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NEWS

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WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH	LOW
31	22

LOTTERY

Two win \$53 million state lottery jackpot

GRAPEVINE (AP) — After a day of frantic lotto ticket buying across Texas, there were two winning tickets sold for the \$53 million jackpot — one at a Kroger grocery store in Grand Prairie and one at a convenience store in Brownsville — Texas lottery officials said.

The winning numbers Wednesday were 17, 25, 28, 40, 42 and 46.

"The bigger it gets — the more you buy," said 50-year-old truck driver D.C. Edie as he picked up a hot lunch and five more tickets at a Grapevine convenience store Wednesday at about noon.

"I'm hoping they'll have a winner tonight because I'm getting broke doing this," said Edie, who had been picking up lotto tickets all over North Texas.

It was the biggest Lotto Texas jackpot since it hit \$70 million in June. Earlier that month, it had been at \$50 million.

The winning tickets were purchased at Speedy Stop No. 80 in Brownsville and Kroger 817 in Grand Prairie, the Lottery Commission said.

DEATHS

Phillip Dwayne Matthew, 35, mechanic.
 Harmon Lee Staus, 47, services pending.

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West Texas LANDSCAPE Nurseries

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Both dairies in dispersal sales

By NANCY YOUNG
 MANAGING EDITOR

Both area dairies — Top of Texas Dairy and Moody Dairy — will be holding a dispersal sale Friday to sell their entire dairy herd of 1,400 Holsteins, according to an auction flier.

Massey Sales Service of Midlothian will be holding the sales. Sale of the milking cattle is set to begin at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 24. The Jan. 25 Saturday sale will begin at 9 a.m. with sale of equipment followed by the remainder

of milking cattle and dry cows.

Equipment to be sold includes tractors and heavy equipment along with several farm vehicles.

In a message on the flier attributed to Steve Massey, he said, "The Rodens and the Carrolls have always purchased top cattle and bred to the best bulls available. Selling these two herds has been a very hard decision for both families, but they have decided to hang-it-up due to other interests."

Kirk Carroll was an owner of Moody Dairy and moved his herd into the Top of Texas Dairy facility several

months ago.

Ricky Roden is general manager of the Top of Texas Dairy while his wife Tara has managed the finances. His brother Gary was operations manager and his wife Audra handled the herd data records.

Several attempts were made this week to reach Carroll and the Rodens for a comment. Messages were left, but went unanswered.

Both dairies were recruited to the Pampa area by the Pampa Economic Development Corporation.

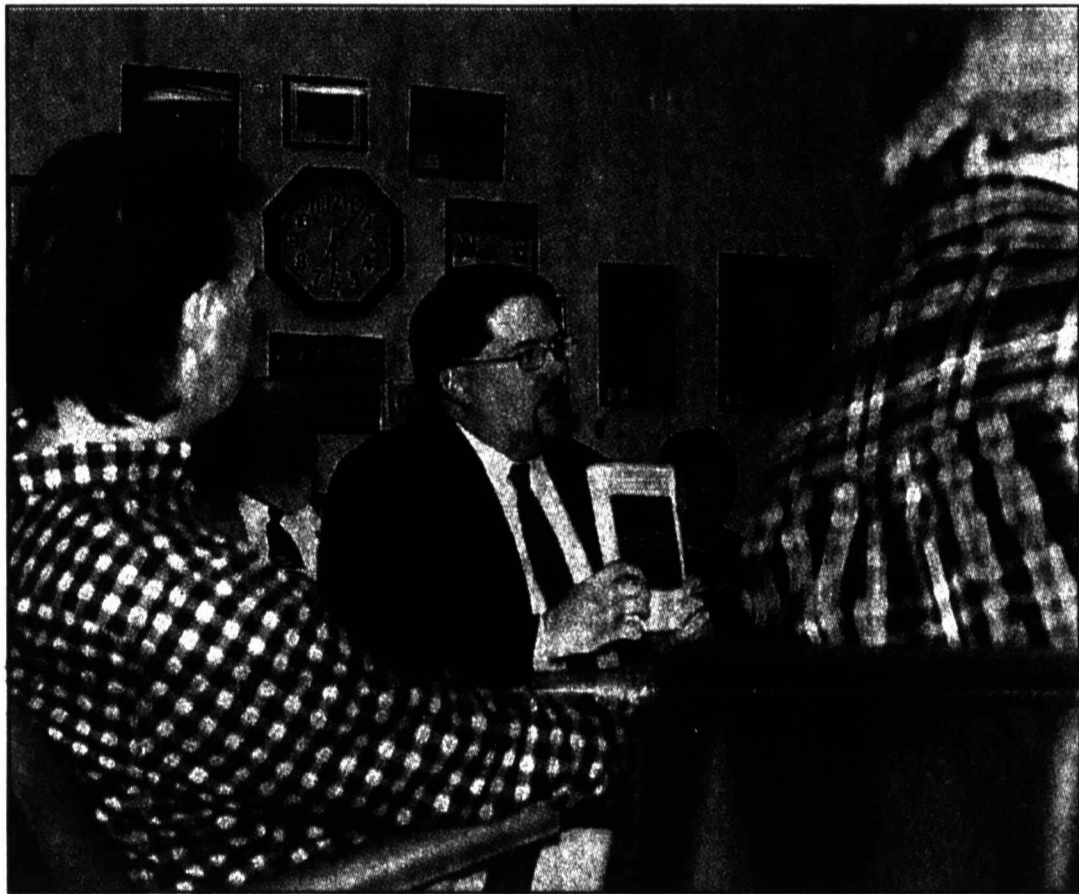
Owned by the Roden family who

moved to the area from Godley in August 1998 to begin construction on the facility. Top of Texas Dairy experienced problems soon after the dairy cattle were moved to the new dairy.

The Rodens moved in about 1,000 head of Holsteins on Dec. 16, 2000. Eight days later — on Christmas Eve — a blizzard struck the Panhandle and dumped several inches of snow at the new dairy.

In October 2001, PEDC board members said the severe weather conditions were part of a high death loss a (See **DAIRIES**, Page 3)

School finances 'healthy'



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Gary Brown of Brown, Graham & Company CPA firm, center, presents Pampa Independent School District's 2001-2002 financial and state compensatory education audits to the PISD board of trustees at this week's meeting. Brown said the financial audit conducted under new state requirements showed the district in good financial condition. A recently-mandated state compensatory education audit monitors use of state appropriations to Pampa schools. Three minor corrective actions were required after the audit, Brown said. "I've visited with (Mark McVay, assistant superintendent - finance) on this and I think it's safe to say it has already been implemented," he told the board.

Kuwait offers condolences on shootings

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Kuwait's leader sent President Bush condolences Wednesday for the "terrorist act" that killed one U.S. civilian and wounded another, and officials hinted a break in the search for their attacker could come soon.

The men, software contractors for the U.S. military in Kuwait, came under fire Tuesday as they drove away from an American military base.

David Caraway, a senior engineer for the California-based software developer Tapestry Solutions, was in stable condition Wednesday at al-Razi hospital in Kuwait City.

His co-worker, Michael Rene Pouliot, 46, was killed when a gunman hiding behind bushes on the roadside fired on their four-wheel-drive Toyota with a Kalashnikov assault rifle and then fled.

A Kuwaiti Interior Ministry

official said an arrest announcement could come soon. "We have important leads," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A U.S. official also said an announcement regarding the case may be made soon.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Both men were working for the U.S. military at Camp Doha, about 10 miles west of Kuwait City.

Caraway was in stable condition and able to speak after undergoing surgery to remove bullets, said a Tapestry employee and a U.S. Embassy official. He had chest, arm and thigh injuries.

The Tapestry employee said doctors removed three bullets.

The crown prince and prime minister, Sheik Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, sent letters of condolence to Bush condemning the "terrorist" (See **KUWAIT**, Page 3)

Aircraft carriers take prominence in war plans

ABOARD USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (AP) — Around Iraq's borders, the Pentagon is struggling to persuade allies to host U.S. troops and warplanes needed for a possible attack. At sea, however, America's military power is unhindered and growing to possibly the biggest concentration of warships since the 1991 Gulf War.

Imposing naval flotillas — with aircraft carriers as their mighty centerpiece — are taking greater prominence in strategic planning for a possible war against Iraq as obstacles are raised to ground deployments, officers say.

"I think all of the aircraft carriers will serve as a floating air base," said Capt. Mark A. Vance, commander of the air wing aboard the USS Harry S. Truman, now in the eastern Mediterranean.

"We are a sovereign platform that operates at international sea and air space, and that gives us a degree of flexibility that is not shared when someone relies on a host nation," said Vance, a native of Montana.

But military analysts note carriers come with distinct advantages and limitations.

They are mobile and can deliver

round-the-clock airstrikes with more than 60 warplanes each. But the Navy fighter-bombers mostly carry a limited number of precision-guided bombs, experts said. Only missions from land airfields can carry the heavier weapons needed to open deep bunkers, carpet bomb or strike big targets.

Carriers "allow some opportunity to attack ground targets should the U.S. Air Force not be able to base its aircraft within the region or nearby," Joanna Kidd, a naval analyst with the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, said Wednesday.

She noted that carriers saw extensive

use at early stages of the Gulf War.

"They were only used really in the first three or four days of the air campaign because the U.S. Air Force was able to use Saudi Arabia," she said.

But the coalition forged to fight Iraq in 1991 was far broader and stronger than the current U.S.-led pressure against Saddam Hussein.

Even key NATO allies such as Turkey, which shares a border with northern Iraq, are balking at the possibility of hosting Air Force bombers and tens of thousands of U.S. troops.

Opposition to a U.S. campaign in (See **SHIPS**, Page 3)

Auditor's report: Fraud, waste account for loss

AUSTIN (AP) — At a time when lawmakers face a \$9.9 billion budget shortfall, a new state auditor's report shows that there could be as much as \$7 billion of fraud and waste at state agencies.

"SAO audits and investigations continue to show that many agencies do not establish appropriate financial controls to protect state assets, that state resources are not always spent as the Legislature intended, and that there are many instances of fraud and abuse throughout state government and its contractors," the report from the State Auditor Lawrence F.

Alwin wrote in a letter sent to lawmakers Friday that his office is preparing a second report to list more details. That report will make recommendations for specific savings, he said.

Those suggestions will come as lawmakers deal with a shortfall of at least \$1.8 billion in the current \$114 billion state budget. The comptroller has estimated another \$8.1 billion shortfall for the 2004-05 budget if lawmakers keep programs and services the way they are now.

The auditor's report cited several examples of problems at various agencies including: State Auditor Lawrence F.

Man convicted of killing grandmother to buy cocaine executed this morning

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A construction worker convicted of killing his grandmother to steal money to buy cocaine urged his wife and friends to be strong and not forget him shortly before he was executed.

"When it comes, you can't run from it and I'm not going to run," Robert Lookingbill said in his final statement from the death chamber gurney Wednesday night.

Lookingbill, 37, the third convicted killer put to death this year in Texas, thanked his wife, Brenda, whom he married while on death row, and several friends as they looked on.

"I would like to thank all my loved ones that are standing over there for all the kindness and support you have shown me over the years," he said. "Be strong. Do not hate, but learn from this experience. It has been a blessing to know all of you. Don't forget me."

He mouthed kisses to them. He let out two strong breaths and was pronounced dead at 6:18 p.m., 13 minutes after the drugs began to flow.

Lookingbill was resigned to the lethal injection for 70-year-old Adeline Dannenberg's 1989 fatal beating with a steel bar as she slept. The U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday denied two requests for stays.

Speaking from death row last week, he insisted he didn't kill his grandmother in the South Texas home he shared with her and his grandfather, Lorenz Dannenberg.

Lookingbill moved in with his grandparents in San Juan in 1987 after serving less than a year in prison on a burglary conviction.

He maintained that he returned home shortly after 1 a.m. on Dec. 5, 1989, and found them both severely beaten. His grandmother (See **EXECUTION**, Page 3)

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DAIRIES

at the dairy. Also identified as problems was mastitis and a downturn in milk prices shortly after they opened their dairy operation in the Texas Panhandle.

In an interview with *The Pampa News* in January 2002, Tara and Ricky Roden said the weather was not the cause of problems which occurred.

Ricky Roden said the cows' teats were so sore from the mastitis that they could not produce milk. Mastitis is an infection of the teats. The Rodens brought an expert in the dairy field to their Pampa operation which they attributed to the new milking equip-

ment which had cost them \$500,000, according to the Rodens in the 2002 interview.

Dairy Strategies, a dairy consulting firm, was hired for just under \$15,000 by the PEDC to assist the Rodens with their operation. The Rodens eventually filed a lawsuit in connection with the milking equipment.

Dairy Strategies consulting report was obtained by *The Pampa News* in January 2002 from the PEDC. The newspaper had requested a copy of it in October 2001, just days prior to the Nov. 6, 2001, election on whether to dissolve the local economic development corporation.

Then-PEDC attorney Don Lane request-

ed an Attorney General's opinion whether the report could be released, but did not submit reasons as to why the information should be withheld.

Reasons cited in the effort to refrain from releasing the report were geological or geographical information or data, trade secrets and commercial or financial information.

The Attorney General released the opinion on Jan. 14, 2002, that the report was public record and should be released to *The Pampa News*. It was released Jan. 24.

The newspaper had contended the report was public record because it was paid for by the PEDC. The PEDC was funded by a half-cent sales tax in Pampa.

The report identified finances, somatic cell count, and monitoring herd performance as major problems and made suggestions for correcting the problems.

The Roden family moved to the dairy location in 1998 after receiving \$500,000 in grant money from the PEDC and a forgivable loan of \$250,000.

In order to not be required to repay the forgivable loan, the dairy must keep a certain number of employees on the payroll.

When asked whether the dairy would be liable for any funds to the PEDC, Board President Doug Locke said the dissolving PEDC has excellent attorneys who would determine that if needed.

Four die in crash of two marine helicopters

FALCON HEIGHTS (AP) — Two Marine helicopters helping Border Patrol agents on an anti-drug mission crashed late Wednesday killing all four reservists on board.

"We heard a loud boom and all of a sudden the engines in helicopters quit, so I went outside and looked and there was a ball of fire," said resident Larry Shoal. He saw another ball of fire close by.

"There was nobody that could have survived that," the 67-year-old said Thursday morning. "There was no way

to help them."

The Marines were in AH1W Super Cobra helicopters flying above Falcon State Park in far South Texas, near the Mexican border, at the time of the crash about 9:30 p.m.

Each helicopter carried a crew of two Marine reservists and there were no survivors, said Armando Carrasco, a spokesman for Joint Task Force Six, a Department of Defense unit that helps the Border Patrol in counter-drug efforts.

"The helicopters were con-

ducting a nighttime aviation reconnaissance counter-drug operation in support of the U.S. Border Patrol, Laredo Sector, at the time of the accident," Carrasco said.

Shoal said the wreckage in the remote state park filled with brush and cactus was on a road leading to the lake, so park residents were not able to leave their homes until Thursday morning.

"The helicopters are lying right on the road," he said. He said the wreckage was about 50 to 100 yards from the park entrance.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

FRAUD

Poor documentation, lack of "basic controls and oversight" and noncompliance with state laws at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

A significant mismanagement of money at the Texas Human Rights Commission resulting in overspending its budget by \$1.1 million this biennium.

The report said there were "financial management and accountability issues" at other agencies, including the Texas Education Agency, Department of Health, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Department of Economic Development.

Texas could lose as much as \$7 billion over two years because of fraud and abuse at agencies, the report said.

The state is more susceptible to fraud or abuse because of weak controls over contractors and personnel, it stated.

From 2000 to 2002 the Auditor's Office logged 443 complaints of alleged fraud and abuse totaling \$214 million, but the report said that number is likely far higher.

The report recommended that lawmakers strengthen financial management by requiring agency heads to sign a letter each year assuring that financial risks and other operat-

ing issues have been studied.

The report showed problems with private contracts and grants given to carry out state business. Texas spends about a third of its budget — \$20 billion — on such awards.

The Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board has serious management problems with \$1 billion in grants and could not show the Legislature that it had awarded the grants as lawmakers intended, the report stated as an example.

The report also cited problems with the state's main Medicaid contractor, Plano-based Electronic Data Systems Corp., as an example of trouble with private contractors.

EDS was paid \$107.9 million last year to help administer Medicaid this biennium.

Subsidiary National Heritage Insurance Co. settled a lawsuit this summer filed by a former state employee alleging the company failed to collect millions owed to taxpayers.

A grand jury investigation into the expenses the company charged taxpayers ended after NHIC agreed to pay the state a \$3.4 million settlement.

Also, the attorney general's office released a report saying National Heritage had breached its state contract.

EDS and company officials have denied any wrongdoing.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

KUWAIT

act," the state-run Kuwait News Agency said.

The U.S. Embassy said it was urging Americans to be alert to their surroundings and to continually assess their security.

"I feel like I have a big bull's eye pinned on me," said Jack Blair, 54, a television director originally from Pittsburgh. Still, he was not considering going home. "The majority of people are kind and generous

... we don't know the facts yet."

The shooting was the first assault on U.S. civilians in Kuwait and the third on Americans since October in the oil-rich emirate, where pro-American sentiment is usually strong and where thousands of U.S. troops are assembling for a possible war on Iraq.

On Oct. 8, two Kuwaiti Muslims opened fire on Marines taking a break from training, killing one and injur-

ing another. Other Marines shot and killed the assailants. A policeman also shot at two U.S. soldiers in their civilian car on a highway on Nov. 21.

Kuwaiti officials have described the attacks as isolated incidents, distancing themselves from any terrorist connections. Most of Kuwait's 2.2 million population welcomes Americans, a lingering sentiment from the U.S.-led coalition that drove out Iraqi invaders during the 1991 Gulf War.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

EXECUTION

was in bed with fractures to her skull, jaw and hand and bone fragments in her brain. She died 10 days later. Lorenz Dannenberg, 77, was found with similar head injuries on the living room floor. He survived for about a year but was comatose, unable to help police.

Investigators noticed blood spatter on Lookingbill's clothing and boots and he was charged in both attacks. He received a death sentence for his grandmother's murder, and was sentenced to 75 years in prison for attempted capital murder in his grandfather's attack.

Lookingbill, while maintaining he had found his grandparents beaten, eventually signed a confession saying he arrived home "all coked up," beat his grandparents and took more than \$500 from his grandmother's purse. Prosecutors said he took the money to buy drugs.

Lookingbill said from death row the \$568.31 found in his jeans pocket by police that night was earnings from his construction job.

"I didn't have to steal the money to get cocaine," he said. "They were worth more to me than \$500."

Sophia Arizpe, one of the Hidalgo County prosecutors who handled Lookingbill's

case, said there was no indication Lookingbill had a bad relationship with his grandparents. Prosecutors focused on his drug use and that he knew the Dannenbergs had money at home, she said.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SHIPS

Turkey has reportedly forced planners to scale back from initial plans to base 80,000 U.S. troops there. Now, planners are reportedly considering 15,000 to 20,000 troops.

Another important regional ally, Saudi Arabia, is also reluctant to host a large number of U.S. ground forces. Saudi Arabia was the main staging area for ground forces during the Gulf War.

The Pentagon has turned to smaller and more distant places, such as Qatar and Oman, as it tries to organize its biggest military build up in more than a decade. In Qatar, the U.S. military has two bases: Camp As Sayliyah, where the U.S. Central Command has a mobile headquarters, and Al Udeid air base, where a midair refueling squadron, F15 fighter wing and drive-through maintenance hangars are in place.

In addition, B52 bomber squadrons operate from the British-controlled island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean.

"Carriers are good for smaller conflicts, but if you need to have a big war you are really going to have to get bases around there ... because it's just a lot more efficient," said Ivan Eland, director of defense policy studies at Washington's CATO Institute.

Meanwhile, the Navy is

moving more firepower into the region.

Military planners could send up to six carrier battle groups — half the U.S. fleet — within striking distance of Iraq, officials say.

The USS Constellation battle group already is operating in the northern Gulf and the USS Harry S. Truman is in the eastern Mediterranean. They will be joined by the USS Abraham Lincoln and the USS Theodore Roosevelt, which is conducting training exercises off the coast of Puerto Rico.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld is said to be con-

sidering even more deployments.

Possibilities include the dispatch of the USS Kitty Hawk from its home port in Japan, the USS Nimitz in San Diego and the USS George Washington from Norfolk, Va. "We are 4.5 acres of U.S. territory, and basically we can show up wherever we need to," said Capt. Michael R. Grothausen, commander of the USS Harry S. Truman.

In addition to the F-14 and F/A-18 fighter jets squadrons aboard the Norfolk-based USS Truman, its battle group comprises 12 ships, including five destroyers.

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VIEWPOINTS

The vicious cycle of poverty

THE Pampa NEWS

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EMAIL: deedee@pan-tex.net • pamnews1@pan-tex.net

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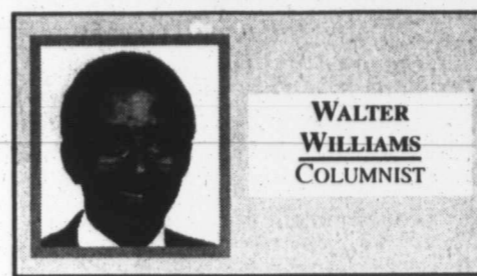
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WALTER WILLIAMS
COLUMNIST

A typical belief among the world's foreign aid agencies is there's a "vicious cycle of poverty" that makes economic development virtually impossible for the world's poor nations. This idea holds that poor countries are poor because income is so low that savings cannot be generated to provide the kind of capital accumulation necessary for economic growth.

Thus, it is alleged, the only way out of the poverty quagmire is foreign aid. As popular as the vicious cycle of poverty theory is among economic development "experts," it has to be one of mankind's most foolish ideas.

"Explain yourself, Williams!" you say. "That's what my professors taught when I went to college, and they're teaching the same thing to my kids." Let's look at it.

The vicious cycle of poverty theory can't even pass the straight-face test. After all, how did countries such as the United States, England, Canada, New Zealand, Switzerland and others break that cycle and become rich? Were they simply "born" rich? That's a big fat no.

So how in the world did these once poor and backward countries become wealthy without what today's development experts say is absolutely necessary for economic growth -- foreign-aid handouts, and World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans? Maybe part of the answer lies in the fact that there were no foreign-aid handout programs and economic development experts around during their economic development.

According to a recently released report by Heritage Foundation policy analysts Paolo Pasicolan and Sara Fitzgerald, "The Millennium Challenge Account: Linking Aid With Economic Freedom," despite decades of economic aid, most recipient nations are poorer now than they were before they first received development assistance. What foreign aid usually achieves is the enabling of Third World tyrants to retain power by having the resources to build grandiose projects that make little economic sense, pay off cronies and buy military equipment to suppress their people, not to mention setting up multimillion- and even multibillion-dollar Swiss bank accounts.

Then there's the population myth that holds that countries are poor because they are overpopulated. That's nonsense. For example, the population density of China is 409 people per square mile; in Taiwan it's 1,478 per square mile and in Hong Kong, it's 247,500. Which people have higher incomes? If you said Hong Kong, you'd be dead right. But for people who see overpopulation as a cause of poverty, China should be the richest, and Hong Kong the poorest. The late economist

Lord Peter Bauer said, "Economic achievement and progress depend on people's conduct, not on their numbers."

The latest mythical explanation for Third World poverty is globalization and multinational corporation exploitation. Peaceable trade and contact with other nations have always raised the potential for higher living standards. In fact, Third World countries least touched by the West, whether the contact was in the form of imperialist conquest, trade or multinational corporations, are among the poorest of the poor -- countries like: Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan in Asia, and Ethiopia and Liberia in Africa.

Poverty is mostly self-inflicted -- indigenously created. What are some of the most commonly held characteristics of the non-poor world? In non-poor countries, people tend to have greater personal liberty, property rights are protected, contracts are enforced, there's rule of law and there's a market-oriented economic system rather than a socialistic one.

A country need not be rich to create these wealth-enhancing institutions. That's much of the story of the United States. In 1776, we were essentially a Third World nation, but we established an institutional structure to become rich -- an institutional structure that not only attracted investment but talented, hard-working immigrants, as well. Contrast that to today's poor countries, whose policies and institutional structure do just the opposite -- repel investment and cause their most talented people to leave.

Kuwaiti says shooting working

KUWAIT CITY suspect arrested in the shooting of... in Kuwait was... alone, a Kuwaiti... said Thursday.

The security off... on condition of ar... the man arrested by... guards Wednesday... being interrogated... The official identif... as Sami al-Mutairi... civil servant in his... he was the prime... "had partners, may... The suspect "fr... bin Laden's school... the official said.

The official Agency said b... arrested the su... Wednesday and... investigation rev... was the assailant w... American citizens... Americans was kil...

U.S. Embassy John Moran said States hoped "the... will move rapidly... those responsible... and determine if th... any larger organiz... The shooting... assault on U.S. civ... third on Ame... October in Kuwait... American sentime... strong and where... U.S. troops are ass... of a possible war o...

The U.S. Emba... urging Americans... their surroundings... American civili... Kuwait, in additi... personnel statione... U.S. military base... sands of other troo... for regular exercis... "We're always t... what you're doing... often, be vigilant,"... Gustas, an Ameri... Kuwait who atten... laying ceremony T... shooting site. "But... their way to work... supposed to do?"

In Tuesday's atta... hiding behind a hec... the sport utility vel... two civilian contra... for the U.S. milita... and critically woun... The attack took pl... light about three r... U.S. military's (... which is 10 miles v... City.

One of the vi... Caraway, was in st... Wednesday at al-R... Kuwait City. Hi... Michael Rene Po... killed.

Nobody has clai... bility for the attack... Caraway's relati... said he was in a lot... good spirits. His... The News-Press o... that they have sp... twice over the ph... attack.

"You wouldn't... good it was to be... That's my little... know?" Wayne... Cape Coral, Fla., t... paper.

In an interview... news Wednesday... the intersection... ambush occurred w... he and Poulio nom... said he felt the att... waiting for any Ar... by.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Before making a judgment, consider these dairy facts

Today is Thursday and I've just learned that the dairies are selling out at an auction tomorrow. I know some of you will chuckle and say, "Yep, that's another failure of PEDC," but before you do consider these facts:

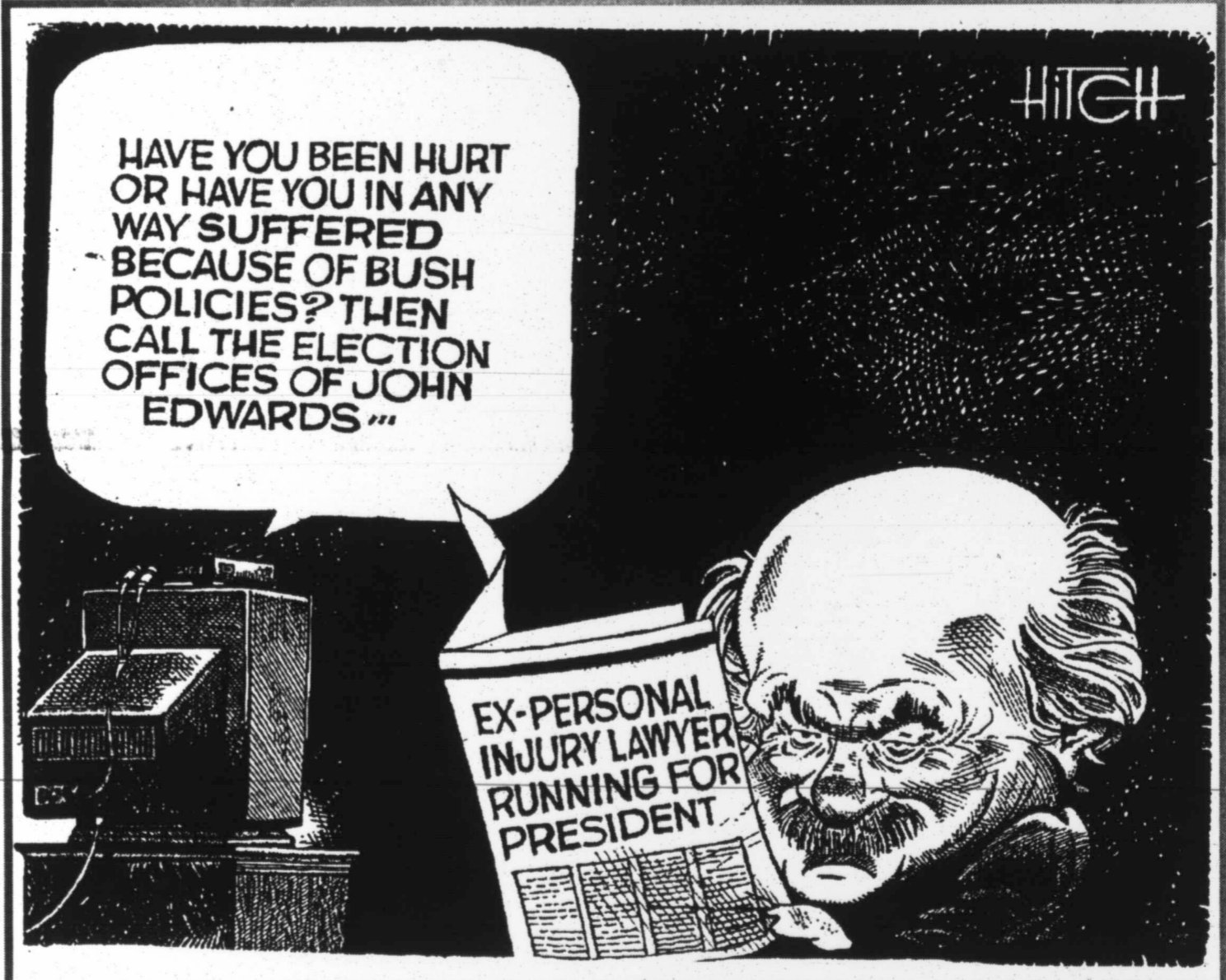
These dairies have been in our community for four years, contributing more than 50 jobs a year. Assuming an average wage of \$7 an hour, that means \$700,000 per year into our economy. Multiply that times four years and you have some \$2.8 million dollars in payroll. In a community the size of Pampa, that's nothing to chuckle about! Add to this payroll, the amount of property tax that has been paid. Again, nothing to chuckle about!

Now consider the families involved. These three families brought 10 children into Pampa - eight are school age. These eight students have participated in school and our athletic programs: One was a star this year on our winning football team, one is just as good coming behind his brother, the girls play on our high school basketball, volleyball and softball teams, and the boys participate in our rodeo program. The younger ones participate in soccer programs and the Optimist baseball and softball programs. One of the dairymen is even a coach in this program. And one of the girls is a leader at our middle school. What wonderful additions to our community!

Maybe someone will come along and buy the two facilities. Or, maybe, buyers will purchase only the equipment, leaving Pampa again on the losing end - without jobs, without young people living here and without property tax revenue.

These losses, along with the some 20 other small businesses that have closed this past two years, are taking a devastating toll on Pampa. I wonder if we can ever recoup?

Susan Tripplehorn
Rural Pampa



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Pampa News welcomes and encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of public interest and concern. However, we also reserve the right to accept or reject any letter for publication.

Letters must be 300 words or less. Letters submitted for publication must be neat and legible, typed if possible, or at least handwritten in a clear manner. All letters will be edited for length, clarity, spelling, grammar, and taste. We will not publish anonymous letters, letters that are potentially libelous, or personal attacks. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication nor can we guarantee a date of publication.

Letters submitted must include name, address, phone number and signature for verification. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed, unless requested for a specific reason.

Due to volume and repetition, we will limit submissions from the same person to two letters per month.

Poetry, candidate or political endorsements, letters to third parties and "thank you" letters will not be published except at the discretion of the editor, depending on general interest.

Letters may be dropped off at the office, 403 W. Atchison, or mailed to *The Pampa News*, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066.

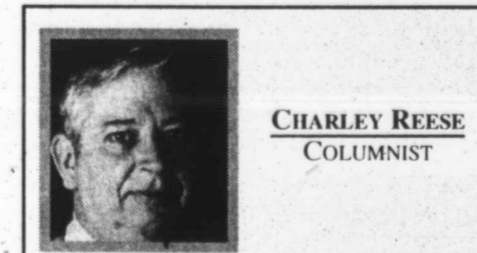
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One of the greatest Americans



CHARLEY REESE
COLUMNIST

Jan. 19 is the birthday of one of the greatest Americans, Robert E. Lee. He was as close to perfect as any human being can get. A brilliant soldier, a superb educator, a loving husband and father, a Christian gentleman and a tall, athletic and strikingly handsome man.

One of the first things Lee told a class at Washington College after he became its president was that they would find no large book of rules for behavior, "but each of you is expected to act like a Christian gentleman." To Lee, that included all the virtues.

It's impossible to summarize his accomplishments and virtues in one column, so I will recommend two books. One is a new one, "Robert E. Lee on Leadership," by H.W. Crocker III. This is an excellent study of Lee's leadership qualities that every American would do well to emulate. Worked into the chapters is a skillfully abbreviated biography.

My favorite book on Lee is "The Recollections and Letters of Robert E. Lee," by his son, Robert E. Lee. There are some touching stories in this book. One involves a federal soldier who showed up at the door of Lee's Richmond Va., home after the surrender. He had a big basket of food. Lee's sons came to the door, and he told them that he had served under Lee in the Second Cavalry and had heard that the family was hard-up. As long as he had a cent in his pocket, he said, his old colonel should not suffer.

They said the soldier was Irish, and I always visualize that wonderful old actor

Victor McLaglen. Lee came to the door and refused the food, but when the old soldier seemed deeply hurt, Lee said he would accept it, provided he could give it to the wounded soldiers at the hospital. Before Lee's sons could stop him, the old Irishman in his Yankee uniform grabbed Lee and tried to kiss him. "Good-bye, Colonel. God bless ye! If I could have go over in time, I would have been with you."

A few days later, two bedraggled Confederates came to the door, presenting, they said, about 60 men. They had found a farm in the mountains reachable only through a narrow pass that they vowed they could defend against the entire Union army. They wanted to make a gift of it and their service to Lee, whom they heard might be tried for treason. Tears came to Lee's eyes, but he declined the offer.

Gen. James Longstreet put his finger on a unique quality of Lee. "As a soldier, his men respected him," Longstreet said, "but as a man, they loved him." Robert E. Lee is the only general I've ever heard of who was genuinely loved by the men who served under him. Time and again when he came to the front, common sol-

diers would beg him to go back, and the remnants of Pickett's division, seeing his sorrow, begged him to order them to make another charge.

By the end of the war, though defeated, Lee was world-famous, and offers poured in, including the offer of an estate in England, but unlike today's generals, Robert E. Lee did not wish to profit from the sacrifice of so many good men. He finally accepted, for a modest salary and a house, the presidency of Washington College, which was near bankruptcy. Today it is Washington & Lee University.

It was Lee's decision to urge Southerners to accept defeat and to become good Americans, which no doubt saved the country from being forever Balkanized. There were many fine cavalry leaders who could have with guerrilla warfare, dragged the conflict out for years, but Lee knew that would create ineradicable bitterness, and he chose surrender.

Winston Churchill said Lee was "one of the noblest Americans who ever lived, and one of the greatest captains known to the annals of war." Teddy Roosevelt said Lee was "without any exception the very greatest of all the great captains that the English-speaking people have brought forth."

He is a man worth knowing. A father could give a son no finer gift than a book about Robert E. Lee. He was what all men should be but so few are.

(Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.)

Timeless T Quilt Guild

GUYPON, Timeless Treas Guild will meet Saturday, Jan. 2. Memorial Meth Enrichment (Guymon. Darlene Chi will deliver the fabric selection sent a trunk sh Christopherson l ing in 1979 an lished her own p Morning refre be provided. should bring a cc potluck noon members are wel

Kuwaiti official says shooter not working alone

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — A suspect arrested in Saudi Arabia in the shooting of two Americans in Kuwait was not working alone, a Kuwaiti security officer said Thursday.

The security officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the man arrested by Saudi border guards Wednesday was now being interrogated in Kuwait. The official identified the suspect as Sami al-Mutairi, a Kuwaiti civil servant in his 20s, and said he was the prime suspect, but "had partners, maybe two."

The suspect "follows Osama bin Laden's school of thought," the official said.

The official Saudi Press Agency said border guards arrested the suspect early Wednesday and "the initial investigation revealed that he was the assailant who fired on the American citizens." One of the Americans was killed.

U.S. Embassy spokesman John Moran said the United States hoped "the investigation will move rapidly to apprehend those responsible for this crime and determine if they have ties to any larger organization."

The shooting was the first assault on U.S. civilians and the third on Americans since October in Kuwait, where pro-American sentiment is usually strong and where thousands of U.S. troops are assembling ahead of a possible war on Iraq.

The U.S. Embassy said it was urging Americans to be alert to their surroundings. About 8,000 American civilians live in Kuwait, in addition to 17,000 personnel stationed at the main U.S. military base here and thousands of other troops who come for regular exercises.

"We're always told to watch what you're doing, change routes often, be vigilant," said Shirley Gustas, an American living in Kuwait who attended a wreath-laying ceremony Thursday at the shooting site. "But this was on their way to work. What are you supposed to do?"

In Tuesday's attack, a gunman hiding behind a hedge ambushed the sport utility vehicle carrying two civilian contractors working for the U.S. military, killing one and critically wounding the other.

The attack took place at a stoplight about three miles from the U.S. military's Camp Doha, which is 10 miles west of Kuwait City.

One of the victims, David Caraway, was in stable condition Wednesday at al-Razi hospital in Kuwait City. His co-worker Michael Rene Pouliot, 46, was killed.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Caraway's relatives in Florida said he was in a lot of pain but in good spirits. His relatives told The News-Press of Fort Myers that they have spoken to him twice over the phone since the attack.

"You wouldn't believe how good it was to hear his voice. That's my little brother, you know?" Wayne Caraway of Cape Coral, Fla., told the newspaper.

In an interview with ABC news Wednesday, Caraway said the intersection where the ambush occurred was not the one he and Pouliot normally used. He said he felt the attacker was just waiting for any American to pass by.

Timeless Treasures Quilt Guild to meet

GUYMON, Okla. — Timeless Treasures Quilt Guild will meet at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 25 at Victory Memorial Methodist Church Enrichment Center in Guymon.

Darlene Christopherson will deliver the program on fabric selection and will present a trunk show of quilts. Christopherson began quilting in 1979 and has published her own patterns.

Morning refreshments will be provided. Attendees should bring a cold dish for a potluck noon meal. New members are welcome.

Relatives mourning after Mexico quake

By LISA J. ADAMS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

COLIMA, Mexico (AP) — Vicente Rodriguez sat beside his mother's coffin, barely noticing the crews noisily shoveling away the remains of homes leveled by a powerful earthquake that killed at least 25 people in Mexico.

"I did what I could to save her but it was useless," he said as friends and relatives embraced him at an outdoor memorial for 83-year-old Maria Rodriguez Macia.

Rodriguez, 53, was already in mourning, praying for a deceased friend at a neighbor's home Tuesday night, when the 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck, shaking the walls, cutting power and causing the earth to ripple like water beneath him.

Like thousands of others, he ran outside, stumbling several blocks down the darkened streets to find both his mother and sister trapped beneath a mountain of earth, metal and stone that had been their humble adobe house.

"I was able to get my sister out, but couldn't find my mother," Rodriguez said. "She was trapped behind her and by the time I got to her she no longer had a pulse."

Maria Rodriguez was one of at least 25 people killed in the quake, which injured 300 people and damaged or destroyed thousands of homes.

One of the worst-hit areas was this Colima's historic downtown, where adobe houses built 50 to 100 years ago were pulverized. On Filameno Medina street, where Rodriguez's mother lived for more than 75 years,

three of the 25 houses crashed to the ground, reduced to piles of dirt and cement.

Others were rendered uninhabitable after the quake ripped away large chunks of brick and tore cracks that stretched the lengths of plaster walls.

President Vicente Fox toured the devastated neighborhoods Wednesday, promising to help rebuild the houses from newer, stronger materials that would withstand the force of future quakes.

In nearby Guadalajara — Mexico's second-largest city — bells from one of the colonial city's ancient churches fell from the tower and dozens of homes partially collapsed.

The Tuesday evening quake also rocked Mexico City, 300 miles east of the epicenter, sending frightened residents fleeing into the streets. But damage in the Mexican capital was limited to minor cracks in several buildings.

Mexico's national seismological service put the quake's magnitude at 7.6. The U.S. Geological Survey calculated it at 7.8.

The earth continued to shudder on Wednesday. As 79-year-old Jose Guadalupe Barbosa began to point out where the quake had cracked cement walls and tore away brick from his home and furniture store, the building began to shudder from the force of a 5.8-magnitude aftershock.

"Get out, quick! It's another one!" a neighbor yelled.

At least 10 other tremors ranging in magnitude from 3.9 to 4.5 shook the Colima area following Tuesday's quake.

DRILLING INTENTIONS

Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BIG TIMBER CREEK Douglas) Apache Corp., #287 Cleveland, 1060' from South & 1980' from West line, Sec. 87,41,H&TC, PD 8500'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star Ltd. Partnership, #7054 Meek, 655' from South & 2338' from East line, Sec. 54,M-1,H&GN, PD 13500'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & WEST WASHITA CREEK Upper Morrow) Crest Resources, Inc., #2-7 Alexander, 660' from North & 2250' from West line, Sec. 7,A-1,H&GN, PD 14000'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & RITA RANCH Upper Morrow) Brighton Energy, L.L.C., #1 Pennington '121', 2250' from North & 2504' from East line, Sec. 121,C,G&M, PD 10700'.

Applications to Plug-Back
WHEELER (WILDCAT & GAGEBY CREEK Cambridge Production, Inc., #1-8 Treadwell, 1980' from North & West line, Sec. 8,—,

W.H. Simpson, PD 18000'.
Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (PARSELL Upper Morrow) Mewbourne Oil Co., #1 Mitchell '134', Sec. 134,42,H&TC, spud 10-17-02, drlg. compl 11-7-02, tested 12-6-02, TD 11597', PBDT 10980' —

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT Upper Morrow) Samson Lone Star Ltd. Partnership, #9072 Howell, Sec. 72,A-2,H&GN, spud 9-1-02, drlg. compl 10-3-02, tested 11-21-02, TD 13050', PBDT 12908'.

Plugged Wells
GRAY (PANHANDLE) Bradley Operating Co., Inc., East Morse Unit, Sec. 1,26,H&GN (oil) — for the following wells:

#4-W, 330' from North & 990' from West line of Sec., spud unknown, plugged 12-11-02, TD 2790' —

#5-W, 330' from North & 2310' from East line of Sec., spud unknown, plugged 12-16-02, TD 2850' —

#7-W, 990' from North & 1650' from West line of Sec., spud unknown, plugged 12-19-02, TD 2719' —

Green Seedless Grapes
New Crop Chilean
79¢ lb.

Country Style Pork Ribs
Bone-In Family Pack
89¢ lb.

12 Pack Coke, Sprite or Dr Pepper
12 oz. Cans
Limit 4
2\$5

18 Pack Coors or Coors Light
12 oz. Cans
Limit 2 Total
10\$99

Lay's Potato Chips
11.5-12 oz.
Assorted
Save \$2.99 on 2
With Card
2\$3

Oscar Mayer Wieners
16 oz. Pkg., All Meat
Kraft Singles
12 oz. Pkg.
2\$3

16 oz. Kraft Velveeta
Great for Parties
1\$97

Whole Roasted or 8 Piece Fried Chicken
2 Legs, 2 Thighs, 2 Wings & 2 Breasts
3\$99

Hershey's Candy Bars
Single 1.4-2.1 oz.
Assorted
4\$1

American Greetings Cards
Individual
50% OFF

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Senate wrapping up spending package

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate is nearing completion of a long overdue \$390 billion package financing much of government after Republicans fought off a Democratic effort to pump up farm spending.

Leaders of both parties said they hoped to finish the package Thursday, the sixth day of debate. The bill is for the federal fiscal year that began last Oct. 1 and covers the entire swath of government agencies except the Pentagon, whose budget was enacted last fall.

The legislation is a mix of 11 bills that Congress never enacted last year because of an election-year political fight in which President Bush insisted on lower spending than was preferred by many lawmakers, including some Republicans. Bush has insisted on holding down the package's price tag, citing revived federal deficits, but Democrats have battled to provide more funds for schools, domestic security and other areas.

"Right now we're getting a slow walk to what should have been a relatively brief and painless process," Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., complained Wednesday as senators waded through a stack of amendments.

Led by Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., Democrats tried doubling the \$3.1 billion for farmers the bill contained and focusing it on growers who had been hurt by last year's drought.

He was defeated by 56-39. Instead, senators voted 59-35 for an alternative by Sen. Thad

Cochran, R-Miss., focusing more of the money already in the bill for growers and ranchers hurt by natural disasters.

As they have with several of the amendments they've offered, Democrats contrasted the GOP's stance against farm spending with Bush's proposed \$674 billion, 10-year economic package, all but \$4 billion of which is for tax cuts.

"At the very time the administration says we can't afford \$6 billion in disaster assistance, they come forth with a \$670 billion tax cut, a tax cut that helps those at the very top with very, very little support for anyone else," Daschle said.

The Senate did agree to include an extra \$1.5 billion for education for disabled children. But the money will be for the government fiscal year that starts next Oct. 1, which under Congress' budget rules means it won't count toward the bill's price tag for this year — a limit President Bush has fought to keep intact.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., and other sponsors originally hoped the extra funds would be added to the \$8.5 billion the bill already contained for the program, but Republicans objected.

As momentum for finishing the bill grew in both parties, the Senate used voice votes to accept the added education funds and smaller amendments.

Those included a Democratic proposal providing \$180 million to combat AIDS in Africa, and a GOP plan to add \$165 million for security screening of people entering the United States. They were largely paid for by new congressional estimates that parts of the bill, including higher Medicare reimbursements to rural hospitals, will cost less than expected earlier.

Republicans had hoped a final House-Senate compromise on the bill could be sent to Bush before his State of the Union speech next Tuesday. But Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, said he expected complicated negotiations with the House that would prevent its completion until early February at best.

Wal-Mart donation



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Wal-Mart Assistant Manager Tammy George recently presented Theresa Doyle, volunteer coordinator of Meals on Wheels, with a \$1,300 check for their organization. The money was raised during the store's Holiday Charity Event.

Annual High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop slated

AMARILLO — For 15 years, the High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop has provided members of the grain storage and processing industry an educational forum for discussion as well as a training environment.

The partnership behind the event slated Jan. 28 in the Regency Room of Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo includes Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas membership of the Tri-State Chapter of the Grain Elevator and Processing Society and Texas Cooperative Extension.

"This is the only such event, designed especially for industry education and training, held in this region," said Carl Patrick, Texas Extension entomologist of Amarillo.

Participants can earn continuing education units (CEUs) approved for licensed commercial, non-commercial and private applicators by Texas Department of

Agriculture.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. with refreshments. Pre-registration is encouraged. The workshop fee is \$30 per person.

Greg Cronholm, Extension integrated pest management agent of Plainview, will be the morning program moderator beginning by 8:30 a.m. Transportation of hazardous materials will be addressed by Texas Department of Public Safety official Harry Taylor of Amarillo.

Also, Joe Joe Zotter, Wildlife Damage Management Services of Canyon, will discuss bird and rodent control around grain handling facilities followed by Bill Sturtz with The Boone Group of Boone, Iowa, who will cover stored grain aeration issues.

The recertification program on phosphine safety and proposed new label requirements will be addressed after the break by Thad Bigler of Professional IPM Services, Inc., Liberty, Mo., and Dick Bigler, Commodity Services, Inc., of Kansas City, Kan.

After the noon meal, sponsored by Texas Grain and Feed Association, the final session will be moderated by Stephen Tillery of Attebury Grain, Inc., Amarillo. Tillery is the president of the Tri-State Chapter of GEAPS.

Craig Jakob with Hedley Technologies, Inc., of Whitney will discuss the alternative grain protectant, DE. Calvin Parnell, agricultural air quality engineer and director of the newly established Center for Agricultural Air Quality and Engineering Sciences at College Station, will discuss mineral oil control strategies to reduce dust

explosion and aid pest management.

Gary Gilbert, IPM project manager, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, will discuss sampling strategies needed to make sound pest management decisions in stored wheat.

The workshop will wrap up at 3 p.m. with evaluation and CEU completions.

To pre-register, contact Carl Patrick, Texas Cooperative Extension, 6500 Amarillo Blvd West, Amarillo, TX 79106; or call (806) 677-5600.

Also, Joe Zotter, Wildlife Damage Management Services of Canyon, will discuss bird and rodent control around grain handling facilities followed by Bill Sturtz with The Boone Group of Boone, Iowa, who will cover stored grain aeration issues.

Kerry wants foreign policy refocus

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic presidential hopeful John Kerry says it is not a sign of weakness for the United States to work closely with other nations, but rather "it amplifies America's voice and extends our reach."

"Working through global institutions doesn't tie our hands," the Massachusetts senator said in prepared remarks provided to The Associated Press late Wednesday. "It invests U.S. aims with greater legitimacy and dampens the fear and resentment that our preponderant power sometimes inspires in others."

Kerry was to deliver the speech Thursday at Georgetown University on a signature issue in his campaign.

Kerry has formed an exploratory committee to seek the Democratic presidential nomination. His backers say that as a decorated Vietnam War hero, he is the Democrat best able to counter an expected effort by President Bush to make foreign policy and the war on terror central to the 2004 campaign.

Kerry said the United States must work to "bridge the divide between Islam and the rest of the world" and he is calling for a trade effort to bring the Mideast into the world market.

"We must embark on a major initiative of public diplomacy to bridge the divide between Islam and the rest of the world," Kerry said.

"What America needs today is a smarter, more comprehensive and farsighted strategy for modernizing the greater Middle East," Kerry said. "It should draw on all of our nation's strengths: military might, the world's largest economy, the immense moral prestige of freedom and democracy — and our powerful alliances."

The four-term senator first elected in 1984 joined in the call to disarm Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, calling him "a particularly grievous threat," but warned against a quick assault on Iraq.

He proposed efforts to "bring about Iraq's peaceful disarmament or the decisive military victory of a multilateral coalition."

"The United States should never go to war because it wants to. We should go to war because we have to," Kerry said. "But we don't have to until we have exhausted the remedies available, built legitimacy and earned the consent of the American people, absent, of course, an imminent threat requiring urgent action."

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Sunday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

NATIONAL SECURITY PG-13
Monday - Thursday 7:15
Friday 7:15, 9:45
Saturday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
Sunday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

TWO WEEKS NOTICE PG-13
Monday - Thursday 7:00
Friday 7:00, 9:30
Saturday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Sunday 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN PG-13
Monday - Thursday 7:15
Friday 7:15, 9:45
Saturday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
Sunday 2:15, 4:45, 7:15

Hot Chick & Darkness Falls Starts Friday 1-24/03

GRANDVIEW HOPKINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2002				
Data	10	50	Total	
Control	General	Debt Service	Other	Governmental
Codes	Fund	Fund	Funds	Funds
REVENUES:				
5700	Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 928,254	\$ 326,287	\$ 1,254,541
5800	State Program Revenues	25,369	---	31,141
5900	Federal Program Revenues	---	---	3,366
5020	Total Revenues	953,623	326,287	1,291,624
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011	Instruction	188,805	---	194,266
0012	Instructional Resources & Media Services	4,885	---	4,885
0013	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	17,137	---	17,137
0023	School Leadership	62,684	---	62,684
0031	Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	13,937	---	13,937
0033	Health Services	1,246	---	1,246
0034	Student (Pupil) Transportation	34,407	---	34,407
0035	Food Services	1,060	---	34,094
0036	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	992	---	992
0041	General Administration	44,520	---	44,520
0051	Plant Maintenance and Operation	106,050	---	106,050
Debt Service:				
0071	Debt Service - Principal on long-term debt	---	285,000	285,000
0171	Debt Service - Interest on long-term debt	---	40,988	40,988
Intergovernmental:				
0091	Contracted Instruction Services Between	774,508	---	774,508
6030	Total Expenditures	750,231	325,988	1,114,714
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	203,392	299	(26,781)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7915	Transfers In	---	---	25,521
8911	Transfers Out (Use)	(25,521)	---	(25,521)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	---	---	25,521
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances	177,871	299	(1,260)
0100	Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	764,954	193	1,885
3000	Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 942,825	\$ 492	\$ 943,942

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Democratic attempt to delay Bush air rules unsuccessful

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush relied on local concerns to trump party loyalty in winning his first environmental battle of the new Congress. Senate Democrats from three states bolted from party leaders and presidential hopefuls to help affirm Bush's air pollution policy. Democrats from Arkansas and Louisiana, large timber and refining states, respectively, and Zell Miller of Georgia joined with Republicans in worrying about the effect of the cost of new air pollution controls on industry. By a 50-46 vote Wednesday, the Senate defeated a measure that would have delayed Environmental Protection Agency rules from going into effect. Four Democrats — Dianne Feinstein of California, Tom Harkin of Iowa,

Ernest Hollings of South Carolina and Daniel Inouye of Hawaii — did not vote. Echoing the prevailing views of his party, Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., the new chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, said delaying the rules would have "put jobs and economic stability at nearly 220,000 manufacturing facilities nationwide in jeopardy." The rules represent a major change in the way older industrial plants including refineries, timber mills and manufacturers deal with air pollution when they expand, make major repairs or modify operations to increase efficiency. Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., a 2004 presidential hopeful, had proposed the measure. Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., also

making a White House run, likewise supported postponing the EPA rules until at least Sept. 15 so they could be studied by the National Academy of Sciences. Typically, it has been the Bush administration calling for more studies of complex environmental issues and Democrats and environmentalists urging more immediate action. But among Republicans, senators from Maine and New Hampshire, along with Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island and John McCain of Arizona, bucked the Bush administration. They joined 39 Democrats and one independent. Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island are part of a lawsuit brought by nine Northeastern states against the EPA. They

charge that the administration's changes violate the 1970 Clean Air Act, undermine their efforts to protect public health and will increase the air pollution blown in their direction from the Midwest and Ohio Valley. The changes give companies greater flexibility to modernize or expand without having to install new pollution controls, though greater emissions might result. For example, plants that already have installed state-of-the-art pollution controls will not be required to install more effective equipment for 10 years even if they expand or change operations in a way that results in more pollution. Plants with numerous pollution sources may increase pollution from some sources as long as

overall, plant-wide air emissions are not increased. Companies also gain more leeway in calculating their pollution. Edwards' proposal was an amendment to the \$390 billion government-wide spending bill the Senate is debating. He had argued that the proposed rules would result in increased air pollution and health problems. The regulations are supposed to take effect in March. "This administration has made new rules that are the biggest roll-back of clean air protections in history," he said. Before Edwards' amendment was rejected, the Senate voted 51-45 for another by Inhofe that called for the National Academy of Sciences study but let the rules take effect as scheduled.

England set to raise college tuition fees

LONDON (AP) — The British government said it plans to sharply increase tuition fees at English universities in a bid to improve their finances and make them more competitive with U.S. Ivy League colleges. Students currently pay \$1,750 a year in tuition, but the change announced Wednesday would allow universities to charge up to \$4,800. Students in England and Wales wouldn't have to pay the fees until after graduation. The changes also would increase the number of study grants that are given to the poorest students. Supporters of the tuition increase say the cash injection would allow colleges in England and Wales to improve research programs and attract the best brains from Britain and overseas. Opponents, including students, say the increase in fees would make higher education elitist and leave many graduates in debt. In England and Wales, all universities are state schools, relying heavily on government financing. At U.S. private colleges such as Harvard and Yale, undergraduates often pay more than \$25,000 a year in tuition alone. The English proposal, which wouldn't apply to universities in Scotland, is expected to be approved by the legislature, where the governing Labor Party has a large majority. Charles Clarke, the government's education secretary, told parliament that there were no other options to overhaul Britain's lagging college system and to provide equal access to students from all backgrounds. Paul Lewis, president of the Cambridge University Students Union, said the system meant some students would leave universities with big debts and would create a class system among the country's universities. "Cambridge already has a problem with attracting students from lower income backgrounds and that problem is going to be exacerbated," said Lewis. "It is a disaster for access." Thousands of students marched through central London in December to protest the expected changes. They wanted the government to fund universities through an income tax increase, but Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labor Party had ruled out that measure in both its 1997 and 2001 general election manifestos. Clarke also said Wednesday the government planned to increase university science and research expenditures by 30 percent, or \$2 billion a year by 2005-2006. But he said the lion's share would go to the best performers, a move critics suggest meant the money would go into the coffers of already superior universities like Oxford and Cambridge. In addition, Clarke said the government wanted to foster an American-style "endowment" system, under which U.S. colleges use the interest on private donations to fund research.

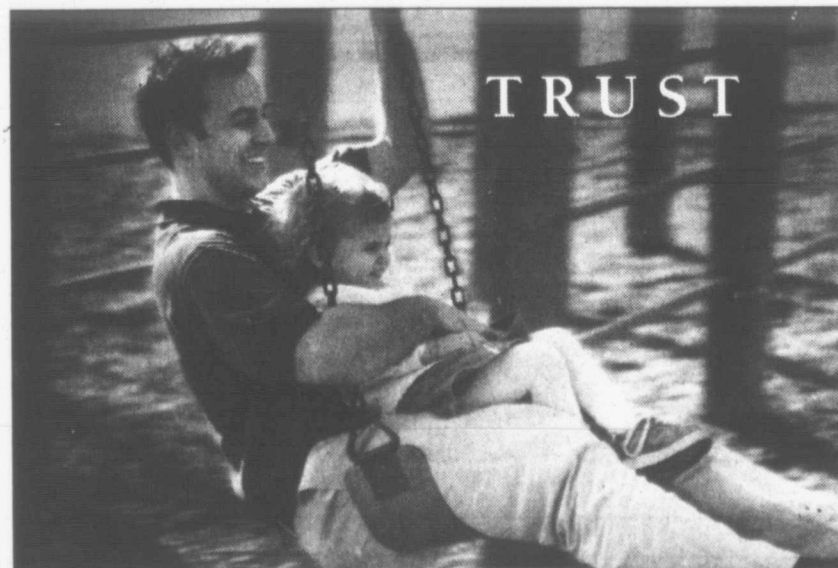
Dutch parties face knotty post-election talks

By TOBY STERLING
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — Dutch voters split their support between two centrist parties and relegated an anti-immigration party to the far-right fringe in national elections, setting the stage for months of bargaining to assemble a governing coalition. The Christian Democrats edged out a resurgent Labor Party by a 44-42 margin in the 150-seat parliament in Wednesday's vote, ensuring that Jan Peter Balkenende will remain prime minister for a second term. But lacking enough support from like-minded pro-business parties, Balkenende appeared to have little choice than to strike a deal with Labor, his party's traditional center-left rival. Balkenende, 46, refused to consider another alliance with the anti-immigration party of murdered populist Pim Fortuyn, blaming its internal chaos and power struggles for the collapse of his first government after just 87 days in office. The road to a coalition pact with Labor looked long and bumpy. "If you talk about finance, welfare, education and health care, we have great differences," Balkenende said after Wednesday's vote. Reaching an agreement with Labor couldn't be done quickly — if it could be done at all, he said. Although the two parties have governed together before, most recently in the late 1980s, there was no guarantee they could come to terms again. After the 1977 election, they negotiated for

six months before abandoning the attempt. One point of conflict was over foreign policy. Although it had not been a campaign issue, Labor Party leader Wouter Bos said in a post-election speech he would "work to head off a war with Iraq." Balkenende's previous government had pledged to offer the United States logistical support in the event of war. Bos said an alliance of the two major parties was inevitable, and that Balkenende shouldn't waste time while the nation suffers from the global economic downturn. "Other coalition possibilities are mathematically possible, but they would be extremely unwise. The voter has spoken very clearly: the only stable, two-party government is the Christian Democrats with Labor," Bos said. Balkenende was a largely unknown political researcher and part-time university lecturer on Christian philosophy when he was chosen leader of his deeply divided Christian Democratic Alliance a few months before the 2002 election. Earlier, he held executive positions in a Christian television and radio broadcasting station and served on the municipal council of Amstelveen, a town outside Amsterdam. With his rimless glasses and haircut, he liked to joke about his resemblance to the movie character Harry Potter, a useful balance to his often stern, clipped manner and speech. Balkenende says his task is to restore confidence in government following the mas-

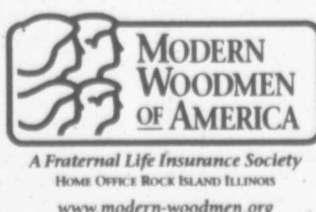
sive protest vote against the political elite last year expressed in the support for Fortuyn's party. Balkenende "perfectly fit into the old Christian leadership tradition: solid, reliable, anything but innovative," said Dutch historian Henk te Velde on Radio Netherlands. Although Fortuyn's party was sidelined, the anti-immigration, crime-busting legacy of the assassinated politician will be continued by the mainstream parties who have co-opted much of his platform. A dapper, gay newspaper columnist and academic, Fortuyn turned the quiet, consensus-based world of Dutch politics on its head by speaking openly about immigration problems and crime. He was shot dead by an animal rights activist nine days before elections last May.



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Thursday, January 23, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanna Phillips

Disabled Man's Sexual Fling Meets Parents' Disapproval

DEAR ABBY: I am writing not for advice, but to help others in a situation that I recently encountered.

I have a dear friend I'll call "Kent" who has muscular dystrophy. Kent is 95 percent paralyzed, but mentally he is one of the most intelligent, mature, open-minded, wonderful people I have ever met. At age 40, he is confined to his parents' home, to his bed and to a ventilator. Kent lives every day knowing that his next breath could be his last.

Kent has never had a girlfriend nor any sexual experiences, although he has all the normal sexual feelings and desires that any able-bodied man would have. For the past four years, Kent has asked me to arrange a sexual experience for him. He called and asked again recently, so I agreed.

I contacted an escort service and before I could finish two sentences, the manager said, "Don't worry about it. We've got it covered — and we'll do it for free." The encounter went very well. The woman had a medical background and was not shocked by his disability or life-support devices.

When Kent's religious parents found out they were not at home at the time, I was banned from their house, from contacting him, and his phone book suddenly "disappeared." I regret that I may have lost a dear friend, but I am more saddened to realize that a 40-year-old man can be held captive in his room by his disabled body and by his parents' morals and values as though he were a 13-year-old adolescent.

Abby, there must be many "invisible" people with disabilities that we never see because they are trapped inside. I hope this letter will open the lines of communication in some homes, and also make people understand the normal, natural needs of these individuals.

VIC IN GRAHAM, N.C.

DEAR VIC: So do I, because the situation you describe is tragic. Too often, assumptions that have nothing to do with reality are made about people with disabilities. One of these is that people with disabilities do not have sexual feelings. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Healthy relationships help a person build self-esteem. They should be encouraged because they are an important part of a person's development. It is wrong for a person in control to project his or her own moral values on another adult who is dependent. For parents to confine an adult child, to prevent that person from having relationships, and to discourage that person from living life as fully as possible is to me both cruel and ignorant.

I would only hope that someone in your community who understands this could intercede and explain to Kent's parents that there is room for nontraditional relationships in cases like this one.

DEAR ABBY: I just turned 21 and am engaged to be married in May. My fiancé and I have been together all through college, but I have been feeling hostile toward him for the last couple of months. I get mad for the stupidest things and don't know why. Lately I've been feeling I want to go out and "experience life." Should I call off the wedding?

OVERWHELMED WITH CONFUSION IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR OVERWHELMED: You are overdue for a frank talk with your fiancé. You may be experiencing pre-wedding jitters or are feeling trapped. Whether the wedding should be postponed or called off is up to the two of you to decide. You both would benefit from premarital counseling.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeane 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.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Popularity Bookings, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

For Better or For Worse



Zits



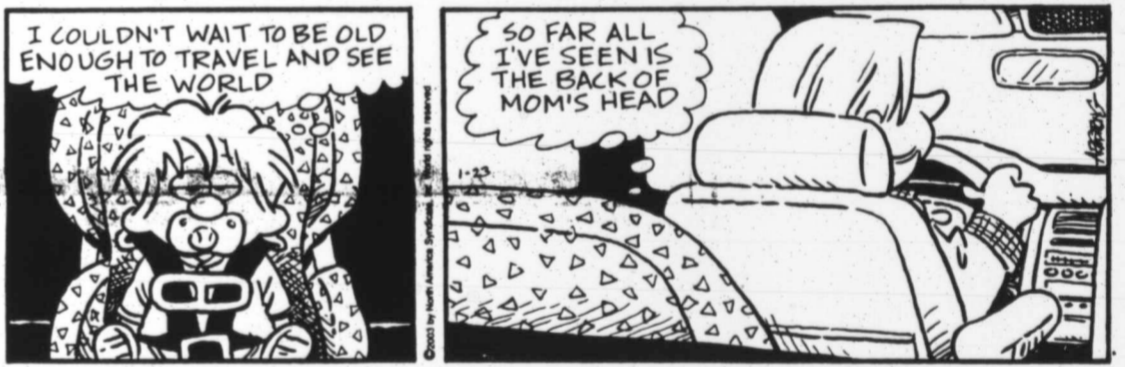
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Takes in
- 2 — tree
- 3 Old
- 4 college
- 5 pranked
- 6 Removed
- 7 Asian
- 8 Buffalo's
- 9 city
- 10 Craze
- 11 Flexible
- 12 Intense
- 13 fear
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- 15 Clark's
- 16 friend on
- 17 "Small-
- 18 ville"
- 19 Small
- 20 dog, for
- 21 short
- 22 Skilled
- 23 Hamlet,
- 24 for one
- 25 Wise guy
- 26 Locks
- 27 up?
- 28 Lasagna
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- 26 Draw
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- 32 Straw
- 33 Jingle
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- 36 Finish
- 37 Make
- 38 coffee
- 39 Kinks
- 40 classic
- 41 Some
- 42 music
- 43 Copy
- 44 Station
- 45 buy
- 46 hats
- 47 in

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke doesn't like it when we tell ghost stories."

1-23



"One kid in my class knows every answer. But his desk is nowhere near mine."

1-23

STUMPED?

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Peanuts



Blondie



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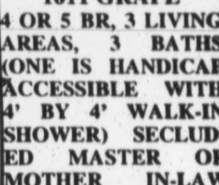
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Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Jan. 24, 2003:
Laugh and enjoy your life. You're the only person who can hold yourself back. Consider more of what you need and want, not hesitating to ask for just that. Your lively ways often attract admirers. You could be most unpredictable, shaking up the status quo. Take courses and let your mind stretch in constructive ways. Later in the year, you will take charge of your life in an unprecedented manner. If you are single, someone new could float into your life at anytime. You just might be ready for Mr. or Ms. Right. If you are attached, learn to understand your sweetie better. You'll grow closer as a result, especially after August. SCORPIO pushes your buttons.
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)
***** Others run with the ball. Realize that you're in a position of mixing or agreeing. The unexpected takes you in a new direction if you flow with the moment. A late afternoon meeting proves to be even more of a party than you anticipated. Go with it. Tonight: Make time for a special friend.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Accomplish what you need in order to clear out as soon as possible. You have quite a few social demands on your calendar, though you won't feel like yourself unless you approach the weekend with a clear desk. Schedule meetings for later in the day. Tonight: Find your friends.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Your efforts impress a loved one or a friend. Express greater clarity about what you want. What might feel like an adventuresome idea to others

looks most doable to you. Carry the flag, and others will follow. Tonight: For whatever reason, you might want to work late.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Your family takes a higher priority than you originally anticipated in a key decision. A surprise that comes your way might affect a monetary decision. If you feel lucky, take a risk; otherwise, hold your cards close to your chest. Tonight: Add spice to your life.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Keep communication open. Someone you count on could flake out one more time. A friend could be pushing the line, counting on your friendship. Learning new ways to say "no" proves most beneficial in this situation. Tonight: Head on home.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Indulge others, but understand that a co-worker could create an uproar when you least expect it. Become more independent professionally, if possible. A boss appreciates your independent stand. Think through a decision that involves a boss or higher-up. Tonight: Out and about.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Start up an active conversation in which you hear what someone else feels. Sometimes you unconsciously run over someone's feelings, causing yourself a set of problems. Work on your listening skills. Delight a child or loved one with a surprise. You can see the pleasure in his or her eyes. Tonight: Your treat.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Getting what you need to get done might involve letting someone know that you don't have enough time for all the chitchat. Screen calls and focus on what must be done. By mid-one or a friend. Express greater clarity about what you want. What might feel like an adventuresome idea to others
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

An associate always has an adjunct to your ideas. Take the comments gracefully. Remind yourself of the pluses of teamwork. Sometimes you feel frustrated with what you see evolving. Be more optimistic about a difficult friend or associate. Still, you can only play the diplomat so much, for so long. Tonight: Vanish home.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** You just might wonder about the limitations of a professional situation for which you cannot seem to get a resolution. Though you might be inclined to toss logic in the air and just go carefree, you won't. Do some innovative thinking. Bring some of your braintrust together. Tonight: Join your friends.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** Your perspective helps others open doors and perhaps see life a bit differently. Realize that a loved one means well but might not be able to make headway with a project or idea. Work with others, but understand that you could be creating a very late night for yourself. Tonight: Till the wee hours.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Your enthusiasm leads you right into a partner's arms. You could wonder exactly what you're doing here, but you like it. Let go and make the very most out of the moment. Let go of a specific vision, especially if it concerns a relative at a distance. Tonight: Opt for adventure.
BORN TODAY
Actor Ernest Borgnine (1917), televangelist Oral Roberts (1918), actress Tonya Crowe (1971)
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.
1-23 CRYPTOQUOTE
U R I R K C K P U J V W Q E J
E G X X R R Q H W Y U E M ; P H
N P W W J R R A Z G Y Q N Q J R
P U H M R Q X H R K U G G U .
— B P W W Z E G G A R K
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I'VE NEVER GOTTEN ANY GOOD ADVICE. I'VE HAD TO FIGURE IT OUT FOR MYSELF. — TOM MAGLIOZZI

