

STATE:
Retail beef prices down to
lowest in five years, Page 3

GOOD EVENING
Monday, May 27, 1996

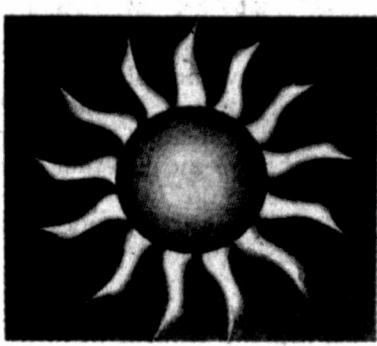
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Lazier limps to victory
in Indy 500 race, Page 7

THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 44

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight in mid 50s,
high tomorrow in mid
80s. See Page 2 for
weather details.

FRITCH — Superintendent Pat McCrary reported that Lake Meredith National Recreation Area experienced its second drowning in eight days on Sunday night.

The incident occurred at South Canyon, in an area known as The Cliffs, just before midnight Sunday.

McCrary said the victim was a Hispanic male, 28, of Dumas. He was drinking with a group of friends when he and a female companion slipped and slid approximately 20 feet into the lake.

City of Fritch Police Department and Park Service divers located the body in 10 feet of water after a short search. The name was withheld pending notification of next of kin.

On Saturday, McCrary reported the recovery of a body believed to be that of Albert Silva, 24, of Canyon, who was last seen at the lake on May 18 before being listed as a possible drowning victim.

PAMPA — First Church of the Nazarene of Pampa is to host a craft show Saturday, June 1, to benefit children's ministries.

Proceeds will be used to send children to camp. Booths are available at \$10 on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information, call 669-0176.

HOUSTON (AP) — Workers scrambled today to contain a five-mile oil slick created when a barge buckled and broke open in the middle of Galveston Bay, the Coast Guard said.

The vessel, which carried 667,000 gallons of intermediate fuel oil, buckled about 10:45 p.m. Sunday in the Houston Ship Channel north of Galveston and east of Clear Lake, said Coast Guard Lt. Emile Benard.

"It was just going down the channel and it buckled," Benard said. "There was no collision."

Two of 12 separate compartments in the barge were ruptured and other tanks might be damaged, Benard said. The two tanks held about 5,000 barrels of oil, or 210,000 gallons.

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

The numbers drawn from a field of 50 were: 9, 16, 26, 33, 39 and 50.

There were 119 tickets sold with five of the six numbers, with each ticket worth \$1,767.

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

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Severe storms rage through three states

LEE'S SUMMIT, Mo. (AP) — Tornadoes and other strong storms swept through several states, destroying homes, overturning cars and knocking a coal train off its tracks.

Winds of up to 125 mph ripped through western Missouri late Sunday. At least 13 homes were destroyed and 98 others were damaged in Lee's Summit, a town outside Kansas City. As least 10 people were injured, none seriously.

Faith Cox said she was in her kitchen when she "saw big bubbly raindrops on the window and heard a big booming wind like something was falling down."

"The houseplants inside were being shaken even though the windows were closed," said Cox, whose house was not damaged. "The lights were flickering, but it all seemed like it was over in a minute."

Dave Beusterien, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Kansas City said radar indicated strong winds in the area at the time, but not a tornado.

Lightning and rain continued early today as residents milled around one cul de sac, looking at the damage. A garage stood relatively untouched next to a heavily damaged house. Nearby, a home had its siding torn off, its frame exposed.

Work crews scrambled to shut off gas lines, and a telephone pole leaned to one side. Tree limbs were strewn throughout the street.

Elsewhere in the area, large trees were on top of houses, cars had been blown into homes and

many structures had lost their second stories, said Assistant Fire Chief Mark Bradford.

Meanwhile, two tornadoes were confirmed southeast of Kansas City. Officials said there was damage, but could not provide details.

At least eight tornadoes — accompanied by 90 mph winds and baseball-size hail — were reported in Kansas.

Several farms were damaged when six tornadoes moved through four counties in southwest Kansas late Sunday afternoon, said National Weather Service meteorologist Jeff Hutton.

In southeastern Kansas, tornado touchdowns were confirmed in Labette and Crawford counties. Damage estimates were not immediately available.

In the northeastern part of the state, a gas station roof collapsed in Manhattan, and about 4,000 electricity customers in Topeka lost power for about 20 minutes after lightning and high winds damaged circuits.

In Oklahoma, a tornado overturned several cars of a Union Pacific coal train in the northeastern county of Nowata. Further details were not immediately available.

"It was a train. That's all we know right now," said sheriff's dispatcher Paul Wallace, adding that some buildings and power poles also had been damaged.

"We've got a lot of tore up houses, 12 cars overturned south of Nowata and some damaged barns," said sheriff's deputy Daniel Burruss.

Shuttle astronauts encounter test satellite for the last time

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Shuttle Endeavour today crept up behind a self-orienting satellite for a third round of tests as astronauts worked to complete the last major task of their 10-day mission.

Commander John Casper guided the shuttle to within 1,670 feet of the wastebasket-sized craft during a 6 1/2-hour encounter to check its stability after five days of free flight.

Astronauts reported that the 80-pound satellite traveled like a dart with its heavy end forward, as scientists anticipated. A slight wobble the crew observed two days ago had diminished.

"It sure looks like the science was correct," Mission Control said.

"Looks great," astronaut Daniel Bursch said.

The six Endeavour astronauts and ground controllers continued to struggle with a laser device that is supposed to gauge the satellite's stability. On Saturday, it repeatedly produced false readings.

NASA suggested the lasers could have reflected off an object other than the satellite. The tracking system, installed in Endeavour's cargo bay, works by bouncing laser beams off reflectors on the satellite.

Today's rendezvous was put off from Sunday to give researchers time to try to solve the problem.

While it was not immediately clear whether the system would yield accurate results today, flight controllers said it appeared the laser was pointed at the satellite. The astronauts noted they saw the craft illuminated.

Researchers may have to depend on less-precise radar data and videotape shot by the crew to determine the success of the \$600,000 experiment.

The aluminum satellite — 14 inches in diameter and 20 inches long — was released from the shuttle with an intentional spin and wobble on Wednesday. It had begun to stabilize itself by the time astronauts caught up with it a few hours later.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Marian Wright Edelman wants this week's Stand for Children rally to do for America's children what a 1963 march did for civil rights and what Earth Day did for the environment.

More than 3,000 organizations are joining the Children's Defense Fund, founded by Edelman, in sponsoring the rally Saturday at the Lincoln Memorial. It's coming not a moment too soon, she says.

Every 32 seconds, somewhere in the United States, a child is born into poverty, according to statistics gathered by the fund. Every 15 minutes a baby dies and gunfire claims a youngster's life every two hours.

The rally will feature activities for children and families, including music and

dance, reading circles, sing-alongs and exhibits. Organizers say politicians are welcome to attend, but they will not be speaking.

A highlight will be a children's march to the Lincoln Memorial, orchestrated to encourage a deeper public commitment to protecting the nation's youth.

"This is about values and what America wants to stand for, and if it doesn't stand for its children, it doesn't stand for anything," Edelman said last week.

The defense fund's 1996 yearbook paints a sad portrait of life as a child in a nation that leads in military technology and exports, the value of goods and services produced and in the number of millionaires and billionaires among industrialized nations.

Every day in the United States, accord-

ing to the yearbook:

— 2,660 children are born into poverty; 27 die from it.

— 8,493 children are reported as abused or neglected; three die.

— 15 children are killed by firearms.

— 2,833 children quit school.

— 2,700 become pregnant.

— 790 are born at low weights.

Among developed countries, the report said, America also loses the most children to gunfire, and has twice the rate of teenage births as England and five times the rates of France, Italy and other Western European nations.

"We've got far more wallet than will" in the United States, Edelman said. "It's a spiritual poverty problem, not a financial poverty problem."

The U.S. Conference of Mayors, which

endorsed the rally, said earlier this month that mayors of more than five dozen cities had issued or planned to issue proclamations declaring Saturday as Stand for Children Day.

The American Association of Retired Persons, another endorser, estimates that 1.4 million children are being raised by grandparents — a figure that has risen dramatically in recent years — because of drug and child abuse, teenage pregnancy and other factors.

Another supporter is the AFL-CIO, which has stepped up its campaign for higher wages and more generous worker benefits.

"Family economic and health security is central to child well-being," the labor federation's president, John Sweeney, said in a statement.

Memorial Day tributes



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Pampans and other area residents will be observing Memorial Day by placing floral tributes on graves of their loved ones for the holiday, like the ones seen above in Fairview Cemetery. While some placed the flowers on the graves early because of planned trips, others waited until today to bring their tributes to the area cemeteries.

China frees official jailed in 1989 crackdown

BEIJING (AP) — The most senior Communist Party official imprisoned during the crackdown on the 1989 pro-democracy movement was released from prison today, but police kept him under guard and barred him from going home.

Bao Tong was set free after completing a seven-year sentence and authorities transferred him to a police-guarded compound in Beijing's western suburbs.

He will not be allowed to go home until after June 4, his sister, Bao Jian, said, referring to the anniversary of the military

assault on unarmed pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in 1989.

She and other family members visited him this afternoon. Bao, 63, seemed in good spirits, although disappointed he was not allowed to return home immediately, she said.

"He said he had no choice," Bao Jian said. "They told him it was because of June 4."

Beijing Public Security Bureau officials told him he would be sent home in eight to 10 days, after the anniversary, she said.

The month before the anniver-

sary is always a tense time in Beijing. In past years, dissidents have been detained to prevent them from marking the date. Police keep them and foreign reporters under tight surveillance. Bao was the top aide of reformist party chief Zhao Ziyang. Party elders ousted Zhao because he opposed using the army to crush the 1989 protests but did not arrest him for fear of damaging the party's reputation.

The former party chairman has been living under virtual house arrest in Beijing.



(Pampa News photo by Tiffanie Franke)

This float, portraying the Lord of Lords, rolls down Hobart Street Saturday morning as part of a parade for the March for Jesus activities in Pampa.

Texas Christians declare 'March for Jesus' success

HOUSTON (AP) — Christians throughout the state are declaring their weekend "March for Jesus" a success.

Several Texas cities hosted local events as part of the international faith demonstration. Festivities included marching, singing and praying.

David Danielson, a member of the James Avenue Baptist Church, helped organize the Fort Worth event, which drew 1,200 to 1,500.

"It's not an evangelistic crusade," Danielson said. "It's not a political agenda. It's not about numbers. It's about the church coming together to give a unified confession of their faith."

Leonard Fisher, co-organizer of the Fort Worth march, called the event uplifting for Christians.

"It's one time during the year where we can put aside our differences, whatever they may be, and worship the Lord," Fisher said. "Anytime you can look out and see this many denominations — white people, black people, Asians, Hispanics — it's got to be successful."

In Austin, the event attracted an estimated 6,000 to 8,000 people who sang, danced, swayed and waved banners to proclaim their love for "the King of Kings."

The marchers paraded from 15th Street just north of the state Capitol to 21st Street near the University of Texas campus.

"It's simple," said Tom Pelton, founder of the Austin march. "People love Jesus. And this is a good way for people to be able to express that. I think we've longed for a long time to see unity like this among all the churches."

Pelton wants the march to gain recognition from the Guinness Book of Records as the biggest worldwide street event ever held.

"Sometimes, as Christians, there is a sense of intimidation

about our beliefs," Pelton said. "But the marches can help encourage people and let them see that they are part of a much larger family of Christians that just their own individual congregations."

About 12,000 people took part in the march through downtown San Antonio. Marchers carried banners, pushed strollers, danced and sang along Market Street, from Market Square to Alamo Plaza.

Pastor Larry Sargent from Northwest Christian Fellowship was a coordinator for the March For Jesus in San Antonio.

"I was really excited with this year's turnout because for the first time we truly had a diverse mix of denominations," Sargent said.

Pastor Joe Morales from Jubilee Outreach, also a coordinator for the march, said about 80 churches had registered. Organizers had hoped more than 15,000 people would show up.

"The march is a chance for us to express our appreciation to the Lord," said Bruce Genkle, a pastor with City of Refuge. "We're not against anything; we're for Jesus."

Genkle said that the march has grown every year that it has been held and acknowledged the large number of youth who participated.

Gabriel Sosa, a 20-year-old dancer with the Church of Acts, thought the large number of youths was a good sign.

"People always say that the church is a sleeping giant, and that we're Generation X," Sosa said. "This shows that we're doing what we can for the community and that we're not a lost generation, and we're not staying within the four walls of the church."

"I think there is a large (Christian) youth movement because we are rejecting everything else," Sosa said. "We're looking for something real."

New education law getting mixed reaction

AUSTIN (AP) — A year after Texas public education was overhauled to increase local control, some reforms are getting mixed grades. But educators say it's too early to issue a final report card.

"Education is a big business. It isn't going to change overnight based on a couple of things somebody's put down on paper," said Superintendent Bob Schumacher of the McAllen Independent School District.

The law's emphasis on local decision-making is applauded by Houston Independent School District Superintendent Rod Paige.

"It has cut loose a lot of the red tape ... and given us more control over the situation here locally. It definitely improves education, because that way education can come closer to customizing itself for the particular area it serves," he said.

But Paige said his school district already had some innovative policies, such as charter programs, before the law took effect.

"It does add the possibility for others outside of our system to come up with ways of delivering

education ... For us inside the system, I think it pretty much just confirms we were going in the right direction in the first place," he said.

On May 30, 1995, Gov. George W. Bush signed the new law and proclaimed new freedom for Texans to take control of their schools.

The law's independent charter school experiment has proven popular. There were more applications than slots available for the schools that will be free of many state rules.

But no school districts are yet taking advantage of the chance to escape many state controls by adopting home rule, an idea heavily touted by Bush.

Some say it's too soon, the process is difficult and school districts wouldn't gain that much by leaving the revamped, more flexible state system.

The law's get-tough discipline section, which requires alternative education programs for some students, got off to a rocky start in some areas.

Although teachers welcome strong authority to remove dis-

ruptive students from classrooms, and school officials say expulsions are down, a federal judge ruled that due-process rights are violated when a student is moved into alternative classes without formal hearings.

Teacher groups say some school districts appear to be slow in implementing the discipline measure. The Texas Association of School Boards says parts of it need to be clarified.

The law's easing of the no-pass, no-play rule also gets mixed reviews.

The change: failing students' suspension from extracurricular activities was cut from six to three weeks if they can bring up their grades, and honors classes are exempt from the rule.

Some worry that the change detracts from academics. Others say allowing it helps keep students involved in school.

With more than 1,000 school districts working to implement the new law, some say it's just too early to judge its effectiveness.

"We are talking about a huge state with 3 million kids. I know it has an effect in some cases

where some teachers have used the new safe schools law. But it's way too soon to make any assessment of it all," said John Cole of the Texas Federation of Teachers.

Bush says educators are realizing the state is giving them control over how they teach as long as they achieve results.

"I believe we've got a menu of opportunity available for school districts that far exceeds most districts in the nation," he said.

"I think after a year, people are now understanding we mean business when it comes to aligning responsibility and authority at the local level."

Bush says he isn't concerned that school districts haven't chosen to become home ruled. He said they may want to try "new-found freedom" in the regular system before considering that step.

Senate Education Committee Chairman Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, said opting against home rule is "the greatest compliment the schools could pay to Senate Bill 1 (the education reform law). They don't feel the need to run outside the system."

Retail beef prices drop to lowest levels in five years

DENVER (AP) — The sizzle of a burger on a backyard grill will mean more change in your pocket this Memorial Day.

Retail prices for hamburger, steak, roasts and other beef products are at their lowest level in five years because of a 10-year high in cattle production and a 10-year low in cattle prices, according to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

"Consumers will have the opportunity to have some very good buys over the next six to 12 months," said Chuck Lambert, an economist with the beef association.

The average price for six cuts of beef was \$3.01 a pound in April, compared with \$3.19 a pound in April 1991, the NCBA said. Regular ground beef, the cheapest cut, was \$1.40 a pound. T-bone steak, the most expensive cut, was \$5.77 a pound.

On Memorial Day, the largest beef-consumption day of the year, Americans are expected to consume about 64.2 million pounds of beef, about 25 percent more than the average daily

consumption, the NCBA said.

Kroger Co., one of the nation's major grocers, has cut beef prices to their lowest levels in at least seven years, said spokesman Paul Bernish.

"When you have prices like that, we're certainly seeing an increase in meat department sales," he said.

The low prices come as Americans are already consuming more beef. Agriculture Department figures indicate annual beef consumption totaled 67.5 pounds per person last year, up from 65 pounds in 1993, but down from a high of 95 pounds in the 1970s.

But the good news for consumers isn't shared by cattle producers nationwide that are struggling to survive their toughest market in a decade.

In addition to a large supply of cattle, producers have suffered hefty feed prices and a lack of sufficient summer grass in many areas.

The number of cattle in the United States

totalled 103.8 million head at the end of 1995, compared with 95.8 million in 1990, the NCBA's Lambert said.

Fed cattle prices averaged \$66 per 100 pounds in 1995, compared with \$78 in 1992. Beef production totaled 25 billion pounds in 1995, up 11 percent from 1994, he said.

One bright spot for cattle producers, however, has been the export market, where beef exports have increased steadily while imports have declined.

In 1995, beef exports totaled \$3.26 billion, compared with \$1.88 billion in 1990, said Rod Manuel of the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

Imports totaled 2.1 billion pounds in 1995, down 11 percent from 1993, the NCBA's Lambert said.

Japan is the largest buyer of U.S. beef, taking \$2.1 billion worth last year. Canada is the second-largest export market, taking \$373 million worth of beef in 1995. Other lucrative markets are Korea and Russia, Manuel said.

Students invited to participate in superintendent's scholar program

Academically talented local students have been invited to participate in the superintendent's scholar program during the summer.

Students entering the seventh grade can participate in "Summer Explorations," a workshop designed to help the students write and perform their own dramas. Pampa High School honors teacher Mary Sturgeon will lead the class, to be held in the PHS vocational building, from June 3-7.

Selected students entering the eighth grade will learn how to make a sewer pipe sing and how to boil water in a paper cup in "Physics is 'Phun'." The workshop, led by PHS teacher Beth Shannon, will be in PHS Room 235 from June 3-7.

The class of 2000 — those entering high school next year as freshmen — can work with a variety of library computer reference systems in "Trivia Tracking."

PHS debate coach Kaylia Wilmeth will lead the workshop from June 3-14 in Lovett Memorial Library.

Students entering their sophomore year have the opportunity to improve their word power to prepare for the PSAT in "Sophomore Summer." PHS teacher Jennifer Studebaker will lead the workshop, an intense vocabulary study and an aid for the SAT and ACT exams. The class will be held from June 3-7 at PHS.

Any student entering their junior or senior year is eligible to enroll in the SAT/ACT prep workshop taught by Sarita Reeve and Angel Wheeler. Two sessions — verbal from June 3-7 and math from June 10-14 — will be held in the PHS library.

Space is limited in all classes. Students eligible for the workshops have been notified by letter. Deadline for registration is Thursday.

PHS debate coach Kaylia Wilmeth will lead the workshop from June 3-14 in Lovett Memorial Library.

Dry spell brings out water cops

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The long dry spell at San Antonio is turning residents into snitches who want to blow the whistle on water wasters.

Officials say that since May 17, when the city shifted into Phase III of its water conservation plan, San Antonio Water Systems dispatchers have been deluged with more 400 complaints.

John Phillips, supervisor of field services for the water system, said the callers want to be certain they do not have to give their name. They usually call to report that someone is watering

too much, on the wrong day or at the wrong time.

Phillips says his 11 investigators who are patrolling and responding to complaints have been focusing so far on educating water users about the city's conservation rules.

Under Phase III water conservation rules, four- and five-day watering rotations govern sprinkling at area businesses and residences. Landscaping installation is permitted if no more than half the job requires turf placement, unless the turf is a low-water user such as zoysia or buffalo grass.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Baby pageant winner



Devon Nicole Welch of Albuquerque, N.M., granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Pampa residents, is a five-time winner in the 1996 New Mexico Baby Pageant held May 3 at the Kiva Auditorium in Albuquerque. She was crowned first place in the Queen of Royalty, Best Personality and Outstanding Hair divisions; second place in Beauty and third in Most Photogenic. Devon, almost 4 years old, is the daughter of Holly and Keith Welch of Albuquerque. She is the granddaughter of Robyn and Tim Mitchell of Albuquerque (formerly of Pampa) and Dixie and Darrell Danner Jr. of Pampa, and the great-granddaughter of Helen Danner, the late Darrell Danner Sr. and Robert O. McDowell, all of Pampa.

Tips to avoid problems from summer's hot days

One hundred degree temperatures in May? The early extra-hot temperatures have certainly gotten our attention! As we gear up for a hot summer, there are some safety precautions we need to put into practice to ensure good health.

Overexposure to the sun's rays can damage the skin and in the most severe cases cause fatal skin cancer. Risks are increased by type of skin color and intensity of exposure to UV rays. People who sunburn easily, have fair skin or have red or blond hair get skin cancer most often. However, anyone who spends a lot of time in the sun can get skin cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, 90 percent of skin cancers occur on parts of the body not usually covered with clothing — the face, hands, forearms and ears. People trying to get tans also get skin cancer on the shoulders, back, chest or legs. Skin cancer is highly preventable. The keys to prevention are: 1) Cover up; 2) use sunscreens; and 3) know the rays.

• Cover up by wearing clothing that protects the skin from penetration of the sun's rays. Wide brimmed hats and long sleeved shirts and pants of a material that cannot be penetrated by the sun's rays are good choices.

• Use sunscreens whenever you go out in the sun. Make sure you choose one with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 for adequate protection. Apply and reapply sunscreen as directed. If you are engaged in water activities or are perspiring heavily, you will need to reapply more

Homemakers' News Donna Brauchi



frequently. Make sure children use sunscreens as sunburns in childhood contribute to skin cancers occurring in adulthood.

• Know the rays. UV rays are the most intense between the hours 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Avoid being out in the sun during these hours. Use the same UV precautions on cloudy days. Clouds are penetrated by 75 percent of the UV rays. UV rays can also penetrate through three feet of water.

Many people are vulnerable to heat related injuries including heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Heat cramps - A victim of heat cramps will notice symptoms including painful cramping and spasms of legs, arms and sometimes abdominal muscles. To treat, find a cool place. If there is no vomiting, the fluid should be replaced in the body by drinking one teaspoon of salt in an 8-ounce glass of water. This should be followed by one glass of water every 15 minutes for an hour.

Heat exhaustion - When people get heat exhaustion, they feel tired, weak and dizzy. They may complain of headaches, nausea and possibly vomit. There is usually heavy perspiration and the

blood pressure and Parkinson's Disease are more susceptible to heat injuries; however, heat stroke can happen to anyone ...

To avoid illness from heat, take these precautions:

— Drink lots of cool water when the weather is hot and humid. Water is best; fruit and vegetable juices are also good. Drink at least a gallon of liquid (again, preferably water) when outside temperature is above 90 degrees. Overweight people need to drink even more water. Do not drink beer or other alcoholic beverages, coffee, tea or other drinks containing caffeine, which increases fluid loss.

— Maintain normal salt intake in your diet. Do not take salt tablets unless a doctor recommends them.

— Wear light-colored clothes that are loosely woven and absorbent. Cotton is best because it absorbs 40 percent of its weight in moisture. Most synthetic materials trap body heat and are not absorbent. It is also helpful to wear a hat to shade the head.

— Avoid outside activities during hot days. If you have to work outside, take frequent rest breaks and drink cool liquids often. Do not run or do other types of strenuous exercise. Getting wet without drying off gives your body cooling a boost.

— Use a fan if you do not have an air conditioner. Open the windows to create as much cross ventilation as possible.

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

Nation briefs

Voice recorder from Florida crash uncovered

MIAMI (AP) — Buried 15 days in the Everglades muck, the cockpit voice recorder that could help explain the fiery end of ValuJet Flight 592 was discovered after a searcher gave a prayer and a poke. "I said, 'God, so far I've just prayed for you to keep everyone safe out here and I haven't asked for your help finding anything. Now I'm asking you to help us find this recorder,'" Metro-Dade Sgt. Felix Jimenez said Sunday. "The next time I put my probe into the water, it hit the recorder."

Finding the voice recorder has been a top priority since the DC-9 crashed May 11, killing all 110 people on board. In past accidents recorders have helped provide conclusive evidence about the events leading up to a crash.

Because of the Memorial Day holiday, it was unclear when analysis of the tapes would start.

Average gas price nationwide rises slightly

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gasoline prices nationwide rose only slightly over the past two

weeks, signaling a leveling off just as the summer driving season begins, an oil industry analyst said.

The average price at the pump for all grades, including taxes, rose only 0.11 of one cent to 138.07 cents per gallon, according to the Lundberg Survey of more than 10,000 gasoline stations nationwide.

Henry Winkler urges Yale class to be more charitable

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — "Happy Days" star Henry Winkler urged graduates at his alma mater to help the poor and have tolerance for others.

"It is up to you to be an example of tolerance, of caring, of mutual respect, not just when it is easy, especially when it is difficult," the actor-director-producer said at Yale University Sunday.

Winkler, a 1970 graduate of the Yale School of Drama, spoke on Class Day, a campus event held the day before graduation.

Winkler, best known for his role as the Fonz on ABC's "Happy Days," also told students to be kind to those around them as they rise in society.

Monday Night Football placed fifth

In its 28th season, CBS' venerable 60 Minutes news magazine, the most-watched prime-time broadcast in history, finished ninth for a record 19 consecutive seasons in the Top 10.

Here are the Top 10 series for the 1995-96 season, Sept. 18, 1995-May 22, 1996, followed by their network and rating. A single rating point equals 959,000 TV households.

1. ER, NBC, 22.0
2. Seinfeld, NBC, 21.2
3. Friends, NBC, 18.7
4. Caroline in the City, NBC, 17.9
5. NFL Monday Night Football, ABC, 17.1
6. The Single Guy, NBC, 16.7
7. Home Improvement, ABC, 16.2
8. Boston Common, NBC, 15.6
9. 60 Minutes, CBS, 14.2
10. NYPD Blue, ABC 14.1

Ex-Navy secretary blames multi-forces including press for woes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Navy is being damaged by the "gutter reporting" of journalists out to find scandal in the ranks, former Navy Secretary John Lehman says.

The Reagan administration official also condemned the Clinton White House for imposing policies of "political correctness" on the Navy and the Senate Armed Services Committee for impeding the career advancements of officers linked to the 1991 Tailhook sexual assault scandal.

It is "terribly damaging to the very fiber of the Navy as an institution, this continuing attack from so many quarters," Lehman said Sunday on ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley."

Appearing earlier on the program, Deputy Defense Secretary John White denied that the Navy's combat readiness has suffered because of a string of incidents, including Tailhook, a recent rash of F-14 fighter plane crashes, criminal activities at the Naval

Academy and the suicide of the service's top officer, Adm. Jeremy Boorda.

"The Navy is doing well. It is performing its missions around the world," White said. "At the same time, the society's changing and the Navy's changing, and it's a struggle."

But Lehman pointed to reports of sexual abuse at the 1991 convention of the Tailhook Association, a support group for naval aviation, as an example where officers were victims of media "character assassination."

Following what should have been a minor story, he said, "14 admirals have been cashiered, 300 naval aviators have been driven out of the Navy or their careers terminated."

Questioned about his own alleged public lewdness at a 1981 Tailhook convention as detailed in a new book, Lehman didn't deny the story outright. But he called it a "perfect example of the depths that coverage of the Navy has fallen to."

"Every Navy leader of recent times and now

every senior admiral has been subjected to this kind of gutter reporting," he contended.

Lehman compared Boorda's suicide to the 1949 death of Defense Secretary James Forrestal, who became depressed by what he considered unfair attacks on his policies and jumped from a window two months after resigning his post.

Lehman said the Senate Armed Services Committee, led by such friends of the military as Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., had stood by while the careers of more than 300 naval personnel were being ruined, and was now holding up the promotions of another 90 naval aviators linked to Tailhook. "And not one of (the committee members) stood up and said, 'Enough.'"

But Rep. Pat Schroeder, D-Colo., a senior member of the House National Security Committee, said the Navy was to blame for not adjusting quickly enough to changes in American society.

New Ronald McDonald house in the offing

HOUSTON (AP) — Ground has been broken on a \$10 million Ronald McDonald House, a home away from home for families with children receiving treatment for cancer and other illnesses.

The new facility, with 60 bedrooms, will hold twice as many families as the current house, which will be sold upon the project's completion. Money from the sale will fund future maintenance costs.

The house, which is scheduled for completion in September 1997, will sit on two grassy, tree-filled acres at the eastern gateway to the Texas Medical Center.

Peggy Hennessy, president of Ronald McDonald House, said the current house almost always is filled to capacity, and 300 families were turned away last year because of lack of space. Donations already have provided more than \$8.5 million of the \$10 million needed to complete the project, she said.

"It fills such an important spot in the Texas Medical Center," Ms. Hennessy said. "This makes a big difference to a child who is fighting cancer, heart disease or any other serious illness."

The groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday included the festive fanfare of a choir, a down and former first lady Barbara Bush.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Monday, May 27, 1996

Page 6

Memorial To Unknown Soldier Honors Sacrifice Made For All

DEAR ABBY: You seem to have answers to just about everything, so I'm wondering if you can help me on this:

When was the Unknown Soldier buried in Washington, D.C.? Also, in which branch of the military was he? In which war did he fight? How was he identified? Was the soldier a male or a female?

Thanks for any information you can give me.
LILLIE NORRIS, HUGO, OKLA.

DEAR LILLIE NORRIS: When World War I ended, officials from the Allied countries — Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy and the United States — found that the bodies of many soldiers killed in battle could not be identified. The governments decided to honor the memory of those soldiers in some special way. Each government chose a symbolic unknown soldier (probably male since females were not sent into battle at that time), buried the remains near their national capitol, and built a monument in honor of that soldier.

Belgium placed its unknown soldier in a tomb at the base of Colonnade of the Congress in Brussels.

France buried its unknown soldier beneath the Arc de Triomphe in the center of Paris, and keeps a perpetual flame

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

burning over the grave. Great Britain buried its unknown soldier in Westminster Abbey.

Italy's unknown soldier lies in front of the monument to Victor Emmanuel in Rome.

The unknown soldier of the United States was one of four unidentified war dead taken from American cemeteries in France. An American soldier, Sgt. Edward Younger, selected the soldier from these four. The remains were brought to the U.S. Capitol to lie in state.

On Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1921, the soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

The tomb, completed in 1931, has a white marble sarcophagus over the grave and bears the inscription, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

Congress later directed that

an unknown soldier from each of three wars — World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War — be buried near or beside the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The World War II and Korean War unknown soldiers were buried in marble crypts at the head of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Memorial Day in 1958. The unknown soldier from the Vietnam War was buried between them.

A memorial amphitheater, built by the Grand Army of the Republic to honor members of the armed forces killed in battle, stands near the tomb. Memorial Day services are held there each year.

An honor guard from the Honor Guard Co. of the 1st Battle Group, 3rd Infantry, Fort Myer, Va., keeps a sentry on duty at the tomb at all times. The sentry is changed every hour during the day and about every two hours at night.

Today we honor all those who have given their lives in the line of duty — on land, at sea and in the air.

God speed the day when we can settle our differences with words instead of bombs and gunfire. Only then we can claim to be truly civilized.



For Better or For Worse



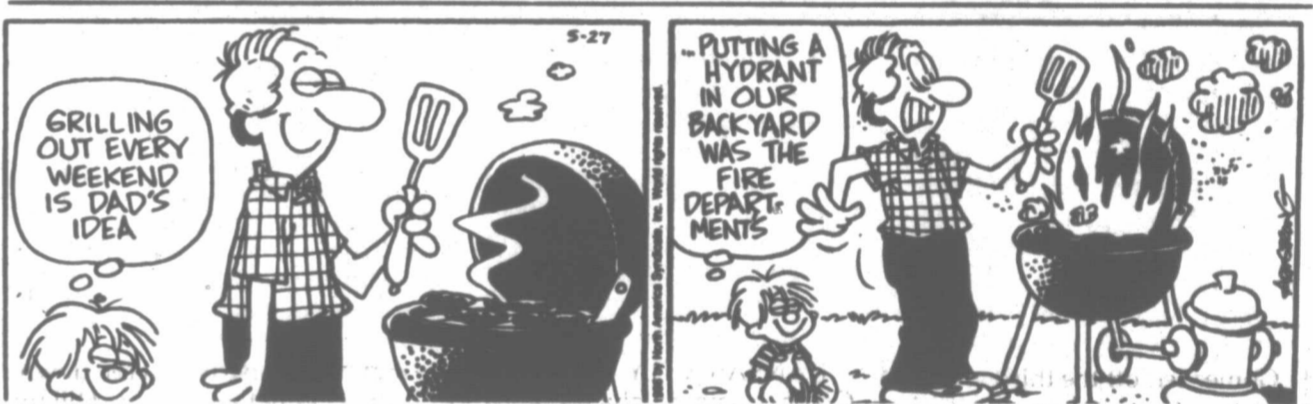
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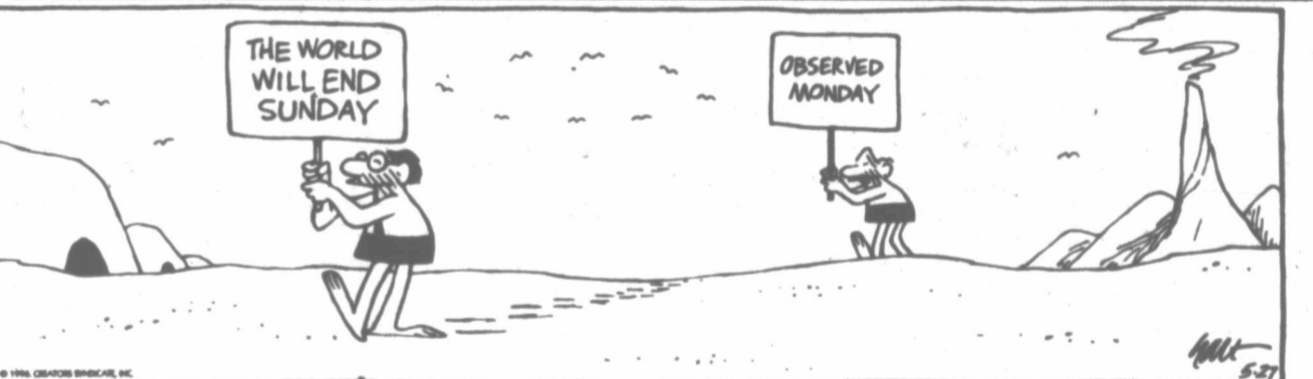
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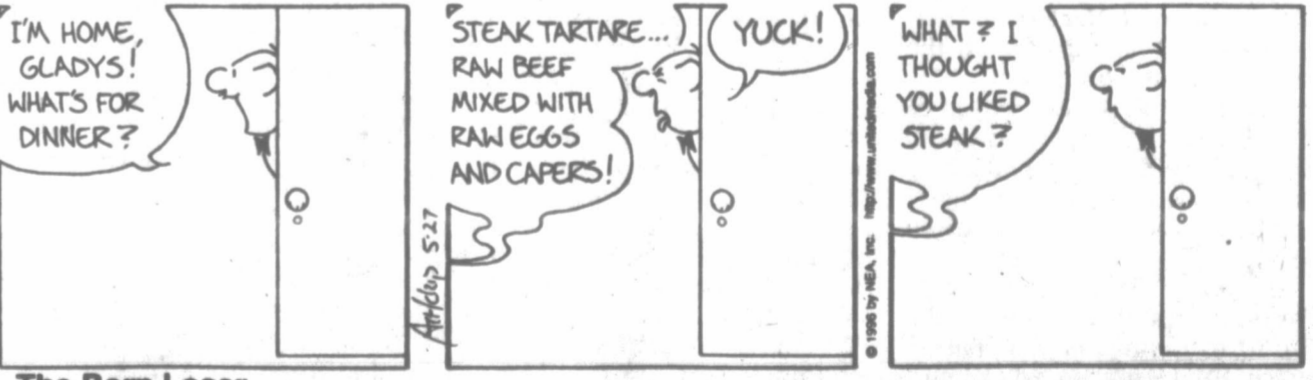
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The Born Loser



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Frank and Ernest

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Tuesday, May 28, 1996

In the year ahead, several opportunities might come your way and you will not have to expend much effort. However, if you do not act quickly, you will not achieve the results you desire.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A member of the opposite sex might be more attentive to you today than usual. Enjoy the attention, but do not read too much into this behavior. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker

can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you don't think clearly today, you might promise the same thing to two different people. Try to avoid putting yourself in this position.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Use caution in regard to household purchases today. Your artistic judgment might not be up to par and you could acquire a permanent eyesore.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today, it will not be wise to lend money to someone who has neglected to repay an old debt. Remind your friend of this fact if he or she turns up the pressure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Try to wrap things up today if there is a matter, you would like to conclude with an associate. Time will not be on your side, so act fast!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Today if you want someone to believe your tales, remember that embellishing the facts will not impress your listeners.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You may have a strong urge to spend extravagantly today and you might waste your resources in foolish ways. Keep your wallet in your purse.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It will be essential to state your objectives explicitly today. If you do not use reliable methods, you could complicate a current project.

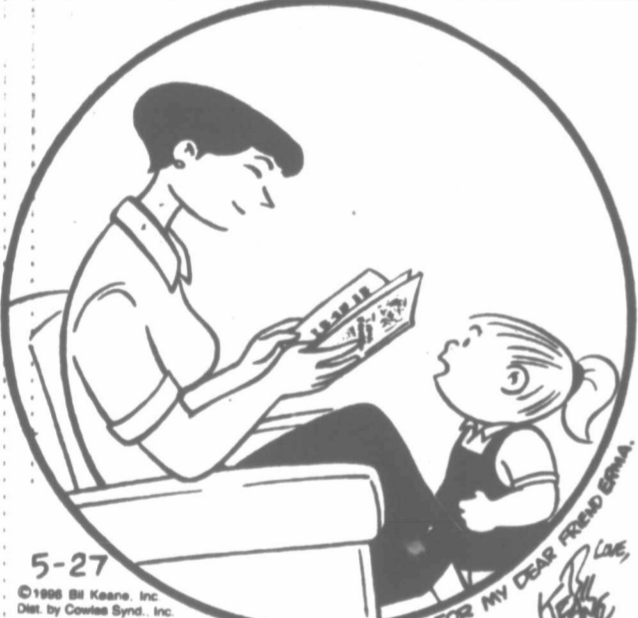
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Today there will be a thin line between healthy optimism and wishful thinking. Take care not to trip on your own shoestrings.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Financial involvements with friends could be complicated today. Try to avoid having to split a bill among several friends.

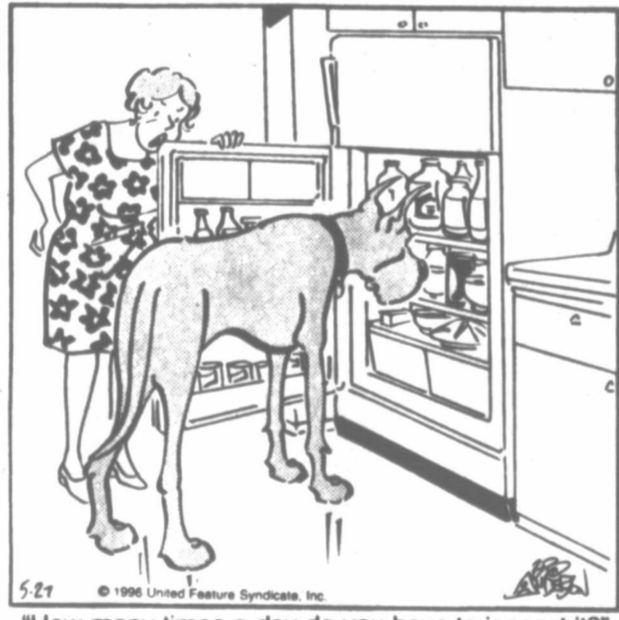
ARIES (March 21-April 19) Indecisiveness could drain your enthusiasm and limit your ability to accomplish meaningful goals today. You should play to win.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you are too optimistic today, you might treat a serious matter with indifference. You should remain positive, but try to be realistic at the same time.

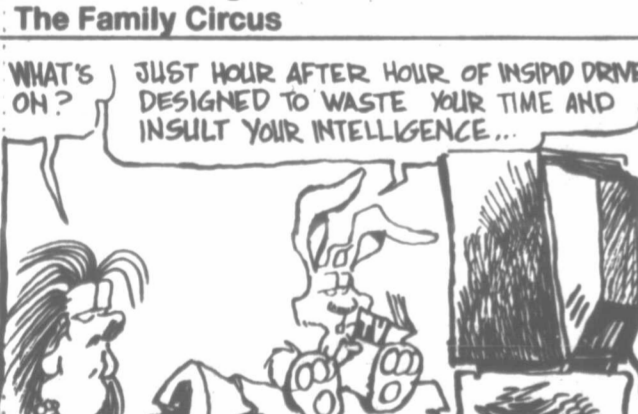
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The Family Circus



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A hug from a graduate



(Pampa News photo by Tiffanie Franks)
 Graduating senior Keith Franks hugs his mother Vicky Britten during Friday night's graduation ceremony at Lefors High School. The seniors presented their mothers and other loved ones with long stem red roses during the recessional.

Financial options available for the terminally ill

Terminal illness involves enormous emotional and financial stress. Financial needs are often acute. Therefore, it is important for people to know there are financial options that they can explore.

Before making a decision you could regret, gather the facts and assess the impacts of any financial decision you are considering. Be sure to get professional advice from experts such as your attorney, accountant or financial planner.

Nancy Granowsky, professor, family economics specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and certified financial planner, offers some basic information and guidelines to consider:

Options associated with life insurance, including accelerated benefits and viatical settlements have been in the news. Accelerated benefits, sometimes called living benefits, are the proceeds of life insurance policies paid to policyholders before they die. Sometimes these benefits are included in life insurance policies when they are first sold, but usually they are offered as riders or attachments to new or existing policies.

Companies may offer from 25 percent to 100 percent of the death benefit as early payment, but collecting the payment may occur only under very specific circumstances. There are many variations in method of payment and cost of the accelerated benefit to the policyholder.

Viatical settlements are different. They involve the sale of an existing life insurance policy to a viatical settlement company in exchange for a lump sum cash payment that is a percentage of the policy's face value. The viatical settlement company becomes the sole beneficiary of the policy in consideration for delivering a cash payment to the policyholder and paying the premiums. After the death of the terminally ill policyholder, the company collects the face value of the policy from the insurance company.

Viatica settlements involve complex legal and financial transactions and can take several months to complete.

Every viatical settlement company has its own rules about which life insurance policies it will buy. Common requirements include: owning your life insurance policy for at least two years; having a life insurance policy with a reasonably large face value; securing a waiver from current or potential beneficiaries; being terminally ill, meaning that death is expected to occur within two years.

There are financial implications to selling your insurance policy. You may owe federal capital gains tax on the difference between the payment you receive and the amount you have paid in premiums. Your eligibility for public assistance programs based on financial need, such as Medicaid, could be affected,

especially if the money from the policy is counted as income for Medicaid purposes. However, Congress has been working on a proposal to change the tax code so that accelerated benefits and viatical settlements would be excluded from taxes.

Consulting your tax advisor is critical in knowing how a decision will affect you personally.

The Federal Trade Commission has issued consumer guidelines to help you make a choice appropriate to your needs and avoid costly mistakes. Request the publication, "Viatica Settlements," from the Federal Trade Commission, Public Reference, Washington, D.C. 20580. The Texas Department of Insurance is developing regulations concerning viatical settlements sold in Texas. It may be reached by telephone at (512) 463-6169.

This financial option is an emerging issue. Changes in financial offerings as well as regulations governing them are likely to occur in the future. Individuals are encouraged to obtain expert legal and financial assistance before making final decisions. Any decisions affecting life insurance benefits can change probate and estate considerations, so professional legal counsel is essential.

For more information on family financial management, contact your Gray County Office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Neighbors say police approved taping school trustee's calls

DALLAS (AP) — Neighbors of a former school trustee say they taped his calls with the approval of local police and assurances from federal agents that they wouldn't be prosecuted, *The Dallas Morning News* reported in a copyright story Sunday.

Charlie and Wilma Harman admitted to taping several months of calls made by Dan

Peavy out of fear for their safety, but they told the newspaper they did not record the tape laced with slurs that forced him to resign.

"What we heard on TV we had never heard, as far as I know," Charlie Harman said of the tape which aired last fall. "I wasn't aware of any of that."

The tape, in which Peavy is heard using vulgarity and racist,

sexist and anti-gay characterizations, also led to the suspension of an assistant superintendent of the Dallas public schools system.

The Harmons said they began taping Peavy's calls because they believed that after years of feuding, Peavy was planning to force them off the property he sold them in 1983. They settled their argument out of court in March.

The slur-filled tape containing snippets from several conversations was mailed anonymously to some board members and a transcript was read at a Sept. 28 board meeting, which Peavy did not attend.

Since then, Peavy has resigned and pleaded innocent to charges that he received \$459,000 in bribes to help a business partner make insurance sales to the school district.

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