain attitudes and beliefs but NEA discrimination against their attitudes and beliefs.

The consolation for them is that most arts funding in this country comes not from Washington but from private donors, leaving them plenty of other possible sources of support for their efforts to offend and insult the masses without the risk that Congress will butt in. Of course, if the NEA is going to decline to fund their sort of art and the Supreme Court is going to let the NEA get away with it, artists may begin to wonder if there's any value in federal art subsidies. Hmmm. Good question.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

189th day of 1998. There are 176 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On July 8, 1776, Col. John Nixon gave the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence to a crowd at Independence Square in Philadelphia.

On this date:

Today is Wednesday, July 8, the England granted a charter to Marion, Ohio. Rhode Island.

In 1853, an expedition led by his first "Follies," on the roof of the Cmdr. Matthew Perry arrived in New York Theater. Yedo Bay, Japan, on a mission to with the Japanese.

In 1889, The Wall Street Journal from the was first published.

In 1663, King Charles II of ried Florence K. DeWolfe in in New York City to make way for

In 1907, Florenz Ziegfeld staged of the United Nations.

seek diplomatic and trade relations received a tumultuous welcome in forces in Korea. New York City after his return Conference in France.

In 1891, Warren G. Harding mar- In 1947, demolition work began presidency in 1976.

the new permanent headquarters

In 1950, Gen. Douglas MacArthur was named comman-In 1919, President Wilson der-in-chief of United Nations

In 1975, President Ford Versailles Peace announced he would seek the Republican nomination for the

Clinton's costly trip to China

William J. Clinton is an expensive president. His 1,000-person-plus, 100-ton-plus entourage for his China trip is so out of the ball park, even The New York Times got sniffy about it.

It's all on our dime, too. That's too much money for the pleasure of having Clinton out of the country. After all, he's not doing anything but having a couple of inconsequential meetings and staging a bunch of photo ops.

The Chinese have him where his barber doesn't work, and he knows it. The idea of Clinton pressuring the Chinese government to do anything is a joke. Once he gets past White House interns and ambitious gals looking for connections, Clinton is a feather when it comes to pressure.

The Chinese will score a propaganda home run, the American people will get nothing and Clinton already has all he's going to get, which apparently was a lot of cash

In a safe world, Clinton's tap to China would be merely amusing. But the world is never safe, and neither are the humans who live in it. Bad or corrupt politics and inept diplomacy just create the next war. Anyone who in any way contributes to starting a war is guilty of a crime against humanity.

And China is a good candidate for starting the next war. It remains a communist dictatorship. Its economy, despite its propaganda, is not doing much for the Chinese people. It has

Charley Reese Syndicated columnist

an enormous population. Sooner or later, it will try to expand its territory. So today it is pursuing what it needs to become a military power: foreign capital and technology.

We made a big mistake when we put a cheap grifter with a greased zipper in the White House. He's doing nothing but giving the Chinese government what apparently it paid for - a propaganda show, technology and cap-

From the Chinese government's point of view, Clinton is a propaganda prop. They are using him to paint a false picture of a "new China" with a vibrant economy. They are using him to tell Chinese and Tibetan patriots that they can expect no help from the United

That's the why of the Tiananmen Square ceremony: to put the American president on the blood-stained stones, smiling and shaking hands with the men who shed the blood. It amounts to a glob of spit on the graves of the martyrs to Chinese freedom. No decent American would have agreed to it.

I don't think most Americans have come to

grips with how corrupt the federal government has become. It's corrupt in the money and moral sense, but it is also corrupt in the sense that there are hardly any public officials left who wouldn't sacrifice the interests of the American people for their own financial and political interests. And they'd do it in a New York minute.

Some Americans are so ignorant of government they suppose that politicians who vote to give them money are good people. It does not occur to them that it doesn't cost the politicians a dime to buy some fool's vote with somebody else's money – often, the fool's own

As far as anyone looking out for the American people, the people don't have a government in Washington. The transnational corporations have one. The foreign lobbyists have one. The rich have one. But the American

people are left out in the cold. If there were no such thing as consequences and payback, we could all try to live well and not worry about it. But there are always consequences, and the consequences of a bad national government are likely to be poverty, loss of liberty and wars we lose instead of win.

That may seem like a leap from a cheap politician's photo-op trip, but the present is always where the future is planted. The crop Clinton is planting will yield a bitter harvest.

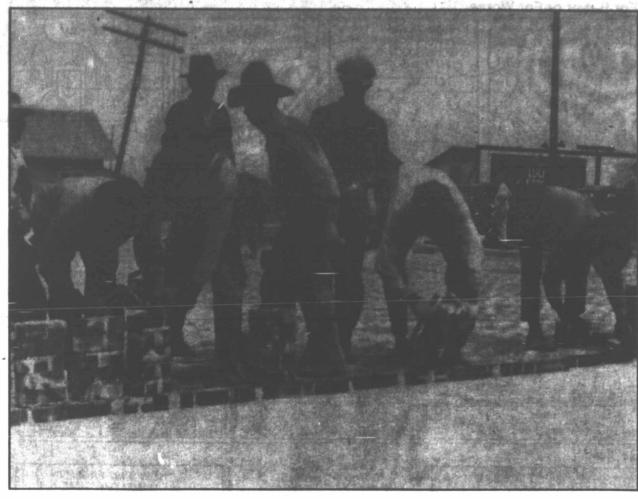
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Pampa with the Stuckey

Construction Company. The year previous, he had made a world's record by laying 64, 644

bricks in seven hours and 48 minutes at Olathe, Kans., on

The Indian bricklayer laid

nearly all the million and more bricks, and Pampans declared that he worked so fast it kept

three men busy hauling the

bricks to him, and even then he

would sometimes be without

bricks. Some of the original brick

paving remains in the business

Indian Jim was born in 1869 on

Oneida Reservation in New

York, educated at Carlisle and Ontario Agricultural College

was six feet in height and

weighed 180 pounds.

8 x 10

King Size

Regular Size

1 LARGE 10x13

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Sept. 12, 1926.

district today.

Workers help Indian Jim, far right, lay brick on Cuyler Street in 1927.

Champion bricklayer Indian Jim paved downtown Pampa

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Eloise Lane White Deer Land Museum



results of the oil discovery in Eleven of the muddy streets were neighboring territories. It had long paved with brick in 1927.

By 1926, Pampa was feeling the essary that something be done.

been known as the town with muddy streets, and it became nec-

Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo and Teen pageant made possible by area sponsors

The Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo Roberta's and Teen pageant wouldn't be all that it is without the assistance of Muffler, Watson's Garden Center, area businesses. In addition, the and Keith, Melinda, Mindee, contestants are generously sponsored by area individuals and busi-

In the queen pageant, Erin Cobb of Pampa is being sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Mike Shaw, Rick Locke, CTW Brake Rims, First American Bank, Texas Furniture, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard White, Dunlaps, Bob Clements, Jerry Harrington and Lyndon Fields Photography. Queen contestant Camie Frazier of Dalhart is being sponsored this year by by Mrs. J.D. Petty. Deawn Guess of Pampa is being sponsored by Mrs. Frank Guess, Mr. and Mrs. James Schaffer, J.Q. Russell Electric, Inc., Grantham, Cory & Heare, P.C., Royse Animal Hospital and Anita's. Brandy Kemph of Pampa is being sponsored this year by B & B Pharmacy, Bill Allison Auto Sales, Melissa Bye, Celebrations, Culigan

Flowers. Stokes Radiator and Mr. Industrial Celeste & Kristen Stowers.

In the teen pageant, Shani

Brown of Dalhart is being sponsored by the XIT Rodeo & Reunion Directors. Nicole Bruton of Pampa is being sponsored by Parsleys Roofing, Utlity Tire, Quality Sales, Eye Care Plus, Fototime, Holmes Gift Shoppe & Sports Center, NBC Bank, Dr. Depee, D.D.S. and Dorman Tire, Co. Mandy Poole of Pampa is being sponsored this year The Wagner Company, Anderson Photography, Hawkins Store, Mojave Petroleum Co., B&G Electric, Signal Fuels, Gray Co. Veterinary Clinic., Dr. Meganne Walsh, Keys Pharmacy, Pampa Machine, Roberta's Flowers and Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency, Inc. Whitney Swafford of Amarillo, is being sponsored by Potter County 4-H Water Conditioning, Holmes Gift Horse Project, Hillybilly Auto Sales, Shoppe & Sports Center, Wilbur & Cavender's, Debi Swafford and Betty Kemph, Billy & Colleen Neal, Mike & Stephanie Swafford.

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Smaller video stores fear they're headed for cutting-room floor

family video stores is in a supermarket, right across the virtually turned upside down like never before." parking lot from a giant, blue Blockbuster store. And that's not the worst of it.

Feinstein suspects Blockbuster gets better terms from the new releases that Feinstein's Marbles Entertainment can afford to stock.

"What we want is the studios to offer the same types of deals and put everybody on the same playing field," said Feinstein, whose family runs 15 California stores. "Otherwise, some of the independents are going to go

As video retailers gather this week for their annual convention in Las Vegas, there is an undercurrent of fear, frustration and anxiety about an \$8 billion industry that has rebounded from a gloomy 1997.

Rental revenue is up about 6 percent so far this year after last year's 4.2 percent loss. The video release of "Titanic" in September won't hurt.

But the resurgence is fueled by a radical change in the basic economics of the business, prompting complaints of inequity. Some retailers are so angry they planned a rally today at the convention.

"It's definitely an adverse time, and I think it's going to be contentious in the desert," said Robert Wittenberg, MGM studio's senior vice president of sales for home ness. But there will be some casualties.

TORRANCE, Calif. (AP) - One of Matt Feinstein's entertainment. "It's a brave new world and it's a world

At the center of many debates is Blockbuster's bold adoption in recent months of a revenue sharing program. In the past, Blockbuster would buy a movie for as studios, enabling it to load its shelves with 10 to 20 times much as \$69 and keep all rental income. Under revenue sharing, it pays as little as \$6 per movie, giving up a percentage of the rental dollars to the studios in return.

Smaller chains, which also share revenues with studios, are complaining that Blockbuster, through its size and influence, is getting better deals and handing over less money. The smaller stores also have to pay for a company to track rentals, a task Blockbuster does on its

Other problems with revenue sharing include the question of ownership, storage, what to do with aging hits, who gets used video sale profits and whether stores focus on hits to the exclusion of selection.

All this comes as the industry is getting more crowded. There are stores on every corner, VCRs in every home and the public is hungry for hits.

"This was such an easy business for a long time," said Jeffrey Eves, president of the Video Software Dealers Association, which is sponsoring the convention. "Competition and the maturing of the market place will encourage excellence for those who remain in the busi-



Clinging Church Widow Needs Compassion and New Company

DEAR ABBY: I am at my wit's end concerning a widow at our church. This woman should know better because her late husband was a minister.

Every Sunday, she makes a point of looking for my husband and me, and she's constantly touching and flirting with him. He is very uncomfortable with her behavior and runs the other way when he sees her coming. Many times she waits for us at the back of the church where we pick up our

Neither of us can understand why a Sunday school teacher so well versed in the Scriptures would act like she does. We can't discuss this with anyone at church, so what would you suggest? If you print my letter, perhaps she will read it and see herself.

IRRITATED IN MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR IRRITATED: It seems that you think the widow is "coveting" more than the Ten Commandments allow. She is obviously lonely and probably needs verification that she is still attractive to men.

Since your husband isn't interested in her and you see her only once a week, please show some compassion. And should you happen to know an eligible man, for heaven's sake, introduce him to her!

Horoscope

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1998

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

The Stars Show the Kind of Day

You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive;

*** The full moon challenges you

to be everywhere. Do prioritize, if

only for your sake. A family member

wants it his way, but you are more

concerned with maintaining your

image and improving work. Be care-

ful with an associate who tends to be

a spendthrift. Tonight: Run the show.

*** Pace yourself. News seems

to pop in from every direction, and

you are expected to respond ASAP.

Don't let anyone pressure you. De-

cide the where, whens and hows of

your life. Schedule an important

meeting for the end of the day. To-

★★★ You might be juggling finances.

Avoid robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Stay steady and determined. Intu-

ition is right on with a money mat-

ter. Avoid negativity. Don't let oth-

*** You have decisions to make

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

to! Tonight: Play it low-key.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

night: Off visiting.

3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

DEAR ABBY: I've had it with my mother-in-law, who has come to live Abigail Van Buren

> SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

with us. I recall that some time ago, you printed a letter from a woman who had also been made miserable by her widowed mother who had come to live with her. The writer said she had come up with some rules for herself, which she would observe if she ever found herself having to live with her children.

Abby, never in my wildest dreams did I think I would need those rules, but times have changed. Will you please reprint it? HAD IT IN WASHINGTON STATE

DEAR HAD IT: Certainly. That letter is timeless:

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, when my widowed mother came to live with my husband and me, she made our lives so miserable that I determined that I would never bring such misery to my children if I ever had to live with them.

One day I sat down and wrote myself a letter. In it were some pertinent rules, and on the outside of the envelope I wrote, "To be opened on the day I go to live with my daughter, heaven forbid." I tucked it

away in an old book and forgot about it.

I've been widowed and self-sufficient for six years, but I was recently forced to give up my job and go live with my oldest daughter. I've opened that letter, and I think your older readers might benefit from it, as I intend to.

The rules are as follows: - Give what you can toward your keep. Any budget will stretch just

so far. - Keep yourself clean and neat. - Remember, it is their home. Be especially considerate of him. He allowed her to bring you here.

- Give them privacy at every opportunity.

- If they want to go away on a vacation but are hesitant because of you, offer to visit another relative or friend so they can be free to go.

- Don't offer any advice or express any opinions unless asked. - Volunteer information that they might be too embarrassed to ask for, such as arrangements for your burial, hospitalization, etc.

These rules were written more than 20 years ago. I read them often and am determined to keep them. **WIDOW X**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, selfaddressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447. Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is

respond. When you calm down, aim for what you want. Attend an important meeting later in the day. Ask questions when you are unsure. Tonight: Dine out. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Sometimes, you take on too much. Now is a prime example. Juggling the different forces in your life overwhelms you. Pull back, and reorganize. Eliminate everything that isn't a high priority. Take care when dealing with a boss. Tonight: A favorite summer sport. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Allow your imagination to burst forward. There are answers contained in this process. You have been questioning yourself about what you want for the future. Stay on top of choices. A friend does his best to make you happy. Look at the overview. Tonight: Fun and games.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** You seem to have forgotten to please yourself in the twists of the day. Bosses are demanding; a family member wants it his way. It's difficult to stretch the budget as far as he would like. Be realistic about your limits. Examine this partnership carefully. Tonight: Do some deep soul-searching.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

ers pressure you into a commitment **** You hear others' opinions, or into doing anything you don't want whether you care to or not. Plans change rapidly. You regroup as a result. Think through a decision with care. It could have long-range impliabout a partnership. Avoid letting cations vis-à-vis a partnership. Be moods dominate you. Pull back, to sure you aren't only seeing what you do some solid thinking. Don't react; want to. Tonight: Escape into music.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ** Extreme fluctuations attack your wallet. Certainly, you don't need anyone else's help in spending. Think about how to cut recent extravagance. Work is key now. You might not like it or feel overly burdened. Consider alternatives. Tonight: Put in that extra effort with a partner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **★★★★** Keep smiling. Others need your air of self-confidence and happiness. Realize how confused a friend is. Consider a possible change. Discussions involve children and a deeper commitment. Don't hold back; this is the time. Tonight: Share your cheer with others!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) *** You are hard pressed to keep up with conversations. No question about it, you have a lot on your mind. Try to frame the periods when you will allow your mind to wander. Work demands your complete attention. Don't let concerns with home interfere. Tonight: Bring home work.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Others come to you with requests, invitations and ideas. You are overwhelmed by all that you must process. Stay centered. Schedule an important meeting for the afternoon. Let your creativity flourish. Others need your imagination. Tonight: Do exactly what you want!

Actor Brian Dennehy (1938), actor Tom Hanks (1956), actor Fred Savage (1976)

TO PRACTICE WITH













Garfield







Marvin

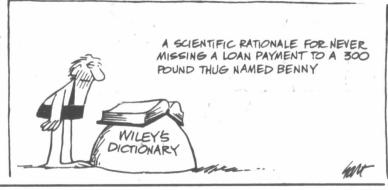


EVERY NIGHT BY YOU SCREAMING FOR YOUR ZA.M. BOTTLE!



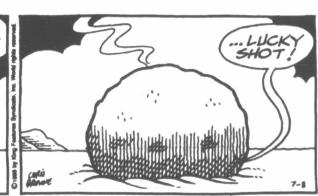
BENE · FACTOR

WILEYS



Haggar The Horrible





Peanuts







Blondie



WHOA MAMA, WHAT A





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Mallard Filmore



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Crossword Puzzle

2 High card

3 Public Enemy's

of Jo

buildings

by THOMAS JOSEPH

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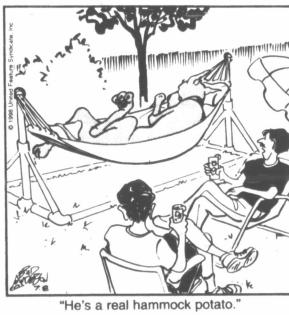
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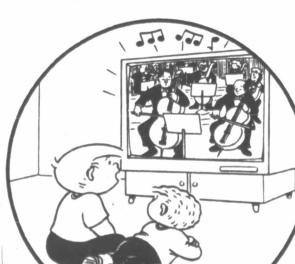
30 Far from

suitable

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+only.) A King Features service, NYC.





The Family Circus

"I'd rather play in a band. They have better uniforms."

SPORTS

Notebook

GOLF

BUN

DIPY, XW VITY, EON

R

IF IR SHT

LONDON (AP) - Jack Nicklaus has pulled out of next week's British Open, ending his streak of consecutive majors at 154.

In a statement released today, Nicklaus, the winner of 18 majors, also announced he would not play in the PGA Championships.

Nicklaus, 58, has played in every major for which he's been eligible since earning a spot in the 1957 U.S. Open. His most recent major was last month's U.S. Open at the Olympic Club in San Francisco.

"After 42 years of playing major championship golf, I feel that my ability to com-pete at the highest level on a continuous basis is marginal at best," Nicklaus said. "I feel this is the time to end my streak of consecutive majors, for which I have been eligi-

Nicklaus said he had planned to end the streak at this year's Masters until the USGA gave him an exemption to play at the U.S. Open.

SOCCER

NEW YORK (AP) -Television ratings for the World Cup showed some improvement in the quarterfinals, but still trail the numbers from 1994.

ABC averaged a 3.4 overnight rating for its three quarterfinal games, the highest ratings for any game not involving the U.S. team. Each ratings point represents 980,000 households.

In 1994, when the excitement of the World Cup being played in the United States helped boost ratings, ABC averaged a 4.0 national rating for three quarterfinals.

ABC got a 3.9 for Brazil-Denmark on Friday and, on Saturday, a 3.0 for Argentina Netherlands and a 3.3 for Croatia-Germany. Those numbers will drop when national ratings are released Thursday.

ABC's highest rating this year is a 3.5 for the United States-Iran and the highest non-U.S. rating is the 2.3 for Nigeria-Denmark.

ESPN2 got a 1.4 (833,000 households), its highest rating to date, for Friday's Italy-France quarterfinal.

BASEBALL

DENVER (AP) — Roberto Alomar's production, unlike his popularity, was never in doubt.

A year after his brother won the All-Star MVP award, Alomar earned the honor for himself Tuesday night.
"This is a special trophy

for myself and for my family," the Baltimore second baseman said after going 3for-4 with a solo home run in the American League's 13-8 win over the NL.

Despite being elected once again by fans for a starting spot, Alomar was booed in pregame introductions. He gets the same reaction in most every park except Camden Yards, the result of him spitting on umpire John Hirschbeck during the final weekend of the 1996 season.

"He still hears about it," NL All-Star Tony Gwynn said.

Alomar bunted for a single in the first inning and stole a base. He walked in the fourth, singled to start a three-run sixth and homered off Trevor Hoffman in the seventh.

By the end of the game, his bat was on its way to the Hall of Fame Cooperstown, N.Y. His MVP trophy was headed elsewhere.

"I'm going to give it to my mom," he said. "I think she's the one who deserves it. When we were young, she used to take us to the ballpark. Without her, we wouldn't be here.

Marie Alomar watched the game back home in Puerto Rico along with her husband Sandy, a major leaguer from 1964-78.

American League wins All-Star slugfest

one wants to pitch here.

as a hitter's haven and a pitcher's hit a popup — the ball wound up house of horrors Tuesday night as solo homers by MVP Roberto Sometimes, outfielders playing the Nationals 13-8 in the highest-

TV audience that tuned in to see a fielders. run-fest got exactly what it wanted. Barry Bonds' three-run homer the MVP award a year after his was among the record-tying 31

Tom Glavine, Roger Clemens and most of baseball's best pitchers were powerless to stop Ken tute, had three for the NL. Griffey, Cal Ripken, Tony Gwynn

ways. While three balls flew over of E. coli bacteria. the fences, several others carried a

Coors Field lived up to its billing ward when he thought Bonds had

Alomar and Alex Rodriguez deep had no chance to rush in and helped the American League beat catch bloopers. Other times, batters took advantage of curve balls scoring All-Star game ever. that don't curve well in Denver to A crowd of 51,267 and a national hit wicked grounders past helpless

Alomar got three hits and won brother, Cleveland catcher Sandy Alomar, earned the honor. Rodriguez also had three hits for the AL and Devon White, a substi-

Walt Weiss got two hits and the and the rest of the majors' top hit- cheers of his 3-year-old son, Brody, recently out of the hospital after And the runs came in all sorts of fighting off a life-threatening strain

DENVER (AP) - No wonder no long way in the Mile High air. At AL ninth accounted for the 21st on base and drove in just one. one point, Clemens pointed sky- run, breaking the record set in the . The AL bounced back quickly AL's 11-9 win in 1954.

All that, and still a couple of defensive plays enabled the AL to cut the National League's overall lead to 40-28-1.

Left fielder Paul O'Neill threw out Fernando Vina at the plate to preserve a 10-8 lead in the eighth, and shortstop Omar Vizquel followed by turning a nifty double play on the next batter.

In a fitting twist, Cleveland's Bartolo Colon got the win despite fifth, the only inning he pitched. wall. Montreal's Ugueth Urbina was the

In an odd twist, sluggers Mark McGwire and Juan Gonzalez did little. McGwire, leading the majors with 37 homers, was 0-for-2.

All-Star Team

after Bonds' homer, scoring three times in the sixth for an 8-6 edge. A couple of infield hits, a wild pitch by Ûrbina and a passed ball by Javy Lopez did most of the damage.

Ripken broke Willie Mays' record with his 15th straight start, then hit a two-run double that keyed a four-run fourth off Glavine for a 4-2 lead. The Iron Man didn't exactly drive the ball, but his opposite-field fly had no problem riding the light air and giving up Bonds' homer in the reaching the top of the right-field

> Weiss' second single off the game closed the NL to 4-3 in the bottom half and earned him another ovation from his family and fans.

Gwynn, playing in his 13th All-Star game, put the NL ahead 2-0 in Gonzalez, leading the majors with the third against Roger Clemens between the time he was selected Rafael Palmeiro's RBI single in 101 RBIs, got up with nine runners by grounding a two-run single off and the game itself.

Alomar's glove at second base. The AL put runners on first and third to begin the game, but Greg Maddux expertly escaped. He got Griffey on a foul pop to McGwire - those two guys are bound to be linked all season - in getting out of trouble.

Notes: Maddux and Glavine are tied for the NL lead with 12 wins. The last time an All-Star starter was relieved by a pitcher from the same team was 1973 when Oakland's Catfish Hunter started and Ken Holtzman followed. The last time it happened in the NL was 1969 when St. Louis' Steve Carlton started and Bob Gibson relieved. ... NL reliever Jeff Shaw, celebrating his 32nd birthday, pitched the eighth. He was traded from Cincinnati to Los Angeles on Saturday, making him the first All-Star ever to be dealt

Pampa advances to 9-10 championship

CANADIAN — Pampa's 9-10 year-old girls' All-Stars defeated the Borger All-Stars, 23-15, Tuesday night in a hard-fought gle and four walks; Britteni Rice, the Area Softball Tournament.

Kari Terrell started pitching for ble. She was relieved by Amy ner's bracket. Youree in the first inning. Borger scored 10 runs in the first inning before Youree came in and shut them down. She pitched the next four innings to get the win.

Pampa battled back from a 10run deficit for the win. Leading

Softball

game to advance into the finals of single and three walks; Ashlee Lucas, single and four walks.

Pampa meets Spearman at 6 Pampa and ran into some trou- tonight in the finals of the win-

> AUSTIN — The East defeated the West, 7-2, Tuesday in the Texas Girls Association All-Star

Katy's Lisa Klam for the East hitters for Pampa were Amy hit the game's only home run. Youree, two singles, a home run and two walks; Kari Terrell, sin-Sneed of Houston Cypress.

Fort Elliott's Barr makes TSWA All-State Squad

BRYAN — Fort Elliott outfield. er Donnie Barr has been named to the 1998 Texas Sports Writers Association Class 1A all-state baseball team. Barr made allstate for the fourth straight year.

Barr is a senior and a four-time all-district selection. He helped Fort Elliott (11-6) make the playoffs with a .625 batting average. Barr hit eight doubles and eight homers, with 39 RBIs, scored 28 runs and stole 12 bases. **Texas Sports Writers name**

Class A baseball team **FIRST TEAM** Pitchers: Anthony Abrameit, Thrall, jr.; Jake Melton, Collinsville, sr.; and Scott Sanders, Catcher: Shannon Mauney, Gorman, sr. First base: B.J. Stewart, Colmesneil, sr Second base: Ty Knox, Claude, soph. Shortstop: Ryan Sladek, Thrall, sr.

Outfielders: Lee Stephenson, Milano, jr.; Brian Haggard, Claude, sr.; Chris Ford, Collinsville Designated hitter: Zeb Land, Cotton Center, jr.
THIRD TEAM Pitchers: Joe Lujan, Rotan, sr.; Chris Newman Catcher: Will Wright, Ponder, jr. First base: Derek Wolf, Collinsville, jr. Second base: Kiley Smith, Thrall, freshman. Shortstop: Stoney Carillo, Rotan, sr. Third base: Brent Ferguson, Claude, in Outfield: Brian Jennings, Mildred, sr.; Brian

Coach of the Year: Eric Smith, Thrall. Player of the Year: Anthony Abrameit, Thrall SECOND TEAM Pitchers: Jason Penney, LaPoynor, fr.; Roy Sixton, Falls City, jr.; and Cody Hanna, Mildred, r. and Wesley Johnson, Windthorst, sr. itcher: Ricardo Fuentes, Bartlett, sr. First base: Clint Moss, Evadale, sr. Second base: Gage Davis, Collinsville, soph Shortstop: Cassidy Bostick, Ponder, sr. Third base: (tie) Ryan Harris, Normangee, soph. and Jason Hodde, Burton, sr.

Ponder, sr.; and (tie) Aubrey Buchanan, Slidell, sr. and Rodrick Douglass, Colmesneil, soph. Durden, Collinsville, jr.; Demetrius Rector, Designated hitter: (tie) Rodrick Douglass,

Rangers' age: A blessing or curse?

The Pampa 11-12 All-Star Team will meet Lockney at 8:30 Saturday night in the

opening round of the West Texas State Babe Ruth Bambino Tournament in

Lockney. Team members are (front row, I-r) Dusty Lenderman, Adam Etchison,

Hunter Craig, Mateo Campos, Chance Henley and bat boy Dylan Henley; (sec-

ond row, I-r) Eddie Palma, Tyler Doughty, Derek Lewis, Cody Jenkins, Ryan

Barnes, Jason Brown, Zach Hucks, Aaron Simon and Nick Story; (back row, I-r)

coach Joe Palma, manager Larry Lenderman and coach Dick Henley. There are

eight teams entered in the double-elimination tournament. The championship

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — With age comes wisdom — and for the Texas Rangers, age also brings aching bodies after a long, hard game.

game will be played at 8 p.m. July 16.

There's a run on ice after the final out of all Rangers games. First baseman Will Clark uses

ice on his left elbow. Second baseman Mark McLemore ices both knees. Shortstop Kevin Elster uses it to soothe his back, shoulder and ankles. Reliever Xavier Hernandez gives his right shoulder a double dose. "Our club is experienced,"

general manager Doug Melvin told The Dallas Morning News. "It helps having those veteran guys down the stretch. But you have to be careful from the physical standpoint that they don't burn themselves out."

How well those experienced players hold up will help shape the second half of their season. A baseball player's peak years

are said to be between 28 and 31. The Rangers have 10 players who are at least 31. By comparison, Baltimore opened the season with 18 players at least 31 years old, and Seattle began with 14 players 31 or older. Both teams have had disappointing seasons.

Age helped the Rangers during the first half. Their experienced players did not panic during the troubles of June.

However, age also hurt the Rangers during the first half. Elster and McLemore, both 33, went on the disabled list in June and showed signs of decreasing defensive range. The running game stopped. Righthanders John Burkett, 33, and Bobby Witt, 34, struggled. The Rangers traded Witt to St. Louis in June.

with two young-blood teams in the second half: Anaheim and Boston.

Anaheim, which leads the Rangers by one and a half games in the American League West, has six players at 31. Only two are position players: First baseman Cecil Fielder (34) and third baseman Dave Hollins (32). The Angels use their young legs to

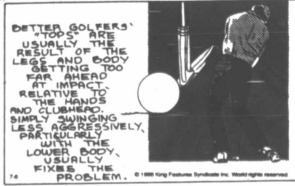
The old legs must compete create scores with the running game.

Boston, which leads the Rangers by five games in the wild-card contest, does not have an everyday player older than 30. The staff has three greybeard righthanders: Dennis Eckersley (43), Bret Saberhagen (34) and Tim Wakefield (31).

Clark, 33, says there are no drawbacks to age.

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Third base: Robert Reyna, Covington, in Outfielders: Lucas Mikulencak, Thrall, sr.; Donnie Barr, Fort Elliott, sr.; Cliff Bishop, Colmesneil, soph. and Joey Hernandez, Avalon, jr.; Mark Wills, Evadale. Brazil claims shootout in World Cup semis

is the stuff that defines champi- nament, hit all four shots, by ons, and Brazil has met that def- Ronaldo, Rivaldo, Emerson and

inition four times already.

victory away. "We have a great force behind a classic game.

us for the final," Claudio Taffarel 4-2 win against the Netherlands World Cup journey began. after a 1-1 tie.

"We are very ready."

be ready for a formidable foe. Brazil erased any doubts that this squad is worthy of its status when the Brazilians were spotty in earlier rounds, springing some leaks in their defense and not dominating midfield.

But they persevered, and they never flinched against a powerful Dutch team that didn't back off, either.

"We showed willpower and desire and the Dutch did the same," said Brazil coach Mario Zagallo, who guaranteed victory Taffarel, the goalkeeper shut the to each of his players before the door. shootout.

"I went up to each one and said, 'We are going to win, we're going to be champions.' I passed confidence to them," Zagallo

either team's desire or tactics. Brazil, which won a shootout They both played to win.

MARSEILLE, France (AP) — It against Italy to take the '94 tourcaptain Dunga. Taffarel stopped A fifth World Cup title is one consecutive attempts by Phillip Cocu and Ronald de Boer to end

Only one team could advance said Tuesday night after his two to Sunday's final, and Brazil's saves in a penalty kick shootout samba party is headed back to lifted the defending champs to a the outskirts of Paris, where this "I felt we deserved a moment

of joy," said Taffarel, who helped France or Croatia, who meet in Brazil to its 1994 crown in the tonight's other semifinal, better United States. "Brazil now can be very proud of the team." So can the Netherlands, which

never has won the title, and last as the top-ranked team in the made the final game 20 years world. There were questions ago. There was nothing separating the teams through 120 minutes of scintillating soccer. "It hurts because we were so

> close," Ronald de Boer said. "It is a pity we didn't have the luck we had in other games, Cocu added. "We could have

> beaten this Brazil team. But after Frank de Boer, the best player on the field all night, and Dennis Bergkamp beat

"Everyone grew and played with heart," Dunga said. "But we haven't overcome the stress There was no questioning

Astros hold National League Central lead with consistent play

Astros General Manager Gerry home runs and 30 RBIs. Hunsicker says his team can do more than just hang on for the but helping my team win," second half of the season. He Bagwell said. "At last, I'm startexpects the Astros to play even ing to help out."

time for a long period of time," with 62 Hunsicker said. "I expect a lot to Alou. out of this offense and if we're fortunate enough to have this happen, this club is capable of putting on an awesome demon-

Thanks to a strong offense and solid pitching, the Astros took a 5-game lead over Chicago in the NL Central going into the All- Darryl Kile went to Colorado Star break, 19 games over .500 at and Chris Holt and Ramon 53-34.

"We haven't had any persistent problems," manager Larry Dierker said. "We've had individual games where our fielding the Astros valuable innings. might have let down or our base running but there have been no but they don't intend to change consistent problems. I just hope we continue to play that way."

The Astros won 17 of 30 series and their longest losing streak was three games, and that only staff, we have the third best ERA happened twice. They could finish the rest of the season below .500 (37-38) and still get 90 victo- better offensively but we haven't

The biggest surprise this season has been the Astros offense, which leads the NL with a .279 average, 482 runs, 173 doubles and .360 on base percentage.

The addition of Moises Alou, far the surprising part has been who is having a career year and a the offense. good season for Carl Everett, has added zip to the Astros offense. half performances from short-Alou is hitting .314 and leads the stop Ricky Gutierrez, who startteam with 73 RBIs.

It's given the Astros the luxury went into a slump — as he did to save opportunities start the year.

"Last year we were vulnerable when Jeff wasn't swinging," Hunsicker said. "This year, with Alou and Everett, this club is not dependent on one person and it certainly paid off in the first

Astros hitting is that they've with the most talent will win and done it with Bagwell struggling I think we have a lot of talent," until recently. Since June 12, Dierker said. "So I think we'll Bagwell has hit safely in 21 of 23 have our chance."

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston games for a .300 average with 10

New Philad

"I don't care about anything

Right fielder Derek Bell leads "It's rare when you have the Astros with a .336 average everybody clicking at the same and ranks second on the team with 62 RBIs, second on the team

> Everett is second with a .333 average after starting the season platooning in center field with Richard Hidalgo.

The Astros started the season with only two pitchers in last year's starting rotation — Shane Reynolds and Mike Hampton. Garcia went to the disabled list. Dierker found replacements in

Jose Lima, Pete Schourek and Sean Bergman, who have given The Astros are hitting more,

their historical philosophy of strong pitching and defense.

It's just worked out that way. "If you look at our pitching (3.56) in the National League," Hunsicker said. "Clearly, we're

changed philosophy. "It's more difficult to find pitchers to support that philosophy. The fact is, pitching and defense are still what gets you to the post season. It's just that so

The Astros also got good first ed the season platooning with Tim Bogar and closer Billy of producing even if Jeff Bagwell Wagner, who converted 19 of 20

> "Gutierrez would have to go down as a surprise, but he took advantage of his opportunity to play regularly," Hunsicker said.

> Until last week, the Astros had not been 19 games over .500 since the end of the 1986 championship season when they finished 96-66.

The impressive part about the "I think in the end, the team

Scoreboard

1 1/2

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Diego	57	31	.648	. —	7-8), 7:05 p.m.		,	
rancisco	52	37	.584	5 1/2	Minnesota (Te		v 4-0)	at Clave
ingeles	43	44	.494	13 1/2	(Burba 10-5),			at Olovo
ado	37	52	.416	20 1/2	N.Y. Yankees			at Tamn
na	30	58	.341	27	(Santana 2-1),			ar ianit
day's Gar	nes			Boston (Saber			at Baltim	
ames sche	duled				(Museina 8-5)			at Destilli

11

18 1/2

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.395

San Diego (Brown 10-3) at Los Angeles (Park Tuesday's All-Star Linescore By the Associated Press At Denver American 000 413 113 — 13 19 National 002 130 020 — 8 12

Kansas City (Belcher 7-7) at Chicago White Sox (Sirotka 8-8), 8:05 p.m.

Anaheim (Olivares 5-4) at Seattle (Fassero 7

D.Wells, Clemens (3), Radke (4), Colon (5), Arrojo (6), Wetteland (7), Gordon (8), Percival Arrojo (6), Wetteland (7), Gordon (8), Percival (9) and I. Rodriguez, S. Alomar (7); G. Maddux, Glavine (3), K. Brown (4), Ashby (5), Urbina (6), Hoffman (7), Shaw (8), Nen (9) and Piazza, J. Lopez (6). W—Colon. L—Urbina. HRs—American, R. Alomar, A. Rodriguez. National, Bonds.

TRANSACTIONS Tuesday's Sports Transactions By The Associated Press

Giles from the 15-day disabled list. Optioned OF Richie Sexson to Buffalo of the

International League.
National League
MONTREAL EXPOS—Optioned LHP Rick
Del-lart to Ottawa of the PCL. Activated RHP
Mike Maddux from the 15-day disabled list.

FOOTBALL. National Football League ATLANTA FALCONS—Released K David CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed WR

Donald Hayes to a three-year contract. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Signed WR Kevin Lee. WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed RB Skip Hicks to a three-year contract

National Hockey League BOSTON BRUINS—Agreed to terms with **RW Peter Nordstrom** NASHVILLE PREDATORS—Acquired RW Vitali Yachmenev from the Los Angeles Kings for future considerations.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Re-signed C Bobby Holik to a three-year contract.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Named Lorne Henning associate coach, Stefan Lunner goaltender coach and Greg Cronin assistant

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Signed G John Vanbiesbrouck to a two-year contract. Named Craig Ramsay assistant coach. PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Signed C BUCKNELL—Named Frank Fedoriaka head

men's lacrosse coach.
COLUMBIA COLLEGE—Named Chris Rhoades volleyball coach.
GEORGIA STATE—Named Phyllis Guedry softball coach.
HAMILTON—Named Joseph Bilyea men's and women's crew coach LONGWOOD-Named Nancy Joel interim women's field hockey coach.
ST. PETER'S—Signed Mike Granelli, romen's basketball coach, to a multiyear

BASKETBALL

727 — 815 1 .545 2 .500 2 1/2 Vashington 1 10 WESTERN CONFERENCE 2 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 .700 .333 .300 Los Angeles Los Angeles 86, Charlotte 79 Wednesday's Games Washington at Cleveland, 7 p.m. Houston at New York, 7:30 p.m. Phoenix at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. Charlotte at Utah, 9 p.m. Sacramento at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m. Detroit at Houston, 8:30 p.m. SOCCER

Major League Soco At A Glance By The Associated Press All Times EDT

Eastern Confe	renc						
	W	L	sow	Pts	GF	GA	
D.C.	14	5	5	32	45	32	
NY-NJ	9	8	1	25	31	30	
Columbus	8	8	0	24	30	24	
New England	5	12	1	13	30	39	
Miami	6	11	3	12	15	36	
Tampa Bay	4	14	0	12	20	32	
Western Conf	eren	ce					
	W	L	sow	Pts	GF	GA	
Los Angeles	15	2	1	43	55	24	
Chicago	13	5	1	37	40	18	
Colorado	8	9	2	20	34	35	
Dallas	9	9	4	19	26	38	
Kansas City	7	10	2	17	18	25	
San Jose	6	11	1	16	27	38	

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NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for shootout win and zero points for loss. Shootout (SOW) is a subset of wins.

Saturday's Games
Tampa Bay at New York-New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Washington D.C., 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.

Se Ri Pak: On course for golf greatness

Pak's goals have never been playoff against amateur Jenny pay, but pride.

American League 13, National League 8
Wednesday's Games

4), 7:05 p.m. Montreal (Hermanson 6-7) at N.Y. Mets

Chicago Cubs (Tapani 9-6) at Milwaukee

(Juden 7-7), 8:05 p.m. Houston (Reynolds 10-5) at St. Louis

Atlanta (Smoltz 5-2) at Florida (Hernandez 7-

No games scheduled Thursday's Games

(Jones 7-5), 7:40 p.m.

Toronto

Tampa Bay

(Stottlemyre 9-6), 8:10 p.m.

Only games scheduled American League At A Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
East Division

She wants to become the best woman golfer on the planet, get through news conferences with- Championship in May. "I have speaking English for less than a ing.

"But," she added with a rare out an interpreter — she's been many years left. I am just startmillions everywhere.

"I want on top list," the shy 20-year-old South Korean said at the U.S. Women's Open, where ner in 53 editions of the U.S. she became the youngest cham- Women's Open when she sank pion ever. "Then I want to be an 18-foot birdie putt on the seclike Nancy Lopez, like, smiling ond hole of a sudden-death face, good memory on other playoff at rugged Blackwolf

Those aims are universally understood, and they could be amateur and ineligible to win golf's newest prodigy.

her second straight major on par 290 on Sunday.

KOHLER, Wis. (AP) — Se Ri Monday in a stirring 20-hole Chuasiriporn of Duke.

"No, not yet," said Pak, who won the McDonald's LPGA

smile, "I have a good start." Does she ever.

Pak became the youngest win-

Because Chuasiriporn is an just as readily attainable for any prize money, Pak had Pak, a rookie on the LPGA first-place check when she and won in 1967. tour, doesn't consider herself the Chuasiriporn, a Thai-American best, however, despite winning from Maryland, tied at 6-over- this is my first year," said Pak, Pak "Our

So the playoff wasn't about Woods was when he won the

And Pak never lost her cool holes.

Pak, who might be closer than she thinks to becoming the world's best, joined Patty Berg as the only women to win two major championships before said. "I want the trophy." their 21st birthdays. She's the first rookie to win

two majors since Juli Inkster in 1984 and the first woman to win to win consecutive majors since Meg Mallon in 1991. Before Pak, the youngest Open

winner was amateur Catherine already pocketed the \$267,500 LaCoste, who was 22 when she homeland, where red and yel-

"I'm really surprised because

Master's last year. "The first time I won a major,

when she fell behind by four my sponsor (Samsung) and strokes after just five holes, everyone was surprised," Pak eventually tying Chuasiriporn at said. "Now, I win a second 2-over through 18 exhilarating major, maybe my sponsor gives me more money. When the laughter died down,

> Pak pointed to the sparkling silver trophy next to her. "I don't want a check," she

On Tuesday, Samsung said it plans to launch a new sportswear brand — SERIPAK.

Pak hasn't returned to South Korea since moving to Orlando, Fla., last summer, but she's become a national hero in her low banner newspaper headlines Tuesday proclaimed Se Ri

who is a year younger than Tiger Encouragement." Championship fishing tourney set for Sept.

Sparks down Sting, 86-79

Lisa Leslie scored 24 points on her place in the five-feam Western 26th birthday as the Los Angeles Conference, a half-game ahead of Sparks ended a franchise-record, idle Sacramento. five-game losing streak with an 86-79 victory Tuesday night over the Conference-leading Sting (8-3) Charlotte Sting. Leslie's layup off her own miss

with 2:43 left broke a 74-74 tie and Bullett 13. Mwadi Mabika followed with a 3pointer 40 seconds later.

Tracy Reid's free throw with 59 seconds left cut the Sparks lead to 38 seconds remaining clinched it.

Tamecka Dixon added 19 points, in the second half, for Los Angeles halftime.

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — (3-7), which moved into fourth

Andrea Stinson led the Eastern with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Reid added 19 points and Vicky

Christy Smith scored all 11 of her points in the first half, making three 3-point baskets.

Leslie scored 14 and Dixon 10 as 79-75, but Mabika's 3-pointer with Los Angeles led 42-37 at halftime, its highest scoring first half of the season. A 9-0 run gave the Penny Toler 15 and Mabika 15, all Sparks a 22-16 lead 8:31 before

largest first-place cash award in championship.

fishing history — \$250,000.

50 professionals and 50 non-boater in the \$1 million Forrest Wood anglers from the 1998 Wal-Mart Open (the sixth stop on the tour FLW Tour have qualified for the and the richest event in fishing), \$450,000 Wal-Mart FLW Tour and the top 40 anglers, based on a Championship Sept. 16-19. The system of points and pounds tournament will be held on the awarded during the last two days Mississippi River at Moline, Ill. of competition in the six qualifying and the winner will receive the tournaments leading up to the

Denny Brauer of Camdenton, The championship, presented by Missouri leads the Professional CITCO, is the culmination of the Division with the most points seven-tour, \$3.65 million 1998 FLW accumulated in qualification events with 358 out of a possible The championship field is com- 375. Brauer won the 1998 Land O' prised of anglers who have won Lakes points race and will be fea-FLW Tour tournaments during the tured on a nationally-distributed Ranger bass boat if no non-boater

the cereal's 74-year history. David Smith Jr. of Edmond, Okla. leads the Non-boater Division with 303 points. Points were awarded to anglers after the first two days of competition in the six qualification tournaments. Ray Beck, who has qualified for the championship in the Non-boater Division, is leading the Spiderwire Non-boater Angler of the Year race by weighing in the heaviest one-day catch of the season. Beck's five bass limit weighing 20 pounds, 6 ounces, caught during the second tour event, will win him a fully-rigged

GILBERTSVILLE, Ky. — The top 1998 season, the top five finishers box of Wheaties for the first time in exceeds that total during the first two competition days of the championship.

Arkansas anglers dominate the Pro Division field, occupying eight berths, followed by Tennessee and Missouri with seven and six, respectively. The Florida contingent leads the Non-boater division with 10 championship slots.

ESPN is filming the championship tournament as part of the Wal-Mart FLW Tour television

For more information on the tour, contact Brian Sayner at (502) 362-5212 or e-mail tpwagner@apex.net.

> Copy Deadline Friday, 4 p.m.

Monday, 4 p.m. Tuesday, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, 4 p.m. Thursday, 4 p.m.

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and Skin Care sales, service, and

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ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News. MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

PAMPA Masonic Lodge #966, we meet every Thursday 7:30

OVERHEAD Door Repair. Kidp.m.,420 W. Kingsmill, business meeting 3rd Thursday.

TOP O Texas Lodge 1381, study and practice, Tuesday night 7:30

10 Lost and Found FOUND red Pomeranian, well

groomed, area of 2100 bl. Zimmers. Call 665-4979.

LOST min. Schnauzer, shaggy salt & pepper female. Vicin. 1900 Christine. 669-2504, 663-0372, 665-5453 ask for Jeff.

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well Construction. 669-6347.

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concrete removal & dirt work.

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sidewalks, storm cellars, etc. also bed, hedges, tree trimming, paint

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or 669-7068 after 5:00.

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21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which reuire payment in advance for information, services or goods.

TAKING applications for CNA's & housekeeping. McLean Care Center, 605 W. 7th, McLean, Tx.

SHOWCASE Rent To Own is (ESL) now accepting applications for a Secretary/Clerk position, Spanish is a plus. Apply in person 1700 N. Dr. Larry A. Darbison,

Neighborhood Watch works!

21 Help Wanted

DOMINO'S Pizza hiring for all MACHINIST needed for power sitions. Apply in person. 1332 N. Hobart.

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Superintenden Booker ISD 806-658-4501 Booker School is an

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cylinder reline oper. Other machinist pos. available for industrial engine block reman. oper. 45 yr. service co. with benefits. Call Coastal Casting Service 713-223-4439, or mail response to P.O. Box 16105 Houston, Tx. 77222.

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GARAGE Sale - 905 S. Snyder, Thur. Only! Furniture & a little bit of everything.

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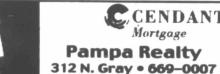
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Jury convicts teen of killing Ennis Cosby

(AP) - No one picked Mikail Markhasev out of a police lineup. His fingerprints were nowhere to be found at the murder scene. Only a single hair tied him to the gun that killed Bill Cosby's only son.

It was his own words - in jailhouse letters and in a taped phone conversation with a police informant - that persuaded jurors to convict Markhasev of killing Ennis Cosby on a dark highway while he stopped to change a flat tire last year.

Cosby's family wept and hugged each other as the verdicts were read Tuesday after less than six hours of deliberations. The actor and comedian, who had avoided most of the trial, was not in the court-

"The whole thing was open and shut, or at least close to that," said juror Joseph Burnett Vagner, 78. "In those letters he convicted himself."

Markhasev, a 19-year-old Ukrainian immigrant, stared stonefaced at the jury as he was found guilty of murder in commission of an attempted robbery. He also was found guilty of two special circumstance allegations: attempting to rob Cosby and using a firearm in the commission of attempted robbery.

The jury's finding on all counts automatically mandates a life prison term with no possibility of parole at his sentencing. 11 Prosecutors did not seek the death penalty, presumably because of the defendant's

Cosby had no comment. 'The Cosby family is satisfied with the judicial process that has led to this conviction," Cosby spokesman David Brokaw said.

Markhasev's family arrived too late to hear the verdicts, but his mother, grandmother and a female cousin were allowed to see him later. Mother and son exchanged words in Russian, then the family left without comment, heads and faces draped in scarves.

Deputy Public Defender Henry Hall said he will appeal the conviction.

He said he didn't think the 'celebrity" of the Cosby family had a direct impact on the trial, but he blamed the media for the conviction.

"I think it's very clear from the tenor of the coverage in the case that there was an expectation that Markhasev would be convicted, and it's hard to operate in a country with a presumption of innocence when the societal presumption or expectation is a conviction," he said.

Of his client's reaction to the life sentence, Hall said: "He's 19 years old and it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out how he feels about that."

Cosby, 27, a vacationing graduate student Columbia University, was shot Jan. 16, 1997, while changing the flat on a dark road near Bel-Air. Markhasev was arrested nearly two

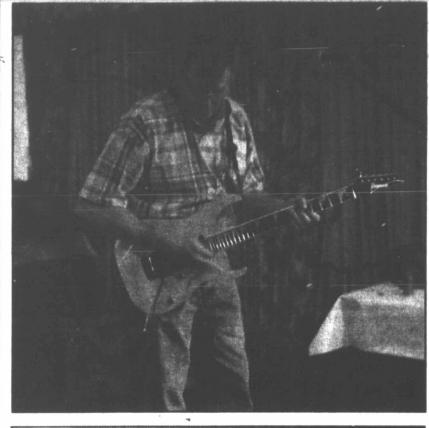
months later. Prosecutor Anne Ingalls claimed Markhasev was a member of the Mexican mafia, a feared prison gang, and she showed jurors a series of jailhouse letters, including one with the comment: "It was a robbery gone bad.'

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Pampa High School Class of 1968 holds 30th reunion, presents surprise band FLASHBAK





Mark Lang, above, strums his guitar, and Jim Benton, bottom, left, and Mike Russell get into the swing of things.

of 1968 held its 30 year PHS graduates. Chase owns reunion recently. Members met for an informal gettogether at the Biarritz Club before gathering the following day for registration at the high school library which included breakfast, books and T-shirts. Members spent the afternoon at Recreation Park and concluded the festivities at Pampa Country Club with dinner, pictures, presentations, a D.J. and FLASHBAK, a surprise band. Members of FLASHBAK were: Bobby Chase, vocals, drums; Mark Lang, lead guitar; Mike Russell, bass guitar, vocals; Jim Benton, guitar, vocals; Dustin Chase, sound.

Chase is a 1967 graduate of PHS. He and wife, Rhoda, married 29 years, have two children, Brandy and Dustin. Dustin also plays in the band and plans to pursue a degree at Oklahoma City University.

American teacher killed in Belize

MEXICO CITY (AP) - A Maryland science teacher on a family vacation in the Central American country of Belize has been shot to death while trying to protect his wife and son from robbers.

Raymond Kirk, 47, of Chesapeake City, was killed Sunday at the Singing Sands Inn on the Caribbean coast, about 80 miles south of Belize City. His wife and 12-yearold son were uninjured. Police were searching for the

In a telephone interview, Bruce Larkin, the owner of the inn, said Kirk was shot by one of three men who held up his restaurant and apparently were about to rob Kirk's cabin near-

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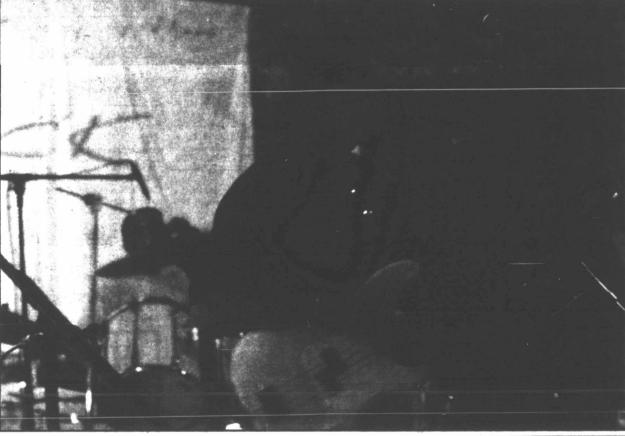
Plants

Pampa High School Class Both Brandy and Chase are

Members spent the afternoon at Recreation Park and concluded the festivities at Pampa Country Club with dinner, pictures, presentations, a D.J. and FLASHBAK, a surprise

Chase Production Company, Chase Steam Service and Chase Racing.





Seen warming up are (top, left-right) Jason Benton, Matt Benton, Michelle Russell, Wes Lang and Dustin Chase. Mike Russell, bottom, is bass guitar, vocalist, for FLASHBAK.

PHS graduate and Courtney loan officer at NBC Bank.

uate. He and wife, Marilyn, tively. Russell is a heavy Anderson.

Wes and Courtney. Wes is a Russell owns Russell Electric. Benton is a 1968 graduate. will graduate from PHS in He and wife, Debbie, married 2000. Lang is a chemist at 25 years, have three children, Cabot R&D, and Karen is a Jana Kay, Matt and Jason. Both Matt and Jason are 1995 Russell is a 1965 PHS grad- and 1998 PHS grads respec- Jim

Lang is a 1971 graduate. He married 31 years, have two equipment operator for the and his wife, Karen, married children Ashley and Michelle. City of Pampa and he and his 22 years, have two children, Both are graduates of PHS. wife own Benton's PHD Professional Hair Design.

Serving on the Class of 1968 Planning Committee were: Jackie Harper, Donny Nail, Judy Sims, Bob Doucette, Karen Barnes, Shiela Dallas, Benton

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