

NATION:
Savings accounts threaten
health insurance bill, Page 10

GOOD EVENING
Monday, March 25, 1996

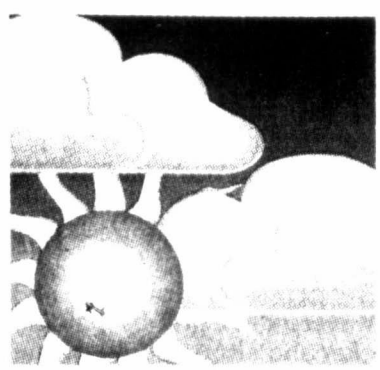
SPORTS:
Final Four armed with
NBA-caliber talent, Page 7

THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 88 NO: 302

Pampa, Texas

50c DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight in upper teens, high tomorrow in upper 40s. See Page 2 for weather details.

PAMPA — Pampa city commissioners are to meet in work session at 4 p.m. and regular session at 6 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall.

The work session is held in the third floor conference room and the meeting will be conducted in city commission chambers. Both are open to the public.

In work session, the panel will consider a request from Freedom Museum USA to lease property near the museum.

In the meeting, commissioners will consider joining the West Texas Environmental Alliance, the comprehensive annual financial report and set a date for a public hearing relative to a park closing ordinance.

They will also consider on first reading an ordinance creating more parking on Randy Matson Avenue and awarding a bid to Laidlaw Environmental for disposal of hazardous waste following the city's household hazardous waste event day.

An executive session is planned to consider an appointment to the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, city manager performance review, hiring of a police chief and the city of Pampa vs. Brenda Mosley litigation.

PAMPA — Pampa Desk and Derrick is to meet for its annual membership dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Community Building.

"Petromolly and the Magic Suitcase" will be the meeting topic. Elaine McDowell, past Region V representative, will explain the activities and purpose of Desk and Derrick. A potluck dinner is planned.

Reservations may be made by calling June Hall at IRI International, 665-3701, by 4 p.m. today.

Desk and Derrick is an educational organization supporting the petroleum, energy and allied fields. The local club has nine programs each year with six related to the industry, one program on Desk and Derrick, one program on socio-responsibilities or professional development. Many topics from the work environment are discussed.

The chapter will host its annual scholarship dance on April 20 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. A scholarship will be awarded to a Pampa High School student from the proceeds.

AUSTIN (AP) — No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game. The jackpot was worth \$12 million.

The numbers drawn from a field of 50 were: 4, 10, 12, 13, 21 and 39.

Lottery officials estimate the jackpot for Wednesday night's game will be \$18 million.

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Fire fighters keep eye on grass fires

By CHIP CHANDLER
Staff Writer

Pampa fire fighters today are still keeping an eye out for hot spots after a grass fire this weekend burned about 360 acres on Highway 60.

Fires Saturday and Sunday consumed a field about a mile long and a half mile wide along Gray County Road 4, almost one mile east of Hoechst Celanese.

Units first responded about 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

"It took a couple of hours to get it manageable," Capt. Kim Powell said today.

Aiding Pampa fire fighters were units and personnel from a number of area departments, including White Deer, Skellytown, Canadian, Lefors, McLean, Hoover and Miami. Gray County maintainers also helped, as did a unit from Celanese.

Six off-duty Pampa personnel were called in to help the six already on scene.

"Without the help of the area fire departments, we would have been overwhelmed," Powell said.

Pampa units also worked with Miami earlier Saturday afternoon in a grass fire that consumed about three sections near the Roberts County line.

Mutual aid units brought in tankers, maintainers and fuel trucks. The Pampa/Gray County Red Cross provided refreshments, as well.

No injuries or structural damage were reported in the fire, though Powell said flames were within 20 feet of a trailer house and came close to a tank battery.

The only damage reported was to one of Pampa's booster

units. The fire got too close to the unit, burning through the brake line.

Fire fighters on the scene blamed Saturday's fire on a possible spark from power lines blowing together in the high winds. Winds over the weekend reached up to a gusty 46 mph.

Winds contributed to the rapid spreading of the fire and to the difficulty the department had in putting it out.

"The high winds were taking our water spray and dispersing it ... blowing it away from where we were aiming it," Powell said.

Instead of taking one truck to wet grass along the fire line, Powell said the department and aiding units sometimes had to run four trucks in a line to get enough water down.

The fire rekindled Sunday morning when winds shifted in advance of a cold front coming into the area. An additional 10 acres were burned in Sunday's fire.

Powell said the department doesn't yet know what caused Sunday's fire, but said it could have been sparking power lines or smoldering remains of the previous day's fire.

She explained county maintainers turned up dirt over the dry grass Saturday evening. Heat and some burning grass could be hidden under the dirt, which could still blow away and ignite another fire, she said.

A Pampa booster unit is periodically checking such spots today.

One contributing factor to the spread of the blaze was dry conditions which have pervaded the county since last fall.

Local meteorologist Darrell



Captain James Schaub keeps an eye out for hot spots while waiting for county maintainers to turn over more dirt to bury dry grass among the charred remains of this weekend's fire along Gray County Road 4. The fire, about a mile east of Hoechst Celanese, consumed about 360 acres over Saturday and Sunday.

Sehorn said last week 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 inches 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 were fortunate this time because we didn't lose any struc-

tures or people or animals. ... We've been really fortunate. We just need to continue to follow ... guidelines and avoid any burning until we can get some more moisture," Powell said.

The only guidelines in place in the county restrict outdoor burning to times between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. with winds between six and 23 miles per hour. The guides are based on Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission regu-

lations, but fall short of an all-out ban on burning.

Powell said the department is encouraging residents not to burn anything because of the intense dry conditions.

She said that she was told at a Division of Emergency Management conference last month that the state has an overall three percent moisture rating. By comparison, an average piece of lumber has a 14 percent rating.

Nesting owl



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

With spring officially here (though the weather might indicate otherwise), this great horned owl is nesting its eggs in a tree near Highway 152 west of Pampa toward Skellytown. Sunday afternoon, with temperatures in the 30s and strong westerly winds blowing, the owl was probably also huddling in its nest for some warmth.

Court to consider English-only laws

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court today agreed to study whether states can make English their official language and require most government actions to be taken in English.

The court voted to hear an appeal by a group called Arizonans for Official English. The appeal argues that an invalidated English-only amendment to the Arizona Constitution does not violate government employees' free-speech rights.

In other action, the court: — Agreed to use a Kansas case to decide whether people must pay income taxes on punitive damages they are awarded in personal-injury lawsuits. The court said it will hear a Kansas

family's argument that federal tax law exempts an award stemming from a toxic shock syndrome death.

— Agreed to decide whether the Endangered Species Act can be used to restrict the federal government from doing too much to protect a species. The court will review a ruling in an Oregon case allowing citizens to invoke the federal law only if they are seeking more governmental protection for a species.

— Rejected Louisiana's bid to deny Medicaid-funded abortions for women impregnated as a result of rape or incest. Four other states have lost similar appeals.

In the Arizona English-language dispute, the court may not

reach a decision on the merits. The justices asked both sides to address whether backers of the measure have the proper legal standing to carry the case to the nation's highest court.

About 20 states have constitutional amendments or laws designating English as the official state language.

"If the First Amendment protects anything, it protects someone's right to choose the words in which they speak," said Stephen Montoya, lawyer for Arizonans Against Constitutional Tampering, which opposed the amendment. "English-only is about, I think, prejudice," particularly against Hispanics and Asians, he said.

Cold front brings early spring freeze

From AP and Staff Reports

An Arctic cold front moved southward across Texas on the heels of spring-like weather that triggered severe thunderstorms across a vast area of North Texas and brought record-breaking lows to the Panhandle region.

The storms produced high winds, heavy rain and hail across much of North Texas on Sunday afternoon. Several tornado watches and warnings were issued, but there was no evidence of any tornado damage.

Temperatures dipped to freezing or below across much of the northern third of the state early today.

The front was located early today over southern portions of West Texas. Clouds will be increasing tonight across West Texas and remain partly to mostly cloudy on Tuesday.

In North Texas, clouds will also be increasing tonight. It will be cloudy with areas of drizzle

and a slight chance of rain in southern areas.

South Texas will have a chance of some rain tonight and Tuesday. It will be mostly cloudy, windy and cooler across the area.

In Pampa, Saturday's high reached 81, with strong westerly winds stirring up dust storms and spreading smoke from area grass fires across the skies.

Sunday morning, the low dipped down into the mid 30s and then temperatures began to rise, reaching 55 shortly before 11 a.m. Then the cold front arrived, causing the temperature to drop back into the 40s before noon. The temperature continued to fall during the day. High westerly winds of 30 miles an hour, with gusts up to forty, brought a wind chill factor that dropped to nearly 10 below zero as the temperature dropped into the mid 20s during the early night hours.

See COLD, Page 2

New greenbacks in circulation

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first extensively redesigned U.S. paper currency in nearly seven decades is going into circulation, possibly at a bank near you.

A new \$100 bill, bearing an enlarged, off-center portrait of Benjamin Franklin and intended to stymie increasingly sophisticated counterfeiters, was in vaults and cash drawers awaiting customers today.

Although 850 million of the new bills have been produced, government officials cautioned that many banks, particularly those in smaller communities, may not yet have received them.

"They won't be everywhere right away — it will only be a trickle at first," said Bob Moore, a Federal Reserve spokesman.

"We believe we have printed an ample supply to meet initial demand," said a Treasury official who requested anonymity. "But people should recognize that local banks order \$100 notes only as needed."

The official said, the bills should be available nationwide within a few weeks.

The redesign, which involves several technical changes, was spurred by development of high-tech equipment including computers, color scanners and laser printers that counterfeiters can use to create near-perfect bogus bills.

Other denominations also will be changed over the next five years, but officials emphasize the older series will co-circulate with the new notes and will always be legal tender.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

McQUEEN, Mary Etta — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Memphis.
MONTEZ, Esteban Jr. — Mass, 3 p.m., Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Canadian.

Obituaries

FRANK GIPSON
 PERRYTON - Frank Gipson, 83, brother of a Pampa resident, died Friday, March 22, 1996. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in the First Christian Church with the Rev. T.J. Pittman and the Rev. Don Martin officiating. Burial will be in the Ochiltree Cemetery under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home Inc.
 Mr. Gipson was born at Guthrie. He married Wilma Hardy in 1940 at Perryton. He had been a Perryton area resident for 48 years. He was a farmer and a member of the Primitive Baptist Church.
 Survivors include his wife, Wilma; two daughters, Karol Ann Dick of Arlington and Gaylyn Kile of Perryton; a son, James Robert Gipson of Arlington; two brothers, Cecil Gipson of Littlefield and Alamo Gipson of Pampa; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

MARY ETNA McQUEEN
 MEMPHIS - Mary Etta McQueen, 83, died Sunday, March 24, 1996. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the First United Methodist Church at Memphis with the Rev. Jeff Taylor, minister of the church, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery at Memphis under the direction of Lamb-Ferguson Funeral Home of McLean.
 Mrs. McQueen was born Mary Etta Martin on April 19, 1912, in Jack County, Texas. She married Arvor McQueen on Feb. 7, 1942, at Memphis; he died April 14, 1985. She was a Methodist.
 She was preceded in death by a son, Buster McQueen, in October of 1993 and by a daughter-in-law, Zee May McQueen, in 1994.
 Survivors include a granddaughter, Kelli Watson of Amarillo; a grandson, Kyle McQueen of Memphis; a nephew, Thomas Martin of Carlsbad, N.M.; and six great-grandchildren.

ESTEBAN MONTEZ JR.
 CANADIAN - Esteban Montes Jr., 1, died Saturday, March 23, 1996, at Lubbock. Funeral vigil followed by rosary will be recited at 6 p.m. today in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Canadian. Mass will be celebrated at 3 p.m. Tuesday in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church with the Rev. James E. McGhee, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in the Edith Ford Cemetery under the direction of Stickley-Hill Funeral Directors of Canadian.
 Esteban Montes Jr. was born Feb. 26, 1995, at Pampa.
 Survivors include his parents, Esteban and Laura Paz Montes; a brother, Sergio Montes of Canadian; his maternal grandparents, Gilberto and Agustina Paz of Chihuahua, Mexico; his paternal grandfather, Jesus Montes of Chihuahua; two great-grandmothers, Celia Castillo and Rita Sanchez, both of Chihuahua; and a great-grandfather, Eljio Paz of Chihuahua.

JACK STEMBRIDGE
 AMARILLO - Jack Stemberidge, 55, brother of a Wheeler resident, died Friday, March 22, 1996. Memorial services were to be at 2 p.m. today in the Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors Ivy Chapel with the Rev. Gene Anderson, pastor of the First Christian Church of the Nazarene, officiating.
 Mr. Stemberidge was born at Shamrock and graduated from Samnorwood High School in 1958. He joined the Army and served four years in Germany. He moved to Amarillo 15 years ago. He was a farm laborer and a roofer by trade. He had been disabled for the past 15 years. He was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene.
 Survivors include three sisters, Barbara Harris of Wheeler, Bonnie McQuillen of Amarillo and Verdie Allessio of Paradise, Calif.; and a brother, Roger Stemberidge of New Boston.
 The family will be at 1223 S. Roberts St., No. 139, and requests memorials be to a favorite charity.
 The body will not be available for viewing.

Services tomorrow
McQUEEN, Mary Etta — 2 p.m., First United Methodist Church, Memphis.
MONTEZ, Esteban Jr. — Mass, 3 p.m., Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Canadian.

Police report

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests in the 40-hour period which ended at 7 a.m. today.

SATURDAY, March 23
 A key chain valued at \$10 was stolen from a 1980 Pontiac in the 1000 block of South Nelson at 4:45 p.m. Saturday.
 A 16-year-old girl was reported to be a victim of assault/family violence in the 1600 block of West Browning on Thursday.
 Two front tires of a Pampa police patrol car were reported cut in the 1000 block of North Hobart at 9:45 p.m. Saturday. Estimated damage is \$250.
 Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported by Officer Doyle Finstad in the 600 block of North Starkweather at 9:55 p.m. Saturday.
 Lt. Shawn Fullagar reported a juvenile pushing people in the 400 block of East Crawford at 11:30 p.m. Saturday.

SUNDAY, March 24
 Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of East Craven at 12:45 a.m. Sunday.
 A window was reported broken out at the old McDonald's, 2201 N. Hobart.
 An 11-year-old girl was reported to be the victim of theft at Pampa Youth and Community Center, 1005 W. Harvester, which occurred between 3 and 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Jeans and sweatshirt totaling \$40 were stolen.
 Assault by contact was reported on behalf of a six-year-old at Pampa Youth and Community Center, 1005 W. Harvester, which occurred at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.
 Two reports of assault - family violence were reported in the 100 block of South Sumner.

Arrests
FRIDAY, March 22
 Lonnie Gann, Amarillo, was arrested at 1031 N. Sumner on a charge of public intoxication. He was released after working off fines.
 Doyle Jay Riley, Amarillo, was arrested at 1031 N. Sumner on a charge of public intoxication. He was released after working off fines.
SUNDAY, March 24
 Guillermo L. Gonzalez, 703 S. Barnes, was arrested in the 200 block of South Starkweather on three warrants and one capias pro fine warrant.

Sheriff's Office
 Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents and arrests in the 40-hour period which ended at 7 a.m. today.
FRIDAY, March 22
 Hit and run was reported in the 800 block of North Main, Lefors.
SATURDAY, March 23
 Gas Man, 1505 S. Ripley, reported a rock thrown through a window. Estimated damage is \$200.
Arrests
SATURDAY, March 23
 Lisa Leann Herder, 24, Lefors, was arrested on a charge of theft of property by check. She was released on bond.
 Erasmo Gonzalez Jr., 24, 629 Dwight, was arrested on a charge of failure to stop and render aid. He was released on bond.
 Jackie Dale Mason, 35, Plainsman Motel, was arrested on violation of probation. His bond was denied.
 Lisa Dawn Doyle, 32, 3009 Rosewood, was arrested on violation of probation. Her bond was denied.

Department of Public Safety
SUNDAY, March 24
 Harold Robert James, 37, Skellytown, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana under two ounces. He was released on bond.

Fires
 The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 40-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
SATURDAY, March 23
 3:14 p.m. - Four units and six personnel responded as mutual aid to a grass fire at the Roberts County line on East Highway 60.
 5:28 p.m. - Four units and six personnel responded to a grass fire at Highway 60 and Gray County Road 4.
 5:28 p.m. - One unit and one personnel responded to a false alarm on West Highway 152.
 10:58 p.m. - Three units and five personnel responded to Gray County Road 4 on a call-back.
SUNDAY, March 24
 12:01 a.m. - One unit and two personnel responded to Gray County Road 4 on a call-back.
 11:17 a.m. - Three units and five personnel responded to Gray County Road 4 on a call-back.

Emergency numbers
 Ambulance.....911
 Crime Stoppers.....669-2222
 Energas.....665-5777
 Fire.....911
 Police (emergency).....911
 Police (non-emergency).....669-5700
 SPS.....669-7432
 Water.....669-5830

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.		
Wheat	4.83	
Milo	6.58	
Corn	7.12	
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation.		
Nowco	13 5/8	NC
Occidental	25 5/8	NC
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.		
Magellan	87.91	NC
Puritan	17.65	NC
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
Amoco	72 1/2	up 3/4
Arco	115 1/2	up 1
Cabot	61 1/8	up 1/8
Cabot O&G	14 1/2	NC

Calendar of events

TOASTMASTERS
 Smooth Talkers and Knee Knockers Toastmasters Club meets 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the dining room of Coronado Inn. For more information, call Daniel Silva at 669-6351 or Vernell Houska at 669-7402.
CLEAN AIR AL-ANON
 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.

Whitewater figure David Hale gets 28-month sentence

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - A businessman who claims President Clinton pressured him to make an illegal \$300,000 loan was sentenced today to 28 months in prison and ordered to repay the government \$2.04 million.
 David Hale, whose allegations triggered the Whitewater investi-

gation, also was sentenced to three years of probation and fined \$10,000.
 Hale pleaded guilty in March 1994 in federal court to two felony counts of defrauding the Small Business Administration through his investment company, Capital Management Services Inc.
 He was accused of defrauding the SBA by misrepresenting the amount of private capital in his company so he could get more matching federal funds to invest in business ventures.
 Hale accused Clinton of pressuring him to make a loan in 1986 that would profit Clinton.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Cold

The low this morning fell to 13 degrees, breaking the record of 14 degrees set on this date in 1955.

Elsewhere across the state, hail up to baseball size and winds gusting to 90 mph battered barns and other buildings, smashed automobile windshields and canceled plane flights as early spring storms roared across North Texas, according to The Associated Press.

Sunday's fast-moving thunderstorms also prompted several tornado warnings, although no twisters touched down and no one was hurt. But the first hailstorms of 1996 were enough to prompt memories of last spring's \$1 billion hail damage.

Wind gusts reached 90 mph at Naval Air Station Fort Worth, said Skip Ely, chief meteorologist of the National Weather Service office in Fort Worth.
 The gusts forced workers to abandon a tower at NAS Fort Worth, the weather service said. Wind also bent the roof of a cattle barn behind Cowtown Coliseum in the Fort Worth Stockyards.
 About an acre of corrugated

metal roofs at the coliseum's stock pens was damaged by the storms, triggered as a dry line passed through warm, moist Gulf air.

Flights at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport were canceled or diverted during the height of the storms, which left several inches of hail in parts of Tarrant County.
 "It was like snow on the south end of town - yards were covered with the hail," Watauga police Lt. Eddie Hargroves said. "On several streets, in all the front windows of the houses and the garage doors, the glass was just blown out. The winds were just blowing the hail sideways."

Weather Service radar Sunday night detected a developing tornado just east of Navarro Mills Reservoir. But a sheriff's spokeswoman in Corsicana said no twister had been spotted.

Lightning accompanying the storms knocked out power to some homes in Van Alstyne, east of U.S. Highway 75, said Tom Osburn, district manager for TU Electric.
 The line of thunderstorms prompted more weather service warnings as it moved southeastward through the state.
 The weather service also issued a tornado watch for parts of East Texas through early today.
 Several hundred American Airlines passengers experienced delays as flights were canceled or diverted. The Fort Worth-based airline diverted 26 incoming flights to other airports in San Antonio and Shreveport, spokesman Al Becker said.
 Four outbound flights were canceled. Dozens of other flights were delayed by up to 90 minutes, but American had so many passengers scheduled to fly it hoped to make the rest of its schedule, Becker said.
 No planes or buildings at DFW were damaged by hail, said Becker and airport spokeswoman Angel Biasatti.
 But in northern Tarrant County, a Watauga police car was damaged and some trees stripped of their leaves.

Midwest region endures spring blizzard

By The Associated Press

Blizzard conditions choked highways with drifts up to 6 feet high on the northern Plains and upper Midwest today, stalling travelers and closing hundreds of schools. And the stormy weather extended into the South, where trees and power lines were ripped down.

"I'm tired of spring already," said Pat Tracy, who farms at Pierre, S.D.
 "It stinks," said Patti Iverson in Eau Claire, Wis., looking out her window at drifts 2 to 3 feet high this morning.
 Most sections of interstate highways across the Dakotas were reopened this morning after hundreds of miles of the freeways were shut down overnight by blinding snow. Highways in Wyoming, Kansas and eastern

Colorado were closed Sunday.

"The road conditions aren't going to be the best, but they are open," North Dakota patrol Capt. Don Glarum said.

Parts of northbound I-29 in North Dakota were not expected to reopen until later today, and a stretch of I-94 remained closed today in northwestern Minnesota. Many secondary roads in the Dakotas remained closed by drifts.
 Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad declared Buena Vista County in the state's northwest corner a disaster area today so state troopers and National Guardsmen could help look for snowbound motorists.
 Every rural road in the county was closed and 10 to 15 motorists already had been rescued from stuck cars, said Buena Vista Sheriff Chuck Eddy. He said it was the first time he'd asked for

state help to look for travelers since a blizzard in 1975.

In east-central Nebraska, a 75-mile stretch of I-80 remained closed in both directions today between York and Kearney.

About 20 to 30 flights in and out of the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport were canceled this morning and others were delayed because of the blowing snow, reduced visibility and delays at airports elsewhere, officials said.
 Up to 18 inches of snow had fallen in northwestern Wisconsin, with drifts up to 4 feet high, and 15 inches had fallen at Fargo, N.D. A foot had fallen at Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Grand Island, Neb., got 7. Parts of Wyoming got 22 inches during the weekend.
 Snow had mostly stopped falling today in the northern Plains.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro responded to the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

SATURDAY, March 23
 10:17 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Coronado Hospital for a one patient transport to VA Hospital in Amarillo.
 10:37 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of North Hobart on a possible trauma and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.
 2:30 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility on a medical assist and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.
 4:20 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Coronado Hospital for a one patient transfer to a local nursing facility.
 11:53 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of Twiford on a medical assist and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.
SUNDAY, March 24
 9:23 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of North Zimmers on a medical emer-

gency and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.

10:23 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility on a medical assist and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.

12:37 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Coronado Hospital for a patient transfer to a local nursing facility.
 3:22 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Coronado Hospital for a patient transfer to a residence in Laketon.
 5:47 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1400 block of South Hobart on an aid call. No patient was transported.
 5:59 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Coronado Hospital for a patient transport to High Plains Baptist Hospital.

MONDAY, March 25
 5:13 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2000 block of North Russell and transported one patient to Coronado Hospital.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Fair tonight with a low near 18. South winds 5-15 mph. Tuesday, partly cloudy and continued cool weather with a high near 48. Southerly winds 10-20 mph. Sunday's high was 55; the record-breaking overnight low was 13.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas - Panhandle: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows from 17 to around 20. Tuesday, increasing clouds. Highs in the 40s. South Plains: Tonight, increasing clouds. Lows 25-30. Tuesday, mostly cloudy. Highs around 50.
 North Texas - Tonight, clear early, then increasing cloudiness.
 Lows 32 north to 41 southeast. Tuesday, cloudy with areas of drizzle. A slight chance of rain south. Highs 51 north to near 60 southeast.
 South Texas - Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, increasing clouds. Lows in upper 40s, near 40 Hill Country. Tuesday, cloudy with a chance of rain. Highs in low 60s, upper 60s Hill Country. Upper Coast: Wind advisory today for portions of southeast Texas. Tonight, cloudy. Lows in low 50s coast, in the 40s inland. Tuesday, cloudy with a chance of showers. Highs in mid 50s coast, near 60 inland. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, cloudy. Lows near 60 coast to mid 50s inland. Tuesday, cloudy with a chance of rain.

Highs in mid 60s coast to near 70 inland.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico - Tonight, increasing clouds north with a chance of snow showers. Partly cloudy central and south. Lows 15 to 30 mountains and north with 30 to mid 40s elsewhere. Tuesday, windy and cool. A chance of rain and mountain snow showers north. Partly cloudy south. Highs mid 30s to mid 50s mountains and north with upper 50s and 60s elsewhere.
 Oklahoma - Tonight, mostly cloudy and cold. Lows from low 20s in northwest to mid 30s in the southeast. Tuesday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers. Highs in the 40s and low 50s.

City briefs

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

WM. L. Arthur, E. A. Income Tax Service. 1103 E. Harvester. Call 669-3928. Adv.

REBECCA ANN'S, 1521 N. Hobart, Spring sale starts March 20. Dresses 30% off, Selected Group Dress Slacks 30%, Select Spring Groups 25% off. Adv.

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

G&G FENCES. Repair old/build new. Competitive, guaranteed. 665-6872, 1-800-223-0827. Adv.

CHANEY'S CAFE - Monday 5-8 p.m. Chicken spaghetti, sandwiches, chicken fried steak. Plenty of parking on both sides and back. 716 W. Foster. Adv.

2 CRISP meat burritos for \$2 at Taco Time!! Adv.

AUSTIN ELEMENTARY Book Fair. March 26th - 29th. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Book and software. Public invited. Adv.

GOLDEN AGERS Luncheon Tuesday March 26, 12 noon, 701 S. Cuyler, Salvation army. Everyone 55 or older or handicapped welcome.

BENTON'S P.H.D. Tanning times are filling up fast, new Wolfe bed. Get dark quick! 669-1934. Adv.

JOHNSON 2-WAY radio equipment. GE and Motorola trucking equipment radios. 669-3955. Adv.

NIKE APPAREL now at Brown Shoe Fit! Adv.

THE HICKORY Hut, 716 W. Brown, 665-0562, taking applications Monday thru Wednesday 2-4 p.m. for part time help. Adv.

YOU ARE invited to the White Deer Land Museum Art Gallery Opening, starting Friday, March 22. Gray County artist work on display, and china painting and Easter crosses will be featured in the reception area. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Adv.

CHICKEN EXPRESS - Tuesday only - Customer Appreciation Day 15% off. 2201 Perryton Parkway. Adv.

By ANN Harte-H...
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Poll: Half of Texans want Cold War resources shifted back home

By ANNA M. TINSLEY
Harte-Hanks Texas Poll Syndicate
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Most Texans say the United States should be willing to use military force to solve international problems, according to the latest Harte-Hanks Texas Poll.

But half of Texans say that shifting resources back home to help the U.S. economy is the most important opportunity now that the Cold War is over.

"Generally, in the absence of a threat such as communism in the Soviet Union, we are an inward looking public," said Dennis Simon, a political science professor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. "There is not so much a concern with the state of the economy, but with economic security in the future."

Although the Cold War has passed, the United States continues to face decisions on the use of military force to solve international problems.

Most recently, the Clinton administration grappled with the U.S. role in the political struggle over Taiwan's future. For nine months, China has

brought military pressure on Taiwanese voters, who elected their president by direct vote for the first time Saturday.

Last week, hundreds of people fled small islands under Taiwan's control, as Chinese troops began conducting air, land and naval exercises. President Clinton sent Naval carriers to the western Pacific, insisting that China and Taiwan peacefully resolve their differences.

Seventy-two percent of Texans say the United States would be willing to use military force to solve international problems. Those include 20 percent of Texans who say the nation should be extremely or very willing, and 52 percent who say the United States should be somewhat willing.

Twenty-three percent say it should be not very or never willing.

But when Texans were asked what opportunity is the most important for the United States to pursue now that the Cold War is over, 50 percent said it's time to shift resources home to help the economy.

Meanwhile, 30 percent said that becoming a peacekeeper by promoting democracy and respect for human rights in other countries is most impor-

tant. And 16 percent want the United States to use the military to bring peace and order to the world.

"It sounds as though on one hand, people have no aversion to using military force when necessary," said Robert Luskin, an associate professor of government at the University of Texas in Austin. "On the other hand, most people don't think it's often necessary."

Older Texans are less likely to encourage the United States to use military force to solve international problems. Sixty-five percent of Texans age 60 or older say the United States should be willing to use military force. Texans between 40 and 49 are most likely to encourage force, with 76 percent in favor.

"This is an 'in principle' question," SMU's Simon said. "Most polls show a willingness to use force assuming there is a challenge directly to our national security."

"In reality, the president has to convince Americans that force is really needed. If there was a direct and immediate threat, the (poll) answers would be lower. You'd see great differences in public support."

For some, support of military force depends on

the situation, said Michael O'Hanlon, a research associate in foreign policy for the Washington-D.C. based Brookings Institution, a nonpartisan public policy research organization.

"Getting involved once in a while in a Haiti or Bosnia situation is something Americans are willing to support if it's well thought through," O'Hanlon said. "But we have to be judicious. We can't do everything."

Some support likely comes from Texans who say the United States can't walk away from its neighbors' problems, he said.

"On one hand, people have the lessons of Vietnam and Lebanon in mind," O'Hanlon said. "But on the other hand, if we don't do something, it will be hard for any other country to take the lead."

"Sometimes, we just can't stand by. Morally, if for no other reason, we have to try."

The poll, conducted Feb. 21 to March 1, has a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points. The Office of Survey Research of the University of Texas surveyed 1,001 adult Texans for Harte-Hanks Communications Inc.

Nation briefs

Watchdogs say forest service blocked timber investigation

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Watchdog groups claim the U.S. Forest Service quietly agreed to let Weyerhaeuser Co. illegally harvest timber from national forests, then blocked an investigation of the papermaking company, the *Los Angeles Times* reported today.

Two organizations, representing members of a defunct federal task force formed to investigate timber theft, claim Forest Service officials also warned Weyerhaeuser that it was being investigated, the *Times* said.

The allegations are in a 24-page report produced by the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility and the Government Accountability Project. The report is based on interviews with 12 current and former Forest Service special agents and investigators as well as whistle-blower complaints. The *Times* reported today that its advance copy of the report describes in detail a major investigation with the code name Rodeo, begun in 1990 and picked up by the task force in 1991.

November, except for dips in late January and early February.

Lundberg said the hikes are due to three factors: rising international crude oil prices, the higher costs of reformulated clean-air gas recipes required under U.S. law and warmer weather that heralds the high-volume spring and summer driving seasons.

Oliver Stone calls Mexican rebels 'great warriors'

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico (AP) — Though his movie *Nixon* is up for several Oscars, director Oliver Stone is skipping tonight's awards ceremony to meet with leftist guerrillas in southern Mexico.

After arriving in this colonial mountain city on Sunday, Stone said he wanted to see the conditions that prompted an Indian uprising two years ago.

The rebels, many wearing straw hats and black wool ponchos, greeted Stone with a five-piece mariachi band.

"I'm here because I believe in their struggle," Stone said after meeting with 23 leaders of the Zapatista National Liberation Army. "We are coming on a fact-finding mission as a human rights organization to see with our own eyes the situation."

He denied working on a film project in connection with the rebels.

The Zapatistas, composed mostly of descendants of Maya Indians, surprised Mexico with a rebellion on Jan. 1, 1994.

Since then, the rebellion has simmered in Chiapas, Mexico's poorest state. The rebels are demanding better living conditions for impoverished Indians and sweeping national democratic, economic and social reforms.

Stone told the rebels he considers them "giants."

Gas prices up by 3.3 cents per gallon

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gasoline prices jumped more than three cents a gallon as warm weather pushed up demand at a time of lagging international supply, according to the Lundberg Survey of gas stations across the country.

The average pump price, including all grades and taxes, was 124.39 cents a gallon Friday. That was up 3.3 cents from the March 8 survey, the largest price increase so far this year, analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday.

Prices have been rising since

Women in blue to hold conference

HOUSTON (AP) — Women officers will discuss differences with their male colleagues and other obstacles at the 3rd Annual Women in Policing Conference, where topics include "Maintaining your Femininity" and "Professional Etiquette."

"Although we are all blue, men and women are different," said Houston Sgt. Jeannine Maughmer, who works in the juvenile division. "We are trying to do things in this conference that we don't get in the academy."

About 350 women from the Houston Police Department will

participate in the conference, which begins today. This year's conference includes officers and civilian managers and is themed "Beyond our Differences."

Women in the police force face many of the same problems as working women everywhere — child care, health care, maternity leave, domestic violence and low self-esteem. These problems can be exacerbated by the built-in stress of police work, Maughmer said.

The discussions will give officers a chance to share their problems and discuss ways to improve job performance.



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Showing the awards they brought home from the annual District I Texas Farm Bureau Awards Banquet are James Race, Don Whitney and David Haynes.

Texas Farm Bureau agents gain awards

The Gray-Roberts County Farm Bureau agents received a number of awards and honors at the recent District I Texas Farm Bureau Awards Banquet held in Amarillo March 15.

James Race, LUTCF, agency manager, received the annual Multi-Line Award, best of 33 counties. He also took home the Master Agency Manager Award, of which only 11 were

presented in the state of Texas for 1995.

Don Whitney, LUTCF, service agent, was awarded the 1995 Professional Agent Plaque for sales in 1995 and the annual Multi-Line Agents Award, along with the annual Membership Plaque, best of 52 agents in District I. He also received a plaque for most sales in January 1996.

David Haynes, service agent, received the 1995 Professional Agent plaque for sales in 1995, along with his \$1 Million Sales Club ring.

The three agents for the Gray-Roberts County Farm Bureau, 1132 S. Hobart, said they wanted to thank all of their customers in the area for helping them achieve their accomplishments in the past year.

Taxpayers footing bill for school buyouts

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas taxpayers have shelled out almost \$2 million during the last 2 1/2 years to buy out the contracts of fired college administrators, the *Houston Chronicle* reported in a copyright story.

Houston-area universities were the most aggressive in dishing out the so-called "golden parachutes," paying departing administrators more than \$1.5 million during that period.

The large contract buyouts have sparked criticism from many faculty members at the affected schools and have prompted state lawmakers to schedule hearings this week to examine the practice.

Representatives from nine colleges and universities have been summoned to Austin to justify their buyout policies.

Charles Zucker, executive director of the Texas Faculty Association, said university regents are "frittering away"

money that could be better used to improve the quality of education at their institutions.

"These buyouts are eating away at university resources at a time when universities are under tremendous financial pressures to tighten their departmental budgets," Zucker said.

The *Chronicle* requested information through the Texas Public Information Act on contract buyouts since 1990 at each of the state's 130 colleges, universities, medical schools and university system offices.

The information collected indicates that contract buyouts were relatively rare before August 1993, but at least a dozen significant buyouts have occurred since that time, with the vast majority coming during the last 10 months.

The University of Houston System regents have handed out the largest of the severance packages, granting buyouts in 1995 totaling almost \$812,000 during

their midyear purge of top-level administrators.

Texas Southern University also bought out two former presidents in recent years, paying more than \$513,000 in order to replace them before their contracts expired.

While several of the buyouts are straight cash offers to settle terms of existing contracts, most are in the form of administrative leaves.

The four former University of Houston administrators were each given 12- or 24-month administrative leaves with full pay and benefits after they resigned under pressure from the board.

The largest of the buyouts went to former chancellor Alexander F. Schilt, who received \$373,518 in pay and benefits over a two-year leave. In addition, the four former administrators can elect to go back to teaching positions on the university's faculty at salaries considerably higher than their fellow faculty members.

Activist organization, Valley Interfaith, celebrates 12 years

HARLINGEN, Texas (AP) — It started 12 years ago as an effort to address the social needs of the Rio Grande Valley. Church leaders, concerned the region was being neglected in the political process, came together to find a solution.

Today that solution is Valley Interfaith, a community activist organization comprising 45 parishes and congregations representing more than 60,000 families in Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy counties.

The organization celebrated its 12th anniversary Sunday with a convention that drew more than 5,000 delegates and a number of state officials, including U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and state Comptroller John Sharp.

The Republican senator praised the organization for its work to combat poverty in the Valley. "I will continue to push for the federal government to fulfill its obligation to colonias," Mrs. Hutchison told a cheering crowd.

"The organization brings new life to the political arena. This is where your ordinary citizen is able to take part in public deci-

sions," said Sister Maria Sanchez, Valley Interfaith co-chairwoman.

"We organize around the issues of public concern and then we take those to our local government and then on to state government, where we can have an impact with legislation," she said.

When first formed, Valley Interfaith focused on the issue of colonias, substandard neighborhoods scattered along the Texas border that lack common services such as safe drinking water and sewage.

"The root of the problem was the developers. They would open up sections of farm land and put in a dirt road and divide them into plots, and not take care of the infrastructure," Sister Sanchez said.

Valley Interfaith, in alliance

with similar organizations throughout the state, urged state lawmakers to pass legislation addressing the problem. Last year, Gov. George W. Bush signed into law a bill requiring colonia developers to provide water and sewage to residents.

Mother sets family afire

STAFFORD, Texas (AP) — A 28-year-old Stafford woman shot and killed her three children and husband before setting their house on fire and then shooting herself twice, police say.

Stafford detective Paul Germany said evidence collected in the slayings, including autopsies, indicates that Nirmala Devi Katta, 28, known as Neemi by her neighbors, shot her family with a .38-caliber pistol and then used gasoline to help set the house on fire early Friday.

After setting the home ablaze, she then shot herself twice in the chest. Germany said the first shot was not lethal and entered and exited her body without striking any vital organs.

Dead at the scene in the Vacarro Manor subdivision were Ashok Katta, 37; his wife; and their children, Jessica, 3, Jonathan, 4, and Anil Kumar, 6.

All had suffered multiple gunshot wounds except the 4-year-old, who was shot once in the chest.

"I would have to theorize that probably the father was the first victim, then the children. I couldn't tell you in which order. Based on information from the medical examiner's office, the mother was still alive when the fire was set," Germany said.

Germany said investigators believe that Mrs. Katta carried out the attacks because of domestic problems.

"She may have shot him because of anger. As far as the children, some people do these things because they don't want to leave them behind. It's hard to say. It's hard to get in somebody's mind," he said.

Investigators said the family was found dead in the master bedroom after patrolling police officers smelled smoke and traced the odor to the home.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF PAMPA
TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The City of Pampa will hold a second public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, March 29, 1996, at the Southside Senior Citizen's center at 438 W. Crawford Street, in regard to the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for a Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) grant. Topics to be discussed will include the application for housing rehabilitation and dilapidated structure demolition funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 for activities that will benefit low and moderate income persons. The application will be available for review in Room 205 at City Hall during regular business hours effective Thursday, March 28, 1996. The Southside Senior Citizen's center is wheelchair accessible on the South side of the building (W. Crawford). Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact Bill Hildebrandt at City Hall at 669-5750 at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Deaf persons may call 669-5888 or 669-5710 TDD for assistance.

A-65 March 25, 1996

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Viewpoints



THE PAMPA NEWS

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

Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Filibuster stymies further hearings

Senate Democrats might have shot themselves and their president in the foot by refusing, on a straight party-line vote, to let the special Senate Whitewater investigating committee headed by New York Sen. Alfonse D'Amato continue its work.

The special committee had been authorized for only a year, and the Democrats filibustered the resolution to keep the committee going, so 60 votes were needed to keep it in business. The vote failed, 53-47.

The Republicans can justifiably be criticized for some aspects of the way they have conducted hearings into the tangled business/political dealings of President and Mrs. Clinton in Arkansas.

Some of the hearings have meandered, some issues have been ignored, and little that wasn't known before the hearings began has been uncovered yet.

By closing down the hearings now, however, Democrats risk the charge that they are covering up for a Democratic president and his wife who seem terribly concerned to keep at least some of the Whitewater details out of the public eye during an election year.

It wasn't Senate Republican committee members, for example, who suddenly discovered Mrs. Clinton's old billing records two years after they were requested. Senate Republicans can't be held responsible for the fact that a potentially damaging - at least embarrassing - memo written by former White House administrator David Watkins on the Travelgate affair suddenly surfaced in January. And Senate Republicans didn't schedule the trial in Little Rock of Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker and others that began recently. But many people the committee would like to question are tied up by that trial and won't be available until it's over.

The fact is that a good deal of the information needed to probe Whitewater and related matters thoroughly is not yet available to the Senate committee - or is available in a form that cries out for more investigation to put it all in context. The new book, *Blood Sport* written by James B. Stewart, which details Mrs. Clinton's involvement in Whitewater and other ventures, is being published and excerpted in *Time* magazine this week. The *Wall Street Journal* has just published news that Whitewater Democratic counsel Richard Ben Veniste was also an attorney for Barry Seal, the convicted cocaine smuggler who is alleged to have flown smuggling flights out of the Mena airport in Arkansas while Mr. Clinton was governor under the auspices of the CIA and with Mr. Clinton's knowledge.

All in all, it looks as if Senate Democrats are stonewalling and participating in a cover-up of Whitewater just as things are getting more interesting. To be sure, Senate Republicans are undoubtedly hoping that embarrassing revelations about Whitewater will hurt Mr. Clinton as he seeks reelection, and that continuing Senate hearings will keep the matter in the public eye. But if information keeps coming out anyway, even after the Democrats closed down the hearings, the action could backfire and hurt both President Clinton and other Democrats.

As Senate majority leader, presidential hopeful Bob Dole can make Senate Democrats pay dearly for this cover-up filibuster. Whether he does so or not will offer an insight into his leadership qualities.

Thought for today

"The only ghosts, I believe, who creep into this world, are dead young mothers, returned to see how their children fare. There is no other inducement great enough to bring the departed back."

James Matthew Barrie, 1860-1937
The Little White Bird

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Who trusts the network news?

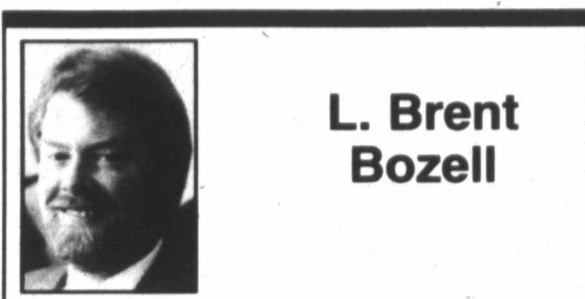
A new survey by Louis Harris and Associates shows once again that the American people do not have an enormous amount of confidence in the news media. Only 14 percent said they had "a great deal" of confidence in the press, while 57 percent had "only some" and 30 percent said "hardly any." The media barely beat Congress and lose to the Clinton White House. Ouch!

When Harris singled out television news, the ratings were a little higher, with 21 percent having a "great deal" of confidence. So, why are reporters lumped in with politicians in the trust department?

It could be that the public considers reporters to be as partisan and two-faced as their elected officials. It's exacerbated by the arrogance of network anchors denying liberal bias exists, even when a colleague like CBS's Bernard Goldberg concedes the obvious. On CNN's March 11 *Larry King Live*, Dan Rather returned to form, alleging "we don't editorialize, we don't want to editorialize, in no way, shape or form." A few days earlier, Rather charged in *The New York Post*: "The test is not the names people call you or the accusations by political activists inside or outside your own organization. The test is what goes up on the screen and what comes out of the speaker."

To pass the test, Rather and his network might first put Goldberg back on the "Evening News," where he has not appeared since his *Wall Street Journal* editorial on liberal bias was published. But let's put the networks to that screen test. Exhibit A: the Republican primaries.

Even before the primaries began, the networks were portraying the Republican candidates as a group of extreme right-wing Torquemadas. In the very first stories on the candidates' announcements, network reporters used extreme labels 18 times. CBS reporter Linda Douglass alleged: "For



L. Brent Bozell

years, critics have called (Phil) Gramm an extremist." CNN's Gene Randall proclaimed Bob Dornan came "from political stage far right." Compare this to the 1992 race, when, despite Democratic candidates like Jerry Brown and Tom Harkin, reporters never introduced Democratic contenders with terms "far left" or "ultra liberal."

The Media Research Center has studied three weeks of primary coverage around the New Hampshire primary in both election years and found the same game played there. On four networks in three weeks, only four liberal labels were used to describe the Democrats in '92. Even when ideology seemed obvious, reporters stressed the Democratic mainstream. ABC's Chris Bury reported on Jerry Brown: "To those who hear him, Brown's appeal is his idealism, his calls for political reform, universal health care and environmental activism." Despite that left-wing agenda, Bury underlined: "Some voters seemed surprised Brown did not sound so radical." The closest thing to a Clinton label came from ABC reporter Jack Smith, who told viewers on Feb. 19, 1992, that Clinton's economic message "runs counter to so much traditional liberal ideology."

Compare the Democrats in 1992 to the

Republicans in 1996. This year, Republicans and their voters were labeled on 73 occasions. The networks employed 18 conservative descriptions, six moderate labels and four liberal labels. The other 45 labels were variations on the "extremist" theme that has become a mantra on television. All but one were used to describe Pat Buchanan. The exception: NBC's David Bloom called Lamar Alexander a "moderate Republican with a radical plan of devolution."

Dan Rather's CBS led the networks with 19 references to Buchanan's extremism (compared to 12 for CNN, nine for ABC and five by NBC). On six separate occasions, CBS underlined its perception of Buchanan's views by referring to the networks' Voter News Service exit-poll question that asked if Buchanan was too extreme. In a Feb. 18 interview with Phil Gramm, Dan Rather asked: "There is a perception that Buchanan has around him people with extremist views on race. Do you agree?" This comes from the same Dan Rather who insisted last November that he hates "to be tagged by someone else's label. I try really hard not to do that with other people, particularly people who are in public service and politics."

The networks spent 1995 identifying a "far right" dominance of the Republican Party that had no room for moderates. Last November, CNN's Judy Woodruff insisted: "Republican moderates may have reason to feel more threatened than turkeys this Thanksgiving. With Arlen Specter's out-of-money exit from the '96 White House race, they have no presidential candidate to call their own." Now that rabid card of conservative extremists is left with Bob Dole as the nominee, and his aides are cooing that Colin Powell is their "first five choices" for vice president. If the evening news were a commercial, could we sue for truth in advertising?

Today in history

Massillon, Ohio, to Washington, D.C., to demand help from the federal government.

In 1911, 146 immigrant workers were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Co. in New York.

In 1918, French composer Claude Debussy died in Paris.

In 1947, a coal mine explosion in Centralia, Ill., claimed 111 lives.

In 1957, the Treaty of Rome established the European Economic Community.

In 1975, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was shot to death by a nephew who had a history of mental illness. (The nephew was beheaded the following June.)

In 1990, 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants,

were killed when fire raced through an illegal social club in New York City.

Ten years ago: In the second day of a confrontation between Libyan forces and the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Gulf of Sidra, thousands of Libyans rallied at Tripoli. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled the Air Force could ban the wearing of yarmulkes by Jewish military personnel in uniform.

Five years ago: "Dances With Wolves" won seven Oscars, including best picture, at the 63rd annual Academy Awards. Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, a rebellious conservative in the Roman Catholic Church, died in Martigny, Switzerland, at age 85.

One year ago: Two Americans who'd strayed across the Kuwaiti border into Iraq were sentenced to

eight years in prison (however, David Daliberti and William Barlow were released by Iraq the following July). Mike Tyson was released from the Indiana Youth Center after serving three years for the 1992 rape of Desiree Washington, a beauty pageant contestant.

Today's Birthdays: Modeling agency head Eileen Ford is 74. Former astronaut Jim Lovell is 68. Feminist author Gloria Steinem is 62. Singer-actor Hoyt Axton is 58. Singer Anita Bryant is 56. Singer Aretha Franklin is 54. Actor Paul Michael Glaser is 53. Singer Elton John is 49. Actress Bonnie Bedelia is 48. Actress-comedian Mary Gross is 43. Actress Sarah Jessica Parker is 31. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Debi Thomas is 29.

Behold the new majority party

Advice from all over barrages Sen. Bob Dole now that he has the Republican presidential nomination sewn up. Do this, do that, goes the advice - move right, move left, choose Colin Powell for vice president, don't choose Colin Powell.

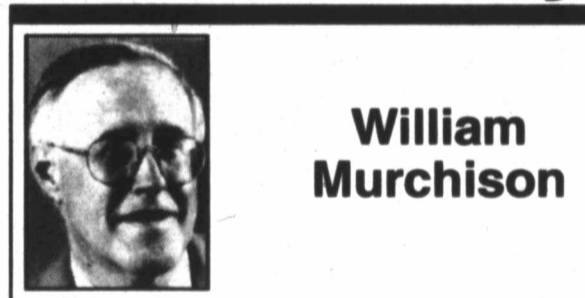
What remains to say? Just one thing perhaps: Behold the new majority party.

The Republican Party is that party, to the extent that such a party in these fractious, fractionated times exists at all. This is why the Republican primary season was so superheated. A huge and various party was expressing itself, working out its identity crisis in public. Naturally, the process was messy, and it probably will remain so - particularly with Pat Buchanan unwilling to cry uncle.

All sorts of Republicans competed for the voters' favor. Moderate-to-liberal Republicans had Arlen Specter as their standard-bearer and Pete Wilson making occasional appeals to them. The moderate conservatives were in there with Lamar Alexander and Dole. The hard-right conservatives had on occasion - Dole. Yes, him again, supple enough to stretch across philosophical boundaries. Plus Buchanan and Phil Gramm and Bob Dornan and Alan Keyes. The limited government conservatives had Forbes and Gramm, and the social conservatives had Buchanan. Many voters liked both men and chose with reluctance.

Even old fashioned liberals were drawn to the proceedings by Buchanan's sallies against big business and Republican congressmen obsessed with the deficit (whereby Pat sounded more like Bill Clinton than Clinton himself sounds some days.)

It was a glorious marketplace, the GOP primary.



William Murchison

You could buy pretty much what you wanted. That the voters chose Dole in the end, judged by many the least exciting candidate around, is chiefly an indication of how large the customer base is.

Dole, a man of pastels rather than bold colors, suited more people than anybody else. Even so, here's the main point about all this: The GOP, during the primary season that to every intent and purpose ended with Super Tuesday, subsided all but the more extreme forms of big government, Gephardt-Bonior liberalism. The GOP was where the action was - where the definitions of policy and philosophy were being laid down and argued out.

The Democrats, contemporaneously, dwelt in Dullsville, and not just because Clinton had the nomination bagged. Nothing goes on in the Democratic Party anymore. The Democrats are pretty much accepted as the good old reliable guardians of Things as They Are. You know what they'll do: Vote no.

The arguing, the bickering, the back-biting over

on the Republican side isn't always fun to watch or listen to, but there is significance to it. That's where the future is being argued out: how far we downsize government, what kind of new tax system we adopt, what role the United States should play in foreign policy.

Not all Republicans agree on these matters - obviously. Buy they agree on direction. That's something.

To say the truth, Bill Clinton, human chameleon, agrees with them. Clinton is something else. Convictions drape his shoulders like a raincoat: He can take them off or leave them on depending on the weather. Right now, it's raining all over liberalism's parade, and Clinton is wooing the right and center with talk about moral values (moral values!), strong families and harmful television.

That's how you know who is winning the philosophical battle - from watching liberals and conservatives sing off the same sheet that, not long ago, made liberals double up with laughter.

Philosophical victories don't necessarily translate into political victories, which is the point on which Dole must keep his eye. Maybe he will. If Clinton happens to be the slickest-talking washing-machine salesman on Main Street, Dole at least isn't the town bumpkin. More to the point, Dole's party is the beneficiary of this country's ongoing shift toward less intrusive government and more vigorous moral witness. It's no bad way to start what could prove to be the fascinating campaign in decades.

Protecting children in cyberspace

If there is one problem with the recently signed Communications Decency Act, which makes it illegal to post "indecent" material on the Internet, it is its name. Discussions of indecency and pornography conjure up images of *Playboy* and *Hustler*, when in fact the kind of material available on the Internet goes far beyond indecency - and descends into barbarism.

Most parents have never been on the Internet, so they cannot imagine what their children can easily access in cyberspace: child molestation, bestiality, sadomasochism and even specific descriptions of how to get sexual gratification by killing children.

Though First Amendment absolutists are loathe to admit it, this debate is not about controlling pornography but about fighting crime.

There are few things more dangerous for a civilization than allowing the deviant and the criminal to become part of the mainstream. Every society has had its red-light districts, but going there involved danger, stigmatization and often legal sanction. Now the red-light districts can invade our homes and our children's minds.

During a recent taping of a "Firing Line" debate on controlling pornography on the Internet, I was stunned by the gulf that separates the two sides. For Ira Glasser, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, and his team, it was about freedom and the First Amendment. For our side, headed by Bill Buckley, it was about our children and the kind of culture that surrounds them.

There are three main arguments on the other



Adrianna Huffington

side, and we are going to be hearing a lot of them in the year ahead as the ACLU's challenge to the Communications Decency Act comes to court.

The first is that there is no justification for abridging First Amendment rights. The reality is that depictions of criminal behavior have little to do with free speech. Moreover, there is no absolute protection of free speech in the Constitution. The First Amendment does not cover slander, false advertising or perjury, nor does it protect obscenity or child pornography. Restricting criminal material on the Internet should be a matter of common sense in any country that values its children more than it values the rights of consumers addicted to what degrades and dehumanizes.

Civilization is about tradeoffs. And I would gladly sacrifice the rights of millions of Americans to have easy Internet access to "Bleed Little Girl Bleed" or "Little Boy Snuffed" for the sake of reducing the likelihood that one more child would be molested or murdered. With over 80% of child molesters admitting they have been regular users of hard-core pornography, it becomes impossible to continue hiding behind the First Amendment and denying the price we are paying.

The second most prevalent argument against regulating pornography on the Internet is that it should be the parents' responsibility. This is an

odd argument from the same people who have been campaigning for years against parents' rights to choose the schools their children attend. Now they are attributing to parents qualities normally reserved for God - omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence. In reality, parents have never felt more powerless to control the cultural influences that shape their children's character and lives.

The third argument that we heard a lot during the "Firing Line" debate is that it would be difficult, nay impossible, to regulate depictions of criminal behavior in cyberspace. We even heard liberals lament the government intrusion such regulations would entail. How curious that we never hear how invasive it is to restrict the rights of businessmen polluting the environment or farmers threatening the existence of the kangaroo rat.

Yes, it is difficult to regulate the availability of criminal material on the Internet, but the decline and fall of civilizations throughout history is testimony to the fact that maintaining a civilized society has never been easy. One clear sign of decadence is when abstract rights are given more weight than real lives.

It is not often that I have the opportunity to side with Bill Clinton, who has eloquently defended restrictions on what children may be exposed to on the Internet. When the president is allied with the Family Research Council and Americans for Tax Reform is allied with the ACLU, we know that the divisions transcend liberal vs. conservative. They have to do with our core values and most sacred priorities.

Po

By STEV
Harte-Ha
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Poll: Elementary schools more likely to receive passing grade

By STEVE RAY
Harte-Hanks Texas Poll Syndicate
© 1996 Harte-Hanks Communications

Public schools get a passing grade from a majority of Texans, according to the Harte-Hanks Texas Poll, but elementary schools are more likely than high schools to get on the honor roll.

Seventy-one percent of Texans with elementary school children grade their schools as good enough to get on the A-B honor roll. That number drops to 60 percent when it comes to high schools.

That's a big increase from similar polls in the 1980s when just 50 percent of Texans were giving schools honor roll marks. In 1985, only 52 percent of Texans gave public schools an A or a B.

Analysts say the latest poll reflects improved test scores for Texas school kids and growing support for the state's school system, which has come under increasing attack over classroom crime and students who can't read.

"That's the message we've been trying to get out for the past couple of years," said Richard Kouri, president of the 92,000 member Texas State Teachers Association. "People who have children in public schools think schools are doing a good job."

Thirty-seven percent of Texans with children in elementary school gave their schools an A. Thirty-four percent gave them a B. Only four percent gave state elementary schools a failing grade. Meanwhile, 27 percent of Texans with high school students gave their schools an A, 33 percent a B and 4 percent gave Texas high schools a failing grade.

"The public usually rates elementary schools higher," said Marilyn Kameen, assistant dean at the University of Texas at Austin's College of Education. "There is more parental involvement in

elementary schools and parents are encouraged to be a part of the school environment of the decisions made. In secondary education, parents are not as involved. A lot of times kids don't want them involved, and (parents) don't have as big a chance to see what's going on."

But while parents may be happy with their children's schools, safety issues and economic concerns are pushing education to the top of a list of problems facing the state.

In 1995, education was number 11 on a list of problems facing the state. In 1996, it jumped to second, the fastest rising concern in the state.

Education officials blame it on crime in schools, the need for high-tech courses and just plain politics.

"We're educating more people and doing it better than ever before," said Lonnie Hollingsworth Jr., legislative director for the 33,000 member Texas Classroom Teachers Association. "But this is an election year, and I've never met a politician who didn't run on 'let's improve the public schools.' It's a lot easier to say they're messed up and we're going to fix them than to say they're doing great and let's leave them alone."

In 1993, the Texas Poll showed that 77 percent of Texans thought there should be metal detectors at entrances, and 81 percent supported random locker searches for possible weapons.

That doesn't surprise Texas teachers, who have to deal with problems at the local school level every day. During the past legislative session, lawmakers passed a zero-tolerance policy that will boot violent offenders from Texas classrooms.

"There are two things at work here," said Texas Education Agency spokeswoman Debbie Graves-Ratcliffe. "People are more concerned today than in

the past about safety issues in the school. They also realize that now more than ever, Texans need a good education to land a good job and to say employed."

In the most recent poll, 66 percent of Texans with children in elementary school believe their kids are getting a better education than they did. Fifty percent of those with children in secondary schools feel the same way.

"People overwhelmingly think their child's school is doing a good job," said Graves-Ratcliffe. "But when they are asked that question in general, the approval rating for education is usually lower."

Education supporters say the poll reflects improved scores by students on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and Scholastic Aptitude tests.

"The survey indicates a growing awareness that public education is improving in this state," said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Moses. "That improvement is reflected in increasing scores on the Scholastic Assessment Test and the Texas Assessment of Academic Achievement exam." An estimated 95 percent of all Texas public high school seniors passed all sections of the TAAS exit-level tests required for high school graduation in 1995.

Other test results indicated that more than half of Texas fourth-graders scored at or above the basic level on a national reading test. And a 1995 SAT Reasoning test showed both Anglo and minority students recording higher verbal scores than in 1994.

"Today's students are faced with an information explosion unlike anything experienced by their parents," Moses said. "The poll results suggest that the schools are improving to meet this challenge."

Kameen said negative reaction to education can

be traced to a lack of knowledge about what is happening in schools.

In 1983, only 56 percent of Texans would give public schools an A or B. In 1935, that dropped to 52 percent, then went to 54 percent in 1986 and 1987.

"The percentages have gone up because decision making in schools has been moved to the local level," Kameen said. "There is more of an effort on the part of schools to get parents involved."

There also have been legislative efforts to reform education including a tough zero tolerance policy for violent students and a move from state to local control of schools.

"Texas public schools have been in the process of reforming themselves for an awful long time now," said Kouri of the Texas State Teachers Association. "What we have now is a system that is educating more children, from more diverse backgrounds and graduating more of them than at any time in the history."

"But there is no point at which people will say that public education doesn't need to improve, doesn't need to change. There is always that drive to bring more students up to higher standards."

The Harte-Hanks Texas Poll was conducted Feb. 21 to March 1 for Harte-Hanks Communications Inc. by the Office of Survey Research of the University of Texas. The poll surveyed 1,001 adult Texans by telephone in a systematic random sample.

Margin of error for the whole sample was plus or minus three percentage points. The sample of 233 parents with children in elementary schools has a margin of error of plus or minus 6.2 percentage points. The sample of 135 parents with children in secondary school has a margin of error of plus or minus eight percentage points.

State briefs

Former fire chief faces life in prison

DALLAS (AP) — Former Forest Hill Fire Chief Paul Philbin, who faces life in prison in connection with two bank robberies, says his life unraveled after his two sons were sent to prison and he began gambling.

In a story in Sunday's editions of *The Dallas Morning News*, Philbin said the crack cocaine and alcohol problems of one of his sons, along with the jailing of a second, played a part in his own undoing.

"Part of the stress I was under was keeping the city fathers from knowing the fact that I had two boys in prison," he told the newspaper in an interview at Lew Sterrett Justice Center.

Gambling played a role in his downfall, too. Philbin wagered in casinos and bet on horses, but he says most of his trouble came in the volatile commodities market. By late 1995, he was — by his account — losing \$10,000 a day in commodities trading.

Philbin's slow unraveling ended, authorities said, with a bungled January bank robbery, a desperate car chase and a shootout in which his partner, Ronald Ray O'Burke, was killed.

Police arrest 16 in car thefts by phony mechanics

FORT WORTH (AP) — Four men posed as mechanics and drove new cars and vans away from auto dealerships across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, police say.

Some of the vehicles were sold on the street for as little as \$250, police said. As many as 70 vehicles may have been stolen, police say.

The four men, along with 12 people accused of buying the hot cars, have been arrested on various felony charges. Officials say more arrests are expected and investigators are working to build an organized-crime-activity case.

Police said the thieves were so slick that some dealers are still checking to see if any of their new vehicles are missing.

"I've never seen anything like this," said Fort Worth police Sgt. Bill Beall, the auto theft investigator on the case.

Man's water woes could turn out to be dream come true

KELLER (AP) — What once was Joe McCombs' nightmare could make his dreams come true.

Thirteen years ago, McCombs discovered two natural springs in his yard while building his home in rural Keller.

"I'd dig a fence post, and water would come out of the hole," he said. "It was like a swamp."

McCombs, 48, didn't realize at the time that he had hit pay dirt — or rather, water.

Today, he dreams that in the next year he will become a major supplier of pure drinking water. McCombs said he expects to spend up to \$3 million to fulfill his dream.

He already has built a quaint-looking gristmill next to the gurgling springs. He is constructing a 3-mile pipeline to a site where he wants to build a bottling plant.

City officials laud McCombs' plans. They have visions of tourism, and maybe an annual water festival.

Food taste, variety can help decrease elderly malnutrition

Malnutrition is a serious health risk for this country's aging population, with about one in four older Americans estimated to be undernourished. The diminishing ability to taste and smell as one ages is an often-neglected yet treatable factor in poor nutrition among the elderly.

A poor sense of smell and taste comes with age. The decline in taste and smell acuity begins around age 60 and is more pronounced by age 70. The tongue's taste buds become less sensitive and the nerves in the nose that register aromas need extra stimulation to detect mouthwatering smells. That's why seniors may find ordinarily seasoned foods tasted bland.

The importance of the sense of taste in overall nutrition is often taken for granted. Flavor not only enhances the palatability of food, it also plays a role in stimulating proper digestion. As food becomes less appealing, older people eat less, lose weight and their physical health may decline.

Deteriorating health can further compound a decline in the sense of taste. Malnutrition affects the turnover of the taste bud cells and the types of receptors which can affect the sense of taste. Cancer patients on

Homemakers' News Donna Brauchi



chemotherapy or patients recovering from major surgery are prone to this cycle.

Medications can also alter the sense of taste. The average person 65 years or older takes three or more different drugs. Drugs are bitter, and the bitterness comes out in the saliva and alters the older person's sense of taste.

Research has determined some effective, practical strategies to enhance the appetites of older persons. A key to getting older people to eat more is to make their food taste and smell better. These tips will provide an extra boost to flavor and may help increase an older person's enjoyment and interest in eating:

- Add texture, such as crunch.
- Use products such as bacon, cheese, or butter flavors and MSG to enhance the taste of food. When using almond, vanilla or

other extracts, try doubling the amount called for in the recipe to bring up the flavor.

• Use nectars and jams to make intensely flavored sauces. For example, boil peach nectar until reduced about half, then mix it with flour to thicken for a low-sodium sauce for chicken or pork.

• Switch foods as you eat. To avoid sensory fatigue, eat only one bite of meat, then take a bite of a vegetable, a bite of bread, and so forth. Do this with whatever is on your plate.

• Combine foods with different temperatures to add a variety of taste sensations.

• Add more of your favorite herbs and spices to dishes.

For more information on nutrition and health, contact your Gray County Office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Comet's passing draws rave reviews nationwide

By NED KILKELLY
Associated Press Writer

Stargazers across the country, some lugging telescopes as big as cannons, gathered under open skies in parks, fields and parking lots in hopes of seeing Hyakutake, the brightest comet to pass the Earth in 20 years.

For most, the once-in-a-lifetime chance paid off.

"It was so long, so clear and beautiful," Sharon Grant, one of dozens who waited four chilly hours in the Florida Everglades before spotting Hyakutake's brilliant tail Sunday night. "Simply spectacular!"

"It hits you right between the eyes," said Bill Borsheim, who viewed Hyakutake (pronounced hya-koo-TAH-kay) through a telescope in a Safeway parking lot in Everett, Wash.

The comet is visible to the naked eye and is just below the

Big Dipper. Some have described it as looking like a fuzzy snowball, an auto headlamp shining through the fog, or a candle in mist to those with binoculars — which is how Yuji Hyakutake, a Japanese amateur astronomer, discovered it in January.

Experts believe it is the biggest comet to pass so close to the earth since the Great Comet of 1556. There has not been a bright comet near Earth since Comet West in 1976.

A bundle of dust, ice crystals and gases, perhaps 10 miles across, Hyakutake is traveling about 198,000 miles an hour as it rounds the sun in an orbit that should bring it back this way in 10,000 to 20,000 years.

By comparison, the orbit of Halley's Comet brings it back every 76 years.

At Hyakutake's nearest point to Earth — 9.5 million miles away today — sky-watchers said it had the brightness of Sirius, the

brightest star in the northern sky. Its tail is estimated to measure 62,000 miles.

"It's incredibly bright. And it's a new comet — well, new to us," said Charlie Kaminski, a telescope operator for the NASA Infrared Telescope Facility on Hawaii's Mauna Kea.

Kaminski said teams using the Hubble Space Telescope were to try to get pictures of the comet this week to try to unravel clues as to its makeup.

"But the problem is, it's moving so fast that what they're going to have to do is point somewhere in the sky and just guess," Kaminski said.

Amateur astronomer Tim Puckett took pictures using cameras attached to his 12-inch telescope in Villa Rica, Ga., about 30 miles west of Atlanta.

"It's a big event," said Puckett, 34. "We don't often have an opportunity to see something this close, and moving this fast."

Racism protests loom over Hollywood's biggest night

LOS ANGELES (AP) — While the stars give their formal wear a last-minute pressing for tonight's Oscars, they may also want to get their answers ready for the question of the evening: Is Hollywood racist?

Jesse Jackson is calling for a nationwide picket of ABC affiliates broadcasting the awards ceremony, contending the death of black Oscar nominees — just one out of 166 — proves Hollywood's institutional racism.

Jackson said he has received commitments from ministers in 25 major cities, including New York, San Francisco and Chicago, to gather their flocks and march on their local ABC stations.

On the eve of show, while John Travolta, Richard Dreyfuss, Nicole Kidman, Kurt Russell and Goldie Hawn busily rehearsed their awards

presentations, producer David Salzman, co-producer Quincy Jones and Academy President Arthur Hiller were bombarded with queries about Jackson's complaints.

After 20 minutes of such questions, Salzman coolly but curtly called off a news conference, telling reporters it was too bad

they didn't ask any questions about surprises, special appearances and "the greatest of horse races in the key categories."

Jones, who is black, said he was sympathetic to Jackson's efforts and said he hoped all those attending would wear rainbow-colored ribbons, as Jackson has urged.

Buchanan, Nader, Perot prepare to rock the boat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Want-to-be, would-be and maybe candidates Ralph Nader, Pat Buchanan and Ross Perot say their message will be heard in November, even if it hurts a major-party candidate. "Both parties are very serious about not wanting anybody to disturb the status quo," Perot said today.

Buchanan says he wants to support the Republican nominee — almost certainly Sen. Bob Dole — but only if the GOP convention in San Diego this summer welcomes his legions of conservative supporters.

And Nader says he doesn't care if his candidacy hurts President Clinton in California or elsewhere, because "he deserves it."

Perot, appearing on the morning talk show this morning, blamed Republicans for not completing their "Contract With America" and Democrats for not fulfilling Clinton's promise to balance the budget.

"I think both parties are very serious about not wanting anybody to disturb the status quo," Perot said. "It is human nature to maintain the status quo and resist change until after a crisis occurs."

"Both parties now are bought and paid for by the special interests," Perot said. He said Republicans and Democrats "claim they would balance the budget.... But we don't even have a budget for this year. We have train wrecks, government shutdowns and stunts," he said.

"You can't bring these folks home by simply telling them to shut up and be good soldiers and get on-board," Buchanan said on NBC's "Meet the Press" Sunday. If he and his backers

are locked out of the convention, "I don't see how we beat Bill Clinton."

Buchanan, who has been toying with the idea of running as an independent, said he hoped to avoid that.

"If you move in that direction, what you are saying in effect is goodbye forever to the Republican Party," he said. "It is irredeemable and you'd be working for its defeat. And I think the heart and soul of the Republican Party are solid and good."

He said he would fight any Dole move toward what he called "Rockefeller Republicanism" by choosing such moderates as retired Gen. Colin Powell or New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman as his running mate.

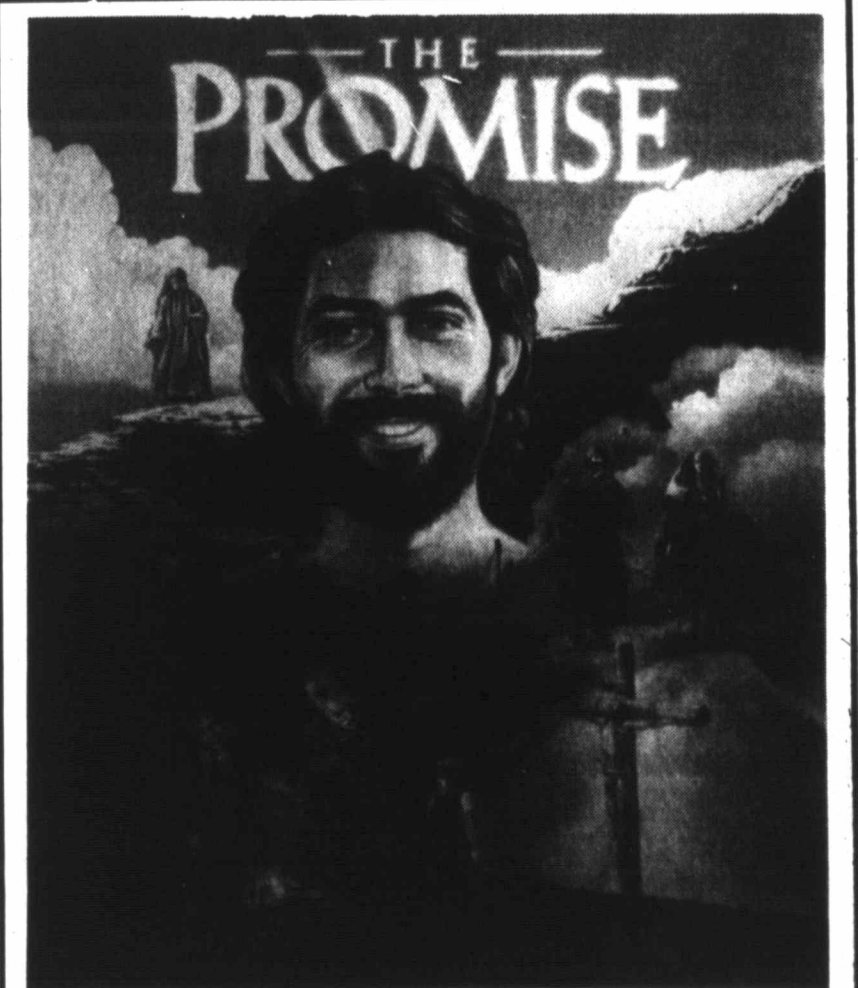
House Speaker Newt Gingrich said that Buchanan will not play a significant role at the Republican convention in August.

"It's sort of like asking a last-place team in the major leagues whether they approve of the Atlanta Braves winning the World Series last year," Gingrich, R-Ga., said in Orlando, Fla. "Bob Dole will be the Republican nominee."

And Dole, during a campaign speech in California, noted that all of his other major GOP rivals endorsed him after dropping out of the race.

"We're down to two of us and I would hope that Pat Buchanan would find it in his heart to join forces and close ranks and bring this party together and reach out to more and more people," said Dole.

Nader, the longtime champion of auto safety and other consumer issues, is running unopposed as the Green Party candidate in Tuesday's California primary.



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Wife Finds Out Husband's Golf Game Was Way Out Of Bounds

DEAR ABBY: My husband is having an affair. When I told him I knew about it, we had a big fight. They are still seeing each other every chance they get. She is married and has two kids. I know her name and I know where she works. My husband was on vacation the week after Thanksgiving. He left the house at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday to play golf (he said). I had a feeling something was fishy, so I followed him and saw them together.

I called his girlfriend's office and was told she wouldn't be in until 3 o'clock. They did the same thing on Thursday. He returned home later in the afternoon on both days.

He gets calls at night and on Saturdays. Right after the calls, he always leaves for a couple of hours. If I answer the phone, the caller hangs up — and my husband gets furious at me. (He won't let me answer the phone anymore.)

My questions are: Should I confront them together? Or should I just tell her husband? I can't spend the rest of my life like this.

ANONYMOUS IN INDIANA

DEAR ANONYMOUS: Neither of the above. Since your husband knows that you are aware of what is going on and has made no effort to change his behavior, you must now decide whether you would be better off with or without him.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR ABBY: Our father died several years ago. Since that time, our mother remarried. After she remarried, she and her new husband decided that they wanted to be buried next to each other, which is not a problem.

What is a problem is this: My sister and I bought and paid for a double headstone for our parents. It was beautiful, with brass nameplates for each of them and a removable brass vase. Our mother and her new husband liked it so much that they decided to remove Dad's brass plate, moved the headstone to their plot and had her new husband's brass plate put on.

My sister and I are very upset about this, as we were the ones who picked the headstone for our parents, and we have asked our mother to at least replace the one that was taken. This has caused quite a family problem.

Should we have said nothing and just bought another headstone for our father's grave, or were we right

to request that they do it? DISMAYED IN DETROIT

DEAR DISMAYED: For your mother and her new husband to have moved the headstone from your father's grave and left nothing in its place was presumptuous and insensitive. Since they didn't pay for it, they should either return or replace it. But if they are unwilling to do it, then you must. You have my sympathy on both the loss of your father and the actions of your mother.

DEAR ABBY: When I read the letter in your column on the subject of brides and grooms sharing the responsibility of writing the thank-you notes, I had a good chuckle remembering.

When our son married, they received many gifts. Our new daughter-in-law thought he should share the note-writing. He said he would do that if she would help him get started so he would know what to write.

His first note read: "Thank you for the bedspread. It is very nice and we can use it, as we have two bedrooms." She told him that sounded fine.

His next note read: "Thank you for the crockpot. It is very nice and we can use it, as we have two bedrooms."

L.K. IN TEXAS



For Better or For Worse



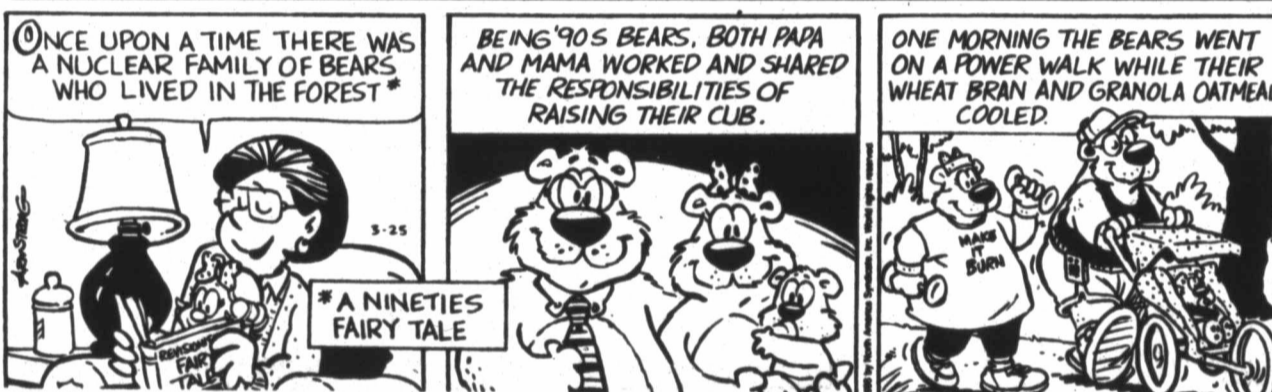
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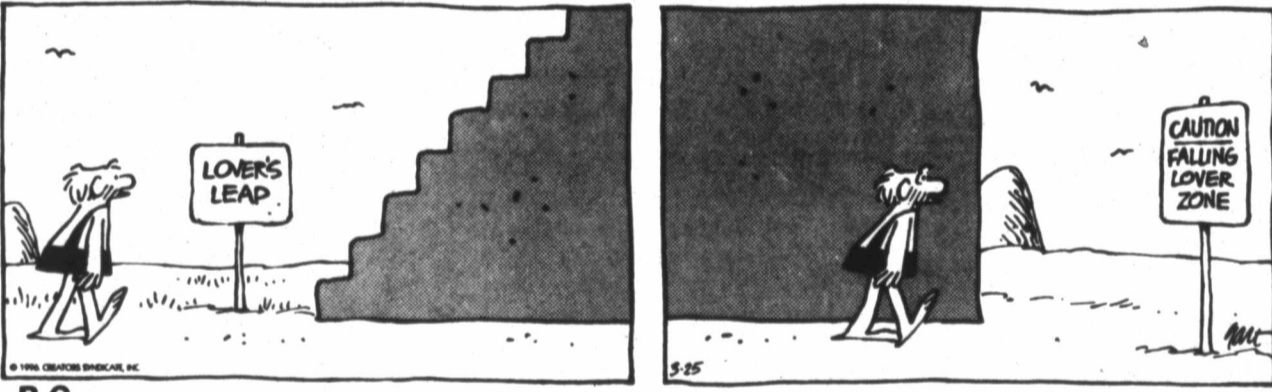
Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank & Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

In the year ahead, you might become involved in an enterprise with a friend that will cater to a basic public need. This new venture will have surprising potential for growth.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Associates will grade you on your behavior today. If you act warm one minute and chilly the next, you won't like your report card. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York.

NY 10156

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The possibility of getting away with something today is slim. If you do not do things in accordance with your high standards, you will not be happy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today, if you move your resources around and take too much out of your budget, you may find your finances in a state of disarray.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Before going out on a limb today, make sure you have the full support of others. You may be disappointed if you take their allegiance for granted.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Someone who can skillfully get others to reveal secrets might target you today. If you are questioned, reply with a brief yes or no, do not elaborate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Business and pleasure might not mix well today, so if you're involved with a client, make it all of one or all of the other. Do not combine the two.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Others will not respect your views or suggestions today

if you do not show an interest in their opinions. In order to be respected, one must be respectful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Remain flexible and keep an open mind today instead of saddling yourself with fixed opinions. You could learn something constructive from your adversaries.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Have fun and enjoy yourself when playing games today. You may spoil the activity for everyone if you increase the intensity level.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Discretion will be essential today if you argue with your mate. If the disagreement is aired in public, you may say something that will damage your image.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Strive for quality rather than quantity in regard to the projects you work on today. Try to do less, but do it well.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) This will not be a good day to take risks, especially if funds earmarked for essential items have to be used to back up the wager.

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"Why do we hafta straighten up the house just because the cleaning lady is coming?"



"I'm playing it safe. There's been a rash of purse snatchings."



Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts

Sports

Final Four armed with NBA-caliber talent

By HAL BOCK
AP Sports Writer

For four NCAA tournament teams, the bouncing ball they've followed for two weeks leads them now to the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J., and the Final Four.

Kentucky and Massachusetts, season-long occupants at the top of the poll, and Syracuse and Mississippi State, longshots who got hot at the right time, head into the national semifinals against each other on Saturday.

The first two were supposed to be there all along, anointed with No. 1 seeds in the tournament. The other two are also-rans, a No. 4 seed against a No. 5 seed, sort of the warmup act for the main event.

All four arrive armed with NBA-caliber talent. UMass has shot-blocker Marcus Camby, perhaps the most dominant player in college basketball. Kentucky's Tony Delk is the No. 4 scorer in the storied basketball history of that school. Syracuse has John Wallace, equipped with a tough inside game and a perimeter shot to go with it. Mississippi State's Erick Dampier is a force in the paint.

This could be a very interesting weekend.

The matchups:

UMass (35-1) vs. Kentucky (32-2)

The marquee game of the tournament matches the surviving No. 1 seeds and

ought to be accompanied with at least a drum roll. "It's unfortunate that it is a semifinal," UMass coach John Calipari said.

This will be the second time around this season for the Minutemen and Wildcats. UMass won the first meeting 92-82 on Nov. 28. Calipari thinks that game has nothing to do with this one.

"We're a different team now and I know Kentucky is, too," he said. "I don't think that game has any bearing on this one."

Kentucky coach Rick Pitino agreed. "There's so much at stake," he said. "It's not revenge. Now you're trying to win the whole thing."

The key will be how Kentucky deals with Camby, who punished the Wildcats with 32 points, nine rebounds, five blocked shots, two assists and two steals in their first meeting, and how UMass deals with Delk and the rest of Pitino's deep team.

"They have great depth, size, shooting and coaching," Calipari said. "We are playing a monster team. We know that."

"We didn't play Marcus Camby well the first time," Pitino said. But against Wake Forest in the Midwest region finals, Kentucky held Camby's clone, Tim Duncan, to two lonely field goals, an indication that Pitino's defense in the paint has improved.

Between them, the Minutemen and Wildcats have enjoyed vastly successful

seasons. UMass lost only to George Washington, and Kentucky's only other loss was in the SEC championship game against Mississippi State, a victory that put the Bulldogs on a roll.

Edgar Padilla, one of Calipari's slick guards, may have provided some locker room bulletin board material for Kentucky.

In the blush of UMass' East region championship victory over Georgetown, Padilla said he relished the idea of another game against Kentucky. "We beat them once," he said. "We're looking forward to beating them again."

For Pitino, it's a trip home. Both he and his wife are New York natives, which presents other problems. "Anybody got any tickets?" he asked.

Mississippi State (26-7) vs. Syracuse (28-8)

These two will battle for the Rodney Dangerfield award, each convinced they get no respect. They ought to now.

Mississippi State got the idea it was pretty good when it beat then-No. 1 Kentucky for the SEC championship, ending the Wildcats' 27-game winning streak. In the tournament, the Bulldogs knocked off Princeton, the team nobody wanted to play, as well as top-seeded Connecticut and bump-and-grind Cincinnati.

Still, coach Richard Williams said, people refuse to believe in them. For evidence, he held up a Final Four hat. On the

back it said Mississippi, not Mississippi State.

His players relish the underdog role. "The whole season, no one has picked us to win," guard Darryl Wilson said. "We just continue to play our style of ball and keep winning. You guys always pick us to be the underdog. Whatever you guys are doing, keep doing it because we keep continuing to win."

This was supposed to be a down year for Syracuse, a rebuilding season. The Orangemen were considered no better than fourth best in the Big East behind UConn, Georgetown and Villanova, and were not ranked in the preseason Top 25 for the first time in years.

But coach Jim Boeheim, operating with a short bench, finessed the team to 11 straight victories at the start of the season, and the winning became a habit.

The Orangemen benefited from their draw in the tournament when Drexel removed Memphis from their path and Georgia took care of top-seeded Purdue. They had nobody to help them against Kansas, though, relying instead on their own tough defense to beat the Jayhawks.

"No one picked us to even get to a regional final," Boeheim said. "The kids didn't worry about that. They just came out to play."

And they will for one more weekend. Sixty other teams that set out on this adventure two weeks ago can't say that.

Notebook

FOOTBALL

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin surfaced court-side at a Mavericks basketball game Sunday afternoon, his first public appearance since reports linked him to a woman arrested on drug possession charges.

Irvin and his business partner, former Cowboys tight end Alfredo Roberts, sat in front-row seats at Reunion Arena, signing autographs and talking to fans. They brushed off reporters' questions and left immediately after the New York Knicks beat the Dallas Mavericks 85-79.

Irvin has not been seen since news of his presence at an Irving drug bust broke last Tuesday. He is expected to testify before a Dallas County grand jury in connection with the March 4 drug arrest of 22-year-old Angela Renee Beck.

The Cowboys star has not been charged in the case and has not commented publicly about it.

Later in the evening, Irvin and Roberts were seen at an event promoting their clothing line, which raises money for charity. Irvin again deflected questions from reporters.

"You guys know I can't talk about the case. Don't ask me about the case. ... I'm here to help other people. Not to help you guys sell papers right now. Not help the ratings on your cameras," Irvin said.

Irving police say Irvin and Roberts were among the four people in a Residence Inn motel room. Officers arrested Ms. Beck in connection with the seizure of almost 3 ounces of marijuana, more than 2 ounces of cocaine and drug paraphernalia. Ms. Beck told officers that the drugs and paraphernalia belonged to her.

GOLF

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Scott McCarron became the third straight first-time PGA Tour winner Sunday, shooting a 1-under-par 71 in windy conditions for a five-stroke victory over Tom Watson in the Freeport-McDermott Classic.

McCarron, who earned \$216,000 and a spot in the Masters, had a 13-under 275 total on the English Turn course. Watson, who won the last of his 32 tour titles in 1987, shot a 74.

PHOENIX (AP) — Laura Davies, capitalizing on Kristal Parker-Gregory's last-hole bogey, shot an even-par 73 on Sunday to win the Standard Register Ping for the third consecutive year.

Davies became the first LPGA player to win the same event three straight years since Sandra Haynie won the Charity Golf Classic from 1973-75. Davies, who earned \$105,000, had an 8-under 285 total on the Moon Valley course for a one-stroke margin over Parker-Gregory (75).

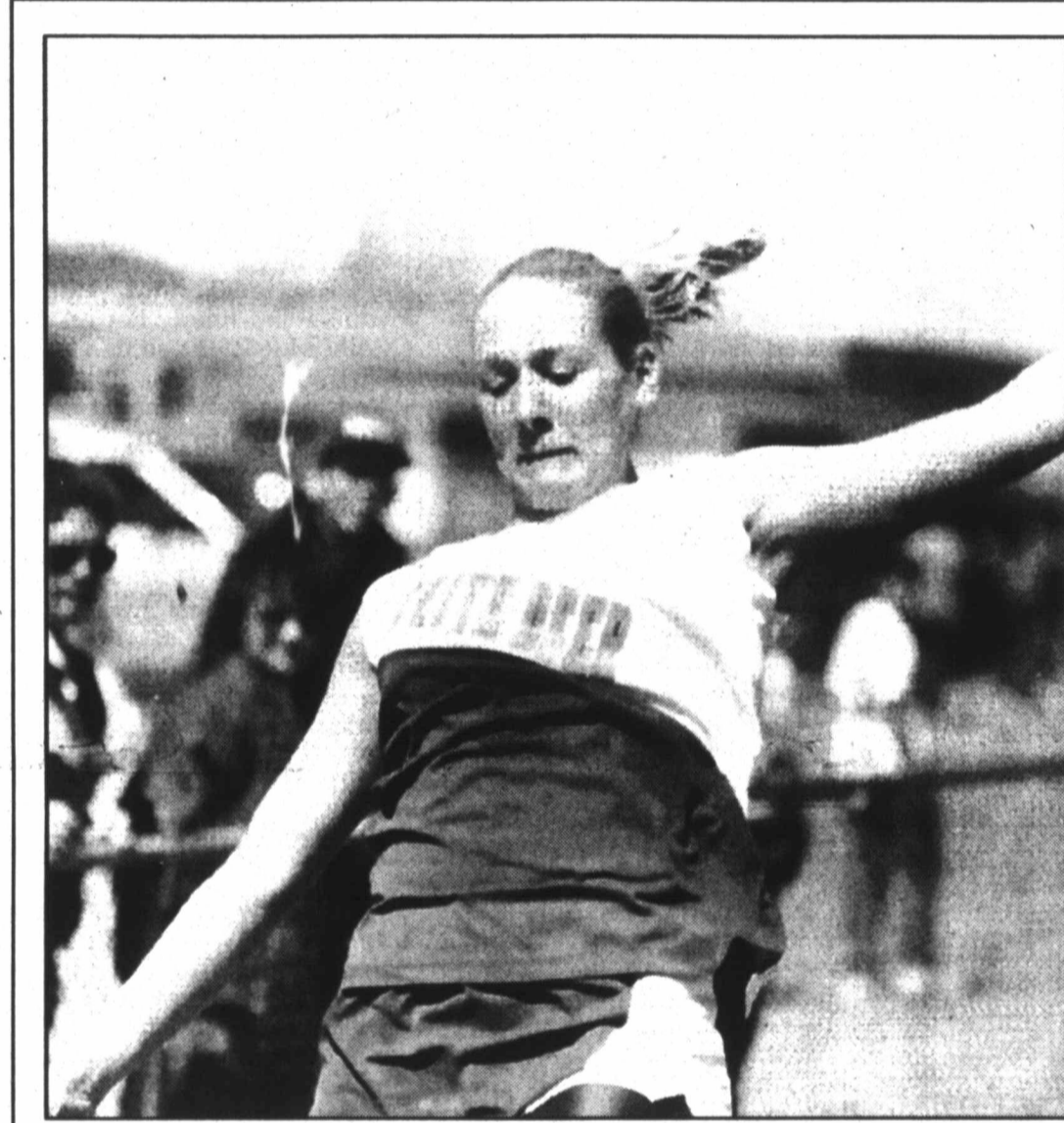
LISBON, Portugal (AP) — Australia's Wayne Riley shot a 1-under-par 70 on Sunday for a two-stroke victory in the Portuguese Open.

Riley, who earned \$82,810 for his second PGA European Tour title, had a 13-under 271 total on the Arroira course. England's Mark Davis (67) and Martin Gates (70) tied for second.

BASKETBALL

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Cedric Ceballos ended his unexcused absence and returned to the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday, offering an explanation but no details on why he spent four days in Arizona without notifying the team.

Ceballos, who said he was dealing with personal and family problems, remained suspended for Sunday night's game against Charlotte. He will come off the suspended list today and join the Lakers for a six-game trip beginning Tuesday night at Orlando.



(Pampa News photo)

White Deer's Krissy Cone placed third in the triple jump at last weekend's White Deer Invitational.

Shamrock, Highland Park win White Deer Invitational

WHITE DEER — Shamrock girls and Highland Park boys won the White Deer Invitational track titles last weekend.

Wheeler girls finished six points out of first with 86 points. White Deer placed sixth.

In the boys' division, White Deer and Wheeler finished third and fourth, respectively.

Highland Park won the boys' title by 33 1/2 points.

White Deer Invitational

Girls

Team standings: 1. Shamrock 92; 2. Wheeler 86; 3. Claude 81; 4. Wellington 81; 5. Memphis 71; 6. White Deer 71; 7. Highland Park 57; 8. Kress 20.

White Deer and Wheeler individual placings are as follows:

Shot: Rhonda McClendon, White Deer, first place, 33-2 1/2.

Long jump: Brooke Stevens, Wheeler, second place, 15-5.

Discus: Rhonda McClendon, White

Deer, second place, 90-4 1/2.

Triple jump: Krissy Cone, White Deer, third place.

800: Elissa Ray, Wheeler, second place, 2:46.72.

100 hurdles: Brooke Stevens, Wheeler, first place, 15.24; Jesse Wallace, third place, Wheeler, 17.31.

400: Kristen Marion, Wheeler, third place, 66.63.

300 hurdles: Brooke Stevens, Wheeler, second place, 58.09; Jesse Wallace, Wheeler, third place, 56.25.

200: Lenzi Diggs, White Deer, second place, 28.37.

1600: Dena Compton, Wheeler, second place, 6:26.53; Ember Bradstreet, Wheeler, third place, 6:32.00.

800 relay: White Deer, first place, 1:56.81.

1600 relay: Wheeler, third place, 4:35.81.

Note: Boys' results will be published in Tuesday's Pampa News.

Regional women finalists ready for biggest tests

NACOGDOCHES, Texas (AP) — Georgia's schedule looks like a road map of the top women's basketball teams in the nation, and coach Andy Landers still says Louisiana Tech is the best team the Lady Bulldogs will face this season.

Louisiana Tech has the highest scoring (87.4), stingiest defense (52.3 points allowed) and the largest victory margin (35.1 points). Coach Leon Barmore says the Lady Techsters must play the best defense of their career to beat the Lady Bulldogs.

"Watching Louisiana Tech play, I thought they would be the best team we've played all year," Landers said. "And you know we've played some pretty tough teams on our schedule."

The Lady Bulldogs played 14 teams this season that made the NCAA tournament and went 12-2 against them, including vic-

tories over No. 3 Connecticut, No. 4 Tennessee and No. 10 Penn State.

Barmore thought Georgia should have gotten more respect than a No. 2 seed behind the Lady Techsters in the Midwest.

"You should try to get the best four teams in the country and put them in different regions," Barmore said. "They didn't do that this year and it's wrong. These two teams shouldn't be playing. But it didn't shock me."

Louisiana Tech (31-1), seeking its fourth national title, has won 15 straight games, since losing to Tennessee on Jan. 22.

"I don't want to try to outscore Georgia," Barmore said. "They can beat you at all five spots. Our players will have to play the best defensive game of their careers. I'm not belittling our team but I'm just saying what I see for this game."

Pampa boys capture Deaf Smith track title

HEREFORD — The Pampa Harvesters won the Deaf Smith Chamber of Commerce track meet over the weekend, scoring 121 1/2 points to second-place Canyon's 96.

Pampa, led by sprinter Coy Laury, came away with seven first-place medals.

Laury won both the 100 and 200. Also placing first for Pampa were Floyd White, shot put; Devin Lemons, long jump and Derahian Evans, 400. Both the 400 and 1600-meter relay teams came in first.

"They did an outstanding job," said Pampa coach Tad Smith.

In the girls' division, Pampa placed second to Amarillo High.

Robin Williams won the 300 hurdles for Pampa. Pampa's 1600-meter relay team of Audrey Wilbon, Lisa Kirkpatrick, Kisha Evans and Jenny Fatheree won their event.

"Amarillo High just had too many numbers, but I thought our girls competed well. The wind was also a big factor," said Pampa head coach Mike Lopez. "Robin Williams did good for us. Her time in the 300 hurdles was a personal best."

The Pampa boys compete in the San Angelo Invitational while the Pampa girls are in the Berger meet next weekend.

"We're glad to get Renae Johnson and Kim Sparkman back. Renae hasn't ran since the Frenship meet and we've been waiting for Kim to come through for us. These two are going to be a big plus for our team," Lopez added.

Lopez is pleased with the progress of Katy Cavalier, who finished fifth in the 200 and sixth in the triple jump.

"We've been waiting for Katy to come through for us. We knew she had it in her," added Lopez.

Deaf Smith Chamber of Commerce Track Meet at Hereford

BOYS

Team totals: 1. Pampa 121 1/2; 2. Canyon 96; 3. Plainview 75; 4. Hereford 62; 5. Dimmitt 48; 6. Muleshoe 41; 7. Borger 36; 8. Friona 33 1/2; 9. Randall 22 1/4; 10. Palo Duro 20 1/2; 11. Hart 1 1/2.

Pampa placings are as follows:

High jump: Kevin Jernigan and J.J. Mathis (tie), fifth place, 5-10.

Discus: Floyd White, first place, 152-2. Long jump: Devin Lemons, first place, 21-8; Coy Laury, second place, 21-0.

400 relay: Derahian Evans, Coy Laury, Tim Fields and Jimmy Reed, first place, 43.44.

110 hurdles: Devin Lemons, second place, 15.2; Tim Fields, fourth place, 15.38.

100: Coy Laury, first place, 10.82.

400: Derahian Evans, first place, 50.41.

300 hurdles: Tim Fields, third place, 41.34.

200: Coy Laury, first place, 22.2.

1600 relay: Jimmy Reed, J.J. Mathis, Kevin Jernigan and Derahian Evans, first place, 3:26.

Pole vault: Logan Stinnett, (tie), sixth place, 11-0.

Shot: Aaron Hayden, fifth place, 49-0 1/2.

GIRLS

Team totals: 1. Amarillo High 130; 2. Pampa 103 2/3; 3. Palo Duro 90; 4. Dumas 69; 5. Canyon 46 1/2; Hereford 33.

Pampa placings are as follows: Shot: Barbara Wine, third place, 36-10. Long jump: Tasha Wilson, fifth place, 16-6.

Triple jump: Katy Cavalier, sixth place, 32-4.

High jump: Tasha Wilson and Tiffany McCullough (tie), sixth place, 4-10.

3200: Jenny Fatheree, second place, 12:38.10.

400 relay: Regina Holt, Audrey Wilbon, Kisha Evans and Tasha Wilson, third place, 51.86.

100 low hurdles: Kim Sparkman, second place, 16.65.

800: Jenny Fatheree, second place, 2:31.05.

100: Tasha Wilson, fifth place, 12.91.

400: Renae Johnson, fourth place, 63.61.

300 hurdles: Robin Williams, first place, 49.39.

200: Regina Holt, fourth place, 27.24;

Katy Cavalier, fifth place, 27.43.

800 relay: Regina Holt, Lisa Kirkpatrick, Audrey Wilbon and Tasha Wilson, second place, 1:50.95.

1600 relay: Audrey Wilbon, Lisa Kirkpatrick, Derahian Evans and Jenny Fatheree, first place, 4:18.01.

Luyendyk claims Dura-Lube 200

PHOENIX (AP) — Sometimes reality reads like a script.

Arie Luyendyk's victory Sunday in the Dura-Lube 200 was heart-warming for Arizonans, who have taken the soft-spoken Dutchman to their hearts since he took up residence in Scottsdale.

It also was a blessing for the Indy Racing League, which has some promising rookies but only Luyendyk's marquee name to trot out in its credibility battle against rival CART.

"I think it's time to stop talking about whether the IRL has arrived," said Jonathan Byrd, co-owner of Luyendyk's car. "It's here, it's real, and once we get our cars together, this is going to be the premier series in auto sports."

CART's preoccupation with road courses — only six of its 17 races last year were on ovals — led Indianapolis Motor Speedway president Tony George to form the IRL, and Phoenix International Raceway owner Buddy Jobe decided to back him. It's supposed to help develop young drivers.

But Luyendyk, 42, used years of savvy to pick up his fourth Indy-car title and his first in nearly five years.

"The rookies are pretty good — Richie Hearn ran well, and Tony Stewart ran pretty good," he said. "But you do need experience on ovals. If I'd finished second or third, I wouldn't have been happy. I'd have felt a little bit empty."

Luyendyk also benefited from pit-stop mistakes by A.J. Foyt Racing teammates Scott Sharp and Mike Groff to win the second event in the IRL's inaugural season.

The winner of the 1990 Indianapolis 500, who also won at Phoenix and Nazareth in 1991, averaged 117.368 mph to beat Sharp by 8.896 seconds, leading the last 67 laps on the 1-mile circuit.

"You don't have to win by 11 seconds when you can win by five," said Luyendyk, who stayed just out of reach the final one-third of the race. "I knew I could stretch the lead anytime I wanted, so I pretty much just had to bring it home."

Sharp was the only other driver to finish 200 laps. Groff was third, followed by Hearn.

Luyendyk won his first pole in Phoenix with a record qualifying run Saturday and led for 24 laps.

Savings accounts threaten health insurance bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill Thomas could be any parent talking about his 20-something son. The boy may be a man, but the father worries about his well-being and whether he'll buy health insurance for himself.

"Although he's out on his own, I still feel responsible," he said. Thomas isn't just any parent, though.

The California Republican is chairman of the House Ways and Means health subcommittee and wants to include tax-exempt medical savings accounts for people like his son in a health insurance bill being voted on this week in the House.

While popular with House Republicans, the savings account is among provisions that could threaten final passage of the bill, whose core purpose is to guarantee workers access to health insurance when they change or lose their jobs, even if they have an existing medical problem.

Neither President Clinton nor a majority of senators want medical savings accounts in this bill. It would complicate and could jeopardize the bipartisan support and private endorsements surrounding the narrowly drawn measure sponsored by Sens. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass.

A key House Republican said Sunday that while GOP lawmakers like the account provision, he'd be willing to drop it if it risked thwarting enactment of the overall bill.

"We will not let a medical savings account destroy the ability to give people the portability and eliminate pre-existing conditions," Rep. John Kasich of Ohio, chairman of the House Budget Committee, said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Some critics say the accounts would draw healthy individuals away from the pool of people necessary to make insurance

affordable for everyone. Others object to subsidizing this kind of coverage through the tax code.

When House Republicans included medical savings accounts in their plan to overhaul Medicare, Democrats accused them of trying to destroy the government program by siphoning off healthy older Americans whose premiums help pay for care of the sickest.

But in this bill, geared toward working people, the medical savings account option has more appeal.

The single largest group of uninsured are between 20 and 30 years old and above the poverty line, Thomas said. And as a father of two children in that age and economic range, he said he knows why.

"They have no interest in buying a broad-based package, especially when they are going to live forever. They aren't sick, they eat well, they exercise and they got

their teeth fixed on my insurance," Thomas said.

His daughter, a law student, has a good health insurance policy, he said. His son was willing to spend \$40 a month on a catastrophic plan.

If young adults could put \$40 to \$60 a month into a tax-exempt medical savings account that would earn interest and offer catastrophic coverage, they would do it, the congressman said.

The insurance could be sold individually or through employers. Part of the premium would pay for catastrophic coverage in case of serious illness or injury. The rest would go into a bank account to be used for minor sickness or saved from year to year, earning interest as it grows.

At tax time, individuals could deduct up to \$2,000 of their medical savings account contribution from their gross income.

Kidnapped American aid worker freed

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — An American aid worker kidnapped by gunmen in northeastern Somalia was freed after several hours, her agency said today.

Susan Yull was kidnapped Sunday near the airport at Bossaso, a port on the Gulf of Aden, said Jean-Marc Jouineau, a spokesman for the French charity International Action Against Hunger.

"She has been freed, but we do not know her condition," Jouineau said.

Jouineau also did not know the identity of the kidnappers or the motive, or have details on Yull's age or hometown in Connecticut. Confirmation of Yull's release came from the U.N.

Development Program.

Jouineau, who heads his agency's mission in Somalia, said after she was abducted, Yull was driven south toward Gardo and apparently freed somewhere along the route.

The kidnapping came three days after 10 gunmen seized five foreign aid workers at an airport in Ballidogle, 55 miles southwest of the capital of Mogadishu. Villagers, angered by the kidnappings, attacked the abductors and released their hostages.

Somalia has had no government since the ouster of dictator Mohammed Siad Barre in 1991 and the country disintegrated into fiefdoms of warring clans.

NASA astronaut settles in aboard Russian space station Mir

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Crews of the shuttle Atlantis and station Mir shuffled supplies between their linked spaceships today as NASA astronaut Shannon Lucid settled in aboard her new Russian outpost.

"If it looks a little cluttered in here ... it is," said astronaut Linda Godwin. "We've got a lot in here. Not everything is put away yet."

Lucid joined the Mir crew on Sunday, hours after the ships docked 245 miles over Russia and space voyagers from the two nations met in a flurry of smiles, gifts and camera flashes. She greeted her two new cosmonaut crewmates with bear hugs.

The 53-year-old biochemist is the second American — the first American woman — to call Mir home.

Her scheduled five-month stay is the start of what is supposed to be a continuous U.S. presence in space well into the next century. Astronauts will live on Mir, one at a time, for the next two years. By then, an international space station should be housing U.S.-Russian crews.

"It's been one of many people's dreams, I think, to have an outpost in space where we can always go to and conduct research ... and this is the beginning of that," said Frank Culbertson, director of NASA's shuttle-Mir program.

NASA officials expect Lucid to be busier than the only other American to live on Mir, Dr. Norman Thagard. His science equipment did not arrive until the end of a nearly four-month stay last year.

Culbertson said it may take a while for Lucid to feel at home and "get into the swing of things" with her new crewmates, but he's confident she'll adjust well.

"She's talked to Norm so she knows what it's like to live on the Mir," Culbertson said. "She's talked to the cosmonauts who have lived there, so I think she's mentally prepared."

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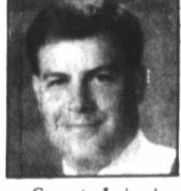
BUSINESS REVIEW

SMALL BUSINESS: THE AMERICAN DREAM, ALIVE & WORKING!

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