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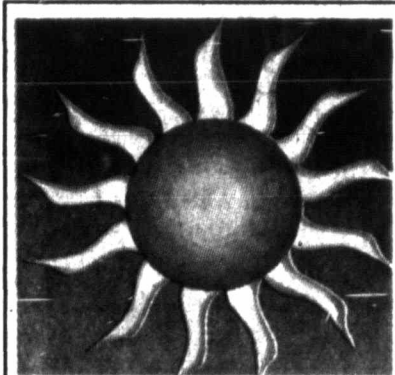
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High today 98
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For weather details see
Page 2.

HOUSTON (AP) — The Harris County sheriff's department is asking for \$233,000 in federal funds so its deputies can act like children.

To nab lawbreakers, law enforcement officers occasionally pose as drug dealers, prostitutes and convenience store employees. Soon, local deputies may be pretending to be children.

If they receive the federal grant, the sheriff's department would use the money to pay for two deputies to work full time searching for pedophiles who use the Internet to lure children.

They would be assigned to pose at children in Internet "chat rooms," which child molesters and other sex offenders have been known to frequent, sheriff's Major Juan Jorge told the Houston Chronicle.

Using the anonymity of the computer, the officers will be able to pose as either a boy or girl and allow themselves to be lured into a potential meeting with the sex offender.

"It's a fishing expedition, except we know the fish are there. We just don't know how many, and what kind," Jorge said. "Hopefully, we can nab some of these guys before they victimize somebody."

The Department would use the federal money to pay for the two deputies' salaries and benefits, as well as training, travel and equipment.

- Lena Pearl Baker, 90, farmer, customer harvest operation owner.
- Richard Curry Lilley, 18, sales clerk.
- James A. Prock, 75, retired teacher, volunteer.
- Guy Real, services pending.

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Trooper indicted... Perjury charged returned by grand jury

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

WHEELER — A former Shamrock-based Department of Public Safety trooper was expected to turn himself in to Central Texas authorities today after being indicted in Wheeler on perjury charges.

Trooper Chad S. Estes was indicted by a Wheeler County grand jury late Monday on charges of aggravated perjury in connection with his testimony in a March drug trial.

"It was a gut wrencher," John Mann said today of Monday's indictment. "It

"It was a gut wrencher," district attorney John Mann said today of Monday's indictment. "It was a gut wrencher for me. It was a gut wrencher for the grand jury. But the facts in the file indicate that he committed a felony."

was a gut wrencher for me. It was a gut wrencher for the grand jury. But the facts in the file indicate that he committed a felony."

District Attorney John Mann said Estes was accused of lying while on the witness stand in the trial of Robert Curtis Tillman.

Estes had arrested Tillman on Interstate 40 near Shamrock on June 7, 1997, after 63 pounds of marijuana was found in the van Tillman was driving. Tillman was indicted on drug charges Dec. 15, 1997, in 31st District Court in Wheeler. During the trial in March, Tillman's attorney, Jim

Fling, asked Estes if he was sure Tillman knew the marijuana was in the back of the van. Estes testified that Tillman knew about the marijuana because Estes had found some in Tillman's fanny pack.

Estes then testified that he did not log the drug as evidence, but gave it to DPS Trooper John Holland to train a drug dog.

Authorities said today the arrest report did not mention a fanny pack or finding marijuana on Tillman. Holland said he was not given any marijuana.

Officials said today drugs used for training are checked out through the Department of Public Safety in Austin.

See TROOPER, Page 2

Lefors oks late charge, ups deposit for utilities

Late charges, higher deposits and no delinquent payment options are changes that Lefors city residents will face after yesterday's Lefors City Commission meeting.

City Secretary Judy Williams asked the commission to discontinue delinquent utility contracts originally designed help people who got behind pay off their utility bills.

"It's just not working," Williams said. "If they were going to pay their bill, they would have done it to begin with."

She also asked that the deposit for gas be increased. She said the city currently charges \$50 for each utility but gas bills can run much higher than that. She said often people leaving town don't pay the final bill.

Finally, she said the city does not charge late fees if bills aren't paid on time. Bills are due on the 15th and utilities can be turned off after the 25th but there is no late fee if the bill is not paid on time. Williams said in other cities a five percent late fee is charged and she asked commissioners to institute the same policy in Lefors.

Mayor James W. Franks said bills should be due on the 10th and a penalty assessed after that but others said the date should be left the same but agreed a late fee should be charged. Finally, the commission voted to put the due date as the 10th and charge a late fee if a bill is not paid by the 15th. The utilities can still be cut

See LEFORS, Page 2



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)

Junior Hartley directs traffic today away from road repairs on Somerville while Junior Vargus operates heavy machinery to fix a bad spot in the street. The repairs are being made in advance of seal coating.

SWBT begins 'Call Waiting ID' today

HOUSTON (AP) — Have you ever heard a beep while you're on the phone, notifying you that another caller is trying to reach you?

Southwestern Bell began offering a service today that lets its customers see who's calling before they interrupt their present call to take the new one.

Call Waiting ID ties together two of the company's most popular services — Call Waiting and Caller ID. A subscriber to the new feature sees the name and phone num-

ber of a caller even if he or she is talking on the phone when the call comes in.

The new service requires that a subscriber have both Call Waiting and Caller ID, as well as a viewing box or a screen telephone that works with Call Waiting ID.

The service costs an additional \$3 on top of the cost of Call Waiting (\$2.80 a month) and Caller ID (\$6.50 a month).

Kristen Malacarne, a spokeswoman for Bell, said not all add-on viewers and Caller

ID-capable phones will work with Call Waiting ID. However, she said most Caller ID hardware manufactured since December should work with the service.

Bell also is offering a related service dubbed Call Waiting ID Options, providing customers options as to what is done with an incoming call. Calls can be answered, directed to voice mail or handled with an automated message asking the caller to call back or hold. That service costs an extra \$1.

Quite frankly... What do you think about pagers and pocket knives being prohibited on school campuses this year?



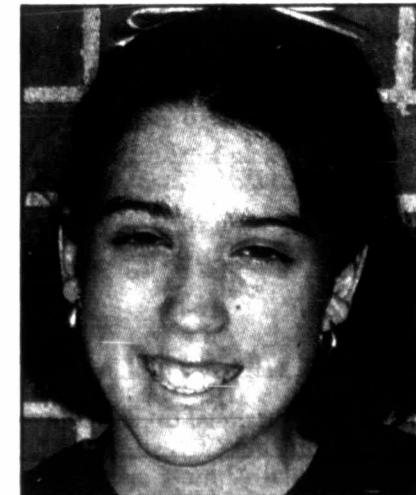
"I think they should ban knives, but not pagers, because knives are dangerous and pagers aren't."

-- Melinda Mort



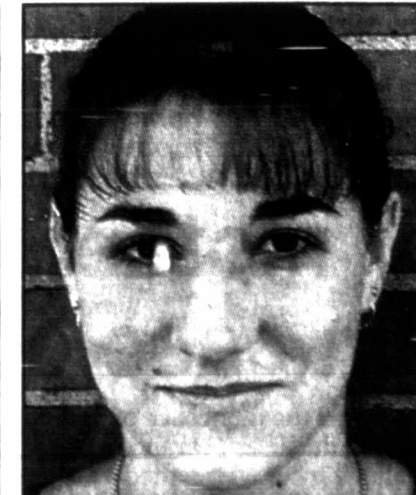
"I think knives should be banned because you don't need a knife at school anyway."

-- Emily Ayers



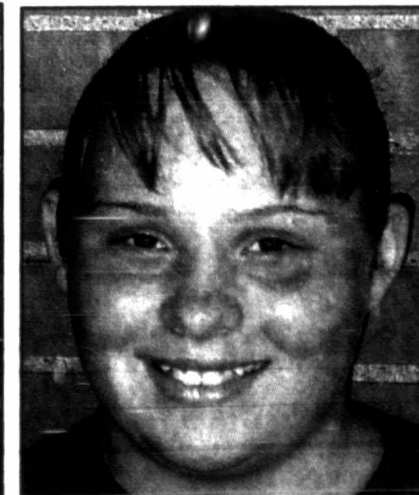
"Pagers aren't dangerous and you need them for emergencies only."

-- Megan Shannon



"I really don't see the harm in bringing pocket knives to school. But I don't see the harm in bringing pagers."

-- Angie Edmondson



"You don't need a pager because it interrupts class. And a knife is dangerous to students."

-- Katie Cloud

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Band camp



(Special photo)

Around 280 youth from Oklahoma and Texas attended the 10th annual Southwestern Oklahoma State University Middle School Band Camp held recently at SOSU campus in Weatherford. The students were divided into four concert bands and performed at a camp-closing concert. Students attending the camp included: (front, l-r) Jennifer Hutchison, Kalen Gardner, Williams Adkins, (back, l-r) James Page, Jeffrey Browning and Jeffery Calvert, all of Miami.

Chuck wagon chef knows key secrets of cooking for cowboys

By MEGAN DONNELL
Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

DICKENS, Texas — The fluffier the biscuits, the better the grub.

That's the philosophy of Dickens resident James "Jimbo" Humphreys, 45, who migrated from ranch to ranch during six years of cooking his chuck wagon specialties of sourdough bread and chicken fried steak for hungry cowboys.

"I always prided myself in my bread, that's how we always judged it when I was growing up," Humphreys said. "If you've got good bread, then a lot of other things can slide."

Although Humphreys has since turned from the long days as a chuck wagon cook to managing the Guitarr Ranch southwest of Dickens, he hasn't just parked the wagon in his barn and left it.

Instead, he gives demonstrations each year at the Ranching Heritage Center, the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo and the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City. Every now and then, he also cooks for Sunday morning cowboy church services in the area.

"What was amazing to me is

how many people don't realize that this type of deal still goes on," he said. "Most people think we're doing this as just a historic re-enactment, but it is something that is actually still being used."

Chuck wagons date back to the trail-blazing cattle drives of the 1800s and remained the choice way to feed cowboys when ranches replaced the open range, Humphreys said. Popularity declined in the late '60s and, in some places, wagons have been replaced by ranch feed houses that some believe are more cost effective.

But nothing can replace the mobility of the chuck wagon, Humphreys said.

"Out here, that was the only way we could feed our hands," he said. "It's not very economical to go 40 miles into town for lunch every day. It's better if they can eat right here, and it keeps the crew together."

And besides, a lot of the cowboys like it.

"There's just something there," he said, adding that chuck wagons are regaining popularity. "It's sort of a tradition that kind of died out, and a lot of the younger people wanted to bring

it back."

Humphreys, a former Dickens city councilman, said he didn't grow up wanting to be a chuck wagon cook. But when the time came, he just happened to be the one who knew the most about cooking.

"When I was little, there was a lot of good cooks on the ranch that I wish now I'd paid more attention to," he said with a laugh.

Using a Dutch oven on a one-man chuck wagon he built from scratch, Humphreys learned to cook everything from beef butchered minutes earlier to cobbles made with fresh fruit picked from nearby trees. At demonstrations, however, he usually cooks bite-size samples of fried steak and sourdough biscuits.

And Humphreys said he always uses the freshest foods and the cleanest utensils. No one has ever been sick from something Humphreys cooked, at least as far as he knows.

"I knew some cooks, and Lord I don't know how they kept from killing everybody," he said. "I always tried to avoid that, that's never good."

When he was a cook, Humphreys traveled throughout Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Nebraska from February through July, spending about 15 days at each ranch cooking for 15 to 17 people. In the fall, he would retrace that route from the end of August through Christmas.

"You get to see a lot of country, and you see how ranches do things differently and still get things done," he said. "But that's sleeping on the ground and after awhile, I got pretty down on my back and my legs. It's a pretty tough life."

And what made it even tougher was being away from his wife, Dickens County Clerk-elect Winona Humphreys, and his sons, Will and Matt.

"I got tired of traveling," he said. "I was gone all the time and living constantly on the road. I couldn't go to any ball games or anything."

"Plus, I wanted to get back to cowboyin' " he added. "I didn't want to be the crippled old man behind the wagon anymore. And traditionally, that was what a cook was: an old, crippled man that can't really ride anymore. And I'm not there yet."

Every once in awhile, though, Humphreys thinks he hears nature subtly beckoning him back to the rustic life he left behind. But he doesn't think he could live that way full time again.

"Some days I get to thinking I miss it, then I start thinking about how much work it was and change my mind," he said. "But I enjoyed every minute of it and I learned a lot."

Business highlights...

GM preparing for long battle

FLINT, Mich. (AP) — General Motors Corp. is preparing for a lengthy battle with the United Auto Workers despite its mounting strike costs. An executive warned employees on Monday to expect "a long haul."

One day after GM's top negotiator left Flint and suspended high-level negotiations with his UAW counterpart, the big automaker resumed its attack on the union as the source of the company's high production costs.

GM also showed its determination to proceed with the launch of its new full-size pickups, reopening one of its truck assembly plants that had been idled last month by the strikes at two parts plants in Flint.

Chrysler's earnings more than double

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Chrysler Corp.'s earnings more than doubled in the second quarter from a year ago when the nation's third biggest domestic carmaker was hurt by a strike at an engine plant.

Strong truck sales and deep cost-cutting helped boost the automaker's profit to \$1.003 billion, or \$1.51 per diluted share, for the three months ended June 30, from \$483 million, or 70 cents a share, a year earlier.

The results beat Wall Street expectations for earnings of \$1.41 a share, according to First Call Corp.

Stockholders nervous over AT&T deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Trying to keep nervous stockholders from scuttling their \$31.7 billion marriage, Tele-Communications Inc. and AT&T Corp. are still fleshing out key details of the three-week-old deal.

TCI chairman John Malone acknowledged in a published report Monday that a sharp drop in AT&T's stock price since the June 24 announcement "scared me to death because I think it could well kill the deal."

To help assuage investors, negotiators are still tinkering with details of AT&T's acquisition that were not in place at the time of the announcement. Still up in the air is the complicated structure of a new class of stock that will follow the financial performance of each division of the combined entity.

GM recalling cars with air bag problems

WASHINGTON (AP) — General Motors is recalling nearly 1 million cars after 130 people were injured by air bags bursting open without any crash. And the government is investigating reports of similar problems in other makers' cars.

General Motors' move came after it got several hundred complaints about the air bags inflating inadvertently in late model Chevrolet Cavaliers, Pontiac Sunfires and Cadillacs.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is investigating reports concerning Chrysler minivans and cars, Subaru, Mazdas and Volkswagens.

American Express adds to holdings

NEW YORK (AP) — Continuing an ambitious acquisition effort, the business advisory arm of American Express on Monday purchased Goldstein Golub Kessler & Co., a prestigious New York-based accounting firm. Terms were not disclosed.

The latest move by American Express' rapidly growing Tax and Business Services division marks a major advance toward the financial giant's goal of becoming a national player in the lucrative management consulting field.

American Express has been snapping up smaller accounting firms throughout the country, but the Goldstein purchase marks its first entry into the financial hub of New York as well as its largest incursion yet into the accounting market.

Year 2000 test goes well

NEW YORK (AP) — The millennium dawned early and without serious incident in the back offices of Wall Street, as major exchanges and securities firms flipped ahead the calendars in a computer test Monday that looked for Year 2000 trading problems.

In the first of two weeks of tests, 29 securities firms and 12 exchanges performed mock trades in an effort to determine how Wall Street's vast computerized trading system will handle the transition to year 2000.

"All indications are that Day One went very well," said John Panchery, Year 2000 project manager at the Securities Industry Association, which sponsored the test.

Brownsville exporters plead guilty to smuggling Freon

HOUSTON (AP) — Owners of a Brownsville export company have pleaded guilty to charges of smuggling 36,000 pounds of the banned refrigerant Freon into the United States from Russia.

Ernesto Medina, 45, and his brother, Antonio Medina, 46, pleaded guilty to a violation of the Clean Air Act, prosecutors announced Monday. They each face up to five years in prison and-or a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentencing is set for Oct. 5. Their company, Medina

Forwarding Corp., also could be fined up to \$500,000.

The Medinas admitted receiving 1,200 30-pound canisters of chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, from Russia on June 1, 1995. Eight days later, the shipment went by truck to an auto body shop in Long Island, N.Y., for distribution.

Federal authorities launched an investigation after the brothers attempted to ship 1,170 empty Freon containers from Brownsville to Mexico.

The Freon was purchased in Russia for less than \$1 a pound. Its street value in New York was about \$20 a pound, meaning the entire batch would have sold for about \$720,000.

The Clean Air Act and an international agreement known as the Montreal Protocol ban CFCs because its chlorine component sets off a reaction that destroys the ozone layer above the Earth.

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Chamber Communique
The Chamber welcomes Warren Electric Company as a new chamber member. Manager Ralph West and Jay Burnett operate the electrical supply company at 3319 Hwy 152 West.
Reservations are being accepted at the Chamber office, 669-3241, until Friday, July 17 for the Chamber/Clarendon College-Pampa Center community luncheon rally at M.K. Brown Auditorium, Tuesday, July 21. Richard Stowers will be master of ceremonies and the speakers will be local attorney's Bill Waters and Don Lane. Let's all join together in "Building Pampa's Future!"
*Chamber meetings:
Thursday — 10:30 a.m., Chamber Board of Directors meeting, Nona Payne Conference Room

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Inside the Beltway
 with
 Rep. Mac Thornberry

There are a lot of people still doing good in America

We hear a lot of bad news these days. Some people are even worried that the country as we've known it may be coming apart at the seams.

Indeed, when you hear about school shootings, racial killings and continued problems with illegal drugs, there is reason to worry. But we should also remember that for all the bad we seem to be hearing about, there's still a whole lot of good going on, too.

For instance, in Wichita Falls, volunteers for Habitat for Humanity are breaking ground to build yet another home for a family in need. In Plainview, the Rotary Club is working with the Breedlove Food Dehydration Plant to help feed the hungry. In Amarillo, the High Plains Food Bank is striving to do the same. And in my hometown of Clarendon, the whole town turned out recently to celebrate our nation's birthday and pay tribute to the values that have made our country great — faith, family and freedom.

Needless to say, there are many other examples just like these, both in our area and across the United States ... which brings me to my point. There are problems in our society. But there are also a lot of people doing good — even great — things.

These folks are the backbone of our nation, and the reason I believe that despite all the bad news we seem to be hearing about these days, the future of America remains bright.

Two year old law refores nation's welfare system

With all the scandals and all the partisan politics that seem to be coming out of Washington these days, it's sometimes good to hear about something that's gone right and something that actually seems to be working.

Take the welfare reform plan that was passed by Congress and signed into law by the president two years ago this coming summer. In addition to helping to reduce welfare rolls to their lowest level in over 25 years, it's also helped save the country millions of dollars by cutting some of the waste, fraud and abuse that had built up in the system over the years.

For example, prior to 1996, thousands of convicted criminals were applying for welfare benefits and then collecting a government check while sitting in prison. For some unknown reason, Washington had set up a system that left it up to the prisoners themselves to notify the government that they were no longer eligible for welfare. Only a federal bureaucrat would set up an honor system with a criminal and then trust that to do the right thing. The welfare reform law changed that by cracking down on this system and put an end to this abuse.

As a result, over half a million prisoners are no longer collecting a government check while sitting in jail. In terms of dollars, the House Ways and Means Committee recently estimated that this crackdown will save the nation over \$3 billion by the year 2002.

In terms of common sense, it might also go a long way towards helping people remember that Washington can do some good things for the country when it forgets about partisan politics and gets down to work.

Thought for today

"Those who would treat politics and morality apart will never understand the one or the other."

Viscount John Morley
On Compromise

New hire reporting mandatory

The Texas legislature has amended the Texas Employer New Hire Reporting program to comply with the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. This act is a core part of federal welfare reform. Beginning Oct. 1, 1998, Texas employers will be required to report all newly hired or rehired employees to a state database.

The Office of the Attorney General's Child Support Program, as well as other state and federal programs, will use this information to assist in the collection of child support. The information will also be used to detect and prevent fraud involving unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, Medicaid and food stamps.

The Child Support Program will be working in conjunction with other state agencies to inform employers of the new requirements for this program.

Texas has had a voluntary New Hire Reporting program in place since September 1993. Currently, there are more than 16,300 employers participating. However, with over 380,000 employers in the state of Texas, there is much work yet to be done.

On Oct. 1, 1998, all Texas employers will be required to report the name, address and social security number of every new employee within 20 days of the hiring date.

All New Hire information collected by the state will be transmitted to the National Directory of New hires, operated by the fed-



Dan Morales

Attorney general of the State of Texas

eral government. This National Directory will make it more difficult for parents who have not taken financial responsibility for their children to avoid statewide tracking systems.

The security of New Hire information is of utmost concern to all agencies involved in the implementation of this nationwide program. All data from the State Directory will be transmitted to the National Directory on secure and dedicated lines.

The assistance that employers provide to this program is invaluable. By following the requirements and meeting reporting deadlines, Texas employers will greatly assist in the location of non-custodial parents who owe child support.

Identifying a non-custodial parent's employer is essential if we are to execute a wage withholding order. Currently, our office receives more than 60 percent collected child support through this method. Also, location of non-custodial parents and collection of

past due child support will allow many families to reduce or eliminate their reliance on public assistance. The Texas Employer New Hire Reporting program is good for Texas children and Texas businesses.

Over the next several months, the Office of the Attorney General will provide Texas employers with an information packet containing brochures, reporting forms, electronic reporting specifications and answers to frequently asked question regarding the Texas Employer New Hire Reporting program.

In addition, employers will receive an informational flyer from the Texas Comptroller's Office and the Texas Work Force Commission in their quarterly tax package mailing. The Texas Employer New Hire Reporting program has made an article available for inclusion in various newsletters and publications from the Comptroller's Office, the Texas Work Force Commission and Chambers of Commerce throughout the state.

Employers can begin reporting their new hire information prior to the Oct. 1, 1998 start date. Those needing further information on beginning early, or on the program in general, can contact the Texas Employer New Hire Reporting Center Operation Center at Post Office Box 149224, Austin, TX 78714-9224. The Center can be reached by phone at (888) 839-4473 or fax at (800) 732-5015. The Web site address is www.TexasNewHire.state.tx.us and the e-mail address is txhires@flash.net.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 14, the 195th day of 1998. There are 170 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 14, 1789, during the French Revolution, citizens of Paris stormed the Bastille prison and released seven prisoners.

On this date:

In 1798, Congress passed the Sedition Act, making it a federal crime to publish false, scandalous or malicious writing about the U.S. government.

In 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry relayed to Japanese officials a letter from former President Fillmore, requesting trade relations.

In 1881, outlaw William H. Bonney Jr., alias "Billy the Kid," was killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett in Fort Sumner, N.M.

In 1933, all German political parties, except the Nazi Party, were outlawed.

In 1958, the army of Iraq overthrew the monarchy.

In 1965, the American space probe Mariner IV flew by Mars, sending back photographs of the planet.

In 1965, U.S. Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson Jr. died in London at age 65.

In 1966, eight student nurses were murdered by Richard Speck in a Chicago dormitory. He died in

prison in 1991, a day short of his 50th birthday.

In 1976, Jimmy Carter won the Democratic presidential nomination at the party's convention in New York.

In 1978, Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky was convicted of treasonous espionage and anti-Soviet agitation, and sentenced to 13 years at hard labor. He was released in 1986.

Ten years ago: Speaking before the U.N. Security Council, Iran's foreign minister, Ali-Akbar Velayati, denounced the U.S. downing of an Iranian jetliner as "a barbaric massacre." Vice President Bush replied that the

U.S.S. Vincennes had fired in self-defense.

Five years ago: President Clinton visited flood-stricken Iowa for the second time in 10 days, telling flood victims to "hang in there."

One year ago: The international war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia sentenced Dusan Tadic, a Bosnian Serb, to 20 years in prison for turning on his Muslim and Croat neighbors in a deadly campaign of terror and torture. O.J. Simpson's California mansion was auctioned off for \$2.6 million.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Gloria Stuart is 88. Animator William Hanna is 88.

The effects of screen violence ...

Charley Reese
 Syndicated columnist

James Bond movie, "Dr. No." It was the first film in which the hero killed an unarmed man in cold blood. It was also the first film in which the hero cracked a joke about killing a person. Unlike the Bond in the novels, who was more human and motivated by patriotism, the film Bond was and still is depicted as an amoral and cynical assassin.

Unfortunately, that became the pattern for the Hollywood action hero. The volume of killings increased tremendously, and many movies of that genre degenerated to the same formula: kill a man, crack a joke; kill a man, crack a joke. Thus the value of human life is degraded and the act of killing is shown as gratuitous, even funny. This is a deadly message to implant in the impressionable minds of children.

There is something you can do about it. The best choice is to dump the TV set. I know that's hard to do for sports fans and for public TV fans who are addicted to watching sea turtles lay eggs and hyenas scratch fleas.

The next best thing is to regard the television set as a hazard to mental health and control its

use accordingly. You wouldn't, I hope, hand your children over to some strangers standing on the street and say, "Entertain them for a couple of hours. I've got errands to run." Well, don't hand them over to the strangers in Hollywood and New York.

And complain about the violence and the vulgarity. Don't waste time writing to the networks or cable companies. The life support system of television is advertising. Write to the advertisers. Take note of their names. Any public library will have a directory that will give you the name of the chief executive officer and his address.

Just send him a note. "Sir, you are free to sponsor what you choose, but I am free to buy what products I choose, and as long as you choose to sponsor trash such as (whatever), I shall choose not to buy your products anymore."

Movies are even easier. Be careful what you buy tickets to see. And don't let your children play violent video games.

One often hears, as a political slogan, something like, "Let's take back the country." Politicians can't do that. Only the people can, as individuals, by making intelligent, moral choices in every aspect of their lives.

We don't need government to control the entertainment industry. Its customers can do that — if they have the will.

First offshore oil drilling in California in 14 years in the offing

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Never mind a presidential order or political rhetoric, plans are quietly under way by an obscure federal agency to allow new offshore oil drilling along California's coast for the first time in 14 years.

Despite a decidedly anti-drilling mood among coastal residents, the Minerals Management Service is working to let oil companies begin drilling on 39 undeveloped tracts off Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

While the Golden State has 1,000 miles of surf, sand and stunning panoramas, there are already 23 huge platforms dotting the horizon off Southern California.

Just the possibility of a resurgence in oil drilling has angered some residents. At best, it will be years before a new platform is built.

"They're ugly and they don't belong off this pristine shoreline," said Bill Daneen, a longtime resident of Nipomo, a coastal town in northern Santa Barbara County.

"If oil companies can't drill on land without making a mess, how can we expect them to do any better offshore?" he asked.

It was a 1969 crude oil spill in the Santa Barbara Channel that triggered the movement against offshore drilling after images were broadcast of oil-slicked birds and fish.

Then in 1989, experts discovered a leaking underground pipeline that spilled 400,000 gallons of gasoline, diesel fuel and crude oil onto the shores of Avila Beach, 75 miles north of Santa Barbara. Just last month, Unocal Corp. agreed to pay \$18 million to clean up the mess by tearing down the town.

During the 1980s, former California Rep. Leon Panetta helped get drilling bans attached to federal appropriations bills. By 1995, the state had imposed a permanent ban on offshore drilling within three miles of the coastline.

Last month, amid much hoopla, President Clinton signed an order against the scenic backdrop of Monterey Bay extending a federal ban on oil drilling off most of the U.S. coastline until 2012.

But the measures have no effect on those undeveloped oil leases off Southern California. Sold by the U.S. government in 1984 to companies at the rate of \$140,000 to \$350 million, the leases still hold legal options to drill. Also not touched by the measures are the 23 existing oil platforms.

So environmentalists remain in a fighting mood, bracing to stop, or at least control, what they view as an unseemly alliance between the federal government and big oil companies to introduce drilling on the undeveloped oil fields.

"It's outrageous," said Geof Land, an environmentalist from San Luis Obispo. "It doesn't make any sense. All different kinds of tourism dollars are threatened by offshore development. California needs a clean coastline. Developing off the coast undermines the economic base."

Offshore oil drilling has long been a hot-button issue in California politics, and this year is no different: Gov. Pete Wilson, a Republican, has urged Clinton to make his moratorium permanent, while Rep. Lois Capps, D-Santa Barbara and Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., have sponsored measures in Congress that would permanently ban offshore oil drilling.

At least one company that owns several of the undeveloped tracts off Santa Maria in Santa Barbara County, wants to submit a proposal for drilling.

"All along, we've wanted to do it," said Art Boehm, a spokesman for Nuevo Energy of Houston.

However, there are no immediate plans to start oil drilling again. The 20 or so oil and gas companies that hold the undeveloped leases, including Chevron, cannot drill until the Minerals Management Service, a branch of the Interior Department, finishes a \$1.5 million feasibility study.

The study should be finished by the end of the year, after which public hearings will be held. It could take another five years before any new drilling starts, said economist Fred White, who is overseeing the project.

"There's no secret project in the works for drilling along the coast," said Jeff Wilson, spokesman for the Western States Petroleum Association. "This is just 95 percent grandstanding and photo opportunities."

"All these politicians are stumbling all over themselves to make this a campaign issue when in reality, oil companies have been there, done that. They know the political will in California."

Thong-clad bikini protest to get underway today in downtown park in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — A city councilwoman's protest that cancelled a proposed bikini competition in a downtown park has triggered a protest rally.

Demonstrators wearing thongs — the bottom half of a bikini, but abbreviated in the rear to the width of a string — were expected to demonstrate today at City Hall to protest the actions of councilwoman Martha Wong.

"The First Amendment wasn't created to protect Mary Had a Little Lamb," protest organizer Adrian Sosa said Monday. "It was intended to protect the uncomfortable things, things that challenge the majority."

Ms. Wong called him on his cell phone, "and I was trying to explain to her the constitutional issues. Her biggest complaint was that I am doing this for the publicity," Sosa said.

"I am not denying it, I do have a business to run. But there is a larger issue of personal freedom at stake."

Sosa, who owns T-Backs & More, a swimwear shop, distributed thongs to each member of the Houston City Council, including a purple one for Mayor Lee Brown.

Sosa said the council shouldn't be trying to impose a dress code in city parks.

No one is formally proposing to impose such a ban, but Ms. Wong objected last week to plans for a thong bikini competition publicized at Eleanor Tinsley Park in connection with the Texas Freaknik event, July 18.

The Freaknik organizer agreed to cancel the competition although the city lacks any legal authority to prevent it.

The Texas Freaknik is a planned gathering of African-American fraternity and sorority members featuring live music and alcohol.

Council members, who were largely amused by their thongs, said they do not object to the planned protest.

"While I may not like what participants say and wear, I will be the first to defend their constitutional right to do it," said Councilman Orlando Sanchez.

Farm downturn prompts Democratic assault on GOP farm legislation

By CURT ANDERSON
AP Farm Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — With an eye firmly on the November elections, some Senate Democrats are mounting an assault on the Republican-sponsored "Freedom to Farm" law, blaming the 1996 act for declining farmer incomes amid falling crop prices.

"Our farmers are in the midst of a growing crisis," said Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa. "It is becoming evident that the 1996 farm bill is not up to the task of helping farmers survive these low commodity prices."

The two-year-old free-market law ended planting restrictions, but also will phase out Depression-era crop subsidies by 2002. It gave farmers more choice about what and when to plant, but also left them more exposed to the volatile world economy — and prices for such staples as corn, soybeans and wheat have dropped at least 30 percent since 1996.

The Asian financial crisis and a worldwide grain surplus are major factors. But Democrats, blaming the GOP law for the farmers' plight and suggesting ways the government can step in to help them, are planning a series of amendments to the annual agriculture spending bill this week.

It's a populist argument — big agriculture versus small farms, unfettered capitalism versus government intervention — that could have an impact in some rural races for the House, where Republicans cling to a precarious 11-seat edge.

"This is seen as one issue where the Democrats can leverage some people away from the Republicans," said David Rohde, a political science professor at Michigan State University. "Things are so fragile in the House. If the Republicans had a 60-vote margin, they probably wouldn't care."

Republicans aren't letting the charges from the other side of the aisle go unchallenged.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Dick Lugar, R-Ind., says the main job of government is to aggressively open foreign markets for U.S. farm products, to ensure that farmers have the ability to use commodity markets for locking in higher prices and to make available crop insurance available that protects incomes.

"I'm sad that there has been four years of bad weather and wheat rust, but that's farming," Lugar said of a particularly difficult situation in the Dakotas. "In this country, people have reached a threshold where subsidy payments and disaster payments are not popular. How could you justify such a naked transfer of money from one group in society to another?"

Democrats acknowledge many factors led to the downturn. The upper Midwest has suffered a series of natural disasters and repeated attacks of crop disease that have worsened the price problems. But they say the 1996 farm law removed the safety net that farmers used to count on.

"It's like cutting the minimum wage to one dollar and calling it 'Freedom to Work,'" said North Dakota Sen. Byron Dorgan, one of the Democrats leading the charge against the GOP.

In Nebraska, for example, the state Farmers Union chapter recently took Republican Rep. Bill Barrett and Sen. Chuck Hagel to task for supporting the 1996 law, contending it mainly serves big agribusinesses like Omaha-based ConAgra Inc. while hurting small farmers.

"We are asking farmers to get on the phone and call their public officials to make clear to them just how bad the growing crisis is," said John Hansen, president of Nebraska Farmers Union.

Among the major items these Democrats propose is lifting a cap imposed on marketing loans, which allow a farmer to hold onto a crop until prices rise, and extending the life of the loans from nine to 15 months.

The estimated six-year cost of at least \$3.6 billion is only one reason Republicans oppose the proposal, plus a \$500 million disaster aid plan and other Democratic ideas.

Instead, Republicans are focusing on clearing away nuclear sanctions that bar U.S. wheat trade with Pakistan. Some also support approving fast-track trade negotiating authority for President Clinton.

Republicans also point out that farmers who once got subsidies are getting dwindling but still substantial government transition payments. And they note that Congress last year approved a major disaster aid package after the Dakotas floods.



Katherine Hughes Local cancer group to host upcoming 'Skinny on Fats' program

Pampa Area Cancer Support Group will present "Skinny on Fats" by Katherine Hughes, nutritionist at the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, July 16 at Columbia Medical Center Cafeteria.

For individualized nutrition advice bring a written recipe for suggestions on turning it into a reduced fat food and/or a nutrition label which Hughes can analyze and interpret.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting and participants will exchange ideas and get better acquainted. Guests, friends and family members are welcome.

For more information, call Kathy Gist, moderator, at 665-4742 or Linda Norris, vice-moderator, at 665-2654. For a ride to the meeting, call Betty Whitson after 5 p.m. at 669-2198 or Linda Norris.

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Tuesday, July 14

Husband's Persistent Cough Is Constant Worry for Wife

DEAR ABBY: My husband is in his early 50s. Over the past five years, he has developed a cough that has the whole family concerned. (He doesn't smoke and never has.) We have encouraged him to seek medical care, but he adamantly refuses, saying, "It doesn't bother me."

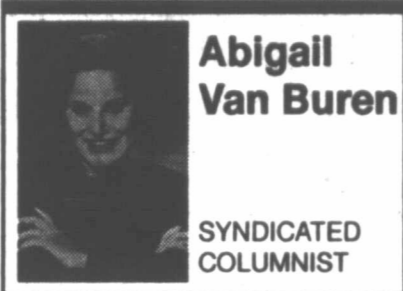
His family has a history of allergies, which may well be his problem; however, his refusal to get help is putting a strain on our relationship. He coughs his way through conversations, movies, television programs and radio. If he laughs, he coughs. If he eats, he coughs.

I have had asthma since childhood, but I rarely have an attack because I get regular medical care and faithfully take my medication. I know that if I coughed and choked as often as my husband does, I would be miserable.

My husband insists that the problem is mine, and if I loved him, I would accept him as he is and tune out his coughing. Is he right? It worries me.

WORRIED WIFE

DEAR WORRIED: Until you and your husband know there is no medical reason for his coughing, you have cause for concern. Make a deal with him. If he will go for a thorough physical exam and the results show nothing serious, you will try to tune out his coughing. Unless and until he consults a doctor to be sure he is in good health, continue to hound him.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest and amusement how the sounds of the ice-cream truck affected the woman in Seattle. I have a story that may help.

Abby, my father-in-law will be 96 on July 11, and I'm still learning about the beauty of life from him.

My husband and I spent a Sunday with my father-in-law recently. As I usually do, I wandered into his back yard to weed, pick fruit and enjoy nature. The music blaring from two or three houses away was so loud I had to shout to be heard. I thought it was annoying, obnoxious and very inconsiderate. I asked my father-in-law if the music bothered him. Then I noticed he was swaying to the beat. "Oh, no!" he replied. "It lets me know I'm alive." It's all in one's perspective.

My husband has a severe hearing loss from factory noise. He can no longer hear birds, crickets, bells or whistles. He would love to trade places and be able to hear ice-cream trucks or the subtle sounds of nature's music. As a person with

normal hearing, my first reaction to the loud music was annoyance, but perhaps I should be more like my husband and my father-in-law.

MRS. GALLEGOS
IN LONG BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR MRS. GALLEGOS: Your father-in-law practices a philosophy to which I have long adhered: "When life hands you a lemon, make lemonade." Good for him, and you as well for learning so quickly the lesson this wise man offered.

DEAR ABBY: I joined members of the International Brotherhood of Motorcycle Campers (IBMC) who gather from various states for camping and camaraderie. One weekend we camped at Chamberlain Lake in northeast Connecticut.

On Saturday, we made an ice-cream run to Traveler Restaurant, Route 84, Exit 74, Union, Conn. There, in a place of honor on the wall, was your photograph and letter. It was like: *Wow!* After reading your column for years, I felt like I was meeting an old friend. It made me proud of you.

JOSEPH E. HICSWA,
PASSAIC, N.J.

DEAR JOSEPH: How thoughtful of you to have written. Here's wishing you many more enjoyable ice-cream runs in the future.

to your ideas. You read a partner cold. Don't count on anyone's support but your own. Stress your independence. Tonight: In the limelight. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Listen to what your body and mind tell you. You don't have to blow your stack; talking about a problem makes a big difference in what happens. Give yourself more leeway. Someone who is at a distance presents a new perspective. Tonight: A friend surprises you. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

**** A friend lets you know what is going on with him. Do not hold back; opt for big changes. A loved one has different ideas, as you will soon see. One-to-one relating proves extremely successful. Talk about the different aspects of your association with a partner. Tonight: Try a new sport. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** While a boss fumes, take time to listen to a partner. Someone has unusual views about children and love. Don't buy into it; be a free thinker and make your own choices. A new flirtation builds. Tonight: Let someone else make the call. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Dig into work. It's OK to cancel a meeting or get-together. Listen to the feedback you get. Focus on your ability to transform situations and adjust. Concentrate on one item at a time. Your plate is full. Prioritize. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Someone is clear about where you stand. Listen carefully, and make

adjustments. Be direct with others. The unexpected occurs when you least expect it. Let your caring ways come out with a child or loved one. A relationship is building. Tonight: Laughter happens. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** Someone lets you know where he is coming from. You are stunned by his unusual bluntness. It took a lot for this person to express himself. Finances can swing to extremes; you feel like you are on a seesaw. Talks with a family member build security. Tonight: A favorite meal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
*** Keep communications alive, though your message and mood could change depending on whom you talk to. A co-worker pushes hard. Recognize that how you are feeling is affecting your work. Make an appointment for a long-overdue checkup. Tonight: Visit a friend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
** Unexpected insights could make you uncomfortable. Do your share of thinking, and listen to others, especially a child. A loved one who has been suppressing anger stuns you when he finally expresses it. Emphasize financial security. Instincts are right on. Tonight: It's your treat.

BORN TODAY
Former model Kim Alexis (1960), actress Lolita Davidovich (1961), singer Linda Ronstadt (1946)

Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1998
BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

**** Embrace your high energy. Express your deeper side to those who are closest to you. Change what you don't like, to make things work for you. The unexpected plays a substantial role in your decision-making process. A friend encourages you. Tonight: You're top dog.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
** You wake up with a jolt. You are not pleased by what goes on this morning. A boss surprises you once more, helping you turn a corner with a project. Trust what others offer. People have an odd way of pulling through for you. Tonight: Vanish!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
**** Financial matters force swift action. You can get lulled into thinking all is well. You'll make a major breakthrough. Consider different options, and be willing to do something new. A trip, seminar or discussion could open your eyes. Tonight: Where your friends are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** You tell someone off, even if you hadn't planned to. You cannot hold yourself back anymore. Be responsible at work. Others respond

Crossword Puzzle

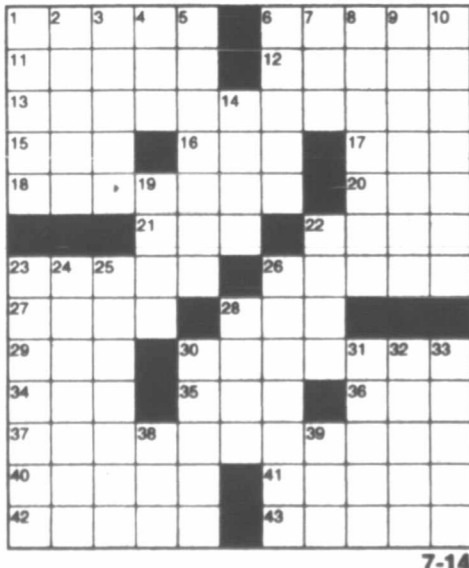
by THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Sent in a many
 - 1040
 - More
 - Nimble
 - Utah city
 - Some non-readers
 - Negating word
 - Bread choice
 - Termites' kin
 - Beyond what's needed
 - Boot part
 - Decent
 - Decant
 - Bayou native
 - Cavalry bases
 - Writer Oz
 - That girl
 - "Sprechen — Deutsch?"
 - Brandy cocktail
 - Folder feature
 - Wedding words
 - Epoch
 - Wipes out
 - Plant life
 - Make — in (show progress)
 - Not so
- DOWN**
- Swoon
 - Dome
 - Home
 - Happy tunes
 - Actor
 - Wallach
 - Get off the subway
 - Bender
 - Man-mouse
 - link
 - Shoulder muscle
 - Flatten
 - Lists of members
 - Soft hats
 - Secret
 - Indian
 - instrument
 - Skin
 - opening
 - Discard
 - Friendly
 - Ordinary
 - guy
 - Soft hats
 - Both

SINUS SOBS
CREST WARNS
ROWER AFOOT
ANT AIM NOR
MYSTIC PIZZA
ONE DEEP
INCAS CARDS
MARS OOH
PRETTY WOMAN
ERA ALA EGO
LAMBS RIDES
STEAK DRONE
ERRS SECTS

Yesterday's Answer

- "Jane —"
- In
- addition to
- Skin
- opening
- Discard
- Friendly
- Ordinary
- guy
- Soft hats
- Secret
- Indian
- instrument
- Skin
- opening
- Discard
- Friendly
- Ordinary
- guy
- Soft hats
- Both



Marmaduke



"Are you sitting on that stool or not?"

The Family Circus



"Well then, could I have a MOMsicle?"

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



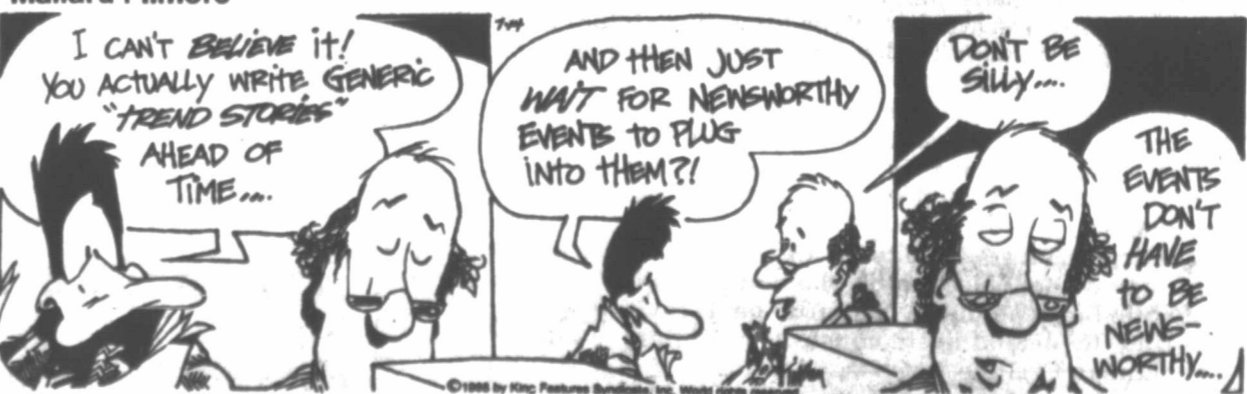
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



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IMF must rely on emergency funds to meet commitment to Russia

WASHINGTON (AP) — Battling global economic contagion from Asia to Latin America, the International Monetary Fund is showing the first signs of a cash squeeze. It wants to tap an emergency fund to meet its latest \$11 billion commitment to Russia.

Stanley Fischer, the IMF's deputy managing director, said Monday that senior officials from the United States and other major industrial nations have indicated they would approve a request to use an IMF emergency fund, called the General Agreement to Borrow, to provide some of the money for Russia.

The emergency fund was established in 1962 by the large industrial countries to provide a source of emergency financing for the IMF, particularly if the major industrial nations needed it or the IMF's ability to provide credit elsewhere was impaired.

It has been tapped only nine times since it was created, the last time in 1978 by the United States to shore up a sagging dollar, according to IMF officials. The largest contributors to the emergency fund are the United States, Germany and Japan.

The IMF move came as the White House and the State Department urged Congress to end months of delay and approve the Clinton administration's request for a new \$18 billion U.S. contribution to the IMF. The Senate approved the request in March and a House Appropriations Committee panel is expected to consider it Wednesday.

Administration officials have repeatedly argued that the 182-nation IMF's rescue packages promote global economic stability and enable countries that are markets for U.S. exports to recover from financial crises.

"The national interest clearly requires us to have an adequately funded IMF system so that, when problems occur around the world that affect the daily lives of the American people, ... the IMF is in a position to respond," State Department spokesman James Rubin said Monday.

The House panel may slice off \$3.5 billion of the administration request for quick approval. The other \$14.5 billion might be delayed until the fall, when the IMF holds its annual meeting and members of the 182-nation organization will presumably look at operation changes in the fund being demanded by U.S. lawmakers.

The IMF said Monday it will provide about \$11.2 billion in additional credit to Russia on top of an existing \$9.2 billion loan. Of the fresh credit, \$5.6 billion will be made available this year, said Michel Camdessus, the fund's managing director.

Fischer said the IMF wanted to use \$8.4 billion of the \$23 billion available in the emergency General Agreement to Borrow (GAB) fund for part of the payment to Russia.

Since the Asian financial crisis erupted last summer, the IMF has committed \$32 billion to help rescue Thailand, Indonesia and South Korea. And just last week, Indonesia said it needed \$4 billion to \$6 billion in additional help.

"We cannot continue this way," Fischer said. ... "The basic point is after these loans our liquidity ratio is below the level we feel comfortable with, even after drawing on the GAB."

Camdessus and other senior fund officials have warned they had only \$10 billion to \$15 billion left before having to take extraordinary measures such as tapping the emergency General Agreement to Borrow.

Critics in Congress have maintained the IMF has been crying wolf, citing the \$23 billion emergency fund and the multinational agency's \$26 billion in gold that could be used as collateral to borrow in global financial markets. In the past Germany, Japan and Italy have resisted any use of IMF gold reserves.

In the Clinton administration's request to Congress for new IMF funding, \$3.5 billion would go to a new emergency fund called the New Agreement to Borrow or NAB. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin proposed establishing the NAB after the 1994-1995 Mexican peso crisis. Rules for tapping it are less cumbersome than the General Agreement to Borrow.

Judge allows another delay for embezzlement trial

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Whitewater figure Susan McDougal was granted what a judge called the final delay in her trial on charges of embezzling \$150,000 from conductor Zubin Mehta and his wife.

Mrs. McDougal must appear for trial July 24 and there will be no further delays, Superior Court Judge Steven Suzukawa said Monday.

The case was delayed repeatedly while Mrs. McDougal served time in prison for contempt after refusing to testify before a grand jury probing the Whitewater land deal involving President Clinton and his wife.

Mrs. McDougal was not in court Monday as her attorney Mark Geragos asked for another delay on the basis that prosecutors belatedly turned over 1,000 new documents in the case last week.

Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey Semow sought a warrant for her arrest, which Suzukawa denied.

"She is absolutely anxious to get to trial," Geragos told reporters. "She wants to get this behind her, and I don't blame her. With all the other things going on in her life, I want to get this out of her hair."

Mrs. McDougal has pleaded innocent to charges including grand theft, check forgery, and fraudulent use of credit cards, dating back to 1989. She is accused of making unauthorized personal purchases and charging them to her employers.

Geragos said the newly disclosed documents include indications that other members of the Mehta's household staff wrote checks on Mrs. Mehta's account.

Mrs. McDougal was released from an Arkansas prison June 25 because of medical concerns about her spine. She had served 3 1/2 months of a two-year prison sentence for her 1996 fraud-related convictions in the Whitewater investigation.

Before beginning that sentence, she served 18 months on a civil contempt of court citation for refusing to answer questions before a Whitewater grand jury.

Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center to present 'Women in Touch'

AMARILLO — The Women's Center at the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center will present "Women in Touch," a monthly support group for women living with breast cancer. The "Women in Touch" support group will meet from 5:30-7 p.m. July 20 at the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Amphitheatre, 1500 Wallace Blvd.

The program in July will feature Ameika Mobley, MT-BC, director of the Activities/Music Therapist at the Ware Memorial Care Center in Amarillo. The presentation is entitled, "The Power of Music."

For more information please call Kathryn Hughes at the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, (806) 359-4673, ext. 283 or 1-800-274-4673.

Clinton administration wants more flexibility to deal with India, Pakistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration is seeking power to waive the sanctions it recently imposed on India and Pakistan, but says it won't use that authority unless it sees an easing of the arms race under way in South Asia.

"We need to engage both India and Pakistan," Karl F. Inderfurth, assistant Secretary of State for south Asian affairs, said Monday. At the same time, he said, "Countries don't like to be dictated to."

The Senate is expected to take up legislation soon that would waive the current sanctions for nine months, and then allow the president to waive them further with certifications that India and Pakistan are making progress.

"It's clear that our sanctions law is due for an overhaul. Not just as it applies to India and Pakistan, but as an instrument of foreign policy," said Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., a sponsor of that legislation and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on South Asian affairs.

"Our purpose is not to punish for punishment's sake, but to influ-

ence the behavior of both governments," Inderfurth told that panel at a hearing. "We do not wish for unnecessary harm to fall on the civilian populations of either country ... or on U.S. businesses."

Beyond the obvious fact that the threat of the sanctions did not keep either India nor Pakistan from conducting the tests, the penalties come at a particularly difficult time in light of the spreading Asian financial crisis, Inderfurth said.

India detonated a series of underground nuclear tests in May, saying it needed a nuclear deterrent because of security threats from China and Pakistan. Pakistan responded with its own tests.

The United States, Britain, Japan and some other industrialized nations imposed economic and military sanctions on both India and Pakistan and urged both countries to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The U.S. sanctions were automatic, required by law. The Senate voted 98-0 last week to exempt wheat and other food exports from them.

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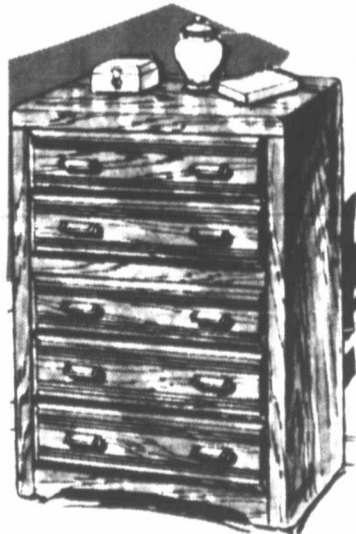
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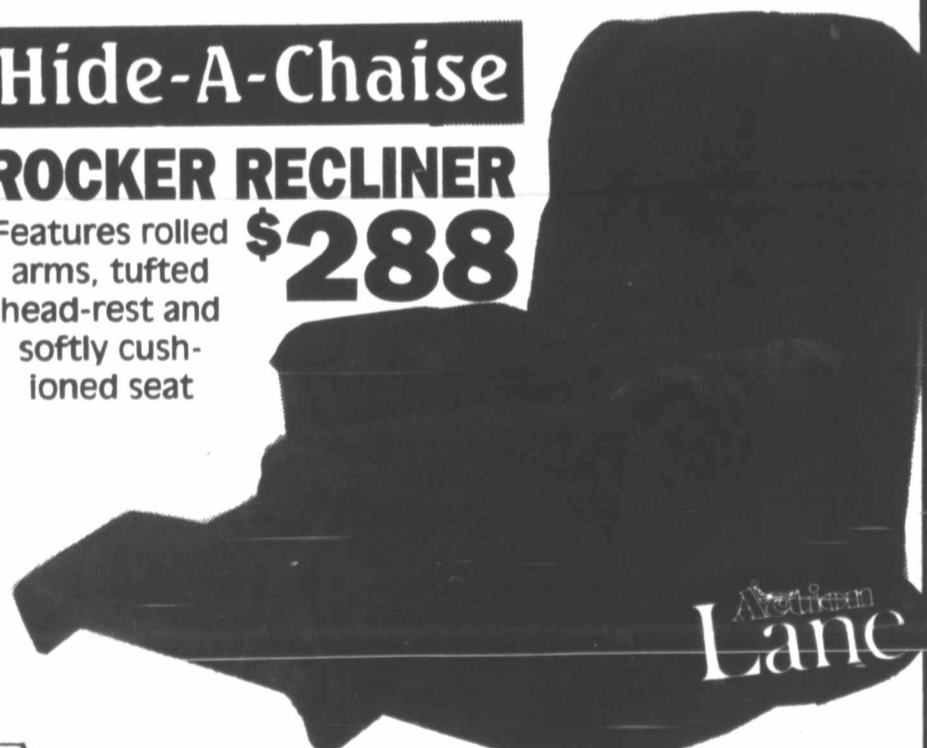
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