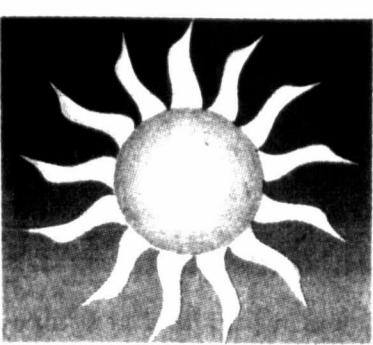


THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 88 NO: 270

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight near 30,
high tomorrow near 70.
See Page 2 for weather
details.

LOCAL

PAMPA — The Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross will be offering three classes this month on first aid and CPR instruction.

All classes will be held at the Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. Fee for each is \$15, and those planning to attend are asked to contact the office or call 669-7121 to register, since class size is limited.

The classes are:
Wednesday, Feb. 21, 6 p.m., standard first aid.

Thursday, Feb. 22, 6 p.m., adult CPR.

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 7 p.m., infant/child CPR.

PAMPA — Labor surveys have been mailed to a number of Pampa residents through the Pampa Economic Development Corporation.

Responses to the survey will be used to develop information for businesses and industries contemplating a move to the area.

The survey should show potential businesses the level of underemployment, salary and benefits in the area.

Although a deadline of Feb. 22 is listed on the survey form, coordinator Dr. Suresh Gopalan of West Texas A&M University indicated the deadline was a little flexible.

NATION

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — When Julius James learned he'd be able to stay, at least for now, on the land where he's lived all his 109 years, he closed his eyes and quietly said, "Oh, thank you, Jesus."

In an emergency ruling Thursday, an appeals court stayed a decision from two days earlier that ordered James to be out of his Ocala home by Monday.

The state needs 21 acres of James' 60-acre farm for a ramp that would help ease freeway congestion. It has bought him a \$52,000 house a half-mile away and offered nearly \$2 million for the property.

James, who inherited the property from his slave ancestors, said he didn't want to leave. His lawyer appealed the lower court's order.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Regular traffic flowed past the south side of the federal building bombing site today for the first time since the April 19 blast.

"I'm watching a little history here today," County Commissioner Stuart Earnest said as he watched city crews remove the last barriers on N.W. Fourth Street this morning. Earnest, a former U.S. marshal who lost 32 friends in the bombing, hoped to be the first to drive down the reopened street.

But an unidentified man in a battered sedan beat him to it, entering from the other end of the block.

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PISD trustees hear views on consolidation

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

Pampa Independent School District board of trustees will hear a Bureson-Singleton report on the structural condition of elementary school at a public workshop set for March 7.

The architect's report is part of the information gathering process for trustees who are pondering what to do with aging elementary buildings and declining school population.

Location for the workshop has not been set, though after trustees saw the number of parents who showed up to talk about consolidation, they noted it would be held in a bigger place than the Carver Center board room.

Six parents addressed the board citing transportation safety concerns if children ride buses to school, booster club involvement, drop in property values if neighborhood schools are replaced with cluster schools, and fears that teachers may not speak out on the proposals.

Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr told the group PISD has not developed an elementary school plan. He noted cluster schools (where students attend schools grouped by grade) were the dominant audience idea from a public meeting Dec. 19. Cluster schools are entitled to consideration by the board, he said.

They are not experimental, he said.

"We are not going to run an experiment in terms of clustering," Orr said.

Educational Data Systems personnel will train local educators on a computer program, ONPASS, which is capable of developing boundary scenarios for trustees to consider. The San

Jose, Calif., representatives will be in Pampa March 4 and 5. A second training on DISPATCH, a bus route program will be held later, said Ray Thornton, facilities study coordinator, today.

Trustees also:
• Unanimously passed orders setting the school board election for 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 4 at M.K. Brown Auditorium and setting 8 a.m. May 6 at Carver Center to canvass results. A resolution was passed setting May 16 for a runoff election if necessary. Board positions up for election this year are Place 1 held by Pat Kennedy; Place 2 held by Jim Baker; and Place 3 held by John Curry.

• Adopted a resolution committing themselves to public education and the future of the school district. The resolution urges citizens to visit public schools Feb. 26 through March 1 during Texas Public Schools Week.

• Agreed to order two new buses at an estimated cost of \$73,000. If they arrive before Aug. 31, they will be paid for from the 1995-1996 budget. They are to have automatic transmissions, diesel engines and seat 47 passengers. They will serve special education bus routes.

• Accepted insurance bids totaling \$78,800 which covers property, liability, employee benefits, professional liability, boiler, automobiles, crime, bond and choir equipment and contractor equipment. District policies are renewed beginning March 1 of each year.

Buildings are covered up to \$42 million. Elementary schools are appraised year and have estimated replacement values of \$2 to \$3 million based on size, according to PISD business manager Mark McVay.

See PISD, Page 2

CDC: AIDS toll strikes higher among blacks

ATLANTA (AP) — AIDS is exacting a growing toll on blacks. The virus is now responsible for a third of all deaths among black men ages 25 to 44, the CDC said Thursday.

AIDS also accounts for about a fifth of the deaths among black women in the same age range — a higher proportion than among young white men, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The CDC report is the latest to demonstrate changes in the epidemic since the first cases were reported 15 years ago among gay white men.

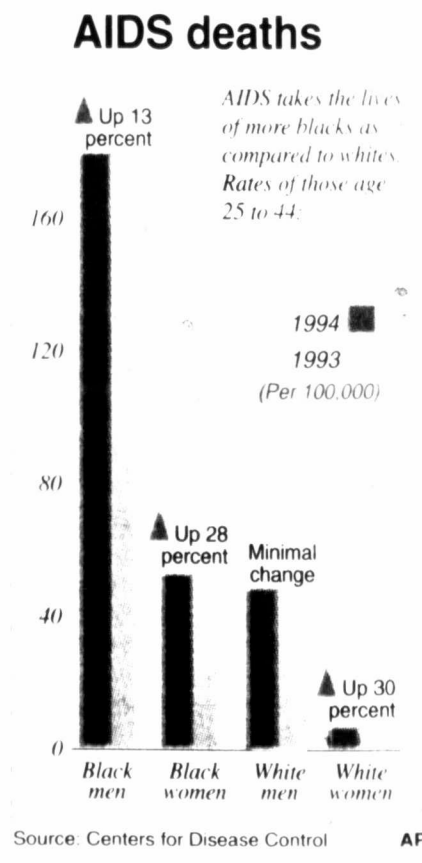
"This is an epidemic that is affecting every segment of society," said Cornelius Baker of the National Association of People with AIDS.

AIDS is now like other sexually transmitted diseases, which tend to strike minorities harder than whites, said Dr. John Ward, the CDC's chief of AIDS surveillance. He pointed to the link between sex and drugs as another reason for the growth of AIDS among blacks.

At least 41,930 people died of AIDS in 1994, up 9 percent from 38,500 the previous year. About three-quarters of the victims were 25 to 44, and AIDS remains the leading killer for that age group, the CDC said.

In 1994, AIDS caused 32 percent of deaths among black men ages 25 to 44, up from 28 percent the year before, and 20 percent among young white men, about the same as in 1993, according to the CDC.

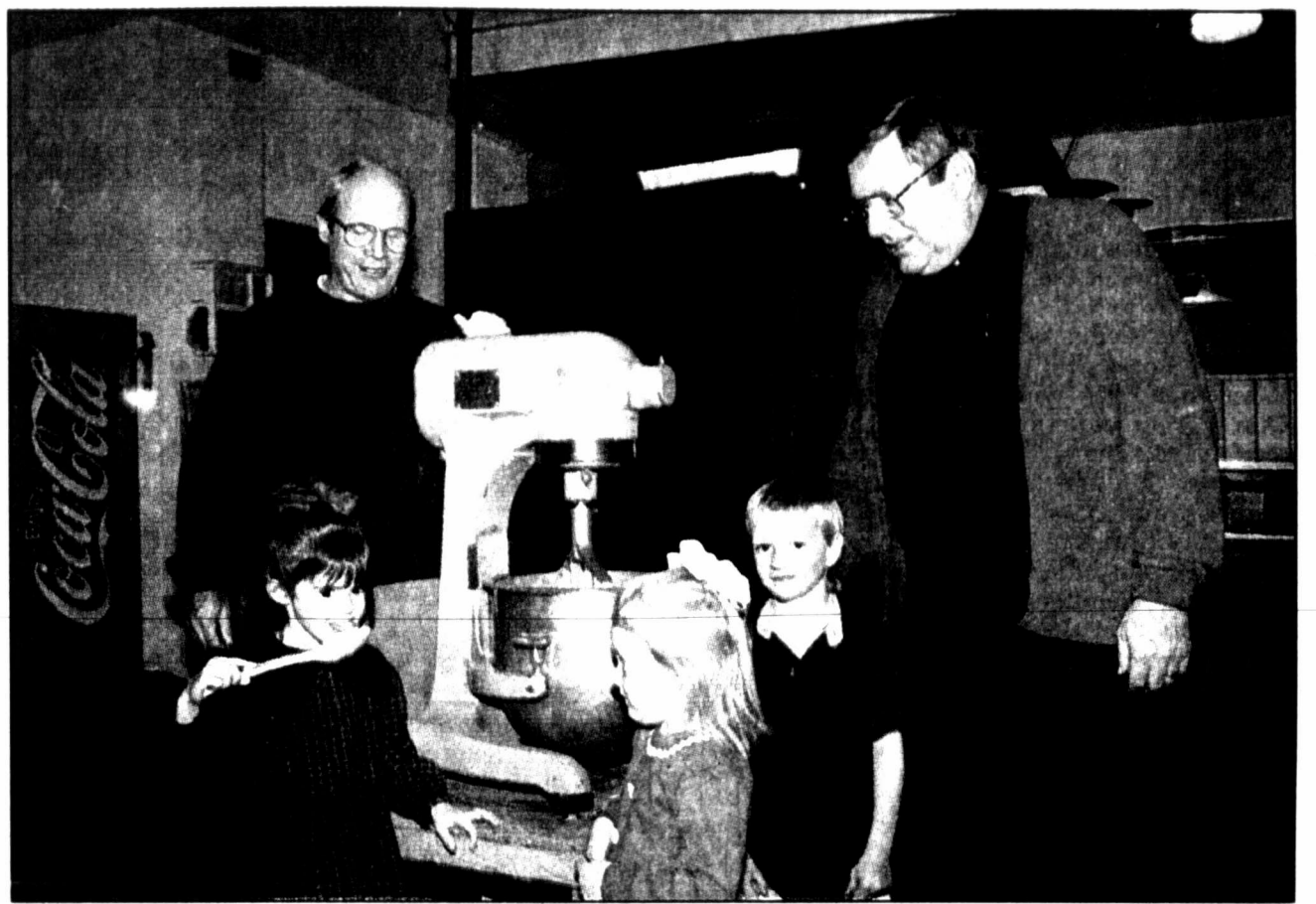
AIDS caused 22 percent of



deaths among black women of the same age group in 1994 and 17 percent in 1993, compared with 6 percent among young white women in 1994 and 5 percent the year before.

The death rate from AIDS for young black men in 1994 was 177.9 per 100,000, almost four times greater than the rate for their white counterparts, 47.2.

The rate for black men rose 13 percent from the previous year, while the rate for white men remained about the same, the CDC said.



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Hal Cree, left, co-chairman, and Father Jake Clemmens, right, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church rector, help Day School students Brittany Ridge, 5; Madison Gantz, 4, and Lane Douglas, 4, practice for the upcoming 41st Annual Pancake Supper at the church's Parish Hall.

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church plans its annual pancake supper

By EDYTH JACKSON

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church will hold its 41st Annual Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 20, from 5-8 p.m. in the Parish Hall at 727 W. Browning.

Tickets are \$4, available in the parish office, from parish members and from students of the Day School. Preschoolers are admitted free.

The Rev. Jake Clemmens, rector of St. Matthew's, while discussing the pancake supper, said, "St. Matthew's has always appreciated the support given by the whole community of Pampa. It is a time to remind ourselves of the common nature of our faith."

This year's festivities will follow the traditional theme of a Mardi Gras atmosphere — decorated and candle lit — with table accouterments entrusted to the Episcopal Youth for serving tables.

All income from the supper is given toward the education of children. The first Shrove Tuesday pancake supper at St. Matthew's, held in 1956, provided funds for St. Francis Boys' Home in Salina, Kan. This year, as in the years since 1976, all proceeds from the supper go to St. Matthew's Episcopal Day School in Pampa.

Lori Boyd, Day School admin-

istrator, explained that the Day School is able to provide scholarships to preschoolers and kindergartners through the proceeds of the annual pancake supper.

"Many children in our surrounding area are thus allowed an excellent early Christian education," Boyd said.

"Recently, we received a most generous gift of eight brand new computers, allowing teachers and students to enjoy new software programs with broader use of current technology," she said. "Classrooms and the computer lab will be open for viewing during the pancake supper."

Boyd said St. Matthew's Day School Support Group will hold its annual Book Fair to coincide with the pancake supper. This year, the Book Fair will be represented by Successful Living Books, featuring nondenominational Christian books for all ages.

"Proceeds from the Book Fair provide new books for the school library," Boyd said. "An 'Adopt-A-Book' program is also available to those who would like to purchase and donate a book in the name of a current student or other loved one."

Shrove Tuesday, holding to tradition of over a thousand years, is the time to use up all the meats and fats, forbidden during Lent. Many southern cities have carnivals at this season. New

Orleans has been known for its parades since 1827, and Liberal, Kan., has gained international fame since 1950 for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race, held in competition with Olney, England.

Merrymaking gives way to contemplation by those who are shriven, and Ash Wednesday reminds Christians of the mortal nature of mankind. The following 40 weekdays of fasting and penitence allow preparation for commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday.

Here in Pampa, St. Matthew's welcomes everyone to come and eat all the pancakes and bacon desired on Shrove Tuesday, to attend worship services during lent and to enjoy the celebration of Easter Day on Sunday, April 7, Rev. Clemmens said.

Committees serving for the supper are Hal and Sue Cree, general chairmen; Benny Kirksey, ticket sales; Edyth Jackson, publicity; Sissy Curtis, purchasing; Charles Smith, equipment; Lara Bledsoe, decorations; Karen Smith, prizes; Holly Burger, bacon fryers; Linda Landsverk, nursery; O.C. and Marge Penn, greeting; Glenna Lea Miller, coffee; Peggy David, butter/syrup; Jean Martindale, batter preparation; Jack Curtis, pancake flippers; Cindy Holt, servers; and Carol Orr, table bussing.

Last-minute reprieve saves Lefors from cutting back on school staff

By CHIP CHANDLER
Staff Writer

Lefors Independent School District will not go broke this year, thanks to a literally last-minute reprieve, Superintendent Norman Baxter announced Thursday night.

Just days before a school board meeting in which the district was expected to declare financial exigency, Baxter received word from the Texas Education Agency that the school's Option 4 payment would be drastically reduced.

Because Lefors is considered a budget-balanced school district, it receives little in state funds and had expected to send about \$82,000 to Pampa ISD.

However, thanks to TEA's reversal, the school will send only \$12,072.

"If these numbers hold up, we could be in the black at the end of the year, instead of in the red as we budgeted," Baxter said.

The board in September adopted a budget of \$1,145,974, a budget that included a near \$54,000 deficit.

The school expected then \$1,091,999 in revenue for the year, making a deficit of \$53,975.

Monday, Baxter revealed that the school would likely reduce its staff and declare financial exigency because the district "does not have enough tax revenue to cover our expenses."

Those staff reductions are unlikely now after TEA's decision. About four positions would likely have been cut, Baxter said, including the high school principal position held by Mike Green.

"I've been successful here for three years and my boys have been successful here. I like Lefors and I support the board, and whatever they had decided I would have supported," Green said this morning.

"This is a plus on the side of the kids. Anytime you cut programs and personnel, you hurt the programs and the students," he continued.

Had Green's position been cut, Lefors would have been reduced to only one full-time administrator. Baxter currently serves as

both superintendent and elementary school principal.

"I'm glad it worked out this way. These are good people and I hate to see them affected this way," Baxter said.

TEA's decision to reduce Lefors' Option 4 payment was based on the school's PEIMS report.

PEIMS — or Public Education Information Management Systems — gathers information about schools across the state, including fall and spring student counts and budget information.

Baxter publicly announced the good news following a nearly two hour executive session during the board's regular meeting Thursday night.

At that meeting, the board approved the 1996-97 school calendar, the transfer of two ninth grade students from Pampa ISD, officially set the board election for May 4, appointed Baxter and business manager Pat Seeley election judges, tabled a bid on school property by city utility superintendent Mark Kimbley and set its next meeting for March 5.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

OWENS, Edith P. Gutlaie — 1 p.m., Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

PENDLETON, Ruby - 3 p.m., Church of Christ, Wheeler.

REEVES, Chet L. Jr. — Memorial services, 3 p.m. MST, Santa Fe Funeral Options and Memorial Garden, Santa Fe, N.M.

Obituaries

RUBY PENDLETON

WHEELER - Ruby Pendleton, 92, died Thursday, Feb. 15, 1996, at St. Anthony's Hospice in Amarillo. Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday in the Wheeler Church of Christ with Bill Morrison, minister, officiating. Burial will be in the Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Pendleton was born Dec. 23, 1903, at Aubrey, Texas. She moved from Wellington to Wheeler in 1916 with her family. She married Olin W. Pendleton on Jan. 1, 1922, at Wheeler; he died in 1986. She was a homemaker and a former member of the Wheeler County Home Demonstration Club. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include four sons, Lowell Pendleton and Carroll Pendleton, both of Stinnett, Olin W. Pendleton Jr. of Grand Prairie and Charles Ray Pendleton of Wellington; 16 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

FRANK B. SKIDMORE

Frank B. Skidmore, 71, of Pampa, died Thursday, Feb. 15, at the Veteran's Hospital in Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Skidmore was born Oct. 27, 1924, in Tillman County, Okla. He married Lavonia Skidmore; she died in October of 1995. He owned the Pampa Auto Center since 1959. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in World War II.

Survivors include five children.

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 is chopped beef, green beans, squash, bread and dessert.

COMMUNITY CONCERT BRUNCH

The Pampa Community Concert Association will open its membership campaign for the 1996-97 concert season with a 10 a.m. brunch Saturday, Feb. 17, at First Baptist Church. Concerts will include the Saint Lawrence String Quartet classical music program; the Kevin Roth pop and jazz concert; Tian Jiang's piano concert; and the toe-tapping rhythms and dances of Rhythm in Shoes. For information, call (806) 665-0343.

Ambulance

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

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

1:03 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1000 block of East Francis on a medical assist and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.

2:16 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Coronado Hospital for a patient transfer to High Plains Baptist Hospital.

10:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of North Somerville on a medical assist. No patient was transported.

Fires

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

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

11:34 a.m. — Two units and three personnel responded to Highway 60 and Loop 171 on a sanitation truck fire. No damage was reported to the truck.

Emergency numbers

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

Police report

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

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14

Burglary of a building was reported in the 500 block of Lowry at 2:10 p.m. Wednesday. Nothing was stolen.

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

An 18-year-old man was reported possibly missing from the 2000 block of Alcock.

Four windows and a plate glass window were reported broken in the 900 block of South Nelson. It occurred between Tuesday and Thursday and estimated damage is \$260.

Theft of a 1985 Chevrolet Z28 was reported in the 900 block of Rham. The car is valued at \$4,200.

Ten boxes of artist chalk valued at \$52.25 were reported stolen from Wilson Elementary School, 801 E. Browning, sometime between Monday and Thursday.

A barbecue pit valued at \$1,000 was reported stolen in the 700 block of South Gray.

Alcock, 1207 N. Hobart, reported theft under \$50 at 6:50 p.m. Thursday.

Arrest

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

Timothy Dail Pritchard, 25, was arrested in the 700 block of West Crawford on warrants alleging no valid driver's license and failure to appear.

Sheriff's Office

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

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

Violation of protective order was reported on US 60 west of Pampa.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of East Sixth in McLean.

Escape was reported from Gray County jail at 2:48 p.m. Thursday. The man was captured at Atchison and Frost.

Arrests

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

Charity Michelle Dewitt, 21, 201 N. Sumner, was arrested on Gray and Randall county warrants alleging theft by check. Her bond has not been set.

Kerrance R. Brown, 26, was returned to Gray County jail from Texas Department of Criminal Justice on a bench warrant.

Randall Wayne Anderson, 20, 744 E. Scott, was returned to Gray County jail from a TDCJ intermediate sanction facility.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents between Tuesday at 2 p.m. and today at 7 a.m.

TUESDAY, Feb. 13

2:14 p.m. — A 1988 Chrysler Fifth Avenue driven by Patsy Castleberry Bryant, 60, 457 Pitts, was in collision with an unoccupied 1978 Cordova owned by Johnny Fuller, 1024 S. Clark, in the 400 block of Pitts. Bryant was cited for backing without safety.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 14

3:55 p.m. — A 1992 Dodge Ram pickup driven by Eddy Gene Pickett, 17, 601 Davis, was in collision with an unoccupied 1971 Chevrolet LWB owned by Mary Ellen Elliott, 2227 Williston, in the 2200 block of Williston. Pickett was cited for failure to control speed and having an expired registration.

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

9 a.m. — A 1982 Mercury Marquis driven by Nell Swinford Foster, 70, 714 E. Kingsmill, was in collision with a 1991 Ford Escort driven by Adriana Estrada, 17, 1916 N. Wells, at the intersection of Banks and 19th. Foster was cited for failure to yield right of way at a yield sign.

11:58 a.m. — A 1989 Ford Mustang driven by Bertha Alicia Silva, 16, 641 N. Faulkner, was in collision with a 1986 Subaru GL driven by Zachary D. Ward, 16, 1106 Charles, at the intersection of Kentucky and Russell. Silva was cited for failure to yield right of way at a stop sign.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.

Wheat.....	5.17	
Milo.....	6.35	
Corn.....	6.90	

The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of completion.

Nowco.....	13 3/4	NC
Occidental.....	25 5/8	dn 3/8

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of completion.

Magellan.....	87.96	
Puritan.....	17.59	

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

Amoco.....	71	NC
Arco.....	114 3/8	dn 3/8
Cabot.....	59 3/4	dn 1/4
Cabot O&G.....	15 7/8	dn 1/8

Chevron.....	55 3/4	dn 1/4
Coca-Cola.....	80 1/2	dn 1/4
Columbia/HCA.....	54 7/8	dn 1/8
Diamond Sham.....	30 3/4	up 3/8
Enron.....	38 7/8	dn 1/8
Halliburton.....	53 3/4	dn 1/8
Ingersoll Rand.....	40 1/2	dn 3/8
KNE.....	30 1/2	NC
Kerr-McGee.....	62 3/4	dn 7/8
Limited.....	17 1/8	dn 1/8
Mapco.....	56 1/4	dn 3/8
McDonald's.....	50 5/8	dn 3/8
Mobil.....	113 3/4	dn 1 1/4
New Atmos.....	22 1/4	dn 1/8
Parker & Parsley.....	21 7/8	dn 1/4
Phillips.....	47 3/4	dn 5/8
SLB.....	74	dn 1 1/8
SPS.....	33 1/8	dn 1/8
Tenneco.....	53 7/8	dn 1/2
Texas.....	80 1/2	dn 1 1/4
Wal-Mart.....	21 5/8	up 1/8
New York Gold.....	403.70	
Silver.....	5.63	
West Texas Crude.....	19.04	

Protesters to end oil blockades

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (AP) — Peasants lifted blockades at 64 oil installations today, ending 2 1/2 weeks of protests that disrupted oil production in the southern state of Tabasco.

The end of the protest came as leaders of the leftist Democratic Revolution Party sat down with government officials in Mexico City to discuss the demands that led their followers to block oil wells and other facilities in the Gulf Coast state.

The protesters have accused the government oil monopoly Petroleos Mexicanos, known as Pemex, of polluting their fishing waters and farmlands with oil spills and acid rains.

Pemex denies the accusations and says it has paid millions of dollars to drill in the region and compensate for unavoidable environmental damage. The government oil monopoly has said the demonstrations were politically motivated.

The Democratic Revolution Party had hoped the protests would help it win concessions from the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, which it accuses of irregularities in elections last year.

One key demand at today's talks in Mexico City is the release of 109 people jailed in the protests, most of them members of the opposition party.

Officials have worried that the protests in Tabasco could affect Mexico's ability to sell oil on the international market.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

PISD

McVay said 1995 insurance premiums totaled between \$82,000 and \$83,000.

- Accepted bids on computer equipment for use when needed during the year.

- Accepted a bid for asbestos remediation at Pampa Middle School totaling \$34,900 from Asbestos Maintenance Services Inc., Borger. The boilers and steam piping at PMS were coated with asbestos when installed in 1958. The six to seven day job will be completed at the end of February.

- Accepted bids for a variety of fall sports equipment.

- Voted to continue membership in the West Texas Food Service Cooperative.

- Authorized development of a district technology plan.

- Joined the Panhandle Information Network.

In other board business, a 45-minute executive session was held with Ray Velasquez. The agenda listed the session as a citizen complaint against the superintendent.

Following the session, Trustee Jim Baker made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Phil Vanderpool to deny the claim made in the complaint.

Executive sessions are not open to the public.

Bill King seeking post of Precinct 4 constable

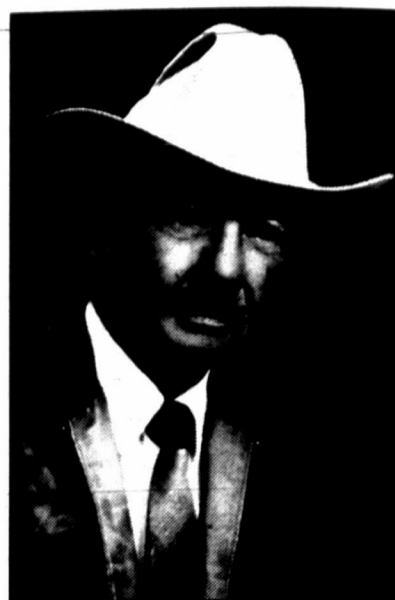
W. H. "Bill" King, a former police officer and deputy sheriff, is running for the office of constable, Precinct 4, as a Republican.

King grew up southeast of McLean in the Dozier/Abra community. He is a graduate of Samnorwood High School and attended Clarendon College.

He worked as a police officer in Shamrock, Perryton and Guyton, Okla. He was a deputy in Donley, Carson and Gray counties. He is now a reserve deputy in Donley County and holds advance certification from Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.

King moved to Pampa in 1974 where he owned and operated Kirby Sales and Service for several years and AAA Pawnshop for 10 years. He now works as an independent agent for Kirby Sales.

He is married to Kay King and they are the parents of



W.H. 'Bill' King

Duane King, a junior at Pampa High School.

Precinct 4 includes the city of Pampa north of Browning and east of Duncan, plus the McLean area.

Panhandle cattle industry pins its hopes on new committee

AMARILLO (AP) — Feed yard operators in the Texas Panhandle are hoping that a new committee can clarify how the nation's mega-meatpackers do business.

The committee's 21 members include Amarillo grain merchant Ed Laur and Phil Weaver of Fort Worth, vice president for agricultural commodities for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

The chairman is Dan Padberg, who retired last year from the department of agriculture economics at Texas A&M University and now lives in Florida.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman on Wednesday announced that the panel will look at whether the dwindling number of companies that buy and slaughter livestock poses a threat to the livelihood of ranchers and independent farmers.

"It is an issue of tremendous concern to all producers in the cattle business," said Burt Rutherford, spokesman for the Texas Cattle Feeders Association in Amarillo. "Getting your arms around it is not an easy task."

Texas A&M contributed research on cattle price determination to a study Glickman released Wednesday. The study, ordered by Congress, examines the concentration of the meatpacking industry within a few big companies.

Although the report concluded that four companies controlled 82 percent of the cattle slaughter in

1994, its authors could not measure whether the big meatpackers can influence prices.

Three of those four top companies have plants in the Texas Panhandle: IBP Inc. in Amarillo, Montfort Inc. near Dumas and Excel Corp. in Plainview and Friona. The region — home to 13 plants that slaughtered about 5 million cattle in 1994 — markets itself as the cattle-feeding capital of the world.

Padberg said the initial data are complex and warrant further research.

"I think that they haven't documented very much of an indication that farmers have been adversely affected," Padberg said Thursday.

"It was sort of a controversial finding because I think producers all over the country are anxious about the high concentration in the meatpacking industry and want to find a way to deal with that."

Concerns by cattle raisers are legitimate given the current slump in cattle prices, he said.

This latest study examined the market from April 1992 to March 1993.

"We've seen some things happen in the market in 1994 and 1995 that would probably be interesting to look at as well," Rutherford said.

The committee plans at least four public hearings before making a report in June.

Liz says she'll never marry again

NEW YORK (AP) — Caterers and banquet hall owners, brace yourselves: Elizabeth Taylor says she will never wed again.

"Oh God, no!" the eight-time bride says in a March issue of *USA Weekend* magazine. "I would never, ever get married again."

Taylor, 63, announced last

week that she was divorcing her latest husband, Larry Fortensky. Taylor told the magazine that she takes the blame for their split after 4 1/2 years of marriage.

"The pressures of being married to me were hard for Larry," she said. "I don't blame him for anything."

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Clear tonight with a low near 30 and south winds 5-15 mph.

Saturday, sunny and warm with a high near 70. West winds 5-15 mph switching to the northeast in the afternoon. Sunday, partly cloudy with a high near 70.

Thursday's high was 55; the overnight low was 16.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Panhandle: Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in mid 20s to around 30. Saturday, mostly sunny and warmer.

Highs in low to mid 60s north and mid to upper 60s south. Saturday night, fair. Lows in

upper 20s to low 30s. South Plains: Tonight, fair. Lows 30-35. Saturday, sunny and warmer.

Highs 70-75. Saturday night, clear. Lows in low to mid 30s.

North Texas — Tonight, clear. Lows 20s east to 30s west. Saturday, sunny and warm.

Highs near 70 west to near 60 northeast.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, clear and cold. Lows near 30 Hill Country, 30s south central.

Saturday, mostly sunny and warmer. Highs in the 70s. Upper Coast: Tonight, clear and cold.

Lows in the 20s inland, 40s immediate coast. Saturday, mostly sunny and warmer. Highs in

the 60s. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, clear and cold. Lows near freezing inland to near 40 coast. Saturday, partly cloudy and warmer.

Highs in the 60s to near 70.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight, variable high clouds. Lows mid teens and 20s mountains, 20s and 30s elsewhere. Saturday, mostly sunny and warmer.

Highs mid 50s and 60s mountains and northwest with mid 60s to near 80 east and south.

Oklahoma — Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the 20s. Saturday, mostly sunny and warmer. Highs in upper 50s to mid 60s.

Nevada, Delaware see strongest personal income growth

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two states at opposite ends of the country — Nevada and Delaware — enjoyed the fastest growth in personal incomes last summer, while residents of Hawaii hardly saw any improvement.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that incomes grew 2.27 percent in Nevada and 2.26 percent in Delaware during the July-September quarter, compared with the previous three months.

Incomes edged up a barely perceptible 0.3 percent in Hawaii, the only state with growth less

than the 0.5 percent increase in consumer inflation as measured by the department's Bureau of Economic Analysis.

For the nation, personal income increased 1.2 percent in the July-September quarter, little changed from the 1.1 percent gain from April through June.

Regionally, the strongest growth was in the Southwest and Rocky Mountain region, up 1.7 percent and 1.6 percent respectively. The Far West including Hawaii posted the slowest growth, 1 percent.

Seven of the 12 fastest growing states were located in the Southwest and Rockies — Utah, where incomes rose 2 percent; Arizona, up 1.9 percent; Oklahoma, 1.8 percent; and Texas, Montana, New Mexico and Colorado, 1.6 percent each.

Besides Nevada and Delaware, the other fast-growing states were Florida, 1.7 percent, and Oregon and Louisiana, 1.6 percent each. In addition to Hawaii, other slow-growing states were North Carolina, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

City briefs

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Governor urges board to approve charters

By PEGGY FIKAC
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush is pushing the State Board of Education to approve the first applications it has received for charter schools, a key part of the education overhaul he championed to loosen state control.

"Now is not the time to second-guess. Now is the time to be bold, to encourage creativity we fought so hard for," Bush, who had not reviewed the eight applications from around Texas, told the board Thursday.

"We may not always agree with what communities are trying to do. But Senate Bill 1 (the education overhaul) said they could try new ways. And ladies and gentlemen, we must let them," he said.

The education board is scheduled to vote today on the so-called open enrollment charter schools, which would operate independently of school districts and may enroll students regardless of district lines.

The open-enrollment charters are separate from campus charters, which may be granted by school boards.

Only 20 open-enrollment charters are allowed under the education law. The publicly funded schools will be free of many state requirements, including class-size requirements.

The largest number of applications so far have come from the Houston area, with three. Others

are for campuses in Irving, Austin, the Rio Grande Valley and East Texas, at Caddo Lake.

A number of the nonprofit organizations that submitted applications say they will serve students who are at risk for dropping out and economically disadvantaged.

One, in Houston, is designed to serve the children of people who work at the Texas Medical Center.

Bush said he didn't urge the board's favorable vote because he'd heard members might oppose the charter applications. "I don't have any indication of any vote whatsoever," he said.

He told board members, "These applications are a great sign. You all ought to welcome them. You ought to see them as an opportunity, not as an obstacle. ... We should not be afraid of encouraging competition within the confines of our public school districts."

The board applauded his speech, which also included a pitch for improving reading.

Asked whether he had looked over the applications before urging their passage, Bush said he was aware of some of them.

"I have not reviewed them, and you wouldn't want the governor to do this. This is an application to the State Board of Education. ... I love the idea of citizens coming together and saying we think we can do a better job. It is healthy for educators to hear that message."

Hyakutake to appear in spring, expected to rival Halley's Comet

FORT WORTH (AP) — The most recently discovered comet, Hyakutake, is expected to make a spectacular appearance over Texas in early spring, and the director of a Fort Worth museum is trying to get ready for it.

Don Garland, director of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History's Noble Planetarium, says the comet may outshine the 1986 visit of Halley's Comet.

"If there is any appreciable tail at all, it should be a very spectacular object," Garland said. "It is still questionable what kind of tail it will have, if any at all."

Astronomers expect the comet Hyakutake to be as bright as some of the sky's brightest stars and think it will be visible on some nights without the aid of a telescope.

It will be flying closer to Earth than most recent comets — within 10 million miles. Because this will be its first swing close to the sun, it is expected that there will be plenty of loose ice crystals to melt

away to form the tail. And in late March, it will appear higher in the sky than Halley's comet, which is expected to make viewing easier.

Garland predicts that the best viewing will be about March 30, although the comet will probably be visible for a week or two before and after.

The museum has tentatively set up a public viewing session the night of March 30 on the museum's front lawn. The comet is expected to appear 25 to 30 degrees above the horizon in the northwestern sky shortly after the 6:46 p.m. sunset. By 7:30 to 8 p.m., it should be easily visible, Garland said.

Its arrival coincides with the planetarium show "Collisions," which is about comets, asteroids and meteors.

Although it is supposed to be visible to the naked eye, binoculars will improve viewing, he said. Telescopes are not necessary, but some will be set up at the museum session.

FPC schedules Nurse Entrance Test

BORGER — The Frank Phillips College NET (Nurse Entrance Test) will be administered on Friday, Feb. 23.

The FPC Vocational Nursing Division is now accepting applications for the 1996-1997 academic year. Students must pass all three sections of the TASP test, or be TASP exempt, before acceptance. They must also pass the NET.

The NET is administered monthly on Fridays through March. The non-refundable \$15

test fee may be paid before or up to the test date. Space is limited; pre-registration is encouraged.

The classroom phase of the nursing program is conducted in Borger. Hospitals and other clinical sites are utilized in Borger, Dalhart, Dumas, Pampa, Perryton and Guyton.

To register or receive an application, call Marilyn Wood, director of the Nursing Division, at (806) 274-5311, Ext. 45, or come directly to Administration Room 36 on the FPC campus in Borger.



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Winners in the recent Travis Elementary science fair include: (front) Amy Youree, second grade; Jade Skinner, first grade; Jad McGuire, kindergarten; (second row) Colin Howard, third grade; Jennifer Jackson, third grade; Erin Winegeart, third grade; (third row) Mallory Gallagher, fourth grade; Bart Cathey, fourth grade; Zach Hucks, fourth grade; (back) Zach Windhorst, fifth grade; Kristi Farnum, fifth grade; and Amanda Lee, fifth grade.

Travis School names Science Fair winners

Travis Elementary science fair winners were recently announced.

Kindergarten — Jad McGuire, first; Jamie Ferguson, second; and Kyle Hargus, third.

First grade — Jade Skinner, first; Kasey Urquhart, second; and James Coffee, third.

Second grade — Amy Youree, first; Jordan Hugg, second; and Logan Baker, third.

Third grade — Mrs. Forister's class: Colin Howard, first; Michelle Evans,

second; and Christopher Moody, third.

Mrs. Wells' class: Jennifer Jackson, first; Joshua Cole, second; and Whitney Parker, third.

Mrs. Zemanek's class: Erin Winegeart, first; Krissa Galloway, second; and Ricky Gattis, third.

Fourth grade — Mrs. Laflin's class: Mallory Gallagher, first; Eugene Abernathy, second; and Cody Cook, third.

Mrs. Moore's class: Bart Cathey, first; Dennis Schuck, sec-

ond; and Kera Bruce, third.

Mrs. Watson's class: Zach Hucks, first; Abbi Covalt, second; and Ryan Carter, third.

Fifth grade — Mrs. Babcock's class: Amanda Lee, first; Tommy Abernathy, second; and Tera Carter, third.

Mrs. Lane's class: Kristi Farnum, first; Mollie Baker, second; and Joey Riley, third.

Mrs. Wyatt's class: Zach Windhorst, first; Michelle Haley, second; and Karissa Intemann, third.

Staffer's note touts psychic constituent's ability

WASHINGTON (AP) — Need help on a troublesome investigation? Texas Congressman Henry Bonilla has just the psychic for the job.

A letter on the San Antonio Republican's congressional stationery to the Federal Aviation Administration offered the services of an "experienced psychic consultant" who happens to be a constituent.

"I guess what you could say is the congressman's constituent service is out of this world," Bonilla's legislative director, Marc Lubin, joked Thursday.

Though bearing Bonilla's signature, the Jan. 18 letter was the

handiwork of "an overenthusiastic staffer — and it was not authorized," Lubin said. Bonilla never saw it, he added.

The letter, which has been eagerly circulated in Texas political circles, touted Garith Pendragon's willingness to offer his assistance to the FAA on "unresolved aircraft investigations."

For the past decade, Pendragon has "provided valuable assistance on criminal and murder cases, search and rescue operations, missing children cases, missing plane and vessel searches, and other cases which conventional

investigative means have failed to resolve," said the letter, first reported by *The Washington Post*.

In explanation of Pendragon's skills, the writer added: "He works by looking at relevant pictures, sketches, maps and physical objects. Images like these act as a sort of psychic fingerprint, thereby enabling him to access precisely the relevant information. It is this ability to work with images that enables Mr. Pendragon to obtain detailed information without visiting the site in question — even across great distances."

Gray County to offer peace officer course

A basic peace officer course will be offered in Gray County for the first time.

The 668-hour course will be offered by Amarillo College Criminal Justice Center in cooperation with Clarendon College and Gray County Sheriff's Office.

Successful completion of the course is the first step in becoming licensed as a peace officer in Texas, said Sheriff Randy Stubblefield.

It will also make one eligible to be a reserve peace officer, he said.

The school will primarily serve Gray and other eastern Panhandle counties and is the first time a

satellite academy has been developed, Stubblefield said.

The date and times of the academy have not been decided but inquiries have been received from Hansford, Donley, Wheeler and Hemphill counties, said Chief Deputy Charlie Morris.

Morris said he expects it to be offered at night or on weekends, or a combination of the two.

Gray County's academy will cost the same as the Amarillo program, yet save on travel and gasoline expenses, Stubblefield said.

Licensing requirements include having U.S. citizenship, being 21

years old or older, passing a criminal history check and comprehensive background investigation, having no driving while intoxicated convictions and no felony convictions, being of good moral character, being a high school graduate or a holder of a general equivalency diploma, passing a psychological exam, having an honorable military discharge (if applicable), meeting minimum training standards and passing a licensing exam.

A law enforcement agency must subsequently apply for the license for the applicant who passes the exam.

Protestors agree to end blockades

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (AP) — An opposition party agreed to end 2 1/2 weeks of blockades at Mexican oil wells that have decreased production and earnings of the state oil monopoly Petroleos Mexicanos.

The protesters will free access to 64 oil installations in Tabasco state by noon today, according to a statement Thursday from the Mexican Interior Ministry. In return, the government will suspend actions to evict protesters.

The protesters accuse the oil company, known as Pemex, of polluting their fishing waters and farmlands with oil spills and acid rains.

Pemex denies the accusations and says it has paid millions of dollars to drill in the region and compensate for unavoidable environmental damage. The government oil monopoly has said the demonstrations were politically motivated.

According to the statement, protesters and Pemex and government officials would meet today to discuss the protesters' demands. One key demand is the release of 109 people jailed in the protests, most of them members of the opposition party PRD.

Officials have worried that the protests in Tabasco could affect Mexico's ability to sell oil on the international market. Pemex reported last week it was losing about \$720,000 a day because of the protests. Its operations have continued undisturbed elsewhere in Mexico.

State briefs

250 attend auction to raise funds for troubled trail boss
FORT WORTH (AP) — An Oklahoma man was among those at a fund-raiser for the trail boss of last year's Great American Cattle Drive — even though he says James "Bud" McCasland still owes him \$600 in back pay and a \$3,000 bonus he promised him.

Will Millmore, who was hired as a cowboy to help drive a herd of 250 longhorn steers from Fort Worth to Miles City, Mont., drove in from Ardmore, Okla., to attend the benefit Thursday night in the Stockyards' Cowtown Coliseum.

"I want him to make enough to pay what he owes me," Millmore told the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

So it was that admirers and sworn enemies alike made up the 250 people who paid \$5 apiece and then participated in an auction whose proceeds were for a fund to help keep McCasland out of jail.

Immigration agencies' plans focus on deterrence

EL PASO (AP) — Deterrence will be the unifying rule for future strategies to counter illegal immigration, even though actual tactics may differ greatly, the nation's top immigration official says.

The tone has already been set by the Border Patrol's Rio Grande blockade — formally dubbed Operation Hold The Line — although that approach isn't necessarily expected to be duplicated elsewhere, said Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner.

"The long-term trends are very much exemplified by the Hold The Line operation," she said. "What we're looking for across the border is prevention."

Meissner made her comments Thursday during the Texas leg of a five-day tour of the border. She attended a morning briefing in El Paso and held a news conference in Austin. She was scheduled to be in Brownsville today.

Escapes raise questions about prison company

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A fiery riot by dozens of Missouri inmates this week in Crystal City and an escape by three Utah inmates in January in Frio County has the private firm that runs the two prisons under scrutiny.

But Dove Development Corp., the Greenville-based prison company, isn't answering many questions.

Meanwhile, the problems at Dove's institutions and other trouble with out-of-state inmates have prompted the chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice to call for state regulation of prisoner importing.

"I certainly feel it's in the public's interest that some regulatory body step in and oversee these prisoner transfers," said prison board chairman Allan Polunsky.

"I certainly do not want us to be housing inmates that are the worst of the worst in other states in Texas, particularly in facilities that are not designed to house those types of people," he said.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Viewpoints

THE PAMPA NEWS

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

Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Way and Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Texas Editorials

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal on farm subsidies:

Some farmers dislike it, but Congress does the right thing by moving to end farm subsidies. We may be witnessing the end of a support-happy era to enter one in which farmers produce more freely and more profitably for a world market.

For 60 years the nation has endured policies growing out of the Depression that, among other things, paid farmers not to plant certain crops and underwrote the production of others.

The historic changes voted in the Senate do not really go far enough, but some change is better than none. Compromises must be made when the House takes up its version of the farm bill upon Congress' return from recess Feb. 26.

The Senate's "Free to Farm" bill is intended to give farmers flexibility to accommodate market forces not only at home but abroad. Farmers for the first time would be taken out of a system that supports their income with direct payments whenever market prices drop to unprofitable levels.

Producers are thus supposed to be weaned off years of dependence on subsidies. They would be given fixed payments instead of subsidies based on fluctuating market prices; payments would gradually decline over the next seven years.

Farmers would gain flexibility over what crops they plant and how many acres they cultivate. The bill's backers say more land would be planted, meaning larger harvests and a rise in food exports if they are price-competitive.

The Senate bill unfortunately retains a high degree of protection for dairy and peanut and sugar producers. Those protections should be thoroughly debated in the House.

Washington currently lays out about \$11 billion a year in subsidies. Ending farm subsidies as we know them would benefit both farmers and consumers in the long run.

The Valley Morning Star on proposed farm bill:

By last summer, congressional Republicans, surprising some observers in that a number of influential farm-state congressmen had signed on, had come up with a reasonable farm bill. It would have abolished programs that pay landowners not to farm, eliminated price-support subsidies, and cut a number of unnecessary and costly regulations that reduce agricultural productivity without improving health or safety.

That bill was part of the omnibus balanced budget legislation vetoed by President Clinton in December. Instead of renewing their determination to reform or repeal failed farm policies, however, congressional Republicans started compromising with congressional Democrats.

The result is the bill passed by the Senate ... a bill that looks sweeping on the surface but does little to reduce federal involvement in agriculture when you see the details — and could actually cost taxpayers more for farm handouts than the old program.

There's an outside chance the House could do a little better, but not without serious prodding from reform forces.

The real story here is that free-market and consumer-oriented lobbying groups dropped the ball last year. They agreed to support a bill that helped, but should have been subject to criticism. When that was vetoed, they failed to squawk when congressional leaders gutted it during the subsequent deal-making process.

Your representatives

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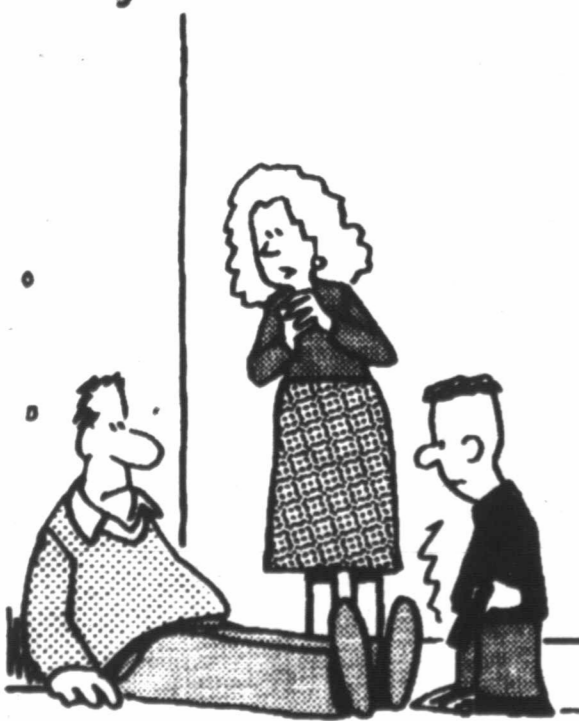
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Berry's World



"Oh, dear! I forgot to tell you — Johnny has poor communication skills."

Forbes shows political courage

When Steve Forbes first announced for the presidency, I wrote a dismissive column saying that economic optimism was not enough. I now regret those words.

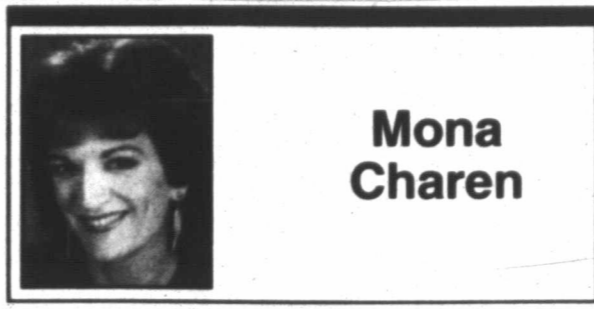
Watching the debate in Iowa, I was struck by the fact that Steve Forbes is proving to be an unexpectedly good candidate. When all of the prospective Republican nominees (except Dole, who was absent) were asked, "What part of the federal budget should not be cut?" virtually all of the supposedly conservative Republicans answered with words that would have made Hubert Humphrey swoon: "Social Security." Steve Forbes was the exception. He said Social Security for current recipients and for those who have made life plans in reliance on the program should not be cut. But, he continued, a more voluntary system should be phased for younger workers.

That is political courage. There is far more to Steve Forbes than money. Morry Taylor bought his way into the race as well, but he languishes, deservedly, at the bottom. With his Reaganite message of tax cuts, parental choice in education and term limits, Forbes is surging to the top.

And so, the chin pullers are asking: Is it really possible that a magazine editor could become president?

It is. A nation that gave 19 percent of its votes to Ross Perot might be even more willing to consider a non-politician who has the nomination of a major political party.

OK, say the doubters, but isn't he too narrowly focused on economic issues? No, the tax rate is a social issue. A \$5,000 per-child tax exemption (a feature of the flat tax) is a supremely powerful state-



Mona Charen

ment about the role of government and the importance of families. Rather than taxing away your income and then returning it to you in the form of programs, Forbes, like Reagan before him, believes profoundly that families will make better decisions about how to spend the money themselves.

It's the same with school choice. If the Forbes idea became the law of the land in 50 states, we would witness an educational renaissance, with small, private schools — many of them religiously inspired — sprouting everywhere. (When Lamar Alexander was secretary of education under George Bush, he thwarted efforts to achieve true choice.)

Forbes' pro-life credentials have been questioned because he does not favor a constitutional amendment banning abortion (though he would not insist that the Republican Party alter its platform). But let's take a closer look. He would outlaw all third-trimester abortions, partial-birth abortions and sex-selection abortions. He opposes federal funding of any kind for abortions. He endorses mandatory waiting periods and, as he likes to say, "as the father of five daughters,"

parental consent in the case of minors. Moreover, Forbes has said clearly that when it comes to picking Supreme Court justices, his model will be Antonin Scalia.

Now, consider the alternative: Bob Dole has made all of the right noises about a human-life amendment (which could not pass anyway) but has a track record of abandoning conservative positions in the name of deals. Who can say confidently that President Dole would appoint justices like Scalia? And, if Dole is elected and fails to put reliable justices on the high court, the pro-abortion majority would remain in place for several more decades.

Is Forbes soft on homosexuality? Some have guessed as much. But who can disagree with the statement "Compassion should not be confused with approval"? Forbes may not attack homosexuals with the unmixed glee some conservatives bring to the task, but he recognizes what's important. In fact, he signed a "marriage protection resolution," affirming that civil marriage, "the foundation of a healthy society," should remain reserved for "one man and one woman as husband and wife."

Pat Buchanan says the time has come for conservatives to unite behind one candidate. That's right. But the candidate ought not to be one, like Buchanan, who favors higher taxes (tariffs) and demands an industrial policy. It should be someone like Reagan, who understands how to promote economic growth, who wants to empower families by letting them keep more of what they earn and who can effectively make the case for school choice and limits on abortion.

At the moment, that someone seems to be Steve Forbes.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 1996. There are 319 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 16, 1862, during the Civil War, about 14,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered at Fort Donelson, Tenn. General Ulysses S. Grant's victory earned him the nickname, "Unconditional Surrender Grant."

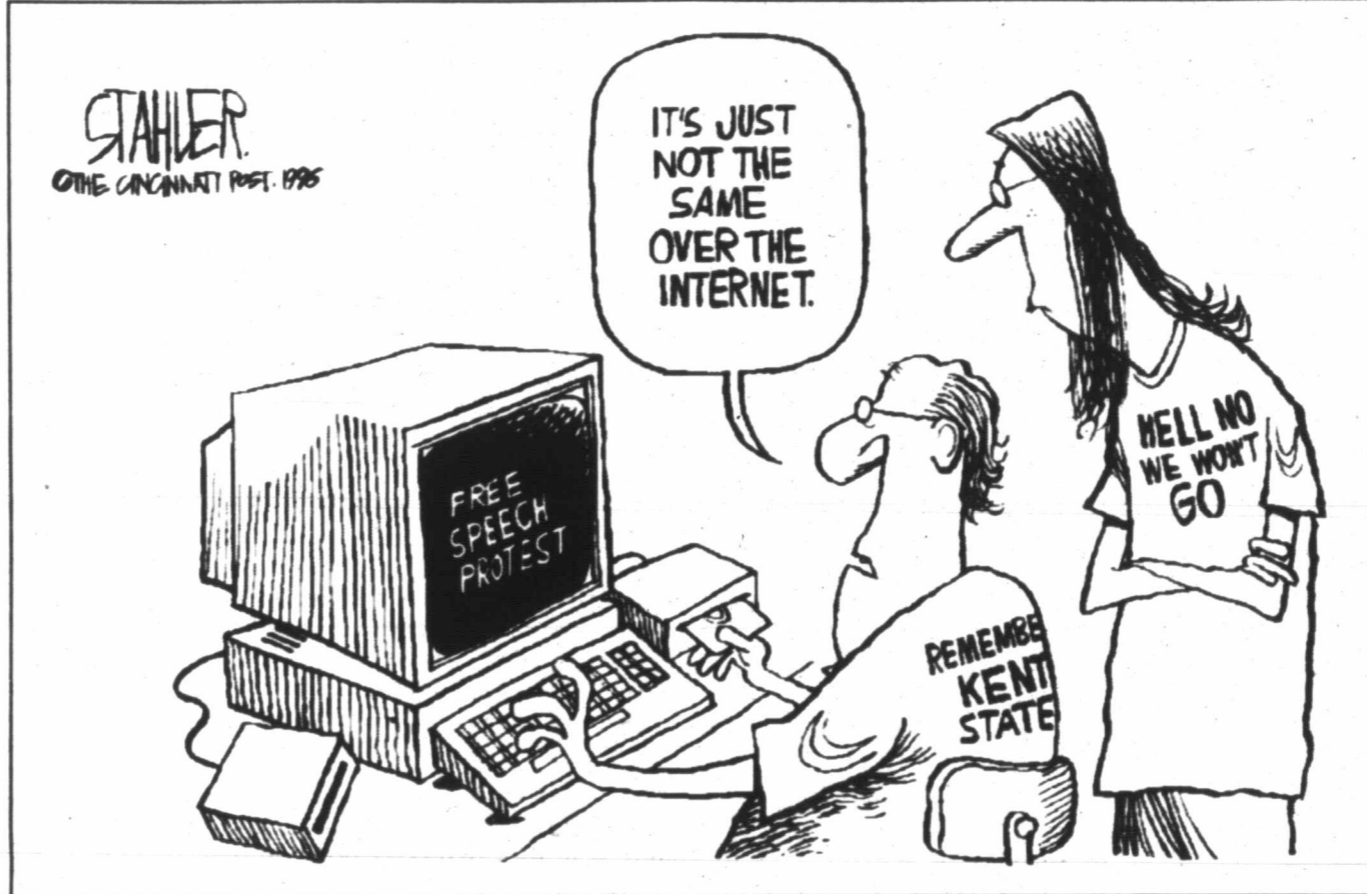
On this date:

In 1804, Lt. Stephen Decatur led a successful raid into Tripoli Harbor to burn the U.S. Navy frigate Philadelphia, which had fallen into the hands of pirates.

In 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was organized in New York City.

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt.

In 1937, Dr. Wallace H. Carothers, a research chemist for DuPont who invented nylon, received a patent for the synthetic fiber.



Nation's citizenry is not afraid to give

Oh, *The New York Times* telephoned Marvin Olasky all right. When you're preparing a story about private sector responses to welfare cutbacks, you call the author of *The Tragedy of American Compassion*.

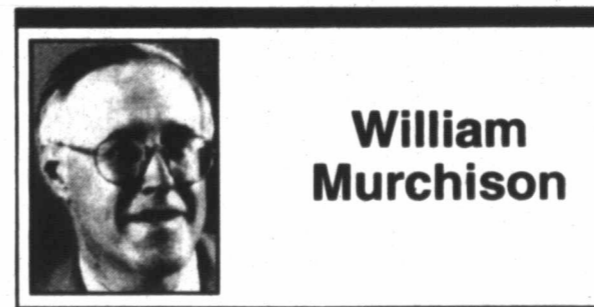
But the *Times* didn't quote Marvin Olasky. Unfortunately, instead, it published a long doom-and-gloom story about social services going to the devil if Congress cuts welfare spending sharply.

Olasky was in Dallas after the story came out, making a speech. He shook his head. He knows the media's ways. He labors in their vineyard — professor of journalism at the University of Texas, editor of *World* magazine, author, speaker. And he's an expert on what private charities can do when called on to do it, as was the case before Lyndon Johnson invented the welfare state.

According to the head of the New York Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, as quoted by the *Times*, "The Pollyanna-ish notion that churches will make up the difference (in spending) is not serious." Many private relief organizations get half their budgets from the government.

Welfarist thinking is firmly ingrained in Americans after 60 years. Despite \$5.4 trillion poured into anti-poverty programs since 1965, there are as many poor people as before. Defenders of the present system — "welfare as we know it," to quote Bill Clinton — are defending abject failure.

Can the private sector help? Perhaps only the private sector can help. Olasky says: "We had successful anti-poverty programs a century ago — successful because they embodied personal, mate-



William Murchison

rial and spiritual involvement and challenge."

And the secret of their success? Personal involvement with the poor. Compassion, to use a word politicians usually equate with the robbery of Peter for Paul's alleged benefit.

"In the 19th century," says Olasky, "volunteers opened their own homes to deserted women and orphan children. They offered employment to nomadic men who had abandoned hope and most human contact. Most significantly, our predecessors made moral demands on recipients of aid."

Olasky is for kindness and firmness both — for making charity recipients work, for distinguishing between the lazy and the truly helpless, for infusing religion into social service.

While one is listening to such sentiments, a confession bubbles to the lips. It all sounds so ... Victorian. There is about it the feel of mustache cups, the aroma of asafetida bags. Do people act that way anymore? Should we expect them to?

An advance copy of a Christian newspaper, the

Dallas/Fort Worth *Heritage*, comes to hand. There is a story about Sagamore Hills Baptist Church in Fort Worth: a largely white church in a largely minority neighborhood. The church raised \$35,000 to buy winter jackets for children at a nearby elementary school. Since then, it has formed a partnership arrangement with the school, helping with the purchase of books, sponsoring rewards for achievement and encouraging the students to learn basic academic skills.

The church also helps neighbors with property repairs, runs a Crisis Pregnancy Center and is gearing up to teach English as a second language along with basic financial skills.

Other churches, according to the article, perform similar services. People do "act that way," it would seem. They do reach out in love and compassion rather than in dumb obedience to Congress and the Internal Revenue Service. They do make a difference.

Enough of a difference to alleviate the *New York Times'* concern over pinching the social service oxygen tube? Not for a while, would be my guess. Bad moral habits, like dependence on government, are hard to break. Our government has taught us diligently: People are weak, government is strong. Just the reverse is true. People are strong where it counts — in moral understanding and charitable instinct — whereas government is, well, government. Devoted to political power above all other goods.

The *Times* needed to speak with Marvin Olasky. It needed, most of all, to listen as he talked.

Buchanan proves a strong challenger

Front-walking now, Sen. Bob Dole narrowly led the divided Republican field out of Iowa to face a surging challenge from Pat Buchanan and the revived Lamar Alexander.

Then there is Steve Forbes, outdistanced but hardly spent.

That sends them into "a big, big race" in New Hampshire next Tuesday, Dole said in claiming the Iowa caucus victory Monday night that was essential to his quest for the GOP nomination. He said he meant to celebrate another win next Tuesday.

To do it, and in anything like front-running style, he will have to fend off the energized conservative thrust of the Buchanan campaign, stronger than expected in Iowa. Dole won the precinct caucuses with 26 percent of the vote; Buchanan was close behind at 23 percent. And Alexander, third at 18 percent, was able to claim headway too.

Sen. Phil Gramm couldn't. He limped in behind Forbes, fifth, in a contest he once had said only three candidates could survive to run the rest of the race, now entering the six-week burst of balloting that likely will determine who runs against President Clinton on Nov. 5.

For that to be Dole, the Senate GOP leader first will have to fend off the intensive Buchanan drive in New Hampshire — the opening primary where the former White House wordsmith turned conservative commentator gained 37 percent of the vote against President Bush four years ago.

That's a percentage with a Dole footnote too. It



Walter Mears
AP Special Correspondent

was his share of the Iowa vote when then-Vice President Bush was embarrassed in the caucuses in 1988, only to turn it around and trounce Dole in New Hampshire.

Dole said in this campaign he'd withstood "a barrage of millions and millions and millions of dollars worth of negative advertising" to win in Iowa. He meant Forbes, self-financed, free to spend his own money in New Hampshire far beyond the limits the other candidates accept in order to gain federal campaign funds.

He won't say how much he's spent, only that it is less than Dole and Gramm have put into their campaigns so far. He said Monday that he'd always made clear that he would "spend what it takes to get my message" directly to the voters, and not a penny more. That's a lot; an estimated \$20 million-plus so far.

But it was the low-budget Buchanan who came closest to ambushing Dole. He said it was a victory for a political stranger "hard on the heels of Bob Dole in a state that he called his own." A week earlier, Buchanan had won preview caucuses in Louisiana, defeating Gramm in a state the other entries skipped.

New Hampshire is likely to prove more difficult

for Buchanan; his Iowa showing reflected the support and turnout of religious conservatives, not so influential a force in an open primary election.

For Alexander, the former Tennessee governor who argues that Dole's time has passed and that Buchanan's economic ideas are dead wrong, the Iowa showing reopened the possibility that he could yet emerge as the alternative near the Republican center. Claiming Iowa headway, he said it was time to look to the future, his standard, oblique reference to Dole's age, 72, and long tenure in Washington.

Iowa GOP leaders had forecast a record caucus turnout, but the numbers fell far short of it, about 100,000, well below one-fifth of the state's Republicans. State GOP Chairman Brian Kennedy said negative campaigning had led to a lack of enthusiasm, hardly cheerleading for his party's field.

And that could only hearthen the Democrats, with Clinton unopposed for his renomination. Sen. Christopher Dodd, the Democratic national chairman, said the Republicans "have absolutely disemboweled each other." Wishful political thinking at this point, for the sort of GOP strife Buchanan fueled with his call for a conservative holy war at the 1992 Republican convention.

For all of it, Iowa was only a preface. Jimmy Carter was the only winning nominee launched by the caucuses there. And since there's been a leadoff primary in New Hampshire, Clinton is the only candidate to capture the White House without winning it.

GOP debate anti-climactic, outcome unclear

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — The major contenders for the GOP presidential nomination came away from a high-stakes televised debate each proclaiming victory after lively exchanges on negative advertising, taxes, immigration and trade.

And, if there was no clear winner in the 90-minute exchange, no one stumbled in a big way, either.

"I've been shot at a lot tonight but I've been in combat before," Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole joked in the eight-man debate.

The candidates were going their separate ways today, crisscrossing New Hampshire in advance of next Tuesday's first-in-the-nation primary.

The duel, televised from WMUR-TV, featured sharp exchanges among Dole, Pat Buchanan, Steve Forbes and Lamar Alexander — and even some moments of humor.

At one point, Dole complained that Forbes' attacks against him didn't use very flattering pictures of him — and he passed his rival some snapshots and asked Forbes to use them next time.

"Better of me and my wife," Dole said, "and that's my little dog..."

Among the more serious subjects discussed, the candidates all sought to ease middle-income anxiety toward the economy and job security and promised to take a close look at restructuring the Social Security system.

Dole suggested that raising the retirement age might be necessary at some point. Forbes touted his own plan to allow younger workers to put some of their payroll deduction into private investments instead of government trust funds.

Some New Hampshire voters who watched the debate on television had mixed reviews. "I don't see a candidate here that I am comfortable with,"

said Abigail Beutler, 65, a Republican from Nashua. She was among seven New Hampshire Voters' Voice panelists who gathered to watch the debate, then critiqued the candidates' answers in a discussion with a moderator.

The debate showed what a difference a month has made. In a similar debate in Iowa last month, Forbes was the main target. This time, Forbes only got a few verbal pokes while his flat-tax plan was hardly mentioned at all. The most attention was on Dole; Buchanan, who finished a surprising second in the Iowa caucuses; and on Alexander, whom polls show is rising here.

Dole, his status as GOP front-runner now under siege, took jobs at both conservative columnist Buchanan and former Tennessee Gov. Alexander, whom polls shows was rising quickly.

"It's a two-man race today between Dole and Buchanan. Maybe it will become a three-man race

soon," said Bill Lacy, Dole's deputy campaign manager. Predictably, he pronounced Dole the victor in Thursday's match up.

Dole did not participate in a post debate "spin" session with reporters, but other candidates did — and all pronounced themselves satisfied with their performances.

"What I tried to do is act like a president," Alexander said.

"The debate went very well," Forbes said.

During the debate Forbes conceded he'd made a mistake in Iowa in relying so heavily on negative ads — then accused Dole of being a tax raiser and he raised ethical questions about Alexander.

In particular, Forbes questioned a lucrative 1981 deal with Gannett newspapers while Alexander was governor of Tennessee. In that instance, Alexander turned stock in *The Knoxville Journal* he obtained at no cost into nearly \$620,000.

ID badge project



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Recognized for contributions to the Local Emergency Planning Committee ID badge project were Dan Perez representing Coronado Hospital, Denver Bruner representing Pampa Independent School District, Curt Beck, Robert McDonald representing McLean, Steve Sutmman representing Trident, Eddie Joe Roberts (obscured) representing Lefors Fire Department, Hunter Chisum representing Hoechst Celanese and Benny Williams representing Cabot. LEPC members heard presentations by two siren warning systems companies Wednesday and Thursday.

World briefs I-69 advocates plan public relations effort

Court rules white school must admit black students

PRETORIA, South Africa

(AP) — A Supreme Court judge ruled today that a white school must admit three black students it had tried to bar, knocking down one of the most blatant challenges to the country's first constitution promising equal rights.

Judge Theo Spoelstra ruled that the Potgietersrus Primary School, an Afrikaner institution in a town 180 miles north of Johannesburg, must stop barring children because of "race, ethnic or social origin, culture, color or language."

The brief ruling, which Spoelstra handed down without reading aloud, said the three children of civil servant Alson Matukane must be permitted to attend the school. Spoelstra, who is white, also ordered the school board to pay all court costs, saying it "failed to establish that there was no unfair discrimination against the black children."

Attack of giant bananas: Germany kicks-off carnival

BEUEL, Germany (AP) —

Women masquerading as washerwomen stormed town hall waving 5-foot-long bananas. Some used comparably oversized scissors to trim men's ties. Men dressed as bears tried — and failed — to repel the assault. And everyone, male and female, swigged beer and schnapps, preferably out of baby bottles.

So began the Rhineland's carnival season, or what locals call the "five days of madness." On the first day: "Weiberfastnacht," or "Women's Carnival," an annual and proto-feminist ritual.

While Germany is known more for a love of rules than for a love of fun, inhibitions are cast to the wind when carnival comes around.

Communities all along the Rhine celebrate Women's Carnival. But the place to be is Beuel, where the festival originated nearly two centuries ago.

About 4,000 people crowded in front of Beuel's town hall on Thursday, waiting for the day's traditional denouement: the storming of the building by local residents dressed as washerwomen.

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — An Indiana group backing the proposed extension of Interstate 69 to the Mexico border thinks the project needs a little good press.

The Voices of I-69 announced Thursday that it will launch a yearlong public relations campaign to win popular backing for the project, which faces strong opposition from environmentalists.

"Our main concern in life presently is to make sure the extension of this highway is finally completed," Jim Newland, executive director of the Interstate Highway Coalition, said at a Statehouse news conference.

The campaign will include television and radio advertising, town meetings, and mailings to businesses and organizations.

Organizers said once people learn all of the facts about the extension, there should be little opposition to the project, which is still in the planning stages.

"Our goal is to inform people in order to gain the kind of citizen support that is needed to exert pressure on local, state and national lawmakers," said John Schwartz, executive director of The Voices for I-69.

Indiana has no existing U.S. highway directly connecting Evansville in the southwest corner of the state with Indianapolis.

I-69 begins north of Detroit at the Canadian border and cuts down south to the Mexico border.

A recent federal study concluded that it would cost more than \$1 billion to complete the extension in Indiana, but The Voices of I-69 officials say costs would be

offset by economic development in southwest Indiana.

"Unless this road is built, southwest Indiana will continue to stay in a no-growth syndrome," Newland said.

However, even without an I-69 extension, Toyota Motor Corp. recently selected the region for the location of a \$620 million pickup truck plant north of Evansville that will employ 1,300 workers beginning in 1998.

Voices of I-69 had barely finished speaking when the Hoosier Environmental Council reiterated its opposition to extending the freeway.

"From an environmental standpoint, the I-69 extension would destroy at least 4,000 acres of land directly," Jeff Stant, executive director of the state's largest environment group, said at a news conference.

Environmentalists want the government to upgrade U.S. 41 rather than build nearly 100 miles of new highway across wetlands, forests and porous geology that would do little to filter runoff water before it reached underground aquifers.

In southwest Indiana, the four-lane U.S. 41 connects Terre Haute and Evansville.

"(I-69) would pave over sensitive geologic areas of caves, sinkholes and springs—south of Bloomington, damaging groundwater systems and threatening endangered species," Stant said.

Schwartz downplayed the environmental concerns, saying "economic growth and the environment do coexist beautifully."

"The truth is, environmentally safe highways can be built," he said.

Escapée suspected in kidnapping

NEWTON, Texas (AP) — Police in Texas and Louisiana are searching for a prisoner who kidnapped a woman after escaping from a privately-run prison in Newton County.

Authorities believe Larry Earl Pagan, 32, of Hawaii, kidnapped 51-year-old Wilma Parnell on Thursday from her house near the Newton County Filyaw Correctional Center.

Powell said officials believe Pagan — convicted of terroristic threats, kidnapping and assault — waited for Mrs. Parnell's husband to go to work early Thursday and then broke into their house and forced her to drive him somewhere.

Mrs. Parnell's employers called authorities when she didn't show up for work, said Newton County Sheriff Wayne Powell.

City sets conference to explore diversity

LUBBOCK (AP) — Ugly occurrences that strain racial tensions have unfolded in recent years in Lubbock.

Now some ministers and city leaders say it's time to sit down and talk about it.

"We have been working on trying to improve relations between cultural groups," Mayor David Langston said. "The bishop and several pastors came to me frustrated that we just didn't seem to be making any progress."

So a committee was put together to find a way to help residents get over their fears and ignorances about other races. The panel's work culminates Saturday at a conference called "Weaving Community Through Dialogue: Celebrating Our Differences."

Organizers expect about 100 participants for what's thought to be the first seminar of its kind in Lubbock.

"I think the effort should be applauded and we should seek to obtain the broadest possible representation from every ethnic group, every civic club,

every business," Langston said. "The only way to truly weave community is to confront these problems (and) discuss them."

The city's racial makeup is 64 percent white, 24.8 percent Hispanic, 9 percent black, 1.9 percent Asian and .3 percent Native American.

Those who say Lubbock needs a social salve point to 1992, when some students at Texas Tech University put on Afro wigs and Hispanic gang outfits for a fraternity function called "Party in the Projects."

Someone in 1993 slipped a white bag over the head of the Will Rogers statue at Tech and ran a Confederate flag up the pole.

And two high-profile murder trials in 1995 involved victims shot because of the color of their skin.

Organizers of Saturday's conference say participants will listen to speakers at Cavazos Junior High School and then talk to each other in small groups. They hope greater sensitivity will result.

Square House Museum gets foundation grant

PANHANDLE — The Sid W. Richardson Foundation of Fort Worth has awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the Square House Museum in Panhandle.

In the award letter, Valleau Wilkie, the Foundation's executive director, informed the museum that the grant is "for general support of your program, and particularly the educational program that reaches out to students in a number of communities in your area."

The Foundation's emphasis on the Square House Museum is well placed, museum officials

said, since every year the museum is a destination for school groups, especially the fourth grades who visit as a part of their Texas history studies. In 1995, 2,000 students, representing 38 different schools, were given guided tours of the museum complex.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of the Square House Museum's educational program is its outreach program, in which James Hinkley, the museum's educator, takes trunks and other programs directly into the classrooms, museum officials said.

Last year Hinkley presented programs in 834 classrooms at 45 different schools, contacting 14,748 students and 982 of their teachers.

The grant from the Sid Richardson Foundation will support the continuation of this outreach program at its current high level of activity and excellence.

Other museum programs that will benefit include the annual Summer Youth Arts Program; the 20 exhibitions that are shown each year; and public programs such as "Trails and Rails in the Texas Panhandle" lecture series in March.

Discovery Center to present 'Through the Eyes of Hubble'

AMARILLO — The Don Harrington Discovery Center announces the opening of a new show, "Through the Eyes of Hubble."

This show will run March 9 through May 19. Show times are Saturday at 1 and 3 p.m. and Sunday at 2 and 3 p.m. Special spring break shows will be given at 3 p.m. March 12-15.

Admission is \$2 per person, and Discovery Center members will be admitted free.

"Through the Eyes of Hubble" is a new show produced by the Carnegie Science Center and the

Space Telescope Science Institute. The Hubble Space Telescope has provided a plethora of information that has resulted in breakthrough astronomical discoveries.

The audience will view recent Hubble images of solar systems forming, distant galaxies, the nearest supernova seen in over a century, last year's comet impact with Jupiter and more. "Through the Eyes of Hubble" is narrated by Gates McFadden, Dr. Beverly Crusher from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

Also showing in the planetarium is the ever-popular children's show, "The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket." This fun show is suitable for young family audiences. Two children are given a tour of the solar system by a library book. The graphics are simple in demonstrating what it would be like to visit other planets. "The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket" will be shown at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday.

For further information regarding planetarium shows, contact Christine Brunello at (806) 355-9548, Ext. 20.

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

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Religion

Religion briefs

DENVER (AP) — Colorado's prisons will be without formal spiritual guidance for at least another year.

The House State Affairs Committee voted 5-4 recently to reject a bill that would return chaplains to prison at a cost of \$300,000.

The money would have put nine chaplains in the prison system. The high cost was the reason lawmakers dissolved the prison program in 1993.

Rep. Phil Pankey, R-Littleton, asked why churches couldn't support prison chaplains as they do other missionaries.

"If we can send thousands of missionaries all over the world, why can't we do this?" he asked.

"The state is responsible for the security of the rest of us," replied Lucia Guzman, head of the Colorado Council of Churches. "It seems the state should be in greater partnership with the church."

CINCINNATI (AP) — Tourism officials are hoping the African Methodist Episcopal Church will bring as many as 20,000 people to the city for the organization's national convention in July 2000. "We're thrilled to death," Beth Charlton, spokeswoman for the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau, said after the AME's General Conference Commission made the recent decision.

The church's national conven-

tion this year will be June 21 through July 4 in Louisville, Ky. The convention convenes every four years.

BOSTON (AP) — Cindy O'Brien wiped tears from her cheek as the priest bowed, laid his hands on her head and said a silent prayer for Christ to cure her of the virus that causes AIDS.

"I'm overwhelmed," O'Brien said after the ceremony. "I feel my spirit healed and my flesh healed."

O'Brien was one of more than 150 people who attended a recent prayer service at South Boston's Cathedral of the Holy Cross for people with AIDS, their families and their caregivers.

Worshippers were asked to write in a "Book of Remembrance" the names of loved ones who had died of AIDS. A torn piece of notebook paper with 26 names had been slipped between two pages.

The laying on of hands was the centerpiece of the service, which was sponsored by the Archdiocese of Boston. About 15 clergy moved among three rows of people - some who suffered from illnesses other than AIDS - and offered a healing prayer.

"It's people coming together to pray. It's a support," said Fred Sarno, a Canton resident who said he lost a friend to AIDS one week ago. "As Christians, we believe God is a healer and the priests are the ministers."

Church for deaf breaking sound barriers

By RON WILSON
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO — Imagine going to a church where Scripture says people like you are demon-possessed.

Where members say you are welcome, but don't take time to learn to say "hello" in your language.

Where you have to sit by yourself near an interpreter who's so slow you miss half the service.

That's what many deaf people face every Sunday.

The San Antonio Deaf Baptist Church is out to change that.

"There's no way to fully integrate deaf people into a hearing church," the Rev. Brance Long, church pastor, said through an interpreter.

At this church, he said, there is no language barrier.

All services are conducted in American Sign Language. Long speaks fluent ASL. So does the song leader. So do the church leaders. That's because they're all deaf. Yet the service is anything but silent.

It is translated into English. And some of the songs, written by deaf people, are accompanied by the beat of a bass drum.

That lets the deaf "feel" the song and helps them meditate on its meaning, said English translator Joann Warren.

Though a visitor may be surprised to hear ASL translated into

English, the reason is simple, Long said.

The deaf have suffered language oppression too long to practice it against the hearing.

Though some churches have deaf ministries, "cultural barriers" make them unappealing to the deaf.

"Deaf people think church is a hearing-culture function," he said. "They don't feel a sense of connectedness to that."

When they hear the Bible story of the deaf mute possessed by a demon, Long said, they bristle and say, "So you think I'm possessed by a demon because I'm deaf?"

Also, "It's rare that you'll go to a church where there's an interpreter with phenomenal skills ... who understands deaf culture."

That results in information transfer so slow it's a waste of time.

"That's why many well-educated deaf people don't go to church."

These cultural barriers, Long said, give his church a unique role in reaching the deaf.

The use of mass media is of little value, he said, so the church stresses lifestyle evangelism, living God's love day to day so that others notice the difference.

One-on-one witnessing is key. Because many deaf feel that Christianity is a hearing-culture, English-language, Eurocentric phenomenon, Long said the

church emphasizes that God is spirit and speaks to everyone in a unique way.

Warren, whose 15-year-old daughter is deaf, agreed. When her daughter was young, she asked, "When I go to heaven, will Jesus know sign language?"

"I said, 'Of course he will. Absolutely. God is spirit. In heaven, everyone can hear.'"

But presenting God's word to the deaf has its own challenges.

For example, he said, idioms simply don't translate well into ASL, a highly literal language.

Jesus' parables, however, do. "(They) present theological concepts in pictures. (They) are a wonderful segue into ASL."

And though some Bible passages may appear to slam the deaf, others have a special meaning such as Mark 7:31-37, where Jesus heals the deaf man.

"Jesus communicated gesturally to this person," Long said.

"Before he did anything, he made sure this deaf person knew what was going on."

"And when Jesus said 'Be open' ... it's not just the ears, it was all the other things incorporated in the experience of the deaf person" that were opened.

Long said he became a Christian when he was 17 a frustrated high school student who started running with the wrong crowd.

He heard God's call to the ministry when he was in college.

Though he was doing well good grades and good friends he was unhappy and had started drinking again.

One night, he said, he knelt in prayer and turned his life over to God. The very next day, a friend came by with an application to be a summer missionary.

Long, a bivocational pastor, works full time as a lab technician in the interpretation training program at San Antonio College.

He has completed two years of his theological training; a major feat for a father of two with two jobs.

The church holds its main service 11 a.m. Sunday at Trinity Baptist's Thrift Chapel.

Long has nothing but praise for his church's sponsors: Trinity, which has allowed his church full autonomy, and the San Antonio Baptist Association, where he's treated as a peer, not a stepchild.

Though things are going well, Long has a vision for his church. He wants to move into new quarters where it can grow, where it will be fully independent and self-sufficient.

And he wants to reach the core of the deaf community which may number 34,000.

But with less than 50 active church members, "the harvest is great, but the workers are few."

For now, the church is waiting of God's guidance, and planning its 10-year anniversary celebration, which begins Feb. 29 with a revival and banquet.

Pastors invited to Promise Keepers luncheon Feb. 23

Area pastors and their spouses will be treated to lunch and testimonies fellow clergy at a Promise Keepers pastors' appreciation luncheon scheduled for Feb. 23, announced Pat Davis, co-chair of the Amarillo Area Task Force.

The luncheon is set for 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Harold Smith Auditorium of High Plains Baptist Hospital, 1600 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo.

The program will include testi-

monies from several area pastors who attend the Promise Keepers National Pastors Conference, "Fan the Flame," which was held this week in Atlanta. Some 40-plus clergy from the Amarillo area were scheduled to attend the conference, according to Davis.

Though meals are complimentary, pastors should make reservations by Feb. 19 by calling the office of Trinity Baptist Church (806) 372-2421.

Fast food communion package draws mixed reviews

FORT WORTH (AP) — The reviews from the clergy are mixed, but the inventor of pre-packaged Communion grape juice and wafers says the idea came from God.

"I know some are calling it fast-food Communion," said Jim Johnson, president of Compak Corp. of Chicago.

"I hate to be presumptuous, but I believe the idea came to me from God," he said.

Some critics have called it a "Lunchables-style" wafer and cup.

As the priest or pastor says "the blood of Jesus Christ," worshippers can peel off the top of a hermetically sealed cup and drink the grape juice. A flip-top plastic section atop the cup contains an unleavened wafer.

Theological questions might develop, he acknowledged, about whether the symbolic bread and wine can be blessed

through plastic.

But Johnson said it's a reverent attempt to preserve the practice while offering a safe and hygienic way for large groups to observe Communion.

Johnson said the project has been about five years in the making.

Cups, which cost about 10 cents each, are sealed without touching human hands, and the shelf life of the product is more than a year, Johnson said.

The pre-packaged Communion cups was used Thursday night when about 40,000 clergy will observe Communion at a Promise Keepers rally in Atlanta's Georgia Dome.

Although many Protestants and some Roman Catholics have endorsed the innovation, the Rev. Samuel Edwards, executive director of the Episcopal Synod of America, said prepackaging trivializes the liturgy.

March for Jesus organized

Plans are underway for the 1996 March for Jesus in Pampa.

The march is set for May 25, according to co-coordinator Jan Edmondson.

March information will be sent to area pastors next week, Edmondson said.

Individuals may receive information from their church or by contacting Edmondson or co-coordinator Ann Crow at 669-6582 or 665-2431.

"This will be our 4th year for this glorious praise and worship event in Pampa," said Crow.

Organizers say the March for Jesus is not a protest, not politically motivated and there is no hidden agenda.

"We come together joyfully to extravagantly celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ and pray for the cities and nation. March for Jesus is entirely for Jesus," Crow said.

Lenten services begin Wednesday

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 727 W. Browning, is host for this year's Lenten meditations at noon beginning Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21 and continuing each Wednesday at noon through March 27.

The Rev. Jake Clemmens, rector of St. Matthew's and the Rev. Ed Cooley, pastor of First Presbyterian

Church, will officiate. Ash Wednesday on Feb. 21 will be observed at St. Matthew's with the imposition of ashes at noon and 7 p.m.

Meditations, followed by a light meal in the parish hall, begin with Ash Wednesday and continue Feb. 28, March 6, 13, 20 and 27.

Fellowship breakfast set for Saturday

Macedonia First Baptist Church, 441 Elm, will host its monthly fellowship breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday.

The menu includes pancakes, toast, eggs, sausage or bacon,

juice and coffee. The Rev. I.L. Patrick and church family invite the public to the breakfast. Donations accepted. For more information call 665-4936.

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DEAR ABBY: My son (if he is still alive) will soon be 33. We have not heard from him in nearly five years. The pain of not knowing if he is OK is nearly unbearable. Sometimes I still break down and cry.

Nothing happens in our family that cannot be forgiven. I long to see his face or to hear his voice again. I have been to a counselor. I bought a book on finding lost people. I checked with the police for his driver's license, etc. I do not know where else to turn.

Last Christmas, I shopped for a needy child. It helped, but my heart is still heavy when I think of my son.

Now, when the subject of children comes up, I just tell the truth and say, "He left five years ago and I don't know whether he's alive or dead." Abby, it's painful to think about him.

I urge those who have separated themselves from their families to get in touch with them. You need not say where you are. You may think your family stops caring after a while, but that's not so. I'll never stop hoping. And I'll never stop hoping. In fact, sign me...

HURTING AND HOPING,
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

DEAR HURTING: I'm hopeful your son will read your letter, recognize himself and contact you. Companies that perform computer search services may be able to locate your son. (They are listed in the Yellow Pages under "Information Special-



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

ists, "Information Brokers" or "Searchers of Public Records.")

Meanwhile, continue helping others: Participate in a community program for children in need, volunteer to read to children or teach a children's class at the library. Most hospital nurseries need volunteers to comfort sick infants. God bless you. I wish you well.

DEAR ABBY: I was recently divorced and moved to Florida. In order to pay my mortgage, I work two jobs. This leaves me with very little time for maintenance or yard work. I was relieved when the weeds didn't overrun my yard as I had feared they would because of the climate.

Yesterday I made an unscheduled trip home in the middle of my workday. As I entered my driveway, I saw in a flash the reason why the weeds had not taken over my yard.

There was my 86-year-old neighbor on his hands and knees pulling my weeds!

Abby, I barely know this nice man and his wife, and yet here he was weeding my yard. He was very embarrassed to be caught in this anonymous act of kindness.

How's that for a terrific neighbor? MELISSA HANSEN, FORT MYERS, FLA.

DEAR MELISSA: Congratulations — you lucked out in the neighbor department. Does he have a brother who wants to move to California?

DEAR ABBY: A close friend of mine who now lives out of town stayed at my home the other night. She slept in the nude. When I asked her why, she told me it was healthier to sleep that way. Also, she sleeps better, and it's much more comfortable.

I have slept in the nude on a few occasions and would start doing it regularly if it is indeed healthier. Is it?

WONDERING IN SAN ANTONIO

DEAR WONDERING: If it has been proven that sleeping in the nude is healthier, I am not aware of it. The only possible advantage: There would be no pajamas or nightgowns to launder.

1758 Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You can gain fresh insights into something you have been viewing only from an intellectual level by using your intuition today.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) This could be a fortuitous period for you to launch a new endeavor. If you have a particular enterprise in mind, put the wheels in motion today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You can achieve career goals that may have seemed impossible before in this new cycle. Do not drag your feet.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Useful knowledge can be acquired today through life experiences and dealings with others. This special knowledge can be used later for a specific advantage.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your chart shows that you might achieve success in joint endeavors at this time if you deal with an individual who specializes in a certain area.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A situation will

develop and bring you closer to an old friend. Your collective efforts can produce mutual benefits.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you've contemplated a diet or exercise program, this will be a good day to start. Your chances of sticking to it are better than usual.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Do not despair if your love life hasn't been up-to-par lately. Cupid might have something very special in mind today that could make up for lost time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Constructive changes you've wanted to make in your basic lifestyle can be initiated today. Do not wait for outsiders to give you the go-ahead signal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You can enhance your probabilities for success by developing a concise plan. You will see results within the next few weeks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Financial trends will continue to look favorable. Start to hoe more rows and plant more seed, but don't expect an early harvest. Just keep nurturing the crop. ©1996 by NEA Inc.

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Sunday, Feb. 18, 1996

In the year ahead you could be more fortunate than usual in ventures or enterprises conceived independently. You must throw the switch and then let a surrogate take over.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) This will be a good time to disengage yourself from an unproductive involvement. Cut loose and let go without regrets. Replace it with a new endeavor. Aquarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box



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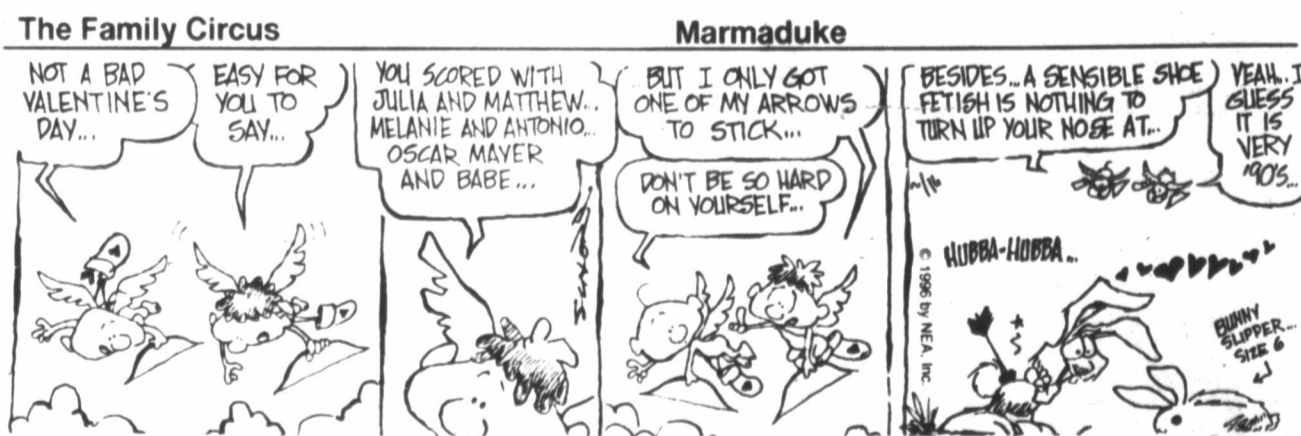
Mallard Filmore



"My name is Mommy, and I'll be your waitress."



"He's sitting there because you are sitting in his chair."



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts

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Sports

Notebook

RODEO

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Rodeo performer Jeremy Janous, who suffered a serious head injury last month while riding a bull in the Fort Worth Stock Show Rodeo, has begun therapy in Dallas to sharpen his short-term memory.

Janous, 22, who apparently has no recollection of the accident, was transferred Thursday to Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation.

The six-foot, 200-pound cowboy was atop the notorious bucking bull Gunslinger when he butted heads with the animal and was thrown to the arena floor during a matinee rodeo performance.

He suffered a depressed skull fracture, a crushed front thoracic vertebra and a fractured right collarbone, said family friend Steve Vancura, a radiologist in Killeen.

To keep his spine stable, Janous is expected to spend the next six months wearing a "tortoise shell" brace that fits his chest and back, Vancura said.

"He has a residual brain injury — nothing apparent in superficial conversation," Vancura said. "He's a little confused. There's a little improvement each day. Hopefully, he'll return in a couple weeks to be the old Jeremy."

FOOTBALL

RICHMOND, Texas (AP) — A tearful Felicia Moon told a detective that her husband, Minnesota quarterback Warren Moon, attacked her at their home.

Outside the presence of jurors, Mary Mann, a Missouri City detective who went to the Moons' house July 18, testified Felicia Moon named her husband as her assailant. Mann's statement, however, was rejected by Fort Bend County Court-At-Law Judge Larry Wagenbach after Moon's attorneys argued it was hearsay and had occurred too long after the incident to be admissible.

Felicia Moon has said she wants all charges dropped against her husband and has indicated she would not testify against him. Warren Moon faces a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine if convicted of the misdemeanor assault charge.

BASKETBALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Former NBA star Alex English was appointed interim executive director of the NBA Players Association while the union continues its search for a new leader.

A former president of the Players Association, English has served as the union's director of player programs since 1992. Charles Bennett, William Hunter and Bill Strickland remain in the running to replace Simon Gourdine, who was dismissed as executive director last month.

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Knicks forward Charles Oakley underwent surgery on his broken right thumb and is expected to be sidelined for six weeks. He was injured in Wednesday night's loss at Charlotte.

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey Nets guard Kendall Gill was scheduled to have surgery today to repair a fracture in his left hand. Gill, injured Wednesday night against Indiana, will be sidelined at least a month.

GOLF

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC, which has already locked up TV rights to the Olympics through 2008 and part of baseball through 2000, announced that it has the Ryder Cup and the PGA Seniors' Championship through 2005.

True to his word, Woodson remains a Cowboy

By JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas (AP) — For months, Darren Woodson told everyone free agency wasn't for him. He vowed to do anything to stay with the Dallas Cowboys. He even violated every rule of negotiations by making his wishes known to Cowboys owner Jerry Jones.

Agent Leigh Steinberg listened to his client and on Thursday made it a reality. An incredibly profitable one.

"The last three or four months, I told everyone I wasn't going anywhere," said Woodson, who signed a six-year, \$18 million deal that makes him the highest-paid safety in NFL history.

"Jerry and I have had conversations where I've told him I don't care what anybody else says, I'm not going anywhere. This is where I want to be. I stressed that to everyone."

Woodson was so sure because he'd seen several teammates decide they'd gotten their rings in Dallas and would cash in elsewhere. When they got to their new destinations, they realized they had made mistakes.

"I've talked to Alvin Harper and Ken Gant and they'll tell you the grass isn't greener on the other side," Woodson said.

"Believe me, Alvin wishes he was a Dallas Cowboy."

Sports are full of guys like Harper and Gant who'd love to stick with their teams, then end up bolting for bigger bottom lines, so it's obvious why people questioned whether Woodson would stay in Dallas.

But Woodson, in addition to being an All-Pro safety, is a man of his word. That's just another reason he's so popular with everyone who knows him. He's also a considerate, articulate, well-meaning person who seems to have life well in perspective at age 25.

He proved that twice Thursday, first in remaining a Cowboy, then by announcing how he's going to spend his newfound riches.

Woodson said he'll be establishing funds in his name to help improve conditions for underprivileged children in his hometown of Phoenix and in Dallas.

He said he'll target his old neighborhood, the Seventh Avenue projects in Phoenix, and he'll talk to teammate Kevin Williams about helping Dallas' South Oak Cliff, where Williams grew up and which he has remembered with his riches.

"I just want to let them know there's someone out there who cares for them," Woodson said.

Woodson's teammates showed how much they care for him by renegotiating their contracts to make room for him under the salary cap.

Team vice president Stephen Jones, who stayed up all night playing with numbers, adamantly refused to detail who gave how much, saying only, "There were several ... some were small amounts, some were bigger."

The result was Thursday's deal, which included a \$5.4 million signing bonus and made Woodson the NFL's third-richest defensive back. Only teammate Deion Sanders and Pittsburgh cornerback Rod Woodson have bigger deals.

Darren Woodson, who earned \$670,000 last season, has proved his worth since the Cowboys used a 1992 second-round pick to take him as a hard-hitting linebacker from Arizona State.

He became a key member of Dallas' nickel package as a rookie, became a starting safety in 1993, was an All-Pro the following year and returned to the Pro Bowl this past season.

Woodson is special because he's always in the right place at the right time, making big plays and usually doing so with big hits. He knocked Philadelphia quarterback Rodney Peete out of a NFC playoff game in January.

"We know what he's meant to the three Super Bowls we've won and we know what he means to our future," Jerry Jones said. "There was no way possible that we weren't going to do what it took to keep Darren Woodson."

It almost took making Woodson the team's franchise player. They had a 3 p.m. Thursday deadline to either re-sign him or stick him with that tag, something neither side wanted.

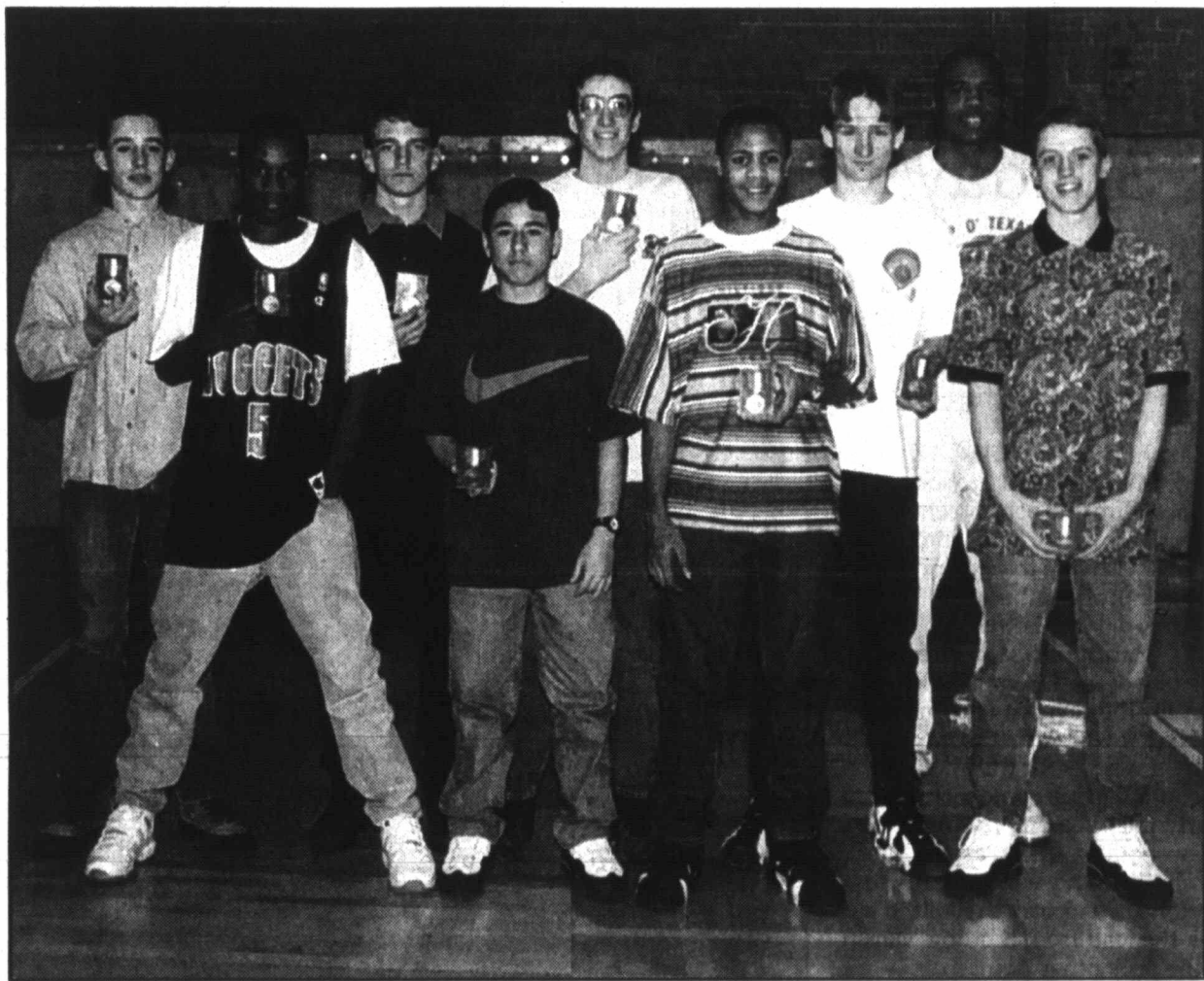
The deal was done mid-morning Thursday from high above the United States when Steinberg and the Joneses came to an agreement while negotiating over an airplane telephone.

"Darren looked at me right after the team won the Super Bowl and he said, 'Leigh, I don't know how we're going to do it, but I'm not leaving here,'" Steinberg said. "And, thanks to everyone up here, that dream came true."

Dallas has 21 more free agents, including high priorities such as cornerback Larry Brown, defensive tackle Russell Maryland, safety Brock Marion and all three starting linebackers.

The Cowboys increased their chances of keeping Marion and linebacker Darrin Smith by offering them Thursday qualifying offers of \$750,000, making them restricted free agents.

Freshmen champs



The Pampa freshmen boys' basketball team won both the district regular-season and district tournament titles this year. Team members are (front, l-r) Shawn Young, Leo Ramirez, Jemar Williams and Kyle Gamblin; (back row, l-r) Tre Stokes, Justin Roark, Zane Powers, Courtney Lowrance and head coach Troy Bell. Not pictured is Corey Sharp.

No. 1 UMass makes another comeback

By The Associated Press

For a team that always comes out ahead, No. 1 Massachusetts is sure falling behind an awful lot.

Marcus Camby and the Minutemen rallied again Thursday night, overcoming a 10-point deficit in the second half to beat La Salle 70-53.

Camby had a career-high 15 rebounds and scored 26 points. The Minutemen (24-0, 12-0 Atlantic 10) are the nation's only unbeaten team despite having trailed or been tied at halftime 10 times.

"You don't have to scream and yell at these guys. They know. But they keep learning that every time they don't play well, the other team is right there," coach John Calipari said.

Massachusetts clinched the conference's Eastern Division and earned the No. 1 seed in the league's postseason tournament.

In other games, No. 7 Utah topped Hawaii 69-59, No. 8 Wake Forest beat Maryland 85-78, No. 11 Purdue defeated Ohio State 63-55, No. 13 UCLA got past No. 18 Arizona 76-75, No. 20 Stanford beat Oregon State 65-50 and No. 24 Louisville held off North Carolina Charlotte 67-64.

After the game, the Minutemen boarded a bus to the airport for a charter flight to Blacksburg, Va., where they will play No. 10 Virginia Tech on Saturday in what may be their biggest remaining roadblock to a perfect season.

"I just told them, 'It's going to be a long trip to Virginia if we lose. Figure out how you're going to win,'" Calipari said of his halftime speech.

La Salle, a 26-point underdog coming off its worst loss in 50

COLLEGE HOOPS

years, used a 20-2 run to take a 28-20 lead at halftime. After the Explorers (5-19, 2-9) got the first basket of the second half, the Minutemen came back with 11 straight points.

Donta Bright finished with 19 points and Dana Dingle had 10 points and 10 rebounds for Massachusetts.

"I thought we did a good job in the first half and made them play into our hands," La Salle coach Speedy Morris said. "John did a great job in the second half with adjustments."

No. 7 Utah 69, Hawaii 59
Keith Van Horn scored 19 points and Brandon Jessie had 17 as Utah won at home.

The Utes (20-4, 12-2 Western Athletic Conference) used a 9-0 run to take a 58-42 lead with six minutes left. Anthony Harris, leading the WAC with a 24-point average, scored 19 for Hawaii.

No. 8 Wake Forest 85, Maryland 78
Tim Duncan hit 12 of 14 shots and scored a career-high 33 points as Wake Forest held its lead in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The Demon Deacons (17-3, 9-2) lead Georgia Tech by one full game.

Duncan, who had 14 points and 15 rebounds in a game against Maryland this season, had nine rebounds in the rematch. The 6-foot-10 junior center passed his previous high of 27 points set against Furman this season.

Johnny Rhodes scored 27 for host Maryland. The Terrapins played without starting point guard Duane Simpkins, suspended earlier in the day by the NCAA for three games.

No. 11 Purdue 63, Ohio State 55

Purdue held onto first place in the Big Ten, winning its sixth in a row behind Brad Miller's 16 points and Porter Roberts' 14.

The Boilermakers (20-4, 10-2) have a one-game lead over Penn State. The two teams play Saturday at Purdue.

Tied at 48, Purdue broke away to a 58-51 lead. Neshawn Coleman scored 12 points for host Ohio State, but missed a 3-pointer with 40 seconds left that would've tied it.

No. 18 UCLA 76, No. 13 Arizona 75

Kris Johnson made a foul shot with one second left and UCLA overcame a 19-point deficit and an unusual technical foul to win at home. The Bruins (17-6, 10-2) held their lead in the Pac-10.

The score was tied in the last half-minute when UCLA mistakenly put six players on the court. But Miles Simon missed the two technical foul shots and then Ben Davis, who scored 25 points for Arizona (18-5, 7-4), missed a shot in the lane.

Johnson grabbed the rebound and was fouled. He made the first shot and missed the second, and the Wildcats, who won last week on a long-distance shot at the buzzer, could not do it again. Toby Bailey led UCLA with 16 points.

No. 20 Stanford 65, Oregon State 50

Brevin Knight scored 15 points and Andy Poppink had 13 as Stanford won its sixth in a row.

The Cardinal (16-5, 9-3 Pac-10) held host Oregon State to only six points during a span of nearly 21 minutes in the middle of the game. Stanford sent the Beavers to their school-record 10th straight loss.

Silverton ousts Miami girls from playoffs

CLARENDON — Silverton won over Miami, 66-56, Thursday night in a Region 1-1A girls bi-district playoff game.

Lacy Brunson had 21 points and Molly Bomar added 14 for Silverton.

Daphne Heiskel had 19 points and Mindy McConnell 18 to lead Miami.

Silverton held a 35-31 lead at halftime.

Miami closes the season with a 9-20 record. Silverton is 23-9.

Pampa's McNeely Fieldhouse will be the site of two playoff games tonight. Groom (23-4) meets Allison (17-8) at 8 in a Region 1-1A girls' bi-district game. West Texas High (21-4) meets Clarendon (20-9) at 6:30 in a Region 1-2A girls' bi-district tilt.

In other girls' action, McLean (19-4) takes on Hedley (14-10) at 6:30 tonight at Clarendon College.

Fort Elliott (17-8) goes against Higgins (14-12) at 7 p.m. in Canadian. The game will decide

PREP BASKETBALL

the District 4-1A boys' seeding in the playoffs.

PAMPA — It's not a playoff game, but it should make make for an interesting matchup when Pampa meets Lubbock Monterey in a practice game at 7 tonight in Randall.

Pampa nipped Class 5A Monterey, 56-55, when the two teams met during the Fantasy of Lights Tournament last November in Wichita Falls.

"We were lucky to beat them. We trailed the entire game," said PHS head coach Robert Hale.

Pampa has a 27-3 record and is ranked No. 3 in Class 4A by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. Monterey is ranked No. 16 in Class 5A with a 28-5 mark.

"These (practice games) are some of the best games played because all the teams involved are in the playoffs. It should be a fun game," Hale said.

It's just like old times for Cubs' Sandberg

By The Associated Press

Ever since Ryne Sandberg announced his comeback, he'd been waiting for this day.

Sandberg returned to the field Thursday, joining pitchers and catchers as the Chicago Cubs opened camp in Mesa, Ariz. Hundreds of fans who'd come to see Sandberg cheered when the 10-time All-Star second baseman began his workout.

"It's been different than all the other off-seasons because it's fun working out again," Sandberg said. "It doesn't feel like a job. I'm excited going to the park every day and I've been anxious for spring training to begin."

Sandberg, 36, abruptly retired in the middle of the 1994 season, but decided last Halloween that he wanted to make a comeback.

"It's kind of difficult for me to set numbers goals because I've never done it in the past before a season," he said. "I have to accept the fact that I'm just a little bit older and my body is a little bit older and I obviously haven't played a season at age 36 before."

"I don't look at that as a negative, but I think it'll be important for me to be in the lineup every day and be able to play every day."

Indians
Jack McDowell, signed by Cleveland in the offseason, was involved in a minor traffic accident Thursday but was not hurt.

McDowell was returning from Sarasota, Fla., where he had gone to visit some former Chicago White Sox teammates, when his car slid off a rain-drenched road into a ditch in Bartow. McDowell had put on the brakes to avoid running into an accident in front of him, Indians spokesman Bart Swain said.

McDowell's car did not collide with any other vehicles, Swain said. The former Cy Young win-

ner was taken to a nearby hospital but required no treatment and was released.

In another move aimed at strengthening their staff, the Indians got pitcher Brian Anderson from California in a trade for pitchers Jason Grimsley and Pep Harris.

Anderson, 23, will compete with Chad Ogea, Mark Clark and Albie Lopez for the fifth spot in the rotation. Anderson was 13-13 with a 5.46 ERA in 40 games for the Angels, 36 of them starts.

"We are most definitely going to allow him a chance to compete for a spot on our major league club," general manager John Hart said. "However, this is a deal we have made for the long term. He has a high ceiling. His best years are ahead of him."

Grimsley, 28, spent parts of the last three seasons with the Indians. He was 0-0 in 15 appearances last year and was sent to Triple-A Buffalo in July.

Cardinals
Mike Moore, who slumped to 5-15 last season with Detroit, was invited to camp by St. Louis. He will join several other former Oakland players who have been reunited with manager Tony La Russa and pitching coach Dave Duncan, both having moved from the A's to the Cardinals in the offseason.

Moore, 36, had a 7.53 ERA in 25 starts last season for Detroit. He is 161-176 lifetime with a 4.39 ERA in 14 seasons.

Pitchers Dennis Eckersley, Todd Stottlemyre and Rick Honeycutt are among the former Athletics now with the Cardinals in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Mariners
AL Cy Young winner Randy Johnson was among those in attendance as 27 pitchers and catchers began camp in Peoria, Ariz. The Mariners held a two-hour workout in 80-degree weather.

Scoreboard

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Final individual statistics for the 1995-96 Pampa High girls' basketball team are listed below.

Player	Scoring avg.	Reb.	FG%	FT%
Ch. Nachigall	8.4	52	33.7	81.5
Ca. Nachigall	1.6	76	36.4	37.5
Jennifer Jones	16.4	167	39.4	64.3
Yvette Brown	0.3	17	11.1	50.0
Jami Welis	2.3	37	30.4	65.6
Tina Dwight	2.7	27	33.3	73.7
Erin Alexander	1.5	33	70.0	50.0
Jane Brown	6.2	181	53.7	57.8
Kristi Carpenter	6.7	125	53.8	63.6
Faustine Curry	1.6	13	55.6	66.7

Steals: Jennifer Jones 47, Candice Nachigall 38, Jane Brown 26, Tasha Wilson 25, Chandra Nachigall 25, Jami Welis 21, Kristi Carpenter 16, Erin Alexander 6, Tina Dwight 5, Yvette Brown 2, Faustine Curry 1. Assists: Jennifer Jones 67, Candice Nachigall 53, Chandra Nachigall 27, Jami Welis 24, Jane Brown 21, Tina Dwight 9, Tasha Wilson 6, Kristi Carpenter 6, Yvette Brown 2, Erin Alexander 1.

PRO BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association At A Glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	35	14	.714	—
New York	30	17	.638	4
Miami	23	27	.460	12 1/2
Washington	22	26	.458	12 1/2
New Jersey	20	29	.408	15
Boston	18	31	.367	17
Philadelphia	10	37	.213	24

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	44	5	.898	—
Indiana	31	18	.633	13
Cleveland	28	20	.583	15 1/2
Atlanta	26	22	.542	17 1/2
Detroit	24	23	.511	18
Charlotte	23	25	.479	20 1/2
Milwaukee	19	28	.404	24
Toronto	14	35	.286	30

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	34	16	.680	—
San Antonio	31	16	.660	1 1/2
Houston	33	18	.647	1 1/2
Denver	20	29	.408	13 1/2
Dallas	16	32	.333	17
Minnesota	14	33	.298	18 1/2
Vancouver	11	37	.229	22

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	36	12	.750	—
L.A. Lakers	29	19	.604	7
Sacramento	24	22	.522	11
Portland	24	26	.480	13
Phoenix	23	25	.479	13
Golden State	23	26	.469	13 1/2
L.A. Clippers	16	33	.327	20 1/2

Wednesday's Games

Detroit 102, Philadelphia 83
New Jersey 88, Indiana 87
Charlotte 120, New York 100
Seattle 130, Minnesota 93
Vancouver 93, Sacramento 86
Golden State 106, Boston 103
L.A. Lakers 87, Atlanta 86

Thursday's Games

Cleveland 95, Toronto 76
Miami 97, Denver 91
Chicago 112, Detroit 109, OT
Milwaukee 109, Washington 98
Houston 112, San Antonio 108
Utah 106, Dallas 103
Phoenix 96, Portland 84

Friday's Games

Philadelphia at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana vs. Washington at Baltimore, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Charlotte, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Golden State at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Atlanta at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Boston at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games

New York at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Clippers at Anaheim, Calif., 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Chicago at Indiana, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Vancouver, 3:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 3:30 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 3:30 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 3:30 p.m.
Boston at Denver, 9 p.m.
Atlanta at Portland, 10 p.m.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	33	13	11	77	207	157
Florida	33	16	7	73	191	153
Philadelphia	28	16	11	67	193	145
Washington	27	22	7	61	161	149
New Jersey	24	23	7	55	139	131
Tampa Bay	23	24	8	54	165	183
N.Y. Islanders	15	32	8	38	160	215

Northwest Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	33	18	4	70	252	184
Montreal	28	22	7	63	180	171
Boston	23	24	7	53	186	194
Hartford	23	26	6	52	157	174
Buffalo	22	28	5	49	158	175
Ottawa	11	42	3	25	130	217

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	40	10	4	84	205	120
Chicago	31	16	11	73	201	152
Toronto	25	22	10	60	171	168
St. Louis	23	23	10	56	152	161
Winnipeg	23	27	4	50	191	198
Dallas	15	29	11	41	153	194

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	30	17	10	70	221	160
Vancouver	27	21	14	58	209	193
Calgary	21	26	11	53	169	177
Los Angeles	18	27	13	49	191	212
Edmonton	20	28	6	46	145	199
Anaheim	19	33	5	43	158	191
San Jose	13	38	6	32	177	247

Wednesday's Games

Boston 3, Hartford 0
Los Angeles 2, Buffalo 2, tie
Philadelphia 4, Florida 2
Toronto 4, San Jose 3

Jordan shines in overtime for Bulls

By The Associated Press

Dennis Rodman made the play that got the Chicago Bulls into overtime, allowing Michael Jordan to do what he does best — take over the game.

Jordan missed 20 of his 30 shots, but he managed to score eight of his 32 points in overtime, giving the Bulls a 112-109 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Thursday night.

"I figured if I kept going to the well, sometime I'd find some water," said Jordan, who hit all 12 of his free throws while struggling from the field. "It was one of those nights where I couldn't find a way to get the ball in the hole."

The Bulls are 44-5 this season, with all of their losses on the road. It nearly happened again at the Palace in Auburn Hills as the Pistons led by five points with 37 seconds left in regulation.

"We know that you are in jeopardy every time you go out on the road," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said. "We had a donnybrook of a ballgame."

A 3-pointer by Toni Kukoc pulled the Bulls within two, and when Grant Hill missed and Rodman rebounded with eight seconds left, Chicago had a chance to force overtime or win in regulation. Scottie Pippen, who finished with 20 points and 13 rebounds, missed a short shot that Rodman rebounded and put in for a 101-101 tie with 0.9 seconds left.

Rodman finished with 19 points

NBA ROUNDUP

before fouling out in overtime.

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was Cleveland 95, Toronto 76; Miami 97, Denver 91; Milwaukee 109, Washington 98; Houston 112, San Antonio 108; Utah 106, Dallas 103; and Phoenix 96, Portland 84.

Chicago took a 106-101 lead with 2:30 left in overtime. The Pistons came back to tie it on a 3-pointer by Allan Houston and Theo Ratliff's layup with 1:34 left.

Then Jordan took over, scoring on a layup and a turnaround jumper for a 110-106 lead with 11.8 seconds remaining. His two free throws sealed the outcome after Houston, who finished with 27 points, sank another 3-pointer with 9.7 seconds left.

"Jordan likes the ball in his hands at the end of a game, and he is capable of taking the game into his hands," said Otis Thorpe, who had 18 points and 10 rebounds for Detroit. "He had a great game. I give him credit."

Detroit, which got 20 points from Hill, lost for the ninth time in 25 home games.

"We played a great game. It is so heartbreaking for me, for our guys to lose a game like this," coach Doug Collins said. "They really deserved to win."

Phoenix handed Portland its fourth straight home loss and pulled into a virtual tie with the Blazers for seventh place in the Western Conference.

Charles Barkley had 24 points,

who finished their four-game road trip without a win and suffered a season-high fifth straight loss.

Phoenix held Portland to 37 second-half points. The Blazers were led by Clifford Robinson's 24 points and 11 rebounds.

Rockets 112, Spurs 108

Hakeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler scored 24 points each and Robert Horry hit his only basket of the game with 42 seconds left in Houston's victory over San Antonio.

The Rockets led by 15 points in the third quarter, but the visiting Spurs used the 3-point shooting of Chuck Person to get as close as one point in the fourth period. San Antonio trailed 107-105 with 1:01 to go, but the jumper by Horry, who was 1-for-7 from the field, kept Houston in front.

Vinny Del Negro scored 31 points, David Robinson 24 and Person 21 on 7-for-11 shooting for the Spurs. Eldridge Recasner scored a career-high 21 for the Rockets.

Bucks 109, Bullets 98

Vin Baker scored 25 points and Glenn Robinson had 11 of his 23 in the third quarter, lifting Milwaukee over Washington.

George Muresan's bank shot gave the Bullets a 67-61 lead with 6:23 left in the third quarter, but Robinson scored nine points in a 21-7 outburst that put the Bucks ahead 82-74 going into the fourth period.

Muresan scored 29 points and Juwan Howard 27 for the Bullets,

who finished their four-game road trip without a win and suffered a season-high fifth straight loss.

Karl Malone scored 30 points and John Stockton had 21 points and two steals, inching within two of breaking the NBA career steals mark, as Utah rallied to defeat Dallas.

Jason Kidd scored 34 points and Jimmy Jackson and George McCloud 20 each for the Mavericks, who led 86-77 with 7:51 left but dropped their fourth straight road game and fell to 6-19 on the road.

The Jazz followed with a 12-0 run after McCloud's 3-pointer gave Dallas the nine-point lead. Malone scored five during that spurt, and Stockton finished the burst with his 2,309th steal and a basket, giving Utah an 89-86 lead with 5:02 left.

Kidd tied it with a 3-pointer, the first of five ties in the next three minutes until Antoine Carr's hook shot put Utah ahead for good, 99-97, with 1:15 remaining.

Heat 97, Nuggets 91

Bimbo Coles scored five of his 24 points in the final 17 seconds, boosting Miami over visiting Denver despite an off night by Alonzo Mourning.

Mourning scored 12 points — less than half his average — on 4-for-18 shooting, but Coles helped hold Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf to seven points on 2-for-14 shooting.

Daytona 500 is Sunday

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Dale Earnhardt did what was expected of him, and Ernie Irvan did what so many had hoped he could.

Each won a qualifying race for Sunday's Daytona 500.

In both cases, the NASCAR-mandated changes that robbed the Winston Cup cars of between 30 and 50 horsepower came into play Thursday, leaving the victorious drivers talking about the key to victory.

"I figured I'd better get out in front," Earnhardt said after winning one of the 125-mile twin qualifiers for the seventh year in a row.

"I had it wide open all day," said Irvan, a winner for the first time as he continues his comeback from a nearly-fatal head injury in 1994.

The bottom line was the draft. Earnhardt, who will seek his first Daytona 500 victory in his 18th try, took the lead from Sterling Marlin — the only other point man — on the 30th of 50 laps.

Like Earnhardt, Irvan had the pole in his qualifier. No one else led a lap.

Earnhardt made a great move on the 48th lap to hold off two-time defending Daytona 500 champion Sterling Marlin, then won by three car-lengths, averaging 143.039 mph. Irvan beat Ken Schrader by a half-length after a mad scramble through the final half-mile at the 2.5-mile Daytona International Speedway.


Red, Blue teams



(Special photo)

Playing on the Pampa 8th grade Red and Blue basketball teams this year were (front row, l-r) Brent Coffee, Casey Owens, Kyle McCullough, Matt Heasley, Aaron Cockran, Jon Bolz and Kaleb Snelgroves; (middle row, l-r) Blake Stewart, Daniel Dreher, Greg Lindsey, Russell Robben, Jesse Francis, Jon Dancel, Steven Vanderpool and Jacob Campos; (back row, l-r) Justin Barnes, Jason Kogler, Jonathan Brockington, Cody Shepard, Jeremy Silva, Kevin Osborne, Jeremy Buck, John Sheppard, Sean Stowers and Justin Trollinger. Team members not pictured are Kerry Turner, Shawn Stone, Jason Hall and Tommy Lozano.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

<h3>1 Public Notice</h3> <p>CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: R.S. BEAU CRANE AND APRYL DAWNE CRANE, Defendant, Greeting: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the 223RD District Court of Gray County, at the Courthouse being located at 200 N. Russell in the City of Pampa, Gray County, Texas, by filing a written answer, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of issuance of this citation the date for answer being the 18th day of March, A.D. 1996, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said Court on the 1st day of August, 1995, in this cause: #29751 and styled SANDRA SCHUNEMAN, Plaintiff vs. R.S. "BEAU" CRANE AND APRYL DAWNE CRANE, Defendant.</p> <p>A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: SUIT ON ACCOUNT AND NOTE</p> <p>The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates heretofore, and make due return as the law directs.</p> <p>Witness, Yvonne Moler, Clerk of the 223RD District Court of Gray County, Texas.</p> <p>Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office this 1st day of February, A.D. 1996.</p> <p>YVONNE MOLER CLERK, 223rd District Court Gray County, Texas P.O. Box 1139 Pampa, Tx. 79066-1139</p> <p>By Karen McGahan Deputy Important Notice</p> <p>YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER BY 10:00 A.M. FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF FORTY-TWO DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU.</p> <p>PHIL VANDERPOOL P.O. BOX 2455 PAMPA, TX. 79066-2455. A-24 Feb. 9, 16, 23, Mar. 1, 1996</p>	<h3>1 Public Notice</h3> <p>HMMB Limited Inc. has made application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Private Club Registration Permit to be located at 1101 N. Hobart, Pampa, Gray Co., Texas, and will be operated under the trade name of Club Biarritz. The officers being: Michael Jay Parker, Pres.; Laurel Parker, Vice-Pres; and Robbie Gail Sparks, Secretary.</p> <p>Feb. 15, 16, 1996</p>	<h3>1 Public Notice</h3> <p>NOTICE TO BIDDERS</p> <p>The City of Pampa, Texas will receive sealed bids for the following until 11:00 A.M., February 27, 1996 at which time they will be opened and read publicly in the City Finance Conference Room, third floor, City Hall: 40 EA. GOLF CARS</p> <p>Bid Documents and Specifications may be obtained from the Office of the City Purchasing Agent, City Hall, Pampa, Texas, 806/669-5736. Sales Tax Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon request.</p> <p>Bids may be delivered to the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, Pampa, Texas or mail to P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, Texas 79066-2499. Sealed envelope should be plainly marked "GOLF CARS BID ENCLOSED, BID NO. 96.05" and show date and time of Bid Opening. Bids received after the specified bid opening time and date shall be rejected and returned to the sender, unopened. Facsimile bids will not be accepted.</p> <p>The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids submitted and to waive any formalities or technicalities.</p> <p>The City Commission will consider bids for award at the March 12, 1996 Commission Meeting.</p> <p>Phyllis Jeffers City Secretary Feb. 9, 16, 1996</p>	<h3>3 Personal</h3> <p>MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skin Care. Facials, supplies, call Deb Stapleton, 665-2095.</p> <p>BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics & Skin Care. Sales, Service and Makeovers, available at Billie's Boutique, 2143 N. Hobart or call Lynn Allison 669-9429/669-3848.</p> <p>NEW Year. New You. Colorselect System Makeovers. Same day deliveries. Mary Kay Cosmetics, 669-9435, 669-7777.</p>	<h3>10 Lost and Found</h3> <p>LOST male Brittany, dark brown leather collar, Travis school area, last seen 2-11-96, 669-1030.</p>	<h3>13 Bus. Opportunities</h3> <p>MOTOR ROUTE AVAILABLE MARCH 1st. APPLY PAMPA NEWS.</p>	<h3>14b Appliance Repair</h3> <p>RENT TO RENT RENT TO OWN</p> <p>We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate.</p> <p>Johnson Home Furnishings 801 W. Francis</p>	<h3>14d Carpentry</h3> <p>Panhandle House Leveling All floor leveling and foundation work. We do all home repairs, painting, plaster work, interior and exterior. 669-6438, 669-0958.</p> <p>T. Neiman Construction Free Estimates-Cabinets, etc. 665-7102</p> <p>OVERHEAD Door Repair. Kidwell Construction, 669-6347.</p> <p>ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. No job too small. 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21 Help Wanted
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69 Miscellaneous

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

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69a Garage Sales
16 and 17th-Garage Sale-1900 Christine. Motor, weather stripping, "Lazy Boy" sofa bed, etc. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. No checks please.

2208 Duncan, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday February 17th. Furniture, books, clothes, miscellaneous.

MOVING Sale- Lawn equipment, patio furniture, kids' stuff, dishes, rabbits with cages. 2428 Christine, Saturday 7-5.

ESTATE Sale. Furniture, piano, glassware, unusual knick knacks. No checks. Saturday, 10-4. 410 Texas.

LARGE Moving Sale: 2 Sofas, Loveseat, Table and chairs, refrigerator, stove, dryer, dishes, silverware, Bunk beds, baker's rack, coffee table, 1987 Delta 88, etc. Saturday 2/17 morning 1818 Beech.

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FULL Blood Golden Retrievers. 6 - weeks old. 669-1846.

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89 Wanted To Buy

WILL pay top dollar for good used furniture, appliances. 669-9654, 669-0804.

95 Furnished Apartments

The Pampa News will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. It is our belief that all rental properties advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

1 or 2 bedroom (furnished) duplex. Water paid. 669-9817.

BEAUTIFULLY furnished 1 bedroom starting at \$365, 6 month lease, pool, laundry on site. Caprock Apartments 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149.

ROOMS for rent. Showers, clean, quiet, \$35 a week. Davis Hotel, 116 1/2 W. Foster. 669-9115 or 669-9137.

96 Unfurnished Apts.

1,2,3 bedrooms. 6 month lease, pool, fireplaces, washer/dryer hookups in 2 and 3 bedrooms. Caprock Apartments, 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149.

DOGWOOD Apartments- 2 bedroom unfurnished. 669-9817, 669-9952.

1 bedroom, covered parking, appliances. 1-883-2461, 663-7522, 669-8870.

97 Furnished Houses
CLEAN 2 bedroom house. \$275 plus deposit. 665-1193.

98 Unfurnished Houses
1,2, and 3 bedroom houses for rent. 665-2383.

3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, new carpet, Travis school. February 1st, \$400 month/deposit. 665-4184

2 bedroom, plumbed for washer/dryer, appliances, 1307 Coffee, \$275 month, \$150 deposit. 883-2461, 663-7522, 669-8870.

CLEAN 3 bedroom, 1 bath, single garage, fenced yard. \$325 month, \$350 deposit, 625 Carr. 669-8110/622-9549 weekends, after 7 p.m.

3 bedroom, nice. Prefer retired or HUD. 1833 N. Nelson.

2 Bedroom
\$150 Month
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NEAT 2 bedroom, good location, fenced back yard, attached garage, new plumbing. 835-2233

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Yes We Have Storage Buildings Available! Top O Texas Storage Alcock at Narda 669-6006

Babb Portable Buildings
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669-7275 669-1623

102 Bus. Rental Prop.

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Office Space 665-4100

COMBS-WORLEY BLDG.
Office Space 669-6841

103 Homes For Sale

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665-3560

2 bedroom, 901 Twiford \$7,500. 2 bedroom, Varmon Drive \$4,500. Cash only. 665-2036.

2 bedroom, new kitchen and bath, new carpet, central heat, 717 N. Wells. 665-6604, 665-8925.

2301 Chestnut. Executive home with extras, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 living areas, dining room, kitchen with eating area. 665-8716

3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, new remodeled inside, wallpaper, paint, carpet, new fences, garage with workshop, storage building, large yard, \$27,900. 665-8936, 212 Wynne.

3 bedroom, attached garage, quiet street on south side. Owner will carry. 665-4842.

5 bedroom brick, Charles street, really neat, newly remodeled, garage. Realtor. 665-5436, 665-4180

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GENE AND JANNIE LEWIS
Action Realty, 669-1221

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House For Sale
3 Bedroom
665-5397

HOUSE for sale- Skellytown. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 3 lots. 669-7883.

WHITE Deer, good schools, low taxes, central heat and air, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, large rooms, huge lot. New loan, city library, city swimming pool, 14 miles to Pampa, 44 miles to Amarillo. FHA, 7.875%, 30 year, \$3300 move in, payments \$506. Call Shed Realty 806-665-3761, Walter or Janie Shed.

First Landmark
Realty
665-0717
1600 N. Hobart

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Owner has completely remodeled this two bedroom complete with new kitchen cabinets, carpet, plumbing, central heat and air. Hobby room behind utility room and garage could be 3rd bedroom or hobby room. Priced below \$30,000.00. It's a bargain. Call for details. MLS 3370.

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Heidi Chronister 665-8388
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BROKER-OWNER 665-3687

Roberta Babb 665-8158
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116 Mobile Homes

NICE 14x55 mobile home in country. New carpet, owner will carry. 665-4842.

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WHITE Deer, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, siding, fence, carport, storage building. 883-2152 or 779-2358.

FRASHER Acres East-1 or more acres. Paved street, utilities. Claudine Balch, 665-8075.

CHOICE residential lots, north-east, Austin district. Call 665-8578, 665-2832 or 665-0079.

CHAUMONT addition on Loop 171. Golf course and creek lots available. Priced from \$15,000. 4 bedroom home under construction for sale. Call Gary Dalton 669-6881 or 665-6910.

I acre plus tract at Walnut Creek Estates. Action Realty, 669-1221.

105 Acreage

FOR Sale 1280 acres Gray County, 709 cultivation, 247 native pasture, 324 CRP. Serious buyers only. Contact Ken Block 817-325-5777, or Margaret Kennedy 908-780-1563.

BY Owner: Acreage west of Pampa on Hwy. 152, buildings with 8000 sq. ft. Priced below appraisal. 665-3400.

112 Farms and Ranches

160 acres, 35 cultivated, windmill, 3 bedroom home, outbuildings, 11 miles south of Pampa. 665-5845.

114 Recreational Vehicles

1995 32 ft. Jayco pull type rv, kitchen/living room slid-out with many extras, pulled once to Vegas, health problems faced to sell for pay-off. Clarendon, Tx. 806-874-2147.

1990 Plymouth Laser, 5 speed, CD player, high mileage, \$3500. Call 665-8268.

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WALNUT CREEK - An acre lot on the west side with a tremendous view of evening sunsets. Buy now for your house in the future. MLS.

1706 DUNCAN. Nice brick with concrete circle drive, double garage with 2 car lift, dog pen, storm door, \$57,000. Living room with fireplace and a - with Ben Franklin. Three bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, very interest MLS 3848.

TERRY RD. Travis school area. Nice 5 bedroom with dining room, den and 2 full baths. Wood burning fireplace. MLS 3572.

669-1221

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1982 Ford Mustang
4 Cylinder, Automatic
Nice.

Wives of kidnapped American missionaries still hopeful after three years

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — During the night of Jan. 31, 1993, leftist rebels kidnapped three American missionaries in a jungle village, tying them up and pointing machine guns at their heads.

Three years later, there is no word on their fate. Colombian officials presume the men are dead. But their wives, still hoping for their safe return, traveled to Colombia this week seeking news.

"We've prayed a lot and cried," Tania Rich, whose husband Mark was raised in Peru, said in an interview Wednesday. "People think it's got to be easier after three years, but it's harder."

Mark Rich and two other missionaries, David Mankins of Susanville, Calif. and Richard Tenenoff of Towanda, Pa., were abducted from a Kuna Indian village in Panama near the Colombian border.

"We were told to pack suitcases for them, and then they marched off toward Colombia," said Nancy Mankins, 45. The rebels, believed to be members of

the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, ordered the wives to speak only in Spanish.

"I was able to kiss my husband goodbye," said Mankins, whose two children, in their 20s, have since married. "We weren't able to communicate about what was happening."

Guerrillas demanded \$5 million for the release of the three men, all members of New Tribes Mission of Sanford, Fla., a fundamentalist Protestant group. They broadcast taped messages from their hostages by radio to prove they were alive. But the last contact with the captors was Jan. 16, 1994.

The wives returned to Florida, where they work for New Tribes. They grappled alone with child care, paying taxes, buying a car. At first, they were reluctant even to leave their homes, hoping for news of their husbands.

"The phone rings and you think maybe this

is the phone call that can change your life back, and it's not," Nancy Mankins said.

The wives, speaking in the New Tribes headquarters in Bogota, are appealing through the Colombian press for word of their husbands. Some of the children also came to Colombia.

"I hope my Daddy has good food and a good place to sleep," said Jessica Rich, who turns four on Thursday. Her 5-year-old sister, Tamra, said she used to kiss a photo of her father before going to bed.

Patti Tenenoff, 40, said she and her husband both bathed their children and helped out with their homework. Now, she alone takes care of the three kids, ages 4, 6 and 11.

Guatemala's 35-year-old civil war is Central America's last and longest. The conflict started in 1962 when Marxist-influenced groups tried to overthrow the military government.

Fighting reached a peak in the 1980s, but spo-

radic warfare continues in the north, most often in the form of guerrilla raids against government soldiers. There are an estimated 1,000-2,000 rebel fighters in four main armies.

Rebels often kidnap foreigners and demand huge ransoms. Another American, Raymond Rising of Glenwood, Mich., has been held since March 1994 and is believed alive.

In June, two New Tribes members were found shot dead east of Bogota — a year and a half after rebels kidnapped them.

There have been rumors of sightings of the missing missionaries in the remote jungle of northwest Colombia. But none has been confirmed, and authorities can offer little help.

"It is one of the most isolated areas in the world," said Dan Germann, head of New Tribes in Colombia. "The guerrillas are kings, they are the ones that completely control that particular area."

Collector pays \$500,000 for impressionist's anguished two-page letter, gives as Valentine's gift

DALLAS (AP) — It's not "Sunflowers" or "Starry Night," but a two-page letter penned more than 100 years ago by anguished Dutch impressionist Vincent van Gogh drew a pretty penny.

The correspondence, written to an art critic only months before van Gogh committed suicide, sold for \$500,000. A collector

bought it as a Valentine's Day present for his wife, just hours before it was to go on public sale at a Dallas show.

"I think that's how he justified his purchase," said Joseph Maddalena, owner of Profiles in History, a broker in old documents and famous signatures in Beverly Hills, Calif.

He would not reveal the buyer's identity except to say he is a regular client from the Midwest who phoned to inquire about the letter after showing his wife publicity materials about it. Many years ago in college, the woman was an art history student whose first love was van Gogh, he said.

The yellowing page with tattered corners, sealed in a plastic protective cover, was on display Thursday at the Tri Delta Charity Antiques Show at the Dallas Convention Center in a glass case. It was surrounded by less expensive pieces of history signed by Abraham Lincoln and Charles Dickens.

Handwritten in French and dated

February 1890, van Gogh expresses his thanks to art critic Albert Aurier, who had written a glowing review of the painter's work.

"It's his whole philosophy on why he paints, impressionism and it talks about the sunflowers..." Maddalena said. "He talks about (Paul) Gauguin and he talks about Rembrandt, and he's

really giving this guy insights into his soul because he was no one."

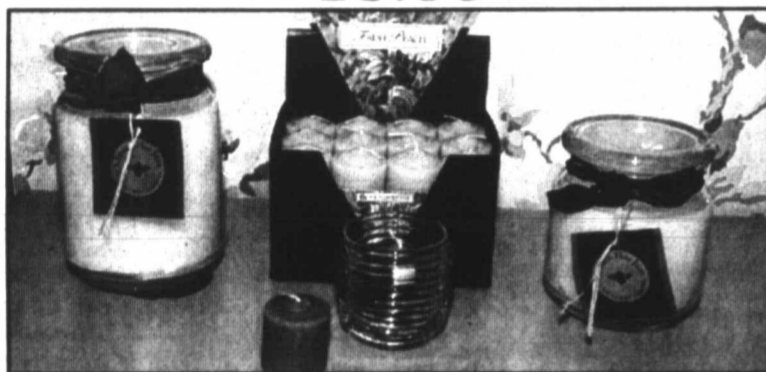
During his troubled life, van Gogh received no recognition and sold only one painting.

Decades later, works like "Starry Night" have drawn throngs to art museums. Other paintings have commanded eight-figure sums.

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