

STATE: **Poll: Clinton moves into tie with Dole in Texas, Page 6**

GOOD EVENING
Thursday, June 27, 1996

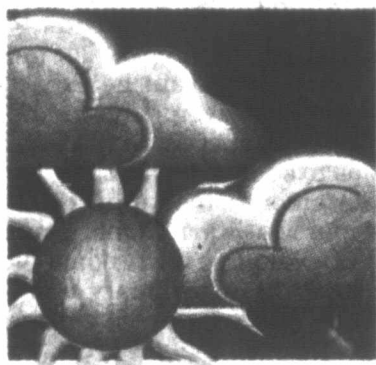
SPORTS:
Mavericks beef up their inside game skills, Page 9

THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 71

Pampa, Texas

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Low tonight near 70, high tomorrow near 90. See Page 2 for weather details.

PAMPA — Neighborhoods in Pampa are invited to join in the 13th annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event, said Cpl. Donny Brown of the Pampa Police Department.

From 7 to 10 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, Pampans are asked to spend the evening outside with their neighbors and police.

"We at the Pampa Police Department encourage everyone to participate in the event," said Brown.

"We feel this event will send a message to criminals, that we are fighting back," he said.

An informational meeting will be held 6:30 p.m. July 2 in city commission chambers at City Hall, 201 W. Kingsmill.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (TX-13) will hold a town meeting in Pampa on Saturday, June 29, at 10 a.m. in the dining room of Coronado Inn, 1101 N. Hobart.

Thornberry will make brief opening remarks and then open up discussion for questions from the audience.

The public is encouraged to attend.

AUSTIN — According to Republican Party of Texas chairman Tom Pauken, the state platform contains a "life of the mother" exception in the pro life plank which endorses a Human Life Amendment.

In a statement issued Monday, the party said the plank adopted at the convention has been misconstrued as not containing the life of the mother exception.

"Our 1996 state platform brings our pro-life plank in line with the national platform which has been in existence since 1984," according to a GOP press release.

"Saving the life of the mother exception is not only my personal belief, but it is still included in the most common versions of any Human Life Amendment. It is disingenuous for some in the media and others to represent that the Republican Party of Texas supports a no exception policy," said Pauken.

AUSTIN (AP) — No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The jackpot was worth \$4 million.

The numbers drawn from a field of 50 were: 6, 18, 19, 33, 37 and 46.

Lottery officials estimate the jackpot for Saturday night's game will be \$8 million.

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County attorney denies child abuse allegations

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

County Attorney Todd Alvey confirmed Thursday he is being investigated by Child Protective Services following an allegation of child abuse, a charge he and his wife both deny.

Alvey said he was notified of the investigation after his daughter, Payton, 3, went to Bible school in early June with a bruise on her upper left arm.

He said he was bathing her when she asked if her hair was rinsed well enough and he told her no. Payton tilted her head too far backward under the tap, became frightened and panicked, and he grabbed her arm, Alvey explained.

"When I pulled her up out of the tub, I bruised her arm," he said.

The child told Bible school workers her daddy tried to drown her, Alvey said.

Bible school workers say the bruise on the child's arm was spotted, red and covered most of the upper portion of the petite child's left arm.

"It was more like you grabbed and twisted. It was more red and like little lines like you twisted," said a teacher, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"I wasn't there (when the alleged incident happened). I

don't know what happened, she just told me her daddy tried to drown her," she said.

Alvey said he expects the investigation to last 30 days and be completed by July 6.

"They've not told me what they'll do," Alvey said.

Pampa caseworker Bonnie Simpson is out of the office today, a spokeswoman said. A telephone call to CPS supervisor Diana Bartlett of Wellington was not returned by press time.

Alvey's wife, Misty Alvey, said she never believed her husband attempted to drown the child.

"I did believe Payton when she said Todd abused her. I felt I had a responsibility to believe my children," Mrs. Alvey said Thursday afternoon.

However, she no longer believes her husband intentionally harmed the child.

She said a CPS caseworker interviewed her and her two daughters.

"I feel like if they were doing their job, the investigation would be a continuing investigation, not a one time thing," Mrs. Alvey said.

The children were interviewed at Mrs. Alvey's parents' home.

"I know they (CPS workers) thought they were doing the right thing, but I don't think they did," Mrs. Alvey said.

Alvey said he does not spend

time alone with his three children per an agreement with CPS and said he and his wife are not separated.

He said they plan to go to the Oklahoma City zoo today.

As county attorney, Alvey is responsible for representing CPS in court.

"I'll still do my job. If CPS needs help, that's what I'll do," he said.

He is unopposed for re-election in the fall.

"To be honest, if I had a contested race right now I feel like I wouldn't win," Alvey said.

Gray County Commissioner Jim Greene said Thursday it is not the responsibility of commissioners' court to take action.

"He's an elected official just like we are and the only control we have over him is his budget. ... Accusations don't constitute a real violation of the law," Greene said.

County Judge Richard Peet agreed.

"If people have accusations against public officials, they need to take it up with District Court," he said.

Alvey said he was shocked and angry about the investigation because representing CPS he sees a lot of items which need to be investigated.

"But they're doing their job," he said.

Fire damages Treasury Department building

WASHINGTON (AP) — The historic Treasury Department, heavily damaged by fire, will remain closed at least until next week, a spokesman said today. Employees who perform essential functions were shifted to other government buildings.

There was extensive damage to the northeast side of the 150-year-old structure where the fire broke out late Wednesday and caused the evacuation of the department's 1,200 employees, spokesman Calvin Mitchell told reporters today.

Mitchell said it is unlikely employees can return before next week at the earliest.

Until they do, he said, employees have been temporarily assigned to offices in the adjacent White House, the Old Executive Office Building and the Internal Revenue Service headquarters.

Both the District of Columbia Fire Department and the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms were investigating the cause and the amount of damage. Officials suspect the fire was related to restoration work being done on the roof.

The Environmental Protection Agency also is assessing the extent to which asbestos may

have been involved in the two-alarm fire.

The blaze was brought under control after about 3 1/2 hours.

District of Columbia Fire Chief Otis J. Latin said today most fire equipment was being removed from the scene, although two companies would remain to monitor the situation.

The area remained cordoned off to vehicles, worsening the area's rush-hour traffic jams caused when the Secret Service closed Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House several months ago for security purposes.

Galileo swoops by Jupiter's largest moon

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Galileo spacecraft to Jupiter swooped by Ganymede early this morning in a close encounter with the solar system's largest moon.

The unmanned probe came within 524 miles of the planet-sized chunk of icy rock.

Galileo trained only nine of its 10 instruments on Jupiter's giant moon. A glitch discovered Monday had automatically shut down the energetic particle detector, which would have measured the composition of high-energy particles in Jupiter's radiation belt.

Engineers had expected to miss the flyby but were confident they could get the device working in a few days — well in time for the three other Ganymede passes that Galileo will make during its two-year Jovian mission.

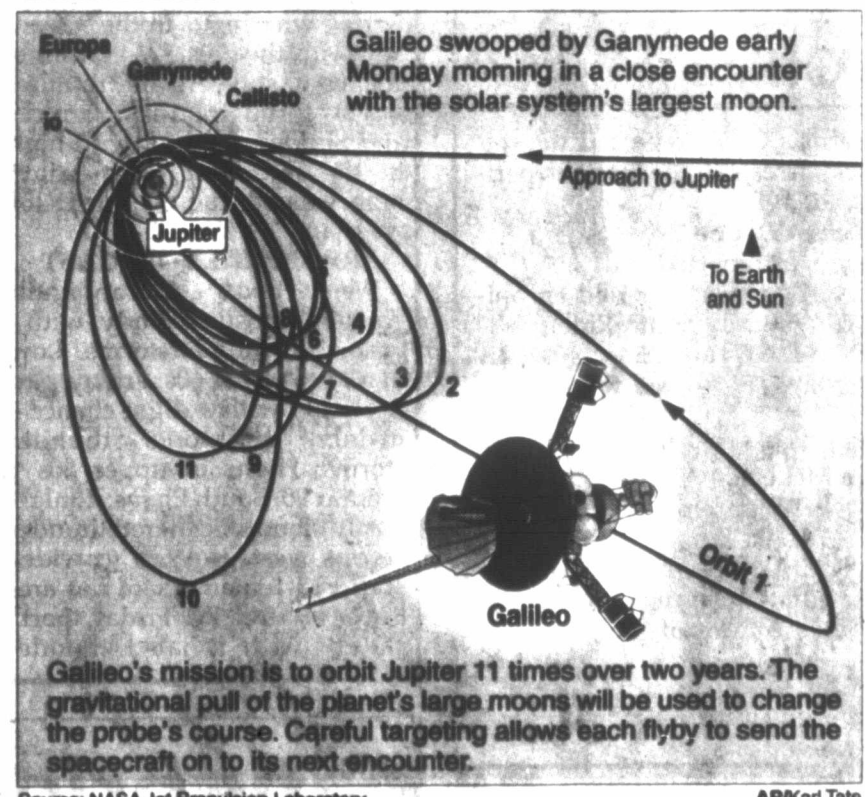
Employees of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena and their friends and families gathered Wednesday night to celebrate the flyby.

"Everyone was very excited, there are a lot of engineers and scientists who spent a career working on this mission, so tonight was a big payoff for a lot of people," said JPL spokesman Frank O'Donnell.

The first pictures from the flyby won't be available until July 10.

Ganymede is one of four large Jupiter moons first observed by Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei in 1610. It is the largest of the planet's 16 satellites and

Galileo's gravity-assisted tour



Source: NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

AP/Karl Tate

indeed is the largest moon in the solar system. With a diameter of 3,629 miles — compared to 2,155 for Earth's moon — Ganymede is even larger than Mercury and three-quarters the size of Mars.

Scientists believe Ganymede may have shifting crustal plates similar to those which cause earthquake activity on Earth. It may have an iron or rock core submerged beneath water and ice.

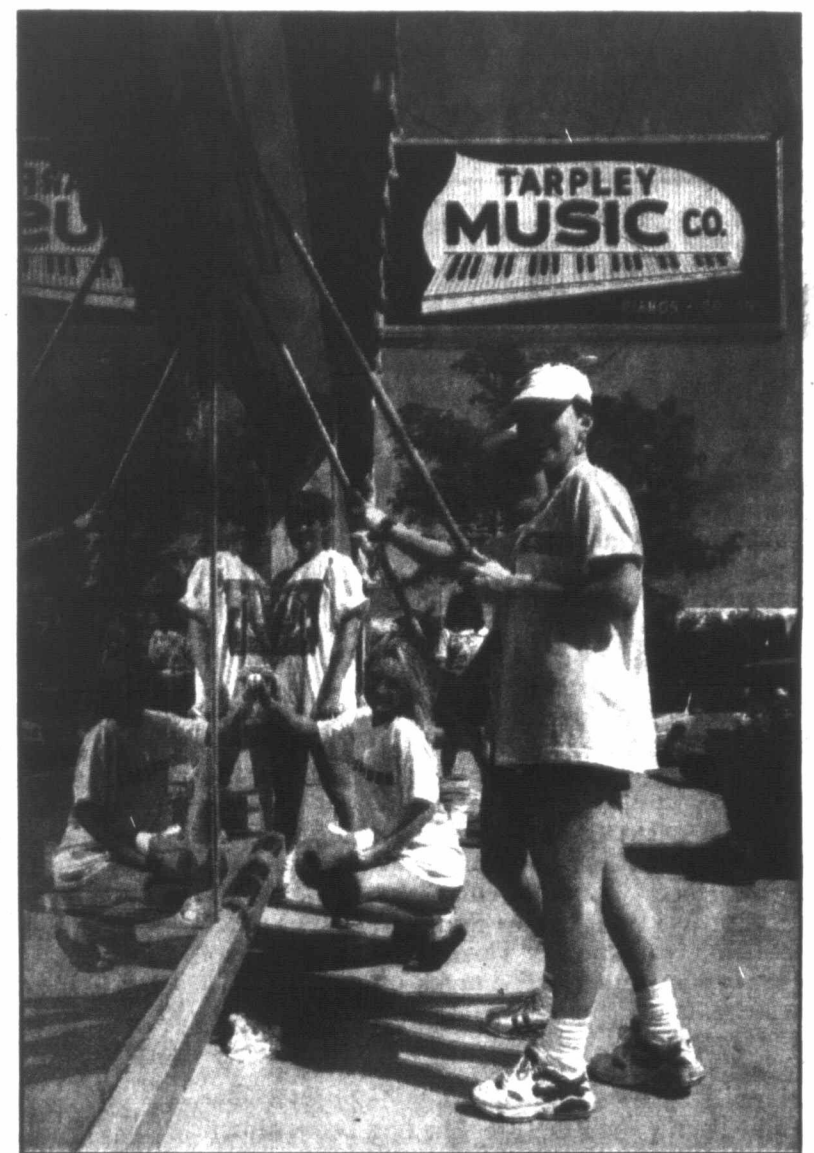
Scientists also hope to determine the nature of Ganymede's

interior by measuring how its gravity disturbs the spacecraft's curving path.

The Ganymede passage was the latest adventure for Galileo, which was launched on its \$1.5 billion mission by space shuttle in 1989.

The 2 1/2-ton orbiter arrived at Jupiter last December and released a suicide probe that parachuted into Jupiter's hot, dense atmosphere, relaying a 57-minute virtual weather report before it melted and vaporized.

Clean windows



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Pampa High School cheerleaders were busy Wednesday washing windows of businesses on Cuyler, downtown Hobart, Price Road and the Borger Highway as a fund raiser. Working on windows in downtown Pampa are Sondra Wright and Nichole Cagle, seniors; Mindee Stowers and McKinley Quarles, juniors; and sponsor Tammy Wilbon.

Report: Texas taxes burden lower classes

AUSTIN (AP) — The tax system in Texas hits the poor and middle class harder than the rich, a new study says.

Looking at the study released Wednesday, a Texas research group said the tax system should be overhauled to make more equal the share of income each group pays in taxes.

"This study just reflects the fact that Texas' middle class is losing out by not having a more progressive tax system," said Dianne Stewart of the Center for Public Policy Priorities.

The center does research on how government policies affect low- and middle-income people.

Texas doesn't levy a personal income tax. Ms. Stewart said reliance on sales and excise taxes is regressive, hitting lower income people more heavily.

"Certainly, having an income tax is what alleviates the great burden on the middle class and the low-income families," she said.

"Certainly, income taxes have been dirty words in Texas for a long time. Until the middle class begins to really understand that they're being soaked by the current system, we won't ever see an income tax."

In 1994, Texans approved a

state constitutional amendment to prohibit a personal income tax without voter approval. The amendment requires revenue from such a tax to go for school property tax relief and education.

Gov. George W. Bush, who has appointed a special committee to look at methods of providing relief from the \$10 billion a year in school property taxes, opposes an income tax.

His spokeswoman, Karen Hughes, said the majority of Texans do, too.

"There are groups who want an income tax in Texas. Gov. Bush respectfully disagrees with them. The vast majority of Texans disagree with them," Ms. Hughes said.

"Gov. Bush philosophically believes that taxing consumption rather than income or fixed assets makes more sense because people have more control over their consumption. That's particularly true in Texas, where we exempt food and medicine from sales tax," she said.

The national study, conducted by the labor-funded Washington advocacy group Citizens for Tax Justice, ranked Texas among the "Terrible Ten" states for poor and middle class taxpayers.

Burn victim shows improvement

WHITE DEER — A woman burned here last Friday in an explosion at the city pool is in critical but stable condition at University Medical Center in Lubbock.

JoLyn Watson has improved somewhat, but she is still in very critical condition, a nursing supervisor said this morning.

A White Deer school official said that skin grafts were performed Wednesday on Watson's arms and legs. According to reports, Watson was able to raise her arms above her head and wiggle her toes.

The official said that doctors had planned to perform grafts

only on one arm but were pleased with Watson's reaction to the surgery and extended the operation.

Watson is a special education aide at the high school.

Watson, the pool manager, was relighting a pilot light on the pool's heating unit when an accumulation of gas apparently ignited.

She reportedly suffered second and third degree burns to approximately 50 percent of her body.

She was airlifted in serious condition to UMC after being admitted to Columbia Medical Center of Pampa.

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum offers a place to take summer visitors

CANYON — Some relatives or friends are coming, and you're in a dilemma how to entertain them during their visit.

The staff of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum has a suggestion: Plan to spend a day at the museum.

The museum is located in the center of the Texas Panhandle on the campus of West Texas A&M University, just 17 miles south of Amarillo.

Staff members say there is something for just about every taste and age group in the museum.

Children can visit the paleontology section to look at the large selection of fossils and dinosaur bones. Many of the specimens were unearthed here in the Texas Panhandle.

There is a life-size replica of Dimetrodon Grandis, a huge lizard about 10 feet long, that once prowled this part of the world before dinosaurs evolved. The center of attention is the large skeleton cast of an Allosaurus, a fast and deadly creature that roamed the earth over 65 million years ago.

For the ladies, there are displays of women's clothing in "The Panhandle's Attic: 75 Years of Collecting" and in The Ladies Emporium in Pioneer Town. In the textile section, on the second floor, the "Lace, Lingerie and Leg-Of-Mutton Sleeve" exhibit highlights regional fashions from 1890-1990.

For the men, there are displays of guns near Ranching Hall, in "The Panhandle's Attic" and on the second floor annex. On the first floor the selection of cars exhibited includes a 1933 chauffeur-driven Pierce Arrow and a 1930 V16 Cadillac. The 1903 Model A Ford on exhibit bears the earliest serial number (#28) of all known surviving cars of this model, making it the oldest known assembly-line automobile in the world.

For those who like the Old West, there is Indian Hall, the Hall of Ranching, Buggies and Wagons, and a room full of windmills to enjoy. If you or a close relative either work or did work in the oil industry, the Petroleum Wing is a must, staff members say.

In Pioneer Hall there is a chronological display of human activity in the Panhandle which covers about 12,000 to 15,000 years. Next to Pioneer Hall is the Museum Store, where a variety of gift items and books about historical people, places and events may be purchased.

A favorite for many visitors in Pioneer Town, a re-creation of a typical small town in the Panhandle about 100 years ago. Two of the cabins were built by some of the earliest Anglo settlers who came to this part of Texas. All



The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum is located in Canyon on the West Texas A&M University campus. (PPHM photo)

artifacts on display in the village are authentic and from the turn-of-the-century.

One of the finest art collections in the Southwest is found at the PPHM. The gallery of Western American art displays a selection of superb art work, many by the original artists who settled in Taos, N.M., during the early part of this century. Many of these paintings display vivid colors and depict scenes from the Southwest.

The Eastern American and European Art Gallery features art with more subdued tones. Visitors will notice the tranquil beauty of the rural scenes on display, staff members say.

There are also numerous portraits in the European Gallery, including one of Mrs. Richard (Anne) Hogarth painted by her son, William Hogarth, the father of English painting, in 1735. The portrait of Mrs. Hogarth remained in the artist's family until 1790. It then passed through three different owners and in 1901 was photographed in London. After that, the painting was not seen again by the public and its whereabouts was unknown.

In 1929, Parmer County Judge

James D. Hamlin of Farwell bought the portrait of a young woman in London. In 1950, he gave the painting to the PPHM, where it hung for 38 years.

In 1988, the curator of art for the museum noticed that the portrait of the young woman looked very much like the "lost" Hogarth, except for the face of the woman. However, everything in the background of the picture matched the background of the Hogarth portrait. The painting was examined using radiation, which revealed another face beneath the face of the young woman.

The portrait was taken to the museum's Conservation Center, where a painting conservator expert painstakingly removed the layer of paint. As he worked, the face of an older woman slowly began to emerge. At last, the "lost" Hogarth was found.

With entire sections dedicated to petroleum, western heritage, paleontology, transportation and art, the museum is really five museums in one. The museum is open daily. Summer hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1-6 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is by donation.

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American oil industry stays attuned to situation in Russia, awaits Communist Zyuganov's defeat

HOUSTON (AP) — With Russian voters poised to say "nyet" to a Communist as their next president, few observers are more relieved than those in the American oil industry.

Giants such as Exxon, Marathon and Conoco feared that Communist challenger Gennadi A. Zyuganov would spoil plans to invest billions in Russia's faltering oil industry.

But the jitters aren't over yet. If Yeltsin wins by a narrow margin in Wednesday's runoff election, his lack of a clear mandate could further muddle the lack of a clear policy on allowing foreign investment to reinvigorate Russia's exploration and development programs.

"Yeltsin has always had two faces, and the question is which face would he show and how long would he show it," said Matt Sagers, energy services director for the Planeco consultancy in Washington, D.C.

One face allows more deals and democracy; the other is more akin to the kind of closed, command economy Russia has had in the past, Sagers explained.

Some enormous deals are at stake. Russia has significant oil reserves but has lacked the technology or investment capital to unlock them.

But uncertainty has put deal-making on hold for the past six months. About the only activity, experts say, has been in those areas where contractual requirements required pushing ahead, such as Exxon's plans to explore with a group in the Sakhalin Island area.

The holdup isn't entirely political. The Russian government has been slowly letting its "production sharing agreement" wind through the leg-

islative process, a critical law for determining how any oil riches will be divided up.

The law was enacted in January 1995, but American oil companies and others around the world have been pressing for changes to address unanswered issues about taxation and other points.

Still, some major projects continue to progress. The Sakhalin Islands area has attracted the most attention. Exxon, through its Exxon Neftegas subsidiary, has teamed with Russian and Japanese partners on what could become a \$15 billion exploration and development project. Three offshore fields alone are believed to hold 2.5 billion barrels of oil.

Marathon, Shell and other partners received permission for a \$10 billion project to develop Sakhalin area fields where 1 billion barrels of proven oil reserves reside.

And Mobil and Texaco are exploring the same region on a \$150 million project.

Other companies, such as Exxon and Pennzoil, are involved in separate projects to develop oil fields in the Caspian Sea region of Azerbaijan, near Russia.

With so much at stake, political uncertainty is the last thing that investors want. But Zyuganov has come to epitomize it.

The Communist leader has tried to portray himself and his party as enlightened New Age successors to the harsh regimes that ruled Russia most of this century. Observers are quick to point out that the new Communist Party in Russia is probably more akin to the relatively benign movement of Italy or France, rather than another brutal brand of Stalinism.

Texas rep seeks to revive endangered species reform

WASHINGTON (AP) — This year's congressional legislative session drawing rapidly to a close, Rep. Henry Bonilla is seeking to jump-start action on stalled Endangered Species Act reforms.

The San Antonio Republican, whose district includes a vast swath of West and South Texas, announced Wednesday that he's working to bring an Endangered Species Act reform bill directly to the House floor.

To do so, Bonilla must find 215 like-minded House members willing to sign a "discharge petition" that would allow for immediate debate and vote by the full House.

Bonilla's action comes a week after House Speaker Newt Gingrich indicated that the drive to reform the 1973 act — which is widely reviled by congressional Republicans and private property rights advocates — is stalled for the year.

Republicans don't have enough votes to rewrite the act, Gingrich said, partly because environmentalists and Democrats have painted critics of the law as extremists.

But, Bonilla said in an interview Wednesday: "We just can't let this thing sit on the back burner."

He wants to bring to the floor a bill by Rep. Richard Pombo, R-Calif., which would overhaul the 1973 law. That legislation has 127 co-sponsors, Bonilla noted, which should help in the discharge petition drive. Rep. Gary Condit, D-Calif., is coordinating the campaign on the Democratic side, Bonilla said.

"We understand it will be an uphill battle," he conceded. "But I think one of the most important things here is to have members who are really for this to step up and sign the petition and show their true colors. Are you for it or not?"

A lobbyist for the Sierra Club

Legal Defense Fund predicted Bonilla's effort will fall short. "I will be surprised if we see floor votes" in the House and Senate, said Suellen Lowry. "Time is getting short."

Pombo's bill would provide greater protection to property owners by ending a federal requirement that an endangered species' habitat must be safeguarded, and by requiring the government to reimburse landowners for lost property values as a result of restrictions that protect species.

The habitat issue has proved particularly controversial in Texas in recent years, with landowners and lawmakers raising a hue and cry when the federal government in 1994 proposed critical habitat designation for the endangered golden-cheeked warbler in Central Texas. The agency later backed off.

Party plans unconventional convention

DALLAS (AP) — The Reform Party's unconventional convention this August will be a dream come true for political couch potatoes.

Instead of traveling to the convention, supporters will be able to assemble by leaning back their recliners and directing their television remote to C-SPAN.

Substituting satellite technology for human contact, Reform Party organizers are casting their two-part nominating convention as a televised town meeting.

Still, something may get lost in the high-tech translation, says

Curtis Gans, director of the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate.

"You sacrifice the human aspects of coming together at the polls and conventions," he said. "The question of politics through electronics rather than through people is not a good development for our society."

The Reform Party already had wandered from the traditional party path by splitting its convention into two pieces. On Aug. 11, there will be one day of nominating speeches in Long Beach, Calif.

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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 coveeting commandment.

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Latest proposal in 'nannyism'

The usual demurrers to President Clinton's election-year college-related vote-buying proposal apply. It's hard to oppose any plan to let any taxpayer keep more money from the government maw.

But a tax credit targeted on education is just the type of nannyism you'd expect from this administration - and it's "paid for" with tax increases (on the "wealthy," naturally) elsewhere.

Here's the deal, says Uncle Bill. If you do what we government types want - go to college - and perform as we specify - get a "B" average - you'll get a bit of your money back.

The most interesting aspect of Clinton's proposal, however, was that he said explicitly what has only been implied by others. In the Brave New World, the new goal is for everyone - not just those who want to or could benefit from it - to go to college for at least two years. Clinton's rhetoric came close to creating a new entitlement.

"Our goal must be nothing less than making the 13th and 14th grades of education as universal to all Americans as the first 12 grades are today," said the president.

That remark could symbolize a fascinating transformation in society's view of what college is about.

There was a time, and not so long ago, when college was considered a place for especially rigorous and challenging intellectual endeavor, of a type that only a few percent of the population could be expected to comprehend or integrate into their knowledge base. After World War II, especially with the G.I. Bill, colleges expanded, and it became expected that almost every middle-class kid and a sizable portion of academically able lower-income children should have at least some college.

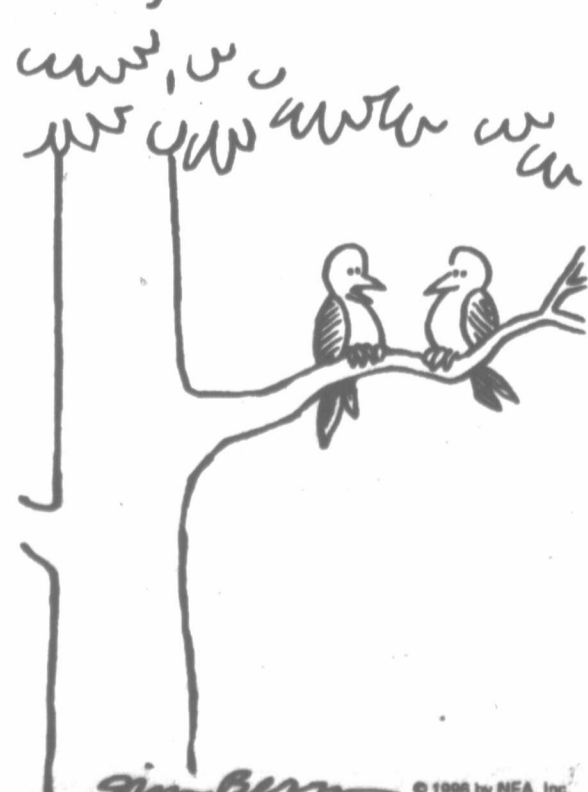
Among the results: more colleges with fewer intellectual challenges, grade inflation, more compensatory programs, and a tendency to delay the onset of adulthood - in the sense of being independent and assuming full responsibility for one's life - longer. Many students assume or learn some responsibility in college, of course, but how many are there for intellectual challenge and how many to get their tickets punched?

An entitlement to two years of college will reinforce such trends. But a question intrudes: Is this century's trend toward increasing the effective length of childhood a good idea for those involved or for society?

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Unwarranted hysteria over casinos

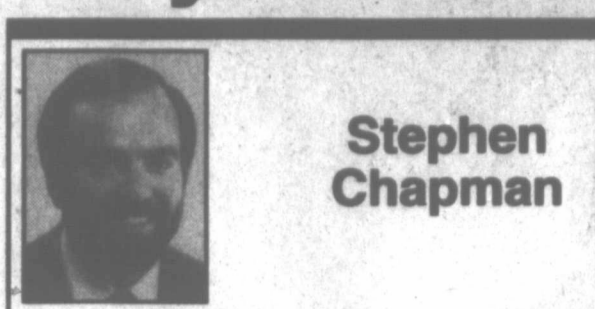
"Live and let live" is the quintessential American attitude, but it goes out the window when the subject is gambling. The spread of casinos beyond Las Vegas and Atlantic City has been greeted with intense criticism - usually consisting of vigorous speculation and wild exaggeration mixed with a moralism that makes the New England Puritans sound like the soul of tolerance.

Pat Buchanan says that "gambling should return to the swamp whence it came." Christian Coalition leader Ralph Reed blames it for "destroying families, stealing food from the mouths of children, turning wives into widows." Plenty of liberals echo these pitiful lamentations. *New York Times* columnist Frank Rich says that places with casinos are afflicted by corruption, failing retailers, crime, alcoholism and deepening poverty - making them "a nightmare vision."

To critics, casinos look like Satan's playground. But to some people, anything fun looks suspicious. The view of wagering as wicked is hard to square with the personal experiences of millions of Americans who have visited casinos and found them highly overrated as dens of iniquity.

Why is there such hysteria at the sight of competent adults spending a little of their time and money on a harmless diversion? Casinos alarm conservatives, who worry about letting people think they can get something for nothing, while infuriating liberals, who resent the idea of corporations making money off the gullible. Gambling triggers the conservative impulse to police personal morality as well as the liberal urge to suppress the functioning of soulless economic markets.

Much of the opposition, of course, stems from a fear of the side effects that supposedly come with slot machines and roulette tables. Opponents delight in



Stephen Chapman

portraying casino gambling as a fountain of social wreckage. But most of the debris is imaginary.

Contrary to myth, casinos don't pull lawlessness in their wake. Jeremy Margolis, who was superintendent of the Illinois State Police when 13 riverboat casinos began operating here, testified to Congress last year that in communities where they were opened, "crime has not been a problem." Joliet Police Chief Joseph Beazley says the casinos in his city produce no more criminal activity than a typical discount department store.

Casinos are accused of fostering compulsive gambling, which allegedly leads to poverty, domestic abuse, divorce and suicide. But a Maryland task force that opposed legalizing casinos discounted this concern, noting in a report last year that the estimated number of compulsive gamblers is no higher in New Jersey, Atlantic City and all, than in Maryland. "The estimates of the social costs of pathological and problem gambling come from sources that are likely to overstate the average financial and behavioral damages experienced by persons with gambling problems," it cautioned.

Some opponents cloak their fears in supposedly incriminating economic data. The Chicago based

Better Government Association, for example, recently issued an absurd study claiming to prove that riverboat casinos are a net drain on the Illinois economy. Why? Because they get their revenue mostly from locals, not tourists, and send their profits to out-of-state owners. By that standard, every electronics store, movie theater, chain restaurant and automobile plant is a drain on the state economy.

Casinos, we are told, hurt local retailers by capturing dollars that used to be spent elsewhere. Sure - just like a new book store or a new art gallery. So what? If Mr. and Mrs. Smith want to spend their leisure funds playing cards at a casino instead of going out for drinks and dinner, why should we prevent them from doing that?

Lost in all the phony calculations of harm is an appreciation of the value of casinos in providing pleasure to their customers. Most patrons are not desperate gambling addicts or unwitting suckers - they're rational grownups who like to risk a few dollars on the chance of winning a few, and who think the diversion is worth the possible loss.

Some people like to bowl, some like to garden, some like to watch TV, some like to cruise the Internet, and some like to play blackjack or Keno. It's hard to see how recreational betting is morally inferior to lots of pastimes we accept. Some people disagree, of course - and they are free to avoid it, just as teetotalers are free not to drink.

What they should not be free to do is ban it for everyone. Like any benign activity, gambling can send a few unstable sorts over the edge. But that is no reason to deprive the vast majority of people who are perfectly capable of enjoying it responsibly. Critics claim to be appalled by the specter of ruined lives. What really seems to bother them is the sight of free people making their own choices.



Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, June 27, the 179th day of 1996. There are 187 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 27, 1950, President Truman ordered the Air Force and Navy into the Korean conflict following a call from the United Nations Security Council for member nations to help South Korea repel an invasion from the North.

On this date:
In 1844, Mormon leader Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, were killed by a mob in Carthage, Ill.

In 1880, author-lecturer Helen Keller, who lived most of her life without sight or hearing, was born in Tuscumbia, Ala.

In 1893, the New York stock market crashed.

In 1942, the FBI announced the capture of eight Nazi saboteurs who had been put ashore from a submarine on New York's Long Island.

In 1944, during World War II, American forces completed their capture of the French port of Cherbourg from the Germans.

Signs of a collapsing civilization ...

Charley Reese

The Southern Baptists have voted to boycott Walt Disney Corp. It won't have any effect on Disney. Disney's initial official response was sarcastic and contemptuous.

It's always a cause for celebration, however, whenever Americans recognize the reality of the 1990s. In this particular instance, the reality to be recognized is that the Walt Disney Corp. of today is not the same organization that the late Walt Disney founded and ran. It is controlled and run by different people with different values. Actually, with one value - making money.

Any discussion with Disney officials would be pointless. They and the Baptists have a different set of values. Disney officials are not doing anything by accident or out of ignorance. They are doing exactly what they wish and intend to do. So what is the point of any conversation? When someone has values opposed to your own, you just separate.

The incident reminds me of some remarks by Tom Fleming, editor of *Chronicles* magazine, at a recent meeting of the Southern League. Someone asked Fleming, a classical scholar, if the analogy between the fall of Rome and the present situation in America was valid. Fleming said it was, only that the United States was in worse shape today than Rome was in the fourth century.

Then he reminded the audience of what he used

to tell his students: "No one ever woke up one day and said, 'Gee, I'm in the Dark Ages.'"

The point is that great historical transitions, while clear to historians in retrospect, are difficult for the people living through them to see. All the signs of American collapse are to us just the facts of life - the crime; the pervasive corruption in politics, business, science and academia; the decadence the Baptists object to; family dissolution; drugs; the embrace of gambling; the paralysis of government; the debased currency; the debased land; etc.

To us it's just the way things are, but to someone in the future, however, these things will be seen for what they really are - signs of a collapsing civilization.

We are walking around in the ruins of the American empire established in 1865, when the constitutional republic was replaced with a unitary state. The facades of the old institutions are there, the old names - like Disney - are there, the old forms are there, but behind the facades, names and forms it's all different, all changed. The empty suits mouth the old platitudes, pay lip service to the old truths,

but do so with hollow voices and empty hearts.

Oswald Spengler, who wrote *The Decline of the West* prior to World War I, made a chart of the various stages of Western civilization. Spengler predicted that our current decade would be one of transition from the age of money to the age of Caesars - from an age characterized by obsession with money and huge cities to an age of dictators. Does the obsession-with-money-and-huge-cities part ring a bell?

That has been the pattern of history, from dissolution to dictatorship.

Normal people cannot stand chaos. When conditions become chaotic, they follow those who promise order.

So it's probably no accident that the idea of secession is resurfacing. It's actually happening in Europe. Northern California wants to secede from Southern California. The Southern League wants one day to see the South secede again. The Baptists are seceding from decadence.

Wendell Berry, a national treasure and poet, is urging Americans to secede from the industrial model economy, which is destroying the land and will eventually destroy us.

These are all healthy signs. They show that there are still people who refuse to sink in the muck of the status quo. As in nature, decay can be fertile ground for new and beautiful growth.

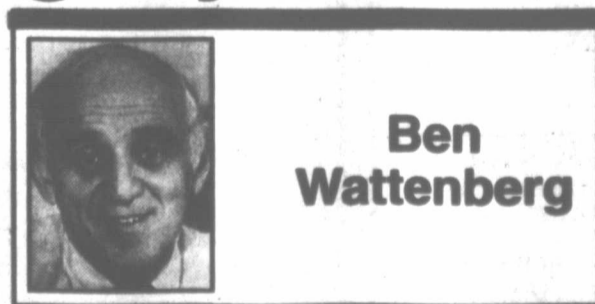
Surviving progeny thankful for America

It's been a month since my father died. He was born in 1899, just 11 days before the beginning of this century of hope and horror, a century in which personal life and political life were so painfully linked for so much of mankind.

When the angry guns shook the sky at the beginning of World War I, my father's family fled westward to Vienna. Judah Wattenberg was still a teenager when he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Austrian army. He was on a train, headed to the front, when the Armistice was signed. As a leader of a Zionist youth group he took his Austrian rifle to Palestine to work in the fields and on the roads, helping build hope for a Jewish state. In 1921, he contracted malaria and, to recuperate, joined his newly emigrated family in America.

He swallowed the English language whole and graduated from the Columbia University Law School. At Columbia, he met my late mother, also a student from Palestine. During the Depression he struggled to make ends meet as an attorney. Later, he became the first executive director of the American Technion Society, an organization that brought together scientists and engineers in support of the Haifa Institute of Technology.

He became active in commercial real estate brokerage and law in New York City. Until age 94, he went fairly regularly to his office. He spoke six languages and had read the great works of our civilization. He could be irascible, which bothered me when I was a teenager, but he was a lovely human being. In his later years, he lost too much of his hearing, and I came to realize what a hard-



Ben Wattenberg

ship that was for a man who loved to know what was going on.

He left two children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. How he worried about them! How he gloried in them in this land of hope!

His children and grandchildren, and their spouses, cover a pretty broad band: My sister the actress is featured in the sitcom *Wings*. Others, at various times, have included a psychology professor turned Internet entrepreneur, writers, lawyers, editors, Navy and Air Force veterans, sales executives, teachers, political activists, clinical psychologists, a union executive, a psychiatric social worker running programs that help mentally ill patients outside of an institutional setting, and a 12-year-old who seems destined to do her doctoral work on the Smashing Pumpkins.

Our family includes liberals and conservatives. That figures. Their patriarch had eclectic politics. At one point he simultaneously supported

Reagan and rent control, and made a good case for both. This year President Clinton lost a vote when Dad died.

My father and mother got to America just before the enactment of the Johnson-Reed legislation of 1924, which sharply cut back immigration from Eastern and Southern Europe. No way they would have been allowed into America during the decades following that edict. (From 1901-10 almost 9 million immigrants came to America. From 1931-40 the figure was about half a million.)

Even under today's looser immigration statutes, it would have been difficult for my parents to gain permanent residency. Neither was the spouse nor a minor child of American citizens. Neither was a Nobel Prize winner nor a world-class tennis star. Neither could have qualified for political asylum. Their best chance, a slim one, would have been to win in an international lottery to qualify as so-called "diversity" immigrants.

My father's older brother and sister-in-law were executed in the Soviet Union by Stalin's government. Six million Jews in Europe, people not unlike my parents, were killed by Hitler's Nazis.

Dad's last few years were tough ones. But he was tended to by a team of women who treated him with kindness, gentleness and skill, despite his cantankerousness. These women came from Central America, South America and mostly from the Philippines. They were all immigrants.

As it turned out, I think it was good for America that my father was welcomed here in the early 1920s. Our family knows that it turned out very well for his progeny.

Nation briefs

Quaker Oats cuts prices on most cereals by 15 percent

CHICAGO (AP) — Consumers are winning the cereal price war.

Quaker Oats on Wednesday became the fourth major cereal maker to reduce prices on its brands. It cut prices an average 15 percent on most boxed cereals, including its popular Cap'n Crunch and Life brands.

"Clearly, competition is on pricing right now," Quaker spokesman Ron Bottrell said.

After No. 3 cereal maker Post slashed its prices by an average of 20 percent in April, Quaker's share of the cereal market fell along with the top two cereal makers, Kellogg and General Mills.

Kellogg, the maker of Frosted Flakes, Frosted Mini-Wheats and Froot Loops, responded by cutting prices on 16 brands an average of 19 percent.

General Mills, the maker of Cheerios, announced last week it would either cut prices or package bigger boxes for the same price on 27 other brands or sizes.

Before the cuts, Quaker claimed the lowest prices on a per-pound basis, and Bottrell said the new reductions would restore its cereals as the lowest priced.

Teenagers' check scam ends in death, dismemberment

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Eric Chambers' mother admits her son was no angel — but the 18-year-old always called home.

So when Eric's best friend returned alone in the fall of 1993 from a trip the pair began that summer, Pamela Chambers knew in her heart that something was wrong.

But it would be nearly three years before police investigating a dismembered body found in a storage locker could tell her what happened to her boy.

Steve Solomon, Eric's high school buddy from Modesto, Calif., admitted to police that he "snapped" in a suburban Portland motel three years ago, beating Chambers to death.

The two allegedly used a computer to run a check scam across several Western states in August and September of 1993, printing bogus checks in motel rooms. Solomon said Chambers refused to give him a break from work.

As police reconstruct the murder, Solomon, now a 20-year-old Army private stationed in Germany, said Chambers hit him as they argued in the motel room. Solomon grabbed a baseball bat, struck Chambers several times, then went to a nearby convenience store and bought a cooler, garbage can, hacksaw, plastic and tape.

All Star Jubilee schedules country, gospel music show

The All Star Jubilee will be having a program of country and gospel music on Saturday, June 29.

The Jubilee will be from 8-10 p.m. Saturday at the Stokes Barn, east of Pampa on Hwy. 60. Those attending should turn into the ranch road directly across from Schwan's.

The program will feature the North Fork Band, along with Tracy Bruton and cowboy poet Sarah Gill.

Food concessions will be available, with food service starting at 7:30 p.m. featuring Kenny's pig hip sandwich and sourdough cobbler.

Adult admission is \$3, with children under 10 free.

For more information, call 665-0190 or 665-2213.



Tracy Bruton

Public Utility Commission eases way for long distance companies

AUSTIN (AP) — The country's largest long distance telephone companies might find it easier to offer local service in Texas under a decision by the Public Utility Commission.

That could mean more competition, which most phone companies have said will lead to lower prices and better service.

The PUC voted 3-0 Wednesday to waive two requirements for Sprint Corp. before it could offer local service.

The decision for Sprint, while not expected to be changed, has several procedural steps to clear before it could take effect.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co., one of the state's giant local phone companies, said waiving the requirements could hurt its effort to get into the long distance market.

The requirements, set by state law, would force the big three long distance companies to build their own local phone networks within six years of starting local service. They also would have to serve a minimum area of the state.

While the companies worked on their local networks, they could resell service purchased from Southwestern Bell and GTE Southwest Inc., the state's other major local phone company.

"We expect within the process of reviewing our application that will allow us to get into the local market sooner to offer local competition," said Rich Kowalewski, director of state regulatory affairs for Sprint's central region.

Kowalewski said the company does not have a timetable for entering the local market. He added, however, that the PUC

has about 60 days to deal with the issue.

Eddie Reeves, a spokesman for SWB, said under federal law, SWB must face local service competition from a facilities-based competitor before it could enter the long distance market.

If the PUC were to waive the facilities requirement, SWB would face local competition but would be blocked from challenging the big three companies in the long distance market, Reeves said.

Kowalewski and Larry Norwood, a spokesman for AT&T, said there are other competitors who could become facilities-based.

Both said their companies eventually will build Texas facilities, but to require that in six years is not fair.

Calls to MCI were not immediately returned Wednesday.

PUC Commissioner Judy Walsh, who proposed the waivers, said the requirements could be moot anyway because the Federal Communications Commission is considering whether they are allowed under the 1996 Federal Telecommunications Act.

If the requirements are to be ruled unenforceable, keeping them in place now would only delay local competition, she said.

AT&T and the other companies also have made that argument.

But Reeves said that while the long distance companies are fighting the state requirements that they invest in facilities in Texas, they also are supporting a federal requirement that SWB stay out of the long distance market until it faces a facilities-based competitor.

Cadets lament high court decision

LEXINGTON, Va. (AP) — Hours after learning their beloved alma mater had to accept women, the battle cry sounded: Save the Males.

Virginia Military Institute alumni and cadets lamented Wednesday's Supreme Court ruling requiring the all-male academy to admit women, and officials considered the option of taking the 157-year-old institution private.

"I grieve for a band of brothers and I grieve for VMI," said 1959 graduate Michael Brooks.

"We're no longer VMI," said cadet Nick Latsios, who bore the slogan "Better Dead Than Co-Ed" on his T-shirt. "Now we're just any old school."

The court ruled 7-1 that the state-funded school's all-male policy was unconstitutional. The decision also affects The Citadel in South Carolina, the country's only other all-male,

state-supported military college. Citadel president Claudius Watts said he was disappointed but not surprised, and promised the school would follow the law — "both in letter and in spirit."

VMI, however, is holding three days of meetings on July 11 to consider raising enough money to take the school private and preserve the all-male policy.

School superintendent Josiah Bunting — who boasted earlier this year that he could raise the millions needed to convert the school with 10 telephone calls to wealthy alumni — now wonders whether it is a pipe dream.

He has said VMI would have to more than double its \$180 million endowment to make up for the \$10 million in annual state revenue. The school has the highest per-student endowment of any college in the nation.

VMI spent \$14 million defending its all-male policy since the

Justice Department challenged it in a lawsuit in 1990. Alumni said it was worth fighting for something they believed in.

"Why must a school with a 157-year-old tradition of leadership and excellence in education of young men be sacrificed on another altar of gender rights and political correctness?" asked Brooks, also a board member.

Bunting said women could be enrolled at VMI by fall 1997.

Women already attend a separate leadership training program at Mary Baldwin College, part of a plan set up by the state to keep women out of VMI. But the high court found it was "significantly unequal" and a "pale shadow" of VMI.

VMI emphasizes physical rigor, mental stress, absence of privacy and minute regulation of behavior. First-year students are called rats and are required to shave their heads.

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Drug use, alcoholism may end SS disability benefits

New legislation prohibits the payment of disability benefits under Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to people whose disability is based on drug addiction and/or alcoholism.

The new law affects current disability beneficiaries plus those who file new applications for disability benefits under Social Security and/or SSI, according to Kit Grice, Pampa Social Security Administration branch manager.

For those who receive disability benefits based on drug addiction and/or alcoholism, cash benefits, as well as Medicare and/or Medicaid coverage, will terminate Jan. 1, 1997.

They will be notified by June 28 about the change in the law,

Grice said. They will have until July 28 to request a review of their claim on the basis they will still be found disabled without consideration of their drug addiction or alcoholism. Their case will be reviewed by Jan. 1, and if the addiction is still found to be the basis of their disability, benefits will be terminated Jan. 1.

A beneficiary who disagrees with a decision that drug addiction or alcoholism contributes to his or her disability may appeal the decision within 60 days after receipt of the notice.

The new law applies to applications filed on or after March 29 plus applications pending on that date.

Individuals must meet the disability requirements on the basis of an impairment other than drug

addiction or alcoholism, Grice said.

For more information call Social Security Administration at (806) 772-1213.

The local Social Security office is at 125 S. Gillespie. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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Poll: Clinton moves into a tie with Dole among Texas voters

By LIBBY AVERY
Harte-Hanks Texas Poll
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Communications

President Clinton has closed a 16 point lead by Bob Dole, and the presidential election in Texas would be a toss up if held today, according to Harte-Hanks Texas Poll.

The March Texas Poll found that the former Republican senator from Kansas led the president by 16 percentage points among Texas voters, but the gap has recently narrowed and is too close to call, according to the random telephone survey conducted June 3-13.

Forty-one percent of Texans support Clinton while 38 percent favor Dole and 14 percent remain undecided. The poll's margin of error is plus or minus three percentage points.

Dole and Clinton receive 42 percent of the vote among likely voters in Texas.

In a two way race, Clinton and Dole run neck-and-neck with independent Texas voters. With this group, Clinton has 38 percent compared to Dole's 35 percent.

Various factors contribute to Clinton's climb in Texas, ranging from personal traits to partisan politics, political scientists say.

"The unpopularity of the Republican policy agenda - that may be as big a factor as any," said Bruce Buchanan, a government professor at the University of Texas at Austin specializing in presidential politics. "That, plus Dole's lack of spark as a candidate among Republicans."

Clinton has been enjoying a wave of voter approval, while Dole has yet to bring together his party, Earl Black, political science professor at Rice University, said.

"Dole really has not been in a position to truly emerge as a unifying figure in the Republican Party," he said. "At the same time, President Clinton has been pretty close to the peak of his popularity."

Dallas resident Richard Collins, co-chairman of the Texas Dole for President campaign, said Dole's slide was predictable because of negative attacks during the primaries.

Among likely Texas voters, Clinton and Dole each garnered support from 42 percent, leaving 12 percent undecided.

Three-quarters of Texans said they were very interested or somewhat interested in the presidential

election, with the remaining quarter saying they were not much interested.

Collins said he was not surprised at the poll's results.

"I think President Clinton has had an excellent spring, and his principle strategy has been to try to co-opt Republican issues and act and look presidential," Collins said. "He has been successful in doing that. Senator Dole, on the other hand, had a vigorous campaign for the presidential nomination and was subjected to a lot of negative campaigning and attacks."

Collins said Dole can focus on the presidential campaign now that he has retired from the Senate. While confident of winning Texas, Dole will not take the state for granted, Collins said.

"The Dole campaign really has just kind of begun in earnest," Collins continued, adding that Dole and his wife probably will visit Texas about 20 times between now and election day. "We will carry Texas big."

But Texas Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, Clinton's state campaign chairman, believes the state's demographics - including a significant number of minorities and lower to middle income families - match the pockets of support Clinton traditionally wins.

"Texans are starting to understand that Bill Clinton shares their basic values," Mauro said. "The president and the first lady have spent some time in Texas. We're running TV ads in East Texas, and all that is starting to pay off."

In the past, Mauro said, political pundits have painted Texas as a no-win state for Clinton. But this election will be different, he added. Hillary Clinton is visiting the state this month and will return in July. She attended the Texas Democratic convention earlier this month.

"We haven't done well in the past because President Bush was from Texas, and we didn't get our message out," Mauro said. "Now, we've spent the last year really showing the people of Texas what Bill Clinton's values are, and I think they are coming our way."

Democrats last carried the state in a presidential race in 1976 when Jimmy Carter beat Gerald Ford.

Meanwhile, in a three way match between Clinton, Dole and Dallas billionaire Ross Perot, 36 percent supported Clinton; Dole, 35 percent; and Perot, 12 percent. Seventeen percent of Texas inde-

pendent voters supported Perot; 31 percent supported Clinton; and 30 percent supported Dole. Yet, 57 percent of Texans said they would consider voting for a third party candidate. That's up nine percentage points from the Texas Poll conducted in March.

"Most people are just so aggravated and disturbed about a lot of things going on. It is ironic because the economy is good, relatively speaking," said Allan Saxe, political science professor at UT. "It's the politics of expectations. It's not that things are so horrible; it's that they want more. When they don't get it, they turn to a third party."

"But the reality is a third party couldn't even begin to deliver what they don't have anybody in Congress or in the state legislatures. And that's where a lot of the action takes place," he said. "I think a lot of this is just frustration."

Buchanan agreed, adding that many voters view the Republican and Democratic parties as part of the problem with the political system.

"I think it's a general disgust with the way politics works in this country," Buchanan said. "They perceive it as fundamentally manipulative and self-interested. They see the two major parties as not greatly different on that score."

Minority voters clearly support Clinton with 54 percent of Hispanics and 71 percent of blacks favoring the president. Nineteen percent of Hispanics and six percent of blacks support Dole. Among Anglos, 47 percent favor Dole and 34 percent support Clinton.

"Sen. Dole has not come to Texas much lately," Saxe stated. "The economy in the state is really pretty good ... and the minority vote in this state is very energized. All those things are probably accruing to (Clinton's) benefit."

Saxe said Clinton may be receiving some benefit from Democratic Senate candidate Victor Morales, who faces incumbent Phil Gramm in the Nov. 5 general election.

The Texas Poll showed Morales gaining on Gramm, with 44 percent of Texans supporting the Republican incumbent and 33 per-

cent favoring the Dallas area school teacher. In March, Gramm had 53 percent of Texans' support compared with Morales' 28 percent.

"I think Victor Morales is having a lot to do with the Hispanic vote," Saxe said. "He's really catching their imagination."

Of likely voters who supporting Clinton, 37 percent are men and 44 percent are women. Dole's support is broken down to 34 percent men and 45 percent women.

Meanwhile, Texans valued character as the most important qualification in selecting a candidate. Twenty-three percent of Texans listed character as the significant issue in deciding which candidate to choose. Seventeen percent viewed the economy and national deficit as the most important issue. Health care, morality, taxes, education, welfare and foreign affairs each ranked first with five percent or less of pollsters.

Clinton is popular with younger voters with 46 percent of Texans age 18-29 supporting him. Thirty-three percent of that group support Dole with a 12 point drop

from the 45 percent supporting him in the March Texas Poll.

"Clinton did well in '92 with younger people," Saxe said. "Bob Dole is a courageous man, but his reminiscences about a different age and a different time may not resonate with someone under 30."

The battle between Clinton and Dole is close throughout the state, with Texans in the western and Gulf regions slightly favoring Clinton. Part time employees, homemakers and students favor the president over Dole. Texans making \$30,000 or less support Clinton, while those making \$40,000 or more favor Dole.

And while Clinton has closed the gap in Texas over the past few months, political scientists stress that election day is many months ahead.

The poll of 1,000 adult Texans was conducted for Harte-Hanks Communications Inc. by the Office of Survey Research of the University of Texas. The poll's margin of error for the whole sample is plus or minus three percentage points; slightly larger for subgroups.

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Thursday, July 4.....Wednesday 2 p.m.
Friday, July 5.....Wednesday 5 p.m.

CITY BRIEFS
Thursday, July 4.....Wednesday 5 p.m.

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY
Thursday, July 4.....Monday 3 p.m.
Friday, July 5.....Tuesday 12 noon
Sunday, July 7.....Wednesday 12 noon

DISPLAY ADV.
Thursday, July 4.....Monday 3 p.m.
Friday, July 5.....Tuesday 12 noon
Sunday, July 7.....Wednesday 12 noon

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Grills by PGS, Sterling Duane & Holland Starting at \$199

Homecrest Sling Table & 4 Chairs Starting at \$799.00

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Equal Opportunity Employer

State briefs

Rendering plant, once courted, now feels shut out
CORSICANA (AP) — Last year, says William Shirley Jr., 53, when he and his partners proposed to build an animal rendering plant in Corsicana, city and local development officials welcomed him with open arms and even offered tax abatements.

"They told us, 'We love you,'" said Shirley, an owner of Texas By-Products and also a minority owner of the Texas Rangers baseball franchise.

But then, Russell Stover, a Kansas City-based chocolate maker, expressed an interest in locating a candy plant in Corsicana.

Russell Stover says it won't build its 500,000-square-foot facility if the rendering plant is located 2 1/2 miles upwind. Tom Ward, president and chief executive officer, said the candy maker doesn't want to take the risk that odors will be trapped in its candy boxes and wrapping.

The chocolate maker promises to bring 625 jobs; the rendering plant offers 50.

The Corsicana City Council recently passed an ordinance prohibiting the animal rendering plant within the city limits, an action that resulted in Texas By-Products filing a lawsuit against the city.

Military charges Army recruiter with rape, sodomy
SAN ANTONIO (AP) — An Army recruiter has been charged with sexual assault after complaints by women who went to the recruiting office seeking enlistment information, military officials say.

Sgt. 1st Class Brett Wright also faces a variety of other charges following a probe by the Army Criminal Investigation Division at Fort Sam Houston, officials said in a prepared statement.

The investigation was launched earlier this year after complaints were filed by two women who had gone to the Westlakes Recruiting Station to look into Army careers. Wright, 37, is the former commander of the Westlakes station.

In addition to the two counts of rape, Wright is charged with three counts of sodomy; four counts of indecent assault upon females; adultery; wrongful use of cocaine; and failure to obey an order or regulation, officials said.

Woman held for trial in connection with slayings

DALLAS (AP) — A judge has found probable cause to hold a woman for trial in the June 6 killings of her two sons in the family residence in suburban Rowlett and maintained her bail at \$1 million.

The case of Darlie Routier, 26, charged with capital murder, also was reviewed by a grand jury Wednesday morning, but the panel's decision on whether to indict will not be released until Friday.

Two Rowlett police officers testified Wednesday that they found no evidence to support Routier's contention that a male intruder brutally murdered her sons Damon, 5, and Devon, 6.

She made a 911 call shortly after 2:30 a.m. and said a white man wearing dark clothes and baseball cap stabbed the brothers in the living room of their home and then stabbed her when she awoke and came to their aid.

"She told us that she followed or chased him out of the house. She said she picked up the knife in the utility room, where the man had dropped it," Lt. Grant Jack testified, under questioning by prosecutor Greg Davis.

TEXAS FURNITURE

SUMMER

SALE

Save a cool 25% to 60% on the hottest looks of the season at Texas Furniture
 SAVE \$300 TO \$700

Sofas

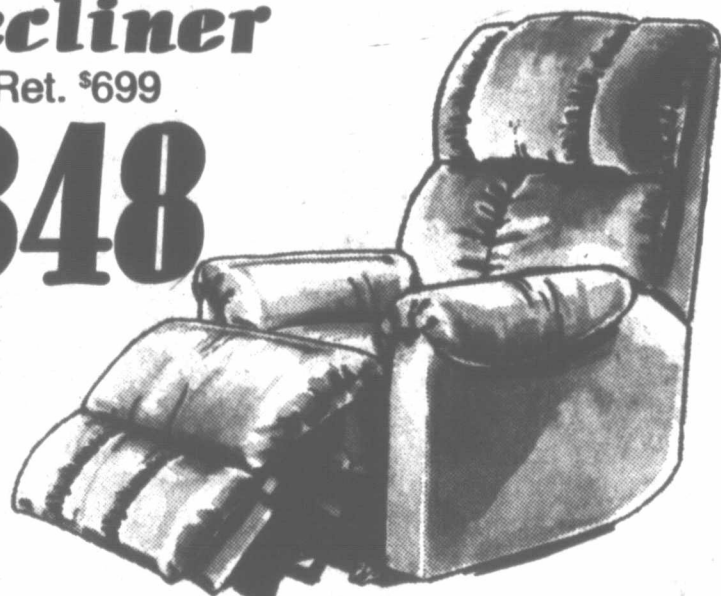
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Choose from a stylish variety of shapes and fabrics from classic to contemporary lifestyles. Every sofa will add a fashionable new look to your home while you enjoy savings up to 60 percent.

Lane Chaise Recliner

Ret. \$699

\$348



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SEALY POSTUREPEDIC CHOOSE PLUSH FIRM OR EXTRA FIRM

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Full Set **\$448**

Queen Set **\$488**

King Set **\$688**

Sealy Posturepedic Merible Plush

Twin Set **\$488**

Full Set **\$548**

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King Set **\$788**



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Why More People Sleep On Sealy:

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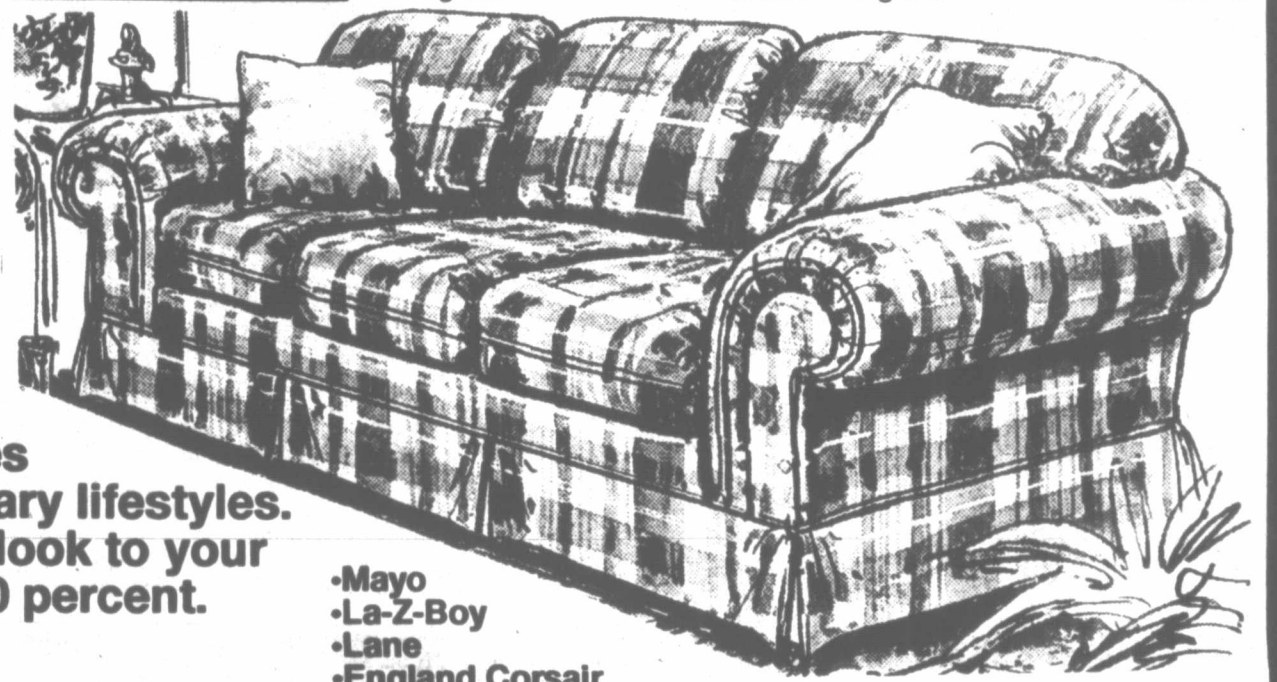
Sealy Posturepedic "Pillow Top"

Twin Set **\$588**

Full Set **\$648**

Queen Set **\$688**

King Set **\$888**



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THE LA-Z-BOY® ULTIMATE SEATING SALE!



La-Z-Boy Chaise Rocker Recliner

Ret. \$599.00

\$299

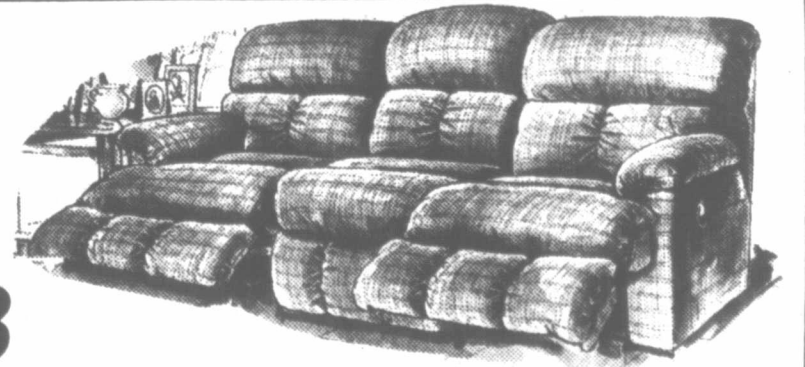


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Long-Distance Advice Proves Costly To Special Friendship

DEAR ABBY: I was very upset a couple of weeks ago, so I placed a collect long-distance telephone call to a dear friend whose advice was excellent.

When I returned home, my husband suggested I send her a check as reimbursement for the phone call. Knowing my friend, I said, "She'll never accept it." With that in mind, I sent her a thank-you note with cash enclosed to cover the amount of the call. In the note, I suggested, "You and your hubby get a triple-deck ice cream cone with the change — for being the dear, generous people you are." (I felt it would add a light, whimsical touch to the note.)

To my dismay, my friend called and told me she had never been so insulted in her life that I'd put cash in the envelope, as she had thought our friendship was above that, and she would not hesitate to ask me for anything. I told her that she was right, but I felt uncomfortable making her pay for my phone call, and this had nothing to do with our friendship. She also mentioned that she had a refrigerator full of ice cream and did not need the money. I tried to explain that because she is so special, this was my way of saying thank you.

She still maintains that it was insulting and I was a mile out of line. Abby, was I? The one in error has promised to eat the telephone bill.

RED IN THE FACE

Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR RED: You were the one in error, but don't start eating yet. Perhaps your husband felt he was doing the right thing by suggesting that you insert money into a loving, friendly relationship — but a small gift would have been better than a check or cash. He should eat the phone bill.

DEAR ABBY: You recently listed the best place for women to meet men, but you left out the best place of all: the grocery store! Especially early Sunday mornings. I usually go between 7:30 and 8 a.m., and there are always a lot of single guys there. They are like lost little boys. If they are shopping that early, you can be sure they weren't at the bars the night before. You can also tell a lot about a guy by the food he buys. They can never find anything and aren't afraid to ask for help. Often they will ask what ingredi-

ents go into a certain recipe. I always tell them I am not sure of all the ingredients or the amounts, but if they will give me their phone number, I will call them with the info after I get home and check my cookbook.

I never give them my phone number until I have talked to them on the phone several times. And I always call them back to ask how the recipe turned out.

Abby, I've lived in several parts of the country and have met exciting and interesting men in grocery stores everywhere I've lived.

Try it, ladies. It works!
LOVE THAT FRESH MEAT AISLE

DEAR LOVE: What a great suggestion! One can expect to find a terrific assortment of fruit, nuts, hot tamales and cold fish. There's something for everyone.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I received a graduation announcement, and with it came a self-addressed envelope from the sender. What colossal nerve!

Abby, if you were in our place, how would you handle this?
NO NAME IN YAKIMA, WASH.

DEAR NO NAME: I would write a cordial note of congratulations and return it to the sender.

Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Two people from distant places might enter your life at this time. You could meet one or both today. Their influence in your affairs will be constructive.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Things will start to change and you will receive unanticipated benefits from an arrangement you were worried about. Think positive thoughts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your judgment may be better than usual today. Do not doubt the wisdom of your decisions, even in high-pressure situations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Even though rewards will not fall into your lap today, you may still find several lucrative opportunities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your charm, warmth and congeniality will enable you to reap dividends as a result of the social contacts you will make today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Someone older whom you like and respect

might seek a favor from you today. Actually, this person may be doing you a favor.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Today you will use practical and aggressive ideas to your advantage, especially if they relate to a club or social organization.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Strive to remain alert today because something extremely unusual might develop suddenly. This might be an opportunity to augment your finances.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Broaden your range of objectives today to include others' interests, not just your own. Success will be possible if you try to help others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You can orchestrate a promising joint endeavor today. The skills you lack will be supplied by a talented partner.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) This will be a good day to clear up a misunderstanding in a relationship that is important to you. Your partner will be eager to get together with you.

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For Better or For Worse



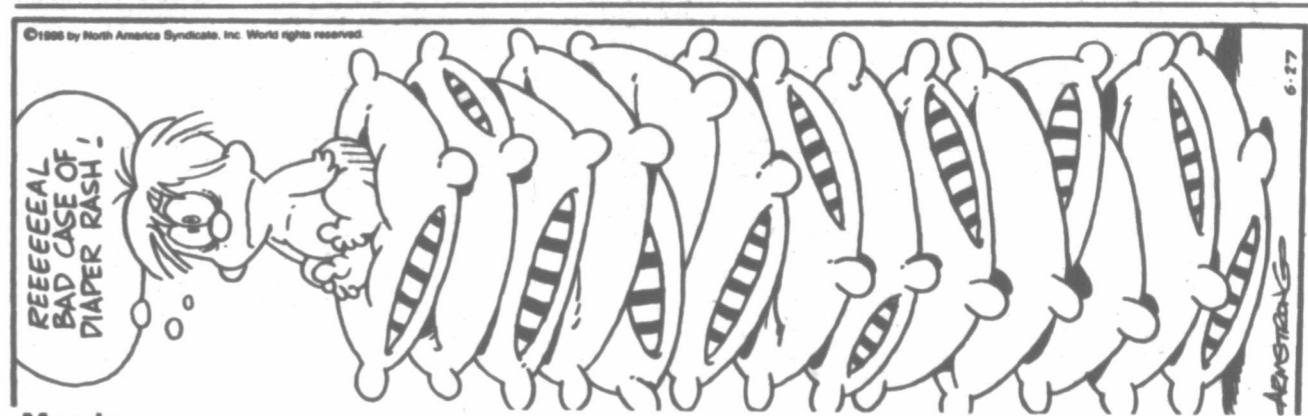
Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



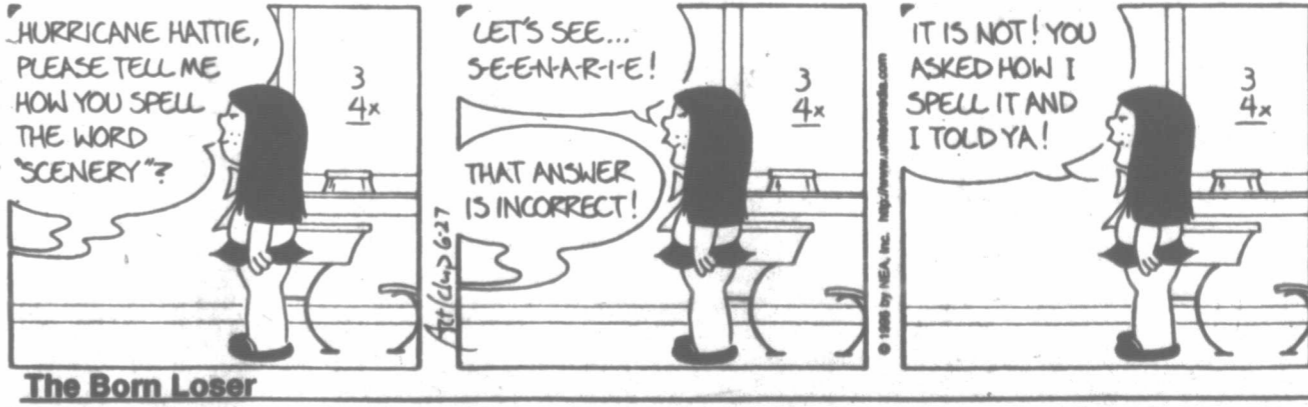
Marvin



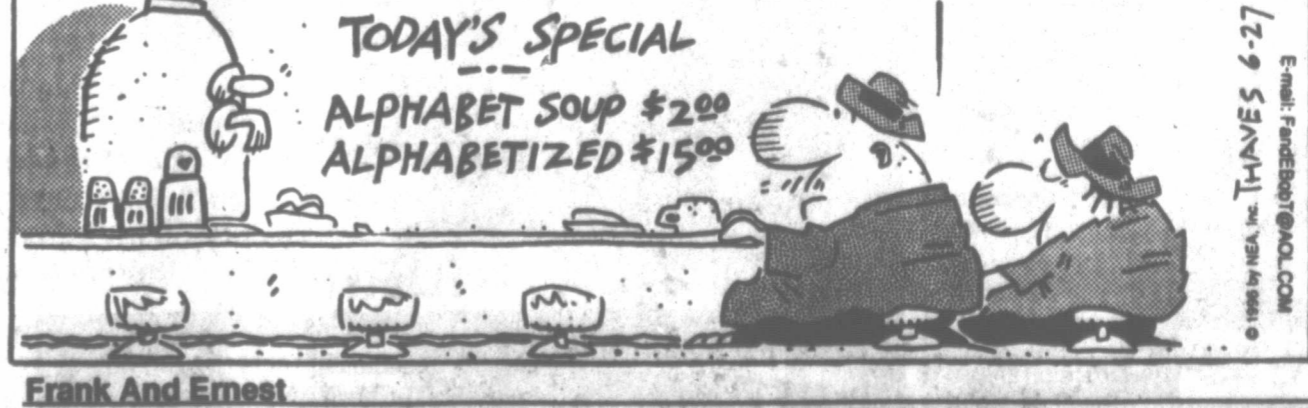
B.C.



EEK & MEEK



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Fillmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Friday, June 28, 1996

You might profit handsomely in the year ahead through a confidential arrangement. Do not spoil your chance of success by discussing the situation with outsiders.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You will be in a position to achieve your goals by taking positive measures to enhance your material well-being. You will know what you need to do. 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

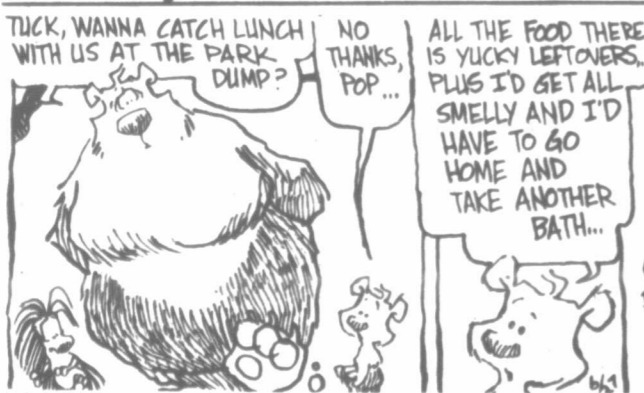


"When Mommy says 'maybe,' she's still tryin' to make up her mind between 'yes' and 'no'."



"They had too much fun today."

The Family Circus



Marmaduke



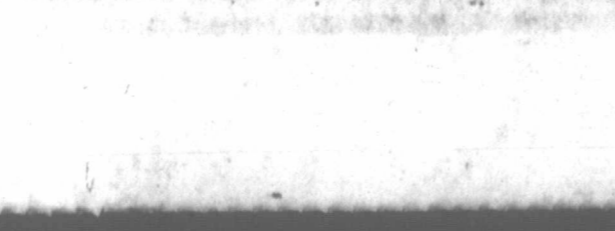
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



'Smart' driver's license raises concerns

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A high-tech driver's license that could be used to pay tolls and do banking while providing authorities access to everything from fingerprints to medical records soon will be tested in New Jersey.

But civil libertarians warned the "Smart Card," which carries a data-packed computer chip, may be too smart for its own good. And they question how all that information will be protected from potential abuse.

"I think citizens should be extremely scared about loss of privacy," said David Rocah of the American Civil Liberties Union. "They could store tax data. They could store medical data. They could store driver's records, insurance data, virtually any data in the government's possession."

What's to keep a grocery store, Rocah wondered, from using that data for marketing information?

John Graf Jr., spokesman for the state Department of Transportation, said safeguards are a high priority and will be studied when a three-month pilot program begins this fall for thousands of motorists. It could be expanded to all 6 million license holders next year.

Data on the pilot cards would be limited to standard driver's license information but eventually cards could contain fingerprints, driving records, registration and insurance information, and even medical records.

"It comes down to being a smarter and smaller government," Graf said. "We're trying to bring together in one card all of these bureaucratic things that have to be done. ... There's a lot of paper being pushed, a lot of time being used. This is going to save people a lot of time, aggravation and money."

He said Utah also is close to testing a similar card and Connecticut is looking into the concept.

A tentative timetable calls for the licenses to be issued to all New Jersey drivers starting in July 1997. They would contain data for the motorist's picture, signature and fingerprints as well as an "electronic purse" that could be used to pay for bus and train fares.

The third phase would add vehicle registration and allow the cards to be used on state toll roads.

Other information from medical records to past arrests could be added in 1999 with the possibility of the cards eventually being used as debit cards to pay for groceries or do banking.

"The fingerprints are not finalized, it's something being studied," he said. "As far as other data, that will be optional. People don't have to add all the phases on the card."

While current driver's license costs run between \$1 to \$2, the high-tech cards would range from \$4 to \$8 depending on numerous factors from the memory size of the chips to how the licenses are issued.

World brief

Permit issued to build giant cake

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — A group of Frankfurt bakers are planning to raise a towering torte this weekend — now that they have a building permit.

The size of the cake should qualify it to be listed as the "world's largest fountain torte" in the Guinness Book of World Records.

At 23 feet, the towering torte would top the city's 17-foot height limit for buildings without special approval.

The bakers, with help from a local engineering firm, presented authorities with 15 pages of torte-building technology to support their application, which was approved last month.

Bakers ordered 2,000 eggs, 110 pounds of butter and two crates

of marzipan in preparation for Saturday's event.

The Frankfurt New Press, a local newspaper, ordered the torte a year ago to celebrate its 50th anniversary. According to the plans, the torte will be 23 feet high and 20 feet wide, spanning the "fountain of justice" in front of the court house.

Mayor Petra Roth will cut the first of the torte's 5,000 slices, to be sold for \$1 each.

Woman gives birth to three boys and three girls

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A 38-year-old Mexican woman gave birth Wednesday to three boys and three girls.

The father, a physician, said the mother and all the children were in good health and resting in a hospital in the

northern city of Monterrey.

"It's a beautiful experience. We're very happy and excited," said Gerardo Garza Sepulveda, in a telephone interview from Monterrey.

There is no known world registry of sextuplets, and it is rare for a complete set to survive more than a year, said Dr. Louis G. Keith, a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Northwestern University Medical School and president of the Center for the Study of Multiple Births.

He said the biggest problem the sextuplets must overcome is low birth weight.

Another set of sextuplets was born in Mexico City in April, but the smallest of the six died. A set of healthy sextuplets was born in Albany, N.Y., on March 22.

Albertsons

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WHAT'S THE CATCH?

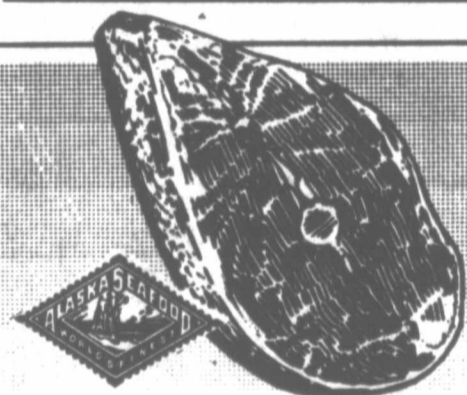
Here's The Catch, Fresh From The Sea!

Come To Your Local Albertsons Where You'll Find Fresh Seafood At Low Prices!



Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets

3⁹⁹
lb.



Salmon Steaks
Fresh Alaskan King

3⁹⁹
lb.



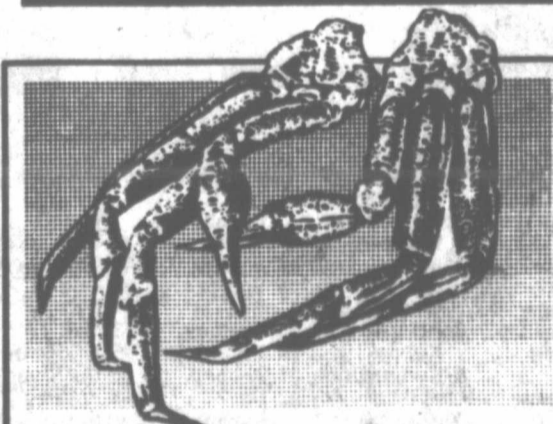
Whole Salmon
Fresh Alaskan Silver Brite Chum

7⁹⁹
lb.



King Crab Legs
Alaskan, Previously Frozen

8⁹⁹
lb.



Snow Crab Clusters
Previously Frozen

4⁹⁹
lb.

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Men's Levi's® 550™ Jeans, Reg. 35.99	29.99	Boys' 4-7 Levi's® 550™ Jeans, Reg. \$22	17.99
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Juniors' Levi's® 512®, 550® & 560® Jeans, Reg. \$46	35.99	Boys' Student & Husky Levi's® 550™ Jeans, Reg. \$27	23.99

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