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in the Philippines, Page 6

**GOOD EVENING**  
Tuesday, March 19, 1996

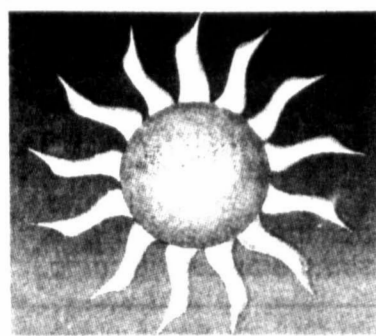
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# THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 88 NO: 297

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight in mid 20s,  
high tomorrow near 60.  
See Page 2 for weather  
details.

**WHITE DEER** — School trustees here renewed all 47 district teacher contracts after a nearly two-hour executive session at the close of their regular meeting Monday night.

The meeting also began in closed session, with parents of a high school student appealing their child's assignment to the school alternative education program.

Superintendent Larry Johnston said the child, who was not identified in open session, was placed in AEP as a disciplinary action. The placement was upheld by the board.

In other action, the board approved on second reading the first third of new policies from Texas Association of School Boards. Trustees approved on first reading the second third of those policies, dealing with personnel matters.

The board also approved the 1996-97 school calendar, voted on two unopposed candidates for the Region XVI board of directors and set a May 6 meeting to canvass election results.

**PERRYTON** — The Lawmen and the Ladies of Perryton will hold a benefit for the Beehive Day Care Center on Saturday, March 23.

The dinner theater and musical production will begin at 6:30 p.m. with chopped steak wrapped in bacon, baked potato, pinto beans, cole slaw, hot rolls and dessert. *The Old West at Its Best - Gets Better* will be presented by The Lawmen and the Ladies.

Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by calling (806) 435-5922 or (806) 435-8095. Proceeds benefit Beehive Day Care.

**CANYON** — The Harrington String Quartet will hold its third and final performance of the season at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 24, at Northern Hall at West Texas A&M University.

The quartet will perform a concert of Russian music, beginning with Haydn's Quartet in C major, Opus 33, No. 3 which is nicknamed "The Birds." It will also perform Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 8, Opus 110 and Borodin's second Quartet.

Following the concert, there will be a free reception for the audience featuring Slavic foods.

**BELGRADE, Yugoslavia** (AP) — Renoir's painting "The Woman Bathing" has been recovered by police four days after it was stolen from the National Museum in Belgrade.

The 1915 painting by the French impressionist was recovered Monday, and three Belgrade men were arrested, police said. They said a fourth was being sought in connection with the theft.

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## Dry-land wheat in trouble from freeze, drought

By CHIP CHANDLER  
Staff Writer

Dry-land wheat crops in the Panhandle are in trouble, says County Extension Agent Danny Nusser.

The wheat, which goes dormant in the winter, began sprouting early during a February heat wave and got a little moisture from snow.

But when temperatures snapped near zero in early March, Nusser said, the small sprouts and fledgling root systems very likely suffered serious damage.

The Associated Press reported some farmers estimate the wheat crop yield could be cut in half or more after wide areas of Texas have been left with less than 75 percent of their average rainfall.

Nusser is optimistic about irrigated wheat crops, however, even though those crops have problems of their own.

"The irrigated wheat looks better if it gets the right conditions and moisture," he said.

The crop generally peaks in April and May during overcast and wet conditions, he explained. The wheat starts to "head," he continued, filling with grain.

"That's the most critical time to have moisture," he said. "If we can get some good conditions, we still have a chance."

But irrigated wheat farmers are seeing other problems besides the drought-like conditions.

"We're also seeing some green bugs, particularly in irrigated wheat," Nusser said.

Farmers have to use insecticides to rid their crops of the bugs, at a cost of \$5 to \$10 an acre.

"When wheat doesn't look very good, that's a tough decision to make," Nusser said.

Irrigated wheat farmers also have to decide if watering their crop will be worth the effort and expense. Watering typically costs \$25 to \$30 an acre, Nusser said.

But all hope is not lost, Nusser said.

"Wheat is a pretty resilient crop. It takes a lot of stress. It'll take a good beating, [and] with a good rain it could come back," he said.

That good rain hasn't been seen yet, and in fact, not much moisture has fallen on the area

## Skinner gets a new lawyer

A Longview attorney who specializes in capital defense litigation has been named to represent Henry Watkins Skinner, who was sentenced to death March 23, 1995, in the slaying of a Pampa family.

Steven C. Losch was named Jan. 17 to represent Skinner, who remains on death row following his conviction for triple homicide in the New Year's Eve, 1993, murders of Twila Busby and her sons Randolph Busby and Elwin Caler.

Losch replaces court-appointed local attorneys Harold Comer and Ken Fields, who represented

## Court rejects race-based policy

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A Texas law school may not discriminate against white applicants in favor of blacks and Mexican-Americans to make up for a "perceived racial imbalance," a federal appeals court has ruled.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision released today came in an appeal by four white students who claimed they were kept out of the University of Texas Law School by an admissions policy that was unlawfully rooted in race.

"The law school has present-

ed no compelling justification,

under the Fourteenth Amendment or Supreme Court precedent, that allows it to continue to elevate some races over others, even for the wholesome purpose of correcting perceived racial imbalance in the student body," Circuit Judge Jerry E. Smith wrote for a three-judge panel deciding the case.

The opinion, dated Monday, said the state of Texas failed to justify the race-based admissions policy by establishing that past segregation had present effects.

Local meteorologist Darrell Sehorn said that to date, only 0.33 inch of moisture has fallen in the area since the start of the year.

Normally, Gray County would have received about 1.64 inch by this time.

Compounding that is the fact that only 2.36 inches of moisture have fallen since Oct. 1, about half the normal amount of 4.66 inches.

"We can't seem to get any moist air circulating into the Panhandle from the Gulf," Sehorn explained.

"The next five to 10 days still look dry," he continued, but added that he is hopeful for a pattern change in April.

Rains over the weekend were "just enough to stick the dust down," Nusser said.

"We need a one to two inch slow rain that will soak," he said, "at least two or three times."

Subsoil levels are still moist, Nusser said, but farmers need something for that top foot of soil.

Typically, Texas ranks fourth or fifth among wheat-producing states but sometimes falls to seventh. Winter wheat in the Lone Star State generated from \$226 to \$411 million in annual revenues during the 1990s, AP reported.

Farmers do have the Farm Service Agency to fall back on in cases of disastrous crops such as this year's wheat.

Farmers can pay about \$50 per crop, county and person for catastrophic multi-paril federal crop insurance, explained Gray County FSA agent Matt Street. The federal government subsidizes the rest of the premium.

Street said farmers can also buy additional insurance from independent insurance agents.

Wheat farmers aren't the only ones suffering from drought conditions.

"What makes the crop enticing around here is the opportunity to graze cattle," Nusser said.

Cattlemen haven't had that benefit yet this year, he said, with the low yield and growth of the crop.

Despite the problems, Nusser says local farmers still have a "pretty good attitude."

"One thing about farmers, they're pretty optimistic people. They always think next year's crop is going to be the good one."

Skinner during the trial.

According to court documents, Skinner is raising the issue of ineffective assistance of counsel and maintains Comer and Fields lack sufficient knowledge of capital punishment law.

The records say Losch specializes in capital defense and Comer and Fields are willing to withdraw.

Losch will be paid \$15,000 plus expenses for his services.

The case has been moved to Gray County from Tarrant County, where it was sent for trial on a defense motion for change of venue.

## New softball field



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Inmates from the Jordan Unit work this morning on putting a fence around a new girls softball field at Optimist Park. The old field is going to be a parking lot. Inmates also tore down two structures on the lot where the new softball field is being developed as part of their ongoing community service projects.

## County commissioners decide to limit up-front payment for travel expenses

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS  
News Editor

Gray County commissioners voted Monday to return to a policy which precludes up-front payment of travel expenses for county employees and officeholders except for airplane tickets and conference registration.

The court voted to require invoices for travel expense before payment, including bills for hotels and food.

Commissioner Jim Greene said it has been the policy of the county to pay for goods after they are delivered.

"To me, I don't think you ought to pay for something 'til you see it," he said.

County Auditor A.C. Malone asked the court to clarify county travel policy payments — whether hotels could be paid for with a county check issued before a trip, or whether an employee should be reimbursed after traveling.

One solution, said Treasurer Scott Hahn, is to do what is done in the Sheriff's Office — obtain county credit cards.

"You've got 'em all over that Sheriff's Office. I see in today's bills, they bought a (printer) on credit card," he said.

The court, however, allowed the Sheriff's Office to continue to hold credit cards for deputy and jailer travel. The cards were originally obtained to make it easier for employees who deliver and pickup prisoners and for whom the travel expenses would be a burden, noted Commissioner Joe Wheeley.

Hahn also noted travel bills in

the Community Service and Corrections Department are approved by the district judge and are sometimes paid in advance.

One officeholder told the court he does not have a credit card.

Wheeley told County Attorney Todd Alvey he might consider a credit card for travel-only purposes. Wheeley said he believes when county employees pay their expenses up-front, they become more aware of how much they are spending.

In a 3 to 1 decision, the court declined to support a proffered resolution which supports a U.S. House Resolution 1833 opposing partial birth abortions. Instead, they voted not to involve the court in the abortion debate by making any resolutions.

Wheeley, Greene and James Hefley voted for a resolution worded to say the court resolved not to make resolutions about abortion because it is a moral issue. Commissioner Gerald Wright voted against the resolution. County Judge Richard Peet was absent from the meeting.

At least part of the discussion included whether commissioners courts have business in the abortion debate.

"Abortion is a moral issue and it don't have any business on our table," said Greene. "Abortion is between that person, their Lord and their conscious. ... I make the motion we just forget about."

Hefley seconded the motion. "I just don't think it's county government business. We can sit here and pass resolutions and not do one bit of good," Hefley said.

A resolution against partial birth abortions doesn't belong

on the agenda, Hefley said. "It's a lose-lose situation," he said.

"Partial birth abortion, in my opinion, is absolute murder," Wright said. "If the resolution would stop it, I'd be for the resolution."

John Tripplehorn urged the court to remain apolitical and let local political conventions deal with the issue.

In other action, the commission:

- Contracted with Hoover Volunteer Fire Department for service. The contract provides for a \$484 fee per fire run and \$50 fee for a false alarm call or when the fire has been extinguished before arrival.

- Appointed Mark Simmons to the board of Perry Lefors Field. Commissioner James Hefley noted it was customary to have one member of the board from the McLean area. Simmons replaced Wade Kirk, who left the board with 15 years service.

- Set April 15 to accept bids on a Precinct 2 pickup.

- Voted to extend the resolution authorizing enforcement of Texas Resource Conservation Commission regulations in regard to burning to April 1.

- Continued an executive session to discuss tax personnel with Tax Assessor/Collector Sammie Morris. The session will be continued at Wednesday's 9:30 a.m. meeting.

- Toured Perry Lefors Field in preparation for the Wednesday meeting to discuss maintenance of the airport.

- Added a Gaines County lease agreement to the meeting agenda.



# President Clinton sends \$1.64 trillion election-year budget to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton today sent Congress a \$1.64 trillion election-year budget that would provide modest tax relief to the middle class while reaffirming his commitment to balancing the budget "the right way."

The proposed spending in the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1 is 4 percent higher than the estimated \$1.57 trillion the government will spend this year.

The president's proposals, outlined in six volumes totaling 2,196 pages, provide the first program-by-program look at a budget plan he has been pushing since January.

The formal submission of the bud-

get is six weeks late this year due to the protracted deadlock with the Republican-controlled Congress, a dispute that has twice shut down major portions of the government. The current fiscal year is half gone without resolution of spending disputes for many agencies.

Republicans have already dismissed the fiscal 1997 proposal as doing too little to curb the government's expensive benefit programs such as Medicare and providing too little in tax relief.

Clinton signaled that he planned to use his detailed proposals as a major campaign document, hoping to paint the Republicans as too extreme in

their proposed government cutbacks.

In his budget message, Clinton called on Congress to "balance the budget the right way" by cutting unnecessary programs while protecting "senior citizens, working families, children and other vulnerable Americans."

He challenged Republicans to return to the negotiating table and quickly complete work toward reaching a balanced budget by 2002. The president is scheduled to meet Wednesday with Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

"In our negotiations with congressional leaders, we have made

great progress toward reaching an agreement," the president said. "We have simply come too far to let this opportunity slip away."

Dole, Clinton's Republican rival for the presidency, said on the campaign stump Monday in Illinois that he and Clinton should do what is right for the American people and reach an agreement on a balanced budget.

In his budget message, Clinton signaled that he would continue to resist what he considers GOP efforts to cut back too sharply on the growth in Medicare, the huge health care program for the elderly, and Medicaid, the federal-state program that pro-

vides health services to the poor. The goal, he said, should be "a government that is leaner, but not meaner."

Clinton unveiled his spending plans as Congress continued slow-moving efforts to complete work on agency budgets for fiscal 1996. The budgets for nine Cabinet departments and scores of other federal agencies remain mired in partisan disputes.

Clinton's budget today restated his "Middle Class Bill of Rights" tax cut proposals he first outlined in December 1994 after Republicans captured control of both houses of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

The president would cut taxes by \$100 billion over seven years by offering, when fully phased in, a \$500 tax credit for each child younger than 13. He also would allow deductions of up to \$10,000 per family for college expenses and expand the availability of Individual Retirement Accounts.

His plan does not include the long-cherished Republican goal of cutting taxes on capital gains, profits made from the sale of stocks and other assets. The president would go the other way, increasing taxes by \$4.1 billion over seven years on some investors by introducing a new method of calculating capital gains.

## Sarajevo unites as Serbs relinquish Grbavica district

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Muslim-Croat Federation police drove into the former Serb district of Grbavica today, uniting Sarajevo after nearly four years of war and ending the looting, arson and terror campaign of Serb gangs.

A force of 100 police took control of the neighborhood just across the Miljacka River from Sarajevo's historic center shortly after 6 a.m.

Three hours later, thousands of people surged across the Brotherhood and Unity Bridge into Grbavica, led by five men carrying the white and blue Bosnian flag. There were hugs, kisses and tears of joy as families separated by four years of war were reunited.

What they found was a muddy landscape of urban desolation: burned and blackened buildings, trash-strewn streets and smashed kiosks. But it didn't dampen emotions.

Abdulah Alajbegovic, a 57-year-old Muslim, and his wife, Mileva, a 64-year-old Serb, watched with relief as the first group of police lined up in front of their apartment building.

"For me, the last four years were hell," he said. "Today is my second birthday, like I've been born again."

Until this morning, the couple had barricaded themselves in their apartment as Serbs rampaged outside.

Nearby, Interior Minister Avdo Hebib unveiled a blue sign designating a federal police station in Grbavica and declared "the reintegration of Sarajevo into its historic unity."

He said the ethnically mixed police force would protect citizens regardless of their ethnicity.

Fearing for their safety under control of their wartime enemies, most Serbs fled Grbavica, as they have from four Sarajevo suburbs turned over earlier.

For those intending to remain, the transfer of power was a dangerous period. In the days before

the deadline, they faced arson and looting by Serbs. After earlier transfers, Muslim and Croat thugs terrorized Serbs who remained in the suburbs, drawing criticism from NATO officials.

In the final hours, departing Serbs tossed grenades and set more buildings ablaze before fleeing Grbavica. NATO-led troops seized 12 arsonists and a Bosnian Serb policeman who tried to rape a woman at gunpoint Monday, but Serb police freed them immediately.

Federal police were overwhelmed by the early throng pouring into Grbavica, but later started checking identity papers to keep out people without homes or relatives in the area.

International police gave out leaflets warning people of land mines and possible booby-traps.

A woman who returned to her apartment this morning with federal police narrowly escaped injury when an explosive device went off in a closet.

"Fortunately, they had enough time to throw themselves to the floor and the thing exploded, blowing out the windows and showering shrapnel all over the place," said Kris Janowski, spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. Nobody was injured.

A Serb was wounded in the legs when he stepped on a mine left outside the apartment of his Muslim girlfriend, Janowski said.

Grbavica saw some of the heaviest fighting of the war. Neighbor shot neighbor and Serb gunners terrorized the government-held part of town from the tall buildings and heights.

That made Grbavica's transfer more poignant for Sarajevans than the surrender of the four other, outlying areas since Feb. 23.

The Serb exodus has turned Sarajevo from a haven of ethnic coexistence into a much more Muslim town.

## TPMHA Child, Adolescent Services recipient of 'Award of Excellence'

AMARILLO - Texas Panhandle Mental Health Authority Child and Adolescent Services has been notified it is the recipient of the National Community Mental Healthcare Council's 1996 Award of Excellence in the special programs category.

The award recognizes implementation of the Texas Children's Mental Health Plan by all the

community mental health centers in Texas.

The award will be presented at the National Community Mental Healthcare Council's 1996 annual training conference to be held March 30 through April 2 in Atlanta.

The award "recognizes innovation and excellence."

## The Cardigans are coming to town



(Special photo)

These cool cats, The Cardigans, will be performing in Pampa at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 13, at the M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. From left are Jeff Jarnagin, Loren J. Strickland, Shawn Walsh and Shawn Nelson. The four singing guys will be performing songs made popular by male groups in the 1950s in the Amarillo Little Theatre's touring musical production, The Cardigans, with proceeds benefiting St. Matthew's Day School. Tickets may be purchased at St. Matthew's Day School or Pampa Office Supply.

## Prosecution outlines night of killings at trial

DALLAS (AP) — Defense attorneys have asked a judge to declare a mistrial after a shock belt worn by the capital murder defendant apparently discharged, stunning him in front of his jury.

The belt, used by bailiffs to subdue prisoners in case of an escape attempt, apparently discharged shortly before noon Monday in state District Judge Harold Entz's courtroom.

Juan Rodriguez Chavez, 27, was sitting at the defense table, hands in sight, when he slumped forward and jerked his arms back toward his chest, saying: "I'm getting shocked."

A bailiff rushed forward and pulled the shock belt away from Chavez's skin until it had run its eight-second course.

"There is a small red spot or blister that seems to match the electrode," said Lt. Larry Forsyth, head of the Dallas County Sheriff's Department's bailiff division.

Afterward, Chavez told bailiffs

that he felt no lingering ill effects. Nevertheless, Entz recessed court until 9 a.m. Tuesday while Chavez was taken to a hospital for examination.

"Right this second, we're at a loss as to why this happened," Forsyth said late Monday afternoon.

He also said there was some doubt that the jolt was genuine. "We want to make sure he's not faking," Forsyth said.

The incident came less than 2 1/2 hours after testimony began in the robbery and slaying of Jose Morales.

Family members sobbed as morgue photos of Morales were shown to jurors. Prosecutors say Chavez killed at least five people, including Morales, for the thrill of it on the night of July 2 and early morning of July 3.

Chavez is only being tried for the Morales murder, although prosecutor Greg Davis said evidence of the other killings will be presented during the trial.

The full-torso photos of

Morales showed back and chest wounds caused by the same fatal gunshot on July 2, as Morales was using a pay phone at an apartment complex near Dallas Love Field.

Prosecutors told the jury that the robbery and murder of Morales was the first shot in a nightlong murder rampage by Chavez and Hector Fernandez. Investigators believe Chavez committed 12 slayings between March and July, most in street slayings.

In many of the deaths, Chavez was motivated by "just the thrill of killing," said Davis, a Dallas County assistant district attorney.

In his opening statement Monday, Davis gave jurors a lengthy, harrowing tale of brutality and death that began with Chavez and Fernandez, 16, stealing a car from a Greyhound maintenance lot on the edge of downtown.

Davis said their trail of violence took Chavez and Fernandez to a northwest Dallas apartment complex.

## Bomer outlines tougher regulations for managed health care providers

AUSTIN (AP) — Health care providers are embracing a second round of rules regulating the booming field of managed health care, but the industry says the edicts are much ado about nothing.

The Texas Department of Insurance enacted rules Monday designed to clarify the relationship between managed care organizations and the patients and physicians they serve.

Foremost among changes taking effect June 1 is a rule requiring that health maintenance organizations, or HMOs, "allow refer-

als to out-of-network ... providers when medically necessary covered services are not available from network providers."

The rule came in response to testimony in which some patients complained to Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer of being limited to providers listed by their HMOs although the services they needed weren't available from their plans.

HMOs "have a financial incentive to take care of all illnesses within their networks," Bomer

said. "Some people were having trouble getting referred out of their network. But frankly, large HMOs are doing a good job."

Geoff Wurzel, executive director of the Texas HMO Association, worried that the Department of Insurance has made rules to fix problems that aren't posing a threat.

"Where the issue usually comes in is the bottom line of whether it's a covered service (in question) or not," Wurzel said.

For instance, cancer patients might want to go to Houston's

M.D. Anderson Cancer Center because it's among the world's best, Wurzel said. But that hospital maintains a limited relationship with some HMOs.

"There probably are cases where an individual thinks they've got a certain illness and nobody can do it better than M.D. Anderson, but M.D. Anderson is not a (covered) provider," he said. "However, there are a list of issues where M.D. Anderson is the only one in the state that can help, so in that case there would be a referral."

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Viewpoints



THE PAMPA NEWS

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Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas  
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis  
Managing Editor

Opinion

Case law versus the Constitution?

Although the U.S. Supreme Court in recent years has strengthened property rights in some ways, earlier it performed a disturbing about-face. In Michigan, it upheld the seizure of an automobile used during the procurement of the services of a prostitute by John Bennis in Detroit. The man's wife, Tina, objected that, as half owner of the car and an opponent of her husband's activities, she was unduly deprived of her property by the government. The court ruled against the woman, allowing the government to keep the seized property.

Just as disturbing was the fact that all the "conservative" justices on the court, who are supposed to have a greater understanding of property rights than liberals, ruled against Mrs. Bennis's property rights. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Sandra Day O'Connor. The five-judge majority was made when they were joined by liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

The majority brushed aside the Fourth Amendment, which ensures: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated..." Could anything be more clear? Seizing an innocent woman's car just because her husband used it for an assignation with a prostitute obviously is an "unreasonable" seizure.

In his majority opinion, Mr. Rehnquist wrote: "A long and unbroken line of cases holds that an owner's interest in property may be forfeited by reason of the use to which the property is put, even though the owner did not know that it was to be put to such use." Usually it's the more liberal justices who use such convoluted pseudo-logic to get beyond the obvious words of the Constitution.

Contrary to what the chief justice wrote, although case law does become the law of the land, it does not supersede the Bill of Rights or any other part of the Constitution, and, when in violation of the Constitution, case law ought to be overturned by the court as soon as possible. After all, if this new decision were to be implemented to its fullest, where would the seizures end? Some workers at General Motors use drugs on the job; does that mean drug seizure laws allow the government to seize the entire corporation?

As Justice John Paul Stevens wrote in dissent: "The logic of the court's analysis would permit the states to exercise virtually unbridled power to confiscate vast amounts of property."

Aside from the unjust seizure of Mrs. Bennis's property, this case brings out another reason why prostitution shouldn't be a crime. With one of the nation's highest murder rates, Detroit obviously has greater problems that should occupy the police. And from a moral standpoint, it's also worth remembering Christian writer C.S. Lewis's admonition that a prostitute, whatever her faults, might be far closer to Heaven than the self-righteous old prig who goes regularly to church - or, to extend the analogy, who sits atop a Supreme Court bench.

Attempts to prohibit prostitution never have worked, and now are being used by the government to restrict property rights.

A husband's wrongful actions, as Mrs. Bennis has found out, are as nothing compared to the whole-scale violations of rights perpetrated by the government.

Thought for today

"It's too bad that th' golden days has passed. Capital still pats labor on th' back, but on'y with an axe. Labor ray-fuses to be threatened as a friend. It wants to be threatened as an inimy. It thinks it gets more that way. They ar-re still a happy fam'ly, but it's more like an English fam'ly. They don't speak."

Finley Peter Dunne ("Mr. Dooley")  
Labor and Capital

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The implant panic continues



Stephen Chapman

The controversy over breast implants is one of those scare-of-the-month stories that show how easy it is to spawn panic, force federal action and generate large lawyers' fees by publicizing dangers that turn out to be either minimal or completely imaginary. What's not so easy is undoing all the damage.

The hysteria erupted back in 1991, based on stories about some women with silicone-gel breast implants who also suffered from various ailments they blamed on the devices. Since then, though, the case against the implants has been pounded to dust under the growing weight of scientific evidence.

Last month, one of the most respected research teams in the country, headed by a Harvard professor, published the results of the biggest study yet. It found that the devices pose little if any danger of connective-tissue disorders, the most plausible of the alleged hazards.

The scientists concluded that implants might cause a maximum of one case of such ailments for every 30,000 recipients, but they also noted that the apparent increase in risk was so small that it "cannot be reliably distinguished from no risk." Dr. Maureen Henderson, a professor of epidemiology and medicine at the University of Washington, told the *New York Times* that diseases caused by implants are "a very, very rare business if they exist at all, and you can't say that they exist at all."

Previous investigators had searched in vain for any perceptible rise in connective-tissue illness, but die-hard opponents of breast implants complained that they didn't look at enough women. This study, encompassing nearly 400,000 women, was big enough to demolish that excuse.

Earlier reports had contradicted nearly all the other alarms sounded in headlines and newscasts five years ago. In 1993, the American Medical

Association said there was no evidence to suggest that silicone-gel implants raised the risk of breast cancer or any other type of cancer. The only known health hazard is hardening of the tissue around the implant - which can be very uncomfortable but isn't life-threatening.

The good news, however, won't necessarily help the companies that made the implants or the women who want them. Besieged by lawsuits, Dow Corning was forced to accept a settlement that required it to pay \$2 billion into a fund for women with implant-related ailments. Science might be on the corporation's side, but science doesn't always cut any ice with injuries - like the one that awarded an alleged victim \$14 million last October.

Implant manufacturers have the same problem as Voltaire, who wrote, "I was never ruined but twice: once when I lost a lawsuit, and once when I won one." The sheer volume of claims against these companies made it impossible to fight them all in court. When Dow Corning saw that the \$2 billion didn't stem the tide of litigation, it had no choice but to file for bankruptcy.

So far, some 440,000 women have registered to get a share of the fund established to settle the

class-action lawsuit. Think about that. Perhaps as many as 2 million women in this country have had silicone-gel breast implants. According to this latest study, no more than 667 have suffered serious diseases from them - and perhaps zero. Yet nearly half a million recipients, abetted by zealous attorneys, insist they deserve financial compensation.

The Food and Drug Administration has not yet been moved by the data exonerating implants. It banned the silicone-gel version in 1991 except for surgical reconstruction, in a grand display of added logic, and it says the latest evidence is not sufficient to justify removing the ban.

Arguing that the safety of the devices has yet to be proved, the agency refuses to take any risks with the health of women who merely want bigger breasts. But it continues to accommodate women who want them for post-surgical reconstruction. It is willing to let one group of women who want them for cosmetic reasons make up their own minds - but not the other group of women who want them for cosmetic reasons.

That may never change. The FDA says it needs more evidence on what percentage of implants rupture over time. But the only way it is likely to get such evidence is if a company agrees to fund research in order to get FDA approval to put the devices back on the market. And no company will want to do that as long as it faces an endless gauntlet of personal-injury lawyers pressing bogus claims.

Given everything now known about silicone-gel breast implants, it makes eminent good sense to let adult women evaluate the risks and decide for themselves whether to accept them, without subjecting the suppliers to frivolous litigation for merely giving patients what they want. But on this issue, what makes good sense seems irrelevant.

Today in history

By The Associated Press  
Today is Tuesday, March 19, the 79th day of 1996. There are 287 days left in the year. This is the date the swallows traditionally return to the San Juan Capistrano Mission in California.

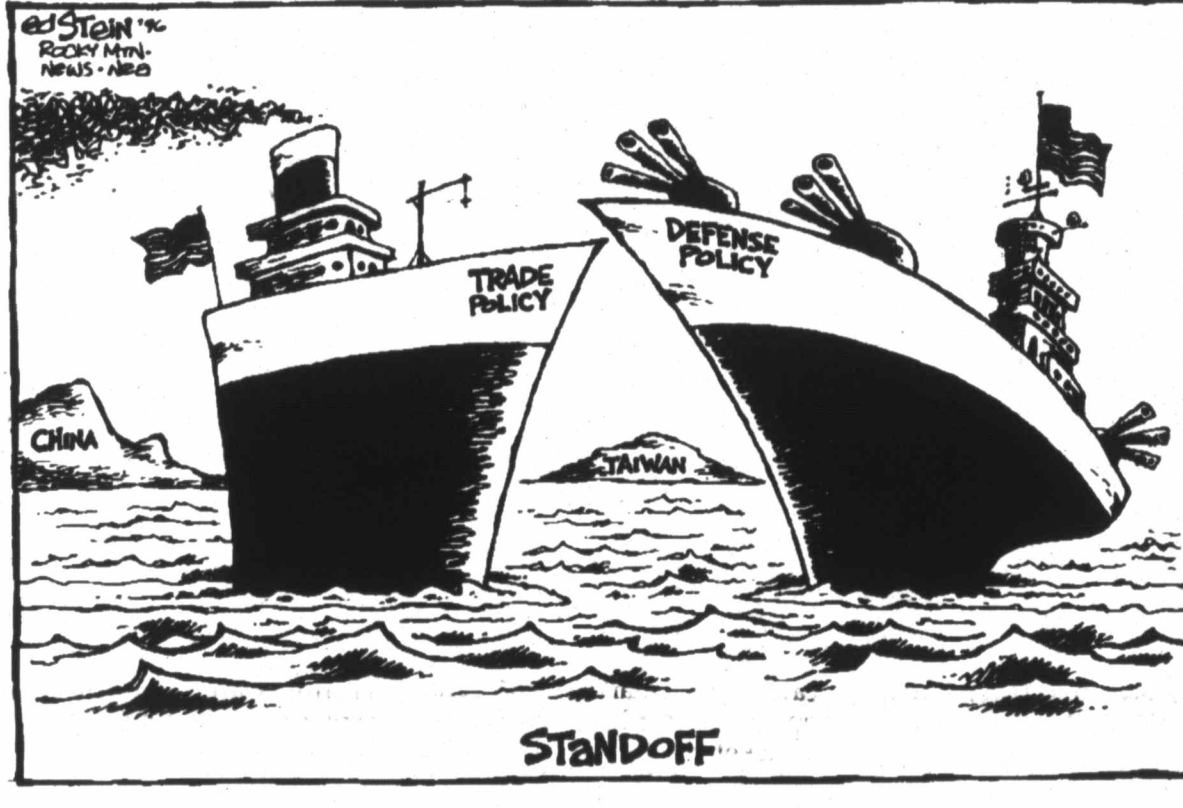
Today's Highlight in History:  
In 1920, the U.S. Senate rejected for the second time the Treaty of Versailles by a vote of 49 in favor, 35 against, falling short of the two-thirds majority needed for approval.

On this date:  
In 1687, French explorer Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle - the first European to navigate the length of the Mississippi River - was murdered by mutineers in present-day Texas.

In 1859, the opera *Faust* by Charles Gounod premiered in Paris.

In 1917, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the eight-hour workday for railroads.

In 1918, Congress approved daylight-saving time.



Deciphering abstract trade terms

Charley Reese

Language that is too abstract, which is typical of a political slogan or assertion, prevents understanding of the issue.

Take, for example, the statement, "America can compete in the global economy." That is the general assertion made in support of present U.S. trade policies, which are misnamed "free trade."

So let's define terms. "America" is a noun that means the whole country - the geographical country, all the people in it and the government. Obviously, the whole country is not in competition with anyone or anybody. Whole countries do not engage in trade. Nor, for that matter, do governments.

Furthermore, trade - exports in particular - are not the dominant aspect of our gross domestic product. In 1992, for example (the latest year for which I can find statistics), trade represented a net loss of 30.4 billion to our GDP. American businesses exported \$636.3 billion in goods and services, which were offset by imports of \$666.7 billion.

The point is that exports accounted for only \$636.3 billion out of \$5.9 trillion GDP. And, by far, the bulk of these exports was done by Fortune 500 companies. Exports and imports - trade - accounted for a \$30.4 billion loss to the GDP.

To put this in perspective, suppose we eliminated all exports: Our \$5.9 trillion GDP would shrink to \$5.2 trillion. Put another way, the U.S. govern-

ment in 1992 spent almost twice as much money as total U.S. exports of goods and services.

Clearly, the bulk of the U.S. economy is domestic activity, not trade.

But let's explore political language some more. You often hear sentences such as, "The American worker is the most productive worker in the world and can compete with anyone."

Here, again, is an assertion designed to cloud the reality. The most productive worker in the world cannot compete with anyone if his employer chooses to close his American factory and move it to China. Nor can an American worker compete if a foreign country refuses to admit the products that he makes. An American cannot compete if his employer, instead of making the product here and selling it in a foreign country, chooses to build a factory in the foreign country.

American workers at Ford will not compete with Vietnamese workers because Ford is building a plant in Vietnam. American GM workers will not compete with Eastern European workers because GM is building a plant in Eastern Europe.

The problem with U.S. trade policy is that it has been wholly shaped by multinational corpora-

tions, which apparently own the politicians. We need a new trade policy, not to protect us from foreign competition, but to protect us from our own corporations, which prefer dirt-cheap foreign labor and high profits over responsible citizenship in their own country.

We don't have a trade deficit with China because we are buying billions of dollars worth of Chinese products. We have a trade deficit because we are buying billions of dollars worth of American brand products made in China by American corporations that have cut deals to hire cheap Chinese labor and then export the product back to their unemployed former workers in America.

Capital is mobile. It flows to areas of cheap labor. People are not. They have roots, so when they lose their jobs, they suffer. Free-trade ideology is heifer dust thrown up to mask the corrupt and greedy practices of multinational corporations, which have no loyalty to their workers or their country. What can you do?

First, don't buy any product made in China. In fact, don't buy any product with an American brand name made in any foreign country. You'll find that extremely difficult, but we have to make a start. Second, insist on laws that require point-of-origin labeling, printed in big type, for all products and produce. Third, insist on straight talk from politicians.

If pols took control of the economy

You think we've got a case of economic jitters now, try to imagine how tightly strung we would be if the politicians realized their fondest dreams and took control of the economy.

Bill wants the Federal Reserve Board to tilt left, relax restraints on inflation and light a fire under things.

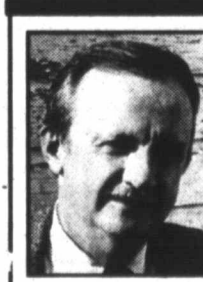
Bob wants to ignite the economy, also, though he is fuzzy about how he would do it. Probably with big tax cuts.

Pat... well we all know what Pat wants to do. He wants to annul trade deals and build fences and walls around America.

Dig a little deeper into the political pile and you get even wackier ideas of what ought to be done to fix things. Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., wants to punish "bad" businesses by giving tax breaks to Most Favored Companies, i.e., the ones that provide the highest wages and benefits and don't lay people off.

I pause here to quote *Washington Post* economic writer James Glassman on how to define "bad": "Is AT&T 'bad' because it's laying off 40,000 employees, or 'good' because it has sharply lowered the cost of making long-distance calls; contributed \$2 billion a year to the Treasury in taxes; invested billions more in buying equipment from U.S. suppliers; and made 2.3 million shareholders more economically secure in their old age?"

Back to my main point.  
What a difference 63 years makes. In March 1933, the United States was mired in a debilitating economic depression, and the newly elected presi-



Joseph Spear

dent, Franklin Roosevelt, reassured the nation that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Now we are bogged down in an economic mess that is mostly in our minds, and our "leaders" are pandering to our fears.

Instead of telling us to study the big picture, they're screeching about depressed wages and slow growth. The media are aiding and abetting with scare headlines and doomsday stories and seven-part series about the coming apocalypse.

It is true that millions of workers have been hurt by the downsizing and restructuring caused by new technology and global competition. But the critics who argue that the flux means the nation is in an economic tailspin are simply wrong.

The economy is not depressed. It has been growing at a steady 2.5% for the past four years. Yes, pessimists are fond of pointing out that the economy expanded at an annual rate of 3.4% for a hundred years after the Civil War. They forget that inflation

has virtually disappeared over the past four years and that their dollars have kept their value.

Wages are not increasing at the rate they once did, but the statistical evidence suggests this is not the disaster some try to make it out to be. During the past year, Americans spent \$4.6 trillion for goods and services - a leap of \$1 trillion over the amount spent ten years ago. If we are being squeezed by stagnant salaries, we sure have a strange way of showing it.

Thanks to low inflation, long-term interest rates are down and business investment is consequently up. Millions of new jobs are being created and unemployment is below 6%. Do you know what Ronald Reagan would have given for a 6% unemployment rate in 1982? It was nearly 10% that year.

So, the truth is, things are not all that bad. But it is an election year, and wouldn't it be nice if Bill or Bob or Pat or whoever is in charge at a given time could heat things up a little? Call up the Fed and order up lower interest rates and create some easy credit and boil the economy for a while. Induce a little growth. Get more people to work. Get re-elected.

And then? Well, then there would be a price to pay. In economic matters, as in nature, for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. For every up, there's a down. For every boom, there's a bust. Best to keep things steady, I say.

Best to keep the Fed completely independent. Best to keep the pols' oily fingers out of the pot. Forevermore.

# Salvi convicted of first-degree murder; jury rejects insanity plea

By CAROLYN THOMPSON  
Associated Press Writer

DEDHAM, Mass. (AP) — A jury rejected John C. Salvi III's insanity defense and convicted the 24-year-old loner Monday of murdering two women in a shooting rampage at two abortion clinics.

The jury convicted him of two counts of first-degree murder and five counts of assault with intent to murder.

"Justice was done," said Mark Nichols, whose sister was slain in one of the Dec. 30, 1994, attacks on two Boston-area clinics.

A first-degree murder conviction carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole. Massachusetts doesn't have a death penalty.

As the verdicts were read, Salvi stood quietly, sometimes staring vacantly and sometimes bowing his head, his dark necktie cocked to the right. He pursed his lips and looked down at the defense table after the verdict was read.

Four of the women on the jury, including the forewoman, cried as the verdicts were read, as did friends and families of the victims, and Salvi's mother.

A bailiff steadied the jury forewoman, and Salvi's

father came to his wife's aid as she doubled over in her seat.

"Just leave me alone," Mrs. Salvi said as her husband rubbed her back.

The verdict was nationally televised live. Cameras had been excluded from the courtroom during testimony.

Monday afternoon, Superior Court Judge Barbara Dortch-Okara heard "victim impact statements," comments from loved ones of the dead and from the wounded, and then formally sentenced Salvi to life.

"The life I had is gone," said a tearful David Keane, who had been engaged to marry Shannon Lowney, one of the receptionists who was killed. "The most caring, loving person I ever met is no longer with me."

Ruth Ann Nichols, the mother of slain receptionist Lee Ann Nichols, addressed Salvi in her statement, saying, "Without hesitation, I hope you have sheer misery every day of your life, as you have brought all the families. I request and hope that every Dec. 30 they put you in solitary confinement."

Salvi also got a chance to comment before sentencing. In a rambling statement, he asked the

judge to let him conduct a televised interview once he is in prison.

"As you know I haven't pled guilty though I am against abortion," Salvi said. "My position is pro-welfare state, pro-Catholic labor union, and basically, life." The judge said any decision on interviews would be up to prison officials.

Outside court, the president of the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts said she was relieved by the verdict.

"We're hopeful this kind of atrocious incident will never happen again anywhere in this country or the world," said Nicki Nichols Gamble.

"I think it will help to de-escalate the climate of fear and violence that has surrounded the services that we provide,"

Salvi, who professed to believe in a conspiracy against Roman Catholics, admitted carrying out the attacks that killed two receptionists and wounded five other people.

The jurors deliberated nine hours over two days before reaching the verdict.

If Salvi had been acquitted by reason of insanity, he would have been committed to a prison mental hospital. He could eventually have been released if authorities later determined he was sane and no

longer posed a danger to society.

Salvi was charged with murdering Ms. Nichols, a receptionist at Prater Health Services, and Ms. Lowney, the receptionist at Planned Parenthood, and wounding five other people in back-to-back shootings at the two clinics in Brookline, a Boston suburb.

"This is what you get! You should pray the rosary," Salvi screamed as he pumped 10 bullets into Nichols, witnesses testified.

Salvi was arrested the day after the killings when he allegedly fired at least 23 shots at the windows and doors of a Norfolk, Va., abortion clinic.

Salvi's lawyer, J.W. Carney Jr., said Salvi suffered from paranoid schizophrenia, a mental disorder characterized by delusions of persecution. He repeatedly asked Ms. Dortch-Okara to declare his client incompetent to stand trial. Prosecutor John Kivlan argued that Salvi methodically planned his crime.

On Saturday, Carney disclosed that the judge had turned down a defense request last week to let Salvi take the stand and make statements without submitting to cross-examination. Some experts said the judge's decision could provide the defense with grounds for appeal.

## Deaths at VA hospital possibly linked to contaminated oxygen equipment

TEMPLE, Texas (AP) — A Houston rubber and gasket company used a routine cleaning process that may have contributed to the deaths of four men at a veterans' hospital.

Ram Agrawal, owner of Precision Valve Modification, Inc. of Houston, on Monday said a 50-foot hose sold to the company that provides oxygen service to the Olin E. Teague Veterans Center was cleaned with a solution of trichloroethylene.

A trace amount of that chemical was found in oxygen that was distributed through the hose to 89 patients here last week, said Laura Custer, a spokeswoman for the Houston oxygen company, Air Liquide.

Three patients died within hours of the hose being connected between their room and a large oxygen tank outside the hospital. One other man exposed to the oxygen died Sunday.

VA officials and Dallas County medical examiners are investigating whether the deaths were related to the contaminated oxygen.

U.S. Rep. Tim Hutchinson, R-Ark., chairman of the House subcommittee on VA Hospitals and Health Care, will meet with senior officials from the Veterans

Hospital Administration to look into the deaths.

"It is absolutely essential that we thoroughly investigate this case and prevent this type of situation from ever happening again," Hutchinson said in a statement.

A spokeswoman for the hospital said the remaining 85 patients exposed to the tainted oxygen were put on bottled oxygen shortly after Air Liquide installed its equipment.

Those patients remain on bottled oxygen and appear to be doing well, said the spokeswoman, Liz Crossan.

Donna St. John, a spokeswoman for the Department of Veterans' Affairs, said 12 other veterans' hospitals across the country have had no problems since switching over to equipment provided by Air Liquide.

Air Liquide recently won a one-year contract to provide oxygen services to 17 veterans' hospitals. Four of them have been told to delay conversion to the new contractor's equipment until further notice.

Ms. Custer said the hose was used to connect a temporary oxygen tank to the hospital's central system.

"Right now we're not trying to find fault," she said. "We're stress-

ing that there's no evidence of any connection between any deaths and this oxygen supply, and that's what we know at this time."

Three of the patients who died were being treated in the intensive care unit and were very ill before they received the oxygen, hospital and county officials said. Stephen Hodges, 46; Edwin Sladek, 74; and Douglas Saunders, 79, all died within hours of exposure to the oxygen.

Davis Salazar, 71, of Waco was not in intensive care. Salazar's daughter, Mary, told the *Waco Tribune-Herald* that her father suffered from diabetes and high blood pressure. He was chatting with his wife and sitting up on Saturday night; by Sunday morning he was dead.

"When this is all over with, we really don't believe that the oxygen will play a major part, if any, at all in the death of these individuals," said Bell County Justice of the Peace Eddie Lange, who is conducting the inquest.

The hospital's central oxygen system moves oxygen from storage tanks outside the hospital, through air hoses into the center and through smaller hoses to wall panels inside patients' rooms. Patients' air hoses are then connected to the wall panels.



(Special photo)

Amarillo Opera singers Camille Nies, Brenda Lintner Scott and Erma Rush return to sing their roles in 'Die Fledermaus.'

## Amarillo Opera to present 'Die Fledermaus'

AMARILLO — Amarillo Opera and the Amarillo College Opera Workshop will present Johann Strauss's comic opera *Die Fledermaus* at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 23.

The all local cast includes Brenda Lintner Scott singing Rosalinda, Erma Rush as Adele,

Dale Elliott as Eisenstein, Robert Hansen as Alfredo, Camille Nies as Orlofsky and Greg Shapley singing Dr. Falke.

Following the opera BRAVO!, the support organization for Amarillo Opera, will host a Masked Ball Gala in the Grand Plaza following the performance.

Tickets for the performance and gala may be purchased by calling the Amarillo Civic Center box office at (806)378-3096.

Ticket prices for the performance are \$10, \$15 and \$20. Gala tickets are \$50 for BRAVO! members and \$55 for non members.

## Gusty winds hamper oil spill recovery effort

GALVESTON (AP) — Recovery crews were poised to attack a gooey oil slick stretching at least 5 miles from the mouth of Galveston Bay early today after a barge buckled, ran aground and spilled a fourth of its cargo.

The barge began gushing intermediate fuel oil just outside the Houston Ship Channel on Monday. Wind and current carried the ribbon of oil several miles into the Gulf of Mexico, where it began flowing south.

Workers were able to place protective booms around the barge and along nearby environmentally sensitive shorelines, but steady 40 mph winds and gusts to 50 mph severely hampered recovery efforts.

U.S. Coast Guard Cmdr. Dean Kutz said two of 12 compartments in the barge were ruptured. The two compartments held about 4,200 barrels, or 176,400 gallons, of the heavy oil.

The remaining compartments appeared to be intact, and Kutz was hopeful no more oil would spill. An empty barge stood by to begin emptying the damaged vessel of some 12,500 barrels of oil remaining on board as soon as the wind died enough to make the procedure safe.

"We're not going to risk anybody's lives," Kutz said.

Coast Guard helicopter crews used infrared cameras overnight to track the spill as it spread into the gulf.

Some 200 workers were poised with protective booms, oil skimmers and other recovery equipment to begin collecting the oil. Other crews stood by to help any oiled sea birds, but officials said none had been discovered. No oil had come ashore by early today.

Even with the spill likely restricted to about a fourth of the barge's cargo, authorities did not

expect the cleanup to be complicated by the wind and choppy 3-foot seas.

"It's not a good situation, but we're taking all the steps we possibly can to get the booms in the proper place to protect the environment," said Rich Arnhart, an on-scene coordinator for the Texas General Land Office.

The barge, operated by Buffalo Marine Service Inc., was being towed through the roughly 1 1/2-mile-wide waterway between Pelican Island and Bolivar Peninsula, just off the northern tip of Galveston, when the accident occurred.

Buffalo Marine officials accepted responsibility for the spill and said the company would pay for the cleanup. They refused, however, to speculate on what caused the accident, saying only that the high winds were at least partly to blame.

## Game wardens go undercover, arrest 23 in East Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Authorities say a yearlong investigation into East Texas poaching that bagged 23 suspects should help return public hunting lands to the public.

In the most sweeping case of its kind, game wardens went undercover to infiltrate close-knit groups of poachers, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced Monday.

Concentrated in a four-county area, the suspects are accused of running deer with dogs, intimidating legal hunters trying to use public lands and other violations.

"I feel like we've reclaimed that area for the public," said Col. Charles Hensley, the agency's law enforcement director. "Our people worked hard and done good, and we brought that thing down."

Nearly three dozen game wardens made the arrests in Jasper,

Hardin, Newton and Orange counties. The suspects face 46 charges, each punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.

"The investigation disclosed that outlaws have blatantly taken over public hunting lands through intimidation and have been flagrantly disregarding laws against running deer with dogs," said Larry Williford, the agency's regional law enforcement director in Rusk.

Poaching by running deer with dogs typically involves using dogs to chase deer out of wooded areas and into clearings or onto open roads, where poachers wait in ambush to shoot the deer as they cross the open ground.

The practice was prohibited statewide beginning with the 1990-91 hunting season.

Hensley said game wardens have known for some time that poaching by running deer with dogs has been a problem in the region.

"The majority of people put their dogs up and just didn't do it anymore," he said. "There are a few areas where people clenched their teeth and went on and did it anyway."

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### Woman in coma gives birth to premature baby

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — A woman raped in a nursing home last summer while in a coma from a 1985 car crash has given birth nine weeks prematurely to a 2-pound, 11-ounce boy.

Doctors said they believe it is the first case of someone getting pregnant and having a baby while in a chronic vegetative state.

The child is breathing on his own and will probably survive, said Dr. James Woods, a specialist in high-risk obstetrics whose medical team performed the natural delivery Monday at Strong Memorial Hospital.

Acting as guardians, the woman's Roman Catholic parents rejected an abortion on religious grounds and are said to be considering raising the baby. They have declined to be interviewed.

At 19, their daughter was aiming for a possible career in psychology when her car skidded on ice and slammed into a tree near Ithaca in central New York on Dec. 20, 1985. A tire resting on the

back seat tipped forward violently and banged her on the head.

### Stowaways die in cargo hold on U.S.-bound ship

NEW YORK (AP) — Three stowaways on a cargo ship bound from Africa to the United States died when they were poisoned by fumes in a sealed hold, the Coast Guard said today.

The vessel, flying a Singapore flag, arrived in New York today around dawn. It was to be met by U.S. immigration and customs officials, Coast Guard Petty Officer Bryan Oditt had said earlier.

The stowaways had sneaked onto the ship sometime before it left Abidjan, the capital of Ivory Coast in West Africa, and were believed to have hidden in a cargo hold for the trip across the Atlantic, Oditt said.

Apparently not knowing the illegal passengers were there, crew members fumigated the hold, a routine step, and sealed it, Oditt said.

A fourth stowaway was found alive on the ship, he said. Oditt didn't know where he had been hiding.

### Photographer testifies Baldwin kicked and hit him

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alex Baldwin punched a photographer in the nose as the man tried to video tape Baldwin and wife Kim Basinger as they arrived home from the hospital with their newborn daughter, the photographer testified.

Alan Zanger said Monday that Baldwin also kicked him while he was on the ground looking for his broken eyeglasses on Oct. 26. Zanger had been shooting from inside a pickup and got out when Baldwin approached.

Baldwin, 38, faces up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine if convicted of misdemeanor battery. The star of *The Hunt For Red October* and *The Shadow*, took copious notes in court as Zanger recounted the attack.

Zanger, who had been hired by a tabloid photographer, never completed his assignment, although he did capture Baldwin on film.

The jury watched the tape of Baldwin walking across the street toward Zanger. But the picture goes blank because Baldwin sprayed shaving cream on the window Zanger was shooting through.

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## Community Calendar

### March

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

**AL-ANON** will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky. For more information, call 669-0407.

**CLEAN AIR AL-ANON** will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-0407 or 669-3988.

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

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

**23 - FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS** Potluck Supper, 6 p.m., Clyde Carruth Pavilion. Featuring Tom Perry of Dallas in concert. For more information, contact John and Carolyn Stokes at 665-7896 or Jim and Kathleen Greene at 665-8067.

**23-25 - "48 HOUR REVIVAL"** at the First Baptist Church, 203 N. West, beginning at 6 p.m. March 23 into Monday night, March 25. Evangelist will be Rodney Gage. For more information, contact John Glover at 669-1155.

**25 - TOP O' TEXAS KNIFE AND FORK CLUB**, 7 p.m., Pampa Country Club. Speaker will be Bob Ford.

**25 - CREATIVE ARTISANS NETWORK** (formerly known as League of Pampa Writers) to hold its monthly meeting at the Lovett Memorial Library conference room at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Tomoko I. Mechler at 665-3002, Kelly Ebel at 665-2825 or Grant Johnson at 669-9887.

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

**30 - "TEN-PEN TWO-SOME"** for the Pampa Girl Scouts and their fathers at Harvester Lanes from 2-4 p.m. For more information, contact Paula Goff at 669-6862.

**30-31 - HERITAGE ART CLUB** will be hosting a display at Lovett Memorial Library. On Saturday, hours will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Sunday, hours will be 1-4 p.m. For more information, contact Betty McCracken at 665-1597.

### April

**1-4 - PRIMARIES RUNOFF EARLY VOTING.** For more information, contact County Clerk Wanda Carter's office at 669-8004.

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

**4 - ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP** meeting at 7 p.m. at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 2225 Perryton Parkway. Guest speaker this month will be Linda San Miguel, Outreach specialist through the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center. Please RSVP. For more information, contact Chrys at 665-0356.

**5 - TOP O' TEXAS SCOTTISH RITE ASSOCIATION** regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., at 1507 W. Kentucky. For more information, contact George Clark at 665-1917.

**9 - PRIMARIES RUNOFF VOTING DAY.** For more information, contact County Clerk Wanda Carter's office at 669-8004.

**14 - PAMPA SHRINE CLUB** serving its annual Bar-B-Que Feast at the Sportsman's Club, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds go to the Cripple Children's Transportation Fund. For more information, contact James Lewis at 669-7290 or 669-8056.

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

**14 - SOUTHSIDE SENIOR CITIZENS** hosting its Annual Tea from 3-5 p.m. at the Center, 438 W. Crawford. For more information, contact Mae Williams at 665-4765.

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

## 150 killed in disco fire

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Fear spread as fast as the flames, as hundreds of young people celebrating the end of the school year at a Manila disco realized there were no fire exits. A stampede ensued.

When the blaze was finally put out early today, firemen faced the horror before them: at least 150 dead, many bodies so charred they could not be identified.

Firemen worked with their bare hands to gingerly separate the burned bodies. Many were so overwhelmed by the grisly task they had to stop and share sips of gin to fortify themselves.

More than 12 hours later, only 16 of the dead had been identified by relatives, many only on the basis of shoes or jewelry.

The fire was the worst in the country's history, Philippine officials said. It also was the world's worst nightclub blaze since a fire in Southgate, Ky., killed 164 people in 1977.

Survivors said they saw electrical sparks and smoke shortly after midnight (11:05 a.m. EST Monday), moments before the trendy Ozone Disco Pub suddenly went pitch black. The disco's acoustic foam insulation then ignited in a fierce blaze that quickly swept through the hall, investigators say.

Disc jockey Marvin Reyes said he saw flames catch the hair and clothes of screaming victims.

Some of the 350 customers were crushed by the disco's falling roof. Others rushed to escape through the only entrance, a narrow front corridor, where the bodies piled up waist-deep as dozens were trampled to death.

"I could not do anything," said Remy Menguis, a door guard. "There was just a rush of people."

Megis said his own son, Russel, was among those killed.

"We saw smoke and tried to run outside, but were caught in a stampede," said one survivor,

who gave only her first name, Rose. "I was stepped on, but managed to force my way out."

She said two of the three friends she was with were missing.

The disco's original fire exit had been blocked by a new building built next door, investigators said.

President Fidel Ramos visited the disco, called it a "terrible tragedy" and issued orders for inspections of entertainment facilities to ensure they observe building codes. He said the disco's four owners would be arrested if they did not appear voluntarily for questioning.

Hermilo Ocampo, one of the owners, denied any blame, saying the disco was issued a fire safety certificate by the Bureau of Fire Protection.

Hospital officials said dozens of survivors had been brought in with third-degree burns, and their wards were so overcrowded that many other injured survivors were sent away to more distant facilities.

Fire officials had earlier estimated as many as 50 additional bodies remained under debris inside the building, located on a street crowded with bars, but no more victims were found by midday today.

Many bodies were so badly burned they stuck to each other, so rescuers had to be careful to avoid dismembering the remains. Victims' bones were visible through the charred skin.

Officials gathered shoes, makeup kits and jewelry left by the victims into a display for relatives to examine. Erlinda Mandap, 45, sat weeping after finding only her daughter's shoes.

She was not alone in her despair.

"I'm all alone now. What will happen to me?" said Tess Sagario, 40, whose son and daughter had been inside.

## Affidavits allege Philip Morris altered nicotine levels

WASHINGTON (AP) - Philip Morris created a machine to watch smokers' brain waves react to nicotine, former company scientists contend - part of a rash of fresh allegations that the world's largest tobacco company has researched and controlled nicotine in cigarettes.

Affidavits by former employees, unveiled Monday by the Food and Drug Administration, contradict company executives' sworn testimony to Congress that they have not manipulated nicotine content.

Philip Morris, maker of Marlboro cigarettes, said it had not reviewed the affidavits, but it called the latest allegations "similar to those made by others in the past."

The Justice Department opened a perjury investigation of tobacco executives based on the earlier accusations.

Last week the industry's fifth-largest company, the Liggett Group, settled its part of a nation-

## Philip Morris' stock skidded \$4 a share on the New York Stock Exchange. Other tobacco stocks also tumbled.

wide lawsuit claiming tobacco firms manipulated nicotine to hook smokers. And the new accounts by company insiders could help plaintiffs in the continuing lawsuit against Philip Morris and other firms.

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., a longtime industry critic, said Congress should conduct further investigations in light of the latest findings, but he asserted lawmakers had "been silenced because of payoffs from the tobacco industry."

"It's important for the Justice Department to conduct its inquiry because Congress is not going to do its job," Waxman said.

Philip Morris' stock skidded \$4 a share on the New York Stock

Exchange. Other tobacco stocks also tumbled.

The FDA released the statements by two former top scientists and a newly retired plant manager under a federal law that requires it to make public evidence it plans to use in its pending crackdown on cigarettes.

The scientists alleged Philip Morris built an "olfactometer" to give smokers precise amounts of nicotine and other chemicals. The machine, when combined with a computer and neurologists' equipment, recorded nicotine interacting with receptors in the brain.

At certain levels, the nicotine "appeared to mimic ... addictive substances like cocaine," testified

lan Uydess, who resigned as a Philip Morris senior scientist in 1989.

Added former research director William Farone: The machine "might be used to determine whether cigarettes had adequate levels of nicotine, and whether a particular ingredient was a nicotine enhancer or nicotine substitute."

It was unclear if the olfactometer was used with marketed brands or just in research.

Also, Uydess told the FDA that Philip Morris cut down young tobacco plants in the 1980s because the leaves that grew back before the regular harvest contained more nicotine. Uydess said he didn't know if any nicotine-rich leaves from this "ratooning" were put into U.S. cigarettes.

The employees' statements go on to contradict key testimony before Congress in 1994 by then-Philip Morris President William Campbell.

## Teen's disappearance prompts soul searching in farming town

POTTER VALLEY, Calif. (AP) - As dogs, divers and volunteers search for a missing 14-year-old girl, this tiny farming community is being forced to confront the growing problem of teenagers and drugs.

Raina Bo Shirley disappeared last week after she and a friend went to a well-known party spot with a suspected drug dealer and his 13-year-old nephew.

The other girl was found partially clothed and in a drugged stupor, and authorities fear Raina was drugged, raped and kidnapped. The 13-year-old boy was in custody and the older man was being sought.

"We all know this is a drug-related problem," Raina's grandfather Ed Nickerman told a town

gathering Monday in the auditorium at Potter Valley Community High School.

"If you get involved (with drugs), you will tear the heart out of your parents and tear the heart out of your brothers and sisters," Nickerman told the assembly in this sleepy town of 3,000, surrounded by rolling hills 110 miles north of San Francisco.

As Nickerman spoke, dogs trained to smell decomposing bodies were used to search the rugged Eel River canyon. Authorities also drained the Van Arsdale Reservoir on the river to make it easier for divers to search.

A crew of about 20 volunteers went door-to-door asking people to check their barns, sheds and

fields. The search resumes today.

"I still have high hopes that if she's not found in the next few days that she'll be found alive someplace," Nickerman said.

Raina disappeared last Wednesday with her 13-year-old friend. The other girl was found in town later that night and told authorities that she and Raina had accepted a ride from 28-year-old Arnoldo Jorge Manzo and his nephew, who was also Raina's classmate.

Later that night, Raina's clothes and backpack were found about a mile downstream from the "luau," a popular party area on the north bank of the Eel River, upstream from the reservoir.

A warrant was issued for Manzo's arrest. Authorities were

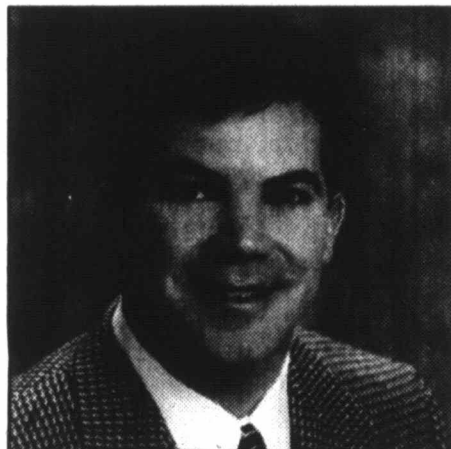
searching for the Mexican citizen in San Jose, San Diego and along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Meantime, residents attached purple streamers to cars and trees, symbolizing the search.

Many of those townspeople got together with their teenage sons and daughters to share their thoughts, fears and memories of the missing blue-eyed blonde who was her 8th-grade class president.

But along with the grief was some guilt and soul searching among people who knew Raina and her friends experimented with drugs but had never asked them to stop.

"This has opened a lot of eyes for people in Potter Valley," said Brandy Wood, 16, a sophomore at the high school.



Rodney Gage - Evangelist

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with Rodney Gage

### Schedule Of Events:

<b>Saturday, March 23</b>	5:45 p.m.	Hamburger Cookout - Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Crusade Service
<b>Sunday, March 24</b>	9:45 a.m.	High Attendance Day & Youth Sunday School Rally
	11:00 a.m.	Crusade Service
	5:50 p.m.	"Why Good People's Kids Do Bad Things"
	7:00 p.m.	Crusade Service
<b>Monday, March 25</b>	11:45 a.m.	Adult Luncheon - Fellowship Hall
	6:15 p.m.	Youth Pizza Blast
	7:00 p.m.	Crusade Service

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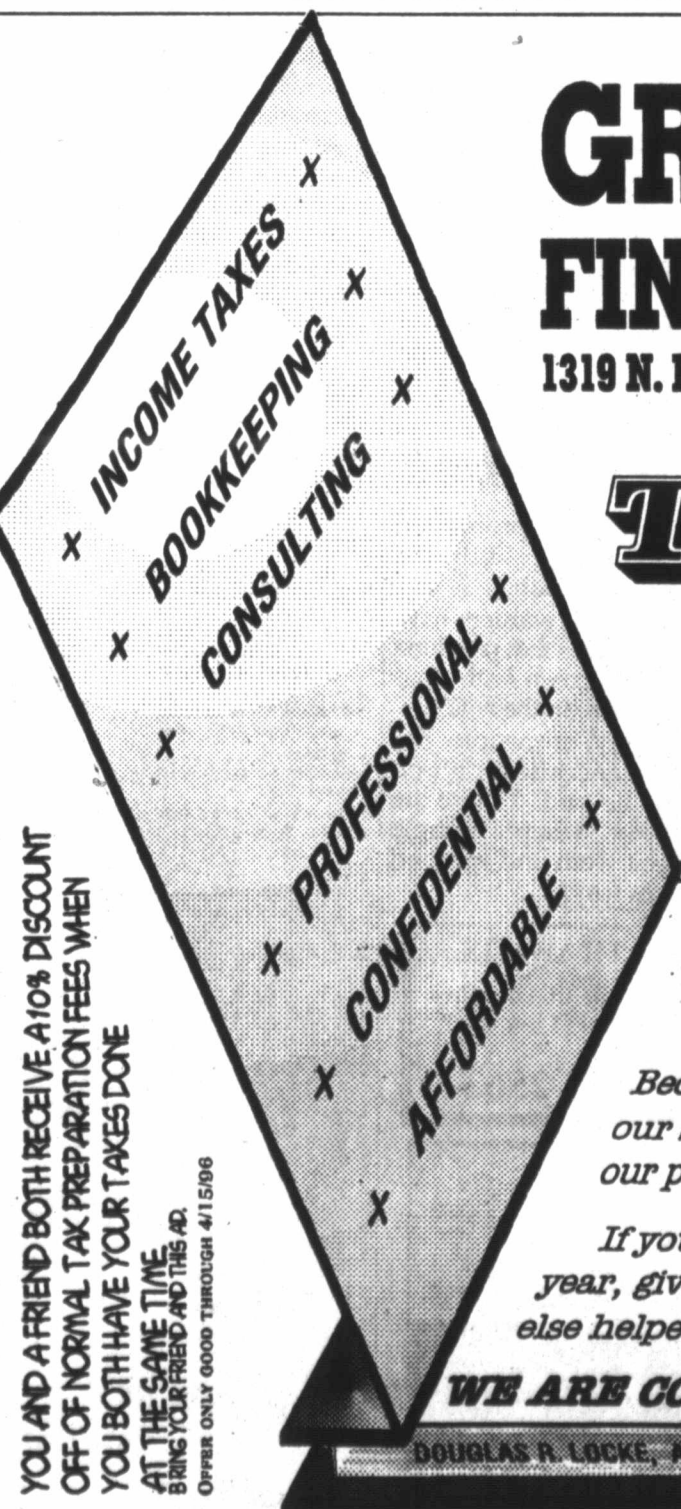
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## In agriculture Danny Nusser



### Extension Services to have cow/calf and CRP meetings

There will be two meetings in the coming weeks that should be of interest to cattlemen in the area.

The first meeting will be a cow/calf clinic scheduled for March 25-26 and sponsored by the County Extension Services in Gray, Carson, Roberts and Wheeler counties. The second meeting will be a Conservation Reserve Program meeting on April 4; it is co-sponsored by Carson, Gray and Roberts County Extension Services.

Below are the agendas for the coming meetings:

#### Cow/Calf Clinic

Monday, March 25 - Gray County Courthouse Annex - Pampa

6 p.m. - Meal (furnished by MLS of Nebraska)

- Recent Beef Quality Audit - Dr. Dan Hale, Extension Meat Specialist College Station

- Value Based Marketing, Formula Pricing, Captive Supplies, Perceptions and Misperceptions - Dr. Ted McCollum, Extension Beef Specialist

- Managing the Breeding Season on Cows - Dr. Ted McCollum

Tuesday, March 26 - Miami School, Miami

6 p.m. - Meal (meal furnished by MLS)

- Goats as a Brush Control

Option - Mark Mosley, Okla., State Range Conservationist

- Parasite Control on Livestock - Dr. Carl Patrick, Extension Entomologist

- Managing Rangelands After Wildfires - J.F. Cadenhead, Extension Range Specialist, Vernon

- Herd Health Management: Spring Checklist - Joe Hillhouse, DVM, Carson County Vet Clinic, Panhandle and White Deer

(RSVP Friday, March 22, by 5 p.m. - (806)669-8033).

CRP Program Opportunities

Thursday, April 4 - Gray County Courthouse Annex

7 p.m. - Cost Analysis and Comparison of Grazing Options - Dr. Steve Amosson, Extension Economist

- Cropland Options for CRP - Dr. Brent Bean, Extension Agronomist

- Managing Grasses for Grazing: Fertility, Supplementation, Etc. - Dr. Ted McCollum, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

- Old World Bluestem - Historical Background: Management, Fertility, Water Requirements, Re-seeding for Native Grasses - Dr. Jerry Cox, Extension Range Specialist, Vernon.

If you have any questions about these meetings, please let me know or call 669-8033 at the Gray County Extension Office.

### State briefs

#### Gore praises service center for small businesses

HOUSTON (AP) - Vice President Al Gore says the staff of a one-stop federal service center for small business owners is blazing a trail for more efficient government.

"Your actions here are a showcase of reinvention principles - partnership among all levels of government and among agencies," Gore on Monday told employees of the U.S. General Store for Small Business.

The prototype center that makes it easier to deal with a maze of bureaucracy opened last July. It allows business operators to consult with about 20 federal agencies about licenses, regulation and loans all under a single roof rather than visit individual offices scattered around Houston.

Four thousand customers have been helped at the Houston facility, where they deal with one person competent to answer questions about each agency rather than a separate person for each one.

The center is the product of the National Performance Review, a task force headed by Gore to make government more efficient.

#### New book explores father-son bond

AUSTIN (AP) - One man's son has died. Another awaits his boy's birth. Some fathers and sons have been drawn closer by tragedy, others by something as simple as their love of golf.

From the famous to the unknown, they've been captured by the camera of Bill Hanson, a single father celebrating his relationship with his son, Miles.

He and Miles are among more than 50 father-son teams in his book, *Father & Son, The Bond*, composed of black-and-white photographs by Hanson and short essays from many of the men.

Part of Hanson's goal was to provide a counterpoint to all the attention paid the problem of

fathers who don't meet their responsibilities.

#### UT says it's not going into Internet to compete

AUSTIN (AP) - The University of Texas at Austin is considering expanding its access to the Internet beyond active staff and students. But the school says it isn't interested in competing with private online vendors.

The school has begun a pilot program involving a handful of retired faculty members in the Austin area, giving them limited Internet access on a system separate from the UT system that serves the campus.

A task force on Internet access determined more than a year ago that demand from the extended UT family could be tremendous.

But the primary focus of the new system, UTXnet, will be retirees and not alumni, said Charles Warlick, director of the UT Computation Center.

#### Trustees mandate ethics program for elementary pupils

IRVING (AP) - Irving school board members unanimously adopted a proposal Monday to teach ethics to elementary school children.

The five-point ethical values program, believed to be the first of its kind in the state, will emphasize citizenship, integrity, fairness, respect for others and personal responsibility.

"You don't have to agree with that particular point of view, but you do need to listen and respect that person's point of view," said Colvin Gibson, a member of the Ethics Committee of the suburban Dallas district.

School board president Terry Waldrum said the district wants to prevent problems, not just deal with those that occur.

"It's unfortunate that our society has come to a point where we're talking about ethical values and it's news," Waldrum said.

#### Arbor Day group offers free trees

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb. - Ten free shade trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during March 1996.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The ten shade trees are Red Oak, Weeping Willow, Sugar Maple, Green Ash, Thornless Honeylocust, Pin Oak, River Birch, Tuliptree, Silver Maple and Red Maple.

"These trees were selected to provide shade and beauty, and a variety of forms, leaf shapes and beautiful fall colors," Foundation president John Rosenow said.

The trees will be shipped post-paid at the right time for planting in April or May with enclosed planting instructions. The 6 to 12 inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's bimonthly publication, *Arbor Day*, and *The Tree Book* with information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Free Shade Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31.

## In Midwest, Dole has blue-collar blues

By JOHN KING  
AP Political Writer

TAYLOR, Mich. (AP) - Elmer Gauvin doesn't begrudge Bob Dole his spring celebration, but he has a sobering message for the GOP standard-bearer: "This is Clinton country."

Hearing that, Larry Morin feels compelled to chime in. "I voted for Reagan twice and I'm not about to make that mistake again," says the semiretired engineer. "The Republican Party is not for the common man."

It is a long way, of course, from March to November. But as Dole looks beyond today's primaries in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin to the fall contest with President Clinton, there are troubling signs for him in places like Taylor, a blue-collar bastion outside Detroit.

Here, and in like-minded working class suburbs, many voters earned the nickname Reagan Democrats by crossing over to vote Republican in the 1980s. As they look ahead to November, many of these voters say they are back in the Democratic fold - and planning to support President Clinton.

"Republicans - all they want to do is take care of the rich," said Gauvin, taking a break from helping his son's Boy Scout troop sell pretzels to raise money for summer camp. "Clinton is in there trying to fight for us."

In two dozen weekend interviews here, and in recent conversations in other Midwestern battleground states, few blue-collar workers shared Gauvin's unbridled enthusiasm for Clinton.

Indeed, many are still stung by Clinton's support of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which was vigorously opposed by organized labor.

"I think Clinton betrayed the unions," said Dean Rabe, a 30-year United Auto Workers member in Illinois. Still, faced with a Dole-Clinton choice, "I'll probably have to go with Clinton," Rabe said.

Dole will have a hard time winning the industrial Midwest battlegrounds if this sentiment carries into November. The four states with primaries today, all carried by Clinton in 1992, carry a combined 72 electoral votes - more than one quarter of the 270 needed to win the White House.

To succeed statewide in Michigan, a Republican must make inroads in Detroit's working class suburbs, as Ronald Reagan did in 1980 and 1984 and as GOP Gov. John Engler did in 1990 and 1994. Engler, for example, got 60 percent of the vote in Taylor even as an equal number voted Democrat for Congress.

But as Dole angles for support this year, one giant obstacle is sentiment left over from last year's budget debates.

Florence Felong, for example, supported George Bush four years ago, because "I generally trust the Republicans for president and I didn't like Clinton's morals."

But she says Clinton is likely to get her vote this time, in part because, at 74, she questions whether the 72-year-old Dole has the stamina for the job.

But it's more than that. Her sister is confined to a nursing home, and Felong worries that she, too,



Bob Dole

might end up there.

"Gingrich and those Republicans want to mess with Medicare," she said. "I don't care much for Clinton, but I don't think we have much of a choice."

Becky Cress, too, says Clinton is likely to get her vote - "as the lesser of two evils. Or three evils."

She is a computer programmer and "upper middle class" mother of three young girls, a registered Democrat in suburban Bloomfield Hills.

Two years ago, she crossed party lines to support Engler's reelection, because of tax cuts and welfare reform. In 1992, she voted for Ross Perot because "I was disgusted with politics." But she says she would be embarrassed to vote for the Texas businessman again.

"Have I been helped by Clinton?"

No," she says. "But I haven't been hurt. And I don't get the sense of what Dole is all about."

She, too, volunteered concerns about House Speaker Newt Gingrich, saying, "these guys are a little too harsh for me."

There was little doubt that Dole's work as Senate majority leader, and close cooperation with Gingrich, has hurt him among blue-collar voters who view the Republican Congress as friendly to the rich and indifferent, if not unfair, to the working class.

"Clinton convinced them Republicans were being mean about Medicare and Medicaid and that has stuck," said Michigan pollster Ed Sarpolus. "For Dole to win he has to change the subject to taxes and spending and maybe welfare."

Dole is trying to do just that, noting at every stop these days that Clinton has twice vetoed GOP welfare plans. And he refers to the slowing economy as "the Clinton crunch," hoping to steer middle class economic angst to the incumbent.

But as he makes his pitch, Dole would be wise to learn something from the blue-collar appeal of rival Pat Buchanan.

"I think we will have a recession probably soon," said Larry Lucas, an auto technician from Taylor. He is a registered Republican who thinks "Clinton has a hard time with the truth." Yet while he would vote for Buchanan against Clinton, he said he would likely back Clinton over Dole.

"The Democrats seem to worry about guys like me more if we have a recession," he said.

### Bank officer says he questioned loan, but was put off

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - A Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan officer who balked at a loan now at the center of the Whitewater case testified Monday that he was skeptical of the loan because the value of the property was inflated and Paul himself said he didn't know why he was asking for it.

The \$825,000 real estate loan to sawmill operator Dean Paul is key to the criminal fraud and conspiracy charges against McDougal, his ex-wife, Susan, and Gov. Jim Guy Tucker.

Prosecutors claim Paul was the front man for a deal to infuse money into financier David Hale's small business investment company so that Hale could qualify for more federally backed money.

The government contends that \$500,000 of the money went to Hale's Capital Management Services Inc. and was used to gain about \$15 million in matching federal money.

The trial resumes today.

Don Denton, a former loan officer who was given immunity from prosecution, testified Monday that he was skeptical of the loan because the value of the property was inflated and Paul himself said he didn't know why he was asking for it.

"He said he was accommodating his friend, David Hale," Denton said. He said Hale accompanied Paul to the meeting but left before it began.

Denton first brought his concerns to Madison president John Latham, then directly to McDougal, he said.

"Jim, in his very clever, cavalier way, comforted me and assured me not to worry about it, that he knew what he was doing," Denton said.

Denton said when he persisted with his objections, McDougal told him to, "Stop

questioning the loan and put it together."

The deal closed in February 1986, after Denton demanded that Paul personally guarantee the note.

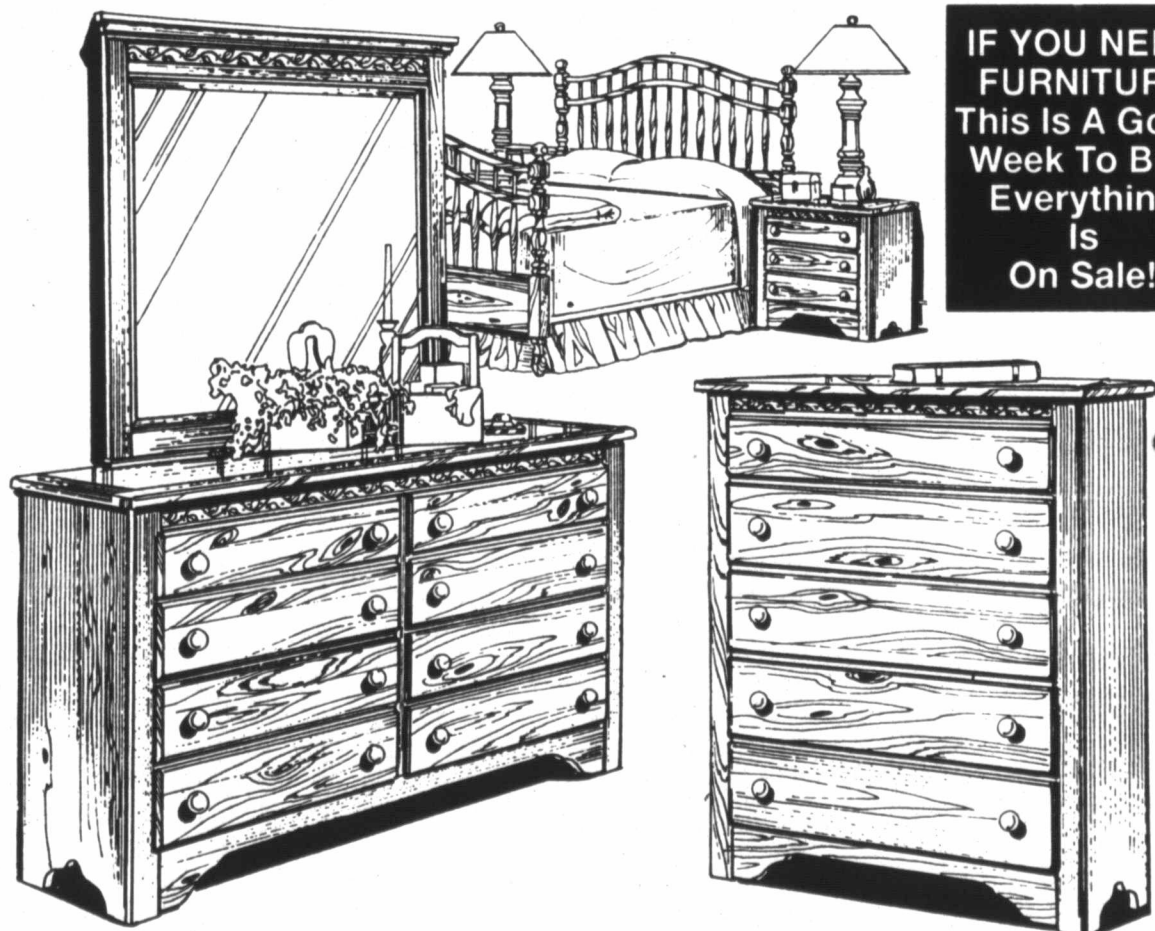
Denton said McDougal told him the loan was to enable Hale to increase his firm's lending limit and join Madison in future deals. However, at the start of cross-examination by McDougal's attorney, Denton said McDougal never told him the purpose of the loan.

Hale, the prosecution's chief witness, pleaded guilty to separate charges of defrauding the federal Small Business Administration. His sentencing is set for Monday.

Tucker and the McDougals are accused in a 21-count federal indictment of fraudulently obtaining \$3 million in loans from Madison and Capital Management Services.

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## Third Marriage Is A Charm For Man Blessed With Bliss

DEAR ABBY: After two divorces, I thought I had had my fill of marriage — little did I know.

At a New Year's Eve party, I met Edna, a beautiful widow. She had three children, ages 4, 8 and 12.

When I started dating her, all my friends screamed, "Jim, are you out of your mind? She has three kids!"

Well, love is not only blind, it's also deaf. So, to make a long story short, I asked her to marry me and she replied, "Is tomorrow too soon?"

Edna and I had 40 years of wedded bliss when the good Lord took her to heaven.

I just celebrated my 87th birthday, am in excellent health and live in a beautiful retirement home in Florida. My children and grandchildren overwhelm me with long-distance telephone calls, letters and gifts. I don't want to bore you, but the point of this letter is: Just because a man has two strikes against him doesn't mean he's out.

JIMMY WOODWARD

DEAR JIMMY: Thanks for a letter that may inspire others to realize that with a little bit of luck and the willingness to try, they can be winners, too.

DEAR ABBY: Your comment on "Larry King Live" recently was very disturbing. When someone called in and asked you if sex on the first date was OK, you replied, "Why



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

not?"

BETTY BOZARD, GREENWOOD, S.C.

DEAR BETTY: Thank you for writing. I understood the question to be: "Is a kiss on the first date OK?"

Never would I approve of sex on the first date, or the second or even the third date.

DEAR ABBY: I have enjoyed your column for many years — your wisdom has helped me a great deal. I would like to share an article that was read to us parents at a recent Fitchburg State College football banquet by one of the trainers.

A CONCERNED PARENT, BOSTON

DEAR PARENT: Thanks for sharing a perceptive essay from which we can all benefit:

BE CAREFUL

Be careful of your thoughts

For your thoughts become your words.

Be careful of your words For your words become your actions.

Be careful of your actions For your actions become your habits.

Be careful of your habits For your habits become your character.

Be careful of your character For your character becomes your destiny.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

DEAR READERS: A truism: "An optimist is the kind of person who believes that a housefly is looking for a way to get out." GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

## Horoscope



Wednesday, March 20, 1996

If you strive to expand and build upon previously laid foundations in the year ahead, the results could be impressive. You will be on the right course, so do not give up hope.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** In order to achieve to your full potential today, you must find the proper motivation. If you don't, you might not push yourself as hard as you should. Pisces, 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 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make

sure to state your zodiac sign. **ARIES (March 21-April 19)** If you are too opinionated today, people who intended to cooperate with you might turn around and look the other way when you request assistance.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Today you will be better at rationalizing and making excuses than you will be at producing results. Find a reason to get things done.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Left to your own devices, you'll accomplish what you set out to do today. However, do not provide an opening for nonproductive people to interfere.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Partnership arrangements will not function well today if there is no common goal. Both parties must agree on every detail.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Your head might be in the clouds today and your mind might not be focused on the task at hand. Try to stick to jobs that require minimal concentration.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Take care not to involve a friend in something he or she cannot afford. Everyone, including you,

will feel bad if the project does not pan out.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** For the sake of expediency today, you might do something against your better judgment just to get a matter resolved. Later, you might regret your impulsiveness.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** Companions could steer you off course today if you have stronger faith in their ideas than you do in your own. Make sure to evaluate what you need.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** You may not feel like being sociable early in the day. However, don't reject invitations, because by evening, you will look for something fun to do.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Usually it's unproductive to rely too heavily upon intuition, but today your hunches may provide you with important insights.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** If you give them adequate time today, complications will have a way of working themselves out. Do not automatically push the panic button.

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For Better or For Worse



Ario & Janis



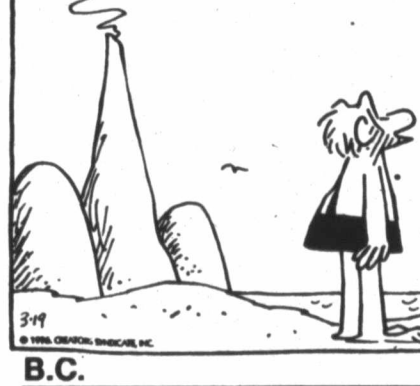
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Walnut Cove



Marvin



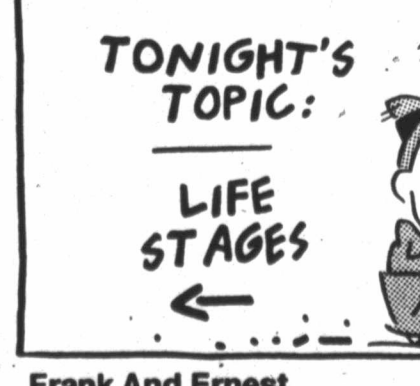
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Eek & Meek



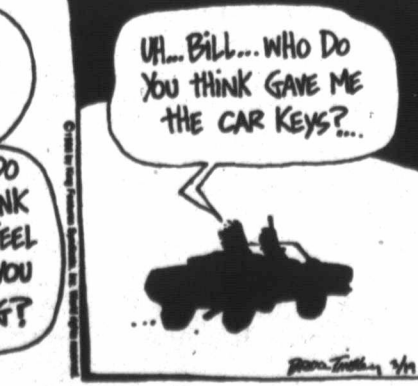
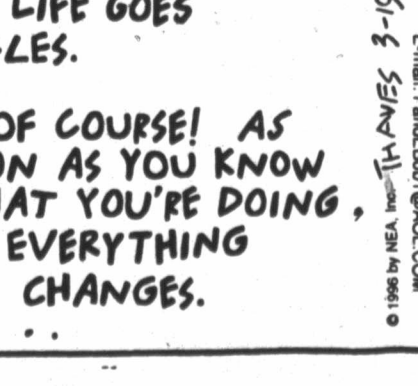
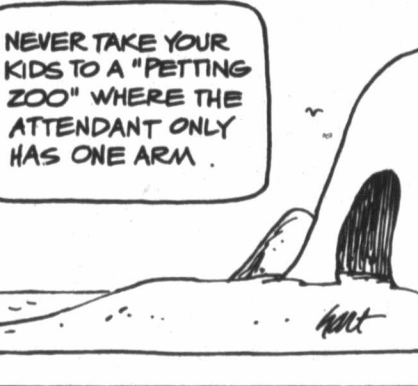
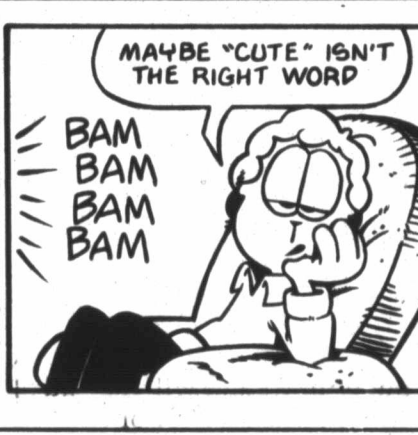
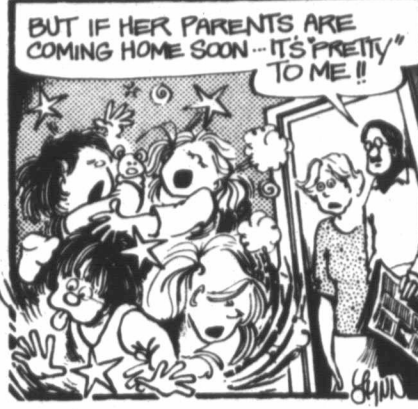
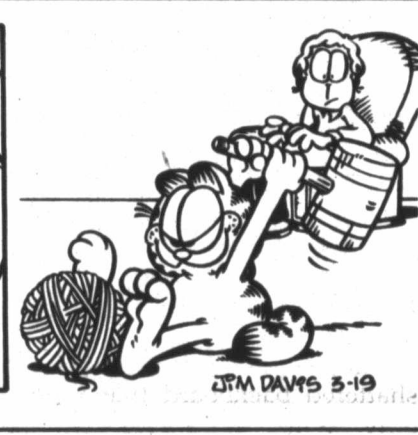
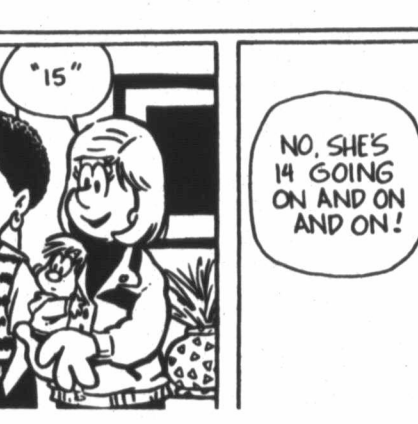
The Born Loser



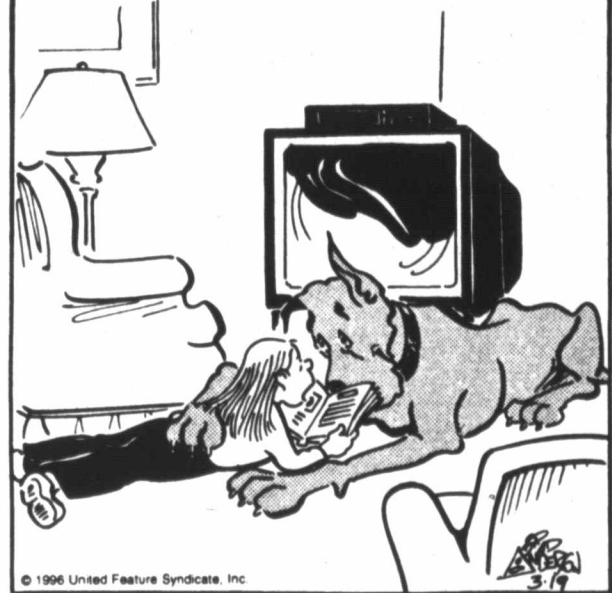
Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore



"Look how long her fingernails are. How can she make a fist?"



"I'd like to get back to my reading, so cut the buttering up and let me know what you want."

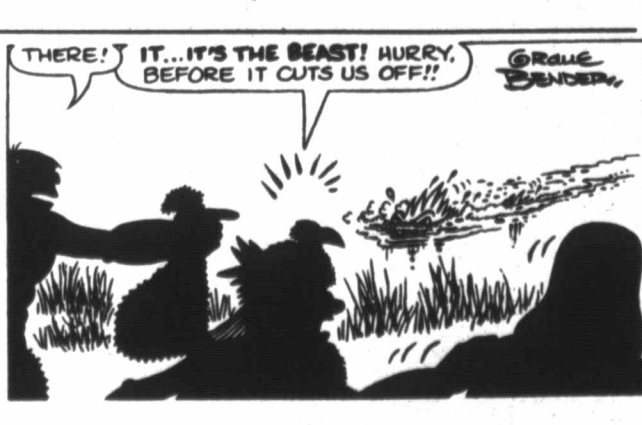
The Family Circus



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Grizzwells



Alley Oop



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Sports

Notebook

SOFTBALL

**PAMPA** — The City of Pampa Recreation Department will be offering the following spring softball leagues: Men's Open, Women's Open, Mixed Open and Men's Church.

The entry fees or sponsor's fees for teams are \$200 per team. The player's fee is \$12 per person with a minimum of 11 persons for Men's, Women's and Church League, and 12 persons for Mixed.

Entry deadline is March 29 at 5 p.m. There will be no teams added after this date.

Schedules will be available after 1 p.m. on April 4 at the Recreation Office.

Play begins on April 8 for Men's Open and April 9 for Mixed, Women's Open and Men's Church.

Roster forms, fact sheets and by-laws are available at the Recreation Office at 816 S. Hobart between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If more information is needed, call Shane Stokes at 669-5770 during business hours.

BASKETBALL

**WICHITA, Kan. (AP)** — Randy Smithson, a top junior college coach who played for his father at Wichita State, was introduced as the school's coach.

Smithson replaces Scott Thompson, who resigned Feb. 27 after four seasons. Smithson, whose father Gene coached the Shockers from 1978-86, is 273-95 in 11 seasons at Butler County Junior College.

FOOTBALL

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — San Francisco withdrew its request to hold the 1999 Super Bowl and will instead concentrate on 2001 or 2002, when it hopes to have a new stadium.

The NFL will meet in October to discuss the 2000 game, as well as a replacement site for the 1999 game. NFL spokesman Joe Browne said the finalists for those games are Atlanta; Tampa, Fla.; Miami; Arizona; and Los Angeles.

The league granted San Francisco the 1999 game with the proviso that \$26 million be spent on upgrading Candlestick Park.

**SEATTLE (AP)** — NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue has summoned Seahawks president Dave Behring to New York on Friday regarding the team's offseason workouts in Anaheim, Calif.

The workouts began in the former Rams Park, and Tagliabue wants to know why the team can't train at its usual camp in Kirkland. Behring announced Feb. 2 that he intends to move to the team to Southern California.

**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)** — Backup quarterback Billy Joe Hobert signed a multiyear contract with the Oakland Raiders. Hobert, 25, appeared in four games in 1995, including the season finale against Denver.

**KEARNEY, Neb. (AP)** — Former Nebraska nose tackle Christian Peter was convicted of disturbing the peace for grabbing a woman around the neck at a bar this month.

Peter, 23, a senior co-captain for the two-time national champion Cornhuskers, entered a no contest plea to the misdemeanor charge in Buffalo County Court and was found guilty. He is scheduled to be sentenced May 21, and could be jailed for up to three months and ordered to pay a \$500 fine.

On Jan. 5, Peter completed an 18-month probation in Lancaster County Court. He had pleaded no contest and was sentenced to probation in the 1993 third-degree sexual assault of a former Miss Nebraska at a Lincoln bar.

'Ham-Slam' brought Red Raiders respect they were seeking

**LUBBOCK, Texas (AP)** — With one monster slam dunk, Texas Tech's Darvin Ham captured the national attention and respect that the Red Raiders had sought all season.

Ham's destruction of a Richmond Coliseum backboard during Sunday's 92-73 victory over North Carolina in a second-round NCAA East Regional contest has been featured by virtually every sports media outlet in the country.

Enlarged photos of the shattered backboard, shards of glass covering the court, graced the sports pages and front pages of numerous newspapers.

"It was a heckuva play to go up and dunk over two guys who are, like, 6-foot-10," Ham said. "But I wonder what would have happened had the backboard not shattered. If the backboard didn't shatter, no exposure."

"It just makes me want to do something else exciting, but I don't know if I can top that. Maybe I'll have to make the ball explode."

Ham and the Red Raiders are guaranteed a marquee spot in the 1996 Men's NCAA Division I Championship highlight reel, regardless of what happens from here on out.

But for Ham, who pushed his school-record dunk total to 115 with four "Ham Slams" against the Tar Heels, it was only one of many.

"People are really excited," Ham said Monday as he gathered for practice in Lubbock. "I'm excited, too, but to me it's just another dunk."

"I know it will go down in the history of the tournament because of the setting, North Carolina, getting into the Sweet 16 and all that. But I'm not too excited. The season's not over, yet."

Ham signed a portion of the shattered backboard that reportedly will be placed in the Richmond Coliseum trophy case. Dickey said he was told the ill-fated rim — which has seen its last shot — will be sent to Tech as a memento of the occasion.

The next obstacle for the eighth-ranked and third-seeded Raiders (30-1 overall) is second-seeded Big East power Georgetown (28-7) at 7:40 p.m. EST Thursday at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

The winner will face the winner of the other regional semifinal, between Massachusetts (33-1) and Arkansas (20-12), at 6 p.m. EST Saturday for a berth in the Final Four.

"Obviously, the past weekend was great for our program," Tech head coach James Dickey said. "I'm proud for our players. After Friday (and a 74-73 squeaker over Northern Illinois), we talked to a lot of players and coaches who had been in the NCAA Tournament, and one thing they all agreed on is the first game is always the most difficult to win. We were happy to get by with a one-point win."

"Sunday, the players went in with tremendous confidence. They were just playing the team on the court. They did not get all caught up in playing a team like North Carolina. That was very important. Now it's on to the Sweet 16. This is a great opportunity for our ball club."

The Raiders, riding the country's longest winning streak at 23 straight, already have advanced farther than they ever have since the tournament field was expanded to 64 teams in 1985. Tech, in fact, never before had won more than one game during a single NCAA Tourney.

But to keep the dream alive, the Raiders must fell one of the tournament's true Goliaths. The Hoyas are led by sophomore all-American guard Allen Iverson, who poured through a total of 56 points in two games at Richmond, and a collection of massive inside players led by 6-foot-9, 235-pound Othella Harrington, 6-foot-9, 240-pound Jahidi White and 6-foot-9, 206-pound Jerome Williams.

"With Iverson ... you just hope he misses a few shots," Dickey said. "You just try to contain him as best you can. He's a terrific scorer. He puts it up, and they just go get it when he misses. They're really aggressive on the boards."

"They start Othella Harrington, and then they bring in Jahidi White off the bench. That's two pretty big people to have to push around all night."

The Raiders will counter beefy Georgetown with the rather spindly Tony Battie, Jason Sasser, Gionet Cooper and, of course, Ham, who's strength is now a matter of record.

Soccer playoff team



(Pampa News photo)

This season's Pampa High School girls' soccer team made the playoffs for the first time in the history of the program. Team members are (front row, l-r) Jessie Maddox, Jeanette Silva, Lucy Silva, Christi Walkup, Hillary Ybarra and Tina Dwight; (middle row, l-r) Marisol Resendiz, Candace Ramirez, Michelle Guerra, Amber Hayes, Annette Botello and Holly Liu; (back row, l-r) Gloria Resendiz, Carla Wood, Lindy Sells, Valorie Johnson, Serenity King and Cara East. The Lady Harvesters placed third in the District 3 standings to qualify for the playoffs.

Wheeler, Canadian contestants take top honors at Tulia Tri-State Rodeo

**TULIA** — Wheeler's Leann Keathley and Canadian's Sanja Hext tied for all-around cowgirl honors at a Tri-State High School Rodeo last weekend in Tulia.

Canadian's Matt Reeves won all-around cowboy honors.

Tri-State High School Rodeo at Tulia

Barebacks: 1. (tie) George Neill, Lazbuddie, 67 points, and J.J. Blackshear, Wellington, 67 points; 3. Chris Knight, Boys Ranch, 65.

Saddle broncs: 1. Clint McAdams, Stratford, 63 points; 2. Clint Talcott, Stratford, 59.

Calf roping: 1. Matt Reeves, Canadian, 10.828 seconds; 2. Quentin Harper, Gruver, 12.59; 3. Seth Elliott, Childress, 13.306.

Steer wrestling: 1. Matt

Reeves, Canadian, 24.236 seconds; 2. Rusty Slavin, Canadian, 35.35.596.

Team roping: 1. Travis Holland, Gruver, Ferron Lucert Jr., Gruver, 8.440 seconds; 2. Blake Williamson, Canyon, Poke Maynes, Gruver, 10.359; 3. Bucky Williams, Swisher County, Josh Morris, Lazbuddie, 10.171.

Bull riding: 1. Rowdy Thomas, S&S, 75 points; 2. Anthony Jackson, Boys Ranch, 74; 3. Layne McCasland, Wheeler, 73.

Ribbon roping: 1. Ollie Lanham, Dumas, 10.04 seconds; 2. Ryan Brewer, Tex-Mex, 11.479; 3. Rusty Slavin, Canadian, 12.964.

Barrels: 1. Sanja Hext, Canadian, 17.655 seconds; 2. Leann Keathley, Wheeler, 17.689; 3. Denise Sexton, Wellington, 18.060.

Poles: 1. Leann Keathley, Wheeler, 21.323 seconds; 2. Sequin Downey, Randall, 21.741; 3. Kembra Melbory, Pampa, 22.159.

Goat tying: 1. Sanja Hext, Canadian, 10.715 seconds; 2. Amanda Stehr, Wheeler, 11.358; 3. Shay Henderson, Hereford, 11.448.

Breakaway roping: 1. Manchie Light, Randall, 6.248 seconds; 2. Leann Keathley, Wheeler, 6.414; 3. Sanja Hext, Canadian, 6.991.

All-around cowboy: Matt Reeves, Canadian, 21 points.

All-around cowgirl: (tie) Leann Keathley, Wheeler, 22 points; and Sanja Hext, Canadian, 22 points.

Borger boys take lead in district golf

**CANYON** — The opening round in District 1-4A boys golf was held Monday at Canyon with Borger shooting a 310 to take over first place.

Pampa is in fourth place, four strokes behind third-place Hereford.

The Pampa girls open district action today at the Canyon Country Club.

First round

Boys

Team totals: 1. Borger 310; 2. Canyon 324; 3. Hereford 325; 4. Pampa 329; 5. (tie) Hereford B and Borger B 338; 7. Caprock 348; 8. Pampa B 353; 9. Randall 357; 10. Canyon B 362; 11. Dumas 406; 12. Randall B 407; 13. Dumas B 415; 14. Caprock B 416.

Individual: 1. Shane Westbrook, Borger, 72; 2. (tie) Justin Griffith, Hereford, 76; Les Phillips, Borger, 76; 4. (tie) Phil Everson, Pampa, 78; Jud Price, Canyon, 78; Heath Henderson, Hereford B, 78.

Pampa: Phil Everson 78, Brian Brauchi 79, Bryan Rose 81, Mike Smith 91, Jeff Henderson 99.

Pampa B: Shaun Hurst 83, Nathan Banner 90, Barry Brauchi 90, Jordan Fruge 90, Wade Bruce 94.

Both the Pampa boys and girls golf teams competed in the Hereford Invitational last weekend.

In the girls' division, Pampa, led by Alison Piersall's two-round total of 183, finished in fourth place.

Pampa placed ninth in the boys' division. Mike Smith led the team with a two-round total of 163.

Spurs' superstar



(AP photo)

San Antonio pivot David Robinson is the main reason the Spurs have won 15 of their last 17 games. Monday night, the Spurs defeated Golden State, 104-98, as Robinson scored 32 points and pulled down 14 rebounds. San Antonio leads the NBA's Midwest Division.

Undercover game wardens arrest 23 in East Texas

By MICHAEL HOLMES  
Associated Press Writer

**AUSTIN (AP)** — A yearlong investigation into East Texas poaching bagged 23 suspects, with two more being sought, the Parks and Wildlife Department announced Monday.

In the most sweeping case of its kind, game wardens went undercover to infiltrate close-knit groups of poachers, authorities said.

Concentrated in a four-county area, the suspects are accused of running deer with dogs, intimidating legal hunters trying to use public lands and other violations.

"I feel like we've reclaimed that area for the public," said Col. Charles Hensley, the agency's law enforcement director. "Our people worked hard and done good, and we brought that thing down."

Nearly three dozen game wardens made the arrests in Jasper, Hardin, Newton and Orange counties. The suspects face 46 charges, each punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.

"The investigation disclosed that outlaws have blatantly taken over public hunting lands through intimidation and have been flagrantly disregarding laws against running deer with dogs," said Larry Williford, the agency's regional law enforcement director in Rusk.

Poaching by running deer with dogs typically involves using dogs to chase deer out of wooded areas and into clearings or onto open roads, where poachers wait in ambush to shoot the deer as they cross the open ground.

The practice was prohibited statewide beginning with the

1990-91 hunting season.

Hensley said game wardens have known for some time that poaching by running deer down with dogs has been a problem in the region.

"The majority of people put their dogs up and just didn't do it anymore," he said. "There are a few areas where people clenched their teeth and went on and did it anyway."

However, he said, prosecutors and courts have said that to be able to prove someone was actually hunting a deer with dogs, "We would have to see them shoot at a deer that dogs were chasing. That's pretty tough."

That's also what made the undercover investigation, dubbed "Operation Dalmatian," necessary, he said.

"We were getting calls from the public demanding that we do something. They were hunting in public hunting areas ... and with these people careening down roads trying to get ahead of the dogs, intimidating people in there trying to hunt legally, we instituted a covert operation," he said.

The public hunting lands are a combination of Parks and Wildlife management areas and national forests.

The 23 suspects arrested so far were rounded up Sunday. Parks and Wildlife officials said they expected to serve the remaining two arrest warrants this week.

Andrew Sansom, the agency's executive director, said the investigation "has made an important statement that illegal hunting in East Texas won't be tolerated. This will go a long way in restoring the right of law-abiding citizens to enjoy legal hunting on public lands."





# New's attorneys contend bad conduct discharge unconstitutional

WASHINGTON (AP) — The military has no right to hand out a bad conduct discharge to an Army medic court-martialed for his refusal to wear United Nations' insignia on a peacekeeping mission to the former Yugoslavia, his attorneys contend.

Lawyers for Spec. Michael New argued before a federal judge Monday that the 22-year-old from Conroe, Texas, no longer should be under the jurisdiction of the military justice system. New was

involuntarily returned to civilian status when given an unlawful order by his commanders, his three-man defense team told U.S. District Judge Paul L. Friedman.

"Michael New is not the one who asked for divorce," said lawyer Michael Farris, arguing that actions by the government, not New, changed the soldier's status.

But a government lawyer said New, who remains on duty in Germany as a file clerk pending disposition of the court-martial,

didn't "magically" lose his military status. New retains several avenues of appeal within the military courts, said Justice Department lawyer Robert L. Shapiro.

New's lawyers are asking Friedman to grant New an honorable discharge. The judge refused in January to step in at the last moment and halt New's court-martial on charges he disobeyed a lawful order.

New is the first American serviceman court-martialed for

refusing to accept foreign command on a U.N. operation.

He refused to supplement his U.S. battle dress uniform with a U.N. patch and headgear when ordered to do so in advance of a peacekeeping mission to Macedonia last October. In refusing the order, New said he had sworn allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, not the U.N. charter.

"The issue here is simple: Can a man serve two masters?" New's lead attorney, retired Col. Ronald

Ray, said before the hearing. "Michael New takes his oath very seriously as an oath of exclusive allegiance."

New's case has become a flashpoint for conservatives troubled by the Clinton administration's use of U.S. troops in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Seeking to prove that the order New disobeyed wasn't lawful, his defense team essentially is putting the administration on trial. The attorneys contend the

deployment of U.S. soldiers to Macedonia was unlawful because the administration failed to obtain congressional approval.

The issue turns on the delicate question of whether the U.N. mission falls under Chapter 6 or Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter. The administration contends it's a Chapter 6 mission, which doesn't require congressional approval. New's lawyers argue that the Macedonia mission in fact meets the Chapter 7 criteria.

## World briefs

### Statistics show living standards in China improving

BEIJING (AP) — The number of people living in severe poverty in China's remote rural areas fell from 70 million to 65 million last year.

The new figures mean just over 7 percent of China's people live below a rural poverty line set at \$64 per person per year, the State Statistics Bureau said today.

Chinese farmers earned an average \$190 per person during 1995, an increase of 5.3 percent after inflation is taken into account over 1994.

China defines severe poverty as "the lowest living standard acceptable to society," the state-run Xinhua News Agency said. Other official reports have said China's poorest are those who do not have adequate food and clothing.

Chinese leaders have set a goal of eliminating severe poverty by 2000. Its anti-poverty plan includes building highways in remote areas and helping farmers improve their agricultural methods to increase yields.

The number of Chinese living in severe poverty has declined since 1978, when it included 250 million people, or 31 percent of the population.

### Gunman in Haiti fire upon officials vehicle

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Gunmen strafed a U.N. vehicle parked in front of a residence of peacekeepers in provincial Petit-Goave, but no injuries were reported, U.N. officials said.

A contingent of U.N. civilian police there were awakened Saturday night by automatic gunfire, spokesman Eric Falt said Monday. The policemen, all from Algeria, found three bullet holes in their vehicle, and the windows broken. But no one was hurt, he said.

The Haitian police have opened an investigation.

It was the third time U.N. military mission members have been targeted in Petit-Goave, a small coastal town 40 miles west of Port-au-Prince, the capital, which is a stronghold of far-right militants.

Petit-Goave has many residents who supported the 1991 coup in which soldiers ousted former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. A U.S.-led multinational force restored Aristide from exile in 1994.

The U.N. military mission took over peacekeeping duties in March 1995 under a mandate that was supposed to expire in February but has been extended until June.

### Cuban foreign ministry confirms meeting with U.S.

MEXICO CITY (AP) — U.S. and Cuban officials met secretly to analyze last month's shoot-down of two civilian planes, Cuba's foreign minister said.

In a statement faxed Monday night to The Associated Press office in Mexico City, the minister, Roberto Robaina, said the meeting took place March 1-2 in New York at the urging of "the highest levels of the U.S. government."

He said both governments agreed to keep the meeting a secret, and insisted the meeting proved the incident occurred in Cuba's national territory.

Robaina's comments, also made to reporters in Havana, came in response to news reports from Washington that said after the meeting Cuba backed down from its claims the shoot-down occurred in its territory.

Robaina said those reports were not true.

The meeting "confirmed what already was an unquestionable act: that the shoot-down of the planes occurred inside the limit of 12 miles that marks Cuban territorial waters and airspace," Robaina said.

The shoot-down killed two pilots and two other members of a Cuban-American group, Brothers to the Rescue, and led to a tightening of the U.S. embargo against the Caribbean island's communist government.

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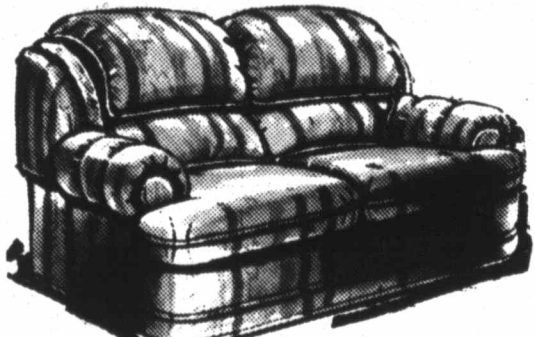
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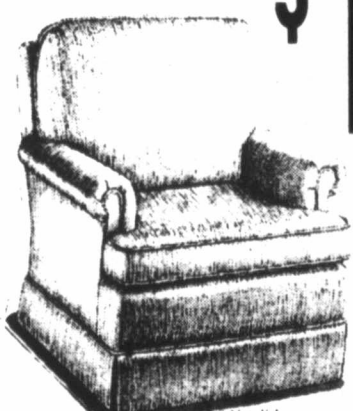
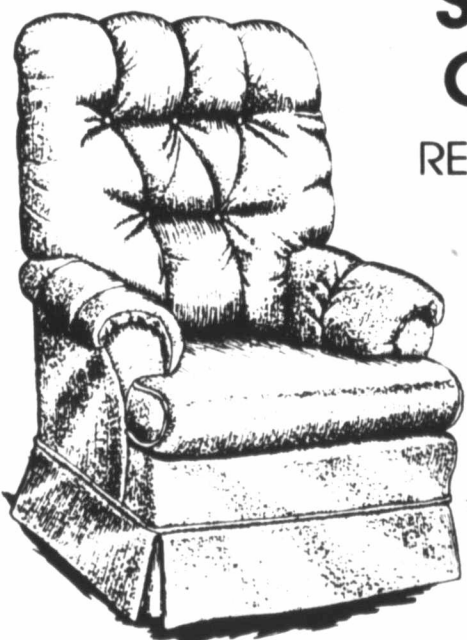
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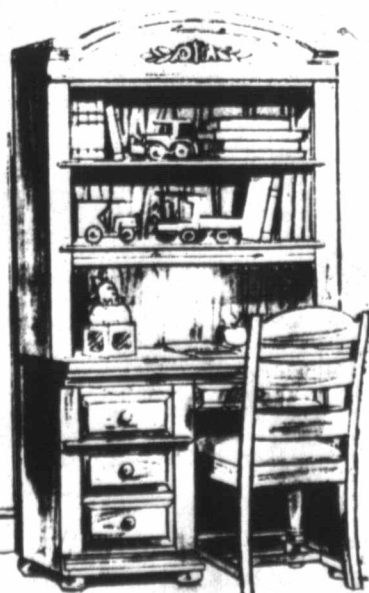
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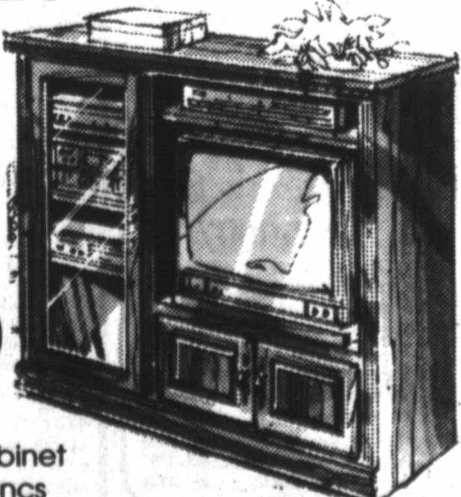
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