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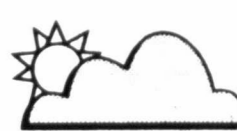
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FRIDAY

# THE PAMPA NEWS

PAMPA, TEXAS

April 7, 1995

50c DAILY/SUNDAY \$1

## Good Evening!

### LOCAL

**PAMPA** — Parents of the Class of 1995 at Pampa High School are encouraged to help with preparations for the Senior Prom.

A planning session will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, in the high school library. Committees will be formed to help with prom arrangements.

For more information or for those wanting to help but unable to attend Tuesday's session, call Cathy Scribner at 665-3954.

**MIAMI** — Miami Independent School District Board of Trustees is to meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the school administration office, 101 Warrior Lane.

The panel will hear information on budgets, fund balances, lunch room, tax collections, school car and counselor days of employment.

Action items include transfer students and track field.

### NATIONAL

**PONTIAC, Mich. (AP)** — Autoworkers at a General Motors Corp. plant that builds one-third of the automaker's full-size pickup trucks have ratified a contract, ending a six-day strike over job cuts.

Nearly 3,000 members of United Auto Workers Local 594 voted 99.1 percent in favor of the contract Thursday, union officials said. They would not release the actual vote count.

Employees were due back today at GM's Pontiac East plant. The strike cost GM the production of about 4,500 of its highly profitable Chevrolet and MC C/K pickups, which already are in short supply.

The 5,500 UAW workers at the plant and an associated engineering center struck over a dispute about jobs for about 1,500 workers. Those positions were eliminated when GM closed a nearby plant.

### STATE

**LUBBOCK (AP)** — Half the globe separates Texas Tech University soils professor Richard Zartman from his research partner.

Zartman gets on the Internet and taps out e-mail — to Israel — whenever he needs to touch base with his colleague.

"It's as easy as doing it across campus," he said.

The study by Zartman and Guy J. Levy of the Volcani Center in Israel looks for ways to break down crusty soil and improve water absorptency.

Their proposal won funding last month in the debut of a cooperative program to improve agriculture in areas where water comes in short supply.

**AUSTIN (AP)** — The Senate State Affairs Committee has approved a plan to exempt the state from a new federal law and continue requiring out-of-state banks operating in Texas to be state-chartered.

The committee voted 13-0 Thursday in favor of the bill by Sen. Jim Turner, D-Crockett. The measure now goes to the full Senate for consideration.

Turner's bill differs from a measure approved by the House last month on a 142-0 vote.

## College campus fund raising opens

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS  
News Editor

Between \$150,000 and \$160,000 in cash and pledges have been collected on behalf of Clarendon College - Pampa Center's proposed new campus construction, according to Loyd Waters, fund raising chairman for the project.

The building campaign which aims to raise \$4.9 million for a 54,000 square foot classroom facility got underway Thursday with civic and government leaders promising their support for the project.

Pledges during the Thursday reception at Pampa Community Building included \$8,000 from the Stowers family presented by Richard Stowers, \$15,000 from the McCarley Foundation presented by Dr. Darrel Rains, \$500 from the Altrusa Club presented by Charlene Morris, \$5,000 from the Nona Payne Foundation and \$5,000 from Doug and Bob Carmichael presented by Doug Carmichael.

"I've lived here 44 years and I believe in this project as much or more than anything Pampa has needed," said Doug Carmichael, a steering committee member.

"I think that higher education is the answer to a lot of our future problems. If you look at the towns that are prospering now, it's the towns that have colleges, whether they be junior colleges or four year colleges. Why shouldn't Pampa have one?" he said.

Carmichael presented a 12-acre tract of land on West Kentucky on behalf of Dr. Raymond Hampton and family. He noted the parcel is large enough to accommodate dormitory construction, is within the city limits and can be easily tied into city utilities. The site is bordered by Somerville and Kentucky streets, the Westside Church of Christ and Masonic Lodge.

Waters said fund raising teams plan to collect \$600,000 within the next two months toward the project.

"If you raise 10 percent here locally, the money will come," said Carmichael.

The project was introduced by Don Lane, steering committee chairman, who said the Pampa Center steering committee met a year ago to develop plans for the new facility.

"Pampa has always been a great community to respond to needs when those needs are made known," Lane said.

The new facility will be funded "through the dedication of the citizens of Pampa and foundations," he said. No tax money will be used for construction.

At an earlier news conference, school administrators and steering committee members explained the proposed facility will provide 22 classrooms, two labs, a multi purpose meeting and classroom to seat 150, seven teacher offices, student lounge, study areas, EMT lab room, an electronics lab and a multi media learning resource center. The facility will be computer networked and cable televi-

sion ready for access to distance learning.

The present building, the former Sam Houston Elementary School, 900 N. Frost, is in need of extensive repairs including a new roof and renovation to meet Americans with Disability Act requirements. It is owned by Pampa Independent School District and has been used by Pampa Center since 1978.

Also during the reception Richard Stowers announced a \$4,000 annual scholarship funded by his family.

"Our future is in our youth," he said.

Members of the Pampa Center steering committee include Darlene Birkes, Bill Waters, Jerry Foote, Duane Harp, Mike Ruff, Loyd Waters, Jack McCavit, Betty Hallerberg, Dot Stowers, Doug Carmichael, County Judge Richard Peet, Rick Massick, Don Lane, Dr. Jerry Lane, Associate Dean Joe Kyle Reeve, Seleta Chance, Nancy Paronto and Katrina Bigham.

## Pledging support



Kicking off Clarendon College - Pampa Center's fund raising drive are Richard Stowers, left, Charlene Morris and Dr. Darrel Rains, who on behalf of the Stowers family, Altrusa International and McCarley Foundation, respectively, pledged financial support for the school's new facility. See related story above.

## Crime summit offers opportunity to stand against lawlessness

Pampa residents can find out how to take a stand against lawlessness at an all-day crime summit set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium and Civic Center.

Crime prevention and awareness, domestic violence, gangs, and personal and property security issues will be addressed at "Taking a Stand," an all-day information and exhibition fair sponsored by the Gray County Extension Program Council of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Speakers and topics include:  
9 a.m. - Personal Safety, by Sgt. Katie Gerhardt, Pampa Police Department.

9:30 a.m. - Drugs and Alcohol and Their Impact on Crime, by Claudia Stuart of Texas War on Drugs.

10:30 a.m. - Gangs, by Officer Gustavo Vaquera, Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

11:30 a.m. - Drug Free Youth in Texas, by Lesley Koetting, student assistance program counselor of Pampa Independent School District.

1 p.m. - Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers.

1:30 p.m. - Fraud Prevention, by Ron McLaurin of the Texas Attorney General's Office.

2:30 p.m. - Prison Early Release Program, by Mike Jeffers, teacher at the Rufe Jordan Unit.

3:30 p.m. - Neighborhood Watch and Home Security, by

Floyd McMinn, crime prevention coordinator, and Cpl. Connie Brown, Pampa Police Department.

At the noon hour, teens will be treated to pizza and soft drinks courtesy Mr. Gatti's, and Chicken Express will give away food coupons as young people learn about taking a stand against violence.

A Pampa Police Department representative will discuss protection against violence at school, and Sana Alexander of Tralee Crisis Center will discuss date rape and family violence.

A drawing for a \$100 discount on security equipment at Hall's Auto Sound will be held.

For adults, from noon to 1 p.m., Dr. Jerry Lane, Clarendon College, will speak on inhalants and raising drug free children.

For children, from noon to 1 p.m., Cpl. Brown will talk about bicycle safety, tips for staying home alone and dealing with strangers.

Gray County Sheriff's Office and PPD officers will offer Ident-A-Kid service for children all day. McGruff the Crime Dog will be on hand.

Drug dogs Dirk and Czar, of PPD and GCSO respectively, will be at the crime summit with their handlers.

"Taking a Stand" is co-sponsored by Tralee Crisis Center and Hoechst Celanese Chemical Group.

## Senate approves spending cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Leaders of both parties are declaring victory after Senate approval of \$16 billion in cuts in social programs. But their week-long struggle highlights how difficult it will be for Republicans to deliver on their promise to balance the budget.

After days of Democratic delays, Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., struck a deal Thursday night, joined by President Clinton. Shortly afterward, the Senate vote 99-0 in favor of cuts in education, housing, jobs and scores of other programs, and joined the House in Easter recess.

"It's an agreement we all can support," Daschle said prior to the vote. Only Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., did not vote.

The bipartisan pact shielded national service, housing modernization and other programs from \$835 million in cuts Republicans wanted, while slicing more than \$1.6 billion from airport improvements and other programs.

But the bill's eventual fate was uncertain. The House has approved a \$17 billion package with deeper cuts in many programs. Republicans there said they could not rule out seeking major changes when House-Senate negotiators meet next

month, and Daschle said that would mean "we're back to ground zero."

Whatever its fate, passage represented a triumph for Senate Republicans in general and their majority leader in particular, Bob Dole. Just days from formally embarking on his presidential bid in a GOP field crowded with conservatives, Dole, R-Kan., wanted to polish his credentials as a budget cutter.

In the wake of the balanced budget amendment's demise in the Senate last month, Dole also wanted to demonstrate that he could move crucial GOP legislation. The Senate's slow pace has been a stark contrast with the lightning-fast House, where Republicans rammed through nine of the 10 bills they promised as part of their "Contract With America."

"We wasted no time in making history," Dole said in a written statement of the GOP's first three months in control of Congress.

At the same time, the lengthy spending cuts battle provided a peek at the problems that will arise when the GOP begins hunting for the record \$1.2 trillion in budget savings it will need to balance the budget by the year 2002.

As they worked on the \$16 billion package, some members of both parties struggled to protect

favorite programs. The measure also relied on some questionable savings, like \$337 million in vaguely described "federal administration and travel" and reductions in funds that were unlikely to be spent for a feeding program for women and children.

Dole said some of the savings were "funny money." And it led some to wonder what would happen when the stakes become much higher.

"This is child's play" compared to the effort to balance the budget, predicted Sen. James Exon, D-Neb.

In other action on Congress' last day before its first prolonged break since Jan. 4, Congress sent Clinton a \$3.1 billion measure replenishing Pentagon coffers drained by peacekeeping operations in Haiti, Somalia and elsewhere. The bill cuts lower-priority defense programs and some domestic initiatives. The Senate approved the measure by voice after the House adopted it by 343-80. Clinton is expected to sign the bill.

Congress also shipped a bill to the White House forming a five-member panel to monitor the finances of the financially staggered District of Columbia. The Senate adopted the measure on a voice vote following House approval Monday.

## Rancher, teacher begin life on the range — literally

EL RENO, Okla. (AP) — Few would boast of a wedding guest list that includes longhorn steers and horses.

But for rancher Cliff Henderson and his bride, being in the company of such a group was only fitting.

"We were thinking what we could do," said Henderson, 66, of McKinney, Texas. "We love ranching, we love horses, we love cattle, so thought we'd get married on the cattle drive."

So he did. He and Claudia Nichols, a third-grade teacher from Waxahachie, Texas, exchanged vows Thursday afternoon in a grassy field pasture near here.

The couple started out with the Great American Cattle Drive in Forth Worth, Texas, and rejoined it just south of El Reno to get married.

The drive has been winding

through the back roads of northern Texas and Oklahoma since early March, and is expected to pull into Montana in September.

Henderson and Ms. Nichols, at the suggestion of their families, met for a blind date nine months ago that ended with the pair delivering a litter of puppies. They fell in love not too long afterward.

"Our romance has been built around riding," said Ms. Nichols, 45. "We ride every day together. It's such a pleasurable experience."

The ceremony was held in the middle of the Potter Ranch, which had been transformed into a night camp. There were sleeping and grazing longhorns and cattle trucks; simmering logs surrounded by black pots and kettles, and the occasional "cow pattie."

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# Daily Record

## Services tomorrow

**CHILTON**, James E. — 10 a.m., Central Christian Church, Vernon.  
**SCHAUB**, Betty Marie Henderson — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.  
**TWIGG**, Jimmie D. — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

## Obituaries

**BERGA A. GOAD**  
 WHEELER - Berga A. Goad, 90, died Saturday, April 1, 1995 in Encino, Calif. Graveside services were held Thursday in Wheeler Cemetery with family members Bob Zybach and David Zybach officiating. Burial was under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.  
 Ms. Goad was born in Stephenville, Texas, on Aug. 11, 1904. She was a graduate of Wheeler High School. She worked for Wheeler County for several years. She moved to California in 1940 and worked for the Los Angeles County legal system until her retirement. She was a Baptist.  
 Survivors include a sister, Ryby Zybach of Briscoe; and several nieces and nephews.

## Calendar of events

**PAMPA BRIDGE CLUB**  
 Pampa Bridge Club meets at 2 p.m. Sunday in Room 11 at Clarendon College. For a partner, contact Marie Jamison at 669-2945.  
**THEE PLACE**  
 Thee Place for Singles is open 7-10:30 p.m. Saturdays at 520 W. Kingsmill.  
**SOUTHSIDE SENIOR CITIZENS**  
 Mobile meals menu for Saturday includes chicken and dumplings, green beans, corn, bread, mixed fruit.

**CALICO CAPERS**  
 Calico Capers Square Dance Club is to host their monthly second Saturday dance, 8 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, at 324 Naida. For additional information, call 665-7400 or 665-1061.

## Stocks

Stock	Price	Change
Chevron	45.78	dn 3/8
Coca Cola	58.58	up 1/8
Diamond Sham	26.38	dn 1/4
Enron	33.12	dn 3/8
Wheat	3.13	dn 1/8
Milo	4.02	dn 1/8
Corn	4.56	dn 1/8
Halliburton	37	NC
HealthTrust Inc.	36.58	NC
Ingersoll Rand	33.12	up 1/8
KNE	25.18	up 1/4
Kerr McGee	51.18	NC
Limited	22.58	dn 1/4
Mapco	55.38	up 1/8
Maxus	5.12	up 1/8
McDonald's	34.78	dn 1/8
Mobil	89.14	dn 7/8
New Atmos	17.78	dn 1/4
Parker & Parsley	21.14	dn 1/4
Pennys	45.14	up 1/8
Phillips	35	dn 1/4
SLB	59.12	NC
SPS	28.12	dn 1/8
Tenneco	46.58	dn 1/8
Texasco	64.12	dn 1/2
Wal-Mart	25.18	dn 1/4
New York Gold	392.80	dn 1/4
Silver	5.39	dn 1/8
West Texas Crude	19.77	dn 1/8

**Emergency numbers**

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	665-5777
Fire	911
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	669-5700
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

## Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.  
**THURSDAY, April 6**  
 Mary R. Woodward of Overall Package Store, 538 S. Cuyler, reported two incidents of forgery. Mary Arellano of Gas 'n' Stuff, 225 W. Brown, reported theft under \$20 which occurred at 3:50 p.m. Thursday.

**FRIDAY, April 7**  
 John Thomas Bolin, 918 E. Francis, reported assault with injury which occurred at 1:15 a.m. Friday. The victim suffered a V-shaped laceration over the left eye.

## Hospital

**CORONADO HOSPITAL Admissions Pampa**  
 Allene Colbert (extended care)  
 Gertrude Heasley  
 Johnny C. Speegle (extended care)  
**Beaver, Okla.**  
 Rickie Romick  
**Borger**  
 Toni Hubbs  
**Lefors**  
 Floyd McDowell  
**Miami**  
 Elizabeth Carr  
**Birth**  
 To Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Romick of Beaver, Okla., a boy.  
**Dismissals Pampa**  
 Allene Colbert  
 Ethel E. Gower (extended care)  
 Ed W. Ray  
 Johnny C. Speegle  
**Breezy Point, N.Y.**  
 Joan Vanvoorhis  
**SHAMROCK HOSPITAL Admissions Shamrock**  
 Dicie Prater  
 Betty Lou Wright  
**Dismissals Shamrock**  
 Barbara Hill  
 Durwood Royal

## Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.  
**THURSDAY, April 7**  
 6 p.m. - A 1985 Dodge Ram Charger driven by Jason Lee Bryan, 18, 1539 N. Sumner, was in collision with a 1993 Chevrolet owned by the Department of Public Safety and driven by Trooper Jim Bishop, 53, at the intersection of East Frederic and South Barnes. Bryan was cited for disregarding a stop and go sign.

## Ambulance

American Medical Transport reported the following calls for the 24-hour period at 7 a.m. today.  
**THURSDAY, April 6**  
 1:12 p.m. - A patient was transported from the 1900 block of Holly Lane to Coronado Hospital's emergency room.  
 2:41 p.m. - A patient was transported from Coronado Hospital to a local nursing home.  
 4:09 p.m. - A patient was transferred from Coronado Hospital to the Veterans Hospital in Amarillo.

## Sheriff's Office

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrest in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.  
**FRIDAY, April 7**  
 Vernon Howard Woodward, 33, 941 S. Faulkner, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

# House Republicans celebrate end of 'Contract With America' period

WASHINGTON (AP) - Weary but elated, House Republicans today celebrated the end of their 100-day sprint - it was 93 days, actually - while promising to return next month to take care of unfinished business. "This is only a beginning," Speaker Newt Gingrich proclaimed.



House Speaker Newt Gingrich, flanked by House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas, left, and Rep. J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., take part in a celebration on Capitol Hill this morning. (AP photo)

With Washington's cherry trees in bloom, about 160 Republican House members returned to the steps of the Capitol, where they launched their "Contract With America" last fall, to underscore that they had kept their promise. It was a message that Gingrich planned to bring home in a nationally televised address tonight.

"If we break this contract, throw us out, we mean it," Gingrich told the rally. He said tonight's speech would focus on changing the direction of the country through the end of the decade.

President Clinton, asked about Gingrich today while flying to Dallas, told reporters: "I think he'll give a good speech. I think he'll do well."

Gingrich has been "pretty forthcoming in the last week or two in reaching out," Clinton said. "He'll claim a lot of credit for what he has done, and he should."

"Where we have to go is pretty simple: this country cannot end the 20th century with a federal government that does not work, with a drug war we're losing ... with schools that don't succeed, with children trapped in poverty, with a deficit so large that our children and grandchildren will spend their lives paying off our debt."

Small American flags waved all around him as freshman Republican Rep. J.C. Watts of Oklahoma offered the opening

prayer. School children bused in for the event led the Pledge of Allegiance and a campaign style video extolling the work of the House GOP was projected on a giant outdoor screen for the several hundred people gathered in the sunshine.

"Forgive me if I'm all smiles this morning," said a jubilant House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas, "but the birds are singing, the cherry trees are in bloom, baseball is back, an we have completed our 'Contract With America.'"

"It sort of feels like a birthday party," said Rep. Christopher Cox, R-Calif. "Today I feel truly I have died and gone to heaven."

Gingrich said earlier he would discuss the Republican drive for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. "It's going to be

one of the great efforts of modern times to remake the federal government so we can get to a balanced budget," he said on NBC's Today show.

"I think the country is with us," Gingrich said.

"I think about 70 percent of the chapter and verse in the 'Contract With America' will be passed by the Senate and House; I think the president will sign more than 50 percent of it into law," Armey said on CBS This Morning.

White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta grudgingly acknowledged the GOP accomplishments, saying today, "You obviously have to give them credit for their ability to be very disciplined and single-minded about getting the contract accomplished in the House."

## Weather focus

**LOCAL FORECAST**  
 Variable cloudiness through Saturday. Low tonight in the lower 50s, with a chance of isolated showers and thunderstorms. Friday, high near 90 with southwesterly winds 10-20 mph. Thursday's high was 77; the overnight low was 48.

**REGIONAL FORECAST**  
**West Texas - Panhandle:** Variable cloudiness through Saturday, with a low tonight in the upper 40s to lower 50s. Saturday, highs in the mid 80s to low 90s. Saturday night, partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Lows in the 50s. South Plains: Tonight, fair. Lows 50-55. Saturday, mostly sunny. Highs near 90 to low 90s. Saturday night, partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in 50s.

**North Texas - Tonight,** partly cloudy. Lows 57 to 62. Saturday, partly cloudy and continued warm. Highs 81 northeast to 88

southwest. Saturday night, partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms extreme northwest. Lows 56 to 63.

**South Texas - Hill Country and South Central:** Tonight, mostly fair this evening, increasing late night low clouds and patchy fog. Lows in the 60s. Saturday, early morning low clouds and patchy fog, becoming partly cloudy and warm. Highs in the 80s south central and Hill Country, 90s Edwards Plateau. Saturday night, mostly cloudy with lows in the 60s. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows in the 60s to near 70. Saturday, partly cloudy and breezy. Highs in the 80s Coastal Bend, to the 90s Rio Grande plains. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the 60s to near 70. Upper Coast: Tonight, fair. Lows in the 60s. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in low to mid 80s inland, mid 70s coast. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the 60s.

**BORDER STATES**  
**New Mexico - Tonight,** partly cloudy north. Fair skies south. Lows mid 20s to 30s mountains, mid 30s to low 50s elsewhere. Saturday, breezy to windy. Increasing cloudiness north with a slight chance of showers northern mountains. Fair skies elsewhere. Highs upper 50s to low 70s mountains and northwest, mid 70s to 80s east and south except low 90s southeast corner. Saturday night, mostly cloudy north with a slight chance of showers northern mountains and northwest. Skies mostly fair south. Lows 20s and 30s mountains and northwest, upper 30s to mid 50s east and south.

**Oklahoma - Tonight,** partly cloudy with a slight chance of evening thunderstorms in far western portions of Oklahoma and north Texas. Lows in upper 40s to mid 50s. Saturday and Saturday night, partly cloudy with slight chance of thunderstorms. Highs in upper 70s and low 80s. Lows Saturday night in the 50s.

# Army troops battle Muslim extremists

IPIL, Philippines (AP) - Army troops backed by artillery and helicopter gunships staged running battles today with Muslim extremists accused of ransacking a town and killing dozens of its residents.

At least 20 people were reported killed in today's fighting, including five taken hostage by the extremists.

Thousands of civilians fled remote mountain villages west of Ipil to escape fighting between the army and the Abu Sayyaf group, blamed for Tuesday's raid on this town of 50,000 about 480 miles south of Manila.

Police today put the death toll in the Ipil raid at 49, while the Department of Social Warfare said at least 52 people were killed. About 200 gunmen attacked the town, firing indiscriminately at civilians, witnesses said.

Abu Sayyaf members have been linked to defendants in the 1993 World Trade Center bomb-

ing and to plots to kill Pope John Paul II and blow up U.S. airliners over the Pacific. The group has been blamed for numerous bombings, killings and kidnappings of Christians since 1991.

In Manila, the Philippine National Police said members of two larger Muslim groups - the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front - also took part in the Ipil raid.

The Moro National Liberation Front has entered peace talks with the government and condemned the raid.

In today's fiercest engagement, a mixed force of army soldiers and government militiamen battled Abu Sayyaf gunmen for five hours near Siocon, about 30 miles west of Ipil.

Capt. Melquiades Feliciano said 13 people - five Abu Sayyaf members, three militiamen and five civilian hostages - were killed in the fighting. Seven more Abu Sayyaf members were killed

in another battle near R.T. Lim town south of Siocon, Feliciano said.

One of the wounded hostages, Nestor Flores, said he was shot in the foot in crossfire during today's Siocon fighting. "When I could not walk, one of the Abu Sayyaf men wanted to kill me," he said from his hospital bed. "But I prayed to God. I thought I would die. He then shot me in the thigh and left me."

After today's battle near R.T. Lim, reporters saw a government militiaman kick the body of a dead Muslim and then bite off his ear. "I know this one," the militiaman growled. "He was the one holding a B-40 (rocket-propelled grenade launcher) during the fighting."

One terrified civilian, Carlito Ingito, said he was ordered at gunpoint by his Abu Sayyaf captors to bury five of their comrades killed Thursday near R.T. Lim. It was unclear if they were included in the military's casualty figures.

# Four jailed evangelists home safely from India

HOUSTON (AP) - Four American evangelists imprisoned in India for six days say they were fed and given a private bathroom but were not informed of their pending release.

The Rev. John H. Parks of Abundant Life Assembly Church in The Woodlands, 35 miles north of Houston, said the group underwent a "psychological roller coaster" because they were kept in the dark about their liberation.

"We heard so many times that we were going to be let out it was unbelievable," he said. "And

we'd go to the office thinking we were going to be let out, and there would be another complication and we'd go back to the jail. We were in a total of four different jails," Parks said.

The men, who returned home to the Houston area Thursday, were held with five other Americans and a Singaporean in a 25-by-15-foot concrete cell after a religious rally turned violent.

Larry Riechert of Christ the King Church in Conroe, 40 miles north of Houston, said they were treated well.

"They took care of us. We didn't go hungry, we didn't go thirsty and they looked after us pretty good," Riechert said.

Riechert, Parks, Elder Jeff Berkhouse of Abundant Life and the Rev. Mike Walsh of Christ the King, arrived at Houston Intercontinental Airport. They were greeted by 150 members of their congregations who cheered, sang, clapped and tapped on tambourines. Some wore yellow ribbons.

The group was in India leading a Christian crusade for Gospel to the Unreached Millions, a Houston-based missionary group.

# City briefs

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**FOR COMMERCIAL or residential heating and air estimates, call Malcolm Hinkle, Inc. at 665-1841. Adv.**

**HIGH SCHOOL student doing yard work, mowing and edging. Reasonable. 665-3614. Adv.**

**"WALK FOR Life '95", Saturday, April 8th, Central Park 9 a.m. to benefit Top O Texas Crisis Pregnancy Center. Please check in, return sponsor form, between 8:30-9:00 a.m. Extra T-shirts available for \$10 donation. Adv.**

**TALENT SHOW at the Sunset Bar & Grill, April 8, 1995 come sign up to win a cash prize and show off your talent. For more information call 669-0958 or 669-0959. Adv.**

**SALE - CERAMIC Bisque, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 9-5 p.m. 945 E. Malone, Pampa. Adv.**

**ROWDY ACE** this weekend. Food at 6 p.m. Blue Light Specials! City Limits. Adv.

**THINKING ABOUT retirement?** Find out about the income tax consequences from H&R Block. 1301 N. Hobart, 665-2161. Adv.

**KEVIN'S IN the Mall Sunday 11-2 p.m. Chicken Ala Orange, Beef Burgandy, Ham Bavarian. 669-1670. Adv.**

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## Cook's alleged tabasco sauce attack is hot topic

LEBANON, N.H. (AP) — Waitress Linda Burroughs rolls her eyes when she hears the customer's joke: "I'll have eggs. Hold the Tabasco, please."

"She's heard it before — at least 25 times Thursday morning alone.

The reason: A former cook at the Denny's where Burroughs works has been charged with spiking the eggs of two Vermont state troopers with the hot pepper sauce.

Michael Towne, 20, is to be tried June 6 on two simple assault charges. If convicted, he could get a maximum two years in jail and \$2,000 fine.

Most of the customers trickling into Denny's on Thursday thought the police department's response to an apparent prank was, well, a little hot-headed.

"They thought it was pushing it a little too far," Burroughs said.

Police, of course, see things differently.

"We have evidence that this was done intentionally and purposely because these two gentlemen were state troopers," said Lt. Matthew Hogan. "If it were two African-American Dartmouth students ... the public cry would be, 'God, there's got to be something you could do.'"

Hogan said police debated how serious the charges against Towne should be. They ruled out a hate crime because that seemed too severe, but wanted to send a message.

"This certainly wasn't something we jumped into," Hogan said. But, he acknowledged, "The court may tell us we're all wet."

Vermont State Troopers Timothy Cloutre and Michael Manning crossed the state line early Feb. 7 to what local police call "fast-food heaven," a half-mile stretch where anything from burgers to Mexican food can be found. In the rural Connecticut River valley, it is one of the few places where a meal can be ordered at 2 a.m.

As they dug into their meal, the troopers, who are regular Denny's customers, discovered their eggs were red. In an affidavit, they said eating the eggs burned their mouths and caused one of them "stomach pain to the point of near vomiting."

When they asked to speak to the cook, Towne told them the hot sauce must have been on the grill from an earlier order. The restaurant's assistant manager, however, says Tabasco is not used in any of Denny's dishes.

"They asked me if I had a problem with cops and if I did it on purpose," Towne said. He told them he didn't, and thought the incident was over.

But the troopers didn't believe him and complained to local police, who arrested Towne after a three-week investigation. Lt. Ken Lary said the troopers had a legitimate beef — they work hard enough without having one more dangerous weapon to worry about.

"When it comes time to take a break, we'd like to do so without applying all our senses to scrutinize what's in our meal," Lary said.

Cloutre would not comment. Manning would only say that he and his partner don't go to Denny's anymore.

Towne isn't at Denny's anymore, either. Restaurant officials say he was fired the next day for an unrelated incident — allowing a friend, who was not an employee, into the kitchen.

Don Allard, the owner of the Denny's and a former Vermont state trooper, said Towne was wrong if he did spike the troopers' meal. But he also thinks two years in jail is too severe.

"Tabasco sauce is a food. It's not a poison. It's a food," Allard said. "I'd like to arrange it so this kid could publicly apologize to the troopers while making them breakfast. If this kid got two years, I'd be devastated because of all the (crime) that goes on, this is nothing."

## BRAC commissioners raise questions about closing base

By KELLEY SHANNON  
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Brooks Air Force Base boosters have said for days they stand a chance at selling base closure commissioners on a plan for closing Brooks but keeping its jobs in town.

On Thursday, members of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission gave them reason for optimism.

"I think that they're interested in the proposal, that they're willing to give it a fair evaluation. ... No one is rejecting it out of hand," said Paul Roberson, who heads the task force formed to save local military bases.

After touring Brooks, some BRAC commissioners said relocating high-tech laboratories and civilian scientists could be difficult if Brooks is closed and its major missions moved, as the Pentagon has proposed.

"How do you move this organization and not have any gaps in the service that they are providing (or) replicate it at a savings in an entirely new area?" said commissioner Benjamin Montoya of Albuquerque, N.M.

The civic leaders presented the BRAC with a plan to close the base but keep in San Antonio the research-oriented missions of Armstrong Laboratory, the School of Aerospace Medicine and the Center for Environmental Excellence. The Brooks complex would remain as an annex to nearby Kelly Air Force Base.

The Air Force has set a goal of saving \$142 million over the next 20 years with the closing of Brooks. Backers of the alternative plan claim it would save more than \$300 million over the same period.

Joe Robles Jr., a commissioner from San Antonio, agreed with local boosters that Brooks is "a very unique, one-of-a-kind facility."



(AP photo/Texarkana Gazette)

Thousands of concerned citizens and Red River Army Depot employees turn out along the entrance to the base as the Base Realignment and Closure commissioners arrive Thursday afternoon.

"This is not moving a tank battalion from Post A to Post B or an Air Force squadron from A to B," he said.

BRAC members also noted the close ties Brooks has with the city's medical community and the possibility that highly educated civilian researchers might remain in San Antonio and seek other jobs.

Brooks employs about 2,200 civilians and 1,845 military personnel. Under the local alternative plan, about 3,000 jobs would remain here.

The commission has until July 1 to submit to the president its list of proposed base closures. The commission can add to or take away from the Pentagon's list.

Kelly Air Force Base, the largest of four Air Force bases in San Antonio, still could be added, Montoya said. The commissioners are weeks away from announcing that decision.

As four of the BRAC's eight commissioners toured Brooks, police estimated 5,000 Brooks supporters lined a street in front of the base.

Wearing blue and white "Keep Brooks Working" T-shirts, many in the crowd held signs supporting Brooks, formed a human "wave" and encouraged motorists to honk their horns.

Two other Texas installations — Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock and the Red River Army Depot in Texarkana — also are targeted for

closure by the Pentagon.

Former U.S. Sen. Alan Dixon, chairman of the commission, praised those who spoke in defense of the depot during the commissioners' visit there on Thursday.

"Your people here today have made a strong presentation," Dixon said, singling out U.S. Rep. Jim Chapman, D-Texas, for his impassioned pitch to keep the depot open.

"I think we made a very strong case to an attentive audience," Chapman said. "We're going to make it as hard as we can on you, Mr. Chairman, and the other commissioners for you to go along with the Department of Defense recommendation."

## Harvard rejects student who killed her mother

BOSTON (AP) — Harvard University rescinded its offer of early admission to a high school honors student who killed her mother five years ago.

News clippings about Gina Grant's past were mailed anonymously in the last few days to Harvard, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and *The Boston Globe*, *The Globe* reported today.

Harvard spokesman Joe Wrinn said in a statement Thursday that the offer was rescinded "after careful consideration of new information that was not disclosed at the time of application."

Wrinn added that the university occasionally withdraws acceptances if students misrepresent themselves on applications, or engage in behavior that "brings into question honesty, maturity or moral character."

He would not elaborate on the university's reasons for withdrawing Grant's early admission offer.

In 1991, Grant pleaded no con-

test to a charge of voluntary manslaughter in the death of her mother, Dorothy Mayfield. Mayfield was hit on the head 13 times with a lead crystal candleholder in the family's Lexington, S.C., home in September 1990. Grant was 14 at the time.

Jack Swerling, the lawyer who represented Grant, told *The Globe* that she had been abused by her mother for years, and hit her in self-defense. Grant told the newspaper that her mother's death was too painful to discuss.

Grant was placed in juvenile detention, but was allowed to move to Cambridge later in 1991 under her aunt and uncle's supervision. She entered Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, a well-respected public high school, in 1992, and remained on probation until she was 18.

Grant has an IQ of 150, is a member of the honor society and academic decathlon, and is co-captain of her high school tennis team, *The Globe* reported.

## Britain's Conservative Party routed in Scottish elections

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Stunning defeats for Britain's Conservative Party in Scottish local elections have shaken the government and threaten to loosen the nearly three-century union of England and Scotland.

Victories by the left-of-center Labor Party and independence-seeking nationalists in the Thursday voting left no local councils in Conservative hands.

Labor, which has huge leads over the Conservatives in national opinion polls, now is in charge of most of Scotland's local authorities.

Labor and the centrist Liberal Democrats promise a Scottish parliament to create a degree of devolved government, while the nationalists want to break from the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

With results declared from 28 of 29 new, restructured local councils, Labor had won 20, the Scottish National Party three and Independents two. No party had overall control in three districts.

The Conservatives had scant chance of winning the sole district being declared today, Argyll and Bute.

"We have had a very disappointing outing," acknowledged Scottish Conservative Party chairman Sir Michael Hirst.

"... But this is not the time to lose our nerve," he added, signaling that Prime Minister John Major's Conservatives will stick to their lone stance of keeping government under a single Parliament in London.

The British Broadcasting Corp. predicted that Labor would get 47 percent of the Scottish vote, the nationalists 27 percent, the Conservatives 11 percent and the Liberal Democrats 6 percent.

Of the 1,161 seats in the new councils, Labor had 612, the nationalists 177, Conservatives 79, the centrist Liberal Democrats 120, and independents the remainder.

In a significant defeat, the Conservatives were ousted by nationalists in the prosperous district of Perth and Kinross. The government is running head-to-head there with

nationalists in a special parliamentary election later this spring.

The trouncing also augured badly for Conservative prospects in May local elections in England and Wales.

Some observers believe a hefty defeat next month might prompt a challenge to Major's leadership of the party before the end of the year. That would install a new leader before the spring 1997 deadline for the next national elections.

Labor has dominated in Scotland for more than a decade while the Conservatives, known as Tories, have been in power nationally since 1979 — increasing separatist sentiment in Scotland.

Labor's performance was an important boost for Tony Blair, the new party leader. He has shed Labor's socialist tenets, attracting disaffected Tories in middle-class English districts.

"It is another great night for the Labor Party, a disappointment for the nationalists and a disaster for the Tories," said Blair. "We will continue to build trust with the people of the whole of Britain."

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\* Dalhart area Chamber of Commerce members will also have booths that will provide information on community services and retail businesses.

# THE PAMPA NEWS

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This newspaper is dedicated to furnishing information to our readers so that they can better promote and preserve their own freedom and encourage others to see its blessings. Only when man understands freedom and is free to control himself and all he possesses can he develop to his utmost capabilities.

We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not a political grant from government, and that men have the right to take moral action to preserve their life and property for themselves and others.

Freedom is neither license nor anarchy. It is control and sovereignty of oneself, no more, no less. It is, thus, consistent with the coveting commandment.

Wayland Thomas  
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis  
Managing Editor

## Texas Editorials

### The Dallas Morning News on hate crimes bill:

Here's what the Texas Department of Public Safety says about hate crimes: During the first half of 1994, 197 such crimes were reported in Texas. Of those acts committed against someone because of prejudice, bias or hatred, the largest percentage involved incidents against blacks, followed by crimes against homosexuals, Hispanics and Jews.

But as prosecutors will tell you, securing an additional penalty against a violator for an act of hatred or prejudice is difficult. Even though the Texas Hate Crimes Act passed the Legislature two years ago, the bill's language is too vague to actually secure a hate crime penalty.

That's why Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, introduced a new hate crimes act this year. The Ellis bill specifically defines a hate crime as involving acts against another person because of race, color, disability, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.

Some clarification here. An offender cannot be convicted of a hate crime per se. But the offender can be given an extra penalty if prosecutors can prove an act of violence was committed against a victim because of the latter's standing in one of the defined categories.

Notably, the Ellis bill, is modeled after a Wisconsin statute, which the U.S. Supreme Court just unanimously upheld. The Wisconsin statute drew a supporting amicus brief from all 50 state attorneys general.

On March 23, the Senate Criminal Justice Committee approved Sen. Ellis' bill. The full Senate should do likewise when it soon takes up this legislation.

The real battle will come in the Texas House, which significantly watered down hate crimes legislation in 1993. But Speaker Pete Laney should put his foot down, and rally House members to support the new legislation.

Red herrings will be thrown up by some House members to divert a more specific hate crimes bill, which Rep. Scott Hochberg, D-Houston, is sponsoring. But by displaying real leadership, Speaker Laney can signal the importance of this bill for Texas.

Eighty-nine assaults and 44 acts of vandalism were committed against Texans in a six-month period last year, simply because of prejudice or hatred. That's intolerable. Giving prosecutors some specificity to use in securing a hate crime penalty should help rein in senseless acts.

### Fort Worth Star-Telegram on aid to Mexico:

Political maneuvering, posturing and partisan mischief are understandable and expected in the congressional process, but a small band of ambush artists led by Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., are threatening to do grave harm to international confidence in the recovery of the Mexican economy, and with especially perilous consequences for Texas.

D'Amato came out of right field Thursday with a bill that would negate the \$20 billion U.S. loan package to Mexico, the linchpin in an international effort to bolster that country's vulnerable economy and a move that had enjoyed wide bipartisan congressional support when proposed by President Clinton on Jan. 31. The bill, attached as an amendment to a budget-cutting bill, sent shock waves through the government and unsettled the international money markets, which had viewed the rescue package as necessary to help stabilize a number of currencies.

Mexico could fall into further economic decline without the assistance - a scenario with serious economic and social implications. But Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin also warned of serious harm to U.S. jobs and wages. Those effects, which would include a possible flood of illegal immigrants, would strike directly and with greatest force at border states such as Texas.

Despite the claim by D'Amato and his supporters of basic fiscal prudence, they are being penny-wise and ton-foolish. Other governments cooperating with the rescue already are looking askance at U.S. resolve to act in concert for global stability.

The Senate should dismember this politically motivated obstructionism at once, in the name of America's interests as well as Mexico's.

## Berry's World



Jim Berry  
© 1995 by NEA, Inc.

...Recent news regarding the amount of fat in deli sandwiches was the final straw...

## Viewpoints

# Change involves a certain risk

When revolutionaries, even conservative ones, pull things up by the roots, it hurts and then perplexes. Witness the split among pro-life advocates as the House takes up welfare reform.

Roman Catholic bishops released a statement saying that capping aid to unwed mothers - despite the need for "genuine welfare reform which strengthens families" - would increase abortions and hurt children already born.

But this doesn't quite settle the question. There is another pro-life, pro-family viewpoint. It is that you have to take the aforesaid risk - not with joy or indifference, but with eyes fixed on a point in the future, higher and better than can be attained by more limited tactics. In other words, you work to discourage undue reliance on government as the One Great Provider, and you work to rebuild families.

Which of these pro-life, pro-family viewpoints is the real pro-life, pro-family viewpoint - the radical one or the cautious one? Both sides in the controversy make valid points. But as always in politics, if you stack valid point alongside valid point, nothing gets decided or done.

Here, a professional busybody interjects that the risks of dramatic reform seem more enticing than the risks of attempting too little. We have to pare back welfare more dramatically than the Catholic bishops are willing - so as better to affirm the bishops' cherished objectives, such as care and compassion and the defense of the weak.

The U.S. government, in 1995, is a miserably ineffective defender of the weak. A generous provider,



William Murchison

yes, but a big taker, as well. The government hands out food stamps, school lunches, medical care. Aid to Families with Dependent Children. All the recipients have to hand over, for the privilege of staying in the poker game, is their self-respect.

Which is no big deal, one might think. Can you saute self-respect or button it up in cold weather? But self-respect has other uses, such as cultivating an ethic of work, thrift, prudence and sacrifice, and a sense of obligation to family and community.

The last thing any self-respecting society wants is a large subculture of dependents. Where you have such a subculture, you have to do something about it, such as drastically reform welfare. This is the very business Congress finally has undertaken.

The Gingrichite proposal involves converting federal welfare dollars to block grants the states could use to reshape existing programs and better meet perceived local needs. Likewise, benefits would be frozen for welfare mothers who don't

get the point - namely, use the bed for sleeping instead of procreating.

And the flesh and blood consequences - what would those be? Hunger and abortions? This does not follow automatically. The states, once they get their block grants, aren't going to start starving little babies. What kind of politics, not to say Christian charity, would this be?

The abortion question is subtler. Basically, abortion is a moral question: People who destroy unborn babies have at best a marginal respect for human life. The welfare culture - today's culture - is a feeble incubator of respect for anything greater than personal satisfaction. Terminate that culture, and there is hope; feed it, and wait for it to emit satisfied belches.

The question - would welfare cuts increase abortions? - is a false question. The culture of sluggish dependence, of gratification now and always, doesn't save lives. It laughs at sacredness of all kinds, not just the sacredness of life.

Welfare as a bribe to mothers not to abort their children is the hallmark not of a morally robust culture but of one more feckless than it probably supposes.

Compromise may prove necessary, with the government giving unwed mothers vouchers for baby necessities instead of cash. So, politics sometimes works. But the moral high ground in this debate belongs to those congressmen who want to end the welfare state and with it the culture of dependency. At last, there are politicians on the right track. It seems a crying shame to derail them.

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## Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, April 7, the 97th day of 1995. There are 268 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Fifty years ago, on April 7, 1945, during World War II, American planes intercepted a Japanese fleet that was headed for Okinawa on a suicide mission; the superbattleship Yamato and four destroyers were sunk.

On this date:

In 1862, Union forces led by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant defeated the Confederates at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee.

In 1927, an audience in New York saw an image of Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover in the first successful long-distance demonstration of television.

In 1947, auto pioneer Henry Ford died in Dearborn, Mich., at age 83.

In 1949, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical *South Pacific* opened on Broadway.

In 1966, the United States recovered a hydrogen bomb it had lost off the coast of Spain.

## Legal reform is really character reform

One day, several years ago, while shopping at our local supermarket, I slipped on a wet spot on the floor. My hip ached for days.

More than one fellow shopper asked if I were OK and then added, sotto voce, that I might consider suing the chain. "They shouldn't have water on the floor," said one, shaking her head.

That is but one example. I'm not particularly accident prone. I lead a normal life. And yet I've been encouraged to sue someone at least a dozen times - for injuries, for sexual harassment, for malpractice and more. And I know I am not alone. Looking for someone to sue seems to have replaced baseball as the national pastime.

But listening to the Democrats in the House of Representatives debate tort reform, you would get no inkling that the avalanche of lawsuits is hurting either our economic competitiveness or our national character. Instead, as is their wont, the Democrats characterized the issue as the "little guy" against big, bad corporations. People must have the right to sue when they have been injured, they argued, or the concept of equal justice under law is nothing but a sham.

In the first place, the bill being offered by the Republican majority does not deny anyone his "right" (if that is the proper word) to sue. What the bill does attempt is simply to apply a rule of reason to the awards being offered by juries. The court system has become like a lottery, with punitive damages in particular going far beyond what is wise or just.

Former Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell, in



Mona Charen

a draft 1986 opinion reprinted in *The Wall Street Journal*, spoke of the injustice inherent in permitting limitless punitive damages in civil cases. "In each case," he wrote, "the amount of punitive damages is fixed independently, without reference to any statutory limit or the punishment applied in any other case. ... The jurors who pass sentence on tort defendants according to these procedures probably have never decided a punitive damages case before. ... This grant of standardless discretion to punish has no parallel in our system of justice. In the federal system and in most states, criminal fines are imposed by judges subject to statutory limitations. Where juries are authorized to fix a criminal defendant's sentence, they do so pursuant to instructions that limit their discretion, and subject to searching review by the trial and appellate courts. ..."

The Republican reform would limit punitive damages to \$250,000, or three times the amount of economic damages, whichever is greater. The maxim in civil law is that if the defendant is

found guilty - of negligence or bad faith or malfeasance - he will be required to make the plaintiff "whole" again. Keeping punitive damages from reaching absurd heights is hardly the kind of reform that will deny people justice.

Nor will the much-decried "loser pays" rule. This provision, which would apply only to diversity jurisdiction cases in the federal courts, a quite limited segment of cases, will require that the loser pay the winner's legal fees up to the amount the loser spent. In other words, if Joe Plaintiff spent \$1,500 suing Defendant Company and lost, he would have to pay \$1,500 of Defendant Company's legal fees, even if the defendant had spent tens of thousands defending the claim. The point is to make frivolous claimants stop and think before suing - particularly because many personal injury lawyers work on a contingency basis. Most of those with strong claims will not be deterred by the loser-pays rule, though some may.

More than the damage awards themselves, what hurts the U.S. economy is the fear of lawsuits. Money that could be spent on new product development or business expansion instead goes to lawyers. Doctors and hospitals must raise their rates to compensate for exorbitant malpractice insurance. The cost of every bicycle, ladder, soda can and lawn mower we buy reflects the bonus for lawyers and insurance companies.

The best argument for legal reform is really about character. The rapid resort to the lawsuit is not the sign of a mature, self-sufficient people. Rather, it is the mark of greedy game players, seeking to turn every courthouse in America into a casino.

## Governor Bush says simplicity is key to success

"Boring is beautiful," the governor grinned. "Focus is fun." And when you've got political capital to spend, he added, do it because it won't last.

With a touch of self-mockery, Gov. George W. Bush was summing up his governing style. "Simple and understandable goals work," said Bush, the second Republican elected governor of Texas since the post-Civil War era.

"I won it on specific issues and philosophy," he said. "I'm helping to remind people why I won." So he goes on, and on and on, every time out, on the four points central to his campaign: a crackdown on juvenile crime, reform in the legal system to curtail lawsuit abuse, decentralized public education and a welfare overhaul.

And he stays on message, no diversions. "That's what I am for, these four things," he told Texas Republican women the other day. "And I'm getting to be really boring about it."

Put too many goals on the table and leadership founders, he said in an interview Monday.

His chosen example is President Clinton, the Democrat who ended his father's presidency in 1992. By the governor's count, Clinton catalogued 36 goals in his State of the Union address, "so many goals there are no goals."

But there's also a lesson learned more personally, and painfully. Less than two years before the election he lost, President George Bush was riding higher in the job approval polls than anyone before him, his ratings driven as high as 91 per-

cent by the military victory in the Persian Gulf. But instead of going to the country and the Democratic Congress with a clear agenda for action at home, he waited, slumped, and critics soon were saying he had no theme, couldn't tell voters where he wanted to lead them.

"If you've got political capital, spend it," Gov. Bush said, recalling those days. "Political muscle atrophies unless you use it."

The younger Bush was adviser and traveling companion to his father in two White House campaigns. "I've learned a lot from my dad," he said. But the lesson of lost political capital is one he'd obviously prefer to have been taught elsewhere. Dad's 1992 defeat still smarts.

Even so, Gov. Bush can joke about it now. "I inherited every single one of his enemies and half of his friends," he said during his own campaign.

The profile, the voice, the name and the fact that governors of Texas usually are players in national politics all could give him a wider forum. "I'm not interested in that," Bush said. He said he's turned down every network television invitation to go talk and "sound smart," or to serve on national political committees that would take him away from Texas.

He has endorsed Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas for the Republican presidential nomination. That was almost obligatory.

Bush said he will work for Gramm, at home. "I'll help him in Texas ... to make sure his home state is battened down," the governor said.

He came to office with a classic Republican, let us alone theme, telling Washington to "let Texans run Texas." Now he acknowledges a bit of nervousness about how that's going to happen, even with Republicans running Congress.

"I think the tendency of the federal government is to try to run states regardless of who's in power," Bush said. "A mandate is a mandate, whether it comes ... from left or right."

Clinton already has signed a law barring unfunded federal mandates, but only those to come, not the existing federal regulations that cost states an estimated \$12 billion a year. The new law applies to any measure that would cost the states \$50 million a year or more, but that ceiling could be waived by a simple majority vote of Congress.

Still, it isn't one-sided. The budget the Texas legislature is considering now counts on nearly \$24 billion in federal funds, the second biggest source of state revenues. Bush said he's been told that won't go down under House GOP plans. But it won't go up as once projected, and costs still are.

That's where the squeeze could come. And that makes even a Republican governor nervous.

# House tentatively approves welfare reform legislation

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA  
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — The House has tentatively approved a bill overhauling the state's welfare system and, in doing so, voted to establish alimony in Texas.

The bill was approved on a voice vote Thursday. It faces a final vote of the House before it can be sent to the Senate, which is writing its own version of welfare reform, a key priority of Republican Gov. George W. Bush.

The House plan would cap cash benefits paid under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program, impose time limits on receiving those benefits and require welfare recipients to work.

And, under a last-minute amendment, it would establish alimony, a payment from one divorced spouse to another.

"It's a miracle," said Rep. Senfronia Thompson, D-Houston, who has unsuccessfully pushed alimony bills in past legislative sessions. "Even though it may be momentary, it feels like a great victory."

A spouse could sue for alimony so long as the couple were married for at least 10 years and had at least one child. Payments could be made for a maximum of three years and could not exceed 20 percent of the income of the person paying alimony.



Rep. Senfronia Thompson, D-Houston, introduces a last-minute alimony amendment to a bill overhauling the Texas welfare system on Thursday.

Ms. Thompson said she believed allowing alimony could help keep individuals off welfare.

"If there is a situation where she is not going to get much out of the marriage from the state and the other person's in a position where he can assist her, that does deprive her of the opportunity of going on welfare," Thompson said.

Rep. Harvey Hilderbran, R-Kerrville, sponsor of the over-

all welfare reform plan, said about 40 percent of AFDC recipients become eligible and are enrolled in the program because of divorce or separation.

"There's certainly some merit to alimony," he said.

Hilderbran said the welfare bill would change a system that funnels money to poor people without helping them become independent.

"Under current law, there's

no consequences. There are no limitations on having kids out of wedlock or while you're on welfare, there's no time limits and there's no responsibility requirements," Hilderbran said. "This bill has all three."

But opponents said the bill degrades welfare recipients and provides no incentive for them to work.

"What they're doing is setting time limits and saying, 'Hey, you've got a drop-dead date,'" said Rep. Harold Dutton, D-Houston. "We're kind of giving them the boot."

"We're destroying their self-esteem. We're pushing them face down in the dirt in Texas and saying, 'Now if you can get up, then you'll be all right,'" Dutton said. "This bill actually sets Texas back 100 years from now. We will be sorry."

The bill would cap cash benefits to parents who already have at least two children and have more children while on welfare. Excluded children still could get Medicaid and other social services.

The two-child limit was added to the bill, which initially had capped benefits for additional children regardless of how many children a family already had.

Rep. Sylvester Turner, who sponsored the amendment, said the so-called family cap would be detrimental to families.

**'What they're doing is setting time limits and saying, "Hey, you've got a drop-dead date." We're kind of giving them the boot.'**  
— Rep. Harold Dutton

"You're making the family poorer than they already are. You are hurting the children themselves," said Turner, D-Houston. "If you want to penalize the mother or the father who is not being responsible, fine. But if you are penalizing the children ... I disagree."

Supporters of the outright cap said it would teach responsibility.

"I'm telling them to wait to have additional children until they are in a more financially stable situation," said Rep. Arlene Wohlgemuth, R-Burleson. "I believe we are penalizing them more by perpetuating the current system."

Rep. Mike Krusee, R-Austin, unsuccessfully tried to amend the bill to take the family cap a step further. His proposal would have prohibited cash benefits for children born out-of-wedlock to welfare recipients under 15.

The bill would limit the amount of time a recipient could receive cash benefits to a period of six months to three years based on the individual's education and

work experience. Higher-skilled individuals would receive less aid because they would be considered more able to find work.

Welfare recipients, except for those with children under age 5, would be required to work at least 30 hours per week or participate in at least 20 hours per week in a federal job training program.

The bill also would require AFDC applicants to sign a responsibility agreement with the state. Welfare recipients who break the agreement could lose benefits.

Among other things, a recipient would have to agree not to use drugs and to provide children age 5 and younger with medical checkups and immunizations. An amendment added to the bill would require parents to immunize their children within 60 days of signing the agreement or lose \$25 per month.

In addition, the bill would allow the attorney general's office to suspend or revoke licenses of people who are delinquent in child support payments.

## Retired police officer indicted

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A retired police officer has been indicted on aggravated assault charges in the ambush-style shooting of two suspected vandals in September.

Steve G. Espinosa, 45, was charged with two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for using a handgun to injure Shawn Lee Meadath, 17, and Scott Langerlaan, 18.

Meadath was killed by a .38-caliber bullet in the back of his neck. Langerlaan, now 19, was wounded in the buttocks.

If convicted, he could be sentenced to 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for each count.

Langerlaan was indicted on criminal mischief charges. If convicted, he could be sentenced to two years' mandatory probation.

Espinosa was released Thursday on his own recognizance. Langerlaan remained at large Thursday night.

District Attorney Steve Hilbig said the officer's son is expected to be charged later in juvenile court.

Police say Espinosa and his teenage son were hiding atop the roof of their home early on the morning of Sept. 25, armed and ready for an attack.

Espinosa told investigators that two youths smashed three garage windows with baseball bats, then began battering the officer's late-model vehicle.

Police said Espinosa was armed with his police-issued 9mm semiautomatic handgun, while the son had borrowed his mother's .38-caliber revolver.

Espinosa retired Jan. 2 after 20 years on the force.

Asked why Espinosa was not charged with murder, Hilbig said: "All the facts were presented to the grand jury, and that is the charge they decided to return."

Espinosa's attorney, Ben Sifuentes Jr., said: "Mr. Espinosa was defending his home and his family and we believe when a jury sees evidence of that, they will agree his conduct was justified."

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## Angry Spanish fishermen pelt Canada's Embassy with fish, eggs over dispute

MADRID, Spain (AP) - Several thousand fishermen, incensed over alleged Canadian harassment of Spanish trawlers in the north Atlantic, pelted Canada's Embassy with mackerel and eggs Thursday.

Reports that Canadian patrol boats had tried to cut the nets of two Spanish trawlers off Newfoundland late Wednesday raised the ire of the fishermen, who traveled in a bus convoy overnight from the northwestern port of Vigo.

Police with plastic shields formed a cordon in front of the embassy, located on a central street, as residents leaned out windows and balconies to watch. There were no reports of arrests or injuries.

Before the demonstration, embassy officials hurriedly hauled in the red and white Maple Leaf flag out front.

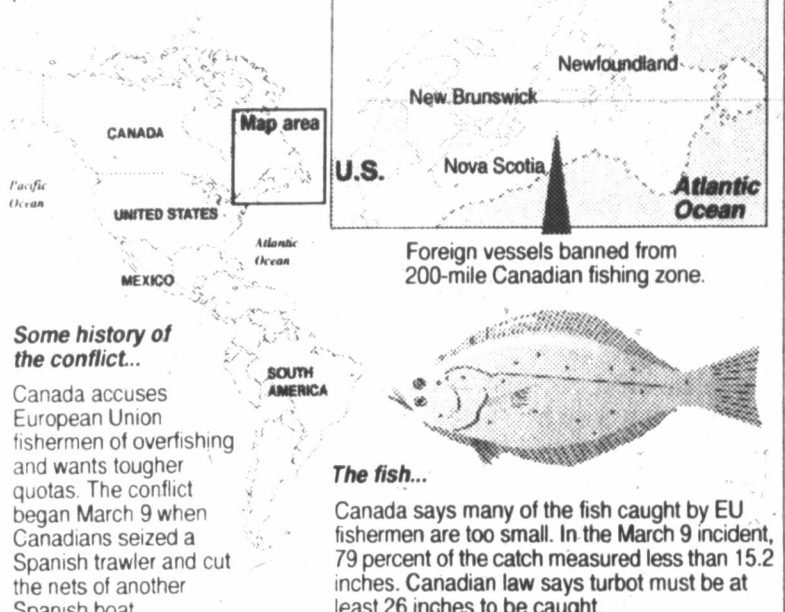
The fishermen also held up banners criticizing Britain, who has backed Canada in the dispute instead of fellow European Union member Spain.

The protest occurred as Canada and the EU were negotiating in Brussels, Belgium, to bring an end to their month-long conflict over limits on turbot catches in the northwest Atlantic.

The latest incident in the ongoing dispute over fishing with Canada's claimed territorial waters occurred when Spanish fishermen accused two Canadian patrol boats of trying to cut their nets off Newfoundland on Thursday. Canada denied the allegation in the latest tiff between the two

### Canada, Spain dispute fishing

The captain of a Spanish trawler said that two Canadian boats tried to cut his nets and board the ship late Wednesday. Fishermen pelted the Canadian Embassy in Madrid with mackerel and eggs in protest.



Source: The Canadian Press, Minister of Fisheries

AP/Terry Kole

countries over fishing rights.

Canada accuses EU fishermen of overfishing and wants stricter quotas for the turbot catch. The conflict began March 9 when Canadians seized a Spanish trawler and cut the nets of another Spanish boat.

Thursday, the captain of a Spanish trawler told Spanish National Radio that two Canadian boats tried to cut his nets and board the ship. Canada

said the boats only wanted a look at the Spanish trawlers, and that no attempt was made to cut nets or board the ships.

The European Union said Canada is jeopardizing talks in Brussels on resolving the dispute over dwindling fish stocks in the northwest Atlantic.

Spain has said it won't go along with a tentative compromise on fishing rights worked out in Brussels.

## No matter what fishing negotiations yield, it's too late for some fishermen

By JEFFREY ULBRICH  
Associated Press Writer

WITLESS BAY, Newfoundland (AP) - For John Williams, it doesn't matter how the fishing negotiations between Canada and Europe come out. It's already too late, he says, and he's calling it quits. There aren't any fish left anyway.

Like his father before him, Williams made a good living fishing for cod and salmon on the east coast of this rocky Atlantic island. Then both fisheries collapsed, and the government slapped a moratorium on culling for them. That left Williams' enterprise with no product.

"Effectively, my life as a fisherman is no more," said Williams, glancing glumly through his kitchen window to the waters of the inlet down the hill.

Williams, 44, opted for a government program to buy back his fishing license.

"I'll either have to live on what the government gives me or get out there and get another job," he said.

Spain on Tuesday rejected a compromise fishing agreement worked out between Canada and the European Union. Canadian Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin insisted, however, that progress has been made.

Ottawa is incensed at the European fishing vessels, largely Spanish, fishing just outside Canada's 200-mile legal limit.

The Spanish are scooping up turbot, a bottom-dwelling fish that Canadians say is the last viable groundfish stock on the Grand Banks east of Newfoundland.

The Grand Banks, the extension of Canada's continental shelf, once was one of the richest fishing grounds in the world.

Two small areas of the Banks known as "the nose" and "the tail" extend outside the 200-mile limit. Those areas are spawning grounds for groundfish. Canada tied up its groundfish fleet but the Spaniards' fishing continued unabated.

A frustrated Canadian government passed legislation giving itself the power to enforce conservation of the entire Grand Banks ecosystem. The Europeans say Ottawa doesn't have the right.

The latest round in the war was sparked last month by Canada's seizure of a Spanish fishing vessel.

The war has affected Chris O'Driscoll, 36, a cod fisherman hanging on by his teeth and praying for better days.

O'Driscoll is what is known as an inshore cod fisherman, a small boat operator working the water close to land, taking much smaller catches than the giant trawlers that drag the sea bottom farther out.

He has \$250,000 invested in his boat and equipment. And no fish to fish.

"Everybody thinks Newfoundlanders are against Spanish fish-

ermen," he said in that lilting accent peculiar to inhabitants of this island. "What we're against is technology. That same technology that took my living away from me has taken away the turbot fisherman's living."

The culprits, he says, are the big boats, the big companies with their merciless bottom lines that require bigger and bigger hauls of fish.

"It was the Canadians too," O'Driscoll said, watching from the cab of his pickup as an icy wind lashed across the water and threw freezing rain at the windshield. "People went out and bought these big boats and had to get more fish, more fish, more fish."

For the moment, O'Driscoll is trying to eke out a living by catching sea urchins for the Japanese market, the odd lobster, even a few eels. Cash from the government under its moratorium package also helps him survive.

"I see the most productive time of my life being wasted," he said.

O'Driscoll is taking training courses in commercial diving as a hedge. And Williams applied for a program to retire his groundfish license. Under it, Ottawa will calculate the size of his boat, the value of his gear, his usual catch, and work out a price - anywhere from \$150,000 to \$300,000.

"When I passed my bid over the counter, it was a sad day," Williams said. "I was probably hoping they wouldn't accept it."

## Ballet Oklahoma coming to Cheyenne

CHEYENNE, Okla. - Snow White, Goldilocks and the three little pigs are some of the stars in Ballet Oklahoma's performance of *Fractured Fairy Tales* coming to the Cheyenne Schools Fine Arts Auditorium Thursday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Sharing the program with *Fractured Fairy Tales* is *Sweet Dreams*, featuring the music of Patsy Cline, whose music is intertwined with Vivaldi concertos.

This is the first time Ballet Oklahoma will perform in western Oklahoma and the first performance of ballet to be held at the Cheyenne auditorium.

Local sponsors for the program are Red Hills Theater, Security State Bank of Cheyenne and Dobson Telephone. Also assisting are the State Arts Council of

Oklahoma, through its Oklahoma Touring Program Presenters, and Great Plains Resources and Conservation Development Association.

The Red Hills Theater Guild works to provide quality entertainment to the people of western Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle. The guild was nominated for a 1995 Golden Nail Award in Amarillo.

In the past year, the guild has sponsored opera, plays and ballet performances in Cheyenne. The first performance sponsored by Red Hills Theater Guild was *Sophie's Saloon*, a comedy cowboy opera by Texas Panhandle playwright Gene Murray and performed by Amarillo Opera at Coyote Hills Ranch west of Cheyenne.

Other projects have included *Nonsense* by the Amarillo Little Theater and *Sweet Betsy from Pike* by Cimarron Circuit Opera, as well as performances by a cowboy poet and a spaghetti western featuring local talent.

General admission tickets to the April 13 Ballet Oklahoma performance are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 14 years of age and under.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce office or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope with check or money order to Red Hills Theater, Box 643, Cheyenne, OK 73628.

Tickets also may be purchased at the door or by calling 405-497-3318 to make reservations.

## State Senate OKs gravel pit exemption

AUSTIN (AP) - Legislation designed to exempt some property owners from safety and permit requirements for abandoned gravel pits has won Senate approval after lawmakers rejected arguments that it could lead to tragedy.

The bill applies to people who bought property before the current safety law was enacted in 1991 and who had nothing to do with operation of the gravel pits on their land. It was sent to the House on a 24-5 vote.

Sen. David Cain, D-Dallas, described it as an issue of fairness and property rights.

But Sen. Mike Moncrief, D-Fort Worth, said it was a matter of public safety. He recalled a 1989 Hidalgo County crash in which a

truck knocked a school bus into an unfenced, flooded caliche pit, killing 21 children.

"We're talking again about opening that door that you can drive, not a truck through, but a school bus full of children through. We are opening that door one more time for one more tragedy," Moncrief said Thursday.

"How many more tragic events does it take to make people realize that those who are going to acquire property that has an open pit or an abandoned pit on them have that responsibility to protect the general public?" he asked.

But Cain said the measure would have the Texas Railroad Commission make repairs when gravel pits covered by the legislation are deemed a hazard.

"This is just to make sure that those who, through no fault of their own, have a pit don't have to comply with the act," he said.

"This legislation does address the problem but does not open the door wide enough" to repeat the bus tragedy.

"There is no difference with one of these abandoned pits from a stock tank or a tree or any other kind of natural problem that's there," he said.

Current law requires owners of property containing an abandoned or inactive gravel pit to erect a barrier between the pit and any public roads adjoining the site.

The landowner also must pay a \$500 permit fee and have the barrier inspected by the state.

## Subway slogans yield to new ads

NEW YORK (AP) - Tired of that tattoo? Looking for a proctologist? Cockroaches overrunning your apartment? For generations, advertising placards inside subway cars have offered solutions to life's Big Questions.

But soon, even these tidbits illustrating the New York psyche may disappear as yet another of the city's rough, idiosyncratic edges gets ground down to a corporate gloss.

Beginning next week, big-name advertisers will get to fill the inside wall of a subway car with their messages. Instead of the strip of individual, sometimes garish, posters that now extend across the tops of the windows, a panoramic ad will take up that space.

Nike and Levi Strauss are among the big names that have signed on for the monolithic ad space, said Doug Watts, vice president of market development for Gannett Transit, which sells the advertising space under contract to the transit authority.

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Lifestyles



By MELINDA MARTINEZ  
Lifestyles Editor

While going off on a tangent, Homer Morris was explaining why he and the other nerd — Rupert — were in Pampa preparing to rock Pampa Middle School on Thursday in their last Pampa performance.

"The government deploys to missions around the world," said Homer.

The two hippest nerds from Dallas invaded the Panhandle and were very much welcomed by elementary and middle school students alike.

The Morris Brothers, as they are known, did just that at local elementary schools and the middle school on Wednesday and Thursday.

"He's my brother," said Homer pointing at Rupert. And as if to seal the truth, he added, "We're the same genetic material."

"Some people say that we look like nerds," said Homer. "But we're not. We are actually superheroes on the way to save the entire world."

The word "nerd," he added stands for "Never Ending Radical Dude."

Explaining the reason they are the way they are Homer said, "What happened is that we were in our laboratory, and we were working on a secret cologne and all of a sudden we had this terrible explosion and it transformed us into the superheroes you see before you."

"It shattered our glasses into

seventeen pieces," said Rupert about the explosion.

These nerds hosts the "Kids' Club" show on Fox 33 in Dallas and are working on getting their own television show, called "The Adventures of the Morris Brothers."

"Soon to be on in this area," said Homer. "Hopefully by summer."

"I like having both birds and reptiles in my show," said Homer while poising a rubber chicken on his knee and a toy alligator on the arm of a chair. He then asked if anyone else with a rubber chicken on their knee has been interviewed. The rubber chicken

was a gift from a P.E. teacher at Horace Mann Elementary School. The chicken, said Homer, has been named Horace in honor of the school.

Besides being superhero nerds, the Morris Brothers are quite the Casanovas.

"I've already made seven girlfriends," said Homer. "I'm about to meet another one during the show."

The Morris Brothers, not wanting to reveal their true identities for "national security reasons" began their act while attending Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. They performed at weddings, family gatherings

and fraternity parties, according to an article in "Dallas Child."

After graduation, Homer became a school teacher and Rupert was a salesman.

It wasn't until they entered a local twins contest sponsored by a local radio station, that they quit their jobs to become full-time nerds. They were able to land jobs hosting the "Kids' Club" show on Fox. In addition, the Morris Brothers have made appearances all over.

"Wherever we need to go, we go," said Homer.

They talk to students about having self-confidence, goal setting, teamwork and believing in achieving.

The Morris Brothers also talk about the importance of friendship and courtesy.

"To have a friend you have to be a friend," said Homer. It's all, he said, "Just basically treating other people how you would want to be treated."

"We try to let the students know that the choices they make right now will affect their future," said Homer.

"And we try to get the students and teachers involved as well," he said. "That includes dancing and singing on both parts."

As to why they perform for children, Homer said, "We wanted to do something educational for schools but entertaining."

In addition, they also want send a message to the students:

"Our motto is 'It's not what you look like, it's how you feel about yourself.'"

# NERDS

(never-ending radical dudes) invade Pampa



Photos by Melinda Martinez



Top right and left photos: Rupert Morris, half the duo of the nerdy Morris Brothers, gets Pampa Middle School students going during a rap song he and his brother Homer sing. The students were invited on stage to dance.

Top middle photo: Rupert lounges minutes before the show at the middle school.

Above lower photo: Homer acts the ham that he is.

Right: THE WOING — As if he were the reincarnation of Elvis himself, Pampa Middle School teachers and staff enjoy Homer's song as they dance on stage. Homer said he and Rupert left a string of girlfriends behind in Pampa and the middle school teachers are possibly no exception.

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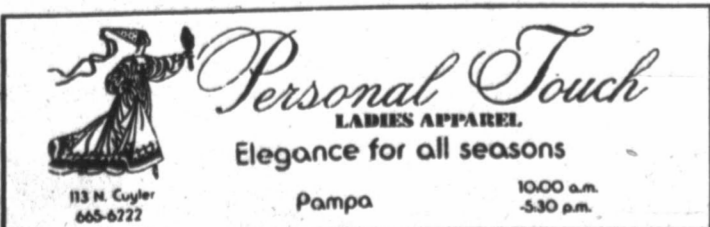
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But Seek Ye First The Kingdom Of God,  
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Shall Be Added Unto You.  
Matthew 6:33

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Shall Be Added Unto You.  
Matthew 6:33

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## Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

### POWERLESS ON THE BATTLEFIELD!!

A TRADITIONAL CUSTOM, IN EARLY BIBLICAL TIMES, WHICH WAS A CRUEL BUT EFFECTIVE METHOD BY WHICH WARRIORS WERE MADE POWERLESS... WAS THE CUTTING OFF OF BOTH A MAN'S THUMBS AND LARGE TOES! ACTUALLY THIS WAS LOOKED UPON AS HUMANE TREATMENT RATHER THAN AN OUT-AND-OUT KILLING, THE SUBJECT'S LIFE WAS SPARED BUT, HAVING LOST HIS THUMBS, HE COULD NOT HANDLE WEAPONS, AND LOSING HIS LARGE TOES MEANT HE COULD NOT WALK LET ALONE RUN ON THE BATTLEFIELD, PROPERLY. A MENTION IS MADE OF THIS IN JUDGES 1:4-7. ADONIBEZEK, A CRUEL AND SUSPICIOUS KING OF BEZEK, WAS GIVEN SUCH PUNISHMENT BY THE WARRIORS OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH. ODDLY, THIS KING SAW THE "POETIC JUSTICE" IN THIS ACT BECAUSE HED GIVEN THE SAME TREATMENT TO SEVENTY OTHER KINGS WHOM HE HAD CONQUERED. THIS HE REGARDED AS A DIVINE REQUITAL, VISITED ON HIM BY GOD, FOR THE SIMILAR CRUELITIES PERPETRATED BY HIM.



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Rev. Norman Rushing.....Starkweather & Browning	Briarwood Full Gospel Church
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Rick Burton.....407 E. 1st.	Rev. Kenneth Metzger.....201 E. Foster
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Hobart Baptist Church	St. Paul United Methodist Church
.....1100 W. Crawford	Rev. Loren Gardner.....511 N. Hobart
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Rev. Axel Adolfo Chavez.....1021 S. Barnes	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
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Rev. I.L. Patrick.....441 Elm. St.	<b>Nazarene</b>
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Rev. V.C. Martin.....912 S. Gray	Rev. Jim Davenport.....500 N. West
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Rev. Heliodoro Silva.....1541 Hamilton	Faith Tabernacle
Progressive Baptist Church	Rev. J.P. Burks, Pastor.....610 Naida
.....836 S. Gray	First Pentecostal Holiness Church
<b>Catholic</b>	Hi-Land Pentecostal Holiness Church
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St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church	<b>Seventh Day Adventist</b>
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.....215 E. 3rd	Spirit of Truth Ministries
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The Lord Will Give Strength Unto His People;  
The Lord Will Bless His People With Peace.  
Psalm 29:11

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## It's a doggoned shame what's happened to sex

DEAR ABBY: I do volunteer work at nursing homes where there are many senior citizens. These men and women love company, but unfortunately some of them do not have many visitors, so I do what I can to cheer them up.

You had a piece in your column about 10 years ago that always made a big hit with these seniors. It was titled "A Dog Named Sex."

I read it to my bridge club, and one of the women said, "Please let me borrow it to show my husband. I'll get it back to you tomorrow." Well, you guessed it — she lost it.

Please run it again, Abby. It was a favorite of many.

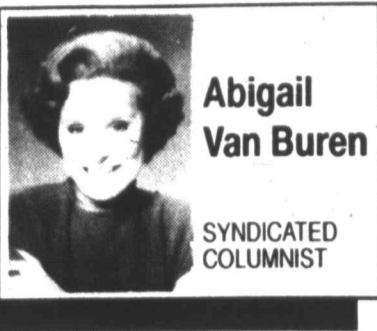
SEATTLE VOLUNTEER

DEAR VOLUNTEER: Here it is. It's also one of my favorites:

When I went to City Hall to renew my dog's license, I told the clerk I wanted a license for Sex. He said, "I'd like one, too!"

Then I said, "But this is a dog." He said he didn't care what she looked like. Then I said, "You don't understand. I've had Sex since I was 9 years old." He winked at me and said, "You must have been quite a kid."

When I got married and went on my honeymoon, I took my dog with me. I told the hotel clerk I wanted a room for my wife and me, and a special room for Sex. He said, "You don't need



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

a special room for Sex. As long as you pay your bill, we don't care what you do."

I said, "Look, you don't seem to understand. Sex keeps me awake at night."

The clerk said, "Funny, I have the same problem."

Well, one day, I entered Sex in a contest, but before the competition began, the dog got loose and ran away. Another contestant asked me why I was just standing there, looking disappointed. I told him I had planned to have Sex in the contest. He said, "Wonderful! If you sell tickets, you'll clean up!"

"But you don't understand," I said. "I want to have Sex on TV." He said, "They already have that on cable. It's no big deal anymore."

Well, my wife and I decided to separate, so we went to court to fight for custody of the dog.

I said to the judge, "Your honor, I had Sex before I was married." The judge said, "The court is not a confessional. Please stick to the facts." Then I told him that after I was married, Sex left me. He said, "Me, too."

Well, last night Sex ran away again, and I spent hours looking all over town for him. A cop came over to me and asked, "What are you doing in this alley at 4 o'clock in the morning?" I said, "I'm looking for Sex."

My case comes up on Friday.

\*\*\*

DEAR ABBY: As a middle-aged single adult male, I finally said, "No, thank you" to eating at the card table with the children at family gatherings and sleeping on the sofa during overnight visits.

Abby, in this couples-oriented society, please remind your readers that adult singles are adults, and deserve to be treated with the same respect as their married counterparts.

MISSOURI SINGLE

DEAR SINGLE: I'm with you. In the 39 years I've been writing this column, this is a first.

## Horoscope

Saturday, April 8, 1995

Even if your artistic and creative abilities are enhanced in the year ahead, don't attempt to do too many projects at one time. Isolate your favorite ideas and work on them.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Financial tips you get today through social contacts might not only be of little value, they could also be detrimental, so be careful. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2.50 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, NY 10163.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Be grateful today for who you are and what you have

instead of negatively comparing yourself to others. If you knew all the facts, you wouldn't change places.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Verify your sources carefully today before passing on information as fact that was told you by someone else. There is a good chance their news is inaccurate.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** You are likely to exercise discipline today on large expenditures, but if you fail to manage the little incidental spending, the gross amount could hurt you.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** An agreement with far-reaching effects should not be made in haste today. You might make a bum deal from which you'll be unable to disengage yourself.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Be careful today not to make things harder on yourself than they have to be. You might be inclined to take something simple and make it extremely complicated.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** This will be a day when you might become involved in numerous, unproductive activities and waste valuable time that should be devoted to worthwhile efforts.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** It could prove unwise to talk about things today you've yet to accomplish. Wait until your goals have been achieved before tooting your horn.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** You are a sociable, gregarious person and friends appreciate what you contribute to conversations. Today, however, try not to dominate discussions.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Small details take on greater significance than usual today in your business affairs. Double check all the facts and figures before committing yourself.

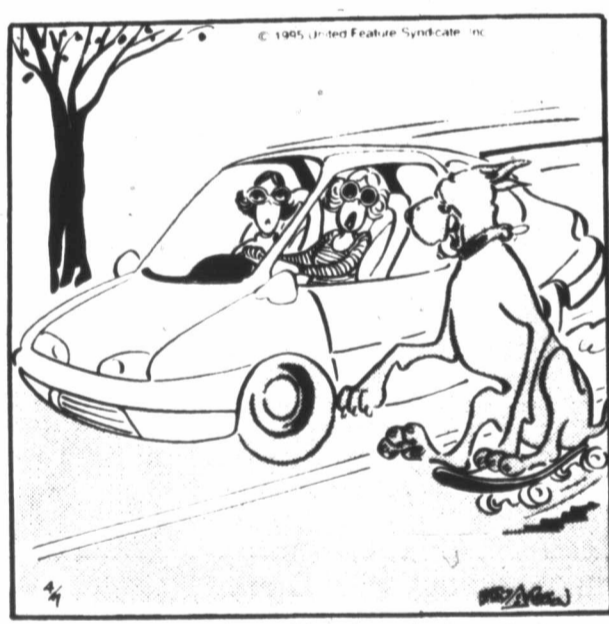
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** Realistically, one cannot be all things to all people, and today there might be persons who you'll be unable to please, no matter how hard you try.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** Monitor your conversations carefully today when talking to persons outside of the organization for whom you work. Do not reveal trade secrets.

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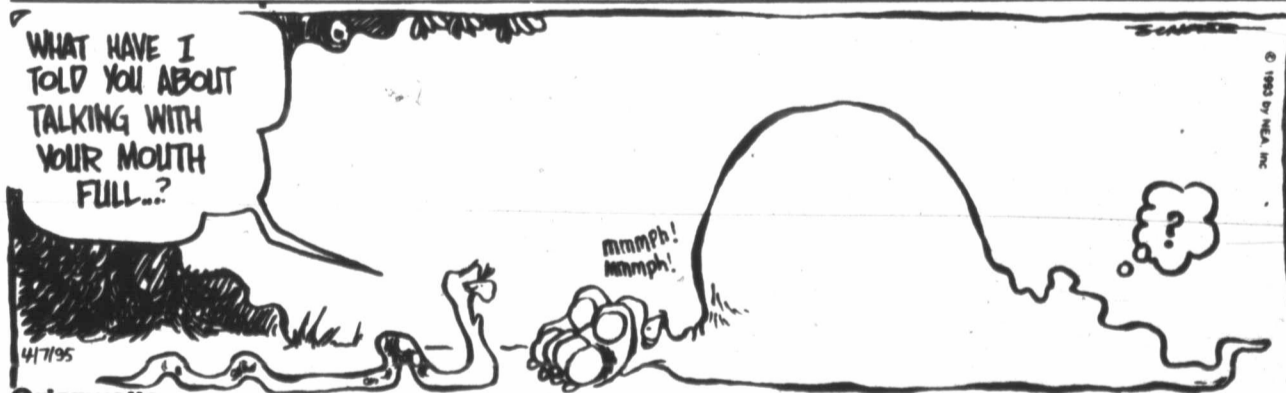


"Did you 'member to say 'Thank you' and 'I had a nice time'?"



"I've been chased by dogs before, but never on a skateboard!"

### The Family Circus



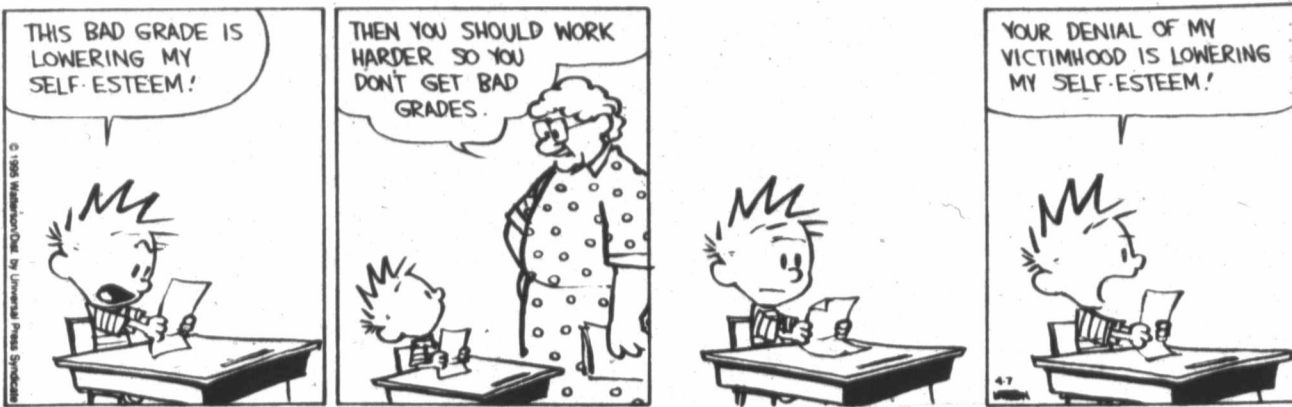
### Grizzwells



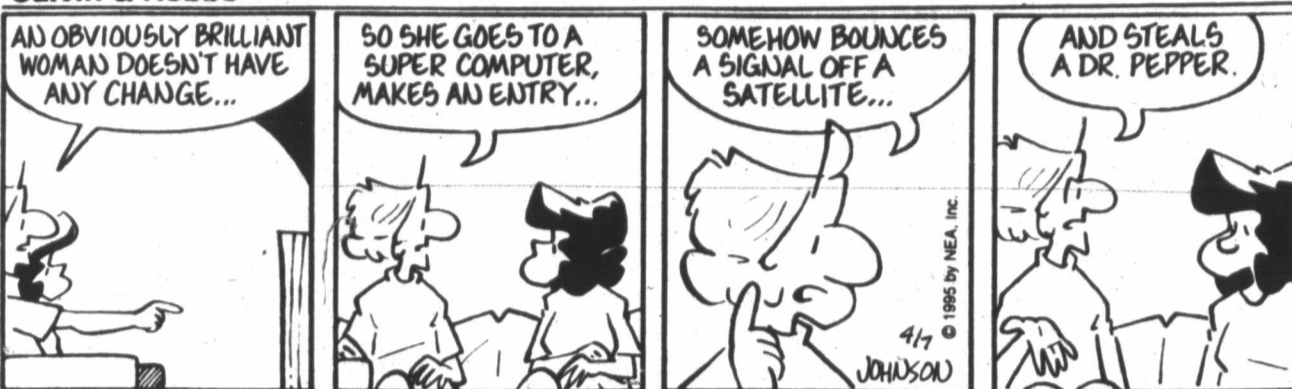
### Alley Oop



### Peanuts



### Calvin & Hobbes



### Arlo & Janis



### Garfield



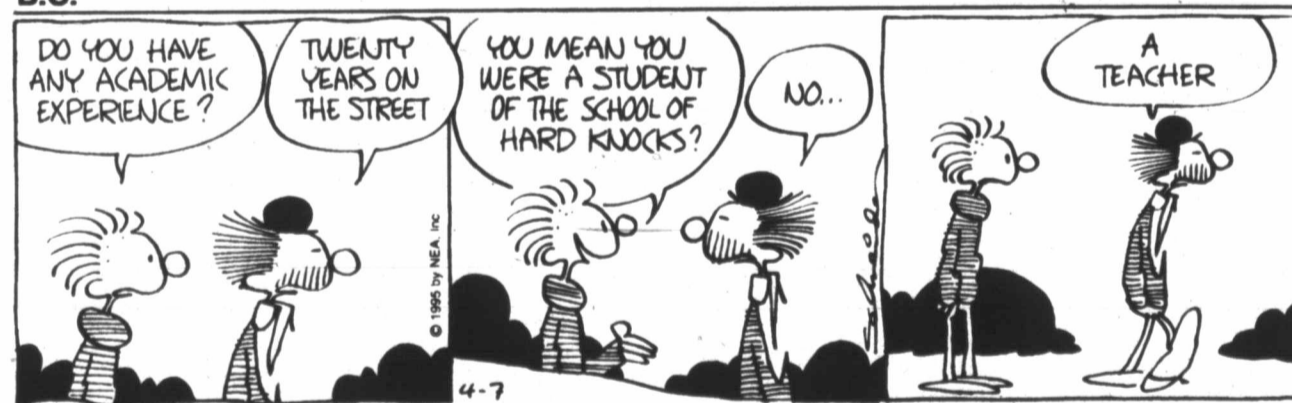
### Walnut Cove



### Marvin



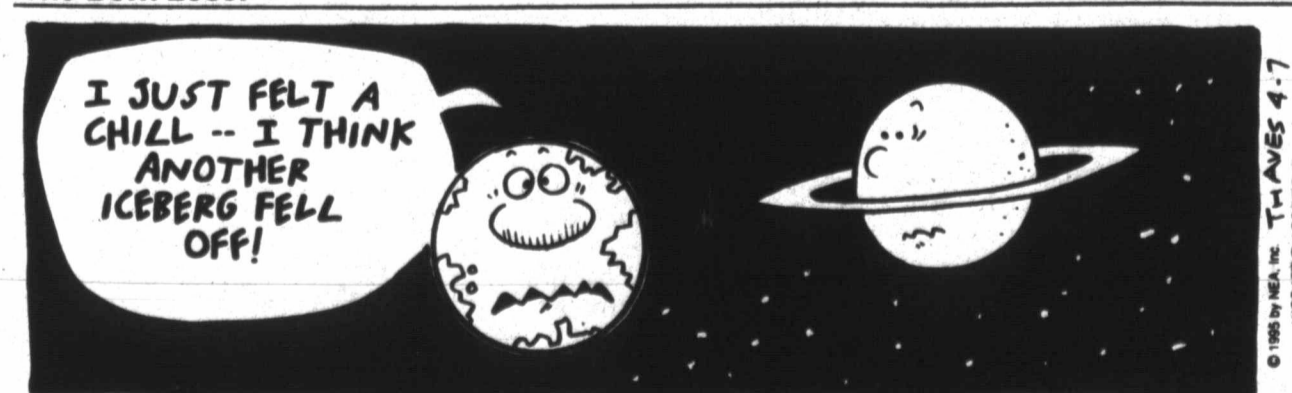
### B.C.



### Eek & Meek



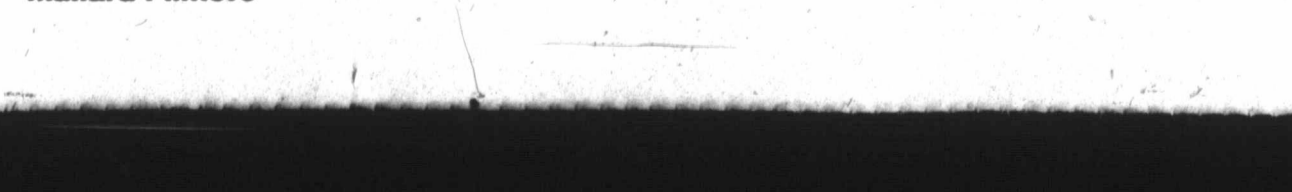
### The Born Loser



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