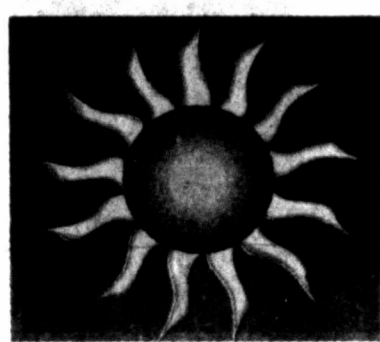


THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 23

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight near 60,
high tomorrow in mid
90s. See Page 2 for
weather details.

PAMPA — Over 300 students at Travis Elementary School have been working to earn over 1,000 reading points during National Reading Challenge Week, ending today.

The students typically earn 600 reading points each week using the Accelerated Reader reading management program, said Katie Hupp, first grade teacher at Travis.

A "Big Banana" all-day party is set for May 10 to celebrate the challenge and year-long reading program.

According to Hupp, the national goal is for U.S. schools using the Accelerated Reading program to read one billion books by May 17.

Students earn reading points based on the reading level and difficulty of the books they've read and the number of questions answered correctly on computerized book tests.

AMARILLO — Panhandle area Masons will host the state Grand Master Robert P. "Bob" Walker of Beaumont at a regional conference set for 7 p.m. Friday, May 3, in Khiva Temple at Amarillo.

Charles Beach of Borger, conference coordinator, said some 35 area Masonic lodges are expected to be represented at the event, which will include a meal starting at 5:30 p.m.

Walker, an attorney by profession, serves as 279th District judge in Beaumont. He has been a Master Mason since 1954, and has held a number of state Masonic offices. He is past Potentate of the El Mina Shrine Temple in Galveston.

As Grand Master, Walker leads more than 150,000 Texas Masons.

PAMPA — The Pampa High School Class of 1966 will be having its 30th year reunion on June 28-29.

Activities will include a reception Friday night and a picnic, tour of the high school and a banquet on Saturday.

Announcements have been sent to those for whom addresses are available. Those not receiving the announcement or those knowing names and addresses for Class of 1966 members are asked to contact Victor and Scena Snider at (806) 665-0065, office, or (806) 665-3929, home.

PAMPA — The Pampa High School German Club will sponsor a hot dog sale fund raiser this weekend in the Homeland parking lot.

The club is raising money to send students to Germany this summer.

Hot dogs are four for a dollar and include a free drink with purchase.

The fund raiser runs Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Senate votes to overturn rules on asylum-seekers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just one week after new rules limiting asylum-seekers' rights to enter the country became law, the Senate voted to overturn them.

"People coming in with false passports, claiming persecution ... don't get a hearing," said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., who authored the amendment to the immigration bill that would eliminate the new rules. "They get an interview by whoever is there at the border and they can get kicked out."

Leahy, whose amendment to the immigration bill passed 51-49, said people in fear for their lives from their own governments cannot be expected to obtain legal documents from those governments in order to flee.

"This is a tremendous victory for our nation's tradition of rescuing the persecuted," said Angela Kelley of the National Immigration Forum.

The Senate rejected fears of big government intrusiveness as it upheld provisions authorizing development of standardized, counterfeit-proof birth certificates and other state-issued identifying documents as well as pilot projects to help employers ensure that the people they hire are eligible to work here.

Worker verification is crucial in weeding out half the nation's illegal alien population, those

who come in legally and overstay their visas, said the immigration bill's chief author, Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo.

By voice vote, the Senate approved an amendment to make mutilation of female genitalia a federal crime punishable by up to five years in prison. But it would not make the threat of such mutilation a basis for an asylum claim.

An immigration appeals board is scheduled today to hear the case of 19-year-old Fauziya Kasinga, 19, of Togo, who is seeking asylum to escape forced genital mutilation. The Immigration and Naturalization Service believes such mutilation should be considered for granting asylum under certain circumstances on a case-by-case basis, said INS spokesman Russ Bergeron.

The immigration bill's primary emphasis is cracking down on illegal aliens. It would nearly double the border patrol guards, who now number more than 5,000; increase penalties for document fraud and alien smuggling and deny welfare and other government benefits to illegal aliens.

The Senate was expected to complete work on amendments to the immigration bill today, although the timing of a final vote remained uncertain.

On asylum, the lawmakers

rejected Simpson's arguments that the streamlined rules were needed to stop foreigners who routinely show up with fraudulent or no documents and falsely claim persecution in order to enter the United States, get jobs and disappear.

Such people "abuse the compassion of the American people," he said. "The American people suffer compassion fatigue."

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said the government has already eliminated that problem by detaining asylum seekers and withholding green cards until their claims are verified.

Under the new rules, Leahy said, victims of persecution could be subjected to summary deportation on the say-so of a lone immigration official at a port of entry. His amendment called for reinstating the current system, which allows asylum seekers a hearing in the immigrant courts system.

The Justice Department supports Leahy's amendment in general.

The asylum provisions were in the anti-terrorism bill President Clinton signed April 24. The expedited exclusion procedures appeared as a whole only when House and Senate conferees completed a compromise bill, and Leahy tried to block parts of it on April 17.

PJ party at school



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Though it may look like he's at a slumber party, Chad Norris is actually in class this morning, reading *Curious George Goes to the Hospital*. Norris and his classmates in Sharon Carter's first grade class at Travis Elementary School had a pajama party to celebrate surpassing their reading goals. Carter explained that every student in her class more than doubled their goal in the Accelerated Reading program.

House GOP adds billions to defense bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Setting up another confrontation with the Clinton administration, a key House committee is adding \$13 billion and a raft of conservative social policies to the 1997 defense budget.

The House National Security Committee completed work late Wednesday on a \$267.4 billion version of the 1997 defense budget, a substantial increase over President Clinton's request. Committee approval came at the end of a day that devoted far more time to abortion, AIDS, homosexuality and pornography than to tanks, planes and ships.

In a series of votes, the committee supported a ban on abortions at overseas military hospitals, the involuntary discharge of service members with the AIDS virus and a return to the outright ban on gays in the military.

The panel also voted to ban the sale of adult videos and magazines on military bases.

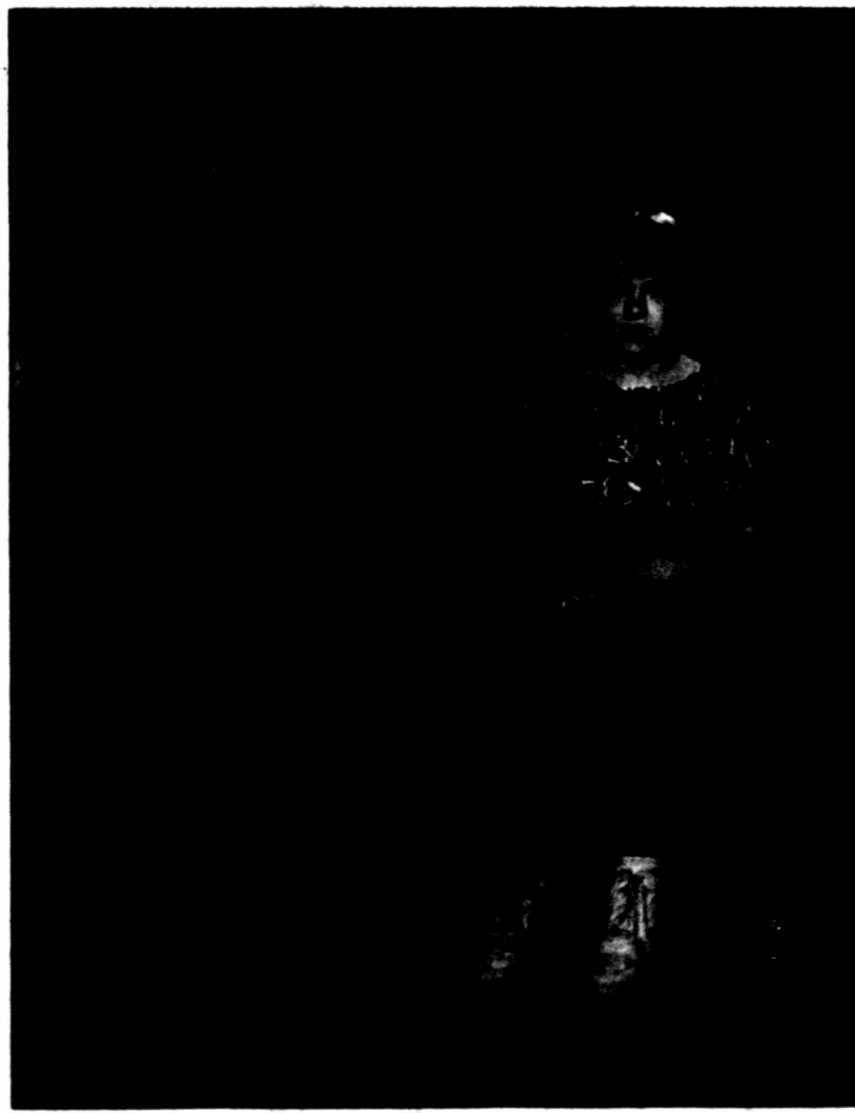
The measures were aimed at what Rep. Robert Dornan, R-Calif., called "the culture of degradation." Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., said the question was whether the military should be held to a higher standard.

"This debate and this provision," Hunter said, referring to the ban on gays in the military, "is not about (prejudice), it's about values ... tradition ... the American fighting man's having a stainless character."

But even some Republicans wondered why the GOP was picking another ideological fight with the White House only months after completion of the 1996 defense bill, a job greatly prolonged by disagreements over social issues.

"Why are we debating social issues over and over again," asked Rep. Peter Torkildsen, R-Mass.

Social issues aside, the bill would add \$13 billion to Clinton's budget request of \$254.4 billion. If approved, it would result in a defense budget roughly equal to this year's, when adjusted for inflation. Most of the increase — \$7.5 billion — would go for weapons.



(Special photo)

Pampa third grader Emily Elliott prepares to read her award-winning story, "Skitter's Runaway Day," on camera for Amarillo PBS affiliate KACV-TV.

Pampa student's story wins second in area PBS contest

A Pampa third grader is among the winners in the second annual "Young Writers and Illustrators Awards" contest, sponsored by Amarillo's KACV-TV in conjunction with the PBS television series *Reading Rainbow*.

Emily Elliott, an eight-year-old home school student, won second place in the third grade competition for the Texas Panhandle. The contest was open to children in grades K-3. The station received 407 entries from its viewing area and selected a first and second place winner for each grade level.

On the third grade level, students had to write a story that contained 100-250 words and at least five illustrations. Entries were judged on originality, creative expression, storytelling

and integration of copy and illustrations.

Elliott's story, "Skitter's Runaway Day," follows the adventures of a hamster on the loose from a mall pet store. Her story contained 239 words and six illustrations. Her real-life hamster, Skitter, and the escapades of three previous hamsters provided the inspiration for the story.

Elliott received a \$25 gift certificate from Hastings and a certificate of recognition signed by series host and co-executive producer LeVar Burton.

Elliott and other Panhandle-area winners read their stories recently in front of KACV cameras. The stories will be broadcast during breaks around regular programming during the month.

Three U.S. warships move toward Liberia

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Three U.S. warships with some 2,000 Marines on board moved toward Liberia's shores today after fierce fighting erupted on a strategic bridge in the capital.

The ships moved closer to the coast in case they were needed to protect the U.S. Embassy, which is not far from the Johnson Street Bridge, said a Marine officer speaking on condition of anonymity.

Earlier today, Charles Taylor, a top government official and rebel leader, called off a cease-fire and ordered his troops to prepare for a major assault on a military barracks held by his archrival.

"We do not wish to take power by force of arm," Taylor said on his radio station, KISS-FM. But "there will be no cease-fire until the situation is arrested."

Taylor also warned the United States to stay out of the internal affairs of the West African country, whose capital has been engulfed in its worst fighting in six years of war.

Rebel factions moved their battles away from the U.S. Embassy and into Taylor's neighborhood on Wednesday, a day after Marines guarding the embassy shot to death three Liberians who fired toward the compound during heavy fighting.

"We regret that Americans had to kill Liberians the other day," Taylor said. "We do not want any trigger-happy situation anymore. This government does not want any military confrontation with the U.S."

Despite his repeated calls for U.S. financial assistance for Liberia, Taylor insisted today that the Americans should not get involved in the country's politics or in the current fighting.

That, he said, should be left in the hands of the Liberians and other west African nations who have contributed peacekeeping troops and attempted for years to mediate an end to the conflict.

In today's broadcast, Taylor called on fighters of his National Patriotic Front of Liberia and an allied faction to gather at a military barracks in a suburb north of the capital.

He vowed to take control "by the weekend so Liberians can be able to bring their lives back to normal."

African peacekeeping troops had been preventing armed rebels from entering the city by two main bridges. Thousands of gunmen poured over the bridges Monday and Tuesday, before peacekeepers closed them, and were still in the central city.

Witnesses said today the peacekeepers withdrew from the

Family defends young suspect

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The mother and grandfather of the youngest child in the nation ever charged with attempted murder broke their silence to defend the 6-year-old suspect in the beating of an infant.

"Nobody knows what actually happened, but I know that my son is not evil and running around threatening people like the media says," the mother said Wednesday. She spoke to KPIX-TV on condition that she be identified only as "Lisa."

Her son, whom she described as learning disabled, is in juvenile detention in the April 22 attack on Ignacio Bermudez Jr. of Richmond. Doctors have

said the baby suffered two skull fractures and may have permanent brain damage.

Police said the beating occurred after the 6-year-old recruited 8-year-old twin boys to help him steal a Big Wheel tricycle from a neighbor's home.

The grandfather said his grandson has been unresponsive when questioned about the attack, but could have unknowingly attacked a baby if it was bundled in blankets.

"He probably just thought it was an object and just kicked it ... like kids do kick things," said the grandfather, who asked that he be identified only as "Isadore."

Cancer Society chapter plans ice cream social for Relay for Life team captains

The Gray-Roberts Chapter of the American Cancer Society will be holding an ice cream social Saturday for team captains and potential team captains for the upcoming Relay for Life fundraiser.

The social will be held from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Coronado Inn.

Those heading up confirmed teams for the event are encouraged to attend, along with those who are still in the process of forming teams, according to chapter president and Relay for Life co-chairman Ed Copeland.

Copeland said the chapter is urging those wanting to form teams for the event to do so as soon as possible so plans can be finalized for the 24-hour event scheduled May 17-18 at Harvester Stadium at Pampa High School.

The Relay for Life will involve teams of 10 to 12 members who will walk or run around the track at the Pampa High School stadium for a 24-hour period on May 17-18 to raise funds for the American Cancer Society through sponsorships.

During the event, someone from each of the teams has to be on the track for the entire 24-hour period, either running or walking around the track in relay style for 24 hours. Team members will switch off during the period.

Participants can camp out around the track, and when they aren't taking their turn on the track, they can take part in family fun activities.

Music, entertainment and other activities will be provided during the entire 24-hour Relay for Life event, with the whole family, friends and co-workers being invited to attend.

Approximately 25 teams are being sought to participate in the event, said Terry Cox, co-chairman for the event.

Each team member is responsible for raising a minimum of \$50 in sponsorship money to qualify for a Relay for Life T-shirt. Additional prizes are available for those raising \$100 or more.

The Relay for Life will be held from 6 p.m. Friday, May 17, through 6 p.m. Saturday, May 18.

The first lap of Relay for Life will be designated as the Cancer Survivors' Walk, Cox said, adding that cancer survivors will be invited to make the first lap around the track.

At dusk, Relay participants will participate in a very special candle-lighting ceremony, Cox said, with an accompanying luminary service. Luminaria in memory of someone who has lost their life to cancer, or to honor someone who has survived, will be placed around the track.

Then, Relay participants will continue to walk or run around the track until the 24-hour period has concluded.

Since all funds will be collected before the Relay, all participants need to do when the Relay is over is to tell their friends what a great time they had and then start forming a team for next year, Cox said.

Organizational meetings for the Relay for Life activities are being held at 5:30 p.m. Mondays at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 2225 Perryton Parkway, with committee volunteers and team captains invited to attend.

Those not able to attend the meeting but still wishing to help with the Relay for Life, either as a team member or sponsor, or to obtain more information may contact Ed Copeland at 665-4568 or Terry Cox at 669-0234.

Registration forms are available from Copeland, Cox and other Gray County Chapter members, as well as from various businesses around town.

Those wishing to contribute to the Relay for Life fund-raiser may mail their contributions to Amanda Copeland, Treasurer; Pampa Relay for Life, 1352 Garland, Pampa, TX 79065. Checks or money orders should be made payable to American Cancer Society.

Beta Sigma Phi scholarship



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Shannon Ervin, center, Pampa High School senior, accepts a Beta Sigma Phi scholarship for \$1,000 from Nancy Brogdon, right, city BSP city council president, as her mother, Peggy Ervin, looks on during the presentation Tuesday night. Ervin, who will graduate with an advanced diploma this month, plans to attend Texas Tech University at Lubbock, where she will major in physical therapy.

National MS '96 Teleconference set for Saturday

The Panhandle Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will be presenting the National MS '96 Teleconference in Pampa on Saturday, May 4, at Quality Lifestyles, 1224 N. Hobart, Suite 10 (behind the National Bank of Commerce).

This year's program is titled "Promise and Progress in MS Research."

The two-hour teleconference program, scheduled from 9-11:45 a.m., will feature two MS researchers: Dr. Lauren Krupp, co-director of the Stony Brook MS Comprehensive Care Center of New York, and Dr. Patricia Coyle,

director of the center. Topics will be progress with current treatments and promising new drugs (Avonex, Betaseron, Copaxone, Methotrexate and Cladribine).

Dr. Krupp speaks throughout the world on MS fatigue, mood changes and cognitive function. Dr. Coyle is interested in immune changes in the central nervous system and the role of infectious agents in neurologic disease.

The program, the fourth year for the teleconference in Pampa, allows people across the country to participate in a live question and answer session with nationally recognized professionals in

the field of multiple sclerosis. There will be a video presentation followed by a live audio broadcast of dialog with experts.

Those having MS and their families are invited to attend.

Those having questions or wanting more information may contact Anna Lee at (806) 665-2218.

The Pampa program will be one of six sites for the Panhandle area. Others will be held at the same time in Amarillo, Dalhart and Childress; Guyton, Okla.; and Clovis, N.M.

The Veterans Administration Medical Center is sponsoring all conference sites this year.

Patients suffering from Hodgkin's disease sue hospital, FDA director

HOUSTON (AP) — Eight people stricken with advanced Hodgkin's disease have filed a federal lawsuit to force M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and federal authorities to resume an experimental and unapproved treatment.

The plaintiffs, who say radio-labeled immunoglobulin therapy is their only hope for surviving the fatal disease, accuse the hospital and the Food and Drug Administration of putting process over people, according to the lawsuit filed Wednesday.

"Our lives depend on it," said Sue Spencey, a Hodgkin's victim who claims she has tried conventional treatments without success. "They've been looking at the program for six months and have yet to come up with anything substantial."

Attorney Richard Jaffe said his clients were among 79 people who received the experimental drug at M.D. Anderson until last December, when the Food and Drug Administration placed a clinical hold on the treatment program.

When the FDA lifted its hold, M.D. Anderson stopped the program itself to evaluate the drug's effectiveness and toxicity. FDA Commissioner David Kessler and his boss, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, are cited in the

lawsuit, along with M.D. Anderson. An FDA spokesman declined comment Wednesday. Dr. Leonard Zwelling, who oversees clinical trials at the hospital, said he had not seen the lawsuit but he disputed its claim that he halted the treatment under pressure from the FDA.

Zwelling said the program was placed on hold because of questions about how research was being conducted, including researchers' failure to report at least one patient who suffered an adverse reaction during the study. The drug itself also has come under scrutiny, he said.

"It's not about paperwork. It's about the conduct of medical research," Zwelling said. "We want to know whether or not the claims of efficacy and response rate are documentable ... It's pretty profound questions."

The hospital is within weeks of finishing an audit of the program, he said. The FDA also has audited the program, but the results have not been released.

The experimental treatment involves radioactive isotopes that are attached to cancer-seeking antibodies and administered intravenously to Hodgkin's victims. The antibodies are supposed to destroy diseased cells while leaving surrounding tissues undamaged.

Nation briefs

Testimony continues in Whitewater trial

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — A government witness testified that Gov. Jim Guy Tucker's \$1.2 million purchase of a water and sewer utility was based on an inflated appraisal.

Real estate appraiser Michael Pyron testified Wednesday that the appraisal done by Robert Palmer prior to the 1986 purchase relied wrongly on an engineering estimate of how much it would have cost to replace the system.

Tucker, who was not in office at the time, and a business partner borrowed \$150,000 from David Hale's Capital Management Services Inc. for the down payment. They bought the system from Madison Financial Corp., an arm of Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan Association, which was owned by Tucker's co-defendants, James and Susan McDougal.

Prosecutors contend the utility was worth \$450,000 and that the price was inflated to generate a sizable sales commission for Mrs. McDougal.

Agreement reached in disposal of victims' funds

NEW YORK (AP) — Swiss banking officials and Jewish leaders have reached an agreement to search for millions — and possibly billions — of dollars deposited in Switzerland by Jews killed in the Holocaust, *The New York Times* reported today.

The Times quoted officials close to the negotiations as saying the agreement would give independent auditors "unfettered access to all relevant files" in Swiss banks to identify the accounts of the dead.

A committee of seven — including a chairman, three people appointed by Jewish organizations and three by Swiss bankers — would oversee auditors' work. Any funds not claimed by Holocaust heirs would be donated to charities.

Flowers walks out on touring production

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Oh! Gennifer.

A fight over a contract has left the touring version of *Oh! Calcutta* without Gennifer Flowers.

Flowers walked out during the intermission of a show in Dayton on Tuesday night because of "a disagreement over contractual obligations," company manager Jeff Mangray said. He did not elaborate.

Flowers, who claims she had an extramarital affair with Bill Clinton, had been on tour with *Oh! Calcutta* since April 22.

School food often in workers' possession

HOUSTON (AP) — Food destined for the mouths of Houston's 204,000 schoolchildren often slips out the back door, in the arms of school cafeteria workers, KTRK-TV reports.

Hidden cameras aimed on six school cafeteria doors showed several workers leaving for the day, armed with shopping bags full of food. Taxpayers spend \$28

million annually on food for Houston schoolchildren.

Many workers shrugged their shoulders or ignored a reporter's questions about why they were taking food.

Others like Antone Punch, food services manager for Welch Middle School, seemed to think nothing was wrong with the practice.

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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 covenantal commandment.

Wayland Thomas Publisher

Larry D. Hollis Managing Editor

Opinion

Black leaders ignore slavery

"If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong," wrote Abraham Lincoln. Although slavery has declined in recent years — especially in the nations of the former Soviet Union — it is increasing sharply in one area: the Sudan, an impoverished, war-torn country in eastern Africa.

As has happened so many times in their history, the victims are blacks, in particular the natives of Southern Sudan who are Christians or believe in their native religions.

But now the world is beginning to notice, spurred by a chilling, first-hand report in Reader's Digest by Brian Eads. He wrote: "Slavery has returned to Sudan, Africa's largest country. Behind the cloak of a brutal civil war, tens of thousands of people have been abducted from their homes and sold like chattel. ... Some are bought by individual owners to serve as field workers, household servants, or concubines. Others, confined in camps, work on government farms, or are leased to large private landowners. There are frequent and consistent reports that slaves are being exported to Libya and countries on the Persian Gulf."

How can this be happening? Hasn't slavery been outlawed everywhere? Yes, but many countries still don't operate under the rule of law. Although Sudan's law officially prohibits slavery, the country's dictatorship is intent on imposing its particular brand of Islamic extremism on the southern, non-Islamic part of the country. The dictatorship's weapons are military conquest and slavery.

Since the Reader's Digest article appeared, Congress has held hearings on the new slavery. Those testifying included Charles Jacobs, head of the American Anti-Slavery Group in Somerville, Mass.

He said, "We're trying to build a grassroots movement, but have been unable to rekindle the anti-apartheid movement," which successfully brought an end to South Africa's racist system. "We pretty much have failed because the black leadership is AWOL. Congressman Donald M. Payne of New Jersey, the head of the Black Caucus, is on our side, but no black leader has said publicly to his own constituency that this is an issue that needs support." Jacobs tried and failed to get the Rev. Jesse Jackson to join the anti-slavery cause, repeatedly sending him information.

Nation of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan has been even worse. According to Eads, "Last October, Mohamed Athie of the International Coalition Against Chattel Slavery asked for time to speak on behalf of enslaved Africans at Farrakhan's 'Million Man March on Washington.' Farrakhan's group ignored the request."

In all their harangues against the injustice of American slavery, Jackson and Farrakhan seem to have no time to denounce the slavery of blacks going on right this minute in Africa.

But this issue isn't going away. Just as the abolitionist movement of the early 19th century began small, then soon spread across the world, outlawing slavery in most countries, so the new anti-slavery movement will continue to grow. It's time to end what John Wesley called "that execrable sum of all villainies."

Your representatives

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Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736

State Sen. Teel Bivins

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U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry

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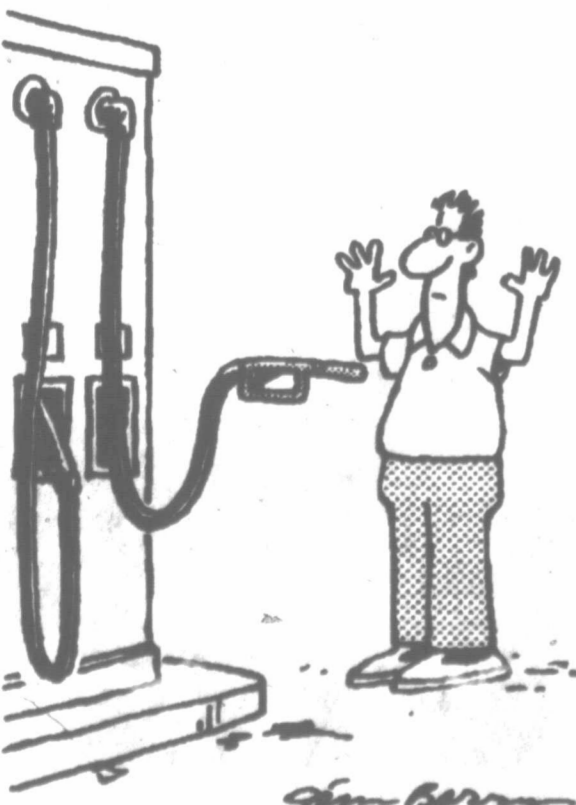
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U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm

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Washington Phone: (202) 224-2934

Berry's World



A better option for the dying

There are plenty of doctors to see if you're looking for a cure. Michael Preodor is one to see if you're not.

On a warm and sunny spring morning in Chicago, Preodor is taking care of dying patients. It is not easy or happy work, but as medical director of Horizon Hospice at St. Joseph's Hospital he has the satisfaction of knowing he is providing something his patients need and want — and that most such patients don't get.

That something is a comfortable and dignified end to their lives, which Horizon's doctors, nurses and volunteers try to achieve by treating pain, assuring all needed care and assistance, and letting patients live out their final days at home if they possibly can. Today, Preodor and a Horizon nurse are on their way to visit a 42-year-old man with AIDS and a 62-year-old man with cancer of the larynx, both of whom are still living at home, surrounded by their families.

The hospice's mission is a departure from standard medical care, which puts far more resources into overcoming disease than helping patients whose illnesses can't be overcome. It is also a reproach to a fashionable new idea: giving doctors the freedom to help suffering terminal patients commit suicide — or even kill patients who can't do it themselves.

Pain is a huge but invisible public-health problem. It is particularly prevalent among terminal cancer victims, 80 percent of whom encounter serious pain before they die.

The good news is that this pain can always be controlled, usually without significant side effects. Morphine and its sister drugs are extremely effective in making these people comfortable, and if treatment is begun early, they can be administered so as to leave the patient awake and



Stephen Chapman

fully alert — not sedated or confused.

Says Preodor, "I had an AIDS patient who needed 1000 mg. of morphine every hour" — about 300 times the dose typically required for patients after painful gall-bladder surgery. "He was doing better with crossword puzzles than the nurses." In some 90% of his cases, patients can stay at home.

The bad news is that most people facing the end don't get the help they need. Studies suggest that despite medical advances in this area, only 20% to 50% of terminal cancer patients receive adequate pain treatment. Most are undernourished by doctors who fail to take such discomfort seriously enough or mistakenly fear the consequences of the most effective drugs. So at least a quarter of a million cancer victims have to endure serious and unnecessary pain in their passage from this world.

Patients with this burden are prone to depression, making them susceptible to the lure of suicide. Medical professionals involved in hospices fear that legalizing physician-assisted suicide will distract attention from the need for better palliative care by providing a cheap shortcut. Supporters of assisted suicide, in fact, often argue that it spares patients from what amounts to phys-

ical torture. Their option, however, would shorten the lives of those who would rather die quickly than endure unremitting agony but who could be spared either fate.

Preodor says he has never had a patient commit suicide, though some talk about it. "Most are receptive to staying alive once they know they'll be taken care of," he says. What hospice personnel have learned, he says, is that "if we control the pain, we can allow patients what they need to go through with their families, friends and churches."

Allowing access to assisted suicide without first assuring the availability of good palliative care is addressing the problem backward. The tools for treating terminal cancer pain have been available for decades, yet doctors have made no apparent progress in using them.

They assume that patients will become addicted to morphine, which turns out not to be a danger. They fear that morphine will hasten death, which it doesn't when given properly. They worry about scrutiny from the government if they write too many morphine prescriptions, a concern that may be justified.

And they generally place too little emphasis on helping patients who cannot be saved. Preodor says that 95% of articles published in medical journals on cancer care deal with possible new cures, not methods to minimize the suffering of terminal patients. Likewise with AIDS. Research dollars are allocated in roughly the same proportions. "It's a societal thing," he says. "We value conquering disease."

Yes, we do, and when we can't stop disease, we are tempted to preempt it by using artificial means to hasten death. Good palliative care offers an alternative: not prolonging life pointlessly, but making the most of the time each dying person has left. Better to kill pain than to kill patients.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 2, the 123rd day of 1996. There are 243 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 2, 1863, Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Va., and died eight days later.

On this date:

In 1519, artist Leonardo da Vinci died at Cloux, France.

In 1885, Good Housekeeping magazine was first published in Holyoke, Mass.

In 1890, the Oklahoma Territory was organized.

In 1932, Jack Benny's first radio show made its debut on the NBC Blue Network.

In 1936, Peter and the Wolf, a symphonic tale for children by Sergei Prokofiev, had its world premiere in Moscow.

In 1945, the Soviet Union announced the fall of Berlin, and the Allies announced the surrender of Nazi troops in Italy and parts of Austria.



Foreign policy the honest way

Charley Reese

I just wanted you to know that I am monitoring the situation in Tajikistan. I view with alarm the situation in Kabul. I am urging restraint on all the parties in the Middle East. I will continue to watch the situation on the Korean peninsula. I may, from time to time, express grave concern about the situation here or there.

Don't you just love that State Department style of noncommunication? They speak no-speak in Foggy Bottom. I sometimes dream of being the State Department press officer in an honest administration.

"Sir, how does the United States feel about the renewed fighting in Somalia?"

"The United States doesn't feel anything," I'd say. "It's none of our business."

"But, sir, 37 people were killed yesterday in Mogadishu."

"You planning to go there?"

"No."

"Then don't sweat it. The United States government is much more concerned about the people killed in South Bronx and East L.A. We don't advise you to travel to those places either, by the way."

"Sir, the polls indicate that the Communists may win the presidential election in Russia. How will the United States react if that happens?"

"Well, we'll send the guy a note congratulating

him on his victory. That's customary. After all, a lot of unsavory characters win elections in the United States, and they always get congratulated."

"But doesn't the United States support President Boris Yeltsin?"

"No, the United States does not support any Russian politician. Yeltsin frequently requires the support of his friends and aides when he's had too much to drink. We simply have diplomatic relations with the Russian government. It's their business, not ours, who runs it."

"Sir, Castro has denounced the United States for tightening the sanctions. What is the reaction of the administration?"

"We don't care what Castro thinks."

"But, sir, the president of Mexico has also denounced the sanctions."

"We don't care what the president of Mexico thinks."

"Sir, there has been a lot of concern expressed in Europe and Asia that the United States may be turning inward toward isolationism. Is that concern justified?"

"Well, we're going to isolate the \$100 billion a

year we've been spending on the defense of Europe and Japan and not spend it. They can defend themselves if they feel threatened. Fifty years of American paternalism is enough. We're going to veto the foreign aid bill. The only foreign aid this administration wants is money to help states cope with immigrants until we can convince those idiots in Congress to pass a moratorium on immigration."

"But if our people wish to trade with their people and vice versa, both are free to do so." I would continue.

"If our people wish to visit those countries or their people visit ours, both are free to do so. The only relationships we are ending are paternalistic military and political alliances. If American corporations wish to do business overseas, they will have to sell their products on their own merits and paces. They can no longer count on U.S. taxpayers to pay bribes to their customers in the form of foreign aid and other subsidies. These corporate types are always crowing about the free market and, by God, this administration is going to give them one by cutting out all forms of corporate welfare."

"Is the president concerned about increasing criticism of his policies by the press and in certain academic circles?"

"Nope. If they don't like what the administration is doing, they can vote in the next election like everyone else. Good day."

This in one steamed curmudgeon

I'm so damned steamed you could serve me on a half shell.

The Center for Media and Public Affairs, one of those ubiquitous Washington organizations that studies the news for hints of bias and subversion and that sort of thing, has just published a report stating that CBS correspondent Eric Engberg is "the most negativistic campaign reporter" in the business.

This is nothing short of an outrage. Nowhere in the report does this excuse for a think tank even suggest that Joe Spear was considered for the accolade.

I work my tail off week after week, struggling to be the most negative news person around, and I don't even get an honorable mention. I am deeply hurt. My self-esteem has been dealt a mighty blow. I am losing my sense of identity. I am becoming uncentered. I think I'm going to need some Prozac. I think I might even have a lawsuit here. Deliberate infliction of emotional stress, or something along those lines.

What makes the thing even harder to swallow is that I have published naught but positive remarks about the Center for Media and Public Affairs. A review of my files indicates they have had one mention a year, on average, and depending on how you interpret the words, of course, they were generally favorable.

It pains me to go on with this, but in the interest of giving the full story, I suppose I must. What the center did was go through 573 network news stories about



Joseph Spear

the 1996 presidential campaign and, using some guidelines as closely guarded as Colonel Sanders' secret herbs and spices, determined that NBC had 77 percent "negative judgments" in its stories, followed by CBS with 75 percent and ABC with 70 percent.

Engberg was the crabbiest correspondent, with 4.5 "disapproving comments per story, 87 percent negative overall," followed by NBC's Bob Faw (3.7, 87 percent), NBC's Lisa Myers (2.8, 86 percent), and CBS' Bob Schieffer (2.4, 79 percent).

I know what you're thinking. You're thinking, Joe, they studied TELEVISION news. They rated CAMPAIGN coverage. They did not do columnists who write about general stuff.

But I ask: Do you really think the public at large is going to make that distinction? Most people think "media" and "press" are the same thing. They're thinking, where the hell was Spear? He talks about what a curmudgeon he is, but when they get around

to rating negative reporters he's not even on the list.

As long as I am on this subject, there was another recent event that bears analysis. The Freedom Forum, yet another group that concentrates on media issues, sponsored a survey of 139 Washington journalists and reported that 89% voted for Bill Clinton, only 4% are registered Republicans, 50% are registered Democrats, 37% are independents and 91% describe selves as "liberal or moderate."

In the interest of fairness, I should probably ask what's so bad about being a moderate. I should also point out a minor inaccuracy: All those reporters did not vote FOR Bill Clinton. They voted AGAINST George Bush, and whether that is a demonstration of bias or good sense I will leave up to you.

In any case, this sort of finding does not surprise Republican leaders like Newt Gingrich, who recently admonished the nation's newspaper editors to clean up their acts. "I unequivocally believe ... that the core of the news media is biased, that the bias is amazing," he said. If they didn't believe him, they could go ask "any set of serious conservatives in America ... whether or not they think the media is slanted."

Talk about your impartial juries.

Despite some anxiety about losing your respect, I point out that Mr. Gingrich also did not name Mr. Spear as the worst of the bunch. After all the nasty things I've said about him in the past few years, you'd think he could return the favor.

State briefs

Police report \$50,000 in drug money missing

DALLAS (AP) - The FBI has been asked to investigate the disappearance of \$50,000 in cash from a police narcotics division safe, Dallas Police Chief Ben Click says.

Police officials said Wednesday that money was discovered missing Monday and is assumed for now to have been stolen by one or more of the seven narcotics unit supervisors who had access to the safe.

The money could have been stolen by someone other than an officer or lost while it was in the field for an undercover operation, but the investigation is focusing on officers, Click said.

The cash was routinely used by undercover officers in "buy-bust" operations to help lure high-volume drug dealers targeted for arrest.

The Dallas Morning News reported today that Click said that he sought the FBI's participation to ensure public trust in the inquiry. A police internal affairs team will also investigate.

Civil rights advocates blast attorney general

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. George W. Bush says if the state loses its appeal of an anti-affirmative action on university admissions to the U.S. Supreme Court, he believes it will find new ways to design "inclusive" programs.

"I believe there is a constructive way for all our universities and others to design programs that are inclusive in nature that don't necessarily have to include race," Bush said Wednesday.

He said such factors as income level and a person's background could be considered, adding:

"I believe we ought to do everything in our power to make sure that our university systems are not exclusive, but I think there's a positive way that we can react ... in a way that does not have any kind of discrimination."

Meanwhile, infuriated civil rights advocates blasted Attorney General Dan Morales over remarks they say hurt the battle for equal

rights by mischaracterizing affirmative action as unfair discrimination.

Austin mayor calls for help, petitions legislature

AUSTIN (AP) - Austin Mayor Bruce Todd, upset with the Texas Department of Transportation for raising freeway speed limits in his city, is hoping for help from the Legislature.

Todd wants legislation introduced in the 1997 session to reverse the DOT's decision to raise the speed limits on stretches of two highways, Interstate 35 and the MoPac Expressway.

Todd said he would seek support from other big city mayors for full-scale lobbying to restore "our local control."

Susan Horton, Texas Municipal League general counsel, said Todd's concerns have been echoed by a few other big city officials. But she said it's too soon to say whether legislation favored by Todd would be a league priority in 1997.

First for NASA: Identical twins selected as astronauts

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) - They look alike, often speak alike and sometimes even wear the same clothes. They're Mark and Scott Kelly, making space history as the first twins selected as NASA astronauts.

The identical twins, both Navy lieutenants and fighter pilots at the Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., were named Wednesday as members of NASA's Astronaut Class of 1996.

They will begin a year of astronaut training this summer at the Johnson Space Center in Houston and then be assigned to fly space shuttles. NASA had never before chosen siblings as astronauts, let alone twins.

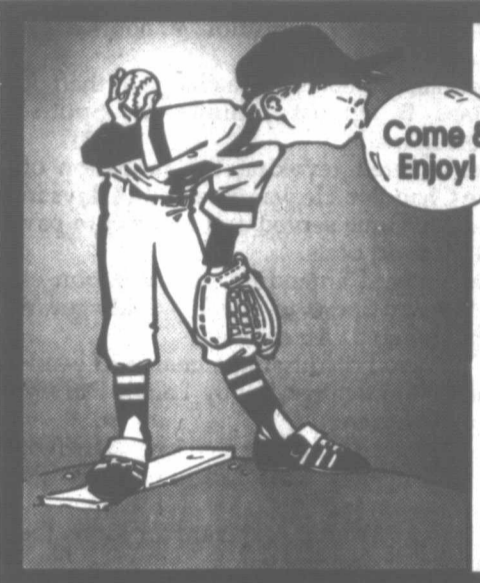
"I'm very excited about this and I feel really fortunate to be accepted," Mark Kelly said. "The added bonus is to get to go down there with my brother."

Responded Scott: "I would concur with everything he said."

It's double pleasure for their parents as well. The 32-year-old brothers are the only children of Richard and Patricia Kelly, retired police officers who live in Flagler Beach, Fla.

"You know what it's like?" Richard Kelly asked. "If I went out and bought a lottery ticket and, gee, it was a winner, and then they flashed up two winning numbers and my wife said, 'I bought a lottery ticket and I bought those same numbers.' That's the only thing I could equate it to."

More than 2,400 people applied to become astronauts; 35 were selected. Ten of them, including the Kelly twins, were chosen as shuttle pilot candidates and the rest as mission specialists.



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Justice Department investigates soaring gasoline prices

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soaring gasoline prices have left motorists perplexed and looking for villains. Is it a Big Oil conspiracy, or just basic supply and demand? Perhaps it's only a gamble that went awry. Since February, gasoline prices have jumped 20 cents a gallon, reaching \$1.32 a gallon on average nationwide, the highest prices since the Persian Gulf War five years ago. The Justice Department is investigating. But who's to blame? While many factors are involved — from the severe winter to higher highway speed limits — energy industry experts say the root causes for the price spiral were decisions by oil companies nearly a year ago to draw down invento-

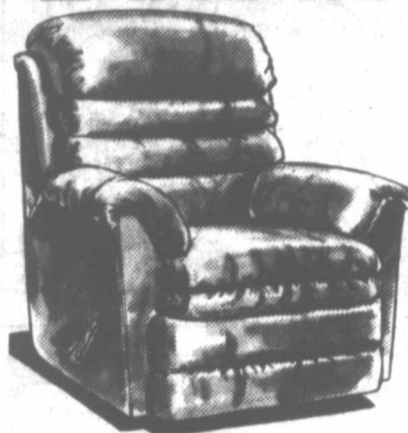
ries and keep them low, expecting a drop in crude prices that never materialized. The payoff was simple: Oil companies would have avoided hundreds of millions of dollars in storage costs. And, according to industry analysts, they also were gambling that by postponing oil purchases they would be able to buy cheaper oil later in the year. The industry expected new oil supplies from increased production in the North Sea and elsewhere — plus new supplies from Iraq — by the end of 1995. Iraq has been under U.N. sanctions banning oil sales since 1990, when Iraqi President Saddam Hussein ordered his troops into Kuwait. It has been trying to get U.N. permission to make a limited oil-for-food sale. Such a sale could have dumped an additional 700,000 barrels a

day on the world market and by some estimates pulled down crude oil prices as much as \$3 a barrel. So, inventories could be replenished at lower cost. But the Iraqi deal has yet to be worked out. North Sea production was delayed. A hurricane disrupted supplies from Mexico. And crude prices didn't fall, as had been expected. Suddenly, inventories were at 19-year lows as winter came — an 86-day supply. By late last year, inventories of crude oil were being drawn down at the rate of 1.4 million barrels a day worldwide, and by the end of December worldwide stocks stood at 893 million barrels, about 100 million barrels below normal. Gasoline stocks also were 10 million or 15 million barrels below normal at year's end. Meanwhile, the oil companies

miscellaneous soaring demand. There was the unusually harsh and long winter that boosted the need for heating oil. And there's been a shift toward more gas-guzzling sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks, and people driving faster because of higher speed limits, that has added to gasoline consumption. With tight inventories, oil companies did not have the cushion they might have had years ago, according to industry analysts. "They set us up with their own decisions," says Edwin Rothschild, who specializes in oil issues for the consumer advocacy group Citizen Action. "They can't say Saddam did it or the weather did it. They have to take some responsibility for the low stocks of crude." With supplies tight and demand increasing, crude prices began to soar

from \$17.50 a barrel in December to \$25 a barrel by mid-April. The increase was passed on at the pump. Decisions by oil executives on inventory levels are likely to be among the areas examined by both Justice Department and Energy Department investigators who have been asked to find the reason for the gasoline price surge and whether there were any antitrust violations. Oil industry executives are adamant in denying any improper collusion or cooperation. "There's absolutely no indication that this is anything but basic economics ... anything other than the normal markets," said Edward Murphy, director of finance and statistics at the American Petroleum Institute, the industry trade group.

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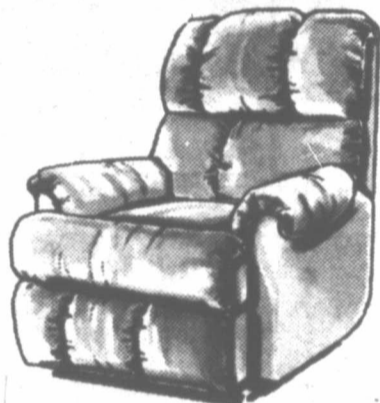
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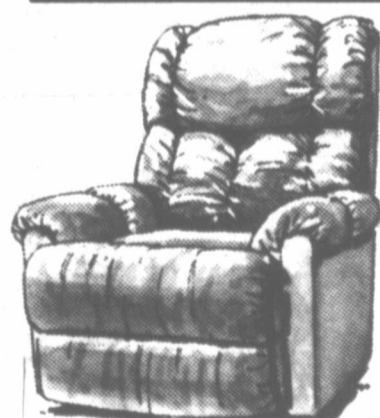
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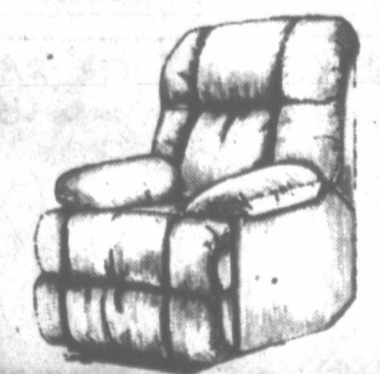
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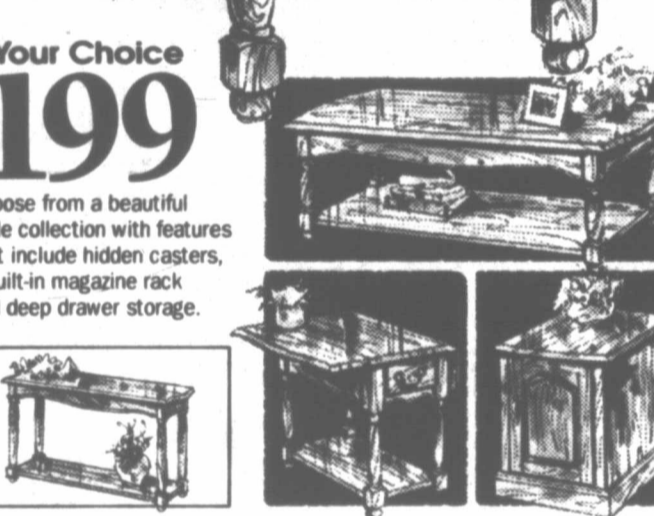
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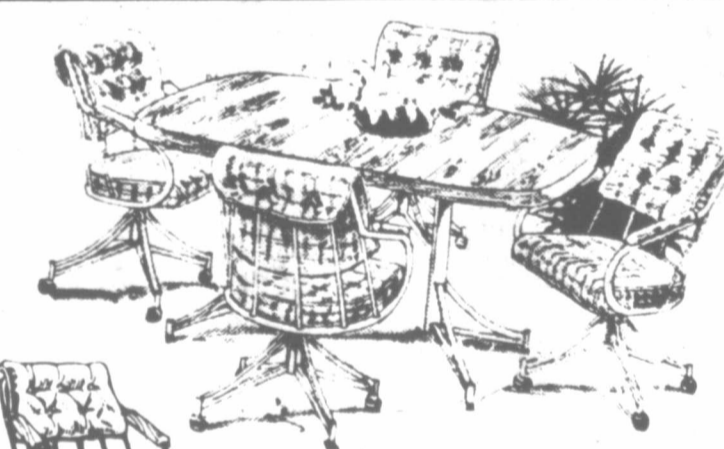
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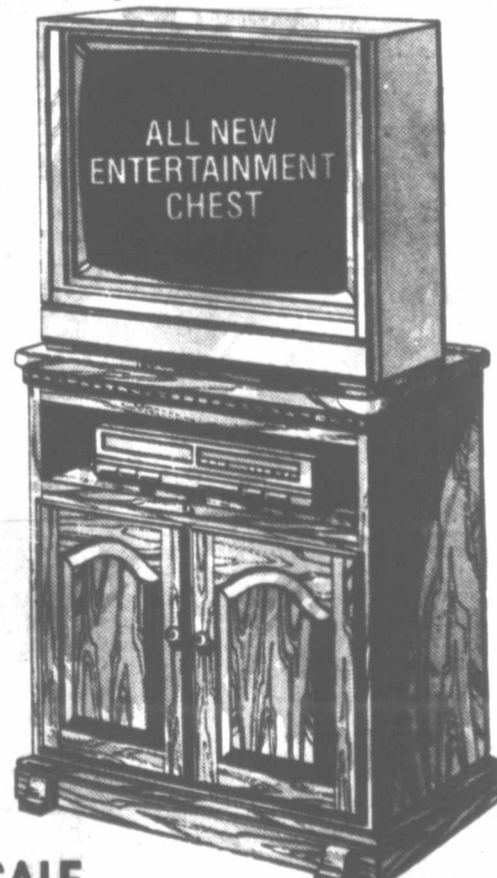
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Scheme To Get Rid Of Junk Mail Runs Into Dead End

DEAR ABBY: After reading the comments in your column about junk mail, I had to share my experience with you. It all started in Vancouver, where my wife ordered a sweater for me from the landlady who ran the bed and breakfast in where we were staying. The landlady wanted to be paid only for the yarn, not her time. She suggested we give what we felt it was worth to our favorite charity.

When we received the sweater at home in Pennsylvania two months later, my wife sent a check to the landlady and asked her to put her favorite charity on the check. Soon my wife was getting pelted with financial support letters from Jimmy Swaggart's ministry. Finally, I wrote DECEASED on one of the solicitations and returned it. Presto! She no longer got mail from Jimmy Swaggart.

My brother-in-law, a doctor in Miami, heard how I got rid of my "junk mail" and put "deceased" on all of his junk mail and returned it to sender. A few weeks later, he realized that he was not receiving important mail that he was expecting. He then found out that his postman had seen "deceased" on his mail and, assuming that he was indeed dead, had put "deceased" on his first-class mail and sent it back, too. My brother-in-law then discovered that he'd been mourned by his Harvard classmates and was no longer a member of some of his clubs and associations.

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

His remark to me was, "The next time you get a smart idea, don't tell me about it!"

AN ABBY FAN IN LAKE WALES, FLA.

P.S. About 30 years ago, I wrote you about my wife not being interested in sex. You suggested we see a sex therapist, only we couldn't afford to go because I was starting a new business. This year, when things went from bad to worse, we started going to a therapist — and we wished we had taken your advice years ago!

DEAR FAN IN LAKE WALES: Better late than never.

DEAR ABBY: I have never written to you before, but I read the letter from "Wondering in Missouri," about the lady who wanted to know if she should give her children things that were special to her before she passed away. Yes, yes — please do!

My mom died earlier this year and none of her wishes were obeyed. For years and years, she had been telling everyone the things that she wanted her children and grandchildren to have. Well, after she was gone, her husband ignored her wishes, refused to pay one cent for the funeral, and treated us worse than anyone could ever begin to imagine. He loved everything she wanted her loved ones to have.

I and her granddaughters are devastated. We not only have to live every single day with the grief of losing her, but we have nothing of hers that she wanted us to have. Mother would be so very sad.

Her husband destroyed her will and did not even give us the courtesy of seeing her last words. So, if you have loved ones who are special to you — then please, please give them the things that you want them to have before you die. We can't even get a lawyer to try and fight this injustice because we can't afford it. My heart is broken.

BROKENHEARTED IN OREGON

DEAR BROKENHEARTED: I have often said, "Do your giving while you're living, and you'll be knowing where it's going."

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



For Better or For Worse



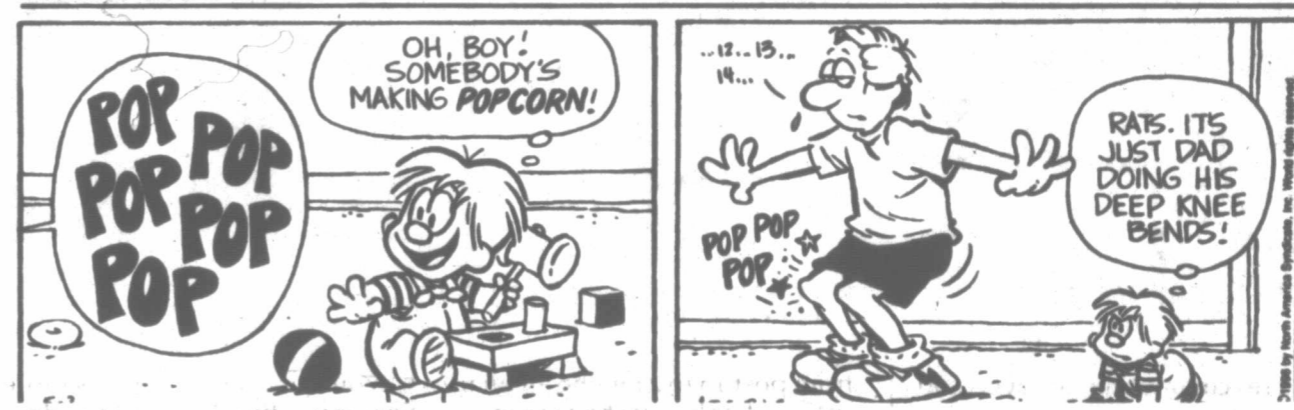
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Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



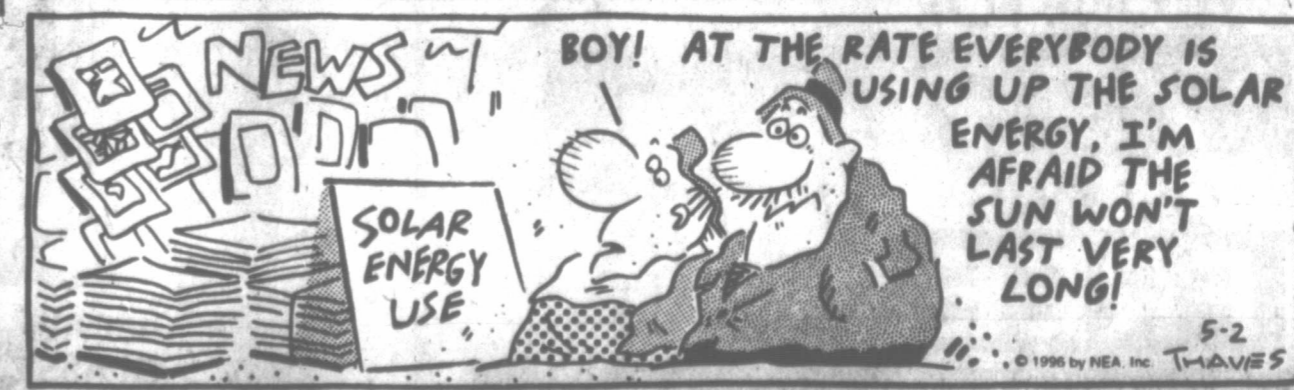
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank & Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Friday, May 3, 1996

A promising endeavor in which you were involved last year was derailed by poor timing. In the year ahead, this situation could change and the failure may be replaced with success.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Diplomacy and tact will be natural tools for you today and you will wield them effectively. You will have the ability to put everyone at ease. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today, you may find more money in your pocket after a fortuitous shift of conditions at work. It may be triggered by an associate who likes you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Good things could happen for you today through social contacts. If you are in a position to spend time with friends, take time to do so.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today, you could do something personally to contribute to your material well-being. Act promptly as soon as you recognize the opportunity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today you might be luckier than usual in ventures or endeavors that have elements of chance. Keep this in mind, but don't do anything outlandish or foolish.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Someone who feels indebted to you might do something to make your life a little easier today. Your benefactor may be a relative or family member.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) If you have a chance to work with an associate's far-

etched idea today, take a crack at it. Your version could turn out to be far more feasible and functional.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You will conceal an inner strength today. If you are confronted by challenges, you can bring this skill to the surface.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If you are involved in negotiations with large organizations today, don't hold back any ideas. You could have something they want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Just because something didn't work out too fortunately for a friend, doesn't mean that it won't work out well for you. In fact, the opposite might be true.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Today, concentrate on situations or things about which you feel lucky. If your perceptions are correct, you may fulfill some ambitious objectives.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Competition could evaporate before your eyes today if you appear unafraid of challenges. If you act as if you can't lose, you won't.



"Look, Mommy! It's a bubble galaxy!"



"But maybe I don't want to meet your new girlfriend."

The Family Circus



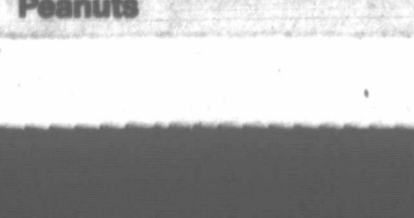
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Grizzwells



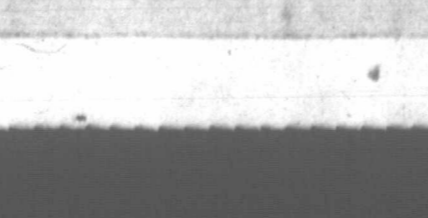
Alley Oop



Peanuts



Peanuts



Sports

Notebook

BASKETBALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Gheorge Muresan of the Washington Bullets today won the NBA Most Improved Player Award, receiving 50 of a possible 113 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Muresan, the NBA leader in shooting percentage at .584, also averaged career-highs in points (14.5), rebounds (9.6), blocked shots (2.26), assists (0.7), steals (0.68). His scoring average went up 4.5 points per game and his rebounding average improved by 2.9 per game. Muresan was eighth in the league in blocked shots.

The 7-foot-7 center from Romania started the first 76 games for the Bullets before a right knee injury ended his season. He shot better than .500 from the field in 58 games and blocked two or more shots 43 times.

George McCloud of Dallas was second in the balloting with 23 votes and Cleveland teammates Danny Ferry and Terrell Brandon shared third place with six votes each.

Eighteen players received votes. They were Terry Murray of Toronto (4), Brian Williams of the Los Angeles Clippers (4), Elden Campbell of the Los Angeles Lakers (3), Shawn Bradley and Chris Childs, both of New Jersey (2), Alan Houston of Detroit (2), Bobby Phillips of Cleveland (2), Dennis Scott of Orlando (2), David Wesley of Boston (2), Greg Anthony of Vancouver (1), Vinny Del Negro of San Antonio (1), Matt Geiger of Charlotte (1), Juwan Howard of Washington (1) and Jayson Williams of New Jersey (1).

AUTO RACING

Winston Cup races at Talladega Superspeedway have begun to resemble traffic in a construction zone at rush hour, except that these guys are commuting at over 190 mph.

This isn't just a bunch of guys going fast. They are racing, dodging in and out, up and down the 33-degree banking of NASCAR's longest and fastest oval, sometimes three- and four-wide.

"Anybody that tells you it's not the most nerve-wracking place we race, they haven't been up in that lead pack and been part of what goes on," said Dale Jarrett, a two-time Daytona 500 winner. "Two eyes, a mirror and a spotter aren't nearly enough to keep up with everything that's going on around you out there."

It's obviously a crowd pleaser. The throngs at the rural track, which is 40 miles east of Birmingham and 110 miles west of Atlanta, just keep getting bigger.

Last Sunday, more than 155,000 people came, the biggest estimated crowd in the history of the 2.66-mile track, which opened in 1969. And many were standing most of the afternoon, awed by the sights and sounds emanating from the big track during the Winston Select 500.

There were two terrifying crashes on Sunday.

One of them was a single-car incident that left 1988 Winston Cup champion and Talladega's all-time speed king Bill Elliott with a fractured left thigh.

Elliott, who once qualified at Talladega at over 212 mph, spun into the infield grass, where his Ford soared into the air, nearly flipping over on its top. It came back down hard on its nose, bounced back into the air and flattened onto its four wheels, shaking its helpless driver like a rag doll.

SOCCER

PAMPA — The Pampa Soccer Association will hold the spring awards banquet ceremony at 2 p.m. May 5 at the soccer complex.

Immediately following the awards ceremony there will be a parent-coach game. Anyone interesting in playing may call Ron Jouett at 665-7643.

The concession stand will have hamburgers ready for sale beginning at 1 p.m.

Unbridled's Song works fast, draws outside post

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Unbridled's Song, the tender-footed Kentucky Derby favorite, had a fast workout in the early-morning rain Wednesday, then drew the outside post in the field of 20 3-year-olds.

"I feel like I've already won," jockey Mike Smith said after Unbridled's Song zipped a half-mile in 46 seconds in the early-morning rain Wednesday, then drew the outside post in the field of 20 3-year-olds.

Unbridled's Song didn't fare well in the post-position draw Wednesday night. Trainer Jim Ryerson tried to put on a good face on the bad draw.

"The real speed is just inside of us and not down on the fence," he said. "If they (Skip Away, No. 17; Matty G, No. 19, and Unbridled's Song) take off (together) they can put a little distance on the rest of the field. Maybe we have the kind of horse — I hope we do — that can overcome this."

Added Smith: "If they (Skip Away and Matty G) were way inside, maybe they would be gone, but they're outside with us and we can follow them. Unbridled's Song likes to run and I won't have to hold him."

The gelding Clyde Van Dusen, in 1929, was the only winner to start from the No. 20 post.

Unbridled's Song, winner of the Florida Derby and Wood Memorial, was made the early 8-5 favorite, followed by Blue Grass winner Skip Away, 7-2, and the Overbrook Farm entry of Editor's Note and Grindstone, trained by D. Wayne Lukas, at 6-1.

Sonny Hine, who trains Skip Away for his wife Carolyn, was not pleased with his colt's No. 17 post for Saturday's race.

"I think it was a lousy draw," Hine said. "I'm amazed, the best three horses in the race (Skip Away, Unbridled's Song and stretch-running Editor's Note, No. 18 post) are in the four outside posts."

There have been 157 starters from post 15 to 23 in the auxiliary gate and only four have won.

Unbridled's Song and Skip Away are two of only five starters going into the race off a victory. The others are Cavonnier, the Santa Anita Derby winner, No. 4; Zarb's Magic, the Arkansas Derby winner, No. 7, and City by Night, the Lexington winner, No. 15.

Also set to start are a Derby-record five horses trained by D. Wayne Lukas, who will be trying to extend his unprecedented string of victories in Triple Crown races to six. Lukas won the 1995 Derby with Thunder Gulch, one of three starters he saddled last year.

Unbridled's Song worked in bar shoes because of an injured left front foot and heel.

Owner Ernie Paragallo and Ryerson said they were happy about the work of the gray colt, but Sonny Hine, trainer of Skip Away, said: "I wouldn't want to be in their shoes ... no pun intended."

Paragallo arrived from New York too late to see the fast work-

out, but he said, "It was about what we expected. It was nothing out of the ordinary. Everything's a go."

Paragallo said a blood sample was taken Tuesday and Unbridled's Song's blood count was normal and there was no infection.

The foot problem emerged right after the Wood Memorial at Aqueduct on April 13, and the colt has been wearing a bar shoe on the foot since two days after the race.

Unbridled's Song worked Wednesday with what is called an egg bar shoe on both front feet. Ryerson said it was recommended the colt wear two bar shoes to improve his balance in case he has to race in them.

While Skip Away was awesome in the Blue Grass April 13 at Keeneland, several trainers wonder whether he can come close to duplicating that performance Saturday.

It also seems the gray colt doesn't have the proper dosage. The dosage index is a way of measuring Derby performance through blood lines.

"Now if they made him the favorite, that would be three strikes against us," Hine said. "Then, if I didn't know any better I'd pack up and go home." Shane Sellers will ride Skip Away, owned by Hine's wife, Carolyn.

Team Lukas is composed of Editor's Note, loser of seven straight, including a third in the Blue Grass; Grindstone, second in the Arkansas Derby; Honour and Glory, second in the Santa Anita Derby; Prince of Thieves, second in the Lexington; and Victory Speech, second in the Jim Beam.

Editor's Note and Grindstone will race as a William T. Young-owned entry, while Honour and Glory and Victory Speech will run as a Michael Tabor-owned entry. Prince of Thieves is owned by Peter Mitchell.

Bob Baffert, trainer of Cavonnier, also will saddle Semoran, the Remington Park Derby winner, as part of an entry. Also coupled with be the Nick Zito-trained pair of Louis Quatorze, second in the Blue Grass, and Diligence, fifth in the Blue Grass.

Completing the field will be Built for Pleasure, upset winner over Unbridled's Song in the Fountain of Youth; In Contention, second in the Wood Memorial; three other Santa Anita Derby starters — Alyrob, disqualified from second and placed last, Corker, third, and Matty G, seventh; and two other Arkansas Derby horses — third-place Halo Sunshine and fifth-place Blow Out.

Alyrob, Cavonnier and Zarb's Magic are geldings. The seventh and last gelding to win the Derby was Clyde Van Dusen in 1929.

Alyrob is the son of Alysheba, the 1987 Derby winner, while Unbridled's Song and Grindstone are sons of Unbridled, the 1990 Kentucky Derby winner.

Bulls to meet Knicks in second round of post-season playoffs

By The Associated Press

The Chicago Bulls and New York Knicks will bring perfect playoff records into their second-round series.

They completed 3-0 sweeps in their best-of-5 opening-round series Wednesday night, with the Bulls routing the Miami Heat 112-91 and the Knicks defeating the Cleveland Cavaliers 81-76.

Their best-of-7 second-round series opens Sunday in Chicago, where the Bulls are 41-2 this season.

"We can't celebrate because I think everybody has already forgotten about the game we just played," said Patrick Ewing, who had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Knicks. "All anybody will talk about is the Bulls."

Jordan, playing with a painful back injury, scored 26 points, and Scottie Pippen had a triple-double as the Bulls manhandled the Heat in Miami.

"I can't see anybody getting in their way," said Heat coach Pat Riley, who failed to reach the second round for the first time in his 14-year coaching year.

Elsewhere Wednesday night, Portland beat Utah 98-90 to even

their series 2-2, and Phoenix edged San Antonio 94-93 to cut the Spurs' lead to 2-1.

The deciding game in the Portland-Utah series will be Sunday in Salt Lake City. Game 4 of the Spurs-Suns series will be Friday in Phoenix.

In other first-round series, Atlanta leads Indiana 2-1, Houston leads the Los Angeles Lakers 2-1, and Seattle swept Sacramento 2-1. Orlando swept Detroit in the opening round.

Tonight, it's Indiana at Atlanta, the Lakers at Houston, and Seattle at Sacramento.

Jordan strained his back for the second straight game, but said he expects to be ready for the Knicks.

"It was tough getting loose," he said. "Once I got loose, I felt pretty good. Every now and then when I twisted, I could feel the pull."

Pippen had 22 points, 18 rebounds and 10 assists. His rebound total tied a career high.

"Scottie picked it up a notch," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said. "He knew he had to be an initiator because of Michael's back."

Chicago dominated the series, winning the three games by an average of 23 points.

Bronze medalists



Pampa's 1600-meter relay team of (l-r) Audrey Wilbon, Regina Holt, Kisha Evans and Robbin Williams captured the bronze medal at the Region 1-4A girls track meet last weekend in San Angelo.

Glo-Valve opens Optimist baseball season with victory over Dunlap

PAMPA — Glo-Valve Service Windhorst walked, stolen second, took third on a wild pitch and scored on a single by Waggoner. Hill walked, took second on a fielder's choice and scored on an error.

Justin Waggoner led Glo-Valve's hitters with three hits, three runs scored and three RBI. Randy Tice pitched two innings and was credited with the win. He gave up one hit, no runs and struck out four.

Waggoner gave up an unearned run in one inning pitched. He allowed one hit and two walks. He struck out three. Ryan Zemanek faced only three batters in the inning he pitched, allowing no runs or hits.

Glo-Valve scored three runs in the first. Tice and Nathanael Hill walked. Tice stole second and third and scored on a wild pitch. Waggoner singled home Hill, who had stolen second and went to third on a passed ball. Waggoner came around on three passed balls.

John Braddock opened the Glo-Valve second inning with a single and raced to third when the ball got past Dunlap's center fielder. He scored on a wild pitch. Zach

Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency, 4-0, Monday.

There is a new look at Optimist Park as the season got underway for both boys baseball and girls softball. Everything — from the concession stand and restrooms to the dugouts and fences — has been painted.

Optimist Club member Truman Lowrance said prisoners' from the Jordan Unit, known as 'Honor Squads,' have been working for several months at the park.

"They take a lot of pride in what they do," said Lowrance, who has been working with the prisoners.

"The grass and the fields are litter free. Let's hope the fans and players will keep it that way. It's very impressive."

Opening Day Ceremonies are scheduled Saturday at the park. Baseball and softball games will start early in the morning and continue throughout the day.

A barbecue and program is also planned.



Cabot pitcher Michael Cochran fires a pitch during an 11-12 year-old Bambino League game Wednesday at Optimist Park.

Pampa Middle School track teams compete at Hereford

PAMPA — The Pampa Middle School boys track team competed in a meet last weekend at Hereford.

Both Pampa 7th and 8th graders placed sixth.

Pampa 7th grade results

Discus: Taylor Harris, fourth place; Ryan Black, sixth place. Shot: Ryan Black, sixth place. 2400: Jeremy Fondren, first place, 8:45.89. 800 relay: sixth place, Josh

Gibson, Taylor Harris, Josh Larkin and J.J. Roark.

400: Jeremy Fondren, seventh place. 1600: Fondren, seventh place.

8th grade division

High jump: Russell Robben, fourth place. Long jump: Nathan Arnn, sixth place. 2400: Javier Cruz, first place, 8:36.08. 400 relay: fifth place, Aaron Cummings, Jon Shephard,

Russell Robben and Ramon Martinez.

100: Aaron Cummings, fifth place. 800 relay: fifth place, Cummings, Shephard, Robben and Martinez.

300 hurdles: Justin Trollinger, first place, 47.04.

200: Ramon Martinez, seventh place. 1600: Javier Cruz, third place.

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