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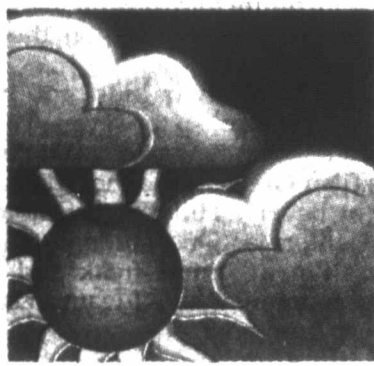
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PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 89 NO: 225

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



Low tonight in low 20s, high tomorrow near 50. See Page 2 for weather details.

PAMPA — The Gray County Commissioners Court has called a special meeting to be held at 9 a.m. Jan. 1, 1997 in the second floor courtroom of the Gray County Courthouse.

The agenda calls for action from district judges regarding the appointment of Elaine Morris as Gray County auditor, receiving order for auditor's salary, considering the 1997 budget for auditor's office and approving bonds for elected and appointed officials.

In another special meeting, on Jan. 2 at 9 a.m., commissioners will discuss the phone system for the jail, pay bills and salaries, discuss contract renewal with Gray County Farm Service, appoint new board members of White Deer Land Museum advisory board, consider a resolution on a juvenile boot camp and discuss other various items of business.

PAMPA — The staff of the Coffee Memorial Blood Center will be on hand for a blood drive on Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room at the Columbia Medical Center.

Holiday hero T-Shirts will be given to each donor.

The Blood Center staff reminds donors they can donate every 56 days.

For more information, call (806) 358-4563.

By The Associated Press

One ticket in Houston correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated \$12 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 2, 10, 19, 20, 29 and 30.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$4 million.

STANFIELD, Ore. (AP) — A Greyhound bus carrying people home for the holidays slid off an icy highway, sending 28 people to hospitals.

The bus, with 31 passengers aboard, was traveling from Denver to Portland in freezing rain late Tuesday when it slid sideways on an icy bridge and rolled into the median of Interstate 84, said state police Lt. T. McLain.

One person remained hospitalized Wednesday in critical condition with pelvic and neck injuries. Three others were listed in fair condition, and another was in stable condition with a head injury.

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Mail delivery cut off to Republic of Texas

FORT DAVIS (AP) — Postal officials have cut off mail delivery to a remote community near this historic West Texas town that has become a haven to the leader of a secessionist group and his armed guards.

Richard McLaren, 43, the self-styled ambassador and consul general of the Republic of Texas, is wanted on a civil contempt order after he failed to heed a Pecos federal judge's summons. He has said he would use force, if necessary, to resist the summons.

Mike Pearson, the Fort Davis postmaster, said he could only confirm that mail service was "temporarily disrupted" and referred all inquiries to supervisors in El Paso. Those officials were not available for comment Tuesday because of the Christmas holidays.

But McLaren's neighbors say Pearson told them that they won't get any mail that until McLaren's situation is settled.

"They don't feel the mail carrier is safe up there," Jeff Davis County Sheriff Harvey Adams told the *El Paso Times*.

McLaren is being protected around the clock by the republic's militia-backed defense

forces. He has said he will not surrender to federal marshals, and no attempt has been made to serve the warrant so far.

Republic members believe Texas was unlawfully annexed by Congress in 1845. They do not acknowledge state or federal laws and claim Texas is a "free and sovereign nation." Consequently, McLaren says the court order has no validity.

Some republic members contend that McLaren is no longer associated with or representative of the organization.

U.S. District Judge Lucius D. Bunton III summoned McLaren to his Pecos courtroom to answer questions in a long-running legal dispute over land titles with Stewart Guaranty Title Co.

Joe Rowe, president of the Davis Mountains Property Owners' Association, said residents normally do not agree with McLaren's politics, nor are they pleased to have his armed bodyguards patrolling his property nearby. But they also don't like not getting their mail, he said.

"I don't think he's that much of a threat on a day-to-day basis," he told the *San Antonio Express-News*.

The postal service said the situation would be "re-evaluated" on Jan. 6, which is also the day before McLaren and other Republic leaders plan to appear in Austin to hold a public hearing about human-rights violations in Texas.

"You've got taxpaying citizens out here, and all we want is our damned mail service," Rowe said. "(Stuff) like this is what makes people want to join up with groups like these."

About 100 people live in the rural subdivision located in rugged, mountainous country 16 miles west of Fort Davis, but about 700 own property there, Rowe said Tuesday. They are not members of the Republic.

Rowe said he believes the post office is using McLaren's warrant as an excuse not to make the daily 32-mile round trip journey to the subdivision.

"Rick's armed guards have been walking around here for the last three months wearing their guns, wearing their knives. I want to know what's changed?" he said. "I think it's ridiculous to use this as an excuse to curtail mail service."

Authorities investigating shooting death of teen

Law enforcement officers were searching for a red pickup today in connection with a Christmas Eve shooting that left one man dead.

Richard Lamont Proctor, 18, of 1109 Huff Rd., was apparently shot once in the back of the head as he sat Tuesday night in his gray Cadillac in the 100 block of West Albert, law enforcement officers said today. Authorities said Proctor appeared to have been shot once with a large caliber handgun.

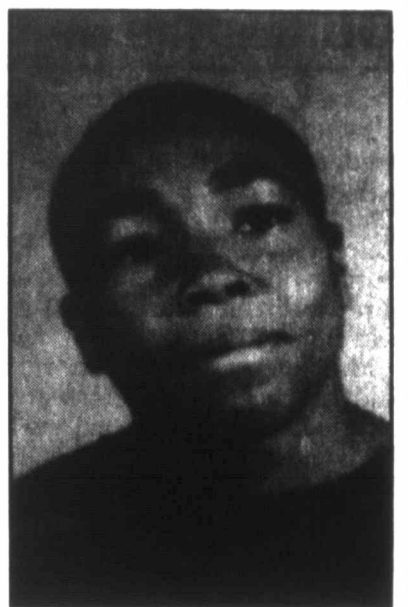
"The shot was fired through the back window," Pampa Police Chief Charles Morris said today.

Authorities said it appeared that only one shot was fired.

Officers said they found Proctor slumped over inside the car when they arrived in response to a 911 call shortly before midnight Tuesday. Gray County Justice of the Peace Bob Muns ordered an autopsy, which was to be performed this morning.

Authorities said the car was in the west bound lane of Albert at the time of the shooting.

Two boys were in the car with Proctor at the time of the shooting, authorities said. Both juveniles were released after being questioned early



Richard Lamont Proctor

Christmas morning by Pampa police, officers said.

Morris said investigators were following new leads today, including a search for the pickup which was reported in the area at the time of the shooting.

Texas Rangers, Gray County Sheriff's office and the 31st District Attorney's Office joined the investigation Christmas Day.

Proctor was a student at Pampa High School.

Christmasy pickup



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Someone seems to have really gotten into the Christmas spirit, or at least in a decorative mood. This Christmas tree seemingly sprouts from the hood of an abandoned pickup on a road west of Pampa.

Cold front knives into Texas Panhandle

By The Associated Press

A strong cold front knifed its way into the Texas Panhandle early today, dropping temperatures into the teens.

At midnight, it was 36 degrees at Amarillo, with a bone-chilling chill factor of minus 22 because of a north wind that gusted to almost 30 mph. At 5 a.m., the temperature had plummeted to 11 degrees and into the 30s across the South Plains.

(In Pampa, the overnight low fell to 8 degrees. Winds of 25 to 30 mph, with gusts to 40 mph, dropped wind chill factors down to 30 to 40 below zero.

(Light snow dusted the Pampa area, but sunny skies and lesser winds were dominant before noon.

(Warmer temperatures are expected to bring highs near 50 Friday and near 60 on Saturday, but another arctic cold front is expected to keep temperatures down into the 20s for Sunday.)

The National Weather Service said skies would be mostly clear over West Texas, but a few flur-

ries were possible in the Panhandle. Highs today weren't expected to get above the 20s in the Panhandle.

Across West Texas, Friday's highs are expected to be in the 40s in the Panhandle and in the 50s and 60s in other parts of West Texas.

In North Texas, temperatures were generally in the upper 40s — about 20 degrees higher this morning than at the same time on Christmas Day — thanks to a brisk south wind that ushered in warmer air. Overnight temperatures ranged from 46 at Killeen to 50 at Dallas and Fort Worth.

Thunderstorms can be expected before day's end, the weather service said.

Light rain and drizzle were reported across South Texas early today as a result of south and southeast winds bringing moisture up from the Gulf of Mexico.

Temperatures in South Texas at 4 a.m. ranged from 43 at Del Rio to 65 at Rockport. Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms are

expected across South Texas today.

Snow fell in Iowa and rain fell in Oregon and Washington this morning, while the Midwest and northern Plains states were very cold. Mild, cloudy weather prevailed in the Northeast, while the West was rainy.

A low pressure system off the northwest Pacific coast was to bring rain and snow across most of the West by tonight. Up to a foot was expected in the Cascades Mountains, and up to 2 feet of snow across the northern Sierras of California.

Up to 4 inches of rain was likely across Oregon and central and northern California, especially along the coast. Flooding was probable.

In Idaho, up to 10 inches of snow was expected at higher elevations, while 4 to 8 inches was likely across eastern Washington and Oregon.

The bitter cold that hit the northern Plains was expected to improve today, with more moderate temperatures moving north.

Sources say Clinton's budget to have tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton's new budget will provide up to \$130 billion in tax relief while still achieving balance in 2002, administration officials say.

However, the officials said the plan he will send Congress in February will not contain one controversial deficit-saving proposal: trimming cost-of-living benefits for 60 million Americans receiving Social Security and other government benefits. The officials spoke only on condition of anonymity.

An advisory panel headed by Stanford economist Michael Boskin two weeks ago said the government's Consumer Price Index was overstating inflation by 1.1 percentage points annually.

The panel recommended a series of steps to shrink the CPI by that amount in coming years, enough to achieve \$1 trillion in budget savings over 12 years.

The savings would occur by trimming Social Security cost-of-living increases and other government pension programs and by boosting taxes through smaller inflation adjustments each year to tax brackets.

The administration officials, however, said the president felt more expert review was needed before such changes could be adopted.

Supporters of a balanced budget argue that restraining the

growth in costly government benefit programs is essential, but Republicans already have said they will not go first in any effort to trim COLAs.

Clinton held three days of meetings last week reviewing various agency appeals to budget cuts being recommended by his Office of Management and Budget.

While the administration had hoped to have all decisions wrapped up before Christmas, officials said Tuesday that timetable had slipped.

They said OMB preparations were continuing and the scheduled Feb. 3 date for release of the budget had not been jeopardized.

Clinton's tax proposals, which carry a five-year price tag of up to \$130 billion, will include the \$500 per child tax credit that he initially offered in his Middle Class Bill of Rights unveiled in December 1994 after Republicans had taken control of Congress.

In addition, the budget will include tax relief for education expenses either through a \$1,500 tax credit to pay for the first two years of college or a \$10,000 tax deduction for college tuition.

The home sale proposal, which Clinton unveiled at the Democratic convention in Chicago, would eliminate taxes on the first \$500,000 in capital gains profits earned on the sale of a home.

Time to recycle Christmas trees

The annual "Chipping of the Greens," sponsored by Clean Pampa Inc. and Hoechst Celanese of Pampa, is in process at the Warner Horton parking lot, 900 Duncan Street, anytime of the day, from now until Jan. 11.

Volunteer employees at the Celanese plant and members of CPI encourage everyone who has a "real" Christmas trees to deposit the discarded trees in the roped off area of the parking lot. According to Robert Pollard-Cavalli, president of Clean Pampa and project chair, workers will chip trees into mulch Saturday, Jan. 11, and deliver the ground wood chips to Pampa's compost landfill.

"Chipping of the greens saves valuable space in our landfill," Pollard-Cavalli said.

"This is the 10th annual collection of the Christmas trees," said Lora Baggerman, of the CPI office.

Each year hundreds of trees have been chipped, rather than hauling the trunks and limbs into piles. This method helps free up several cubic tons of space in the landfill, Baggerman said.

"The ground compost mulch is free to the public, but donations are accepted to help defray project expenses," said Baggerman, who can be reached at the Clean Pampa office at 665-2514.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

Services today
GARCIA, Jose W. - Vigil services, 7 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
Services tomorrow
BRYANT, Ruby Ola - 10 a.m., San Jacinto United Methodist Church, Amarillo.
GARCIA, Jose W. - Mass, 11 a.m., St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa.
JOHNSTON, Myrtle Beatrice Patterson - 10 a.m., Memorial Park Funeral Home Chapel, Amarillo.
MILLER, Ray Howard and Patsy Jean Hommel - 10 a.m., Trinity Fellowship Church, Amarillo. Graveside services, 2 p.m., Alanreed Cemetery, Alanreed.

Obituaries

JASPER E. JAP BAILEY
MOBEETIE - Jasper E. "Jap" Bailey, 86, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1996, at Wheeler. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday in Mobeetie Methodist Church with the Rev. Gary Jahnel and the Rev. Ralph Hovey, retired Baptist minister, officiating. Burial will be in Mobeetie Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mr. Bailey was born July 19, 1910, at Mobeetie and had been a lifelong Mobeetie resident. He married Alice Morgan on Dec. 14, 1946, at Miami. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post of Miami and the Old Mobeetie Association.
 Survivors include his wife, Alice, of the home; two daughters, Betty Sue Glover of Clarendon and Judy Faye Parker of Pampa; a son, John Bailey of Pampa; two brothers, Bill Bailey of Pampa and Hugh Bailey of Mobeetie; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch or to the Mobeetie Methodist Church.

RUBY OLA BRYANT
AMARILLO - Ruby Ola Bryant, 89, mother of a Canadian resident, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1996. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in San Jacinto United Methodist Church with the Rev. Bill Fitzgerald, of the church, and the Rev. Verne Fuqua, of Fort Worth, officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Blackburn-Shaw Funeral Directors of Amarillo.
 Mrs. Bryant was born in Ellis County. She married J.B. Bryant Sr. in 1932 at Marietta, Okla.; he died in 1976. She had been an Amarillo resident since 1941. She was a homemaker and a member of San Jacinto United Methodist Church. She was a life member of United Methodist Women, Ladies Friendship Class and Wesley Comrades Class.
 Survivors include three daughters, Nora Pennington of Burleson, Tria Godwin of Canadian and Myrt Wilder of Plainview; three sons, Robert Bryant, Richard Bryant and J.B. Bryant Jr., all of Amarillo; 16 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.
 The family will be at 3900 Fountain Terrace in Amarillo.

JOSE W. GARCIA
JOSE W. Garcia, 94, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1996, at Wheeler. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. this evening in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with Tony Campos officiating. Mass will be at 11 a.m. Friday in St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. Joe Bixenman officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mr. Garcia was born Nov. 12, 1902, at Santa Fe del Rio, Michoan, Mexico. He married Angela Galvan on June 30, 1929, at St. Francis, Texas. He had been a Pampa resident since 1935. He worked as section foreman for Santa Fe Railroad in Pampa for 47 years. He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church.
 He was preceded in death by a son, Ines Garcia, on Dec. 25, 1986.
 Survivors include his wife, Angela, of the home; three daughters, Rachel Cole of Olathe, Kan., Amelia Warner of San Angelo and Victoria Trout of Prairie Grove, Ark.; a son, Aurelio Garcia of Virginia Beach, Va.; a daughter-in-law, Sylvia Garcia of Corpus Christi; 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and special friend, Ton Price of Pampa.
 The family will be at 425 Hazel Street in Pampa.

ALLIE B. 'HUCK' HUCKABY
AMARILLO - Allie B. "Huck" Huckaby, 73, a former Pampa resident, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1996. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mrs. Huckaby was born Dec. 22, 1923, at Abilene, to Thomas and Mary Butler. She married Curtis W. Huckaby on March 7, 1923, at Tucumcari, N.M.; he died March 29, 1985. She had been an Amarillo resident since 1995 and had spent the remainder of her life as either a Pampa or Memphis resident. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Pampa, Cleaners Sunday School Class and Sunshine Club.
 She was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers and two sisters.
 The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church of Pampa.
 Survivors include a son, Bill F. Huckaby of Mathis, Texas; two granddaughters; and two great-grandsons.



Obituaries

MYRTLE BEATRICE PATTERSON JOHNSTON
AMARILLO - Myrtle Beatrice Patterson Johnston, 82, sister to Pampa residents, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1996. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Memorial Park Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. George Nite, of San Jacinto Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery.
 Mrs. Johnston was born at Horatio, Ark. She married J.W. Johnston in May of 1956 at Clayton, N.M. She had been an Amarillo resident since 1938, moving from East Texas. She worked for Amarillo and Panhandle Laundries for many years. She was a member of San Jacinto Baptist Church.
 Survivors include her husband, J.W.; two stepdaughters, Forraine Davis and Leone Tatum, both of Amarillo; a stepson, Joe Wayne Johnston of Amarillo; three sisters, Elsie Swindle and Irene Swindle, both of Pampa, and Willie Allen of Greenville; and many stepgrandchildren and stepgreat-grandchildren.
 The family will receive visitors from 6-8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

ROY JORDAN
LEFORS - Roy Jordan, 85, died Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1996, at Dumas. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

RAY HOWARD MILLER
PATSY JEAN HOMMEL MILLER
AMARILLO - Ray Howard Miller, 62, and Patsy Jean Hommel Miller, 62, died Monday, Dec. 23, 1996. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Trinity Fellowship Church with Jimmy Evans, senior pastor, officiating. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Alanreed Cemetery at Alanreed. Burial will be under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors of Amarillo.
 Mr. Miller was born at Alanreed. He received a bachelor's degree in secondary education from West Texas State University. He had been an Amarillo resident since 1950. He was a rancher and worked as camp ranger for the Girl Scout Camp. He drove a school bus for Bushland ISD for more than 30 years and had served in the Army. He was a member of Trinity Fellowship Church.
 Mrs. Miller was born at Clarendon. She had been bookkeeper for Texas Plains Girl Scout Council beginning in 1962. She was a member of Trinity Fellowship Church.
 The couple were married in 1954 in Amarillo.
 Surviving Mr. Miller are two sons, David Miller and Mike Miller, both of Amarillo; four sisters, Faye Kunkel of Dumas, Nita Kunkel and Willie Hugg, both of Amarillo, and Eula Mae Vogt of Houston; a brother, John David Miller of Houston; and four grandchildren.
 Surviving Mrs. Miller are two sons, David Miller and Mike Miller, both of Amarillo; her mother, Beulah Hommel of Amarillo; a sister, Vondell Grigsby of Albuquerque, N.M.; and four grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to Texas Plains Girl Scout Council, 6011 W. 45th Ave., Amarillo, TX 79109.

EDNA RUTH RICHTER
Edna Ruth Richter, 69, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1996. Services will be at 4 p.m. Saturday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Leif Hasskarl, of Zion Lutheran Church, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.
 Mrs. Richter was born July 14, 1927, at Deerfield, Kan. She married Erwin Richter on Oct. 8, 1944, at Garden City, Kan. She had been a Pampa resident since 1959, moving from Ensign, Kan. She worked as a kitchen aide at Worley Hospital and at Highland General Hospital. She was a member of Zion Lutheran Church.
 Survivors include her husband, Erwin, of the home; a daughter, Debby Harris of Skellytown; two sons, Allen Richter of Amarillo and Clifford Wayne Richter of Englewood, Fla.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to Zion Lutheran Church.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK
 A blood pressure check and blood sugar tests offered from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday in the Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. A donation is accepted to cover expenses.

PAMPA AREA SINGLES
 Pampa Area Singles invites all singles to a pot luck supper and dance, featuring Gary Orr, on Saturday, Dec. 28, at M.K. Brown Auditorium, 1000 N. Sumner, Pampa. Supper starts at 7 p.m., dance at 8 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person. Those attending are asked to bring a food dish or dessert if they can. No smoking or alcohol use permitted. For more information, call 669-7370 or 665-2829.

Calendar of events

Wheat	4.15	up	1/8
Milo	4.02	up	1/8
Corn	1.82	up	1/8

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:

Occidental	23 3/4	NC
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The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation:

Amoco	82	up	3/4
Arco	137 5/8	up	1
Cabot	24 3/4	up	1/8
Cabot (48)	18 3/8	up	1/8

Stocks

Chevron	45 3/4	up	1/4
Coca Cola	53 1/2	up	1/8
Columbia/HCA	40 5/8	dn	1/8
Enron	44 1/8	up	3/8
Halliburton	63 1/4	up	3/8
Ingersoll Rand	45 5/8	dn	1/8
KNE	38 7/8	up	1/8
Kerr-McGee	72 3/4	up	1/4
Limited	18 3/8	up	1/8
Mapco	34	NC	
McDonald's	46 1/2	up	1/4
Meril	125	NC	
New Atmos	23 5/8	up	3/8
Parker & Parsley	35 5/8	up	1/4
Penney's	49	NC	
Phillips	45 1/4	up	1/2
SLB	106 1/4	up	7/8
SPS	34 3/4	dn	1/8
Tenneco	45 3/8	dn	1/8
Texasco	98 1/2	up	1/4
Ultramar	NA	NA	
Wal Mart	24 1/4	up	3/4
New York Gold	360 40		
Silver	4 81		
West Texas Crude	26 63		

Fires
 The Pampa Fire Department responded to the following call in the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24
 6:17 p.m. - One unit and two personnel responded to a dumpster fire in the 400 block of Davis.

More seniors reserving college spots early

WASHINGTON (AP) - Laurie Belosa is only halfway through her senior year in high school, but she's already got a reserved seat at Emory University.
 The acceptance letter from the private Atlanta school came last week: "Congratulations. Welcome to the Class of 2001."
 "We all went out to dinner," said Belosa of Manalapan, N.J. "We called my grandparents."
 Like a rising number of high school seniors, Belosa applied for early acceptance, but with a catch: the students typically have to commit to that university and withdraw applications at all times.
 That's alright with Allison Kaye, a senior at Staples High School in Westport, Conn., who was accepted early to the University of Pennsylvania.
 "I knew it was the school I wanted to go to. My father was an alumni there. It was my top choice," said Kaye, who now must ignore her acceptance letter to another school in Michigan.
 Traditionally, students do not apply to college until January or February. They find out in the spring if they've been accepted.
 In recent years, a growing number of mostly private colleges and universities have begun accepting applications under a practice called "early decision." These students apply by early November and learn the news in December at more than 260 schools.
 More than 200 other schools offer "early action" as an alternative. Students accepted under early action can still be no-shows in the fall.
 At Texas Christian University, early applicants don't have to make up their mind until May 1. "Asking a high school senior to make a major decision in December presumes nothing will change in their lives," said Sandra Ware, dean of admissions.
 A survey by the Alexandria, Va.-based National Association for College Admission Counseling shows that 46 percent of the nearly 300 responding institutions experienced an increase in the number of early decision applications this fall. Students who applied early and were accepted comprised less than one-fifth of these schools' incoming fall classes.
 Most early decision programs have been in place for more than five years; only 1 in 10 has been developed in the past two years. Growth in early action programs has been at large public universities, which might reflect their effort to compete with private schools, the association said.
 Some students, who think they have nothing to lose, use early decision to apply to highly selective schools. If they aren't accepted, they figure they'll get into one of the back-up schools on their list.
 "Last year, two kids got in early. This year, six or seven. The word's out," said Vivian SaaTjian-Green, guidance director at Beverly Hills High School in California. One student told her: "I'm a control freak and I need to know where I want to be a year from now."

Accidents

The Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents for the week's period ending at 7 a.m. today.
SUNDAY, Dec. 21
 A 1993 Chevrolet pickup, driven by David Milton, 37, of Pampa was damaged when a car backing out of a parking space in the 100 block of South Ballard collided with the pickup. The driver of the second vehicle left the scene.
MONDAY, Dec. 23
 A 1990 Oldsmobile Cutlass, driven by Kresha Dee Meadow, 29, 1015 Sierra, collided with a 1997 Ford Pickup, driven by Robert Thompson Kelly Jr., 80, Canadian, at the intersection of Cuyler and Brown. Kelly was cited for failure to yield right of way.
 A 1991 Pontiac Grand Am, driven by Jami Loryn Baker, 17, 2517 Evergreen, collided with a 1993 Ford Taurus, driven by Betty Jo Cone, 73 of Canyon, at the intersection of 21st and the Perryton Parkway. Cone was cited for failure to yield a right of way.
 A 1987 Ford Mustang, driven by Deharold Dean Thornhill, 45, 2712 Pampa, collided with a 1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass Sierra, driven by Shawn O'Dell Thompson, 27, Pampa, at the intersection of Kingsmill and Somerville. Thompson was cited for disregarding a stop sign.
TUESDAY, Dec. 24
 John Van Nguyen, 10, was struck by a 1996 Chevrolet pickup, driven by Gary Linn Bolch, 44, Pampa, in the Alco parking lot. Nguyen came out from between parked cars. He was transported to Columbia Medical Center with non-incapacitating injuries. No citations were issued.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25
 A legally parked 1989 Dodge Caravan, owned by Melissa Hubbard, and a legally parked 1987 Buick Century, owned by Jeremy Evans, 1228 S. Dwight, were both damaged when a southbound 1995 Ford pickup driven by Alfredo Romero Armendariz, 26, 427 N. Crest, apparently crossed the center line and hit the Caravan, which then hit the Buick. Armendariz was arrested and charged with failure to control speed and having no proof of liability insurance.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro reported the following calls in the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. this morning.
TUESDAY, Dec. 24
 10:09 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of North Zimmers for a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.
 2:16 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Hobart on a motor vehicle accident. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.
 3:35 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility for a patient transfer to Columbia Medical Center.
 4:19 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Columbia Medical Center for a patient transfer to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.
 6:13 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Columbia Medical Center to transfer a patient to a local nursing facility.
 11:33 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of West Albert for a traumatic injury. No one was transported.
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25
 1:17 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of Hill for a medical assist. No injuries were reported, and no one was transported.
 11:27 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of Hamilton for a medical assist. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.
 3:17 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of North Wells for a possible trauma. One patient was transported to Columbia Medical Center.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
TUESDAY, Dec. 24
 Criminal mischief was reported at 915 Cinderella. Someone threw a brick through a vehicle's windshield. Damage is estimated at \$300.
 Criminal mischief was reported at 1113 Sandelewood. Someone broke the passenger window on a vehicle. Damage is estimated at \$300.
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25
 Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported at 1108 S. Faulkner. Taken were 50 CD's valued at \$800 and a CD player valued at \$100.
 Theft of \$10.42 gas was reported at Allsup's, 1900 N. Hobart.
 A 29-year-old female reported an assault in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive. No injuries were reported.
 Criminal mischief was reported at 2500 Rosewood. Front windshield of a Ford Escort was broken out. Damage is estimated at \$300.
 Theft of \$6 gas was reported at Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks.

City briefs

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

NEW YEAR'S Eve Party, 8 p.m. to midnight, Landmark Club, 618 W. Foster. Adv.
LADIES NIGHT, Thursday night! The Landmark Club, open 4 p.m.-12. Pat Darling DJ. Come check out the specials! 618 W. Foster, 665-4404. Adv.
DANCE NEW Year's Eve - Moose Lodge. Make reservations now! Members and guests. Adv.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents and arrests for the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.
TUESDAY, Dec. 24
 Gray County deputies responded to the Pampa Police Department for an agency assist.
Arrests
 Lincoln Edward Summers, 48, Oklahoma, was charged with driving while intoxicated, first offense. He was released on bond.
 Faris Jake Hess II, 50, McLean, was charged with driving while intoxicated, first offense. He was released on bond.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25
 Gray County deputies responded to a simple assault in the 600 block of Cedar.
Arrests
 Alfredo Romero Armendariz, 29, 427 N. Crest, was charged with public intoxication. He was released on bond.
 Joe Scott Grubitz, Jr., 21, 1218 Oklahoma, was arrested on DPS traffic violations. He paid his fines and was released.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST
 Partly cloudy tonight with a low near 20. Northeasterly winds to 15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy and warmer, with a high near 50. Wednesday's high was 47; the overnight low was 8.
REGIONAL FORECAST
West Texas - Panhandle: Tonight, partly cloudy and cold, with lows in mid teens to near 20. Friday, partly cloudy, breezy and warmer. Highs in mid to upper 40s. South Plains: Tonight, clear. Lows in the 20s. Friday, increasing clouds. Highs 50-55.
North Texas - Tonight, mostly clear west and central, partly cloudy east. Colder all but the extreme southeast. Lows 27 north to 47 southeast. Friday, partly cloudy and warmer.
South Texas - Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, cloudy with patchy dense fog and intermittent drizzle forming by midnight with a chance of rain. Lows in mid 40s, near 40 Hill Country. Friday, patchy dense morning fog and drizzle, otherwise cloudy. Highs near 70.
Upper Coast: Tonight, cloudy with patchy fog and intermittent drizzle forming by midnight with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in upper 50s inland to near 60 coast. Friday, patchy morning fog and drizzle, otherwise cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs near 70 inland to upper 60s coast. Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Plains: Tonight, cloudy with patchy dense fog and intermittent drizzle forming by midnight. Lows near 60.
Friday, patchy dense morning fog and drizzle, otherwise cloudy. Highs near 70 coast to low 70s inland.
BORDER STATES
 New Mexico - Tonight, variably cloudy northwest, increasing high cloudiness elsewhere. Not as cold northeast. Lows teens and 20s mountains and north, upper 20s to mid 30s elsewhere. Friday, becoming mostly cloudy northwest with a slight chance of afternoon showers and mountain snow showers, variable high cloudiness elsewhere. Warmer, mainly south and east. Highs 40s to mid 50s mountains and northwest, 50s to upper 60s east and south.
 Oklahoma - Tonight, clear and cold. Lows teens north to 20s south. Friday, sunny and warmer. Highs mid 50s to low 60s.

Explosion rocks house; sick hostage freed, 104 remain

LIMA, Peru (AP) — An explosion today shook the Japanese ambassador's house where leftist guerrillas holding more than 100 hostages are said to have mined the roof and grounds.

The 1:43 a.m. blast at the compound startled police, who took cover behind trees and against walls with their guns ready. But there was no movement within the darkened home, and no indication that anyone was injured.

It was not known if the explosion was accidental, and police officers gave conflicting accounts about whether it occurred inside the house or on its grounds. A 10-foot wall surrounds the compound.

Released hostages have said the guerrillas told them the roof of the home and the area immediately around it is mined, and that the rebels carry backpacks with explosives rigged to detonate if they pull cords.

Immediately after the explosion, a Red Cross worker, looking worried, left the compound and walked hurriedly to a public telephone where he made a call. He made no comment to reporters.

The explosion was the first sign of activity since the Tupac Amaru rebels, who stormed the house during a Dec. 17 diplomatic party, released a sick hostage Wednesday afternoon. They are holding 104 other hostages, having released more than 430 since the crisis began.

Slumped in a wheelchair, 34-year-old Japanese diplomat Kenji Hirata was helped by Red Cross workers and a Roman Catholic bishop who had entered the diplomatic compound earlier to celebrate Christmas Mass.

The rebels, who want the government to free hundreds of

jailed comrades, have kept those people they consider most useful in any bargaining process. They include two Peruvian Cabinet ministers, police generals and members of the Supreme Court as well as six ambassadors and dozens of Japanese businessmen.

The government has shut off water, electricity and telephone service to the diplomatic residence, which is surrounded night and day by heavily armed police.

Bishop Juan Luis Cipriani, an ally of Peru's president, spent six hours inside the Japanese ambassador's home on Wednesday. There was speculation he was sent by President Alberto Fujimori despite the Peruvian leader's public refusal to negotiate for the release of the hostages.

Cipriani said nothing about his time inside the house, except that he would hold a news conference later today.

Fujimori publicly has ruled out talks, but some observers speculated Cipriani did more than hold a Mass for hostages.

"I think there are clear signs" that Cipriani's visit was part of a government negotiating strategy, said Javier Diez Canseco, a leftist congressman and former hostage. A Mass doesn't take six hours, he noted.

Cipriani, bishop of the city of Ayacucho, is a conservative noted for his support of government policies and criticism of opposition news media. He has taken strong public stands against violence.

Ayacucho was a target of violence in the 1980s and early 1990s by the Shining Path, the larger and more violent of Peru's two rebel groups. The Tupac Amaru has tried to distance itself from the group.



Gov. George W. Bush, second from left, joins Mothers Against Drunk Driving in its "Tie One on for Safety" holiday red ribbon program. Pictured are, from left, Karen Housewright, MADD state executive director; Gov. Bush; Karroll Searcy, MADD state chairperson; and Bill Lewis, MADD state public policy liaison.

MADD urges safe, sober holiday driving

AUSTIN — Gov. George W. Bush joined Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) at the governor's mansion to urge citizens to avoid drinking alcohol and driving during the continuing holiday season.

At the same time, MADD launched its "Tie One on for Safety" public awareness campaign featuring the familiar MADD ribbons. The campaign is designed to combat drinking and driving during the holiday season.

Joining with other officials across the country, Gov. Bush tied a MADD ribbon to his official vehicle in recognition of the awareness campaign.

Working with area businesses, MADD chapters nationwide will distribute the ribbons throughout their communities. The ribbon is a symbol of the motorists' pledge

to drive safe and sober during the holiday season. It also reminds other motorists to do the same.

"MADD is focused on saving lives and preventing injuries," said Karroll Searcy, state chairperson of MADD, Texas. "This program will help increase awareness during the holiday season by changing the meaning of 'tie one on,'" she explained.

Last year in Texas, 147 people were killed and 3,804 were injured in alcohol-related crashes between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve.

"Drunk driving threatens lives, especially during the holiday season," Bush said. "I hope everyone will join me in this important pledge to make our roads and highways safe for our families."

The Tie One on for Safety campaign is MADD's largest national public awareness program,

which began Nov. 1 and runs through New Year's Day.

As part of the campaign, MADD is offering prevention information in an effort to reduce drunk driving deaths and injuries.

When hosting a private or office party, people are asked to follow this advice from MADD:

- Serve high-protein food if alcohol is served, and offer non-alcoholic beverages.
 - Encourage guests to designate a driver or offer alternative transportation.
 - Don't let guests mix their own drinks and "close the bar" 90 minutes before the party ends.
 - Report suspected drunk drivers immediately to police from a car phone or pay phone.
- To find out more about the campaign, contact MADD, Texas at (512) 445-4976.

Restoration of Texas State Cemetery near completion

AUSTIN (AP) — Restoration will be completed in January of the 145-year-old Texas State Cemetery, the final resting spot of many of Texas' legends, including eleven governors and Stephen F. Austin, the so-called Father of Texas.

The \$4.7 million facelift was initiated two years ago after Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock complained about the deterioration of the 18-acre site on a hill in east Austin.

The cemetery dates to 1851, when Gen. Edward Burleson, vice president of the Republic of Texas, was buried there.

"It's basically going to be like it was — with a few enhancements," said Harry Bradley, superintendent of the project for the Texas General Services Commission.

A rededication ceremony is planned for March when the legislature is in session, said Kevin Kennedy, spokesman for the commission.

Faced with crumbling grave-stones, decaying roads and overgrown trees, Bullock spurred state agencies in 1994 to develop a master plan to restore dignity to the peaceful graveyard, which some have dubbed "the

Arlington Cemetery of Texas." The project is the work of the General Services Commission, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission. Work has been funded in part by a federal grant obtained by the Texas Department of Transportation.

David Lake of San Antonio's LakeFlato Architects said the master plan for the renovation has focused on refurbishing the cemetery to incorporate a historical perspective and pride in the pastoral setting.

"It is a compilation of vignettes of the Hill Country and the state," Lake said. "It's getting there. It's better than I envisioned it."

Construction is under way on a visitors' center that will include an interpretative section so visitors can learn who is buried at the cemetery and the person's significance in state history.

In a plaza adjacent to the visitors' center, a huge Texas flag waves atop a 150-foot-high flag pole, which Bradley said is the tallest flag pole in Travis County. It can be seen from the Capitol and Interstate 35.

Teacher's aide found bound, slain in bathtub

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — woman has been found dead in her bathtub at an Arlington apartment complex.

The body of Wendie Prescott, 22, was discovered early Wednesday morning in an apartment about 150 feet away from where 25-year-old Christine Vu's was found on Sept. 17. Both victims were found bound in their bathtubs.

No one has been charged in either death. Arlington police say the similarities between the two deaths are striking — including the fact neither apartment showed signs of forced entry — but they cautioned that it is too early to link the killings.

Mark Culley, 20, whose apartment is directly below Miss Prescott's, said he heard loud noises about 30 minutes before her body was found.

"I was home and heard what sounded like thumping upstairs in the bedroom or bathroom area," he said, adding a friend of his called police after hearing the noises.

Ms. Vu was a third grade teacher in Arlington; Miss Prescott was a teacher's aide at the elementary school in nearby Mansfield that she attended as a child.

Sherilyn Conn, a spokeswoman for the

Mansfield Independent School District, called the crime "such a tragedy."

"She was very special. She was one of those people who everyone in the school liked," Ms. Conn said.

"There is a possibility that the same person did kill both of them," said Lt. Kim Shoemaker, a police spokeswoman. "The detectives will look at the relationship between the two (cases)."

Miss Prescott's relatives said she did not know Ms. Vu. They said she had just moved to the complex when the first murder occurred. They said she heard about that killing from a newscast and saw flashing police lights.

Autopsy reports were expected today for Miss Prescott, who was single and lived alone.

Sgt. Mike Simonds said about a dozen officers worked on the case on Christmas Day. He would not say how Miss Prescott died or whether she had been sexually assaulted.

"We are taking a very aggressive stand, due to the fact that we have two offenses in the same geographic area in a relatively small time frame," Simonds said. "There is no indication that the two knew each other, but we aren't through looking yet."

Baylor fund-raising remains constant despite transition

WACO (AP) — Despite a year of controversy over faculty concerns about academic freedom and an unproductive football season, Baylor officials say their fund-raising hasn't missed a beat.

"At the end of November, we were almost identical to last year's gifts," said Richard Scott, Baylor's vice president for development. "My best guess is that we'll be \$2 million to \$3 million ahead by the end of the year."

Scott said the school expects to receive in excess of \$20 million this year, compared to last year's \$18 million in donations.

About \$4.3 million has been raised so far for the proposed \$20 million Student Life Center,

which newly appointed President Robert B. Sloan has made the school's top building priority.

Baylor vice president of marketing Stan Madden said fund-raising has gone pretty well this year.

"We have a president who was really completing his first year in office and a new person in charge of development," Madden said. "That's usually a very vulnerable time. Even people who traditionally give money will sometimes wait until you're past the transition."

The transition became a bit slippery following news reports

detailing some faculty members' concern that Sloan, an ordained minister, was placing too much emphasis on religious beliefs of faculty members.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

The role of dual citizenship law

A new Mexican law that allows a limited form of dual citizenship is likely to have some impact on politics in the United States, but not an alarming one. If the law becomes, as some believe, another step in liberalizing Mexico's restrictive and protectionist laws on property ownership, it could be quite constructive for Mexico and for U.S.-Mexico relations.

The law, passed by the Mexican Congress with only one dissenting vote, will allow Mexicans who live elsewhere to retain Mexican nationality, Mexican passports and the right to own and inherit property in Mexico. It does not allow them full citizenship rights; Mexicans living in other countries who take advantage of the law, for example, will not be allowed to vote in Mexican elections (although an earlier law allows expatriate Mexicans to vote in the presidential election in 2000).

The law marks an important change in Mexican politics, giving Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo a foundation to say he is reforming the Mexican system from within and reaching out to protect Mexicans in other countries. In the past, the government did not provide such a mantle of concern.

In the United States, the new law could be an inducement for more residents from Mexico to apply for U.S. citizenship since they will not lose all of their rights as Mexican citizens if they do. The Mexican government estimates that about two million Mexican-born U.S. citizens, plus 3.5 million who are legal U.S. residents, could be affected. If a large portion opt to become U.S. citizens, that will mean more Mexican-American voters, who could become a bigger factor in U.S. elections in certain districts — if they vote as a bloc.

On the other hand, while the ability to own property in Mexico is important to some immigrants, others left Mexico precisely because they figured their chance of ever owning property was slim. And many who come to the United States are accustomed to arranging for a relative at home to assume ownership of their property in Mexico, to circumvent the previous restrictive law.

The United States, meanwhile, doesn't recognize dual citizenship, but can't control the rules other countries make about nationality and citizenship.

The impact of the law in the United States, in the long run, could be less important than changes it may signal for Mexico and its citizens, near and far.

The country is building a stronger bridge to its people, and that could bode well for its politics and trade overall.

Most encouraging, if it all leads to more openness and the potential for non-citizens to own property and invest in Mexico, so much the better. New economic activity could help alleviate the poverty and sense of hopelessness that drives many Mexicans northward, seeking a better opportunity.

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Berry's World

NEED HELP
WITH THE
CHRISTMAS
LIGHTS?



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Spending to end child labor

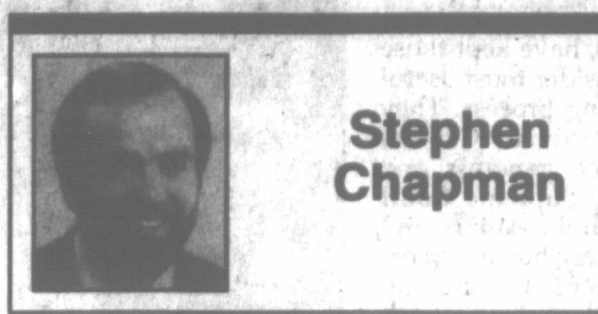
So you've done all your Christmas shopping, at considerable cost in time, energy and money, and you're reflecting with satisfaction on your unselfish efforts on behalf of those you love. You've got the right gifts, you've got the right sizes, and you've got the right colors. But wait a minute. What kind of monster are you? Did it occur to you for one second to find out if any of the items were made in sweatshops using child labor?

If your recipients knew how some of their presents were made, says the cover story in a recent *U.S. News and World Report*, "it might cast a decided pall on their holiday cheer." *Time* magazine essayist Barbara Ehrenreich, who was facetiously told at a formative age that she had a great sense of humor and was glib enough to believe it, satirically urges Disney to make a kid's movie about the happy lives of kids toiling away in "the Pure Joy Toy Factory, located somewhere in the Third World."

There are always Scooges trying to prevent us from enjoying Christmas by lamenting the wanton destruction of evergreen trees, the wasteful use of gift wrap and the insidious role of fruitcakes in destroying the ozone layer. This year's cause is child labor, which has everyone this side of Tiny Tim wringing their hands.

A coalition of sentimental do-gooders and hard headed interest groups have joined to try to awaken Americans to the allegedly terrible shame of how many goods are made. They are having some effect: A *U.S. News* poll found that nine out of ten Americans are concerned about the conditions for workers in factories that export to the United States.

Some of those conditions are awful by American standards. And some groups, like organized labor and Naderite consumer groups, have a simpler answer: Don't buy products made in low paying foreign sweatshops. That would do



Stephen Chapman

nothing to help poor people in Bangladesh, but it would be a great benefit to American union workers who would prefer a world without any foreign competition whatsoever.

The advice for consumers from *U.S. News* is not quite so straightforward. "Ask store managers what they know about a product's origin," it says. "Request copies of sourcing policies from retailers." Look for the union label. Use "discretion regarding certain countries," like Burma and Haiti.

Meaning don't buy from them? Well, not exactly. "Boycotting isn't helpful because it simply throws people out of work," says *U.S. News*. "It is more effective to ask questions about countries of origin, transmitting concern." On the other hand, you should reward enlightened retailers by giving them your business.

This is confusing advice: Although boycotting is bad, buying from "good" companies instead of "bad" companies is good. But won't that also throw people out of work at the bad companies? And what purpose does "transmitting concern" serve beyond making the transmitter feel noble?

The magazine's editors, like many people, are caught between their outrage at child labor and their unwillingness to recognize the futility of feel-good remedies. Child labor in the Third

World is not a cause of poverty and suffering but a result of it. People put their kids to work because they need the money to survive.

"Those people have really rotten options, and they chose the best," says Hoover Institution economist David Henderson. "You're going to make them even worse off by taking away the best of their bad options." Abolishing child labor in exporting industries will stop kids from working in factories, but it won't prevent them from working as beggars, thieves or prostitutes. Nor will it prevent them from starving.

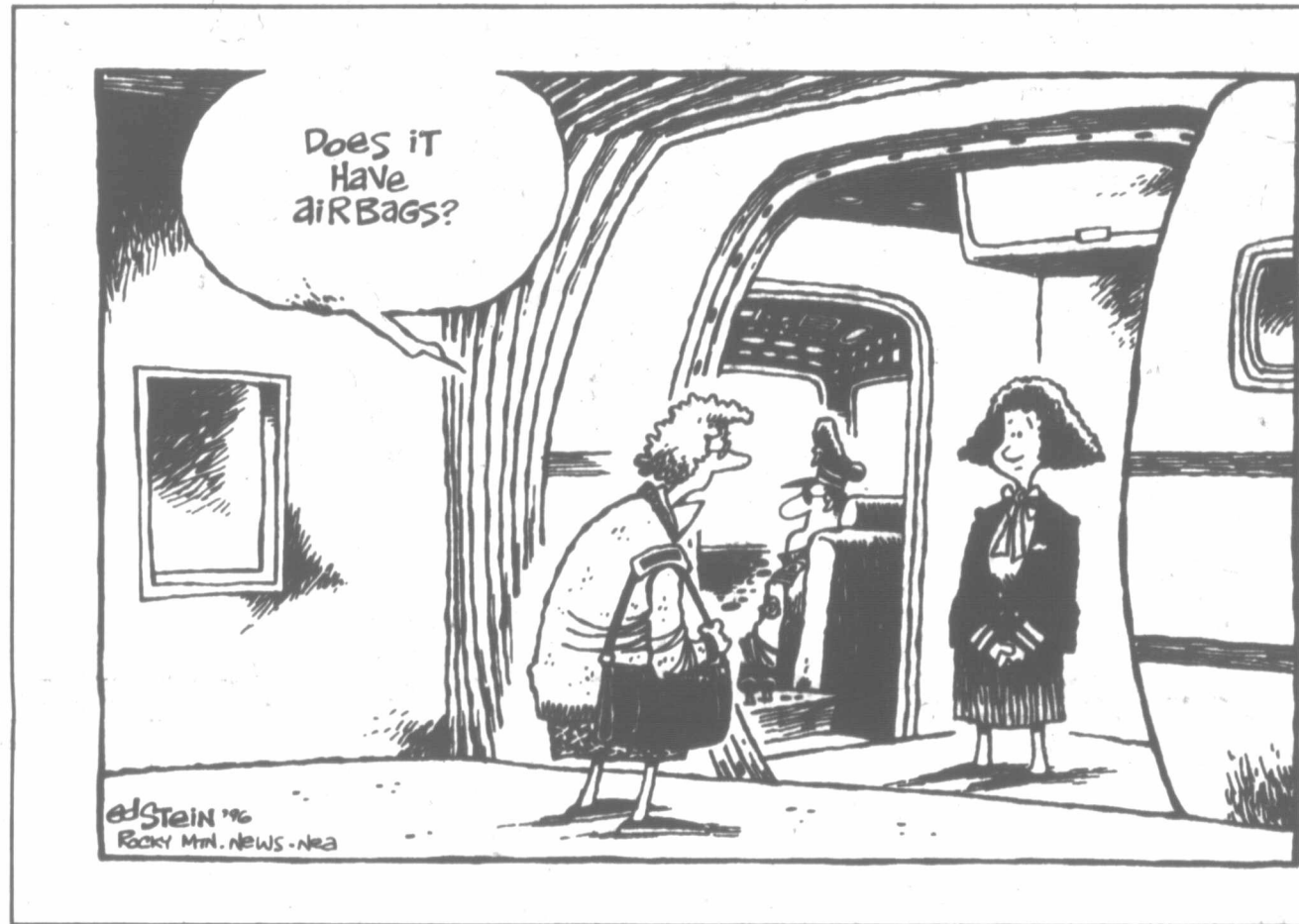
A lot of people assume that only tough laws freed children from backbreaking labor in the West. In fact, as Clemson University economist Clark Nardinelli documents in his 1990 book, *Child Labor and the Industrial Revolution*, it was economic growth, produced by the rise of free market capitalism, that largely accounted for the change. "As working-class incomes rose, parents kept children out of the labor force until later and later ages," he writes, "Industrialization, far from being the source of the enslavement of children, was the source of their liberation."

How, then, can Americans help Third World kids working long hours at low wages? Simple: Buy what they make, but more of it, and tell friends to buy it, too. That will boost the manufacturer's profits, which will induce it to produce more, which will require hiring more workers, which will push up wages, which will make workers' families better off, which will speed the day that they can send their kids to school instead of the factory.

By taking this course, you won't have to feel guilty about ignoring the plight of downtrodden children abroad. And for those who care about results and not just intentions, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that what you're doing will actually help.

Today in history

- Today In History**
By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, Dec. 26, the 361st day of 1996. There are five days left in the year.
- Today's Highlight in History:**
On Dec. 26, 1944, in the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the embattled U.S. 101st Airborne Division, surrounded by German forces in Belgium, was relieved by units of the 4th Armored Division.
- On this date:**
In 1776, the British suffered a major defeat in the Battle of Trenton during the Revolutionary War.
In 1799, the late George Washington was eulogized by Col. Henry Lee as "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."
In 1893, Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung was born in Hunan province.
In 1931, the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical play "Of Thee I Sing" opened on Broadway.
In 1941, Winston Churchill became the first British prime minister to address a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress.



Character flaws cannot be solved

Charley Reese

There is much for the 105th Congress to do when it convenes, but at the risk of sounding cynical, I don't expect it to do any better than the previous one.

Much is being made of the fact that it appears, thanks to an increase of conservatives in the Senate, that the balanced budget amendment may be passed. To some extent that is deceptive.

Congress does not need an amendment to the Constitution in order to balance the federal budget. It needs the political will. It hasn't had it. Furthermore, Congress has shown a willingness to violate the Constitution on other issues — twisting the interstate commerce clause out of shape, for example, to justify federal jurisdiction in strictly local matters. There is no reason to believe it won't evade a balanced budget amendment should one be ratified.

Conservatives can sometimes make the mistake many liberals make. That is, to believe that some problem of human character can be solved legislatively. It can't be done. Laws have no effect on human character.

Unbalanced budgets are a sign of irresponsible majorities in the House and Senate. It is irresponsible to spend more than one's income. It is immoral for present day politicians to sacrifice the welfare of future generations for their own selfish political purposes. Deficit spending is a reflection, in some cases, of political cowardice — men and

women who know better but are afraid to say no to demands for more spending or for the preservation of programs.

Amending the Constitution will not eliminate these character defects any more than the law against murder eliminates homicide. At the same time, a voting public which demands feel good, smiley face promises of financial gain from its candidates is unlikely to elect men and women stern enough to solve the problems.

Only a virtuous public will ever elect a virtuous government, and only a virtuous government can make a free society work properly. That's why I've come to agree with those people who see the only hope for stopping America's decline as a nation is a widespread religious revival. Whether such an event will occur remains to be seen.

In the meantime, decadent and flawed as we are, we and the Congress had better address the following:

— Legal immigration, which needs serious reform, to curtail the numbers of people immigrating. This level of legal immigration at this time around 900,000 a year — will drive down

wages, drive up government costs and Balkanize American culture, or what's left of it.

— Judicial usurpation needs to be curtailed. Federal judges are willfully nullifying democratic decisions both by the people and by their elected representatives. In some cases, they have ordered local officials to raise taxes. In others, they have ordered local officials to borrow money to finance their (the court's) decrees. This practice, if not halted, will rot public support for democracy.

— Executive branch breach of the separations of powers principles needs to be halted. Presidents, especially the present one, have taken to legislating by executive order and to evading Senate oversight by calling treaties "executive agreements." Constitutionally, of course, the president is only an administrator whose duty is to execute the laws enacted by Congress.

— The nation's monetary and credit system needs to be revised. At the present time, the government approves what amounts to usurious interest rates and has turned over credit and monetary policy to the private banking industry.

— Finally, we must insist on a return to true federalism, which means Congress must back out of areas assigned by the Constitution to the states. The bottom line is self-government — do we want it, or do we prefer to be subjects of some ruling elite? It's still our choice, but apathy won't cut it.

Show us your mettle, Bill Clinton ...



Joseph Spear

President Clinton could bring down the House when he gives his State of the Union speech in a few weeks. He could have them dancing in the aisles; he could have the phones and airwaves humming all over the word; he could stamp his mark on history.

All he would have to do is say to the Congress: "I support the idea of correcting annual cost-of-living adjustments in entitlement programs. I support an honestly balanced budget. I am prepared to take the lead. With the cooperation of the others in this room — Republicans and Democrats alike — you will be the Congress, and I will be the president who will nurse this nation back to fiscal health and responsibility. But I need your help."

Not bad, hey? America gets a balanced budget and we return to political civility in one fell swoop.

If there ever was an opportunity to strangle the COLA monster, it is now. We have a lame-duck president. We have an opposition party that has agreed to go along on this enormously risky journey — if Bill Clinton takes the first step. Indeed, Clinton owes the GOP this one to make up for the nasty way he demagogued the Medicare issue during the campaign.

The problem is that cost-of-living adjustments in public salaries and pensions and Social Security payments are pegged to something called the Consumer Price Index. Every month, researchers for the Bureau of Labor Statistics check the price of a "basket" of goods and services — 71,000 items at 22,000 outlets — and the statisticians calculate

how much costs have gone up. At the end of the year, the cumulative total determines how much federal benefits will be increased. If the CPI was three percent, pensions and payments are boosted three percent.

The problem is, the CPI inflates inflation. Experts have suspected this for years, and on Dec. 4, a commission of five prominent economists appointed by the Senate Finance Committee reported that the CPI overstates actual inflation by 1.1% annually. Put another way: Every year, the federal government gives pensioners and Social Security recipients a 1.1% windfall that is financed with taxes and borrowing.

If the annual COLA could be adjusted to reflect the actual rate of inflation, it would save the government nearly a trillion dollars over the next twelve years. The United States could once again be operating in the black. Some of the mind-boggling \$5.3 trillion national debt could be paid off, thus reducing the nation's interest burden and the

vast sums we borrow to pay it.

An easy call, what? Well, no, not really. Government employees love the annual salary and pension bonanzas (never mind that only five percent of private pensions have any COLA provisions at all.) Military retirees love it. Social Security recipients love it. Labor unions love it because some of their members' periodic raises are pegged to the CPI.

The COLA is thus a hot political item. The AFL-CIO is screaming that the books would be balanced on the backs of labor. The 32-million member American Association of Retired Persons is yelling that senior citizens would be punished.

What we need right now is a leader with the courage to educate the public on a few key points:

— Our security as a nation and our continued economic prosperity depends as much as anything on a balanced budget. It will cost somebody to do this. Reducing the COLA by 1.1% — which would take about \$8 a month out of the average Social Security check — would spread the burden across the population.

— This would not be a "cut." It would be a correction. It would result not in a reduction of benefits, but in a reduction of the rate of increase of those benefits.

— The entitlement mess will have to be fixed, one way or another, sooner or later. This is unquestionably the fairest deal government pensioners and senior citizens are going to get.

That's the challenge, Bill Clinton. Show us your mettle.

Negotiations resume over Hebron; firebomb thrown at settler compound

By DAFNA LINZER
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli and Palestinian negotiators closed in today on a deal to pull Israeli troops out of the West Bank town of Hebron, although they said several areas remained under discussion.

Officials from both sides said they expect an agreement can be finalized next week, after U.S. Mideast envoy Dennis Ross returns to the region Monday.

But tensions kept rising in Hebron. In recent days, it has been the scene of clashes involving Jewish settlers, Israeli troops and Palestinian residents. A firebomb was thrown at a Jewish settler compound today; it caused no damage or injuries.

Pressure on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, meanwhile, grew today when hard-line Cabinet ministers and legislators said they would vote against the emerging Hebron agreement.

But it is unlikely that the government would

fall over the issue because Netanyahu can count on support from the dovish opposition led by former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, an architect of the Israel-Palestinian peace accords.

As part of the growing criticism of Netanyahu, a group of right-wing rabbis also reissued a religious ruling that soldiers must disobey orders to leave Hebron or withdraw from parts of the biblical Land of Israel that includes the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel and the Palestinians have been trying to reach agreement on an Israeli troop pull-back in Hebron for three months. The momentum finally picked up this week when Ross visited the region and Netanyahu sat down for direct talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Martin Indyk, the U.S. ambassador to Israel, said today that some issues remain open, but would not be specific.

Ross, who returned to Washington on Wednesday, said he would be back in the region

Monday. "I hope and expect that we will conclude an agreement shortly thereafter," he said.

A deal on Hebron — the last West Bank city under Israeli control — would be the first major development in the peace process since Netanyahu was elected in May.

An agreement had been held up, in part, because Arafat wanted written guarantees from Netanyahu that Israel would gradually withdraw troops from West Bank rural areas, as specified in the autonomy agreements signed by Netanyahu's predecessors.

According to some reports, Netanyahu was said to have given Arafat a date during their meeting Tuesday for the start of the expanded withdrawal.

However, Netanyahu's top policy adviser, David Bar-Illan, said today that no date was set, and that setting one would be left up to the negotiators.

Israel has told the Palestinians that the expanded pullout could start within weeks, Bar-Illan said. Under previous agreements, it was to have begun in September and be

completed in September 1997.

Meanwhile, in Hebron today, a firebomb was thrown at the Beit Hadassah settler enclave. Some 500 settlers live in the city of 130,000 Palestinians.

Israeli troops detained about 20 Palestinians for questioning, and told Arab merchants near Beit Hadassah to close their shops.

The attack came a day after Jewish settlers clashed with Israeli troops who blocked them from occupying three empty houses in Hebron.

The settlers claim their security will be at risk if the city is turned over to Palestinian control.

In a related development, a spokesman for Hebron's Islamic University, Nabil Abu Zneid, said he was assured by Israeli military commanders that studies could resume by the weekend. Israel's army shut the university in March following four suicide bombings by Islamic militants in Israel.

Students have been protesting peacefully almost daily outside the university gates, demanding to return to studies.

Merchants slash prices, everything goes on sale

By RACHEL BECK
AP Business Writer

Lots of bargains were sure to be found today at the nation's stores and malls, as retailers slashed prices hoping to offset a ho-hum holiday season with a burst of post-Christmas buying.

From major retailers, like Lord & Taylor and Macy's, to small independent stores, merchants were opening early and offering deep discounts to get shoppers into the buying mood again after a 24-hour respite.

"It's a big day," said John Costello, senior executive vice president at Sears, Roebuck & Co., which was discounting everything from Craftsman tools to cordless telephones during its traditional after-holiday sale.

Despite reports of brisk buying in the first weeks of the season, many retailers failed to keep up with that pace through Christmas Eve.

Maxed-out credit cards, foul weather and five fewer shopping days between Thanksgiving and Christmas this year contributed to the slowdown.

"Was it great? No," said Robert Burton, director of investor relations at Kmart Corp. "We saw a modest improvement this Christmas and retailers in general had to work hard to get the gains they had."

Now, store owners are betting on a surge of buying to help their bottom lines. For shoppers, that could mean good deals on things they didn't get for Christmas.

Newspapers that published Christmas Day were filled with store ads announcing bargains on everything from clothes to cookware, with discounts running as high as 75 percent.

Some of the best prices were expected to be found at electronics and computer stores, which suffered through one of their toughest holiday seasons in recent years due to waning demand.

"Everyone said wait until after Christmas before you get a computer," said Sonya Ortiz, who stopped by a CompUSA store in Manhattan Christmas Eve to check out a few of her options. "I'll be back to see if what the prices are Thursday."

Apparel, too, will likely go on sale, as clothing stores try to move out merchandise to make room for new goods. These markdowns come despite a successful season for apparel retailers, who thrived thanks to a rebounding interest in clothing.

Chemo effective given in abdomen

BOSTON (AP) — Ovarian cancer patients who receive cancer-killing drugs directly in their abdomen rather than intravenous chemotherapy live longer and have fewer side effects to the toxic treatment, a new study says.

While intravenous chemotherapy has shown only limited ability to destroy ovarian tumors, washing the tumor in a bath of the drugs "makes a huge difference," says David Alberts, an ovarian cancer specialist at the Arizona Cancer Center in Tucson, Ariz.

His study of more than 650 women is published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The women, all of whom had tumors that had spread past their ovaries, were enrolled in the trial between 1986 and 1992. They first underwent surgery to remove as much of their cancer as possible and were then randomly selected for one of two treatment groups.


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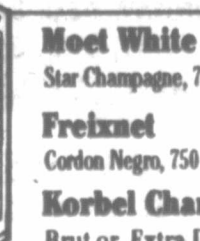
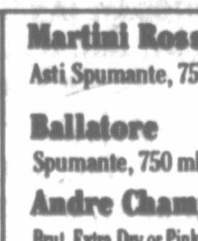
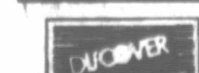


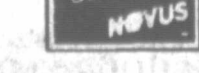
 <p>Shank Portion Ham Cook's, Bone-In 99¢ lb.</p>	 <p>Albertsons Large Eggs Grade AA, 1 Dozen 77¢ each</p> <p>Limit 2</p>
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 <p>New York Steak Boneless Beef Loin 3.99 lb.</p>	 <p>Cooked Shrimp 60 to 70 per pound 6.99 lb.</p>	 <p>Krab Log Simply Delicious! 3.99 lb.</p>
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 <p>Navel Oranges Sweet & Juicy 10\$1 ea. for</p>	 <p>Blackeye Peas Ranch Style, 15 oz. 3\$1 for</p>	 <p>Mixed Nuts Albertsons, 12 oz. 2\$5 for</p>
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 <p>Red Seedless Grapes New Crop, Chilean Grown 1.79 lb.</p>	 <p>Sliced Bacon Decker 1 lb. Package 1.99 each</p>	 <p>Bryan Little Smokies All Varieties, 16 oz. 2.69 each</p>
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 <p>Fretznet Cordon Negro, 750 ml. 6.99 each</p>	 <p>Ballatore Spumante, 750 ml. 4.99 each</p>	 <p>Andre Champagne Brut, Extra Dry, 750 ml. 2.5 for 5</p>
 <p>Korbel Champagne Brut or Extra Dry, 750 ml. 8.99 each</p>		

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AVAILABILITY
Each of these advertised items is required to be readily available for sale at or below the advertised price in each Albertsons store, except as specifically noted in this ad.

Suicide blast Christmas Eve kills three in Germany

By NESHA STARCEVIC
Associated Press Writer

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) - The bells had just stopped ringing across Frankfurt. About 70 worshipers began singing *Praise The Lord, You Christians*. Then the woman no one knew set off two grenades, killing herself and two sisters sitting next to her.

"It looks like she just walked in and blew herself up. The evidence indicates that she was disturbed and wanted to kill herself in a spectacular action," police spokesman Manfred Feist said Wednesday.

"Christmas Eve. It's unimaginable." Feist did not say what led police to that conclusion. He ruled out a politically motivated attack.

On Christmas Day, neighbors lit candles at the gate of the church. Dozens gathered at the community building. Around the country, worshipers prayed for the victims and their families.

Ten survivors were hospitalized. Two, a twelve-year-old girl and her mother, suffered critical head injuries in the blast, which followed the beginning of the first hymn of the 11 p.m. service.

The bomber's lower body was blown up, and the hard wooden pew she was sitting on was blackened and splintered. Her head and upper body remained virtually intact, with dark smudges on her face.

Police released photographs of her



from the back on Christmas Eve. It was icy cold outside, but they noticed that she had not removed her dark cape and shawl inside the warm church, decorated with a Christmas tree lit for Mass.

When the explosion hit, worshipers ran screaming from the small stone building, many with blood streaming from their wounds. They were treated on the street, in the Rev. Hans Blum's house next door, and on the floor under the light of the Christmas tree.

Blood splattered the walls, and splintered chunks of pews rested on the bloodied floor. Young volunteers from the fire brigade - the first on the scene to give first aid - were so overcome that they had to be treated themselves, said Fire Brigade spokesman Hans-Jurgen Kohnert.

Hours after the explosion, needles and intravenous bottles were mixed with numbered evidence tags on the bloodied floor. Strewn about were sheets of blue paper - the Christmas hymns left to be sung.

The pastor, who had postponed his retirement to spend one more Christmas with his parishioners, was suffering from severe shock, said Dean Burkhard Sulemma.

Neighboring St. Dionysius Catholic Church planned a memorial service for Sunday. The stricken congregation, which had no Christmas Day service, scheduled it for Thursday - a national holiday - at another Lutheran church.

remains, hoping that someone would recognize her.

Most of the worshipers at Lutheran Church Sindlingen-South, in a working-class neighborhood of western Frankfurt, knew each other well. Many worked in the nearby Hoechst chemical plant.

The sisters who died, ages 59 and 61, were from Sindlingen.

None recognized the dark-haired, blue-eyed, 30ish woman who sat in the third pew

Plane crashes into duplex; nobody seriously injured

AUSTIN (AP) - Federal Aviation Administration officials say a single-engine airplane apparently ran out of gas before plunging through the roof of an Austin duplex.

A broken nose suffered by pilot Brian Hecht was the most serious injury caused by Wednesday's crash.

"I guess I'm lucky it wasn't worse, but I feel pretty poor," said a cut and scraped Hecht, who was in stable condition at Brackenridge Hospital late Wednesday.

His wife, Lisa, was released from the hospital after being treated for minor cuts and bruises, while none of the four people inside the house were injured.

The Hechts, who live in Dallas, had rented the 1974 Cessna 150M and flown to Austin to have Christmas dinner with relatives.

Shortly before noon, Hecht realized he didn't have enough gas to make it to Robert Mueller Airport and tried making an emergency landing in a field at LBJ High School.

Instead, he plowed through the shingles of the nearby house.

Hecht, 31, told a rescuer that during his approach he collided with electrical lines and lost all power.

FAA officials gave a similar account, although the agency's investigation is ongoing.

So is the cleanup of the house. Surprisingly, the damage isn't too bad.

"When you walk in the living room, you don't have any idea there's a plane in the next room," said Austin fire department spokeswoman Cathy Brandewie.

The tail and wings of the plane protruded through the roof. Other than a broken tail rudder, the rest of the aircraft appeared to be intact.

Carolyn Thomas, 35, was asleep on the living room couch at the time of the accident. Her daughters Ariana, 14, and Desiree, 2, were asleep while her 80-year-old grandmother, Gertrude Hutchins, was in an adjoining room. The residents on the other half of the duplex were not home.

President's national monument blocks coal mining plan

WASHINGTON (AP) - When President Clinton designated 1.7 million acres of Utah wilderness as a national monument, he dashed plans to tap a huge reserve of environment-friendly coal.

The White House says the president acted to preserve a beautiful, exotic place, named Kaiparowits by the Paiute Indians. Critics see a connection to Indonesia, which already mines such cleaner fuel.

Andalex Resources, a U.S. mining company owned by a British family, holds leases on Kaiparowits and was nearly ready to break ground on a Utah mine that would produce about three million tons of coal. It reversed course with

Clinton's announcement in September.

"Our position is that the monument designation makes the coal mine project unfeasible," said David Shaver, project manager at Andalex.

The 62 billion tons of coal found beneath the area's red-rock cliffs burns hot but emits far less polluting sulphur than most coal mined in the United States. It's known as "super compliance" coal because its properties meet Clean Air Act standards. Similar coal is mined in Indonesia.

"The whole industry was expecting to move into Kaiparowits," says Lee Allison, director of the state's geological survey.

Some of the coal was destined for Japan, which buys a lot of coal from Indonesia, officials said.

A farm trade publication and some politically conservative talk shows have raised questions in recent weeks about whether Clinton's decision might benefit Indonesia and its Lippo Group, a conglomerate at the center of a controversy over campaign contributions to the Democratic Party.

Lippo's founder, billionaire Mochtar Riady, his family members and associates have contributed heavily to Clinton and the Democrats.

Lippo has business interests related to coal: One of its subsidiaries was involved in a

now-dormant joint venture to run a coal-fueled power plant in China.

The White House calls such speculation preposterous.

"The reason that the monument was created is because it's an extraordinary place, filled with bird and plant life and natural wonders that needed to be protected," said spokeswoman Mary Ellen Glynn. "It had nothing to do with Indonesian coal interests."

Allison agreed that Clinton's decision has no effect on Indonesian coal producers. "Utah coal does not pose a threat to Indonesia," he said. "If they want to compete with Utah coal they can blow Utah out of the water."

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Nation briefs

Grocery chain agrees to settle with dead man's sons

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) - A grocery chain has agreed to pay \$2.35 million to the family of a man who died while eight workers pinned him down because they suspected him of shoplifting toothpaste and a toothbrush.

William Alexander, 33, died of asphyxiation on Aug. 5, 1995.

Albertsons Inc., based in Boise, Idaho, settled with his family Tuesday by agreeing to provide \$2.35 million over the next 20 years to Alexander's sons, Kyle, 16, and Kory, 13.

"This is not any admission of guilt," Albertsons spokesman Michael Read said. "We've said from the beginning that this was a set of tragic circumstances. There was never any criminal conduct on anyone's part."

A grand jury cleared the employees but indicted the company on criminal charges of manslaughter, a case that has not yet come to trial.

When officers arrived at the store in nearby Delray Beach, they found several employees holding down the 6-foot, 280-pound Alexander. Witnesses told police that Alexander had been yelling that he could not breathe.

Albertsons also agreed to increase its advertising for minority employees, increase uniformed security guards, and issue an expression of regret for Alexander's death.

Christmas is back after terrier escapes from hungry coyote

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif. (AP) - Tom and Kathleen Roe were set to cancel Christmas after a coyote snatched their beloved 10-year-old Yorkshire terrier, Scooter.

They tried to chase the coyote that grabbed their little dog off the patio Saturday. But except for bloody paw prints, they found no trace of the Yorkie or the coyote.

"We were going to take down

the tree, not have dinner, not have anything," Ms. Roe said.

On Monday, her husband walked into the garage and noticed something by the door.

"Scooter was just standing there, with blood all over him, his fur all matted," he recalled. "I yelled, 'Kathy, you better come out here.'"

His wife feared he had discovered Scooter's 8 1/2-pound body. Instead, she found him cuddling the dog.

"I thought, 'This isn't a soap opera. People don't come back from the dead,'" she said.

Scooter needed four hours of surgery to sew up more than 20 bite punctures, but got to return home that night.

"This is the greatest Christmas present I've ever gotten in my life," Ms. Roe said. "It's a Christmas miracle."

Angel missing from lake where Smith drowned sons

UNION, S.C. (AP) - At the site where Susan Smith drowned her two sons, a glowing angel has been missing from the lakeside memorial for several days, the sheriff's office said Wednesday.

The plastic angel, about 10 inches tall, glowed red at night using solar power. It sat atop a granite monument with a photo of 3-year-old Michael and 14-month-old Alex and a poem to the "two little angels with beautiful smiles."

On Oct. 25, 1994, their mother strapped them into their car seats and rolled the car into the lake. For nine days she maintained they were abducted by a carjacker, then confessed. She is serving a life sentence.

"Michael and Alex have lost their lives, and now someone is trying to steal the memorial to honor them," said Paula Richburg, the Lexington woman who commissioned the monument. "I hope when this person goes to sleep at night, if he has a conscience, he sees their two faces."

Authorities have considered limiting public access to the site since seven people drowned there when a truck rolled into the lake Aug. 31.

Body found in vent pipe of pizza oven

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) - A maintenance worker checking a faulty pizza shop oven found a body lodged in the oven vent's pipe.

Police Sgt. Gary White said the body discovered Tuesday afternoon at Cassano's Pizza & Subs was that of a white male in his mid-teens to early 20s, with tattoos on his arms.

The worker who investigated the problem had found a shoe on top of the oven inside the store before going to the roof to investigate further, police said. He noticed the body from the roof.

White said police did not know how the man became stuck, or why or how long he had been there.

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EARLY DEADLINES
WE WILL BE CLOSED WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST
DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

Day of Insertion	Deadline
MONDAY, DEC. 30.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 12 NOON
TUESDAY, DEC. 31.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 12 NOON
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 3 P.M.
THURSDAY, JAN. 2.....	MONDAY, DEC. 30, 12 NOON
FRIDAY, JAN. 3.....	TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 12 NOON

CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

Day of Insertion	Deadline
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1.....	TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 2 P.M.
THURSDAY, JAN. 2.....	TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 5 P.M.

CITY BRIEFS

Day of Insertion	Deadline
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1.....	TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 4 P.M.

All other DEADLINES will remain at their regular times.
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Community Calendar

Note: Civic clubs, organizations, church groups and others wanting their special meetings and activities listed on the community calendar should contact the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce office, 200 N. Ballard, or call 669-3241, at least two weeks before the scheduled event.

December

AL-ANON will hold weekly meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky. For more information, call 669-0407.

CLEAN AIR AL-ANON will hold weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at 810 W. 23rd. For more information, call 669-0407 or 669-3988.

VFW POST #1657, 105 S. Cuyler. Charity Bingo every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Doors open at 12 noon. Public is welcome. License No. 1-75-6037422-9.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS of the Texas Panhandle Inc. has an office open in Pampa. For information as a volunteer, or if you have a child who would qualify for the program, call 665-1211.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE CHARITY BINGO every Monday at 7 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 403 E. Brown. Doors open at 6 p.m. Public welcome. License #1-751616469-0.

MEN OF THE MOOSE CHARITY BINGO every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 403 E. Brown. Doors open at 6 p.m. Public welcome. License #1-75-0769811-0.

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION presents "CHRISTMAS PAST" during the month of December. For more information, contact Ronnie Holmes at 665-2631.

6-30 - CHRISTMAS IN LIGHTS - Drive-Through Christmas Lighting Tour. Recreation Park and other locations, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. For more information, contact Kathleen Chaney at 665-2454 or Susan Winborne at 669-9813.

28 - FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS Potluck Supper, 6 p.m., Clyde Carruth Pavilion in Recreation Park east of Pampa. For more information, contact Carolyn or John Stokes, 665-0190 or 665-7896.

January

1 - START THE NEW YEAR with a bowl of lucky black-eyed peas and cornbread with the VFW Post #1657 and the VFW Ladies Auxiliary at 105 S. Cuyler from 11 a.m. until ??? For more information, contact Jean Dietrick at 669-6579.

5 - PAMPA COMMUNITY CONCERT, St. Lawrence String Quartet, 7:30 p.m., M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. For more information, contact Lilith Brainard at 665-4579.

7 - CLEAN PAMPA will be holding its monthly general membership meeting at Mr. Gatti's. Dutch treat lunch starts at 11:45 a.m.; meeting starts at 12:15 p.m. For more information, contact Lora Baggerman at 665-2514.

10-12 - TOP O' TEXAS LIVESTOCK SHOW AND SALE, Clyde Carruth Pavilion at Recreation Park. For more information, contact Gray County Extension Office, 669-8033.

14-31 - PAMPA MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBIT. Selected student art works, White Deer Land Museum, 116 S. Cuyler. Tuesday-Sunday, 1-4 p.m., or phone 669-8041 for an appointment. Sponsored by the Pampa Fine Arts Association; for more information, call 665-0343.

17-18 - GRAY COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW, Clyde Carruth Pavilion at Recreation Park. For more information, contact Gray County Extension Office, 669-8033.

18 - ARLO AND ABE GUTHRIE in concert, 7 p.m., M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. Tickets, \$12.50 per person, are available at Tolzien's Music in Amarillo and Tarpley Music in Lubbock and Pampa. Proceeds benefit Pampa's Tribute to Woody Guthrie Inc., a non-profit organization.

24-26 - ACT I PRESENTS "Harvey," directed by Cheryl Shuck and Sandy Crosswhite. Pampa Mall, 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact 665-3701.

25 - FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS, 6 p.m., Clyde Carruth Pavilion. Pot luck supper. For more information, call 665-8067, 665-0190 or 665-7896.

27 - PAMPA FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION annual membership meeting and banquet, M.K. Brown Auditorium, Heritage Room. For more information, call 665-0343.

28 - PHS BAND SPAGHETTI SUPPER, Pampa High School cafeteria, 5-8 p.m. Tickets, \$4.50 for adults, \$2.25 for children. For more information, contact Jane Jacobs at 665-3878.

31 - ACT I PRESENTS "Harvey," directed by Cheryl Shuck and Sandy Crosswhite. Pampa Mall, 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact 665-3701.

Prisoners amass sizeable savings while doing time

AUSTIN (AP) — More than half of the inmates in the Texas state prison system are considered indigent, with less than \$5 in their accounts on any given day in the "prison bank," state prison officials say.

But on a recent day, two prisoners each had more than \$50,000 in their accounts, and 26 had more than \$10,000, the *Houston Chronicle* reported.

That's a hefty balance for someone whose purchases often is limited to food, toilet items, stationery and the like from the commissary.

In all, there's about \$7 million in cash in the prison bank — an average of about \$52 in the 135,220 non-interest bearing accounts, Texas Department of Criminal Justice records show.

On death row, twelve inmates each have more than \$1,000 in their accounts, with the wealthiest condemned killer amassing \$8,470.

Prison spokesman Glen Castlebury said a prisoner once exceeded the \$99,999 limit that prison rules place on inmate trust accounts.

None of the longtime administrators can recall when or how that fortune was amassed, Castlebury said. Privacy rules prohibit the disclosure of individual inmates' bank balances.

Convicts do not get paid for the prison jobs they hold, although some earn funds through the sale of crafts they make in prison.

Officials say some inmates deposit funds sent in by family and friends, some collect divorce or other financial settlements and some earn funds through the sale of crafts they make in prison "piddling shops."

Bruce Thaler, warden at the Ellis Unit in Huntsville, where death row is housed, said a lot of the money for condemned killers comes from overseas.

Savvy condemned killers know that "overseas thinking is quite a bit more liberal than ours in the United States, especially as far as capital punishment goes," Thaler said, and thus they often search for pen pals overseas who are more apt to send money for their causes.

In 1993, for example, a French woman who had befriended condemned prisoner Samuel Christopher Hawkins begrudgingly confirmed that she had given Hawkins \$15,000 — some of it her own money and the rest collected from fellow countrymen who also oppose capital punishment.

"Some of the correspondence that they send out is, from a con's aspect, astonishing," Thaler added. "They can manage to build a person's confidence, talk about their cause, they'll discuss so many different things about why they need this money to fight their case, to help pay for their lawyer, to buy typewriters, or the amount of postage they need sending things out. It's amazing."

Under prison rules, all incoming and outgoing mail is monitored, except that to and from lawyers and reporters.

"Anything that is direct solicitation where (prisoners) just blatantly come out and say, 'I need you to send me \$100, \$50, what

have you' we don't allow that to go out," the warden said.

But convicts being cons, Thaler said, they learn to "sugar coat" their pleas to try to get around the mail censors, complaining about conditions, poor food, lack of money to fight their sentences, and the like. But the underlying message is there: Send money.

Money in prison means power — the same as it does on the outside.

"It doesn't take as much, naturally, in prison for you to be somebody or to look at it as a means of control," Thaler said.

Some inmates share their wealth with those less fortunate; others use it for gambling or control leverage, Thaler said.

When a felon doesn't have the cash in the bank to shop from the company store, he often must turn to fellow convicts operating stores out of their cells.

A cash-poor prisoner who needs a tube of toothpaste might have to agree to pay back the seller with two tubes of toothpaste when his money comes in.

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Some Americans don't get break for Christmas holiday

GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP) — As Americans crisscrossed the skies Wednesday for last-minute trips home for Christmas, some unlucky people had to fly them and some had to serve them snacks and drinks.

American Airlines pilot Jeffrey Dawkins said he doesn't mind working on the holidays, but concedes he'd rather be home with his nine-year-old daughter and wife of 14 years.

"I wish Santa could just pack a few people into his sleigh and drop 'em off on his way back to the North Pole," Dawkins said as he walked through the terminal at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. "But someone has to take Grandma home safely."

Harding is among thousands of workers for hotels, airlines, radio stations, law enforcement agencies and other businesses that just can't stop operating on Christmas.

At a nearby Marriott hotel, janitor Henry Jonah, 54, said Christmas is the busiest time of year.

"I know that I'm never really going to get off for Christmas," Jonah said. "You've got people coming into town for the holidays and their relatives don't have enough room."

Dallas homicide detective

Cathy Harding says she enjoys her job on Christmas Day more than any other day of the year.

"There is 100 percent job security around here the other 364 days of the year, but today, generally, everyone has good will towards men," Harding said.

But someone has to man the post, no matter how quiet things may be, she added.

"This is a job where I'm grateful when I'm not busy, but you never know when something could happen."

Scott Jenkins, a technician at 24-hour news station KRLLD, said he got the holiday shift because his family lives in Louisiana.

"We had an early Christmas last weekend so I'm OK with working," Jenkins said. "If I weren't doing this I'd just be sitting at home watching television."

Philip Gregory, 17, grimaced while sweeping the aisles of an empty movie theater at the Spectrum in Dallas.

"I don't understand why people want to come see movies on Christmas Day," Gregory said. "What do movies have to do with Christmas?"

He said he'd rather be anywhere but at work, but admitted he might "sneak a movie" himself to make the time go faster.

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Grandmothers' Advice Sounds Like Criticism To Mother's Ears

DEAR ABBY: I have read your column every day for a long time, and I need an honest and objective opinion, which I'm sure you will give me.

I am almost 20 and have been married to "Todd" for nearly a year. We have a beautiful 9-month-old daughter named "Claire." We are living with my parents until we can get on our feet.

Todd's mother, stepfather and grandparents all live close by.

My problem: Between my mother and my mother-in-law, at least three times a week, I get comments of some sort on the way we are raising our daughter. I disagree with many of the techniques they used when they were raising children. What seems like advice or ideas to them seems like criticism to me. My mother especially is always saying that I should be doing this or that. Both Mom and my mother-in-law think that because they have been through it, they know what is best for our daughter.

I love our daughter with all my heart and consider myself a good mother. Although Todd's mother and mine did very well raising us, now it's my turn to raise my daughter the way her father and I think is best.

I love Mom and Todd's mother very much, and I have tried to talk to them about constantly giving me advice, but they get defensive and remind me that they have been parents for more than 20 years. Both

Abigail Van Buren
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

instist that I should listen to them. Abby, I know Claire better than anyone else, so shouldn't I know the best way to be a parent to her?

YOUNG MOTHER
IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR YOUNG MOTHER: Yes. Now all you need is the courage of your convictions. Stick to your guns and don't be pressured by all the unsolicited advice you're getting. You need not apologize for doing things your way.

DEAR ABBY: I work in a small office, seven women and one man. The holiday tradition is that the boss and his wife host a holiday dinner in their home for the staff. Last year was my first time to attend.

I was taught from childhood that when you go to someone's home for a party, you bring the hostess a gift — which I did, along with a small gift for their only child. These gifts were not very expensive and our

hosts seemed to be appreciative. The staff contributed to a joint gift for the boss.

Upon returning to the office the next work day, I was told by one of the longtime employees, "We don't buy gifts for the boss's wife and daughter." When you work in an environment of female employees, there can be a lot of back-stabbing, which I don't want to be a part of in any way. Now I don't know what to do about this this year. I would feel very awkward arriving empty-handed, and yet I don't want it to look like I'm seeking brownie points.

Although I won't be comfortable with this decision, I won't take a gift this year, but what should I do next year? Help me if you can, please.

SHOULD ETIQUETTE PREVAIL?

DEAR SHOULD: It is gracious to give the hostess a gift, but in order to avoid conflict with your co-workers, you could send it a day or two after the party. (And though it's also thoughtful to send the child a gift, it's not necessary.)

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Horoscope

Friday, Dec. 27, 1996

Larger-than-usual rewards could be in store for you in the year ahead because your ambitions and abilities will be in harmony. You can draw from a large pool of assets.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You can breathe new life into an old project that looked as if it was on its last legs. Instead of quitting, try to determine if your new ideas will work. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If possi-

ble, don't try to avoid making a crucial decision today. Face issues head-on and have faith in your wisdom and judgment.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Beginning today, try to set your sights higher than usual. You are in a high-achievement cycle, and your aim will be especially good.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Colleagues will have as much faith in your ideas as you do today. They will perceive that you are right, and they will be willing to follow your lead.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A partner who has been lucky for you in the past might have a fresh proposal for you today. This time could be even better than last time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today you might have an opportunity to win the support of someone who has never been on your side before. Take advantage of this situation right away.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Strive to be alert and observant today, because a development that could be very profitable will become apparent. Evaluate this situa-

tion carefully.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) If an old friend wants to introduce you to a new group of people today, be grateful for the offer. You will have an opportunity to forge a new partnership.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Instead of clinging to something that has proven to be unproductive, forget it and start moving in a different direction. Something in your past may provide a clue.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You might encounter an old pal at a social gathering today. You were close friends at one time, so do what you can to revitalize this relationship now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Trends which could improve your financial and social standing will shift in your favor today. You should prepare to take advantage of these developments.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A matter that has been mismanaged by someone else could come under your control today. Do not hesitate to make adjustments.

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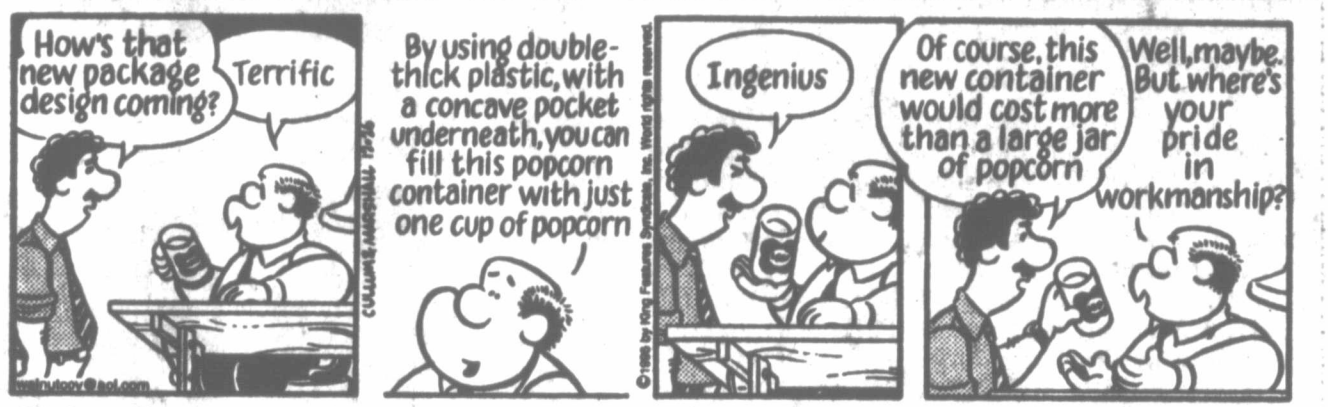
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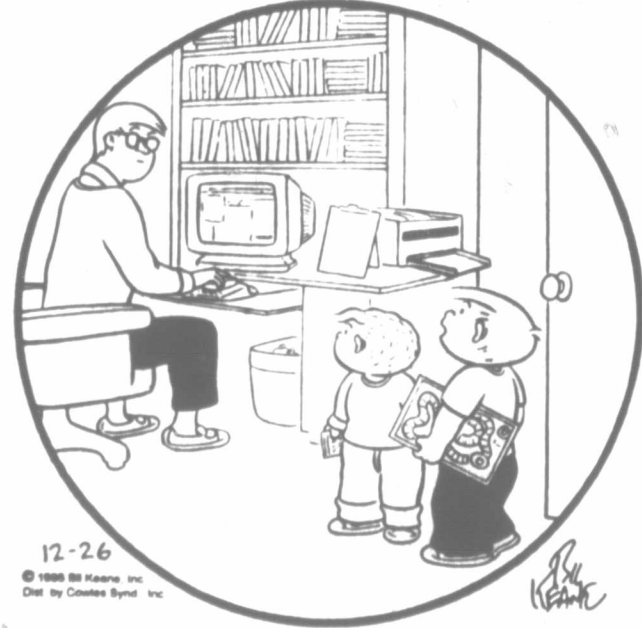
The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore



"We lost the directions to our game, Daddy. Could you ask for them on the Internet?"



"No, I don't want to romp in the snow with you."

The Family Circus



Marmaduke



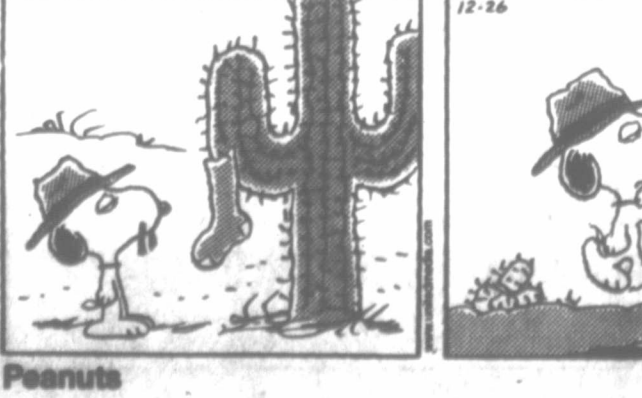
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Notebook

BASKETBALL

CHICAGO (AP) — Once again, Scottie Pippen, Michael Jordan and Dennis Rodman delivered the same message to the Detroit Pistons: It's not your turn yet. Pippen scored 27 points, Jordan added 23 and Rodman pulled down 22 rebounds Wednesday night as the Chicago Bulls rolled to their 18th consecutive victory over Detroit, 95-83.

The defending NBA champions won their eighth straight game, improving to a league-best 25-3.

Grant Hill tied his season-high with 27 points for Detroit (20-6), which came in with the NBA's second-best record.

Detroit shot 44 percent from the floor and was outrebounded 51-37. By far the league's best 3-point shooting team — 45 percent entering the game — the Pistons were only 3-for-18 Wednesday.

After Detroit pulled to 83-74 with 8:25 to go, Pippen hit a 3-pointer and Jordan converted a three-point play to make it a 15-point game. The Bulls held double-digit leads the rest of the way.

PHOENIX (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers gave the Phoenix Suns fits even before they acquired Shaquille O'Neal. With him, it's been no contest.

O'Neal had 26 points and 16 rebounds Wednesday to lead the Lakers to a methodical 108-87 win — their sixth straight and third this season against the Suns.

Eddie Jones took up the slack when O'Neal wasn't working the baseline for turnaround jumpers or driving for dunks. Jones scored 12 points of his 24 points in an eight-minute stretch of the third quarter. He also had five steals to increase his NBA leader in that category.

The Lakers beat the Suns by 14 points in each of their first two meetings this season.

Sam Cassell had 17 points for the Suns, but his 3-of-8 shooting typified the Suns' cold night. Phoenix was 26-of-74 (35 percent).

Rex Chapman and Danny Manning scored 15 each for the Suns, while Elden Campbell had 13 points and 12 rebounds, helping the Lakers to a 53-39 edge on the glass.

BASEBALL

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Agreed to terms with INF Luis Lopez on a one-year contract.

FOOTBALL

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Fired Mike White, coach.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed LB Terry Crews to a one-year contract. Released DT Keith Rucker.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed RB Chuck Levy. Placed DE Michael Brandon on injured reserve.

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Giants general manager George Young flew to Phoenix Wednesday to meet with Jim Fassel, the Arizona Cardinals offensive coordinator and a former Giants assistant coach.

Meanwhile, Dan Reeves, fired by the Giants on Monday, is a candidate for the Atlanta Falcons job and said his agent had been contacted by the team. The Falcons fired June Jones on Monday.

COLLEGE SPORTS

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL — Named Steve O'Day women's soccer coach.

HOFSTRA — Announced that F Stanley Martin has left the basketball team for personal reasons.

LANDER — Named Katrina Sacco women's interim basketball coach.

PENNSYLVANIA — Named Michael Dowd women's interim tennis coach.

Dallas Cowboys' Irvin: 'We took the year off'

By DENNE H. FREEMAN
AP Sports Writer

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys got into the playoffs again despite an offense that finished 24th overall in the NFL.

The defense, which finished third, carried the Cowboys to a 10-6 record and the NFC East division title.

"We took the year off," was the way wide receiver Michael Irvin explained the Cowboys' lack of firepower.

The NFL statistics don't lie. Dallas was 18th rushing the ball and 20th passing it.

On the defensive side, Dallas was second against the pass and 10th against the rush.

The Cowboys managed to post a 10-6 record and win their fifth consecutive NFC East title despite the offensive problems that were obvious from the start.

Training camp was disjointed and unproductive because of scrimmages and trips.

"We never got a chance to get the repetitions we needed going into the season," said quarterback Troy Aikman.

Then came the NFL hammer on Irvin, who was suspended for five games in which the Cowboys limped along with a 2-3 record.

Then there was tight end Jay Novacek's bad back. Novacek was missing in action and that meant Aikman had no hookup with his No. 1 and No. 2 receivers from last year.

"Most people know what Jay means to this offense," Aikman said.

It wouldn't have been so bad if Eric Bjornson had been healthy. Drafted as a Novacek replacement, this former quarterback and wide receiver out of

Washington has tremendous talent but is prone to injury.

Even when Bjornson played, it often was at half-speed. In one game, Bjornson tried to play with not one but two sprained ankles.

"Eric has a lot of talent, but he's been injured so much we couldn't get on the same page," said Aikman, who had 12 touchdown passes and 13 interceptions in the regular season.

Then another wide receiver, Kevin Williams, broke a bone in his foot and missed a month.

Deion Sanders never materialized as a big offensive threat, catching only 36 passes for 474 yards and a lone touchdown.

During the stretch run, coach Barry Switzer began using him more and more on defense as it became clear that was the only way the Cowboys were going to win.

Meanwhile, the Cowboys offensive line played injured all season.

"We never had a chance to get into good pounding shape," said offensive guard Nate Newton. "But maybe we can get things coordinated for the playoffs."

Dallas plays the Minnesota Vikings in the first round of the playoffs on Saturday. Placekicker Chris Boniol was all the offense Dallas had in some games. He won three games and currently is on a 27-game field goal streak.

But the defense under coordinator Dave Campo couldn't be budged, even though end Charles Haley missed most of the season with a bad back and Leon Lett was suspended the last three games and the playoffs for violating the NFL's substance-abuse policy.

"Our defense was responsible for us hanging in there like we did this season," Switzer said.

Oilers' George named NFL Offensive Rookie

HOUSTON (AP) — Eddie George wants to be the best and he's on a fast track to get there.

One season after being named the Heisman Trophy winner, George on Wednesday was named The Associated Press NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year.

The Houston Oilers' young star is eager to chase more of his goals.

"I want someday to be up there with the best of them, players like Emmitt Smith, Barry Sanders, Michael Irvin, Brett Favre and all of them," George said.

In his first season out of Ohio State, George gained 1,368 yards on 335 carries, a 4.1 average, and scored eight touchdowns.

Those numbers earned George received 74 of 93 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers, easily outpacing New England receiver Terry Glenn, who had eight. George and Glenn were teammates at Ohio State.

Tampa Bay fullback Mike Alstott was third with six, followed by wide receiver-kick returner Eddie Kennison of St. Louis (three) and guard Jonathan Ogden of Baltimore (two).

"Honors like that are everything a kid sees now," George said. "The Heisman, Rookie of the Year, Super Bowl MVP, I think everyone shoots for those things, naturally."

George came from Ohio State with all the lofty expectations of being the Heisman Trophy winner and it was clear from the start that he would meet

those expectations.

"It's highly unusual for a rookie to display the leadership qualities that Eddie has," coach Jeff Fisher said. "He believes that he can single-handedly win games for us. That's been a big thing about Eddie and I hope it rubs off on some of the other players."

George became an instant starter with the Oilers and finished the season sixth in the NFL. His total also was fifth-best in team history.

George admits he exceeded his own expectations. "I didn't really think about it," he said. "And I wouldn't say this has been a dream season. We're not in the playoffs and we're not unbeaten or anything."

"But it has been an interesting season. I've learned a lot. I've experienced a lot. I'm looking forward to learning a lot more next year."

George had four 100-yard performances during the year.

"From the first day of practice it was obvious that he was going to be all that he should be," offensive coordinator Jerry Rhome said. "He's big and strong like a John Riggins, but he's more shifty."

George's cool under pressure will extend into next season.

"I know the importance of consistency," he said. "I know in this league, one year you can rush for 1,300 yards and the next year you might get 200. I want to keep everything in the proper perspective. I just want to keep trying to get better. That's the only thing I focus on."

Rice gets defensive nod

NEW YORK (AP) — The scouting reports on Simeon Rice said he had loads of natural talent. He simply didn't always apply it.

The reports were wrong. Rice went all-out in 1996, and it earned him the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year award, announced today by The Associated Press.

The Arizona Cardinals defensive end received 60 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers. He easily beat Miami linebacker Zach Thomas, who had 16 votes.

"The most important thing I've learned is persistence, working to be a champion at this level," said Rice, who had 12 1/2 sacks, matching the NFL rookie record set by San Diego's Leslie O'Neal in 1986. "I knew how it felt to win four (prep) state titles and how it felt to go to a bowl game. But forever battling the monotony of pursuing something to be excellent at it, I think that's the biggest thing I learned."

The league quickly learned about Rice, an All-America linebacker at Illinois. His final season at Illinois was considered inferior to his previous year, and questions arose about his work ethic.

Arizona wasn't scared off. "Any time you're picking third in the draft, there's some pretty good football players that you have to consider, and certainly a lot of them were still on the board after we selected Simeon, so we thought he was pretty good or we wouldn't have taken him," said Cardinals coach Vince Tobin, a defensive coordinator before he was hired in Arizona.

"The thing that we saw in the film was his ability to rush the passer. He's also developed into being able to play the run pretty well."

"In a lot of ways he plays like a rookie; he plays in spurts. He'll have a lot of good plays, and then some plays that aren't so good, but that goes with being a rookie. But he does have the unique ability to rush the passer and get back to balance after he gets off-balance."

He knows how to throw the opposition off-balance, too. "He's 6-5, 265, he has long arms, and he has the quickness and change of direction that a lot of guys don't have," said defensive line coach Joe Greene, who ought to know talent — Greene was one of the best defensive tackles in NFL history. "In a short area, he can change direction. He has the combination of the size, the height, the reach, along with the change of direction, acceleration and agility."

"Usually you get a guy that's 6-5, he's probably 280 and up, and he's not going to have the agility."

Rice's teammate at Illinois, linebacker Kevin Hardy of Jacksonville, tied for third with six votes. He was selected one spot ahead of Rice in the draft.

Also with six votes was Denver linebacker John Mobley, who came from tiny Kutztown (Pa.).

Defensive end Tony Brackens of Jacksonville was next with four votes, while linebacker Ray Lewis of Baltimore got one.

Rice is the first Cardinals player to win the award. Last year's recipient was defensive end Hugh Douglas of the New York Jets.

Jacquet breaks Blue-Gray TD reception record

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Just like the other 79 players at the Blue-Gray Classic, Nathaniel Jacquet came in hoping to make a name for himself.

The San Diego State receiver accomplished that goal, breaking Jerry Rice's record for the longest touchdown reception in the all-star game with an acrobatic 70-yard scoring catch Wednesday in the Blue's 44-34 win.

He finished with just one other catch, but the 70-yarder was probably enough to grab the attention of the 200 NFL scouts who came for the 58th edition of the Christmas Day game.

The 6-foot-1 senior made a big-time play, adjusting his sideline route and jumping over his defender to snag the ball at the 30, then outrunning the Gray defense to the end zone.

"That was just a matter of seeing where it was and wanting it a little more," he said. "I got a little aggressive, jumped up, grabbed it and took it to the house. ... I think a catch like that helps me a lot."

The pass from Fresno State's Jim Arellanes broke a 12-year-old record, set when Alabama a running back Paul Carruth threw a 60-yard touchdown pass to Rice, who played for Mississippi Valley State, on a

halfback option.

Blue piled up 419 yards in total offense as the teams combined for 772 yards and set the record for most combined points in the history of the game.

Adding to the offensive fireworks was the solid effort of Colorado State's Calvin Branch, who was named Most Valuable Player for the Blue.

Branch finished with 77 yards and two touchdowns. He broke one run of 25 yards, but the rest were like his touchdown runs of 2 and 5 yards — modest, hard-running drives up the middle.

"It's fun to get a chance to play again before the season ends," said Branch, who transferred from Iowa State in 1995 to avoid playing in the shadow of 2,000-yard rusher Troy Davis. "I couldn't ask for a better Christmas."

Oregon quarterback Tony Graziani also had a good day. After a slow start, he completed nine of 18 passes for 145 yards. His biggest throw was a 63-yard touchdown to Ducks teammate Josh Wilcox that gave the Blue a 37-21 lead early in the fourth quarter.

"Josh is my teammate and a good friend of mine," said Graziani, who missed five games early in the season with an injured knee. "I hope I helped

myself and did some good things. But no matter what, that touchdown pass is something I'll remember for the rest of my life."

Graziani led Blue on a 10-play, 80-yard drive to close the first half. Branch capped the drive with a 2-yard TD run to give his team a 24-14 lead. It closed a sloppy first half that included five turnovers, a dropped snap on a punt and a missed field goal.

In the second half, Gray quarterback Lance Funderburk took advantage of a Blue-Gray rule that allows the team losing by nine or more points to get the ball back after scoring in the last two minutes of the game.

"It was fun going out there with nothing to lose," Funderburk said. "I got a chance to pass the ball a lot at the end. I think they should put that rule in for the NCAA."

The senior from Division II Valdosta State hit Georgia's Juan Daniels for touchdown passes of 13 and 14 yards in the last two minutes as Gray cut a 44-21 deficit to 44-34 at the end.

Funderburk finished 13-for-30 for 179 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions.

Both interceptions were by Missouri's Clayton Baker, the last coming on the Blue 8 with 17 seconds left.

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Navy beats California 42-38 in Aloha Bowl

HONOLULU (AP) — Ben Fay put what he learned about military tactics at the Naval Academy to good use in the Aloha Bowl.

Confuse the enemy and conquer. That's what the backup quarterback did Wednesday, bringing Navy back for a 42-38 victory over California in the Aloha Bowl.

With the Midshipmen (9-3) trailing by 10 points heading into the fourth quarter, coach Charlie Weatherbie switched from Navy's spread option attack led by quarterback Chris McCoy to Fay's more conventional drop-back passing.

Fay made the move pay off. Although he scored two touchdowns on runs, including the go-ahead 10-yard scamper with 1:41 left, it was his passing that set the stage for the wild finish.

He guided the Midshipmen on drives of 80 and 84 yards to pull out the victory after they trailed 38-28.

The biggest play was a 52-yard pass to Cory Schemm with the Middles down 38-35 and two minutes left. The play put the ball on the California 15 and set the stage for Fay's game-winning TD.

The Middles co-captain completed five of eight passes for 118 yards.

"It's nothing fancy," Fay said of the triple stack offense, which has three receivers lined up in an I formation. "We run our basic plays off it. It's a different look.

that's good. That's what we wanted to do."

Weatherbie said the team needed a spark.

"We were bogged down. Ben's been in that situation before, so it wasn't anything new to him," the coach said. "There were many ups and downs, but we picked ourselves by the bootstraps and found a way."

California coach Steve Mariucci was prophetic.

"The kids on both sides played their hearts out," he said. "But like I've been telling you all week, it would come down to who had the ball last."

"In the fourth quarter, they came at us with the weird offense, and they made a couple of big plays off it and got a couple of scores."

It appeared the Bears' (6-6) were in control with a 10-point lead.

"People needed to step up," Mariucci said. "We needed to do that and we didn't do that."

The high-scoring game was a contrast in halves.

The two teams combined for 63 points in the first half, with California holding a 35-28 lead. But the Bears managed only three more points after halftime.

The Midshipmen had 646 yards in total offense, including 395 passing. Schemm caught five passes for 194 yards.

Cal totaled 434 yards of offense, with QB Pat Barnes completing 27 of 37 passes for 313 yards and three touchdowns.

Texas refs want girl wrestlers off the mat

ARLINGTON (AP) — Ashley King knew she might be in trouble when she took to the wrestling mat against the much-taller Marcos Venegas.

After two rounds of locks, throws and counters, Venegas used his experience and 3-inch height advantage to pin King and win the match.

Matches such as that one between boys and girls may cease soon in Texas. Girls are waging a legal duel against referees and those governing high school wrestling to allow them to remain on the mat competing against boys.

The Texas Wrestling Officials Association recently decided to boycott co-ed matches, prompting a discrimination lawsuit.

The state's only high school wrestling officiating association is so against girls wrestling that it disbanded a few weeks ago rather than face the prospect of refereeing girls wrestling boys.

"It's really about old-fashioned Texas tradition and sexism," said King, a 17-year-old Arlington High School junior. "The girls that wrestle are ready for guys to be rough and they'll be rough right back."

But former TOWA members say they can't be forced to officiate matches.

John Rizzuti, the association's former president said, "Hell will freeze over before I officiate girls being brutalized by guys."

On Tuesday, the mothers of two girl wrestlers sued the referee association and the sports governing agency, the Texas Interscholastic Wrestling Association. Rai Barnett and Karen Herring seek \$10,000 in damages and an order forcing the two groups to allow girls to wrestle.

The girls' attorney, Anthony Hume, said Wednesday the officials were included because he had no evidence the association had disbanded.

The American Civil Liberties Union said the case shows clear discrimination.

But wrestling association executive director Jim Giunta believes the lawsuit will be thrown out because the policy against mixed wrestling is consistent with policies in other high school sports.

"Wrestling is the only sport across the United States where we even think about having girls compete against guys," Giunta said. "I don't care if it's tennis,

swimming, track — girls don't even golf against guys."

The legal maneuvers mark an escalation in a controversy over a sport that now has 20 female participants statewide.

Girls have wrestled for several years in Texas, just as in about 20 other states, and typically are on a school's mostly male team. They wrestle boys or other girls in their weight class in matches established by the coaches at the start of a meet.

Because the wrestling association does not recognize female wrestlers or their matches, referees until now either have ignored the matches or officiated without posting points for the team. The debate boiled over in September when

members of the referees' association began refusing to officiate.

Rizzuti, a 10-year official, cites safety reasons.

"There's one guy I call the Punisher. If a girl fought him, I'd tell them to call an ambulance — she's going to the hospital," he said. "What in heaven's name are parents teaching these girls where they want to jump into the ring with brutes?"

Then there are the legal ramifications, Rizzuti said.

"Many times we have to grab wrestlers when they fall off the mat, or things are too physical," he said. "We have no protection against sexual harassment charges if some girl is offended by the way we touch her."

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Bidding proposals are to be received from the Construction and Maintenance Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.</p> <p>The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex, or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award.</p> <p>Usual rights reserved 04-D-97-04-76-0490-01-025 C-68 Dec. 18, 26, 1996</p>	<p>3 Personal</p> <p>MARY Kay Cosmetics. Free delivery, make-overs, career information. Sherry Diggs 669-9435.</p> <p>GIFTED and Caring Physics. Call and talk Live!!! 1-900-562-6666 extension 2933 \$3.99 per minute. Must be 18 years. Serv-U. 619-645-8434</p> <p>5 Special Notices</p> <p>ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.</p> <p>PAMPA Lodge #966, we meet every Thursday 7:30 p.m. Stated business- 3rd Thursday.</p> <p>TOP O Texas Lodge 1381, study and practice, Tuesday night 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>10 Lost and Found</p> <p>LOST Blue Heelers- 1 female and 1 male, Wednesday 23rd. Children's pets. Reward. 665-5488</p> <p>14b Appliance Repair</p> <p>RENT TO RENT RENT TO OWN</p> <p>We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate.</p> <p>Johnson Home Furnishings 801 W. Francis</p> <p>14d Carpentry</p> <p>Bullard Service Company Home Repairs, Free Estimates 665-6986 665-8603</p> <p>BUILDING, Remodeling and construction of all types. Deaver Construction, 665-0447.</p> <p>T. Neiman Construction Free Estimates-Cabinets, etc. 665-7102</p> <p>OVERHEAD Door Repair. 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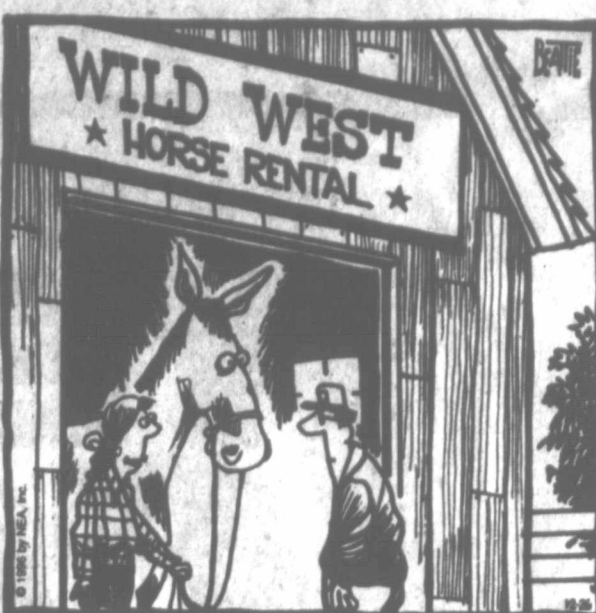
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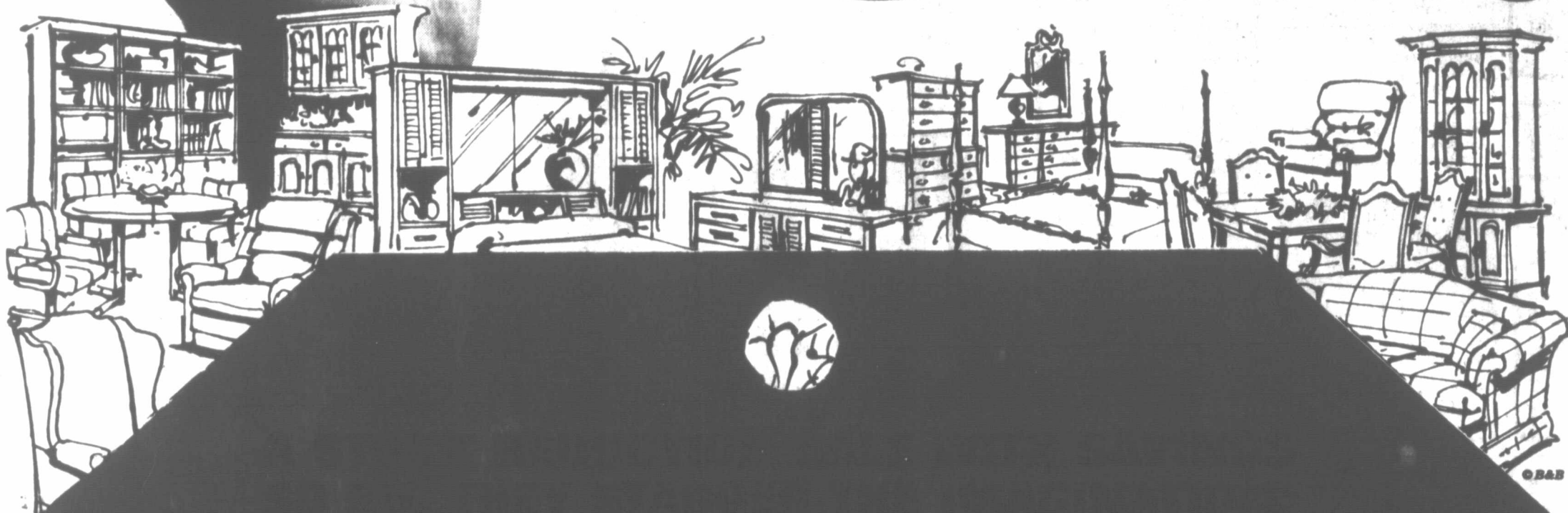
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RECLINERS
Wall Saver
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**SWIVEL
ROCKERS**
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La-Z-Boy Lane
**RECLINING
SOFAS**
As Low As
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Oak or Cherry
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Keller Solid Oak
DINING ROOM
48" Round Table With
3 Fillers. Four Solid
Oak Chairs.
Retail \$2990
\$1588

Queen Anne
CHAIRS
Retail \$399.00
\$199