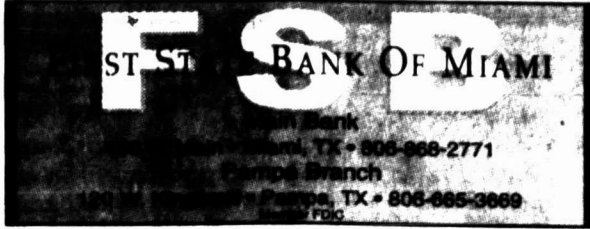


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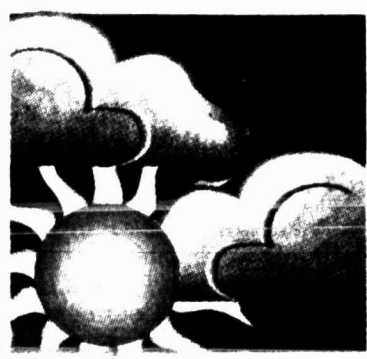
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Pampa

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High today near 80
Low tonight 50
For weather details see
Page 2.

PAMPA — The City of Pampa's Recreation Department will host its annual Children's Halloween Party Friday night at 5 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Prizes will be awarded to the best five costumes. All children attending will receive a bag of goodies.

PAMPA — Bob Carmichael and Art Skews will receive their 50-year Masonic service awards at 7:30 tonight at Top O' Texas Masonic Lodge No. 1381 AF&AM. Six others will get their 25-year awards.

AUSTIN (AP) — Some 22 million New York Times clippings dating to early this century and covering topics from the Titanic to the Vietnam War are finding a new home at the University of Texas.

The school announced Monday that its Center for American History is inheriting the Times' morgue, 2,500 boxes of clips that arrived in Austin on four tractor-trailer rigs.

It was a difficult decision for the newspaper to give up the morgue, but the company decided it didn't have the space or staff to preserve the clips, some of which are in fragile condition.

- Neil Andrew Langley, 64, retired farmer.
- George Albert McClure, 85, former employee of Cabot Corp. and Phillips Petroleum.
- Albert Davis Thompson, 86, retired grocer.
- Ruth Whiteley, 89, former church pianist, dead of women at Apostolic Faith Bible College.

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Emergency center getting new quarters

"This could probably survive a direct hit from a tornado and survive," said Pampa City Manager Bob Eskridge.

He was making reference to the old city jail area in the basement of city hall which is now being converted into a new home for the city's emergency communication and planning department.

The old jail space has not been in use since the city contracted with Gray County Jail for inmate detention.

Since the 1995 tornadoes, plans have been in the works to move the communications center (911 operators), and Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Hall's office along with emergency weather and communications equipment, to a more secure location.

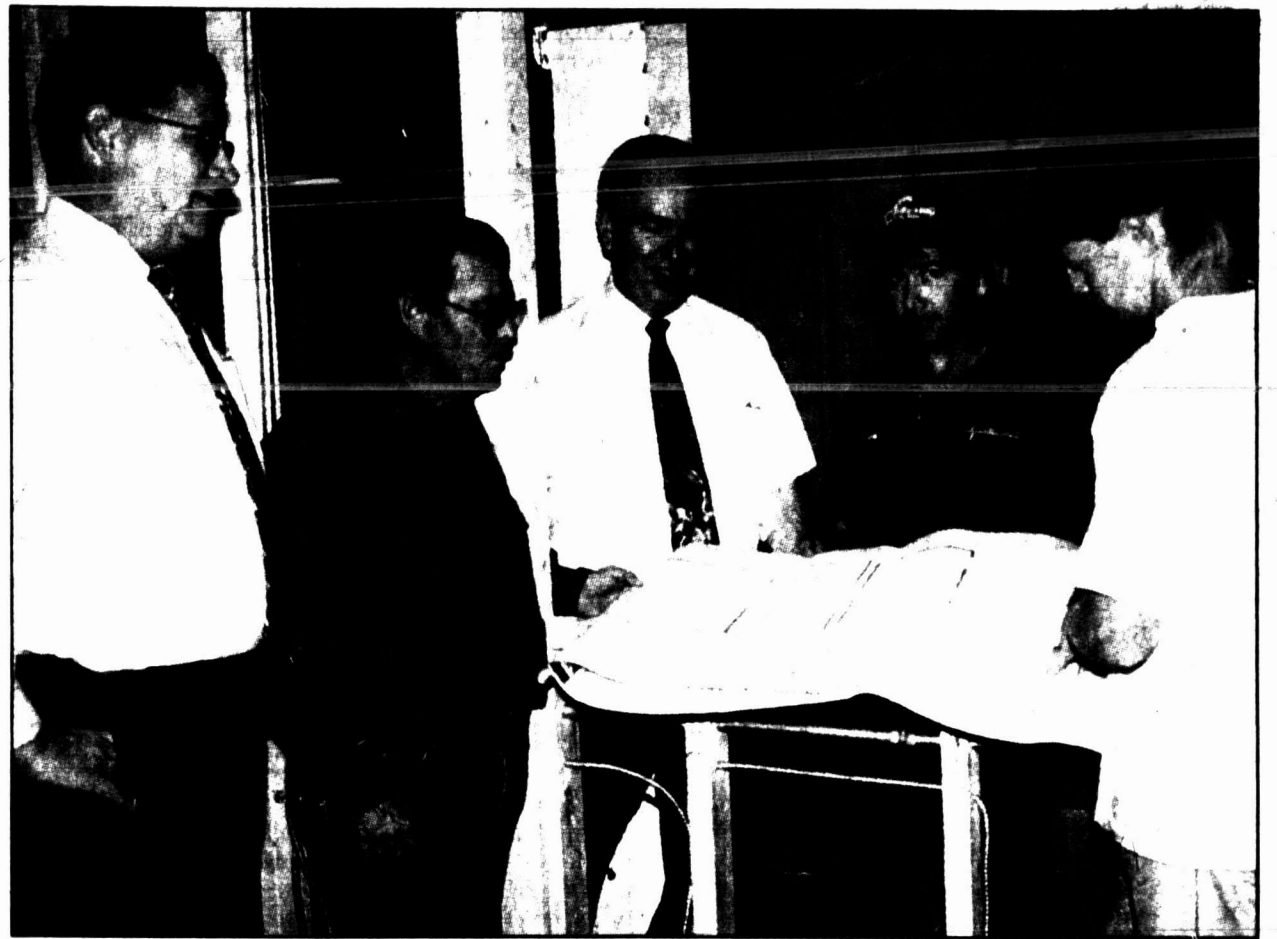
Besides answering the 911 phone, emergency communications center employees dispatch police and fire units and coordinate with other counties in emergency situations.

After the '95 tornadoes, city officials agreed it would be better to have emergency workers and equipment together rather than scattered throughout city hall.

Additionally, the basement location takes away the danger of having the emergency dispatch and 911 center above ground and near windows if a tornado struck. Also, new area will be connected to a generator that can be used if power is lost.

The new emergency center will also have a conference room where some two-man cells and a

(See EMERGENCY, Page 2)



Looking over the blueprints for the new emergency communications center are (from left) City Manager Bob Eskridge, Bill Shouse of H&S Heating, Emergency Coordinator Ken Hall, Floyd Hall and Shayne Hendrickson of Russell Electric.

She lives on... Family draws comfort from organ donation gifts

■ And as Ashlyn's family prepared for a funeral in Pampa, including buying a blue Nike shorts outfit (her favorite clothing) to bury her in, four jets flew into Amarillo to pick up the little girl's organs.

By KATE B. DICKSON
Associate Publisher

While each day since her daughter died is a difficult one, Shelli Brandt says she draws comfort in knowing that "...Ashlyn lives on in other people."

It was a little more than a month ago that 11-year-old Ashlyn Marcum Brandt suffered fatal injuries in a two-car crash near Fritch. And though she was belted in, Brandt says the force of the impact on Ashlyn's side fractured her skull and damaged her brain.

Everyone else involved in the Sept. 25 crash walked away from the accident including

Ashlyn's 9-year-old sister, Nikki, who had been sitting beside her.

The next afternoon, doctors in Amarillo declared Ashlyn brain dead. That was when a woman with LifeGift Organ Donation Center approached Brandt at the hospital about the possibility of donating her daughter's organs.

"I'd thought about organ donation before but I never thought it would happen to my family ... to one of my children," Brandt told *The Pampa News*.

It was little Nikki who spoke up when the family met with a minister and LifeGift, Brandt said. "She said, 'Whoever gets



Ashlyn Marcum Brandt

Sissy's heart would be very lucky."

With that, Brandt said the decision was made to donate the Pampa Middle School honor student's organs.

At 3 as Ashlyn's family prepared for a funeral in Pampa, including buying a blue Nike shorts outfit (her favorite clothing) to bury her in, four jets flew into Amarillo to pick up the little girl's organs.

(See GIFTS, Page 2)

Trial in clerk's beating delayed

A assault trial scheduled to begin today has been postponed probably until after the first of the year.

Dewayne Gordon Hickman, 30, was scheduled to go to trial for the assault of a convenience store clerk on Oct. 21, 1997. The attack happened at the Minute Mart 1106 Alcock, when a 45-year-old female clerk arrived at the store earlier than usual to open up. Police suspect she surprised a burglary in progress.

Yesterday afternoon defense attorney Harold Comer asked for a delay because an expert he had hired to examine some carpet fibers found at the crime scene could not be ready by this morning. District Attorney John Mann did not fight the motion saying the defense has the right to the witness.

District Judge M. Kent Sims granted the motion for a delay and suggested the next available date for the trial would be in January.

PHS marching band rated tops

"The UIL judges were unanimous in awarding the band a first division rating," according to Bruce Collins, the Pampa High School band director.

PHS marching band students came home from Amarillo with a top rating last week and are now making preparations for region, area, and all state try-outs, said Collins.

The band's high-ranking score was achieved in a presentation based on music sung and recorded by Frank Sinatra.

"Our goal was to perform a show that would seem new and fresh throughout the football season, and a show that would earn the respect and approval of the UIL contest judges," Collins said.

Although there are many upcoming individual-level competitions that band students will participate in, and numerous concerts to fill a busy schedule through May—it is the marching band that sets the standard for the year, he said.

Quite frankly... What time did you set your clocks back?



"At 9 p.m. Saturday night."

— E.W. Totty



"About 11 p.m. Saturday night"

— E.C. Meek



"11 p.m. Saturday night"

— Alfred Willson



"Just before I went to bed. About 11 p.m. Saturday night."

— Margaret Kroge



"I just got back from South Padre Island. I set my clocks there about 9 p.m. Saturday. Now I've got to set them here at home."

— Vic Raymond

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- admission requirements
- total expenses for an academic year
- financial aid
- various scholarship deadlines
- other helpful hints to the college bound

To find out more, write: Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation; GPM South Tower, Suite 200; 800 NW Loop 410; San Antonio, Texas 78216-5699, or visit the Internet web site at: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/scholars/mspmain.html>

Information available for Texas colleges and universities:

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| Angelo State Univ. | Jacksonville College | Ranger College | Texas Tech Univ. |
| Arkansas Baptist College | Jaycee Christian College | Rice Univ. | Texas Tech Univ. |
| Austin College | Kilgore College | Richard College | Texas Lutheran Univ. |
| Austin Community College | Kingwood College | Serra Houston State Univ. | Texas Southern Univ. |
| Baylor Univ. | Lamar Univ. | San Antonio College | Texas State Univ. |
| Blinn College | LeTourneau Univ. | San Jacinto College | Texas State Univ. |
| Brazosport College | Lon Morris Col. | Schreiner College | Texas Wesleyan Univ. |
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| Cedar Valley College | Midland College | Southwest Texas State Univ. | Tomball College |
| Central Texas College | Midwestern State Univ. | Southwestern Adventist College | Trinity Univ. |
| Cisco Junior College | Midwestern State Univ. | Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary | Trinity Valley Comm. Col. |
| Cleburne College | Montgomery College | St. Edward's Univ. | Tyler Junior College |
| Coastal Bend College | Mountain View College | St. Joseph's Univ. | Univ. of Central Texas |
| College of Saint Thomas | Navarro College | St. Philip's College | Univ. of Dallas |
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| College of the Mainland | North Texas State Univ. | St. Vincent's Univ. | Univ. of St. Thomas |
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| Concordia Univ. at Austin | Oak Ridge College | Sul Ross State Univ. | Univ. of the Incarnate Word |
| Dallas Baptist Univ. | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | Tarrant State Univ. | Vernon Regional Jr. Col. |
| DePaul College | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | Tarrant Co. Junior Col. | Victoria College |
| East Texas Baptist Univ. | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | Temple College | Wiley College |
| East Texas State Univ. | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | | |
| El Centro College | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | | |
| El Paso Community College | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | | |
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| Houston Community College System | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | | |
| | Our Lady of the Lake Univ. | | |

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation.

Randel Orchestra to open new season

AMARILLO — The Amarillo Symphony's Randel Orchestra will open its 1998-99 season with an 8 p.m. performance Nov. 6 at St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church. Music Director and Conductor James Setapen will lead the Chamber Orchestra and will be joined by three guest artists — violinist Corinne Stillwell, pianist Dr. James Rauscher and narrator Ilana Setapen.

The concert will showcase three works — "Elegy for Anne Frank" by Lucas Foss, the Vieuxtemps Concerto in A minor for Violin No. 5, Opus 37 and Beethoven's Symphony in B-flat major No. 4, Opus 60. "The concert will conclude with Beethoven's energetic and mercurial fourth symphony," said Conductor Setapen.

"The Symphony has many moments of humor and whimsy, as well as an extraordinarily lovely slow movement. We are per-

forming this work with Randel Chamber Orchestra because it is one of the Beethoven Symphonies that is on a smaller scale and written for a smaller orchestra, unlike the Fifth and the Ninth. Vieuxtemps is a romantic 19th century virtuoso violin concerto which will be played by our concertmaster, Corinne Stillwell."

Stillwell is the first violinist in the Harrington String Quartet and a member of the faculty at West Texas A&M University. She was born in New Jersey and entered the Juilliard School at the age of 10, where she earned her bachelor of music and master of music degrees. Her performances in the New York area include two Carnegie Recital Hall appearances and concerts with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. This is her second season with the Amarillo Symphony.

The concert begins with a work by American composer Lucas Foss. "This short piece captures the innocence of the young Anne Frank as well as the horror of her situation. Lucas Foss suggests that excerpts from Anne Frank's diaries can be read right before the close of the piece. The work also features pianist James Rauscher."

Dr. Rauscher is chairman of the Music Department at Amarillo College. He has been the featured piano soloist with the Symphony on four previous occasions and has soloed with the Randel Chamber Orchestra three times. The narrator will be Ilana Setapen, daughter of Conductor Setapen. Ilana is a student at Amarillo High School and is concertmaster of the Amarillo Symphony Youth Orchestra.

For more information, call the Symphony office at (806) 8782.

Albuquerque woman donates to PPHM

CANYON — Peggy Williamson of Albuquerque, N.M., has donated five works of art by four Taos artists to the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, as well as archival material on the Taos Art Colony. Among the donated objects are a Doel Reed aquatint, "Women Gathering Apples," Gisella Loeffler's painting, "Taos Indian Deer Dance," a Dorothy Brett pencil self-portrait, a Brett collage/poster for a Brett exhibition and Gene Kloss's etching, "Winter Roundup." Williamson also arranged for the transfer to the society of another Loeffler painting, "Black Pottery," one of the pieces not received from

Loeffler's bequest to the museum.

The two Loeffler pieces join nearly 300 pieces by her in the museum's collection including over 200 Loeffler letters given to the museum by Williamson in 1989. Both new pieces were part of the recent Loeffler exhibition at the museum.

The two new Brett pieces join two paintings by her already in the collection. Dorothy Brett accompanied the British writer D.H. Lawrence to Taos in the late 1920s and stayed.

The museum had no works by Doel Reed, the Oklahoma artist who summered at Taos and was best known for his aquatints. "Women Gathering Apples" dates from 1945 and is one of his best works.

Gene Kloss rarely used traditional Western subjects such as cowboys in her work. However, "Winter Roundup" is an exception. This etching joins 10 other Kloss works in the museum's collection and was part of the recent Kloss exhibition at the museum.

"Needless to say, this gift and transfer was a huge boost to our Taos collection, and it was extremely timely given our focus this year," said curator of art, Michael R. Grauer. "The Museum is very fortunate to have friends like Miss Williamson who feel that the Museum is the proper place for works of art like these," he added.

MD AAFP certified

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Dan C. Powell, M.D., of Pampa, recently completed continuing medical education requirements to retain Active membership in the American Academy of Family Physicians, the national association of family doctors.

AAFP members are required to complete a minimum of 150 hours of accredited continuing medical study every three years.

Dr. Powell has been an Active AAFP member since 1994. As a family physician, Dr. Powell is qualified to work in all major areas of health care and trained to treat patients of all ages for the vast majority of health problems.

Gray County Soil and Water Conservation office now accepting orders for seedlings

Gray County Soil and Water Conservation District is now accepting orders for tree seedlings. The conservation tree program is designed to offer tree seedlings at a nominal cost with the aim being to protect cropland, feedlots and buildings and to control erosion and enhance wildlife.

Several species will be available this year. The district will be offering potted conifers including Afghan Pine, Austrian Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Eastern Red Cedar, Rocky Mountain Juniper, Colorado Blue Spruce, White Pine, Scotch Pine and Pinon Pine.

Several species of bareroot hardwoods are also available including Caragana, Catalpa, Cotoneaster, Desert Willow, European Sage, Flameleaf Sumac, American Plum, Golden Willow, Green Ash, Hackberry, Honey Locust, Honeysuckle, Hybrid Cottonwood, Lacebark Elm, Lilac, Lombardy Poplar, Nanking Cherry, Native Plum, Russian Olive, Sandcherry, Sand Plum, Shumard Oak, Siberian Elm and Skunkbush Sumac.

Wildlife Packets will also be available. The packets include 25 seedlings each of four different species, and are designed to enhance quail and pheasant turkey, deer and squirrel populations.

orders is March 9. Anyone interested may obtain an order form at the GCSWCD office located in Gray County Courthouse Annex on East Frederic (Hwy 60) or by calling the district office at 665-1751.

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Antique Show slated this week in Amarillo CC

AMARILLO — Continental Shows, Ltd., will be presenting its Antique Show and Sale extravaganza Oct. 30-Nov. 1 at Amarillo Civic Center. Since dealers come from all around the country, visitors to the show are treated to a wide variety of antique merchandise.

Exhibits will include china, cut glass, art glass, majolica, Staffordshire, toys, folk art, furniture, pottery, quilts, textiles, country antiques, silver and gold pieces and jewelry. Art will be present in all categories and particularly in the form of oil paintings and prints. Old advertising items and typical collectibles will also be exhibited. Everything on display will be for sale.

Show hours will be from 12-8 p.m. Oct. 30, 12-7 p.m. Oct. 31 and 12-5 p.m. Nov. 1. Admission is \$3 and covers all three days of the show. Children are free with an adult.

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- Internship, University of Missouri - Columbia Hospital and Clinics, Columbia, Missouri
- Residency in General Surgery, University of Missouri - Columbia Hospital and Clinics, Columbia, Missouri
- Residency in Urology, University of Missouri - Columbia Hospital and Clinics, Columbia, Missouri
- Certified, American Board of Urology

Dr. Worthen, a native of Lawton, Oklahoma, established his practice in Borger on October 1, 1998.

As a specialist in adult and pediatric urology, Dr. Worthen treats patients of all ages who have infections, trauma, or diseases of the urinary tract. He works closely with the family physician, who may have been the one to recognize the urologic problem.

Frequently, a person who notices a change in urination patterns, bleeding or pain in the kidneys or bladder may seek the services of a urologist. In his practice, Dr. Worthen treats kidney stones, stones in the bladder, infections, incontinence, sexual dysfunction, prostate cancer, cystitis, urinary retention, bladder tumors and other malfunctions of the urinary system.

Dr. Worthen will treat patients Monday through Friday, by appointment. Call today for further information or to schedule an appointment.

CONTACT:

- Office located in GPCH's Specialty Physicians Clinic at 200 S. McGe.

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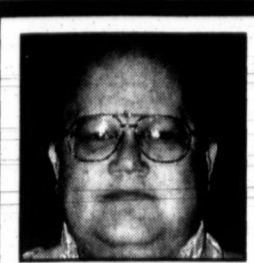
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It's truly great to be a guy



Jeff West
Pampa News staff

I have said before that I really love technology. If the technology involves computers, so much the better. But I am not a true computer geek. It seems I apparently have all the negative aspects of the true computer geek just none of the positive ones. For instance, while I love computers I can't program. I do fine programming my VCR or running programs someone else made. But I can't actually do anything with computers that might make me money, except type, slowly, and use the spell checker, a lot.

One of the other ways I am not a true computer geek is chat rooms, I just don't get them. Of course that could be because I hate chatting on the phone for more than the necessary time to get things done. But at least chatting on the phone is really chatting, chat rooms aren't chatting, they're typing, which is work. And chatting on the phone is normally with friends, or at least colleagues, or maybe people you have met some place.

Chat rooms are about strangers. Of course, I realize some people feel differently. Some people listen to talk radio. I've never understood why people will listen, agree, debate and talk about the opinions of someone they've never met and wouldn't speak to if they did. But that's another topic entirely, I digress.

While I don't like chat rooms, I do love e-mail.

Of course much of the e-mail I send is a single line or paragraph long but I like to get it. E-mail from friends and e-mailed newsletters. I like it because you can read an entire thought quickly rather than only as fast as the other person can type. And you can think about your response, or even if you want to send a response. While a love of e-mail will get you on some strange lists sometimes, even those can be fun once in a while.

I recently got one that I really liked called "100 reasons it's great to be a guy." I won't print them all here because the list is too long, parts aren't funny and some aren't family oriented, which come to think of it neither am I, being single and listing no dependents, but the paper is so we'll go with it.

Some of the best reasons I found on the list are:

1. "You don't have to lug around a bag of 'useful stuff' wherever you go."
 2. "You can go to the bathroom without a support group," which may be the reason for another reason it's great to be a guy.
 3. "Your bathroom lines are 80% shorter."
 4. "If something mechanical doesn't work, you can bash it with a hammer and throw it across the room." Strangely I've found only guys really understand this one.
 5. "Princess Di's death was almost just another obituary." So what was the deal anyway?
 6. "You needn't pretend you're 'freshening up' to go to the bathroom."
 7. "If you retain water, it's in a canteen." Of course you'll die years sooner but you still won't feel bloated.
 8. "You can admire Clint Eastwood without starving yourself to look like him."
 9. "One mood, all the time."
- There were other things, but these made me feel better.
- Be good to one another and be good to yourself.

Opinion

Planet population is not that scary

The so-called experts shouldn't try to frighten the public. Our planet's ecological balance may be spinning out of control, according to some environmental "experts."

They're not referring to global warming — the dubious theory that humanity's "addiction" to fossil fuels will eventually turn Minnesota into a tropical paradise. Rather, they're saying the Earth has reached a dangerous crossroads. According to news reports recently, somewhere in Peoria, Cape Town or Addis Ababa, a mother will (or already has) give birth to humanity's 6-billionth member, thus raising the specter of worldwide overpopulation.

To the Earth-has-its-limits crowd, surpassing this mark is a reminder that the human race marches toward oblivion. Human beings, they say, are having more children than the Earth can sustain. Ironically, the "solution" to overpopulation is the same as the solution to global warming (and to the coming ice age, the ozone hole, etc.): more government controls of the economy, more restrictions on individual freedom.

With a record-number of teenagers about to enter their prime child-bearing years, one population expert told Knight Ridder Newspapers that, "It should scare the hell out of most people."

Before Americans get too frightened, they should recall a little history. In the growth-conscious 1960s and 1970s, liberal political activists warned of mass starvation and ecological ruin as the Earth's population raced ever higher. Yet mass starvation never occurred, except in those nations where governments controlled the food supply. And ecological disasters occurred mainly where the authorities, rather than free markets, controlled the economy, such as in Eastern Europe.

In fact, the quality of life has improved remarkably for most people in most places — a point demonstrated by libertarian academics such as the late Julian Simon. He showed that human beings are a resource, not a scourge. And he proved that no one should fear the depletion of oil and other vital resources because human ingenuity is the most effective antidote to scarcity.

The force of such arguments, and the prosperity-caused slowing of population growth rates, put the population worriers on the defensive in the 1980s and 1990s. But any speck of "bad" news apparently is enough to set them off. So the 6-billionth birth has ignited the long-dormant anti-population growth movement.

Ultimately, policymakers have two choices. They can, in the words of another great debunker of environmental myths, the late Dixie Lee Ray, view population growth as a bad thing and try to "forcibly" keep world population down. Or they can let the market continue to find "better ways to feed and care for populations."

The latter approach is more effective and humane. That's why Americans must resist the population-controllers' dangerous notions.

—Odessa American



Today in history

By The Associated Press
 Today is Tuesday, Oct. 27, the 300th day of 1998. There are 65 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On Oct. 27, 1787, the first of the Federalist Papers, a series of essays calling for ratification of the U.S. Constitution, was published in a New York newspaper.

On this date:

- In 1795, the United States and Spain signed the Treaty of San Lorenzo (also known as "Pinckney's Treaty"), which provided for free navigation of the Mississippi River.
- In 1858, the 26th president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, was born in New York City.
- In 1880, Theodore Roosevelt married Alice Lee.
- In 1904, the first rapid transit subway, the IRT, opened in New York City.
- In 1914, author-poet Dylan Thomas was born in Swansea, Wales.
- In 1938, Du Pont announced a name for its new synthetic yarn: nylon.
- In 1947, "You Bet Your Life," starring Groucho Marx, premiered on ABC Radio. It later became a television show on NBC.

Union power relies on violence



Walter Williams
Syndicated columnist

During President Clinton's recent fund-raising trip to Philadelphia, protesters greeted him with placards displaying messages such as, "Resign or Get Impeached," and, "Liar, Pervert and National Shame."

Teamsters Union supporters weren't wild about what the protesters had to say about the president and Hillary, and a melee ensued where anti-Clinton protesters were punched, stomped and kicked. People are sometimes puzzled by union violence, but violence and intimidation are part and parcel of union power and easily understood with some basic economics.

Competition is always between either seller and buyer or seller and buyer. For example, if Ford (a seller) wants to gain monopoly power in order to charge higher prices and earn more profits, who does it pay to try to eliminate: General Motors and Honda (other sellers) or you and I (buyers)? If you said General Motors and Honda, go to the head of the class.

Similarly, unions are sellers of their members' labor services, so who does it pay them to try to eliminate? It's surely not employers. Employers are union customers; the greater the number of employers, the better off are union members. The union's struggle, like that of any other seller, is mainly against their competition — other workers.

Union rhetoric would have us believe their main struggle is against employers. They'd also have us believe that the strike is their main weapon in that struggle. That's nonsense. A

union's main weapon in their struggle for higher wages is their power to prevent employers from hiring other workers. Without that power, a strike would be little more than a mass resignation. A good example was the air-traffic controllers' strike during the Reagan administration. The strike failed because the union didn't have the power to prevent the Federal Aviation Administration from hiring other workers in their places.

A typical union method to eliminate competition is violence. Most often the victims of union violence are other workers. Here's just a small sampling. In 1990, the Amalgamated Council of Greyhound Local Unions struck Greyhound. Snipers shot at replacement drivers 52 times.

In 1987, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers struck an Anchorage Alaska utility plant. Nonstriking repairmen were routinely attacked and had their tires slashed. One employee had to move after union members threatened to rape and murder his wife. In

Ravenswood, W.V., the Ravenswood Aluminum Company locked out Steelworkers Local 5668 in November 1990. By April 1991, the company had reported more than 700 incidents of violence directed at replacement workers including, 2 attempted murders, 2 house bombings and shooting, 5 arsons, 29 assaults and 43 death threats.

According to an excellent report by David Kendrick, "Freedom From Union Violence," put out by the Washington-based Cato Institute, The National Institute for Labor Relations Research reported that since 1975 there have been 8,799 incidents of labor-union violence with only 258 convictions.

Labor unions prefer not using violence. They prefer to use government regulations to prevent the employment of workers who disagree with a striking union. If government eliminates their competition, union members don't risk imprisonment.

Anti-union violence laws are on the books, such as the Hobbs Act, as well as ordinary laws against criminal acts. There is also the Freedom From Union Violence Act, a measure recently introduced by Sen. Strom Thurmond. Laws have yet to stop union violence and intimidation simply because they're not enforced. That might explain the strong union support for Clinton.

His administration has stood in the way of enforcement of the Hobbs Act as well as the Supreme Court's Beck decision against unions using compulsory dues for political purposes.

Your representatives

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 Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
- U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry**
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 Washington Phone: (202) 224-5922
- U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm**
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 Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934
- Texas Gov. George W. Bush**
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No nation can survive cultural rot



Charley Reese
Syndicated columnist

I just finished visiting merry old England to see if it was still merry. It is, more or less, about the same as us.

What struck me, though, is that all the grand monuments and engineering feats stem from the politically incorrect days of the British empire.

So I wonder what monuments the welfare state will leave? Perhaps graffiti, litter, nose rings, Elton John's eyeglasses. It is as difficult to imagine anyone in the future wishing to read Prime Minister Tony Blair's speeches as it is anyone wishing to read Bill Clinton's. Blair, though, is a better leader and a better man than Clinton.

To cite just one example, while Clinton is scared to even mildly criticize Israel's government, Blair has said plainly, "I hope that Israel will also take action on the settlements in Jerusalem and the rest of the West Bank. The continued building of new settlements is illegal and in direct conflict with the principle of land for peace on which the whole peace process is built. It damages the confidence of ordinary Palestinians in the process and undermines Israel's credibility as a negotiating partner."

But that aside, I think we and our British cousins face the same problem. We, too, are a welfare state, and what will our monuments be? Graffiti, litter, nose rings, some rock star's house? And how can we inspire our children to aspire to more than being fans of sports and entertainment figures?

Generations of Americans, and I suspect, British, children are being taught to despise their own country's history and their own ancestors as racists, oppressors and imperialists. How does anyone expect that people believing that will make the sacrifices necessary to maintain a great nation?

You can already see the effect. If you had to single out one problem common to nearly all American politicians, it would be their unwillingness to do or say anything that might jeopardize their personal interests. That's why there are no real political leaders in America today. No one can lead and follow the polls at the same time, no one can lead and be deathly afraid of offending big contributors.

We have a situation in which government education, run by egalitarians, preaches self-hatred, thus destroying any hope of patriotism. Religion

has been reduced largely to a bland feel-goodism as if the only duty a believer has is to support the welfare state and to avoid offending anyone.

This is cultural rot, and no nation can survive cultural rot. The only institution in which people are still willing to sacrifice for the common good is the military; and how long can that be sustained if it must draw its people from a government education system that teaches self-hate? Eventually, we will be reduced to hiring mercenaries who will kill and brutalize anyone they are paid to kill.

I'm not optimistic, but if there is a solution to the problem of social gangrene, the first step must be to shoot the television set. It's difficult for any parent to compete with a multibillion-dollar persuasion industry employing some of the best creative talent in the world. Never underestimate the influence of this pervasive form of communication. It is very good at what it does. It can sell toothpaste and it can sell cultural rot.

The second step is to get the children out of the government educational system. It will never be reformed. Control of it will never be returned to local parents. It is an instrument of the state — state funded, state-staffed, state-controlled. It preaches the state religion, which at the time is secular egalitarianism.

That will not make for a merry England or a merry America.

Flight attendants mature along with industry attitudes

"No virile, outstanding, male climbed on board our jets and swept us off our feet. And let's face it, folks, that's what stewardessing is all about." — The Coffee Tea Or Me Girls' Round-The-World Diary, copyright 1970.

By KATIE FAIRBANK
AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Sherri Cappello's work uniform once consisted of a miniskirt with white plastic boots and little bows for her hair.

"We were hot stuff," said Ms. Cappello of her days as a stewardess for American Airlines.

Thirty-five years later, Ms. Cappello is one of many stewardesses — known today as flight attendants — who have seen maturing attitudes in society and at the airlines result in a maturing workforce of airline hostesses.

"My favorite line is a passenger will say, 'Flight attendants sure have changed.' And I say, 'How can we have changed? We're all the same people,'" laughs Ms. Cappello.

Many of the same women who fought to work past their 30s, fought to keep their jobs after they married, and fought to have children and stay employed, are still flying the friendly skies. Today, they have added retirement to their list of career goals.

It's a new wrinkle for a job that used to personify glamour in go-go boots.

Back in the heyday of air travel, the rules required that a "stew" was a woman, that she couldn't work past age 32 (or 36 depending on the airline), and that she would quit when she got married or had children.

"Things were different then in our society," said Denise Hedges, president of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, the union representing workers at American Airlines.

A stewardess had to be a certain weight, had to wear her hair a certain way, and had to agree to "girdle checks."

The concept of the job was that stewardesses would attract passengers for the airlines, while attracting eligible men for themselves.

As women began to struggle for equal rights, things started changing for society in general and for stewardesses specifically.

Age limits dissolved. The no-marriage rule was lifted in 1967. By 1970, stewardesses could be pregnant and keep their jobs. The airlines began hiring men to be stewards.

"I don't think a lot of people realized how much change was forged in the mid-60s through the 70s. Especially in the range of women's rights," said Ms. Hedges. "Much of the change was due to society's changes. Much was due to lawsuits."

Mary Kay Hanke, international vice president of the Association of Flight Attendants, said the struggles waged by flight attendants are indicative of society at large.

"Believe me, when they hired male pilots they didn't consider it a short career," said Ms. Hanke, who began flying in the '60s.

So, as the U.S. culture evolved, so did the people working the airlines' aisles.

The result is that many flight attendants today are much older than the once-mandated retirement age.

Details from the 1995 membership survey of the Association of Flight Attendants, which represents 43,000 workers from 27 different carriers.

— The survey shows that a growing number of flight attendants are making their job a lifetime career: 27 percent have been flying more than 20 years; 24 percent have flown 11-20 years; and 35 percent have flown 5-10 years.

— Most flight attendants are in their 30s and 40s: 37 percent are 31-40; 35 percent are 41-50; 20 percent are 20-30; and 8 percent are older than 51 years.

— 84 percent of flight attendants are women.

— 59 percent of flight attendants are married.

— 27 percent are single.

— 14 percent are widowed.

According to a survey taken in 1995 by the Association of Flight Attendants, 72 percent of flight attendants are in their 30s and 40s. Only 20 percent are aged 20-30, while 8 percent are more than 51 years old.

"What we are seeing is more and more flight attendants reaching the age where they would be eligible for benefits from their companies," said Ms. Hanke.

That means retirement is likely to be an important subject during contract negotiations, industry insiders agree.

United Airlines' flight attendants have listed retirement as their number one issue, and APFA says retirement is expected to be a major theme in recently opened contract negotiations with American Airlines.

That's because being a flight attendant is finally a career, rather than just a job.

"This is what we have been fighting for all of these years — just to have a career. That's what we want it to be. We're on there for safety, not beauty," said Ms. Cappello.

Many flight attendants have been flying for some time.

According to the survey of AFA's 43,000 members, 27 percent of all flight attendants have been flying for more than 20 years. Twenty-four percent have flown 11-20 years and 35 percent have flown 5-10 years.

Still, even with the graying of the flight attendant workforce, retirement is a relatively new issue for the airlines.

At American Airlines, which currently employs 20,000 flight attendants; only 110 people have ever retired from the job.

"I know to a lot of folks that number sounds low, but not when you look at the history of the flight attendant profession," said Karen Watson, a spokeswoman for Fort Worth, Texas-based American.

"Women left to marry and to have children and simply weren't at the job at retirement age. Those obstacles have been removed and flight attendants for the first time are retiring. It's a relatively new phenomena in that career," said Ms. Watson.

The low number of retirees is industry wide.

Continental Airlines, which has 7,600 flight attendants on the payroll, has seen only 36 retire. America West has only retired 21 flight attendants.

And AFA, which follows 27 different carriers, has only 617 retirees listed in its database.

"A little over 500 at United," Ms. Hanke said of the retiree list. "We've had only 70-some at U.S. Airways."

So, once again the older group of flight attendants are again leading the way — this time into retirement. While they forge forward, they say they try to remember that the battles they've already fought may likely be forgotten.

"We try to be astute to the fact that the new flight attendants will never understand what it was like in the old days," said Ms. Hedges. "We are aware that you can't get new people to appreciate what was secured for them before they stepped in."

There's more than one way...



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)

Pampa Police Officer Neil Sandlin directs traffic Monday at Hobart and Kentucky after the traffic lights failed.

Police: Man who tried to start house fire dies from burns

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — A man apparently bent on revenge tried to set a neighbor's house on fire, then died when his getaway truck burst into flames, authorities said.

Eldon "Sonny" Green died Sunday night at Tampa General Hospital.

Green, while driving his truck early Sunday, lighted a plastic bottle filled with gasoline and hurled it at the home of Joseph Carnesi, police said. He tried to drive away but crashed into a tree about 40 feet away, and the truck burst into flames.

Witnesses found Green's body engulfed in flames. "His entire body was on fire. It was awful," said neighbor Scott Rollins, who looked outside when he heard screams.

There had been animosity between Green and Carnesi for months, police said.

Carnesi was charged with sexual assault in June on a relative of Green's, but pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of battery, court records show. Since the case's settlement, Carnesi said Green and others had threatened him.

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Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 2:00
3rd Week
A Night At The Roxbury (PG-13)
Fri. & Sat. 7:15, 9:15 & 12:00
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:45
2nd Week
Bride of Chucky (R)
Fri. & Sat. 7:15, 9:15 & 12:00
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinee 1:45
1st Run
Rush Hour (R)
Fri. & Sat. 7:00 & 9:00
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:00
Sat. & Sun. Matinee 1:45

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CCT 27 1998

Investing Time With Youths Pays Off With Huge Returns

DEAR ABBY: In a recent column, both "Colleen in California" and "Giving Grandma" wrote eloquent letters about the rewards of spending time with their grandchildren, helping them connect with positive activities. They and other readers may be encouraged to know that research shows when caring adults become involved with young people in such ways, these youth are far less likely to use illegal drugs or alcohol, skip school or hit someone. They show more confidence in their school performance and are more likely to get along with their families.

Unfortunately, more and more young people share the problems of "Stressed Out," the teen-ager who appealed to you last June because he felt excluded from peer social activities because of his commitment to avoid alcohol. Important studies indicate that the increasing hours today's children and teens spend without adult supervision and structured activity are one of the major risk factors for early substance abuse, sexual experimentation and involvement in crime and violence.

The Department of Health and Human Services is issuing a national call to action to raise awareness about the connection between youth involved in positive, skill-building activities and reduced substance abuse. We want to increase the number of adults participating in fun, positive, challenging, structured activities with youth. "Your



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

"Time - Their Future" is a positive activities campaign that encourages individuals, membership-based organizations and corporate America to make modest investments of time and resources. It promises enormous returns in the health and well-being of today's children and tomorrow's families, communities and businesses.

Please, Abby, ask your readers to find out how they can put positive activities to work in the lives of young people by calling (800) 729-6686, or visiting the campaign's Web site: www.health.org/yourtime.

NELBA CHAVES, PH.D., ADMINISTRATOR, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

DEAR NELBA: I wish you the best of luck in this worthwhile effort. America's youth deserve to have more positive mentoring than a television set or a peer group between 3 and 7 p.m. daily. "Getting involved with kids" does not necessarily mean driving them 20 miles to some sports event. It can be as

simple as helping with a stamp collection, nature walks, baking cookies, or doing a homework assignment at the library.

You, my readers, are the most generous people in the world. Now I'm asking you to give again. Please pick up a phone today and volunteer your time. America's children need you. The slogan "Your Time - Their Future" is a recipe for saving our children. Get involved and assure our young people a safer, brighter tomorrow.

DEAR ABBY: Please help. I've kept a diary for most of my life. I am now 50 years old and I don't know what to do with it.

I had a son who died in a car wreck. He was my only child.

This has become a mental burden and I'm ready to carry the diary to my back yard and burn it. Any suggestions, Abby, before I start the bonfire?

TEMPTED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR TEMPTED: Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your son. If there is anything in your diary concerning your friends and relatives that could be hurtful or damaging, I urge you to destroy it. However, if it is just a record of your everyday activities, some family members might treasure it.

*** Listen to a partner. They have an unusual, less conservative perspective. Your professional life is changing; proceed in a new direction or take that seminar. A risk serves you. Make yourself more professionally desirable. Tonight: Discuss recent events leading to a key decision.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** Others are full of surprises right now, but you have learned to flow with their needs. Creativity remains high; you find ways to make others happy as well as pleasing yourself. Don't hesitate to let your charming ways play a role. A family member is tense. Tonight: Be easy-going.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

*** Your nerves are easily jangled. So much is on your plate. Come from your foundations in making a decision that affects your day-to-day life. Break past self-imposed restrictions; be willing to blaze a new trail. You might be making this harder than it is! Tonight: Soak away stress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** Allow greater creativity in your solutions. Sometimes you can be your own worst enemy. Finances feel crunched. Look at more effective methods of handling money. Perhaps building a crisis fund could work. A child stuns you with his or her actions. Tonight: Naughty and nice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** You are pressured by a personal matter and may not know which way to go. Ask questions and

have discussions. Security proves to be primary, though you might have to change your perspective. Decide what works for you and your basic needs. Tonight: Lie low.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** You come out of the gate bounding, ready for every curve. Listen to your instincts, and follow through on what you know to be correct. You are your own biggest critic - give yourself a break! You see where you need to change and you are transforming. Tonight: Hang in out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** Hold onto your hat when dealing with money. Once more, you have pulled the wild card. Trying to control the unpredictable doesn't work; using it to enhance your options does. Intuition tones in on the right direction. Tonight: Why not shop?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** You can be challenged by others, yet your sense of independence helps you through the bad times. You are personality-plus; little will stop you as you focus on a key goal. Friendship motivates you to change your plans. Make time for an important meeting. Tonight: It is your call.

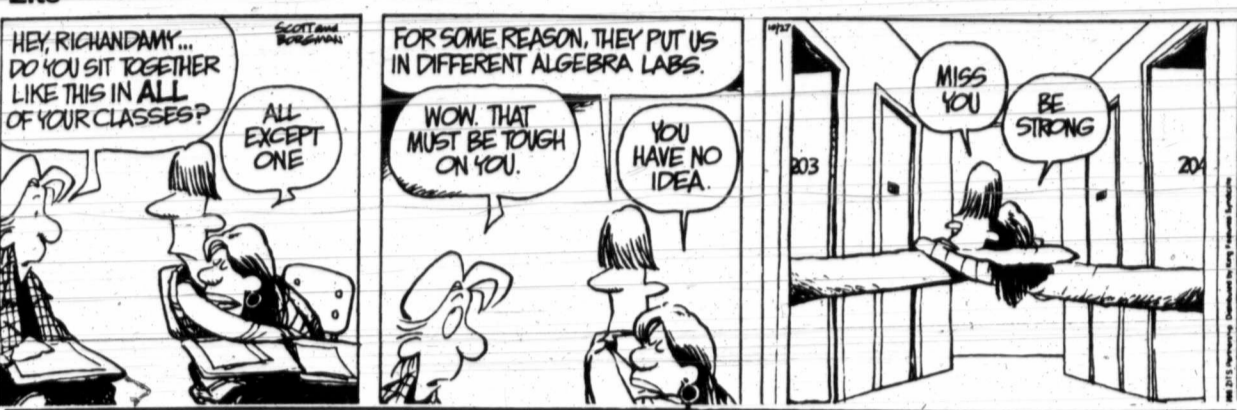
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Not everyone agrees with your perspective, though you could have a hard time seeing another's point of view. You get unexpected insight through a discussion with a parent or a boss. Work with a change in plans. Tonight: Do something uniquely for you.

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



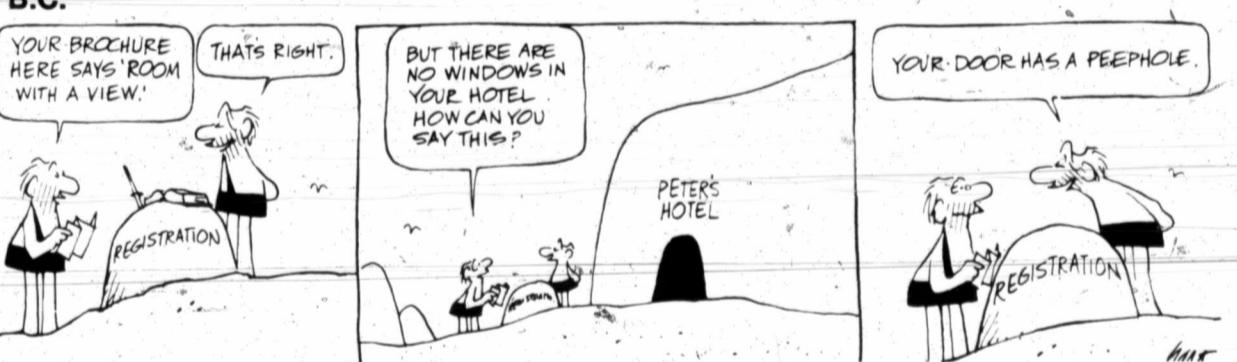
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



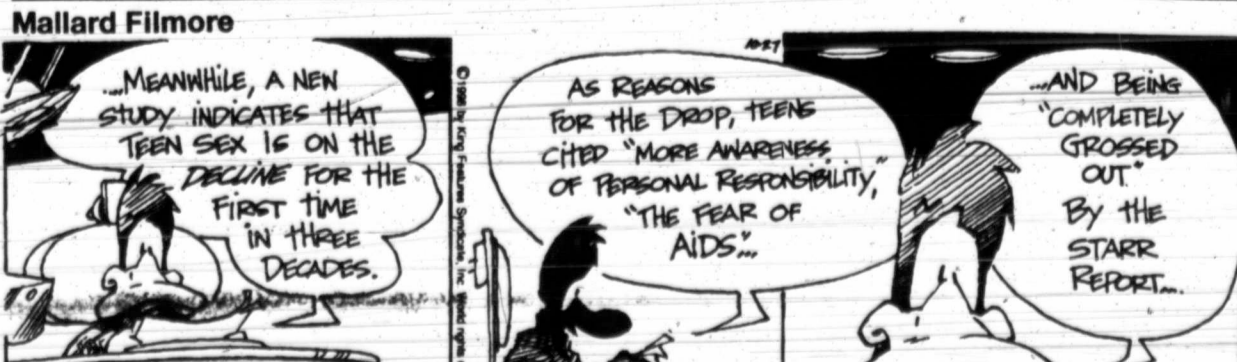
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28, 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)

*** Though you might wake up on the wrong side of the bed, you manage to get certain problems under control quickly. Readjusting plans and knocking out a misconception is key. A meeting poses surprises. Run with the ball when it is tossed to you. Tonight: Where your friends are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** You might not always understand where a boss is coming from, but today you are particularly challenged to make a difference. Others certainly push your buttons, though you know how to mobilize a partner. Get the support you need. Work with spontaneity. Tonight: Working late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

*** Reach out for others, despite concern over your ability to handle more pressure. Surprises present themselves. Intuition helps you deal with others, especially when combined with an ability to view the big picture. Rely on your superb mental capacity. Tonight: Try a new cuisine.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

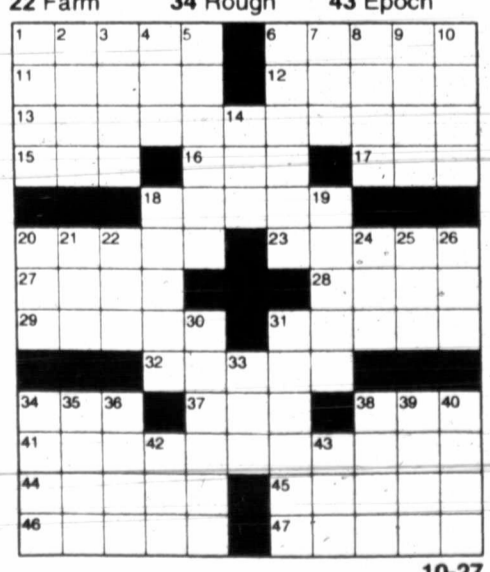
by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Appear suddenly
- 6 Custom
- 11 Exploit
- 12 Without help
- 13 Pizzeria need
- 15 Vast expanse
- 16 Scoundrel
- 17 Light brown
- 18 Deck extra
- 20 Himalayan land
- 23 Like Thor and Odin
- 27 Dry
- 28 "Heart and"
- 29 Called to the phone
- 31 Sparkler
- 32 Thin coins
- 34 Workout site
- 37 Tub
- 38 Storage place
- 41 Seafood-restaurant need
- 44 Little green man, e.g.
- 45 Wading bird
- 46 Chili ingredients
- 47 Takes care of

DOWN

- 1 Butter servings
- 2 One of the woodwinds
- 3 Cougar
- 4 "Born in the"
- 5 Gasoline, to a Brit
- 6 Hurry up
- 7 In the style of
- 8 Ring contest
- 9 Cuzco native
- 10 Adolescent
- 14 Sturdy tree
- 18 Blase
- 19 Thorny blooms
- 20 Siesta
- 21 Historic time
- 22 Farm
- 24 Use oars
- 25 Take to court
- 26 Building wing
- 30 Backless sofas
- 31 Wealthy travelers
- 33 Damage base
- 34 Rough
- 35 Ashen
- 36 La Scala song
- 38 Singe
- 39 Like summer tea
- 40 Jersey cagers
- 42 Decimal base
- 43 Epoch



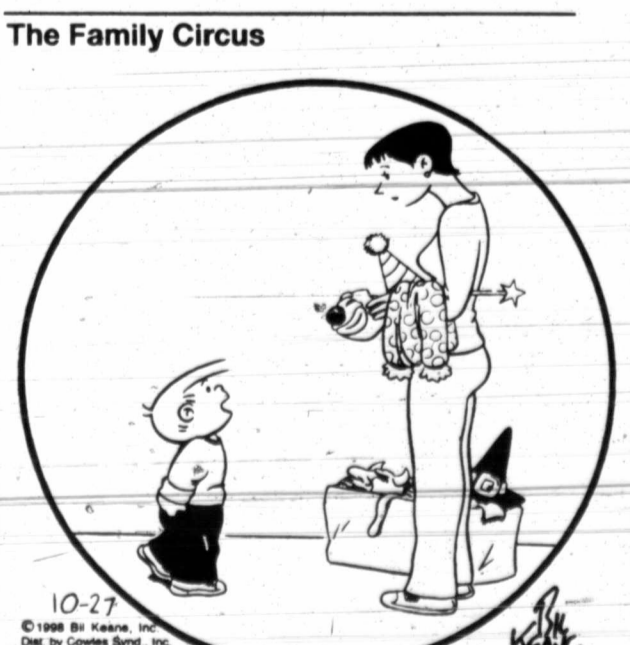
10-27

Marmaduke



"Find another window to woof at your girlfriend."

The Family Circus



"I'm gonna be a doctor for Halloween. Could you buy me a beeper?"

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.

Steelers down Chiefs, 20-13

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs were ready for Jerome Bettis and Kordell Stewart. They didn't count on Lance Brown, Fred McAfee, Hines Ward and Josh Miller.

But that's what they got as Bettis, Stewart and their four unsung teammates led the Pittsburgh Steelers to a 20-13 victory over the Chiefs on Monday night.

Bettis rumbled for 119 yards on 33 carries and Stewart threw a 5-yard TD pass to Charles Johnson with 10:05 left in the game for the winning score. But it would have been futile without contributions from the others.

The win left Pittsburgh (5-2) in a tie with Jacksonville for first place in the AFC Central, while Kansas City (4-3) fell three games behind Denver and a game behind Oakland in the AFC West.

The Chiefs certainly didn't help themselves. On their second possession, fullback Tony Richardson, wide open in the end zone, fell as Elvis Grbac threw what appeared to be a TD pass and the Chiefs had to settle for a 20-yard field goal by Pete Stoyanovich.

Aguiar, who had never had a punt blocked in 587 previous attempts as a pro, never had a chance. Brown broke through and blocked it and McAfee fell on it among a swarm of Steelers that gave Pittsburgh a 7-0 lead less than five minutes into the game.

The Chiefs moved well between the 20s on their next two drives, but had to settle for field goals of 20 and 28 yards by Stoyanovich.

The Steelers added a 34-yarder by Johnson to make it 10-6 at halftime after a 65-yard drive on which McAfee ran three times for 36 yards. Johnson's 22-yarder with 5:30 left in the third quarter made it 13-6.

Los Angeles, Houston vie for next NFL expansion spot

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Los Angeles has the celebrities and Houston has the cash. Two cities deserted by a total of three teams in the mid-'90s are ready to make their formal bids to become the NFL's 32nd team.

Two groups from Los Angeles and a third from Houston go before the owners today. One of the LA groups, headed by former Hollywood agent Michael Ovitz has Jerry West, Magic Johnson and Shaquille O'Neal in its group, bidding to build a new stadium about 12 miles from downtown Los Angeles.

The NFL goes to 31 teams next year when the Cleveland Browns rejoin the league, replacing the franchise that Art Modell moved to Baltimore after the 1995 season. But that will leave an odd number of teams, meaning someone will have to get a bye every week of the season, including the first week and the last.

Rockets as its general manager. It has plans for a retractable roof stadium, to be built in the parking lot of the Houston Astrodome. And while commissioner Paul Tagliabue has said all along he'd like Los Angeles back, he also has close ties to McNair.

Colorado goalie continues to struggle

DENVER (AP) — What's wrong with the Colorado Avalanche and goalie Patrick Roy? The questions got more insistent after Roy and the Avalanche lost 5-1 to the Phoenix Coyotes on Monday night.

Waite is going to bounce back," Waite said. "He's so good that he can't play like this all the time." In the only other NHL game, Pittsburgh beat Toronto 2-0.

"I don't want to take any credit away from us, but it is a great opportunity when they are missing Sandis Ozolinch and Adam Foote, their two best defensemen," Tkachuk said. "We knew they were missing those defensemen and knew we had to get after their defense."

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|--|-------|-----|
| District 3-4A Standings (through Oct. 9) | | |
| Team | Dist. | All |
| Borger | 3-0 | 7-1 |
| Pampa | 2-1 | 6-2 |
| Hereford | 2-1 | 6-2 |
| Dumas | 1-2 | 2-7 |
| Palo Duro | 1-2 | 1-7 |
| Caprock | 0-3 | 0-8 |

| National Football League | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| By The Associated Press | | |
| Team | W | L |
| AFC East | 4 | 3 |
| AFC Central | 4 | 3 |
| AFC North | 4 | 3 |
| AFC South | 4 | 3 |
| NFL | 4 | 3 |

| National Hockey League | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| By The Associated Press | | |
| Team | W | L |
| AFC East | 4 | 3 |
| AFC Central | 4 | 3 |
| AFC North | 4 | 3 |
| AFC South | 4 | 3 |
| NFL | 4 | 3 |

| Basketball | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| By The Associated Press | | |
| Team | W | L |
| AFC East | 4 | 3 |
| AFC Central | 4 | 3 |
| AFC North | 4 | 3 |
| AFC South | 4 | 3 |
| NFL | 4 | 3 |

TRANSACTIONS
Monday's Sports Transactions
By The Associated Press

BASEBALL
American League
BOSTON RED SOX—Exercised their 1999 contract option on RHP Jim Corsi. Declined to exercise their 1999 contract option on LHP Steve Avery.

BASEBALL
National League
CHICAGO CUBS—Promoted Ed Lynch from general manager to vice president-general manager. Named David Wilder assistant general manager, Jim Hendry director of player development and scouting, Scott Dierker director of baseball operations, and John Stockstill coordinator of scouting.

BASEBALL
National Basketball Association
PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS—Promoted Mark Warkentin from director of scouting to assistant general manager. Named Herb Luvsey scout.

BASEBALL
Football
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Claimed DB Rod Smith off waivers from the Carolina Panthers. Waived DB Juan Bolden.

BASEBALL
Baseball
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Named Tim Conroy general manager.

Williams, Brown file for free agency

NEW YORK (AP) — On the day Mike Piazza got baseball's biggest contract, Bernie Williams made the first move toward what might be an even larger deal.

Less than a week after helping the New York Yankees win their second World Series title in three seasons, the AL batting champion filed for free agency Monday.

Williams, who turned 30 last month, wants a seven-year contract with a no-trade clause. The Yankees have been reluctant to give him a deal longer than five years, but Piazza's \$91 million, seven-year contract, which formally was announced Monday by the New York Mets, might change the market.

"We now know what a premium player is worth when negotiating with one team," said Williams' agent, Scott Boras. "As what a premium player is worth when negotiating with multiple teams, that's yet to be defined."

Williams, cited by many as the glue that kept the Yankees clubhouse together, hit .339 last season, with 26 homers and 97 RBIs despite missing five weeks with a sprained right knee.

"I think I'll get a chance to stay," Williams told the crowd at the Yankees victory parade Friday.

Then he motioned toward Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, who was sitting nearby. "You've got to talk to this guy right here," Williams said.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman told Boras again on Monday that re-signing Williams was the team's top priority, but Boras said he wants to test the market first.

Piazza, traded to the Mets in May, will average \$13 million a season under his contract, topping the \$12.5 million average pitcher Pedro Martinez is getting from the \$75 million, six-year deal he agreed to with Boston last December.

"The Mets showed incredible commitment to me," the six-time All-Star catcher said. "If I'm so fortunate as to go into the Hall of Fame someday, it definitely will be in a Mets uniform."

Mets general manager Steve Phillips is expected to make his next move Wednesday, re-signing pitcher Al Leiter to a \$32 million four-year deal.

Williams' Yankees teammate, Tim Lincecum, also filed for free agency Monday, as did three players from the NL champion San Diego Padres: pitcher Kevin Brown and outfielders Steve Finley and John Vander Wal.

Boras also is represented by Boras, who also spoke with San Diego general manager Kevin Towers. The pitcher — like Leiter a victim of Florida's payroll purge, went 18-7 for the Padres and wants a five-year contract.

Towers said Monday the Padres could sign one of their top free agent-eligible players before the Nov. 3 vote on a downtown ballpark.

It could be first baseman Wally Joyner, who has indicated that he would like to finish his career in San Diego. Although eligible, he has yet to file for free agency.

"I'd say we're moving in the right direction," said Joyner's agent, Barry Axelrod.

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More of Gates videotape to be played during Microsoft trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill Gates has yet to step foot at the antitrust trial involving his Microsoft corporation — and he probably never will — but his boyish face has lent a weighty presence in the courtroom.

Parts of a taped deposition Gates made last summer were to be played today in the government's antitrust case against the software giant. Like other evidence presented in the case, the clips were to be made available to the media.

That means repeat broadcasts on television stations to millions of viewers — much to the chagrin of Microsoft, which says the clips are part of the government attempt to "demonize Bill Gates."

The excerpts were to be played after Microsoft and government attorneys finished questioning Netscape Chief Executive Officer James Barksdale, who returned to court Monday for a fourth day of meticulous cross-examination.

Barksdale was confronted with a damaging message from one of his own employees. Written by Netscape employee Darin May, the August 1996 note ridiculed the company's Internet software as "faster than a dog with no legs. If the dog's up to its waist in treacle. And dead."

May also criticized the company as offering "vaporware

announcements and outright lies" and promising an obsolete and bug-ridden software product.

The note was distributed on Netscape's informal "bad attitude" and "really bad attitude" forums, where workers have griped about everything from cafeteria food to product marketing.

Microsoft offered the message to support its claims that business failures by Netscape Communications Corp. were largely Netscape's own fault.

Barksdale testified that the messages were written by "an internal group of people who, I guess, complain about their company."

He acknowledged earlier that some employees disagreed with corporate decisions: "Not all of them (Netscape employees) have taken the uniform position that the sun is going to come up tomorrow."

Barksdale also was challenged about Netscape's claim that Microsoft illegally wielded its influence to win exclusive deals to distribute its Internet software with America Online, the nation's largest Internet provider.

In 1996, AOL decided to distribute Microsoft's browser over Netscape's because it was technically superior, said Microsoft lawyer John Warden.

But Barksdale said Microsoft won the important contract because it agreed to include AOL's own software as part of its Windows 95 operating system, used by tens of millions of people.

"AOL told me that was worth a lot of money to them," Barksdale testified Monday, his fourth day on the stand.

Just blocks away at the National Press Club, AOL Chairman Steve Case seemed to back up Barksdale's testimony.

"Certainly the factor that tilted it in favor of Microsoft was their willingness to bundle our software with their operating system," Case said during a speech. But he also said that Microsoft never twisted his company's arm to convince AOL to pick its Internet browser over Netscape's.

The Justice Department contends that Microsoft illegally used its influence as the maker of the dominant Windows operating systems — the central nervous system crucial to most personal computers — to defend its monopoly and try to extend into new markets, such as Internet software.

Justice officials plan to play about eight of the 20 hours of Gates' deposition, which was taken in August at Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond, Wash.

Schroeder takes office as German chancellor

BONN, Germany (AP) — Gerhard Schroeder, elected last month on a platform of change, was confirmed today as Germany's new chancellor.

Parliament formally elected the 54-year-old Social Democrat by a vote of 351-287, with 27 abstentions. He was to be sworn in later today as postwar Germany's seventh chancellor.

Schroeder stood up as the vote was announced and embraced Social Democratic party leader Oskar Lafontaine, who sat at his side. Outgoing Chancellor Helmut Kohl walked up to Schroeder and shook his hand, then turned and walked away, showing no emotion.

Schroeder and his Social Democrats have sealed an alliance with the environmentalist Greens party to guide Germany through shifts in economic policy, the gov-

ernment's move to Berlin next year and the introduction of a common European currency on Jan. 1.

With some 4 million Germans out of work, both parties have declared the fight against unemployment to be their No. 1 goal.

Schroeder has also agreed to work toward shutting down nuclear power plants and to raise energy taxes, though his pledges

fall short of Greens party goals. Other plans include allowing more foreigners to become Germans, which is seen as a way to promote integration.

After announcing the vote to cheers and applause in parliament, the legislature's president, Wolfgang Thierse, wished Schroeder "strength and much success for our country."

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