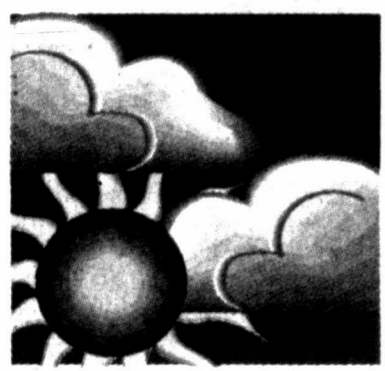


THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 12

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight near 40,
high tomorrow near 70.
See Page 2 for weather
details.

WHEELER — Stocker cattle producers in the eastern Panhandle are invited to a Stocker Cattle Clinic on Friday, April 26. The clinic will be held at the Wheeler School auditorium with registration beginning at 3 p.m. The Stocker Cattle Clinic is being sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension offices in Carson, Collingsworth, Gray, Hemphill, Roberts and Wheeler counties. The program was planned to give the producer management practices that can help him increase his income without high cost inputs.

Topics for the program include the following:

- Dealing with Order Buyers by Jim Bill Anderson, stocker operator from Hemphill County.
- Stocker Cattle Health by Dr. Pat Crouch, Canadian Veterinary Clinic.
- Economics of Weight Gain by Dr. Ted McCollum, Extension beef cattle specialist.
- Stocker Nutrition by Tom Corah, Elanco Animal Health.
- Marketing Strategies by Van Baize, First State Bank, Canadian, and Jim Bill Anderson.

Those planning to attend the clinic must make their dinner reservation by calling the Wheeler County Extension office at 826-5243 or their local county Extension office by 5 p.m. Monday, April 22. The meal is being sponsored by Elanco Animal Health.

FRITCH — Lake Meredith fireworks committee has announced a fireworks show set for dusk July 6. The committee has committed to a bigger and better show for 1996 and needs more contributions and volunteers, according to group president Scott Salter.

For contribution and volunteer information, call Salter at (806) 857-4061, Vickie Schoenhals at (806) 857-2926, Vicki Beuke at (806) 865-3336 or Julia Barker at (806) 878-4128.

Contributions may be made to the attention of Schoenhals at Fritch State Bank, Box 70, Fritch, TX 79036.

HOUSTON (AP) — A package left for a woman at a suburban Houston apartment exploded Friday morning, injuring her and causing a small fire at the apartment.

Capri Cornelius, 26, spotted the box addressed to her outside her residence when she left to take out the trash, Houston police spokesman Joe Gamino said. When she took it inside and began opening it, it exploded.

The woman was taken to Hermann Hospital in Houston where she was listed in stable condition.

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School trustees to hold hearing on consolidation

By CHIP CHANDLER
Staff Writer

School trustees will hold a public hearing early next month to gather input about elementary facilities consolidation, a meeting that will likely be one of the final steps in the decision-making process.

Board president James Frugé indicated this morning that the board's goal is to make a final decision at its May 23 meeting following input at the hearing.

The hearing is tentatively set for the Heritage Room at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Potential dates include May 2, 6 and 7. A final date and time will be announced next week.

The board decided to hold the hearing following a 90-minute presentation and discussion with architect Don Burleson and Superintendent Dr. Dawson Orr during the board's regular meeting Thursday night.

Burleson took trustees, administrators and a handful of teachers through two options, showing what remodeling work was needed at the schools that would

remain open and discussing an optimal new school. Burleson also gave a preliminary estimate of costs for each option.

He explained that his presentation was "just a report of where we are at the moment," adding that portions would still be refined.

Orr showed the board attendance zone options based on community suggestions in the last public hearing. Orr's presentation showed need for 88 home-room teachers in four neighborhood schools and 85 home-room teachers in four cluster schools. The district currently employs 94 home-room teachers. Teachers in special programs were not discussed.

Burleson said planning a new school was a necessary step in the process. Even if trustees decided not to build a new school, he explained, they could use plans for it to see the level to which current schools should be brought.

Burleson's first option, including the construction of a new school and the remodeling of the three 1950s-era schools, would cost at least \$12 million, he said.

Burleson's budget breakdown shows \$2 million budgeted by the school for capital improvement projects.

To pay for the remainder, he recommends a bond election. Under option one, \$10 million would be required, and under option two, \$8.75 million would be needed.

Frugé said that a bond election is one of two funding options the board is considering for the project. Also under consideration is a performance contract similar to the contract adopted to pay for new air conditioning and heating at the middle and high schools.

When asked if he thought a bond election would pass, Frugé said that would be one of his questions to the public at the hearing.

Under both option one (building a new school and remodeling three) and option two (remodeling four current schools), each school would be equipped with an air conditioning system, a new heating system and new electrical wiring and lighting.

See SCHOOL, Page 2

Proposed renovation/construction

Renovation/construction work necessary for schools, according to architect Don Burleson:

Austin — Construction of two new classrooms, bringing the total number to 27. Expansion of the current library to encompass two classrooms and an adjacent teachers' lounge, as well as expansion of the administrative office area.

Lamar — Construction of nine new classrooms, a new library and a new cafeteria/kitchen area. Part of those classrooms would be gained through conversion of current library, cafeteria and kitchen space, he added, explaining that the current rooms are too small.

Travis — Construction of 11 classrooms, as well as expansion of the current library.

Potential new building — Would require about 55,000 square feet. That includes 2,820 square feet for administration, 21,450 for academics, 4,340 for physical education, 3,660 for a media center, 6,150 for food service, and 6,700 for support areas. The build-

ing could be built on the current site of Houston.

Wilson — Demolition of the original Wilson school built in 1928 as well as the addition built in 1935, saying that they had served their useful life and were becoming a "maintenance sinkhole."

Construction at the school would include a new portion to house administration, 16 classrooms, a media center and a new cafeteria/kitchen. Burleson's recommendation, he said, makes the assumption that enough land is there. Wilson sits on only 4.29 acres; a new building would need between 10 and 15 acres, Burleson has said. Wilson was chosen for discussion purposes only, Burleson said, adding that the price would be relatively the same if Mann were chosen.

Burleson also recommended \$100,000 at each school remaining open for drainage and grading work. Current drainage is insufficient and leaves standing water that causes foundation damage, Burleson said.



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

The Pampa Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team took second place in state competition last Saturday. Team members include (back) Taylor Stellman, Michelle Lee, Sarah Fraser, (middle) Ryan Bradley, Jared Spearman and (front) Nathanael Hill.

Middle school team takes second in state

Pampa Middle School Odyssey of the Mind team members took second place in state competition last weekend in Plano.

The team competed in the "Crunch" contest, building a 17-gram balsa wood structure that held over 500 pounds in competition.

Team members include Ryan Bradley, Sarah Fraser, Nathanael Hill, Michelle Lee, Jared Spearman and Taylor Stellman.

Faculty sponsor is Dana Ketchersid. Parent coaches are Fran Stellman and Rick Bradley. In competition, the team

stacked weights on their structure and crashed billiard balls against it at every 50-pound interval. The structure held the most weight of any in competition.

The team also performed a self-written skit relating to the "Crunch" theme. The skit, entitled "SMASH," was a take-off of the popular television show M*A*S*H. Characters in the skit included "Chapped Lips," "Cling Rap," "Tosey," "Bullseye" and "O.J."

The third portion of the contest involved the students being presented a problem and given up to 10 minutes to solve it.

Odyssey of the Mind is an educational program that fosters creative thinking and problem-solving skills among participating students from kindergarten through college or military service.

At the state level, PMS competed against 26 other teams from around the state. Over 15,000 schools competed in Odyssey of the Mind this year in Texas.

In addition to the PMS team, two teams from Austin Elementary and one team from Horace Mann Elementary competed at state.

Olympic gold



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Wendy Miller, a Wilson Elementary School third grader, receives her first place medal in standing wrestling from Olympic gold medalist Billy Mills. Miller also won first in standing long jump and second in the 50-yard dash. Miller's team represented Kuwait in the Pampa Enrichment Program's Olympic Festival Thursday at Recreation Park. Mills, a Lakota Sioux Indian originally from South Dakota, himself took the gold for the 10,000 meter run in the 1964 Olympics, the only American ever to win this event. Mills' story was filmed in the movie *Running Brave*, starring Robbie Benson.

Local observances to help mark Crime Victim's Rights Week

The 15th annual commemoration of National Crime Victim's Rights Week will be observed both locally and nationwide beginning Sunday.

During this week, victim advocates, criminal justice and allied professionals, and crime victims will join together to educate Pampa citizens about victims' rights and services, crime prevention and related activities.

The theme for the observance, "Victim Justice: A New Day Dawns," describes the positive outlook held by victims' rights advocates in America. Today, there are over 27,000 federal and state laws that protect crime victims' rights. Every state — including Texas — has a victim compensation program to ease the financial burden imposed by crime in the nation.

Perhaps most important, there are over 8,000 victim service organizations that help victims by providing greatly needed support and services, including Tralee Crisis Center that covers seven area counties.

In Pampa, Tralee plans a candlelight vigil Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall. Jordan Unit Warden Kenneth Reagans is scheduled to speak.

Local law enforcement and family rights advocates will also attend special Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

Officer Standards Education training during the week.

According to Aileen Adams, director of the Office for Victims of Crime within the U.S. Department of Justice, the concept of "criminal justice" is incomplete unless "victim justice" is part of the equation.

"For the 44 million people in America who are touched by crime every year, justice is a priority: justice for the criminal, for the victim and for the community at large," Adams said. "While our accomplishments over the past 30 years are exemplary, we must continue our efforts to aid victims in their time of need, and to help all members of communities across America understand the importance of supporting victims' rights and services."

"It is important for all citizens of Pampa to join us in celebrating the dawn of a new day for victims' rights and services," Tralee victims' services coordinator Sana Alexander said. "While victim justice is our ultimate goal, we cannot begin to dream of reaching it without the support of all those who believe in public safety and the fair treatment of crime victims."

Anyone interested in participating in or volunteering for any of Pampa's crime victims' rights week activities should call Alexander at 669-1131.

Budget stalemate nears end

WASHINGTON (AP) — The marathon stalemate between President Clinton and Congress over a massive \$160 billion measure financing dozens of federal agencies for 1996 may soon be over, Democrats and Republicans say.

Bargainers from both sides said Thursday that while major disagreements remain, they have been narrowing differences over spending and other issues and could push compromise legislation through Congress next week.

"We're very close," Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., told reporters during a day in which the two sides

held repeated closed-door bargaining sessions.

"We're moving significantly closer to agreement," concurred Rep. David Obey of Wisconsin, the ranking Democrat on the appropriations panel.

An administration official who asked to remain nameless emerged from an earlier session and said, "This will be wrapped up next week, I think. The whole wonderful '96 experience, over at last."

Stubborn disagreements remain over logging in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, management of parts of California's Mojave Desert, and other issues that both sides are reluctant to stage election-year retreats on.

Probation officer visits Lamar



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Juvenile probation officer Kim Davis takes a question from a crowd of Lamar Elementary third graders Wednesday afternoon. Davis presented a puppet show to Lamar students throughout the day, explaining the dangers of joining gangs.

Officials vote to revamp minority scholarship program following affirmative action ruling

AUSTIN (AP) — A \$1.5 million minority scholarship program that was suspended after a federal court's anti-affirmative action ruling has been renamed, revamped and resurrected by state officials.

The scholarships will no longer be set aside only for minority students under the plan approved Thursday by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Instead, the money will be distributed to universities for awarding to those deemed "educationally disadvantaged."

Officials said, however, that the yet-to-be developed guidelines for the new program are expected to result in many of the 1,300 scholarships nevertheless being awarded to minorities for 1996-97.

"I think clearly overall we will still be reaching the majority of African-American and Hispanic students that need assistance, but we're also pulling along with them other students that also fall in that criteria who also need the opportunity to reach higher education," said Rep. Hugo

Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, who asked the board to salvage the scholarship program.

Survey: Most concealed gun holders, applicants crime victims

DALLAS (AP) — A car dealer shot during a heist, a woman savagely beaten in the face, a retired police officer: all have seen crime close up and armed themselves.

Texas applicants and holders of concealed handgun permits are "mainstream America," with more than half of them crime victims, the National Rifle Association said Thursday on the eve of its annual convention here.

Focusing on the modern right-to-carry movement that the NRA said began with Florida's law in 1987, it released a California pollster's survey that also showed a majority of permit applicants and holders had owned a gun before.

"Here are some of the people who get carry permits: common,

Berlanga said work background, family income and whether a student is a family's first generation to go to college might be among factors determining those considered educationally disadvantaged.

Coordinating Board spokeswoman Teri Flack said, "We are trying to come up with guidelines that will define educationally disadvantaged students in a way that will try to meet the needs of the greatest number of students out there who are currently being covered by these scholarships."

"When you start talking educationally disadvantaged, you generally are talking in a larger sense about minority students."

The scholarship program was suspended by Higher Education Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth after a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last month struck down the University of Texas law school's admissions policy.

Ruling in a lawsuit filed by four white law school applicants, the court said UT had failed to justify favoring some racial groups.

In the wake of the ruling, higher education officials have stopped using race as a factor in admissions and awarding financial aid.

Texas has asked for a stay of the court's decision against race-based student admissions, while the state takes the legal battle over the issue to the U.S. Supreme Court.

If a stay is granted and the Supreme Court agrees to hear the case, the effect of the 5th Circuit's ruling would be suspended while the case is pending. If the 5th Circuit refuses to grant a stay, the state could ask the Supreme Court for one.

"We will return to race-based scholarships" if the stay is granted or the Supreme Court overrules the 5th Circuit, Ashworth said.

But Berlanga said he sees the change in scholarship criteria as more than temporary. He said it should result in lawmakers' putting more money into the program.

"We will be able to then reach even more students that need the financial assistance, and that's what our goal ought to be," he said.

ordinary and maybe not-so-ordinary Texans," said the NRA's chief lobbyist, Tanya K. Metaksa.

"What we've seen from here is a whole wide range of occupations that are distributed throughout the whole state, in fact throughout the whole nation," said Gary C. Lawrence, president of Santa Ana, Calif.-based Lawrence Research.

"We had such a variety of occupations represented that it was just absolutely mainstream America and mainstream Texas," he said.

The survey of 257 applicants taking Texas' required certification classes as part of their concealed handgun permit applications was taken between March 15 and April

7. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 6.3 percentage points.

"The people applying for permits are already familiar with firearms; 93 percent had already fired a handgun at some point before the law went into effect on Jan. 1," Lawrence said.

He said 97 percent of respondents already owned a handgun and 84 percent of the applicants had practiced on a firing range within the previous 12 months.

"The motivation for many is that either they or someone in their immediate family has been a victim of a crime against their personal safety," Lawrence said.

State briefs

Employees of map-making company suffer lay-off

COMFORT (AP) — More than 80 people are without jobs in this small Texas town following the sale of a map-making company by one publishing giant to another.

Employees of H.M. Gousha didn't know about the closing of their company until they showed up for work on Thursday and discovered that the building was closed and that the only people inside were security guards.

The map-making company was the largest private employer in Comfort, a town of about 1,500 people, situated about 50 miles northwest of San Antonio.

Airline allowed to take off in dangerous windshear

DALLAS (AP) — An American Airlines jet with 132 passengers aboard was allowed to take off into a dangerous storm last week because of a communication breakdown in the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport control tower, officials say.

Flight 1352, bound for Pittsburgh, flew into a wall of wind that robbed it of almost 40 mph in airspeed as it left the airport at 6:31 p.m. Friday, *The Dallas Morning News* reported today.

The pilot was so shaken that he radioed back to controllers that it was "by the grace of God" that his McDonnell Douglas MD-80 did not crash.

He later made an emergency landing at Tulsa, Okla., where maintenance crews reported finding no damage. None of the passengers were injured.

The Federal Aviation Administration said it is investigating why the plane was allowed to take off into dangerous windshear conditions.

Three years after standoff, courts under siege

HOUSTON (AP) — The standoff between federal authorities and the David Koresh-led Branch Davidians lasted 51 days. That's nothing compared to the siege in the courts stemming from the Mount Carmel chaos.

The positioning of armored vehicles, shrieks from government loudspeakers and hand-painted signs once displayed by Davidians on bedsheets hung from compound windows have been replaced by a steady stream of legal maneuvers in Davidson-related cases.

A review of the docket of court activity in lawsuits filed against the government shows it takes up more than 2,400 lines on a courthouse computer screen.

Health insurance bill heads through Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Workers who lose or change their jobs would be guaranteed continued health insurance under legislation headed for Senate passage and favored by President Clinton.

Senators finished working on the popular, bipartisan measure Thursday, but put off the final vote until Tuesday so that Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fla., who was absent because his father died, could be present.

"It will be an almost unanimous vote," predicted Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, who lost an attempt to add tax-exempt medical savings accounts to the measure.

Authored by Sens. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., the bill was co-sponsored by more than 60 senators, and lawmakers on all sides represented it as a modest advance in the area of health reform.

The bill "does not strike out in a bold new direction," Kassebaum said. "But it is a positive step forward that will help reduce barriers to health coverage for millions of working Americans."

At its core is a guarantee that workers who have been covered by health insurance continue to have access to it if they change or lose their jobs, even if they have pre-existing health problems.

This would expand the number of covered Americans by about 25 million, supporters of the bill say. It would be the first significant change in the health care system since all the talk of an overhaul began more than four years ago.

The key moment in the Senate debate Thursday came with the 52-46 defeat of provision offered by Dole that would have allowed insurance companies to set up medical savings accounts as part of catastrophic insurance policies.

The provision is a part of the House bill passed last month and is very popular among many influential Republicans. It is opposed by the White House.

Dole will be on the House-Senate conference committee that

will work out differences between the House and Senate bills.

He said he expected the panel to "come up with a reasonable proposal in my opinion President Clinton will sign."

But when asked, he did not indicate whether he would fight for medical savings accounts in the conference committee.

Vice President Al Gore, who came to the Senate to vote against the provision in case of a tie, told reporters Clinton would veto the bill if it contained medical savings accounts.

He told reporters it was "a terrible provision that Senator Dole was pushing on the U.S. Senate."

Under the provision, the policyholder's monthly premium would purchase a catastrophic insurance policy for severe accidents or illness. A portion of the premium would go into tax-exempt savings account that the consumer could use to pay routine medical bills or save for other purposes.

But opponents say they siphon off healthy people whose premiums in traditional comprehensive health care plans are needed to help cover the higher costs of the sick.

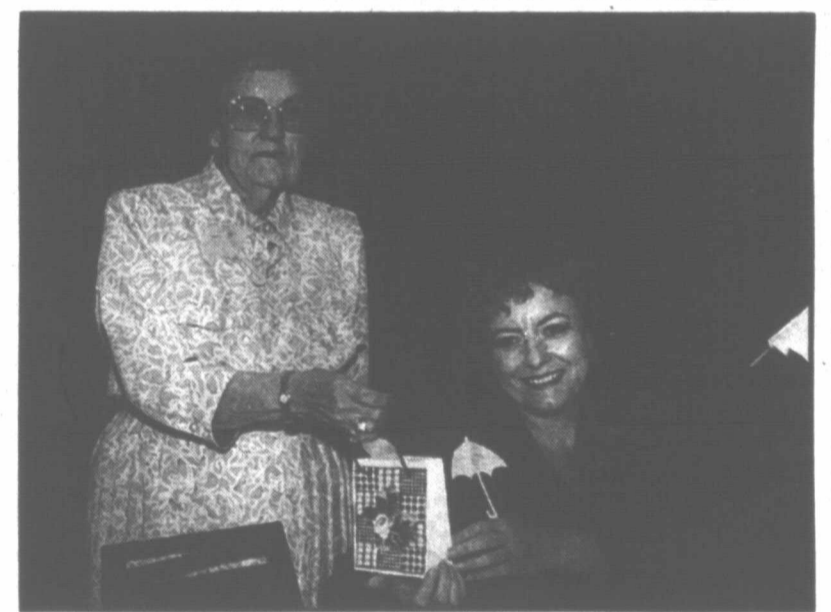
"I think medical savings accounts provide a false sense of security," said Kassebaum, also noting that the provision would add another shelter to the tax code.

All 47 Democrats and five Republicans voted against the provision. It was a decisive defeat for the certain Republican presidential nominee, but other provisions Dole offered were accepted without controversy.

Those provisions would:

- Allow 80 percent tax deductibility for health insurance purchased by the self-employed.
- Tax deductibility of long-term care insurance and expenses.
- Allow penalty-free IRA withdrawals for large medical expenses and for the unemployed to pay health insurance premiums.
- Tax exemption for state-sponsored, high-risk health insurance pools.

FCE holds district meeting



(Pampa News photo by staff)

The Texas Association of Family and Community Education held its district meeting at the M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium Thursday. Jana Pronger, seated, accepts a door prize from Gray County FCE member Boots Barnett. The district meeting was hosted by Gray County and featured workshops and informative speakers.

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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 covenanted commandment.

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Texas Editorials

The Dallas Morning News on tax amendment proposal: Sometimes good instincts run astray. The constitutional amendment GOP Reps. Dick Arme of Irving and Joe Barton of Ennis have scheduled for a House vote Monday provides an example.

The proposed amendment requires a two-thirds congressional majority to approve any new taxes. Now, a simple majority can pass tax legislation.

For starters, give the two Texas Republicans credit. They have the right instinct. They want to keep taxes low, perhaps as much as any two legislators on Capitol Hill.

They want taxes to take less out of workers' paychecks, and consume a smaller share of gross domestic product.

But their amendment creates enough pause to suggest area representatives not support it.

Next year, for example, Congress may tackle a top-to-bottom reform of the tax code. The proposals could range from a flat tax to a national sales tax to a consumption-based tax. But guess what? Under the Arme-Barton amendment, those farsighted changes could not pass without 66 percent of legislators supporting them.

Requiring some people to pay more for entitlement benefits also falls under the amendment's reach. For example, the Newt Gingrich-led House suggests some more affluent Medicare recipients pay a bit more for some Medicare services. That courageous proposal is part of the GOP deficit reduction plan. But the amendment would demand two-thirds of legislators support it.

Getting two-thirds of any legislature to take tough stands, like asking some seniors to pay more for some medical services, is like asking Marlon Brando to restrain himself. It can't be done.

Legislators, for instance, know some seniors will complain about paying more. And will two-thirds of Congress really stand up for tax reform, knowing some powerful constituency oxen will be gored? Probably not.

The founders were wise. They didn't want numerical minorities driving policy. They favored simple majorities approving taxes and spending. Their wisdom should prevail. Giving one-third of Congress control over taxes would give the few power over the many.

Austin American-Statesman on bad attitude conference: Austin may be the only town in which drums and incense were used to help developers and environmentalists — gasp — communicate with each other. It's a New Age kind of place.

Given that remarkable exercise, it makes sense that the city should host the International Conference on Attitudinal Healing. The conference was last weekend. For all the jokes that people with bad attitudes undoubtedly made about the conference, believers claim attitudinal healing works.

Some would call many residents' love of the natural (no polysaturates, please) and the metaphysical quirky, at best. At worst, they'd chide the Birkenstock-wearing, granola-eating, crystal-packing, tree-loving section of the community as just plain weird. But as Jake Gittes was advised at the end of the film *Chinatown*, "Forget it Jake. It's Chinatown."

You don't have to understand it. Just check your attitude. It's Austin.

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum**
Pampa Address: 100 N. Price Road, Pampa TX 79065
Pampa Phone: 665-3552
- State Sen. Teel Bivins**
Amarillo Address: P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, TX 79105
Amarillo Phone: (806) 374-8994
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Washington Address: 370 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
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Berry's World



"I am outsourcing dinner tonight. What would you like — Chinese food or pizza?"

Prime time grows up a little

What do *If Not For You*, *The Preston Episodes* and *Can't Hurry Love* have in common? They were three of the young adult-oriented sitcoms that debuted on prime-time television last autumn, when the networks felt the need to flood the airwaves with *Friends*-like fare. They have something else in common. Like almost all other shows of that ilk, they flopped miserably.

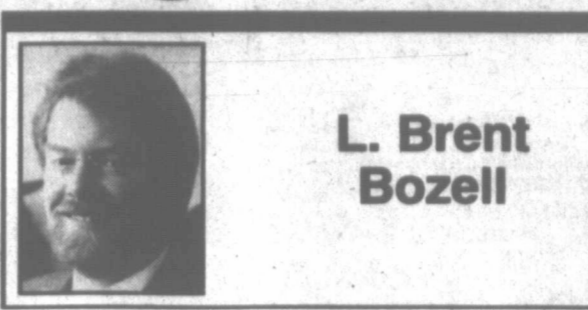
It's finally dawning on the networks that series after series focusing on obnoxious, promiscuous twenty-somethings may be drawing one audience, but they're also repelling a far bigger one that's looking for programming that reinforces, rather than rejects, its values. It's called the family audience, and it's forcing the networks to take a long, hard look at themselves.

CBS, according to entertainment boss Leslie Moonves, "will change in a way that will invite our traditional viewers to come along. The (fall) schedule will be very V-chip friendly. (We will) maintain a standard of taste and judgment."

The Eye Network has already tested this strategy and found that it works. Its popular Saturday-night lineup, which includes the family-friendly dramas *Dr. Quinn*, *Medicine Woman* and *Touched By an Angel*, was a major factor in the network's leapfrog ahead of ABC during the February sweeps period. This Saturday schedule, Moonves commented recently, "has struck a chord with the heartland."

In the TV season ahead, CBS plans to target viewers in their late 30s and early 40s — in other words, those likely to have families and unlikely to be interested in programming featuring the sophomoric, even boorish, antics of frisky urbanites.

Among the pilots CBS will consider for its fall lineup are a *Touched By an Angel* spin-off and two Westerns. (Westerns, like police shows, almost



L. Brent Bozell

always promoted traditional values; if the Rifleman saw a kangaroo rat on his land, he'd shoot it.) Also in the running: a Bill Cosby series, a Ted Danson project and Larry Gelbart's TV adaptation of the movie *Network*. Gelbart is the writer who, a quarter-century ago, masterminded the transformation of *M*A*S*H* from movie to television series. He's a political liberal, but he's also a sophisticated pro who won't pander to immature viewers.

Some will surely dismiss CBS' recruitment of Cosby and Danson as shameless attempts to recreate NBC's '80s magic; they'll also suggest the Western is a dead genre. Well, quip away. What matters is that CBS recognizes its lurch into *Friends* territory was a very poor idea. The candidates for its fall schedule indicate that the family audience will have more options in a few months and that the adult programming won't be perverted by cheap sexual innuendo. And notice that when Moonves says networks "are moving back to where they were" before the '95-'96 season, he's using the plural. As far back as October, ABC entertainment head Ted Harbert called his web's move away from family programming a "business mistake": "We have to keep the faith with the next generation of viewers. We have to

keep them knowing that ABC exists." ABC is making itself over already, debuting *Muppets Tonight!* and the family drama *Second Noah* this past winter. Moreover, the network was quick to crack down when *The Dana Carvey Show* aired tasteless material in its March 12 premiere. "We believe that portions of (the broadcast) went too far," ABC said in a statement. "We will be more careful in the future."

Believe it or not, even front-runner NBC realizes it may be pushing the envelope too hard. It pulled the scheduled March 17 episode of the Sunday family-hour sitcom *NewsRadio* because of the repeated use of the word "penis." Speaking with *The New York Times*, NBC West Coast President Don Ohlmeyer asked rhetorically, "What are appropriate words and inappropriate words for network television, and what's the context?"

Ohlmeyer has a valid question, and it's refreshing to hear it asked publicly. How and when a word is used, or a topic is handled, is important. The term "bastard," for example, can be used in a dramatically effective way ... or as a vulgarity. However, his argument is undercut by his own network's penchant for titillation. For example, one February *Friends* installment contained an unsubtle premature-ejaculation gag and a scene in which an unmarried couple spent the night in a museum display case, awakening to find a priest, a nun and several schoolchildren staring at them. The fall schedules won't be announced until May. Some of the new prospects will not make the cut, and of those that do, some may quickly be canceled. Nonetheless, the trend is clear. The networks are realizing that the future is not in smut and shock but rather in something we took for granted not long ago: intelligent, entertaining, family-oriented shows. Imagine that.



Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Friday, April 19, the 110th day of 1996. There are 256 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
One year ago, on April 19, 1995, a truck bomb exploded outside the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people, and injuring 500. Two suspects, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, face trial.

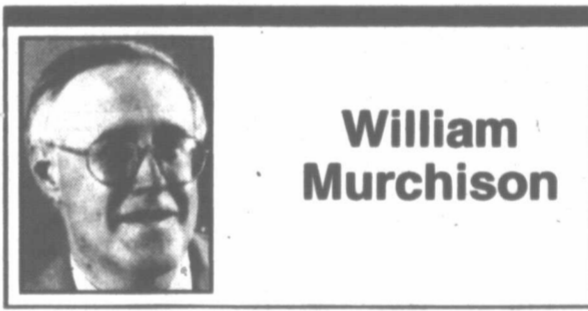
On this date:
In 1775, the American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington and Concord.
In 1782, the Netherlands recognized American independence.
In 1892, the prototype of the first commercially successful American automobile was completed in Springfield, Mass., by Charles E. Duryea and his brother Frank.
In 1893, the Oscar Wilde play *A Woman of No Importance* opened at the Haymarket Theatre in London.

Democratic Party taken by surprise

Over the past half century, the Democratic nominees for U.S. senator from Texas have included Tom Connally, Lyndon Johnson, Lloyd Bentsen and Ralph Yarborough. This year's nominee, the man solemnly commissioned to go forth and knock off Sen. Phil Gramm, is ... Victor Morales? The truth can be improbable. Victor Morales teaches school in one Dallas suburb and serves as councilman for another. Few Texans, probably including some who voted for him, know him from Adam's off ox. His candidacy says more about the condition of the Democratic Party in Texas than about anything else. That condition is less than inspiring.

Who would have thought it could come to this? Half a century ago, the Texas Democratic Party was prime pasturage for the state's biggest political bulls. Nowhere was where you got in Texas unless you were a Democrat. This was so because the party was conservative in a business-oriented, limited-government, stay-out-of-my-hair kind of way. Do-gooders who hoped to finance their aspirations out of the public treasury did poorly by and large. Even Lyndon Johnson, whose wild and woolly Great Society we're still paying for, posed as the essence of fiscal rectitude while he was senator from Texas.

Once the Democratic Party started biting instead of nurturing the great middle class — culturally as well as economically — the picture began changing. John Tower won election to Johnson's Senate seat. Texas today is at least as Republican as it is Democratic — maybe more so. The '96 elections



William Murchison

will provide evidence. The current congressional breakdown is 18 Democrats and 12 Republicans. However, two of those Democrats, Jim Chapman of Sulphur Springs and John Bryant of Dallas, in vying for Gramm's job, lost to Victor Morales. Both of their now-vacant seats, especially Bryant's, are exceedingly likely to fall to Republicans.

What is it about Morales? Anything? Not really, apart from a pleasant demeanor and a commendable earnestness about his self-assigned mission. He roamed as much of the state as he could cover in his white Nissan pickup truck, cadging gasoline money in the form of campaign contributions. He wound up the run-off primary campaign with \$9,000 in the bank. Morales has something better, perhaps, than money — the same surname as the state's attorney general, who, within the last couple of weeks, gained enormous publicity by filing a multi-billion dollar lawsuit against the tobacco industry.

When pressed for his views on current issues, Morales sometimes had to punt.

He didn't know what to say. He promises now to bone up. Call him an outsider, all right — one positioned so far outside he needs binoculars to see what's happening in the halls of power.

It is desperately hard to envision Morales surviving an encounter with Gramm, even when you factor in party backing and ethnic identity (Hispanics now outnumber blacks in Texas). Ciphers sometimes get elected to the House of Representatives but rarely to the more visible Senate.

Is this what the Texas Democratic Party has come to — Victor Morales? There is no more reliable poll than the polling places. The votes say that the Democratic establishment doesn't exactly have Texans standing on their chairs, cheering.

The last Democratic governor, Ann Richards, endorsed Bryant; it didn't help, which is no vast surprise, given Richards' failure to get herself reelected in 1994. Nor have the Democrats a plausible candidate to take on the well-liked Republican governor, George W. Bush, in two more years.

Up in Washington, the Clintonites rub their hands gleefully — or would like us to think they do — over the coming match between Grumpy Bob and Charming Billy. That ducks the question: What is it the Democrats are selling this year in terms of policy and prescription? Whatever it was in Texas, it sold so poorly that two Democratic insiders lie sprawled in the political dust, knocked over by a Nissan pickup truck. The old order changeth — and how!

GOP standing upon shaky ground

Republicans are aiming at an elusive issue in protesting President Clinton's tacit OK to 1994 Iranian arms smuggling to the Bosnians, since the embargo those shipments evaded was one they opposed.

That leaves Republicans the argument that Clinton was duplicitous and misleading when he let it be known, without telling, that the United States would do nothing to bar the shipments through Croatia to the outgunned Bosnian Muslims, who were being driven into retreat by the Serbs.

In addition, GOP leaders contend the result was an Iranian foothold in Bosnia. They also have suggested it may have been a covert operation, which Congress should by law have known at the time.

All of which the administration denies.

Sen. Bob Dole, who will be the Republican nominee against Clinton, called his course duplicitous: telling Congress one thing while covertly doing another. The Republican position, shared by a substantial bloc of Democrats, had been that the United States should help arm the Bosnians so they could better defend themselves against Serb forces equipped with weapons of the old Yugoslav army.

Dole, the GOP majority leader, plans to confer this week with the chairmen of four Senate committees he has asked to investigate the affair. There's also talk of House investigations.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich said the presi-



Walter Mears
AP Special Correspondent

dent's credibility was at issue. Gingrich asked how congressional Republicans were supposed to believe Clinton next time.

But Secretary of State Warren Christopher said the administration always opposed the U.N. embargo and wanted it lifted. The dispute with Congress was over Clinton's refusal to do so unilaterally, in part on grounds that to do so would undermine other international sanctions imposed by the United Nations and supported by the United States.

Clinton vetoed a bill to lift the arms embargo eight months ago. He said at the time that allies with peacekeeping forces then in Bosnia had said they would withdraw their troops if the United States acted unilaterally on arms for the Bosnians.

The bill had passed by veto-proof margins, but there never was an override attempt because of the U.S.-sponsored negotiations and peace settlement now in effect in what was Yugoslavia.

That's the accord under which Clinton sent American troops, now numbering more than 18,000, to join a NATO force of 60,000 enforcing the pact. He sent them late last year, and said they

would be withdrawn before the end of 1996.

Republicans grudgingly accepted the mission. Dole said he was supporting the troops, not the Clinton policy. He and other GOP leaders carefully drew that distinction on what had appeared a high-risk operation most Americans opposed.

In a public opinion poll conducted at the time the first Americans were sent to Bosnia, only 36 percent said they supported Clinton's use of U.S. troops there. But the mission so far has gone relatively smoothly, and attitudes seem to have turned. A poll sponsored by Tufts University indicated 60 percent support the mission now.

Another survey, this one by the Pew Research Center, showed waning public concern about the operation. According to that poll, 18 percent were following the situation closely, half as many as two months ago.

That could change abruptly, of course, were a crisis to erupt. And what now seems relatively routine could become a central campaign issue. The narrow argument about arms shipments isn't going to reach that level.

Whatever that did to let the Iranians into the region, the administration is withholding nearly \$100 million in U.S. military aid until all foreign forces, save the NATO peacekeepers, have been expelled. It also has said that an Iranian offer of economic aid to Bosnia cannot be accepted under the peace accord.

Dancing allowed for first time in Baptist university's history

WACO (AP) — One could only imagine what Rufus Burleson would've thought.

But there they were, within spitting distance of the statue of the Rev. Burleson that commemorates his two terms as president of Baylor University in the 1800s.

Baylor students were dancing — an activity that was banned on the campus of the 151-year-old Southern Baptist school until Thursday night.

And up on stage, Burleson's great-grandson, Ed Burleson, co-leader of the Haskett-Burleson Big Band, was providing the tunes.

So what would the good reverend think?

"Well, I'll tell ya," Ed Burleson said. "He was lifelong, dedicated Baptist minister. But he also had a sense of humor. I'd think he'd approve. This is 1996. He was president in 1896."

At a few minutes past 8 p.m., Burleson's band struck up a tune and Baylor President Robert Sloan Jr., clad in a tuxedo, and his wife, Sue, wearing a sequined evening gown, clasped hands, stepped into the middle of 5th Street and danced to Beethoven's "Minuet in G."

The band then abruptly broke into Glenn Miller's "In the Mood," and the Sloans shifted gears into a jitterbug to approving howls and hoots from many of the estimated 10,000 students, alumni and onlookers gathered to watch what was dubbed "A Miracle on 5th Street."

Throughout the night, other bands performed country, rock 'n' roll, and rhythm and blues. — Dancing still is pooh-poohed by stringent Baptists as possibly morally harmful.

But Baylor's regents voted several years ago to let the school's president decide whether to lift the ban.

Sloan did so in February, saying that dancing can be a "very wholesome activity," but warning students against "obscene or provocative" dancing.

No pelvic gyrations like those that got Elvis Presley in hot water with TV censors decades earlier.

No excessive closeness.

No "Dirty Dancing."

The Rev. Paul Stripling, executive director of the 54,000-member Waco Baptist Association, said the Baptists' main objection to dancing was that it often took place in bars.

"The only places where dancing was done a lot of time was in places where drinking was done," he said. "Many were concerned how that would affect ... their Christian effectiveness."

The first campus dance at the 12,000-student school came at the end of the school's "Djadeloso," or "Day of the Bear" festival.

The street in front of the Student Center was barricaded for the event. Signs at each end said simply: "Welcome to The Dance." Students crammed in to shake a leg.

One of the first students to dance was 18-year-old Amber Barness of Victoria.

"I think this is awesome," she said. "But we need some gyrating music, though."

Like any college town, Waco has several dance clubs. And fraternities, sororities and other organizations have for years sponsored off-campus dances referred to as "foot functions."

Sloan is quick to point out that Baylor students who have wanted to dance had opportunities in the past. But "it simply was time" to allow dancing on campus, he said.

Red Cross welcomes 'Resusci Anne'



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Gray County Red Cross was recently awarded a new CPR training doll through the National Automobile Dealers Charitable Foundation. Shown here with "Resusci Anne," second from right, are Ted Ward of the NAD foundation, local Red Cross director Lynda Duncan and Dick Stowers. Stowers applied for the CPR unit on behalf of the local Red Cross.

Health official: Fourth monkey not infected with Ebola virus

ALICE, Texas (AP) — Test results show that 10 of the 50 monkeys still under quarantine in South Texas do not have the Ebola virus, state Health Commissioner Dr. David Smith says.

One of those 10 monkeys had been thought after preliminary tests to be infected with the virus, which would have made it the fourth sick animal of the original shipment of 100 monkeys.

The 50 remaining monkeys will stay under observation in quarantine for at least three more weeks, the length of the virus' incubation period. All 50, which have been quarantined separately from a group of 50 that included three infected monkeys, will be extensively tested for Ebola infection and certified healthy before the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will authorize their release, Smith said Thursday.

"The news is an encouraging sign, with 10 tests coming up negative," said Doug McBride, spokesman for the Texas Department of Health. "But there are 40 others and the testing will continue."

Sparing the monkeys could save as much as \$100,000 for HRP Inc., owner of the Texas Primate Center, which breeds primates for medical research, according to directors of other primate breeding centers.

The CDC and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases are testing blood samples from the Texas Primate Center, where the Ebola virus was diagnosed Monday in a shipment of 100 monkeys from the Philippines. The center is 120 miles south of San Antonio.

One monkey died March 30 and another was put to death several days later. On Wednesday, an additional 48 primates were euthanized after a third monkey was diagnosed with the virus. All had been under quarantine in the same room.

On Thursday, Philippine health officials began investigating conditions at a rustic monkey farm that shipped the infected primates to Texas.

Ferlite Scientific Research Inc. was also the source of monkeys found infected with Ebola at a Reston, Va., primate center in 1989, at the Texas facility in 1990 and at an Italian primate center in 1992.

Philippine officials are examining Ferlite's facilities and operating procedures. It is one of five Philippine monkey exporters, which together ship about 2,000 primates a year, mostly for scientific research in Europe, the United States and Japan.

Of that, Ferlite exports about 500 animals, selling each for about \$500.

France cracks down on immigrants

PARIS (AP) — Dressed in the traditional robes of their native Mali, the women pass time waiting in the abandoned church courtyard that is their temporary home, hoping to make France their permanent home.

The Africans, and others like them, are at the center of an increasingly shrill debate over immigration in France — a debate that risks polarizing the country and has already drawn international criticism over alleged human rights abuses.

The Malians in the abandoned church school were among 400 undocumented African immigrants evicted by police last month from a nearby church. Fifty single men were promptly deported. The cases of the 350 others were pending because they involved families with children. Under French law, minors can't be deported.

The high-profile expulsion — the first since World War II that police crossed the sanctity of a church — forced reluctant officials to take a stand.

The Africans had occupied Saint Ambrose Church to draw attention to their plight. Despite

having been in France for years, they had yet to receive legal documents. Many have French-born children entitled to citizenship.

"I have nothing in my country," said Mahamadou Sambake, who left Mali for France in 1989. "We've been in France a long time, we can't return just like that."

About 200 who took part in the church occupation refused to disband until they were given legal residency. Many support themselves by working; some rely on the assistance of French charity groups.

"My father fought for France in World War II," said Mamadou Niakate, a Malian who has lived here illegally since 1988. "France is my country."

Many French don't agree.

With unemployment at 11.8 percent and concern rising over crime, school violence and drug abuse, many in this country of 58 million people are blaming the 250,000 to 600,000 illegal immigrants.

Police have deported more than 10,000 foreigners in the past year. About 920 of them were sent home on 16 highly publicized charter flights designed to discourage others from immigrating illegally.

City challenges 'deadly highway' label

LUBBOCK (AP) — Local highway officials say there's no way that Interstate 27 in Lubbock County is the nation's eighth deadliest stretch of roadway, as an insurance magazine claims.

The April/May issue of USAA Magazine, published by the United Services Automobile Association Life Insurance Company, includes the Lubbock County segment of I-27 as one of the "10 deadliest interstates in America."

The magazine says the rating is based on information from the

U.S. Department of Transportation.

Officials with the Texas Department of Transportation and with the Texas Department of Public Safety in Lubbock say they are surprised by the ranking, which doesn't seem to jive with statistics.

"I don't know why it would be ranked one of the deadliest," DPS Sgt. Larry Bigham of Lubbock said. "It's one of the safest because of the limited access."



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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

THE BRIDE CAME WITH THE CONQUERED CITY

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Religion

Heavenly sermon has new meaning for space travelers

By JIM JONES
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH - Presiding over one of the first church services to be sent into outer space, the Rev. Raymond Barber prayed last weekend for American astronaut Shannon Lucid and her two Russian cosmonaut companions aboard the Russian Mir space platform.

"We are thankful for the opportunity to send the Gospel out farther than it has ever been before — to the regions of outer space and beyond," declared Barber in the sermon at Worth Baptist

Church, where he is pastor. In a sermon emphasizing the power of God, he addressed the space travelers personally and prayed for their safety.

"May God be with you through the trackless miles of space and bring you back safely to your families and your homes safely and soundly," he said.

He added: "God is controlling your spacecraft. Open the window of your space house and see that Psalm 19:1-3 is true: The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork."

His sermon, "The God of

Space," is being sent to the space platform at the request of Lucid's father, the Rev. Oscar Wells of Bethany, Okla., a former missionary to China and a friend of Barber's.

Barber said the taped sermon is expected to be ferried by another spacecraft to the Russian space platform in about six weeks.

Dedicating the services to Lucid and the two cosmonauts, Yuri Usachev and Yuri Onufrienko, Barber said, "It is our sincere prayer that the music and the message will be a blessing and inspiration to the three of you as you explore the beauty

and majesty of outer space." Even the hymns of the worship service had a cosmic focus.

A solo, by music minister Phil Spencer, began, "It took a miracle, to put the stars in place; it took a miracle to hang the world in space."

Church members said they were delighted that their worship services were being taped for the space voyagers.

"It's neat and kind of exciting," said Christopher Wooten, 9.

"Maybe we will be sending missionaries to Mars next," said William Petty, 14.

Avis Wehant said the space ser-

mon came on her 81st birthday in which she had also received a letter of birthday congratulations from President Clinton and first lady Hillary Clinton.

"That makes it very special to me," she said.

Lucid, the first American woman to spend time on the Russian space platform, is a Baptist and Barber addressed her personally in slightly tongue-in-cheek comments.

"Shannon, your desire to be nearer to God than your dear dad, Dr. Wells, has finally come to pass. I understand that you have always wanted to be a notch

higher than your dad." Barber said if Jesus Christ returns before her mission ends in August, Lucid won't have far to go to reach heaven.

"As a born-again believer," he said to Lucid. "We are glad that you are representing the finest in American technology. The eyes of the world are upon you."

Barber and his wife, Helen, at the invitation of Lucid's father, attended the March 22 launching of the Atlantis space shuttle that took Lucid on her adventure to be the first American woman aboard the Russian space platform.

Non-Smith chosen to lead Reorganized LDS church

By SCOTT BEKKER
Associated Press Writer

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (AP) — W. Grant McMurray, like the church he has been picked to lead, is most easily defined in the negative.

The most notable thing about the 48-year-old man designated the next prophet-president of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is that his last name is not Smith.

Earlier this week, about 6,000 people attended McMurray's ordination in this Kansas City suburb, the highlight of the RLDS World Conference. A near majority of the 2,800 voting delegates had approved his appointment, making him the first prophet-president in the 136-year history of the church not descended from Mormon prophet Joseph Smith Jr.

For more than a century, the RLDS Church also defined itself by what it was not — the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Utah, the religious group popularly known as the Mormon Church.

"In more recent years, our church has moved away from trying to define itself against the Mormons," McMurray said in a recent interview in his office at the temple, a massive white building topped by a nautilus-shaped, soaring spire.

McMurray's selection is the latest in a string of high-profile moves by RLDS Church leaders toward the liberal current of mainstream Protestantism.

And that very drift toward the mainstream presents McMurray with one of his biggest challenges: giving the 245,000 members of the church a reason to stay. Some have left as the church's identity has changed.

The RLDS Church is the second-largest of dozens of Mormon groups that trace their identity within Christianity to Joseph Smith Jr.

Smith founded his church in New York state in 1830. As the story goes, he was visited by an angel, who led him to tablets that he translated into the Book of Mormon — a new scripture.

He led his followers to the Midwest. In 1844, an angry mob killed Smith and his brother at a jail where the two were being held.

One of his followers, Brigham

Young, left soon afterward and led most of Smith's followers to Utah to establish the Mormon Church there. Most of the Smith family stayed behind. By the late 1850s, a reorganized church was built upon the idea that Smith had designated his eldest son, Joseph Smith III, as the next prophet of the church.

The job was handed down from father to son or grandson or sideways to a brother, but always to a descendant of Joseph Smith Jr.

The RLDS Church established itself as a moderate alternative to the Mormon Church, particularly to that church's 19th-century practice of polygamy.

"For many, many years, the RLDS Church walked the tightrope between much more radical Utah Mormonism and a more acceptable mainstream Protestantism," said NASA's chief historian Roger Launius, who grew up in the RLDS church and has written several books on the history of the movement.

"That was a very comfortable place to sit."

The last 30 years have seen a liberal shift in the church leadership, and an erosion in the church's distinct identity. That has corresponded with an erosion in the church's position against its overwhelmingly larger neighbor.

The most momentous change came in 1984 with the push by current RLDS Prophet-President Wallace Smith to ordain women for the priesthood.

Delegates to the church conference sustained Smith's vision, thus opening a schism in the church. As many as 30,000 members are estimated to have left the church over the issue.

At a time when the Mormon Church is experiencing explosive growth, the RLDS Church is sliding. In 1980, the Mormon Church claimed about 3 million members to 300,000 for the RLDS Church — a 10-1 ratio, said Jan Shipp, a non-Mormon historian.

Today, the Mormon Church claims 9.4 million members, while the RLDS Church claims 245,000 — a ratio closer to 36 to 1.

Wallace Smith, 66, has overseen the construction this decade of a \$50 million temple in Independence dedicated to worldwide peace. In choosing McMurray last September to succeed him, Smith said it was time to broaden the base of people

who could lead the church.

Unlike Smith, who had a career as a flight surgeon and ophthalmologist before becoming the church's prophet and president in 1978, McMurray has spent his entire professional career in the church.

McMurray, a fourth-generation member, began working for the church in 1971 after getting degrees in history and religion. He was an archivist and historian for the church until 1982, and served as World Church Secretary and executive assistant to the three-member First Presidency, which includes the prophet-president. In 1992, he joined the First Presidency.

McMurray says he has no intention of reversing the decision on the ordination of women to lure back discontented members.

He says his vision for the church involves working to build a global community among the RLDS congregations in 38 countries, to carry on the church's mission of peace started with the building of the temple, to embrace pluralism and diversity, and to recognize the turmoil the church has been experiencing for the last three decades.

"I really think that our people are at a place where they can begin to put something together — a spirit of the movement," McMurray said.

One observer says McMurray has the qualities to unify the church — intelligence, a sense of humor, a solid grasp of church history and a nonstrident attitude toward the Mormon Church.

"The real significance is that the church has seen fit to choose the best man rather than the heir apparent," said Val Avery, a former president of the Mormon History Association.

"It's the triumph of bureaucracy over prophecy," Launius said. "The church has believed, to these many years, that the president is called by prophecy. We've never looked beyond the Smith family for that prophecy. Now we don't seem to look beyond the walls of the Smith headquarters for that prophecy."

Revival at Grace Baptist Church

Brother Clyde Spain will lead revival at Grace Baptist Church, 824 S. Barnes, from Sunday to Sunday.

Services will begin at 7 p.m. beginning Sunday, April 21, and concluding Sunday, April 28.

Religion briefs

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Rep. Jim Lynch could say his prayers were answered.

Opposed by the American Civil Liberties Union and ridiculed by a member of his own party, Lynch seemed to face a battle over a law that would designate the first Thursday of each May as "Commonwealth Day of Prayer."

But after some heated debate recently, the House approved the Warren Republican's bill, 175-16.

"We at the state level have the responsibility to encourage this positive activity," Lynch said.

The bill was sent to the Senate, where a spokesman for Senate Republican leaders said there is support for it.

Opponents contend Lynch's bill threatens religious freedom and that if the Legislature were to proclaim a day of prayer, it should do so through a resolution — not a law.

"Prayer should be voluntary. Prayer should be a matter of will. It should never be enconced in statute," House Minority Leader H. William DeWeese, D-Greene, argued. "A resolution is all you need, sir."

NEWTON, N.C. (AP) — A police officer who advised speeders to go — slowly — and sin no more has been fired.

Patrolman Brad Hicks was dismissed after he refused to stop witnessing about his Christian beliefs on the job, Police Chief Jim Masters said.

"You cannot stop someone on the road as a police officer and proceed to give them a church sermon," Masters said. "The Constitution doesn't allow that, and we can't allow that."

Hicks said he'd been doing it for seven months.

"Whenever I'd pull someone over or come in contact with them on some kind of call, I'd ask if I could give them a gospel tract and tell them about the Lord Jesus Christ," he said. "I've done it hundreds of times, and no one has complained."

Macedonia to host fellowship breakfast

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

Menu includes pancakes, toast, eggs, sausage or bacon, juice and coffee.

The Rev. I.L. Patrick and the church invited the public to eat and fellowship. Donations accepted. For more information call 665-4926.

Union church meets need

ODESSA (AP) — Grandfalls Union Church was a product of necessity in 1910. Since then, it's been a product of community harmony.

One of few features visible in the distance in Grandfalls, about 45 miles southwest of Odessa, is the small, gray building with gothic windows sporting this telling sign:

"Grandfalls Union Church — Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian. Pastor Sue Hart."

The tri-denominational church has withstood the test of time. "It was founded that way in 1910," says Mary Kuhn, a third-generation member. "There just weren't enough people of any one denomination to build a

church."

The three congregations continued worshipping together even through Grandfalls' oil boom days. The ensuing oil bust ruined many West Texas towns, but not Grandfalls, or its church.

The Protestant denominations vary little in their beliefs. The differences are more administrative. "We're one congregation," Kuhn said.

Members consider their denomination "Union," lifelong member Charlotte Wilcox said.

Trustees from each denomination divide the land's deed. A church constitution dictates that if one congregation breaks away, it must leave the structure to the other two.

St. Mark sponsors barbecue dinner

St. Mark Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, 406 Elm, will host a barbecue dinner beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Menu includes barbecue ribs, brisket, potato salad and beans.

A bake sale will be held.

The Rev. Merle L. Houska and congregation invite the public. Donations are accepted and the congregation will deliver by calling 669-6743.

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Arney denounces minimum wage hike as 'cruel hoax'

WASHINGTON (AP) - Congressional Democrats' push to raise the minimum wage amounts to nothing more than a "cruel hoax" on hard-working Americans, says House Majority Leader Dick Arney.

Raising the \$4.25 minimum would only harm those at the low end of the economic scale, the Irving Republican said in a conference call Thursday with Texas reporters.

Recalling his first job sacking groceries - a job he was "dang thankful" to get - and one during college as a restaurant dishwasher, Arney said: "I couldn't be majority leader of the House today if I hadn't gotten myself on that first rung of that ladder."

Arney, who was paid minimum wage as a dishwasher, speculated that he might have lost that job had the minimum wage been increased. "I very likely might have walked in one day and found myself with a great bright shiny Hobart dishwashing machine that had a sign on it that said 'Dick Arney you're no longer needed.'"

"And that would have been a bitter disappointment to me as a college kid," he said.

Congressional Democrats, joined by a rump group of moderate House Republicans, in recent weeks have been pushing for a wage hike. The Clinton administration is seeking a 90-cent increase over two years in the minimum wage, which has been at \$4.25 since 1991.

Supporters of an increase say that when inflation is taken into

account, the minimum wage will soon be at a 40-year low unless it is raised.

But Arney and other opponents argue that a raise would be a jobs-killer.

"When you are at the least-skilled, least-talented, least-trained, least-educated, least-experienced place on the ladder, it is most possible to find a dumb machine to do your job," Arney said.

Although Republicans have managed to thwart the proposal to date, it appears the GOP leadership may be bowing to the inevitability of scheduling a vote - with a twist.

In a bid to make the measure as unpalatable to Democrats as possible, Republicans are eyeing the possibility of attaching to the minimum wage legislation other measures.

Under one proposal mentioned by Arney, Republicans would attach a provision that would allow union members to only pay union dues earmarked for collective bargaining - thus avoiding having their dues used for political purposes.

Republicans are doubly pleased by this possibility, since unions overwhelmingly funnel their political contributions to Democratic candidates.

If forced to hold a vote, Arney said he has been tasked by House Speaker Newt Gingrich to find "a creative way of making it happen in such a way that you can mitigate against the harm by doing something good for somebody that's out there working for a living."

Lone Star State shrugs off 'SPY' magazine's ranking as annoying state

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
Associated Press Writer

The editors of SPY magazine must not have heard of that old slogan "Don't mess with Texas."

The magazine has picked the Lone Star State as the most annoying in the nation, and in the republic that boasts of everything being bigger and better, the designation has left some, well, annoyed.

"If you get annoyed by blue skies and friendly people and lots of space and strong women, don't come," suggests former Lady Bird Johnson press secretary and Texas enthusiast Liz Carpenter.

The Most Annoying States roster is included in the June issue of the bimonthly satirical magazine. Titled "God Help America," the article ranks the 50 states in order of annoyance.

"Texas may not be the worst place in the country," write authors Alex Gregory and Peter Hyuck, saying that title belongs to the District of Columbia. "But

like the vulgar, free-wheeling yahoos that reside there, the former Lone Star Republic is bigger, louder, and full of more baseless braggadocio than any other state. ... Houston, we have a problem, indeed."

So what, exactly, is so irritating about Texas? The list is broken down into six categories, with dozens of examples. Here are a few:

- Reasons not to live there: The phrases "big ole" and "little bitty." Rodeo is not only a socially acceptable cultural medium, it is also part of the curriculum at many Texas colleges and universities.

- What passes for culture: The National Cowgirl Hall of Fame.

- What passes for entertainment: World Championship Slingshot Matches. Billed as a "shoot-em-out with slingshots."

- Dumbest laws: It is illegal to milk another person's cow. The entire Encyclopedia Britannica is banned in Texas because it contains a formula for making beer at home.

World briefs

Adviser: Free trade eases pain in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) - A top adviser to President Clinton says free trade has eased the pain of Mexico's economic crisis and helped preserve U.S. jobs.

Mack McLarty also reiterated U.S. backing for a similar pact to extend throughout the Americas, a project originally envisioned by President Reagan.

In a speech to American businessmen, McLarty said the North American Free Trade Agreement may have helped prevent a deeper drop in U.S. exports to Mexico during this country's financial collapse in 1995.

McLarty's visit comes at a time of rising concern in Mexico that Americans are becoming increasingly hostile to Mexican immigrants and to the idea of NAFTA, which opens trade among the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Lake in China poisoned; one killed, 406 injured

BEIJING (AP) - A phosphorous factory has emitted arsenic into a lake in southwestern China, killing one woman and poisoning 406 other people.

The arsenic flowed into Hongfeng Lake, a key tourist attraction and main source of drinking water for Guizhou province, the newspaper China Youth Daily said today.

The factory released quantities of arsenic that were 850 times greater than government limits, the report said. Rivers downstream were polluted to 40 times safe levels.

The report did not say when the poisoning occurred.

The Fumao Phosphorous

Chemical Industry Co., a joint venture with a Taiwan firm, began operating in December 1994 without submitting to any of the required pollution inspection controls, the newspaper said.

The firm was fined \$30,000, the report quoted officials at the provincial Economic Protection Bureau as saying.

Police investigate slaying of 18 Greek pilgrims

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Police searched neighborhoods near the pyramids and set up roadblocks today in their search for the gunmen who killed 18 Greek pilgrims in a hail of automatic weapons fire.

Planes carrying survivors arrived in Greece to welcome from relieved relatives. Some of the wounded and the bodies of the dead were being flown to Greece later today.

The Egyptian police investigation was focusing on whether the gunmen might have been Islamic militants who mistook the Greeks for Israelis.

The Europa Hotel, where the attack occurred on Thursday, is known to be frequented by Israelis. Ironically, the only group from Israel staying there at the time of the attack was made up of Israeli Arabs.

Militants in Egypt have targeted foreign tourists in the past in their campaign to undermine the government. But rising Arab anger over Israel's massive bombardment of Lebanon could also have been a factor, Egyptian security officials say.

Seventeen people were wounded in the attack, three seriously. One was an Egyptian parking attendant; the rest were Greek.

Women, blacks infected by AIDS increases nationwide

By KAREN HILL
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) - The AIDS rate declined nationwide in 1995, especially among children, but more blacks and women were diagnosed with the disease, federal researchers said.

Overall, the number of people diagnosed with the disease last year fell 7 percent compared with 1994, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Thursday.

There were 74,180 AIDS cases, or 27.8 per 100,000 residents, in 1995, compared with 79,897 cases and a rate of 30.2 in 1994. In 1993, the year federal researchers expanded their definition of AIDS, there were 105,828 cases.

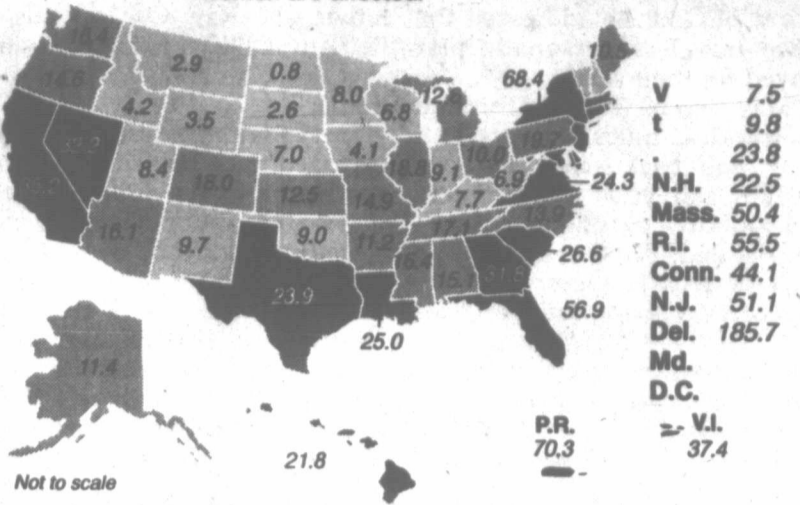
Washington, D.C., had the grim distinction of having the highest AIDS rate among U.S. states and territories, while Jersey City, N.J., topped the list for cities.

The figures showed that the number of AIDS cases among blacks is rapidly approaching that among whites, especially troubling since blacks are a much smaller percentage of the U.S. population than whites.

The AIDS rate for blacks was 92.6 cases per 100,000 people. Blacks

AIDS in the U.S.

The incidence of AIDS is declining nationwide, but more minorities and women are affected.



Source: CDC

nationwide, anticipating that prevention methods and death would slow the rates among gay white men but that the disease would spread among women and minorities.

Women accounted for 19 percent of all AIDS cases among adults and adolescents, their highest proportion yet.

But in a surprise, AIDS cases among children fell to 800 in 1995, from 1,034 in 1994, even though more women developed the disease. Nearly all children with AIDS get HIV, the virus that causes the disease, in their mothers' wombs.

"It suggests that there are fewer children being born infected with HIV, perhaps as a result of increasing use of AZT by pregnant women to reduce risk of transmission," Ward said. AZT is one of several drugs that slow reproduction of HIV.

After Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico was a distant second among U.S. states and territories, followed by New York, Florida and New Jersey.

The nation's capital had 185.7 AIDS cases per 100,000 residents, down from 246.9 in 1994, when it also led the nation. North Dakota had the lowest AIDS rate, at 0.8.

were six times more likely to have AIDS than whites, whose rate was 15.4, and twice as likely to have AIDS as Hispanics, whose rate was 46.2. Asians and Pacific Islanders reported the lowest rate, 6.2.

"Not only is the rate higher among blacks, the actual number among blacks is about to surpass whites," said Dr. John Ward, director of the CDC's

AIDS-HIV surveillance branch.

Black adults and teens accounted for 29,350 AIDS cases diagnosed in 1995, compared with 29,732 cases among whites and 11,169 cases among Hispanics. The remainder were American Indians and Asian-Pacific Islanders.

Researchers had predicted that the AIDS rate would decline

FBI investigates Unabomber leaks, admits federal sources responsible

HELENA, Mont. (AP) - The government admitted that federal sources were responsible for some leaks in the Unabomber case but said steps have been taken to plug them, including an FBI investigation.

However, the leaks are not significant enough to allow suspect Theodore Kaczynski to go free or to be given immunity from prosecution, Assistant U.S. Attorney Bernard Hubley said Thursday.

U.S. District Judge Charles Lovell was to hear arguments today on Kaczynski's request to be released because of what his lawyer calls a deliberate federal effort to poison potential grand jurors.

Meanwhile, a barber told The New York Times that Kaczynski joked about going free while hav-

ing his haircut two weeks ago in his cell in the Clark County Jail. The barber, Dundee Warden, said she kept some tangled hair clippings from the haircut and intends to hand out some locks as keepsakes, the newspaper reported today.

Kaczynski was soft-spoken and chatted freely during the haircut, ignoring five jailers who

were watching, Warden said. Kaczynski told Warden that he avoided cutting his hair too short during the 16 years he lived in seclusion, she said.

"I told him, 'when I'm done with you, you'll look like a different guy,'" Warden said.

"Maybe I'll be able to walk right out of here," Kaczynski responded.

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Nation briefs

Fed up with court system, Kevorkian walks out of trial
PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Fed up with a judicial system he calls corrupt, Dr. Jack Kevorkian walked out of his third assisted suicide trial, saying "a jail cell has more dignity than this lousy room."

Oakland County Circuit Judge David F. Breck allowed an angry and agitated Kevorkian to leave the courtroom Thursday, but said he could be required to return to testify. The trial resumes today.

Kevorkian asked to leave outside the jury's presence, and jurors did not see him leave. When they returned, they were told Kevorkian voluntarily excused himself and could return any time he wished.

Before he left, Kevorkian told his lawyers he would rather go to jail than sit through the rest of his trial. "I can't participate in this crap, this corrupt system," he said during a break.

Kevorkian is charged with two counts of common law assisted suicide in the deaths of Sherry Miller, 43, and Marjorie Wantz, 58, in 1991. Miller, who had multiple

sclerosis, died after inhaling carbon monoxide; Wantz had severe pelvic pain and died of an injection of drugs.

Lawyers have hope for brothers despite recent ruling

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A day after jurors recommended life in prison for Lyle and Erik Menendez, defense lawyers went to work building a case for a retrial based on what they say were errors by the judge.

The lawyers will identify every issue that could lead to a new trial or a reversal of the brothers' murder convictions on appeal, defense lawyer Leslie Abramson said Thursday.

Lyle, 28, and Erik, 25, are to be formally sentenced July 2 for the 1989 shotgun slayings of their wealthy parents, Jose and Kitty Menendez.

The defense will challenge many of Superior Court Judge Stanley Weisberg's decisions during the trial, such as having a single jury hear the case and limit-

ing testimony about sexual and psychological abuse.

Ex-bodyguard files suit, says fired for exposing perjury

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A former bodyguard for Michael Jackson says he once escorted the pop star and a boy into a bedroom, according to a lawsuit.

Jerome Johnson also says he was ordered to intimidate workers who might cooperate with a molestation investigation of Jackson, according to court papers obtained Thursday.

Johnson says he was fired in 1995 for exposing perjury that occurred in connection with the child molestation allegations against Jackson.

In 1990, Johnson says in the lawsuit, he was sent to the Encino home of Jackson's parents to make sure the house was empty. Jackson later arrived with a young boy, perhaps 10 to 12 years old, and Johnson and another guard escorted the pair to a bedroom, the lawsuit says.

New legislation would protect Kelly pensions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Workers at Air Force maintenance depots in California and Texas, which are due to be shut down by 2001, would retain their federal pension benefits under new legislation offered by a California congressman.

Rep. Vic Fazio, whose Sacramento-area district includes McClellan AFB, Thursday introduced a bill designed to help his workers and those at Kelly AFB in San Antonio as both bases are closed and their work spun off to the private sector.

Joining the California Democrat in introducing the legislation were five other House members, including Rep. Frank Tejeda, D-San Antonio.

Fazio's proposal would allow affected Kelly and McClellan workers covered under the Civil Service Retirement System to count their years of

service with private contractors towards the necessary requirement for a federal pension.

"I think these are clearly people who deserve compensation commensurate with what they were promised when they embarked on a federal career," Fazio said.

Fazio said the Defense Department will support his measure, which he said won't cost taxpayers any money. The question, he said, is whether congressional budget analysts will agree with that assessment. Under current budget strictures, if the Congressional Budget Office rules there is a cost associated with Fazio's bill, spending reductions in other areas would have to be proposed.

Sens. Dan Coats, R-Ind., and Wendell Ford, D-Ky., will introduce the legislation in the Senate, Fazio said.



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Husband's Best Friend Is Not On Best Behavior Around Wife

DEAR ABBY: If my husband knew I was writing to you, he'd swear I was nuts. But I have a problem I have never seen addressed. I read your column every day, and most of the time I agree with you and respect your opinion.

My husband's best friend, "Earl" (not married), has been cornering me alone and keeps saying he has always loved me! I have tried avoiding him, and he tries to avoid me when he's sober. However, we are social drinkers, and since they are such good friends, there are times we can't avoid each other. I have never encouraged Earl and have let him know that I'm very much in love with my husband — but that doesn't stop him.

Should I tell my husband? I'm afraid if I don't, he'll hear Earl one day and think there's something going on. They have been friends for years, and I'm afraid if I tell, their friendship will be hurt, and I'd never do anything to hurt either one of them.

Your thoughts on this, please.
IN A BIND IN BATON ROUGE

DEAR IN A BIND: You are much too kindhearted. If the shoe were on the other foot, and your best friend began hitting on your husband every time she got a snoot full, wouldn't you want to know?

Corner Earl in the cold, sober light of day and tell him that his unwelcome advances have made you uncomfortable for the



Abigail Van Buren
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

last time and if it happens again, you will tell your husband. And if you're put on the spot again — do it.

DEAR ABBY: A friend of ours has a 7-year-old son who molested our 7-year-old child. We alerted our friend to the situation, and she confronted her son, who admitted the act.

From what our child told us, this was not just "curiosity." Our friend took her son to a child psychiatrist and informed us that they discovered the boy had been molested for over a year by an older boy. Then we were told that he would have to be in therapy anywhere from six months to a year.

After two or three visits to the doctor, the mother stopped taking him because it was too upsetting for the child, and he would cry and get sick before the appointment, so no more therapy.

Do you think this is wise? Since he was molested and has acted out on other children (ours was not the

only one — there were several), should he or should he not be in therapy? I believe he should.

CONCERNED FRIEND
DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND: I, too, believe the boy should be in therapy. Is the boy rebelling because he dislikes the therapy — or the therapist? Perhaps another therapist could be a solution.

DEAR ABBY: Bravo to you for your recent response to the letter from the Canadian woman whose husband was in prison.

My father went to prison just before I was born. My mother always told me he was "in the Army," since, like your reader, she didn't think I was old enough to understand. Unfortunately, the neighborhood children didn't take my young age into consideration when they informed me that my father was a "jailbird."

Later, my mother apologized for her mistake in not being the one to tell me the truth, even though it wasn't pretty. She never lied to me again about anything, as she expected me to always be truthful with her.

How much better it will be for your Canadian reader's children to hear the truth from someone who can convey it to them in a loving, sensitive manner. They have the added bonus of their father not being guilty of the crime. Unfortunately, I can't say the same about my father.

EVERGREEN, COLO.

10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today, try to function as a bridge between two dissenting friends. You can help to bring them together. Eventually, they will see eye to eye.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Self-approval will be the key to success today. If you feel good about yourself and your abilities, outstanding achievements are possible.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Even if you are far away from the one you love today, your dreams, aspirations and expectations will be in close harmony with this special person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today, someone who appreciates you may secretly help you with a delicate maneuver that will affect your career. His or her gesture will make you look good.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Today you will have an exhilarating and inspiring influence on your companions. Your behavior will make them feel warm and fuzzy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) The laws of

reciprocity will work in your favor today. You will receive more than you gave in return for each generous gesture you make to others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Today, you may have an opportunity to create a stronger bond with someone you admire. These feelings will be mutual.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your creativity will help you to produce pleasant, lasting effects today. Use your talents for the beautification of your personal surroundings.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) That buzz of conversation between friends today will be mostly about you. Your ears will ring with all the nice things they will say.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Financial trends will favor you today. Focus your intellect and energies on situations that generate profitable returns.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today you can get others to believe in ideas and issues about which you feel strongly. Do not be afraid to make your positions known.

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Horoscope



Sunday, April 21, 1996

Your financial position will improve during the coming year. However, you must have patience because these maneuvers will require delicate timing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You may be in the running for a good-guy award today. Someone you recently helped will want to show his or her gratitude in a material way. Do not resist. Taurus, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY



4-19
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"Hi! I'm a first-time caller. I just learned how to dial."



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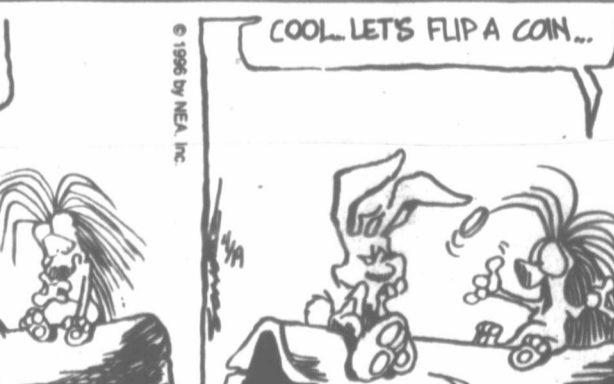
"Oh, boy!"

The Family Circus



Grizzwells

Marmaduke



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Alley Oop



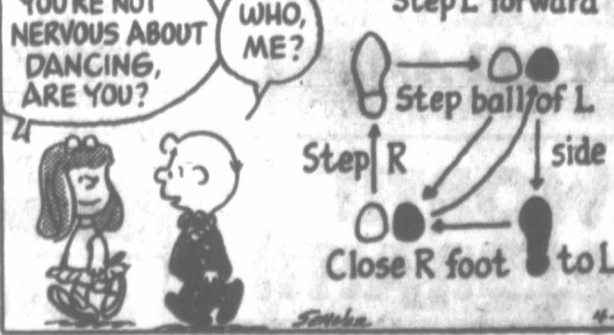
Frank and Ernest



Peanuts



Mallard Filmore



For Better or For Worse



Ario & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



B.C.



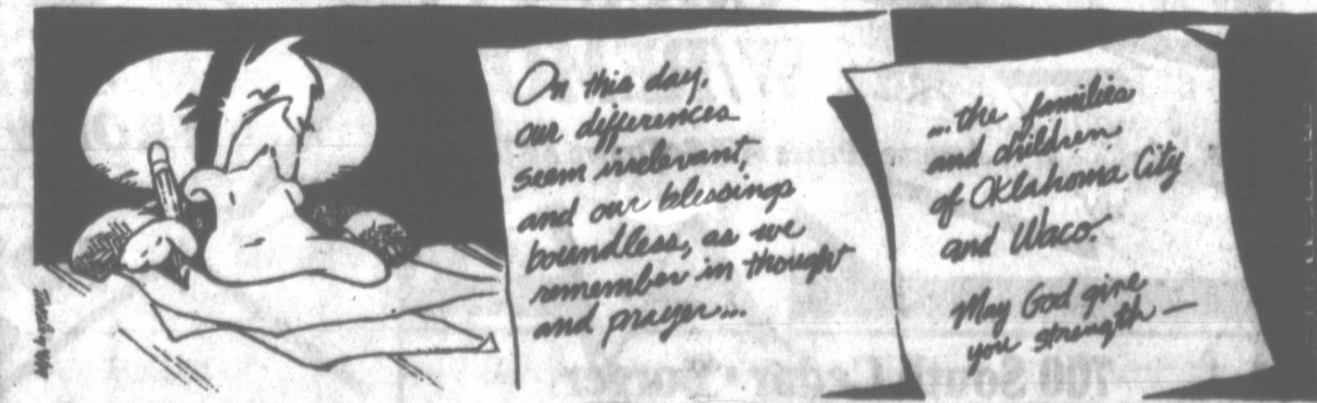
Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank and Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Clinton sends Secretary of State to Mideast

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — Hoping to halt the spiral of violence in Lebanon, President Clinton today demanded a cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas. He ordered Secretary of State Warren Christopher to the region.

Expressing a glint of optimism, the president said, "We have a chance" to stop the shelling.

Christopher's open-ended shuttle mission begins Saturday, when he meets Syrian President Hafez Assad, the main power broker in Lebanon. In a series of telephone calls, Israeli, Syrian and Lebanese leaders told Christopher that they welcomed U.S. mediation.

"The parties have got to agree to a cease-fire," Clinton said in St. Petersburg at the start of a trip to Russia that Christopher skipped for Mideast diplomacy. "As we have seen in the terrible events of the last few days, once someone starts the spiral of violence it's hard to stop."

And, the president said, "It's almost impossible for innocent civilians not to be hurt and killed."

If the new round of U.S. Middle East diplomacy works, the Iran-backed guerrillas may be induced to quiet their rockets in exchange for negotiations to get Israeli soldiers out of their buffer zone inside Lebanon.

But State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said the immediate objective was to stop the shelling. On Thursday, at least 75 people were killed when an Israeli rocket barrage slammed into a U.N. compound near Tyre in southern Lebanon.

The president said he hoped both parties want the bloodshed to end. "I think we have a chance...I think they're looking for a way to stop the fighting and so I am somewhat hopeful," Clinton said.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres told Christopher that U.N. authorities had confirmed Hezbollah guerrillas had placed Katyusha rocket batteries within 300 yards of the U.N. encampment.

Burns said Christopher had decided to go to the Middle East while traveling with Clinton in Asia, and before the Israeli shelling.

Burns gave no hint of criticism of Israel's strategy of retaliating for Hezbollah rocketing of northern Israel. "There is no lecturing. We don't do that with friends," he said.

"This trip is open-ended," Burns said of the Christopher mission that will follow talks in The Hague with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. "...He's going to try to get the problem resolved."

The U.S. initiative gained support Thursday from the U.N. Security Council. It

passed a resolution demanding an immediate cease-fire "by all parties" and said the council "supports ongoing diplomatic efforts to this end." It rejected an Arab League effort presented by Egypt blaming the problem on Israel.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri told CNN he is in contact with Hezbollah about a cease-fire and intends to contact Christopher today to report on results. "We will do all our best to make the cease-fire effective as soon as possible," Hariri said.

State Department troubleshooter Dennis Ross was sent to the region ahead of Christopher to explore prospects for a mediated settlement.

Christopher, meanwhile, has a weighty agenda at The Hague. It includes U.S. efforts to win China's endorsement of Clinton's proposal for peace talks with North Korea and a nagging dispute over China's sale of nuclear technology to Pakistan.

Christopher intends to fly to the Middle East immediately afterward, passing up Clinton's talks in Moscow with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and other world leaders on nuclear issues. "This has higher priority," Burns said as Christopher and his delegation, weary after the Clinton trip to Japan, checked into their Amsterdam hotel early today.

Rep's taxpayer funded ads under fire

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas Congressman Steve Stockman's Democratic challenger is questioning the GOP freshman's use of taxpayer funds to purchase radio advertising promoting his upcoming appearance on a radio call-in program.

While acknowledging that Stockman obtained House authorization to air the radio spots in his Gulf Coast district, former Jefferson County tax assessor Nick Lampson is charging that the ads promote Stockman's political agenda instead of the "electronic" town hall meeting.

Stockman is using funds from his official mail account to air two radio spots touting an April 22 radio appearance during which listeners can call in and ask him questions.

"Republicans like Steve Stockman told voters they were going to change the way Congress does business and save taxpayers money," Lampson said. "Now we catch Stockman using a Republican-created loophole to spend tax

dollars on radio advertising to further his political career. This is fiscal hypocrisy."

Lampson is missing the point about fiscal responsibility, Stockman spokesman Cory Birenbaum said.

Stockman is doing radio town hall meetings and publicizing them by radio and newspaper ads because earlier mass mailings promoting appearances proved disappointing, Birenbaum said.

He said Stockman spent roughly \$30,000 last year sending out 170,000 mailers inviting citizens to attend town hall meetings. Some 200 people attended, he said.

"It's costing less to do it this way," Birenbaum said, noting that Stockman voted last year to cut his congressional mailing budget by a third.

Lampson estimated production and airtime costs for the two ads airing on several local stations at \$15,000 to \$20,000, a figure Birenbaum didn't dispute.

Ward Jones
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COCA-COLA, DR. PEPPER, 7-UP 6/12 Oz. Cans **\$1.49**

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- RCA TV'S 19"-32" starting at **\$10⁰⁰** week
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- 5 pc. Bedroom Suites starting at **\$24⁰⁰** week
- Large Selection of Jewelry starting at **\$7⁰⁰** week

WE DO OFFER: FREE! • FREE! • FREE!
First Week's Rent • Delivery • Maintenance
WE DO NOT CHARGE: ✓Processing Fee ✓Wavier Fee
✓Extra Insurance Charge ✓In Home Collection Fee
✓Trip Collection Fee

GREAT FRIENDLY BENEFITS
90 DAYS SAME AS CASH
SE HABLA ESPANOL

The transaction advertised is a rental-purchase agreement. You do not acquire ownership rights unless the merchandise is rented for a specified number of payment periods. Example: \$15.00 per week for 91 weeks for a total of \$1365. Merchandise maybe new or previously rented. Styles and colors may vary.

OUR RENTAL RATES INCLUDE SALES TAX!

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Featuring...Pampa's Largest Salad Bar

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All You Can Eat Salad Bar \$2.99
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Limited time offer. Not valid with any other coupon or discount special.

Large Pizza For Medium Charge
Pampa 665-6566
Limited time offer. Not valid with any other coupon or discount special.

2 Large Pizzas With 3 Toppings \$13.99
Pampa 665-6566
Limited time offer. Not valid with any other coupon or discount special.

The Lighter Side Medium Vegetarian Pizza 2 Dinner Salads \$9.99
Pampa 665-6566
Limited time offer. Not valid with any other coupon or discount special.

2545 Perryton Parkway Pampa Mall 665-6566

MEN'S Reebok

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