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LOCAL
Pampans hospitalized after accident Tuesday

A Pampa couple remained in serious but stable condition in Northwest Texas Hospital intensive care unit at Amarillo today after they were injured in a one-vehicle rollover near Panhandle Tuesday evening.

Dr. Ed Cooley, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Pampa, and his wife Loralee Cooley suffered numerous injuries in the accident, but continue to recover today, according to the church secretary.

The Pampa News has been unable to get any further details of the accident from Texas Department of Public Safety.

Veterans Hall of Fame deadline approaches

July 15 is cut-off date to receive nominations to the Panhandle Veterans Hall of Fame, said John Tripplehorn, nominating committee chairman.

"I want to encourage everyone to get their information to me as soon as possible," Tripplehorn said. "It would be very sad to let a deserving veteran go unrecognized for the lack of a little effort on our part."

Send nominations to Panhandle Veterans Hall of Fame, 600 N. Hobart, Pampa, Texas, 79065.

DEATHS

Douglas N. Bannister, 21, grandson of Pampa resident.
Effie Agnes Willis Kerby, 90, hospital volunteer.
Inga Ann Ross Pratt, 98, former Pampa resident.

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City eyes closing north fire station

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

Pampa Fire Department Chief Kim Powell continued to work today on a report for city officials listing the effects of closing the North Fire Station and laying off the nine firefighters who work there.

Powell confirmed this morning that she had been asked by City Manager Mitch Grant to prepare a report listing the pros and cons of closing the station and letting the personnel go to present at the fire department budget meeting on July 8.

"I'm working on it as we speak," the fire chief said. "I hope to have it ready soon."

"I have asked the fire chief to put together a report on the pros and cons of closing the station and laying off nine personnel," Grant said today. "Personally it's the last thing I want to do, but we're looking at dollars and cents."

Grant said that closing the station could save the city approximately \$3000,000 annually. Powell said the closing of the station and loss of firefighters would have "significant" impact.

"The firefighters are completely against it," said Doug Pritchett, president of the Pampa Fire Fighters Association. "We're against for two reasons: No. 1, for the safety of the citizens and No. 2 for the safety of the firefighters also. When nine of 24 firefighters are cut, our safety is compromised."

"The ultimate question is, can you cut or can you raise?" Grant said. "We want the best services possible, yes, but the question is how much we can spend on it?"

The city manager said no other city department had been asked to consider making such a large cut. He expressed confidence in Powell's ability in making the report.

"Kim is the most educated in running a fire department and I know she'll do a good job," he said.

"There's a lot of tough deci-

sions in front of the commission. We're just putting it all out there," he explained. "We're putting it all out there. These things need to be discussed in open meeting. They're (city commissioners) the elected officials. My job is to get the most accurate information and present it to them so they can make an informed decision."

This is not the first time Pampa City Commission considered closing the North Fire Station.

During the 2001 budget talks, a number of Pampa citizens opposed the action in public budget hearings. They protested that closing the station would negatively affect the

city's ISO rating which helps determine the cost of homeowners insurance, and response time would be lengthened which could mean more fire damage to structures.

In the end, the city commission agreed to raise taxes 4.2 cents per \$100 valuation, keeping the North Station open and staffed.

"Closing the fire station may not be the answer," Grant acknowledged but added, "Big numbers obviously have the biggest effect."

"We're trying to do the best we can with what we have," he said. "There's a balance there - a balance of what we have with what we can do."

City dept. heads: '04 budget needs equivalent to '03

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
 FOR THE NEWS

As city commissioners continued the process of budget planning for the coming year Tuesday night, they heard reports and proposals from a number of departments.

The tentative 2003-2004 citywide budget is set now at \$15,033,222, a little over \$300,000 less than last year's figure.

Like almost all other city divisions who reported to the commission, the recreation department's Shane Stokes said that his budget was "pretty much exactly like was last year," with an added switch from liquid to tablet chlorine for the swimming pools.

When asked about the current swim season, Stokes said it started out slow because of the cooler temperatures in June, but M.K. Brown swimming pool is quite busy now and Marcus Sanders swimming pool is about average, he added.

Stokes also reported on the M.K. Brown Auditorium budget detailing minor

changes including professional development costs, and a \$1,000 increase in plumbing/maintenance. However, even with small changes, the proposed budget figure is \$300 less than the \$168,000 being spent this year, he said.

Anne Stobbe, head librarian of the Lovett Memorial Library, reported that her budget is basically the same except for one major expected change.

"Our equipment is getting older. Last year we replaced five hard drives and three or four monitors," she said.

And in the next few years the computers' warranties are ending, said Stobbe, so the library is anticipating problems not encountered this year.

She also reported that the number of people coming into the library was the same as the year before — about 7,000 used the facility, with an average of 35 to 85 citizens entering daily. Although, she added, computer users' habits have changed and patrons aren't "spending their lives" (See BUDGET, Page 3)

'Rumplestiltskin' to open July 12



(Courtesy photo)

Urvish Trivedi as Reginald Rex, the King, and Kim Tatum as Count Edgar, rehearse a scene from ACT I's next production "Rumplestiltskin" opening July 12-14 and July 19-20 at the theater on the west side of Pampa Mall. Children of all ages will enjoy this children's theatre production directed by Gina Kane, Karen Smith and Diana Bruner. Also featured in the cast are Cindy Aler, Debra Sandefur, Monica Johnson, Logan Brown, Evelyn Jasso and Megan O'Neal.

July 4 security less intense this year than last

By MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — The nation spent last Independence Day in the shadow of Sept. 11 and under the heavily armed guard of police. This year, many Americans can expect to see fewer officers, bomb-sniffing dogs and security fences in what law enforcement officials call a return to a more normal holiday.

Strained budgets are limiting police presence and security tactics in many jurisdictions. Other cities are not bringing in extra officers because the federal terror alert is expected to stay at yellow, the middle level on a five-color scale.

Police in St. Louis will cordon off the Gateway Arch but they won't bring

back a fence meant to stop terrorists from swimming up the Mississippi River.

In Oregon, Portland police and state troopers said they planned no special precautions beside the extra patrols they always deploy on holidays.

For Polk County, Iowa, where Des Moines is located, Chief Sheriff's Deputy Bill Vaughn said, "It's pretty much business as usual."

"I think people just need to get out and enjoy the holiday," Vaughn said. "I wouldn't let world affairs cause anybody to cower in fear or to become a recluse."

Even in New York, there will be fewer officers on the streets this year than last. Instead, more interlocking metal barriers will be used to control

crowds, police Commissioner Ray Kelly said.

"We've already gone through one Fourth of July. There's a more relaxed atmosphere," Kelly said.

While intelligence analysis has revealed no particular threats over the holiday weekend to either the city or New York state, Kelly cautioned that police won't be letting down their guard.

There will still be about 7,000 officers on duty, slightly fewer than last year but about 4,200 more than on a normal weekend. Overtime for the patrol officers and special counter-terror units could end up costing the city \$700,000 each day of the holiday weekend, Kelly said.

St. Louis is keeping a handle on its

budget by prohibiting officers from taking vacation time over July 4th so it can fully staff events without spending money on overtime.

In Niagara Falls, N.Y., budget constraints will keep staffing at normal levels over the weekend, Deputy Chief John DeMarco said. State parks police will be out in force around the falls because of an influx of tourists, not terror threats.

Many Americans are more relaxed about the upcoming Fourth, not overly worried about terrorism.

"I'm not extremely worried about national security," said Jonathan Dewey, a college student in Boston. "I think if everyone's paranoid, it just ruins the party."

Police report possible insurance scam here

Pampa Police Department officials say they have received information concerning a possible insurance fraud involving persons with handicapped license plates.

A Pampa citizen was contacted at his home by a well-dressed, well-groomed, white male between the ages of 50 and 60 years of age on Monday.

The suspect told the citizen that the state of Texas had given his company

all the names of the registered owners of vehicles that displayed Texas handicapped license plates, according to a police press release.

The suspect then began a sales pitch for some type of car insurance. After the citizen told him he did not have a checking account, the suspect left.

Local law enforcement asks that all citizens never give out banking information, either in person or over the

phone, to salespersons unless you know the company to be reputable.

All citizens need to know that the state of Texas does not give out the names of registered owners of any vehicles whether handicapped or not, according to the police department.

And as part of a continuing effort to stop possible scams like this one, the police are urging citizens to report any type of fraud encountered.

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night. Winning numbers drawn 6-7-13-32-44 Bonus Ball 12 (six, seven, thirteen, thirty-two, forty-four, Bonus Ball twelve) Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: none. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$18 million.

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U.S. offers \$25 million reward for information on Saddam

By JIM KRANE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. administrators announced a \$25 million reward Thursday for information leading to the capture of Saddam Hussein or confirmation of his death — an effort to resolve the fate of the ousted Iraqi leader and help end the violence blamed on his supporters.

Attacks on U.S. troops in Iraq persisted Thursday, with nine Americans wounded in an explosion and two ambushes in Baghdad. U.S. soldiers killed two Iraqis and wounded several others, including a 6-year-old boy, in the violence. Another Iraqi was killed in an explosion during an anti-U.S. demonstration outside the capital.

The reward for Saddam matches the \$25 million that

Nine U.S. soldiers wounded in Baghdad explosion, ambushes

Washington is offering its other top fugitive: Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader missing since U.S. forces helped dislodge the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

On top of the money for Saddam, the U.S.-led Coalition Provisional Authority also said it would pay \$15 million for information on either of Saddam's two sons, Odai and Qusai.

U.S. officials have said the continuing mystery over Saddam's fate is encouraging resistance against the U.S.-led occupation, as the daily ambushes and other attacks against Americans increase. At least 26 U.S. troops have been killed in hostile fire since major combat was officially declared over on May 1.

"We believe it is important to do everything we can to determine his whereabouts, whether he is alive or dead, in order to assist in stabilizing the situation and letting the people of Baghdad be absolutely sure that he's not coming back," Secretary of State Colin Powell told reporters in Washington.

Saddam was last reportedly seen alive in the war's waning days in the Azamiyah neighborhood of northeastern Baghdad. At least two U.S. airstrikes targeted him during the war but it is not known if any were successful.

President Bush vowed Wednesday that anti-American attacks would not

keep the United States from fulfilling its mission in Iraq.

On Thursday, a two-Humvee convoy hit an explosive in the town of Ramadi, 60 miles west of Baghdad, injuring six U.S. soldiers, said Sgt. Patrick Compton, a military spokesman.

In Baghdad, an attacker fired a grenade at a U.S. Army convoy wounding two soldiers, killing an Iraqi bystander and injuring others, witnesses said.

As the American convoy moved along Baghdad's Haifa Street, a man fired a rocket-propelled grenade while standing in a car's sunroof. The grenade exploded beneath an Army Humvee, said Saddam Juwad, 22, a bystander. Most of the soldiers jumped from the Humvee before the explosion, Juwad said. One soldier who appeared to be injured was evacuated, Juwad and other witnesses said.

Another limping U.S. soldier sobbed and shook as a comrade helped him into a car.

As the attackers sped away, U.S. soldiers began firing wildly, Juwad and other witnesses said, killing the driver of another car. As a Humvee sat burning in the street an hour after the attack, witnesses pointed to a pool of blood on the street where the victim had fallen.

"We heard an explosion. I

threw myself to the ground and my brother was shot," said Fuad Hassan Alwan. "The Americans shot at us. My brother has two bullet wounds and he is now in the hospital."

In a separate ambush Thursday, a sniper fired on a patrol in the west Baghdad neighborhood of Kadamiyah, wounding a soldier from the Army's 1st Armored Division, Compton said. Soldiers fired back, killing the attacker and wounding a six-year-old boy who was with the man, he said.

The soldier and the boy were in stable condition in a military hospital, Compton said.

In Baqubah, northwest of Baghdad, witnesses said a plastic bag filled with explosives blew up in the middle of a crowd of a few hundred Iraqi demonstrators, who were protesting the U.S. Army's detention of Ali Abdul Kareem al-Madani, the city's top Shiite cleric.

Witnesses said one man was killed and five wounded.

But Capt. Josh Felker of the U.S. Army's 4th Infantry division said the explosion occurred when a grenade blew up in a man's hands, injuring three bystanders. Felker said the man may have been preparing to toss the grenade over a wall surrounding a local government compound that also houses a U.S. military office.

After the blast, protesters screamed and ran in different directions. U.S. soldiers patrolling from atop a nearby building fired into the air.

Kahtan Adnan, an aide to al-Madani, said U.S. troops raided the cleric's home in Baqubah, arresting him, his son and eight others at the home.

Also Thursday, a soldier from the 1st Armored Division died in a non-combat incident, the military said. The soldier's name was withheld until his family is notified.

Anger at the U.S. troops has been high, especially in Fallujah, 35 miles west of Baghdad, where an explosion at a mosque killed at least 10 people on Monday. Locals blamed the United States, but Central Command said Wednesday that the explosion was "apparently related to a bomb manufacturing class that was being taught inside the mosque."

In another development, the Iraqi National Museum briefly opened its doors to the press Thursday. Looting at the museum provoked an international outcry after Baghdad fell on April 9, but U.S. occupation authorities say many of the museum's most important items — including the world-famous treasures of Nimrud — have been accounted for. Still, scores of items remain missing, said museum director Donny George.

The museum won't open to the public for about two years, George said.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

BUDGET

with us," like they used to, she said.

The circulation level is about the same, a little higher, she said, with 135 new library cards were issued this year.

David Teichmann with the city's Hidden Hills Golf Course reported that as far as revenue is concerned, the numbers are about the same as last year, although out-of-town play was a little higher. Because there are two courses competing for players in town, he said he has had to go outside of Gray County to get more players. He said players from Amarillo and the surrounding area were coming in.

"I think they come back because they're treated well and the pace of play is faster," he said. "That what we work on."

Sandy Burns with animal control said the only increase in her budget was due to overtime being paid in lieu of staff cuts in the last year. She also requested money to make repairs on the shelter.

"I can't keep dogs in there," Burns said. "They're escaping."

Otherwise, the shelter is running about the same, she added. However, when school is out, the call load always increases, she said.

The shelter keeps 300 to 500 animals a month. Right now, there are about 70 dogs at a time at the shelter, Burns said, and because of the increased work load, animals that are supposed to be put down every 72 hours are in the facility one to two weeks.

"There's no time to put them down," she explained.

The water and wastewater departments submitted numbers that were about \$66,000 less than last year, anticipating continuing water cost increases in the next year from the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) and potential losses from this fiscal year.

The solid waste department asked for an increase of \$30,000. Richard Morris, the director of public works, asked the city to consider getting a new trash compactor for the landfill.

A number of other reports were given by "general fund" departments, that do not produce revenue, with proposed budgets about the same as last year.

Before the meeting was over, City Manager Mitch Grant briefly discussed his ideas to apply for city grants to help bring in additional revenue.

No action was taken at this meeting. The next work session will be 4 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, at city hall.

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Thoughts on sleep or lack of it

I'm getting old. We just got back from our second wedding in Colorado Springs in two months. It's not so easy anymore leaving town at 8 p.m. and getting to the preferred destination at 3:30 in the morning. There's just something about sleep ... I have a love affair with it.



MIRANDA BAILEY
FOR THE NEWS

At 29-years-old one would expect a little maturity as far as sleep goes — going to bed at a decent hour, getting up daily with relative ease somewhere between the hours of 6 and 7 a.m. I hear that the older you get, the earlier you get up. But no matter how old I get, it is a struggle everyday of my life to get myself out of bed. I must hit the alarm clock at least five times a morning, damaging its internal components to some degree. Apparently, not enough. It still annoys the heck out me each and every, single day.

family members based on naptimes, theirs and mine, and please keep in mind there are no toddlers or babies involved here.

It's pathetic, I admit it. Although, I like to think there is a genetic link at play. However, it's obvious to all my friends and family that I am probably the most sleep-addicted member of the clan. And it's not my thyroid, or my water-intake. The physician knows all about it. It could be a lack of exercise, something I'm considering doing more often when my energy level kicks up, but until the mystery remains solved, my top hobby of choice is sleeping late or taking a nap.

My mother attributes it to the fact that I was born a whole month late. Being warm and snuggly in the womb 10 months could have something to do with it, I suppose. My husband thinks I'm just

a lazy cuss and, like most things he does not understand about me, he says it's something I do to get out of housework. Thank you very much, but I can get out of housework just fine without using sleep as an excuse. I have a brother who has a three-year-old, and he says my sleeping habits will break the minute I have children. But I just can't foresee how having kids is going to make me less tired, or less likely to squeeze naps into my life. Maybe it will solve the sleeping-in late thing, but naps out the window? No. Naps never go out of style. And why must this "problem" be solved anyway? Maybe it's a gift.

My dad says he naturally wakes up every morning when the sun comes up, and he can rarely go back to sleep, even when he has the time to do so. That sounds like torture.

I read that everybody is supposed to get 7 to 9 hours of sleep a night. Seven, nine, 12 or 14 ... who cares really, as long as the sleep is happening ... don't you think? I hate the thought of keeping nighttime medicine distributors in high demand. Now that could keep me up at night.

Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Pampa News*.

TEXAS EDITORIAL

Freedom comes at a high price

From the El Paso Times:
 For those who like their wars neatly packaged, with a definite start and a definite conclusion, the Iraq war is confounding and frustrating.

Although the major fighting is over, as acknowledged by President Bush May 1, violence goes on — and, unfortunately, must be expected to continue. It is a grim fact that the fighting now being experienced in Iraq is, in some ways, even more vicious and inhumane than the "regular" warfare — if, indeed, any war can be deemed humane.

All-out war has devolved into incipient guerrilla warfare, and the question is, are coalition forces prepared for that? That they were ready for the war to topple Saddam Hussein's regime is without question. American-led forces scored a decisive, quick victory in the major fighting. There is no question about their effectiveness and ability.

But are those same forces what's needed for the postwar occupation and policing of Iraq?

Is their training sufficient preparation for the kind of hit-and-run shooting and killing that seems to be on the increase?

An American soldier, shopping for videos in Baghdad, was shot in the neck and killed. An Army truck was blown up. Two American soldiers have disappeared. Two soldiers were wounded when a rocket-propelled grenade was fired at an Army truck. An oil pipeline was destroyed. And all that happened within the past couple of days.

The problem now is how to effectively police an occupied country. A complete withdrawal would be unthinkable because it would leave sheer chaos in its wake. This phase of freeing Iraq requires a particular combination of vigilance, urban-combat capabilities, benevolence, fence-mending and policing.

It won't be easy. Casualties will result. But it's necessary, and this tough reality is something Americans will have to live with for some time.

It's one of the high prices of freedom.

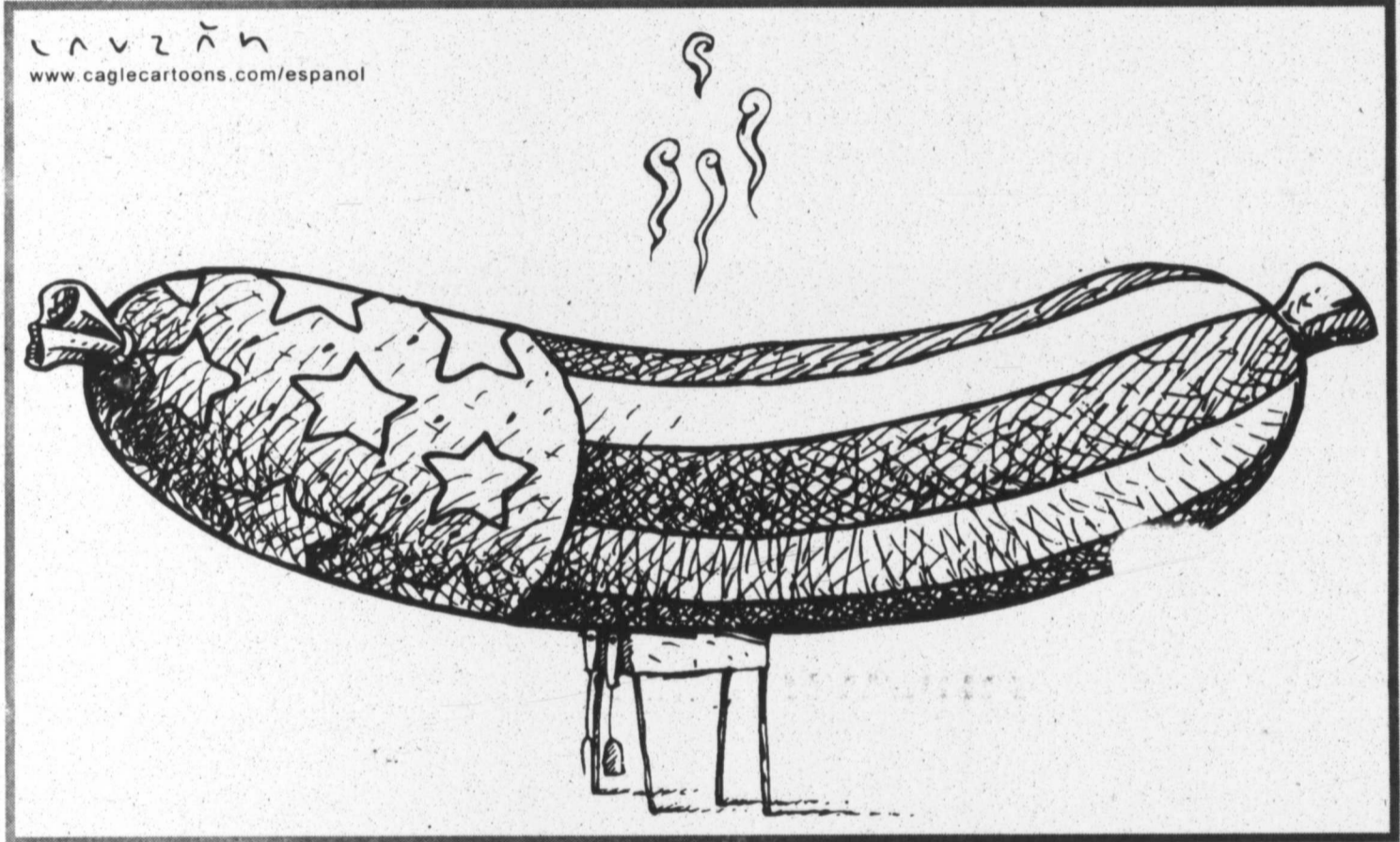
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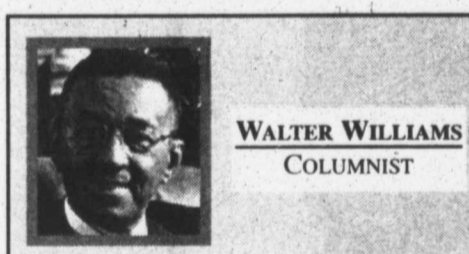
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We're destroying our black youth

In last week's U.S. Supreme Court's affirmative action decision, Justice Clarence Thomas' dissent included a quotation from an 1865 speech by abolitionist Frederick Douglass. "What I ask for the Negro," Douglass said, "is not benevolence, not pity, not sympathy, but simply justice. ... All I ask is, give him a chance to stand on his own legs! Let him alone! ... Your interference is doing him positive injury."



WALTER WILLIAMS
COLUMNIST

Forget how the majority used the phrase "compelling state interest" to trump the 14th Amendment's requirement of equal treatment under the law and give continued sanction to racial discrimination. Let's examine some practical matters ignored in the pro-affirmative action celebration of the court's decision.

According to recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reports, the average black high school senior had math skills on par with those of the typical ninth-grade white student. The average 17-year-old black student could read only as well as the average 12-year-old white. Twelfth-grade black students were doing science problems at the level of sixth-grade white students and writing about as well as whites in the eighth grade.

As of 1998, only 18 percent of black students were rated proficient or advanced in reading, as compared to 47 percent for white students, which itself is nothing to write home about. In Michigan, the source of the controversy leading up to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision, just 2 percent of black eighth-graders score proficient in reading, com-

pared to 34 percent of whites — again, nothing to write home about. In addition to grossly fraudulent education, there's unthinkable school violence at many of the schools that black students attend.

According to a Department of Education report, "School Crime Patterns" (August 2002), "High schools with the highest levels of violence tended to be located in urban areas and have a high percentage of minority students (black and Hispanic), compared to high schools that reported no crime to the police."

The bottom line is given the day-to-day destruction of education for black students at the primary and secondary levels of schooling, most will never be able to compete academically. The fact that the affirmative action crowd demands discriminatory admission practices for post-graduate education such as in law and medical schools confirms something else. Black performance on admittance exams, such as the LSAT, MCAT and GRE, is stark testament that four years of undergraduate education cannot erase the damage of 12 years of fraudulent primary and secondary education.

In the name of diversity, college administrators and their campus sycophants support racially discriminatory

admissions practices. They argue that racial diversity enriches the education experiences of all college students, for which there's absolutely no evidence whatsoever. However, since most college students and administrators are white, it might simply mean that racial diversity gives them a greater sense of superiority having a few campus mascots around, who can't hold their own, beholden to them.

Then there's the false-face of diversity, as Justice Antonin Scalia pointed out in his dissent. Academics support campus "tribalism and racial segregation" with "minority-only student organizations, separate minority housing opportunities, separate minority student centers, even separate minority-only graduation ceremonies."

Black politicians and civil rights organizations' loyalty to the education establishment means academic doom to black youngsters. Washington, D.C., politics and its schools, among the worse in the nation, are a case in point. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, along with most members of the Congressional Black Caucus, use private schools to educate their children. But, when D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams broke ranks with most black elected-officials and endorsed recently proposed education vouchers, Norton blasted him as being "a sell-out."

Whom do you think Frederick Douglass would deem the sell-out: those who seek an alternative to rotten schools that cost taxpayers \$13,000 a year per student or those who support the status quo?

TODAY IN HISTORY

- BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**
 Today is Thursday, July 3, the 184th day of 2003. There are 181 days left in the year.
 Today's Highlight in History:
 On July 3, 1863, the three-day Civil War Battle of Gettysburg, Pa., ended in a major victory for the North as Confederate troops retreated.
 On this date:
 In 1608, the city of Quebec was founded by Samuel de Champlain.
 In 1775, Gen. George Washington took command of the Continental Army at Cambridge, Mass.
 In 1890, Idaho became the 43rd state of the Union.
 In 1898, the U.S. Navy defeated a Spanish fleet in the harbor at Santiago, Cuba, during the Spanish-American War.
 In 1930, Congress created the U.S. Veterans Administration.
 In 1962, Algeria became independent after 132 years of French rule.

Isra

By ALEXA ASSOCIATED

JERUSALEM
 After tentative peace, Israeli Palestinian negotiators in a West Bank town and the two sides over the two months of fighting.

In the Gaza Strip, forces temporarily were fired, but the violence, casting a handover of the West Bank to the Palestinians.

Early this month, the Al Qaeda Brigades, a militant group, was violent in the town of Qalqiliya. The man killed was Mahmud assistant to the Brigades.

Schro

BERLIN
 Germany's chancellor apologized for the Italian Prime Minister's criticism of Berlusconi's German membership in the European Parliament to make a good impression on the German Chancellor.

Schroeder said he was "completely satisfied." "I expect to formally meet with Schroeder in the start of a speech reform to parliament. Many laws though some not."

Berlusconi after the flag earlier as his presidency. The Union — v. Thursday with telephone on the issue was not.

But the change said nothing instead of opposition of Berlusconi's effort for Parliament to apologize for the body against Parliament should speak a "fair trial."

The German was infuriated by the jibe, which the Social Democrats are opposing an appointment to mark the month of the European Union. The European Union, Martin

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Israeli troops kill Palestinian militant, close junction

BY ALEXANDRA ZAVIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

JERUSALEM (AP) — After tentative steps toward peace, Israeli troops killed a Palestinian militiaman during a West Bank raid Thursday, and the two sides bickered over who won the past 33 months of fighting.

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli forces temporarily closed an important junction after rockets were fired at a Jewish settlement, casting a shadow over a handover of territory to Palestinians.

Early Thursday, Israeli troops killed a local leader of the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a militia linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, when an arrest turned violent in the West Bank city of Qalqiliya, the army said. The man killed was identified as Mahmoud Shawer, an assistant to Ibrahim Mansour, the Brigades' leader in

Qalqiliya, who was arrested. The army said both men were armed and that one was killed when he tried to flee. Palestinian sources said Shawer was only wounded in the leg during the escape attempt, but when troops withdrew, he was found dead with gunshot wounds to the head.

The incident raised fears for a temporary cease-fire declared Sunday by the three main Palestinian groups in an important boost to the "road map" peace plan launched by President Bush at a June 4 Mideast summit.

The militant Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups suspended attacks for three months, while Fatah announced a six-month truce. However, renegade fighters from the Al Aqsa Martyr's Brigades and a number of smaller factions have rejected the cease-fire, and have carried out a number of shootings.

About 30 gunmen from Al

Aqsa and another armed group were among thousands marching in Shawer's funeral. A speaker from the militia promised revenge within 24 hours. One of Shawer's sons, about eight or nine years old, was hoisted on the shoulders of one of the marchers and handed an Uzi submachine gun. The boy fired in the air, with adults helping him hold up the heavy weapon.

A senior Arafat aide, Tayeb Abdel Rahim, called Shawer's killing an "assassination" and accused Israel of trying "to bring us back to the cycle of action and reaction."

But the Palestinian foreign minister, Nabil Shaath, said the killing of the militant would not detail the peace process. "We always knew that the road map is not a highway. It is a mountainous, winding road with cliffhangers and sharp turns to the right and to the left and up and down," he told reporters.

Israeli officials said they have a right to defend their citizens if Palestinians refuse to dismantle violent groups as required by the road map. "Until they do, Israel has every right to take defensive measures on behalf of its citizens," said Dore Gold, a government spokesman.

Palestinian officials fear a crackdown could trigger a civil war. Preferring persuasion, they helped broker the cease-fire.

After the truce announcement, Israeli forces began the pullbacks and the prime ministers of the two sides met at an upbeat summit, where they recommitted themselves to the peace plan.

Bush called Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Wednesday and invited him to visit Washington in September, according to a statement from Sharon's office.

Israel Army Radio said 12 Palestinians were to be

released Thursday, including a senior Palestinian security official, Sulimein Abu Mutlak. The release of prisoners — more than 5,000 are held by Israel — is a key Palestinian demand, included in the cease-fire declarations.

The two sides became embroiled Thursday in a war of words over who had won the current round of fighting, which began in September 2000.

Israel's army chief claimed victory in an interview published Thursday in an Israeli newspaper. "There is a good chance these days to bring the latest round of violence to an end," the army chief, Lt. Gen. Moshe Yaalon, told the Yediot Aharonot daily. "Given that the Israeli society withstood the test, and the army fought the terror with heroism, we now need to announce that we have won and carry on."

He said Hamas had been unable to see the fight through to the end. "Hamas asked for a cease-fire before the gong sounded," he said. "There is a chance the power of Hamas is declining."

Hamas responded with its

own declaration of victory. "Hamas has won and the resistance is alive and will continue," said Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a senior Hamas figure. "Hamas has achieved a great victory on the ground ... and a diplomatic victory when Hamas declared the cease-fire."

Palestinian Authority officials accused Yaalon of incitement.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces blocked off a main Gaza junction for six hours, just days after it was reopened as part of a security handover. The closure came in response to the firing of four anti-tank shells at the Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom. Four people were hurt by shrapnel, the army said.

On Thursday, two Palestinians were injured when Israeli troops fired on a car trying to pass jeeps blocking the road. Palestinian witnesses said.

The army said troops had fired in the air on two occasions when Palestinian vehicles had approached the road block, endangering the soldiers. It was not aware of any victims.

Schroeder seeks apology from Italian PM for Nazi remark

BERLIN (AP) — Germany's chancellor demanded an apology Thursday from Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi for saying a German member of the European Parliament would make a good Nazi concentration camp guard in a movie.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said the comparison was "completely unacceptable."

"I expect the Italian premier to formally apologize," said Schroeder in comments at the start of a speech on economic reform to parliament in Berlin. Many lawmakers applauded, though some conservatives did not.

Berlusconi — back in Rome after the flap he caused a day earlier as his country took the presidency of the European Union — was to speak later Thursday with Schroeder by telephone and said he expected the issue would be resolved.

But the conservative leader said nothing about apologizing, instead blaming Italy's leftist opposition for the uproar. And Berlusconi's allies blocked an effort for the European Parliament to formally demand an apology for his comments.

Instead, party leaders at the body agreed that the Parliament president, Pat Cox, should speak to Berlusconi to seek a "fair and balanced solution."

The German government was infuriated by Berlusconi's jibe, which was directed at a Social Democratic member of the European Parliament during an appearance Wednesday to mark the start of Italy's six-month presidency of the European Union.

The European parliamentarian, Martin Schulz, referred

during a question-and-answer session to the Italian leader's use of an immunity law to sidestep bribery charges in an Italian court.

"Mr. Schulz, I know there is a producer in Italy who is making a film on the Nazi concentration camps. I will suggest you for the role of kapo," Berlusconi snapped back. "You'd be perfect."

The German word "kapo" is usually taken to mean a concentration camp guard drawn from the ranks of the prisoners.

The uproar was front-page news Thursday in Italy and Germany, where commentators across the political spectrum condemned Berlusconi and questioned

his fitness to speak for Europe. Others backed Berlusconi, including the conservative daily Il Foglio.

"The premier did well to give the title of kapo to Mr. Schulz, a socialist deputy who treated him like a classroom delinquent," wrote commentator Giuliano Ferrara, a frequent Berlusconi defender.

Schulz, a social democrat like Schroeder, said in an interview Thursday in the Italian daily La Stampa that he rejected Berlusconi's explanation that the remark was meant to be lighthearted.

"Suffice it to say that Berlusconi would do best to resign," Schulz told the paper. Berlusconi on Thursday

blamed Italy's leftist opposition for the furor, saying his political foes created a political climate that prompted the testy exchange with Schulz. "It was adequately prepared by the opposition," the premier said in Rome.

German Foreign Minister Josepha Fischer echoed Schroeder's call for an apology, but indicated he did not expect the spat to linger.

"Wherever there are humans, you have mistakes, sometimes even bad mistakes," Fischer said in parliament. "You can rectify that with an honest word, by apologizing."

Berlusconi also drew scrutiny Thursday for his near total control of his country's television stations. A Danish member of the 45-member Council of Europe said the continent's top human rights watchdog should investigate freedom of the press in Italy.

"I am worried about what happens in Italy, about the media concentration," Hanne Severinsen said in Denmark.

Berlusconi's media empire includes Italy's main private television broadcaster, Mediaset, and he controls 90 percent of the Italian television market, including state-run RAI's three channels.

OHS/WIC classes to help combat childhood obesity

Starting this month, the local Outreach Health Services WIC clinic, located at 1201 Hobart, will take aim at childhood obesity by offering a quarterly nutrition class. According to a recent issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, one out of seven children and adolescents in the United States are obese.

This trend is thought to be at least partly due to children spending increasing amounts of time involved in sedentary activities such as watching television, playing video games and instant-messaging their

friends on computers. During the nutrition classes, OHS/WIC will address ways to prevent obesity in children. The following five core principles will be stressed: Stay active; turn off the TV; reduce portion sizes; eat regular meals; and drink more water.

Ideas for fun ways to help children become more active will also be covered during the class which is called "A Healthy Body Suits Me: Bring the Outside In."

For more information, call the local OHS/WIC office at 665-1182 or visit www.outreach-health.com.

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ConocoPhillips Co., #3 Step, Sec. 187,B-2,H&GN, spud 10-27-83, plugged 8-21-02, TD 3252' (oil) — GRAY (PANHANDLE)

Snappy Services, Inc., #11 O.N. Frasier, Sec. 162,3,1&GN, spud 5-27-66, plugged 4-18-03, TD 3378' (oil) — Form 1 in Texaco, Inc.

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JULY 03 2003

Poll finds public wants SUVs to get better gas mileage

By WILL LESTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The majority of Americans say SUVs should have to meet the same fuel economy standards as cars, says an Associated Press poll.

But they're split on whether SUVs are safer — people tend to think they're safer for those inside them and more dangerous for people in other cars.

People were more likely to think SUVs are safer for their own occupants, by 42 percent to 35 percent, according to the poll conducted for the AP by ICR/International Communications Research of Media, Pa. And they were more likely — by a smaller margin — to think SUVs are more dangerous for other motorists on the highway, by 45 percent to 41 percent.

The poll findings reflect the public's mixed feelings about SUVs, which industry analysts say are still growing in popularity.

For Mark Milano, an oral surgeon in Muskegon, Mich., buying an SUV makes a lot of sense.

"Most everybody I know, especially in a town, with kids, has an SUV in the family," said Milano. "I think they're safer. SUVs are bigger, higher up off the road."

He acknowledges that the bigger SUVs on the road may not make other motorists in smaller cars feel safer.

One of those motorists, retiree Don l'Heureux of Blue Hill, Neb., gets aggravated at the mere mention of SUVs.

"They're dangerous to other cars on the road," he said. "I don't like them at all. They scare me since I drive a small car, they are wasteful on energy."

He said he hears news reports regularly about SUVs rolling over on the highways.

The public's perception of whether SUVs are dangerous for other motorists went up steadily with respondents' education level. Republicans were more likely to defend the general safety of SUVs than Democrats were.

Just over half in the poll,

54 percent, said the fuel economy standards for SUVs should be the same as for other cars, while 33 percent said they should be allowed to get lower gas mileage. The poll of 1,001 adults was taken June 20-24 and has an error margin of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Automakers now must meet a fleet average fuel economy of 20.7 miles per gallon for SUVs, minivans and pickups, a standard that has been in place since 1996 and could be increased slightly to 22.2 mpg for vehicles produced in the next few years.

The mileage requirement for other passenger vehicles is 27.5 mpg. Past efforts in

Congress to require SUVs to meet the same fuel standards have been unsuccessful.

The support for higher fuel standards for SUVs comes at a time that the public appears less worried about the chances of a critical energy shortage in the near future.

About four in 10 said they're worried about a critical energy shortage in the next five years; half said they were not. Women were about evenly split on whether there will be a critical energy shortage, while men said by a 2-1 margin they don't expect one.

Just before the war in Iraq, just over half said they were worried about a critical ener-

gy shortage in the next five years.

Despite the mixed public opinion about SUVs, their popularity is growing steadily, said industry analysts.

About a fourth of the vehicles sold in this country in the last year were SUVs of some sort, said Mike Wall, an automotive industry analyst at CSM Worldwide. He expects SUVs' share of the market to grow to about a third in the next few years.

"There's no question they're hugely popular," Wall said. "You're even seeing an evolution within the SUV group. We're seeing a movement away from the truck-like vehicles to ones that are more car-like — they have a

lower step-in height. They ride more like a car."

Those smaller SUVs would probably improve gas mileage, he said, adding that automotive companies have taken steps to improve SUVs' record on rollovers. Recent testing has shown the industry has more work to do.

SUV owners say they like the advantages — like feeling safer inside, sitting higher up for better visibility and being able to haul things — even though some people don't like the vehicles.

"People who don't have them do resent them," said Hazel Bern, a retiree from Sioux City, Iowa. "I never talked to anybody who had one who didn't like it."

Court upholds ruling that barring Max Factor heir from appealing

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — An appellate court upheld a ruling that convicted rapist Andrew Luster has no right to appeal his guilty verdicts because he jumped bail and fled to Mexico during a break in his trial.

"By his flight to a foreign country, the inference is compelling that, but for his capture, he would be a fugitive to this day," Justice Kenneth Yegan wrote for the 2nd District Court of Appeals in its ruling Wednesday.

Luster, a great-grandson of cosmetics legend Max Factor, was convicted in absentia in January of drug-

ging and raping women in his Ventura County home.

His attorney appealed the conviction, but Luster was still a fugitive, and the appeal was dismissed June 10 on the grounds that Luster had forfeited his right to appeal by jumping bail. The attorney appealed that

ruling after Luster was captured June 18 in Puerto Vallarta.

Luster is serving his sentence in a California prison.

The bounty hunter who caught him is meanwhile facing Mexican charges of "deprivation of liberty," similar to kidnapping without

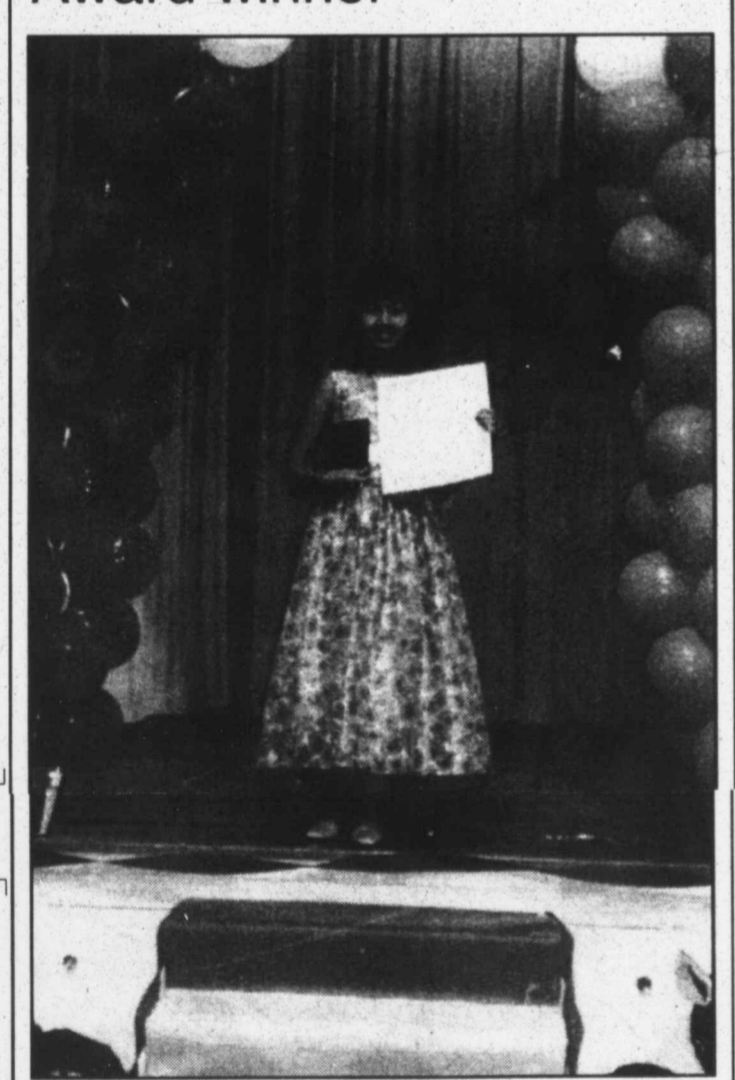
requesting a ransom. The charge carries a maximum of four years in prison.

The bounty hunter, Duane Chapman, spoke to reporters Wednesday in Los Angeles. He said he didn't think he broke any laws and he expects to be exonerated. He said he feared Luster, spotted

in a disco, was preying on women in Puerto Vallarta.

"My brother came and said, 'He's in the club right now and the flashing lights are on him and the girls are 17 years old walking around,'" Chapman said. "We had to protect everyone, we thought."

Award winner



(Courtesy photo)

Klarisse Espiritu-Santo earned an Outstanding Band Student award at Travis Elementary School.

THE Pampa NEWS

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The Pampa News Comics

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Son's Death By Drunk Driver Changes Life Forever For Mom

DEAR ABBY: This Mother's Day was my fourth without my youngest son. In June of 1999, he was killed by a drunk driver. My son was only 23 and had his whole life ahead of him. The driver was a 50-year-old man who pulled out of a bar parking lot onto a main road as though he were the only driver in the world. My son didn't stand a chance. It was 8:30 on a Tuesday night. DUIs can occur any day, any time.

That tragic night not only changed my life forever, but the lives of my son's brother, his grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, a girlfriend and friends. I will never be able to attend his wedding, cuddle his children, or have a relationship with his wife.

I raised two boys and enjoyed their company. How quickly all that changed. I no longer enjoy "happy" or "merry" holidays.

Abby, please warn your readers not to drink and drive. Tragedy caused by a drunk driver can strike any family.

A MOM CHANGED FOREVER

DEAR MOM: I'm sad to say that's absolutely true. Please accept my deepest sympathy for the tragic loss of your son. With the Fourth of July holiday beginning tomorrow, your letter is especially timely.

Readers, relax, give thanks to our founding fathers, but please do not drink and drive.

DEAR ABBY: I am working this summer and saving to buy a new car. The car I have now is fine, I just want something newer.

My problem is, what do I do with my old car when I get a new one? My parents are divorced, but both of them have asked me to sell it to a different brother. I know that when I choose one, the other will be upset and will think I am playing favorites. What should I do?

ONE CARTWO BROS IN KANSAS

DEAR CAR, TWO BROS: It's unfair for you to be placed in the middle. Establish a fair price for the vehicle. Tell both of your brothers what's going on and have them draw a "lucky ticket" out of a hat to see who gets to buy the car. If that is not acceptable, the car should be sold to a third party.

DEAR ABBY: I married a widower who is 40 years older than me. I adore him, but he insists on keeping a portrait of his deceased wife prominently displayed in our living room. (She died 10 years ago.) He also has a sculpture of her head on a pedestal.

This behavior irks me. Please advise.

SECONDHAND IRIS IN MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR IRIS: Your husband may have had the portrait for so long that he's no longer aware of its presence. Have you told him how you feel about it? If you have, and he's resistant to removing it — as a compromise, ask him to display it in a less prominent place.

As for the sculpture, when he's not around, throw a towel or a lovely scarf over it and keep your sense of humor. After all, she's just plaster and paint. You are flesh and blood.

DEAR ABBY: This summer I'm getting married to Mr. Wonderful. Jerry and I have been engaged for two years and together for five. The problem? His new hobby — computer chat rooms.

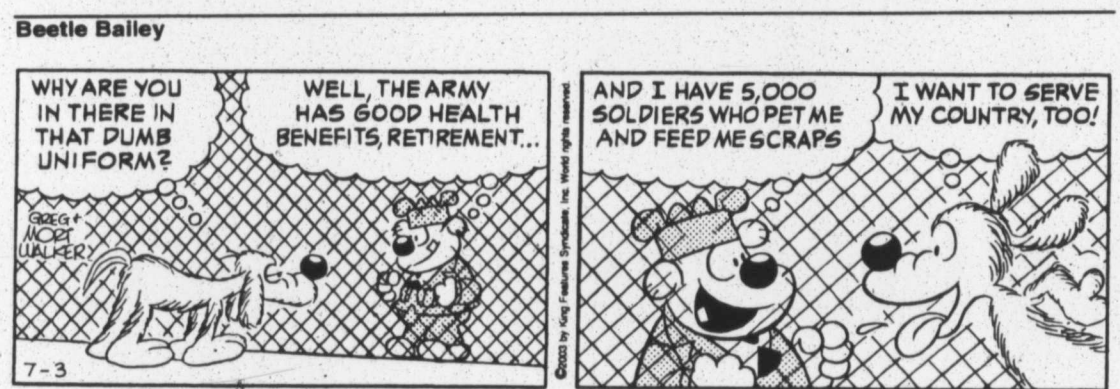
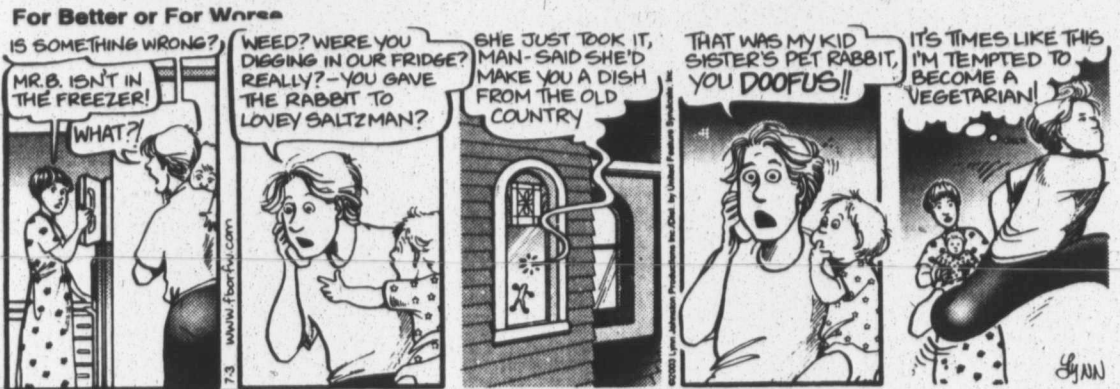
Maybe I've got the wedding jitters, but this bothers me no end. Lately he's been messaging "Gina" in the U.K. They communicate frequently, and even have pet names for each other. (Jerry calls her "Little British Babe" and she calls him "Jer-Bear.")

Now I have discovered they're exchanging letters, photos and chocolates. Jerry says it's because she misses her favorite U.S. candy — Hershey kisses.

Abby, am I being paranoid, or is more going on than meets the eye? SUSPICIOUS FIANCEE IN NEBRASKA

DEAR SUSPICIOUS FIANCEE: I don't think you are being paranoid. Your fiancé should be exchanging kisses (chocolate and otherwise) with you. Tell him to cut out the candy and sweet talk, or you'll go on a "diet" that doesn't include him.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

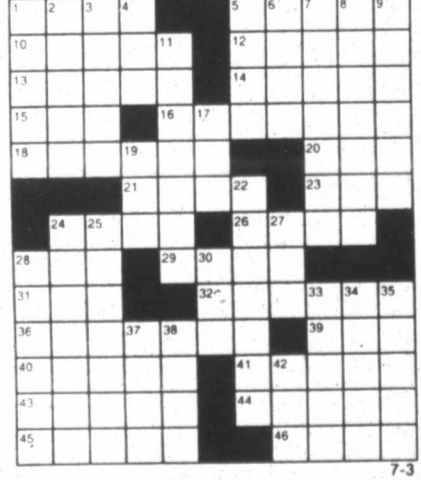
- ACROSS 46 Editor's place
1 Takes in
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18 Lady of Spain
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39 Took the title
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43 Candidate of 2000
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2 No longer a minor
3 Ford fore-runner
4 Hit letters
5 BBs, e.g.
6 Horn sound
7 Company thinker
8 "Motor City"
9 Spring Sunday
11 Snares
17 Conflict
19 Resistant unit
22 "The Scorpion King"
24 Neck vein
25 Software buy
27 Island strings
28 Cosine's reciprocal
30 Greek vowel
33 Knowing
34 Gets some shut-eye
35 Be furtive
37 Prayer ender
38 Appliance part
42 Fishing pole



Yesterday's answer

- 19 Resistant unit
22 "The Scorpion King"
24 Neck vein
25 Software buy
27 Island strings
28 Cosine's reciprocal
30 Greek vowel
33 Knowing
34 Gets some shut-eye
35 Be furtive
37 Prayer ender
38 Appliance part
42 Fishing pole

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Marmaduke



The Family Circus



Flo & Friends



BASKETBALL

MILWAUKEE T.J. Ford of the Bucks of this year's round draft agreeing to a contract with the Bucks. The 6-foot-7 forward from Texas overall seventh pick in the draft. Terms of the contract were not disclosed to the 2002-03 season, a four-year, \$10 million contract worth about \$2.5 million per year.

BOXING

LAS VEGAS The heavy bout between Evander Holyfield and James Toney Saturday, Sept. 14, at Mandalay Bay Casino, will be broadcast on Showtime.

TENNIS

WIMBLEDON England's Tim Henman will have a long day of tennis for their fans, and a long day for their fans. Tim Henman will have a long day of tennis for their fans, and a long day for their fans. Tim Henman will have a long day of tennis for their fans, and a long day for their fans.

Light rain started on Wednesday, but it began to clear by Thursday. The British said Billie Jean King was just suffering. We're suffering. Still, fans see the final Court when Alan Mills the final time. "It's to there's a final Mills to umpire. "That's it!

SPORTS

Pampa 14-15 All-Stars advance to state

CANYON — Pampa 14-15 Babe Ruth All-Stars came back through the loser's bracket and defeated North Randall County 7-1, 8-3 Tuesday to win the District Tournament, and advance to the State Tournament, beginning July 12 in Seminole.

The new District Champions did it the hard way. They lost 11-9 Saturday in their first game against North Plains. They came back to win five games in three days. They defeated Canyon 19-0 and Deaf Smith County 8-0 on Sunday. On Monday they bested North Plains 11-1.

Ryan Torres scattered four hits in the opener. He struck out nine, walked two and hit three batters, while throwing 103 pitches in the complete game win.

Tyson Hickman and Jake Craig accounted for six of Pampa's eight hits. Hickman had three hits and two RBI. Craig scored twice on a double and two singles.

Pampa spotted Randall County

a run in the second inning on two singles and a wild pitch. The winners answered in the bottom of the second by scoring twice. Craig singled and moved to second on a passed ball. Torres moved him to third on a single and then stole second after being trapped off first. Bradley Johnson's sacrifice fly to right brought Craig in with Torres taking third. A ground out by Matthew Trusty plated Torres, giving Pampa the lead at 2-1.

The winners batted around in the bottom of the fourth inning. Craig doubled and Johnson walked. Trusty attempted a sacrifice, but beat it out for a hit to load the bases. Davis hit to the shortstop who tried to get Craig at home, but the ball got by the catcher allowing Craig and Johnson to score. Jonathan Carr sacrificed Trusty home and Hickman slammed a line drive to right to score Davis, giving Pampa a 6-1 lead.

In the sixth inning, Carr walked, took second on a passed

ball and scored on a single by Hickman.

Sound defensive play aided Pampa. Davis caught a runner stealing in the second. Craig stretched and scooped a low bouncing throw at first to nip a runner in the fifth. Hickman went deep into the hole to backhand a ball and rob the hitter of a hit with a cannon ball throw to first in the sixth.

In the second game, Pampa again spotted North Randall County a one-run lead. A hit, an error and a fielder's choice produced a run in the first. Pampa evened the score in the bottom of the first on a single by Hickman, a sacrifice fly by Eric Kingcade, a stolen base and a double by Craig.

Pampa's bats went strangely silent for most of the rest of the game, getting only two more hits. However, Pampa used three walks, two hit batters and an error on an attempted sacrifice to score three

times in the bottom of the second

with Johnson, Trusty and Davis making the runs.

In the bottom of the third, Pampa got its last hits of the game. Johnson was hit by a pitch and Robbie Dixon's popup was missed by the second baseman. Dixon went to second on a bad throw trying to get Johnson at third. A ground out by Davis brought in Johnson and sent Dixon to third. Hickman stroked a hit to left field to bring Dixon home. Kingcade doubled to right sending Hickman in.

Randall County came to life briefly in the fifth inning. The ball seemed to have eyes as they combined three infield hits with a walk and a hit batter to pick up two runs and make the score 7-3.

Two errors and two walks allowed Hickman to add an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth for Pampa.

Craig, who relieved starter Sameer Kelley in the second inning and had help from

Hickman, was the winning pitcher. He allowed two runs on four hits. He struck out two, walked one and hit a batter in four innings. Kelley pitched the first inning, giving up a run and two hits. He struck out one and walked one and struck out two, giving up no runs or hits in the last two innings.

Hickman was the leading hitter for Pampa in the second game. He had two hits, scored three times and made two RBI. Craig had a double and two RBI. Kingcade had a double and RBI for the only other Pampa hit.

After the first game, Pampa was so dominating that it outscored its five opponents 53 to 5. Pampa scored more runs in one inning than their five foes did collectively in 33 innings.

Robert Wayne Dixon and Marie Hickman are the coaches for the Pampa All-Stars.

NOTEBOOK

BASKETBALL

MILWAUKEE (AP) —

T.J. Ford became the first of this year's NBA first-round draft picks to sign, agreeing to a four-year contract with the Milwaukee Bucks.

The 6-foot point guard from Texas was the eighth overall selection in last week's draft.

Terms of the contract were not disclosed but according to the 2002-03 NBA rookie scale, a four-year deal for the No. 8 pick would be worth about \$7 million.

BOXING

LAS VEGAS (AP) —

The heavyweight fight between four-time champion Evander Holyfield and James Toney will be held Saturday, Oct. 4 at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino, Promoter Dan Goossen announced.

Showtime pay-per-view will telecast the fight.

TENNIS

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) —

It was a long day for Wimbledon fans, and a frustrating one for their favorite player, Tim Henman. But for Mark Philippoussis, it could have been worse.

Philippoussis endured three rain delays and erased a two-set deficit Wednesday before dampness and darkness forced the suspension of his quarterfinal match against Alexander Popp. The unseeded Philippoussis was serving and holding a two-point lead, 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 2-2, 30-0.

The 10th-seeded Henman, trying to become the first Englishman to win Wimbledon since 1936, trailed No. 13 Sebastian Grosjean 7-6 (8), 3-6, 6-3, 1-2. Henman rallied from a 5-1 deficit in the opening set and held four set points in the tiebreaker but couldn't convert them.

Light rain delayed the start of play Thursday, beginning on Centre Court with the first women's semifinal between defending champion Serena Williams and Justine Henin-Hardenne.

Outside Centre Court, on the terrace nicknamed Henman Hill, thousands of fans followed Henman's match — and the delays — on a huge television screen Wednesday.

"We had thunder and lightning at one point, and the British don't move," said Bill Henry of Bath. "We just sat there and suffered. Watching Henman, we're suffering anyway."

Still, fans wanted to see the finish. The Centre Court crowd groaned when tournament referee Alan Mills halted play for the final time.

"It's too slippery, and there's fading light," Mills told the chair umpire and players. "That's it for tonight."

Local boxers win at Dodge City Tournament

DODGE CITY, Kan. — Enrique Marquez and Cristoval Larrazolo of the Pampa Boxing Club came away as champions at last weekend's New Hope Tournament.

Marquez posted a 4-0 decision over Gary Thompson of the New Hope Club.

"Enrique put on an outstanding performance. He is getting more experience with every match," says Pampa coach Lupe Larrazolo. "He is a very tough boxer who can give his opponent a real workout."

Enrique is the son of Enrique and Belma Marquez.

"Enrique's parents are very

supportive and accompany him on all his tournaments. Belma says she is proud of her son and will follow wherever the boxing club takes her," Coach Larrazolo said.

Chris Larrazolo was matched in the 100-pound division against Herbert Acevedo, an experienced boxer from Garden City with 31 fights to his credit.

Both boxers put up a courageous fight, taking every round to the limit.

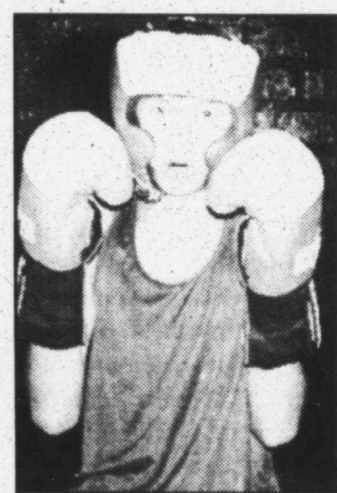
"Chris wore out his opponent with body blows and came out a winner," coach Larrazolo said.

Four of the seven Pampa boxers were suited up for the tournament, which was held at the

Malibu Night Club in Dodge City.

"Jose Venegas, Jose Nunez and Celia Mora weren't ready for this tournament, but hopefully they'll be ready for the next one, which is July 12 in Lubbock," Larrazolo said. "Unfortunately, two of the four members did not have matches. Jose Larrazolo did not get a match for the fourth tournament in a row because the other boxers did not have enough experience to box him. Mercedes Larrazolo was disappointed because she was ready to fight, but her opponent didn't show. Overall, Mercedes says she's ready."

Rick's Body Shop sponsors the Pampa Boxing Club.



Enrique Marquez (left) and Cristoval Larrazolo posted wins at the New Hope Tournament.

Pampa girls claim victories

MEMPHIS — The Pampa 11-12 All-Stars won their first two games in the District Softball Tournament.

Pampa defeated Memphis 25-11 in the opener, using four pitchers to hold their opponent to 11 runs. Carlyn Teichmann, Ashley Facio, Libby Dyson and Jessica Miner all saw action on the mound.

Pampa's bats broke the game open in the third inning by scoring 11 runs. Holly Winegeart had two singles and Yesenia Flores had a double and single. Ashley Facio had a double, while Kelby Doughty and Carlyn Teichmann each had a single in the third inning.

For the game, Kelby Doughty was 3 for 4 (3 singles) to lead Pampa in hitting. Others with hits were Carlyn Teichmann 2 for 2 (single and triple); Holly Winegeart 2 for 3 (2 singles); Yesenia Flores 2 for 2 (single and double); Sammie

Pearson 1 for 1 (single); Shelbie Watson 1 for 1 (single); Ashley Facio 1 for 4 (double), and Jessica Miner 1 for 2 (single).

In the next game, Lauren Smith threw a no-hitter as Pampa defeated Childress 11-0. Smith struck out seven and walked six.

Pampa batters had a tough time getting hits. They hit the ball hard, but most of the time it was right at a fielder. Key baserunning led to most of the 11 runs.

Carlyn Teichmann, who was 1 for 3 (single) was the leading hitter.

Pampa played for the championship Wednesday night in Memphis. The winner advances to Stinnett on Monday for the District Championship.

The Pampa team is coached by David Teichmann. Coaches are Jimmy Barker and Donny Winegeart.

Baylor player still missing

WACO, Texas (AP) — Some relatives and friends of Baylor basketball player Patrick Dennehy say he was being threatened before he vanished about three weeks ago, but Baylor basketball coach Dave Bliss says he knew nothing about it.

"Members of my staff met and had frequent contact with Patrick in the days leading up to his disappearance," Bliss said in a statement Wednesday. "At no time, did Patrick say anything about safety concerns or personal threats."

Dennehy, 21, had told Baylor coaches he was scared, said Brian Brabazon, his stepfather. Brabazon also said someone had recently broken into Dennehy's SUV and stolen money from him. Waco police and Baylor police said Dennehy never filed a report about a break-in.

Authorities said Wednesday they have received hundreds of leads over the past few days.

"Somebody out there knows what happened to (Dennehy) or they know where he is," Waco police spokesman Steve Anderson said. "We're hoping that person or persons will call in and give us that good tip and we can resolve this."

Dennehy was reported missing by his family June 19, about a week after he was last seen. His car was found last week in Virginia Beach, Va., where he had no apparent connections.

Police classify former Baylor basketball player Carlton Dotson, believed to be 21, as "a person of interest" in the disappearance.

An unnamed police informant in Delaware alleged Dotson shot Dennehy in the head after the two argued while shooting guns on property outside Waco, court documents show.

No one has been arrested. Dennehy's girlfriend, Jessica De La Rosa, said she didn't think the two had a falling out. She last talked to Dennehy on June 11, and a few days later she called Dotson to find out where her boyfriend was.

"They were friendly teammates and recently had become closer as friends," De La Rosa of Albuquerque, N.M., said Wednesday.

Dotson's estranged wife, Melissa Jill Kethley, told the Waco Tribune-Herald on Wednesday that she last spoke with Dotson on Tuesday, and he told her he had nothing to do with Dennehy's disappearance.



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Solid proof of Iraqi weapons program hard to come by, analysts say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Current, reliable information on Iraq's weapons efforts was sometimes lacking but U.S. intelligence analysts did not exaggerate their findings under pressure from Bush administration officials trying to build a case for war, says Richard Kerr, who is heading the intelligence community's internal review of its prewar performance on Iraq.

The analysts cataloged some uncertainties about the

data in intelligence reports but still generally concluded Iraq had active weapons of mass destruction programs, Kerr, a retired senior analyst and former deputy director of central intelligence, said in an Associated Press interview.

Some Democrats in Congress, say those doubts never were made public. In the two months since the ouster of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, U.S. and British forces have not validated

many of their prewar claims, including those that said Iraq had chemical and biological weapons stockpiles.

Critics have accused the administration of exaggerating or mishandling intelligence to convince Americans and the world that it was necessary to invade Iraq.

Kerr is leading a team of three other retired intelligence officers in a review of the performance of the CIA and other agencies. They have submit-

ted an initial report to CIA Director George Tenet, who has vigorously defended the agency's efforts on Iraq.

A CIA spokesman declined to comment on the contents of Kerr's report. The official said it was part of a self-evaluation of the intelligence community's prewar performance that was proposed by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld in October 2002.

In discussing the report, Kerr primarily described his finding that the integrity of the intelligence process was maintained. Efforts to gauge the accuracy many of agencies' prewar predictions will have to wait until a more thorough search of Iraq is completed, he said.

The foundation of the U.S. information on Iraq's weapons programs was discoveries after the 1991 Gulf War, Kerr said. But after U.N. weapons inspectors left Iraq in 1998, much of the information dried up, leaving the U.S. government to discover what it could from satellite images, intercepted communications

and spies and refugees.

Solid information was sometimes lacking from those sources. However, what the intelligence agencies did learn seemed to confirm their conclusions that Iraq indeed had active programs to make chemical and biological weapons and to develop nuclear weapons, said Kerr.

"There was, in some areas, a dearth of hard, detailed intelligence," he said. "That presents a real problem for intelligence analysts."

Still, he said, "it would have been very hard for an intelligence analyst to determine that there were no weapons of mass destruction programs. There was a lot of information over time."

In the run-up to the war, intelligence analysts faced intense pressure from Bush administration officials seeking information to prove Iraq was a threat, Kerr said.

intelligence community to try to make them more precise but also to convince them they're right."

But a review of the prewar findings shows the analysts didn't change their position, Kerr said.

"They were pretty consistent over a considerable period of time," he said.

Kerr predicted that more evidence of weapons programs would yet be found in Iraq but acknowledged the search might be fruitless. "It's a set of judgments," he said. "It may be wrong. It may not be completely accurate."

Congressional intelligence oversight committees are conducting preliminary inquiries.

Critics have raised a variety of questions: Was bad information collected and wrongly believed? Were the analysts wrong or inappropriately influenced? Did the Bush administration not accurately reflect the real intelligence in its statements to the public and United Nations?

Prewar intelligence reports also note uncertainties and

At least five dead after explosions

BONITA SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — A fifth person died Thursday from a series of fireworks explosions that began as workers moved an Independence Day display from a truck.

The bodies of the four other victims remained at the gulfside scene overnight because investigators were worried that some of the \$20,000 worth of fireworks could still detonate. The fifth victim, Ken Kinard of Cocoa Beach, died early Thursday in a hospital burn unit.

"Right now, it's still a dangerous situation," said Lee County sheriff's spokesman Sgt. Michael Maschmeier.

The workers were transferring the fireworks Wednesday when a series of powerful blasts erupted, shooting flames into the sky and shaking the ground.

"It just all happened at once," said Kevin McKenzie, who was mowing grass near the truck. "Immediately, it was all the fireworks going off with all

the colors and the flames."

The fireworks were to be part of the annual Independence Day display Friday in nearby East Naples. Officials said the event had been canceled.

"It's just hard to believe," said Bonita Springs City Manager Gary Price. "The event you're setting up for everybody's enjoyment to celebrate our anniversary of our country results in such tragedies."

The explosion occurred on a tip of vacant land at a state park in Bonita Springs, a city of about 30,000 near the Gulf of Mexico between Fort Myers and Naples.

Mary Mike Dearden, an employee of the Lover's Key Beach Club and Resort, said she felt the ground shake. Guests at the resort saw smoke and heard explosions from the park, less than a mile from the resort building.

"At the front desk we heard the explosion starting like a clap of thunder and then it kept rolling," she said. "As it rolled on it felt

like a jet breaking the sound barrier, but it kept going and we knew it was something else."

Hours after the blast, smoke rose from a blackened pine tree and the charred remains of the two trucks, which had been parked back-to-back. A pickup truck that was parked a short distance away was also burned.

One woman was hospitalized in good condition, officials said. Officials said the survivor among those moving the fireworks Anita Combs, believed to be from the St. Louis area, where the fireworks shipment originated.

The fireworks were from Sunset Fireworks of Dittmer, Mo. A person who answered the phone at the company's main office said officials were on their way to the scene.

Price said the company had orchestrated the city's fireworks display last year. The city spent \$20,000 for a planned 30-minute show this year, he said.

Lopez accuses former manager of lacking proper license

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jennifer Lopez has filed a petition with California's labor commission that accuses her former representative, Benny Medina, of failing to have a valid talent agent's license while managing her career.

The singer-actress fired Medina in June after five years of service.

While the state has different rules governing the activities of managers and talent agents, Lopez's attorney, Barry Hirsch, said Medina — who worked as her manager — inappropriately performed talent agent func-

tions, such as negotiating deals for her upcoming film "Shall We Dance?" and a sponsorship agreement with L'Oreal cosmetics.

Medina told The Associated Press Wednesday that Lopez always had a talent agent while he worked with her and denied that his activities crossed over into that territory.

"This is a real display of lack of gratitude and appreciation for what other people do in the building of a career and at the same time it shows tremendous avarice and greed," he added.

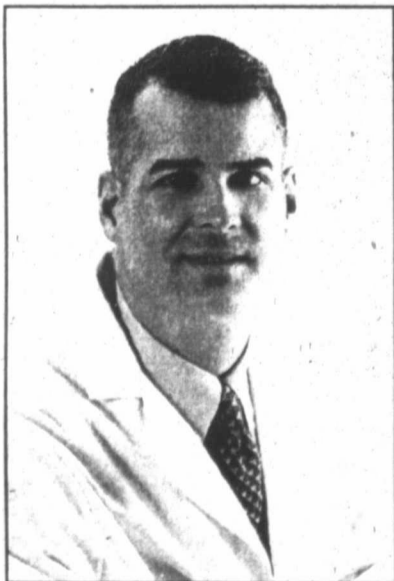


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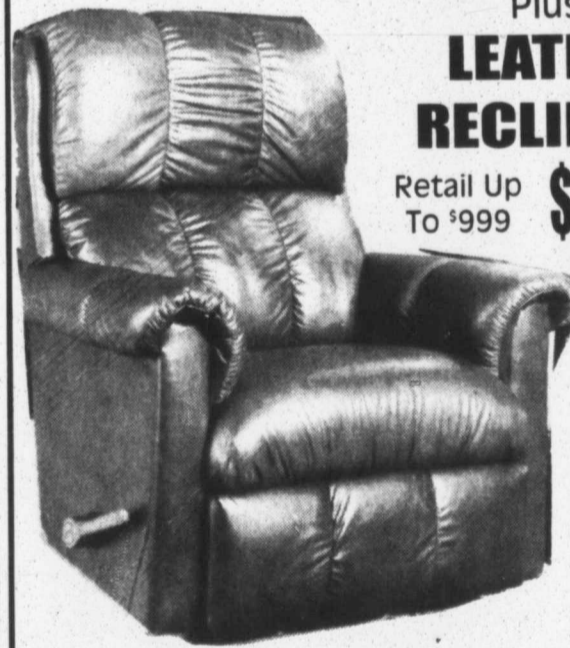
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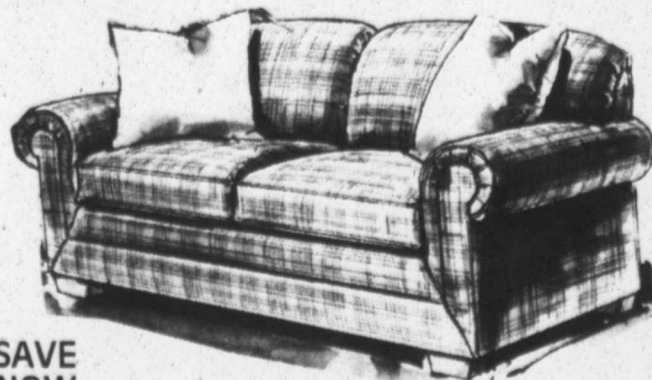
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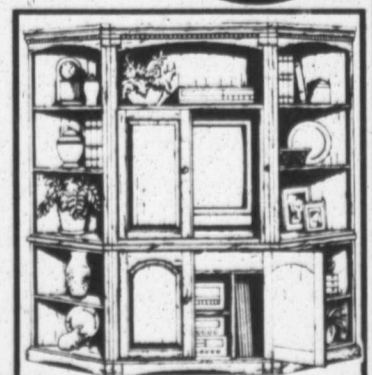
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