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THURSDAY

THE PAMPA NEWS

PAMPA, TEXAS

February 23, 1995

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1

Good Evening!

AREA

PAMPA — Trustees of the Pampa Independent School District have called a special meeting for 7:30 a.m. Friday to consider matters relating to an appeal by a teacher whose contract was not renewed last year.

The agenda calls for consideration of and possible action on continued legal representation by Walsh, Anderson, Underwood, Schulze & Aldridge, P.C., in Sangster v. Pampa ISD, an appeal with the Texas Education Agency.

The school board did not renew the contract for Sophie Sangster, former English and drama teacher at Pampa High School, last March. Sangster, during a requested hearing on the matter later, withdrew her objection to the non-renewal of her contract but later filed an appeal with the TEA.

School officials had expressed concerns about a study guide Sangster gave her students for the TAAS tests and about possible policy violations arising from the use of the guide.

BORGER — The Hutchinson County Museum will host Borger's birthday party Sunday, March 5.

Borger turns 69 years old this year. The town was founded in 1926 as a result of the Texas Panhandle oil boom.

A dedication is planned at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 5, at the first phase of the drilling rig monument which has been moved from the aluminum dome in Borger to downtown across the street from the museum, according to Ed Benz, museum curator.

Following the dedication, Benz said, there would be birthday cake and music at the museum along with a program.

"We're planning a special program with some of the Boomers that were here in the 1920s," he said.

AMARILLO — Ostrich breeders will feature A Taste of Ostrich banquet next month in Amarillo.

The banquet will be part of the Southwest Ostrich Breeders Association's Spring Roundup Seminar March 3 and 4 at the Radisson Inn at Interstate 40 and Lakeside.

The seminar which begins at 7 p.m. Friday, March 3, will deal with raising and marketing ostriches. The banquet is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 4 at the Radisson, according to Kathy Holland of Happy, the organization's president.

STATE

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The jackpot was worth \$4 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 11, 33, 35, 38, 40 and 43.

Lottery officials estimate the jackpot for Saturday night's game will be \$11 million.

DALLAS (AP) — The second multimillion verdict in as many weeks in a breast implant case has been handed down, this time by a Dallas County jury that awarded three women \$2.67 million in damages from Dow Corning Corp.

The verdict on Wednesday ended four days of deliberations by the jury. The panel found Dow Corning, makers of silicone gel breast implants, made a defective product, misrepresented it, misled the plaintiffs about its safety and was negligent. The jury found no gross negligence.

Texas Republicans boast of first 50 days

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — At the halfway point of House Republicans' 100-day "revolution," the 11-member Texas GOP delegation — which boasts House Majority Leader Dick Army and Majority Whip Tom DeLay — took time to crow about the party's accomplishments.

"I am absolutely ecstatic about the last 50 days," said DeLay, who is from Sugar Land. "I can't wait for the next 50 days."

At a Capitol news conference Wednesday attended by nine of the 11 Texans, they stressed the steps they have already taken in their 100-day "Contract With America."

To date, the House has made federal laws applicable to Congress; cut committees and subcommittees as well as staff; passed a con-

stitutional balanced-budget amendment and anti-crime legislation; and tackled some defense issues.

Said Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio: "This is an unprecedented, historic revolution in Congress that we are all witnessing right now."

The next 50 days includes welfare reform, regulatory relief, expansion of private property rights, congressional term limits and a middle-class tax cut.

"I feel like the Dallas Cowboys," said Army of Lewisville. "We are ahead at halftime and our game plan is sound, and I have every confidence that we are going to complete this 'Contract' in the appointed time."

But, he added, "I always caution any team that's ahead at halftime to take precautions. We must keep focused. We will keep focused."

Army was conciliatory in his comments

towards Democrats, going out of his way to single them out for praise.

"I think we ought to take a moment and appreciate the Democrat members of this Congress," he said. "We are asking them every day to march double-time to somebody else's drummer. That's not an easy thing for anybody to do."

His bipartisan tone wasn't echoed by DeLay, who clearly was angered by the Clinton administration's assertion that Republicans are seeking to end school lunch and breakfast programs.

Republicans want to repeal the school food programs, and a host of other programs for the poor, and replace them with block grants to the states.

"Here's a program that isn't broke, that's done a world of good for millions and millions of children of all races and backgrounds all

across our country, and I think it would be a terrible mistake to put an end to it, to gut it, to undermine it," President Clinton said in a meeting with congressional Democrats. "And I hope that my party will stand against this."

DeLay termed "despicable" the attempts to paint Republicans as snatching food from children's mouths.

"I think it's really sad in light of the elections in November and what we have been able to do over the last 50 days to have our record distorted and misrepresented to the American people," he said.

The news conference was just one of many events put on by Republicans — including a celebratory rally — to tout their 50-day milestone. Increasingly, Republican lawmakers have expressed concern that not enough attention has been focused on telling the public what they have done.



(Pampa News photos by Melinda Martinez)

Susan Burgin, right, a speech teacher at Travis Elementary School, teaches Nathan Stillwagon, 4, while he sits on his mother Chris's lap. Mrs. Stillwagon nominated Burgin for KFDA-TV Channel 10's Golden Apple award, which was presented to her Wednesday afternoon at the school by Walt Howard (below right), news anchor of the Amarillo television station.

Pampa teacher receives Golden Apple

By MELINDA MARTINEZ
Lifestyles Editor

An apple for the teacher. That is what Susan Burgin, a speech teacher at Travis Elementary School, received Wednesday afternoon from Channel 10 in Amarillo as she became the recipient of the television station's Golden Apple Award.

"She has done wonders for this little boy," said Chris Stillwagon, mother of four-year-old Nathan who is one of Burgin's students. Stillwagon nominated Burgin for the award because of the work she put in with Nathan. "You don't know how this makes me feel."

Before he began his speech therapy, Stillwagon said Nathan could hardly speak.

"Now he never shuts up," she said while laughing.

"She always welcomes Nathan with a smile on her face," said Stillwagon about Burgin.

"We found out when he was two that he wasn't hearing well," said Stillwagon. Nathan was having problems speaking because of fluid collected in his ears. Tubes were placed in his ears to drain the fluid and six months later Nathan started talking.

This is Burgin's first time to



teach speech so Burgin said she was "very honored" and "very surprised" when she found out about winning the award.

"I taught in the classroom in Groom for 15 years," she said.

Through a course offered through Texas Women's University's off-campus program, Burgin enrolled in a program for speech

language pathology. The principal she was working for mentioned the program to her, and since she had an interest in speech, she decided to enroll.

"I think there are some very nice and very supportive parents here in Pampa," said Burgin about Stillwagon and the other students' parents.

Reports of meningitis increasing in East Texas

WODEN (AP) — State health officials have sponsored meningitis vaccinations for thousands more East Texans as reports of meningitis seem to be increasing in the Lone Star State.

Clinics were set up Thursday by the Texas Department of Health in Woden, an East Texas city about 10 miles southeast of Nacogdoches.

Almost 10,000 people were vaccinated in Kilgore and Longview this week, said Department of Health official Jack Frost.

Another clinic will be held March 7 in Longview because medical personnel ran out of meningitis vaccine Monday, according to Frost.

Health officials say reports of

meningitis, an inflammation of the membranes around the brain and spinal cord, seem to follow a pattern of rising dramatically every five or 10 years, then falling.

They say it's hard to say whether increases are due to the busy season or an actual rise in the number of cases of the potentially deadly disease.

Soldiers, sailors brace for new round of base closings by Pentagon

WASHINGTON (AP) — As communities across the country braced for an announcement next week of the fourth round of military base closures, the Pentagon today said it was shutting down eight overseas facilities.

In today's announcement, the Defense Department said it was ending operations at four installations in Germany and cutting back at two others there.

Also, U.S. operations at a military facility at Sigonella, Italy, are being reduced, and a naval support facility in Antigua used by U.S. Atlantic Command is being abandoned.

The Pentagon did not say how many members of the U.S. military would be affected by the reductions abroad, but it said each of the eight sites has fewer than 1,000 positions.

Cutbacks in U.S. operations at overseas military facilities have been under way since 1990 but have drawn far less attention than domestic base closures and consolidations because the reductions at home have a broader impact.

One senior Pentagon official familiar with the list of proposed U.S. base closures describes seeing "dots on a map" at a recent briefing on the Clinton administration's proposed closures. But for military communities from Virginia to Texas to California, thousands of jobs are at stake.

"It's hard to shut down these bases, but you just have to do it," Rep. Norm Dicks, D-Wash., a member of the House Appropriations national security subcommittee, said.

Two years after bearing the brunt of the last base closing round, the

Navy once again is taking the most hits on the Pentagon's recommended list of base closings.

"We couldn't have a bigger one than '93," Adm. Jeremy Boorda, the chief of naval operations, said in an interview Wednesday. But he added, "We'll have a reasonably robust list."

Basically we have too much infrastructure and this is our final time, at least I hope so, because this is a painful process."

The stakes are high because lobbyists know that if they can keep a base off this year's list, they may save it for good, and because once a base gets on the closure list, it takes a monumental effort to take it off.

"With a state like Virginia, we are concerned, but we're very well organized and we think we have valuable assets for the Department of Defense," said Rep. Norman Sisisky, D-Va., a senior member of the House National Security Committee.

Virginia's Tidewater region, including portions of Sisisky's district, is home to one of the densest concentrations of military power in the world. Such proximity is highly regarded by the military. It is the relatively isolated bases that have lost personnel in recent years that are considered ripe for closure.

The Army has submitted a list of 40 sites to be closed or cut back. Gen. Gordon Sullivan, the Army chief of staff, said more facilities will be on the closure list this year than in 1993 but the savings would pay for weapons modernization and improved living conditions at bases that remain open.

Juvenile Probation Board reviews detention contract

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

Gray County is expected to continue an agreement with Reeves County for juvenile detention services.

The Juvenile Probation Board of Gray County Wednesday agreed to accept a contract with Reeves County contingent upon its acceptance by county commissioners at their next meeting.

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Albert Nichols told County Judge Richard Peet and District Judge Lee Waters that Gray County has used the \$70-per-day Reeves County facility satisfactorily in the past. The facility customarily houses only male juvenile offenders for 30 to 180 days, Nichols said.

Gray County has detention agreements with facilities in Hereford, Pecos, Randall and Moore counties, he said.

In other action, the juvenile probation office budget was amended to authorize Nichols to purchase computer hardware for no more than \$1,600.

They also agreed to allocate \$500 each for training Nichols and Juvenile Probation Officer Kim Davis.

Both computer hardware and training are to be paid for from probation fees collected, Nichols explained.

According to the department status report which covers Sept. 1, 1994 to Feb. 22, 1995:

- 85 youths are now on probation.
- \$2,825.92 has been collected in restitution; \$974.56 collected for attorney fees; \$522.35 collected for court costs; \$3,861 collected for residential reimbursement; and \$3,156.02 collected in probation fees.

- 55 youths have been counseled and released.
- 24 have been adjudicated and placed on probation.

- 8 cases have been consolidated and adjudicated with other offenses.
- 3 youths had probation modified.
- 26 youths had informal adjustments.

- 3 youths have court-ordered intensive supervision probation.
- 2 youths have been diverted to other agencies.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BULLARD, Viola Virginia — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
HENDERSON, Edith Pearl — 2 p.m., Ellis Funeral Home Chapel, Muleshoe.
ROBINSON, Opal A. — 1 p.m., First Baptist Church, Cyril, Okla.

Obituaries

VIOLA VIRGINIA BULLARD

Viola Virginia Bullard, 75, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1995. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. J.C. Burt, pastor of Hobart Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Bullard was born Jan. 18, 1920 at Alameda. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1936, moving from Mobeetie. She married Archie Bullard on June 21, 1936 at Sayre, Okla.; he died in 1969. She worked for Aubrey Ruff Grocery, Franks Foods and Bill Lam Grocery as a checker for 32 years, retiring in 1936. She was a member of the Oakdale Christian Church of Amarillo.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Johnny Reed of Borger, in December 1994.

Survivors include four daughters, Jeanne Davis and Paula Brock, both of Pampa, Bobbie Almqvist of Hutchinson, Kan., and Donna Sweet of Amarillo; two brothers, Hugh Thomas Reed Jr. of Katy and Marion Lee Reed of Lincoln, Rhode Island; nine grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

D. ROBERT (BOB) CONLEY

HOBBS, N.M. — D. Robert (Bob) Conley, 54, a former Pampa, Texas resident, died Monday, Feb. 20, 1995. Services will be at 10 a.m. MST Saturday in Griffin Funeral Home Chapel at Hobbs. Burial will be in Prairie Haven Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Funeral Home.

Mr. Conley was born March 4, 1940 in Pampa. He attended Wentworth Academy from 1952 to 1954. He played baseball in high school and was in Golden Gloves from 1954 to 1956. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving from 1961 through 1967. He was a truck driver for Unichem. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He managed Little League teams for 10 years and was Little League president for one year. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include two sons, Daniel Roy Conley and Jason Robert Conley, both of Hobbs; a brother, William Conley of Wilbraham, Mass.; and a sister, Donna C. Pierce of Dallas, Texas.

CHARLIE ROY HARPER

SKELLYTOWN — Charlie Roy Harper, 70, of Skellytown, died Tuesday, Feb. 21, 1995 in Amarillo. Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday in the First Baptist Church of Pampa with the Rev. Lonnie Hoyt Harris, pastor of Assembly of God at Kilgore, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery at Pampa under the direction of N.S. Griggs Funeral Directors of Amarillo.

Mr. Harper was born in Swearingin, Texas. He moved to Pampa in 1953. He later moved to Skellytown. He worked on oil rigs in the 1960s and 1970s. He was a veteran of the Korean War.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Katherine M. Harper, in 1978.

Survivors include a daughter, Alice Harris of Pleasanton; four sons, Freddie Harper of Canadian, Gary Harper of Pampa, Roy Harper of Dallas and Charles Harper of Skellytown; 10 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

EDITH PEARL HENDERSON

MULESHOE — Edith Pearl Henderson, 76, of Muleshoe, a former Wheeler County resident, died Tuesday, Feb. 21, 1995. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Glyn Rives officiating. Burial will be in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery by Ellis Funeral Home.

Mrs. Henderson was born in Wheeler County. She moved to Muleshoe in 1964 from House, N.M. She married Alden Henderson in 1945 at Midland. She taught school at Mary Deshazo Elementary School in Muleshoe from 1964 until her retirement in 1984. She was active in the Texas State Teachers Association. She was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Alden; two sons, Leonard Henderson of Lubbock and David Henderson of Roswell, N.M.; four sisters, Nellie Mae Lackey of Wheeler, Vivian Dodson of Houston, Imogene Clay of Shamrock and Frankie Flanks of Deer Park; and three grandchildren.

LEE BELL 'BIB' LANGLEY

MAYSVILLE, Ark. — Lee Bell "Bib" Langley, 73, of Maysville, a former longtime Pampa, Texas resident, died Thursday, Feb. 23, 1995 in Siloam Springs, Ark. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with the Rev. Hugh Daniel, retired Methodist minister of Breckenridge, Texas, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery at Pampa under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Langley was born June 8, 1921 in Blanco County, Texas. She was a former longtime resident of Pampa, moving to Maysville in 1980. She married William F. "Bill" Langley on Dec. 24, 1941 at Pampa; he died in 1980. She was a former member of the First United Methodist Church of Pampa.

Survivors include a daughter, Jan Janes of Maysville; three sisters, Joy Daniel of Breckenridge, and Susie Spoonemore and Billie Bruner, both of Pampa; a granddaughter, Connie Janes Threlkeld of Fayetteville, Ark.; and grandson, Chetlee Janes of Maysville; and three great-grandchildren.

Calendar of events

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

A blood pressure check is offered from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday in the Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. Blood sugar tests are offered the first Friday of each month. A donation is accepted to cover expenses.

Obituaries

OPALA ROBINSON

CYRIL, Okla. — Opal A. Robinson, 82, of Cyril, mother of a Pampa, Texas resident, died Tuesday, Feb. 21, 1995 in Duncan, Okla. Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at the Cyril First Baptist Church with the Rev. Travis Wollenberg officiating. Interment will be in the Celestial Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Binyon Cyril Funeral Home.

Mrs. Robinson was born April 21, 1912 in Wise County, Texas. She had lived in Cyril most of her life. She married O.H. "Buster" Robinson on Dec. 24, 1927 in Anadarko; he died Dec. 23, 1988. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Cyril. She enjoyed tending her flower gardens and attending church.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, William Paris Stepp and Martha Ellen Wilkinson Stepp, and two brothers.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Joyce and Smokey Bates of Fletcher, and Betty and J.D. Brown of Pampa; a son and daughter-in-law, Edwin and Ellamae Robinson of Lone Grove; a sister, Travilla O'Neal of Dallas, Texas; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to the Alzheimer's Association.

Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

Officer Bryan Hedrick reported a runaway and harboring a runaway on behalf of Genesis House, 615 W. Buckler, and occurring at 500 W. Buckler.

Teresa Cox, 513 Lowry, reported information at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

Billy Ray Brown, 745 W. Wilks, reported theft of a Kenwood stereo speaker valued at \$400 which occurred between 11 p.m. Saturday and 3:10 p.m. Wednesday.

Beverly Ann Clark, 736 E. Scott, reported theft of a microwave valued at \$100 from the residence between 9 p.m. Tuesday and 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Cynthia Marie Miller, 113 S. Faulkner, reported simple assault at 300 N. Faulkner which occurred at 6:40 p.m. Wednesday. Minor injuries to the right eye were reported.

Arrests

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

James Middleton Jr., 19, 933 Love, was arrested at the residence and taken to Gray County jail. He is charged with burglary of a motor vehicle.

David Borsheim, 19, 400 N. Sumner, was arrested on a charge of failure to identify. He was released on the citation.

Sheriff's Office

Gray County Sheriff's office reported the following incidents and arrests in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

Jimmy Conner reported burglary of motor vehicle on Gray Rd. 2, 1/4 mile north of Texaco. Tools were taken.

Steven Stone, 221 Atchison, reported burglary of a motor vehicle.

Arrests

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

Walter Franklin Miller, 55, 713 Gray, was arrested on violation of probation.

Johnny Todd Preston, 22, 1037 S. Wells, was arrested on a judgment nisi.

Evangelina V. Montoya, 21, 1225 E. Francis, was arrested on bond forfeiture. She was released on cash bond.

Hospital

CORONADO HOSPITAL Admissions	Dunham of Pampa, a boy.
Pampa	Dismissals
Brittany Ann Balay	Pampa
Donald Ray Buckley	Miki Lynne Davis and baby boy
Kimberly G. Dunham	SHAMROCK HOSPITAL Admissions
Alice P. Sharum	Shamrock
Canadian	Estelle Hudson
Velma Lee Munson	William Hefley
Perryton	Dismissals
Rosalie Lesperance	There were no dismissals reported.
Birth	
To Mr. and Mrs. David	

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

4:26 p.m. - A 1986 Oldsmobile driven by Emma Blasingame, 79, Panhandle, was in collision with a highway sign owned by the state of Texas at 2611 E. Frederic. Estimated value \$100.

7:05 p.m. - A 1993 Ford pickup driven by Merle Wayne Terrell, 55, 1908 N. Wells, was in collision with a 1982 Ford pickup driven by Matthew Curtis Brown, 1412 Bond, at the intersection of Banks and Harvester.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Wheeler-Evans of Pampa.			
Wheat	3.33		
Milo	3.79		
Corn	4.36		
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation:			
NOWSCO	9 1/2	NC	
Occidental	19 7/8	NC	
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:			
Magellan	69.47		
Puritan	15.15		
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa.			
Amoco	58 5/8	dn 1/8	
Arco	108	dn 1/8	
Cabot	35	dn 1/4	
Cabot O&G	13 3/8	up 1/8	
Chevron	46 7/8	dn 1/4	
Coca-Cola	54 1/8	up 3/8	
Diamond Sham	24 1/2	NC	
Enron	32 3/8	NC	
Halliburton	37 1/4	dn 3/8	
HealthTrust Inc.	34 1/8	NC	
Ingersoll Rand	32 5/8	up 1/2	
KNE	22 1/4	up 1/8	
Kerr McGee	49 5/8	up 1/2	
Limited	18 1/4	up 1/8	
Mapco	34 3/4	dn 1/4	
Maxus	33 3/4	NC	
McDonald's	33 5/8	up 5/8	
Mobil	88 3/4	up 1/4	
New Atmos	17 5/8	up 1/8	
Parker & Parsley	17 7/8	up 1/8	
Penney's	43 1/8	dn 5/8	
Phillips	33	NC	
SLB	57	dn 1/4	
SPS	28 7/8	up 1/8	
Tenneco	45 1/8	up 1/8	
Texaco	63 7/8	up 1/4	
Wal-Mart	23 3/4	NC	
New York Gold	379.55		
West Texas Crude	4.86		

Detective dismisses defense theory of romance, murder in Simpson trial

By MICHAEL FLEEMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The candles burned in the living room and bathroom. New Age music filled the house. The bath was drawn. The bed sheets were ruffled.

Nicole Brown Simpson may have been planning for romance the night she was murdered, O.J. Simpson's lawyers suggested Wednesday, but police failed to follow up on these clues — and the possibility of a mysterious gentleman caller — in their investigation.

Over and over, defense attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. pressed Detective Tom Lange during cross-examination Wednesday. Did police check whether Ms. Simpson had a male visitor that night? Did they photograph the nine candles burning upstairs? Did they perform tests to determine if she had been raped?

The normally placid Lange, on the stand for the third day, bristled at the questions. He insisted that the only man to visit Ms. Simpson late the night of June 12 was Ronald Goldman. Sex, consensual or otherwise, never entered into the attack.

"In my observation and my experience, sex was the last thing on the mind of this attacker," Lange said, abandoning his usual dispassionate police lingo. "It was an overkill, a brutal overkill. There was no evidence of rape."

Cochran seemed taken aback by Lange's statement and tried to object in mid-sentence, but was overruled. Court was recessed for the day moments later.

The cross-examination was part of a long-range defense attempt to portray the police investigation of the murders of Ms. Simpson and Goldman as sloppy and incomplete.

Lange is to return to the stand today for more cross-examination. In a move likely to extend the trial, Superior Court Judge Lance Ito this morning issued a shorter court schedule. Beginning Monday, trial hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays.

Meanwhile, a dispute was brewing over whether the defense would lose another key witness.

Prosecutors said in court papers that Kathleen Bell, the only witness the defense has to portray Detective Mark Fuhrman as a racist, doesn't want to testify.

But Bell's lawyer, Taylor Daigneault, said his client would testify if subpoenaed. Defense lawyers also said they were confident she would appear.

"So long as she is duly served with a subpoena, and I think she has, then she'll be called as a witness and she will testify," said attorney Carl Douglas.

Losing Bell would hamper one of the defense's most important lines of

attack: arguing that Fuhrman was a racist who planted a bloody glove at Simpson's estate.

Two other witnesses also have run into problems.

Mary Anne Gerchak, who claimed to see four men leaving the area near the murder scene, has been arrested for allegedly defrauding a hotel out of room bills. And Rosa Lopez, a potential alibi witness, has threatened to return to her native El Salvador.

In court, meantime, Lange conceded under cross-examination that his investigation was flawed by failures to collect blood from a gate, preserve Ms. Simpson's stomach contents and test blood splattered on her back.

Lange said some of the holes in the case were the fault of evidence technicians and the coroner. Some decisions were his own.

Cochran suggested a photo of a container of Ben & Jerry's ice cream, found on a banister in Ms. Simpson's home, might have helped set the time of the murders. Lange disagreed.

"I saw no reason to take a photograph of melted ice cream," Lange said.

Likewise, he said it didn't occur to him to order pictures of some nine candles burning in Ms. Simpson's living room, bedroom and bathroom several hours after the bodies were found.

Persian Gulf War captain indicted in oil case

AUSTIN (AP) — A Persian Gulf war ship captain has been named in an indictment alleging he sold military fuel stolen during his tour of duty to the captain of a United Arab Emirates ship.

Federal grand jurors in Austin on Wednesday indicted Robert Wasson, 49, of Austin and Ioannis Kaimenakis on a charge of conspiracy and two counts of embezzling.

Court papers show Wasson captained a merchant fleet oil tanker named the Patriot. Kaimenakis was captain of the Fairgulf, a merchant vessel owned by the Fair Deal Shipping Company of Fujairah, United Arab Emirates.

The indictment alleges that Wasson twice sold marine diesel fuel, fuel residue and jet aviation fuel to the Fairgulf — once on Jan. 1, 1991, during the buildup of allied troops, and a second time on Feb. 6, 1991, during the aftermath of the invasion of Iraq.

Kaimenakis, who pulled his ship alongside the Patriot for the transfers in the Gulf of Oman, gave money to Wasson for the fuel, the indictment says.

But officials declined to say how much fuel or money is alleged to have changed hands. Typically, the tankers hold 300,000 to 350,000 gallons of fuel.

The charge says the transfers amounted to "impeding, impairing, obstructing and defeating government func-

tions of the Department of the Navy in providing and accounting for fuel to be used in vessels and airplanes of the United States Navy during the Persian Gulf War."

Federal officials also have refused to discuss details of the investigation, as has OMI Corp. of New York City, which owns the Patriot.

Peet attends orientation for new county judges

Gray County Judge Richard Peet attended the 1995 Judicial Orientation for New County Judges in Lubbock.

Sponsored by the Texas Association of Counties and Texas Tech University School of Law, the 81 new judges received training on current law and judicial procedures, including criminal, civil, probate and juvenile statutes along with ethics governed by the Canons of Judicial Conduct.

Practical aspects of judicial duties were addressed with topics regarding the use of the county court bench manual, docket management, appeals from Justice Court, family violence issues, media relations, courtroom techniques, legislative issues and judicial resources.

The orientation faculty presented 30 hours of instruction complying with national standards for judicial education. Lectures were accompanied by mock hearings and trials conducted at the Tech law school with assistance of volunteer law students.

Texas county judges are required to obtain a minimum of 30 hours judicial education during the first year in office and at least 16 hours each year thereafter.

After four days of classes, Peet stated, "The judges school was very informative and well worth the time in class. I learned about the many different aspects of being a constitutional county court judge."

Fires

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls in the 24-hour reporting period which ended at 7 a.m. today.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

11:53 a.m. - Three units and six firefighters responded to an accident where a vehicle struck Hardees.

THURSDAY, Feb. 23

5:59 a.m. - Three units and seven firefighters responded to a structure fire at 621 Lowry. There is heavy fire damage to the living room and hall and heavy smoke damage to the remainder of the house. No one was home at the time of the fire. The cause is under investigation. No injuries were reported.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Mostly clear tonight with a low near 40. Northeasterly winds 10-20 mph. Friday, partly cloudy with a high in the middle 60s. Wednesday's high was 79; the overnight low was 39.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Panhandle and South Plains: Tonight, mostly cloudy. Lows in the 30s. Friday, partly to mostly cloudy. Highs from mid 50s to low 60s.

North Texas — Tonight, a chance of rain and thunderstorms east. Slight chance of rain west and south central. Decreasing cloudiness late

central and east. Lows 38 north to 47 south. Friday, mostly cloudy west, partly cloudy elsewhere. Highs 57 west to 68 southeast.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, cloudy with scattered showers or thunderstorms. Lows from the 40s Hill Country to 50s south central. Friday, mostly cloudy, breezy and cooler with scattered showers early. Highs in the 60s. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. Lows from 50s inland to near 60 coast. Friday, cloudy with scattered showers. Highs in the 60s. Upper Coast: Tonight, cloudy with scattered

showers or thunderstorms. Lows near 50 inland to near 60 coast. Friday, showers ending in the morning, mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Highs from near 70 inland to 60s coast.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight and Friday, scattered mainly afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms otherwise variable cloudiness. Highs mid 40s and 50s mountains with mid 50s to mid 60s lower elevations. Lows mid 20s and 30s mountains with mid 30s to mid 40s lower elevations.

Oklahoma — Tonight and Friday, partly cloudy. Lows in the 30s. Highs in the 60s.

City briefs

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'Amateurs' offers voyeur's look at cast party

By LARRY HOLLIS
Managing Editor

Pampa's ACT I theater group offers us a chance to become voyeurs of a little theater group's opening night cast party in its production of Tom Griffin's *Amateurs*.

As the play progresses during its two acts, the audience members begin to feel like they are neighbors peeking in on a party next door, listening to the conversations and the laughter, watching the crazy antics and then becoming uncomfortable as they overhear and witness scenes of anger, pain and cruel taunts between friends.

Amateurs concerns a group of actors, their spouses and friends who gather for a quiet little party. During the night, the characters reveal their hopes and dreams, their fears, their jealousies, their loves, their strengths. But this is not a deeply serious, bleak play. Instead, it is filled with opportunities for laughter and smiles.

Bud Behannon, veteran ACT I player, offers amusement through his seemingly non sequitur, almost surrealistic remarks and comments to others as, portraying co-host Charlie, he wanders through the party as though living in another world. And — not to spoil part of the fun — one can't help but laugh as the set continues to fill up with chairs.

And there are the sarcastic remarks and put-downs, especially those made by would-be starlet Jennifer Collins (played by M...a Parker) to her lead-man co-star Wayne Seabury (portrayed by Ace Acevedo). Also adding to the humor, at least initially, is the blustering antics of Ernie Chilmark (played by another ACT I veteran, Ronnie Holmes), the guy who feels he has to be the clown of the party and who is always more amused with his jokes than others. Another vehicle for laughter is provided by an unbilled appearance of the dummy Howdy Doody.

Review

Shy, lonely American history teacher Nathan Monroe (portrayed by another ACT I veteran, Bill Hildebrandt) is a non-member of the "Timberly Troupers" little theater group invited to the party by co-host Dorothy (played by Brandy Ketchum). He soon wonders what strange creature he is beholding. No matter. The others wonder where Dorothy found this strange man; "in the teacher's lounge," Dorothy replies.

ACT I has assembled a fine ensemble for its latest production, co-directed ably by Darlene Hodges and Holmes in their first directorial duties for the group, especially considering that nearly half of the cast are making their first stage appearances with ACT I.

Veterans Behannon, Holmes and Hildebrandt continue to show their usual skills making them staples of the Area Community Theater productions. To regular attendees of ACT I performances, they have become friends that you know you can trust.

Ketchum, who also has several ACT I productions to her credit, provides the underpinning needed to keep the play steady. She wanders around the room, setting out snacks, making the introductions, keeping people involved in conversation, serving as a peacemaker at times. She is the framework for the play, the first one on the stage, the last one off, offering a subdued portrayal that reveals the quiet, solid strength and love she has for the others, especially her "loony" husband.

Adding to the strength of the production is a fine group of newcomers. Acevedo, making only his second appearance on the ACT I stage, gives an enjoyable performance as the leading man who

seems to think rather highly of himself yet always seeks reassurance from others that he's as good as he thinks he is.

Parker, who portrays a woman with great talent but afraid to take the risks to fulfill her dreams of becoming a star, gives an engaging performance as a woman quick with the sarcastic putdowns covered with a pretty smile. She also displays a comedic talent with the unbilled Howdy Doody, who gets a bit fresh with her.

Barb Amrhein gives a strong performance as wife Irene Chilmark, who has to endure the silly, outrageous clowning of her husband Ernie, and then apologize for him when he goes too far. She manages to convey both her disgust for his constant clowning and yet also her quiet love for the buffoon.

Tony Ferrell portrays critic Paul Cortland, an old friend Dorothy has finally convinced to cover their theater group production. Ferrell gives a relaxed performance, one of the most realistic of the night. When he has a coughing and choking spell near the end of ACT I, you almost want to jump up and call the medics.

Portraying the youngest one at the party, Pampa High School senior Jennifer Keeton bursts into the party with the energy of youth zapping into a gathering of older people. She gives an energetic performance of a young woman who may seem spaced out, chattering away with her observations and comments, but who is more mature than the others may think.

Whether veterans or newcomers, the *Amateurs* cast provide a look at real people. It may be a cast party for actors, but we've all seen these people, whether next door or at work or at our own parties.

Amateurs will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and again March 3 and 4 at the ACT I theater in the Pampa Mall. For reservations, call 665-3710.

FBI investigation of Sen. John Tower contains unverified tips

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Some of the tips in an FBI report that helped shoot down former Sen. John Tower's bid to become defense secretary were unsubstantiated, according to a published report.

The two-volume report, obtained by *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on Tuesday in response to a Freedom of Information Act Request filed four years ago, contained conflicting evidence of his suitability for the job.

The FBI report contained allegations against Tower of alcohol abuse and womanizing. Access to the report was tightly restricted until its release.

In March 1989, the Senate rejected President Bush's nomination of Tower by a 53-47 vote and the former senator returned to private life. Thirteen months later, the Texas Republican and his daughter, Marian, 35, died with 21 others in a commuter plane crash near Brunswick, Ga. He was 65.

The file on Tower's nomination for the top Defense Department job

included scores of interviews with Tower's associates, in addition to neighbors, bartenders and waiters, the newspaper reported Wednesday.

One tipster, according to the FBI's account, said Tower "drank a hell of a lot of whiskey" and was clearly inebriated at a motel bar.

But the tip could not be substantiated after a guest records check. The agency had interviewed a former manager and owners of the Trade Winds Motel in Wichita Falls, where Tower had been reported to be drunk three times at an upstairs bar.

According to the file, another Texas Republican, Hank Grover, told the FBI that Tower's "drinking exploits" were well known in GOP circles.

The FBI summary said: "Grover stated that Tower is a 'drunk' and that he acts in a 'disgusting' manner regarding women."

But agents also said Grover, who ran for governor in 1972, could not provide specifics and that he bore a grudge against Tower for not helping him in his race.

Watt to defend himself against HUD coverup scandal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Interior Secretary James Watt intends to defend himself at trial against charges he covered up his consultant work seeking federal aid from former Reagan administration colleagues.

A 25-count indictment was obtained Wednesday by Arlin Adams, the independent counsel investigating the Reagan-era housing scandal at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It charges Watt with perjury, unlawful concealment and obstruction of justice. Each count carries a penalty of up to five years in prison and a fine.

Watt was charged with lying to Congress and to a grand jury about the housing consultant work he did after resigning as interior secretary in 1983. He also is charged with concealing for more than four years documents that contradicted his testimony and had been subpoenaed by the grand jury.

"I did not lie to the Congress or to the grand jury nor in any way obstruct justice," Watt said through his attorney. "The facts demonstrate no wrongdoing and ... the Office of Independent Counsel lawyers know I have not violated any criminal law."

The 57-year-old former Cabinet member, who lives in Jackson Hole, Wyo., "must now suffer through the ordeal of a long and expensive trial to clear his name," said William



James Watt

Bradford Reynolds, Watt's lawyer.

The government is expected to call former HUD Secretary Samuel Pierce and other former HUD officials as trial witnesses against Watt, but one individual familiar with the case said their memories of events a decade ago are stale, and the government also would use documents as evidence.

Adams said his investigation of Watt will allow HUD to recover almost \$10 million intended to provide low-income housing in the Virgin Islands, because investigators

discovered the money was not used for such housing. The indictment said the 1985 grant was made at Watt's request.

Adams added that Watt's concealment added substantially to the length and cost of his five-year investigation, which has produced 16 convictions and more than \$2 million in criminal fines.

Adams still is investigating obstructions by "individuals in addition to Watt," according to Ty Cobb, one of Adams' attorneys. He would not name them.

In January, Adams announced he would not charge Pierce, who had been his highest-ranking target. Adams noted that Pierce is 72 and said he lacked clear criminal intent and did not profit from the scandal.

At that time, Pierce said his meetings at HUD with friends lobbying for housing funds "sent signals to my staff that such persons should receive assistance." Pierce specifically mentioned meetings with Watt.

The indictment alleges Watt was paid more than \$500,000 for contacting political appointees at HUD during 1984-86. It says he lied about this work in June 1989 testimony before the House employment and

housing subcommittee and in 1990 before a federal grand jury.

Watt testified he worked on three housing projects. He told the subcommittee a developer paid him \$300,000 to lobby in 1986 for funds to rehabilitate a Maryland apartment complex.

Others had sought the money unsuccessfully for two years. The developer told the subcommittee that she hired Watt, who had no expertise in housing, because Watt "can get phone calls returned at HUD."

Watt testified he told Pierce about the developer's frustration and asked that the application be reviewed.

"I left his (Pierce's) office with no commitments from him other than that he would check into it," Watt told the subcommittee.

Contrary to Watt's testimony, the indictment said:

— Pierce provided support for Watt's requests, including projects Watt explicitly denied having discussed with Pierce.

— Watt met with Pierce's top aide, Deborah Gore Dean, to get her help in preventing others from competing for HUD funds. Dean has been sentenced to 21 months in prison in the case.

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Viewpoints

THE PAMPA NEWS

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS
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Let Peace Begin With Me

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

Opinion

Line-item veto still good idea

House Republicans delivered on another promise in their Contract with America approving a line item veto for the president. The legislation, if it becomes law, will provide a tool for cutting fat from the federal budget.

Under current rules, Congress can pack a spending bill with hundreds of pork-barrel provisions. If the president wants to block those items, he has but one choice - to veto the entire bill.

This can be a politically daunting option because the bill may also contain spending central to the government's basic functions, such as national defense or the administration of justice.

A line-item veto would cut through this political blackmail. It would allow the president to veto individual items in a bill while still signing the rest of the bill into law.

Under the House version, the president would have 10 days (excluding Sundays) after a bill passes Congress to submit a list of vetoed items. Congress would then have to vote up or down on the list. If the spending items win a simple majority, the president could exercise a veto, requiring a two-thirds majority in both chambers to enact the targeted spending items.

Critics charge that the line-item veto gives too much power to the president. Granted, it does shift power to the executive branch, but when it comes to blocking questionable spending, it's clear that more power is exactly what the president needs.

Up until 1974, the president could exercise a kind of informal line-item veto through the power of rescission. Back then, if the president didn't like a particular spending item, he could simply refuse to spend the money, impounding it instead.

But amid the Watergate reforms, Congress revoked the president's rescission authority. The result has been even less restraint of federal spending.

When it comes to federal spending, the president deserves enhanced power to control the purse strings of the entire government. The president is a unique officeholder in the federal government. Unlike any member of Congress, his constituency is the entire nation. While individual members of Congress can be blinded by the parochial interests of their own districts or states, the president has the unique political vantage point to decide whether a particular spending program would be good for the nation as a whole. It would also mean that the entire spending process would include some accountability. The responsibility for pork-barrel addition to bills would ultimately rest with the chief executive officer. This is why more than 40 states grant their governors some form of the line-item veto.

We hope the House approval is the first step toward a meaningful line-item veto law. No matter who controls the Congress or who sits in the Oval Office, the line-item veto makes sense.

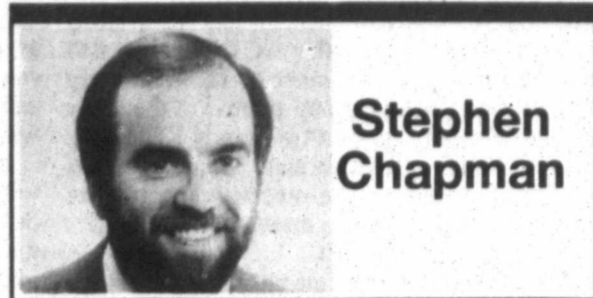
Reform of the exclusionary rule

Ever wonder what would happen if the Bill of Rights came up for a vote? You don't have to wonder anymore. The text of the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, which forbids the government to conduct "unreasonable searches and seizures," was offered on the House floor last week. It promptly went down in flames, with 303 members recoiling in disgust and only 121 daring to embrace the proposition that the American people should be secure in their persons and their homes from overzealous police.

The House was debating a bill to "reform" the exclusionary rule, which forbids the courtroom use of evidence that the authorities got by breaking the law. The bill says that federal courts shall politely ignore mere constitutional violations as long as the good constable was acting on "an objectively reasonable belief" that he was not trampling on anyone's rights.

North Carolina Democrat Melvin Watt proposed to delete the heart of the measure and replace it with the text of the Fourth Amendment. Republicans were not amused. Bill McCollum of Florida informed his colleagues that if they want to "get more evidence in search and seizure cases and get more convictions and get away from technicalities letting people who have committed crimes off the hook, then you need to vote against" Watt's version. That apparently is exactly what his fellow House members wanted.

Watt's suggestion, and McCollum's objection, served the useful purpose of reminding us that the real enemy here is not the exclusionary rule but the constitutional protection. The exclusionary rule does not put restrictions on what the police can do in fighting crime - the restrictions all come from the Fourth Amendment. The exclusionary rule merely



Stephen Chapman

provides a remedy for people whose rights are violated. By doing that, it encourages cops to respect the Constitution.

Before the exclusionary rule, they didn't. A few years after the Supreme Court imposed it on the states in 1961, the deputy police commissioner of New York City admitted that the decision was "a shock to us. We had to reorganize our thinking, frankly. Before this, nobody bothered to take our search warrants. Although the U.S. Constitution requires warrants in most cases, the Supreme Court had ruled that that evidence obtained without a warrant - illegally, if you will - was admissible in state courts. So the feeling was, why bother?"

The Fourth Amendment had been around for 172 years, but University of Michigan law professor Yale Kamisar has said that "many in law enforcement responded to the adoption of the exclusionary rule as if the guarantees against unreasonable search and seizure had just been written."

In a sense, they had. Before the exclusionary rule, the police had a lot to gain and nothing to lose by ignoring the Constitution. Afterward, they had a lot to lose and little to gain. Suddenly, they began acting as if the rights of individuals mattered. They stopped frisking people without probable cause.

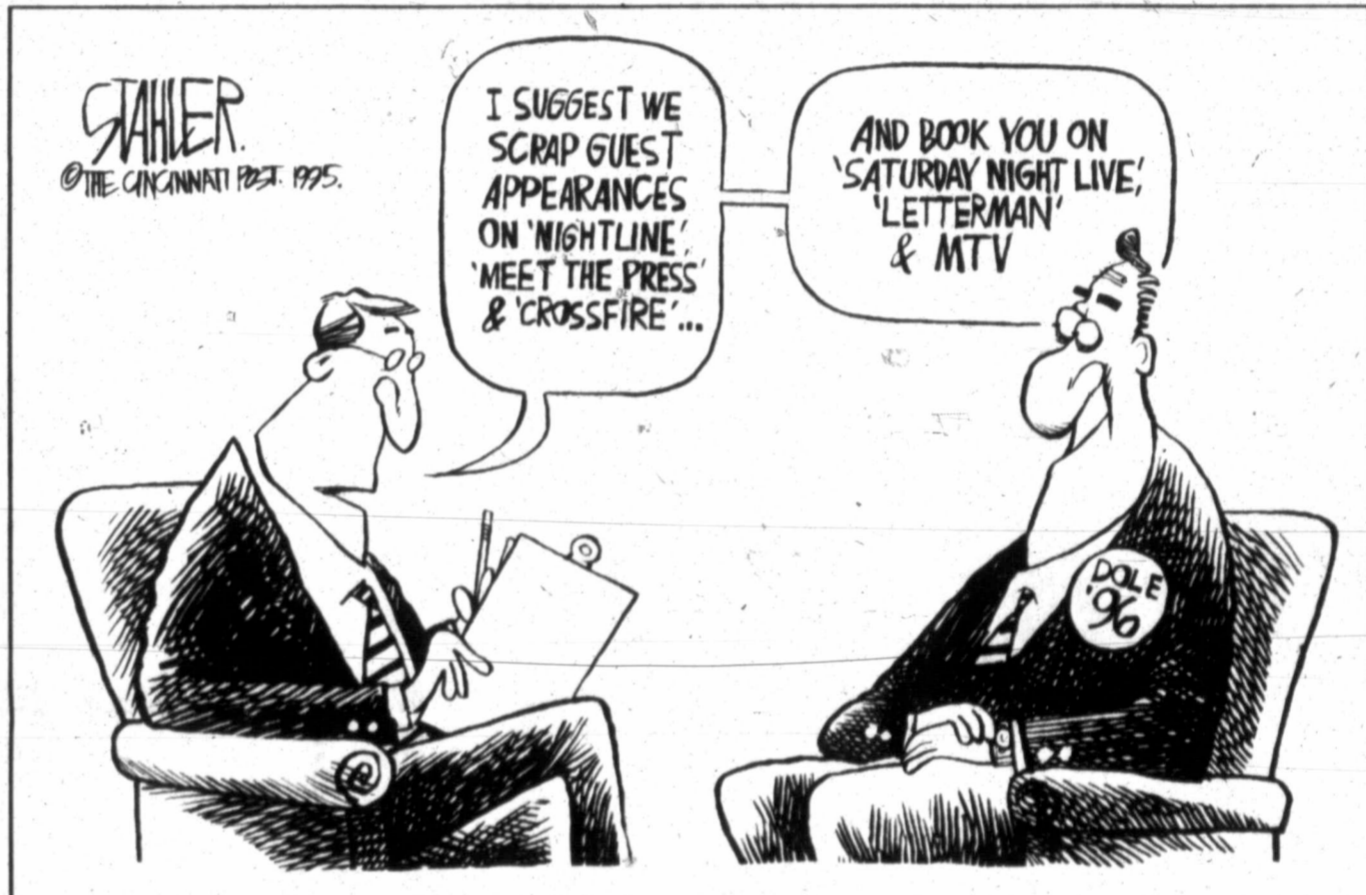
They started getting warrants before ransacking homes.

Republicans have long opposed this policy, because they think it allows hordes of dangerous criminals to go free. In fact, the exclusionary rule affects evidence in only 1.3 percent of federal criminal cases, and it causes lost convictions even more seldom.

Never mind, the facts: The new majority dislikes the rule and is determined to weaken or dismantle it. In 1984, the Supreme Court carved out an exception to the exclusionary rule, decreeing that is a police officer relied on a search warrant that later proved to be defective, the evidence could be used anyway. Now the House wants to widen the loophole to include searches and seizures that don't involve a warrant, allowing in evidence as long as the officer acted "reasonably."

But officers who conduct reasonable searches have nothing to fear anyway: The Fourth Amendment prohibits only unreasonable ones. The House is in the strange position of saying that cops are perfectly free to violate the Constitution as long as they don't know they are violating the Constitution. As University of Chicago law professor Albert Alschuler wrote of the 1984 "good faith" decision, this bill is a triumph of Orwellian newspeak, proclaiming that "a law enforcement officer could believe reasonable in the reasonableness of an unreasonable action."

The exclusionary rule protects us all from police intrusions by insisting that the government may not profit from ignoring its constitutional obligations. The House measure endangers the privacy of every American by saying that if the police are going to be effective in fighting crime, they have to be allowed to break the law.



Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 1995. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
Fifty years ago, on Feb. 23, 1945, during World War II, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima captured Mount Suribachi, and raised the American flag. A larger flag was then brought in to replace the first; the second flag-raising was captured in the famous picture taken by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

On this date:

In 1685, composer George Frideric Handel was born in Germany.

In 1822, Boston was granted a charter to incorporate as a city.

In 1836, the siege of the Alamo began in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1847, U.S. troops under Gen. Zachary Taylor defeated Mexican Gen. Santa Anna at the Battle of Buena Vista in Mexico.

In 1848, the sixth president of the United States, John Quincy Adams, died of a stroke at age 80.

O.J. trial exposes media's bad taste

I have the fastest thumb in what's left of Christendom. I can change channels before some banal TV numskull can get past "O" as in O.J. Simpson.

Simpson was never among my category of notable people before he was charged with killing his wife and another man. I know lots of people who can outrun people who are chasing them. I consider that a useful but not notable skill.

As a commentator, he was the obligatory and decorative black face, and his comments were, like those of his white colleagues, banal. A football game isn't molecular physics. All sports commentary is generally on the intellectual level of interviews with boxers. Games should be played or watched but not necessarily talked about.

In his acting roles, he played an idiot. One Broadway actor observed caustically that to be successful in film, it is only necessary that you "look right" in the role. Simpson did.

The only useful things to be learned from the Simpson trial, you can learn without watching it.

One, lawyers have made an expensive mockery of the justice system. They have taken the people's court system and turned it into the equivalent of a pit of screaming, greedy commodity traders. Simpson might as well be found guilty because when his lawyers get through with him,

Charley Reese

he won't be able to afford a room in a flophouse.

Two, the collective brain of American journalism, assuming we ever had one, has suffered a meltdown. Henceforth, no American newspaper with a shred of self respect should ever look down its editorial nose at a supermarket tabloid or a trash TV show. Nor should any editor or publisher complain that the American people have no respect for journalism. Don't blame the American people for having better taste and better manners than most journalists.

It's also hogwash to claim that the ratings indicate that many are interested in this routine and sordid affair turned into a spectacle by money.

In the first place, no rating system measures the people who aren't watching, aren't reading and aren't interested. It can only measure the relative preferences of people who have no choice in the programming and no say in the editing. If there were a dog-per-channel, the fact that you would choose one over another doesn't mean one is anything more than minutely less offensive or boring than the rest. If you are revolted by the news content

but don't cancel your subscription it may mean only that you like the classifieds and cartoons.

Editors and programmers are always using this circular reasoning game to rationalize their own bad taste: "We give people only what they want." How do you know what they want? "We give it to them, and they don't burn down the station or the newspaper." Again, don't blame Americans for having good manners.

It is true that, on the whole, post-war America has more or less become a cultural wasteland. The arts have been largely relegated to left-wing snits and twits while popular culture has become the domain of greedy corporate barons who have the taste of an emcee in a third rate topless joint.

Many universities have become nothing more than left-wing political indoctrination centers run by fundraisers and aging draft dodgers. Intellectuals are defined as those who watch sea turtles lay eggs on public television and write learned pieces on the profound meaning of the lyrics of 2 Live Crew.

So it's no surprise that lots of people are fascinated by the Simpson trial. After all, in these highly cultural times, low lives with big incomes in Los Angeles are the nation's cultural elite. Actresses who have played the role of farm wives testify about farm policy, and I'm sure someone has consulted Sylvester Stallone on defense matters.

When the law doesn't protect women

The story sounds like a macabre plot from a pulp crime novel, but it is all too real:

A young woman from a Springfield, Mo., bible college was lured to a motel room by a convicted sex offender under the guise of taking a "physical" to qualify for a "tuition loan." She had answered a flier the man left on cars, claiming to be from a Christian ministry that loaned money to Christian college students. Even school officials had thought the man legitimate.

The "physical" included a breast exam and Pap Smear, a vaginal examination. Claiming he was a registered nurse, this looney tune then called the woman back for another Pap Smear, saying the second was necessary because the first had revealed an infection.

Police learned that the man performed a similar scam in another state and was on probation for it, as well as for engaging in other sexual offenses in which he "tricked" his victims.

Who knows what kind of damage that wacko could have done alone in that motel room with that young woman, invading one of the most sensitive areas of her body with an instrument? (Police have not disclosed just what kind of instrument it was.) Sounds like an open-and-shut case of sexual assault, right?

Wrong, amazingly. The man's still out on the streets. When authorities examined Missouri laws, they discovered that to be considered a sexual assault, a victim must not "consent" to whatever is



Sarah Overstreet

done. In this case, even though she was tricked, she "consented" to the procedure. To be able to charge the man with anything, authorities are reduced to looking at state laws against deceptive business practices and practicing nursing without a license.

Good grief. We've written laws that allow a pervert to be home free if he's just smart enough to lie. But what is perhaps most troubling about this case is the statement of one of the investigating police officers, that the man is not a threat to the public.

When other unsuspecting women could be tricked into having the same thing done to them, the man is not a threat? No one thinks it's "not a threat" when his or her daughter, wife or mother could be duped into meeting in a motel room a pervert who then risks doing her physical harm. How many people have to be at risk before they become "the public"?

It's this kind of attitude that keeps our laws inadequate to protect victims. The officer's remarks

remind me of a story I investigated nine years ago, when a woman was stalked and harassed mercilessly by a former boyfriend. The man even rented a bill board for an insulting message to her, and took a Polaroid of her coming out of the bathroom nude from the waist up, made Christmas cards of it and sent them to her family and friends.

At the time, there were no laws against following someone day and night and waiting outside the victim's home and job. Police said they didn't have enough evidence to impound the man's typewriter to see if its keys matched the offensive mail. But what absolutely stunned me was one of the police detectives telling me, "What you don't understand here is that there was a lot of kinky sex in that relationship."

Case closed. Not. "Yes, it's terrible what that man is doing and we need some changes in our laws to protect victims like this." Just the intimation that she got what she deserved.

After a concerted effort primarily by victims' advocates, Missouri finally adopted some stalking laws that many don't think go far enough. But they are a start, and they are no thanks to the police detective to whom that woman confided intimate, embarrassing details in the desperate hope he would help her.

We are still in our infancy in enacting laws against stalkers, harassers and other victimizers. As long as crimes are considered "just tricks" and "not a threat to the public," we're not going to make much progress.

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum**
Pampa Address: 100 N. Price Road, Pampa TX 79065
Pampa Phone: 665-3552
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736
- State Sen. Teel Bivins**
Amarillo Address: P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, TX 79105
Amarillo Phone: (806) 374-8994
Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
- U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry**
Amarillo Address: 724 S. Polk, Suite 400, Amarillo, TX 79101
Amarillo Phone: (806) 371-8844
Washington Address: 1535 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515
Washington Phone: (202) 225-3706
- U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison**
Washington Address: 703 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Phone: (202) 224-5922
- U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm**
Washington Address: 370 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934

Berry's World



"Billy is into cyber crime!"

Lifestyles

Organization offers information on scholarships and grants

Each year individuals preparing to go to college or graduate school face the dilemma of how to pay for tuition, room and board, textbooks, lab fees and other expenses. That's because college costs have skyrocketed and continue to increase yearly, putting extra strain on family budgets and assets.

Yet there are over 375,000 funding sources available to assist these students. Contrary to popular belief, over 80 percent of the funds available to students do not depend on family need or high grades. Many are based on factors such as the student's interests, hobbies, academic focus, age, ethnic background or parent's work or military service.

Remarkably, over \$6.6 billion of this funding goes uncollected each year simply because people do not ask for it, according to a report by the National Commission on Student Financial Aid. Now a new academic funding publication, updated for 1995, is available to help steer students through the process and to outline their options and identify sources for assistance.

For information on how to receive academic funding and scholarships, send a No. 10 self-addressed, double stamped envelope plus \$2 to cover handling to the National Academic Funding Administration, 815 Middle Street, Suite 1300, Portsmouth, N.H. 03801.

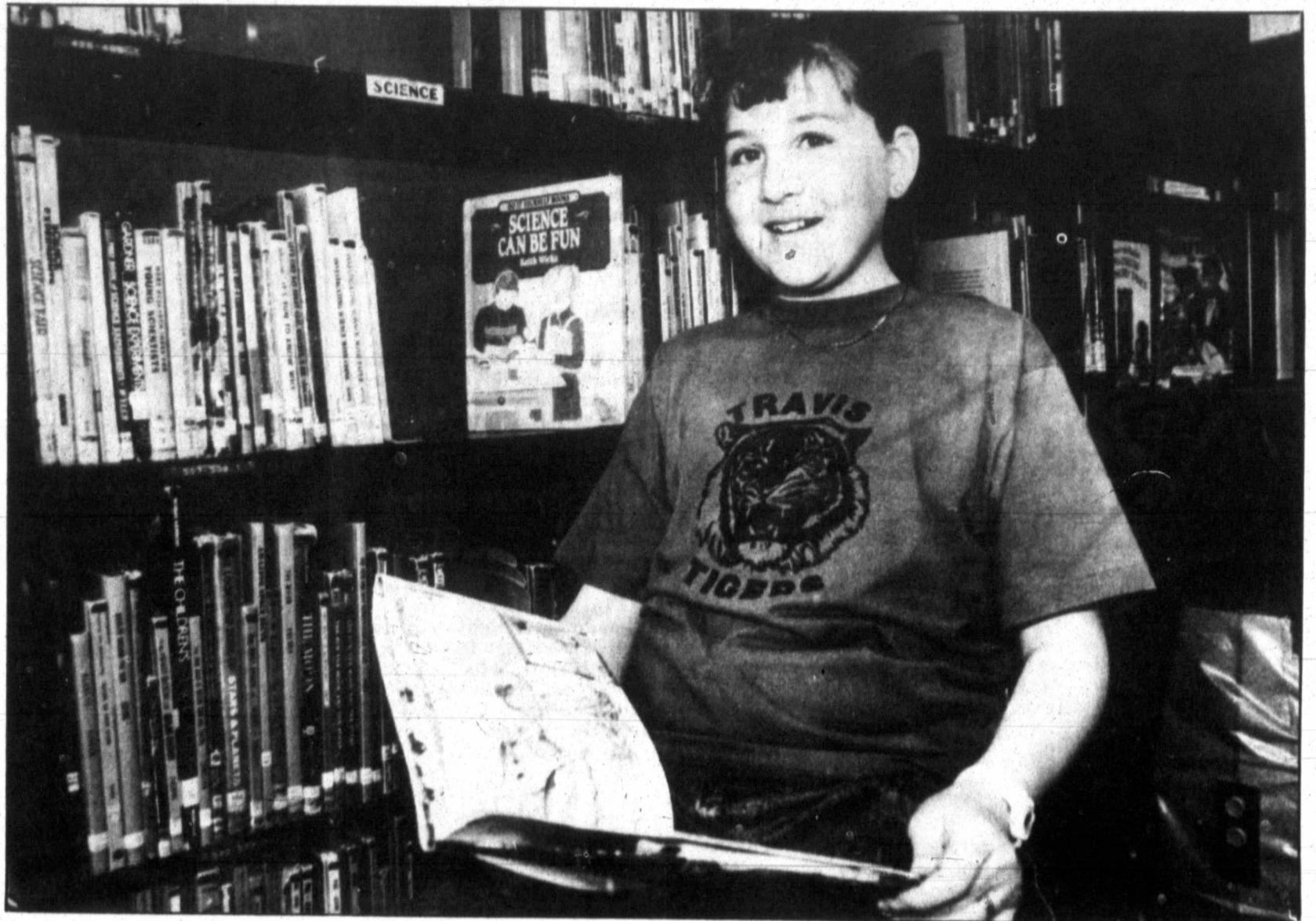
Reading tips offered for children

By The Associated Press

Bobby Lynn Maslen, creator of the "Bob Books" published by Scholastic, has the following suggestions for teaching children to read at home:

- Read to your child. Choose books that you both enjoy. Instill a love of books!
- Play word games. Nursery rhymes, games and songs will attune the child's ear.
- Play sounds games. Think of a word that begins with M. mmmmmmm. Mop, map, man, mog. Nonsense words add to the fun!
- Pick a symbol such as moon. Say, "What do you hear first when I say moon?" The beginning sound is mmm. Practice other words.
- Make a picture of a cat with the word CAT in large letters. Hang it up.
- Write short stories dictated by the child. Read them back.
- Sing alphabet songs, real or made up.
- Encourage the child to scribble, write letters, draw pictures.
- Never criticize.
- Play games with blocks, memory cards, easy jigsaw puzzles.
- Tell stories. Ask the child to add to them.
- Point out short words when you read. Ask the child to repeat them.
- Be sensitive to the child's attention span. Expect short practice times.

One for the sciences



(Pampa News photo by Melinda Martinez)

Winning the Most Promising Scientist Award during the Travis Elementary School Science Fair was Janelle Powers. The fifth grader's science project titled "Insulation From the Cold," also won first place in her class. The young scientist's insulation project included hair collected from a barber shop of which she placed a thermometer in to see how well hair insulated. Her idea for the project came from an article her mother read in a magazine.

Old and new coupled for veggie and flower of the year

By JAMES E. WALTERS
For AP Special Features

An ancient Egyptian favorite and a relative newcomer to the Western world are the National Garden Bureau's choice for vegetable and flower of the year.

Announcement of the unusual coupling — onions and impatiens — was accompanied by this bureau comment:

"One would not grow them near each other in the garden. But both impatiens and onions are very popular with gardeners."

No argument there. However, linking them seems sure to cause double takes. The designation includes fact sheets on how to grow them.

Founded 75 years ago, the bureau describes itself as a nonprofit educational service of the home-garden seed industry. Most major retail and wholesale seed companies are members.

The 1995 winners were announced in advance of National Garden Week April 9-15.

Onions and impatiens require opposite cultivation techniques.

Onions need full sun. Impatiens need filtered sun but not full sun and are frost-sensitive. With those differences understood, both are relatively easy.

The bureau, describing onions as one of the oldest cultivated vegetables, says Egyptians elevated them to deity status about 5,000 years ago and "onions are eaten in every country" these days.

The basic types are storage, fresh, green and pearl or minionions. Colors can be white, yellow or red. The bulb shape is globe, flattened or torpedo.

"All of these differences seem fairly easy to see and accept," says the bureau. "The difficult nature with onions is day length. This trait is not obvious and can be the reason for total failure."

"A short-day onion is responsive to 11 to 12 hours of daylight; an intermediate-day onion needs 12 to 14 hours of daylight and a long-day onion requires 14 or more hours of light. In the summer in North America, southern latitudes have shorter days while northern

latitudes have longer ones."

So the real question becomes: which grows best in your area?

The bureau suggests using a long-day onion for spring growing in northern regions and a short-day type for southern fall planting. Try intermediate types if you garden in the zone between North and South in the summer.

For more specific recommendations for your area, contact the local Extension Service or nearest agricultural university.

Onion seed may be sown directly and shallowly into the garden whether you live North or South. In colder climates do this in early spring, as soon as the soil can be worked. Fall seeding is common in mild-winter areas. Cover lightly. Green sprouts appear in 10-14 days when soil temperatures are 70-75 degrees Fahrenheit.

Green onions are ready to harvest in four to five weeks, when tops are about a foot high. Use them by thinning the crop for bulbs to a 4-inch spacing.

Onion sets also are popular. They are small, dormant onion bulbs ready for outdoor planting. Plant about 2 inches deep and a half-inch apart. Fresh green onions will be ready in about four weeks.

The disadvantage with sets is they seldom are sold by variety, only by color, so it is impossible to know what is being planted. Local garden centers and mail-order suppliers often sell transplants of specific varieties.

Onions are shallow rooted and require about an inch of rain or irrigation a week during the growing season. The tops of storage onions begin to topple in late summer or early fall. When about half have fallen, lay the rest down to hasten ripening. Dig the entire plant and dry outdoors. Depending on variety, they may remain firm and flavorful as long as six months.

They are remarkably trouble-free under cool, dry conditions.

Impatiens are relative newcomers to the Western world. They arrived in England in 1896. Naturalist John Kirk found them growing in equatorial Africa

from Mozambique to Tanganyika.

The name comes from the tendency of seedpods, when ripe, to burst open at the slightest touch and scatter seeds to the wind.

An early problem with impatiens was color.

Hybridizers now have them blooming in red, orange, pink, white, lavender and bicolor. In general, the largest plants produce the largest blooms. They come in dwarf, medium and tall sizes. Flowers are single or double. Most are sold as bedding plants.

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Angry wife girds for battle over issue of husband's affair

DEAR ABBY: I recently found out my husband had an affair with a married woman, and he supposedly fathered one of her sons. This kid — I'll call him Robert — knows nothing about it, and has grown up thinking the woman's husband is his father. She is now separated and has asked my husband how I felt about his seeing Robert.

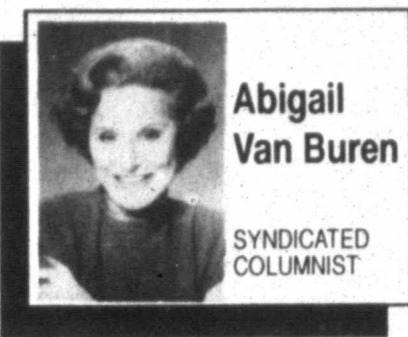
I think she's got a lot of nerve even to ask! And I don't want Robert (or our children) to find out about it. I'm afraid she is going to make sure the boy finds out so she can have my husband in her life. She is still in love with him.

My gut tells me she hoped we would break up over this. I just can't accept that boy into our lives, since he was conceived from their affair. Do you think I'm being selfish?

FURIOUS IN FORT WORTH

DEAR FURIOUS: No. But you failed to mention what your husband thinks about this situation.

Before he considers seeing "Robert," he should talk to a lawyer about the legal implications. The boy might not be his. And in the interest of family harmony during this stormy period, you would be wise to seek professional marriage counseling. If your husband is reluctant to accompany you, go alone.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: I have saved verses, bright saying and bits of philosophy for many years. I don't know where this came from, but I am hoping someone reading this will know and write in:

The Five Most Important Words: "I am proud of you."

The Four Most Important Words: "What is your opinion?"

The Three Most Important Words: "If you please."

The Two Most Important Words: "Thank you."

The Least Important Word: "I."

MARY O. WEST, CROSSETT, ARK.

DEAR ABBY: Last night, we caught my 14-year-old daughter (for the second time) with her boyfriend in her bedroom at 2 a.m. He sneaks in through the window. I'm very concerned. My daughter needs guidance, but I don't know how to tell her

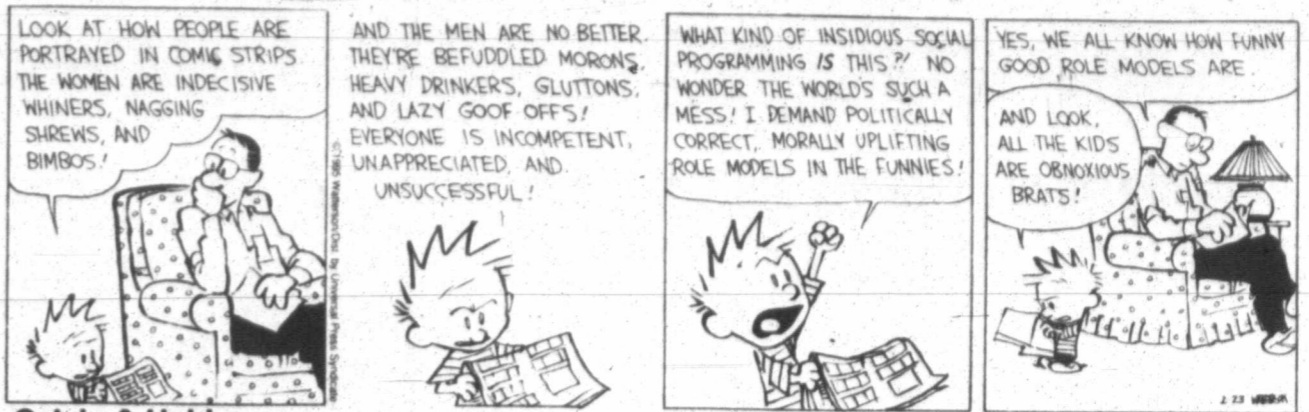
what a girl her age needs to know. I remember reading something in your column some time ago about a booklet you wrote for teen-agers. Where can it be purchased, and exactly what does it cover?

CINCINNATI MOM

DEAR MOM: The booklet is titled "What Every Teen Should Know." It covers many of the questions teens have about sex, love, drugs, and how to handle the difficulties of growing up. To order, send a check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) plus a business-size, self-addressed envelope to: Dear Abby Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

P.S. Many hardware and building supply stores sell motion-detector lights in prices ranging from \$19.95 to about \$100. Perhaps "The Prince of Late-Night Entertainment" would find his ardor cooled if his entrance were announced by 300 watts of light!

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



Calvin & Hobbes



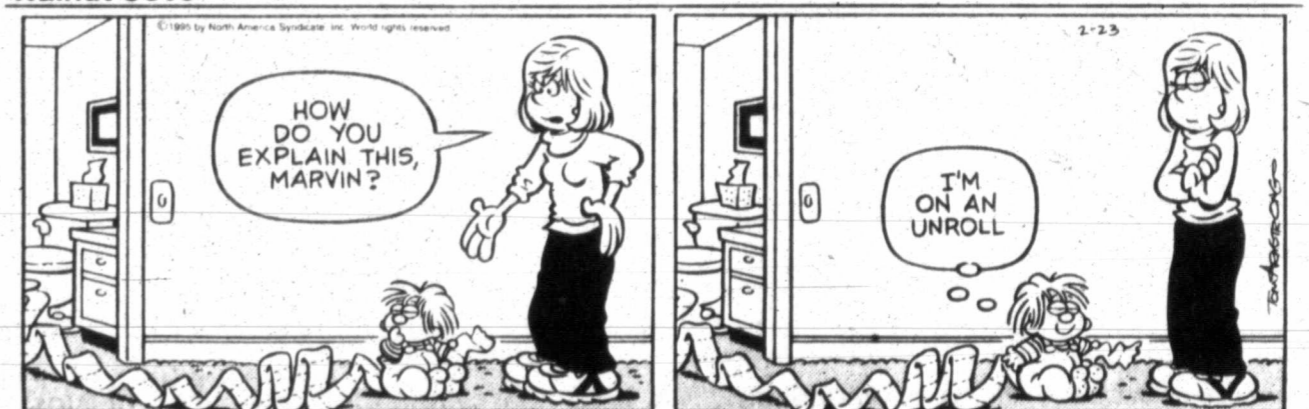
Ario & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



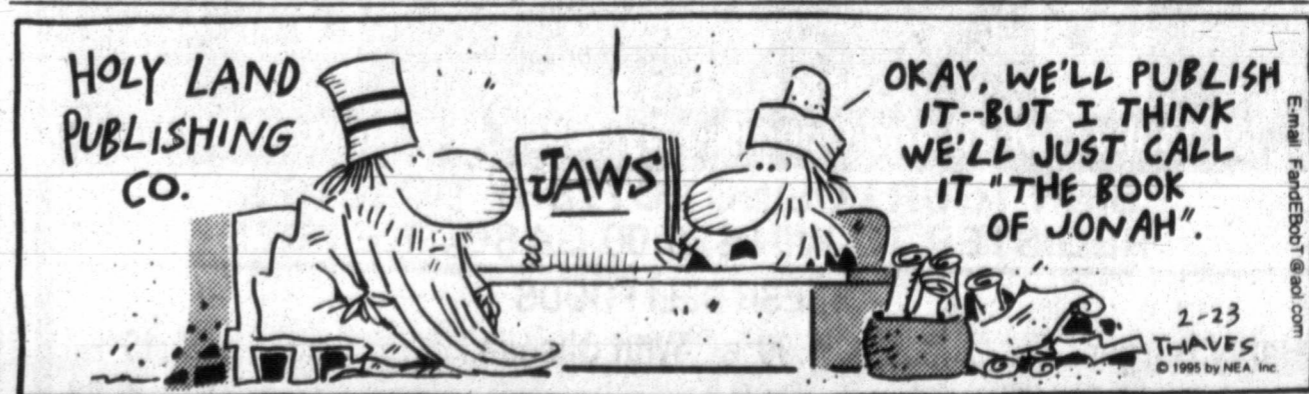
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank and Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope

Friday, Feb. 24, 1995

You may do more traveling in the year ahead. Although your trips might not cover great distances, your experiences and adventures will provide you with a wealth of pleasant memories.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Challenging developments today will arouse more of your strong positive qualities than your negative ones. In fact, they'll make you feel like a winner. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences which are governing you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, NY 10163. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today could

be payback time for a favor you recently did for someone. He/she is in a position to be helpful and will do so if asked.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take notes of an associate's procedures today if they are successful. You might learn something valuable that you can use to your advantage later.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may find less resistance today to the changes you've been wanting to make. Now that the impediments are removed, go into action.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Those whose cooperation you need will be more responsive to your requests if you're willing to help them. Be sure what you do also benefits the other guy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might gain unusually large rewards today from an endeavor to update or transform an important project into something more useful and functional.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) What you cannot accomplish on your own today can be achieved through a dedicated team effort. The secret will be in picking

the right people to back you up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You will need to involve yourself in something truly productive to get a sense of satisfaction today. If you don't, you might feel like you're wasting time.

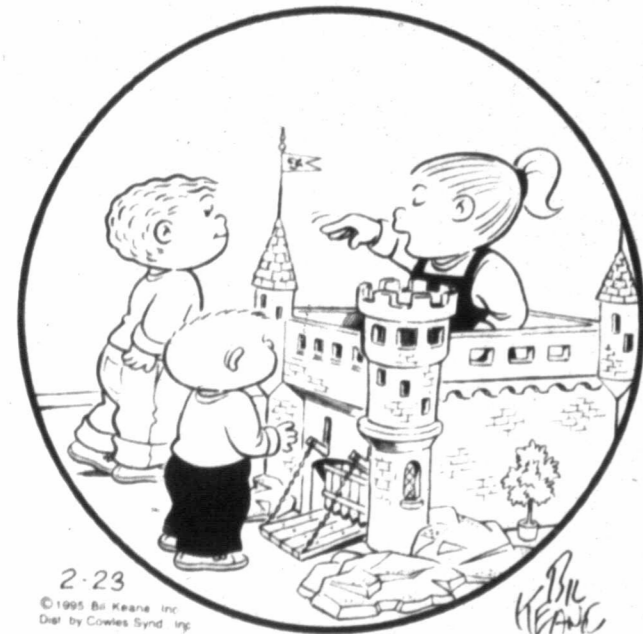
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Participating in activities today unrelated to your routine duties could renew your outlook and attitude. You need a change, so don't feel guilty for having fun.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) It might be necessary to prime the pump a bit to make money today. Do not be afraid to spend a little if you can gain a lot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You need a degree of freedom and independence today, so don't lace yourself into a tight itinerary. Leave ample room for impromptu developments.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) There is a possibility you might be able to collect on an old loan today that you've been ready to write off. There is a lesson in this about patience.

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2-23

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"Begone, peasants."



2-23

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"Would you mind not fogging up the windows with your hot breath?"

The Family Circus



Marmaduke



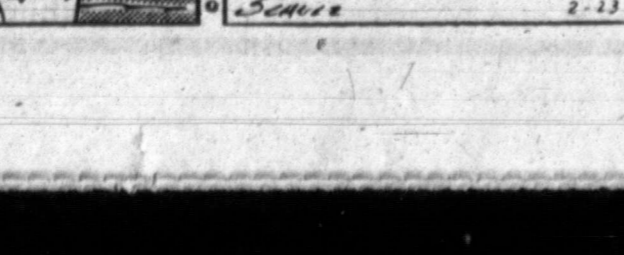
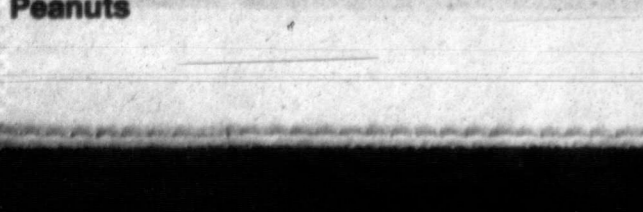
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



Republicans make affirmative action a new 'hot button' issue

By MIKE FEINSILBER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Affirmative action, a bedrock commitment of eight presidential administrations, suddenly is under sharp attack in a Washington dominated by Republicans. The first skirmish shattered the coalition that protected preferential treatment of minorities for decades.

The battle threatens to divide the generation that came of age after most Americans, moved by the mistreatment of blacks, united behind equality programs.

Black and Hispanic lawmakers were able to count on the support of only seven white colleagues in Tuesday night's vote on a program that encourages minority ownership of broadcasting systems. Lawmakers voted 381-44 to scuttle it, 154 Democrats siding with the unanimous Republican opposition.

The concept of affirmative action last came under serious attack in the Reagan administration. According to Ralph Neas, executive director of a coalition of 180 civil rights organizations, Attorney General Edwin Meese III wanted to dismantle such programs but the rest of the Cabinet rallied around them and persuaded President

Reagan that they were vital. Every president from John Kennedy on has taken that view, Neas said.

But evidence is accumulating that the nation is questioning any use of governmental power to give minorities or women an advantage.

California, pacesetter on many social issues, is likely to vote next year on an initiative to ban racial preferences in employment and education. If the issue is on the November 1996 ballot, it could attract a big conservative turnout and undercut President Clinton's chances of carrying California, vital to his re-election strategy.

Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, has pledged that one of his first acts if he is elected will be to issue an executive order abolishing federal affirmative action programs. Other candidates are likely to side with Gramm.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule this summer on the constitutionality of a 13-year-old affirmative action program in which billions of dollars worth of contracts are at stake. The law under challenge pays federal contractors a bonus if 10 percent of subcontracts go to "disadvantaged business enterprises."

The Library of Congress delivered to Capitol Hill a compilation that showed the existence in federal law of 160 preference programs in employment, housing and education. Included were minority-based timetables, goals, set-asides and quota programs.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole requested the compilation two weeks ago, saying he wanted to see if the government discriminates against white men. The report could serve as a hit list for those who argue for a "color blind" federal establishment.

A conservative group, the Institute for Justice, said it would use the list to ask congressional committees to eliminate funding for specific preferences. "The current system fuels racial division but does little to aid the truly disadvantaged," said William Mellor, the group's president.

An as-yet unannounced agenda, drawn up by House Speaker Newt Gingrich for consideration after the GOP's "Contract With America" is acted upon, lists racially based affirmative action laws as a target.

At a news conference Wednesday, Gingrich argued against affirmative action. "It is antithetical to the American dream to measure people by the genes of their great-grandmothers," he said.

At the White House, Clinton spokesman Mike McCurry offered a cautious defense of such programs. He said Clinton's position is that "where there is discrimination there should be affirmative remedies."

But he said the president also believes that what is needed is "a civil conversation on what could be a potentially divisive issue."

Tuesday night's bitter five-hour congressional debate raised the issue in a way that made it especially hard for friends of affirmative action to defend. At question was whether Viacom Inc., a multibillion dollar cable company, should be denied \$400 million in tax breaks, with the money devoted instead to allowing self-employed workers to continue deducting part of the cost of health insurance.

Gingrich pushed that point: "This is not about helping the disadvantaged," he told the House. "This is about simply rigging the game on behalf of one set of millionaires over another."

Still, some drew a racial lesson. Rep. Chaka Fattah, D-Pa., said the vote showed that an internal debate had taken place within the GOP and "has been won by the David Duke faction." Duke, a Louisiana politician, is a former leader of the Ku Klux Klan.

'Brady Bunch' movie opens at top of heap

By JOHN HORN
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The movie version of TV's polyester posse *The Brady Bunch* opened with \$14.8 million to take the top spot at the weekend box office.

Of the other two new releases, Sean Connery's *Just Cause* was second while the camp comedy *Heavyweights* was third.

Forrest Gump, re-released after collecting a leading 13 Oscar nominations, was eighth over the four-day weekend. *Blue Sky*, which earned a best actress nomination for Jessica Lange, did little business after being reintroduced in 39 locations. *Pulp Fiction* was strong in ninth.

Hoop Dreams, snubbed for a documentary Oscar nomination, had one of its best weeks ever, finishing 20th in limited release.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters from Friday through Monday, followed by studio, gross, number of screens, receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled by Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. and Entertainment Data Inc. from actual returns and studio estimates:

- The Brady Bunch Movie*, Paramount, \$14.8 million, 1,822 locations, \$8,138 per location, \$14.8 million, one week.
- Just Cause*, Warner Bros., \$10.6 million, 2,052 locations, \$5,170 per location, \$10.6 million, one week.
- Heavyweights*, Disney, \$6.1 million, 1,953 locations, \$3,104 per location, \$6.1 million, one week.
- Billy Madison*, Universal, \$5.6 million, 1,842 locations, \$3,020 per location, \$13.8 million, two weeks.
- The Quick and the Dead*, TriStar, \$4.2 million, 2,158 locations, \$1,952 per location, \$12.6 million, two weeks.
- Legends of the Fall*, TriStar, \$4 million, 1,941 locations, \$2,064 per location, \$53.9 million, nine weeks.
- Boys on the Side*, Warner Bros., \$3.7 million, 1,552 locations, \$2,399 per location, \$15.9 million, three weeks.
- Forrest Gump*, Paramount, \$3 million, 1,100 locations, \$2,768 per location, \$303.6 million, one week in re-release.
- Pulp Fiction*, Miramax, \$2.9 million, 1,008 locations, \$2,855 per location, \$79.7 million, 19 weeks.
- Nobody's Fool*, Paramount, \$2.5 million, 1,007 locations, \$2,461 per location, \$30.9 million, nine weeks.
- Dumb and Dumber*, New Line, \$2 million, 1,264 locations, \$1,620 per location, \$114.2 million, 10 weeks.
- The Madness of King George*, Goldwyn, \$1.6 million, 251 locations, \$6,333 per location, \$5.1 million, eight weeks.
- Little Women*, Columbia, \$1.13 million, 707 locations, \$1,605 per location, \$46.1 million, nine weeks.
- In the Mouth of Madness*, New Line, \$1.08 million, 878 locations, \$1,237 per location, \$7.9 million, three weeks.
- Quiz Show*, Disney, \$1.02 million, 422 locations, \$2,435 per location, \$23.1 million, 23 weeks.
- The Lion King*, Disney, \$1,007 million, 947 locations, \$1,064 per location, \$311.3 million, 14 weeks in reissue.
- Higher Learning*, Columbia, \$1,002 million, 584 locations, \$1,716 per location, \$36.4 million, six weeks.
- Miami Rhapsody*, Disney, \$723,000, 174 locations, \$4,153 per location, \$3.4 million, four weeks.
- Murder in the First*, Warner Bros., \$713,000, 678 locations, \$1,051 per location, \$16.1 million, five weeks.
- Hoop Dreams*, New Line, \$684,000, 260 locations, \$2,630 per location, \$4.8 million, 19 weeks.



(AP photo)

Corey Richardson, left, and Fredy Portillo struggle as they load bags into the back of a van headed to Denver's Stapleton International Airport from a nearby hotel on Wednesday. Hoteliers near Stapleton are girding for closure of the airport on Feb. 28 when long-delayed Denver International Airport is slated to open its doors to travelers.

Denver airport's baggage system finally ready

DENVER (AP) — The problem-plagued automated baggage system that has twice delayed the opening of Denver's new airport is now working — in a limited area — and will be ready when the facility opens next week, its maker said.

"They'll get their bags and they'll be in one piece," said Gene DiFonso, president of BAE Automated Systems Inc. "We are ready for opening day."

BAE, based in Carrollton, Texas, has spent the past five months correcting glitches in the automated system to serve United Airlines' concourse at Denver International Airport.

The \$232 million automated system is the largest in the world and designed to be the fastest.

When officials flicked the switch on the \$232 million computerized baggage system at Denver International Airport last year, most suitcases were spit out long before

their destination.

It was a different story Tuesday as more than 2,000 cars moved smoothly along overhead rails in the basement of one concourse at the airport, which is to open Monday.

The \$4.9 billion airport was supposed to open in October 1993, but was plagued by delays caused by glitches in the baggage system and charges of shoddy construction and fraud.

For now, the baggage system will serve the United Airlines concourse. An \$61 million conventional system — built on orders from Mayor Wellington Webb — will be used by the 18 other airlines. The city hasn't decided whether to finish installing the system in the concourse where most of the airlines are located.

The computerized baggage system is designed to be the fastest in the world. It should run about 30 bags a minute Monday.

Luggage equipped with a bar-code tag is placed in a rail car. A computer reads the bar code and sends the car to the proper destination. If the laser devices fail to read the bar code on the tag, the computer sends the car to a room where it is manually checked.

BAE began a weeklong test Monday, operating the system as if the airport were open. About 25,000 bags were processed Monday, but no specifics on the delivery rate were available.

On opening day, the system will run about 30 bags a minute for departing United passengers at Concourse B.

BAE plans to extend the system to arriving flights at Concourse B by mid-July and to Concourse A by Aug. 30.

The city hasn't decided whether to finish installing the system on Concourse C, where most of the airlines are located.

Convicted sex offender found hanged in cell

GEORGETOWN, Texas (AP) — A convicted sex offender apparently hanged himself in a curtained-off shower stall in the jail cell he occupied with 12 other inmates — the second hanging in 10 months at the Williamson County Jail.

The body of Gary Michael Smith, 50, of Austin was found early Wednesday by another inmate, said Williamson County Sheriff Ed Richards, who added there is "no chance" the hanging was a homicide.

The case is being investigated by the sheriff's department and the Texas Rangers.

After Smith, an exterminator, was sentenced Feb. 10 to life in prison for sexually assaulting a child while treating her parents' home, his attorney said he told the chief bailiff that Smith was depressed and needed close attention. The chief bailiff said he passed that information

along to jailers at the booking desk. Richards vowed to "get all the facts together." He also said Smith answered "no" to routine booking questions about suicide attempts and mental illness. The booking officer wrote Smith was not suicidal, Richards said.

Last April, 40-year-old Beverly Yvonne Daniels used jail-issued pants to hang herself in a holding cell 15 feet from the jail booking desk. The Anderson Mill woman had been arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and assault of a police officer.

Smith, who was convicted of sexually assaulting a 4-year-old Leander

girl, also had been indicted in Travis County on similar charges involving a 5-year-old girl whose home he was inspecting. That case was set for a March 2 hearing.

Richards said a count is made once an hour "and between 5 (a.m.) and 5:15, everyone was in their beds." Smith's body was discovered shortly before 6 a.m. Officials found no note, Richards said.

Smith apparently made a ligature out of mattress ticking and the drawstring from his laundry bag and placed it over a brace in a shower stall that was curtained off from the rest of the cell, Richards said.

House panel OKs bill to pay N.J. lotto winner

AUSTIN (AP) — A New Jersey man may be one step closer to collecting \$10.4 million he won in a Lotto Texas drawing.

A House committee on Wednesday approved legislation that would direct state lottery officials to pay up.

The Texas Lottery Commission decided last month that Scott Wenner, of Riverside, N.J., couldn't collect his prize because he bought the winning ticket through an unlicensed ticket broker in violation of state law.

Rep. Ron Wilson, whose 1991 legislation established the games of chance, said the commission misinterpreted the law and should allow Wenner to claim his money.

"I think we have a moral obligation to pay Mr. Wenner," said Wilson, D-Houston. "We ought to live up to our word."

Wilson's bill also would allow out-of-state ticket brokers to sell lottery tickets.

The House Licensing and Administrative Procedures Committee approved the bill on a 6-1 vote. Two committee members did not vote.

Austin attorney Dale Johnson, who represents Wenner in a lawsuit filed last month against the Texas Lottery Commission, said he believes Wenner's case could cause a drop in out-of-state ticket sales.

"These individuals who are buying Texas Lottery tickets now seriously question the credibility of the state of Texas," Johnson said.

"There's very little doubt in my mind this is an issue being looked at throughout the United States."

Lottery director Nora Linares said out-of-state sales have not decreased since the commission refused to give Wenner his prize.

"This has nothing to do with people from out of state buying Texas Lottery tickets," she said. "We allow that right now. You must come in and buy them in Texas from a licensed retailer."

"What this whole lawsuit is about is that you've got an entity ... that is not licensed by the state of Texas selling the ticket."

Wenner, a 37-year-old police officer, correctly picked the six winning numbers in the Nov. 23 Lotto Texas drawing. He purchased his \$1 ticket for \$2 from Pic-A-State, a Lakewood, N.J., ticket broker.

Ms. Linares said that in order for out-of-state brokers to be allowed to sell tickets, other provisions of the lottery law would have to be changed, such as one prohibiting retailers from charging more for a ticket than face value.

In addition, Ms. Linares said, federal law requires reciprocal agreements — between states that want to sell lottery tickets in other states.

Wilson said allowing out-of-state brokers to sell tickets would be a boost to the state's economy.

"It'll increase sales and allow us to have more money for education ... and the things we provide to the citizens of our state," he said.

Relief convoy makes it through bottleneck but more is needed

By LIAM McDOWALL
Associated Press Writer

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — With only three relief convoys allowed into northwest Bosnia so far this month, food supplies are giving out and aid officials report seeing "seriously undernourished, even emaciated" people.

Hospitals are overflowing, and patients are lucky to get one meal a day, they said. The area, with a population of 180,000, has been without regular supplies since May.

A 99-ton U.N. shipment, transported by truck across Bosnia's war zone, reached government-controlled territory in the so-called Bihac pocket Wednesday, and U.N. officials hoped for permission to get another convoy into the area today.

Another U.N. convoy was held up in Velika Kladusa, the stronghold of renegade Muslim leader Fikret Abdic, and a smaller Red Cross convoy was also en route.

Six convoys made it in January, and three so far in February. But much more is required, aid workers said.

"We need regular convoys, five days a week, to meet the needs of the people there," said Alekma Lisinski,

a spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

Doctors at the Bihac hospital had requested more food so that patients could be fed at least twice a day, she said. "But with the limited number of convoys coming into the pocket, we simply cannot meet this request."

The food from Wednesday's convoy will be distributed to hospitals and public kitchens, said Karen AbuZayd, UNHCR chief of mission in Bosnia. There is not enough to give to individuals.

The 10 trucks had taken three days to complete a 45-mile journey, said Kris Janowski, a UNHCR spokesman in Sarajevo. They had first sought entry through territory controlled by Croatian Serbs, and then through land held by Abdic.

Local officials delayed the convoy, refusing to honor documents guaranteeing free passage.

For the first time, UNHCR staff in the Bihac region were reporting "adults who are seriously undernourished, even emaciated," AbuZayd said. The Bihac pocket, including a U.N.-declared "safe area," has been engulfed in combat since last summer.

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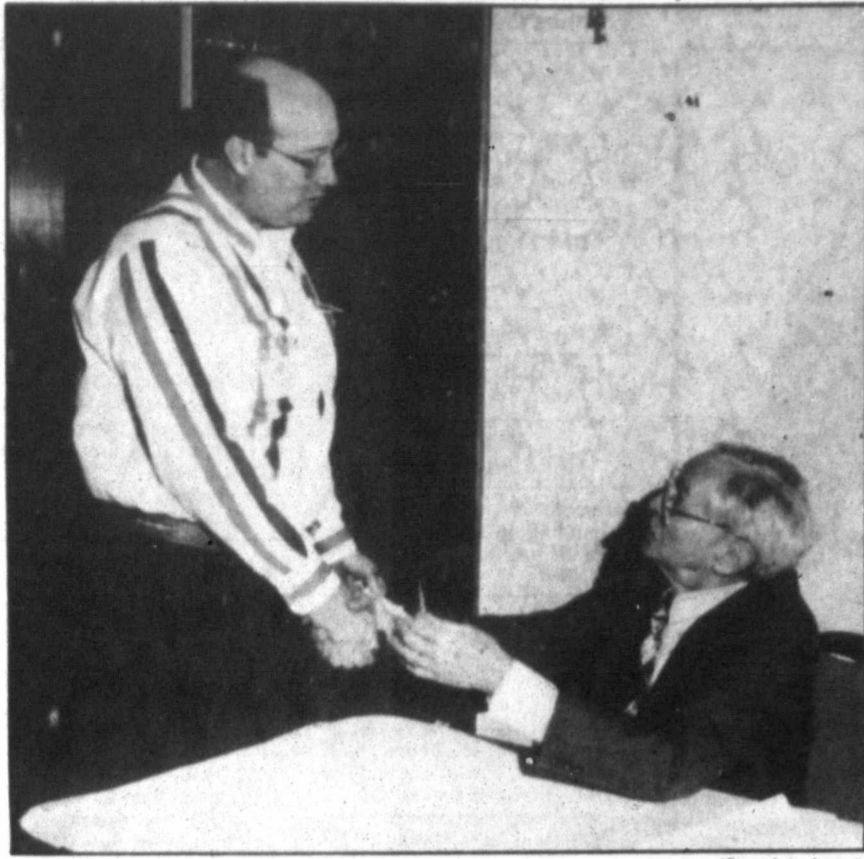
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(Special photo)

Pampa school board member Jim Baker, left, visits with Arch Lustberg, president of Arch Lustberg Communications, at a leadership development meeting in Houston sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards.

Jim Baker participates in TASB leadership development course

Pampa Independent School District trustee Jimmie C. Baker was among 36 school board members from across Texas meeting in Houston recently to discuss their role in achieving equity and excellence for their local school districts.

The trustees were in Houston Feb. 10-11 for the third of five training sessions as part of the Texas Association of School Boards' (TASB) leadership development program, Leadership TASB.

The Leadership TASB session included presentations by Phillip C. Schlechty, president of the Center for Leadership in School Reform; Arch Lustberg, president of Arch Lustberg Communications; and Randy Pennington, an expert in workplace, leadership and integrity issues.

Participants also toured two Aldine ISD schools. Worsham Elementary provided participants with a chance to learn about a variety of programs, including Step-Up, Project Success Enrichment, and Writing-To-Read. At Carver Contemporary High School, Leadership TASB participants learned about an advanced visual arts program that offers a career awareness and college preparatory course of study in the visual arts.

Participants also worked on team projects, which are part of the program's completion requirements for master trustee status. Working in teams, Leadership TASB participants tackle issues that confront districts of all sizes across the state.

Baker was selected in September 1994 to participate in the 1994-95 Leadership TASB program, which is open to all Texas school board members who have fulfilled 30 hours of certified board member training. The year-long curriculum consists of five training sessions that provide participants knowledge on critical education topics.

The sessions also enhance participants' leadership capacity by offering opportunities to meet with and learn from key education leaders and teach board members team building and decision making skills.

TASB is a voluntary, nonprofit association established 45 years ago to serve local Texas school districts. It includes 1,049 school districts and county school boards, 42 junior colleges, 53 tax appraisal districts, 57 cooperatives and 20 education service centers.

School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent have a combined annual budget of \$18 billion and employ more than 400,000 people.

Health coverage denied by football team's insurance carrier

DALLAS (AP) — The wife of a former Dallas Cowboys assistant was denied coverage by the team's insurance for breast surgery and other implant complications and he later lost his job over the ordeal, the family contends.

Jacklyn Grosso said Wednesday that she and husband, Carmen Grosso, now face thousands of dollars in bills and have been forced to sell their house and begin moving back to Florida because of additional surgery and other trouble.

With medical bills now totaling up to \$80,000, Mrs. Grosso has retained attorneys in an effort to force the Cowboys' insurance carrier to reconsider.

The couple contends that Cowboys owner Jerry Jones refused to help them with expenses or retain

Grosso through his wife's July surgery. Grosso was an assistant in player personnel until the Cowboys fired him last year.

"I was in the hospital and he (Jones) told Carmen he would have to let him go," Mrs. Grosso said. "My husband asked for a couple more weeks so he could last through this ordeal, but he was terminated."

A Cowboys spokesman said it was unfortunate that insurance did not cover Mrs. Grosso's claims for complications associated with the implants and that the team didn't retain her husband, who was hired by former coach Jimmy Johnson.

"Whenever there is a coaching change, these things can happen," Rich Dalrymple said from Cowboys headquarters in Irving. "I wouldn't think it would have anything to do

with a question involving health benefits."

Dalrymple called Mrs. Grosso's problems "a terrible shame."

She says the Cowboys could have done more.

"It is a situation where when you are in the Cowboys, Mr. Jones can go ahead and handle problems," she said. "Even when the insurance company is balking, if you can get Mr. Jones to OK it, it's not a problem."

"My husband went to Jerry Jones several times but was denied," Mrs. Grosso said.

She and her husband said, "All we ever heard is 'look at page 32'" for the claimed insurance exclusion because of what was termed a pre-existing condition and cosmetic surgery.

Since implants were removed in

mid-July, she had a hip replacement in January and has developed lupus and other complications she contends resulted from the surgery and inadequate treatment.

Doctors and officials with the insurance carrier, Irving-based Producers Exchange Benefit Services Inc., did not immediately return telephone calls from The Associated Press.

Sue Brown of Lewisville, with the North Texas Breast Implant Network, said Mrs. Grosso's troubles are an example of what thousands of women face.

"So many people believe that breast implant women are not ill or that we are all billionaires already," Ms. Brown said. "In reality, there are women going through living hell, such as this situation."

Infant dies as police attempt to chase down kidnappers

LANCASTER, Calif. (AP) — A group of men took a man's 7-month-old daughter as collateral because he couldn't give them money and led police on a chase before their car hit a tree and burst into flames, killing the baby.

The father, Robert Lewis Davis, told sheriff's deputies that he was on his way to a store near Los Angeles on Tuesday night when six men made him stop his car. Davis apparently knew the men, authorities said.

The men claimed Davis owed

them money; Davis said he didn't. They threw a towel over his head, beat him with the butt of a pistol and forced him at gunpoint to drive to his old house, then the home of his girlfriend, Sonja Spencer.

Four of the men went inside and held a knife and gun to her, but she couldn't give them any money, either. They threatened the couple and took the couple's baby, Jainah Alexis Spencer, from Spencer's house.

"They wanted to take me first, and

then the one with the gun said, 'No, take the baby,'" Spencer said Wednesday.

Davis suggested they drive more than 100 miles north to Lancaster to his mother's house for money.

Two of the men accompanied Davis in his car; four others followed with the baby. In Lancaster, the men took \$200 in cash from Davis' mother, Esther May Thompson, Davis said.

A relative dialed 911 and four of the men fled with the baby when

they saw a sheriff's car approaching, authorities said. The other two stayed at the mother's house and eventually fled. They haven't been found.

After a six minute chase by several patrol cars, the car spun out of control and smashed into a tree, bursting into flames, said sheriff's Lt. Ray Peavy. Deputies pulled two men and the baby from the wreckage; two other men crawled out.

Jainah died early Wednesday at a hospital.

U.S. Postal Service seeks higher level of customer service

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP Business Writer

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Its offices have clean, well-lighted lobbies, stamps of all sorts in easy reach, gleaming rows of accessible postal boxes and friendly clerks greeting customers at the door. Is this the same U.S. Postal Service caught last year with mounds of decades old mail in Chicago and stacks of undelivered letters hidden in trailers around Washington, D.C.?

Not quite. Trying change the image caricatured to great success by Cliff Clavin in TV's *Cheers* the postal service is giving itself a nationwide makeover to make its mailrooms more convenient and competitive with private shippers.

It has converted the lobbies of 70 sites into "Postal Stores" that resemble the one-stop outlets of such rivals as Mail Boxes Etc.

Over the next five years, about 7,500 of the largest post offices will get a face lift, too.

"There's a lot of other places for people to go to handle their mailing," said Ron Pughakoff, who

manages a post office in Buffalo with a Postal Store. "We have to market ourselves like any other business."

Besides commemorative stamps of all designs and denominations, the stores peddle padded envelopes, address labels, boxes, bubble-wrap and other mailing goods.

"Somebody comes in, they buy a carton right there, package whatever they're mailing right there and send it on its way," said Vic Laudisio, a spokesman for the postal service in Buffalo. "It's the same one-on-one service that retailers have been doing for years."

The Postal Store in Buffalo, which opened last month, is part of a new \$3.16 million post office that replaced the old downtown facility, a dreary place in a crowded federal courthouse with long lines and bars on the clerks' windows.

The new facility is roomy and brightly lit, with racks of stamps and other shipping goods lining the walls.

"It's a novel concept for the post office," said postal clerk John Cromwell, who was greeting

customers at the door last week. "You have to do it to keep up with the Joneses."

Customers were surveyed to determine how to design the new facilities, said Nancy Wood, who heads the postal service's retail store program. "The customers felt like we were too institutional in our lobbies," she said.

The postal service has been carrying out yearly training for clerks to improve customer relations. It is installing more stamp vending machines, testing a service where postal workers wrap consumers' packages themselves, starting to accept credit-card payments and setting up retail shops at Kmart in California and Michigan.

"The concept they're dealing with, making themselves more consumer-friendly and understanding customers' needs, is exactly the right concept," said Jim Jellison, executive vice president of the Parcel Shippers Association, a trade group.

Presenting a customer-friendly front is one of several approaches the post office is taking to soften the image of a mailroom staffed with disgruntled postal workers.

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