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WEDNESDAY

THE PAMPA NEWS

PAMPA, TEXAS

JANUARY 11, 1995

50c DAILY/SUNDAY \$1

Good Evening!

LOCAL

March 28 has been designated Panhandle Day in Austin.

The day is designed to give area residents a chance to meet with members of the Panhandle delegation to the Texas Legislature.

Chambers of Commerce in each Panhandle town are asking residents who want to go to Austin for the festivities on March 28 to make reservations with their local chambers.

An exact count is necessary in order to determine if a second airplane needs to be reserved, said Nanette Moore, executive vice president of the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce.

Following the day's meetings with legislators and officials from state agencies, members of the Panhandle delegation will host a rib and brisket cook-off featuring cooks from the Panhandle.

The cost of the trip will be \$260 to \$290 per person.

Pampa residents wanting to make reservations can call the Chamber of Commerce at 669-3241.

PAMPA — The board of trustees of the Pampa Independent School District will meet in special session Saturday for a superintendent/board evaluation workshop. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday in the board conference room at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the school board will be on Jan. 19.

NATIONAL

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— An agitated moose, taunted and harassed for hours by students as it roamed the University of Alaska campus with its calf, trampled a 71-year-old man to death.

The moose charged Myong Chin Ra as he tried to slip inside the gymnasium, said campus police Officer Jim Milne. Ra fell as he tried to run away.

"She'd get on her front legs and kick with her back legs," said student Shane Harvey. "He probably got stomped about a dozen times."

People had been throwing snowballs, yelling, whistling and shouting at the moose and calf for hours, and the animals were agitated when Ra arrived Monday and tried to walk past them, witnesses said.

Police stayed with the moose and calf until they left campus several hours later.

The university is in a heavily wooded area favored by moose, but attacks are rare. The last fatal moose attack in the Anchorage area was in 1993, when a woman was trampled in her yard.

NEW YORK (AP) — Eat, drink, and be merry when you visit Big Apple restaurants, baseball stadiums and zoos — but don't smoke.

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani signed legislation Tuesday that cracks down on lighting up in virtually all public places, including outdoor sports stadiums and most restaurants.

"Thousands and thousands of lives have been destroyed," Giuliani said. "The fact that tobacco smoke is poisonous is clear."

The new law, effective April 10, bans smoking in dining areas of all restaurants seating more than 35 people. Smoking is permitted in bar areas and enclosed lounges, and bars without dining areas.

Smoking also is banned in the seats at such outdoor arenas as Shea and Yankee stadiums, zoos, bingo parlors and the playing areas of bowling alleys.

Jury convicts man of sexual assault on his granddaughter

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

A jury was deliberating punishment at press time today for a man found guilty of sexual assault on Tuesday.

The 11-man, one-woman jury deliberated in District Court just over two hours before finding 63-year-old Ramon Valdez guilty of assaulting his 13-year-old granddaughter in 1991.

The verdict was returned about 5:15 p.m. Tuesday and jurors returned today to assess punishment. Valdez was held overnight in Gray County jail.

"I feel that he should be punished because I've been punished for something I didn't even do," said

victim Jane Doe.

"Even though he's found guilty I will always love him because he's my grandfather," she said.

Doe, 17, testified Monday her grandfather sodomized her three or four times until she was 13 years old. The abuse began with episodes of fondling at about age 8, she said.

Doe, her sister and brother came to live with Ramon and Hermelinda Valdez in their Pampa home when Doe was about three.

On Tuesday afternoon, jurors heard defense testimony from Valdez family friends who said they do not believe Valdez harmed Doe. They said Doe is devious and a liar. Lulie Valdes, live-in girlfriend of Doe's uncle, Clemente Valdez, said Doe never told her Mr.

Valdez bothered her.

"I would have done something about it. I have kids myself," the Amarillo woman said.

Today Amarillo defense attorney C.R. Daffern asked jurors to assess probation for Mr. Valdez.

Sexual assault is a second degree felony with a range of punishment of two to 20 years in prison and/or a fine not to exceed \$10,000. Jurors have the option of assessing probation.

Tuesday, jurors heard testimony from Doe's uncle Humberto Valdez, who told them he is on probation for sexual assault on Doe. Court records show Humberto Valdez pleaded guilty to sexual assault Feb. 4, 1993 for the offense which occurred Sept. 15, 1989.

Jeffrey McCormick appointed city commissioner for Ward 1 position

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

An 18-year-long Pampa resident was appointed Tuesday as commissioner of Ward 1, filling the vacancy created when the former officeholder was appointed mayor in November.

Jeffrey McCormick Sr., 39, 1129 Sandlewood, takes over the north-west Pampa commission post replacing Ray Hupp, who was appointed mayor when former mayor Richard Peet won the county judge's spot in the Nov. 8 election.

McCormick works for Cabot Carbon Black as a mechanical foreman. He is married to Sharon McCormick and is the father of three boys. The McCormicks have served as foster parents to more than 50

children, McCormick said.

He is a choir member and a Sunday School and Royal Ambassadors teacher at Central Baptist Church.

"I wanted to make a difference. I wanted to help, that's a better word," McCormick said after his appointment.

He plans to run for a four-year term in the May election.

Three other men presented themselves as volunteers for the unpaid commissioner's job. They were Ray Boring, 1936 Lynn; Bill Willingham, 1913 N. Zimmers; and Jim Lummus, 1433 N. Zimmers.

In other action Tuesday, commissioners:

• Accepted low bid on three police cars. The police package vehicles are to be purchased from Harned

Chevrolet, Borger, for \$48,454.02.

• Designated Grand Coronado Inn as a city historic landmark.

• Agreed to modify speed limits on Hobart Street.

• Accepted a \$20,100 bid from Willis Welding for sanitation collection bin repair.

• Authorized City Manager Bob Eskridge to sign an agreement with the Panhandle Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force to run June 1 to May 31, 1996.

• Appointed Faustina Curry as ex officio member of the 1995 Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

In work session, commissioners heard a proposal to modify landfill hours and reinstate the practice of monthly alley cleanup on a ward-by-ward basis.



(Pampa News photo by Melinda Martinez)

Amber Crosswhite, a freshman flute player, looked cold but proud as she and other members of the Pampa High School Band practiced today for their march up Congress Avenue in Austin during George W. Bush's inauguration parade next Tuesday.

Harvester Band to march at inauguration in Austin

By BEN KECK
Assistant Editor

The Pampa High School Band has been invited to March in Gov. Elect George W. Bush's inaugural parade Tuesday in Austin.

"We're all excited. I didn't think it was true when I first heard it," said Amber Crosswhite, a freshman flute player.

Amber said she's "not political at all," but relishes the idea of a trip to Austin and the experience it will be for the entire 80-member band.

But Jamie Kochick, a sophomore who also plays flute, is political. "And I'm excited because I'll get to see George W. Bush," Jamie said. "I really like him and I agree with his policies."

Band Director Bruce Collins said he got a call from Bush's inaugural parade committee Monday.

"They asked why we hadn't sent any forms, and I told them we hadn't gotten any forms to send," Collins said. "I had to check with (school administration) so I waited until

Tuesday to announce it."

Collins last year had asked State Rep. Warren Chisum, D-Pampa, if he could help get the band an invitation to the 1995 gubernatorial inauguration.

"It's kind of short notice, but we're all really thrilled," Collins said.

Band members will leave Pampa by bus at 7 a.m. Sunday.

"We'll take Monday to tour the capital," Collins said.

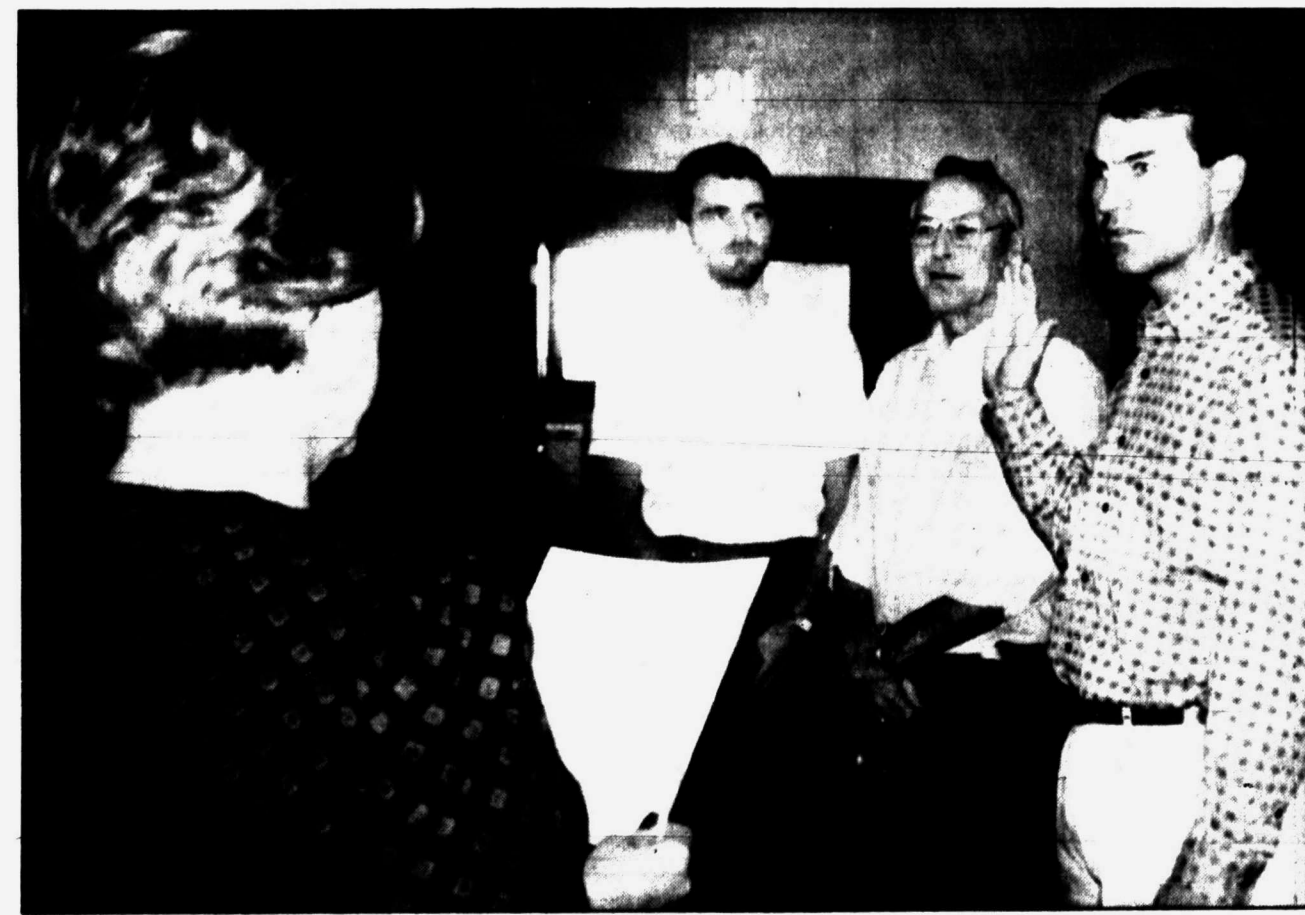
The parade Tuesday up Congress Avenue in Austin will follow Bush's noon swearing-in ceremony.

Collins said the band will start back to Pampa shortly after the parade and will arrive home early Wednesday morning.

Between now and the time they leave Sunday, band members will get in a lot of marching practice, Collins said.

"They were out on the field this morning, shivering in the windy 40-degree temperature."

Shivering, but looking pretty proud of themselves.



(Pampa News photo by Melinda Martinez)

Jeff McCormick, at right, takes the oath of office for city commissioner Ward 1 from City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers Wednesday morning. City commissioner Jeff Andrews and Mayor Ray Hupp stand with him.

Handoff to U.N. in Haiti set for March

WASHINGTON (AP) — The military intervention in Haiti has gone even more smoothly than anticipated, and U.S. troops will transfer authority to a United Nations force by mid-March, Clinton administration officials say.

But there will be so much overlap between the two forces that it won't be easy to tell the difference once the handoff takes place, the officials say.

"The whole object is to make this a seamless transition," one official said Tuesday. "We want to make it a non-event."

At the height of the intervention last fall, there were 21,000 U.S. soldiers in Haiti, and about 6,000 remain in the 8,000-member multinational force.

The U.N. force will consist of about 6,000 troops, with Americans comprising slightly less than half. It will be commanded by an American, Army Lt. Gen. Daniel R. Schroeder, who headed the U.S.-led Rwandan relief mission last year. The main objective of the U.N. force

will be to maintain a stable environment so that democracy in Haiti has a chance to take root.

The success of the U.S. intervention in Haiti has exceeded the most optimistic expectations of American officials. There have been no American combat fatalities, the security situation has undergone a dramatic improvement since the departure of Haiti's military leadership and criticism in Congress has been muted.

At the outset, officials were worried about the capacity of the multinational force to establish a secure environment and whether U.N. officials would agree to an early handoff date.

But officials say the talks with the United Nations have gone smoothly, and an official announcement of the transfer date is expected within days. There was far more disagreement two years ago when the United States turned over peacekeeping responsibility in Somalia to the United Nations.

Israel attacks guerrilla targets

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (AP) — Israel called in warplanes, tanks and artillery today to retaliate against guerrilla raids. Four guerrillas were killed, and two Israeli soldiers and three Lebanese were wounded, security sources said.

The Israeli air raid was the second in two days.

An Israeli army statement said Israeli aircraft attacked Hezbollah guerrilla targets in the Jabal Safi area in southern Lebanon and that all planes returned to base.

The air raid came shortly after guerrillas ambushed an Israeli patrol in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon. The guerrillas fired grenades at the patrol and a firefight ensued, the security sources said.

Israeli ground reinforcements chased the attackers and killed four of them in a two-hour gunbattle, the sources said.

Radical Palestinian factions opposed to peace with Israel claimed responsibility for the ambush near the village of Beit Yahoun.

A joint statement issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed six Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded. But the security sources said they could confirm only two wounded.

Minutes after the ambush, guerrillas rained grenades and machine-gun fire on hilltop outposts of the Israeli army and its surrogate militia, the South Lebanon Army, at Ali Taher.

There was no claim of responsibility for that attack, but Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas are known to operate in that area. The Shiite Muslim Hezbollah leads a guerrilla campaign to evict Israel from the occupied border enclave it set up in 1985 to curb cross-border attacks.

Israeli and militia gunners retaliated for the Ali Taher attack with artillery barrages on suspected guerrilla hideouts. Shells crashed in several towns near the market town of Nabatiyeh, wounding two civilians and a Lebanese army sergeant.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

NEWBERRY, Jessie Davis - 10:30 a.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

REED, Carl Gene - 10 a.m., Rose Chapel Funeral Home, Sayre, Okla.

WEATHERFORD, James Edward 'Jim' - Graveside, 10 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

Obituaries

EARL A. GROVES

Earl A. Groves, 69, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1995. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with the Rev. M.B. Smith, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, and the Rev. John Lynn Hollis, a Baptist minister from Gamesville, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Groves was born Oct. 9, 1925 at Attica, Kan. He had lived in Pampa since 1969. He married Carolyn J. Harvey on June 11, 1986 in Sayre, Okla. He served in the U.S. Merchant Marines from 1943-49 and in the U.S. Army from 1954-56. He worked for Cities Service Gas Co. and the Williams Company for more than 37 years before retiring. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Chanute, Kan.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Austin Roy Groves, in 1988.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn, of the home; a stepdaughter, Sherrie L. Slayton of Amarillo; two stepsons, Gary Willoughby of Pampa and Larry Willoughby of California; a sister, Maurine McCellan of Wichita, Kan.; an aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Dorcil Rickard of Los Alamos, N.M.; a niece and nephew, Staff Sgts. Joe and Tammy Carrillo of Okinawa, Japan; and four stepgrandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to the Hospice of the Panhandle.

JESSIE DAVIS NEWBERRY

Jessie Davis Newberry, 81, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1995. Services will be at 4:30 a.m. Thursday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with the Rev. Kenneth Metzger, pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Newberry was born April 26, 1913 in Howe, Texas. She came to Pampa in 1946 from Fort Worth. She married George H. Newberry on July 3, 1936 in Dallas. He died May 25, 1991.

She attended school in Sherman and Dallas and received her degree in nursing from the Baylor University Hospital School of Nursing in 1936. She was a registered nurse and worked as a nursing supervisor at the old Highland General Hospital in Pampa for 16 years. She was active in the American Heart Association and was one of the first CPR instructors in Pampa. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Winsome Sunday School Class, the Pampa Fine Arts Association, the Pampa Art Club and the National Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Survivors include a son, Dr. Richard Newberry of San Antonio; two sisters, Lou Pitts of Bellaire, Texas, and Opal Davis of Pampa; and two grandchildren, Joy Newberry and Scott Newberry, both of San Antonio.

The family requests memorials be to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association.

CARL GENE REED

WHEELER - Carl Gene Reed, 35, died Monday, Jan. 9, 1995 in a traffic accident west of Sayre, Okla. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Rose Chapel Funeral Home at Sayre, with Jimmy Dean officiating. Burial will be in Buffalo Cemetery near Sweetwater, Okla., under the direction of Fatheree-Albert Funeral Home of Erick, Okla.

Mr. Reed was born in Erick and grew up in the Sweetwater area. He attended school in Sweetwater. Wheeler and Kelton before graduating in 1978 from Elk City (Okla.) High School. He worked as a mechanic for Al Reed Diesel Service in Elk City. He married Paula Jane Burrows in 1987 at Wheeler.

Survivors include his wife, Paula, of the home; a son, Joseph Blane Reed of McAlester, Okla.; three stepdaughters, Brandy, Kristina and Melanie, all of Hugoton, Kan.; a stepson, T.R. of Hugoton; his parents, L.G. and Ann Reed of Wheeler; a sister, LaVonda Sue Bolton of Augusta, Ga.; and his paternal grandmother, Pearl Reed of Elk City.

JAMES EDWARD 'JIM' WEATHERFORD

James Edward "Jim" Weatherford, 71, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1995. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Fairview Cemetery, with the Rev. Jim Glover, associate pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Weatherford was born May 12, 1923 in Danville, Va. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and was a member of Pampa Masonic Lodge AF&AM. He was a longtime resident of Pampa and had worked for Celanese Corp. from Aug. 3, 1953 until his retirement on March 1, 1986.

Survivors include a son, Terry Weatherford of San Pedro, Calif.; two daughters, Judy Weatherford of Dallas and Sandra Lamros of Indianapolis, Ind.; five brothers, John C. Weatherford, Doctor Duff Weatherford Jr. and William Russell Weatherford, all of Danville, George Weatherford of Thornburg, Va., and Garnett Weatherford of Alexandria, Va.; five sisters, Thelma Snead, Lillian Snead, Mary Walker, Helen Barksdale and Betty Jean Atkinson, all of Danville; and a granddaughter, Shauna Lynne Gray of Pampa.

Emergency numbers

Ambulance.....911
 Crime Stoppers.....669-2222
 Fire.....911
 Police (emergency).....911
 Police (non-emergency).....669-5700

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, Jan. 10

Nolene L. Hawk, 1019 E. Browning, reported criminal mischief.

Andrew Lee Crawford, 1016 Prairie Dr., reported unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Sharon Linn Gowin, of the Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, reported hit and run at 909 E. Fisher.

Valarie Ann Abney, 1005 N. Somerville, reported theft, \$20 to \$500.

Domestic disturbance was reported in the 700 block of Deane.

Pam Arntzen, of Chicken Express, 2201 Perryton Parkway, reported forgery.

Assault-domestic violence was reported in the 1100 block of Vernon Drive.

Sgt. Kenneth Hopson reported violation of narcotic drug law in the 300 block of N. Faulkner.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 11

Domestic disturbance-assault was reported in the 400 block of Crest.

Arrests

TUESDAY, Jan. 10

Patrick L. Herr, 30, 2117 Lynn, was arrested at Alcock and Faulkner on three warrants.

Sheriff's Office

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents and arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, Jan. 10

Connie Keller, 408 N. Starkweather No. 4, reported simple assault five miles west of Pampa on Texas 152.

Agency assistance was rendered to Borger Police Department at Gray Roads 3 and G.

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported possession of marijuana under two ounces at Brown and Somerville.

Arrests

TUESDAY, Jan. 10

Ramon Tavaraz Valdez, 63, Amarillo, was arrested following conviction of sexual assault.

Christopher Leo Keller, 19, 408 N. Starkweather, was arrested on a charge of assault by threat. He was released to pay later.

Philip D. Looney, 18, Borger, was arrested on charges of speeding and failure to appear. He paid fines and was released.

Calendar of events

VFW DOMINO DAY

VFW Domino Day is set for 1-5 p.m. Thursday at the Post Home, Borger Highway. Free coffee, bring your own dominos. No alcohol permitted.

SOUP UP DREARY SATURDAYS

SUDS enrichment classes, open to all area students grades kindergarten through eight, are scheduled to meet 9-10:30 a.m. and 10:45 to 12:15 a.m. Jan. 14 and 21 at Pampa Middle School. For information and enrollment, call Fran Stellman, 669-9662, or Ron Wichert, 665-4941. Pre-enrollment is required for attendance.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

The Texas Department of Health Immunization Clinic will be offering vaccines that give protection against polio, diphtheria, tetanus (lock jaw), pertussis (whooping cough), measles, rubella and mumps. The clinic is located in the Texas Department of Health office, 600 W. Kentucky, and will be open Thursday, 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m. The fee is based on family income and size, and the ability to pay.

Hospital

CORONADO HOSPITAL (care)
 Admissions - Pampa
 Barbara Fisher
 Michelle Shelton
 Birth
 To Mr. and Mrs. Emery Shelton of Pampa, a girl.
 Dismissals
 Pampa
 Blas Arezola (extended care)
 Elsie Hall (extended care)
Lefors SHAMROCK HOSPITAL
 Admissions - Shamrock
 Ollie McPherson
 Esther Stowe
McLean
 Pearl Gollighugh
 Dismissals
 There were no dismissals reported.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Wheeler-Evans of Pampa

Wheat	3.43	
Milo	3.76	
Corn	4.23	

The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation:

NOWSCO	10	dn 1/2
Occidental	19 5/8	NC

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:

Magellan	68.03	
Puritan	14.78	

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa

Amoco	58 1/4	dn 5/8
Arco	102 1/8	NC
Cabot	30 1/2	up 1/4
Cabot O&G	13 1/2	dn 1/8

Chevron	44 5/8	up 3/8
Coca-Cola	49 1/8	NC
Diamond Sham	24 1/2	dn 1/8
Enron	29 1/8	dn 1/8
Halliburton	34 3/8	dn 1/8
HealthTrust Inc.	33 5/8	up 1/2
Ingersoll Rand	32 5/8	up 1/4
KNE	23 1/4	NC
Kerr McGee	44 3/4	NC
Limited	17 7/8	NC
Mappco	52 3/8	NC
Maxus	3 1/4	up 1/8
McDonald's	29 1/4	up 1/8
Mobil	85	NC
New Atmos	16 3/4	NC
Parker & Parsley	18 7/8	dn 1/4
Pennsey's	42 3/8	dn 1/4
Phillips	30 5/8	dn 1/2
SLB	50 3/8	dn 1/2
SPS	27	up 1/4
Tenneco	43 1/8	up 3/8
Texaco	61	up 1/8
Wal-Mart	21 3/4	up 1/4
New York Gold	375.60	
Silver	4.65	

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, Jan. 10

1:39 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to a report of a smoke scare at 1425 Alcock.

3:40 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a fire in a trash dumpster at 500 N. Sumner.

6:31 p.m. - Two units and four firefighters responded to a medical assistance call at 717 Deane.

Democrats take tax offensive

WASHINGTON (AP) - A new Democratic tax proposal, some snags in the debate over a balanced budget constitutional amendment, and presto, Republicans are learning it won't be easy to reshape the government to their liking.

The GOP was continuing its drive for new budgetary priorities at a hearing today of the House Ways and Means Committee. A week after the Republican-dominated 104th Congress was sworn in, the committee was examining the House GOP's "Contract With America," its menu of promised tax and spending cuts.

No one thinks the Republicans are on the verge of being stymied in what's likely to be a yearlong effort to achieve their agenda. But Tuesday, Democrats managed to take center stage.

Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., who has already offered a package of middle-class tax cuts, proposed to junk the current income tax system and replace it with a flat, 10 or 11 percent tax for most Americans.

"I think the American people are fed up with a tax system that drives them crazy," Gephardt told the Ways and Means Committee. "I think we ought let people make their own decisions about how they spend their money."

The idea is not a new one, and it's been championed by members of both parties before. Its most recent advocate is Majority Leader Richard Arney, R-Texas, though his version would exempt from taxation unearned income collected mostly by the well-to-do, such as interest, dividends and capital gains.

"If the minority leader's statement is not just political posturing, Congress can respond in a bipartisan manner to the public demand for a simpler, flatter, more fair tax code," Arney said.

Gephardt said that under his plan, to be unveiled next month, four-fifths of the nation's taxpayers would pay 10 percent or 11 percent of earned and unearned income. Wealthier taxpayers would pay one or two higher rates, which he did not disclose.

At the same hearing, the Clinton administration fired anew at the Republicans' promised tax cuts for families, businesses and investors, saying half of the benefits would flow to families earning over \$100,000.

"The most well-off in America - the richest Americans - get half the benefits of the tax cuts contained in the contract," said Leslie Samuels, assistant treasury secretary for tax policy. "That doesn't meet the fairness test."

Also on Tuesday, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan told lawmakers the current system of measuring the inflation rate may be overstating the growth of the cost of living by 0.5 percent to 1.5 percent per year.

Because many taxes and benefit programs such as Social Security are adjusted annually to reflect higher inflation, revising the price index downward by one percentage point a year could save a cumulative \$150 billion over the next five years, he said.

Across the Capitol, the Senate Judiciary Committee postponed for one week its planned debate over the proposed constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget. Panel Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said he planned the delay to give Democrats time to prepare amendments, including language that Social Security funds not be used to reduce federal deficits.

But the action followed a similar one-week postponement by the House Judiciary Committee, creating an impression of slowed momentum.

At the same time, House GOP leaders were facing a rebellion by about 20 moderate Republicans, votes balanced-budget supporters will need to push the amendment through the chamber.

Ag Department says fresh can't mean frozen

WASHINGTON (AP) - Saying consumers should not be misled, the Agriculture Department wants to change the definition of fresh chicken and turkeys to exclude any birds chilled below 26 degrees.

Instead, the chicken would have to be labeled as "previously frozen." At the same time, the department said the impact on the poultry industry would be minimal and some producers of fresh birds could profit.

The proposal would reverse a policy of letting birds that have been frozen to an internal temperature of nearly zero be considered fresh. The department took a new look at the rules last year following a consumer

outray and a failed attempt by California to rewrite the rules.

Although water freezes at 32 degrees, chickens and turkeys start freezing at about 28 degrees because of naturally occurring minerals and other substances in the animals.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service "is proposing such action to ensure that poultry products distributed to consumers are not labeled in a false or misleading manner," the proposed rule says.

"Consumers would not be led to pay a higher price for products that have been previously frozen," the department said. But producers of truly fresh chicken could profit "if a

price differential should develop between fresh and previously frozen chicken."

The public will be able to comment on the rule for 60 days before final regulations are written.

The poultry industry, based largely in the Southeast, said few birds ever got that cold. But the long-haul shipping across deserts and the uneven refrigeration in trucks often caused some of the birds to fall below the 26-degree cutoff.

The industry also said that colder chicken lasts longer by permitting fewer bacteria that cause spoilage to grow, and suggested in earlier comments that retail stores have no bar against freezing the product.

Accidents

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

TUESDAY, Jan. 10

8:40 a.m. - A 1982 Chevrolet driven by Donna Schlais Sturgill, 1925 N. Dwight, was in collision with a 1988 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Elizabeth Telkamp Swinney, Rt. 2 Box 386 C, at the intersection of North Hobart and West 23rd. Sturgill was cited for failure to yield right of way at stop sign.

3:55 p.m. - A 1978 Chevrolet pickup driven by William O. Franklin, 1312 Starkweather, was in collision with a parked 1988 Toyota pickup owned by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, at 909 E. Fisher.

6:21 p.m. - A 1990 Oldsmobile driven by Lloyd Simpson, 1344 Hamilton, was in collision with a 1986 Renault driven by Laticha Rene Landers, 1101 Neel Rd., in the 1100 block of North Hobart. Simpson was cited for failure to control speed.

7:40 p.m. - A 1985 Chevrolet driven by Terry Lamont Osby, 1077 Somerville, was in collision with a 1991 Plymouth driven by Evelyn Lockwood White, 1120 E. Browning, at the intersection of North Hobart and West Harvester. White was cited for failure to yield right of way at stop sign. Passenger in the Chevrolet Priscilla Rivera, 910 E. Twiford, was transported by American Medical Transport to Coronado Hospital, where she was treated and released.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Variable cloudiness through Thursday. Low tonight in the lower 40s; high Thursday in the lower 60s. Gusty southwest winds 15 to 25 mph. Wind warnings in effect on area lakes. The high Tuesday was 66 degrees; the overnight low was 41.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas - Panhandle: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows from mid 30s to low 40s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs from mid 50s to low 60s. South Plains: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows from near 40 to mid 40s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs from near 70 to low 70s.

North Texas - Tohight and Thursday, partly cloudy west, mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms in the east. Lows 50 to 63.

Highs Thursday 65 to 73.

South Texas - Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in the 50s Hill Country to the 60s south central. Thursday, decreasing cloudiness with showers or thunderstorms ending. Highs in the 70s to near 80. Coastal Bend: Tonight, mostly cloudy and foggy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in the 60s. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs in the 80s inland to the 70s coast. Lower Rio Grande Valley and Plains: Tonight, mostly cloudy and foggy with intermittent light rain or drizzle. Lows in the 60s. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Highs in the 80s

inland to the 70s coast.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico - Tonight, variable clouds. A chance for showers mainly north and west. Lows mid teens to mid 30s mountains and northwest, 30s to low 40s lower elevations east and south. Thursday, a slight chance of showers mainly mountains and northwest, otherwise partly cloudy. Highs mid 30s to low 50s mountains and northwest, upper 40s to mid 60s lower elevations east and south.

Oklahoma - Tonight, a chance of showers or thunderstorms late southeast Oklahoma. Increasing clouds elsewhere. Lows low 50s southeast to mid 30s northwest. Thursday, chance of showers or thunderstorms southeast. Otherwise partly cloudy to cloudy. Highs mid 50s to mid 60s.

City briefs

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(AP photo)

Texas Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock pauses during opening ceremonies Tuesday in the state Senate in Austin.

Session convenes; Bullock, Laney pledge bipartisanship

By SCOTT ROTHSCHILD
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — In a day of ceremony, high hopes and preliminary business, Texas lawmakers opened the 1995 legislative session.

Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock and House Speaker Pete Laney, who are both Democrats, stressed bipartisanship Tuesday as they prepare for Republican Gov.-elect George W. Bush to take office next week.

Bullock, presiding officer of the Senate, said, "There is a can-do attitude in the air, in all of government right now. There is a spirit of cooperation and congeniality. It's more than I have ever seen before."

Laney, who was unanimously re-elected to lead the 150-member House, said, "I see no Democrats, no Republicans. I see 150 representatives of the people of Texas."

The two leaders said education and writing a budget would be major priorities of the 140-day session.

Bullock said he sees little difference between his position on major issues and Bush's.

Outgoing Democratic Gov. Ann Richards visited both chambers for the opening-day ceremonies packed with the families and friends of lawmakers being sworn in.

According to Laney's office, the 21-member freshman class in the House is the smallest ever. The 31-member Senate has five new members. Republicans gained one seat in each chamber, which remain majority Democratic.

In an innovation announced earlier

by Bullock and Laney, Texans now can use their personal computers to track legislation.

Laney, D-Hale Center, said he also wants hearings on ways to televise future House sessions "so that all Texans can watch the proceedings and committee hearings of the House."

"I want the people of Texas to be a part of this process more than ever before," Laney said. "Believing in democracy means believing the people are going to be right more often than they are going to be wrong."

Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, became the first Hispanic to assume the role of Senate dean by virtue of his 19 years in the chamber. The dean, the senior senator, handles procedural motions and other administrative matters before the Senate.

Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, D-Austin, was elected Senate president pro tem, making him third in line of succession to the governor.

On the business end of the session, lawmakers filed bills to recreate an agency to oversee dentists, and impose a three-month moratorium on a new vehicle emissions testing program.

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, said the moratorium was needed because the program to test emissions in four major metropolitan areas was causing a lot of confusion.

Under the current program, each vehicle has to be tested every two years to get its license plates renewed. The 1990 Clean Air Act requires cities with high levels of certain pollutants to institute tougher emissions testing.

Jeep moves up on stolen car chart

DETROIT (AP) — Look out, Oldsmobile — a Jeep is hot on your trail.

The 1993 Jeep Grand Cherokee 4x4 jumped from No. 54 to No. 2 on the 1994 list of most stolen cars compiled by CCC Information Services.

And as with other vehicles high on the list, the reason is parts, police say. Thieves frequently strip cars for com-

ponents, which are used for repairs. "Usually, when a sport utility vehicle is stolen, it is for a chop shop," auto theft expert Sgt. Leon Plowman said today.

For the third straight year, 1994's most stolen model was the 1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, said CCC, a Chicago-based company that provides vehicle valuations for major insurers.

Chechen president says fighting must end

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Appearing in person for the first time in days, Chechen President Dzhokar Dudayev said today he remained willing to talk with Russia and end the fighting in his republic. He said there was "no other resolution" but peace.

But there was no evidence of it in the battered Chechen capital. Heavy artillery shelling rocked the center, and fierce fighting shattered an uneasy calm that had prevailed early in the day.

Russia's parliament held an urgent session on the war. One lawmaker said Russian forces appeared en route to a "pyrrhic victory," and another said 1,500 Russian soldiers had been killed in the month-old conflict.

In Brussels, the NATO allies urged Moscow to end the violence and negotiate a peaceful solution.

Looking pale and drawn, Dudayev spoke less harshly than before. He set no conditions for negotiations and said only a peaceful solution could end the war.

"There is no other resolution but a peaceful one," he said. "We were and still are ready for the fourth year now for peaceful negotiations, but Russia is trying to break in an already open door. No one knows why."

Dudayev, a former Soviet air force general, declared Chechnya's independence from Russia in 1991.

Dressed in camouflage and a military cap, Dudayev was flanked by heavily armed bodyguards as he spoke to journalists brought to a building in Grozny. He called peace imperative for progress.

"Only after you put out the flames can you see what remains and what you have to rebuild again," he said. "The issue now is to stop the military action and stop the senseless casualties from both sides, senseless casualties and senseless destruction."

A day earlier, Dudayev's government had reiterated its demand that Russian troops withdraw before Chechen fighters lay down their arms.

Thousands of soldiers and civilians have died since Dec. 11, when Russia began its offensive to try to restore Kremlin authority over the secessionist republic. Russia launched a ground attack 11 days ago.

Russian television said fresh troops were sent to Chechnya today from Russian bases, and other troops were undergoing special training to fight in the southern republic, which declared independence from Moscow in 1991.

A truce, between the two sides, scheduled to last 48 hours, crumbled shortly after its declaration Tuesday.

President Boris Yeltsin planned to meet this afternoon with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and the speakers of both houses of parliament. Chernomyrdin helped fashion the truce.

During the brief cease-fire, Chechen rebels scrambled to bury the corpses of their comrades and reinforce their gutted presidential palace, which has become a sym-

bol of independence for the mostly Muslim republic of 1.2 million people in the Caucasus Mountains.

The nine-story palace has been hit by hundreds of shells and bullets, and whole floors have collapsed. The surrounding square is pocked with huge shell craters and littered with burned-out Russian armored vehicles.

Bodies of Russian soldiers lay in some rooms of the crumbling building, while other mangled corpses were slumped outside.

The Russian army clearly has the firepower to reduce the palace and the rest of the city to rubble and to overpower the lightly armed Chechens. It is not clear why Moscow has held back.

The Defense Ministry said a 29-year-old correspondent for the German magazine *Stern*, Jochen Piest, was killed Tuesday in the village of Chervlyonna, about 15 miles northeast of Grozny. He became the third journalist to die during the conflict.

Father, son charged in attack in sex offender's home

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — A new law aimed at notifying communities about the presence of sex offenders led two vigilantes to the home of a child molester — where they beat up the wrong man, police say.

The attack by a father and son was the first case of vigilante violence linked to "Megan's Law," authorities said Tuesday.

The object of the attack apparently was Michael W. Groff, 25, who moved into his aunt's house in Phillipsburg after serving four years of a 10-year sentence for sexual assault and endangering the welfare of a child.

On Dec. 27, in accordance with New Jersey's law, Groff's neighbors were told he would be living with his aunt.

Kenneth J. Kerekes Sr., 52, and Kenneth Jr., 22, broke into the house Sunday and mistakenly attacked Thomas Vicari, police say. Vicari, a 41-year-old truck driver, was treated and released from a hospital.

A friend of Vicari who also was staying in the

house, Barbara Keller, said she awoke about 3 a.m. when she heard a noise at the door, then saw a man in dark clothes and a ski mask burst through the door. The man walked over to Vicari and said "Are you Michael Groff?"

"Who wants to know?" Vicari replied; the intruder then said "You're a child molester" and began beating Vicari, Keller said. She said a second man shouted encouragement to the attacker and threw a beer bottle through the living room window.

Keller said she ran to the kitchen and got a frying pan.

"I was screaming to him to leave Tom alone, that he wasn't who he was looking for," Keller said. "He wouldn't stop, so I corked him with the frying pan."

Police arrived and arrested the elder Kerekes, who they said was the assailant, and his son. Both were being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail, charged with burglary, harassment, conspiracy, assault and criminal mischief. The burglary charge carries the greatest penalty — up to 10 years in prison.

The younger Kerekes was suspended from his job as a corrections officer at Northampton County Prison in Pennsylvania.

It was not clear if the Kerekes knew the children Groff molested.

Megan's Law is named after 7-year-old Megan Kanka, who was raped and killed in July. A neighbor with a record of sexual assaults on children was charged in the killing.

The law has been challenged in federal and state courts. Last week, a federal judge blocked Passaic County from notifying the community where a convicted rapist released from prison Jan. 1 planned to live.

Civil libertarians who had opposed the law said they weren't surprised by the attack.

"This is exactly the concern that we had when the law was being considered for passage, that it would be used to enable vigilantism rather than for any legitimate community interest," Marsha Wenk, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, told *The New York Times*.

Houston expected to revise policy on chases by police cars

HOUSTON (AP) — Eleven people were killed and at least 62 were injured last year in collisions or other traffic accidents caused by police chases in Houston, according to a copyright story today in *The Houston Post*.

The *Post* reported that four of every 10 Houston police chases during 1994 ended in collisions or other traffic accidents.

Records obtained under the Texas Open Records Act revealed that about half the 191 motorists police chased had committed traffic violations and other minor offenses, the newspaper reported.

Mayor Bob Lanier, under pressure to reduce the carnage, was expected to release a slightly revised pursuit policy today.

The announcement was expected less than 24 hours after a 73-year-old man was struck Tuesday by a car fleeing several pursuing law officers in a chase that spanned nearly 15 blocks.

Authorities said the eight-minute chase along several residential streets began when a 23-year-old drug suspect realized that his car was under surveillance by Texas Department of Public Safety narcotics officers.

The suspect's car jumped a curb and allegedly slammed into Nick Lambros as he walked on a sidewalk. Lambros was listed in fair condition at Ben Taub Hospital early today with a broken hip.

The driver, Garner Houston Hargett, was arrested after he abandoned his car and attempted to flee on foot. He was wanted on felony warrant accusing him of distributing crack cocaine, according to DPS.

Capt. Donald Cohn. No charges had been filed in connection with the car chase by late Tuesday, officials said.

HPD spokesperson Robert Hurst said he did not know how fast the vehicles were going or how many were involved, but witnesses reported up to eight cars traveling about 55 mph.

The mayor had ordered Police Chief Sam Nuchia to review his department's procedures after four people died in chases during Thanksgiving weekend.

We would like to thank all our friends and anyone who in any way acted in love and sympathy during the recent loss of our beloved mother and grandma. The Naomi Lilley Family

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Viewpoints

THE PAMPA NEWS

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS
TO BE AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

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 covenant commandment.

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Time to cut back on public debts

There's an axiom among investors: Never borrow to invest. It makes sense, doesn't it? Even a brilliant investment involves some risk. A person who risked his family's future by borrowing money for a "sure deal" investment rightly would be considered reckless; better a safe, steady course of investment without debt, or even no investment.

What applies to families applies even more to government, as Orange County taxpayers in California have found out the hard way. When Tax Collector Robert L. "Bob" Citron began "investing" borrowed taxpayers' money, red flares should have gone up in the Board of Supervisors' offices. Instead, the supes were all too happy to get, and spend, the transitory "profits."

Seen in this larger context, Orange County's problem isn't only one of public accountability, but of philosophy of government.

When taxpayers are late with tax payments, tax officials are quick to insist that government runs on a "pay as you go" system, and that taxpayers cannot "borrow" from what is "owed" (even though it is, of course, really the taxpayers' own money).

But government nowadays operates on a "borrow as you go" system. The federal government has put taxpayers \$4 trillion in debt — that's \$4,000,000,000,000. Many state governments have been running up yearly deficits. And many state and local governments, not just Orange County's, play debt and bond games. As usual, government screams at citizens: "Do as I say, not as I do."

The *Wall Street Journal* sensibly asked, "The question is whether the growth of what is called the 'public-finance community' hasn't reached such a scale that its influence is corrupting democracy."

"Issuance of long-term municipal bonds, both those repaid from general taxes and specific revenue sources, has grown faster than that of U.S. Treasury securities. This, despite all the talk about the federal government's borrowing binge 'since 1981.' And despite the sense that, by contrast, state and local governments must live within their means. Total money sales rose to \$291 billion in 1993" — more than the federal government's deficit that year — "before dipping this year after interest rates began rising." And before Orange County's government went bust.

The *Wall Street Journal* notes that so much of taxpayers' money floating around naturally creates a lobbying constituency, leading to pressure on politicians to borrow recklessly.

The solution is obvious: Sharply cut down the borrowing — or end it entirely. Most government activities — stadiums, expressways, fire stations, even schools and libraries — can be privatized. Those things hard to privatize — courts, police, local roads — should be financed through "user fees" as much as possible, under a "pay as you go" system, with no debt.

And when hard economic times come, as they have the past few years, government should downsize along with private business.

Thomas Jefferson advised, "I place economy among the first and most important republican virtues, and public debt as the greatest of the dangers to be feared." He also wrote, "The principle of spending money to be paid by posterity, under the name of funding, is but swindling futurity on a large scale."

The swindling — the borrowing — must stop. Now.

Thought for today

"I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of sovereign states ... established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes."

— William Tyler Page, "The American's Creed"

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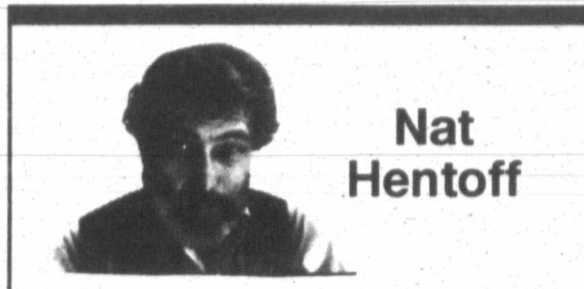
Subverting Glaser's legacy

Elizabeth Glaser died on Dec. 4 of AIDS, as a result of an infected blood transfusion 13 years ago. In recent years, she had made a fundamental difference in the treatment of HIV infection and AIDS. Previously, no funds had been spent on pediatric AIDS research. But because of her extraordinary energy and persuasiveness, millions of dollars are now allocated to such research, and her own Pediatric AIDS Foundation — formed with two friends — has raised more than \$30 million for pediatric research and education.

Writing about her the day after she died, Jim Dwyer of *Newsday* — who has been focusing on pediatric AIDS — noted that "earlier this year, the research money she championed led to the most stunning success of all the AIDS study programs. A treatment was able to reduce by two-thirds the chance that pregnant women with HIV will give the disease to their children."

On the *CBS Evening News*, Dr. Anthony Fauci, an AIDS expert at the National Institutes of Health, said of that new breakthrough: "It was a trial in which women who were HIV infected were given AZT during the pregnancy and at the time of delivery, and then to the child for a couple of weeks after. And the transmissibility from the infected mother to the child decreased dramatically — from 25.5 percent in the mothers who were not treated to 8.3 percent in the treated mothers. This is a major impact — both truly and potentially — for thousands of HIV-infected mothers and the transmissibility (of the infection) to their children."

On the same day as Dr. Fauci's *CBS* news report on the AZT study, Patricia Kean of *Newsday* interviewed Patricia Fleming, the new White House director of AIDS policy.



Nat Hentoff

Kean: "A recent study found that HIV-positive pregnant women who took AZT dramatically reduced the chances of passing along the virus to their newborns. In light of that, would you be in favor of mandatory prenatal testing?"

Fleming: "No, I am in favor of having providers offer tests to pregnant women and to all women. I think it's a violation of a person's rights to impose a test they have not consented to."

If there were a comparable breakthrough in preventing the transmission of an ultimately fatal infection to a child, testing the mother to find out if she has that virus would take place as an essential public health measure.

But where HIV is concerned, treatment and prevention become a political issue. Patricia Fleming says she would have providers "offer" the test. That means voluntary counseling, which does not offend the AIDS establishment. But counseling is far from being totally effective.

So the new AIDS czar is actually saying that those mothers who are not persuaded to take the test — or who never show up at the hospital until it's time to give birth — will keep their privacy intact. But their children will have the privacy of the grave.

In November, *CBS Evening News* had broadcast another report on the remarkable impact of the new AZT discovery. Dr. Philip Pizzo of the National Institutes of Health said that if all pregnant women were tested for the HIV infection and then were given AZT, many children's lives could be saved.

Speaking for the opposition, Dr. Ruth Macklin, a bioethicist at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, said: "It is an invasion of privacy. It threatens the woman's interests."

"Macklin was asked: 'Is (the mother's) freedom that important that you might allow 15,000 babies' lives to be poured down the drain?'"

"At a certain point," this prominent bioethicist answered, "one balances freedom against lives. We fight wars to preserve freedom, knowing that a certain number of people will die."

On future Veterans Days, will these early victims of AIDS be remembered as having given their lives for freedom?

Meanwhile, the American Civil Liberties Union — particularly its New York affiliate — continues to unequivocally oppose mandatory HIV testing of mothers during pregnancy or at birth. The ACLU, like Patricia Fleming at the White House, shows no concern for the HIV-infected child who, of course, cannot make the case for himself or herself.

I am told by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that "among children 1 to 4 years old, AIDS is now the sixth or seventh leading cause of death." By the year 2000, in view of the resistance to mandatory — or at least routine — testing of women during pregnancy and at birth, it will surely be higher on the list.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 11, the 11th day of 1995. There are 354 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 11, 1964, U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issued the first government report saying smoking may be hazardous to health.

On this date:

In 1757, the first secretary of the U.S. Treasury — Alexander Hamilton — was born in the West Indies.

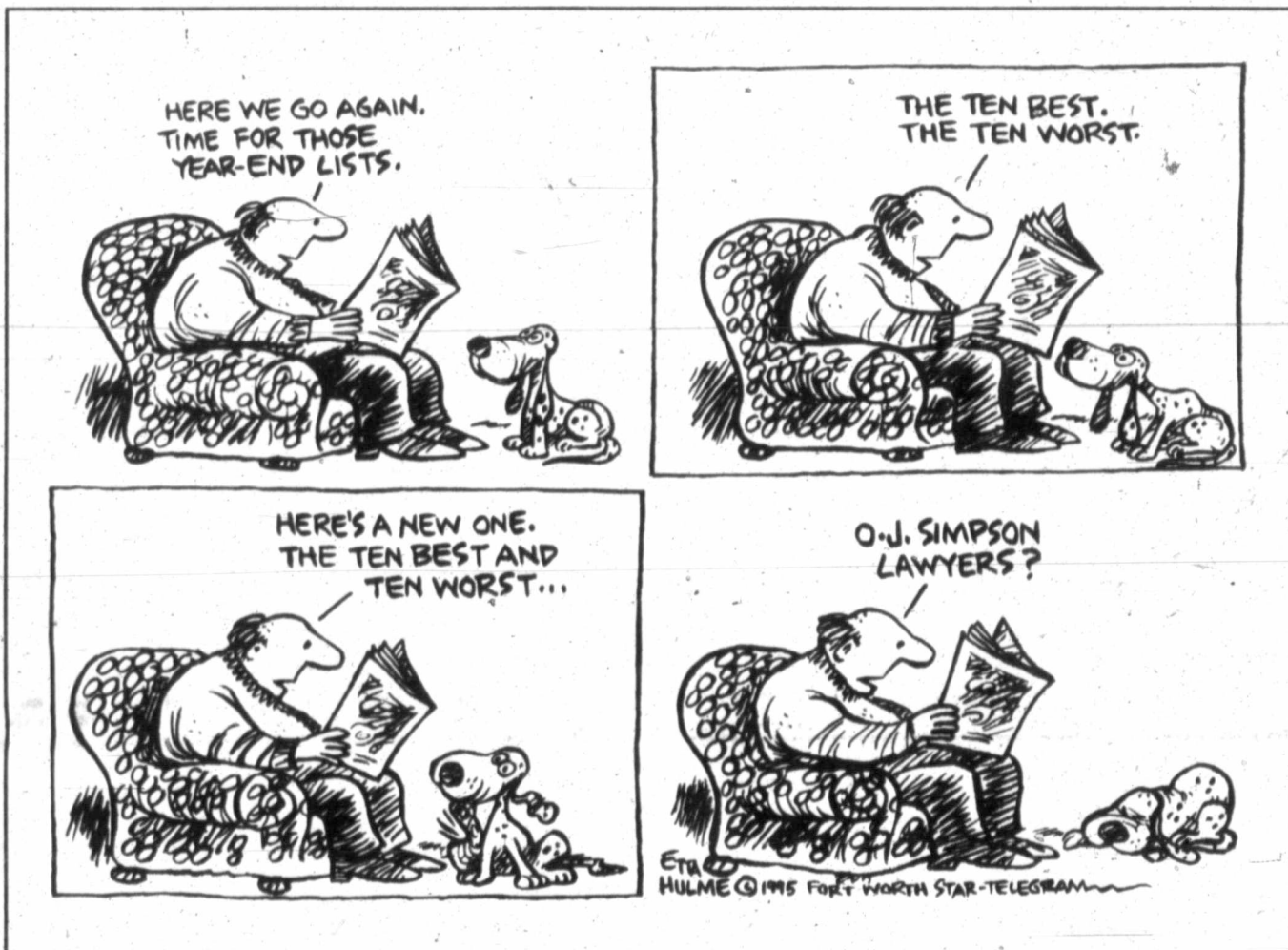
In 1805, the Michigan Territory was created.

In 1861, Alabama seceded from the Union.

In 1913, the first sedan-type automobile, a Hudson, went on display at the 13th Automobile Show in New York.

In 1935, aviator Amelia Earhart began a trip from Honolulu to Oakland, Calif., that made her the first woman to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean.

In 1939, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and Lord Halifax, the British foreign secretary, met with Italian leader Benito Mussolini in Rome.



Why should these sinners sue?

You remember the McDonald's customer who collected 2.7 million dollars for spilling hot coffee on her lap.

You remember the New Jersey gardener who was sued by his neighbor for killing a rat.

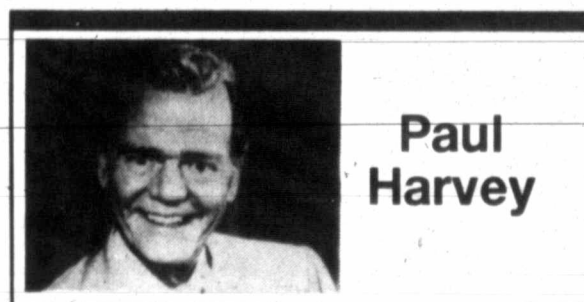
And you remember the 360-pound lady who sued a movie theater because her "seat" was too small.

But do you recall the University of Idaho student who sued the college after falling out of his dorm window while "mooning" fellow students?

Or the murderer in Southern Michigan Prison, demanding his old job back as a high school teacher?

Or the New York city official who stole \$200,000 dollars of public money, wanting \$8,500 more for unused time off?

According to the United States Department of Justice, incarcerated criminals alone filed 30,000 lawsuits last year against prison officials. And, among the many dubious claims, there was one filed over the type of peanut butter inmates received — creamy vs. crunchy. Another was filed over a



Paul Harvey

criminal's ice cream that had melted before he could eat it, a third over the temperature of a toilet seat, a fourth about the lack of salad bars, a fifth over the limit of Kool-Aid refills, a sixth over the texture of scrambled eggs — and on and on and on.

Fully a fifth of the budget of the New York Attorney General's office is spent on prisoner lawsuits such as these.

What business do inmates have, having peanut butter, eggs, Kool-Aid and toilet seats? What business do inmates have, having the ability to sue the

society they sinned against? And what business does society have, listening to these and other trivial cases?

Contemptible people filing frivolous lawsuits with the help of unscrupulous lawyers are delaying legitimate lawsuits by up to 10 years!

As part of the Republicans' Contract With America, Rep. Jim Ramstad has sponsored a bill called the Common Sense Legal Reform Act. It may not be all that we need, but it seems a good start. If enacted, the bill will limit the amount of money sued for and it will force losers of many suits to pay the winner's legal fees.

That way, if some woman is foolish enough to hold hot coffee between her knees while riding in a car, or if some lady has eaten too many Milk Duds to fit into the standardized seats at a movie theater, or if some fellow is so unbalanced as to worry about the killing of a rat — he or she will think twice before risking the cost of his and everyone else's legal fees on a frivolous suit with only nominal returns.

Let's hear it for the septuagenarians

Nobody ever wrote that life begins at 70. But many septuagenarians like the legendary Paul Newman are as rambunctious as the most energetic 40-year-old.

The percentage of 70-year-olds in the population is increasing because people are living better, living longer and enjoying life more. This change could not have come sooner. Republicans are planning to raise the retirement age from 65 to 70.

For one group of 10 prominent Americans who are candidates for the Hall of Septuagenarian Legends — Lauren Bacall, Marlon Brando, George Bush, Jimmy Carter, Shirley Chisholm, Paul Conrad, Doris Day, Charlton Heston, Paul Newman and Bobby Short — the change will be meaningless.

President Jimmy Clinton — I mean, Carter — continues to demonstrate that a 70-year-old ex-president has more grace and credibility than the current 48-year-old White House occupant.

In retirement, Carter reflects a quality that eluded him during his presidency: class. It is hard to define. As diaphanous as gauze and as regal as a monarch, class is Cyrano de Bergerac's quality that goes "caparisoned in gems unseen." It is a silent presence.

You can't acquire class, nor does it come with age. Class is L.E. Campbell's spiritual "something within."

Class comes close to definition as the nonchalant ambience that lights up a room or causes heads to swivel in awe only because the person is standing there. Four of the above 70-year-olds have class.

Class is Bobby Short's melodic tonsils holding a



Chuck Stone

usually noisy cafe lounge in murmured respect, Lauren Bacall's stately modeling a fur coat like it was sewn only for an empress, Jimmy Carter's unique mediating skills solving a solution-defying crisis and Paul Newman's charisma which, along with a great one-liner, can transform a mundane movie into a box-office hit: "What we have here is a failure to communicate."

Ideologues rarely have class because they lack the humanity of incompleteness. They may be superior in achievement, but no inner voice urges an ecumenical compassion. Moses had class. His cinematic caricature, Charlton Heston, does not.

Not many 70-year-olds have become movie idols, excelled at a multitude of other ventures, made the cover of a major newsmagazine and did it all with STYLE. Paul Newman did.

The *Newsweek* cover occasioned by a forthcoming Newman movie paid tribute to this drop-dead handsome actor, humanitarian, political activist, businessman, car racer, husband and father. Only David Ansen's

elegant prose could do the eclectic Newman justice. Actually, the magazine cover took a small editorial license. Newman won't be 70 until Jan. 26.

But he's in the chronological ballpark. The Society of Splendidly Superior Septuagenarians has unanimously ratified his application for membership.

Of all the thoughts Ansen recorded, Newman's own reflections best distinguish between yesterday and today. "Because the old days were better ... In the theater, we still had Arthur Miller and Inge and Chayefsky ... The streets were safe ... People felt good about government ... And failure was not expensive."

"So that's what's difficult about getting old — remembering the way things used to be. There were such things as loyalty. The community had not disintegrated ... There was a lot of ugliness but there was a lot more grace."

To which I add: Yesterday, Kennedy defined the grace. Today, Gingrich epitomizes the ugliness.

At 70, one of my beloved colleagues has already been lionized. The cartoon strip *Shoe* is named for Jim Shumaker, an outstanding journalism professor, by his former student, three-time Pulitzer Prize-winner Jeff MacNelly.

I'm a full six months younger than Shumaker and he has the nerve to call ME "old folks." Yet, like Newman, Shumaker and I are vigorously trying to do what good wine does naturally — age gracefully. Henri-Frederic Amiel left us the challenge: "To know how to grow old is the master-work of wisdom" and "one of the most difficult chapters in the great art of living."

Heavy rains batter California

By SCOTT LINDLAW
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Harry and Arnella Grebb were asleep when a wall of mud smashed into their Hollywood Hills home, slamming a tree into their bed and trapping them inside their bedroom.

Their house, like hundreds of others, was no match for the storm that overpowered California on Tuesday, transforming earth to ooze, freeways to wild rivers and towns into muddy lakes. More rain was expected today and Thursday.

At least six people died, including a 12-year-old boy who drowned while trying to cross a creek and a homeless man swept away by floodwaters. Stranded residents stood atop their cars and homes, waving desperately to rescue crews arriving by boat, truck and helicopter.

About 200,000 people throughout the state lost power. Nearly 2,000 were evacuated, most in Northern California.

Torrents of water shut down parts of nine interstates and dozens of state highways, strangling travel in freeway-addicted California. Los Angeles' morning and evening commutes turned into even more of a nightmare as freeways were littered with fender-bender accidents, spinouts and overturned vehicles.

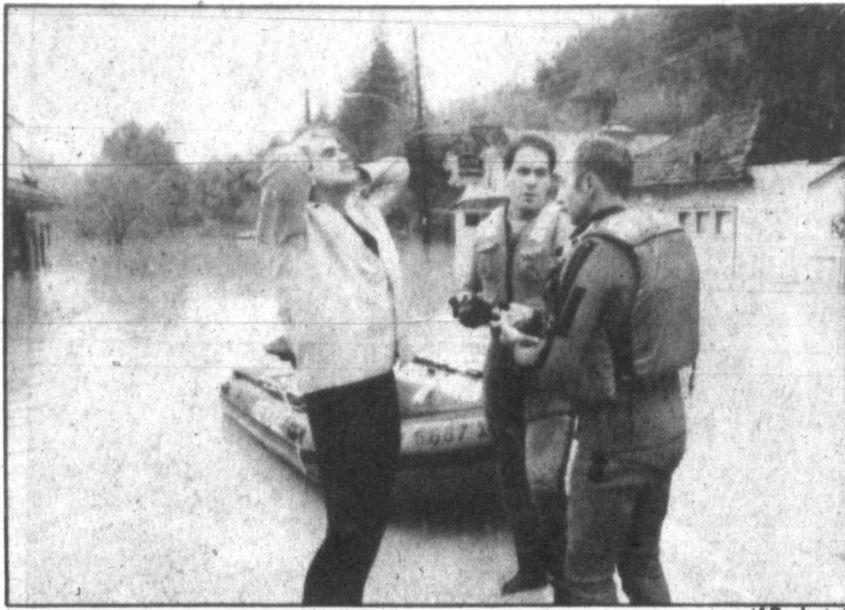
Water rushing out of coastal hills carried tons of soil onto the Pacific Coast Highway.

President Clinton declared 24 counties disaster areas, making individuals and businesses there eligible for federal aid.

In Northern California, National Guard helicopters pulled residents out of the isolated community of Guerneville after the Russian River crested at 17 feet above flood stage.

Brothers Brian and Dave Ridley were on one of the first flights out, and they were cold and hungry. "Our house is gone," Dave Ridley said. "I've been inside my truck for three days."

San Francisco officials closed parts of Golden Gate Park, fearing uprooted trees would fall on visitors. Two of San Francisco International Airport's four runways remained closed because of high winds, and the Federal Aviation Administration slowed



(AP photo)

Rescue workers in Monte Rio, Calif., take a break from their operations in the flooded town Tuesday.

traffic west of the Mississippi to avoid snarls.

The San Francisco 49ers, their practice field a sodden quagmire, flew to Phoenix to prepare for Sunday's conference championship game in Candlestick Park.

More than a week after a series of storms began punishing California, residents' nerves were starting to fray.

"We love this house and we love this city but today I've got to tell you, we hate this rain," said Deedee Gene of Altadena, near Los Angeles.

She kept a wary eye on a saturated, 150-foot hillside above her backyard, where she and her husband had dug a trench and laid pipe to divert water running toward their yard.

"We're really at Mother Nature's mercy," she said.

The mudslide that swept into the Grebbs' home sealed shut the bedroom door that leads to the hallway. "The tree came right into the bedroom, hit them in the bed," said their son, Bob.

"The mud is three feet deep back there," he said. "Then the Fire Department came through the middle of the house, broke down that hallway door."

Harry Grebb, 71, and his wife Arnella, 72, were in good condition Tuesday night.

In Southern California's Ventura County, where more than a foot of rain fell in about 12 hours, a transient's body was pulled from the swollen Ventura River not far from

where a homeless encampment was wiped out by surging waters.

George Struck, among those plucked from the river by helicopter, said a friend was swept away.

"I couldn't grab him. He just went down," Struck said. "I was coming close to dying. I felt it. I felt it."

At least 33 people were pulled from the Ventura and Santa Clara rivers. Many of those rescued were residents of homeless camps along the river bed who had been warned Monday to move to higher ground.

An afternoon blast of rain turned the streets of the low-lying downtown section of Laguna Beach into rivers working their way toward the Pacific. The downpour let up about nightfall, but left a layer of silt 6 inches deep in places.

Parts of Southern California already had been hit last week by severe flooding.

"There's the line last Wednesday," said Kelly Boyd, pointing to a couple of 3-foot high lines marked near the door of his Marine Room Tavern. "We're a little below it today."

Sandbags shored up storefront after storefront in the nearly abandoned business district of Laguna Beach, and bulldozers scraped away the mud from the closed Pacific Coast Highway.

"This is the worst I've seen and I've been here 50 years," said Boyd. "These back-to-back ones were the worst."

Survey: Americans want lean — but they want their ice cream, too

By ROBERT GREENE
AP Farm Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Call it the dinner table tradeoff.

Americans are cutting back on red meat in favor of chicken and fish, eating fewer eggs and more vegetables.

Then, they're rewarding themselves with, for example, a bowl of ice cream and a cup of coffee — cream and two sugars, please.

Most Americans are trying to clean up their dietary act, the Agriculture Department says in a new report comparing today's eating habits with diets of 1970. But they have a way to go.

"Americans are slowly, and with fits and starts, shifting their eating patterns toward more healthful diets," the department's Economic Research Service says in the report. But "a considerable gap still remains between public health recommendations and consumers' practices."

The government says to use fats, oils and sweets sparingly. Fats are blamed for clogged arteries and cancer. Sugars add calories but nothing else.

The government also suggests eating about five servings a day of

fruits and vegetables, and even more breads and whole grains, to get enough vitamins, minerals and fiber to keep the body working and help avoid cancers.

People ate 20 pounds less beef, pork, lamb and other red meat per person in 1993 than in 1970, the report said. They ate 27 pounds more chicken and poultry, 3.2 pounds more seafood.

The average American ate 76 fewer eggs than in 1970, down to 233, reflecting the knowledge that cholesterol is a problem.

Americans also ate 61 more pounds of vegetables per person, 54 more pounds of grains, 48 more pounds of fruit in 1993. But the amounts still fall short of giving most people their healthy doses, the report says.

Besides, Americans added 23 pounds of sugars — for a record 147 pounds per person — 12 pounds of fats and oils, and washed it all down with 22 gallons more of soft drinks.

They drank half as much whole milk and twice as much skim milk. But they couldn't say no to pizza and are more frequently choosing cheese-filled Mexican dishes.

"Virtually no one is just saying across the board, 'I'm going to eat everything that's healthy,'" said

Tom Dydahl, a researcher for *Prevention Magazine*. "They're saying, 'I know I've got to limit fat, so because I like cheese I'll drink skim milk, or because I like premium ice creams, I'll use non-fat salad dressings.'"

They swap bacon and eggs for cereal, gaining needed fiber, but sugar, too.

They choose calorie-light salads, then add fat-laden dressings.

Salad dressing is the biggest source of dietary fat for women, noted Bonnie Liebman, director of nutrition for the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a consumer group.

"They think they're doing well by eating salad, and then you tell them they're getting too much fat from their salad dressing," she said.

So what's a person to do? Terry Nagle, spokesman for Land O'Lakes, a supplier of butter and cheese, suggests what he calls the "grandma rule" of moderation.

Others suggest ignoring the guidelines and scientific studies. Those who follow that advice would have plenty of company.

An estimated 40 percent of Americans just don't watch their diets; they have their cheeseburgers and eat their cake, too.

Vice president says farewell to Richards

AUSTIN (AP) — In her four years as governor, Ann Richards made frequent trips to the White House to lobby for Texas.

With Richards leaving office next week, it was the White House's turn to come calling.

Vice President Al Gore bid farewell to Richards Tuesday night at an annual fund-raiser for the Texas Democratic Party.

"You are the very best, Ann. We love you more than we can put into words," he said. "I just wish we had more than one week left ... of one of the best and greatest governors ever to serve in the United States."

Richards, who lost to Republican Gov.-elect George W. Bush in November, used the fund-raiser as an opportunity to say goodbye to

friends and colleagues.

"If there's anything that I can say to you tonight, it's that I will miss seeing all of you a lot," Richards said.

"I'm really thrilled at the prospect of doing new and wonderful things. But there is nothing new that will ever be as good as the old friends in this room."

"No one could ask for more than the opportunity to leave office and still enjoy the good will of the people that I served."

Despite losing their top officeholder, Texas Democrats donned optimistic smiles and vowed to rebound during the next election year.

Gore urged them to help rebuild the party on the national front, as well.

"If we work together, we will

build this party again. We'll build it in Texas, we'll build it in Tennessee ... and we'll build it in Washington," he said.

Gore touted President Clinton's accomplishments over the past two years and promised the administration would strive to work with the new Republican-controlled Congress.

"We plan to work on a bipartisan basis when it is the right thing for the country," he said. "But when the Republican majority in the Congress is wrong, we're going to fight like hell."

"We will not agree with anything that takes children away from their parents to put them in orphanages, and you can put that in the bank," Gore added, taking a swipe at U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich's welfare proposals.

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'Distress profile' draws objections from parents

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A survey asking high school students about sex, religion and their parents' drug and alcohol habits has some parents steamed over what they say is an invasion of privacy.

Home economics students at Churchill High School were given an eight-page survey last week called a "personal distress profile." Students filled out the questionnaire, tallied their scores and signed their names.

Some parents weren't pleased. "They're sticking their nose where it doesn't belong," parent Nancy Harris said in Tuesday's *San Antonio Express-News*.

Another parent, who requested anonymity, became aware of the 78-question survey after her child sought help in pronouncing "tranquillizer," pointing to the question: "Do either of your parents take prescription medications for stress, such as tranquilizers?"

Asked the irate parent: "What right do they have to know if some mother is on Prozac?"

Other questions that upset the parent were:

"Are you currently, or have you been, sexually active?"

"Are you routinely involved in a religious or spiritual activity or group?"

Five points were scored for a "yes" answer to the religion question.

"Where's the separation of church and state?" the parent asked, adding, "What shocked me more was that counted against you."

The parent is seeking advice from the American Civil Liberties Union.

School officials explained it was a case of a teacher mistakenly using school counseling material "out of context" in the classroom.

North East School District spokesman Victor Garcia said the survey was from an out-of-use reference book meant to be used by trained counselors and staff for

counseling individuals and small groups.

"A teacher not part of the counseling staff gave it to the students for their own self-review. It was not meant to be returned to the teacher," Garcia said.

The survey offers help in translating a student's score and explains the profile is not a scientific method for examining stress or burnout potential or status; but merely gives indicators.

The questionnaire warns: "Over 320 (test score) — Your risk for burnout is critical. SEEK INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE NOW."

Garcia said stress management is included in the school's home economics food course, an elective covering various aspects of physical and emotional fitness.

Ms. Harris' list of objections to the survey included concerns about how the information would be used, fear it could get into the wrong hands, bad messages it could send high-scoring students, lack of follow-up by qualified personnel, possible violation of civil rights and exclusion of parental input.

The anonymous parent worried that a high score might make a student feel he or she has a bad life or family. Although she would have objected to an anonymous survey, the parent took particular exception to students putting their names on such sensitive material.

Harris said the survey brought back memories of an earlier flap in the San Antonio School District when high school students were asked to fill out an anonymous survey asking such questions as whether students had engaged in sex with animals or had homosexual thoughts.

"I said, 'Here we go again.' It's like the Energizer bunny. It keeps on going and going and going," said Harris, an advocate of home schooling. "I wish the schools would teach reading, writing and arithmetic and not try to be this huge social organization."

Two kinds of refugees: Hopeless and hopeful

By TRACY FIELDS
Associated Press Writer

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — There are two kinds of people here: those holding fast to hope and those who have lost it.

Buoyed by the departure of about 2,000 Cuban refugees for the United States, more than 21,000 other Cubans still camped here have settled in to wait their turn. But it's all over for the roughly 3,500 remaining Haitians.

The Cubans may remain at Guantanamo because they are considered refugees from communism. Most of the Haitians, however, have been told they must return home now that President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is back in power.

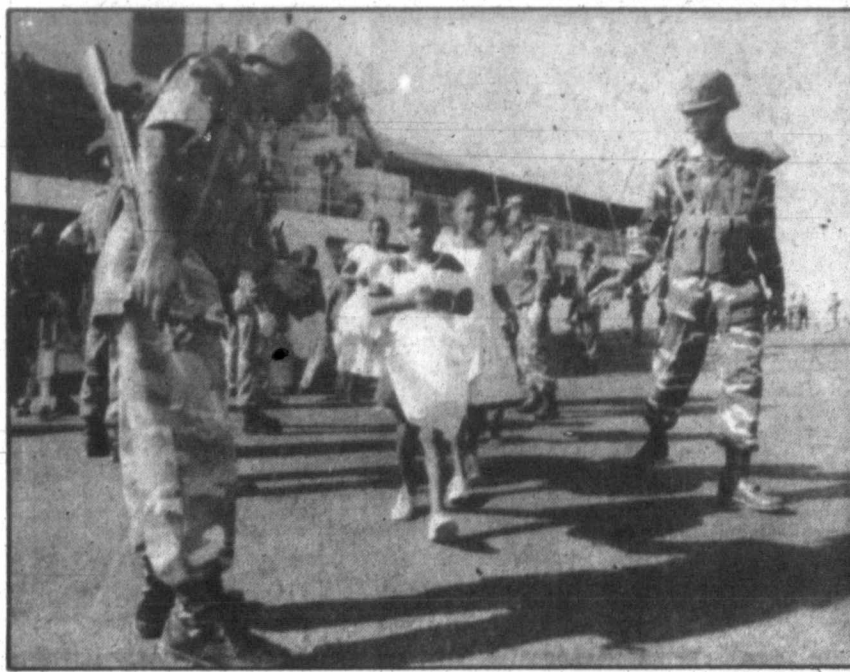
Many are frightened at the prospect.

"I didn't leave my country because life wasn't good," said Isidore Vincent, 21. She showed two scars on her right leg — entry and exit holes from a bullet wound she said she suffered in violence.

"Aristide himself doesn't have any security," she said. "If he had had enough security, the American people would not have had to go there."

Many of the Haitians, languishing in tents on a sun-baked airstrip surrounded by razor wire, say the armed thugs who have long terrorized Haiti will resurface once U.S. troops pull out.

"If I go there and I die, I know God will judge the American people," said David Mombrun, 22, who, like the others, fled Haiti in hopes of reaching the United States and was intercepted at sea.



(AP photo)

Bangladesh soldiers help a group of Haitian children Tuesday after leaving the U.S. Coast Guard ship Vigilant at the Port-au-Prince pier.

Thousands of the Haitians returned voluntarily after U.S. troops reinstated Aristide on Oct. 15. A total of 677 accepted an offer of \$80 and a temporary job to return home, said Army Maj. Rick Thomas, a base spokesman.

Another 500 boarded U.S. Coast Guard cutters for Port-au-Prince Sunday, and 272 were held back while officials determine this week if it's safe for them to return.

"This isn't their first choice, so I don't expect them to be happy," said Marine Brig. Gen. Raymond Ayres,

head of the joint task force running the refugee operation. "I personally empathize with them, but we can't do this forever."

The operation costs \$20 million a month, excluding the payroll for about 4,700 military personnel, Thomas said.

The Haitians who refused to leave can't enjoy some of the few pleasures the camps once gave them. All their extracurricular activities were canceled Dec. 30 after President Clinton ordered them home.

Meanwhile, life is bustling over at

the Cuban Camp Tango, where refugees while away the days with bingo, English classes, and pool, played on a makeshift table with real balls, probably smuggled in by the military.

"The Cubans ask us to get things we have access to," said Army Spc. Conrad Nava, an interpreter. "That's what makes our job a little bit hard on us."

Four months ago, Mayra Morejon seemed wan and tense in the tent she shares with her husband, daughter and at least a dozen others at Camp Tango. Now, the family has made it a home, using cloth to partition their space into two rooms, and putting up art, in the form of painted paper plates and a tiny "chandelier" made from hot sauce bottles.

They have showers and running water now; the toilets no longer stink, and construction of sturdier shelters to be equipped with electricity goes on around the clock.

When they fled Cuba, Morejon and her tent-mates were certain they would go directly to the United States, where Cuban refugees have had preferential treatment since 1966. Last summer, Clinton reversed the policy.

The administration initially said none of the Cubans at Guantanamo would be allowed into the United States, but later admitted about 2,000. Some were ill, or taking care of someone who was. Others were elderly, or children.

Morejon looks forward to reuniting with her mother and sister in Miami someday. "My sister says I need to be patient," she said, "because it's a political process."

Contraceptive sponge discontinued

NEW YORK (AP) — The maker of the Today Sponge, once the most popular over-the-counter contraceptive for women, is discontinuing the product because it can't meet stringent new government safety rules.

Whitehall-Robins Healthcare, which voluntarily suspended production of the sponges last year, said Tuesday that it would cost too much to upgrade its manufacturing plant to meet the rules. Whitehall is the world's only maker of contraceptive sponges.

The Food and Drug Administration last year said it found unacceptably high bacteria levels in water and air at the plant in Hammonton, N.J., where the sponges were made.

Birth control advocates bemoaned the loss of the sponge, saying it further restricts contraceptive choices that women can control.

The sponge's market share of all female contraceptives, including prescription products like the pill, peaked at around 2 percent.

Despite that small number, the sponge had an important niche, said Beth Frederick spokeswoman for Alan Guttmacher Institute, a reproductive health research organization in New York.

"For women who had problems with hormonal methods, or weren't in a position to use a condom or had difficulty with an IUD or no physician, it had a lot of advantages," she said. "It was over-the-counter and it was women-controlled and limiting choice is never a good thing."

The decision is likely to have little impact on Whitehall, a division of the drug and food conglomerate American Home Products Corp. At its peak in 1993, the sponge brought about \$17 million in annual sales out of American Home's \$8 billion.

American Home has had trouble with two other contraceptives. Users of the Norplant hormone implants have complained that doctors haven't been trained adequately on their removal. Before American Home bought A.H. Robins in 1989, Robins made the Dalkon Shield, which caused spontaneous abortions, infections and at least 18 deaths.

The sponge, introduced in 1983, was more popular than spermicides and suppositories because it could be inserted up to 24 hours before sex. By 1993 it had about 29 percent of the \$62 million market for female over-the-counter contraceptives.

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Court tightens hearsay evidence rule, overturns conviction for sex abuse

By LAURIE ASSEO
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court narrowed the types of out-of-court statements allowed as federal trial evidence as it reversed a New Mexico man's conviction for sexually abusing his daughter.

The 5-4 ruling Tuesday could make it harder to prosecute some cases, such as child-sex-abuse cases, in which witnesses are accused of lying or having improper motives.

The justices said a federal trial judge improperly let witnesses in the New Mexico case testify that the girl told them her father had sexually abused her.

"Courts must be sensitive to the difficulties attendant upon the prosecution of alleged child abusers," where the child often is prosecutors' only eyewitness, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote. But he added that federal trial rules cannot be altered to fit a particular type of case.

In a separate case, the court made it harder for financially troubled trucking firms to collect some fees from their customers. The 9-0 ruling said the Interstate Commerce Commission's credit regulations take precedence over a trucking company's need to adhere to published rates.

The sex-abuse case involved hearsay testimony — regarding events a witness was told about but did not actually see — which generally is not admitted in federal court.

Federal trial rules allow exceptions, such as when a statement might confirm the testimony of another witness accused of lying.

But the court decided the rules allow such testimony only if the out-of-court statements were made before the motive to lie arose.

Otherwise, Kennedy wrote for the court, "the whole emphasis of the

trial could shift to the out-of-court statements, not the in-court ones."

The sex-abuse case illustrated the point, the justice said.

"In response to a rather weak charge that ... (his daughter's) testimony was a fabrication created so the child could remain with her mother, the government was permitted to present a parade of sympathetic and credible witnesses" who said the girl told them her father had abused her, Kennedy wrote.

Although the statements might indicate whether the abuse occurred, they "shed but minimal light on whether ... (the girl) had the charged motive to fabricate," Kennedy said.

Kennedy noted that the witnesses' statements still could be admitted under another federal trial rule. He said that question is up to a federal appeals court to decide.

The man was convicted in 1992 of engaging in sexual acts with his 4-year-old daughter and was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Prosecutors said the abuse occurred in 1989, a year after the man and his wife were divorced and he was given primary custody by a Navajo tribal court.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had upheld the man's conviction, but Tuesday's decision reversed that ruling.

Justice Stephen G. Breyer wrote in dissent that he believed the federal rules of evidence allow the use of out-of-court statements made after a person had a motive to lie.

The effect of such statements on a trial would be minimal because they would merely repeat in-court testimony, Breyer wrote in his first Supreme Court opinion.

Kennedy's opinion was joined by Justices John Paul Stevens, Antonin Scalia, David H. Souter and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Joining Breyer's opinion were Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Clarence Thomas.

Study says mammographies of little benefit under age 50

CHICAGO (AP) — Regular mammograms significantly reduce the risk of dying of breast cancer for women over 50 but offer little life-saving benefit for women in their 40s, researchers said Tuesday.

The researchers, who published their findings in Wednesday's issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, arrived at their conclusion after reviewing 13 studies.

The same issue of the journal includes a separate cost-benefit analysis of mammography screening that concludes that standard health insurance should not pay for the procedure for women younger than 50 or older than 69.

Neither study changed the minds of the American Medical Association or the American Cancer Society, which continue to recommend that women get a mammogram every year or two starting at age 40.

An AMA spokesman said the issues involved are complex; the studies reviewed varied in design and conduct; most were done outside the United States; and most failed to consider any factors other than death rates.

"These reviews should not be used alone as the basis for denying screening mammograms to women aged 40-49," said Dr. James Allen, AMA vice president of science, technology and public health standards.

The American Cancer Society agreed, saying it reviewed the same studies the researchers looked at and found no reason to change its belief that women ages 40 to 49 should be screened every year or two.

In 1993, the National Cancer Institute stopped recommending that women in their 40s get regular mammograms, saying there's no evidence the examinations significantly reduce breast cancer deaths in that age group.

Authors of the review of 13 studies said they couldn't find any significant evidence, either.

"This study's important message

for women is that those 50 to 74 who underwent screening mammography had a 26 percent reduction in breast cancer deaths compared with women who did not," said the lead author, Dr. Karla Kerlikowske, an assistant clinical professor of medicine and epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of California at San Francisco.

Routine mammograms yielded an insignificant reduction in breast cancer deaths in women ages 40 to 49 after the same length of follow-up — seven to nine years, her team found. The reduction was 7 percent, but researchers could not be sure the number wasn't due to chance.

In the cost-benefit analysis, researchers at the Rand Corp. in Santa Monica, Calif., estimated that a health plan covering 500,000 people would spend \$11.9 million over six years to give semi-annual mammographies to all 50- to 69-year-old women and would save 11.9 lives per year.

Screening women ages 40 to 49 semi-annually would cost an additional \$11.7 million over seven years and would save zero to 1.1 lives per year, said the researchers, led by Dr. Herman Katlove. Rand is an independent think tank.

Screening women ages 70 to 74 would cost \$1.6 million over three years and would not save a significant number of lives, the researchers said.

Dr. Melody Cobleigh, director of the Comprehensive Breast Center at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago, said she will continue to urge women under 50 to get mammograms, because they save lives.

"Over the weekend, I went through the records of patients I'd seen newly diagnosed with breast cancer in 1994," she said Tuesday.

"In our 120 cases, there were 50 women between ages 40 and 50. Thirty-five percent were diagnosed on the basis of screening mammography."

Sweden plans more welfare cuts

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — An austerity budget presented Tuesday by Sweden's Social Democratic government cuts government benefits to families with small children and employees on sick leave.

The proposed cuts mark another step in Sweden's retreat from the lavish welfare state that once made it the envy of the industrialized world.

Finance Minister Goran Persson called the plan to cut \$2.9 billion from the 1995-96 budget "the most powerful package ever presented in Europe."

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson's

minority government will need the support of at least one other party to pass the budget. It is aimed at breaking the spiraling national debt, now at \$175 billion, or more than 90 percent of gross domestic product.

"These are necessary but painful savings," said Persson. "It will be noticed in every Swedish household."

The cuts include lowering parental leave compensation from 80 percent of an individual's salary to 75 percent for 10 months, and from 90 percent to 85 percent for one month for each parent.

State senators sworn in



Members of the Texas Senate are sworn in during ceremonies in Austin on Tuesday as the Legislature convenes. From left are Florence Shapiro, R-Plano; John Leedom, R-Dallas; Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi; and David Cain, D-Dallas. Cain, a Pampa High School graduate, is the son of former 223rd District Judge Don and Betty Cain of Pampa. Before being elected to the state Senate in November, Cain had served as a state representative for a number of years.

'Dumb and Dumber' still tops at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Jim Carrey comedy *Dumb and Dumber* won the weekend earnings derby for the fourth straight week and has earned nearly \$79 million in its first month of release.

The Demi Moore-Michael Douglas sexual harassment drama *Disclosure* was the weekend's second highest-grossing film with \$7.3 million. It was followed by *Houseguest*, starring the comedian Sinbad, with \$5.8 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, 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. from actual returns and studio estimates:

1. *Dumb and Dumber*, New Line, \$9.2 million, 2,535 locations, \$3,620 per location, \$78.9 million, four weeks.
2. *Disclosure*, Warner Bros., \$7.3 million, 2,082 locations, \$3,488 per location, \$61.6 million, five weeks.
3. *Houseguest*, Disney, \$5.8 mil-

lion, 1,238 locations, \$4,710 per location, \$5.8 million, one week.

4. *Little Women*, Columbia, \$5 million, 1,579 locations, \$3,203 per location, \$27.5 million, three weeks.

5. *Nell*, 20th Century Fox, \$4.6 million, 1,201 locations, \$3,842 per location, \$18.7 million, four weeks.

6. *Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book*, Disney, \$4.4 million, 1,986 locations, \$2,225 per location, \$27.9 million, three weeks.

7. *I.Q.*, Paramount, \$3.7 million, 1,412 locations, \$2,633 per location, \$18 million, three weeks.

8. *Richie Rich*, Warner Bros., \$3.6 million, 1,761 locations, \$2,074 per location, \$28.1 million, three weeks.

9. *Street Fighter*, Universal, \$3.2 million, 1,738 locations, \$1,850 per location, \$25.7 million, three weeks.

10. *The Santa Clause*, Disney, \$2.1 million, 2,002 locations, \$1,045 per location, \$140.8 million, nine weeks.

11. *Speechless*, MGM, \$2 million, 1,404 locations, \$1,427 per location, \$18 million, four weeks.

12. *Pulp Fiction*, Miramax, \$1.9

million, 609 locations, \$3,056 per location, \$66.2 million, 13 weeks.

13. *Drop Zone*, Paramount, \$1.6 million, 1,224 locations, \$1,334 per location, \$25.6 million, five weeks.

14. *Ready to Wear*, Miramax, \$1.4 million, 720 locations, \$1,986 per location, \$8.9 million, three weeks.

15. *Immortal Beloved*, Columbia, \$1.2 million, 89 locations, \$13,140 per location, \$1.8 million, four weeks.

16. *The Lion King*, Disney, \$1 million, 1,072 locations, \$949 per location, \$301.9 million, eight weeks in reissue.

17. *Star Trek: Generations*, Paramount, \$778,732, 678 locations, \$1,149 per location, \$72.4 million, eight weeks.

18. *Safe Passage*, New Line, \$762,986, 263 locations, \$2,901 per location, \$781,804, three weeks.

19. *Forrest Gump*, Paramount, \$699,193, 343 locations, \$2,038 per location, \$299.4 million, 27 weeks.

20. *Junior*, Universal, \$615,035, 764 locations, \$805 per location, \$31.7 million, seven weeks.

Opponents want to undo NAFTA pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — Citing Mexico's economic turmoil, a small band of congressional critics of the North American Free Trade Agreement is launching a longshot battle to remove the United States from the trade pact.

Two persistent NAFTA critics, Democratic Reps. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio and Peter DeFazio of Oregon, this week will introduce legislation to pull the United States out of the economic partnership with Mexico and Canada.

The NAFTA naysayers suggest Mexico's currency and stock market turbulence lend new ammunition to their fight against ever-closer trade links. The Mexican stock market on Tuesday posted its worst single-day decline since 1987 and the peso's value has been battered in recent weeks.

The Clinton administration, which wrapped up the NAFTA negotiations and pushed the pact through a sometimes resistant Congress, continues to stand behind the agreement.

"It's true that there may be some short-term setbacks in the Mexican economy, but NAFTA has always been conceived as a long-term arrangement which will produce prosperity for all three countries," said Jeffrey E. Garten, Commerce Undersecretary for international trade. "We are absolutely convinced that that will be the case."

And, Garten added: "The administration has had no second thoughts, no doubts about the importance of NAFTA to our long-term welfare and to Mexico's. And, I think anybody looking back a few years from now at the current situation would realize that it was an aberration, that Mexico will have not just stabilized but gone on to grow very significantly."

The lawmakers' attempt to pull the United States out of the trade agreement may be more symbolic than anything.

Republicans, who now control both houses of Congress and hence the chambers' legislative agendas, provided the margin of victory for NAFTA's passage in 1993.

Also, there has been little sentiment either in Congress or the country at large that NAFTA's first year has been a failure.

"I don't think it's going to get anywhere," said one staunch NAFTA backer, Rep. Henry Bonilla, who termed the legislation a "hare-brained idea."



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Announcing the formation of Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency, Inc.

Why A Merger?

The insurance industry is changing rapidly. Major insurance companies are placing enormous pressure on independent agencies to deliver more volume to offset shrinking margins. The result — many face the prospect of being dropped by their carriers if they fail to deliver those volumes. Small-town agencies all over the country are being forced out of business. Those hanging on increasingly offer inferior coverage, higher rates or both.

Staying Ahead — Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency

The people at Duncan Insurance Agency, Fraser Insurance Agency and Pampa Insurance Agency don't like these options. They're not good for our customers or our agencies. We felt there had to be a way to combine our customer-first commitment with an innovative method of satisfying the demands of insurance companies.

The solution — three of the leading independent agencies in the Texas Panhandle have joined forces to not only survive the changes, but continue to lead the way in providing effective, affordable insurance to our customers.

What Does It All Mean?

In terms of doing business with Duncan, Fraser & Bridges, you probably won't notice any big difference. While we take care of business behind the scenes, you can continue to rely on the agent you always have — the person who best knows you and your insurance needs.

What you will notice are the exciting benefits of our merger —

- Top quality insurance provided by leading companies in the nation, tailored to your requirements.
- Stability, knowledge and expertise — agents and staff with over 280 years combined insurance experience.
- Rates that compare favorably with anyone's.
- An extended support structure to anticipate your needs and solve your problems with a minimum of fuss.
- And an exciting, positive atmosphere of competence and growth.

Our new offices at 117 E. Kingsmill are near completion. We'll be moving in next month. Until then, you can reach the agent of your choice at our existing locations.

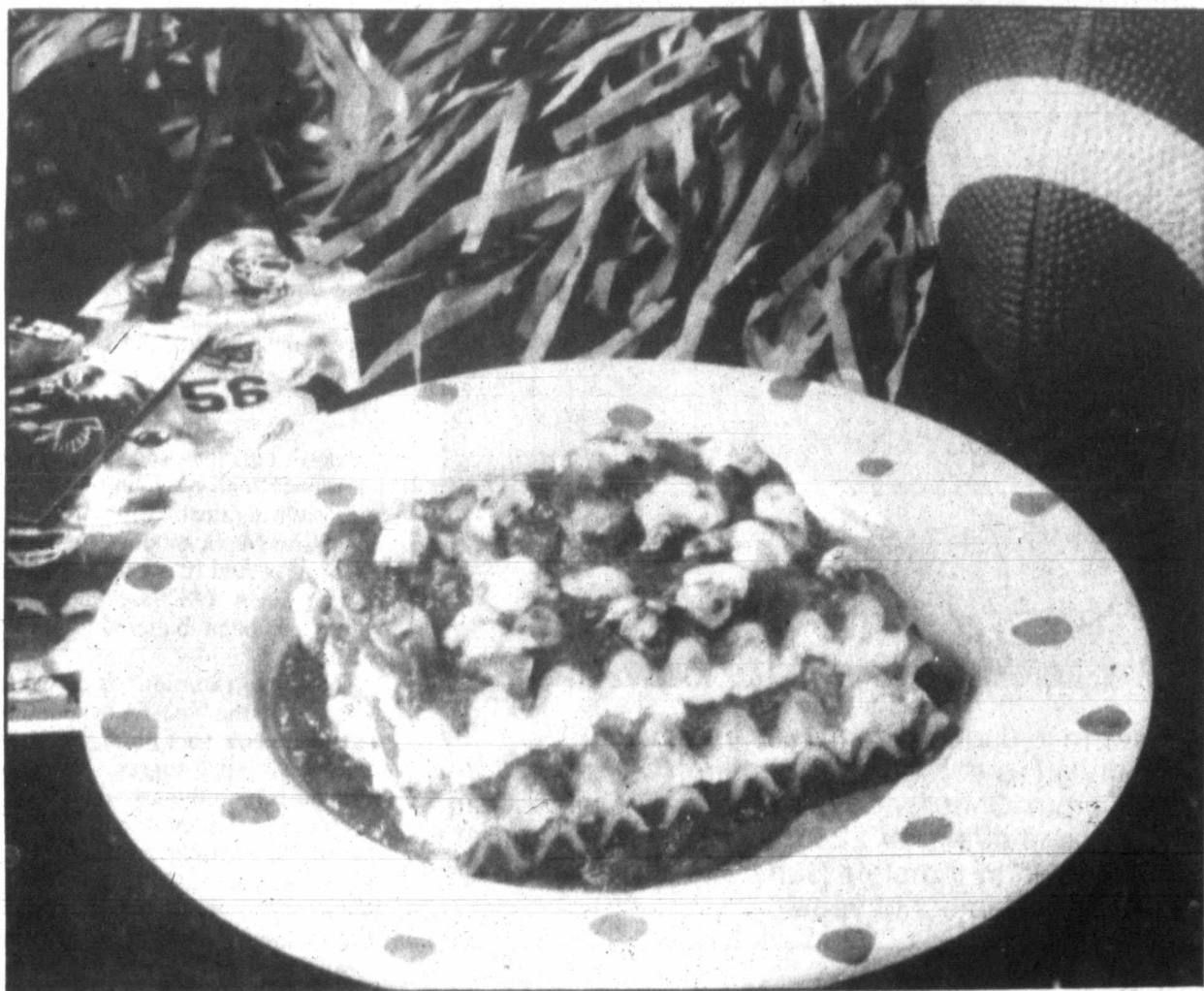
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Food

A super lasagna for a super bowl party



(AP photo)

For a Super Bowl main dish: Buffalo Chicken Lasagna. The recipe serves 10. It's quick and easy to fix because the noodles don't need to be cooked before assembling.

By The Associated Press

To please the fans at your Super Bowl party: Buffalo chicken lasagna, with the flavor of Buffalo chicken wings and the tanginess of blue cheese. The following recipe, which serves 10, is quick to fix because there's no need to cook the lasagna before assembling.

Buffalo Chicken Lasagna
 12 pieces lasagna, uncooked
 Vegetable oil cooking spray
 1 pound skinless, boneless chicken breasts, diced
 4 cups low-sodium spaghetti sauce
 1 1/2 cups water
 2 to 3 tablespoons hot pepper sauce
 2 tablespoons vinegar
 1 teaspoon garlic salt
 15-ounce container part-skim ricotta cheese
 1/2 cup egg substitute
 3/4 cup crumbled blue cheese
 Spray a large skillet with cooking spray; place over medium-high heat until hot. Add chicken; saute 4 min-

utes. Drain well. Stir in spaghetti sauce, water, hot pepper sauce, vinegar and garlic salt.

In a bowl, combine ricotta cheese and egg substitute. Set aside.

Spray a 9- by 13-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

Spread 1 cup of the sauce over the bottom of the pan. Arrange four pieces of lasagna (three lengthwise, one widthwise) over the sauce. Cover with 1 1/2 cups of the sauce. Spread half of the ricotta mixture on top. Arrange another four pieces of lasagna over ricotta, and top with another 1 1/2 cups of the sauce. Spread remaining ricotta mixture on top. Arrange final four pieces of lasagna over ricotta mixture; cover with remaining sauce.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Cover lasagna with foil and bake for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Uncover lasagna, sprinkle blue cheese on top, bake an additional 5 minutes uncovered. Let stand 15 minutes, covered, before serving. Makes 10 servings.

Nutrition facts per serving: 284 cal., 21.7 g pro., 28.3 carbo., 9.6 g fat, 584 mg sodium, 42.9 mg chol.

Low-fat choices in fast food

By NANCY BYAL, Food Editor
 Better Homes and Gardens Magazine
 For AP Special Features

We all succumb to the drive-through, fast-food urge on occasion. But before rolling down your window, consider these lower-fat choices. Our preferred list indicates the teaspoons of fat per serving. One teaspoon of fat is about 36 calories (4 grams of fat per teaspoon multiplied by 9 calories per gram).

Opt for burgers with one patty or those made with a meat substitute,

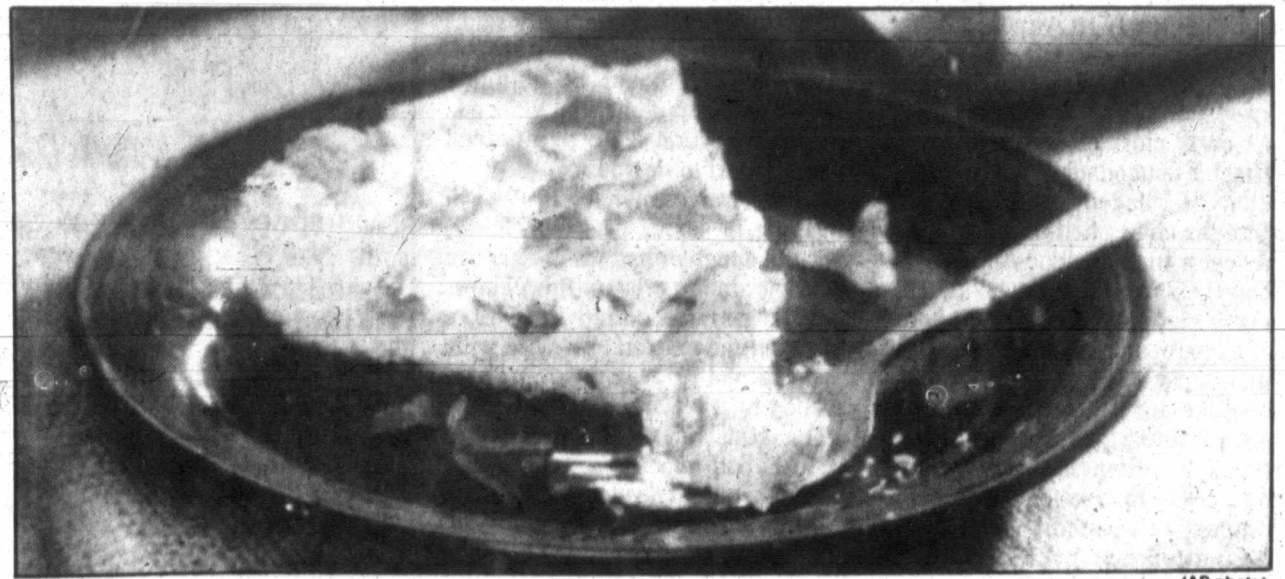
such as the McDonald's McLean Deluxe. The lowest in fat are McDonald's Hamburger (2 teaspoons fat) or Wendy's Jr. Hamburger (2 1/4 teaspoons fat) or Hardee's Hamburger (2 1/2 teaspoons fat) or McDonald's McLean Deluxe (2 1/2 teaspoons fat).

The best chicken sandwiches are grilled. The lowest in fat are Wendy's Grilled Chicken Fillet (3/4 teaspoon fat) or Hardee's Grilled Chicken Sandwich (2 1/4 teaspoons fat).

Best-bet salads let you control the amount of dressing. Many fast-food

spots offer nonfat dressings. The lowest in fat are McDonald's Chunky Chicken Salad (less than 1 teaspoon fat, no dressing) or Burger King's Chunky Chicken Salad (about 1 teaspoon fat, no dressing) or Wendy's Grilled Chicken Salad (2 teaspoons fat, no dressing).

When you're on the run at breakfast time, opt for breads, cereals and low-fat dairy products. Lowest in fat: McDonald's Apple Bran Muffin (0 teaspoon fat) or English Muffin with Butter (1 teaspoon fat).



(AP photo)

Cheese, bacon and bread cake makes a hearty, country-style weekend breakfast. A cheesy bacon filling is baked in a soft bread shell.

Breakfast that bakes in a skillet

For a hearty, country-style weekend breakfast, bake and serve this casserole from an oven-going skillet. Line the skillet first with a rich biscuit dough, then add the cheesy bacon filling. When you pop it into the oven, the dough bakes into a soft bread shell. You'll find each wedge serves as easy as pie.

Cheese, Bacon and Bread Bake
 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 1/2 teaspoon dried dillweed
 1/2 teaspoon finely shredded lemon peel

8-ounce carton dairy sour cream
 8 slices bacon
 1/2 cup ricotta cheese
 1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
 3-ounce package cream cheese
 3 tablespoons milk
 2 teaspoons Dijon-style mustard
 1 green onion, finely chopped
 1 tablespoon snipped parsley

In a medium mixing bowl stir together flour, baking powder, baking soda, dillweed and lemon peel. Stir in sour cream. On a lightly floured surface, knead dough until smooth. Cover and set aside. In a 10-inch oven-safe skillet cook bacon until crisp. Drain on

paper towels. Crumble when cool enough to handle. Set aside. Cool skillet; wipe with paper towels.

Press dough onto the bottom and 1/2 inch up the sides of the skillet; sprinkle with all but 2 tablespoons of the crumbled bacon. In a medium mixing bowl stir together ricotta, Swiss cheese, cream cheese, milk, mustard, green onion and parsley; spread in the skillet.

Bake in a 400-degree-F oven about 25 minutes or until golden. Cool slightly. Cut into wedges to serve; sprinkle with reserved bacon. Makes 8 main-dish servings.

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HOMELAND®

Lifestyles

Seven ways to fake great skin

By LADIES' HOME JOURNAL
A Meredith Magazine
For AP Special Features

Anyone can have a beautiful complexion — with the right foundation, concealer and powder, and the know-how to apply them, says Ladies' Home Journal magazine. It's easier than it sounds. Treat your skin to a flawless finish with these tips from top makeup pros.

Blend foundation the expert way, says Diana L. Carswell, of Washington, D.C.: Apply with your fingers or a sponge in short, downward strokes (this allows foundation to set on the skin, not be absorbed). Then lightly glide a clean sponge over face to remove any excess. Allow foundation to set for two minutes before applying powder.

Conceal blemishes and brown spots with this

Give a matte look to oily skin with a dual-powder foundation, says Michael Maron, artistic director of cosmetics for Matrix Essentials. "Skip moisturizer, or use an oil-free formula where skin is driest. Sponge-apply foundation, using downward strokes to prevent facial hair from being noticeable."

trick from Trish McEvoy, of New York City: Spot-apply foundation with a cotton swab where needed. Pat-blend with ring finger, let dry for two minutes, buff with a dry swab. Apply foundation all over face; powder to set.

Minimize pores instantly with face powder, says Cover Girl makeup pro B.J. Gillian. "Apply over foundation with a puff; press gently into skin all over center of face. Stick to a translucent shade or one that matches your foundation."

De-emphasize wrinkles by using a concealer one shade lighter than skin tone, says Gillian. "Paint" it on lines and grooves with a small eyeliner brush, then pat-blend edges seamlessly into skin.

Give a matte look to oily skin with a dual-powder foundation, says Michael Maron, artistic director of cosmetics for Matrix Essentials. "Skip moisturizer, or use an oil-free formula where skin is driest. Sponge-apply foundation, using downward strokes to prevent facial hair from being noticeable."

Refresh dry skin by using tinted moisturizer instead of foundation, says Carswell. "It will provide warm, dewy color for a sheer, skinlike, non-caky look."

Camouflage dark circles, says Carswell, by applying concealer with lip brush so you can easily cover the dark area between the eye and the nose. Apply one light layer, wait 10 seconds, then apply the second layer with a damp sponge. Apply foundation after concealer with a damp sponge to eye area first, then to the rest of the face, for texture and color consistency.

Library features program series



(Pampa News photo by Melinda Martinez)

Loralee Cooley, Storyspinner, will be the first featured program speaker for "Sunday Among the Stacks" at Lovett Memorial Library this Sunday beginning at 3 p.m.

Now that Lovett Memorial Library is open to the public on Sunday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., the Pampa Lovett Library Foundation will be sponsoring a special program series for the current year, called "Sunday Among the Stacks."

"We are delighted that our new hours will make it possible for us to bring a variety of entertaining and educational programs to this area as a public service," Dan Sinder, librarian, said.

The first offering will be a program for children at 3 p.m. this Sunday, featuring professional storyteller Loralee Cooley of Pampa.

On Feb. 12, a presentation on genealogy by Mary Kay Snell, director of Library Services in Amarillo, is set for 3 p.m. A program featuring Gracie Eddins, voice and piano teacher of Pampa, is set at 3 p.m. on March 5. Eddins will star in the Amarillo Opera, Inc.'s production of "Red Chief" by Canyon composer Gene Murray. The original one-act opera is based on a short story by O. Henry. On April 9, Joe Kyle Reeve, from Clarendon College, will speak on business resources at the library.

Future programs will be announced at a later date. Admission is free and open to all library patrons.

Nursery rhymes and bedtime poetry

By MAGGIE JACKSON
Associated Press Writer

Traditions, rich in history and color, are a crucial thread in the tapestry of family life. And nursery rhymes, passed down through the ages, are a particularly pleasant tradition to share.

In "Ian Penney's Book of Nursery Rhymes" (Harry N. Abrams Inc.), a dozen or so of these age-old rhymes receive an elegant treatment. His detailed illustrations are a visual feast, with something new revealed in each reading. (Try to find the acorn on each page. It's harder than it sounds!)

Tipping his hat to the British roots of the most beloved nursery rhymes, Penney also sets his full-page illustrations at various British landmarks. A plump Humpty Dumpty, for example, sits atop Hadrian's Wall, the Roman wall spanning northern England. Penney's eye for such detail makes

old favorites come alive. Turning the Ordinary into Poetry

The venerable Shirley Hughes is herself a master of tradition — toddler traditions, that is.

With her gifted eye for the magic of a young child's day, Hughes brings us the "Nursery Collection" (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books), a compilation of short books on opposites, numbers, colors and shapes. In them, Hughes once again turns the usual toddler fare into poetry.

"Bathwater's hot. Seawater's cold," begins the first book, showing Hughes' little heroine — well-loved from other books — delighting in her nightly bath, or scampering toward the ocean, clasping her mother's hand.

My 2 1/2-year-old had definite preferences, favoring the clever counting tale of the girl's walk to the park with her grandfather and skipping over the more wordy section on color. That said, she chooses

the book for her bedtime reading night after night. Bedtime Poetry

Combining the tradition of the bedtime story with some favorite nursery rhymes, Michael Hague selects and illustrates "Sleep, Baby, Sleep" (Morrow Junior Books), a compilation of lullabies and bedtime poetry.

The idea is interesting and the book offers a broad range of fare, from classics such as "Rockabye baby, In the treetop ..." to lesser-known poems by Kipling, Tennyson or Robert Louis Stevenson.

Yet I found the book cold and aloof, partly because of the inclusion of so many stiffly-worded 19th-century works and partly because of the stylized illustrations.

The pictures keep step with the old-fashioned text, showing romanticized women clutching angelic babes and elfin waifs rising from ornate flowers in the wood. If such romanticism appeals, the book may be inviting.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Page 10

Senior patrons are humiliated by shops' patronizing clerks

DEAR ABBY: I am writing on behalf of many senior citizens who do their shopping accompanied by a younger companion. Invariably the salesperson will direct his or her inquiries to the younger person, making such comments as, "What is she looking for today?" Or, "What size does he wear?"

Elderly people find these comments irritating and humiliating. Even if infirm in body, most senior citizens can answer any questions themselves. This applies to physically challenged people, too — especially the wheelchair-bound.

Please enlighten salespeople that our senior citizens deserve to be addressed directly, and with dignity. The sale may depend upon it.

CALIFORNIA READER

DEAR READER: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to remind my readers once more that this is an important part of being a first-class salesperson. Food servers should also follow this rule.

DEAR ABBY: My sentiments about child safety leashes echo those expressed in some letters you published this last fall.

Knowing that people who put their children on leashes are frequently criticized, I make it a point to compliment anybody I see who



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

has a child on a leash. I have seen many at Disneyland. In fact, Disneyland sells wrist leashes.

Abby, not only are children safer when they are on leashes, they are more comfortable than they'd be with their arms held above their heads — especially if the adult is holding the child's hand very tightly.

However, I prefer harnesses to wrist leads because a child can learn to undo a wrist lead. Another advantage is that harnesses have side straps that can be fastened to buggies, market carts and restaurant high chairs. Also, if a child becomes used to a harness as soon as he can sit up, he will not fight it as a toddler.

As for strangers who are critical of putting leashes on children, just remember — if that child who was killed in Liverpool, England, had been on a leash, he would be alive today.

Leashes on small children are imperative for their safety and com-

fort. And to those who think it's demeaning to lead a child around like a dog, I say, "Better a live dog than a dead child."

JUANITA MATASSA, SANTA ANA, CALIF.

DEAR JUANITA: I say, "Amen."

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently moved into town from the country.

Our problem is our neighbors. They see no reason to pull their window shades down when they are in their bedroom or bathroom. Abby, we are not window peepers, but it's difficult to avoid seeing what's going on in their apartment.

Is there any rule in Abby's book of manners that deals with this problem?

RELUCTANT PEEPERS

DEAR PEEPERS: Be good neighbors and inform the people across the way that they should keep their shades drawn.

A New York reader who lives on the 35th floor of a high-rise apartment confessed that on one occasion he had used a pair of binoculars to look into the bedroom window of the apartment directly across from him.

Imagine his surprise when he saw a man looking at him through a pair of binoculars!

Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 4465, New York, NY 10163.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you engage in a competition today, do your best, but don't punish yourself or others if your team fails to win.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Try not to tip your hand prematurely regarding your career objectives today. Someone listening might be working against you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) In the final analysis, the only person likely to be impressed by your big schemes today may be you. Keep this in mind when making your pitch to others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Manage your financial matters astutely today or the sizable gains you've anticipated might go directly into someone else's pocket.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Rely on knowledge you've gained from personal experience rather than on advice from a well-meaning friend who has never had a similar problem.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Hard feel-

ings will result today if you only look out for yourself and ignore the contributions of your associates.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) If you're hoping friendly forces will get you off the hook you got onto by yourself, you will be sorely disappointed. Handle things as if the cavalry isn't available.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Put your full weight behind your most ambitious endeavor today, or you're apt to fall short of the mark. Go all out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Do not be a pessimist today, but don't underestimate the negative effect of seemingly frivolous matters, either. Assess each and every situation separately.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Resist the temptation to spend money you don't actually have. Do not pretend it's in the bank before you've really put it there.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You might be too easily swayed by the opinions of others today. The know-it-alls who bend your ear might not be as smart as you think.

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Horoscope



Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 12, 1995

In the coming year, you might resurrect an old enterprise that never fully developed. This time you'll know how to give it room to grow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Trouble will erupt today if you feel you should be compensated for your services without conceding that the efforts of others should be as well. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph



"...and whenever you want anything you hafta say the magic word: Mommy."



"Marmaduke! I don't think she wants to see what you dragged out of a hole in the backyard..."

The Family Circus



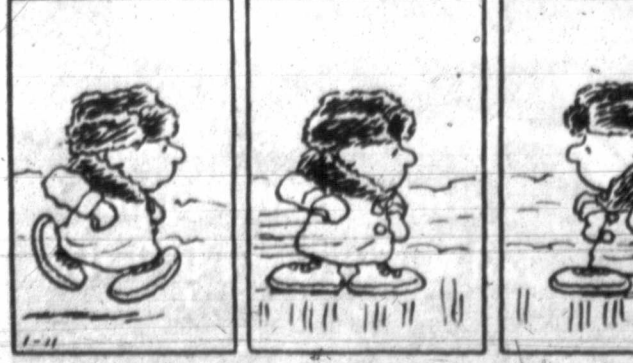
Marmaduke



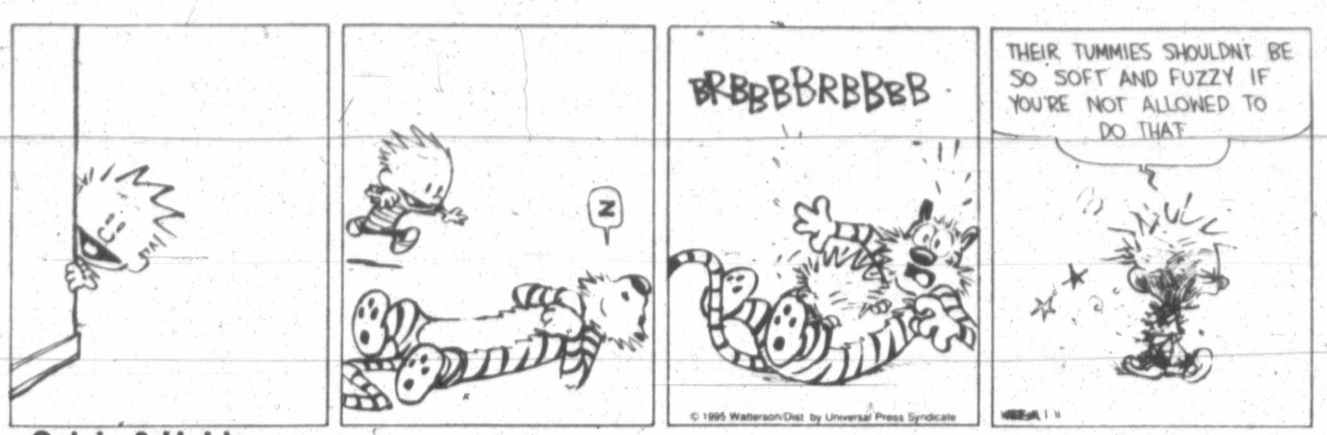
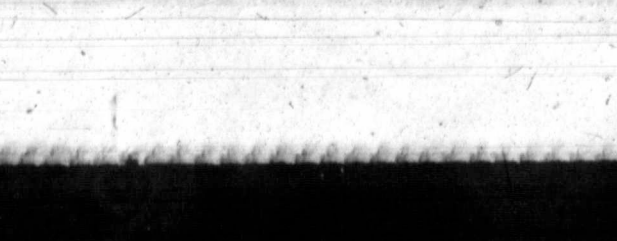
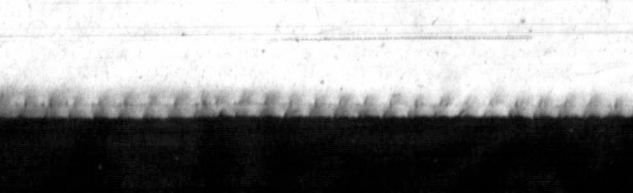
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



Calvin & Hobbes



Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



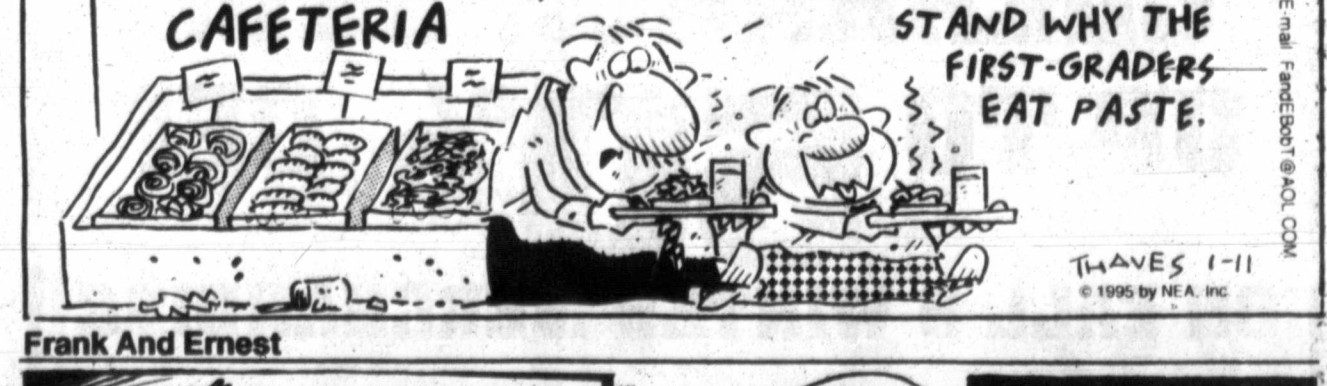
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore



Sports

Notebook

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

PAMPA — Foreign exchange student Ville Hanni scored four goals as Pampa opened the high school soccer season by shutting out Canyon, 9-0, Tuesday.

Ville Hanni, from Finland, scored two goals in the third minute and 10th minute of the first half. He added two more at the 42nd and 46th minute of the second half.

Salvador Del Fierro scored two goals and also had an assist. Ben Padgett and Randal Odom scored on penalty kicks while Blane Northcutt had a goal. Kyle Johnson, Eric Ritchey and Padgett had assists for the Harvesters.

"I was pretty pleased with the way we played. We wanted to take control of the game and we were able to do that," said Pampa head coach Daniel Barker.

Odom drew Pampa's only yellow card. The Harvesters host Lubbock Monterey at 2 p.m. Saturday at Harvester Stadium.

HOCKEY

NEW YORK (AP) — The NHL players' union today accepted the owners' latest contract offer, ending the 103-day lockout and saving what would have been the first pro sports season lost to a labor dispute.

"We're happy that hockey is hopefully going to be played very soon," NHL Players' Association president Mike Gartner said in making the announcement outside the union's Toronto office.

Gartner said a ratification vote will be held among the union's approximately 700 members. He said no practices would be held until the ratification was complete.

"We've definitely got a settlement," Anaheim Mighty Duck player representative Bob Corkum said by telephone from California. "We've agreed in principle to a deal. We were pretty much pressed for time. We thought it was a good deal."

Corkum said by telephone from California that Goodenow would fax each team a copy of the proposal with the recommendation that they accept it.

No date for a vote by the union was announced immediately.

"It think it will be Friday when we get back on the ice and we will be playing the following Friday, probably with a 48-game schedule," Corkum said.

The players' announcement came a day after a marathon session in New York of hard bargaining, proposals, counter-proposals and intense conference calls, with free agency the last major obstacle.

"Are we happy about the scars that have been created for the game of hockey?" asked Gartner. "Are we happy about losing millions of dollars? Are we happy about the relations between owners and players has been severely hindered?"

"No we're not happy about that. But we're happy that hockey is hopefully going to be played very soon."

The owners' final proposal was a six-year deal that included unrestricted free agency for players 32 years of age in the first three years of the contract and for those 31 in the last three.

Corkum added that both sides can reopen the contract after four years.

"I still have mixed feelings," he said of the agreement.

"A lot of guys will be hurt. At the same time something had to be done. We didn't think it was worth missing a season for it. We can live with it," Corkum said.

"I don't think that we compromised. It was the best deal that Boib Goodenow could get. And now we're playing hockey."

Owners had set noon Tuesday as the "drop dead" date for the agreement to be reached, but that was dismissed amid feverish contract talks between commissioner Gary Bettman and Goodenow. The main negotiators met for more than 20 hours and fashioned an agreement that was presented to the league's Board of Governors on Tuesday.

The governors rejected the players' proposal, basically because of a disagreement about free agency.

The players proposed free agency at the age of 32 for the first year and then 31 for the next five of a 6-year contract. The owners board voted down the players' proposal by the narrowest of margins: 14-12.

FOOTBALL

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — The 1994 Sun Bowl featuring a matchup between Texas and North Carolina attracted the game's second-lowest television audience in 10 years.

The A.C. Nielsen & Co. survey gave the Sun Bowl a final 4.6 rating. Each ratings point represents about 954,000 households, which means the Dec. 30 game was seen in roughly 4.3 million homes.

The bowl game attracted a 12 share, which means 12 percent of the nation's TV sets in use at the time were tuned to the game.

Sun Bowl executive director Tom Starr put a positive spin on the news.

"This is very good," Starr said in Wednesday editions of the El Paso Times. "A 4.6 is not bad in respect with college football today."

Starr noted the Sun Bowl finished better than the Carquest Bowl (rating 3.8) and did almost as well as the Cotton Bowl (4.8).

"You need to consider the others had the advantage of playing on Christmas or the New Year's Day weekend, when more people were off and had a chance to watch," he said. "We played on a Friday when people were still working."

The Sun Bowl's final numbers showed an increase from the preliminary overnight rating of 4.0.

But the game still finished as the second-lowest rated game in 10 years, just ahead of the 1988 Alabama-Army match up that finished with a 4.2.



Pampa's Coy Laury soars to the basket while teammate Devin Lemons (left) waits for a possible rebound during a District 1-4A game Tuesday night against Dumas.

Harvesters blitz Dumas

The Pampa Harvesters are back on the winning track after derailing Dumas Tuesday night at McNeeley Fieldhouse with a decisive 91-44 victory.

The Harvesters raised their overall record to 16-6 and are now 2-1 in District 1-4A play. The Harvesters lost a district game to Canyon, 66-55, last Friday night after going unbeaten in district last season in capturing their sixth consecutive championship.

Coy Laury paced Pampa in scoring with 18 points while Rayford Young had 15, Duane Nickelberry 13, Devin Lemons 12 and J.J. Mathis 11.

Greg Glover led Dumas with 12 points, followed by Phillip Reed with 10.

Others scoring for the Harvesters were Robert Bremerman with 8, Jason Weatherbee 7, Jeremy King 4 and Jimmy Reed 3. Nickelberry, Reed, Young and Weatherbee had one 3-point goal each.

"We fought back after last week, went out and played hard and had some fun. That's a key for us," said Pampa head coach Robert Hale. "If you don't play hard, you're not going to have fun and if you're going to have fun, you have to play hard."

Pampa breezed to a 40-18 halftime lead against Dumas, which falls to 7-12 overall and 0-3 in the district standings.

The Harvesters had a commanding 43-24 margin on the boards while forcing Dumas into 23 turnovers. Lemons was Pampa's leading rebounder with 11 rebounds.

"We kind of floated the first half, but we came out the second half and played with a lot more intensity," said Hale. "We know Dumas is trying to build their program, but by the same token we know if we go out and play hard we're going to get better."

Pampa takes on Borger at 7:30 p.m. Friday night in Borger.

"Right now, we need two good practices which will carry over into Friday night," Hale added.

Borger is 12-7 for the season and 1-1 in district play.

The Pampa 9th grade basketball team ran their record to 9-2 with a 58-55 overtime win over Caprock on Thursday.

Tyson Alexander was high scorer for Pampa with 17 points while Bryan Waldrip followed with 10. Gabe Wilson led Pampa on the boards with 12 rebounds.

The Pampa freshmen have also won tournaments at Borger and Pteron this season.

Other team members include Jess Sublett, Seth Scribbling, Lynn Brown, Jamarius Osborne, Lucas Jaramillo, Shannon Reed and Juan Portillo.

"If we continue to work hard in practice, we should win the rest of our games," said Pampa coach Troy Bell.

Candlestick turf holding up against heavy rain

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Though the sidelines resembled small lakes, the field at waterlogged Candlestick Park was in fairly good shape as workers removed protective tarps in preparation for Sunday's NFC championship game.

The tarps have covered the grass since last Saturday's playoff game

against Chicago because of almost constant rain. A series of storms caused flooding across California and prompted President Clinton to declare 24 counties as disaster areas.

The rain also forced the San Francisco 49ers to flee from their practice facilities in Santa Clara to

Phoenix in order to prepare in drier conditions for the game against the Cowboys.

A break in the weather on Tuesday gave groundskeepers at Candlestick a chance to unveil the field. Sixteen workers wrapped in yellow rain slickers struggled in heavy wind to drain and roll up the seven tarps.

Dumas downs Lady Harvesters

The Pampa Lady Harvesters looked impressive in the second half against Dumas Tuesday night, but a poor shooting first half did them in as Dumas notched a 61-49 win in McNeeley Fieldhouse.

Pampa got behind by 12 (42-30) at halftime, but the Lady Harvesters came out much stronger the second half. They equaled Dumas in second-half points and had cut the Demonettes' lead to 5 points in the third quarter. But Dumas was able to stay on top the rest of the way.

"We couldn't buy a basket the first half. However, the girls came out and played well both the third and fourth quarters," said PHS head coach Mike Jones. "I was proud of them."

Serenity King was the leading scorer for Pampa with 14 points, followed by Jane Brown, Tashia Wilson and Misty Scribner with 8 points each. Jennifer Jones had 6 points, Kristi Carpenter and Melissa Treadwell, 2 each, and Erin Alexander, 1.

Shayna Higley was Dumas' top scorer with 12 points.

Cowher says Steelers are focused on game

PITTSBURGH (AP) — While the city of Pittsburgh already is gripped by Super Bowl fever, the players in charge of getting the Steelers there aren't getting carried away.

Coach Bill Cowher won't allow it.

"We've got a focused team," Cowher said Tuesday, the players' only day off before Sunday's AFC championship game with the San Diego Chargers. "This thing started way back at probably the start of December. People started talking about our football team, and I've been impressed with how our players handled all the potential distractions that come with success."

"I think handling success may be a lot harder than handling adversity. I think we have been able to

keep things in perspective, maintain a focus, and we can continue to do that and take this thing one game at a time and let everybody else get caught up in it ... because they should."

"That is why we are in this business, to get a city excited, get a city behind you like this city has rallied behind this football team," added Cowher, a native of Pittsburgh. "That is for them (the fans) to do. For us to do is focus on the opponent and not lose sight of how we got to where we are at."

This is the closest the Steelers have gotten to the Super Bowl since 1984, when they lost in the AFC title game to Miami. They haven't played for the NFL championship since winning their fourth Super Bowl in six years after the 1979 season.

Star, Mavs may desert Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — At Steve Bartlett's office, assistants are answering the telephone, "Go Cowboys. This is the mayor's office."

It's no wonder. The Cowboys, who are playing San Francisco in the NFC championship game Sunday, are about the best news in Dallas these days. Ironically, they're not in Dallas.

The Cowboys moved to the city of Irving in 1972. The Texas Rangers are in Arlington. And Dallas' NHL and NBA teams, the Stars and Mavericks, are making it clear that they'll have no qualms about leaving if another city offers the right sports complex package.

At the moment, the city of Lewisville is a contender in the battle to lure the discontented teams from Reunion Arena in downtown Dallas. Should both choose to leave, it appears that Dallas would be the only major metropolitan U.S. city without a sports team calling it home — yet three use "Dallas" as part of their name.

"It may be the first of a trend though because ... some of the newer facilities have been built in suburban areas. There's generally a lot of talk about teams leaving their inner-city arenas and building nice, shiny, new homes in the suburbs," Jim Andrews, vice president of International Events Group in Chicago, said Tuesday.

"Dallas might be the first but they certainly wouldn't be the last."

Bartlett is somewhat touchy about the arena subject, insisting that the city of Dallas is close to a deal with the Mavericks in which a new arena will be built without taxpayer money. The city then will negotiate with the hockey team, he said.

"I guess it's troublesome that suddenly ... somebody would wake up and say, 'Yeah, well, it must be going badly,'" he said of negotiations with the two teams. "Maybe it's just that people feel so bad about some prior city council back in the 1960s losing the Cowboys. They don't believe that Dallas could do something right."

Andrews said the suburbs often can offer the room to build a bigger facility with more parking. They are perceived as safer than inner cities. And some suburban communities are offering packages that are too good for pro teams to refuse, he said.

Hosting a professional sports team means more than just revenue from tickets and parking. It also translates into overnight stays, shopping, eating and "all of that ancillary business that happens around a professional sports franchise," Andrews said.

For the city of Lewisville, it's an estimated \$50 million economic impact, said Larry Smith, past chairman of the city's chamber of commerce.

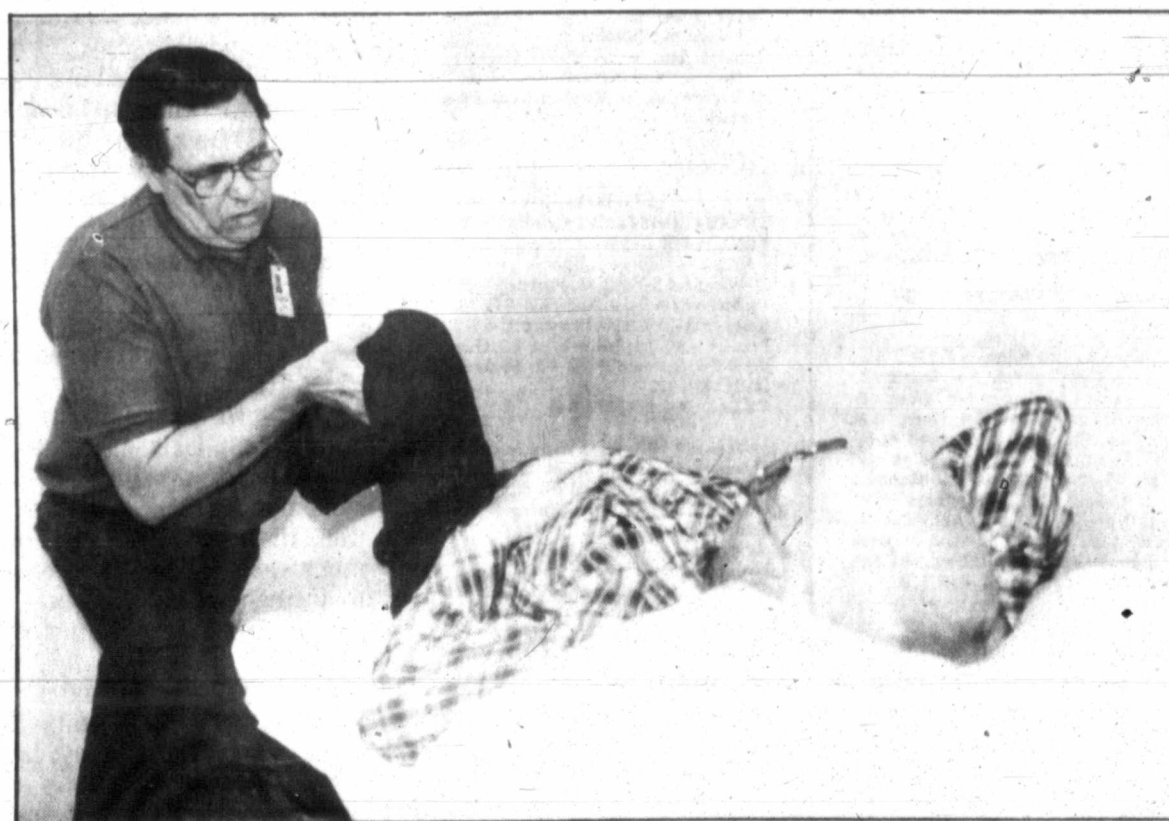
Lewisville voters will decide Jan. 21 whether to approve a half-cent sales tax increase to fund a \$40 million arena bond. Denton County officials also have agreed to put up \$20 million for the complex, which is estimated to cost \$120 million to \$150 million.

"What we're in the process of doing here is trying to put us into a position if Dallas isn't able to come to an agreement with the Mavericks and Stars," said Smith, who also is chairman of the Committee for the Lewisville Sports Arena.

In addition to the direct economic impact, a sports franchise brings intangible benefits, such as national name recognition. And that helps attract new industry, Andrews and Smith said.

"It also puts them on the map," Andrews said. "It's a nice thing to be able to say we have the Mavericks (and) the Stars here ... that's a hell of a pitch that nobody else can make."

GREAT PHYSICAL THERAPY HERE IN PAMPA



(Pictured Above: Physical Therapist Gary Garrett provides Pampa resident Clifford Martindale some hands on therapy.)

Coronado Hospital has recently been blessed with the hiring of some excellent therapists in the fields of Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy. The outpatient clinic continues to grow as Pampa residents find that they can receive the best rehabilitation and pain relief within minutes from home. Gary, the therapist pictured above, comes to us with 24 years experience and has been a welcome addition to the team.. We look forward to helping you get better.

If you need more information or have questions please call us!



CORONADO HOSPITAL Rehabilitation Services at

665-3721 extension 199.

Scoreboard

PRO FOOTBALL

National Football League

Playoffs At A Glance

Wild Card Playoffs
Saturday, Dec. 31
Green Bay 16, Detroit 12
Miami 27, Kansas City 17
Sunday, Jan. 1
Cleveland 20, New England 13
Chicago 35, Minnesota 18

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 7
Pittsburgh 29, Cleveland 9
San Francisco 44, Chicago 15
Sunday, Jan. 8
Dallas 35, Green Bay 9
San Diego 22, Miami 21

Sunday, Jan. 15
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 12:30 p.m.
Dallas at San Francisco, 4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 29
Super Bowl at Miami, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 5
Pro Bowl at Honolulu, 6 p.m.

PRO BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

At A Glance

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct.	GB	
Orlando	26	7	788	—
New York	19	12	613	6
Boston	13	19	406 1/2	1/2
New Jersey	13	23	36 1/4	1/2
Miami	10	21	32 1/2	1/2
Philadelphia	10	21	32 1/2	1/2
Washington	7	25	219 1/2	1/2

Central Division

W	L	Pct.	GB	
Cleveland	21	11	656	—
Charlotte	20	12	625	1
Indiana	19	12	613 1/2	1/2
Chicago	17	15	531	4
Atlanta	15	19	441	7
Detroit	10	20	333	10
Milwaukee	10	22	313	11

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

W	L	Pct.	GB	
Utah	22	10	688	—
Houston	20	10	667	1
San Antonio	19	10	655 1/2	1/2
Denver	16	15	516 1/2	1/2
Dallas	14	15	483 1/2	1/2
Minnesota	6	25	194 1/2	1/2

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct.	GB	
Phoenix	25	7	781	—
Seattle	22	9	710	2 1/2
L.A. Lakers	20	10	667	4
Sacramento	18	13	581 1/2	1/2
Portland	17	14	548 1/2	1/2
Golden State	15	16	523	1/2
L.A. Clippers	5	27	156	20

Tuesday's Games

Atlanta 99, Washington 96
Charlotte 116, Cleveland 108, OT
Detroit 98, New Jersey 84
New York 117, Indiana 106
Sacramento 98, Minnesota 85
Chicago 109, Orlando 77
San Antonio 108, L.A. Clippers 97
Seattle 128, Golden State 118, OT

Wednesday's Games

Indiana at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Miami at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Utah, 9 p.m.
Golden State at Portland, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Miami at San Antonio, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Denver, 9 p.m.
Cleveland at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Friday's Games
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Boston, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
New York at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Clippers-Spurs, Box

L.A. CLIPPERS (97)
Murray 7-13 3-5 19, Vaughn 7-15 3-3 17, Outlaw 3-6 5-10 11, Richardson 5-15 2-4 14, Dehere 9-17 3-4 22, Massenburg 2-6 2-2 6, Grant 1-1 0-0 2, Platkowski 2-6 0-0 5, Ellis 0-0 0-0 0, Woods 0-1 1-2 1. Totals 36-80 19-37.
SAN ANTONIO (108)
Reid 1-2 1-2 3, Elliott 2-6 0-0 4, Robinson 11-22 11-23, Johnson 2-8 5-10 9, Del Negro 7-12 1-2 18, Person 8-17 0-0 16, Rodman 4-6 2-3 10, Rivers 4-7 0-0 10, Cummings 1-4 3-4 5. Totals 40-84 23-33 108.
L.A. Clippers 37 13 31 16 — 97
San Antonio 26 28 25 29 — 108

3 Point Goals

— Los Angeles 6-17
Murray 2-3, Richardson 2-6, Dehere 1-3, Platkowski 1-3, Vaughn 0-1, Woods 0-1, San Antonio 5-11 (Del Negro 3-3, Rivers 2-4, Person 0-4). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Los Angeles 45 (Vaughn 15), San Antonio 64 (Rodman 21). Assists—Los Angeles 27 (Richardson 7), San Antonio 26 (Johnson 13). Total fouls—Los Angeles 26, San Antonio 21. Technical—San Antonio illegal defense, A—15, 729.

TRANSACTIONS

Tuesday's Sports Transactions

AUTO RACING

INDY RACING LEAGUE—Agreed to terms with ABC on a television contract for the 1996 season.

BASEBALL

American League

DETROIT TIGERS—Named John McHale Jr. president and chief executive officer.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES—Signed Michael Twardoski, first baseman; Jose Munoz, infielder; Lee Heath and Donald Shepherd, outfielders; Johnny Onto, catcher; Hector Roa, shortstop; Bobby Moore, outfielder; David Bassant and Royal Thomas, pitchers.

COLORADO ROCKIES—Promoted Karin Beashear to manager of player relations.

South Atlantic League

CHARLESTON ALLEY CATS—Named Razor Shinn manager.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS—Activated Chris Mullin, forward, from the injured list. Placed Carlos Rogers, forward, on the injured list.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS—Signed Lester Conner, guard, to a 10-day contract.

UTAH JAZZ—Signed Walter Bond, guard, to a 10-day contract. Placed David Bennett, forward, on the injured list.

HOCKEY

Collegiate Hockey League

BRANTFORD SMOKE—Announced that Trent Cull, defenseman, has been recalled to St. John's of the American Hockey League.

SOCCER

FIFA—Ferdinando Tognoni, director of the press department and Miguel Galan, director of the competition department.

Continental Indoor Soccer League

ARIZONA SANDSHARKS—Named Ron Newman coach.

National Professional Soccer League

BALTIMORE SPIRIT—Signed Mike

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

JUCO Div. I Poll

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — The top 20 teams in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I men's basketball poll with first place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 9 and total points:

Rank	Team	Record	Pts
1	Wabash Valley, Ill. (7)	10-0	102
2	Seward County, Kan. (5)	18-0	99
3	Odessa, Texas (2)	16-1	90
4	Spartanburg, S.C. (1)	13-1	81
5	Sullivan, Ky. (1)	14-1	75
6	Southern Idaho	17-1	62
7	Southern Union, Ala.	12-1	57
8	St. Petersburg, Fla.	15-1	48
9	Hutchinson, Kan.	16-1	41
10	Three Rivers, Mo.	14-2	35
11	Barton County, Kan.	18-1	33
12	Jones County, Miss.	15-1	32
13	Eastern Arizona	15-0	27
14	Southeastern Iowa	13-1	25
15	Cincinnati Tech	13-1	21
16	Daytona Beach, Fla.	16-2	19
17	Westark, Ark.	12-2	17
18	Genesee, N.Y.	12-0	13
19	Fashion Institute of Technology, N.Y.	11-0	12
20	New Mexico State	16-2	10
(tie)	Western Nebraska	14-3	10

Top 25 Schedule

By The Associated Press

All Times EST

Wednesday's Games

No. 2 Connecticut at Pittsburgh, 8 p.m.
No. 4 North Carolina vs. No. 22 Georgia Tech, 7 p.m.
No. 5 Arkansas vs. Mississippi State, 8 p.m.
No. 11 Michigan State at Indiana, 8 p.m.
No. 14 Wake Forest vs. No. 16 Duke, 9 p.m.

Thursday's Games

No. 1 Massachusetts vs. Rutgers, 8 p.m.
No. 6 UCLA vs. Washington, 10:30 p.m.
No. 12 Arizona State at Stanford, 10 p.m.
No. 13 Arizona at No. 20 California, Mid.
No. 17 Missouri vs. Notre Dame, 8 p.m.

Friday's Games

No games scheduled
Saturday's Games
No. 1 Massachusetts vs. No. 21 Pennsylvania, 9 p.m.
No. 2 Connecticut vs. Providence, 8 p.m.
No. 3 Kansas at No. 23 Iowa State, 3:45 p.m.
No. 4 North Carolina at No. 18 Clemson, Noon
No. 5 Arkansas at Auburn, 4 p.m.
No. 6 UCLA vs. Washington State, 4 p.m.
No. 7 Kentucky vs. Georgia, 1 p.m.
No. 8 Syracuse vs. Pittsburgh at Pittsburgh Civic Arena, 1 p.m.
No. 9 Maryland vs. No. 14 Wake Forest, 2 p.m.
No. 10 Georgetown vs. Boston College, 1 p.m.
No. 11 Michigan State vs. Oklahoma State, 1 p.m.
No. 12 Arizona State vs. No. 20 California at Oakland Coliseum Arena, 4 p.m.
No. 13 Arizona at Stanford, 10:30 p.m.
No. 15 Florida vs. Villanova, 3 p.m.
No. 16 Duke vs. Virginia, 4 p.m.
No. 17 Missouri vs. Kansas State, 8 p.m.
No. 19 Iowa vs. Purdue, 3 p.m.
No. 25 Oregon at Oregon State, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

No games scheduled
Monday, Jan. 16
No. 2 Connecticut vs. No. 10 Georgetown at the Hartford Civic Center, 7:30 p.m.

TCU-Texas, Box

TEXAS CHRISTIAN 102, TEXAS 98
TEXAS (7-3)
Wingfield 5-7 1-2 11, Freeman 4-10 2-2 10, McIver 2-4 0-4, Anderson 5-19 5-6 25, Rencher 11-25 7-9 30, Perryman 3-6 2-2 10, Penders 1-2 0-3, Dixon 1-1 1-2 3, Gilmore 0-1 0-0 0, Simpson 0-0 2-6 2. Totals 36-75 20-29 98.
TEXAS CHRISTIAN (9-4)
Thole 4-10 1-4 11, Waits 7-10 2-2 16, Thomas 8-12 7-9 23, Jacobs 10-14 2-2 26, Bragg 2-2 2-6, Turner 4-6 4-6 13, Jeans 0-0 0-0, Davis 0-0 1-2, Richards 2-2 2-6. Totals 37-62 21-29 102.
Halftime—TCU 35, Texas 50. 3-Point Goals—Texas 6-18 (Freeman 0-1, Anderson 2-7, Rencher 1-3, Perryman 2-5, Penders 1-2), TCU 7-15 (Thole 2-5, Jacobs 4-7, Bragg 0-2, Turner 1-1). Fouled out—Waits. Rebounds—Texas 29 (Simpson 7), TCU 44 (Waits, Thomas 13). Assists—Texas 15 (Anderson, Rencher 7), TCU 20 (Jacobs 7). Total fouls—Texas 21, TCU 22. Technicals—TCU bench, A—7, 166.

TV SPORTS WATCH

Live, same-day and delayed national TV sports coverage for Thursday.

All Times EST

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

3 p.m.
PRIME — LPGA Golf, Tournament of Champions, first round, at Orlando, Fla. 7 p.m.

ESPN — NCAA Basketball, Kansas St. at Nebraska 7:30 p.m.

PRIME — NCAA Basketball, Louisville at Virginia Tech 8 p.m.

TBS — NBA Basketball, Miami at San Antonio 8:30 p.m.

ESPN2 — IHL Hockey, Minnesota at Houston 9:30 p.m.

ESPN — NCAA Basketball, Cincinnati at Marquette 10 p.m.

PRIME — NCAA Basketball, Washington St. at Southern Cal 10:30 p.m.

TBS — PGA Golf, Hawaiian Open, first round, at Honolulu Midlight

ESPN — NCAA Basketball, Arizona at California

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PSHOF to honor Elam, Thomas

By L.D. STRATE
Sports Editor

River Road's baseball team took coach Marvin Elam on a roller coaster ride all season long, but the end results were very rewarding.

Elam, a Pampa native, will be honored during the 37th annual Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame Ceremonies next month in Amarillo.

Elam was selected as baseball coach of the year after guiding River Road to its first-ever playoff season in 1994. The Wildcats advanced to the Class 3A regional semifinals and was the first River Road team to win an area playoff game in any sport.

Elam, a 1973 PHS graduate, is in his fourth year as the River Road head baseball coach. River Road started its baseball program six

years ago when Elam was an assistant coach.

In 1994, the Wildcats defeated Dalhart, 6-3, in a District 1-3A playoff game to advance into the playoffs. River Road beat Vernon in the area round before bowing out to Southlake Carroll at regionals.

"I knew we were going to have a good team," says Elam, whose Wildcats finished with a 17-12 record. "We beat Randall early in the season and it took Pampa extra innings to beat us. We were up and down all season, but we were playing a lot of 4A teams. It was roller coaster ride. We lost our last three district games, which forced us into a playoff game with Dalhart. Our

area win was a big one for us because I felt like Vernon was the best team we had played all season."

With a wealth of experience returning, Elam expects River Road to reach the playoffs again.

"We'll have about the same team we had last year. We've got six starters back, so we should do real well," he said.

Elam was active as a coach in the Pampa Optimist Baseball Program for several years before graduating from West Texas A & M University in Canyon. He did his student teaching at Pampa and also helped coach the Harvesters' baseball team one season.

Another Pampan, Texas Tech football player Zach Thomas, will be honored along with Elam at the PSHOF ceremonies, which will be held Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. in

Amarillo College's Ordway Auditorium.

Thomas, a junior linebacker, was named athlete of the year in football. He made 116 tackles to lead the Red Raiders to their first Cotton Bowl since 1939. Thomas was named to the American Football Coaches Association All-America team, the United Press International All-America first-team and the Football News All-Southwest Conference first team.

As a sophomore, Thomas set an all-time bowl record with seven tackles behind the line of scrimmage against Oklahoma.

The ceremonies will be highlighted by the induction of Joe Gibson, Joe Hayes, Ken Cleveland and John Ayers into the Hall of Fame as the 98th, 99th, 100th and 101st members.



Elam

Lefors sweeps Bible Heritage

LEFORS — Tommy Green and Justin Howard combined for 46 points as Lefors downed Bible Heritage, 90-61, Tuesday night.

The Pirates were able to jump out to a 24-9 first-quarter lead. Green finished with 26 points while Howard had 20.

Jeff Gonzalez had 22 points and Jeramy Carney had 16 to lead Bible Heritage.

The Pirates led at halftime by 7

points, 38-31. In the girls' game, Lefors held off Bible Heritage, 39-34.

High scorer for Lefors was Karla Murray with 16 points. Heather Maples added 14.

The Lady Pirates led by 10 points going into the fourth quarter.

Aleisha Wall had 18 points for Bible Heritage.

The Lefors teams host Samnorwood at 6:30 Friday night.

Fort Elliott bounces Booker

BRISCOE — Justin Wesbrooks scored 21 points and Jake Swigart added 16 as Fort Elliott defeated Booker, 66-53, Tuesday night.

Tyler Mayfield had 23 points to lead Booker.

Fort Elliott led at the half, 34-24. Fort Elliott's record is now 14-6 while Booker drops to 9-11.

Fort Elliott also won the girls' game, 58-54.

Lindsay Fillingim was high scorer for Fort Elliott with 16 points, followed by Andrea Dukes with 15.

The Lady Cougars trailed at halftime by one, 28-27, but came back to take a 4-point lead, 40-36, going into the fourth quarter.

Melanie Brown had 19 points for Booker. Jamie Riggs followed with 12.

Seahawks' coaching situation becoming more confusing

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks' coaching situation has become more confusing — and it seems money is the main point of contention.

At issue is whether Dennis Erickson is coming to Seattle, going to another NFL team or staying at the University of Miami.

The Seahawks are talking to Erickson in Santa Clara, Calif., about the possibility of replacing fired Tom Flores as the team's fifth head coach.

Meanwhile, Philadelphia owner Jeff Lurie and Denver owner Pat Bowlen also were scheduled to meet with Erickson, The News Tribune reported today.

The News Tribune said Erickson will make up his mind in the next 24 hours whether to enter the NFL or stay in Miami, where he has seven guaranteed years remaining on a contract that pays him a base salary of \$700,000 a year.

"We're where we are at and I need to talk about it with my agent," Erickson said.

The News Tribune said revised counterproposals Tuesday by Seahawks president David Behring rescued a negotiation that disappointed Erickson so much that he consented to listen to further pitches by Lurie, who has been chasing him for two weeks.

Lurie and former Eagles coach Dick Vermeil apparently broke off negotiations Tuesday, leaving the Eagles looking for a coach and general manager. Lurie has

been calling Erickson several times a day asking if he's interested in considering a \$2 million-a-year offer to as coach.

Bowlen scheduled a meeting today with Erickson, the Tacoma newspaper said.

The paper said the threats of Lurie and Bowlen affected negotiations between the Seahawks and Erickson. By late Tuesday evening, both sides were within \$50,000-a-year difference on the base salary. The News Tribune said. They had come close to settlements on incentives and perks, according to the paper.

The Palm Beach Post in West Palm Beach, Fla., quotes sources saying Seahawks majority owner Ken Behring wants Erickson for a five-year, \$5 million contract. Erickson may want more than \$1.2 million annually.

"Don't believe those numbers," Erickson told the Post. "Part of the hangup is (money) as far as they go, but they haven't offered it. When or if they do, then I'll decide what I want to do."

Also Tuesday, Behring interviewed fired Seahawks defensive coordinator Rusty

1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WORK
Sealed proposals for CLEANING AND/OR SEALING JOINTS AND CRACKS on highway (s) IH 40 in CARSON, ETC County (ies).
Will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation located at: 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas until 2:00 P.M.; WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1995.
Then publicly opened and read. All prospective bidders are advised that there will not be a Pre-Bidders' Conference for this project.
Bidding proposals, plans and specifications will be available at the Engineer's Office at: 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas, Telephone (806) 356-3283. Usual rights reserved.
A-7 Jan. 11, 12, 1995

5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.
TOP O Texas Lodge 1381, 25 Year Awards, January 17, meal @30. Open meeting.
PAMPA Masonic Lodge #966 meeting Friday 13th, 7:30 p.m. for Fellowship Degree. E.A. meeting Thursday, January 12.

12 Loans
STOP-Avoid Bankruptcy. Free debt consolidation with credit services. 1-800-619-2715.

14b Appliance Repair
RENT TO RENT
We have RENTAL Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate. Open for business in our warehouse.
Johnson Home Furnishings 801 W. Francis

2 Museums

WHITE Deer Land Museum, Pampa. Tuesday thru Sunday 1:00-4 p.m. Special tours by appointment.

ALANREED-McLean Area Historical Museum, McLean. Regular museum hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, Sunday 1-4.

DEVIL'S Rope Museum, McLean. Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday 1-4 p.m. Closed Monday.

FREEDOM Museum USA open Tuesday thru Saturday, Noon to 4 p.m. Special tours by appointment. 600 N. Hobart, 669-6066.

HUTCHINSON County Museum, Borger. Regular hours 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays except Tuesday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

LAKE Meredith Aquarium and Wildlife Museum, Fritch, hours Tuesday and Sunday 2-5 p.m., 10 a.m. Wednesday thru Saturday, closed Monday.

MUSEUM OF The Plains, Perryton. Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Weekends during Summer months, 1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

OLD Mobeetie Jail Museum, Monday thru Sunday 1-5. Closed Wednesday.

PANHANDLE Plains Historical Museum, Canyon. Regular museum hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, weekends 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

3 Personal

BEAUTICONTROL
Cosmetics and skincare. Offering free complete color analysis, makeovers, deliveries and image updates. Call your local consultant, Lynn Allison 669-3848, 1304 Christine.

Alcoholic Anonymous 910 W. Kentucky 665-9702

SHAKLEE Vitamins, diet, skincare, household, job opportunity. Donna Turner, 665-6065.

MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skincare. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095.

4 Not Responsible

AS of this date, January 9, 1995, I, Loretta Bryan, will no longer be responsible for any debts other than those incurred by me. Signed: Loretta Bryan.

LET US DO THE WORK!
CLASSIFIED ADS
669-2525
1-800-687-3348

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1 Color (Easter eggs)
4 Actress (May...)
8 Left
12 Code dot
13 Bad
14 Rara...
15 Likely
16 Underlying reason
18 Aviation hero
20 Except
21 California county
23 Concise
27 Old wheat type
30 Forgives
32 Beer
33 Extra
34 World god
35 Ginger
36 Heraldic green
37 Broad
38 Tolerant
40 Digs for ore
41 Fibbing

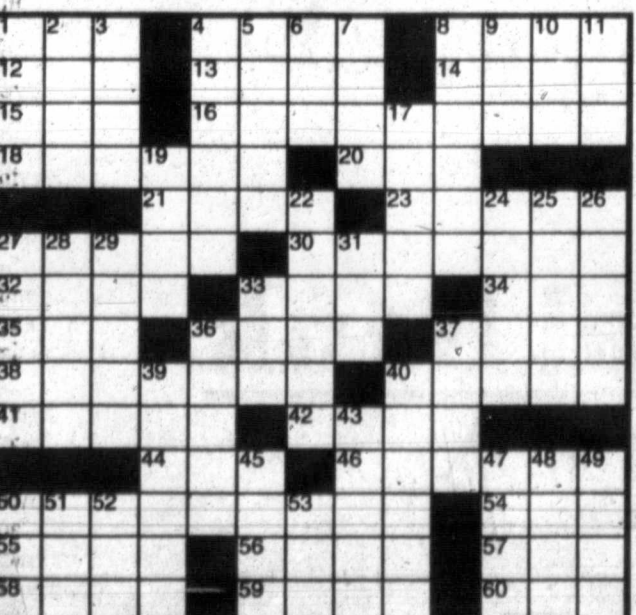
DOWN
1 1944 invasion date
2 Cry of pain
3 Singer
4 Didn't exist
5 Egg producer
6 Insect egg
7 Smooth
8 Desired
9 Zsa Zsa's sister
10 Nothing
11 Mao

Answer to Previous Puzzle

BIDS SAD MIKE
BRYN NINE IDOL
LONI EDS DENS
NEPAL ICEAGE
ELEGY
HATES ANDEYE
ADAM BIKE
IDLY OPEN
SEDUCE DEEDS
TRAGEDY
BYGONE CENTS
ASTIA SILE ASOF
ROBBER AVA BARR
EROS RET ERIA

17 Bizarre
19 Golden
22 Portuguese seaport
24 The Thinker sculptor
25 Slightly malicious
26 Snakey curves
27 Tiny
28 Feminist
29 Grace
30 Tom Kite's org.
31 Skill
33 Adult

34 males
35 Las Vegas
36 Truly
37 Large quantities
38 ill-natured
39 Cook slowly
40 5-shaped
41 Barometric pressure unit
42 Oedipus
43 Like (suff.)
44 Greek letter



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LEE'S Sewer & Sinkline Service. After Hours and Weekends, 669-0555.

Bullard Plumbing Service Electric Sewer Rooter Maintenance and repair 665-8603

14t Radio and Television

Johnson Home Entertainment
We will do service work on most Major Brands of TV's and VCR's. 2211 Perryton Pkwy. 665-0504.

14y Upholstery
FURNITURE Clinic, new hours Tuesday, Wednesday 10-6 or by appointment, 665-8684.

19 Situations
AUXILIARY Nursing Service-Home health attendants, skilled nurses, 4-24 hours. 669-1046.

Happy House-Keepers Happy-Reliable-Bonded 669-1056

MOTHER and 14 year old daughter offer excellent child care in home. Hot meals, learning activities, transportation. All ages welcome. Please call 669-3522.

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

DO YOU HAVE NEWSPAPER TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE?
The Pampa News would like to keep its files current with the names of available individuals living in this area who are interested in full or part-time employment and who have credentials in all areas of newspaper work including editing, reporting, photography, advertising, production, presswork and circulation. If you are a QUALIFIED newspaper professional, please send your resume, including salary requirements, IMMEDIATELY to: Wayland Thomas, Publisher The Pampa News P.O. Drawer 2198 Pampa, Tx. 79066-2198

EARN up to \$1000's weekly stuffing envelopes at home. Start now, no experience, free supplies. Information no obligation, send self addressed stamped envelope to Prestidge, Unit 21, P.O. Box 195609, Winter Springs, FL 32719.

CERTIFIED Physical Therapist or Certified Physical Therapist Assistant wanted for Borger/Pampa area. Apply at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency in Pampa, 2225 Perryton Pkwy. or call 1-800-542-0423.

RNS, LVNS needed for the care of pediatrics including Medical Dependent Children's Program (MDCP) Please contact D'Ann Berry or Arla Hiner. 1-800-657-7139

PART Time Bookkeeper needed immediately. 20 hours per week. Must know Lotus and other accounting software. Send references with resume to: P.O. Box 1942, Pampa, Tx. 79066-1942. Experienced-only need to apply.

CNAs Dedicated, motivated CNAs needed to work with our elderly residents. We have full/part time positions available on all shifts. Competitive wages and benefits provided. Call 665-5746 or apply at Coronado Healthcare Center 1504 W. Kentucky Ave. Pampa EOE

RNs New Year, New Opportunities!! We are looking for an experienced professional to fill this key full time position in our long term care facility. We offer excellent starting wages and benefits. Please call: 665-5746 or apply at Coronado Healthcare Center 1504 W. Kentucky Ave. Pampa EOE

HOUSTON LUMBER CO. 420 W. Foster 669-6881

60 Household Goods
SHOWCASE RENTALS Rent to own furnishings for your home. Rent by phone. 1700 N. Hobart 669-1234 No Credit/Check. No deposit. Free delivery.

JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS
Open for business in our Store "Pampa's standard of excellence" 801 W. Francis 665-3361

MAYTAG large capacity washer and gas dryer (brown), runs real good, looks good. Large chest freezer. 669-7822.

69 Miscellaneous
CHIMNEY Fire can be prevented. Queen Sweep Chimney Cleaning. 665-4686 or 665-5364.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.
Firewood We Deliver! Pampa Lawnmower 665-8843
FIREWOOD for sale: seasoned Oklahoma oak. Jerry Ledford 848-2222
RADIO Shack- Borger has the 18 inch digital satellite system. Installation available. 425 W. 10th. 274-7077.

Schneider House Apts. Senior Citizens 1-2 Bedroom Apts. Rents Depend Upon Income Call Hours: 9-1 120 S. Russell 665-0415 Property Mgr. Pat Bolton On Site Mgr. Bobbie Brumfield

PAMPA REALTY, INC. 669-0007 For All Your Real Estate Needs

Sandra Bronner 665-4218
Jim Davidson 669-1863
Robert Anderwald 665-3357
Bob Call 669-0311
Henry Gruben (BKR) 669-3798

21 Help Wanted

NOW hiring part-time drivers. Must be 18 years of age, own a car, and have insurance. Apply in person. Pizza Hut Delivery.

LA Fiesta now hiring waitress and waiter, cooks and morning dishwashers.

***** POSTAL JOBS *****
\$12.26/hour to start plus benefits. Carriers, sorters, clerks, maintenance. For an application and exam information call 1-800-819-5916 extension 80, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. 7 days.

CORONADO Hospital is seeking a full time L.V.N. to coordinate central scheduling. Good communication skills a must. Acute care experience preferred. Full benefit package available. Please apply at our Personnel Office south of Hospital at 100 W. 30th, Suite 104, Pampa, TX. E.O.E.

FULL-Time clerk/cashier. Apply in person, 9-12. Comet Cleaners, 726 N. Hobart.

NOW HIRING FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT MANAGER AND CATERING DIRECTOR. MUST BE WILLING TO WORK NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS. GOOD SALARY AND BENEFITS. APPLY IN PERSON FROM 9-11 AM. DYER'S BAR-B-QUE.

HOME PARENTS CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH has provided homes for children for over 55 years. Home parent positions exist at Boys Ranch (approximately 40 miles from Amarillo) for married couples to live in their own private apartment, enjoy prepared food and provide direction for young people. Our home parents are provided hospitalization, retirement, life insurance and excellent salaries. Should you be interested in our home parenting positions, please write:

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30 Sewing Machines
WE service all makes and models of sewing machines and vacuum cleaners. Sanders Sewing Center. 214 N. Cuyler, 665-2383.

49 Pools and Hot Tubs
Dedicated, motivated CNAs needed to work with our elderly residents. We have full/part time positions available on all shifts. Competitive wages and benefits provided. Call 665-5746 or apply at Coronado Healthcare Center 1504 W. Kentucky Ave. Pampa EOE

50 Building Supplies
White House Lumber Co. 101 S. Ballard 669-3291
HOUSTON LUMBER CO. 420 W. Foster 669-6881

60 Household Goods
SHOWCASE RENTALS Rent to own furnishings for your home. Rent by phone. 1700 N. Hobart 669-1234 No Credit/Check. No deposit. Free delivery.

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MAYTAG large capacity washer and gas dryer (brown), runs real good, looks good. Large chest freezer. 669-7822.

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FIREWOOD oak, locust cured. Delivered and stacked, cord \$110, half cord \$65. 665-9367.

Firewood Oklahoma Oak \$130 cord Call 665-5568

1951 Vendo vending machine, 6 1/2 oz. bottles, sale price \$600. Satellite dish and receiver, sale price \$800. 665-3639.

MOVING must sell, 6 foot wet bar and 4 bar stools, \$300. Call 669-3911.

FOR Sale- Blue Star Miller Welding Machine on trailer plus cutting equipment. Four tool boxes. Also Homelite 5,500 Light Plant. 665-8877.

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69a Garage Sales
REMODELING Sale: Refrigerator, furniture and lots of miscellaneous. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 9am-7. 2713 Rosewood.

70 Musical
PIANOS FOR RENT New and used pianos. Starting at \$40 per month. Up to 6 months of rent will apply to purchase. It's all right here in Pampa at Tarpley Music 665-1251.

75 Feeds and Seeds
Wheeler Evans Feed Full line of Acco feeds We appreciate your business Hwy.60 Kingsmill 665-5881.

80 Pets And Supplies
CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Royston Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

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I'M back after lengthy illness grooming. Old and new customers welcome. We also offer AKC puppies Maltese, Yorkies, Shih Tzu and Poodles. Suzi Reed 665-4184.

FREE Kittens- call 665-6810 or see at 641 N. Sumner, after 5 pm.

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Will Buy Good Used Appliances and Furniture 669-9654 669-0804

INSTANT cash paid for good used appliances, coolers, and etc. 669-7462 or 665-0255.

95 Furnished Apartments
MINI/MAXI STORAGE 114 N. NAIDA, PAMPA 669-2142 RV'S/BOATS/CARS *COMM./HOUSEHOLD 5x10 to 20x40 Also Fenced/Open Storage

BUILT wrong 14 by 32 portable building. Call for details. (806)358-9597.

102 Bus Rental Prop.
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103 Homes For Sale
1725 Holly-3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, corner lot, nice neighborhood, fireplace, sprinkler system, other extras. Call 665-6793.

2520 BEECH-Excellent condition, 1 1/2 story, custom built, one owner, 3 big bedrooms, living room, dining, den with fireplace, large storage areas inside and out. Call 665-6185.

3 bedroom split level home, large fenced yard, full basement. 1109 Charles. Reduced. 669-2346.

1 and 2 bedrooms, covered parking, washer/dryer hookups Gwendolen Apartments, 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

CAPROCK Apartments-1,2,3 bedrooms. Beautiful lawns, laundry on property. Rent starting at \$275. Office hours Monday thru Friday 8:30-5:30, Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149.

CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrigerator, all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900.

1 bedroom, covered parking, appliances, 1-883-2461, 663-7522, 669-8870.

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JUDI EDWARDS GRI, CRS BROKER-OWNER 665-3687
Shelli Tarpley 662-9531
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Debbie Middleton 665-2247
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103 Homes For Sale

3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, dining room, built-in appliances, newly remodeled interior. Non-qualitying assumable loan \$7500. Equity or will sell for \$21,000. See to appreciate. 665-3396 or 669-7269. 1164 Terrace.

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PRICE: T. SMITH INC. 665-5158
Pampa Realty, Inc. 312 N. Gray 669-0007 For Your Real Estate Needs

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BEAUTIFUL 3 bedroom, 2 bath with 4th bedroom/office in basement, over 2000 square feet. Quality built, 4 years old. Cathedral ceilings with skylight and woodburning fireplace. 210 square foot summer patio, automatic sprinkler, double car garage. You must see it to believe it! For sale by owner. Call for appointment after 6 p.m. weekdays, after 9 a.m. weekends, 669-1922.

Bobbie Nisbel Realtor 665-7037
NICE 1 bedroom duplex, 431 N. Wayne, \$200 no bills paid. 665-8925, 665-6604.

98 Unfurnished Houses
1,2, and 3 bedroom houses for rent. 665-2383.

2 bedroom, stove, refrigerator, plumbed for washer/dryer. \$275 month, \$150 deposit, 1307 Coffey. 1-883-2461, 669-8870.

SMALL 2 bedroom with appliances. Morgan storage building in back. \$225 month, \$100 deposit, 1312 E. Browning, 669-0511.

BRICK 2 bedroom, Central heat/air. Over 1300 feet. Utility room. \$425 month, \$300 deposit. 1130 Christine. 669-6006.

NICE 1 bedroom, stove, refrigerator, garage. 669-3842, 665-6158. Realtor.

RENT 2 or 3 bedroom, garage, and fenced. 1117 Juniper. 665-9643 or 352-4572.

FOR rent, 3 bedroom, den with fireplace, central heat/air, 2 car carport, full fenced back yard. 665-0110, call after 5:30.

LARGE 1 bedroom, attached garage, corner lot. 421 Magnolia, \$225. 665-8925, 665-6604.

LARGE 2 Bedroom, \$250. 665-6054.

99 Storage Buildings
CHUCK'S SELF STORAGE. Some commercial units. 24 hour access. Security lights. 665-1150 or 669-7705.

Action Storage 10x16 and 10x24 669-1221
TUMBLEWEED ACRES SELF STORAGE UNITS Various sizes 665-0079, 665-2450.

Ecobostor 5x10, 10x10, 1

Budget proposal unveiled

AUSTIN (AP) — The Legislature's chief budget writers Tuesday unveiled a \$77.7 billion spending plan, calling it good news for taxpayers and education.

Sen. John Montford and Rep. Rob Junell said the new budget would make education the state's top priority for new money and increase education spending by about \$2 billion. "This budget puts the emphasis where it rightfully belongs — on our children's futures," said Montford, D-Lubbock, who chairs the Senate Finance Committee.

Montford said the proposal, to be the starting point for the House and Senate to draft a final 1996-97 budget, recommends about a \$1 billion boost in state spending on prisons and public safety.

It would allot an additional \$800 million to increased nursing home and Medicaid caseloads, and about \$800 million would go to settle up payments lawmakers deferred in the past.

Junell, D-San Angelo, chairs the House Appropriations Committee. He said the proposal includes a state government hiring freeze and a number of cost-cutting recommendations from state Comptroller John Sharp.

In keeping with the promises of Gov.-elect George W. Bush, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock and House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, the \$77.7 billion budget would require no additional taxes, the lawmakers said.

"I think taxpayers are going to be happy, because there's not going to be an increase in tax. I think some people in the bureaucracy are going to be unhappy because we're making government more efficient. We're going to have better government for less money," Junell said.

Montford said the budget isn't lavish but would balance and cover critical needs.

"I rarely get a request for less money. I certainly haven't had any requests to raise taxes. So we're going to make it work," Montford said.

The proposal is up about 4.1 percent from the current spending estimates of about \$74.6 billion.

According to the Legislative Budget Board, \$44.2 billion of the 1996-97 total will come from the state's general revenue fund, which includes the sales and corporate franchise taxes. Another \$23.1 billion is from the federal government. The remaining \$10.4 billion from other sources.

The proposal calls for the state to boost spending on public schools by nearly \$2 billion, which would include \$170 million to help school districts with construction needs.

Recommended state spending on public safety would rise by about \$1 billion, with nearly three-fourths of that needed to open and operate 78,000 new state prison beds. Another \$100 million would go for construction of 1,024 new beds for juvenile offenders.

Montford and Junell said the plan will provide an increase in benefits to many retired teachers. For teachers who retired in the 1960s, benefits will jump from \$500 to more than \$1,000 per month, Junell said.

"This is some that we're quite pleased with. We think it's something that's long overdue for retired teachers," Junell said.

Although wrangling over the budget often proves contentious between House and Senate members, Montford and Junell said they were optimistic about finding a compromise this year.

"When you're dealing with 'X' amount of money and a commitment again of no new taxes, it pretty well categorizes the expenditures. So we are closer than we started last time," Montford said.

Pro- and anti-smoking forces in petition battle before Congress

By HARRY F. ROSENTHAL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The tobacco industry aimed a pre-emptive strike at the new Congress Tuesday by displaying 1.1 million petitions opposing Food and Drug Administration regulation of tobacco products.

At the same time, the industry released a poll indicating Americans rank cigarette regulation seventh in a list of eight priorities for Congress — between passing a school prayer law and settling the baseball strike.

Reforming Congress, overhauling welfare and reducing taxes were 1-2-3.

The anti-tobacco side of the debate readied its own petitions for release at a news conference Wednesday and said the smoking industry's tactics "should be dismissed ... as an attempt to mislead the public, misstate fact." The petitions were signed by more than 250,000 people, the Coalition on Smoking or Health said.

The Tobacco Institute, which represents the industry, piled boxes of petitions in front of a panel of speakers at a news conference. It hired polling firms to survey 1,000 adult Americans and they said their margin of error was plus or minus 3.1 percent.

The FDA has been considering whether to regulate nicotine as an addictive drug.

According to the survey, 30 percent of Americans believe regulation of cigarettes should stay where it is and 28 percent think it should be reduced. Those who want expanded government regulation by the FDA constitute 35 percent.

Greg Schneiders, representing one of the survey firms, said that finding meant 58 percent were opposed to extending or increasing government control.

Asked for comment, Scott Ballin, chairman of the anti-smoking coalition, said those numbers "show 65 percent of Americans either support further FDA regulations or keeping the ones we have. He said "in spite of their best efforts to distort" the numbers, only 28

percent were for reducing the regulations. Ballin said the pollsters used "buzzwords" with negative ramifications in framing their questions.

"You run down the list," he said. "You'll find these phrases: 'Americans already know,' 'stores that sell cigarettes keep them controlled,' 'all states already have laws,' 'citizens would be better off with less government.' And the final one is 'federal government regulations already require...'"

Maura Ellis of the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company said the petitions were circulated in every congressional district by volunteers: "smokers, tobacco growers, retailers ... and an awful lot of people just fed up with big government (who) called us to see how their voices could be heard."

The tobacco industry's petitions carried varied wording. Several versions were headed "enough is enough." One told New York's elected officials "we're already overtaxed and overregulated." One said "we oppose any additional government intrusion against smokers."

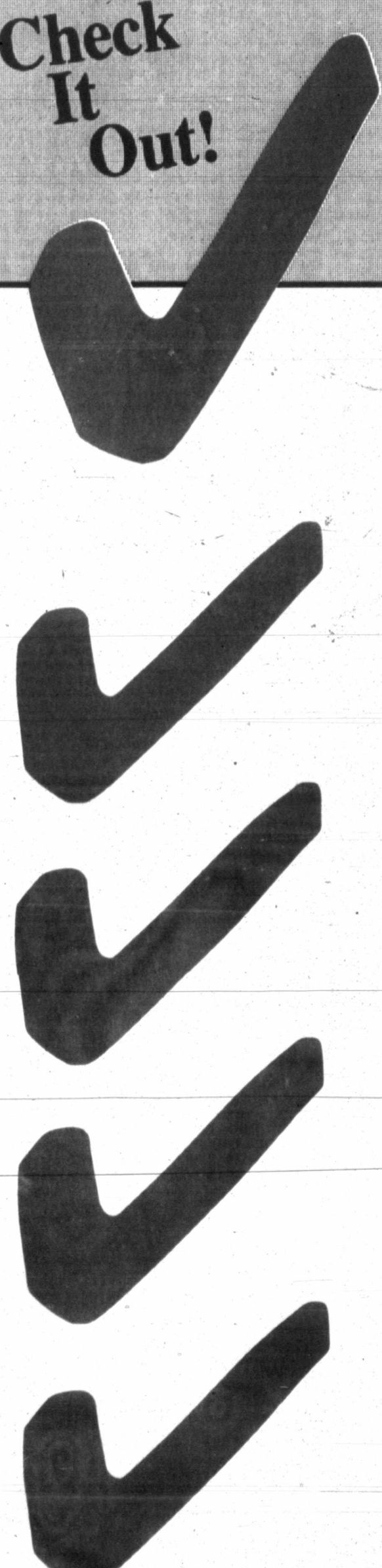
Jackie Miller, vice president of Florida Smokers' Rights, told the news conference that 75 percent of customers in her St. Petersburg beauty shop are smokers.

"I like to keep my customers happy," she said. "I don't like to put them in the alley in rollers."

The American Cancer Society's president, Dr. LaMar McGinnis, responded to Tuesday's announcement by accusing the tobacco industry of trying "to catch a free ride" on the political trend toward deregulation.

"What we have is an industry whose product creates human death and suffering, attempting to intimidate a federal agency whose chief purpose is to alleviate death and suffering," he said.

Meanwhile, the Federal Trade Commission gave final approval to an agreement with the American Tobacco Company. It prohibits the company from advertising that its Carlton brand gives smokers less tar in 10 packages than they would get from a single brand of other cigarettes shown in the ads.



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