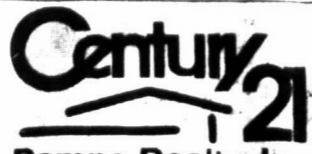


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For weather details see Page 2

Senior 2001 T-shirts ready

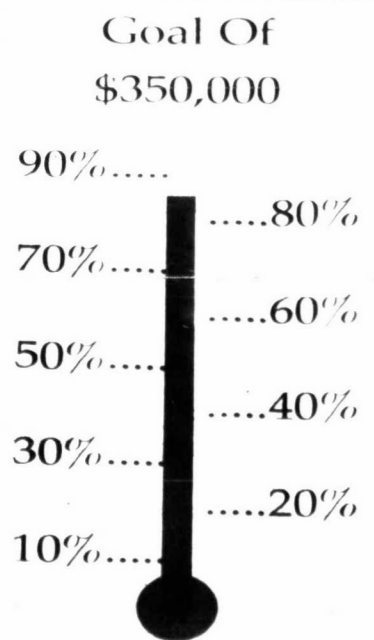
PAMPA — The Senior 2001 T-shirts have arrived and will be distributed before school and during lunch Wednesday at the high school. For more information, call 665-2067.

ACT I season opener readied

PAMPA — ACT I Community Theater will present its first play of the season, "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," by John Bishop, Nov. 9-11 and Nov. 16-18 at the theater, west entrance, in the Pampa Mall. The dinner theater begins at 6:30 p.m. with the meal catered by Clint and Sons. The show follows at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for the dinner and \$7.50 for the play. For reservations, call 662-3266.

- Gladys Jane Dinelli, 84, was in the retail clothing business for many years.
- Dorothy Jean Morris, 70, former tax office and Radcliff Supply employee.
- Rosie Ontiveros, 53, homemaker.
- Reba L. Philips, 80, homemaker.

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Baby death jury could be seated this afternoon

AMARILLO — Defense attorney Bill McKinney was questioning prospective jurors in the Potter County Courthouse at noon today in the capital murder case of a Canadian man accused of killing his girlfriend's small son.

Leland Milburn, 23, of Canadian, is accused of beating to death two-year-old Brendan Tyler Brown in May, 1999, at the apartment he shared with the boy's mother.

Jury selection is expected to continue through most of this afternoon.

Both McKinney and District Attorney John Mann said this morning that they expected to have a jury selected this afternoon from the Potter County jury panel of almost 120.

The trial was moved to Amarillo from Canadian on a change of venue.

Mann said he thought the jury would be picked by about 4 p.m. today.

"It's taking longer than I thought it would," said McKinney, a Pampa native.

(See BABY, Page 2)

Chief: Sisters tell fib about shooting

A little girl reportedly injured in a drive-by shooting at her home in the 1600 block of North Zimmers late Monday turned out to be hurt in a fight with her bigger sister, Pampa police said today.

Pampa police officers, Kenneth Hopson and Fawnswa Burroughs, were called to a residence in the 1600 block of North Zimmers at 11:07 p.m. in response to a report of a gunshot wound, said Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris.

Ambulance workers called to the scene found an 8-year-old girl suffering from a wound on the left side of her back that appeared to be a gunshot wound. They then called police, Morris said.

The child was taken to Pampa Regional Medical Center where a physician determined she was suffering from a puncture wound, not a gunshot wound, that was approximately twice a centimeter long.

Further investigation showed the 8-year-old and her 12-year-old sister had been fighting and the 12-year-old stabbed the younger sister in the back with a pencil, Morris said. The two girls made up the drive-by shooting story to cover up what had really happened, he said.

"What it amounts to is the girls got in an argument and one stabbed the other one with a pencil," Morris said. "The family will handle it."

After having her wound stitched up, the little girl was released, he added.

2000 budget shortfall to top county agenda

Gray County Commissioners Court will hear from the Chief of Juvenile Probation regarding the year-end 2000 budget shortfall when they meet in special session at 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Also, commissioners will again consider a resolution for a flood damage prevention court order and application to participate in national flood insurance when they meet in special session at 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Other items to be considered include fire contracts with different entities, an appointment to the Gray County Appraisal Board of Directors, application for the county to build a neighborhood road, request from county clerk to replace employee, request from district

(See BUDGET, Page 2)

All dressed up ...



(Pampa News photos by Dee Dee Laramore)

People visiting Gray County Courthouse today may think they're seeing spots. Tax office employees dressed as characters from Disney's "Hundred and One Dalmations" for Halloween today. Puppies are, bottom row, from left: Christie Brown, Brenda Case, and Neysa Brown. Standing are Dona Kitterman, Jan Woods, Gaye Hendricks, Rosie Whitley, Debbie McKinney and Alicia Heil.

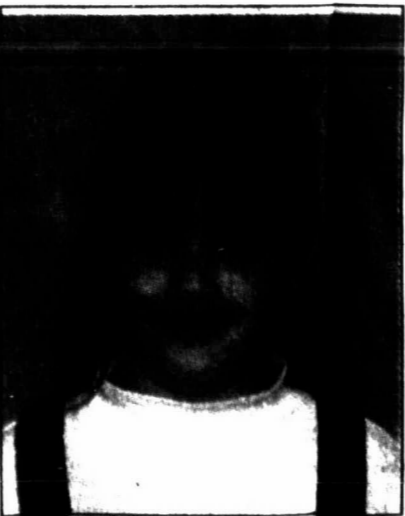


It's hard to tell who's the biggest bunch of kids around Pampa as employees of businesses throughout the city dress-up for Halloween. One group could be seen cleaning teeth and making appointments at Dr. William Buck's dentist office, from left: Devonna Stabel, Joyce Gillis, Grace Nelson, Debbie Rice and Marilyn Stephens.

Quite frankly... What are you going to dress up as for Halloween?



"A doctor because I like doctors."
— Johnny Price



"A rabbit because my mom wanted me to be a rabbit."
— Lacey Renner



"A princess because I was a princess last year and I am going to be a princess again this year."
— Chelsea Waldrop



"I want to be a bat. They can fly."
— Austen Snapp



"A lady bug! I think they are neat little insects."
— Sydney Taylor



Retail Meeting Wednesday - November 1st - 8:30 A.M. - Nona Payne Room

001312000

Calendar of events

PAMPA PRISON MINISTRY
The Pampa Prison Ministry meets the first Tuesday of every month at Central Baptist Church located at Francis and Starkweather at 7 p.m. sharp. For further information call Bob Andersen 665-4252 or J.B. Walker at 669-2266.

PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL
A support group for the mentally ill and family members meet the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at 218 N. Russell. There is no charge. For more information or if you need a ride call Sharon King, 665-2818.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
Pampa Chapter No. 65, Order of the Eastern Star, has changed their meeting nights from the first and third Tuesdays to the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at 420 West Kingsmill.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST
Macedonia Baptist Church, 441 Elm, conducts prayer services at 7:30 a.m., 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. daily for the citizens of Pampa - the churches, the schools, etc. All are cordially invited to come and pray. For more information, call 665-4926.

OPEN DOOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Open Door Alcoholics Anonymous at 910 Kentucky (across from Albertson's) meeting schedule - seven days a week - two meetings a day - noon till 1 p.m. no smoking, and Tuesday and Thursday 8-9 p.m. call 665-9702 for information.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER
Women's Support Group for Child Management offers parenting skills to assist parents and children in dealing with anger and behavioral issues resulting from peer pressure, sibling rivalry, family violence and/or sexual abuse from 7-8 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call Tralee Crisis Center, 669-1131.

MONTHLY GOSPEL SINGING
First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

SENIOR 2001 T-SHIRTS
The Senior 2001 T-shirts on order

have arrived and will be distributed before school and during lunch Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at the high school. For more information, contact Jan Chambers at 665-2067.

POLISH SAUSAGE DINNER
Sacred Heart Parish of White Deer will hold its annual Polish Sausage Dinner from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 5 in the parish hall of the church in White Deer. Cost of the meal will be \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Takeout and sausage-to-go orders will be available. A video produced by the Carson County Square House Museum will be shown during the meal.

ELECTION DAY CELEBRATION
United Methodist Church of McLean will host an Election Day dinner beginning at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 7. Turkey and dressing with all the trimmings will be served. Cost of the annual event is \$6 per plate.

ACT I THEATER
ACT I Community Theater's annual membership drive is currently under way and will conclude at the end of the month. Season tickets are available and include three shows: "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940"

(November); "Natalie Needs a Nightie" (February); and "Grace and Glory" (April). For more information, contact Membership Director Michele Andorfer at (806) 669-0356. All shows will be staged at the ACT I theater located in the Pampa Mall.

HOLIDAY HAPPENING
First Baptist Church Women's Fellowship Ministry will present a "Holiday Happening" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14 at the church, 203 N. West. A meal of baked chicken and wild rice will be served and Jenna Edwards will perform in testimony and song. The guest speaker will be Nancy Rose of Amarillo. Her topic will be "Home for the Holidays." Cost is \$4 per plate. Reservations must be made by Friday, Nov. 10. For more information or to sign-up, call 669-1155.

MIP CLASSES
Clarendon College will offer Minor

in Possession classes from 7:30-10:30 p.m., Oct. 9-10, Nov. 13-14 and Dec. 11-12 in Clarendon, and Oct. 16-17 and Nov. 20-21 in Pampa. For more information, call Eddie Hankins, (806) 874-5074.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP
The local Alzheimer's Support Group will conduct a four-part series this fall. The series will kick-off Sept. 7 with Dr. Bruce Harrow presenting an overview of the disease. Topics will include: Communication and Activities of Daily Living, Oct. 5; and Community Resources and Caregiving Planning, Nov. 2. The series will conclude Dec. 7 with a panel discussion. The group meets regularly at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest. For more information, call Dauna Wilkinson, 665-0356.

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL
First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, is currently accepting aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will benefit Heifer Project International, an Arkansas-based service organization which provides livestock (chickens, pigs, sheep, cattle) along with training and support services to families and communities worldwide. For a limited time, donations will be matched 3-1 by a private foundation. HPI is a non-denominational not-for-profit agency. For more information, call the church office at 665-1031. Office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Friday and before 10:45 a.m. Sunday. For more information about HPI, call 1-800-422-0474 or visit <http://www.heifer.org> on the Internet.

Downtown Kiwanis



(Special photo) John Warner, left, was recently sworn in as the 70th president of Downtown Kiwanis Club by Kiwanis Lt. Gov. Donny Allred of Vega. The Downtown Kiwanis meet every Friday at First United Methodist Church in Pampa.

Texas cattle on feed up in October

AUSTIN — Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in Texas feedlots with capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 2.9 million head on Oct. 1, up 9 percent from a year ago. According to the monthly report released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, the estimate was up 5 percent from the Sept. 1 level. Producers placed 700,000 head in commercial feedlots during September, up 1 percent from a year ago and up 11 percent from the August, 2000, total.

Texas commercial feeders marketed 550,000 head during September, down 2 percent from a year ago. Monthly marketings were also down 5 percent from the August, 2000, total.

On Oct. 1, there were 2.35 million head of cattle and calves on feed in the Northern High Plains, 81 percent of the state's total. The number on feed across the area was up 9 percent from last year and up 5 percent from the September total.

September placements in the Northern High Plains totaled 567,000 head, an increase of 12 percent from the August total. Marketings were down 8 percent from last month, to 452,000 head.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market

in the United States in feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or more totaled 11.0 million head on Oct. 1, 2000. This inventory was 7 percent above Oct. 1, 1999.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.69 million head, 3 percent below September 1999. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds totaled 775,000 head; 600-699 pounds totaled 612,000 head; 700-799 pounds totaled 681,000 head; 800 pounds and greater totaled 618,000 head. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.99 million head, 2 percent above September 1999 and 7 percent above 1998.

Feeders in the historical seven monthly states with feedlots having a capacity of 1,000 head or more reported 9.50 million head on feed on Oct. 1, up 8 percent from last year and 13 percent above Oct. 1, 1998.

September placements totaled 2.29 million head, 3 percent below 1999 but 1 percent above 1998. Marketings during September, at 1.71 million head, were 2 percent above 1999, and 8 percent above 1998.

Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) St. Johns Operating, L.P., #7 Wright, 2500' from South & 1400' from East line, Sec. 122,41,H&TC, PD 7600'.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPHILL Douglas) Courson Oil & Gas, Inc., #1-54 Flowers 'A', 467' from North & 1100' from East line, Sec. 54,A-1,H&GN, PD 8250'.
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & TEFEL Douglas) Apache Corp., #1 Hodgson, 700' from North & West line, Sec. 20,42,H&TC, PD 7500'.
ROBERTS (WILDCAT & MORRISON RANCH Morrow) Gruy Petroleum Mgmt. Co., #4-182 Mary T. Morrison, 2310' from North & West line, Sec. 182,42,H&TC, PD 10800'.
WHEELER (WILDCAT &

MILLS RANCH Des Moines) Chevron U.S.A., Inc., #2 Ruth Ledbetter, 860' from South & 1980' from West line, Sec. 21,1, J.M. Lindsey, PD 13500'. Rule 37
WHEELER (WILDCAT & STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Questar E&P Co., #4035R Britt Ranch 'C' 1985' from North & 1805' from West line, Sec. 35,A-3,H&GN, PD 12500'.
Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (ALPAR Tonkawa) Matador Operating Co., #1 Isaacs '114', Sec. 114,41,H&TC, spud 8-10-00, drlg. compl 8-22-00, tested 10-13-00, TD 8379', PBTD 8330' —
HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) EnerVest Operating, L.L.C., #5048-U Flowers 'C', Sec. 48,1,I&GN, spud 6-19-00, drlg. compl 8-3-00, tested 8-10-00, TD 11260', PBTD 11170' — Dual com-

pletion w/#5048-L Flowers 'C'
HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) EnerVest Operating, L.L.C., #5048-L Flowers 'C', Sec. 48,1,I&GN, spud 6-19-00, drlg. compl 8-3-00, tested 8-10-00, TD 111260', PBTD 11170' —
WHEELER (WILDCAT) St. Mary Operating Co., #1 Clay Family Trust, Sec. 34,OS-2,State of Oklahoma Survey, spud 5-19-00, drlg. compl 9-7-00, tested 9-21-00, potential 3249 MCF, TD 16200', PBTD 16193' —
Plugged Wells
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT) El Paso Production Co., #2413 Hall, 1963' from South & 1733' from East Lease line, Sec. 241,C,G&MMB&A, spud 7-5-00, plugged 8-19-00, TD 15200' (dry) —

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THE Pampa NEWS

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Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around Texas:
 Texas City Sun on voting rights for D.C.:

Did you know that a population of roughly 500,000 Americans who loyally pay their taxes and often die in wars for Uncle Sam do not have any representation in the very Congress that levies their taxes and sends their sons off to fight in foreign lands?

Incredibly, this remains true in the home of our nation's political heart, Washington, D.C.

The district was created from parts of Maryland and Virginia, and when Congress voted in 1801 to create the district government, its residents lost their right to vote in congressional elections in their former home states.

Residents in the district recently sued for the right to elect Congressmen to represent them, but were shot down Monday by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Justices affirmed a lower court ruling that said the district's half-million residents are not entitled to voting membership in the House of Representatives.

District residents pay federal taxes and are entitled to vote for president, but their congressional delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton, is not allowed to vote on the House floor. Efforts to amend the Constitution to provide voting representation have failed.

While it seems obviously justified to extend full Senate and House representation to the District of Columbia, the Supreme Court appears to have acted within the dictates of the Constitution by upholding their lack of voting representation in Congress.

The real answer would be to grant full statehood to the District, thereby giving them rights equal to other Americans (two senators and congressional representatives determined by their population). After all, if Rhode Island is big enough to qualify as a state, why not D.C.?

Of course, partisan political opposition to granting D.C. statehood is tremendous and the Constitutional process it would require is immense.

That hasn't stopped D.C. residents and sympathetic activists from working toward this admirable and deserved goal.

Last summer, the district's city council voted to put a new slogan on district auto license plates — "Taxation Without Representation."

That about sums up the situation.

The possibility of achieving statehood for D.C. seems far off in the nation's future. But that's the direction we ought to be heading.

Thought for today

"The worst sin towards our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them: that's the essence of inhumanity."

—George Bernard Shaw

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum**
 Pampa Address: 100 N. Price Road, Pampa TX 79065
 Pampa Phone: 665-3552
 Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910
 Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736
- State Sen. Teel Bivins**
 Amarillo Address: P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, TX 79105
 Amarillo Phone: (806) 374-8994
 Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711
 Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
- U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry**
 Amarillo Address: 724 S. Polk, Suite 400, Amarillo, TX 79101
 Amarillo Phone: (806) 371-8844
 Washington Address: 131 Cannon Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
 Washington Phone: (202) 225-3706
- U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison**
 Washington Address: 283 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
 Washington Phone: (202) 224-5922
- U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm**
 Washington Address: 370 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
 Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934
- Texas Gov. George W. Bush**
 P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711.
 Constituent Hotline: 1-800-843-5789

Remember to get out and vote!

I hate election time! When I decided to come back to the newspaper, I thought, "Why in the world am I doing this during an election year? I must be out of my mind."

Through the years, I've come to the conclusion that elections tend to bring out the worst in people. I don't like seeing people at their worst. I prefer to see people at their best.

Being able to choose who will represent me at the various government levels is a priceless part of living in a democracy. I'm aware that this is a privilege very few outside the United States enjoy. My distaste for election time has nothing to do with that. It has everything to do with political palavering, advertising, back-biting, mud-slinging...

You get the picture. As Al Gore has slipped in the polls, this past week, I have noticed more and more news articles trying to connect either Bush or Cheney to questionable activities of various companies, agencies, etc., no matter how remote their connection may be. I have no doubt the Bush-Cheney camp have returned the favor in it's own way. It's the way of the world, they'll tell you — if they're honest. It's the way to win elections.

Ahhh, the spinmeisters are at work, weaving their web of misinformation to lure the blissfully ignorant majority into a trap of deceit.

I've decided to ignore the advertising, the news stories, even the debates between candidates because they are so contrived. I'm sick and tired of one candidate concentrating on



Dee Dee Laramore

Staff writer

another's so-called weaknesses rather than focusing on their own strengths.

My decision at the polls is made on a candidate's history. I firmly believe that a candidate's past will tell you the future. So far, I haven't been wrong.

I consider a number of things when deciding who to vote for, such as:

Has this person followed through on promises made during his/her life? In my opinion, if a person hasn't respected his/her wedding vows, why should he/she respect the oath of office?

Example — Bill Clinton, Miss America 1982, Paula Jones, Monica Lewinsky.

Has this person been honest to his/her constituents?

Example — Bill Clinton, "I've never had a sexual relationship with Miss Lewinsky."

I don't expect a person to be perfect, to have never made mistakes. The first one of us who is perfect can be the first to stand and throw stones. You can bet it won't be me. I do expect

the person who will represent me at the governmental level to be honest when a mistake has been made and to do whatever is needed to right the wrong. AND to make every effort to see that the same mistake is never made again.

That's nothing more than I expect of myself.

I look for integrity. Integrity is described in the dictionary as an uncompromising adherence to a code of morals, values — utter sincerity or honesty.

Unfortunately, I don't see integrity very often and when I do, it is coming from someone who declines to enter the political arena because they know that to do so would mean they would have to compromise in order to win. And they aren't willing to do that. Example — Colin Powell, 1996 presidential race.

My husband Vic wants a line to be placed on all ballots that states: "None of the above." Such a line could solve a lot of problems. Too often we're not voting FOR someone as much as we're voting AGAINST someone else. Or we're selecting the "lesser of evils."

Honest people in political offices suffer from the antics of those who are less honest. I'm sorry for that. I apologize to all those who are trying their best to carry their responsibilities with integrity. This column isn't about you.

Despite the cynicism we might feel, we can't give up. We can't quit voting and let a few decide our fate.

You have a week left. Look at the past records of the candidates. Make your best decision. Go to the polls Nov. 7. Our future depends on it.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 31, the 244th day of 2000. There are 122 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On Aug. 31, 1980, Poland's Solidarity labor movement was born with an agreement signed in Gdansk that ended a 17-day-old strike.

On this date:
 In 1886, an earthquake rocked Charleston, S.C., killing up to 110 people.

In 1887, Thomas A. Edison received a patent for his Kinetoscope, a device which produced moving pictures.

In 1888, Mary Ann Nicholls was found murdered in London's East End in what is generally regarded as the first slaying committed by Jack the Ripper.

In 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt signed an act prohibiting the export of U.S. arms to belligerents.

In 1941, the radio program "The Great Gildersleeve" debuted on NBC.

In 1954, Hurricane Carol hit the northeastern United States, resulting in nearly 70 deaths.

In 1969, boxer Rocky Marciano died in a light airplane crash in Iowa, a day before his 46th birthday.

In 1985, Richard Ramirez, later convicted of California's "Night Stalker" killings, was captured by residents of an East Los Angeles neighborhood.

In 1986, 82 people were killed when an Aeromexico jetliner and a small private plane collided over Cerritos, Calif.

In 1988, 14 people were killed when a Delta Boeing 727 crashed during takeoff from Dallas-Fort Worth Airport.

Ten years ago: UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar met twice with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz in Amman, Jordan, trying to negotiate a solu-

tion to the Persian Gulf crisis.

Five years ago: At the O.J. Simpson trial in Los Angeles, Judge Lance Ito ruled the defense could play only two examples of police detective Mark Fuhrman's racist comments from taped conversations with a screenwriter.

One year ago: Detroit's teachers went on strike, wiping out the first day of class for 172,000 students in one of the largest teachers' strikes in years. (The walkout lasted nine days.) An LAPA Boeing 737-200 crashed on takeoff from Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing 72 people, including five on the ground.

Christopher Columbus just isn't PC

One of the absurdities of these politically correct (read neototalitarian) times is that Columbus Day, once a great American holiday, is almost never observed anymore.

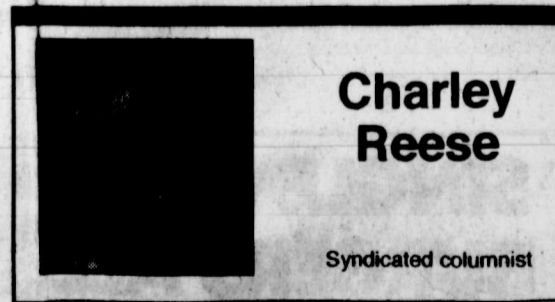
Christopher Columbus, poor fellow, is politically incorrect. He was, first of all, a white European. I don't know how he could have prevented that, but he's blamed for it anyway.

Second, he was a Christian. White Christian males are about the only category of human being that it is still permissible to berate and stereotype.

Third, he was a man of great accomplishment. Nobody hates people of great accomplishment more than these bilious, socialist pseudo-intellectuals who have built a political movement based on envy and are themselves without any accomplishments worthy of note.

The real sin committed against Columbus is the same one committed against other historical figures. The poor fellow is snatched out of his time and place and tried in the dock by late-20th-century standards. This is a very common sin committed by people who are living examples of the old adage that a little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing.

Columbus was a great navigator, a great seaman and a man of great courage and determination. He spent years trying to persuade people to fund his dream of reaching the East Indies by sailing due west.



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

Postmodern types who probably couldn't name the capitals of their own country's states, much less the islands of the Caribbean, often mock the fact that Columbus had not known that the land mass of North, Central and South America lie between Spain and the East Indies.

Imagine that. He must have forgotten to check with the Internet, or maybe he had allowed his subscription to National Geographic to expire. The truth is, nobody in Europe knew about the existence of the lands in the Western Hemisphere at that time — except, perhaps, for a few Vikings, who were not in the habit of hanging out in Spain.

Columbus was far more knowledgeable about his world than most of his critics are of their world. More importantly, he was a man of action, willing to risk his life to realize his dreams. The fact that he could set sail with his three rickety boats and manage to keep the

crews from mutiny shows great leadership qualities.

The Spaniards did mistreat the Indians. Of course, what critics forget is that the Indians mistreated people they didn't like, too. One of the most foolish aspects of this business is the silly idea that the Indians lived in paradise until the Europeans came along and messed it up. You wouldn't think it much of a paradise if you were a slave, a human sacrifice or, in some cases, the main course of the evening meal.

The Indians were no different than the Europeans, except that they were technologically less advanced. While many died from diseases brought in by the Europeans, they also gave the Europeans some new diseases to take back with them.

All of human history is a story of tragedy and triumph, of nobility and meanness, of kindness and cruelty. We should accept the people of the past for who they were, just as today we are who we are. Nothing that came from Columbus approaches the barbaric and murderous behavior that we have seen in our own century.

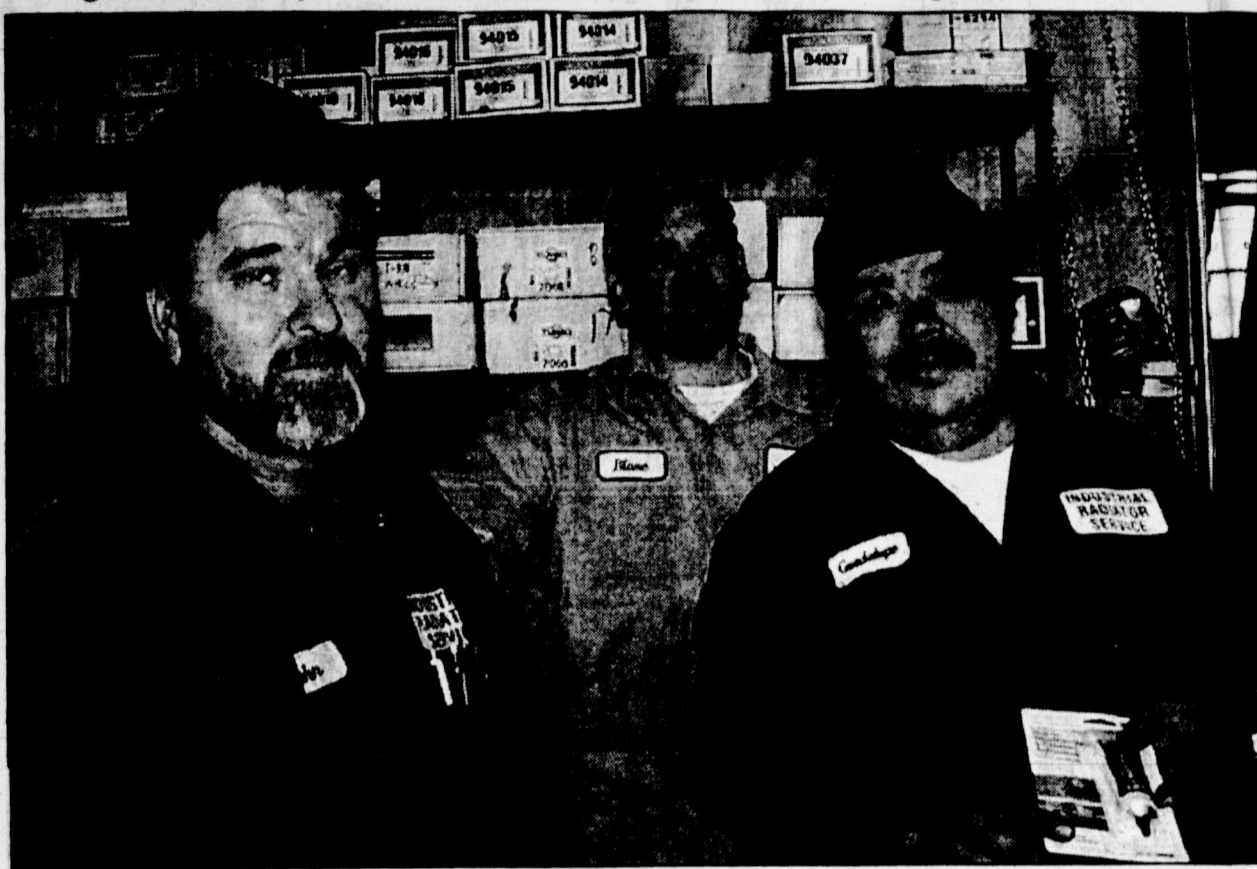
Technology changes, but human nature doesn't. People today are no better than people were in Columbus' day. People are being imprisoned, enslaved, killed and tortured all over this planet even as you read this. You may do what you like, but I shall celebrate Columbus' great achievement.

~ Business Review ~

Hard work, service hallmark of Mr. Muffler

At Industrial Radiator Service, too

A desire to make a career change in the early 1980s was the first step which led into private business in Pampa.



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)
John Stokes, Blane Jones and Guadalupe Davilla offer many years of experience to the Stokes Mr. Muffler and Industrial Radiator Service. Located at 525 W. Brown, the business provides quality business services to their customers.

The two native Pampans strong belief in Pampa and the future of the community was a major factor in their decision to open an industrial radiator business locally in 1982. Industrial Radiator Service has been in business in Pampa 18 years.

The couple felt there was a need for a business specializing in industrial radiation. "Business was going through Pampa and right on out of town," said Carolyn Stokes. "We didn't even realize the significance of the "boom time" when we opened our business."

After making the decision to leave his previous employment in the agriculture field, John Stokes and the couple's son, Blane Jones, traveled to Omaha, Nebraska, where they received specialized training in the radiator business.

The two men received certification in industrial, automotive and agriculture in the radiator repair business.

Upon returning to Pampa, the couple and their son opened a business on Osage Street.

After about two-and-one-half years in that location, the family moved their business to its present location at 525 W. Brown.

The radiator business provides repairs and replacements to heating and cooling systems, water pumps and heater cores. Custom built radiators are also available.

Guadalupe Davilla, a five-year employee, is the radiator technician.

In 1997, a muffler business came up for sale. The couple purchased it and were soon in the muffler business. Blane is in charge of the muffler business.

Stokes' Mr. Muffler installs mufflers and does custom exhaust work. Brake work and shocks are also services provided by the local business.

Owner and working manager, John is proficient in both businesses. He works on both sides. Carolyn handles bookkeeping and business functions in the office.

The business can meet any budgets with the price range from stock to lifetime mufflers.

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The Stokes are proud of the success of their business. Hard work, determination and customer satisfaction have contributed to the continued success.

The couple are active members of the Trinity Fellowship Church in Pampa, and believe in Pampa.

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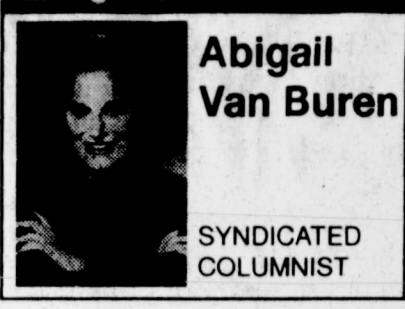
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Siblings' Plans for Matrimony Suffer From Parents' Parsimony

DEAR ABBY: Early this year, my brother and I both announced our engagements and agreed that our wedding dates would be within six months of each other. We're both in our early 20s, still living at home, and our parents are well-to-do.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

Immediately after the announcements, our parents told us they could only give me (the bride) \$7,000, and my brother would get half that amount. Considering the cost of weddings these days, this would hardly cover 25 percent of the expenses, but there was nothing we could do, so we went along with it.

Exactly one month later, our parents purchased another home! Our family home is already large, but they consider the second house an "investment property."

Neither of us is planning a very large wedding — only 150 guests or so — but some of the money would have to cover our parents' guests, as well as ours.

They have also asked that since we both work, my brother and I

start paying them rent until our wedding dates. We feel we should be saving our money at this time, but once again, our parents don't see it that way.

SINGING THE WEDDING BELL BLUES

DEAR SINGING: Yes, you are wrong. Please change your tune. A wedding — or money toward a wedding — is a gift. It is not an entitlement.

While it would be wonderful if your parents would support you all the way to the altar, it's clear that for whatever reasons, they feel they can no longer carry that burden.

your brother are over 21 and ready to build futures of your own. It's time to grow up and accept the responsibilities your parents are asking you to take on without sulking.

DEAR ABBY: I am 19 and dating a 25-year-old married man. Three months ago he left his wife and moved closer to me. We were spending 24/7 together — and it was wonderful.

A few weeks ago, he decided that for the sake of his three children he would give his marriage another chance. Now he is back living with his family and seeing me on the side.

I've tried staying away from him, but I can't. I know in my heart that he will leave his wife soon, and we'll be 24/7 again.

DEAR HURT: What if? If you think this romance is going anywhere, you're dreaming. Stop wasting your time.

you'll come up with similar solutions. Give a loved one greater say. Tonight: Say yes to an invitation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** Pace yourself at work. You might have some important personal matters to handle. Discuss a property issue with someone who can give you strong feedback.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

*** Listen to another carefully. This person tries very hard to communicate his feelings. Verbal exchanges will be highly informative if you don't make assumptions, especially at the workplace.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** Use care with others, especially when dealing with funds. Mistakes can easily be made. You might not be getting the whole story from a child or loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** Others seek you out for opinions. Your voice counts, perhaps more than you realize. Listen to someone carefully and have a long-overdue discussion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

*** Defer to others and make sure you all understand each other. Confusion surrounds financial decisions. Understand more of what you want from a partnership.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** Handle financial matters with

your customary strength and direction. You have a lot of questions. Before making decisions, go out and get answers.

Somebody's vagueness spells trouble. Do whatever you need to do to get clarification and resolution.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** You mean well, but a financial problem could crimp your style. In the same light, a friend could cost you a lot of money if you're not careful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** Knowing when to bend is your primary concern in dealing with others. You make a mistake without intending to. Evaluate a change with a boss.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Aim for what you want. You could easily be distracted. Understand your need for escape and diversion. Work on creating a more defined time period for your imagination to dominate.

BORN TODAY

Baseball player Fernando Valenzuela (1960), singer Lyle Lovett (1957), publisher Larry Flynt (1942)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Biondie



Mallard Fillmore



Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 1, 2000

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)

**** Maintain your high profile, and you'll love the results. Don't distort the importance of a friendship in your head.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** Challenge yourself to not react to kick back and take an overview instead. Another might not realize how confusing he can be.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Deal with another directly. One-on-one relating enhances the nature of your work and adds to your success.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Defer to others and make sure you all understand each other. Confusion surrounds financial decisions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

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**** Defer to others and make sure you all understand each other. Confusion surrounds financial decisions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** Handle financial matters with

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Pens for 1 "Boiero" composer

DOWN 1 Highway exits

2 Quartz variety

3 Like some diseases

4 Yale student

5 Heads in state

6 Reads UPC bars

7 — Aviv

8 Stated without proof

9 Falls on the border

10 Old autos

11 Mrs.

12 Dithers

13 Camera

14 Closes, in a way

15 Like some vases

16 Pizzeria ingredient

17 "Rhinoceros" playwright

18 African nation

19 Impoverished part

20 Salad green

21 Trophy

22 "Beau —"

23 "Barnaby Jones" star

24 Spigot

25 Fall behind

SCARS ALLS HADAT MEETS AMINO INSET DEE KEG PRO YOURESOVAIN ART YULE PITTS TILES ASHE URN YOUNENOGOOD ELM MOO AVA RABBI POKER STEAL EVERT EDGY RANTS

Yesterday's answer

15 Sch. group 16 Dress in 17 Swelled head 18 "Being There" star 20 Gangland gun 21 Historic time 22 Goose egg 23 Change 26 King with the golden touch 27 Winged archer 28 Dad 29 Stimpy's pal 30 Prom gown accessory 34 Grow older 35 Kanga's kid 38 Spider's home 37 Terrence McNally play 40 Cuzco natives 41 — blanche

STUMPED?

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Marmaduke



"I think he's tuning up to do some serious barking."

The Family Circus



"Look who's here! Harry Pumpkin!"

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, partially cut off.

SPORTS

Notebook

BASKETBALL

PAMPA — Because of inclement weather, the Pampa Kids and Youth Club re-scheduled basketball signups for Wednesday and Thursday. The signups will be from 6 to 8 at Topographic's, located at 2225 North Perryton Parkway (between Dollar General and Western Auto). Another signup is scheduled for Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in front of Wal-Mart and Frank's Grocery.

The signups are for boys and girls teams in Kindergarten through the 12th grade.

Cost is \$20 for one player, \$35 for two players, \$45 for three players. Scholarships are available.

The club is also seeking coaches, referees and sponsors. If interested, call 669-8236.

VOLLEYBALL

PAMPA — The Pampa 7th graders finished second in the district volleyball tournament last weekend.

Pampa defeated Valleyview and Hereford to finish first in pool play, then defeated Canyon in a hard-fought win to advance to the championship match against Dumas. The team was awarded with second-place individual medals.

"I was proud of these girls, they were on fire. They have worked hard to learn volleyball this year and it has paid off," said coach Kendra Reeves. "I am excited that Pampa Middle School volleyball has made a name for itself. We surprised a lot of people."

The Pampa team is made up of Jackie Gerber, Callie Cobb, Mariza Scott, Felicia Urban, Ashlee Lucas, Autumn Darden, Destinee Manhart, Amy Youree and Morgan Meharg.

BASEBALL

PHOENIX (AP) — From the moment Arizona Diamondbacks owner Jerry Colangelo fired manager Buck Showalter, Bob Brenly seemed to be the inevitable successor.

Colangelo knew he needed someone who combined baseball knowledge and experience with a quick wit and outgoing personality, someone who could loosen up a clubhouse that grew tense under the sometimes uptight leadership of Showalter.

Although the Diamondbacks went through a lengthy search, the obvious choice was the affable analyst of baseball telecasts for Arizona and the Fox network.

"I don't think you can do standup comedy in the clubhouse to loosen things up," Brenly said Monday, "but I just think by the attitude that you as the leader of the group takes, certainly a lot of that will filter down to the players themselves."

"For the most part, it's a very veteran group. They've been in good clubhouses, they've been in bad clubhouses. They know what it takes to make an atmosphere that's comfortable for them. My job is just not to get in their way."

Brenly, 46, signed a three-year, \$2 million contract with a fourth year at the club's option. He brings a background that includes nine seasons as a major league catcher, mostly with the San Francisco Giants; four seasons as a Giants coach; and broadcast stints both in radio and in television.

He talked about how some managers are good with strategy, but can't convey that strategy well to players. Some so-called players' managers, he said, are good at communicating, but not so good at game strategy. Some managers, he said, "combine those qualities, but can't deal with the media."

Canadian in playoffs

CANADIAN — Canadian is in the playoffs once again. The Wildcats beat Panhandle 27-20 last weekend to assure themselves of a playoff spot.

Canadian is now 5-0 in District 6-2A and 6-2 for the season. The Wildcats have been as far as the state semifinals the last two years.

Panhandle is 3-2 in district play and 5-2 for the season.

Nathan Reyes and Jarrod Timmons led the Canadian offense against Panhandle with two touchdowns apiece. Reyes scored on a 1-yard run and also caught a 12-yard TD pass from Coleman Bartlett. Timmons scored on runs of 2 and 42 yards.

Canadian held a 13-0 lead at halftime and the Wildcats extended the lead to 21-0 going into the fourth quarter.

Reyes led Canadian in rushing with 93 yards on 20 carries. Timmons added 76 yards on 12 carries. Reyes also completed four of seven passes for 43 yards.

Panhandle's Brock Sherwood threw touchdown passes to J.T. Nichols (38 yards) and Shane Slover (8 yards). The Panthers' other TD came on a 1-yard run by David Shaver.

Canadian finished with 338 yards in total offense. Panhandle had 218.

Canadian hosts district co-leader Spearman, also 5-0, Friday night.

NBA season opens tonight

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
AP Basketball Writer

The ball gets tossed up in Atlanta, Orlando and New Jersey first. Three hours later, it's a rematch of the Western Conference finals.

Tuesday night is opening night in the NBA, with 13 games scheduled. Included are national telecasts of Philadelphia at New York (8 p.m. EST, TBS) and the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers at Portland (10:30 p.m. EST, TBS).

Final roster moves were made Monday as teams cut down to 12 active players.

There were a few surprises around the league:

— Rookie free agent Stephen Jackson, who took the long road from high school to the pros, not only made the New Jersey Nets, but will be a starter.

— Daniel Santiago, who went from Lubbock, Texas, to Puerto Rico to Varese, Italy, made the team in Phoenix and is ahead of heralded rookie Jake Tsakalidis on the depth chart.

— The Chicago Bulls will begin the season as the youngest team in league history, with an average age of just under 23. They have five rookies on the roster — Jamal Crawford, Khalid El-Amin, Marcus Fizer, A.J. Guyton and Dragan Tarlac — and two more rookies, Dalibor Bagaric and Jake Voskuhl, on the injured list.

— Joe Smith appears on no one's roster. Commissioner David Stern made the Timberwolves forward a free agent last week, although Smith's status will remain on hold until an arbitration hearing is held Thursday on whether Stern overstepped his authority in voiding Smith's previous two contracts in Minnesota.

— Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf and Tyus Edney have returned to the league, Abdul-Rauf as the backup point guard in Vancouver and Edney has the same job in Indiana.

— There's a new Marc Jackson in the league, a rookie forward from Temple who spent the past three years in Turkey and Spain. He and Adam Keefe will back up starter Danny Fortson in Golden State. The other Marc Jackson — that's Mark with a 'k' — has relocated from Indiana to Toronto and led the league in assists during the preseason.

— There is no next Michael Jordan. A rookie by that name from Penn was cut by the Boston Celtics during training camp.

Stephen Jackson took a not-so-direct route from high school to the pros, with no college in between. A high school All-American in 1996, he didn't have the grades to attend Arizona after signing a letter of intent.

Consolation champs



(Special photo)

The Pampa 8th grade volleyball team proudly displays the consolation trophy won at the District Tournament held recently in Pampa. Team members are (front, center) Jennie Rogers (middle row, from left) Diana Resendiz, Lindsey Ammons, Teryn Garner and Jaclyn Spearman; (top row, from left) Brittany Adams, Alyssa Bromwell, Lauren Boles, Becca Gindorf and coach Kendra Reeves.

McNeil, Bowden try to rally Cowboys

IRVING, Texas (AP) — As the Dallas Cowboys grasp for reasons to be optimistic, cornerback Ryan McNeil and linebacker Joe Bowden are offering personal experiences to latch onto.

McNeil and Bowden were starters on teams that went into November with only three wins, hit their stride and wound up in the playoffs. Now teammates on the 3-5 Cowboys, both think it can happen again.

"It's realistic that we can our last eight games," McNeil said. "Why not? There's no unbeaten teams in the NFL. Nobody is invincible."

There are plenty of reasons against, starting with their uncertainty at quarterback, their inability to win consecutive games since early last season and their loss Sunday to a team that had dropped five straight.

But McNeil points to 1995

when the Detroit Lions started 0-3, were 3-5 at midseason and finished with seven straight wins for a 10-6 record and a wild-card berth.

Bowden can top that. He was on the Houston Oilers in 1992 when they rebounded from a 1-4 start to win 11 straight and win their division.

"We can't still win eight games," Bowden said. "We need to play smart and come together as a team."

Dallas did neither in a 23-17 overtime loss to Jacksonville on Sunday. The Cowboys had three turnovers that turned into 10 points for the Jaguars while not coming away with any turnovers or sacks against a team that was the league's worst in both categories.

Quarterback Troy Aikman was sore Monday after leaving the game in the first quarter after taking a hard hit to his already creaky back. The team

is taking a wait-and-see approach with his recovery.

"Hopefully we'll know in the next couple of days," coach Dave Campo said.

A common theme for Dallas this season has been missed opportunities. Other than blowout losses to Philadelphia and San Francisco, the Cowboys have gone down by one, five and six points.

That's the kind of nugget McNeil and Bowden point to when they talk about being on the verge of a turnaround. McNeil recalls that the '95 Lions clicked because the units complemented each other. Sometimes the offense made the big play, sometimes the defense and sometimes it was the special teams.

"We were the hottest team in the NFL that year," McNeil said. "Each and every week, we knew the urgency we had and we stuck together."

McNeil said he felt the urgency kick in this season after losing 41-14 to Philadelphia in the opener. The Eagles are Dallas' next opponent.

Part of the Cowboys' problem has been that they choke ever time they have a chance to get on a roll. They haven't won consecutive games since starting last season 3-0; Sunday will mark 22 straight games without back-to-back victories.

"This league is not about moral victories, having fun and exciting the fans — it's about winning and losing," McNeil said. "We're 3-5. Should we be? No. But we've got a minimum of eight games left. In those eight games, you're going to see a lot of things."

"I don't think you're going to see us hold anything back offensively, defensively or on special teams." They don't really have a choice.

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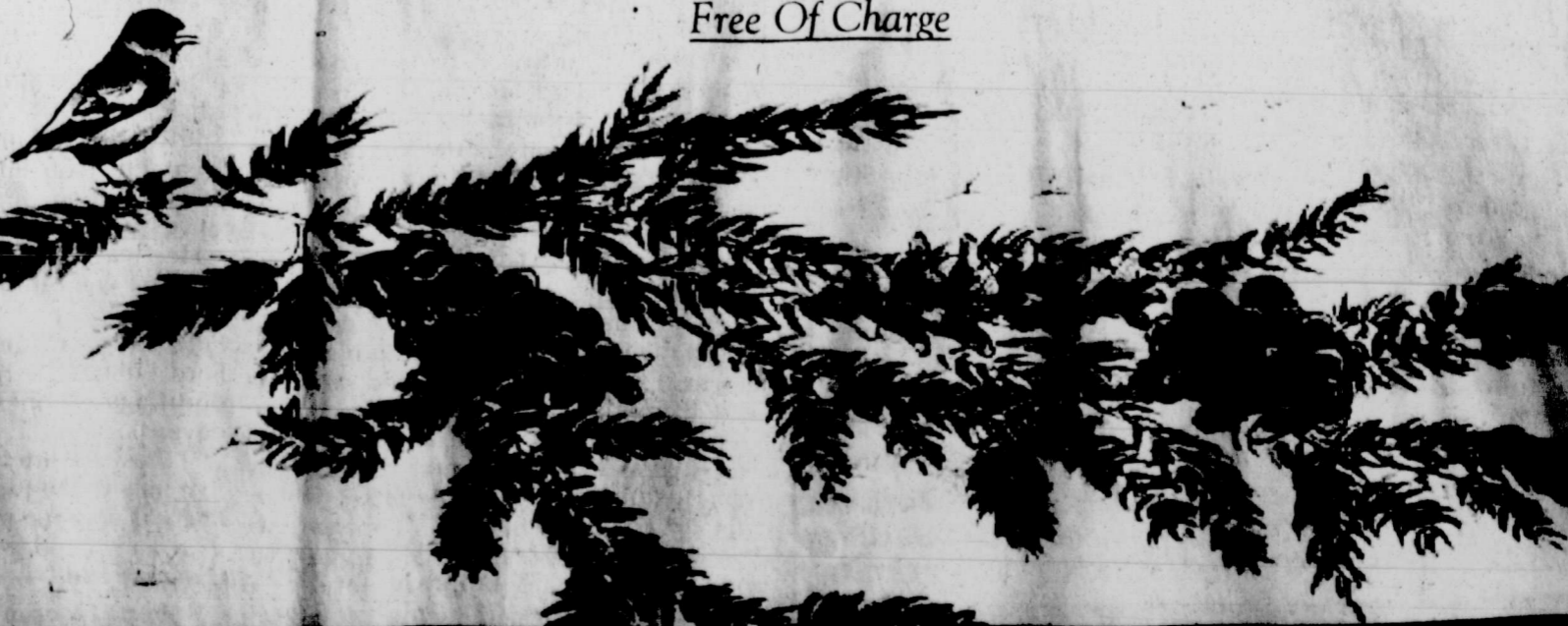
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Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander launches education database to help improve Texas schools

AUSTIN — Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander has launched the first state education database in the nation that parents, teachers, school administrators and taxpayers can access to help improve their schools.

The site, called "A+ Ideas for Managing Schools" or AIMS, is a result of the Comptroller's nationally-recognized Texas School Performance Review (TSPR). It contains special reports, student performance

and financial data for all Texas schools and hundreds of success stories from districts across the state that have been reviewed by her office.

"...As a former school teacher and former school board president, I also know first hand how great ideas in education aren't always easy to share. This database is my effort to link the great ideas of our fine public school districts, both large and small, across Texas," Rylander said.

Some suggestions included in the database:

—Mount Pleasant ISD. The district adopted a photo ID card system that allows students to use their cards to pay for meals. The district can track the status of student accounts more easily, reducing processing time and saving money on operating expenses.

—Socorro ISD. District officials set aside \$100,000-\$200,000 per year to help teachers

buy computers so they can become more skilled with using technology in the classroom. Teachers receive discounted prices and can use two years of interest-free payroll deductions to pay for the computers. In return, they must take or teach 20 hours of computer training.

—Port Arthur ISD. Peace Week was initiated by the district's Community Relations director in 1996 after a teacher had to break up a near-fight between rival groups in a

grocery store parking lot. The events that week have included a parade, an art contest, cultural days and guest speakers in schools to promote peaceful resolution of conflicts among students.

The AIMS database is located at www.aimsdatabase.org. For more information about the database, visit the comptroller's website at www.window.state.tx.us or search the database at www.aimsdatabase.org.



Beverly Taylor

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Bush invokes Reagan in defending readiness

By WALTER R. MEARS
AP Special Correspondent

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — George W. Bush took a final turn at late night TV campaign comedy with Halloween gibes at Al Gore — then defended his readiness for the White House, saying the Democrats' challenge to his experience is "what they said about Ronald Reagan when that good man was running for president."

The vice president was appearing on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno on Tuesday, after a daylong offensive against Bush in the Midwest and a redeye flight to campaign in Portland, Ore., and in California.

The experience question has become a Democratic theme against Bush.

"He's not ready to be president," vice presidential nominee Joe Lieberman repeated at a Wisconsin rally with Gore on Monday.

Gore said in Muskegon, Mich., that in the Nov. 7 election "prosperity itself will be on the ballot" because Bush's tax cut and other plans would wreck it.

"My opponent gives in to the powerful interests and I believe his plans would leave millions of families worse off than they are today," the vice president said.

Gore declared himself "opposed to big government," and promised again that he would not add even one position to the federal bureaucracy.

In the West, Bush was telling a rally in New Mexico and two in California Monday night that Gore stands for big government and for decisions made in Washington instead of by the people.

He said Gore is the one who would threaten economic growth by seeking 280 new or expanded federal programs and the costs that would go with them.

Bush said sardonically that Gore "might be exaggerating" in promising no new federal jobs, because the Senate Budget Committee — run by Republicans — estimates his programs would take 20,000 to 30,000 new bureaucrats.

Bush said Gore is the one "surrounded and supported by interest groups that exist to oppose reform."

As for experience, the Texas governor told Leno in his Monday night appearance that "some folks believe you have to spend all your life in Washington in order to be qualified to be the president," and he does not.

"In all seriousness ... that's what they said about Ronald Reagan when that good man was running for president. But those kind of folks forget that when you're a governor, you have to lead."

Bush's performance wasn't all seriousness, though. He joked about his tendency to miff lines and mispronounce names. "Too bad all the world

leaders aren't named Al Smith," Bush said.

He'd mangled one of his standard campaign lines earlier in Albuquerque, saying that Gore believes the surplus belongs to the people when he meant to say the vice president thinks it's the government's money. "Excuse me," he told the rally before correcting himself. "There I go again."

Taping the Tonight Show, Bush said he tries to keep in shape by running, and covers a mile in about 7 1/2 minutes. "Have you challenged Al Gore to a foot race?" Leno asked him.

"I'd be willing to put it all on a foot race," Bush replied.

"Now, I have a Halloween mask I think you might get a kick out of," Leno said. He put on a Bush mask. "That's scary," the governor said, and put on a Gore mask. "This is more scary" he said.

Bush told his California crowds that he will upset Gore in the state crucial to the Democrats. Jimmy Carter in 1976 was the last president elected without winning California, and before that, it was John F. Kennedy in 1960.

The governor tried to identify himself with Reagan, who went from the Sacramento state house to the White House, on the experience question and by likening his proposed across-the-board tax cut to Reagan's of 1981.

Sen. John McCain, who as a primary rival had himself questioned Bush's readiness, called the Democratic challenge to the governor's experience "the latest sort of desperation tactic."

"I promise you, I know, that this man is fully prepared," McCain told the Bush rallies in Burbank and Fresno.

Gore still leads the California polls, but by narrow margins that led him to spend a final campaign day in territory he thought safely his. He campaigned first in Oregon, which had been a reliably Democratic state but is close this time, with Bush leading some surveys by a margin smaller than Ralph Nader's share of support.

"The polls have a margin of error of plus or minus one Ralph Nader," Leno said, in a joke that is not a laughing matter to the Democrats, who fear the Green Party candidate could pry away ballots Gore needs in a close race with Bush.

Bush was seeking votes in San Jose, before flying north to Portland and then on to Seattle. For Gore, it was the opposite direction, Portland to Burbank, to campaign in Los Angeles and appear on the Leno show.

Then another redeye flight for the vice president, east to Florida, a state Bush once thought safe, but one in which Gore leads some surveys. Jeb Bush, the nominee's brother, is governor there.

"I think we're going to do fine down there," Bush told Leno, "but little brother, he recognizes that Thanksgiving might be a little chilly if things don't go well."

Ashcroft's toughest challenges: Carnahan's death, widow running

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Republican Sen. John Ashcroft wants to talk about Social Security, women's issues, health care.

But everywhere he travels — from the Ozarks to Kansas City to St. Louis — Ashcroft is asked about the death of his Senate opponent and the political turmoil that has ensued.

A former two-term governor and popular vote-getter whose name has appeared on Missouri ballots for almost three decades, Ashcroft faces an opponent against whom he can fire no criticism — the late Gov. Mel Carnahan.

And he effectively got a second opponent when Carnahan's widow, Jean, said Monday she would accept appointment to the Senate if her late husband wins Nov. 7.

So Ashcroft must find a way to politick delicately against an esteemed widow insulated from the usual volleys of campaigning.

In the weeks since the 66-year-old Carnahan's

death Oct. 16 in a plane crash, Ashcroft has had a third opponent, as well, says one analyst.

"Ashcroft's third opponent is the news media, which is providing so much coverage to the Mel Carnahan-Jean Carnahan story," said Rick Hardy, a political scientist at the University of Missouri. "John Ashcroft is in a political straitjacket."

Mel Carnahan's name remains before voters because he died after a deadline for revising Missouri's ballot.

Before his death, the Senate race was anything but gentlemanly.

Missouri's two best-known politicians clashed about abortion, gun control, taxes, crime fighting, appointments to the U.S. Supreme Court and the governor's controversial commutation of a death sentence at the pope's behest.

Ashcroft suspended all campaigning for eight days after Carnahan's death and conceded Monday that the timeout hurt his campaign.

In Fresno, Bush ignited a roar of boos when he mentioned that President Clinton is coming to California Thursday and Friday to campaign for the Democrats.

"It's OK, it's OK," he said. "Just reminds people that we don't need four more years of

Clinton-Gore."

Leno asked Bush about Clinton's role. "Well, you know the vice president was fighting to get out from behind his shadow and now the shadow returns."

"I don't think it can help him," Bush said.

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