

STATE:
Winter weather makes
travel unsafe, Page 3

GOOD EVENING
Friday, February 2, 1996

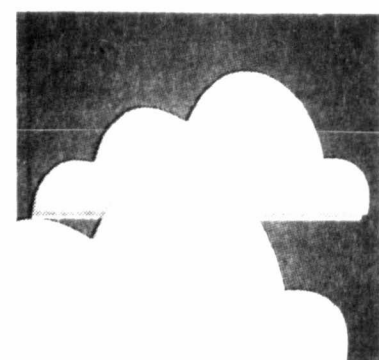
SPORTS:
Pampa basketball teams
host Dumas tonight, Page 11

THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 88 NO: 258

Pampa, Texas

50c DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight around
minus 5, high tomorrow
near 10. See Page 2 for
weather details.

NATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry has issued a statement against the House of Representatives' vote Thursday night to adjourn for the next three weeks, complaining about the failure to take action on a farm bill.

"For the past two months, Congress has more or less been at a standstill while it tries to reach an agreement on a balanced budget plan with the president," said Thornberry, R-Amarillo. "This disagreement has been based on principle and will have consequences for all Americans."

"But tonight's decision by the congressional leadership to adjourn without voting on a farm bill was a mistake," he claimed.

"Farmers have been looking to Congress for leadership and Congress has let them down yet again putting off action on a farm bill. A three-week delay may not seem like a lot for those with campaigns to run, but it is a long time for farmers waiting to make planting decisions on which their very livelihood depends."

Thornberry was one of only 16 Republicans to vote against the motion to adjourn, which passed on a 207 to 199 vote.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison is taking part in a bipartisan congressional trip to Bosnia over the weekend, her fourth trek to the troubled region since last year.

She's not going empty-handed.

The Republican called a news conference Thursday to announce she's bringing 712 pair of mohair socks for a battalion of American soldiers taking part in the NATO peacekeeping mission.

The knee-highs, made from the wool of Angora goats, were donated by the Texas-based American Mohair Council. Virtually all mohair in this country is shorn from Texas goats.

STATE

AUSTIN (AP) — The city council has rejected a plan to offer a larger property tax break to senior citizens who own their homes.

On a 3-2 vote Thursday, the council refused to expand the current tax break, which exempts seniors from tax liabilities on home values up to \$51,000.

The failed proposal would have allowed seniors to skip property taxes on home values up to \$100,000.

The current tax break was not affected by the vote.

"This is not a tax cut. It's a tax shift," Mayor Bruce Todd said before casting a vote against the measure.

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Former Gray County jailer files 'whistle blower' suit

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

A lawsuit was filed against Gray County by a former jailer who alleges the local sheriff fired her after she reported violations of the law to Gov. George W. Bush.

Misti Beck filed suit Thursday under the "whistle blower" statute of the Texas Government Code in Potter County's 251st District Court claiming she was fired by Sheriff Randy Stubblefield on Nov. 9, 1995 in retaliation for her report.

Court records say she wrote a letter to the governor reporting what she believed in good faith to be violations of law by Sheriff's Office officials.

The lawsuit does not specify the violations. However, KVII-TV reported Beck wrote letters to Stubblefield and Bush alleging unethical and corrupt behavior, mistreatment of prisoners and employees, and falsification of records by Stubblefield.

Beck's attorney Jeff Blackburn of Amarillo is out of town.

Stubblefield said today he has not seen anything except what was presented by the news media.

"I'm going to reserve comment until I have a chance to talk to my attorney," Stubblefield said today.

"I believe this is politically motivated due to the fact she was discharged in early

November and they have waited until 21 days before early voting starts for the primary," he said. "I have gone three years without a lawsuit and now right before the election, this has been filed."

County Judge Richard Peet said today he had not been served with a copy of the lawsuit.

"I did not receive any information on it," he said.

He said he knew it was going to be on an Amarillo newscast when reporters came to the courthouse.

The Pampa News has been unable to contact Beck.

She was employed by the county from Jan. 21, 1993, to Nov. 9, 1995.

Pentagon cancels surveillance plane program

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon is cancelling a \$4.3 billion program to build hundreds of short-range unmanned reconnaissance planes for the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

Defense Secretary William Perry said today the plane, known as the Hunter, had failed to meet the Pentagon's expectations for reliability. He said the main focus now would be on the Predator, a larger unmanned spy plane that already has flown in Bosnia.

Paul Kaminski, the undersecretary of defense for acquisition,

was to announce the cancellation decision at a Pentagon news conference this afternoon.

In an internal memorandum sent Wednesday to Army Secretary Togo West, Kaminski said production of the Hunter would be stopped after seven "systems." Each system consists of eight planes plus trucks, trailers and ground modules that control the aircraft and receive the photographs Hunter takes.

The Pentagon originally had planned to buy 50 systems, which amounts to 400 planes.

So far the Pentagon has spent

about \$600 million on the project, according to the General Accounting Office, the congressional auditing agency.

The Hunter is a joint project between TRW Avionics & Surveillance Group and Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd. It was to replace the Pioneer short-range unmanned aircraft that the Pentagon had wanted to retire in 1995.

In his memo to West, a copy of which was provided to The Associated Press, Kaminski did not explain the reasons for ending the program early.

Choosing a Valentine



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Kayla Wright, 4, of Amarillo, picks out a Valentine card for her father while at the Gift Box in Pampa. She is the granddaughter of Gerald and Charlene Wright of Pampa. For those who may have forgotten, Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, is now only 12 days away.



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Jimmy Williams, employee at Best Finance and Rentals on Cuyler, scoops snow off the sidewalk in front of the business, a chore endured by many at their homes and businesses from the latest snow storm.

Texas remains in grip of cold weather

From AP and Staff Reports

Freezing precipitation fell across Texas early today from the Red River to the Gulf of Mexico.

And bone-chilling weather is expected across much of the state by dawn Saturday. Temperatures are expected to plunge into the single digits in North Texas by dawn Sunday.

In the Panhandle, a band of snow fell across the central region Thursday, including Gray County, with accumulations up to five inches, while regions to the north and south received only light snow flurries, if any at all.

In Pampa, KGRO-KOMX meteorologist Darrell Sehorn recorded four inches of snow for the city, yielding 0.27 inch of moisture. Thursday's high was 14, with the overnight low dipping to 8 degrees.

Sehorn said the temperature could fall to minus 5 degrees overnight, with winds creating a wind chill factor down to 20 or

30 degrees below zero.

Saturday's high is only expected to be around 10 degrees, with the low again dropping below zero by Sunday morning.

Light snow again was falling in the Pampa area at mid-morning, but accumulations were expected to be small. The sun was peering through light clouds around 10:45 a.m., but cloudy skies were expected to prevail through Saturday.

The snow created hazardous driving conditions on highways and roads in the central Panhandle regions, with Department of Public Safety troopers and other law enforcement officers answering calls on a number of accidents, mostly minor.

In Pampa, police responded to eight minor accidents.

Some of the worst weather problems were in South Texas where officials at San Antonio closed all freeways and many of the major streets because of icing.

In the Lower Rio Grande

Valley, temperatures will dip to as low as 28 before dawn Saturday. That's cold enough to damage any of the area's citrus crops that is still on the trees, but not cold enough to damage the trees.

In West Texas, there is a chance of additional snow mainly east of the mountains through Saturday.

In North Texas, some additional snow was expected today and there is a chance of some additional snow on Saturday.

In South Texas, some additional freezing rain is possible tonight and early Saturday.

Lows tonight will be around -5 in the Panhandle and in the teens and 20s elsewhere in West Texas, from 13-18 in North Texas and in the 20s in the Hill Country and in the 30s elsewhere across South Texas.

Highs Saturday will be between 5-10 in the Panhandle and in the teens, 20s and 30s elsewhere in West Texas, in the 20s and 30s in North Texas and in the 40s in South Texas.

Nation's unemployment rate rises to 5.8 percent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's unemployment rate rose to 5.8 percent in January, highest since last spring, as the blizzard early in the month shrank employment rolls.

The Labor Department said today the number of jobs declined by 201,000, the first drop in 10 months and the largest in nearly five years.

It said much of the decrease was due to the blizzard that closed many businesses during the department's survey week.

"The decline in employment was due primarily to the effects of the blizzard that closed much of the eastern United States in early January" when the job survey was taken, said Joseph E. Stiglitz, chairman of President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers.

"We fully expect employment growth to resume, and believe that our economy will recover fully from the blow dealt by Mother Nature," he added.

Other economists' contended that the report would have been weak even without the effects of the snowstorm.

"The real number is not minus

201,000," said economist Marilyn Schaja of Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corp. in New York. "When you take away the impact of weather, job creation probably was flat."

The advance in the jobless rate was the first since it rose from 5.5 percent in October to 5.6 percent in November. It was unchanged in December.

The latest reading matched the 5.8 percent rate last April, the highest during 1995. The rate had dipped to 5.4 percent last February.

Analysts had expected an increase to 5.7 percent.

The 201,000 decline in jobs was the first since a 62,000 drop last May and the largest since a 215,000 plunge in April 1991. The department reported that 161,000 new jobs were created in December.

The December job growth was boosted by the return of 41,000 workers who had been on strike or laid off. In January, the decline was due in part to the snowstorm and the strike by 30,000 New York building maintenance workers.

Dobson Fiber Company sues Gray County Appraisal District

An Oklahoma communications company has filed suit against the Gray County Appraisal District, claiming "arbitrary" assessment of tax values.

In a suit filed Jan. 24 in 223rd District Court, Dobson Fiber Company claims GCAD put too great a value on fiber optic lines in the county.

Dobson Fiber Company had disagreed with Chief Appraiser Pat Bagley's estimation of value of a fiber optic line running to Pampa from Interstate 40 in a November protest before the Appraisal Review Board.

Dobson, represented by Oklahoma City tax representative John Savage, argued that the line should be taxed on no more than its replacement value, a number they set at \$15,000 per mile.

Bagley disagreed, citing information acquired from Dobson placing the value of the line closer to \$34,000 per mile. With standard depreciation, the value would now be about \$25,000 per mile.

The review board decided to set the value at \$16,817 per mile, a figure almost half of Bagley's figures, but higher than Dobson asked for.

The suit asks the court to fix the value of the plaintiff's property as of Jan. 1, 1995, at a total of \$699,244.

GCAD claims that value should be \$1,562,047.

Chief Appraiser Pat Bagley had no official comment on the suit.

A similar suit was filed against the Wheeler County Appraisal District Aug. 31, 1995.

Subscribe to The Pampa News!! Come by the office at 403 W. Atchison or call 669-2525 for information

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

BRUNSON, Jody Edward — 10 a.m., First Baptist Church, Turkey.

Obituaries

JODY EDWARD BRUNSON

TURKEY — Jody Edward Brunson, 24, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Jan. 31, 1996. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church at Turkey with the Rev. Melvin Clinton, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Dreamland Cemetery under the direction of Myers-Long Funeral Directors of Turkey.

Mr. Brunson was born Dec. 20, 1971, at Memphis, Texas. He was a construction worker and a graduate of Pampa High School.

Survivors include his parents, Roger and Brenda Brunson of Mineola; two brothers, Chad Brunson and Tim Brunson, both of Mineola; a grandmother, Viola Brunson of Memphis; and numerous aunts and uncles.

The family requests memorials be to the American Diabetes Association.

WILLIE MARIE RICE

Willie Marie Rice, 95, of Pampa, died Wednesday, Jan. 31, 1996. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday in the Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Dr. Darrell Evans, pastor of the First Christian Church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Rice was born Aug. 17, 1900, at Gage, Okla. She married James E. Rice on Jan. 6, 1917, at Shamrock; he died Sept. 23, 1989. She had been a Pampa resident since 1916, moving from Selma, Calif. She worked as a seamstress at Murlee's Department Store for 15 years and in her sister-in-law's business, Rice's Sew Shop, for 20 years, retiring in 1973. She was a member of the First Christian Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Idelle Maddox of Apple Valley, Calif.; three sons, Ronnie D. Rice of Pampa, Charles H. Rice of Houston and Lawrence W. Rice of Porterville, Calif.; 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

The family will be at 712 N. Somerville and requests memorials be to the Feed the Children Foundation or to Good Samaritan Christian Services.

Accidents

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

THURSDAY, Feb. 1

11:35 a.m. — A 1981 Chevrolet pickup driven by Jarrett Brian Parson, 16, 1812 N. Wells, was in collision with a 1988 Lincoln driven by Melvin Paul Miller, 62, Odessa, at the intersection of Duncan and Kentucky. Parson was cited for failure to control speed.

12:15 p.m. — A 1995 tractor rig driven by Clarence Curtis Conway Jr., 61, Oklahoma City, was in collision with a 1994 Ford pickup driven by Jackie O'Dell Sirman, 44, Miami, in the 600 block of East Frederic.

2:40 p.m. — A 1992 Cadillac driven by Sherry Suzanne Nave, 47, HCR 2 Box 407, was in collision with a 1994 Buick driven by Ovella D. Jones, 63, 1136 Juniper, in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

3:30 p.m. — A 1992 Geo driven by Tiffany Amber Kirby, 16, 1439 N. Dwight, was in collision with an unknown green pickup in the 100 block of North Hobart.

3:30 p.m. — A 1992 Pontiac driven by Christella Fullagar, 30, 1333 E. Kingsmill, was in collision with a curb in the 900 block of Alcock.

4:20 p.m. — A 1987 Buick driven by Jessica Wanda Horton, 17, 811 E. Albert, was in collision with a 1989 Ford pickup driven by Billy Wayne Fitzer, 59, 1135 S. Finley, in the 100 block of South Hobart. Horton was cited for failure to control speed.

6:25 p.m. — A 1991 Daihatsu driven by Steven Dale Dancy, 32, 2200 N. Dwight, was in collision with a 1983 Cadillac driven by Aubrey Hayse McCord, 54, 933 Wheeler, in the 500 block of West 23rd. Dancy was cited for failure to control speed and for having no liability insurance.

9 p.m. — A 1990 Pontiac driven by Christy Lynn Thomas, 19, 417 E. 17th, was in collision with a 1983 Chevrolet driven by Douglas R. McGinley, 34, 324 B Gillespie, at the intersection of Starkweather and Browning. Thomas was cited for running a stop sign.

Police report

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

THURSDAY, Feb. 1

A runaway was reported from Pampa High School at 11:30 a.m. Thursday.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of Henry at an unknown time.

Theft by check was reported at Wayne's Western Wear, 1504 N. Hobart. The check was for \$367.92.

Taylor Mart, 405 N. Ballard, reported theft at 6 p.m. Thursday.

A juvenile reported assault with injury which occurred at 11 p.m. Thursday. She suffered blunt trauma to the mouth.

Failure to identify and fugitive from justice were reported by Officer Trevor McGill in the 1000 block of Huff Road at 10:53 p.m. Thursday.

Arrests

THURSDAY, Feb. 1

Steven Dancy, 32, 2200 N. Dwight, was arrested in the 500 block of West 23rd on a Department of Public Safety warrant alleging failure to appear. He paid a fine and was released.

Billy Lynn Mullins, 29, 705 B. Gray, was arrested in the 800 block of Crawford on two Pampa warrants, a Department of Public Safety warrant and an instanter charge.

Jerry Merrell Pierce, 30, 338 Tignor, was arrested in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive on a charge of failure to identify and two warrants.

Calendar of events

PAMPA BRIDGE CLUB

Pampa Bridge Club meets at 2 p.m. Sunday in Room 11 at Clarendon College. For a partner, contact Marie Jamison at 669-2945.

THEE PLACE

Thee Place for Singles is open 7-10:30 p.m. Saturdays at 520 W. Kingsmill.

MOBILE MEALS MENU

Mobile meals menu for Saturday, Feb. 3, is baked chicken, stewed tomatoes, carrots, rolls, dessert.

NO VFW DANCE

There will be no dance, open house or grand opening this Saturday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, according to spokesman John Triplehorn.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro reported the following call during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

FRIDAY, Feb. 2

12:00 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the Gray County Sheriff's Office on a medical assist and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.

Fires

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

THURSDAY, Feb. 1

1 p.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to 745 Locust on a structure fire. Light damage was reported in the kitchen.

Sheriff's Office

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrest in the 24-hour period which ended at 7 a.m. today.

THURSDAY, Feb. 1

Wendell George Mayberry, 26, 453 Hughes, was arrested on a bond forfeiture.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa		
Wheat	5.04	
Milo	6.10	
Corn	6.63	
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation		
Nowco	13 1/4	NC
Occidental	21 7/8	dn 1/4
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation		
Magellan	87 3/4	
Parran	17 3/4	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa		
Amco	72	up 3/8
Arco	114 5/8	dn 1/2
Cabot	59 3/4	dn 1/8
Cabot O&G	16 1/4	NC
Chevron	53 3/8	up 1/4
Coca-Cola	75 3/4	up 1/4
Columbia/HCA	54 1/2	dn 1/8
Diamond Sham	29 7/8	up 3/4
Enron	36 7/8	up 1/8
Halliburton	51 1/4	dn 1/2
Ingersoll Rand	39 1/2	NC
KNE	29 7/8	dn 1/8
Kerr McGee	63 3/4	dn 3/4
Limited	16 3/4	NC
Mapco	56 1/2	dn 1/8
McDonald's	50 1/8	up 1/8
Mobil	112	up 1/4
New Atmos	21 1/4	NC
Parker & Parsley	22 3/8	dn 1/8
Penney's	47 5/8	dn 1
Phillips	33 3/8	NC
SLB	71 3/4	NC
SPS	32 7/8	NC
Tenneco	52 1/4	up 3/4
Texasco	81 3/8	dn 1/2
Wal-Mart	21 7/8	up 1/8
New York Gold	414.50	
Silver	5.73	
West Texas Crude	17.75	

Stiff clothes



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Even with an arctic cold front descending on the Pampa area, some chores must go on. Here, some washed clothes hang stiffly from a clothes line in the 600 block of Naida.

Congress passes telecommunications law

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans can expect to see a dramatic transformation of television, telephone and computer services, now that a historic overhaul of the nation's telecommunications laws has sailed through Congress.

But how soon? "I think you'll see companies reacting fairly quickly," Vice President Al Gore said in a telephone interview Thursday.

President Clinton is likely to sign the bill within a week, Gore said.

The massive overhaul of the 1934 Communications Act would allow head-to-head competition between cable TV and local and long-distance telephone companies, deregulate cable rates and allow media companies to more easily expand their holdings. It also would restrict smutty material on computer networks and television.

Even though companies have been preparing for this new era of telecommunications competition, "You're not going to have people in the field tomorrow constructing new (telephone) lines and throwing a switch," said

Rep. Jack Fields, R-Texas, one of the architects of the bill.

"It's just not going to happen that quickly," he said.

The bill — saluted by Sen. Larry Pressler, R-S.D., as a telecommunications "road map" into the new century — flew through the House on Thursday, 414-16, and then the Senate, 91-5.

Clinton hailed the measure, saying in a statement, "consumers will receive the benefits of lower prices, better quality and greater choices in their telephone and cable services, and they will continue to benefit from a diversity of voices and viewpoints in radio, television and the print media."

For instance, cable companies say they'll speed up delivery of high-speed modems that connect customers to the Internet, other computer services and transmit lots of data cheaply. Telephone companies say they'll accelerate movies on demand and interactive television.

And broadcasters say once they switch over to digital technology, they may offer multiple channels of programs, home shopping and transmit sport

scores to laptop computers.

Supporters say the measure would boost jobs, expand consumer choices and potentially lower prices for cable, telephone and other communications services.

But opponents say that more jobs will be lost than gained through consolidation, that choices will be limited and that cable and telephone rates are likely to go up considerably because the level of competition envisioned by supporters will not emerge.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., who voted against the bill, said he was concerned about deregulating cable, saying, "I don't want to see a repeat of skyrocketing cable rates on passage of this law."

Long-distance companies and cable companies say it could take anywhere from six months to four years to begin providing local phone service — depending upon the market.

David Dornan, president of Pacific Bell, predicted residential telephone customers in New York, Illinois and California will be among the first to have choices of local phone providers.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Bitterly cold tonight with a low near five below zero. Cloudy with easterly winds 5-10 mph. A 60 percent chance of snow. Saturday, cloudy and cold with a high of 10 and a 30 percent chance of snow. Southeast winds 5-10 mph. Pampa received four inches of snow as of 6 a.m. today, yielding 0.27 inch of moisture. Thursday's high was 14; the overnight low was 8.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Panhandle (Northwest, Western and Southern): Tonight, bitterly cold with lows 5 below to 10 below zero. Cloudy with light snow likely. Saturday, a chance of light snow early, otherwise mostly cloudy. Continued very cold with highs 5 to 12. Saturday night, becoming mostly clear and bitterly cold with lows 5 below to 10 below zero. Panhandle (Northeast): Tonight, bitterly cold with lows around 10 below zero. Cloudy with light

snow likely. Saturday, a chance of light snow early, otherwise mostly cloudy. Continued very cold with highs 5 to 10. Saturday night, becoming mostly clear and bitterly cold with lows 5 below to 10 below zero. South Plains: Tonight, cloudy and very cold. A chance of light snow. Lows 5 below zero to 5 above. Saturday, mostly cloudy and continued cold. A few flurries. Highs 15-20. Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Lows 5-10.

North Texas — Tonight, cloudy and cold with a few flurries. Lows 13 to 18. Saturday, cloudy and cold with a chance of light snow. Highs 25 to 30.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, occasional freezing rain or freezing drizzle. Temperatures lowering into the teens to near 20. Saturday, continued cloudy and cold with intermittent light freezing rain or freezing drizzle. Highs in the 20s to near 30. Upper Coast: Tonight, occasional freezing rain or freezing drizzle. Temperatures lowering into the teens to near 20 inland, 20s coast.

Saturday, continued cloudy and cold with intermittent light rain or drizzle possibly mixed with light freezing rain or freezing drizzle. Highs in the 20s inland, 30s coast. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, occasional light rain or drizzle possibly mixed with freezing rain or freezing drizzle. Temperatures lowering into the 20s. Saturday, cloudy and continued cold with intermittent light rain or drizzle. Highs in the 30s.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight and Saturday, mostly cloudy with a chance of snow showers mountains and north with partly cloudy skies lower elevations south. Lows from 5 below zero to the teens mountains, north and east to the 20s lower elevations southwest. Highs Saturday mostly 20s and 30s mountains and east, to the 50s lower elevations southwest.

Oklahoma — Tonight, cloudy and very cold. Lows 5 above zero to 5 below zero. Saturday, mostly cloudy and cold. Highs 10 to 20.

Northern states shiver in record cold

By YVETTE BLACKMAN
Associated Press Writer

How cold is it? How about 60 below in Tower, Minn.? Or consider tow truck driver Jay Krantz's wardrobe as he tried in vain to start cars that broke down in wind chills down to 86 below zero in Bismarck, N.D.

Under his coveralls, Krantz wore two pairs of long underwear, jeans, a T-shirt, two more shirts, an insulated flannel shirt, his service station uniform shirt and a winter coat.

"The wind blows right through everything," he said.

As deadly arctic cold settled across the Plains and Midwest, record lows for the date were set early today in Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Colorado and Illinois. In Tower, Minn., the 60 below reading reached this morning broke the all-time record for the entire state.

Pipes froze, overworked heating systems broke down and car batteries quit.

The cold snap should last through the weekend in the northern and central Plains, the Midwest and New England, and as much as a foot of snow expected in parts of New York state.

The cold even stretched to the Gulf Coast, coating roads in Arkansas and northern Louisiana with ice and prompting officials to open more homeless shelters in New Orleans, where lows tonight could dip into the 20s. Louisiana's governor advised most state workers to stay home.

A state of emergency was declared Thursday from Alexandria, La., north to the Arkansas state line, a region included in an ice storm warning. Dozens of traffic wrecks on icy roads were reported.

Up to 2 inches of snow expected today in north Louisiana could cover at least a half-inch of

ice already on the ground.

"Enough is enough already," said Sherry Herndon, who was forced to halt repairs to her Shreveport home that was severely damaged by a tornado last week. "This is devastating. It's really worrying me."

Record lows early today included 30 below zero in Rapid City, S.D.; 34 below zero in Eau Claire, Wis.; 32 below zero in Mason City, Iowa; 37 below zero in Butte, Mont.; 12 below zero in Denver; 27 below zero in Dubuque, Ill.; 45 below zero in International Falls, Minn., and 29 below zero in Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Record lows Thursday included 51 below zero in Ely, Minn.; minus 43 at International Falls, Minn.; 36 below in Aberdeen, S.D.; 35 below in St. Cloud, Minn.; and minus 25 in Briggsdale, Colo. Fargo, N.D., matched a 103-year-old record of 39 below.

City briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

USED CARPET for sale. Great condition! Brown sculptured. 219 sq. yards. 665-6087. Adv.

DEBUT "CROSSFIRE", Saturday, February 3, 9-1 a.m., Sunset Bar, 600 S. Cuyler. Adv.

OWNER OFFERING nice 3 bedroom brick, 2 baths, large living room and master bedroom, built-in appliances, central heat/air. Priced below \$50,000. Call for appointment 665-2646. Adv.

RAG NOOK Inventory Sale, \$2 per pound. Adv.

ADULT CPR Class February 6, 6 p.m. Standard First Aid Class February 7, 6 p.m. Infant/Child CPR Class, February 8, 7 p.m. Red Cross, 669-7121 to register. Adv.

INDIAN SUMMER Dance Band, Saturday 8 p.m.-12 p.m. at Borger VFW. Adv.

CITY LIMITS welcomes Junior Brown, February 22. Tickets now \$10. Limited sales. 665-0438. Adv.

VJ'S FASHIONS & Gifts, sweaters 50, 60, 70% off. Downtown Pampa. Adv.

CONCEALED HANDGUN license classes. Barry Bowman. 665-9358. Adv.

IMAGES ESTEE Lauder - great Valentine gift ideas, fragrance, skincare. Lauder for men. Free gift wrap. 123 N. Cuyler, 669-1091. Adv.

ABBY'S SALON openings for beautician and nail tech. 665-3509. Adv.

IMAGES FALL and Winter 1/2 Price Clearance Sale continues on ladies apparel and shoes, selected Dooney & Bourke. 123 N. Cuyler, 669-1091. Adv.

URBAN SKUNK Blues, Friday. City Limits. Adv.

NEW BOYDS Bear Stones just arrived. All Its Charm, 109 W. Francis. Adv.

HOMESTEAD CREATIONS has changed ownership and is now expanding! Come by 2121 N. Hobart to rent a booth for crafts, antiques, wholesale and more, or call 665-2276 for more information. Adv.

OUT OF CONTROL Country Band, Saturday. City Limits. Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE - Friday 5-8 p.m. Catfish, turkey and dressing, chicken fried steak, cobbler. 716 W. Foster. Adv.

TAX SERVICE, Glenda Brownlee, 665-8074 or 274-2142, 614 Davis. Adv.

SUNDAY AT Kevin's, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Smothered Pork Chops. Adv.

State briefs

Juarez businessman receives 35-year prison term

HOUSTON (AP) — A Juarez, Mexico businessman accused of heading a Mexican drug trafficking ring that brought 40 tons of cocaine into the United States in 20 months has been sentenced to 35 years in federal prison.

U.S. District Judge Lee Rosenthal ordered Joe Chavez Quezada on Thursday to pay \$500,000 in restitution and fines due immediately.

Chavez was convicted of directing at least two groups that smuggled cocaine and marijuana into the United States for Colombian drug cartels.

Chavez and his attorney, Mark Hoak, asked the judge to consider new testimony from five co-defendants who were not called to the stand during his trial. Rosenthal did not allow the testimony.

"This is very strong (testimony) in my favor," Chavez told the judge. "All my rights have been violated since the first day of my arrest."

Jurors take defendant's advice on death sentence

HOUSTON (AP) — Eric Nenko had some advice for detectives who were investigating the disappearance of a seven-year-old neighbor girl: Look for someone like him and then execute him after they found him.

Nenko eventually led officers to the girl's body and confessed that he had killed her.

On Thursday, jurors took the first step toward taking his punishment advice seriously. They decided that Nenko, a 33-year-old plumbing supply salesman, should die by lethal injection for the slaying of Nicole Benton, who was kidnapped and sexually assaulted.

Nenko displayed no reaction when District Judge Denise Collins read the jury's finding and then denounced him for "robbing our children of their innocence."

The judge then allowed the girl's father and grandmother to confront Nenko. Buddy Benton drew tears from prosecutors, jurors, family members, the court report and courtroom observers.

Woman sues producer, alleging years of sexual abuse

HOUSTON (AP) — A 25-year-old woman whose mother once lived with music producer Huey Meaux has filed a lawsuit accusing him of sexually abusing her from the time she was 9 until she was 16.

In the lawsuit filed Thursday, Shannon McDowell Brasher seeks unspecified damages from the 66-year-old Meaux for the years of sexual abuse and emotional distress.

She said Meaux and her mother broke up when she was 16, but that she stayed occasionally with Meaux "well into her adult years," and that Meaux continued to take advantage of her.

Meaux used illegal drugs to get her to submit to his "sex assaults, exploitation and other perverted and unnatural sex acts," the suit said. He also encouraged others to assault her while he photographed and videotaped the acts, the suit said. State District Judge Mark Davidson issued a temporary restraining order Thursday sought by Ms. Brasher's attorneys, Dick DeGuerin and Wayne Isgitt. It orders Meaux or others not to destroy any evidence or to retaliate against her.

Freeze! In the name of charity!



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Senior Corrections Officers Jason Marler, center, and Angela Brooks, right, arrest Dr. Meganne Walsh, Dan Rose and Michelle Russell Wednesday afternoon as part of the annual Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock-Up. Twenty-nine volunteers participated as "jailbirds" for the event. More than \$7,000 was raised in cash and pledges to help provide funds for MDA services like monthly medical clinics, support groups, wheelchairs, summer camps and other services for over 300 families, including 13 families in Pampa. Sponsors for the event included Robert Knowles Automotive, Dobson Cellular, Mr. Gatti's, Albertson's, Subway and the Jordan Unit of Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Winter weather makes travel unsafe

By JUAN B. ELIZONDO Jr.
Associated Press Writer

The good weather news is that temperatures could go up next week.

The bad weather news is that all of Texas, especially the state's midsection, suffered through wintry weather Thursday with flight cancellations and road closures. More of the same was expected through the weekend.

Areas around Austin and San Antonio were hit with freezing rain and drizzle and light snow was forecast for Dallas and Fort Worth.

Forecasters at the National Weather Service in San Antonio said that city and the state's capital took the brunt of the passing winter storm.

But Constantine Pashos, a meteorologist with the weather service, said a cold front was moving over all of the state. He said temperatures and driving conditions throughout the state could deteriorate through the day.

Pashos said the current cold front would move through the state by Friday morning. But a second front will move in Friday afternoon.

"They might see an increase of 2 to 3 degrees," Pashos said of Central and North Texas residents.

Arney rebukes Dole for 'snake oil' comment about flat tax

WASHINGTON (AP) — Worried that the Republican presidential nomination fight is splattering mud on his beloved flat tax, House Majority Leader Dick Arney is warning GOP hopeful Bob Dole to steer clear of criticism.

Dole, the Senate majority leader, earned a rebuke from Arney Thursday night after referring to rival Steve Forbes'

Traffic backed up for miles in Austin as numerous accidents were reported. An express bridge on I-35 was shutdown due to slick conditions. It was opened after noon, but traffic moved at a slow pace throughout the city.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said no major injuries had been reported as of Thursday afternoon.

"Our main advice is to stay off the highways unless you absolutely have to get out," said Sherri Deatherage Green, a spokeswoman for the DPS.

Gov. George W. Bush, who was traveling in Houston, said he would monitor weather conditions before deciding his travel plans on Friday and urged state officials to send employees home early.

Three inches of snow accumulated in Amarillo where temperatures dipped to 8 degrees early Thursday and threatened the Panhandle wheat crop.

"It takes until it warms up and water tries to move through the plant — about three weeks — to know whether we've had damage," said Bill Nelson, executive vice president of the Amarillo-based Texas Wheat Producers Association.

Classes were canceled at the University of Texas and at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. Baylor University

in Waco also canceled classes.

Charles Franklin, vice president of business affairs at UT Austin, said several students had fallen on slick areas around the campus, but none were seriously injured.

The Bandera and Blanco schools districts in the Hill Country were releasing students from classes early Thursday, and roads and overpasses around San Antonio also were closed because of icy conditions.

At the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, American Airlines was planning to cancel as many as 150 departures Thursday — about 30 percent of operations there — while its regional carrier, American Eagle, targeted 75 flights or 27 percent, said spokesman Tim Smith.

The icy mix caught some people by surprise since weather service extended forecasts at the beginning of this week for North Texas had predicted lows Thursday from 35 to 50 degrees and highs up to the mid-60s.

George Bush's mistake. I hope not."

It's not the first time Arney has waded into the fray to protect the flat tax.

Last month, he wrote GOP hopeful Lamar Alexander, warning the former Tennessee governor to cool his "overheated rhetoric" against the plan.

Texans face challenging decisions — tax options

AUSTIN (AP) — The tax genie got out of the bottle this week. But some Texans may not find the choices he's offering all that appealing.

A new study of the state's tax system, requested but not yet read by Gov. George W. Bush, has leaked through the Capitol cracks. Even its authors acknowledge there's no easy answer.

"None of the alternatives ... are without 'warts' of one kind or another," the study says.

Bush believes the school property taxes, which now total more than \$9 billion a year, are dangerously high and threaten to spark a tax revolt. So he asked his budget staff and others for possible ways to replace that levy.

They found some. Warts and all, they are:

— Changing the sales tax.

Texas' 6.25 percent state sales tax rate already ties with Illinois for the fifth-highest in the country. On top of that, local options add up to 2 cents more in some areas.

The study says Texas grants many exemptions to the sales tax and thus ranks "about in the middle in terms of the broadness of the sales tax base."

To raise the full \$9 billion a year for schools, the current tax would have to jump to 12.25 percent. Bush says that is "not feasible."

The study says eliminating all current sales tax exemptions and extending the levy to items and services now excluded could generate more than enough money. However, it says, "For public policy reasons it may not be feasible to eliminate all current exemptions." Among things now exempt: food and medicine.

— A gross receipts tax on business. This would be a tax on all revenue from business in Texas, including business and investment income. Receipts from sales outside Texas wouldn't be taxed to eliminate interference with interstate commerce and not put Texas companies at a competitive disadvantage.

— A value-added tax. This taxes the value a company adds to products at each step of the manufacturing process. "Put another way, the value added by a firm is the extent to which its sales exceed the cost of its purchases," the study said.

The study found a couple more ideas: raising the business franchise tax by 5 1/2 times its current amount, and levying a 13.5 percent flat tax on all Texas business profits.

As the study leaked out, it generated a lot of no-comment comments: "Umm, interesting." And, "Is that right?" Or, "You don't say."

The governor, who started this ball rolling, is keeping his cards close to the vest.

"I want to see what all the options are," he said. "I've got an idea where I want to head on it."

But Bush has offered some hints. Ruling out a personal income tax, he says he prefers taxes on consumption. He also says any change must be "revenue neutral," meaning it raises no more money than the property tax it replaces.

And, he said this week, "Obviously, we need to look at a combination" of replacement taxes.

One of the longest discussions in the tax study is the statement of what it calls the "property tax problem."

It says the property tax is the largest single tax paid by Texans, next to the federal income tax. Property taxes are levied not only by school districts but also by cities, counties and numerous special districts.

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Air ambulance in service after year of being grounded

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — After a year, a nonprofit helicopter service that transports trauma victims from rural areas throughout South Texas is back in service.

Dozens of fundraisers have enabled HALO-Flight Air Ambulance Service to resume operations. It shut down in December 1994 after the company fell about \$230,000 short on rent payments for its only helicopter.

That left the Coastal Bend with no helicopter ambulance service. The aircraft costs about \$625,000 annually to operate and is leased from Houston Helicopters, based in Pearland outside of Houston.

Through emergency fund raising events, the helicopter was back in service temporarily last Christmas and New Year's and the previous year's holiday season.

HALO-Flight has held a succession of fund raisers since closing and announced Thursday that it had reaching its goal of raising more than \$200,000 with almost \$100,000 more in pledges.

HALO-Flight responds to auto wrecks and other medical emergencies in a region that includes

Aransas, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Starr, Webb and Willacy counties.

The service also operates two fixed-wing aircraft that transport patients between medical facilities.

But the helicopter is the aircraft used in emergencies in rural areas around Corpus Christi, said Jerry Stratmann, HALO's chief executive officer. The service is now raising money to keep the helicopter flying in 1997.

"It is good news because in trauma care, the best care can be rendered when the patient arrives within an hour of the injury," said Gretchen Benkendorfer, spokeswoman at Memorial Medical Center.

"Especially for victims of accidents in the outlying area, this is a big help."

Fund raisers ranged from students collecting pennies to bowling tournaments. Corporations, governmental entities, businesses and individuals also made donations.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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We Love You!
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Viewpoints

Why January 22 is a magic number

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

Texas Editorials

San Antonio Express-News on free access and technology: "Free access to information is essential to a democracy." Betty Turock, president of the American Library Association, issued that reminder at the group's mid-winter meeting in San Antonio this week.

"Our concern as professional librarians is that new technology not become a barrier for members of the public," she said.

This should concern us all. Librarians have pinpointed two major challenges. With the revolution in technology, those who can afford a computer and a connection to the Internet have access to an unprecedented volume of information not available to others. Such knowledge is power.

In a democracy, it should be available to everyone to help them make informed decisions.

The one place that offers such equal access is the public library.

Thus, libraries must be equipped with computers that lead to what has become known as the information superhighway, an expensive proposition. ...

The second challenge is providing the same freedom of speech on the new electronic sources as are available to the printed word, especially access to government information.

Even now, Congress, through a new telecommunications bill, is considering questions of electronic access to information. Some who have studied the proposal are issuing warnings that the government will impose more restrictions on computer information than print media face. Such restrictions must be opposed. ...

El Paso Times on repeat offenders: Texas Legislators are justifiably angry that almost half of state convicts released in 1991 committed crimes within the next three years. More than just complaining, though, the legislators ought to explore progressive solutions. ...

One thing is certain about repeat offenders: neither philosophy of extreme punishment or extreme pampering will work. Many prisoners cannot be helped because they don't want to be helped, and in such cases strict sentencing and continued incarceration is the answer. But other prisoners who want to turn around their lives must be given more opportunities.

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Berry's World



COMPUTER COMMUTER GETTING SOME FACE TIME

Twenty-three years! And still the crowds thronged to Washington in observance. Norma McCorvey, the Roe vs. Wade and new convert to the pro-life cause, turned up to emphasize her changed allegiance.

A news summary reminded us that Jan. 22, 1973 - the date on which the U.S. Supreme Court passed Roe along to us atop plumped-up cushions - was the same day Lyndon Johnson died. Forever ago, in other words. Men in those days wore bushy sideburns, women inflicted on themselves platform shoes that made simple walking an art form, and Watergate loomed ahead. Today's college seniors wore diapers and cooed when tickled. It was a long time ago, I tell you. Yet, the arguments and counter-charges and heat and emotionalism that surround the abortion question continue unabated.

Can't we drop the whole thing? You hear this injunction often enough. It proceeds from boredom and irritation. What has the Roe vs. Wade controversy - so old, so frayed - got to do with the real world? Much more than the people who ask the question might suppose.

There is first the unresolved question: What is human life? You thought Roe had resolved that question? Hardly. Roe merely wrenched the lid off the jar, causing the contents to spill out.

Human identity, hence human existence, is at stake. There is a deep difference of opinion, for the first time in 2,000 years, concerning whether there exists an unalienable right to life. According to Roe vs. Wade, such a right is no better than provi-



William Murchison

sional. A mother, acting with the state's collaboration, may deprive her unborn offspring of life, and no one may restrain her.

Why can't we leave it at that? Because, among other reasons, the Roe decision raises serious questions about other forms of life besides the unborn. The right to life being provisional only, life itself becomes conditional on the acquiescence of the strong. First abortion, then "assisted suicide," a la Kevorkian - then involuntary euthanasia? The progression is wholly logical. One leads to another while the question of life, and our right to it, remains unsettled, as at present.

A related question remains unsettled - the question of how, as a society, we decide the value or worthlessness of life. Roe vs. Wade accords that power to the authors of the opinion - justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. In other words, five men and women - the barest of majorities - are entitled to decide for us. Does it matter that these individuals are not responsible, save in indirect fashion,

for how they exercise their decision-making power? It ought to matter, but seemingly, it doesn't.

Take libertarians, for instance - the get-your-private-morality-out-of-my-face crowd. Libertarians, are a puissant power grouping: They are young or youngish, numerous, well-educated, affluent and involved. They dote on computers and hate government interference. This makes them friendlier than they might otherwise be to don't-tell-me-what-I-can-do-with-my-body argumentation.

Libertarianism drives the drive within the Republican Party to jettison, or water down, support for a human-life amendment. Libertarians may not care deeply for unborn life, but you might suppose they would get excited to see the U.S. Supreme Court, by judicial fiat, setting national policy on abortion. What about the people's theoretical right to adjudicate these hard questions at the polls and in legislative debate? That right was whisked away by Roe vs. Wade, at least on abortion, without murmur from those whose creed is distrust of illegitimate power.

Only when Roe vs. Wade is explicitly overturned by the court itself, or through constitutional amendment, will the federal government quit thrusting its private morality in our faces.

A proud, arrogant Supreme Court saddled us with our saddest national legacy since slavery times. It is no wonder the crowds return to the scene of the crime every Jan. 22. They will return again and again: in sorrow, in renewed dedication.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Friday, February 2, the 33rd day of 1996. There are 333 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Feb. 2, 1943, the remainder of Nazi forces from the Battle of Stalingrad surrendered in a major victory for the Soviets in World War II.

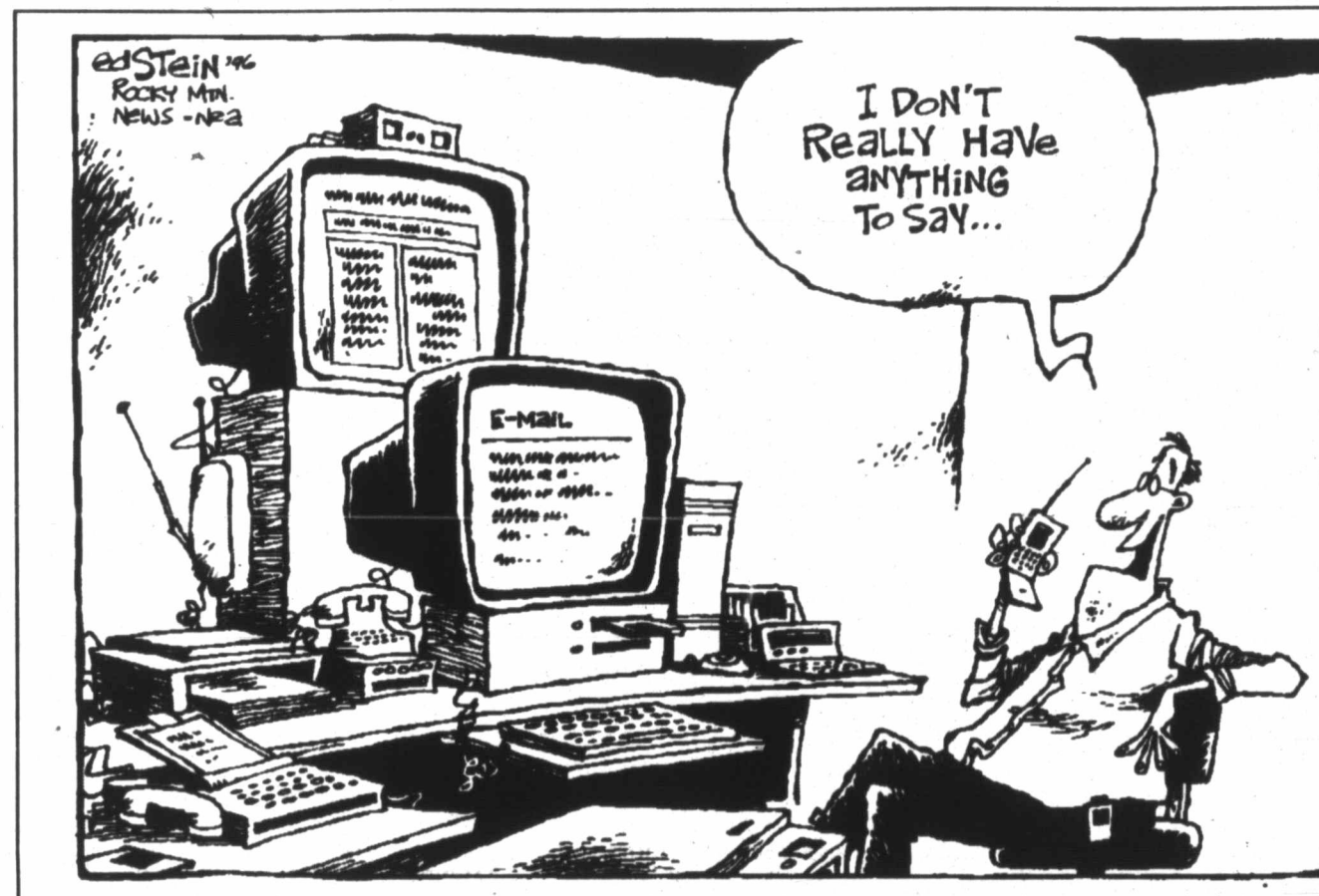
On this date:
In 1536, the Argentine city of Buenos Aires was founded by Pedro de Mendoza of Spain.

In 1653, New Amsterdam - now New York City - was incorporated.

In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending the Mexican War, was signed.

In 1870, the "Cardiff Giant," supposedly the petrified remains of a human discovered on a farm in Cardiff, N.Y., was revealed to be nothing more than carved gypsum.

In 1945, during World War II, President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill departed Malta for the summit in Yalta with Soviet leader Josef Stalin.



The flat tax as it relates to the rich

I loved Steve Forbes' response to the question: Wouldn't you personally benefit from a flat tax?

He said (I'm paraphrasing): If you change the tax system, I'll do all right. If you don't change the tax system, I'll do all right. The question is what's best for America.

Exactly. Forbes' Republican competitors are sounding an awful lot like Democrats as they scorn Forbes for being too wealthy.

The notion that Steve Forbes would undertake a quixotic run for the presidency in order to knock a few bucks off his tax liability is absurd. For one thing, it's a pretty poor investment. Even if personal gain were his motive, it would take decades for him to recoup in taxes saved what he's spending on this race. He'd be much better off investing in Treasury bills and letting others worry about the tax code.

The very rich, as Jack Kemp never tires of pointing out, are already rich. They can avoid taxes in a thousand innovative ways. But if you cut tax rates, you create incentives for the wealthy to invest their money and thus create opportunities for others to become rich.

The debate over taxes - flat and otherwise - is like a Rorschach test for Democrats and Republicans. What you see in the tax says a great deal about who you are. It is clear that many Democrats would continue to oppose a flat tax even if it could be proved that it would benefit everyone in society - poor, middle class and rich alike - because it would provide, in their eyes, a "windfall for the rich."



Mona Charen

Of course, letting people keep more of what is already theirs hardly constitutes a "windfall." Moreover, what do the Democrats think happens to the rich when their taxes are raised? Do they suddenly have to cut back on caviar and fast boats? Are they forced to fly coach? And when tax rates are lowered, do they suppose that the rich suddenly decide they can afford that Mercedes Benz after all? Not likely. So those who worry excessively about the impact of the tax code on the wealthy are merely spinning their wheels and indulging their own envious passions.

Moreover, in their zeal to ensure that the rich not benefit from any tax scheme, they wind up punishing the middle class.

As Daniel Mitchell noted in *The Wall Street Journal*, the Kemp Commission tracked three periods of reduced taxation in this century. Each was followed by an economic boom that redounded to the benefit of the entire society. In the 1920s, taxes

were slashed three times, reducing the top rate from 73% to 25%. Three things followed: The period known as the Roaring '20s brought unprecedented prosperity to the nation. Tax receipts surged by 61%. And the share of the tax burden borne by the rich increased from 44% in 1921 to 78% in 1928.

The pattern was similar in the 1960s. Starting under President John F. Kennedy, the top rate was reduced from 91% in 1963 to 70% in 1965. Once again, tax revenues to the Treasury climbed - this time by 16% between 1963 and 1966. And again, the proportion of taxes paid by the rich increased - from 12% to 15%.

In the 1980s, the pattern was the same. Though the mainstream press and the Democrats have tried to rewrite history to establish that supply-side economics was "discredited," the exact opposite is true. After the Reagan tax cuts, the economy surged, increasing tax revenues by 28% (inflation adjusted). The share of taxes paid by the top 10% of earners rose from 48% in 1981 to 57% in 1988. The top 1% of earners saw their portion of the tax burden rise from 18% in 1981 to 28% in 1988. (Yes, there were huge deficits in the 1980s, but that was because spending outstripped income, not because tax cuts robbed the Treasury of funds.)

The 1990s have featured higher tax rates and slower growth for the economy as a whole.

In other words, you cannot punish the rich without hurting the rest of us. But if you let the rich (and the rest of us) keep more of what they earn, everyone benefits.

How probable is a government default?

As a political weapon, blocking the borrowing the government needs to pay its debts is a blunderbuss. It can't be aimed and can blow up in the user's face. So it is a threat that never has been triggered.

A default on the national debt would hit both sides in the dispute over the federal budget, which is why the Republican-run Congress and President Clinton will find a way to avoid it, just before a real blowup.

These showdowns have happened in Republican as well as Democratic administrations, but not with so long a delay in action to increase the ceiling on the national debt. One piece of political fiction in all this is that the debt limit does what it says. It does not. The limit serves only to cover past deficits and spending already incurred, not to curb deficits.

Indeed, if the government defaulted, the deficit would go up, since interest on the national debt accounts for about 16 percent of the federal budget. A financial crisis that increased interest rates also would increase those costs.

Republicans have insisted on making a debt limit increase contingent on Clinton's acceptance of spending curbs and cuts they want as part of their balanced budget pledge. The president vetoed a bill for a brief debt ceiling increase that contained language prohibiting the administration from ever again using transfers from federal trust funds to avoid default on the debt.

"A simple, straightforward, clean extension of the debt ceiling ... remains the White House's priority and preference," Clinton's press secretary, Mike McCurry, said Monday.

That isn't going to happen. To reach a settle-



Walter Mears
AP Special Correspondent

ment that avoids the default neither side can afford - a specter for which each blames the other - Congress and Clinton each will have to accept some terms they'd rather avoid.

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, whose book-keeping maneuvers have kept the government paying its debts so far, has conceded that the administration will have to accept some GOP strings to get an extension.

Alice Rivlin, director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, said she saw no reason that a mutual agreement to balance the budget in seven years should not be attached to a debt limit increase.

The other question is when. Rubin began warning of impending default nearly three months ago, when the government hit the current \$4.9 trillion limit on the national debt.

But by shifting money from government retirement trust funds, he delayed the impact. In the process, the administration set so many drop-dead dates for default that Republicans said they'd been crying wolf.

Now Rubin has said that it is March 1 for real; extend the debt limit or default. "Our options are running out," Clinton said in his weekend radio address.

Republican leaders talk of acting on an extension the last week in February, but the White House says that isn't soon enough. "It would be

very dangerous to wait until February 26th to make the necessary arrangements to extend the debt ceiling," McCurry said.

"That's the day in which the federal government will have to send out Social Security checks, and if there's no agreement in place, those checks are going to bounce," he said.

There also have been warnings from Wall Street, usually regarded as a Republican address, of the impact on bonds and the financial markets should there be a default.

Debt limit increases are recurrent business in Congress. There have been 25 in the past 13 years, seldom without controversy, since they are must-pass legislation. That makes them frequent vehicles for amendments to force a president to accept provisions he doesn't want.

Eleven times in that same period there have been debt limit delays that forced brief slowdowns in federal borrowing to pay interest on the national debt and continue to meet current costs. In almost every instance, those disputes have involved Republican presidents and Democratic-led Congresses.

This one almost surely will stop short of default on the debt. Let that happen and the outcome, in the marketplace and at the polls, can't be gauged because there is no precedent. The certainty is that it wouldn't rein in the deficit.

When debt limits began, in 1917, they were effective deficit controls because most of what the government spent was determined by appropriations, year by year. Now most spending is built in by formula, as automatic as the debt payments it requires.

Gingrich to consider reducing GOP tax cuts size, life span

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thrown on the defensive in the budget fight with President Clinton, House Speaker Newt Gingrich says he would consider shrinking the proposed Republican tax cut and shortening its duration.

The GOP also moved on two fronts Thursday to shield itself politically in its debt-limit battle with Clinton, another arena where Republicans have been bruised of late.

Republican leaders wrote Clinton pledging they would not allow an unprecedented default to occur and would send him legislation "acceptable to both you and the Congress." The letter underlined previous verbal promises by GOP leaders not to provoke a veto-fight with Clinton by adding provisions he opposed to the bill.

In addition, Congress unanimously approved legislation ensuring that Social Security recipients would get their benefits, even in the event of a federal default. With Republicans planning to vote to extend the debt ceiling in late February after a

winter break, they feared Clinton would spend the month warning that without that extension, the Treasury might not be able to mail March Social Security checks.

"The potential for the administration to deliberately manipulate the system ... is so enormous that we did not want to take any risk that they would hurt senior citizens just to make a point," Gingrich, R-Ga., told reporters.

These developments occurred as most House members went back to their home districts until Feb. 26 — but not without a tussle with Senate Democrats, who blocked the Senate from letting the House go into a formal recess. They argued that lawmakers should first extend the government's lapsed borrowing authority.

In response, the House voted to return to session with a skeleton crew next Tuesday, when the Senate — which will be at work — might reconsider. The Senate's break will begin later.

Earlier, Gingrich told reporters that he would "look at" cutting taxes for four years. Until now, Republicans have been pursuing a \$200 billion, seven-year tax cut

as part of a balanced-budget deal with Clinton. The president wants to limit that cut to \$130 billion, and many Democrats want none at all.

Gingrich put no price tag on his idea, but said it would be a "smaller number." He said it would still include the chief GOP tax-cut goals, which have included a \$500 per child tax credit and lower capital gains tax rates.

The suggestion received an upbeat response from Clinton, who said it could help prod a budget deal many believe is all but unattainable.

"There have been a number of statements made which make me believe that the situation is far from gone," Clinton said at a news conference. "I still believe that there is a good chance that if we keep working at it, we can get a balanced budget agreement."

Gingrich's plan got a mixed review from fellow Republicans, however.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., back from a campaign trip, said, "I didn't see that. I've been floating around New Hampshire."

Travis Elementary School Honor Roll

Travis Elementary recently released its honor roll for the third six weeks grading period of the 1995-96 school year.

First Grade
A Honor Roll
 Dustin Curtis, Shauna Friend, Logan Howard, Garrett Jonas, Rebecca Kidwell, Alicia Kirkwood, Chelsea Luster, Jeff Luster, Destiny Rivera, Heather Sampson, Yvette Silva, Andrew VanHouten, Cole Young, Lauren Bowen, Jacklyn Cargill, Kerri Carter, James Coffee and Justin Cottrell.

B Honor Roll
 Meredith Coutts, Russell Dougless, Gavin Eggleston, Ben Gibson, Kinsey Guynes, Tyler Hucks, Bradley Johnson, Alisha Jones, Alyssa Kelsey, Maegan Patterson, Jade Skinner, Austin Bruner, Richard Leal, Alexandra Long, Whitney Morris, Ryan Olson, Nate Paulus, Whytnee Shattuck and Sara Swan.

A-B Honor Roll
 Levi Cave, Ryan Goldsmith, Roper Barr, Justin Curtis, Matthew Jimenez, Emily Keeton, Lori Presson, Kristen Royce and Kelsie Wyatt.

Second Grade
A Honor Roll
 Jake Craig, Bryan Humphrey, Adam Livin, Seth Pearson, Chrissie Boring, Jordan Hugg, Cortnee White, Heather Wills, Miranda Woodruff, Amy Youree, Krissie

Alexander, Logan Baker, Braydon Barker and Keenan Davis.

Zachary Edens, Laura Haley, Kendall Hickman, Lacie Long, Ashlee Lucas, Morgan Meharg, Amber Qualls, Cheryl Alexander, Aaron Anguiano, Nicole Fernuik, Sara Lane, Sarah Langford, Lexton Rabel and Brennan Young.

A-B Honor Roll
 Chris Kidd, Chad Norris, Joshua Perez, Shelley Cook, Stacie Youngblood, Nick Foust, Evan Grice, Brian Haddock, Kaysha Lee, Chris McKinley, Haley Green and Jessica McKinley.

Third Grade
A Honor Roll
 Meggan Gage, Cody Hukill, Christopher Moody, Jennie Rogers, Missy Brown, Nathan Carnagey, Josh Cole, Jennifer Jackson, Levi Nunn, Brianna Hopkins, Nathan Lynch and Jacob Stillwagon.

A-B Honor Roll
 Mitchell Crow, Nichole Dyer, Michelle Evans, Colin Howard, Kristy Sinyard, Brandon Johnston, Bianca Medina, Austin Morgan, Whitney Parker, Kendall Stokes, Krissa Galloway, Tyler Lane, Skye Niccum, Jacob Potter, Ruth Anne Schlewitz, Erin Winegeart and Matthew Woodruff.

Fourth Grade
A Honor Roll
 Demetrio Martinez, Jonathan

Sturgill, Haley Brown, Bart Cathey, Jennie Waggoner, Jon Humphrey, Zach Hucks and Brianna Russell.

A-B Honor Roll
 April Amador, Amber Asher, Samantha Conner, Stacey Johnson, Tyler Jonas, Casey Dunham, Cristina Elliott, Jadon Guynes, Stephanie Nelson, Jared Sampson, Erika Skinner, Caitlyn Davidson, Andy Rodgers, Evelyn Jasso, Abbi Covalt, Jason Kilhoffer, Kolby Gilleland, Sammy Silva, Ryan Carter and Stephen Bledsoe.

Fifth Grade
A Honor Roll
 Tara Coffee, Amanda Lee, Josh Miller, Ryan Zemanek, Mollie Baker, Helen Brooks, Chris Van Houten, Betsy Crossman, Hollie Gattis, Justin Haddock, Zach Hood, Karissa Intemann, Toby Lane, Jessica Lynch, Carolyn Morris and Zach Windhorst.

A-B Honor Roll
 Jill Crawford, Matt Foust, Cassie Gibson, Stefani Goldsmith, Matt Jameson, Cameron Cargill, Kristi Farnum, Meredith Fleming, Tyler Howard, Jonathan Kilhoffer, Jessica Leos, Joey Riley, Dani Tatum, Kevin Turner, Jenifer Bentley, Jesse Czesnowski, Michelle Haley, Josh Nachtigall and Stephen Nelson.

Imposter ran up gargantuan credit card bills

HOUSTON (AP) — Jan Buckner had an excellent credit rating and no police record — or so she thought.

Then she discovered that for the past seven years, another woman has been using her name, her Social Security number and a copy of her birth certificate to take on her identity and apply for credit at least 70 times in her name.

On Thursday of last week, in Houston, federal agents arrested a woman identified as Jan Flowers on charges of making false statements to financial institutions by claiming to be Jan Buckner.

Ms. Buckner, a 32-year-old attorney who lives in Chicago but has been working in Houston since October, discovered only recently that she was wanted by creditors and police in three states.

All this time, she suspected nothing, she said, because she

had only one credit card and paid her balance in full each month.

It's the "other" Jan Buckner who bought four expensive cars and never made the payments. It's the other Jan Buckner who owes \$40,000 on a department store credit card and hundreds more on other cards.

Ms. Buckner said she has learned that she and Ms. Flowers attended Howard University at the same time, but she doesn't recall ever meeting her. She said she has no idea why Ms. Flowers picked her, except perhaps that they have the same first name.

The troubles apparently began in 1989, she said, when Ms. Flowers was arrested in another state and used her name and date of birth.

Ms. Buckner said the woman apparently obtained her home address, her parents' names, her

employer's location and her credit history.

In 1993, Ms. Flowers requested and received Ms. Buckner's college transcript and used it to get into law school at Rutgers University, Ms. Buckner said. Apparently, Ms. Flowers dropped out after one semester.

Then the credit abuse began, with Ms. Flowers applying for credit at least 70 different times, Ms. Buckner said.

In August of 1995, Ms. Flowers bought a 1990 Mercedes Benz 190E from Southwest Infiniti, according to FBI agent Michael Millard's affidavit presented in court this week.

Ms. Flowers used Ms. Buckner's name and Social Security number to get the loan. In the loan file for the car, Millard said, was a copy of a Texas driver's license in Ms. Buckner's name.

Frank Phillips College sets Homecoming for Feb. 26

BORGER — The Frank Phillips Student Government Association is inviting all former FPC Plainsmen to the Second Annual FPC Homecoming events on Feb. 26 in the Borger Community Activity Center gym.

Homecoming events kick off Saturday, Feb. 24, with a dance in the Student Union Building from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

On Sunday, Feb. 25, there will be a bonfire at 7 p.m., followed by a reception honoring alumni.

The big day for alumni will be on Monday, Feb. 26. Hot dogs will be served at the BCAC beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Alumni are invited to attend the women's basketball game at 5:50 p.m. and the men's basketball game at 7:50 p.m.

During the game period, all former faculty members present at the game will be recognized. In addition, awards will be presented to the alumni traveling the farthest for the Homecoming events.

Following the men's game, refreshments will be provided in the Student Union building.

In conjunction with the Homecoming events, there will be a contest beginning Feb. 5 for a spirit chain. Competing in this event are alumni and faculty against current students. Links for a chain may be purchased for 25 cents.

Winners of the spirit chain competition will be decided at the half-time of the men's game on Feb. 26.

OVER 20 ITEMS UNDER \$1.00

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 Meat Quesadilla.....99¢
 Soft Bean Burrito.....79¢
 Soft Meat Burrito.....79¢

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GRUMPIER OLD MEN (R) (13) Friday & Saturday 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.	THE JUROR (R) Friday & Saturday 7:15 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

FOR FEATURE & SHOWTIME 665-7141 OUR 24 HR MOVIE ROTLINE

'Art for Heart' auction



(Special photo) Caprock Country Kennel is donating a Pointer puppy for the "Art for Heart" auction Friday, Feb. 16, at the Pampa Country Club. The event is slated for 6-9 p.m. Featured above is "Babe" the mother dog. She is bred out of Texas Double Cross Nick and Peregrine Lorene. "Buck" is currently running in NSTRA Competitions. Bloodlines are available upon request. Ronnie Preston is the owner. Tickets for this event may be purchased from Terri Gamblin at NBC Bank or by calling Dee Barker or Chrys Smith at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency at 665-0356. Tickets are \$6 an individual or \$10 a couple.

World briefs

Major Brazilian gold strike discovered in Amazon
 RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Brazil has announced the discovery of its richest gold strike ever — a mine in the eastern Amazon containing at least 150 tons of the precious metal.

The state mining company Vale do Rio Doce discovered the underground mine in Curionopolis, 1,860 miles north-east of Rio in the jungle state of Para, Mining and Energy Minister Raimundo Brito said Thursday.

He estimated the mine holds \$1.6 billion in gold.

The reserve is expected to boost Brazil's annual gold output by 25 percent when mining begins in three years, Brito said.

Violence erupts outside slain militant's home
 BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Family members vowed to bury a slain militant today with paramilitary honors, one day after police and mourners clashed over the dead man's coffin.

Gino Gallagher, reputed commander of the Irish National Liberation Army, a militant anti-British faction, was slain in a west Belfast welfare office Tuesday.

His burial, scheduled for Thursday, was delayed until today after violence flared outside his house when police refused to tolerate an "honor guard" of masked men.

Police intervened when colleagues of Gallagher wearing black bomber jackets and berets, olive-drab masks and mirrored sunglasses formed up round his flag-draped casket to give him a traditional but illegal paramilitary guard.

More than a dozen mourners traded blows with club-wielding officers and crowds erupted in anger around the casket outside Gallagher's family home in Catholic west Belfast. A 9-year-old boy was hospitalized after being trampled in the melee.

Sexism still prevalent in law schools, ABA panel claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sexism still thrives in American law schools even though nearly half of their students are women, an American Bar Association panel reported today.

"Women continue to encounter significant barriers which prohibit their full and equal participation in law school," the ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession concluded. "Too many women still experience debilitating gender bias and discrimination in various forms."

Cory Amron, a Washington lawyer who served as research director for the 84-page report, said, "Many women students experience sexism that impedes their education and many women faculty members are hindered by gender bias during their careers."

Much of the hostility encountered by women is similar to that experienced in the 1970s, the study said.

The report, based on testimony by students, administrators, faculty members and deans from 58 law schools in 1994 and 1995, includes these findings:

- Some of the most disturbing testimony focused on bias and bigotry white male students display against female and minority faculty and students.
- "People often assume that the younger men in law school act in a less sexist manner than senior male attorneys, but the evidence indicates just the opposite," the report said. "Those who look to our newest generation of attorneys to shape a gender-fair environment may be disappointed."
- A professor at a small Midwestern school found to have stopped just short of illegal sexual harassment toward one female student was kept from teaching while she remained on campus. He got a semester off with full pay.
- Sexual harassment policies at many law schools "mirror the law firm environment that existed 10 years ago," the report said. Either policies don't exist or, if written, are not communicated to students or are seldom enforced.
- A female professor at one law school was described in a student evaluation as "a babe who jiggled when (writing) on the blackboard."
- The report also quoted from several studies showing that "women ... lose self-confidence in law school" significantly more than men.
- Not all the findings were disturbing. "In many respects, law schools have become far more hospitable places for women," the report said.

Journalist who criticized trade union shot
 ANTALYA, Turkey (AP) — A reporter for a national newspaper who has written about allegations against a trade union was shot and wounded, a newspaper spokesman said Thursday.

Huseyin Demir, a correspondent in Antalya for the Istanbul-based Hurriyet daily, was hospitalized in stable condition after Wednesday's shooting, newspaper spokesman Teslime Tosun said.

According to Tosun, Demir was returning home late at night when a gunman stopped him in front of his house and ordered him to lie down. He struggled to escape but was gunned down from the back.

Demir had been receiving anonymous death threats for a month for articles criticizing unlicensed constructions in this popular resort city on the Mediterranean and about allegations against a local trade union leader, Tosun said.

FACING DEATH COURAGEOUSLY

Have you ever asked these questions?

- Why does tragedy hit good people?
- How do we care for the terminally ill?
- How do we care for those "left" behind?
- How do I get support during times of crisis?
- How do I face death with courage?
- When I look back at my life, will I like what I see?

Our Pastor will be addressing these questions in a series of messages beginning this Sunday.

Calvary Baptist Church
 1 mile East of Wal-mart on 23rd Street

Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am

Knife and Fork Club to hear pianist, composer program

Richard Froeber, accomplished pianist and composer who sings in 10 languages, will be the featured artist for the Top O' Texas Knife and Fork Club at the Pampa Country Club at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12.

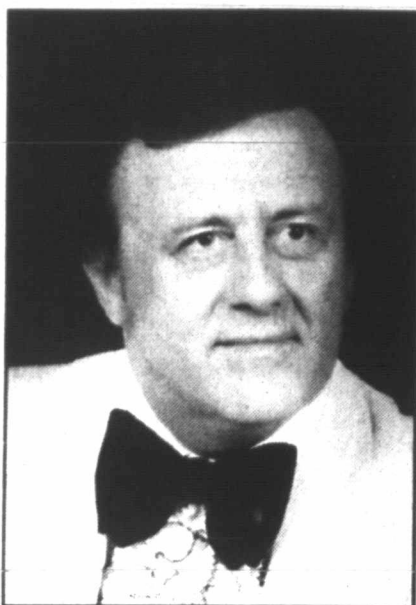
Froeber's motif for his entertainment program will be "Music From the Wonderful World of Hollywood," according to Julia Dawkins, president.

Froeber has been soloist for the Hollywood Bowl Easter Sunrise Service and was the headliner for the world-famous Savoy Hotel in London. A cruise line entertainer for the Princess and Sitmar Cruise Lines, he was resident pianist at the Beverly Hills Rodeo Hotel.

For the last seven years, Froeber has been a touring concert artist on the Associated Clubs dinner circuit.

Born in Saginaw, Mich., Froeber is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in music. He is listed in the Marquis publication *Who's Who in Entertainment*.

Froeber composed the official song for the City of Palm Springs, Calif., and he wrote the



Richard Froeber

official song for the American Cancer Society's Reach to Recovery program. He has received the Musical Contributions Award of the Michigan Cultural Activities Commission.

Tickets are available at Dunlaps for members beginning today. Deadline for members to pick up their tickets is Saturday, Feb. 10.

It's official: Punxsutawney Phil predicts more weeks of winter

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. (AP) — Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. That's the message of the nation's premiere groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, who "saw" his shadow at Groundhog Day ceremonies today.

At 7:28 a.m., handler Bill Deeley yanked Phil from the fake tree stump that serves as his burrow as fireworks went off to simulate a sunrise. Clouds obscured the real sun.

A crowd of about 10,000 gathered at Gobbler's Knob greeted the prediction with boos and hisses.

Members of the Inner Circle, the local group that claims to communicate with Phil but really makes the shadow-no shadow decision in advance, say that he is always correct.

"Long before man invented the barometer, groundhogs were predicting the weather," Inner Circle president Bud Dunkel said. "In fact, Phil's great-grandfather saw his shadow thousands of years ago and the dinosaurs should have listened."

Groundhog Day tourism in this western Pennsylvania town has grown markedly in recent years, spurred in part by the 1993 hit movie *Groundhog Day*. In 1984, fewer than 1,000 people showed up to find out if Phil saw his shadow.

This year, Phil even has a web site on the Internet. (The address: [http://www.ivory.lm.com/\(tilde symbol\)donnpat/grhogday.html](http://www.ivory.lm.com/(tilde symbol)donnpat/grhogday.html))

To tone down the wildness of the crowd, local officials this year banned alcohol.

"We'll have trash cans all around, and State Police will ask people to throw out any alcohol before entering Gobbler's Knob," Steele said before the ceremony.

According to the old legend, if Phil doesn't see his shadow, spring is just around the corner, but if he does, everyone faces six more weeks of winter.

Of course most groundhogs don't venture out of their holes Feb. 2. Almost all of them are hibernating, unlike Phil, who lives in a heated burrow with two pals at the local library.

Nation briefs

Two dead in fiery train derailment, explosion

CAJON SUMMIT, Calif. (AP) — A 20-mile stretch of the main artery between Los Angeles and Las Vegas was closed today after a deadly freight train derailment and explosion.

Two of the three crew members died and 20 other people were injured when the Barstow-to-Los Angeles train jumped its tracks on a steep mountain grade and exploded in flames Thursday before daybreak.

The derailment forced motorists to take detours of as much as 100 miles around the crash site. The 20-mile section of Interstate 15 was closed in both directions and was not expected to reopen until early evening.

The derailment, which involved 45 of 49 Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Corp. train cars and four locomotives, touched off a spectacular fire that burned intensely for hours and spewed noxious fumes into the desert air.

The train was hauling four tank cars of hazardous chemicals, including denatured alcohol and petroleum distillates. All the substances are highly flammable and their fumes can burn skin or irritate eyes, noses and throats if inhaled, said Bill Peters, a spokesman for the state forestry department.

The accident was under investigation.

Teens' plot to bomb junior high school foiled

MINOIA, N.Y. (AP) — Three 13-year-old boys who got their bomb-making know-how off the Internet were caught before they could explode a homemade fertilizer bomb in their junior high school, police said.

The boys had planned to break into Pine Grove Junior High School on Saturday, when it's empty, and set off the device in the school's office, said police Capt. William Bleyle of the town of Manlius.

The boys had also built a test bomb that burned but didn't explode behind the Minoa Elementary School, police said. No clear motive has emerged.

Police uncovered the plot after getting tips from other students and finding a small amount of diesel fuel, fertilizer and other bomb-making materials at one boy's house in this Syracuse suburb.

Similar components were used in the bomb that blew up the Oklahoma City federal building last April, killing 169 people.

"These kids appeared to be just dabbling in it and very early in experimentation," Bleyle said, adding that it's not clear whether the bomb would have exploded or just started a fire.

CBS exec quits, denies alleged racial comments

NEW YORK (AP) — The top late-night programming executive for CBS has quit but denies he ever made the racial slurs that got him in trouble.

John Pike was quoted second-hand in February's *Details* magazine as saying that blacks made good late-night audiences because they're jobless, can stay up late and have short attention spans suited for sketch comedy.

The alleged remarks came in a closed-door meeting with producers of *The State*, a comedy troupe. They were reported by *Details* writer David Lipsky, who was profiling *The State* and its travails in angling for a late-night show on CBS by mounting a Halloween comedy special for the network.

Pike supposedly made his remarks at his first meeting with the producers. Lipsky acknowledged he did not attend the meeting, but said Pike's remarks were related to him by others who were *Details*, which focuses on entertainment and fashion, said it stands by the story.

Garth Brooks music prize 'traveling trophy'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The big music prize that Garth Brooks won and walked away from will become a "traveling trophy" at his suggestion.

Each year, the trophy will be engraved with the name of the American Music Award's artist of the year. The winner will have the option of keeping the trophy for a year, placing it in the music organization's archives or displaying it publicly.

Brooks, who was named artist of the year on Monday, wants to display the trophy but hasn't picked a site.

"Now we can celebrate this award by sharing it as music family," Brooks said Thursday. "It will honor the artists who influenced our music and the fans who supported us."

American History Month



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Mayor Bob Neslage signs a proclamation declaring February American History Month as Nancy Coffee, local American history committee chair for the Las Pampas chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, watches. DAR designates February each year as a time set apart to promote the study of American history. As part of the celebration, an essay contest for students in fifth through eighth grades has been held.

Miners strike for second day in Russia

MOSCOW (AP) — Government officials met with trade union leaders in Russia and Ukraine today in an effort to end a massive strike by coal miners that is the largest job action in the region since the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union.

Fed up with poor economic conditions, more than a million miners walked off the job Thursday in coordinated protests extending from Ukraine's Donbass region to eastern Siberia near Russia's Pacific coast.

They are seeking hundreds of millions of dollars in back wages and a restructuring of the pay and subsidies system in their industry, still state-owned in both former Soviet republics.

Union leaders said today that about 450,000 Russian miners remained on strike and 170 of the nation's 245 mines shut down.

In Ukraine, strike coordinators said about 880,000 of 1.2 million coal miners remained off the job, lowering their estimate of 1 million from the previous day. All but 39 of the nation's 251 mines were partially or fully closed.

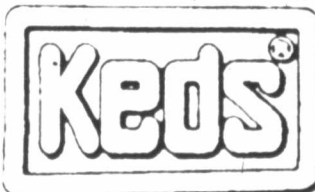
Russian strike officials met with First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Kadannikov to press their demands, and both parliaments planned to debate the crisis later in the day.

The Russian government contends it has fully paid its back debt of \$125 million to the industry. But miners say they haven't received it all and want guarantees to ensure prompt payment.

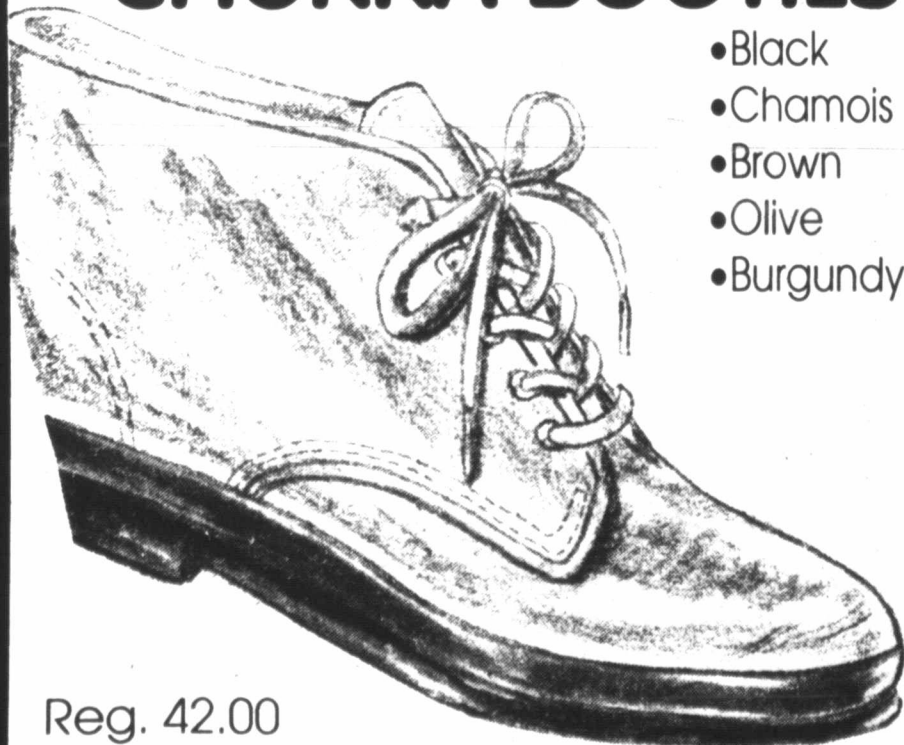
"So far, the government's promises are not being met," said Ruben Badalov, deputy chief of Russia's Union of Coal Industry Workers.

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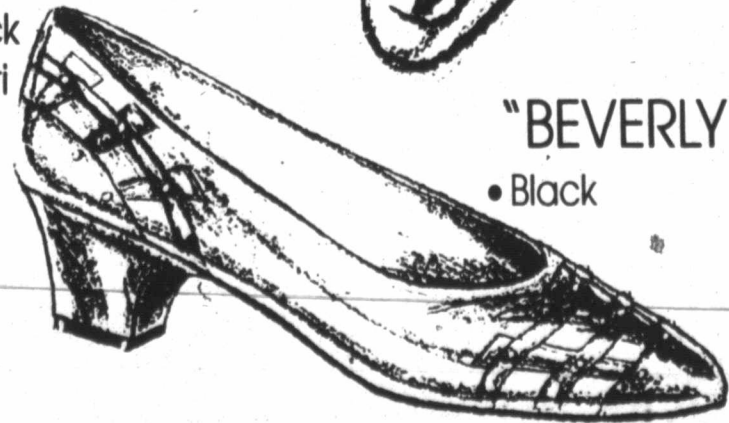
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90th birthday reception



The children of Cleo Ferguson will be hosting family and friends to a reception honoring her on her 90th birthday on Sunday, Feb. 4, from 2-4 p.m. at the Lovett Memorial Library auditorium, 111 N. Houston, in Pampa. Mrs. Ferguson was born Feb. 6, 1906, near Sweetwater, Okla. She had lived in Pampa in previous years and has been a resident of the city since 1991.

Sources say O.J. called ex-wife before slayings

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Less than two hours before Nicole Brown Simpson was slashed to death, O.J. Simpson telephoned her and demanded to speak to their daughter, according to sources who recounted Simpson's deposition.

Simpson testified last week that he talked with his daughter Sydney about her dance recital earlier that evening and avoided talking to his ex-wife, sources told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The call from Simpson's mansion, never disclosed during his trial, was made between one and two hours before the time prosecutors contend Ms. Simpson and her friend were killed, according to the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Simpson testified that all he

said to his ex-wife was, "Let me speak to Sydney." He said he was trying to avoid talking to Ms. Simpson because he — not she — had broken off their relationship a month earlier.

Simpson was acquitted Oct. 3 in the June 1994 killings of Ms. Simpson and Ron Goldman. The parents of the victims have filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against Simpson, forcing him to testify under oath about the case for the first time.

Lawyers for both sides have refused to comment on the details of the closed-door sessions, which are to resume later this month after the release of Simpson's mail-order video.

Simpson testified for five days, answering questions from lawyer Daniel Petrocelli, who represents Goldman's father.

Simpson's phone call shortly before the slayings was his second to Ms. Simpson that day. He had made an earlier call from his cellular phone, prosecutors have said, to make arrangements to attend the dance recital.

During his trial, Simpson house guest Brian "Kato" Kaelin testified that Simpson appeared upset when he arrived home from the recital because Ms. Simpson wouldn't let Simpson see their daughter at the event.

After giving conflicting testimony about the timing of the second call, Simpson settled on saying that it was probably placed before going to McDonald's with Kaelin about 9:10 p.m. that night, the sources said.

Prosecutors have suggested that the killings happened as early as 10:15 p.m. or 10:20 p.m.,

meaning that under their timeline Simpson's second call, if made before the McDonald's run, would have been made less than two hours before the slayings.

Simpson also testified during the deposition that he cut his hand twice in the hours surrounding the slayings: once when he hurt his little finger before leaving for Chicago, and again when he pushed a broken glass into the sink in his Chicago hotel room, the sources said.

Simpson said he didn't know how the glass had been broken, they said. The explanation contradicts Simpson's lawyers, who have said he broke the glass in anger after hearing about his ex-wife's death.

Prosecutors contended Simpson cut his hand while committing the crimes.

Husband's divorce lawsuit accuses wife of on-line adultery

SOMERVILLE, N.J. (AP) — A man filing for divorce accused his wife of carrying on a "virtual" affair via computer with a cyber-sex partner who called himself "The Weasel."

Diane Goydan's relationship with the man apparently never was consummated, but her husband, John Goydan of Bridge-water, claimed the pair had planned a real tryst this weekend at a New Hampshire bed and breakfast.

Goydan filed divorce papers Jan. 23 that included dozens of e-

mail exchanges between his wife and a married man she met on America Online. The man, whose on-line name was The Weasel, was identified in court papers only as Ray from North Carolina.

In a Nov. 23 message, The Weasel wrote: "I gotta tell you that I am one happy guy now and so much at peace again anticipating us. I love you dearly. XXXXXX."

Goydan is now seeking custody of the couple's two children, ages 3 and 7.

Goydan's lawyer, Richard

Hurley, said Mrs. Goydan apparently believed the e-mail messages could not be retrieved, but her husband was able to pull them off the computer and store them on a disk.

That raises some privacy concerns, such as what rights spouses have to each other's communications, said David Banisar, spokesman for the Electronic Privacy Information Center in Washington.

"If it's a shared computer, then the spouse has equal rights to get on it and share what's on

it," Banisar said.

If the husband gained access to her e-mail on line, that could violate her privacy rights, similar to a husband tapping his wife's telephone.

"It's still pretty undefined in the law," Banisar said.

The divorce papers do not say exactly how Goydan retrieved the messages. Goydan began saving his wife's e-mail every day after surprising her as she was printing out something on the computer when he came home from work early.

Baby's death from salmonella poisoning blamed on family's pet iguana

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — A 3-week-old boy died of salmonella poisoning that was probably contracted from the family's pet iguana, and health officials Thursday warned that other reptile owners could be at risk.

"I do not know why (pet stores) sell these things," said Diane Jones, Fulton County health nurse. "The least they could do is inform people about this."

Health officials are not even sure how Gaige Becker got salmonella, but Jones said it could have been as easy as someone handling the iguana and then touching the boy.

While Gaige's story sounds unusual, health officials have seen an increase in unusual strains of salmonella as the popularity of pet reptiles — especially iguanas — grows. The number of imported iguanas grew from 27,806 in 1986 to 798,405 in 1993,

according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

At least 90 percent of reptiles carry some strain of the intestinal bacteria, according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. These include snakes, turtles and other types of lizards besides iguanas.

In 1994 and 1995, health departments in 13 states reported unusual strains of salmonella bacteria that were traced back to reptiles.

Gaige died in October in Rochester, about 40 miles south of South Bend, but the cause of death was not disclosed until a Fulton County Board of Health meeting last month. Gaige died of the Poona strain of salmonella, the same bacteria carried by the family iguana, which has since been destroyed.

The boy's parents, Jamie and Teresa Becker, didn't realize the danger their iguana posed to their son, health officials said.

Salmonella causes diarrhea, abdominal cramps and a fever, and many people who get it don't even realize it. But for people with immature or weakened immune systems — babies, the elderly or those with AIDS — the bacteria can cause severe sickness and, if not treated right away, death.

Last year, the Atlanta-based CDC began a campaign to encourage veterinarians and pet store owners to make people with reptiles aware of the risk.

"We're not, by any means telling people not to own reptiles," CDC spokesman Tom Skinner said Thursday. "It's just that we've identified a threat to public health. It's the obligation of our agency to inform people of that threat and inform them of the necessary precautions."

The CDC's recommendations on preventing salmonella:

— Wash your hands after handling a reptile and make sure children don't put their hands in their mouths after touching a reptile.

— Keep reptiles away from areas where food is prepared and don't wash cages, food dishes and aquariums in the kitchen sink.

— Don't keep reptiles in child-care centers. And anyone with a weakened immune system, including pregnant women, should avoid them.

John Simmons, spokesman for the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, a group of scientists who study fish and reptiles, said: "It's a mistaken idea to think that pet iguanas should be banned. If you just follow basic hygiene, keeping things clean takes care of it."

"It doesn't require a bleach or antibacterial cleanser," he added. "All it requires is soap and water."

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

JETHRO--FIRST PRIEST TO THE ISRAELITES

JETHRO DISCHARGED THE PRIESTLY FUNCTIONS IN ISRAEL BEFORE THE APPOINTMENT OF AARON AND HIS SONS (EX. 28:1) JETHRO WAS A PRINCE OF MIDIAN BESIDES BEING A PRIEST AND MOSES SPENT THE FORTY YEARS OF HIS EXILE FROM EGYPT WITH HIM AND MARRIED HIS DAUGHTER ZIPPORAH. IT WAS BY THE ADVICE OF JETHRO THAT MOSES APPOINTED SEVENTY DEPUTIES TO JUDGE THE PEOPLE AND SHARE THE BURDEN OF GOVERNING THEM. (EX. 18) BECAUSE OF HIS LOCAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAND JETHRO WAS ENTREATED TO REMAIN WITH THE ISRAELITES THROUGHOUT THEIR JOURNEY TO CANAAN. (NUM. 10:29) ELSEWHERE IN THE BIBLE JETHRO HAS BEEN CALLED REUEL AND ALSO HOBAB, THE SON OF RAGUEL, THE MIDIANITE.



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Religion

Incorporation may keep church out of court

By KERRY CURRY
Amarillo Globe-News

AMARILLO - Churches today are frequent targets of lawsuits that can cripple or destroy a ministry, says Phil Strickland, director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

In September, the Christian Life Commission sent a document to Southern Baptist churches called "Keeping Your Church Out of Court."

One of its suggestions: incorporate.

"Traditionally, churches were fairly immune from lawsuits," Strickland said. "That is simply no longer true. Churches are routinely being sued — sometimes with justification, sometimes without justification."

"I think there are far more churches incorporating now than there were 10 or 15 years ago. That is not just true of Baptists but across the board."

Incorporation makes a church a separate legal entity from its members.

The members of a nonprofit corporation are not personally liable for the debts, liabilities or obligations of the corporation, according to "Keeping Your Church Out of Court."

Amarillo's First Baptist Church voted this month to incorporate,

and Paramount Baptist Church recently did so.

"It would be malpractice for me as an attorney to suggest that a church should not incorporate," said Richard Hammar, a Springfield, Mo., attorney and editor of Church Law & Tax Report.

"Say you have a church member who molests a child. You have a \$1 million verdict, but the church only has \$100,000 in insurance. Theoretically, the members are responsible for the balance of that judgment," Hammar said.

But with an incorporated church, the individual members would not be responsible for paying the judgment from their personal assets, Hammar said.

"I'll tell you this — I would never become a member a church that was not incorporated," he said.

Bill Brian, an Amarillo attorney, serves as chairman of First Baptist's Incorporation and Bylaws Committee.

"If you are incorporated, the corporation would be at risk, but the assets of members would not be. If I ran over someone in the church parking lot, I would be responsible and the church would be," but other members would not be, he said.

First Baptist was formed long

before incorporation was advised for churches, Brian said.

"First Baptist Church is over 100 years old and when it was organized, it (incorporation) was not such a common thing," he said.

It is today. Hammar said a poll he took last year indicates that about 85 percent of churches are incorporated.

Trinity Fellowship, a non-denominational Amarillo church, incorporated in 1978, said Scott Rosenbach, Trinity Fellowship's business administrator.

"Probably one of the reasons they incorporated is... a lot of the ministry staff came out of the business world," Rosenbach said. They brought some of those business practices into the church and knew that incorporation would provide liability protection for church members, he said.

In addition, churches today are larger than in days of old and are perceived as having more assets, said the Rev. Don Guy, Paramount Baptist's executive pastor. That is another reason to consider incorporation, he said.

The incorporation trend is largely unseen because churches are not required to use the abbreviation for incorporation — Inc. — after their names, a state official said.

"Businesses who do incorporate have to use the Inc. behind their name but nonprofits are not required to do so, and the nonprofits would include churches," said Gene Acuna, communications director for the Texas secretary of state.

Hammar said some churches choose not to incorporate because they don't understand the ramifications of not incorporating.

"There are others (who) for theological reasons oppose incorporation because they see it as subordination of the church to the state," Hammar said.

Hammar said he thinks all churches should check with the secretary of state to see if they are incorporated. Many simply do not know whether they are, he said.

Those who are not should consider it, officials said.

The main disadvantages are the cost of an attorney and the time necessary to prepare the proper documents, Strickland said.

"Generally speaking, the advantages clearly outweigh the disadvantages," he said.

The increasing number of lawsuits being filed is a prime reason to consider it, Hammar said. "We are drowning in litigation," he said.

Protestant, Catholic giving patterns more similar

By DAVID BRIGGS
AP Religion Writer

Maybe Catholics aren't such skinflints after all.

It's no secret among researchers that Catholics put substantially less in collection plates than Protestants. What has remained a mystery is why the descendants of immigrants who sacrificed to build magnificent churches and schools are giving less and less in inflation-adjusted dollars as their incomes rise.

Now, new research indicates Protestants and Catholics may be more alike in their giving than the numbers indicate: Both are just trying to pay the bills at their local church.

And much of the difference in giving may be explained by the fact that it's cheaper to run a Catholic church, according to the Champaign, Ill.-based research organization Empty Tomb Inc. Larger Catholic parishes offering multiple services on Sunday are more cost-efficient, and unmarried Catholic clergy are paid significantly lower salaries.

Instead of looking only at Catholics as lagging stewards, all Christian churches need to examine whether they are teaching their members to share their wealth with the needy as opposed to merely giving enough to keep the lights on, researchers are now concluding.

"What appears to be the situation for both Catholics and Protestants is it appears that the church in the United States has not had a positive agenda for the increasing affluence

since World War II," said Sylvia Ronsvalle, executive director of Empty Tomb Inc.

"People are paying the bill at the church the same way they are paying any other bill in their life," she said.

Several studies in recent years have shown that Catholics do not ante up as much in Sunday collections.

In a 1993 national survey of 625 congregations in five denominations, the average contribution per household reported by congregations ranged from \$386 for Catholics to \$1,696 for Assemblies of God members. Baptist households gave an average of \$1,154 and Presbyterians were next with \$1,085, followed by Lutherans at \$746.

Researchers Michael J. Donahue of the Minneapolis-based Search Institute, Patrick McNamara of the University of New Mexico, Charles Zech of Villanova University and Dean Hoge of Catholic University of America found little evidence for some popular theories.

Researchers found no indication that the lower giving was tied to dissatisfaction with church policies on issues such as birth control, nor was the larger parish size of Catholic churches found to be a significant factor.

Building on those findings, empty tomb researchers began to search for other explanations.

After crunching some numbers on the efficiencies of scales of Catholic operations, they found a striking similarity in the way Catholics and Protestants

approach church finances.

There are no exact figures for Catholic giving, but empty tomb used a midrange estimate of about \$5.5 billion for 1991. If Catholics were to compensate their clergy at Protestant levels, maintain the Protestant average of a 347-to-1 parishioner to clergy ratio and offer only one worship service per building, it would have cost an additional estimated \$5.9 billion to \$8.8 billion, empty tomb estimated.

"When these differences are controlled, this hypothesis suggests that both the Catholic and Protestant approaches to stewardship are succeeding at the basic goal of paying the bills and maintaining the operations of the congregation," according to the empty tomb analysis by Ronsvalle and her husband, John.

Hoge said he does not know whether the analysis is true but that there is evidence supporting the empty tomb argument.

Catholic churches are cheaper to operate, and pastors have told him informally they have given their members the message "If the bills are paid, dear parishioners, you can relax now."

"In my judgment, there are many Christians who think in terms of keeping the place open... and the Catholic parishioner will catch on, over time, that it doesn't take much to run the parish," Hoge said.

The Ronsvalles have been tracking for years a steady decline among Protestants in the percentage of income given to the church. In the latest edition of

their annual report on "The State of Church Giving," they report church giving has decreased in the 29 Protestant denominations they studied from 3.14 percent in 1968 to 2.52 percent in 1993.

What both the Ronsvalles and Hoge say is needed is for churches to recover the concept of giving out of thanks to God and to share in God's work caring for the needy, as opposed to just meeting the physical needs of the church.

In his message marking Lent, Pope John Paul II urged the faithful to see the suffering on the faces of the 800 million people battling hunger and malnutrition, and to take up their cause.

"Certainly, it will involve changing our exaggerated consumer behavior, combating hedonism, resisting attitudes of indifference and the tendency to disregard our personal responsibilities," he said.

When it comes to getting Catholics to give more, empty tomb researchers say, church leaders may not find the answer in considering Protestant techniques. Those may be useful only to bring about a higher level of giving to pay institutional bills.

Instead, the Ronsvalles say, church members should be encouraged to reflect on the more important questions of why Christians are supposed to give in the first place.

"Both Catholic and Protestant Christians are faced with an important issue of the faith: What is stewardship beyond paying the bills and maintaining an institution?"

Religion briefs

OSSINING, N.Y. (AP) — Two religious orders have launched a battle to force RJR Nabisco Holding Corp. to separate its food company from its tobacco business.

Armed with 980 shares of stock and the approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers and the Glenmary Home Missioners of Cincinnati have put a spinoff resolution before RJR Nabisco's 450,000 shareholders.

"It is a moral issue," said the Rev. Joseph P. La Mar, assistant treasurer of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers. "We're making a statement about tobacco products... You can have morality and still make money."

A vote is scheduled for the annual meeting in April.

A key concern is the growing number of young people who are being attracted to cigarettes, La Mar said recently. His group thinks tobacco companies are seeking young people to get them hooked on smoking.

RJR Nabisco's food company makes foods like Oreo cookies and Ritz crackers. The tobacco operation makes Winstons, Camels, Salems, Doral, Vantage, More and Now cigarettes.

Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, with its 770 priests and brothers, is part of a worldwide Catholic missionary organization with headquarters in Ossining. The group owns 960 shares of RJR stock. Glenmary, with 90 priests and brothers, holds 20 shares.

DETROIT (AP) — Cities have been a welcome place for immigrants from all lands for decades.

Coming to America can mean gradually surrendering native languages, lifestyles and customs, so the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit is trying to give immigrants a link between their new home and their native lands.

Throughout the city and surrounding suburbs, services are available in more than 12 languages, including Croatian, German, Hungarian (Magyar), Italian, Polish, Arabic, Spanish and Korean.

Rosemary Bannon, executive director of the International Institute, said it is no secret that

immigrants who settle in Metro Detroit find a connection to their homeland in a church with ethnic distinction.

"When our clients arrive in this country, one of the first things they want to do is find a place to socialize and meet people like themselves from their own country," she said.

"Coincidentally, many of them strike up their first friendships in a church that has ethnically specific roots."

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal appeals court has held that a Texas city was wrong in using its historic preservation ordinance to keep a Catholic parish from demolishing its decades-old sanctuary to build a new one.

The recent ruling by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in effect upheld the constitutionality of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993. The finding overturned a lower court ruling by U.S. District Judge Lucius D. Bunton of Midland, Texas.

The Boerne, Texas, case has attracted nationwide attention. Sixty religious organizations had filed friend-of-the-court briefs siding with the Archdiocese of San Antonio and asking that the religious freedom act be upheld.

The case began in 1993, when Boerne city officials denied St. Peter's Catholic Church a permit to demolish most of its 250-seat sanctuary to make space for a modern 750-seat facility for its rapidly growing congregation.

The project would have preserved the Spanish-style facade with its twin bell towers, which fell within the city's historic preservation district.

Although only the towers lie within the preservation district, Boerne's ordinance prohibited reducing the church's architectural integrity by altering any part of the structure.

Some church members and nonparishioners had objected vociferously to the proposed demolition, urging the parish to preserve the old structure and build a new one elsewhere.

Archbishop Patrick Flores' reply to that criticism was: "We're in the business of ministering to people, not preserving buildings."

St. Mark's fellowship breakfast Saturday

St. Mark Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, 406 Elm, will host its monthly breakfast 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday.

The menu includes pancakes,

eggs, bacon or sausage, toast, juice and coffee.

The Rev. Merle L. Houska is the pastor and the public is invited. Donations accepted.

First Pentecostal Holiness to host stew supper

First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, will host its annual stew supper 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6.

The fund raiser will be in the fellowship hall of the church. It features homemade stew, cornbread, dessert and drinks. The public is invited.

Iowa poultry prof leads Presbyterian flocks in two states

By SUSAN STOCUM
Associated Press Writer

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — At age 62, Professor Keith Brown retired. He built a new home, hiked the Appalachian Mountains from Georgia to Maine and decided he was healthy enough to go back to school.

Brown - former chairman of the department of poultry sciences at Ohio State University - has added another accomplishment to the list: He is an ordained Presbyterian minister.

Since his ordination in October 1994, Brown, 70, has worked part time for two congregations. One is on the industrial south side of Clinton, the other across the Mississippi River in rural Fulton, Ill.

"I told them I would give them six to 10 years if my health held up and we liked each other," he said after a recent minister's meeting at the Presbytery of East Iowa office in Iowa City.

Brown is part of a growing trend in ministry, especially in small towns and rural areas, called "yoking" - where one pastor covers several congregations that otherwise could not afford to keep the churches open.

He divides his time between Riverside Presbyterian in Iowa and Garden Plain Presbyterian in Illinois, estimating he spends about 15 hours a week preparing his sermon (both congregations get basically the same one) and at least 15 hours a week counseling

and calling on members.

On Sundays, one service is at 9 a.m., then Brown hightails it across the river for the other one at 10:30 a.m. It gets tight if there's a special ceremony or Communion, and Brown admitted feeling frazzled when he first started.

"My small congregations don't demand perfection," he said. "If I make a mistake, they laugh with me."

Garden Plain is a "beautiful, white-steeple church surrounded by corn and soybeans and cows and pigs," Brown said. Members tend to be "fairly well-to-do farmers, retired farmers, businesspeople who always have money in the bank."

Riverside looks like a warehouse on the outside. Most members used to live in the area, but have since moved to other parts of Clinton.

"You can think about it as being on the wrong side of the tracks," Brown said.

Besides Brown, the only other paid staff member is a woman who spends three hours a week doing secretarial work.

"It was a real adjustment," Brown said. "As a professor, and head of my own department, I had my own secretary and a secretary for the other professors. And now here I am, sitting at my computer, trying to remember who told me what they needed put in the bulletin."

Brown said the members of the congregations step in — from the

high school students who read the Scripture during services to the 92-year-old woman who volunteers to clean the sanctuary.

That's fine with him. He prefers the work of preparing his sermons and counseling people over every other job a minister has.

"For me, every member of my church should have at least one meaningful job. And no one should have more than two,"

Brown said. "In this busy world where every adult works, the last thing they need is extra work."

The sharing agreement isn't an official yoked congregation because the churches report to two different offices. They've shared a pastor for the past six years, and Brown said members understand he's a part-time minister at each church with other responsibilities.

"God sets the solitary in families"
Psalms 68:6



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Greg Winn
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6:30 pm

Pastor Mike Moss 665-5941

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February 8, 1996
6:30-8:30 p.m.

SPEAKERS
Jerry & Ann Billington



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Cost \$10 per person
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The Gift Box 669-9881
Calvary Baptist Church 665-0842
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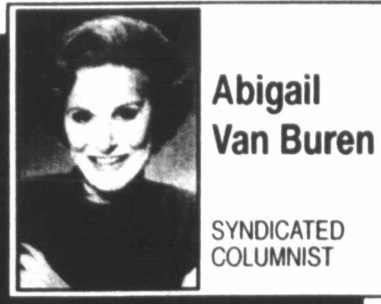
Serious Allergies Cause More Than Just Sniffles

DEAR ABBY: In a recent column, a few of your readers shared the effects of their allergies. Unfortunately, an estimated 60 million Americans suffer from some type of allergy, including hay fever, eczema, hives, contact dermatitis, and allergies to foods such as eggs, milk, nuts and seafood.

People with allergies have super-sensitive immune systems that react to seemingly harmless substances. The most common of these include plant pollen, dust mites, cockroaches, stinging insects, animal dander, mold and mildew. Multiple sensitivities are common, and many people with allergies are also sensitive to irritants — tiny airborne particles that irritate the nose, eyes and lungs. Common irritants include strong fumes from perfume, cleaning fluids, wood smoke and cigarette smoke.

Many people are unaware of the link between allergies and asthma, which is a serious and sometimes life-threatening disease. In approximately 70 percent of the 13 million Americans with asthma, allergy is the primary trigger. The asthma death-rate in the United States is more than 5,000 per year, and growing — especially in urban communities and among children and the elderly.

Asthma is characterized by an inflammation and/or an obstruction of the airways. Symptoms vary, and may include coughing, wheezing,



Abigail Van Buren
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

shortness of breath, chest tightness or excessive mucus. In addition to allergies, asthma can be triggered by respiratory infections, exercise and dry, cold air.

The fact that asthma and allergies are so common causes their impact to be overlooked or trivialized. If you suspect you have asthma or allergies, see a doctor for a proper diagnosis. You can help your doctor by keeping a diary of your symptoms and the circumstances when reactions occurred. Your doctor can conduct tests that may confirm your suspicions. Asthma and allergies can be controlled by eliminating allergens at home, work and school, and by strictly adhering to a medical treatment plan that may include regular medication.

DAWN MARVIN, ASTHMA AND ALLERGY FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

DEAR DAWN: Thank you for an important letter and for pointing out the seriousness of

allergies and asthma. Readers, lest you think that Ms. Marvin is overstating her case, read on for a letter I recently received:

DEAR ABBY: About three months ago, "Barbara," a special friend of mine, went into a coma. A week later, she was declared brain-dead. She died on Nov. 13, 1995.

Many people have asked me if she died in a car accident. The truth is, she had an asthma attack. Yes, asthma! Other than having asthma, Barbara was a healthy 19-year-old woman. Not many people, including myself, realized that asthma is a serious disease.

However, some good came from Barbara's death. All of her organs were donated, so other people were given a chance at life. Consequently, Barbara will live on.

Abby, please tell me where I can get more information on this potentially deadly disease.

**HER GRIEVING FRIEND
IN GERMANY**

DEAR GRIEVING FRIEND: Your letter will surely be an eye-opener for many of my readers, as it was for me.

To obtain a free packet of information about allergies and asthma, contact the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, 1125 15th St. N.W., No. 502, Washington, D.C. 20005, or call the toll-free information line: 1-800-7-ASTHMA (727-8462). (Please allow three to five weeks for delivery.)

c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you're hoping or expecting to get more than your share from a particular deal, you may experience disappointment.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you're invited to a social activity today, don't overstay your welcome. If you arrive early, try to be one of the first to leave.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Today, guard against the inclination to blame your mistakes on loved ones who are actually trying to help you. Do not cause them to pull away from you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today you might enter into a discussion with a person who feels as strongly about an issue as you do. Unfortunately, you will be on opposing sides.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You should not be a borrower or a lender today. In either position, you may find yourself squarely behind the eight ball.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Even though you might solicit advice from others today,

you may ignore their suggestions and erroneously do things as you initially intended.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Acknowledge your physical limitations today. Do not overexert yourself or try to lift things that are too heavy for you to move.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Use caution when conducting yourself at social gatherings today. Even small mishaps could be blown out of proportion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Do not take your luck for granted today if the stakes are a bit higher than usual. If you miscalculate, and you might, you may cause others to suffer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Subdue the temptation to boast about your accomplishments today, even if you do something "outstanding." Praise will sound better coming from an observer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Take extra care with your possessions today, especially those you keep in your car. Do not leave your car unlocked when you go to the mall.

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Horoscope



Your Birthday

Sunday, Feb. 4, 1996

In the year ahead, build upon previously established foundations instead of looking for new fields to conquer. Situations which gave you resistance might now be full of opportunities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) In situations that affect you personally, your thinking will be right on target. However, when you try to make judgments for others, you might be way off base. 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,

you may ignore their suggestions and erroneously do things as you initially intended.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Acknowledge your physical limitations today. Do not overexert yourself or try to lift things that are too heavy for you to move.

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For Better or For Worse



Arlo & Janis



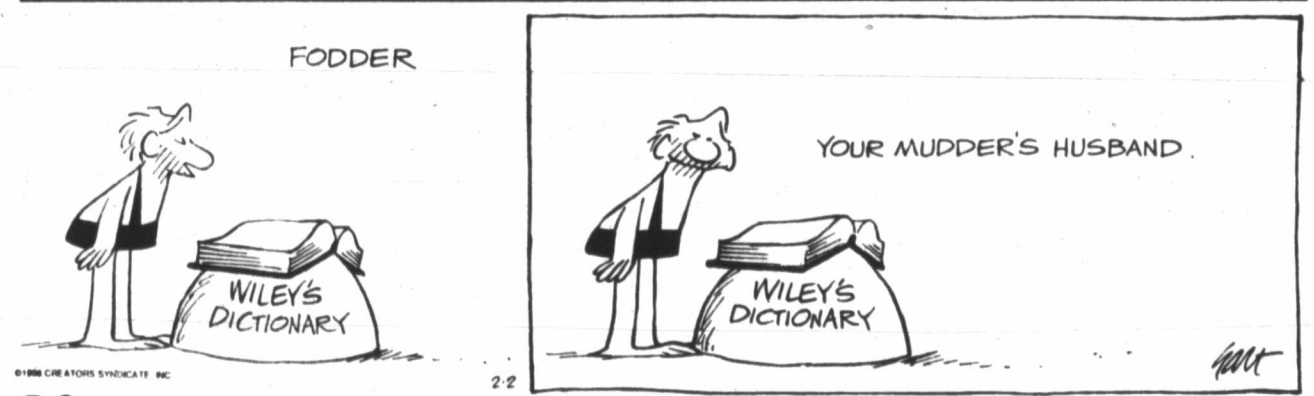
Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



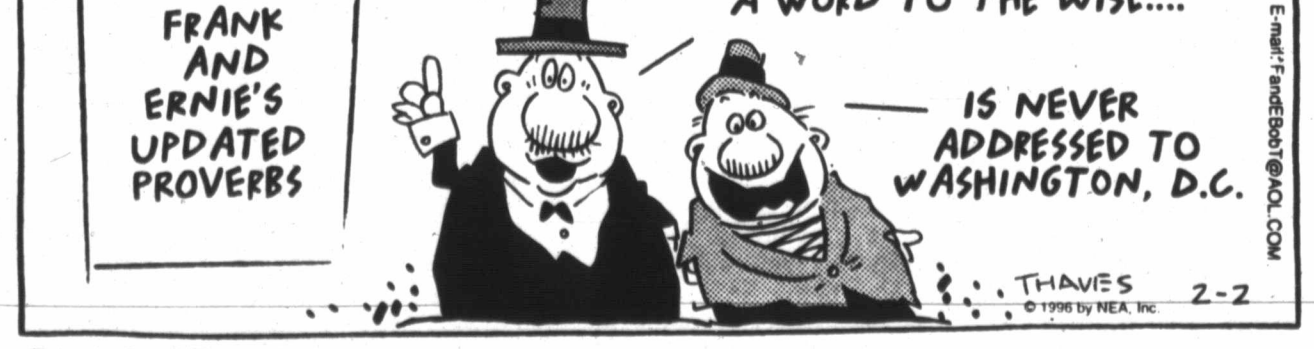
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

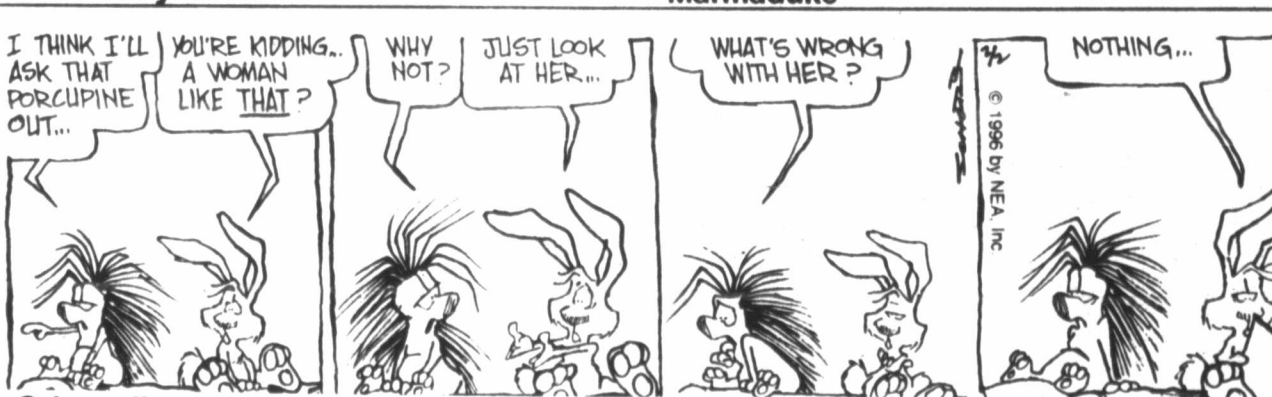


"...twenty-eight, twenty-nine, twenty-ten..."

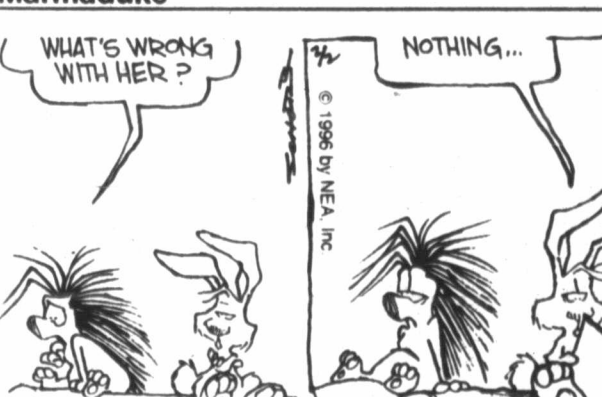


"I refuse to aid and abet a pickup."

The Family Circus



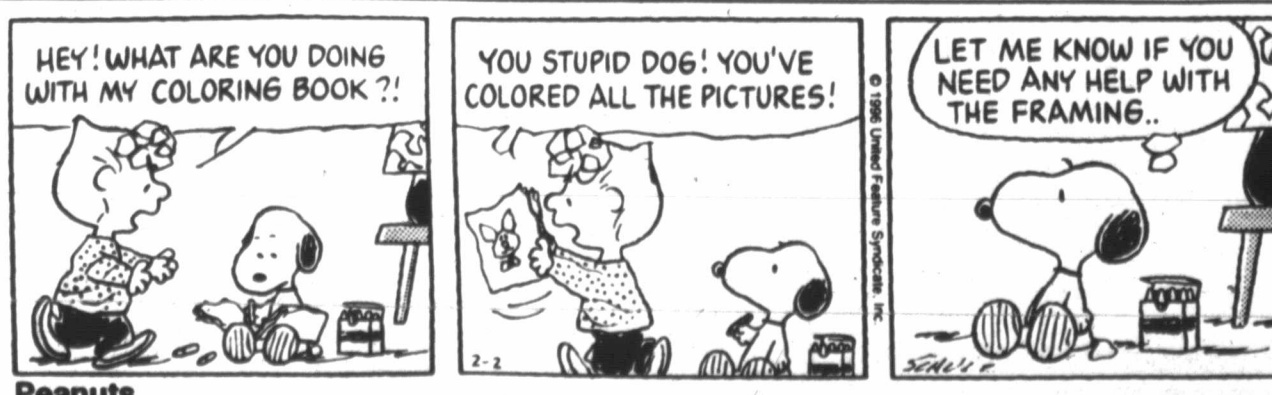
Marmaduke



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts

Sports

Notebook

BOXING

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson has a new fight date, and Nevada boxing regulators have new plans to prevent the scheduling of major fights on the same night.

Tyson's promoter, Don King, wasted no time in asking for a June 22 date for a heavyweight title unification fight in light of a new regulation by the Nevada Athletic Commission on fight scheduling.

The June 22 fight at the MGM Grand hotel-casino would reportedly match Tyson against either WBA heavyweight champion Bruce Seldon or whoever holds the disputed IBF crown at the time.

Tyson, however, must first beat WBC heavyweight champion Frank Bruno in their scheduled March 16 fight at the MGM Grand.

FOOTBALL

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers coach Bill Cowher has deflated Air Erhardt.

Only three days after Neil O'Donnell's three interceptions doomed the Steelers in the Super Bowl, offensive coordinator Ron Erhardt's contract was not renewed. Also out is tight ends coach Pat Hodgson.

Receivers coach Chan Gailey, mentioned with several NFL coaching vacancies, probably will be promoted to offensive coordinator. Cowher apparently feared that if he retained Erhardt, Gailey would leave for a coordinator's job elsewhere.

Gailey, once the Denver Broncos offensive coordinator, was largely responsible for the radically reshaped Steelers offense that shifted its emphasis from the run to the pass this season. He was hired in 1994 to help advance the Steelers' previously deficient passing game.

BASKETBALL

PLAINVIEW — The Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Region I meeting, scheduled Saturday in Plainview, has been postponed because of poor weather conditions.

The meeting has been rescheduled for Saturday, Feb. 10 at Plainview High School.

Pampa head coach Robert Hale is a member of the TABC advisory board and he is the scheduled speaker at the Region I meeting.

GENERAL

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Big 12 presidents voted today to put the headquarters of their new conference in Dallas instead of Kansas City.

"It's going to Dallas," Kevin Gray of the Kansas City Sports Commission told The Associated Press. "We just got the call."

In a conference call that ended about 9:30 a.m., the CEOs of the Big Eight schools, plus former Southwestern Conference members Texas Tech, Texas A&M and Baylor, heard a report by professional consultants who evaluated bids by the two finalists, and then took their vote.

The vote totals weren't immediately available. The decision was disappointing but not surprising to Kansas City backers, who had put together a package worth about \$1 million more than Dallas' when final bids were submitted on Nov. 30.

"Naturally, we're disappointed because we thought we had an outstanding offer," said Gray. "I was very pleased with the way the community responded."

The list of cities was narrowed to Dallas and Kansas City in the Nov. 30 meeting.

Many Kansas City backers believed their best chance of keeping the conference post-season basketball tournament was to let Dallas have the headquarters.

Texas, Houston tilt could be close

By MICHAEL A. LUTZ
AP Sports Writer

Based on recent history, there's a good chance Saturday's Southwest Conference game between the Texas Longhorns and Houston Cougars will be close.

The Longhorns (11-6, 4-2) have lost two in a row by a total of three points and the on-the-brink Cougars (10-7, 5-1) have won two in a row in overtime and they have four other victories by three or fewer points.

"We have unfortunately continued the trend of double-digit deficits but fortunately, we've been able to get out of them and win the close games," Houston coach Alvin Brooks said. "We've just played our first back-to-back overtimes since 1962 and that's a plus being one game out of first place."

Texas coach Tom Penders knows what to expect from the Cougars at Erwin Center for Saturday's noon tipoff after watching Houston's overtime victory at Baylor last week.

"I left the room and they were down by 18 and I came back and they were down three," Penders said. "They're the comeback kids."

In other games Saturday, Texas Tech (17-1, 6-0) plays at Rice (11-7, 3-3) and Southern Methodist (6-12, 2-4) is at Texas A&M (9-9, 1-5).

"Even if you win, it's tough for the coach," Penders said. "He

must have some great halftime speeches, but they are a talented team. I think when they have the backs to the wall the turn it up a notch."

Houston came back from an 18-point second-half deficit to beat Rice and the Bears. Houston has five comeback victories this season.

UH Coach Alvin Brooks has an idea of how the Cougars dig themselves into holes.

"We've just got to develop a lot of patience on the offensive end early in the game," Brooks said. "That's where a lot of it (falling behind) comes from — trying to make things happen quickly."

"We have a tough road ahead but I'm comfortable about the way we're playing right now."

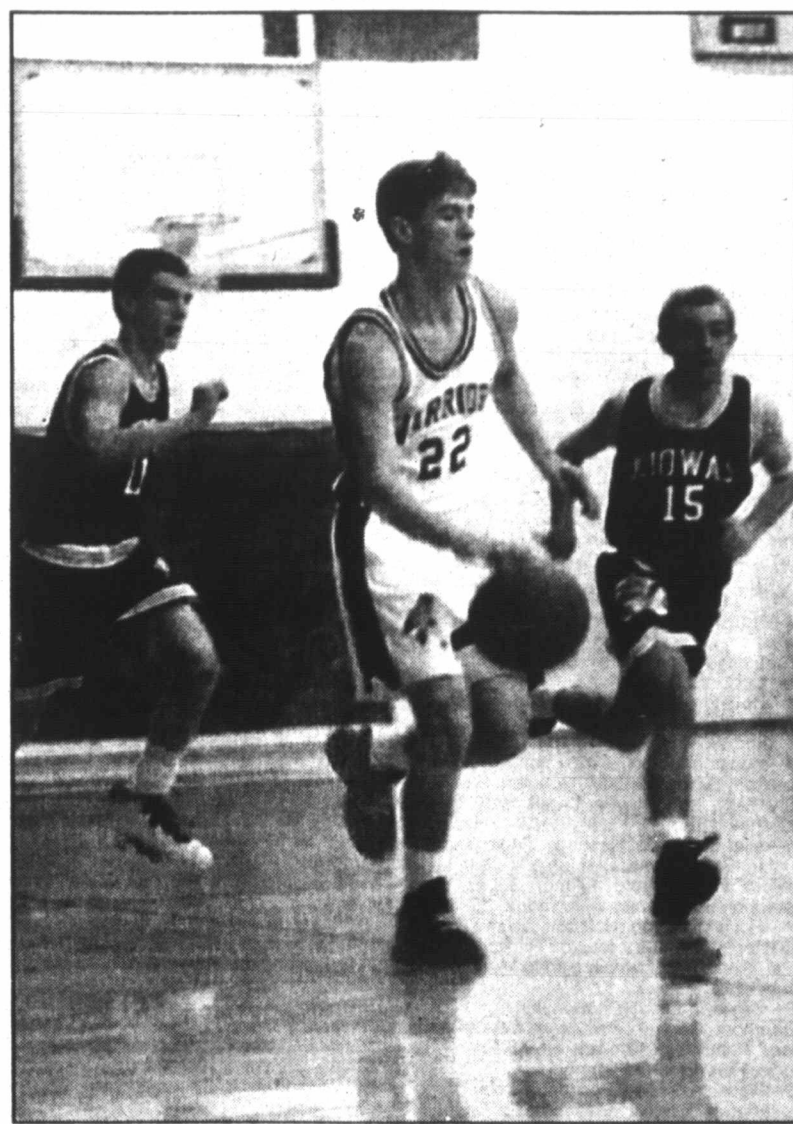
The Longhorns can't afford to continue their losing trend. Texas lost to Texas Tech in Lubbock 79-78 last Saturday and they were upset by Oklahoma, 67-65, on Wednesday.

Penders is trying to use the close loss to the Raiders as a confidence builder for his young team.

"You look at the Tech scores and nobody came close to them at home except us," Penders said. "Now the kids feel, hey, if they are (ranked) 16, we're 17. That's how you want them thinking. You don't want a young team with a fragile psyche."

The Red Raiders, who actually are ranked No. 15, escaped on Wednesday with a 78-74 victory over Oral Roberts in Tulsa.

20-point scorer



(Pampa News photo)

Miami's Steven Browning (22) leads the Warriors against Wheeler junior varsity in a non-district game tonight in Miami. Browning paced Miami with 20 points in a 71-51 win over McLean on Tuesday night. The Warriors have a 17-8 overall record and lead the District 5-1A standings.

DePaul suffers school-record ninth straight loss

By The Associated Press

DePaul did everything it could to avoid a school-record ninth straight loss. Everything, that is, except put the ball in the basket in the last second.

Bryant Bowden missed a short shot and Brian Currie missed a tip at the buzzer Thursday night, and No. 11 Memphis held off DePaul 83-82 in overtime.

Memphis led by 15 at halftime and was ahead by 10 with five minutes left in regulation, but the host Blue Demons forced overtime on Jermaine Watts' 3-pointer with 4.9 seconds left.

"We took that first-half lead pretty lightly. I could feel it at halftime when they all came in smiling. I knew this would happen. You can't let up like that," Memphis coach Larry Finch said.

DePaul was down 83-82 when Watts missed a jumper with a half-minute left. Memphis missed a foul shot, giving the Blue Demons another chance, but Bowden and Currie missed.

"I had the perfect shot I wanted. I had been hitting it all night. They all don't go down," Bowden said. Holds On, in other college games involving ranked teams, No. 1 Massachusetts topped Temple 59-35, No. 7 Utah downed Texas-El Paso 77-62, Washington stopped No. 14

Arizona 80-79 in overtime, No. 18 Syracuse beat Miami 72-51, No. 19 UCLA beat Oregon 85-78 and Providence upended No. 21 Boston College 76-75.

Bowden had 23 points and 10 rebounds and Currie had 20 points and 11 rebounds for DePaul (7-12, 0-8 Conference USA).

Mingo Johnson, who had three free throws and a 3-pointer in the overtime, scored 21 points for Memphis (16-3, 7-1), and Lorenzen Wright had 17 points and 12 rebounds.

DePaul lost eight in a row in 1970-71, when it finished 8-17 under Ray Meyer in its last losing season. Meyer's son, Joey, now coaching the Blue Demons, was the captain of that team.

No. 1 Massachusetts 59, Temple 35. Massachusetts made sure Temple did not knock off another top team, holding the Owls to their lowest point total since an 11-6 loss to Tennessee in the 1973-74 season.

The Minutemen (20-0, 8-0 Atlantic 10), the nation's only unbeaten team, limited Temple (11-8, 7-1) to its lowest total in the 191 games it has played at McGonigle Hall. The Owls scored just two points in the last 13 minutes of the first half and trailed 30-12 at the break. Marcus Camby had 15 points,

five rebounds and nine blocked shots for Massachusetts. Temple, 0-for-16 on 3-pointers, earlier this season toppled then-No. 1 Kansas and then-No. 2 Villanova. No. 7 Utah 77, Texas-El Paso 62.

Brandon Jessie and Keith Van Horn each scored 17 points as Utah won at Salt Lake City.

The Utes (17-3, 9-1 Western Athletic Conference) outrebounded UTEP 47-19. Miners reserve guard Mark Ingles scored 23 points and tied a team record with seven 3-pointers. Washington 80, No. 14 Arizona 79, OT.

Jason Hartman made up for a late miss in regulation by hitting a free throw with 1.1 seconds left in overtime, and Washington held on for its first win at Arizona in 12 years.

Hartman, who scored 18 points, missed a 3-pointer at the end of regulation, leaving it tied at 73. After his go-ahead foul shot, he missed a free throw and Arizona called timeout.

The Wildcats (15-4, 5-3 Pac-10) threw the inbounds pass the length of the court and hit the backboard, and the ball bounced back to Corey Williams, who missed a 16-footer.

No. 18 Syracuse 72, Miami 51. Syracuse reversed a loss this season at Miami, winning at the Carrier Dome behind John Wallace's 19 points and Otis

Hill's 17. The Orangemen (15-6, 6-5 Big East) held the Hurricanes to 30 percent shooting. Syracuse led 38-25 at halftime despite taking 11 fewer shots than Miami (10-8, 4-6 Big East).

No. 19 UCLA 85, Oregon 78. Toby Bailey bounced back from his worst game of the season, scoring 25 points as UCLA won at home.

Bailey, who had a career-high 26 points in last season's NCAA championship game victory, keyed a decisive 14-2 run in the second half. Last Saturday, Bailey had nine points and four turnovers in a close loss to Louisville.

The Bruins (14-5, 7-1) took a one-game lead over Washington in the Pac-10 Conference standings and sent Oregon to its sixth straight defeat.

Providence 76, No. 21 Boston College 75.

Austin Croshere hit Providence's 14th 3-point shot of the game, putting the Friars ahead for good with 1:10 left.

Derrick Brown scored 23 points and Michael Brown 20 as Providence (11-7, 4-6 Big East) beat a ranked team for the first time in four tries this season.

Boston College (12-5, 5-4) lost at home despite making its last 27 free throws, finishing 28-for-29 from the foul line.

Seahawks may be next NFL team to move

By JIM COUR
AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — Owner Ken Behring intends to move the Seattle Seahawks to Southern California, where they would become the fifth NFL franchise to change cities in the past year.

Despite threats by King County to sue Behring if he tries to move the Seahawks, the millionaire land developer from Danville, Calif., is expected to play the 1996 season in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

County officials scrambled late Thursday to see if there was a way to delay a move and find a local buyer, reports said. It looked like a longshot. Behring has said repeatedly he will not sell the team.

"I don't see anything that would change his (Behring's) mind. The intention is to move," a team source told The Associated Press Thursday night.

"I'm really depressed," said former team owner John Nordstrom, who has led a business community effort to negotiate a Kingdom renovation package with Behring.

"We worked so hard to bring the team here," Nordstrom told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. "I've tried to work with Ken Behring and be a friend and not an adversary. We worked hard to get Ken

on the same page, but it was all uphill. I couldn't catch up."

Behring and county officials emerged from Thursday's meeting grim-faced and saying little, but did agree to meet again today.

"We're still talking, and that's always a good sign," King County Executive Gary Locke said.

King County councilman Pete von Reichbauer, who heads the committee that oversees the Kingdom, told The News-Tribune of Tacoma he planned to ask Behring for 30 days to put together a purchase offer from "regional, local owners."

County officials refused to confirm or deny reports Behring has already decided to take the Seahawks out of Seattle, where they have played since 1976.

Behring refused comment. Seahawks coaches were told Wednesday to be ready to move to Pasadena, according to KIRO.

Team employees at suburban Kirkland headquarters were told Thursday afternoon to return Friday for one last day of work, sources told The AP.

The Seahawks would fill the void left vacant by the departure of the Raiders and Rams from Los Angeles last year.

In addition, the Cleveland Browns have announced they will

play next season in Baltimore and the Houston Oilers will move to Tennessee.

Al Moses, president of the Rose Bowl Operating Co., said Thursday the Rose Bowl had had no conversations with the Seahawks. But he said the stadium could be temporarily available to an NFL team.

"It's clear the league as well as the owners have known for some period of time that the Rose Bowl would be available to host what we call a transition team," Moses said. "That's a team that would play in the Rose Bowl two to five or six years until a new stadium is built — if one is built."

City officials in Anaheim announced several weeks ago plans for a new Sportstown USA complex surrounding the current Anaheim Stadium. It would include a new football facility.

Anaheim city manager Jim Ruth earlier told the Los Angeles Times, "Nothing's been consummated yet. We're going to have to wait another day or two. A lot of problems have to be worked out. Until Mr. Behring says anything, it's very much in the air."

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello, reached in Hawaii at the Pro Bowl, noted league owners voted last year that "the LA franchise oppor-

tunity would be controlled by the league — the 30 clubs collectively."

If Behring moves the team, it would be in apparent violation of a July 1995 agreement, signed by all NFL owners, that prevents any individual team owner from making a deal for a Los Angeles location without league approval, the P-I reported. Behring signed the agreement.

The Seahawks and the county could be headed for the courts. The Seahawks have a lease to play in the Kingdom through the year 2005, but Behring has said the Kingdom was not the first-class facility guaranteed under the team's agreement.

Sen. Slade Gorton, R-Wash., said he would back King County in any legal action.

"It's totally outrageous," Gorton said. "Two weeks ago Behring was in my office assuring me the team was staying in Seattle."

Behring bought the Seahawks from the Seattle-based Nordstrom family, the team's original owners, on Aug. 30, 1988.

Under his ownership, the Seahawks have struggled on the field and at the gate. They had their last winning season in 1990 and made the playoffs for the last time in 1988 under then-coach Chuck Knox.

Harvesters host Dumas

PAMPA — Pampa hosts Dumas at 7:30 tonight in McNeely Fieldhouse and a victory would not only move the Harvesters another step closer to their eighth

consecutive district title, but it would also give head coach Robert Hale his 445th career coaching victory.

"I feel very fortunate and blessed. I never thought I'd get 300 (wins), much less over 400," Hale said. "You've got to be blessed with good players and good teams."

Another win, and a big one, is expected tonight. Pampa coasted to a 94-64 win over Dumas in the third district game of the season. While Pampa is 8-0 in district play, Dumas has yet to notch a victory in eight outings.

On Tuesday night, Pampa handled Canyon, 50-34, for the second time around as some of the Harvesters were feeling the affects of the cold season. One of them was leading scorer Rayford Young, who still had 13 points to lead both teams. Coy Laury had 12 points and Lynn Brown 11.

"Our guys really played hard, considering they didn't feel well," Hale said. "I'm just tickled to death with their attitude. I feel very fortunate to be able to coach these type of players."

Defense and rebounding played key roles in Pampa's win. The Harvesters forced 11 turnovers, holding the Eagles to just four points in the third quarter.

Pampa won out on the boards, 37-29. Laury had 11 rebounds while Devin Lemons had 8 and J.J. Mathis 6.

Dumas lost to Hereford, 81-45, Tuesday night. Junior inside player Matt Milligan led the Demons with 15 points.

Dumas has a 4-17 record for the season. The third-ranked Harvesters are 23-3 overall and winners of their last 10 games.

Two of Pampa's last three regular-season games will be on the homecourt — Feb. 9 against Caprock and Feb. 13 against Hereford. The remaining road trip is Feb. 6 at Borger.

In other district games tonight, Borger is at Hereford and Randall hosts Canyon.

The Pampa and Dumas girls play at 6 tonight in McNeely Fieldhouse and it will be the third meeting of the season between the two schools.

Pampa defeated Dumas in tournament action earlier this season while Dumas turned the tables with a win in District 1-4A play last month.

Pampa is 1-8 in district and 12-14 overall. Dumas is 3-6 in district and 13-13 overall.

Both teams drew losses Tuesday night, Pampa falling to No. 1 ranked Canyon, 64-35, and Dumas falling to Hereford, 59-50.

Lefors tips off district season

LEFORS — Lefors tips off the District 5-1A season, hosting McLean at 6:30 tonight.

The Pirates, 3-14 for the season, ended the non-district season with a 78-72 loss to San Jacinto Christian.

Tommy Green scored 22 points to lead Lefors in scoring while Matt Green added 18.

Lefors tried to rally from a 13-point deficit after three quarters, but fell short in the final minutes.

Steven Mills and David Brogdon had 13 and 12 points respectively, for San Jacinto.

Lefors also fell to San Jacinto in the girls' tilt, 60-25.

Penny Summers was high scorer for Lefors with 13 points. Karla Murray was next with 5.

Kayla Garrison paced San Jacinto with 16 points, followed by Haley Fletcher 12.

The McLean boys are 1-1 in district play and 11-9 overall. McLean girls are 2-0 and 17-3.

Scoreboard

UIL REALIGNMENT

AUSTIN (AP) — Here, from the University Interscholastic League, are the tentative UIL district alignments for the 1996-97 and 1997-98 athletic seasons.

CLASS 3A

Football and Basketball

- Region I**
 1—Amarillo River Road, Dalhart, Dimmitt, Friona, Fritch, Sanford-Fritch, Muleshoe, Perryton, Tula
 2—Brownfield, Denver City, Floydada, Littlefield, Lubbock, Cooper, Lubbock Roosevelt, Seminole, Slaton
 3—Alpine, Clint High, Clint Mountain View, Fabens, Monahans, Presidio
 4—Big Lake Reagan County, Colorado City, Colorado, Crane, Kermit, Midland, Greenwood, Sonora
 5—Bowie, Childress, Henrietta, Iowa Park, Jacksboro, Vernon
 6—Abilene Wylie, Ballinger, Brady, Breckenridge, Clyde, Coleman, Eastland, Merkel
 7—Aledo, Boyd, Bridgeport, Fort Worth Carter-Riverside, Fort Worth Diamond Hill, Jarvis, Lake Worth
 8—Clifton, Comanche, Glen Rose, Hillsboro, West, Whitney

Region II

- 9—Decatur, Frisco, Gainesville, Lake Dallas, Little Elm, Sanger
 10—Bonham, Commerce, Farmersville, Pottsboro, Princeton, Whitesboro
 11—Crandall, Dallas Madison, Ferns, Forney, Kennedale, Royse City
 12—Canton, Eustace, Kemp, Malouf, Van, Willis Point
 13—Emory Rains, Mineola, Mount Vernon, Pittsburg, Quitman, Willsboro
 14—Clarksville, DeKalb, Hooks, New Boston, Redwater, Texarkana Pleasant Grove
 15—Atlanta, Dargenfield, Jefferson, Linden, Linden-Kildare, Omaha Peewee, Queen City
 16—Bullard, Gladewater High, Gladewater Sabine, Longview Spring Hill, Tatum, White Oak

Region III

- 17—China Spring, Groesbeck, Lorena, Marlin, McGregor, Robinson, Troy, Waco La Vega
 18—Caldwell, Cameron Yoe, Elgin, Giddings, Hearne, Manor, Rockdale, Smithville
 19—Crockett, Fairfield, Groesbeck, Mexia, Palestine Westwood, Teague
 20—Center, Corrigan-Camden, Diboll, Huntington, Lufkin Hudson (no football), Pollock Central (no football), Rusk, San Augustine
 21—Cleveland Tarkington, Coldspring Jones, Madisonville, Shepherd, Splendora, Trinity
 22—Amar Rice, Bellville, Columbus, Hallettsville, Hempstead, La Grange
 23—Buna, Kirbyville, Kountze, Newton, Orangefield, Port Arthur Austin, Warren, Woodville
 24—Anahuac, Hampshire-Fannett, Hardin, Huffman Hargrave, Liberty, Mont Belvieu, Barber's Hill

Region IV

- 25—Austin Lake Travis, Burnet, Dripping Springs, Liberty Hill, Llano, Wimberley, Dantford
 26—Bandera, Castrolino Medina Valley, Devine, Hondo, Ingram Moore, Lytle, Somerset
 27—Cuero, Kennedy, La Vernia, Luling, San Antonio Cole, Yoakum
 28—Brookshire Royal, Edna, Hitchcock, Palacios, Seely, Stafford
 29—Carrizo Springs Cotulla, Crystal City, Jourdanton, Pearsall, Poteet
 30—Aransas Pass, Corpus Christi West Oso, Goliad, Ingleside, Mathis, Odem, Sinton, Taft
 31—Bishop, Fallurus, Gage West, Hebbronville, Orange Grove, San Diego
 32—Hidalgo, La Feria, Lyford, Pharr Valley View (no football), Port Isabel, Progreso, Rio Hondo, Santa Rosa

CLASS 5A

Football and Basketball

- Region I**
 1—El Paso Andres, El Paso Austin, El Paso Coronado, El Paso Franklin, El Paso Irvin, El Paso Jefferson
 2—El Paso Bel Air, El Paso Del Valle, El Paso Eastwood, El Paso Hanks, El Paso Montwood, El Paso Socorro
 3—Amarillo High, Amarillo Palo Duro, Amarillo Tascosa, Lubbock Coronado, Lubbock High, Lubbock Monterey
 4—Abilene High, Abilene Cooper, Midland Lee, Midland High, Odessa Permian, San Angelo Central
 5—Denton Ryan, Euless Trinity, Flower Mound Marcus, Hurst Bell, Keller, Lewisville High, Lewisville The Colony, Wichita Falls Rider
 6—Carrollton Smith, Carrollton Turner, Duncanville, Grand Prairie High, Grand Prairie South Grand Prairie, Irving High, Irving McArthur, Irving Nimitz

CLASS 2A

Football and Basketball

- Region I**
 1—Boys Ranch, Canadian, Spearman, Smeeth West Texas, Sumray
 2—Clarendon, Memphis, Panhandle, Quanah, Wellington, White Deer
 3—Amarillo Highland Park, Bovina, Hale Center, Hart, Lockney, Otton
 4—Abernathy, Crosbyton, Idalou, New Deal, Post, Potts
 5—Morton, Plains, Seagraves, Shallowater, Sundown, Tahoka
 6—Anthony, Iraan, McCamey, Stanton, Tornillo, Van Horn
 7—Albany, Anson, Clyde Eula (no football), Hamlin, Hawley, Stamford, Tuscola Jim Ned

- 7—Crowley, Fort Worth Dunbar, Fort Worth Paschal, Fort Worth Southwest, Fort Worth Wyatt, Haltom City Haltom, Mansfield, North Richland Hills Richland
 8—Arlington High, Arlington Bowie, Arlington Houston, Arlington Lamar, Arlington Martin, De Soto

Region II

- 9—Mesquite High, Mesquite North Mesquite, Plano High, Plano Plano East, Richardson Berkner, Richardson Lake Highlands, Richardson Pearce, Richardson High
 10—Allen, Garland High, Garland Lakeview Centennial, Garland Naaman Forest, Garland North Garland, Garland Rowlett, Garland South Garland, Rockwall
 11—Dallas Adams, Dallas Carter, Dallas Kimball, Dallas North Dallas, Dallas Skyline, Dallas Sunset
 12—Longview, Lufkin, Marshall, Nacogdoches, Tyler Lee, Tyler High
 13—Belton, Copperas Cove, Killeen Ellison, Killeen High, Temple, Cyto
 14—Georgetown, Leander, Pflugerville, Round Rock McNeil, Round Rock High, Westwood
 15—Bryan, College Station A&M, Consolidated, Conroe High, Conroe The Woodlands, Huntsville, Tomball
 16—Houston Cypress Creek, Houston Cypress Fairbanks, Houston Cypress Falls, Houston Jersey Village, Houston Langham Creek, Klein High, Klein Klein Forest, Klein Klein Oak

Region III

- 17—Houston Bellaire, Houston Lamar, Houston Lee, Houston Madison, Houston Sharpstown, Houston Sterling, Houston Westbury
 18—Houston Austin, Houston Davis, Houston High, Houston Milby, Houston Reagan, Houston Washington, Houston Yates
 19—Houston Memorial, Houston Northbrook, Houston Spring Woods, Houston Stratford, Katy High, Katy Mayde Creek, Katy Taylor, Rosenberg Terry
 20—Alief Elsik, Alief Hastings, Sugar Land Austin, Sugar Land Clements, Sugar Land Dulles, Sugar Land Elkins, Sugar Land Kemper, Sugar Land Willowidge
 21—Houston Aldine, Houston Eisenhower, Houston MacArthur, Houston Nimitz, Humble High, Humble Kingwood, Spring High, Spring Westfield
 22—Baytown Lee, Baytown Sterling, Beaumont Central, Beaumont West Brook, Deer Park, Galena Park North Shore, La Porte, Port Arthur Jefferson
 23—Houston Smiley, Pasadena Dobie, Pasadena High, Pasadena Rayburn, Pasadena South Houston, Pearland
 24—Arvin, Angleton, Freeport Brazoswood, Gatteston Ball, Houston Clear Lake, League City Clear Creek

Region IV

- 25—Austin High, Austin Bowie, Austin Crockett, Austin Johnston, Austin Westlake, San Marcos
 26—Converse Judson, New Braunfels, San Antonio Churchill, San Antonio Lee, San Antonio MacArthur, San Antonio Madison, San Antonio Roosevelt, Seguin
 27—Del Rio, San Antonio Clark, San Antonio Holmes, San Antonio Jay, San Antonio Marshall, San Antonio Taft
 28—San Antonio Brackenridge, San Antonio East Central, San Antonio Edison, San Antonio Harlandale, San Antonio Highlands, San Antonio Jefferson, San Antonio South San Antonio, San Antonio Southwest
 29—Corpus Christi Carroll, Corpus Christi King, Corpus Christi Miller, Corpus Christi Moody, Corpus Christi Ray, Victoria High, Victoria Stroman
 30—Eagle Pass, Laredo Alexander, Laredo Cigarroa, Laredo Martin, Laredo Nixon, Laredo United, Laredo United South, Zapata
 31—Edinburg High, Edinburg Edinburg North, La Joya, McAllen High, McAllen Memorial, McAllen Rowe, Mission, Pharr Pharr-San Juan-Alamo North, Rio Grande City, San Juan Pharr-San Juan-Alamo
 32—Brownsville Hanna, Brownsville Pace, Brownsville Porter, Brownsville Rivera, Donna, Harlingen High, Harlingen Harlingen South, San Benito, Weslaco

BASKETBALL

Major College Scores

- Boston U. 82, Delaware 75, OT
 Duquesne 85, La Salle 75
 Massachusetts 109, Temple 35
 Providence 76, Boston College 75
 Syracuse 72, Miami 51
 Arkansas St. 69, Louisiana Tech 64
 Coll. of Charleston 103, Cent. Florida 61
 E. Tennessee 100, Appalachian 68
 Florida Atlantic 84, Fla. International 61
 Georgia St. 86, SE Louisiana 81, OT
 Hampton U. 77, Liberty 72
 Maryland 80, Virginia 72
 Mercer 89, Centenary 66
 Murray St. 81, SE Missouri 77
 NE Louisiana 78, McNeese St. 75
 New Orleans 90, W. Kentucky 82
 Nichols St. 63, NW Louisiana 59
 Samford 79, Jacksonville St. 63
 Southern Miss. 62, Tulane 61
 Stetson 75, Campbell 62
 Tennessee St. 75, Tennessee Tech 71
 Buffalo 53, Youngstown St. 51
 George Washington 77, Dayton 65
 Memphis 83, DePaul 82, OT
 Wis.-Green Bay 74, Cleveland St. 48
 Wright St. 91, Ill.-Chicago 74
 SW Louisiana 82, Lamar 69
 Sam Houston St. at Texas-San Antonio, ppd., ice
 Stephen F. Austin 69, SW Texas St. 64
 Texas-Pan American 75, Jacksonville 61
 CS Northridge 71, Sacramento St. 62
 Fresno St. 66, Colorado St. 72
 Long Beach St. 73, Cal St.-Fullerton 56
 New Mexico 58, Brigham Young 81
 Pacific 75, New Mexico St. 59
 Santa Clara 70, San Francisco 57
 Southern Cal 64, Oregon St. 47
 St. Mary's, Cal. 66, San Diego 62
 UC Irvine 74, UC Santa Barbara 62
 UCLA 85, Oregon 78

Pro Bowl a thrill for Glover

HONOLULU (AP) — Practicing with Detroit Lions teammates Barry Sanders, Lomas Brown and Herman Moore on an everyday basis is exciting. Appearing in the Pro Bowl with other NFL notables is an absolute thrill for Kevin Glover.

"Those guys I play with every day," the Lions center said. "But to be with guys like Reggie White, Steve Young, Michael Irvin — it means something to be put in that kind of group and share time with them this week."

Even though he's an 11-year veteran, Glover was wide-eyed as he mingled with his new, albeit, short-term teammates.

"This is absolutely a great feeling for me, just because this is my 11th year in the league and the first time in the Pro Bowl," he said.

"I've thought before that I had years when I could have come, but it didn't work out. Now, it's great to get a chance."

Another first-timer, Denver kicker Jason Elam, who played at the University of Hawaii, reacted like a fan.

"It's still hard for me to believe that I was named to the Pro Bowl team," he said. "I'm honored to be here. It's exciting to think that I'll be spending a week with the best players in the NFL."

"I don't consider myself to be an All-Pro like these guys. I'm here, really, and just in kind of awe at all the talent here."

Perhaps, Glover, Elam and Harbaugh can learn a trick or two about "stylin'" from the Super Bowl champion Dallas Cowboys.

"We're definitely doing the stretch limo, baby," Nate Newton said of his mode of transportation during his Pro

Bowl stay in Hawaii. Fellow guard Larry Allen is learning fast.

"I might have to," Allen said of using a limousine service. "This is my first time here."

One Cowboy who doesn't care either way was wide receiver Michael Irvin, who said he was still trying to recover from celebrations marking the Cowboys' 27-17 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"We had quite a night," he said in recounting the post-game parties.

"As you can tell, my voice is still hoarse from all the yelling," he said. "Right now, I just need to get some rest after a win like that. After what we went through this season, this Super Bowl win was sweet."

And now that the NFC has extended its Super Bowl winning streak to 12, Newton fears it will be payback time for the AFC in the Pro Bowl.

"The AFC is going to be a little upset this weekend because they haven't won a Super Bowl in 12 years," he said. "The Pro Bowl is get-back time for them."

Report: Spurs may move to New Orleans

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs, unhappy with the Alamodome, are eyeing New Orleans and a new sports arena to be built there as a possible new home, a television station has reported.

KENS-TV cited unidentified sources Thursday as saying top Spurs officials have contacted New Orleans officials about moving the team to an \$84 million sports arena to be constructed in that city.

But Spurs president Jack Diller denied a move to Louisiana is in the works and said the franchise is only trying to keep informed about sports arenas in other cities.

"It's not true other than to say we try to keep aware of what is going on in every market. New Orleans is only one of probably 25 markets around the United States and Canada that are in the process of building new sports

facilities," Diller told KENS.

"We try to keep apprised of what is going on every where so that we are up to date in terms of what's happening and what might be something that we might want to look to in the future," he said.

Construction on the 18,500-seat arena in New Orleans is to begin in June. The facility will be equipped with 40 luxury suites, compared with only 11 that the Spurs have at the Alamodome.

Diller has said because the \$186 million Alamodome was designed for football, luxury suites and box seats — big revenue sources for sports teams — are located too high and far away from the basketball court.

The Spurs moved into the Alamodome before the 1993-94 season with a 10-year lease shortly after the stadium opened in May 1993.

For months, the Spurs' future

in San Antonio has been in question.

Last summer, Spurs chairman Robert McDermott stirred city-wide controversy when he said the team needed a new arena better suited for basketball, or it might leave San Antonio.

Later, at the urging of mayor Bill Thornton, the team began holding private talks with San Antonio city officials to try to find ways to make the Alamodome more suitable for the Spurs.

Those discussions are continuing. In an interview with The Associated Press earlier this week, Diller refused to say what the Spurs will do if the talks with the city aren't successful. However, he did not express optimism about being able to keep the Spurs in the Alamodome.

"There hasn't been a situation in which a basketball team has been able to operate in a football stadium," he said.

Rockets glad to see January come to an end

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — The Houston Rockets are glad to see January end.

The Rockets, 7-8 last month and losers of five of seven games, started February with a 116-111 victory over Charlotte on Thursday night.

The skid left Houston trailing San Antonio and Utah in the Midwest Division standings heading into February.

"That's no reason to panic. We're not an uptight team. Sure, we lost five out of seven coming in here, but hey, it happens sometimes," guard Sam Cassell said.

Cassell scored all 22 of his points in the final 14:43, and Hakeem Olajuwon added 32 points and 11 rebounds as the Rockets ran their record against Charlotte to 17-2.

The Hornets appeared headed

toward a rare victory over the Rockets in the first half, when they converted 10 Houston turnovers into 15 points. Charlotte twice built 10-point leads before settling for a 54-46 halftime edge.

"We struggled in the first half with the turnovers," Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "But it was a character win for us. I'm very proud of them."

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14 Auto-body Repair	14q Ditching	21 Help Wanted	68 Antiques	96 Unfurnished Apartments	112 Farms And Ranches	128 Aircraft

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CITY BRIEF DEADLINES	
Weekdays	10 a.m. Day Of Publication
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1 Public Notice PUBLIC NOTICE On February 15, 1996, the Gray County Commissioner's Court intends to consider the Petition for Approval to Cancel a Portion of the Townsite of Alaneed, which Petition has been submitted by Sam Standish pursuant to Section 232.008 of the Texas Local Government Code. A-13 Jan 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, Feb. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 1996	3 Personal MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skincare. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095.	14b Appliance Repair RENT TO RENT RENT TO OWN We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate. Johnson Home Furnishings 801 W. Francis	14d Carpentry BUILDING, Remodeling and construction of all types. Deaver Construction, 665-0447. T. Neiman Construction Free Estimates-Cabinets, etc. 665-7102 OVERHEAD Door Repair. Kidwell Construction, 669-6347. ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. No job too small. Mike Albus, 665-4774. Childers Brothers Leveling House Leveling Professional house leveling. Free estimates. 1-800-299-9563.	14h General Services COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. 669-7769. 14i General Repair IF its broken or won't turn off, call the Fix It Shop, 669-3434. Calls repaired. 14n Painting PAINTING and sheetrock finishing. 35 years. David and Joe, 665-2903, 669-7885. PAINTING reasonable, interior, exterior. Minor repairs. Free estimates. Bob Gorson 665-0033.	14s Plumbing & Heating JACK'S Plumbing Co. New construction, repair, remodeling, sewer and drain cleaning. Septic systems installed. 665-7115. LARRY BAKER PLUMBING Heating Air Conditioning Borger Highway 665-4392 MCBRIDE Plumbing. Sprinkler system, water, sewer, gas, re-lays, drain service. Hydro Service, 665-1633. LEE'S Sewer & Sinkline Service. After Hours and Weekends, 669-0555. Bullard Plumbing Service Electric Sewer Rooting Maintenance and repair 665-8603	14y Upholstery FURNITURE Clinic. Furniture repair and upholstery. Open by appointment. 665-8684. 17 Coin Charlie's Coin Corner 406 S. Ballard 669-Coin (2646) 19 Situations Happy House-Keepers Happy-Reliable-Bonded 669-1056 WILL care for elderly and live in your home. 669-3858.	21 Help Wanted 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 NO experience necessary, just friendly personality. Call us we are Avon, 665-5854, individual sales representative. POSTAL Job: \$15.90 per hour. No experience necessary. For applications / information call 818-764-9016 extension 4123.
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Aid in diagnosing
5 Construction beam
9 Montana or Namath
12 Small amount
13 Bridge structure
14 Actress Lupino
15 Spiritless
17 Miserables
18 Hawaiian timber tree
19 Expenditure
21 Subway coin
24 Ms. Bombeck
25 Corrode
27 Knuckle under
31 Carass
32 Old King
34 Lion's den
35 Positive votes
37 Lhasa (dog)
39 Gosh!
40 Piquant
42 Daughter of Polonius

44 Direction
46 Change
47 Faust author
50 Contemporary painter
51 Logger's tool
52 Barren area
57 Mal de
58 Biographer
59 Finished
60 Year (Sp.)
61 Exaggerated
62 promotion
63 Hedge plants

DOWN

1 Roman dozen
2 Reagan's son
3 One Day - Time
4 Pulled
5 Writer Janowitz
6 Bikini top
7 Cruise or Gibson
8 Suffering from cold symptoms
9 Actress - St. John

Answer to Previous Puzzle

GETS RUGS QUA
NOSH AGON UPS
UNEARTHLY TDA
DAS EDITOR
LIMED AMEX
ABUSIVE RIATA
DST OARS ALUM
LEEK NOTE ABB
ENDED BESTIAL
PUCE TENSE
XAVIER DEN
MLI NICARAGUA
ATA NUMB
SAL ARTS TYPE

10 Concert halls (abbr.)
11 — does it!
16 Ancient Greek dialect
20 Poodle part
21 Yellow quartz
22 Type of dairy
23 High-flying toys
24 Fish trap
26 Small organisms
28 Golf score
29 — wait (lark)
30 Fear
33 Sixth sense workers

36 Editor's direction
38 Chicago airport
41 Hebrew God
43 Hire
45 Scordid
47 Vasco da
48 The yoke's on them!
49 Finnish first name
50 Tamarisk salt tree
53 Drink slowly
54 Map abbr.
55 Recent
56 Med.

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

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Houston attorney makes stellar discovery; nighttime hobby leads to spotting a comet

HOUSTON (AP) — An attorney's nighttime hobby has yielded a stellar discovery — the first new comet spied by a Texan in nearly 30 years.

Edward Szczepanski, who specializes in photographing faint objects in the sky, noticed the object recently on film taken of a distant galaxy near the Big Dipper.

His discovery quickly was confirmed and the comet has been named C/1996 B1 Szczepanski. It is the second comet found this year.

Szczepanski, an attorney with Fulbright & Jaworski, has practiced astronomy as a hobby for 14 years.

In addition to regular visits to the Houston Astronomical Society observing site west of Columbus, Szczepanski likes to go farther afield. He has traveled as far as Australia and New Zealand and is a regular at the annual Texas Star Party held each Spring in Fort Davis.

Astronomer Dan Green of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Cambridge, Mass., said the comet is rather large. Through binoculars, it appears to be about a third the size of a full moon.

Based on only a few observations, Green said the comet appears to be moving toward the sun and probably has an orbit lasting thousands of years.

It can be seen between the last two stars in the handle of the Big Dipper and is moving southwest toward the head of the constellation Leo.

Sketchy records indicate the last comet discovered by someone in Texas was spotted in 1968 by an amateur in Bishop, about 25 miles southwest of Corpus Christi, Green said.

Szczepanski said he was taking pictures of various galaxies early Saturday and used his last film to take a 50-minute exposure of galaxy M101 in Ursa Major, the Big Dipper. When he developed the film, he noticed an elongated object he did not recognize.

"I checked it against another photograph and had a strong indication it was a comet or an asteroid," he said.

After finding nothing in the latest bulletins from the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, which records such sightings, he advised the observatory of his discovery.

Other members of the Houston Astronomical Society viewed the comet Saturday night with Szczepanski at the site west of Columbus.

Szczepanski uses a four-inch Takahashi refractor telescope fitted with a camera using 120 film for his pictures. A smaller telescope linked to a computer tracks Szczepanski's chosen object.

The comet picture was taken with black and white film specially treated for long exposures.

Former Chiapas officials wanted for fraud

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico (AP) — State police searched Thursday for three former state officials accused of fraud in a land program meant to quell peasant unrest in strife-torn Chiapas state.

Officials said one current official, eight former officials and nine property owners are also being investigated in connection with the plan to buy about 75,000 acres that either were invaded by peasants or seized by the Zapatista National Liberation Army after its Jan. 1, 1994, uprising.

"It's really a shame because that money could have been used to resolve the problems between the small property owners and the peasants, and that wasn't done," said Jaime Pulido Solis, president of the Regional Union of Rural Property Owners in Comitán, one of the areas most affected by peasant land invasions.

Arrest warrants were issued

for former Secretary of State Rodolfo Ulloa Flores, former agrarian affairs coordinator Saul Prado Guerrero and agrarian affairs advisor Rafael Vazquez Astudillo. All worked in the administration of former Gov. Javier Lopez Moreno, who was in power for 11 months during 1994.

Others under investigation include the appointments secretary of current Gov. Julio Cesar Ruiz Ferro, the former rector of the Autonomous University of Chiapas and the son of former Gov. Absalon Castellanos Dominguez, according to a report made public Wednesday by the state comptroller's office.

Investigators say they have found some \$30 million in possible frauds.

The rebellion by mostly Maya Indians demanding land, democracy and social services prompted thousands of land-hungry peasants all over the state to take over private farms and ranches.

The seizures infuriated the state's conservative ranchers, who have traditionally had great political power, and threatened to reignite fighting that was halted with a cease-fire less than two weeks after the rebellion broke out.

In February 1994, the federal government appropriated more than \$77 million for land purchases in Chiapas to resolve land conflicts associated with the uprising, and turn the land over to peasant squatters.

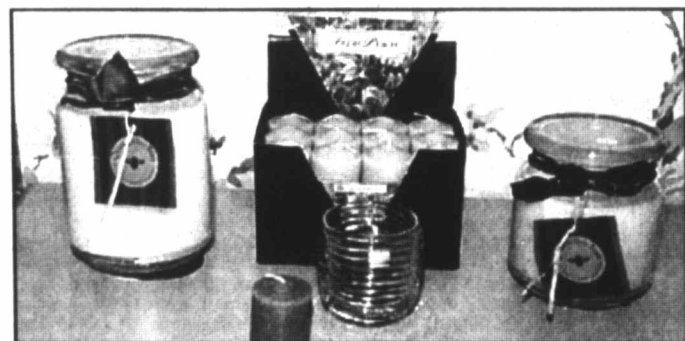
"There were many dirty deals" in the program, said Caralampio Torres Ruiz, whose employees took over his 109-acre ranch east of Ocosingo after the uprising.

Torres said Thursday that some lawyers who offered to help ranchers sell lands through the program demanded \$100,000 up front and power of attorney over the properties. He said they sometimes promised ranchers would keep the land despite the purported sale.

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