



# BIG SPRING Herald

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14 Pages 2 Sections

Vol. 83 No. 264

TUESDAY, April 7, 1992

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TUESDAY, April 7, 1992

## News Digest

### Fewer patients prompt hospital to lay off 15

Scenic Mountain Medical Center laid off 15 employees Monday, or about 7.9 percent of its full-time positions at the hospital, according to Ed Cunningham, administrator.

"The fact is, our census has dropped. We're averaging about 40-42 patients (each day) and we have to make the same moves business-wise as anybody else when the census is down and the economy is not that good," Cunningham said.

The facility has a 153-bed capacity for patients on a daily basis, but the number of beds occupied has remained steady at about 40, he said. Today there was a "rush" of patients, and about 50 persons are now hospitalized.

"With the Medicare system the way it is today — people used to go into the hospital and stay for a long period of time. But now they're in and out and our census dropped," he said.

Employees "across the board" were laid off, including all departments at the hospital. "Every department has cut back on their hours. But we're staying within standards of the national index (for staffing)," he said.

Discharged employees will receive a standard severance package, including their vacation pay, Cunningham said. And all discharged employees are encouraged to apply at the Texas Employment Commission.

"This was a decision we've talked about for a great while. It's a decision I had to make as the local manager, and it was tough. Unless the economy changes and the census increases, this will have to stay the way it is," he said.

SMMC is owned by the Hallmark Healthcare Corporation. The company experienced a loss of \$90 million between 1986 and 1989, but restructured and posted a profit of \$13.9 million in 1991.

There are 17 small hospitals in seven states, as well as a psychiatric clinic and a nursing home, owned by the Georgia-based company, according to AP reports.

## Texas

● Richards foresees special session in May: Lawmakers may head back to Austin next month to try again to write a school funding law. Gov. Ann Richards said Monday that she's considering the first or second week of May for a special session on school finance. See Page 2A.

## Nation

● Cat seeks new workers: Caterpillar Inc. advertised for replacement workers today after only a fraction of its 13,000 striking employees heeded an ultimatum to return to work at the No. 1 maker of earth-moving equipment. See Page 3A.

## World

● Yeltsin forced to report on economic reforms: President Boris Yeltsin won one and lost one in his first tussle with Russia's parliament this year. The loss was expected to force him before lawmakers today to report on his government's unpopular economic reforms. See Page 3A.

## life!

● Plant's technology environmentally friendly: Conoco's new natural gas plant uses state-of-the-art technology to process the gases and protect the environment, said Plant Manager Marshall Honeyman. See Page 1B.

## Sports

● Chadwick named national JUCO coach of the year: For the second time in a little more than a week a Howard College head coach has gained national recognition. Royce Chadwick, Howard's women's basketball coach, received Converse National Junior College Coach of the Year honors Friday. See Page 5A.

## Weather

● Tonight, fair. Low in the lower 50s. Light south wind. Wednesday, sunny. High in the mid 80s. South wind 10-20 mph. Extended forecast, Page 8A.

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### Sound off!

To contact the Herald: Phone 263-7331.

## Permian lays off 18 Monday

By GARY SHANKS  
Staff Writer

Eighteen of 30 Permian Research Corporation's Big Spring employees were laid off Monday by company officials.

Company officials said the local facility will not close but did cite an unsatisfactory business performance as the reason for the cutbacks.

The 18 employees were laid off because of cutbacks in the manufacturing portion of the company, which also does research and development of plastics technology, said Grant Billingsley, manager of public affairs for Permian Research in Midland.

Most of the positions terminated were production employees and not professional personnel. However, some management positions were lost in the produc-

● Please see PERMIAN, Page 8A

## County OKs 17 percent of Fina tax abatement

By PATRICK DRISCOLL  
Staff Writer

A compromise Monday afternoon on Fina Oil & Chemical Co.'s requested tax abatement on \$38.1 million in plant improvements left plant manager Jeff Morris dissatisfied.

Howard County commissioners voted 3-2 to grant 30 percent of the allowable abatement on a \$27.5 million low-sulfur diesel unit, which is 17 percent of what Fina requested. Abatement on other projects was denied.

"The Commissioners Court has indicated how much support they

will offer Fina. We will have to accept that support," Fina plant manager Jeff Morris said. "The Commissioners Court has also indicated how much they want to help in economic development. New businesses will also be paying attention to this vote."

"I think we ought to take it one step at a time," said Precinct 1 Commissioner O.L. "Louis" Brown, who was the deciding vote and therefore able to craft the compromise as he pleased.

"I'm not asking Fina to do anything that I don't ask my friends... that's pay as you go,"

said Pct. 4 Commissioner Bobby Cathey, who voted against the compromise.

If the abatement is approved by two school districts, which must approve or deny exactly what commissioners approved, Fina will save an estimated \$444,000 the next five years instead of \$2.7 million sought over eight years. Fina will pay \$13.8 million in taxes over the 30-year life of the projects.

Two weeks ago, the entire request was denied by commis-

● Please see COUNTY, Page 8A

## Tuesday vote crossroads for Clinton



Associated Press photo

Democratic presidential candidate Jerry Brown holds a copy of a federal income tax form during a campaign rally at Borough Hall in Brooklyn Monday.

The former California governor is campaigning for the New York primary today.

NEW YORK (AP) — New York, Wisconsin and Kansas voters today decided whether to speed Bill Clinton's march to the Democratic presidential nomination or stall it under a cloud of questions about his character.

The Republican side held far less drama; President Bush was picking up 100 New York delegates by default but faced challenger Patrick Buchanan in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Kansas. Bush was the big favorite everywhere.

New York was the key in a topsy-turvy Democratic race between the Arkansas governor and former California Gov. Jerry Brown. The candidates concentrated intently on New York, and both got down-and-dirty in a city known for pointed-elbow politics.

Clinton worried about low turnout in yet another contest in which most voters were expected to stay home because of little enthusiasm for their choices. City election officials in New York said early morning turnout was fairly light but forecast an upturn for later in the day.

A number of voters arriving at the polls just after their 6 a.m. opening said they would go for former Sen. Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts, who has dropped out of the race but is gauging whether to re-enter.

Tsongas voters told reporters they were unenthusiastic with both Clinton and Brown.

"I've been hoping for an open convention, and I hope this will throw it open," said Sandra Schecter, 50, who works in the publishing industry. At the same polling place in the Bronx, Frank Ferrante, 71, a retired worker, said he was for Clinton because "he's better than anybody else, and that goes for Bush, too."

Brown began his day by attending Mass in Manhattan and greeting voters in the Bronx. He vowed to fight on no matter what the verdict today.

"This is the people's campaign," he said. "There is

● Please see VOTE, Page 8A

## Explosion rocks Texas salt dome, at least one dead, several hurt

BRENHAM (AP) — A natural gas pipeline running through an underground salt dome exploded in flames this morning, killing at least one person and injuring 16, officials said.

Mike Cox, spokesman for the Department of Public Safety, said the explosion occurred about 7:15 a.m. in southwestern Washington County, about 7 miles south of Brenham.

"The DPS center in Bryan has said there are numerous casualties," Cox said.

KTRH Radio reported flames shooting about 100 feet in the air after the explosion, with scorched homes and facilities stretching as far as a mile from the scene.

Several oil wells were on fire, and "it looks kind of like Kuwait down there," Bill Waldrip of KTRH said.

Underground salt domes are common geologic features of the area; pipelines are often routed through them because they can lessen the force of any explosion or fire. In this case, however, the explosion and fire forced a hole in the surface of the ground.

Brenham is a town of 12,000 about 65 miles northwest of Houston. The area immediately around the explosion site is rural but does have some homes in it.

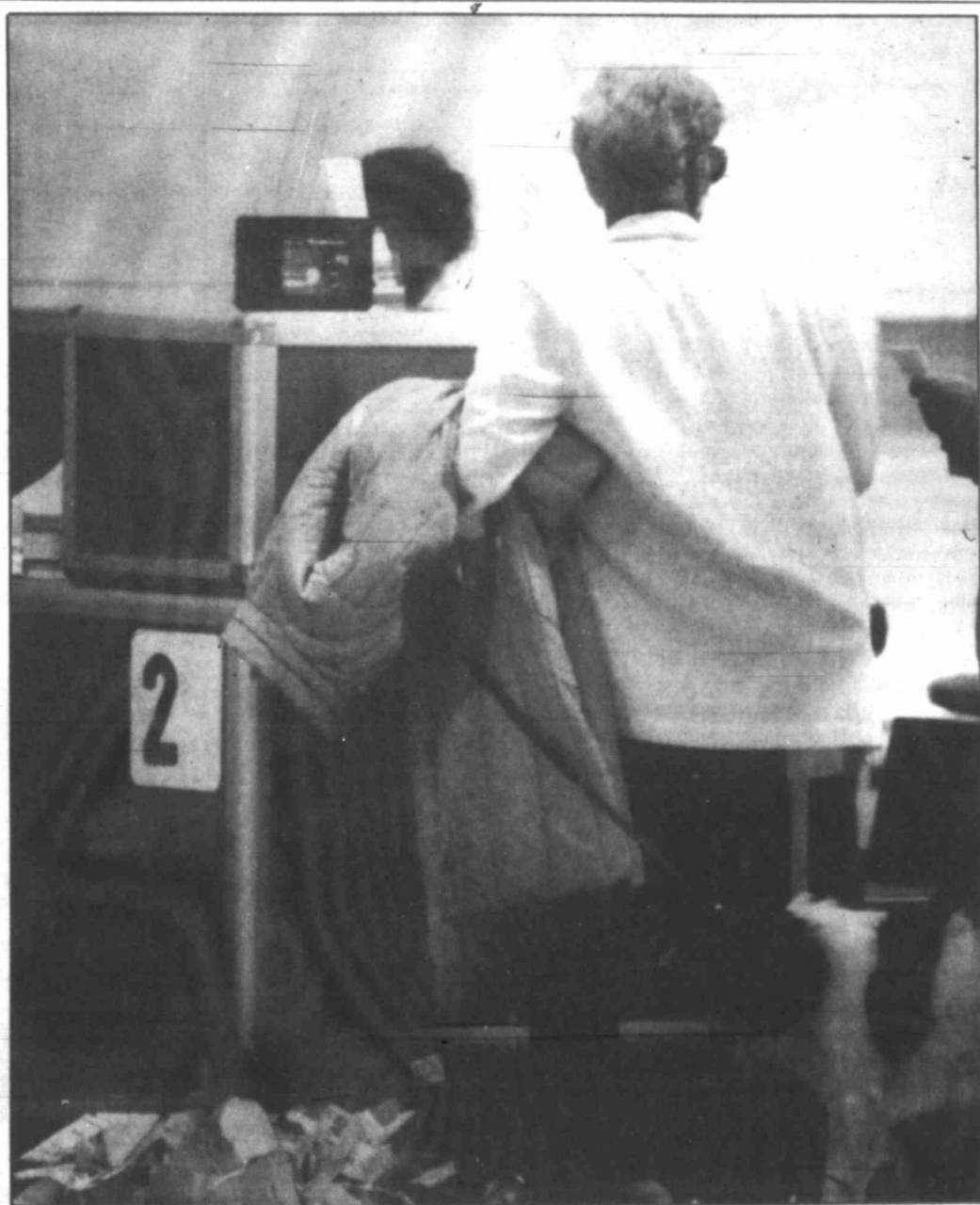
KTRH Radio reported flames shooting about 100 feet in the air after the explosion, with scorched homes and facilities stretching as far as a mile from the scene.

A spokesman from Hermann Hospital's Lifelight in Houston said three helicopters have been sent to the area. A helicopter from John Sealy Hospital in Galveston also has been sent to the scene. Cox said ambulances from as far away as Bryan and Houston have been sent to the area as well.

The explosion rattled homes and buildings in Houston, and even as far away as Galveston, which is more than 90 miles southeast of the area.

Victims are being transported to Trinity Medical Center in Brenham.

"It was almost like you hear these planes, when they come over and break the sound barrier. It was for an extended period of time, about 15-20 seconds," said Charles Moser, publisher of the Brenham Banner Press.



Associated Press photo

## Messy check-in

A woman with her dog checks in her luggage among the garbage at Madrid International Airport Tuesday. Public building cleaners are on the third week of a strike demanding pay increases.

POLLARD'S SPRING SALE on NEW 92's • SEE PAGE 4-B FOR DETAILS!

# Texas

## Richards foresees special session in May

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawmakers may head back to Austin next month to try again to write a school funding law.

Gov. Ann Richards said Monday that she's considering the first or second week of May for a special session on school finance.

Richards said some of her staff began meeting with members of the Legislature this week to brief them about her school funding proposal, which press secretary Bill Cryer said may be made public on Thursday.

"So far, everything looks very

good. I can't expect to get 100 percent agreement, but I think there is an amazing unanimity feeling," Richards said.

"I'll know after we've made a survey of the House membership and of the Senate membership where we think we are in terms of votes. But I feel pretty good about it," she said.

The Texas Supreme Court in January threw out the third school finance plan since 1989 and gave the Legislature until June 1993 to write another one.

Richards declined to discuss

details of her proposal, saying that she hasn't yet finalized it.

Her staff in recent weeks has indicated that she was considering a plan to remove businesses from local school property tax rolls and put them into a statewide tax pool. That money then would be distributed to all schools.

Richards said she will meet this week with education groups, teachers and school administrators to explain her plan and gather reaction to it.

The governor said she didn't want to summon lawmakers to

Austin for a session unless "I feel like we're in some shape to be successful in passage."

If not, she said, "We'll go back to the drawing board." But for now, she said, "I'm feeling very affirmative and I feel like the session is going to come off."

Richards said her proposal will include a provision on improvements in student performance — so-called "quality" issues — in addition to equalizing school funding.

"The one component that I'm going to insist on is that I'm not going

to get involved in another school funding plan that doesn't provide quality. I want a measurement in that system that is able to say to taxpayers 'This is what you're spending your money for and here's what you're getting for it,'" she said.

Richards said one reason she wants a May special session is to give lawmakers a chance to put on the November ballot portions of her plan that would require a constitutional amendment.

Lawmakers so far haven't been united behind any single plan.

### Sidelines

#### Bank officials plead guilty

TYLER (AP) — A 37-year employee of the failed Troup Bank & Trust was scheduled to be sentenced today in federal court.

Jean Evans, named in a 45-count indictment for making false entries in bank records, pleaded guilty Jan. 13 to one count of making a false statement.

In related cases, a Troup father and son pleaded guilty Monday in Marshall to financial conspiracy and other charges. Prosecutors say Edwin Wayne Brown Sr. and Edwin Wayne Brown Jr. were part of a scheme that cost four East Texas financial institutions \$4.3 million.

The elder Brown, 69, pleaded guilty to participating in the conspiracy involving Troup Bank & Trust, Texas National Bank in Jacksonville, city National Bank in Kilgore and the failed Savings of Texas in Jacksonville.

He also pleaded guilty to one count each of misapplication of bank funds and misapplication of savings and loan funds.

#### Second fire hits refinery

TEXAS CITY (AP) — A worker is in critical condition today after suffering burns in an explosion and blaze at Amoco Oil Co., a company spokeswoman said. The blaze was the second in as many days to rock the plant.

The fire broke out Monday night in a gasoline blending unit that was being restarted after it was shut down for scheduled maintenance, said Amoco spokeswoman Annie Smith.

Workers were spraying water on a pipe that was leaking some type of hydrocarbon when it suddenly ignited, she said. The cause of the fire was still being investigated.

"We had an explosion and fire ...," she said. "The fire started about 9:20 p.m. and was out at about 10:10 p.m."

Amoco firefighters extinguished the blaze.

The injured worker was taken by Lifeflight helicopter to John Sealy Hospital in nearby Galveston where he was in critical condition, Ms. Smith said. Amoco officials would not immediately release his name.

Four people also were injured Sunday when a blaze erupted at Amoco, but Ms. Smith said the two fires apparently were unrelated. Fires also damaged two other area petrochemical plants Sunday, and officials were trying to determine if the three were connected.



**Getting her tags**  
Sherry Brock, left, receives her automobile license plate tags from deputy auto clerk Mary Pope at the Howard County tax office, which is located at the Annex Building across from the county courthouse. The tax office collects for eight taxing entities, registers vehicles, transfers titles and files all current voter registration applications. The office is celebrating County Government Week April 5-11 in conjunction with other sectors of Howard County government.

## Mexican farmers blockade international bridge

OJINAGA, Mexico (AP) — Farmers and ranchers have been protesting at an international bridge for nearly a month hoping their government will help them repay loans and prevent foreclosures on their land.

Since March 12, the farmers have been blocking traffic into the United States, at first for a full day and now in blocks of hours daily.

Enrique Aguilar Jaquez, one of the protesters, said in a telephone interview the protests are a plea for help from the Mexican government.

"Nobody has enough to buy anything to eat or to pay bills," Aguilar said in Spanish. "If we leave and go back to work, there is no money to work with."

Aguilar said the protesters at the bridge linking Presidio, Texas, and Ojinaga stem from loans they

received in the late 1980s after several years of drought. At that time the government owned the banks.

The banks gave farmers and ranchers credit with high interest rates. Now the banks are collecting and threatening to foreclose on those who cannot pay. The farmers want the interest reduced and the loans refinanced.

In the past two years, Aguilar said, flood waters released upstream into the Rio Concho submerged many of the farms and put several farmers out of business. He said insurance companies failed to pay the farmers' claims or paid too little.

He said the protesters believe the only way they can get the government's attention is by threatening its commerce with the United States.

### City Bits

**MINIMUM CHARGE \$5.10 DEADLINE CB ADS:**  
DAILY — 3 p.m. day prior to publication  
SUNDAY — 3 p.m. Friday

**FREE SAND!!!** Weaver Real Estate at 267-8840.

**WONDERING WHAT'S GOING ON IN BIG SPRING?** Call 267-2767. A service of the Convention & Visitors Bureau, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

**HELP!** Volunteers needed to help with cats at the Humane Society adoption center. Two hours per week can make a difference. Call 267-7832.

Be sure to check out the **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY** located in the Classified section for new and established services/businesses in the local area.

Call Darci or Tammy about the **3 FOR \$5** special today, at the Big Spring Herald, 263-7331.

## Names in the news

NEW YORK (AP) — Woody Allen once said his one regret in life is that he wasn't someone else. Now he suggests he was half kidding.

Given his druthers, he said, "I would rather be Marlon Brando or Louis Armstrong ... a great pianist or something."

"I think that being funny is not anyone's first choice," the comic actor and director said in an interview in Monday's New York Newsday.

"If I could have come from a different background, I might have started off with deeper goals and maybe achieved some of them earlier in life and at this point in my life be doing a lot better than I'm doing — doing deeper work or better work," the 56-year-old Allen said.

His latest film is "Shadows and Fog."



LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chevy Chase, who got his break on "Saturday Night Live" in the 1970s, is returning to television.

The 48-year-old comedian will produce and star in a late-night comedy-talk show beginning next year on Fox Broadcasting, the network announced Monday.

"I plan on approaching this much the way Lorne Michaels and I approached 'Saturday Night Live,' by working with the funniest writer-performers I can find," Chase said. Michaels created "Saturday Night Live."

Chase has starred in such movies as "Memoirs of an Invisible Man," "Fletch" and "National Lampoon's Vacation."

NEW YORK (AP) — Stephen King, the master of horror, says he's nothing like the villains in his novels — but people expect him to be.

"One of the great disappointments, I think, is if I do an autographing or do a personal appearance, I think they expect Dracula," King said in an interview taped for today's "Good Morning with Steve Allen" on ABC. "Of course, I'm not a vampire from Maine — just a normal guy."

The 44-year-old author said he

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Ending 8:47-11:02

**FATHER OF THE BRIDE PG**  
Starting 7:15-9:45  
Ending 9:00-11:30

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\*Wayne's World  
5:00-7:10 PG-13

\*White Men Can't Jump  
4:40-7:20 R

**The Lawn Mower Man**  
4:30-7:00 R

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Try this safe, simple, effective remedy for the symptoms of embarrassing nail fungus. Fungi Nail® fights thick, split, discolored nails. Two powerful anti-fungal agents fight infection on toenails and fingernails and work to eliminate the actual fungus. Easy to apply as nail polish. No prescription needed.

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**Tell'em you saw it in the Big Spring Herald**  
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### Sidelines

#### Volleyball tourney at Howard College

There will be a recreational coed volleyball tournament April 11 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Entry fee is \$40 per team and entry deadline is April 8.

The first place team will receive T-shirts.

For more information call 264-5024 or call 267-3415 (after 5 p.m.).

#### Coahoma boosters will have meeting

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Athletic Booster Club will meet today at 7:30 p.m. at the elementary cafeteria.

The athletic banquet will be discussed and nominations will be taken for next year's officers. For more information call David Elmore at 394-4759.

#### YMCA offering coed softball

The Big Spring YMCA will be sponsoring a coed slowpitch softball league.

Entry fee is \$60 per team and entry deadline is April 30.

Teams must have a minimum of 15 players on their roster and all players must be 18 years-old or older.

Games will be played on Sunday afternoons.

#### Umpires to have meeting Thursday

The Big Spring Umpires Association will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. at Phillips Memorial Church.

Anyone interested in calling baseball games should attend. For more information call Don Spence at 267-7780.

#### NHL strike reaches sixth day

NEW YORK (AP) — The NHL Board of Governors dismissed the latest contract proposal by players and countered with one of their own in an effort to settle the strike that has shut down the league for six days.

The owners said their new proposal would be presented to the players committee this morning. But NHL Players Association executive director Bob Goodenow expressed disappointment at the day's developments, saying that the sides had moved further apart in the area of free agency.

The owners' new proposal marked the first time that they had changed their position since March 28, when they made what they called their "last offer."

### NL

Continued from Page 5-A

cisco from Seattle in the Kevin Mitchell trade, made his first start after 88 relief appearances a winning one at Los Angeles.

Swift, who relieved in 71 games for the Mariners last season, blanked the Dodgers until the eighth inning. Making his first start since Aug. 22, 1990, Swift allowed seven hits and one run in 7 2-3 innings.

"It was a great opening day for

### AL

Continued from Page 5-A

In Baltimore, the 35-year-old Sutcliffe was even better than Morris. Sutcliffe pitched a five-hitter for his 17th career shutout as the Orioles beat Cleveland 2-0 in the official opening of Oriole Park at Camden Yards.

Manager Johnny Oates gave Sutcliffe the opening-day assignment to take the pressure off the younger Baltimore pitchers, and the strategy was perfect as the right-hander allowed only two runners to get as far as second base.

"I'd be lying if I said it was what I expected," Oates said.

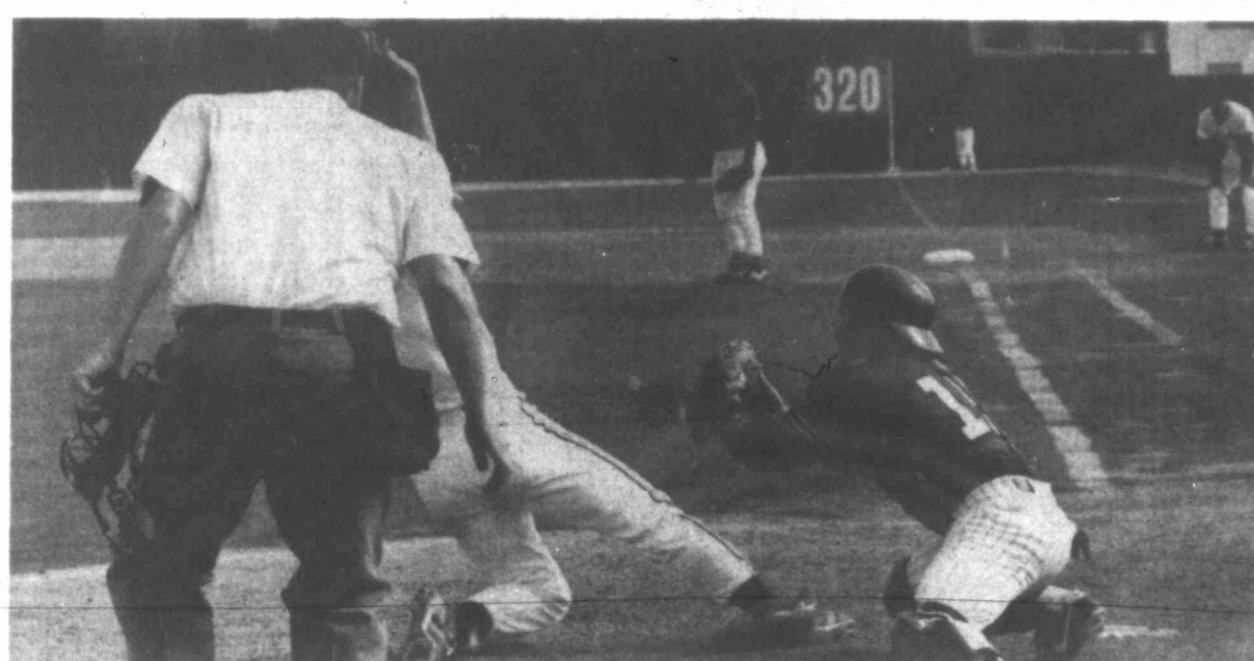
### Duke

Continued from Duke 5-A

When Michigan called a timeout at 62-49. His face red, his fists clenched, he hugged the players he had screamed at not long before.

The Blue Devils still weren't finished with this demonstration of power, teamwork and stamina. By the time Grant Hill capped a 23-6 streak and ended the scoring with a thunderous reverse dunk on a pass from Hurlley, Duke (34-2) tied the second largest margin of victory in an NCAA final.

Only UNLV's 1990 romp over Duke, 103-73, was more one-sided, and now the Blue Devils know what a romp to the finish feels like.



**Hawks in crucial series**  
Howard College Hawks catcher Roger Vilchez gets ready to put the tag on an opposing player in action earlier this season. Friday and Saturday, the second place Hawks will host first place Odessa College in a three game series at Jack Barber Field.

### Aussies making impact on Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The word picture painted by Ian Baker-Finch could have been set on a different continent in a different era.

He told of a group of young men — late teens and early 20's — bouncing along in a battered bus, drinking beer, singing songs, telling tales, dead broke but without a care in the world, looking no further than the next stop on the tour.

It could have been an American baseball team from the lower minor leagues back in the '50's. But this was in Australia in the late '70's.

"There were about a dozen of us in an old bus. We'd play along the northern coast, drinking beer and playing in pro-ams," Baker-Finch recalled. "We'd play during the afternoon, drive all night and play again the next day," he said, a wistful, nostalgic look in his eye.

"We didn't make any money. A hundred dollars was very, very big. That didn't happen often. But we had more fun than we ever had before or probably ever will again."

Those players now are reaching their golfing maturity and are among the small but tough corps of Australians who now are exerting a strong influence in world golf.

Baker-Finch leads a group of six players from Down Under who this week are attempting to break the Australian shutout in the Masters.

The tournament, which begins Thursday at the Augusta National Golf Club, is the only major championship that has not been won by Australians, who have produced world-class players of a number and quality out of all proportion to the country's population.

Peter Thomson won five British Opens back in the '50's and '60's. Jim Ferrier won the 1947 PGA. David Graham won the 1979 PGA and the '81 U.S. Open. Bruce Crampton and Bruce Devlin were major figures on the American PGA Tour in the '60's and '70's and were succeeded by Greg Norman in the '80's.

Never before, however, have there been so many world-class players from Australia, so many players who learned the game the old-fashioned way — on beat-up buses touring the outback, in pro shops and club jobs, as caddies and assistant pros.

How good are they? Australians have won two of the last five major championships. In the British Open last year, Australians took the top two positions and four of the top 10.

**THE 56TH MASTERS 1992.**  
Augusta National Golf Club

Year	Winner	Score	Par	288
1979	Fuzzy Zoeller*	280		
1980	Seve Ballesteros	275		
1981	Tom Watson	280		
1982	Craig Stadler*	284		
1983	Seve Ballesteros	280		
1984	Ben Crenshaw	277		
1985	Bernhard Langer	282		
1986	Jack Nicklaus	279		
1987	Larry Mize*	285		
1988	Sandy Lyle	281		
1989	Nick Faldo*	283		
1990	Nick Faldo*	278		
1991	Ian Woosnam	277		

Hole	Par	Yards
1	4	400
2	5	555
3	4	360
4	3	205
5	4	435
6	3	180
7	4	360
8	5	535
9	4	435
<b>OUT</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3,465</b>
10	4	485
11	4	455
12	3	155
13	5	465
14	4	405
15	5	500
16	3	170
17	4	400
18	4	405
<b>IN</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3,440</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>6,905</b>

\*Won in playoff



Pictured are Buster Gartman, Susie Gartman, Dean Gartman, Kenny Osburn and Terry Hodnett. Gartman Refrigeration, 3206 E. F.M. 700, has been opened since 1976. It offers installation and service of all makes and models of air conditioning and heating equipment.

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Buster Gartman began air conditioning work in 1964. In 1976, Gartman with his son, Dean, opened Gartman Refrigeration, 3206 East F.M. 700.

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**U.S.**

The ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN...  
MIAMI (AP) — A federal judge has ordered a U.S. government contractor to pay \$30 million in damages to a former U.S. Marine who was injured in the 1980s.

Federal... dozens of... \$30 million... buildings, ho... ty owned by... Cardoen, a... weapons m... about 29,000... U.S. govern... \$200 million.

In a civil... alleged tha... ly exported... Cardoen lau... shell corpor... counts. No c... immediately.

"Today... cluster bom... and his ord... Commission... She said i... the bombs... bomblets, w... troops durin... War.

Cardoen w... States on M... reached for...

LAS VEGAS... gunmen set... crowded sac... bag from a... and made of... rified gamb... "People w... the casino... guns! They... Pat Shumal... Tenn. "Pe... through the... the exits, hid... No one wa... Monday at t... The gunne... gun along wi...

**Janu**

**expo**

WASHINGTON... ports of hor... January thi... million, up... same mont... Agriculture... A 22 perc... citrus, 33... percent for... January exp... department... During the... fiscal 1992... January, th... horticultura... record \$2 bi... All commo... gains durin... The repor... April 1, Jap... ding quota... orange juic... supermarket... a campaign... new orang... developed jo... juice manuf... Japanese... ticultural... almost 11... billion. Imp... States were... up 13 percen... United State... of the val... ticultural im... The report... tree nut an... have surged... government... January.

And it po... recently app... of some fres... April 24 to c... ceases res... "due to the w... years."

Import lic... the followi... 1,300 tons... eggplant, 1... tons; caulif... onions, 2,100

WASHINGTON... House Agric... approved leg... pose stiff... criminal ac... theft or dam... ing animals.

"Illegal en... tion, theft... of terrorism... researchers... or social i... cionable," s... Garza, D-Te...

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# U.S. confiscates millions

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI (AP) — The government confiscated tens of millions of dollars from a Chilean weapons dealer, accusing him of illegally selling cluster bombs to Saddam Hussein during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s.

Federal agents Monday seized dozens of bank accounts and about \$30 million in Florida office buildings, homes and other property owned by Carlos Cardoen.

Cardoen, one of the world's top weapons merchants, sold Iraq about 29,000 cluster bombs. The U.S. government said he earned \$200 million in the deal.

In a civil action, the government alleged that U.S. parts were illegally exported for the bombs and that Cardoen laundered money through shell corporations and bank accounts. No criminal charges were immediately filed.

"Today we have dropped a cluster bomb on Carlos Cardoen and his organization," Customs Commissioner Carol Hallett said.

She said it's not known whether the bombs, which can rain 400 bomblets, were used against allied troops during the Persian Gulf War.

Cardoen was not in the United States on Monday and could not be reached for comment.

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Two gunmen set off smoke bombs in a crowded casino, grabbed a money bag from an armored car guard and made off with \$1 million as terrified gamblers scattered.

"People were running through the casino yelling, 'They've got guns! They've got bombs!'" said Pat Shumaker of Chattanooga, Tenn. "People were running through the kitchen, running for the exits, hiding behind tables."

No one was hurt in the robbery Monday at the Stardust Hotel.

The gunmen grabbed the guard's gun along with the satchel and fled

## National briefs

by car, said police Sgt. Mike Thompson.

The satchel contained about \$1 million in cash and checks, casino spokeswoman Kathy Espin said.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The parents of a 2-year-old girl who was fatally shot by her 3-year-old brother have been charged with leaving a gun within reach of a child and could get up to five years in prison.

Ernest and Mona Newton were charged Monday and were to surrender today.

Their daughter, Brittany, was shot in the head March 29 when her brother picked up a pistol and it went off, said State Attorney Harry Shorstein.

Police said there were a dozen guns in the home. Friends said they were needed for protection in the crime-ridden neighborhood on the city's north side.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Charles Keating Jr. should get at least five years in prison for swindling investors, his probation officer says.

The 68-year-old financier faces up to 10 years in prison at sentencing Friday. He was convicted in December of securities fraud involving the sale of junk bonds in his American Continental Corp., parent of Lincoln Savings & Loan.

Deputy Probation Officer Thomas Aiken recommended a term of at least five years in a report sent Monday to Superior Court Judge Lance A. Ito.

Keating has asked that he be allowed to remain free so he can help repay his victims.

Prosecutors said Keating falsely represented the junk bonds as a safe investment, costing investors \$250 million when his financial empire collapsed. Lincoln was seized

at a cost of \$2.6 billion, the biggest thrift failure ever.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. (AP) — An Army Reserve doctor convicted of desertion for refusing to serve in the Persian Gulf is free after eight months behind bars.

Yolanda Huet-Vaughn, 40, of Kansas City, Kan., was released Monday from the disciplinary barracks at Fort Leavenworth. She had been given a 15-month sentence, but Army Secretary Michael Stone granted her clemency.

Huet-Vaughn, a captain, left her unit in December 1990 rather than serve in a war she called "immoral, inhumane and unconstitutional." The Persian Gulf War started the following month.

"In retrospect, I would have again attempted what I could to educate the public against the catastrophic consequences, and try to lobby, as I did in Washington and at the United Nations, for an alternative solution to the conflict," said Huet-Vaughn, who is married and has three children.

NEW YORK (AP) — Viewership of ABC, CBS and NBC during the first three months of 1992 reached levels even higher than those seen during the Persian Gulf War.

The Big Three network audience grew by one rating point, or about 921,000 households, compared with the first three months of 1991, the Network Television Association reported Monday.

"We have seen a distinct stemming of the network erosion that everyone has been writing about in recent years," said Jeff Bender, an NTA research executive.

For the period from Dec. 30, 1991, to March 29, network programming — including special events such as the Olympics — received a 38.8 rating.



Associated Press photo

## Listening hard

Los Angeles Police Department radio dispatcher Leslie Wiley (right) listens to a question during her testimony Monday in the trial of four former

and current LAPD officers accused in the videotaped beating of motorist Rodney King.

## GM shakeout nails president

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors President Lloyd E. Reuss, who oversaw a huge restructuring of the automaker's North American operations, was demoted in a surprise executive shakeup.

GM's board on Monday replaced Reuss with John F. Smith, a vice chairman who was in charge of GM's profitable international operations.

In addition, the board replaced Chief Executive Robert Stempel as chairman of its executive committee with former Procter & Gamble



Lloyd Reuss



John Smith

Co. chief executive John Smale, an outside director.

Analysts said the shakeup signals GM's deep frustration with steep losses, which reached \$4.5 billion in 1991. The automaker is consolidating its North American operations by closing 21 plants and cutting 74,000 jobs by 1995.

In a statement, GM said "regain[ing] profitability requires a more aggressive management approach to remove excess costs."

"There are redundancies in every nook and cranny" of GM's U.S. unit, said Joseph Phillippi.

Smith, who turned 54 on Monday, also becomes chief operating officer. Reuss, 55, was named a vice president in charge of new vehicles.

## January food exports up

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. exports of horticultural products in January this year totaled \$433.5 million, up 18 percent from the same month a year ago, the Agriculture Department says.

A 22 percent increase in fresh citrus, 33 percent for apples, 22 percent for shelled almonds and 48 percent for wine led the expanded January exports, according to the department's report.

During the first four months of fiscal 1992, October through January, the total value of U.S. horticultural exports reached a record \$2 billion, the report said. All commodity groups recorded gains during the period.

The report pointed out that on April 1, Japan lifted its longstanding quota system on imports of orange juice. Major Japanese supermarkets already have begun a campaign to promote sales of new orange juice products developed jointly with leading U.S. juice manufacturers.

Japanese imports of horticultural products increased almost 11 percent in 1991, to \$4.77 billion. Imports from the United States were valued at \$1.39 billion, up 13 percent in dollar terms. The United States supplied 29 percent of the value of Japan's horticultural imports in 1991.

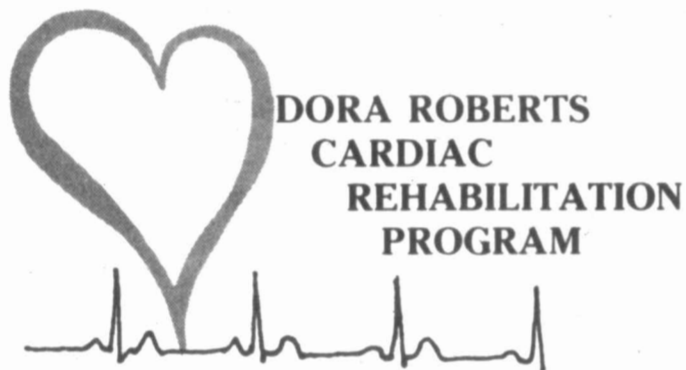
The report noted that Egyptian tree nut and dried fruit imports have surged since the lifting of the government's 6-year import ban in January.

And it pointed out that Israel recently approved limited imports of some fresh vegetables through April 24 to curb domestic price increases resulting from crop losses "due to the worst winter in over 100 years."

Import licenses were limited to the following vegetables: squash, 1,300 tons; cucumbers, 980 tons; eggplant, 1,200 tons; cabbage, 490 tons; cauliflower, 490 tons; and onions, 2,100 tons.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Agriculture Committee has approved legislation that would impose stiff federal penalties for criminal acts involving animal theft or damage to facilities housing animals.

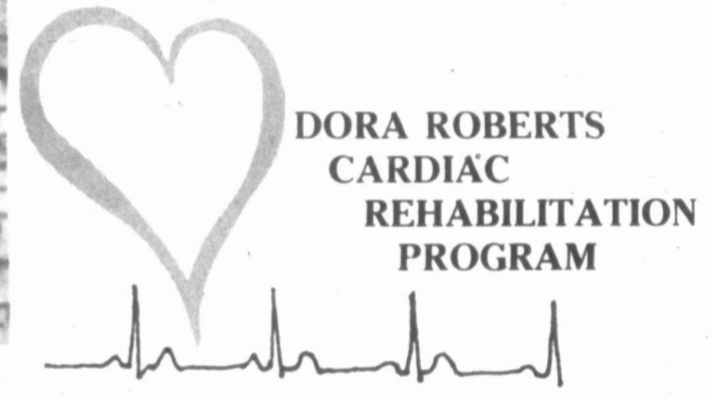
"Illegal entry, property destruction, theft of animals and other acts of terrorism against farmers and researchers in pursuit of a political or social agenda are unconscionable," said Rep. Kika de la Garza, D-Texas.



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Leslie Williams, R.N.  
Cardiac Rehabilitation  
Program Director



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### Herald National Weather

The Accu-Weather® forecast for noon, Wednesday, April 8.

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day

**FRONTS:** COLD WARM STATIONARY

**Pressure:** H L

**Wind:** H L

**Clouds:** H L

**Other:** H L

© 1992 Accu-Weather, Inc.

### Permian Basin Weather

Thursday: Most-ly sunny. Lows in the upper 40s, highs in the low 70s.	Friday: Mostly sunny. Lows in the lower 50s, highs in the mid 70s.	Saturday: Most-ly sunny. Lows in the lower 50s, highs in the lower 80s.
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# National forests new battleground

WASHINGTON (AP) — Colleagues call them "combat biologists" — Forest Service scientists who say their zealous protection of national forests has touched off a war with federal managers bent on logging.

Wildlife biologist Francis Mangels told Congress last week his environmental assessments were rewritten to accommodate logging plans in California.

Karin Heiman claims she lost her Forest Service job in North Carolina because she objected to orders that she inspect a proposed timber sale area for rare plants when the ground was covered with snow.

And Marynell Oechsner says there is "blatant resource mismanagement" on Montana's Kootenai National Forest. "The timber cut came first and woe to anyone who gets in the way," she says.

Scientists were "browbeaten and intimidated to follow the leader and their professional judgment was discredited and discarded when it did not meet with management's approval," Oechsner told Congress recently.

She said she had complained after believing that superiors ignored her concerns about the adverse effect a logging plan would have on grizzly bears. She later was transferred to a different part of Kootenai.

"Taking a stand for wildlife precipitated a threat of removal, reassignment or demotion," she told the House Government Operations subcommittee on environment, energy and natural resources.

## Permian

tion department, Billingsley said.

The manufacturing of the InstaMelt Rotary Extruder equipment will be severely curtailed, although not completely stopped, he said.

The scaled-down manufacturing will include future operations such as limited development and assembly of products and technologies for Plastic Flamecoat® Systems, a thermoplastic coating firm in Houston, according to a press release from Permian Research offices in Midland.

Most of the company's engineers will retain their positions in the research and development department, Billingsley said. The department develops plastics technology for sale.

## Records

Monday's high temp.	71
Monday's low temp.	52
Average high	77
Average low	46
Record high	99 in 1972
Record low	22 in 1936

Rainfall Monday: 0.00  
 Month to date: 1.51  
 Month's normal: 1.58  
 Year to date: 06.64  
 Normal for year: 02.27

## Deaths

### Loyd Fortenberry

Loyd Ray Fortenberry, 82, Colorado City, died Monday, April 6, 1992.

Graveside services were 2 p.m., today, at the Colorado City Cemetery with the Rev. Robert Bracy and the Rev. Howard Jernie officiating. Burial was under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

He was born July 31, 1909, in Fannin County. He married Alma R. Tickle, on Dec. 24, 1932, in Colorado City. He had been a resident of Colorado City since 1928. He was a

**MYERS & SMITH**  
**FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
 24th & Johnson 267-8288

**Nalley-Pickle & Welch**  
**Funeral Home and Rosewood Chapel**  
 906 GREGG BIG SPRING  
 James E. Wilkerson, 82, died Monday. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

# County

Continued from Page 1A

stoners, who cited numerous phone calls from people against the abatement, high local gas prices and no permanent jobs being created by the improvements — although about 100 construction jobs will be sustained a year. Morris said Fina does not control retail gas prices.

Since the rejection, commissioners have reported more phone calls from those in favor and Brown decided to change his position. He was reportedly agreeable, before the meeting, to abating 50 percent of allowable taxes on the diesel unit but decided to drop that to 30 percent.

Pct. 3 Commissioner Bill Crocker and County Judge Ben Lockhart, who were willing to grant a partial abatement two weeks ago, said Monday they would have abated more than Brown recommended.

"I think it should have been somewhat more," said Crocker, who two weeks ago proposed abating 75 percent on all projects in Fina's request.

Crocker on Monday attempted to amend Brown's motion to include 30 percent of all projects but failed to get a second. Crocker's motion two weeks ago for 75 percent also died for lack of a second.

"It was lower than what I thought," Lockhart said of Brown's motion. "Probably, I would have gone for 50 percent of the \$27.5 million."

Pct. 2 Commissioner John Stanley, who also voted against the compromise Monday, offered no comment.

Abatement on the other pro-

## Vote

Continued from Page 1A

only forward movement."

In the fight for New York, Clinton focused his fire on Brown's flat-tax proposal, saying it would punish the poor, increase the deficit and endanger Social Security. Brown called Clinton a "prince of sleaze" and distributed flyers questioning his rival's commitment to civil rights and Israel.

It was in New York that Clinton finally heard the questions that compelled him to acknowledge that he had tried marijuana in college and did, after all, receive a draft notice in 1969 before promising to join an ROTC program in Arkansas.

His carefully worded prior answers prompted new questions about Clinton's candor.

Clinton hoped a New York victory would give him a psychological lock on the Democratic presidential nomination.

But with a volatile electorate and nagging doubts about Clinton reflected in poll after poll, few were willing to write off Brown's chances of scoring the big-state upset that would cement the former California governor as a serious challenger and damage Clinton.

"We're going to do very well and it is going to shock the party establishment in Washington," Brown predicted in an election eve interview.

From the sidelines, Tsongas has encouraged New York supporters who want him back in the fray, and late polls showed his support creeping into the mid-teens and beginning to draw from Clinton as well as Brown.

Tsongas said he would announce Wednesday whether he would revive his bid. Aides said only a Clinton loss in New York would make that a possibility.

In all, the day offered 362 Democratic delegates, 244 of them from New York. A big day would push Clinton well past halfway to

## Dollar rises gold falls

LONDON (AP) — The dollar rose against other major currencies in early European trading today. Gold prices fell.

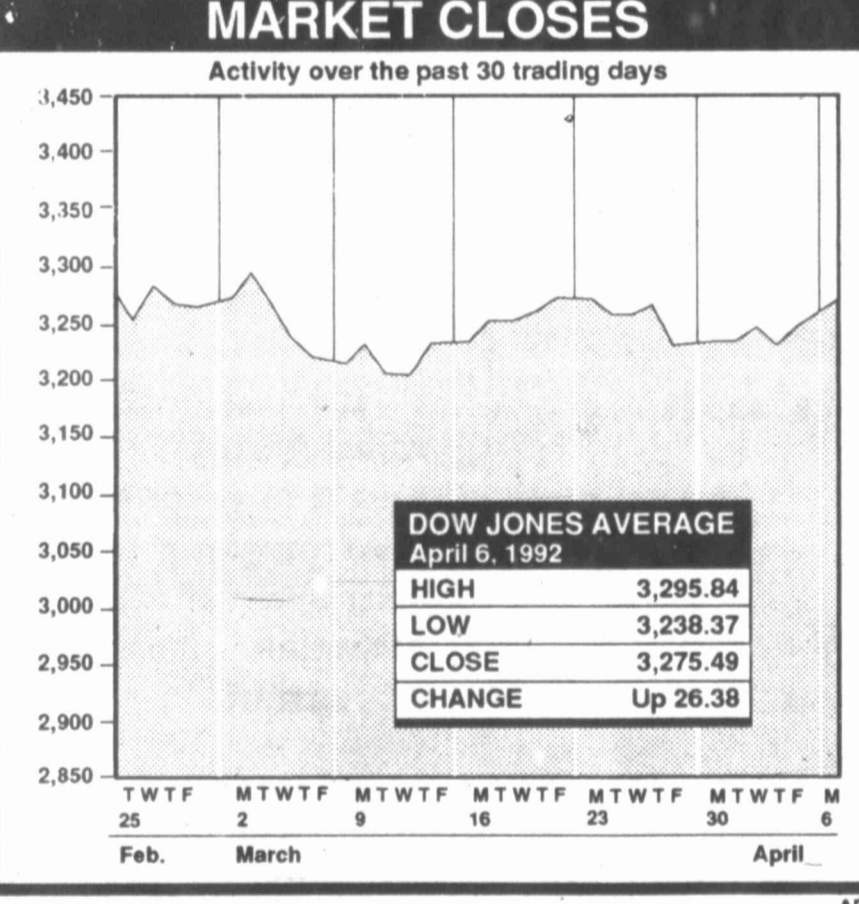
In Tokyo, the dollar fell 0.05 yen to a closing 133.35 yen. Later, in London, it was quoted at 133.70 yen.

Other dollar rates at midmorning compared with late Monday:

- 1.6303 German marks, up from 1.6210
- 1.4990 Swiss francs, up from 1.4885
- 5.5200 French francs, up from 5.4920
- 1.8345 Dutch guilders, up from 1.8255
- 1.230.00 Italian lire, up from 1,226.50
- 1.1898 Canadian dollars, up from 1.1875

In London, the British pound was quoted at \$1.7459, compared with \$1.7500 late Monday.

London's major bullion dealers fixed a recommended gold price of \$338.50 per ounce at midmorning.



## Police beat

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following incidents:

- A bulldog worth \$1,000 was reported stolen from a home in the 900 block of West Third Street.
- A bicycle worth \$1,091 was reported stolen from a residence.
- A weed eater and extension cord worth \$65 was reported stolen in the 1400 block of Dixie.
- Jewelry and flatware worth \$2,500 was reported stolen in the 2500 block of Albrook.
- Windows worth \$225 were reportedly damaged with a BB gun in the 600 block of West 17th Street.
- Shawn C. Anderson, 20, of 2401 Main and Billy Ray Mears of 1105 East 14th Street were arrested for the burglary of a building in the 2000 block of Goliad.
- A back pack and books were reported stolen during the burglary of Goliad Middle School.
- David Edward Vonotzski, described as a transient, was arrested for public intoxication.
- David Wayne Gilliam, 26, of 1311 Wright was arrested for driving with a suspended license.
- Joe Flores Escobar, 41, of 1006 East 19th Street was arrested for the unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- A Ford pickup was reported stolen in the 500 block of West Third Street and later recovered.
- Beer worth \$15 was reportedly stolen from a 7-Eleven at 401 South Birdwell Lane.

jects — a benzene recovery unit, sloop oil recovery unit, vent gas recovery and wastewater upgrades — were denied 3-1. Crocker was the lone vote against denial. Lockhart did not vote.

Following Brown's motion for 30 percent abatement on the largest project, lively discussion followed from some of about 50 citizens who attended the special-called meeting in the county courtroom.

"In the overall scheme of things, the up or down of tax abatement figures are relatively minor (for Fina)," said Wayne Burns, who opposed the abatement.

Morris said those figures can make a difference when Fina corporate officials in Dallas decided annually where to invest money. "When it comes down to those

close decisions, he, as a human being is going to remember where he is welcome and where he is not welcome."

Morris pointed out that tax abatement prevents property from being devalued below valuations set when the abatement was granted. He also said taxes paid to the county education district, which are not abateable, could drop the tax rate 27 cents per \$100 of valuation if other property valuations and budgets remained the same.

Local property owner Jack Watkins criticized that reasoning, saying the future of CEDs, which the Texas Legislature will consider changing next month, are shaky. "You're just blowing smoke as far as I'm concerned," Watkins said.

## T-bill rates hit 7-week low

WASHINGTON (AP) — Interest rates on short-term Treasury securities fell in Monday's auction to the lowest level in seven weeks.

The Treasury Department sold \$11.5 billion in three-month bills at an average discount rate of 3.95 percent, down from 4.08 percent last week. Another \$11.5 billion was sold in six-month bills at an average discount rate of 4.02 percent, down from 4.19 percent last week.

The rates were the lowest since Feb. 18, when the three-month bill sold for 3.83 percent and the six-

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Big Spring Herald

# Springboard

## How's the

Q. In 1925 who was the first woman in the second woman to serve as governor of Texas? A. According to it was Miriam A.

## Calendar

TODAY

- Bingo offered Elks, and Main Monday-Friday Saturday, 1 p.m., p.m., at the Lion's Club.
- Free tax through VITA, Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church.
- Recovery mens support group 6:30 p.m., 307 Union Street, 264-7000.
- A.A.R.P. at the Center instead of Center.
- Al-Anon will 615 Settles.
- Narcotics Awareness Center, room welcome.
- Spring Tabernacle, 1209 Wright St., and whatever else for area needy from noon.
- AMAC (Adult Children) will meet 315 Runnels, Hill Mental Health Center, interested must call Pearson, RNC of MSW, 267-8216 ext.
- Coahoma Support Project Group noon, Coahoma Center, 306 North welcome. For info 394-4439.
- The Community Friends, a support group for parents/grandparents experienced the death will meet at 7:30 Baptist Church, on the southeast entrance.
- Recovery Support Group will meet 6:30-8 p.m., information call 267-6394.
- Howard County offers refreshment displays, and more with Texas Week, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- There will be a Support Group meeting at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, room welcome. Children are available. Use entrance at Gregg Street. For more info 267-6394.
- There will be a Dependents meeting at 7 p.m. Mountain Medical fourth floor.
- West Texas will provide attorney matters (disability, adoptions, etc.) for those who need the Northside Center. For more info call 1-686-0647.

## THURSDAY

- Spring Tabernacle, 1209 Wright Street and bread to give needy from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Heritage Museum with a bar-b-que, 6:30 Museum with a Larry Buchanan. Tickets are \$10.00.
- West Texas Inc. will distribute at the Dora Robertson Center, 8:15 a.m. recipients must have a membership card. For info 267-9536.
- Rackley-Swartz, Vietnam America will have a monthly meeting the Veterans Center, Room 1.
- The American Legion will meet at 7 p.m. meeting at 7 p.m. information call 263-2858.



# B



Classified Ads page 3-5  
 SportsExtra page 4-5  
 Dear Abby page 6

## Spring board

### How's that?

Q. In 1925 who became the first woman in Texas, and the second woman in the nation, to serve as governor?  
 A. According to Texas Trivia, it was Miriam A. Ferguson.

### Calendar

**TODAY**  
 • Bingo offered by the Lions, Elks, and Main Street Club, Monday-Friday, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, 1 p.m., and Sunday, 2 p.m., at the Lions Club, 1607 E. Third.

• Free tax assistance through VITA, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church from Feb. 6 through April 14.

• Recovery Solutions Inc. mens support group will meet 6:30-8 p.m., 307 Union. For information call 264-7028.

• A.A.R.P. will meet 9:30 a.m., at the Senior Citizen Center instead of the Kentwood Center.

• Al-Anon will meet 8 p.m., 615 Settles.

• Narcotics Anonymous will meet 7 p.m., V.A. Medical Center, room 401. Anyone welcome.

• Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright St., has free bread and whatever else is available for area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.

• AMAC (Adults Molested as Children) will meet 5:15 p.m., 315 Runnels, Howard County Mental Health Center. Anyone interested must call first, Dawn Pearson, RNC or Gail Zilai, MSW, 267-8216 ext. 287.

• Coahoma Senior Center Project Group will meet at noon, Coahoma Community Center, 306 North Ave. Visitors welcome. For information call 394-4439.

• The Compassionate Friends, a support group for parents/grandparents who have experienced the death of a child, will meet at 7:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, room 113. Use the southeast entrance.

• Recovery Solutions Inc., womens support group, will meet 6:30-8 p.m., 307 Union. For information call 264-7028.

**WEDNESDAY**  
 • Howard County Courthouse offers refreshments, tours, displays, and more, in conjunction with Texas Government Week, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• There will be a Divorce Support Group meeting from 6-7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, room 101. Anyone welcome. Child care is available. Use the back entrance at Gregg Street parking lot. For more information call 267-6394.

• There will be a Co-Dependents Anonymous meeting at 7 p.m. at Seismic Mountain Medical Center, fourth floor.

• West Texas Legal Service will provide attorneys for civil matters (disability, divorces, adoptions, etc.) for those unable to afford their own attorney at the Northside Community Center. For more information call 1-686-0647.

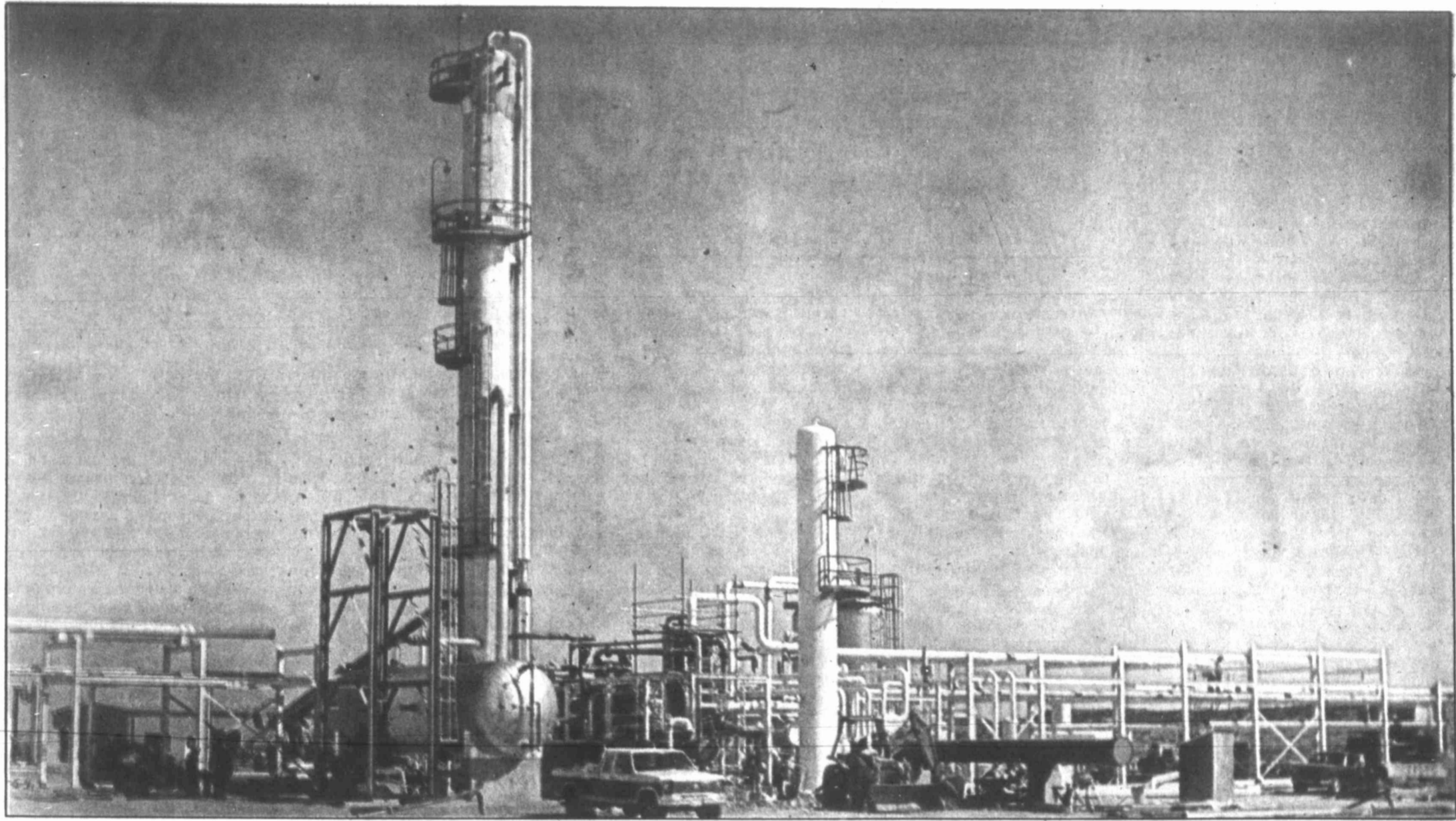
**THURSDAY**  
 • Spring Tabernacle Church, 1209 Wright Street, has free milk and bread to give to the area needy from 10 a.m. to noon.

• Heritage Museum will have a bar-b-que, 6:30 p.m. at the Museum with actor, singer Larry Buchanan as speaker. Tickets are \$10.00.

• West Texas Opportunities, Inc. will distribute commodities at the Dora Roberts Community Center, 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. All recipients must have certification card. For information call 267-9536.

• Rackley-Swords Chapter 379, Vietnam Veterans of America will have its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m., in the Veterans Center on Driver Road.

• The American Legion Auxiliary will meet at 6 p.m., followed by the American Legion meeting at 7 p.m. For more information call Helen Hall at 263-2858.



Conoco's new gas processing plant south of Big Spring should be in operation by the end of the month. The central tower is where heavy hydrocarbons are separated from the lighter methane, which is drawn off through the pipe at the top of the tower. The plant is designed to release less engine and raw hydrocarbons into the atmosphere than most processing plants, according to Conoco officials.

## Plant uses environmentally friendly technology

By GARY SHANKS  
 Staff Writer

Conoco's new natural gas plant uses state-of-the-art technology to process the gases and protect the environment, said Plant Manager Marshall Honeyman.

Conoco NG&NP is the subsidiary of Conoco Inc., and is concerned with natural gas and gas production. Their new facility in Sterling County, 23 miles southeast of Big Spring on U.S. 87, will produce as much as 65 million cubic feet per day of natural gas when fully operational. Although the technology is similar to that used in other, new, natural gas processing plants, Conoco's plant is far beyond most in business in environmental protection technology.

Through the use of an extensive catalytic converter system, the plant hopes to achieve a zero level on the amount of raw hydrocarbons leaked into the environment. "There's not too many gas processing plants that can make that

claim," Honeyman said.

All of the plant's systems are surrounded with concrete retaining basins to protect groundwater from contamination. The plant meets or exceeds all new Environmental Protection Agency regulations regarding refining and natural gas processing. Many of these regulations are not yet mandatory but are anticipated, he said.

Using refrigeration and cryogenic techniques, the plant chills raw natural gas to minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit where heavier hydrocarbons settle into a liquid state. This liquid is composed primarily of ethane, propane and various chemical forms of butane. This liquid is sent via Mid-America Pipeline Company (MAPCO) pipeline to a large refinery at the Gulf Coast where it is fractionated (separated) into its various components, Honeyman said.

Ethane is often used for chemical plant "stock," or raw material for making other chemicals, such as

the gas acetylene used in welding. Propane is most often found in tanks to heat rural homes and the butanes are used by refineries as gasoline additive to increase the fuel's vapor pressure.

The plant could produce and sell as much as 5,000 barrels per day of this liquid, Honeyman said.

After these liquids are removed, the remaining natural gas is cycled through a "turbo expander" where the gas expands, turning a turbine, which performs mechanical work. This allows heat to be drawn off the gas in the form of kinetic energy. As a result, the gas is cooled to between minus 130 F and minus 140 F, Honeyman said.

At this supercool temperature, all hydrocarbons are liquefied except for the very light methane. Consisting only of one carbon atom and four hydrogen atoms, the molecule remains gaseous even at this temperature. It is methane that is purchased from the gas company for home heating — and

is often referred to as natural gas.

After final processing, the methane is pumped to interstate pipeline systems at 800 to 1000 pounds per square inch. As it leaves the plant, the gas has no odor. The local distribution companies add a chemical called ethyl mercaptan, which gives the gas its characteristic odor, he said. This is done to protect home owners from gas leaks which, if undetected, could cause explosions or suffocation due to methane's ability to displace air.

After the 98-percent pure methane is captured, the remaining hydrocarbons are burned away in a high oxygen flare for cleaner burning.

The plant's technology makes the best use of its available materials, running its engines on its own natural gas product, which burns cleaner than gasoline or diesel, Honeyman said. Propane, which is less harmful to the earth's ozone layer, is used instead of freon

in the large refrigeration units.

The computerized facility has only 11 full time employees, most of whom live in Big Spring. The plant is expected to become fully operational by the end of this month, Honeyman said.

Other systems in the plant include a reaction tank where carbon dioxide is removed from the incoming gasses by bonding with a chemical called diethylamine, which is referred to as DEA or amine. The carbon dioxide is then separated from the amine, which is then reused, he said. A system of separators and filters removes water from the incoming product.

Texas leads the country in the production of natural gas, according to a speech by Governor Ann Richards. Richards is pushing for the use of methane as an alternative fuel for vehicles and has enlisted the cooperation of Arlington's General Motors factory for the design and future production of such vehicles, she said.

## Science briefs

### Meteorites dated to time of solar system creation

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — Two groups of meteorites thought to be fragments of long-vanished planets have been dated to within 100 million years of the formation of the solar system about 4.56 billion years ago.

The research could lead to a better understanding of how planets, including Earth, emerged from the debris of interplanetary collisions, the scientists said.

The findings by Dr. Richard Walker of the University of Maryland and colleagues from the U.S. Geological Survey were published in the journal Science.

The meteorites are believed to have come from early protoplanets, which no longer exist. As the protoplanets aged, their cores cooled and became solid iron and nickel, scientists believe.

Ninety percent of all meteorites are made of stony silicates rather than iron and nickel. Scientists have been able to date the silicate meteorites by measuring the radioactive isotopes of uranium, thorium or samarium.

The iron-nickel meteorites, however, don't contain measurable amounts of those isotopes. Walker and colleagues used new techniques to measure isotopes of rhenium and osmium, two heavy metals that are extremely rare on Earth, but relatively abundant in iron meteorites.

Although collected from around the world, the meteorites in one group are believed to be pieces of the metallic core of a single planet.

A second group of similar meteorites may have been part of the core of a larger planet that was created at the same time as the first, but took up to 178 million years longer to cool.

### Poison frogs loose venom in captivity

BALTIMORE (AP) — Scientists are trying to determine why poison dart frogs hatched in captivity don't live up to their name.

The frogs secrete a variety of noxious and even deadly alkaloids when they are born in the wild, but become harmless when born in captivity.

"Our bottom line, after several years of working on this question of why they don't produce the alkaloids in captivity, is we don't know," said John W. Daly, chief of the bio-organic chemistry laboratory at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda.

Researchers have settled on two theories.

One holds that the wild diet may include a substance needed to produce the alkaloids, Daly said. The other theory suggests the frogs need some kind of environmental trigger, such as a combination of sunlight and variable temperatures, or the stress of hunting for food.

To protect themselves from predators, most frogs have brown or green skins for camouflage and hop around at night. Most poison dart frogs sport bright colors advertising their venoms and move about in daylight.

## New chart assists hospital patients

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — You have just had an operation. Tubes dangle down your throat; IV tubes are poking your arms. And you do not speak the language.

How do you communicate? Until recently, nurses and patients have had to rely solely on their own ingenuity. They drew pictures on a pad, pointed to objects or used a series of nods or eye-blinking to indicate "yes" and "no."

Now, some hospitals are embracing another option: a communication device called the Patient Request Guide.

The guide is an 11-by-17-inch card with 24 red-and-black diagrams representing 32 common questions asked by hospital patients. Those who are thirsty can point to a picture of a faucet spraying water into a glass. Those who need to go to the bathroom can point to a diagram of a toilet. And so on.

About a month ago, Humana Hospital-San Antonio bought 100 of the guides at \$2 apiece from Eye Talk of Texas, a small Houston firm run by two women who developed the product.

"This does speed up communication, and it makes it clear," said Jane Austin, assistant director of nursing at Humana Hospital-San Antonio.

The guide has been most helpful in the hospital's renal unit, which has a large number of Hispanics who do not speak English, she said.

Even if a patient does speak English, often it is impossible to communicate. Patients in intensive care and those suffering

from stroke, deafness or throat problems are unable to speak at all sometimes.

Ygnacio Villanueva can relate. Two years ago he had a kidney transplant at Humana and could not speak for three days after the operation because doctors put tubes in his throat.

"A lot of times I was in pain, and they couldn't understand

me," he said recently from his hospital bed at Humana, where doctors are evaluating his condition. "I would have to really point to where it hurt, and show them I was really in pain."

The guide is available in 12 languages, including Greek, Arabic, Chinese and Vietnamese as well as English and Spanish.



Humana Hospital nurse Deirdre Lopez explains a patient request guide to patient Ygnacio Villanueva recently in San Antonio. The guide serves as a communication device for patients who either do not speak English, or for those who cannot speak at all.

APR 07 1992

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She dances — yes, dances — even winning a talent award at the local Miss Rain Day pageant. She models. She dates. She hikes. She drives a car.

"Everybody has something they have to deal with that's going to be hard in their life," she says. "I just wanted to show people that no matter how bad life may seem to get at some point, you're always going to come back from it if you keep trying. I can't believe this is a handicap. I'm able to do anything I want."

The skin grafts and pink-and-white splotches that crisscross what is left of her arms and legs are a reminder of how closely death embraced Terri Harding.

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She also tested the waters to see how men reacted after the amputations. She didn't want any pity. "They're still the same with me, no matter what," she says. "They'll ask me out. It's how you present yourself. I got this call at 11 o'clock at night from this guy that goes to the college."

Some days are hard, of course. But on a day early in her recovery when Terri was upset, she climbed into her car and turned on the radio to hear Michael Bolton singing "When I'm Back On My Feet Again".

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## Technology advances the latest prosthesis

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Hours after the land mine nearly killed him and doctors amputated his legs, Chilean diplomat Luis Winter was determined to walk again.

It took more than a year, but with the help of sophisticated artificial legs and rehabilitation techniques, Winter is taking long walks and working on his tennis game.

"I want to return to my house, to my job, to ride the subway. Not as a man who has had an accident, but as I was before," he said in February at Moss Rehabilitation Hospital.

In March, he succeeded. He returned to Chile to resume his job at the Ministry of Frontiers.

While in Philadelphia, he was on temporary assignment to the Chilean consulate in the city. But his mission was his recovery. Winter, 52, spent much time at Moss' Gait Analysis Laboratory, where human efforts and technology combined to help him walk again.

"When you put on a prosthesis, it's like a new set of tires on a car. You also have to align the wheels and balance them," said Dr. Alberto Esquenazi.

Each prosthesis is a plastic tube with a movable ankle and foot made of light carbon-graphite, a material used in airplane wings. At the ankle joint, a ball joint allows flexibility and adjustment.

"I can adjust the X- and Y-axis. We can make little changes in tilt and rotation. As his gait progresses and gets better, we can compensate to fit the way he walks and balances his body," Esquenazi said. "With the old type of prosthesis, you couldn't do this."

To study Winter's progress, Esquenazi had him walk along a path marked out in the Gait Lab. Video cameras recorded his movements and special "force plates" in the floor measured his steps precisely.

Like sensitive scales, the force plates recorded the pressure as Winter's foot touched down and as he put weight on it, then as he moved forward and raised his other foot for the next step.

The plates also measure side-to-side and front-to-back forces. A computer-driven laser shows the

force and direction of the step as a bright red line, and a two-way mirror superimposes the line on the video of the moving leg.

"Before this, you had to make little adjustments to the prosthesis and ask, 'How does it feel now, Sir? How about this?' There is still some of what I call clinical decision-making, but I think we're getting closer and closer to taking the guesswork out," Esquenazi said.

Winter, director of borders for Chile, was inspecting a northern frontier area on Nov. 2, 1990, when his jeep drove over a long-forgotten antitank mine.

He came to the United States

himself. He was a young medical student studying to be a cardiac surgeon when a chemical accident in a lab blew off his right hand.

Depressed, he dropped out of school. But he came back, with a prosthesis and his knack for electronic gadgetry.

"People say, 'Oh, you must have a special connection with your patients, because you know what they're going through.' I reject that. Do you have to get cancer to be successful at treating cancer patients?" Esquenazi said.

But he agrees that patients learning to use new artificial limbs are encouraged by what their doctor has accomplished.

It hasn't always been easy for Winter. He endured intense pain when he first put on the new artificial legs.

"My knees creaked and the tendons behind them felt like elastic ready to snap," Winter wrote in his journal. "Right away I felt a radical change and strong pain, which intensified when Maria (the therapist) pushed my knees back in order to correct my crouched posture."

He drove himself in therapy, going eight hours a day for eight weeks. He had physical therapy, occupational therapy and recreational therapy. He refused to give in to pain, fatigue or doubt, even

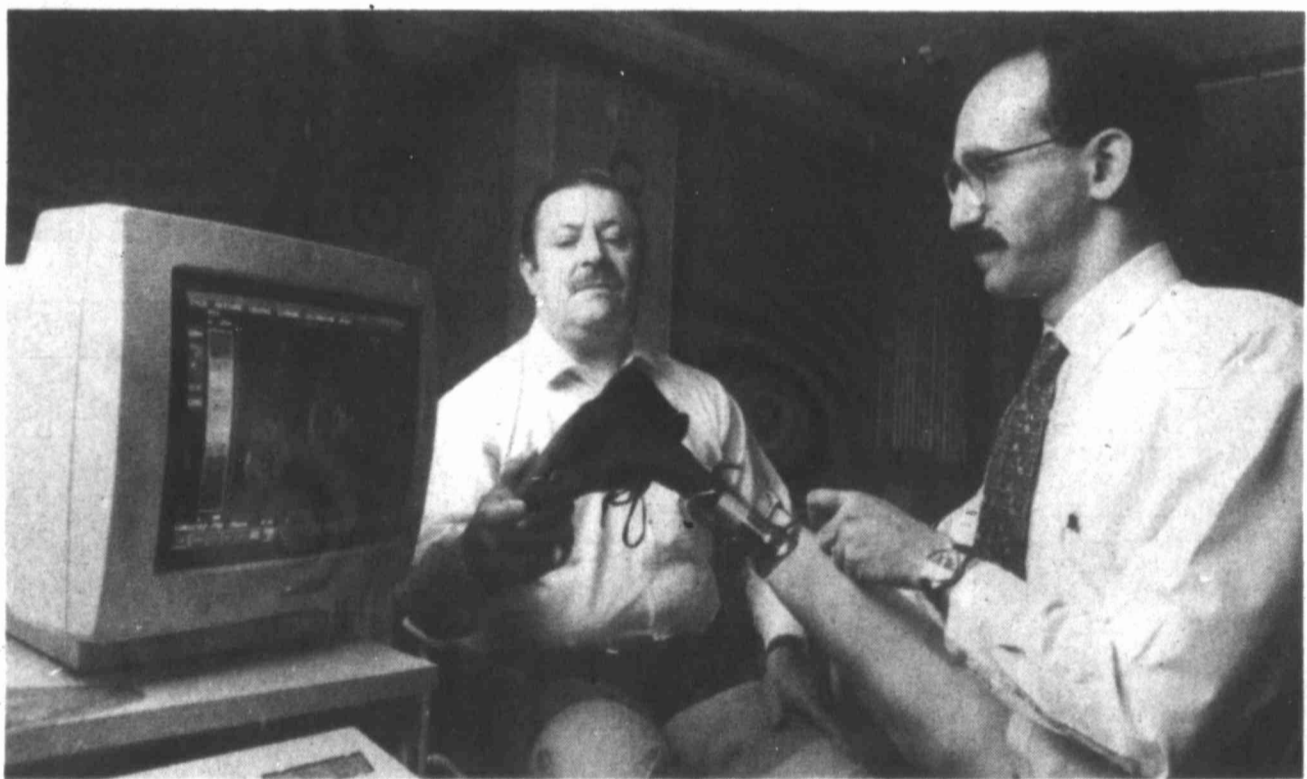
though there was plenty of all three.

In an especially low moment in the first weeks, he wrote: "I wondered if it was realistic to think that I'd ever again have a normal life. The exhaustion of just walking with a cane, even slowly, is incredible."

Soon his walking grew easier. First with two canes, then with one, then alone. The walks grew longer.

In his final months as an outpatient, Winter walked two, three, or four miles a day around his neighborhood.

Eventually, he played tennis, beating his therapist.



Chilean diplomat Luis Winter, left, and Dr. Alberto Esquenazi look at Winter's artificial leg at the Moss Rehabilitation Hospital's Gait Analysis Laboratory in Philadelphia in January. The com-

puter shows Winter's heel to toe movement measured from sensors in the shoes. Winter came to Moss after his legs were amputated as a result of a land mine accident in Chile.

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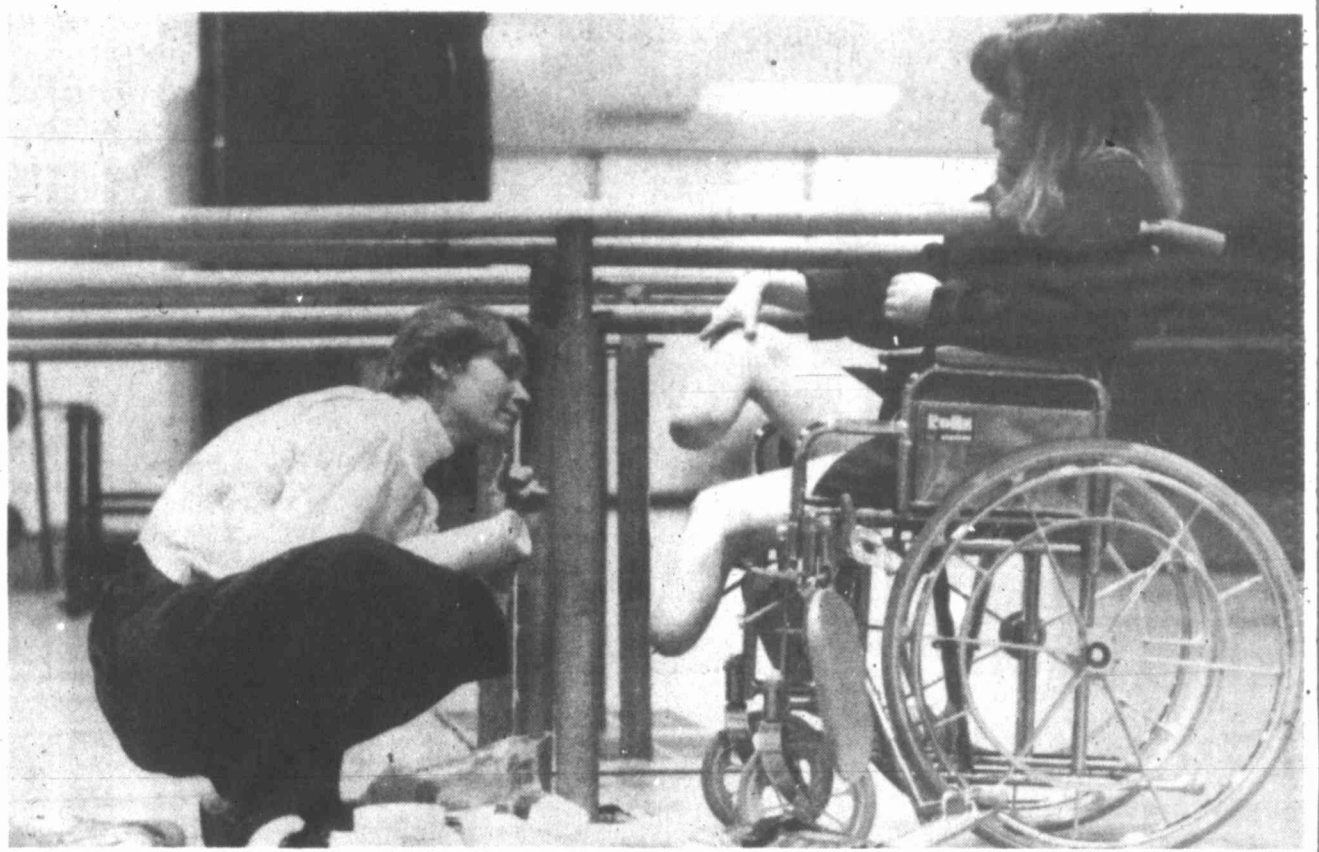
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## Technology advances the latest prosthesis

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Hours after the land mine nearly killed him and doctors amputated his legs, Chilean diplomat Luis Winter was determined to walk again.

It took more than a year, but with the help of sophisticated artificial legs and rehabilitation techniques, Winter is taking long walks and working on his tennis game.

"I want to return to my house, to my job, to ride the subway. Not as a man who has had an accident, but as I was before," he said in February at Moss Rehabilitation Hospital.

In March, he succeeded. He returned to Chile to resume his job at the Ministry of Frontiers.

While in Philadelphia, he was on temporary assignment to the Chilean consulate in the city. But his mission was his recovery. Winter, 52, spent much time at Moss' Gait Analysis Laboratory, where human efforts and technology combined to help him walk again.

"When you put on a prosthesis, it's like a new set of tires on a car. You also have to align the wheels and balance them," said Dr. Alberto Esquenazi.

Each prosthesis is a plastic tube with a movable ankle and foot made of light carbon-graphite, a material used in airplane wings. At the ankle joint, a ball joint allows flexibility and adjustment.

"I can adjust the X- and Y-axis. We can make little changes in tilt and rotation. As his gait progresses and gets better, we can compensate to fit the way he walks and balances his body," Esquenazi said. "With the old type of prosthesis, you couldn't do this."

To study Winter's progress, Esquenazi had him walk along a path marked out in the Gait Lab. Video cameras recorded his movements and special "force plates" in the floor measured his steps precisely.

Like sensitive scales, the force plates recorded the pressure as Winter's foot touched down and as he put weight on it, then as he moved forward and raised his other foot for the next step.

The plates also measure side-to-side and front-to-back forces. A computer-driven laser shows the

force and direction of the step as a bright red line, and a two-way mirror superimposes the line on the video of the moving leg.

"Before this, you had to make little adjustments to the prosthesis and ask, 'How does it feel now, Sir? How about this?' There is still some of what I call clinical decision-making, but I think we're getting closer and closer to taking the guesswork out," Esquenazi said.

Winter, director of borders for Chile, was inspecting a northern frontier area on Nov. 2, 1990, when his jeep drove over a long-forgotten antitank mine.

He came to the United States

himself. He was a young medical student studying to be a cardiac surgeon when a chemical accident in a lab blew off his right hand.

Depressed, he dropped out of school. But he came back, with a prosthesis and his knack for electronic gadgetry.

"People say, 'Oh, you must have a special connection with your patients, because you know what they're going through.' I reject that. Do you have to get cancer to be successful at treating cancer patients?" Esquenazi said.

But he agrees that patients learning to use new artificial limbs are encouraged by what their doctor has accomplished.

It hasn't always been easy for Winter. He endured intense pain when he first put on the new artificial legs.

"My knees creaked and the tendons behind them felt like elastic ready to snap," Winter wrote in his journal. "Right away I felt a radical change and strong pain, which intensified when Maria (the therapist) pushed my knees back in order to correct my crouched posture."

He drove himself in therapy, going eight hours a day for eight weeks. He had physical therapy, occupational therapy and recreational therapy. He refused to give in to pain, fatigue or doubt, even

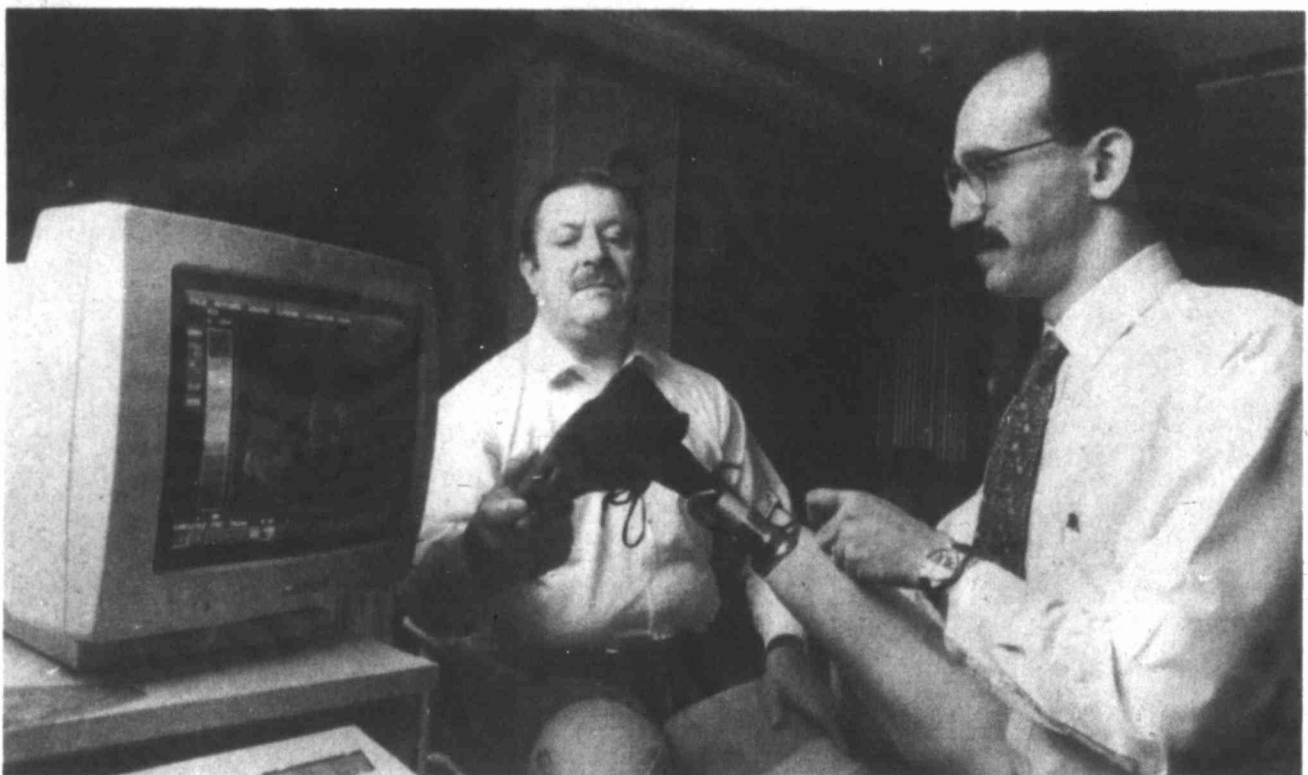
though there was plenty of all three.

In an especially low moment in the first weeks, he wrote: "I wondered if it was realistic to think that I'd ever again have a normal life. The exhaustion of just walking with a cane, even slowly, is incredible."

Soon his walking grew easier. First with two canes, then with one, then alone. The walks grew longer.

In his final months as an outpatient, Winter walked two, three, or four miles a day around his neighborhood.

Eventually, he played tennis, beating his therapist.



Chilean diplomat Luis Winter, left, and Dr. Alberto Esquenazi look at Winter's artificial leg at the Moss Rehabilitation Hospital's Gait Analysis Laboratory in Philadelphia in January. The com-

puter shows Winter's heel to toe movement measured from sensors in the shoes. Winter came to Moss after his legs were amputated as a result of a land mine accident in Chile.

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5 PM	Cosby Show	Ninja Turtle	Sesame Street	Rin Tin Tin	Jeopardy!	News	News	Hillbillies	Maria Nade	Movie: Journey of	F.I.S.T.	Supermarket	Would You?	Mighty	Smurfs	USA	Movie: Ski	Avengers	Beyond 2000	Gilligan	Motorsports	Up Close
6 PM	ABC News	Who's Boss?	Animals	Waltons	News	News	News	Munsters	Muchachitas	Natty Gann	Be a Star	China Beach	Looney Tunes	Looney Tunes	MacGyver	Patrol	David Letterman	B-17	and Pale	and Pale	SportsCenter	
7 PM	Full House	Movie: Biloxi	Atlantic	Roots: The	Rescue: 911	Full House	In the Heat	Braves	Atropada	Great Moments	Crook and	Movie: Blaze	L.A. Law	F-Trop	Movie: Teenage	Murder, She	Movie: Warlock	Churchill	Terra X	Captains and	ATP	
8 PM	Roseanne	Room for	Nova	Generation	Movie: In the	Roseanne	Law & Order	Baseball	El Desprecio	Movie: Perfect	Nashville	B. Crystal:	Get Smart	Turtles II	Tuesday	Carnival	Jose Carreras	Invention	(PI 3 of 3)	Major League	Amer. Cup	
9 PM	Civil Wars	Star Trek: Next	Frontline	700 Club	Stranger	Civil Wars	Dateline NBC	Astros (L)	Charylin	Harmony	On Stage	Movie: Fright	R. Shnyder	Dragnet	Movie: Holly	Silk Stalkings	Ice Man Tapes	and Friends	Lifelorce	Astros (L)	Baseball (L)	
10 PM	News	Mama's Fam.	MacNeil/Lehrer	Bordertown	News	News	News	News	Noticiero	Roll	Crook and	Chase	Lucy Show	wood Tube 2	MacGyver	Movie: Flash-back	An Evening at	Wings	Movie: Marlowe	Fight Night at		
11 PM	Ent. Tonight	Love Connect	American Masters	Next Generation	Scene of the Crime	(55) Nightline	Show	Walking Tall	Nelson	Movie	Nashville	Movie: Down and Out in	It's Garry	Mork	(15) Comedy	Equalizer	Churchill	Sky Hunters	GI Diary	The Forum		
12 AM	Dennis Miller	Matlock		(PI 2 of 7) Paid Program	Personals	Street Blues	Letterman	Journey of	On Stage	Beverly Hills	Self-Improvement	Donna Reed	King of New	Football	Carnival	Rommel	Movie: Boys' Night Out	Green Jacket	Sportscenter			

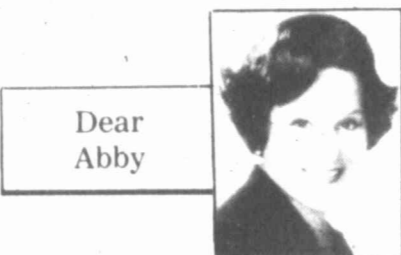
# Persistence brings success to family

DEAR READERS: Someone once said, "A lie can travel halfway around the world before the truth can get its pants on." How true. The "lie" in this case is crediting a quotation to the wrong person. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am finally writing to ask you to correct your Nov. 17, 1990, column that contained the definition of "Success" attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson. It was very similar to one written in 1904 by my grandmother, Bessie Anderson Stanley.

I have seen other definitions of success on cards taken from Grandmother's work.

Hallmark Cards erroneously credited Robert Louis Stevenson as the author! (They later corrected their error.)



Dear Abby

I would appreciate a correction from you, please. My family has enjoyed your column for years, and looks forward to hearing from you.

— ARTHUR STANLEY HARVEY, RICHMOND, KY.

DEAR MR. HARVEY: My apologies to your family. According to "Distilled Wisdom: An Encyclopedia of Wisdom in Condensed Form" by Alfred Armand Montapert, published by Prentice-Hall

Inc., Bessie Anderson Stanley wrote the famous definition of success that was published in 1904 in Brown Book Magazine. And here it is:

"He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has enjoyed the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has always looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose life was an inspiration; and whose memory a benediction."

DEAR ABBY: About two weeks

ago, my high school sweetheart asked me to marry him. I gladly accepted. There is one problem, however.

I am 25 years old and last year I had my tubes tied because I wanted to be a successful veterinarian instead of a housewife and mom. I'm afraid to tell this to my fiancé in case he might want to call off the wedding, but I'm afraid if I don't tell him, he will think I was being unfair to him. Should I wait and tell him later? I don't want to lose him. — A WANNABE WIFE

DEAR WANNABE: Tell him now. Also, speak to your doctor about reversing the procedure when — and if — you decide you want to have a family. Not all tubal ligations can be reversed. Your doctor will know whether yours can. Good luck.

# Jean Dixon

FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1992

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY! IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE:** A generous act will bring you wonderful dividends. Vacation in early summer if you can. Keep close tabs on spending in September. A new alliance leads to improved profits or happy romance. A return to school is possible in late fall. Your ability to spot business trends brings rich rewards in December. Early 1993 finds you riding the crest of popularity. Travel as next spring approaches.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DATE:** catcher Gary Carter, former first lady Betty Ford, actor John Schneider, comedian Chevy Chase.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Accept the comforting words of your mate or another close ally. You did everything you could. Guard your health by getting more rest. You will soon get a second chance at a business opportunity.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Spending money for home improvements is a good idea, provided you not go overboard. It may be possible to arrange a loan. Trust your instincts in romance. Being married has its advantages.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Avoid announcing an important decision until you have had all the time you need to study the matter thoroughly. Fresh opportunities to add to your income arise.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** A modified plan may work better for you. Conserve energy. Overhauling a business could save it. Avoid making any credit card purchases until your cash flow improves.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Make appointments and show up on time. Your punctuality will leave a good impression. Reach out to

a family member who has felt neglected lately. Good news arrives from the folks at home.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Wrap up any projects that are still pending before launching a new venture. Steer clear of negative people who have been holding you back. A child deserves your full attention this evening.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** A victory today could spell trouble later unless you are diplomatic. Tap a friend for a vacant position. Teamwork will mean higher profits as well as less emotional wear and tear.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** The only way to stay ahead of the competition is to keep hatching new ideas. Love and money are strong motivating factors. You could be the target of unfair criticism.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Because you always go beyond the ordinary, your success is assured. Preferential treatment could spark romance. Pay more attention to the way you look.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** A family feud is nothing new. Tackle the situation from a different angle. Clearing up any troubles at home will let you give business your full attention.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Expanding your horizons will make life and romance more satisfying. Music and art can be a source of delight for the whole family. Pay more attention to your mate's views.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Someone else's problems could interfere with your personal life. Taking a common sense approach to financial matters will work wonders. Your role as mediator may be questioned.

## DENNIS THE MENACE



"Doesn't our backyard look pretty empty without a horse?"

## PEANUTS



## WIZARD OF ID



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## BEEBLE BAILEY



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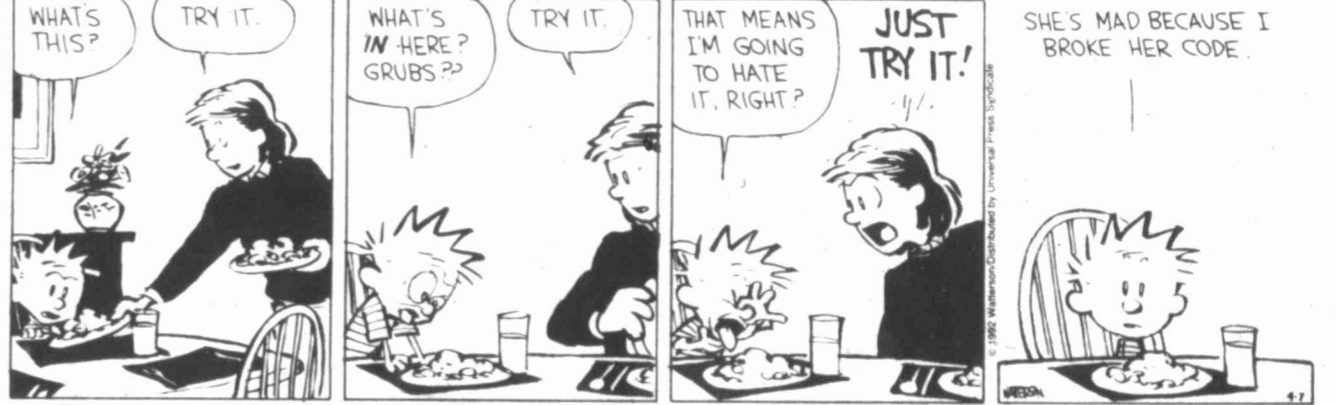


## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

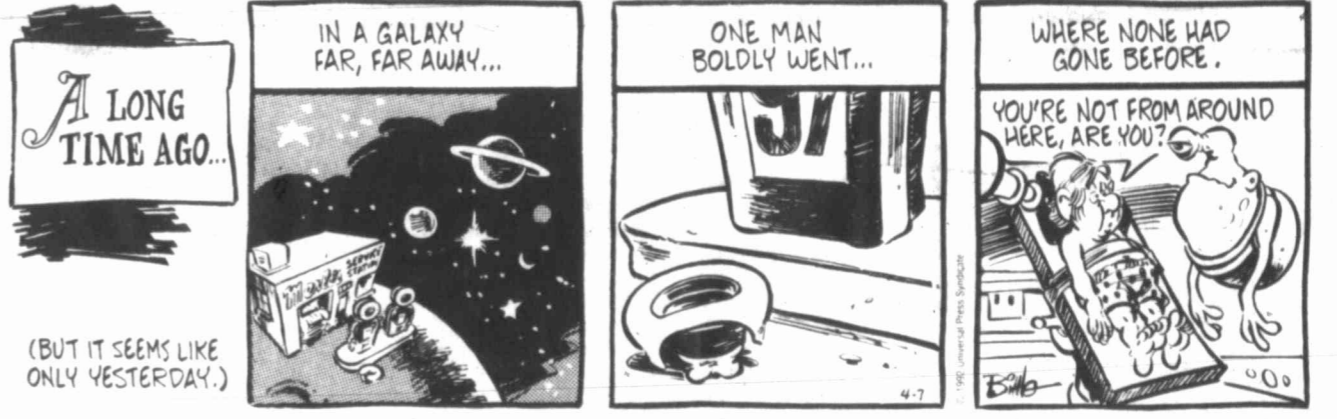


"Somebody took my cookies out of my pocket and left me just a bunch of crumbs."

## CALVIN AND HOBBS



## GEECH



## HI & LOIS



## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## B.C.



## GASOLINE ALLEY

