

STATE:  
Schools get greater flexibility  
from federal regulation, Page 3

GOOD EVENING  
Tuesday, January 30, 1996

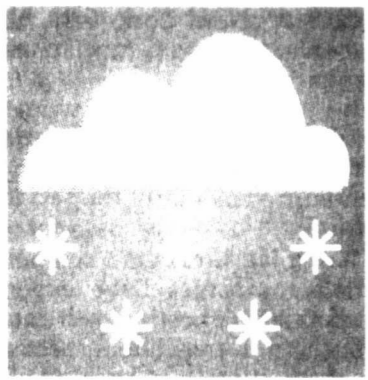
SPORTS:  
Pampa cagers travel to Canyon  
for loop action tonight, Page 7

# THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 88 NO: 255

Pampa, Texas

50c DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight near 10,  
high tomorrow near 20.  
See Page 2 for weather  
details.

## LOCAL

**PAMPA** — A Pampa man is in critical condition today at Northwest Texas Hospital following a Saturday night car wreck.

Brian Wayne Noack, 25, 946 Malone, was driving his 1983 Chevy Malibu in the 800 block of West Kingsmill when it veered southward and crashed into a 1982 Ford Thunderbird parked in the yard at 827 W. Kingsmill. The Thunderbird, in turn, spun around and struck a 1993 Hyundai also parked in the yard of the home.

The Thunderbird and Hyundai were unoccupied when they were hit. They are owned by Adle Sinches, 624 S. Somerville, and Edric Kelley, 1125 Neel Rd., respectively.

Noack was rushed by Rural/Metro to Coronado Hospital and was later transferred to Northwest Texas Hospital by emergency helicopter in critical condition.

According to the accident report, Noack has been charged with driving while intoxicated.

**PAMPA** — Fire Chief Claudie Phillips was expected home today following an emergency trip to High Plains Baptist Hospital in Amarillo Monday.

Fire department officials said today tests showed the chief to be suffering a viral infection.

He was taken to Amarillo by Rural/Metro ambulance after complaining of chest pains.

## WORLD

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Seeking to avert more labor unrest, President Boris Yeltsin ordered the government to pay overdue wages to workers today, but some teachers walked out anyway.

Yeltsin blamed the problem on "disorganization," rather than a shortage of cash and promised to set up a reserve fund to prevent future delays.

The government's chronic failure to pay wages and pensions on time prompted many Russians to vote Communist in last month's parliamentary elections.

The same issue now threatens to undermine Yeltsin's chances in the presidential election five months away.

One of the main teachers' unions went ahead with plans for a three-day strike today. Organizers said they expected about 200,000 teachers in 51 of Russia's 89 regions to take part.

Few schools reported shutdowns. Most only canceled some classes. In several cities, including St. Petersburg, teachers picketed government buildings.

Coal miners also are planning a three-day strike starting Thursday.

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## Whitewater S&L hearings draw more criticism

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal regulator told the Senate today that the savings and loan owned by the Clintons' Whitewater partners was rife with insider dealing and sham real estate transactions.

Amid objections by Democrats on the Senate Whitewater Committee, bank examiner James Clark testified that "a group of insiders" at Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan "was obtaining cash in what amounted to a pyramid scheme."

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., complained that the hearing was "replowing old ground" covered in last summer's House Banking Committee hearings into Whitewater when Clark testified.

Committee Chairman Alfonse D'Amato said the panel wants to focus on a particular real estate development south of Little Rock — Castle Grande — which failed at an ultimate cost to taxpayers of nearly \$4 million.

Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., said the Senate hearings are "sailing past the duration of the O.J. Simpson trial. Today is the 259th day of the D'Amato Whitewater investigation."

D'Amato said the committee acted at the request of Whitewater prosecutors in delaying some aspects of the Senate hearings for seven months. A Senate resolution would end the investigation Feb. 29, but D'Amato says more time is needed.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle said D'Amato ought to resign as chairman of the Whitewater committee "if he wants to continue as chair of the Dole for president Committee."

D'Amato, said Daschle, has a conflict in heading the investigation and at the same time remaining chairman of Sen. Bob Dole's campaign in New York and the Republican Senate Campaign Committee.

"I can't think of a more outrageous demonstration of conflict

of interest dealing with one of the most sensitive issues we've had to confront in this Congress than that," said Daschle.

D'Amato has rejected such criticism, saying he is conducting fair and impartial hearings.

At the federal courthouse here, President Clinton's private lawyer, David Kendall, and White House attorney Jane Sherburne appeared for grand jury testimony in the Whitewater probe but were sent home because there weren't enough grand jurors present to hold a session. It was the same grand jury that questioned Mrs. Clinton on Friday.

At least 16 of the 23 members of a grand jury must be present.

"I don't feel frustrated at all," Kendall said as he left the courthouse. Sherburne added, "I was anxious to talk to these folks and tell them what I know."

Kendall said he did not know when the two would be recalled to testify. Prosecutors subpoenaed Mrs. Clinton, Kendall, Sherburne and three others seeking answers to how the first lady's law firm billing records suddenly showed up in the White House residence nearly two years after they were subpoenaed.

The Senate Whitewater Committee and federal regulators are examining Castle Grande, an Arkansas land acquisition involving Mrs. Clinton's former law firm. The government says it was a sham real estate deal.

D'Amato, R-N.Y., disclosed Monday that regulators are taking a one-month extension in their review of Castle Grande — a 1,050-acre tract south of Little Rock. The new deadline is March 1.

Two House Democrats objected Monday to the Senate hearings, writing to D'Amato that Whitewater "has been scoured by the media, Republican independent counsels, the House Banking Committee, countless right-wing organizations."

## Border agents fired on again

NOGALES, Ariz. (AP) — Shots were fired at U.S. Border Patrol agents working near the port of entry in Nogales for the second time in a week.

None of the agents were hit in the shooting incident, which happened about 4 p.m. Saturday as agents patrolled an area along the international fence in downtown Nogales.

"All we know is multiple shots were fired," Border Patrol spokesman Rob Daniels said.

Patrol agents escaped injury on Jan. 22 after coming under fire while patrolling east of the port of entry in downtown Nogales. Investigators were examining whether Mexican law enforcement officials may have been involved in that shooting.

There is no evidence Mexican police were involved in Saturday's incident. Lookout cameras posted along the American side of the border helped provide information to investigators.

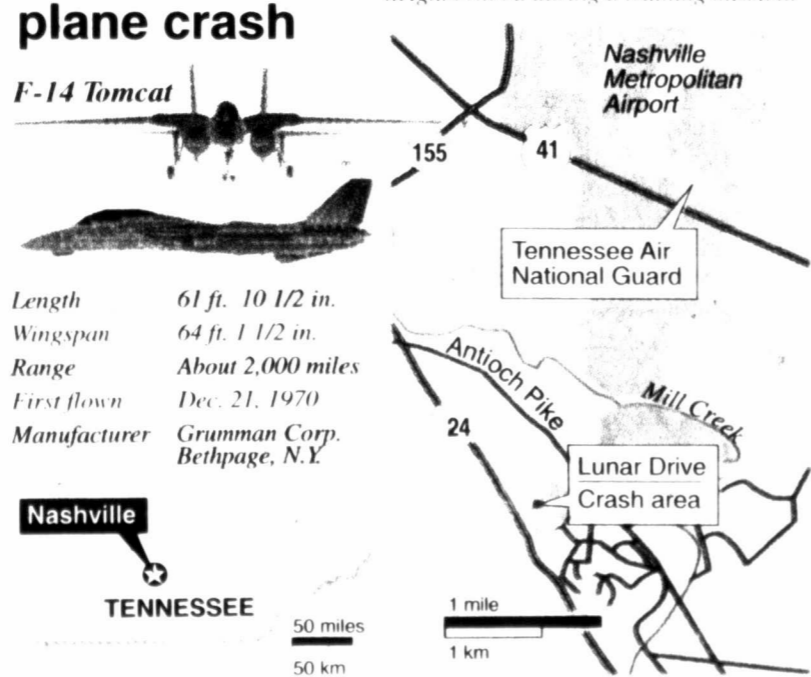
## Investigators seek cause for crash of jet near Nashville

### Nashville plane crash

**F-14 Tomcat**

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A fighter jet crashed into a residential neighborhood during a training mission.



Source: Jane's All the World's Aircraft

AP

## Recreating Sir Isaac Newton



(Pampa News photo by Cheryl Berzanskis)

Dakotah Waldrop, a fourth grader at Lamar Elementary, is recreating the image of Sir Isaac Newton in the form of a puppet as students in his PEP class study inventors. As a child, Dakotah explained, Newton loved to make mechanical toys and would rather work than play. "I heard he was a great person," the student said. Dakotah also enjoys mechanical gizmos. "That's one of the other reasons I picked him," he said.

## County inmate in diabetic coma after refusing to take his insulin

A Gray County inmate remains in a diabetic coma today at Coronado Hospital, where he rushed Monday after he refused to take insulin, said Sheriff Randy Stubblefield.

Jody Edward Brunson, 23, is in the intensive care unit of Coronado Hospital, where he was admitted about noon Monday after he passed out in the jail, Stubblefield said.

A hospital spokesman said the hospital could not release any information on Brunson because he is a prisoner.

"His problem was not wanting

to take insulin or maintain his diet," Stubblefield said today.

Stubblefield said his office was attempting to get a court order to force Brunson to take insulin when the incident occurred. The district attorney, county and district judges had been notified of the matter, he said.

The incident occurred before a hearing could be held on the order, the sheriff said.

Brunson's blood sugar level had been monitored over the weekend and into the early hours of Monday morning,

Sheriff Stubblefield said.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation was begun in the jail when Brunson lost consciousness, he said.

Brunson was indicted Aug. 10, 1995, on a charge of aggravated kidnapping and burglary of a habitation and Dec. 12, 1995, on a charge aggravated sexual assault.

Brunson was in jail in lieu of \$120,000 bond on the charges.

He is accused of raping a Pampa woman after kidnapping her and her two children in late July.

## Study: Spy funds used for Bosnia deployment

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's spy satellite agency had more than \$2 billion in unspent money last year and now it is helping pay for the Bosnia troop deployment and other defense programs, auditors have discovered.

The audit by the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense found a larger pool of unspent funds than had been previously reported from the accounts of the secret National Reconnaissance Office, a congressional staffer familiar with the inquiry said today.

The NRO runs the govern-

ment's spy satellite and electronic eavesdropping operations. The New York Times reported on the overrun in today's editions.

NRO officials told auditors they were unaware of the extent of the unspent money, but said they typically get extra funds because even a single satellite launch failure can put the agency over its.

Sens. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., and Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., the chairman and vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said \$820 million of the unspent money will pay for U.S. military operations in Bosnia. Congress

has taken back the remaining \$1.2 billion, using it largely for other Pentagon programs.

Early last year the amount of the NRO overrun was reported at about \$1 billion. Later the figure escalated to \$1.5 billion.

"Apparently no funds were lost to the government and no funds were spent on items different than those either the Congress or the administration intended," Specter and Kerrey said in a joint statement. "But as long as all this spending authority sat in NRO's accounts, it couldn't be used by other agencies of the government or to reduce the debt."

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Navy fighter jet was not much more than a blur as it fell from the sky, engines squealing, and crashed into a red brick house in a huge fireball, witnesses said.

The crash killed five people, including the two-man crew, and engulfed the empty homes on either side in flames. The pilot had been blamed for a previous accident.

"It was like a movie, the squeal getting higher and higher," said Steve Bartlett, who lives across the street. "The way my house shook, I wasn't sure it didn't hit my house."

Others saw the fuel-laden Tomcat, as the F-14 is known, fall from an overcast sky Monday morning.

"It was moving so fast I couldn't even tell what shape it was, and then this huge fireball erupted and the heat came through the glass of my car," said Don Isert, who was driving near where the crash occurred.

Timor Newsom, 66, his wife, Ada, 63, and a friend, Fwing T. Wan, 53, were killed when the plane hit their house.

"One guy was just sitting on his couch. He never had a chance. They were all just sitting where they were," firefighter James Dean said.

Also killed were the pilot, Lt. Cmdr. John Stacy Bates, originally of Chattanooga, and his partner, radar intercept officer Lt. Graham Alden Higgins, originally from Dover-Foxcroft, Maine.

The crash occurred 2 1/2 miles south of Nashville International Airport, minutes after the fighter took off on a training mission to its base at Miramar Naval Air Station near San Diego.

The Navy said the plane was not carrying any missiles, rockets or bombs.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known. The Pentagon sent a team of investigators.

Last April, Bates lost control of

his F-14 and crashed into the Pacific Ocean during maneuvers with another fighter. He and the radar intercept officer ejected.

After a review, Bates was recommended fully qualified for return to flight status, said Cmdr. Gregg Hartung, a Navy spokesman.

Bates' fighter squadron, VF-213, has had four accidents in the last 16 months, including the October 1994 fatal crash involving Lt. Kara Hultgreen, one of the first women to qualify for a Navy combat aviation assignment.

It was the 30th crash of an F-14 since 1991.

"Certainly that's an unusual number of mishaps," said Vice Adm. Brent Bennett, the Navy's commander for Pacific Fleet aviation units. "It gives us a great deal of concern."

"We certainly don't fly airplanes or fly air crew that are not perfectly safe and satisfactory for flight, but we will be anxious to get to the details of this mishap," he said.

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## State briefs

### Cancer center closes experimental program

**HOUSTON (AP)** — The M.D. Anderson Cancer Center has shut down an experimental program to treat patients with advanced Hodgkin's disease as a result of continuing federal scrutiny into the program.

The University of Texas facility on Monday began notifying the 79 patients involved in the treatment of the decision to close the two ongoing studies in the program.

Dr. Huibert Vriesendorp, the physician overseeing the study, said M.D. Anderson was reacting to a threat from the Food and Drug Administration, which inquired into several programs.

M.D. Anderson, Vriesendorp said, "has given in on this study and hopes (the FDA) won't go after the other studies."

Dr. Leonard Zwelling, Anderson's associated vice president for clinical and translational research, said he never felt the FDA threatened the center. But he said he also felt if he did not close down the program, the agency would do it for him.

### Judge won't separate runaway from baby

**HOUSTON (AP)** — A pregnant 14-year-old girl — who at one time was thought to be only 10 — will be allowed to live with her baby after it is born, a judge has ruled.

But the 22-year-old boyfriend with whom she had run away is still in trouble with the law.

Family District Court Judge Mary Craft ruled Monday that Adela Quintana will stay in state custody until at least March 14, when a study evaluating possible homes for her and the baby should be completed.

The case drew national attention when it was reported that Ms. Quintana had run away with her boyfriend because she feared that authorities would take the baby away from her and separate her from her lover.

The judge's ruling resulting from an agreement among state juvenile authorities, the girl's parents and a lawyer to represent her interests.

### Jack Reeves' defense rests; final arguments to begin

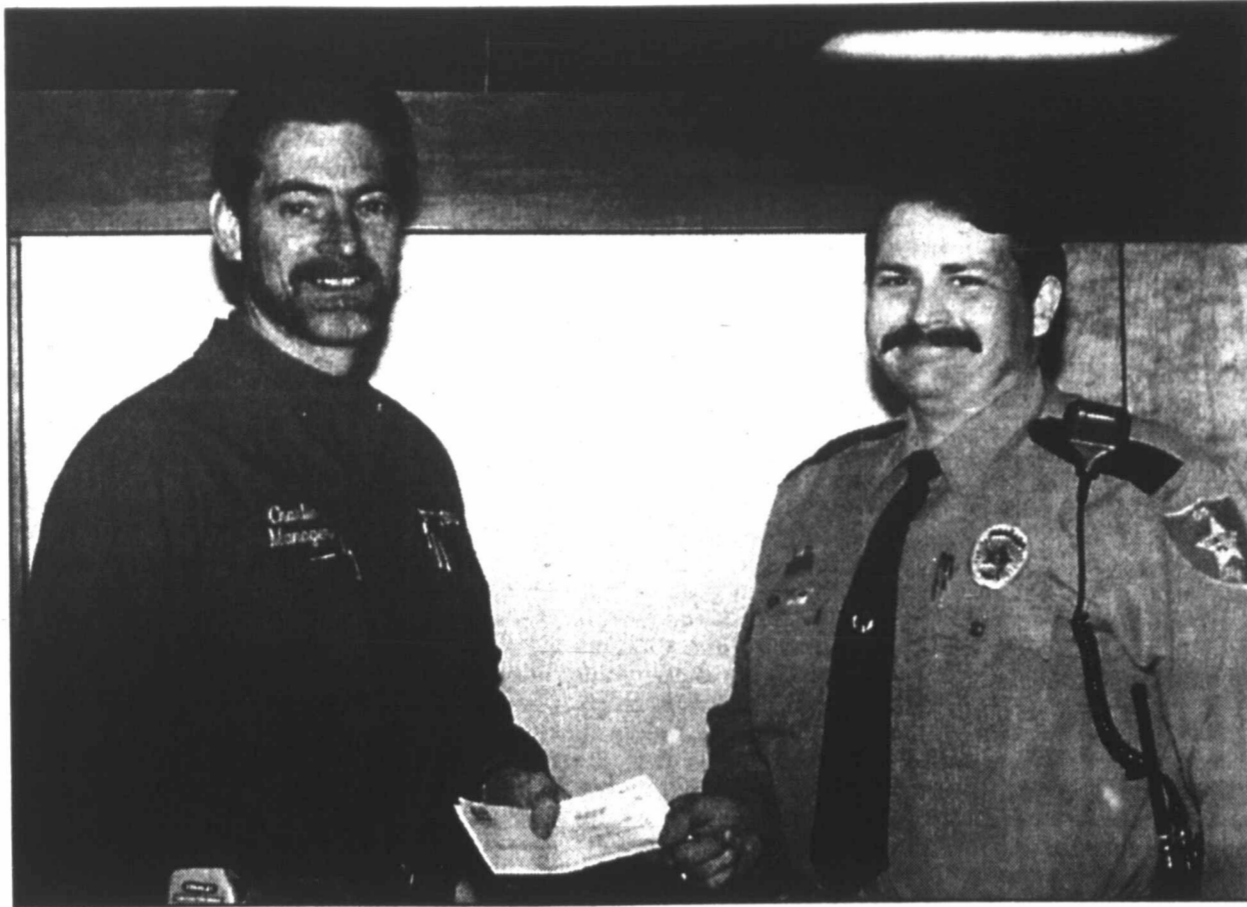
**GATESVILLE (AP)** — Lawyers for murder defendant Jack Reeves, who is being tried in the 1978 shotgun slaying of his second wife, have rested their case without calling the retired Army master sergeant to the stand.

Final arguments were to begin today in the trial of the Arlington man, who is accused of killing his wife and is awaiting trial in the death of another spouse.

Sharon Reeves' July 20, 1978, death in their Copperas Cove home originally was ruled a suicide. But the case was reopened and her body was exhumed after police investigating the October 1994 disappearance of his fourth wife, Emilita, found evidence they say linked Reeves to Sharon's death.

Coryell County District Attorney Sandy Gately presented a courtroom demonstration Monday to show how hard it would have been for Sharon Reeves to have killed herself with a .20-gauge shotgun by pulling the trigger with her toe, as investigators originally said.

## Country General supports war on drugs



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)  
Charlie Fegley, manager of Country General, presents Constable Chris Lockridge with a \$100 check to purchase drug and safety materials for local schools. Lockridge purchases materials through the National Drug and Child Safety Council, including drug and alcohol abuse information and child safety manuals, with contributions provided toward the program.

## Federal regulators prepare for new wave of high-tech devices, services

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Federal regulators are preparing for a new wave of high-tech devices with a range of possibilities — from warning drivers of trouble ahead to helping people do things around the house without leaving their easy chairs.

The Federal Communications Commission is unlocking a vast, virtually unused portion of the public airwaves to make these and other, not yet imagined commercial services available.

It began in a little-noticed action last month as the FCC began delving in the segment of the public airwaves known in telecommunications lingo as millimeter waves.

Technically, the frequencies are located above 40 gigahertz — far past frequencies used for television, radio and cellular phones.

"That's where the virgin territory is," said Mike Marcus, the FCC's associate chief of technology.

The frequencies have extremely limited use compared with other frequencies. The waves can travel only short distances — about half a mile on a clear day — but can carry lots of information, including voice, video and data.

Largely because of these limitations, companies for many years have had little interest in using the frequencies.

Advances in technology have changed that. General Motors,

Hewlett-Packard, AT&T and Apple are among companies exploring ways to apply the frequencies to new services and devices.

"I think this is very definitely something that is going to be important to the marketplace and to people in their daily life," AT&T government affairs director Frank Mathewson said.

According to information supplied by the companies to the FCC and described in interviews, possible uses include:

— Radar systems for cars to alert drivers to potential collisions. General Motors, Ford Motor Co., Chrysler Corp. and VORAD Safety Systems Inc. have filed comments with the FCC expressing interest in using millimeter wave technology in such a way.

— Wireless systems to make homes "smart" by controlling appliances, heating and cooling, security systems.

— High-capacity wireless links to connect computers within an

office or communications systems from building to nearby building.

— Wireless links to connect phones, pagers and other communications devices throughout a college campus or airport.

— Video conferencing, telecommuting and transmitting to doctors and institutions detailed medical information including images and X-rays.

Some of the ideas are not necessarily novel but are noteworthy because they harness frequencies without commercial uses before now. Company executives also believe they will be able to offer high-speed data transmissions and other similar services more cheaply than companies using different technology.

"The exciting thing is not what companies are thinking about now but what it might make available in the future," said Cynthia Johnson, government affairs director for Hewlett-Packard.

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## State schools get greater flexibility from regulations

**AUSTIN (AP)** — Texas is among five states given authority to waive hundreds of federal education laws and regulations in a move to let schools better fit their programs to students' needs.

"From this day forward, (Texas Education) Commissioner Mike Moses will have the authority to waive the requirements of most federal education programs if they interfere with locally developed approaches to teaching and learning at individual schools, at individual school districts or in this state as a whole," said Mike Cohen, senior adviser to U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley.

"In exchange, there will be an increased emphasis and focus on accountability where it really counts — on accountability for results, and accountability for what students learn," Cohen said Monday.

The new power doesn't apply to federal requirements on civil rights, health or safety. But it could, for example, allow schools more flexibility in how they spend federal funds.

Houston Independent School District Superintendent Rod Paige was among officials welcoming the new federal flexibility, which comes on the heels of a Texas law to move more school control from the state to the local level.

"For too long, we've been held responsible for how the pie comes out, but the recipe has been dictated to us," Paige said.

"This will give the professionals at the scene the idea that they can customize the program, within certain limits, as long as they are to be responsible for how it comes out."

The new flexibility comes under the federal Goals 2000 education program, which has drawn fire from some conservatives who feared its federal grant money is an unwarranted intrusion by the U.S. government into Texas education.

Texas decided to accept millions of dollars in Goals 2000 funding despite those concerns, submitted an education improvement plan to use the money and requested the waiver authority.

Besides Texas, other states given the authority so far are Kansas, Massachusetts, Ohio and Oregon. One more state could get the waiver power under Goals 2000.

"It's a step on the road toward freedom for our local schools districts — another step," said Gov. George W. Bush, who championed last year's state law to enhance local education control and has urged freedom from federal control.

Moses said the move is "consistent with the things we want to do in allowing school districts to be creative, imaginative and innovative."

Paige said that under one federal program, for example, rules may require federal funds to be spent to help disadvantaged children in reading, writing and math.

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Advertising Director: Rick Clark  
Circulation Director: Lewis James  
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Wayland Thomas  
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis  
Managing Editor

## Opinion

### Uncomplicating the tax regime

Energizing discussions of a flat tax continue with a report issued by the Kemp Commission, headed by former New York congressman and HUD Secretary Jack Kemp. Although the commission does not outright endorse a specific flat tax, the first looks at the report highlight its benefits.

Long advocated by Nobel laureate Milton Friedman and other economists, a flat tax is simple: A set percentage is charged for every income level. Either no deductions are allowed, or only personal, charitable or mortgage deductions. The multiple confusing tax forms that now plague taxpayers would be shredded.

In one plan proposed last year by House Majority Leader Dick Armye, all taxpayers would pay 17 percent of income, with only a personal deduction. Today's vast number of complicated forms would be reduced to one fitting on the side of a postcard.

The Armye plan brings up an important question: Is it "revenue neutral"? That is, would it bring in the same amount of taxes as the current tax code, or would it bring in less money and so run up the deficit? His office says that, according to both White House and congressional budget calculations, up to \$40 billion less would be raised in taxes, if economic growth remains the same as now.

There are two ways to look at that. First, in the mammoth \$1.7 trillion federal budget, surely \$40 billion in waste could be cut.

Second, as Ronald Reagan's "supply side" tax cuts showed in the 1980s, with a tax cut, economic growth doesn't remain the same, but accelerates. A booming economy raised revenues, from \$599 billion in 1981, Jimmy Carter's last budget, to \$990 billion in 1989, Mr. Reagan's last budget. That was a 39 percent increase in revenues. (Unfortunately, Mr. Reagan allowed spending to rise even faster than revenues, producing the infamous deficits.)

Another benefit of a flat tax is that it would make the income tax, one of the most unjust taxes ever imposed, more fair. All taxes, being coercive, are inherently unfair, but some less unfair than others. For example, a gas tax to build roads at least resembles a "user fee," and building private toll roads so users cover actual costs is even more just.

By contrast, the income tax has virtually no connection to government "services" received. With the modern welfare state, it has become almost entirely a transfer payment, with workers being taxed to pay for welfare and other programs. Moreover, the income tax drives government directly into people's lives, requiring them to maintain elaborate records of myriad financial transactions. The tax code itself has become so complex even the IRS doesn't understand it, which doesn't prevent IRS agents from putting up such signs as the one in a California IRS office: "Seizure fever: Catch it!"

Even the flat tax, although it would reduce regulations and paperwork, still would have to define what "income" is, providing a large loophole through which the IRS could drive a truckload of regulations. A flat tax is not a panacea, only an improvement.

In the presidential election, the flat tax has become a center of controversy. First advocated by publisher and candidate Steve Forbes, who has proposed a 17 percent flat tax similar to Mr. Armye's, the issue was contended strongly at recent debate in Iowa. In attacking Mr. Forbes, some Republicans even used the Democrats' favorite tactic, envy-mongering.

Bob Dole is running attack ads against the Forbes plan. That's understandable from a major architect of the 1982 and 1990 tax increases that repealed most of the Reagan tax cuts.

Former education czar Lamar Alexander blasted: "It would be a disaster for America, a truly nutty idea in the Jerry Brown tradition." But former California Gov. Brown's flat tax proposal was one of his few wise ideas.

Pat Buchanan in recent months has earned the ironical cheers of *The Nation* and other leftist publications for using Marxist class-warfare rhetoric. Although he himself is wealthy and has proposed lower tax rates, he charged that the Forbes plan "looks like it was drawn up by the boys at the yacht basin." In fact, everybody, not just the wealthy, would benefit from a flat tax.

Will Mr. Buchanan, a Reagan speechwriter in the 1980s, next pull a Clinton and trash the 1980s as a "decade of greed"?

Phil Gramm, late off the starting block again, has been sparked by the popular response to the Forbes plan to propose a 16 percent flat tax, retaining the capital gains tax that Mr. Forbes would eliminate and adding deductions for home mortgages and charitable contributions.

Of course, the exact rate and type of deductions, if any, would be written by Congress. For now, let the bidding continue.

What candidate will bid 15 percent?

Do we hear 14 percent?

Anyone for 13 percent?

Messrs. Forbes, Armye and Kemp are to be commended for jump-starting the debate over a flat tax.

As the discussion continues, more Americans will see the benefits of a flat tax and insist that it be enacted.

## Your representatives

**State Rep. Warren Chisum**  
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910  
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**State Sen. Teel Bivins**  
Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711  
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**U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm**  
Washington Address: 370 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510  
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Constituent Hotline: 1-800-843-5789

## Viewpoints

# Sexist backlash against Hillary?

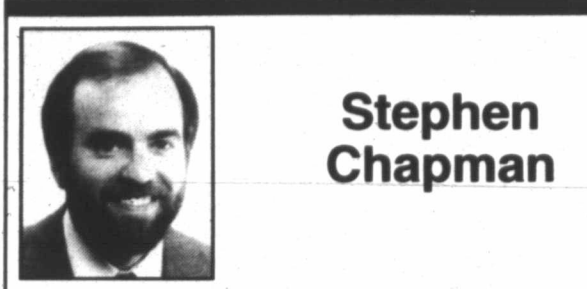
Hillary Rodham Clinton has always had detractors—as well as admirers, and lately, the detractors have been the largest group, a development that has the admirers hopping mad. Why? Because they see her decline in public approval as a sexist backlash against a woman whose only sin is being too strong and too powerful.

It's a curious theory. The Clinton administration has in positions of power such women as Donna Shalala, Janet Reno, Laura D'Andrea Tyson and Madeleine Albright, who didn't get where they are by being sugar and spice and everything nice. But none arouses the sexist animus that we are told Mrs. Clinton inspires.

Could it be that all the Neanderthal males out there haven't noticed the other females wielding power in Washington right now? Or could it be that people dislike Mrs. Clinton for reasons that have nothing to do with her gender?

A recent USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll found that 51 percent of Americans have an unfavorable opinion of her — the lowest approval rating of any first lady since such surveys began during the Kennedy administration. This is not because of a sudden proliferation of male chauvinism. It is because she has altered the role of the president's wife in ways that were bound to lower her in public esteem. The first lady used to be the equivalent of the queen of England. Mrs. Clinton has made her the equivalent of the secretary of commerce.

Karlyn Bowman, a public opinion expert at the American Enterprise Institute, notes a revealing paradox: Most Americans have long thought Hillary Rodham Clinton has too much influence in the administration and is more liberal than her husband — but most also (at least until very recently) regard her as a good role model for American women. It's not career women they mind. It's this particular person.



Stephen Chapman

Her defenders applaud her for taking on controversial issues like health care reform. But they think she should be able to do that without being, well, controversial. They want a crusading liberal ideologue, and they want her to be as universally beloved as Barbara Bush.

The Clintons themselves want to have it both ways too. When columnist William Safire called the first lady a "congenital liar," the president made noises about defending her honor by punching him in the nose. Women should have been insulted by his display of chivalry, which suggested that this highly successful, fiercely ambitious, Yale-trained attorney is a delicate maiden who cannot be expected to defend herself against ruffians.

The president wants to exploit her position as first lady to advance his own political agenda. But when that role provokes the attacks that are normal in a democratic debate, he reacts as if someone had pawed Chelsea. Americans sense the first couple's hypocrisy, and they resent it.

Hypocrisy is a major problem for Mrs. Clinton. No flaw is more damaging in American politics — just ask Gary Hart, who affected sexual virtue, got caught with Donna Rice and saw his political career

go down in flames. Bill Clinton, by contrast, admitted his lapses and ascended to the White House.

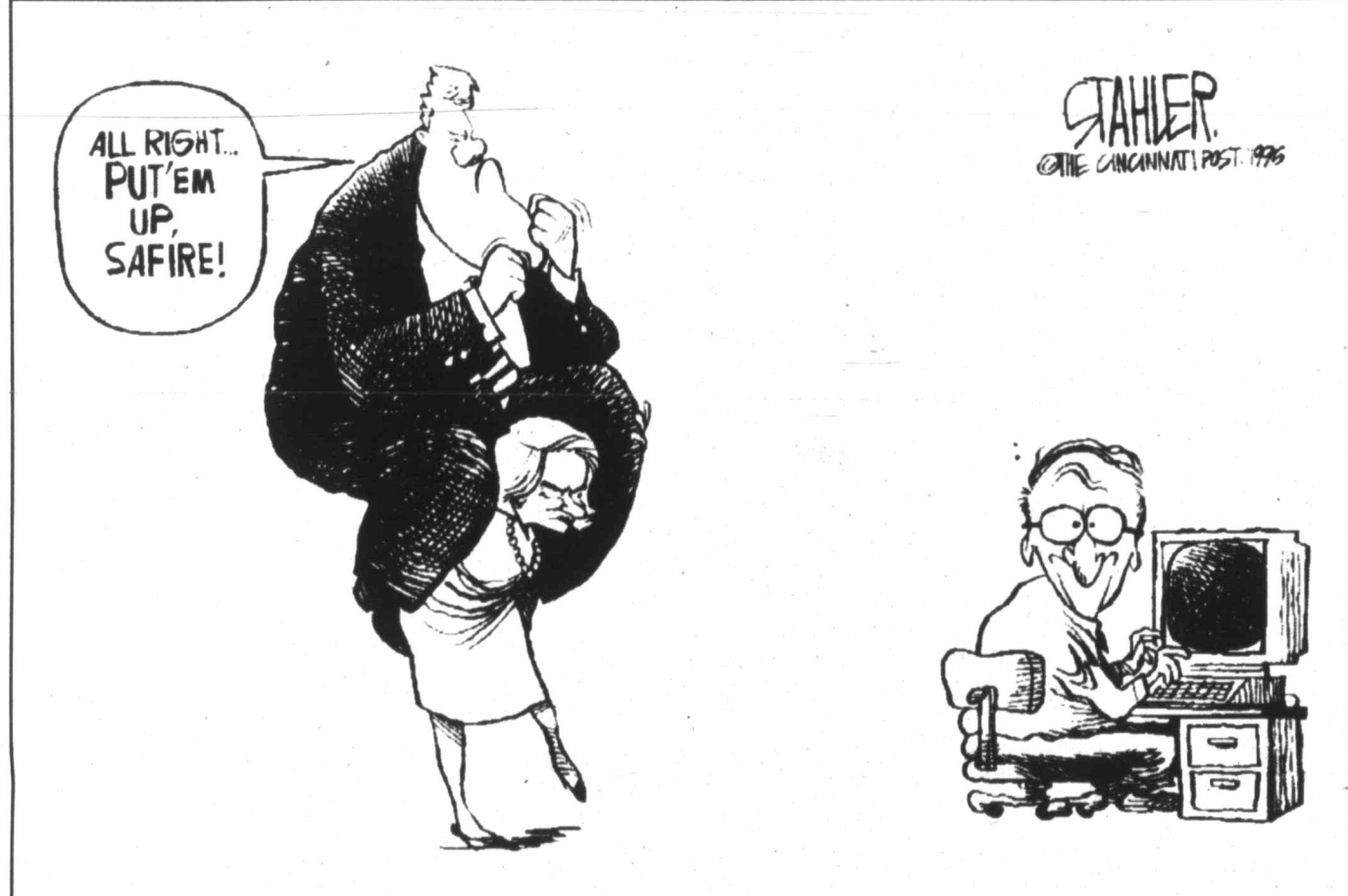
Americans will elect saints, and they will elect sinners, but they won't elect sinners who pretend to be saints. The president defended Mrs. Clinton by saying that if we were all as moral as she is, the country would be better off. Jimmy Carter thought the American people should have a president as decent as they are. Bill Clinton thinks the first lady deserves an American people as decent as herself.

Remarks like that grate because they are arrogant and patronizing. But they also grate because they ring false. The first lady may be guilty of nothing illegal or even unethical in the events being investigated right now, but even her friends admit she has acted guilty.

The image of her that has emerged lately is not exactly saintly: We see her intimidating White House aides into firing travel staffers, "losing" phone records that contradict what she claims about her work on Madison Guaranty and denying any involvement in the fishy Castle Grande land deal that she handled for a Clinton crony.

Nor is this the first evidence that the first lady is a phony. She denounced the acquisitiveness of the 1980s but managed to make a quick \$100,000 on a commodities windfall that smelled to high heaven. She attacked physicians for greed, even though most of them make less money than she did as a lawyer. She has veered endlessly back and forth between the role of heavyweight policymaker and cookie baking traditionalist.

All this may be no different from the behavior of ordinary politicians. But the behavior of ordinary politicians is not what Americans have come to expect of first ladies, much less of Saint Hillary. Her fans shouldn't blame sexism for Hillary Rodham Clinton's troubles, they should blame her.



## Today in history

By The Associated Press  
Today is Tuesday, Jan. 30, the 30th day of 1996. There are 336 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On Jan. 30, 1948, Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi, who had led his country to independence from British rule through his philosophy of nonviolent confrontation, was murdered by a Hindu extremist.

**On this date:**  
In 1649, England's King Charles I was beheaded.

In 1798, a brawl broke out in the House of Representatives in Philadelphia, as Matthew Lyon of Vermont spat in the face of Roger Griswold of Connecticut.

In 1882, the 32nd president of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was born in Hyde Park, N.Y.

In 1933, Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany.

In 1962, two members of the Flying Wallendas high-wire act were killed when their seven-person pyramid collapsed during a performance in Detroit.

# Political change requires dedication

## Charley Reese

Someone always asks, What can one person do to turn the country around? They are talking about politics.

The blunt answer is, "Nothing," unless you happen to be in a position of great power. There is nothing new about that. In all of recorded history, the majority of people have not been in positions of power where they, as individuals, could effect great political changes by themselves.

Politics, don't forget, is a group activity. You can write, study, paint, garden, pray, meditate or sing by yourself, but if you want to get involved in politics, then you need lots of help from lots of people. It is only when lots of people work together that any great changes can be made in the areas of politics and public policy.

So what can one person do? Well, for starters, decide what it is you really believe, what you think the real problems are and what you think are feasible solutions (if there are no feasible solutions, why bother?). At that point, become an evangelist. Cry in the wilderness.

You may think that is futile, but it is not. One person with passionate convictions can win converts. It happens all the time. Converts can win other converts who can win other converts, and the first thing you know, you've got an organization or even a movement.

In my political hired gun days as a professional campaign worker, I knew a field organizer who

would go into a town with a roll of dimes and find a comfortable pay phone (yeah, I know, dimes date me). He would start calling strangers at random, just names picked out of the phone book.

He would give them the pitch for his candidate and, if they responded favorably, enlist them. Pretty soon, starting from ground zero, he — a stranger — would create a political organization for a candidate. It rarely took more than one roll of dimes.

The art of politics is the art of asking — asking people for help, asking them for money, asking them to perform campaign tasks, asking them to come to meetings. If you don't ask, you'll never know how much help there was available for your candidate or your cause. Politics is also the art of communicating — convincing people what the problems are and what the solutions are.

Politics today has a bad rep, in part because of the few sleazebags in it, but also in part because of the jaded, highly selective reporting by the news media, which tend to ignore accomplishments and successes and to concentrate on the failures, scandals and dog fights.

In truth, politics like anything else is no better or worse than the people in it. It is not, in fact, all

that different from when men like Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were involved in it. If you want to talk about a bitter campaign, take a look at that one.

Politics is no place for the timid and hypersensitive. It is human nature that unanimity of opinion will be a rare occurrence and that, often, people have opposite but equally passionate convictions about the questions of the day.

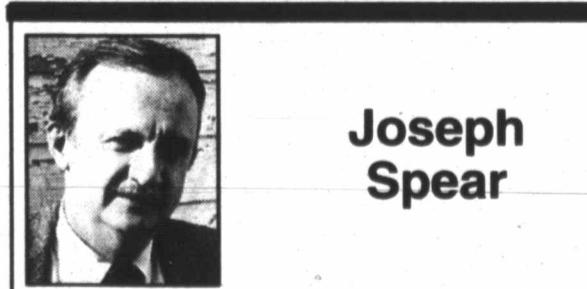
The only way to blunt the sharp edges of political debate is to keep the focus on the questions and not on the people. Not everyone will do that, but just because somebody else sins, we don't have to sin, too.

There are two mental attitudes to watch out for. One is negativity. Some people love to wring their hands and talk about how there is nothing that can be done. Obviously, nothing can be done until someone first believes it can be done.

Columbus did not set sail because he knew there would be landfall before his food and water ran out. He sailed because he believed he could find landfall.

The second mental attitude to avoid is the messiah complex. God did not appoint us to save the universe. We have a responsibility and a part to play in the grand scheme of things, but the Creator was not so unkind as to place on our frail, mortal shoulders responsibilities we do not have the power to carry out. Let us do our duty and leave the final outcome to God.

# Stone's 'Nixon' just misses greatness



Joseph Spear

For students of American politics, there isn't much in Oliver Stone's three hour-plus psychobiography of Richard Nixon that we haven't heard before except the parts Stone made up.

Which is not to say that the film isn't fascinating. For me, the most spellbinding moment came in the final minutes of the movie, when actor Anthony Hopkins recreates Nixon's rambling speech to his staff on his last morning in office. It is superbly portrayed as an unrehearsed display of raw emotion and is every bit as eerie as it was in the original.

At one point, Nixon said: "Always remember, others may hate you, but those who hate you don't win unless you hate them — and then you destroy yourself."

Richard Nixon had just rendered the most succinct summation of his own life and career that could possibly be uttered. His hatreds — of the "Eastern establishment," of the press, of the Kennedys, of the well-educated, of political protesters — had consumed him in a fire of his own making.

At that point, I wanted to scream: Stop the movie here. This is it, the natural ending. Oliver Stone didn't do it, of course. He let the thing drone on for several more minutes.

Stone is like that. He doesn't know when to shut up.

Indeed, if he had edited out his crackpot conspiracy theories and some of the cinematographic gimmickry, he might have a film of epic proportions.

Instead, the movie is riddled with fabrication and

fantasy, dense with sound and image, and the Nixon story never gets told in a comprehensible way.

The best thing about *Nixon* is that despite a degree of caricature, it portrays the man as a human being with a fatal flaw that was rooted in a frigid childhood. He was raised in a poor family by a stern father and a pious mother. Two of his brothers died of consumption. He grew up introverted and angry.

From his earliest moments in politics, he was a polarizer and a smear artist who depicted his opponents as disreputable Communist sympathizers. He saw enemies lurking everywhere, picking on him, making "unprincipled and vicious" charges and conducting "whispering campaigns" against him. He was convinced "they" all hated him and were dedicated to his destruction.

What Stone suggests with flashbacks to Nixon's childhood and adolescence is the sad truth that Nixon hated himself. Deep inside, he saw himself

as a loathsome person who deserved all the crap his critics gave him. I left the theater feeling sorry for Richard Nixon. Not forgiving, mind you. Just sorry.

The worst thing about *Nixon* is the fabrication. It was extremely disturbing to someone who is familiar with the Nixon story to see "facts" invented, events jumbled, truth distorted.

Nixon didn't say "I'm not a crook" during a television speech; he said it to an audience of 400 people at an Associated Press Managing Editors Association meeting in Orlando. He didn't shove his spokesman Ronald Ziegler after a quarrelsome press conference; he pushed him at a VFW convention in New Orleans.

The worst lie of all is the suggestion, never fully expounded, that Nixon's deepest, darkest secret had something to do with his involvement in a CIA plot to kill Fidel Castro that somehow resulted in John Kennedy's assassination.

There is a kernel of truth here: The CIA did work with the mob to kill Castro. It is entirely possible that Castro retaliated by having Kennedy killed. But the historical record is fairly clear that Nixon had nothing to do with it. It is an expansion of Oliver Stone's favorite conspiracy theory, the one that he spelled out in *JFK*. It is a lamentable conceit on his part that he continues to portray fiction as history.

No, I'll go even farther: It is a deplorable continuation of the "re-creation" trend so apparent in TV news, film and even books. Future generations will get their "history" from this mix of reality and rubbish, and that is a frightening thought.

**Nation briefs**

**Kevoorkian attends death of multiple sclerosis patient**

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — A computer engineer who battled multiple sclerosis for two decades has become the 27th person to die in the presence of Dr. Jack Kevoorkian.

The bathrobe-clad body of 48-year-old Linda Henslee, of Beloit, Wis., was found in Kevoorkian's battered van outside the corner's office Monday morning.

She died of carbon monoxide poisoning shortly before being dropped off, said Medical Examiner L.J. Dragovic, who ruled the death a homicide.

Henslee's two daughters and a family friend brought her to Michigan last week and were present at her death, along with Kevoorkian, said Kevoorkian's lawyer Geoffrey Fieger. Fieger refused to say how, where or when Henslee died.

Diagnosed with the degenerative nerve disease 20 years ago, Henslee had become a paraplegic unable to feed herself or use the bathroom on her own.

"Her life at this point was intolerable," Fieger said, adding that Kevoorkian tried to talk her into putting off death. "She insisted, 'My time is now,'" he said.

**Lawyers want Simpson back into deposition**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Attorneys for the mother of Ronald Goldman are fighting to force O.J. Simpson to continue his interrupted deposition testimony in a wrongful death lawsuit they filed.

Superior Court Judge Alan Haber set a hearing for this afternoon at the request of lawyers for Sharon Rufo, a plaintiff in a wrongful death lawsuit against Simpson.

Chris Olsen, one of Ms. Rufo's lawyers, said the judge already has ordered Simpson to answer questions every weekday until the first phase of the deposition testimony is completed.

Last Friday, Simpson's attorneys said that after five days of questioning, Simpson could not return for more testimony this week because of a schedule conflict involving members of his defense team.

Plaintiffs' attorneys want at least two more days to question Simpson.

**17th annual Buddy Holly tribute scheduled**

CLEAR LAKE, Iowa (AP) — Rock 'n' roll fans can bop, boogie and twist to the sounds of Fabian, the Diamonds and the original Cricket at the 17th annual Buddy Holly tribute this weekend.

More than 2,000 Holly fans paid \$50 each to attend the sold-out concert at the newly renovated Surf Ballroom, where Holly gave his last performance in 1959.

Holly was killed after the concert when his plane crashed in a soybean field. Also killed were rockers J.P. "Big Bopper" Richardson, Ritchie Valens and pilot Roger Peterson.

Holly fans who still mourn the Day the Music Died can take bus tours to a memorial that has been set up on the site. Otherwise, they'll be enjoying the dressed-up digs where Holly last rocked.

**Crime of the week**

This week's Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers crime of the week for the week of Jan. 22 is a burglary that occurred sometime between Dec. 23 and Jan. 1.

An unknown person or persons entered a residence in the 2700 block of Beech while the homeowner was on vacation. The following items were taken: Zenith VCR and remote, JVC portable CD player, AT&T answering machine, Ruger .22 handgun frame, Remington 20 gauge shotgun and one set of dumbbells.

Estimated loss in the burglary is valued at approximately \$1,400.

Crime Stoppers wants any information that might lead to the arrest and indictment of the person or persons responsible for this crime or any other felony crime or narcotics trafficking. Tipsters remain anonymous and may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 cash reward.

Remember, crime doesn't pay but Crime Stoppers does.

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Coronado Shopping Center

American President	(PG-13)
Father Of The Bride II	(PG)
Grumpier Old Men	(PG-13)
Bio-Dome	(PG-13)

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**Community Calendar**

**January**  
30 - TOASTMASTER INTERNATIONAL CLUB regular meeting, 6:30 p.m., Coronado Inn dining room. For more information, contact Daniel Silva at 669-6351 or Vernell Houska at 669-7402.

**February**  
1 - ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP meeting at 7 p.m. at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 2225 Perryton Parkway. All future meetings for 1996 will be on the first Thursday of each month. For more information, call and ask for Chrys at 665-0356. Also, memorials for the American Heart Association need to be sent in care of Edna Trask, 1810 Beech, Pampa, TX 79065. For more on this, call Chrys at 665-0356.

1 - "GUYS AND DOLLS," 7:30 p.m. M.K. Brown Auditorium. Presented by Pampa High School choir.

2 - WOMEN TO WOMEN will host Jerry Lane on topic of substance abuse. For more information, call Kay at 665-0842.

2 - TOP O' TEXAS SCOTTISH RITE ASSOCIATION regular meeting to present Don Corven-Smith from the Scottish Rite Hospice of Dallas at 7:30 p.m. at 1507 W. Kentucky. Public invited to attend. For more information, call George Clark at 665-1917.

3 - BETA SIGMA PHI to host its annual Sweetheart Dance at M.K. Brown Auditorium and Civic Center from 8 p.m. to midnight, with DJ Scott Gill. Dance is open to the public and tickets will be sold at the door for \$15 a couple. For more information, contact Debbie Hogan at 665-0711 or 669-9968.

3 - "GUYS AND DOLLS," 7:30 p.m., M. K. Brown Auditorium. Presented by Pampa High School choir.

4 - "GUYS AND DOLLS," 2:30 p.m. matinee, M. K. Brown Auditorium. Presented by Pampa High School choir.

5 - PAMPA MEALS ON WHEELS GARAGE SALES collection through March. Sale will be on Mondays from 2-5 p.m. at the south end of the Pampa Mall near Mr. Gatti's. Collection will be on Mondays only through March. For more information, contact 669-1007.

6 - FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, 1700 Alcock, to host annual Stew Supper from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Adults, \$5.50; children ages 6-12, \$4; children under five, free. For more information, contact Mina Towery at 665-3361 or 665-8529.

9 - PAMPA HIGH SCHOOL BAND to host its Spaghetti Supper from 5-8 p.m. in the Pampa High School cafeteria. For more information, contact Jane Jacobs at 665-3878.

10 - PAMPA COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION INC. presents the Glenn Miller Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. in the M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. For more information, contact Mrs. E.H. Brainard at 665-4579.

11 - FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, 1700 Alcock, hosts "Singing," from 2-4 p.m., with the public invited. For more information, contact Mina Towery at 665-3361 or 665-8529.

12 - TOP O' TEXAS KNIFE AND FORK CLUB, 7 p.m., Pampa Country Club. Speaker will be Richard Froeber.

15 - PAMPA AREA CANCER SUPPORT GROUP, regular meeting, 7-8 p.m., Coronado Hospital Medical Building (NOT in the hospital). For more information, contact Kathy Gist at 665-4742 or Emily Washington at 669-7619.

Note: Civic clubs, organizations, church groups and others wanting their special meetings and activities listed on the community calendar should contact the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce office, 200 N. Ballard, or call 669-3241.

**Recording executive sexually abused children, police say**

HOUSTON (AP) — Huey Meaux, 66, who produced songs for Freddie Fender, Mickey Gilley and Ronnie Milsap, has been arrested following accusations he sexually assaulted many children over the past 20 years, often videotaping the encounters.

Meaux, a former owner of the Sugar Hill Recording Studio in Houston, appeared in court Monday and posted bond totaling \$110,000 on charges of possession of child pornography and possession of cocaine.

Later in the day, after two more people came forward, Meaux was charged additionally with two counts of sexual assault of a child.

Officers confiscated hundreds of videotapes and more than 1,000 Polaroid photos Friday from Meaux's offices rented from Sugar Hill Recording,

investigator A.D. Wright said.

The tapes show Meaux in sexual encounters with girls as young as 8, although the typical age ranged from 13 to 15. One young boy also was involved, police said.

While his career in the music business was developing, police said, Meaux was systematically recruiting and sexually abusing children, gradually gaining their trust before using drugs to ensure their compliance.

Most of the videotaped assaults appear to have occurred in what Meaux called the "playroom" in the back of his offices, officials said. The room contained a king-size bed, wall mirrors that showed Meaux instructing the girls and operating the camera, and a doctor's examining table complete with stirrups.

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**Group complains of judges travel**

FORT WORTH (AP) — Municipal judges are violating the state constitution when they travel between towns, serving different city governments, according to a grass-roots organization.

The Texas Justice Council has filed a complaint with the state Commission on Judicial Conduct over the practice in which some 50 to 75 judges across the state serve in a "dual capacity."

They include Municipal Judge Suzanne Marsh, who serves in six municipalities, according to Hope Lochridge, executive director of the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center, which trains municipal judges.

Other judges in such a capacity include Gerald Pruitt, who serves in Mansfield and Everman; Charles Thorn, municipal judge of both Richland Hills and North Richland Hills; and attorney Brad Bradley of Southlake.

Bradley is municipal judge of

Southlake and Westlake as well as an alternate judge for Trophy Club and Grapevine.

"The judges tell us we need to be accountable to the law," but are not following the laws themselves, David Lamar, justice council senior fellow, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Ms. Marsh's attorney, Ron Clark, said the judge has done nothing wrong.

The judge works about five days a month in some towns, but just one day monthly in others. Municipal officials said they like the arrangement because they cannot afford and do not need a full-time judge.

The state agency on judicial conduct has not taken a position on the issue, which has yet to be challenged in court.

But the Texas Constitution forbids the same person from holding more than one civil office. The state attorney general's office in 1985 issued an opinion defining the position of

municipal judge as such an office. In several towns where Ms. Marsh serves, officials said they did not know the practice was in question until the grass-roots group raised it.

"We're not going to intentionally violate the constitution," Heath City Administrator Dennis Watson said. "I haven't seen where it conflicts with what she's doing here."

Robert Flowers, the commission's executive director, said some argue that municipal judges in such situations hold only one civil service position.

Flowers said the constitutional amendment was established to prevent people from working in two conflicting positions such as county auditor and municipal judge.

Clark said some towns cannot afford to hire a full-time judge and many experienced jurists cannot afford to work for one town that cannot pay a competitive salary.

**Fine arts supporters eligible for Golden Nails**

Golden Nail Awards Gala planners are seeking nominations from a 17-city area of those who have provided extraordinary support for the fine arts in the Texas Panhandle during 1995.

Recipients of the Golden Nail Awards include individuals, businesses and foundations which will be honored at the ceremonies held April 20 at the Amarillo Civic Center. The gala is in conjunction with the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra's final concert, which will feature guest artist Andre-Michael Schub on piano. The Golden Nail Awards are sponsored by the arts committee of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce.

Established in 1982, the purpose of the Golden Nail Awards

is to honor those whose financial, in-kind and volunteer contributions to the fine arts in Amarillo and the Panhandle area are of such magnitude that the impact on the arts is significant.

Nominations are invited from individuals and organizations. Nomination forms are available at the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce office, 1000 S. Polk, or from Darlene Birkes, 665-2913, in Pampa. The deadline for the nominations is Feb. 26.

Golden Nail categories include the Summitt Award, individual, business, foundation and distinguished volunteer. Each year, the Summitt Award goes to an individual for lifelong support to the arts. Special awards are presented when warranted. Golden

Touch Awards are also presented for innovative ideas in the arts events and area activities. In 1995 a Golden Touch Award was made to the video *Gray County Adventure*.

Pampa's Golden Nail committee member is Mrs. E.O. Stroup. Other members are Mr. and Mrs. Tony Rhodes, co-chairmen; Mrs. Robert Balliett, Mrs. Howard Berg, Mrs. John Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fancher, Mrs. Raymond Foster, Mrs. Richard McKay, Mrs. Larry Oeschger, Mrs. Barry Peterson and O.C. Renfro.

Jack Fishman serves as Amarillo Symphony Orchestra liaison. Kris Miller serves as civic center liaison and Becky Zenor serves as Chamber of Commerce liaison.

**City of San Francisco approves symbolic gay marriages**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A measure approved by San Francisco supervisors gives gay couples the right to a symbolic wedding ceremony after they register as domestic partners.

The measure, unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors on Monday, must have another reading Feb. 5, then becomes law March 21.

Supervisor Carole Migden, who introduced the ordinance, predicted that as many as 1,000 homosexual couples will opt

for the civil ceremony, even though they won't be granted any additional rights.

"San Francisco is once again illustrating that this is a humane, compassionate and equal opportunity city for all people who live here," Migden said.

The Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Washington D.C.-based Traditional Values Coalition, accused the city of recognizing "dysfunctional behavior ... in a ceremonial manner."

San Francisco's recognition of

long-term homosexual partnerships is at odds with a state effort. The Assembly today is scheduled to study a bill that would prohibit California from recognizing same-sex marriages, whether performed inside the state or outside.

The only two other cities that offer civil ceremonies to domestic partners are Madison, Wisc., and New York City, said Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington D.C.

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## Husband Who Pumps Iron Is Draining His Marriage Dry

**DEAR ABBY** For more than half of our 20-year marriage, my husband, "Chris," has been involved in weightlifting. The first six years, he worked out in our basement three hours a night, three nights a week, ignoring me and our two daughters. Then he bought him a gym membership, thinking it would cut down on the time it took. It didn't work out that way.

Six years later, Chris still goes to the gym on the way home from work every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I eat supper alone on those nights. My daughters are away at college. My husband arrives home at 10 o'clock and has supper waiting for him. By the time he checks his mail, showers and changes clothes, it's after 11 p.m.

He's never asked me to join him at the gym, or to just sit and talk. I've told him how lonely I am, he won't listen and refuses to consider finding a less time-consuming sport. I have told him that our marriage is dying.

The other nights of the week Chris gets home around 7, unless he has errands to run or visits his elderly father. He's cold and unaffectionate, and blames me because I crab about the time he spends at the gym. On weekends, he does yard work, car maintenance and runs errands.

I'm sick and tired of being alone so much and handing my paycheck over to someone who cares so little for me. I've considered divorce many



**Abigail Van Buren**

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

times, but I don't want to jeopardize my daughters' education.

I have friends at work, but really no others to socialize with. Am I asking too much to want my husband to spend less time at the gym? I feel cheated and lonely. Don't suggest counseling. We've tried it, and it was useless.

I'm 47 years old. I'm afraid I'll be signing out of the living pan and into the fire if I start divorce proceedings. What do you think?

ALL ALONE IN ARLINGTON

**DEAR ALL ALONE:** Before giving up on your marriage, give counseling one more try. Perhaps the counselor you chose was not the best one to help you and your husband. Sometimes one must consult several counselors in order to establish sufficient rapport for the sessions to be productive.

Perhaps you could also join the gym. It might help you to understand why your husband enjoys it so much, and enable

you to work out beside your husband so you won't feel so left out.

It would also be helpful to develop some interests of your own. Enroll in classes, get involved in special-interest groups, etc. If you find activities to fill the lonely hours, you will be less lonely and more fulfilled.

If none of this succeeds, then I would advise some counseling to guide you in making a wise decision about the future of this marriage. I wish you the best of luck.

\*\*\*

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have a difference of opinion about what the date on a carton of milk represents. He says it is the "sell by" date, and I say it indicates that the milk is good until that date.

Would you please consult your experts and let us know the answer?

LISA, GLENDALE, ARIZ.

**DEAR LISA:** I checked with a local dairy and was advised that the date on the carton is the "sell by" date.

\*\*\*

For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

## Horoscope



**Your Birthday**

Wednesday Jan 31 1996

New and positive aspects have been added to your persona through lessons you learned the hard way this past year. Your new personality will enhance your status and reputation.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** This should be a rewarding and productive day for you. You will be geared for business and you will not let frivolous issues sidetrack you. Aquarius treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph c/o this

newspaper, P.O. Box 1755, Murray, H. Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** Even though it's early in the week, take a break from your mundane routines today with some kind of pleasurable activity.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Try to devote as much time and effort as possible today to a matter you feel can strengthen your financial base. Make money your major motivation.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Valuable information can be acquired today through conversations with persons in your field of endeavor. Make your telephone your primary tool.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** This will be a good day to shop for essential items. You will have a good sense of values today and you will not make foolish purchases.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Today, conditions will favor advancing or expanding your personal interests. Set your agenda so that you can operate without interference.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** It is usually

unwise to rely too heavily upon your hunches and intuitive feelings. Today, however, you can heed your inner voice.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Associates will have substantial influence over your attitudes and objectives today. Pal around with people who have positive goals.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** You can achieve everything you set your mind to today. Several impediments might slow you down a trifle, but if you persist, they won't defeat you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** Your logical assessments will be seasoned with sensitivity today, making you an excellent person to give advice. Speak from your heart.

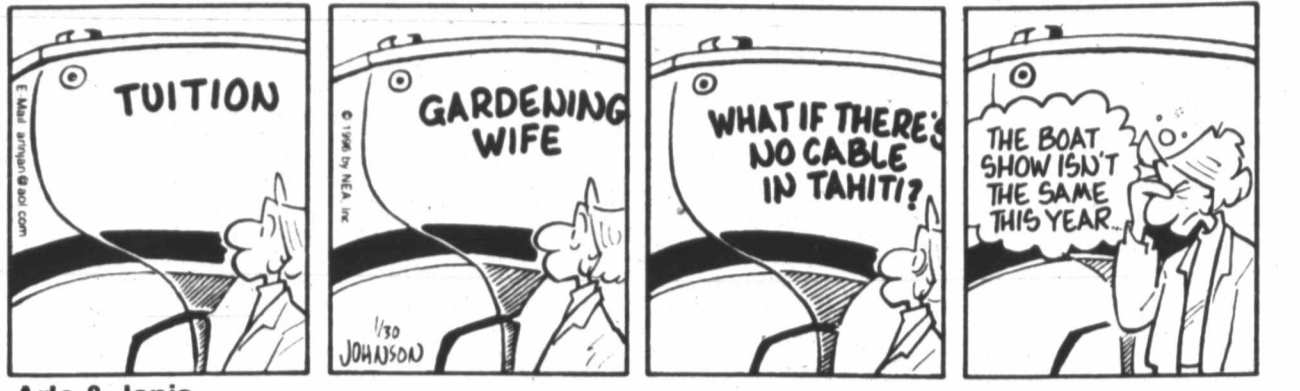
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** Projects begun today should eventually work out to your satisfaction. You will know how to use all the resources at your disposal.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Tasks can be accomplished more effectively with the aid of an assistant today. You shouldn't have any problem getting the kind of cooperation you require.

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For Better or For Worse



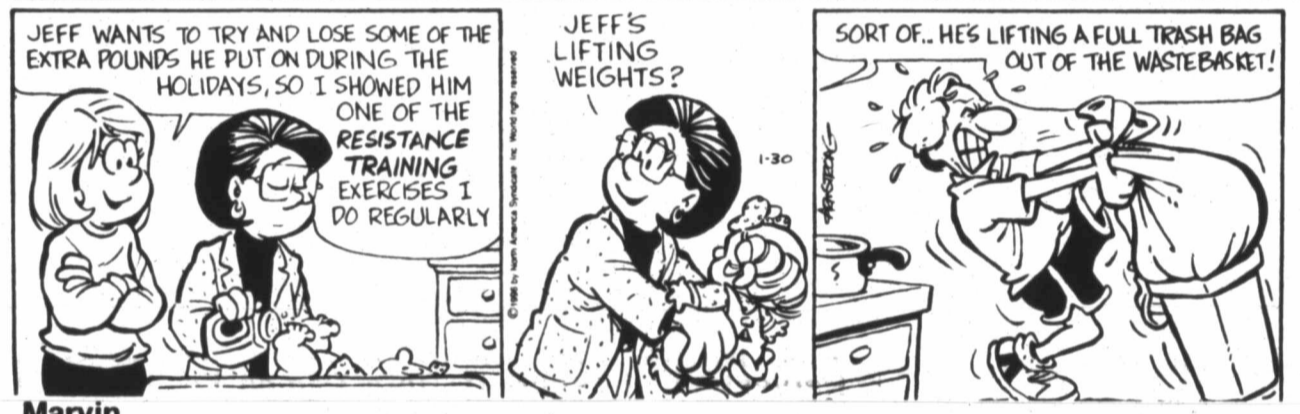
Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



Eek & Meek



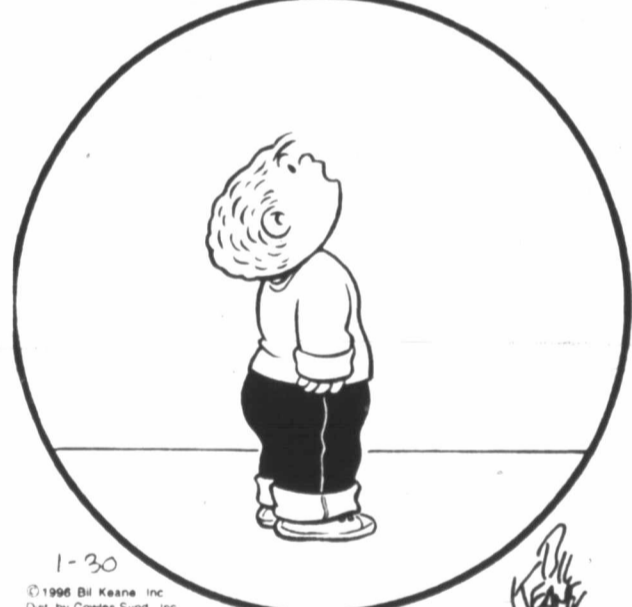
The Born Loser



Frank & Ernest



Mallard Filmore



"The thing I wanna be most when I grow up is taller."



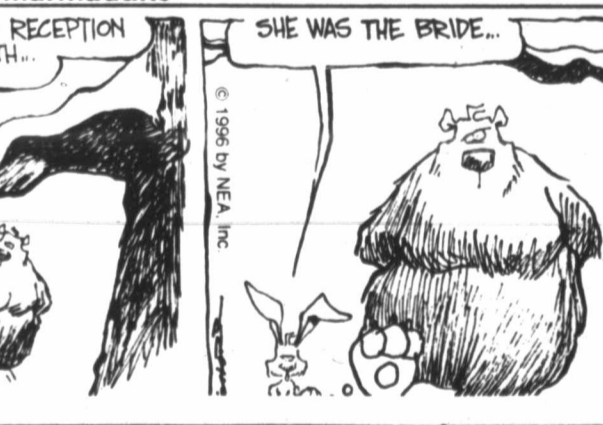
"He wants you to kiss his sore paw and make it better."

### The Family Circus



Grizzwells

### Marmaduke



Alley Oop



Peanuts



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World briefs

Two-century-old opera house devoured by fire

VENICE, Italy (AP) — La Fenice, the two-century-old opera house that premiered the works of Rossini and Verdi and was considered a national gem, today is nothing but burnt remains.

Hours after it was devoured by fire, smoke continued to pour from the opera house's marble facade. Charred beams leaned crazily against the interior shell. Fire tubes snaked along the alleyways leading from nearby canals.

A police patrol reported seeing smoke around 9 p.m. Monday, and aided by a stiff wind, the fire quickly enveloped the 204-year-old opera house. Acrid columns of smoke rose above the city, and red flames were visible across town.

Unable to get inside, firefighters had to pump water to the scene because some canals near La Fenice had been drained for cleaning. Hundreds of onlookers watched as La Fenice, one of Italy's most important arts institutions, creaked and sections came crashing to the ground.

There were no reports of injuries and the fire's cause was under investigation.

Musical 'Cats' purred to longevity record

LONDON (AP) — "Cats" purred its way to its 6,138th performance in London Monday night, surpassing the run of Broadway's longest-running musical, "A Chorus Line."

But the Andrew Lloyd Webber show still has to contend with "The Fantasticks," which had its

14,792nd performance Sunday night off-Broadway, and plans to reach 15,000 by July 24.

Nonetheless, "Cats" now holds the record among the big-theater musicals.

There were many doubters when it premiered, and Lloyd Webber admits that he too wondered whether the public would warm to a show based on poems of T.S. Eliot.

"Cats" opened May 11, 1981, at the New London Theater. It became London's longest-running musical on May 12, 1989, ousting the same composer's "Jesus Christ Superstar."

The Broadway production of "Cats" ranks third on the longevity list there. Monday night's performance would make 5,557.

Ernie and Bert stolen, Miss Piggy damaged

ERFURT, Germany (AP) — Miss Piggy was under police protection Monday, after her colleagues Ernie and Bert were abducted.

Thieves knocked through a wall and plundered an exhibit of original Muppet puppets overnight Sunday at the Erfurt Garden Show. They also smashed a glass case, trying to rip Miss Piggy from her display, but were unsuccessful.

"We have not yet determined how extensive the damage was" to Miss Piggy, said exhibit organizer Adolf Blaschka.

Miss Piggy was placed in police custody Monday.

The trio were among 36 original Muppets rented by a Danish firm for the exhibit in Erfurt, 110 miles northeast of Frankfurt.

5-year-old's killers receive punishment

CHICAGO (AP) — Two young boys were sentenced to youth prison for dropping a 5-year-old boy out a 14th-story window after he refused to steal candy for them.

The boys, now 12 and 13, were given indefinite terms in custody. They cannot be held beyond their 21st birthdays.

They were found delinquent of killing 5-year-old Eric Morse last year; the finding is the juvenile court equivalent of guilty.

The two were only 10 and 11 when they dangled, then dropped Eric from a high-rise on Oct. 13, 1994, when he refused to steal candy for them.

"They chose as their victim a much younger, smaller, vulnerable child," Kelly said. "They had that baby in their hands, picked him up and held him out of a 14th-floor window, not just once, but twice. And then they let him go and fall to a terrifying death."

Chirac learns lesson: No nukes is good nukes

PARIS (AP) — President Jacques Chirac has learned a painful political lesson: In the 1990s, no nukes is good nukes.

Chirac's decision Monday to cut short a series of underground nuclear tests in the South Pacific was almost a foregone conclusion. From the moment last June when he announced that France would break a three-year international moratorium on nuclear testing, Chirac had lashed himself to the world's whipping post.

France's bold new conservative president, the man they dubbed "Le Bulldozer," pushed too far and plowed too deep. In the end, he ended up nearly buried in the diplomatic fallout of what mushroomed into, politically at least, a nuclear nightmare.

"Obviously his advisers led him to error," said Remi Parmentier, chairman of Greenpeace's Paris office. "The lesson to be learned is the need for greater transparency and real public consultation."

On Monday evening, a beaten Chirac went on state television and announced that the final series of nuclear tests — originally envisioned as eight blasts, later trimmed to "six or seven" — was officially over. Saturday's detonation deep beneath coral-encrusted

Fangataufa atoll in French Polynesia was the sixth, and Chirac said it would be the last.

Practically overnight, France had become a virtual pariah on the world stage, especially in the eyes of the nations of the South Pacific, a region it led and shaped for 200 years.

Much was at stake. In flexing his military muscle as the new kid on the block, Chirac was gambling that his standing among world leaders would improve and France would be lifted to the status of superpower after 14 years of Socialist rule under his predecessor, the late Francois Mitterrand.

Some key allies — the United States, Britain and Germany among them — muted their disapproval, and an emboldened Chirac began portraying France's nuclear might as the cornerstone of a new European defense.

But Chirac didn't count on the explosive anger of Australia, New Zealand, Japan and other South Pacific nations, the deep distrust of longtime European trading partners like Denmark, Spain, Norway and Sweden — or the tenacity of the environmental group Greenpeace, which fought France bitterly and skillfully.

In a series of colorful high-seas protests, Greenpeace thrust Chirac's seven-month-old

government into the awkward glare of television lights. French Navy commandos repeatedly boarded and seized Greenpeace protest ships, and the Elysee Palace seemed helpless in dealing with the inevitable public relations nightmare.

Perhaps most seriously, Chirac's decision to resume nuclear testing undermined efforts to promote the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. From the beginning, Chirac promised to sign the pact now being negotiated in Geneva, but his government sent a very different signal by detonating warheads beneath the crystal seas of French Polynesia.

By resuming testing, France joined China as the only other nuclear power to actively test weapons of mass destruction since 1992. Many scientists and military analysts still fear the fallout among developing nations tempted to develop nuclear capability — or worse, to use nuclear weapons they might already have.

"Only by moving towards a global nuclear weapons ban can the nuclear club save face and stop 'threshold' countries and terrorists from acquiring the bomb," Janet Bloomfield, leader of Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, warned Monday evening.

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