

Hope dims but search continues for missing Saginaw six-year-old

SAGINAW (AP) — Hope has dimmed as the days continue to pass without any word on the whereabouts of a 6-year-old girl.

Opal Jo Jennings, a brown-haired kindergartner, was last seen playing in a vacant lot near her grandmother's home Friday evening. Witnesses told police a middle-aged man got out of his car, grabbed Opal, punched her in the chest and threw her into his car as she screamed once.

As many as 50 people have searched commercial and industrial areas of the northern Tarrant County suburb, but as of late Monday police had no new leads.

At the request of the FBI, Sgt. Mark Simpson, the commander of Arlington's Amber Hagerman task force, will meet with Saginaw police today about their search for Opal.

Saginaw police Detective James Neale told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that he welcomes the Arlington department's help.

"It's a big job," Neale said. "It's a lot of calls, a lot of area and just a few clues."

In a meeting with parents Monday night, Saginaw police Detective Mike Hughes appealed to residents for any pictures or videotapes taken during a school Fun Run that Opal attended Friday.

NATO steps up air offensive on Serb ground forces

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon is sending five B-1 bombers and additional air defense-jamming planes and refueling tankers to Europe for intensified NATO airstrikes on Serb troops that U.S. officials say are slaughtering ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

The B-1s each can carry 84 500-pound bombs and 88 cluster-style munitions that can take out armor and artillery, which are among new targets in the second phase of the week-old air campaign.

"We are beginning to turn to hitting staging areas" of Serb troops and military vehicles, Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said Monday.

The Yugoslav military is widely dispersed in mountain-

ous terrain, however, making for difficult targets, he cautioned. Rain and clouds also are hampering NATO attacks.

"There aren't huge concentrations of troops in the sense of massed armies that we encountered in, say, World War II in battles 50 or 60 years ago," Bacon said. "It's more like small groups trying to either destroy and pillage villages, on the one hand, or small groups going after concentrations of the Kosovo Liberation Army."

The Clinton administration and NATO have accused those groups of Army and security forces of renewing a year-old genocidal campaign against ethnic Albanians, who are fleeing the Serb province of Kosovo by the tens of thousands to border-

ing Macedonia and Albania, creating a humanitarian crisis.

"Ethnic Albanians are being driven from their homes, forced to flee their country in large numbers and in many cases are being murdered in cold blood," Vice President Al Gore told reporters Monday in Chicago during a political fund-raising trip.

Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering today rejected a suggestion that the bombing will not succeed and that it will take NATO ground troops to force Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to sign a peace agreement.

"It is true that airstrikes cannot stop an individual murder on the ground," Pickering said on NBC's "Today." "But we

believe that continued and intensified military pressure on Milosevic can create such a range of damage that it will bring about the results that we hope to achieve."

Five Navy EA-6B aircraft were being deployed to help jam the target-seeking radar of the Serbs' robust anti-aircraft missile network.

An F-117A stealth fighter crashed in Yugoslavia over the weekend, possibly due to hostile fire.

A U.S. A-10 "Warthog," a low- and slow-flying tank-killer aircraft, also took off for the first time Monday as part of the second phase of airstrikes.

Ten refueling tankers also were being added to the 400-plane NATO force.

Senator believes he can pass gun lawsuit bill now

AUSTIN (AP) — The author of a bill to limit the ability of Texas cities to sue gun manufacturers predicted he can finally pass the measure, which twice has been brought up in the Senate only to be withdrawn in the face of questions and concerns.

"I've got all the votes I need," Sen. Jon Lindsay, R-Houston, said Monday.

His bill, which he said could come up again for Senate consideration on Tuesday, comes at a time when a number of U.S. cities have considered suing

gun makers to recover the costs of gun-related violence.

The measure would prohibit Texas state agencies and governmental units — including cities and counties — from suing firearm or ammunition makers or sellers for damages related to lawful manufacture or sales to the public.

The prohibition would be lifted only if the Legislature approved such a lawsuit in advance.

Lawsuits by individuals wouldn't be affected by the bill, Lindsay said. It also wouldn't

prevent breach of contract or warranty lawsuits by governmental bodies that buy firearms or ammunition.

Lindsay initially brought up the bill last Tuesday.

Consideration of it was postponed amid concerns that it would apply to lawsuits that aren't aimed at gun control, such as police departments suing in a worker's compensation case involving an individual officer.

Lindsay agreed to wait so an amendment could be drafted. But when he brought up the bill

again last Wednesday, concerns arose about the bill's prohibition on the attorney general independently filing such a lawsuit.

Lindsay said Monday he has addressed both those concerns with an amendment.

Other concerns that have been expressed about the measure include that it would give special protection to the gun industry.

"We've heard of frivolous lawsuits. This is a frivolous bill," said Nina Butts of Texans Against Gun Violence.

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Four teens killed, one man injured in shooting

ABILENE (AP) — When West Texas law officers were summoned to apartments by a 911 report about gunshots and one man on the ground, they found a horrific sight.

Four teen-agers were shot to death and a man wounded Monday.

Law officers are now checking whether the four women's deaths are somehow related to gunfire Sunday that wounded a teen-ager.

Police released few details about the latest attack. They were summoned to the duplex about 5 p.m. Monday.

A wounded man was found in the driveway and the other victims, including one who might have been pregnant, were inside, detective Jay Hatcher said.

Police had no motive and no suspects by late Monday for what he called Abilene's first quadruple homicide in recent memory. Repeated telephone calls from The Associated Press today to Abilene police weren't returned.

Residents of the northside Abilene neighborhood say violence is nothing new there.

Donna Rhone, who lives just a few houses away from the crime scene, said the tiny group of duplex apartments has been a problem ever since she moved to the area 13 years ago.

"If they would knock down

those apartments, it would be a better area," said Ms. Rhone. "My kids can't even play in their front yard because I'm afraid they'll get shot."

Hatcher described the scene as "very, very gruesome" and added that it appeared some of the women might have been trying to escape.

"It's a very, very sad fact to have happened to four people at such a young age," said Hatcher.

The women were identified as Sandy Witt, Naomi Martinez, Penny Estrada and Erica Arispe. The fifth victim, Larry Hammond, was in surgery for his wounds early today.

Police at the scene said they were looking for a light-colored Cadillac that was seen speeding from the scene.

Hammond might have been shot while investigating the gunshots at the duplex, according to Abilene television station KRBC-TV.

Officers were investigating whether the deaths were related to the Sunday night shooting of 16-year-old Jimmy Estrada at his home. They said they didn't yet know if Penny Estrada is related to Jimmy Estrada.

Sunday's shooting victim told police he didn't know his assailant. Two other juveniles injured in Sunday's gunfire also told police they didn't know the shooter.

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TUESDAY

MAR. 30

Time	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNR (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (26)	HBO (27)	KMLM (24)	AME (25)	DISC (28)	TNT (28)	FSN (29)	ESPN (30)	AMC (31)	BET (33)	
6:30	News (CC) Fortune	Simpsons Home Imp.	Science Guy Zoboomaloo	New Admits New Admits	News (CC) Ent. Tonight	News (CC) Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Roseanne Roseanne	Gotha Preciosa	Easter Morn' Family Circus	Waltons (CC) (15) Movie: Desperately	Movie: The Borrowers	Movie: Yesterday	Crystal Lynn John Hagee	Law & Order (CC)	Discovery	ER (CC)	Sports News FOX Sports	Sports Outside the	Bottom of the Sea (CC)	Planet Groove		
7:30	Home Imp. Hughleys	King of the Hill P.J.s (CC)	Nova (CC) Nova	New Admits New Admits	JAG (CC)	Home Imp. Hughleys	3rd Rock-Sun Lateline (CC)	(05) Movie: Fatal Error	La Usurpadora	Easter Bunny Is Coming	Life and Times of...	Seeking Susan	Movie: Donnie Brasco (CC)	Movie: With the Backstreet	Movie: Ilomwon	Sopranos (CC)	Something Good	Law & Order (CC)	FBI Files	Kung Fu: Legend	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter (CC)	Movie: David and Goliath
8:30	Spin City (CC) Sports Night	Breaking Ma-gician's Code	Facing the Truth (CC)	Movie: Protocol	Movie: Species (CC)	Spin City (CC) Sports Night	Just Shoot Me Will & Grace	Dateline (CC)	(05) Movie: The First	Primer Impacto Noc.	Growing Pains	Dallas (CC)	(10) Movie: The Package	Movie: Ilomwon	Sopranos (CC)	Something Good	Law & Order (CC)	FBI Files	Kung Fu: Legend	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter (CC)	Movie: David and Goliath	
9:30	Strange World (CC)	Jerry Springer	News-Lehrer	700 Club	News (CC) Nightline	News (CC) Nightline	News Tonight Show	Power	P. Impacto Noticiero Unt.	The Horse-masters (CC)	Dallas (CC)	(10) Movie: The Package	Movie: Ilomwon	Sopranos (CC)	Something Good	Law & Order (CC)	FBI Files	Kung Fu: Legend	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter (CC)	Movie: David and Goliath		
10:30	Politically Inc. Hollywood	Cops (CC) Newsradio	China. Bom Under the	Show-Funny Show-Funny	Show (CC) Married... With Children	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	(05) Movie: Buried Alive	(10) Movie: Buried Alive	Major-Rambo	Comic Book Micky Mouse	Primer Impacto Noticiero Unt.	Growing Pains	Dallas (CC)	(10) Movie: The Package	Movie: Ilomwon	Sopranos (CC)	Something Good	Law & Order (CC)	FBI Files	Kung Fu: Legend	FOX Sports News	Sportscenter (CC)	Movie: David and Goliath
11:30	(12:06) Ricki Lake	Judge-Brown Martin (CC)	Red Flag (CC)	Paid Program Paid Program	Late Late Show	(12:06) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	Night (CC) News	Secrets	Gordo y Flaca El Blablazo	Movie: The Wild Country	Prime Time Country (CC)	Movie: Prizz's Honor	Women Compromising	Faith Pleases God	Inside Story	FBI Files	

HAGAR BLONDIE

HAGAR

YOU WANNA TAKE CARE OF YOUR BAR TAB, HAGAR? SURE

GRINKLE GRINKLE GRINKLE

IT'S GOING TO BE ONE OF THOSE NIGHTS, ISN'T IT?

BLONDIE

YOU KNUCKLEHEAD! YOU DOLT! YOU IDIOT! CUT IT OUT, BOSS. MR. OTT WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE

OH, UH, HELLO, MR. OTT, I, AH... THAT'S IT, DITHERS! I'M TAKING MY BUSINESS TO A MORE RESPONSIBLE FIRM!

NOW YOU'VE REALLY MADE ME ANGRY!!

B.C.

RED SKY AT NIGHT, SAILORS DELIGHT

RED SKY IN MORNING, SAILORS TAKE... RUM.

THAT DOESN'T RHYME!

SUE ME.

FAMILY CIRCUS

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"It's a robin red dress!"
"Not red dress, Dolly. It's red VEST!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

IT'S A CHANNEL WITH NOTHING BUT COMMERCIALS, SO YOU CAN GO TO THE BATHROOM ANYTIME.

GEECH

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN HERE FOR A WHILE, HOMER.

I HAVEN'T HAD TIME.

SO, YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY BUSY, HUH?

NO, I JUST DRIVE SLOW.

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BEER \$1.00
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WHAT WILL IT BE?

WINE

NO WHINING EITHER

HI AND LOIS

YOU BETTER CANCEL ALL THE CREDIT CARDS, DAD!

WHY?

MOM HAS DISCOVERED THE INTERNET AND SHE'S BEEN ONLINE ALL DAY!

DON'T WORRY, I'M JUST WINDOW SHOPPING!

GASOLINE ALLEY

Do you, Melba, take Rufus for better or worse?

I does!

And do you, Rufus, take Melba for better or worse?

Oh, man, yeah! Family Circus an' Orphan Annie, too!

SNUFFY SMITH

TIME FER A LITTLE ROCK MUSIC, TATER

ROCKABYE BABY

BETLE BAILY

HOW COME THERE'S A LOT IN YOUR "IN" BOX BUT NOTHING IN YOUR "OUT" BOX?

OH, FOR GAWDS SALES! THERE!!

THAT'S BETTER

THE THINGS I HAVE TO DO TO KEEP HIM HAPPY

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

276 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On March 30, 1981, President Reagan was shot and seriously injured outside a Washington, D.C., hotel by John W. Hinckley Jr. Also wounded were White House press secretary James Brady, a Secret-

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMSPuzzles@aol.com

ACROSS

- Endure
- Merit
- Goals
- Toward shelter.
- Elbe tributary
- Eagle's residence
- Stanted type: abbr.
- Indira's dress
- Pope's triple crown
- Babe
- Dell
- Cambodia's
- Not
- Lisa Bonet on "The Cosby Show"
- European capital
- Dispatch boat
- Appear to be
- Beaver construction
- Babe
- Wind dir.
- Oscillates a tail
- Part of South Africa
- Wanderers
- Lymphoid mass in the mouth
- Our sun
- Unhurt
- Babe
- Fill an empty flat
- Kirghiz mountains
- Storage building
- Lucky people?
- Fits out
- Ray of "God's Little Acre"
- Mirror
- Australian state: abbr.
- Blind element

Monday's Puzzle Solved

S	O	D	A	S	A	P	E	R	D	A	S	H
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A	T	E	A	M	S	U	E	T	U	E	S	
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By Eugene R. Puffenberger
Reston, VA 3/30/99

Service agent and a District of Columbia police officer.

On this date:

In 1822, Florida became a U.S. territory.

In 1842, Dr. Crawford W. Long of Georgia first used ether as an anesthetic during a minor operation.

In 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward reached agreement with Russia to purchase the territory of Alaska for \$7.2 million, a deal roundly ridiculed as "Seward's Folly."

In 1870, the 15th amendment to the Constitution, giving black men the right to vote, was declared in effect.

In 1870, Texas was readmitted to the Union.

In 1909, the Queensboro Bridge, linking the New York boroughs of Manhattan and Queens, opened.

In 1945, the Soviet Union invaded Austria during World War II.

In 1979, Airey Neave, a leading member of the British parliament, was killed by a bomb planted by the Irish National Liberation Army.

Ten years ago: "The Heidi Chronicles" by Wendy Wasserstein won the Pulitzer Prize for drama; in the journalism category, the Anchorage Daily News won the public service award for its reports on alcoholism and suicide among native Alaskans.

Five years ago: Serbs and Croats signed a cease-fire to end their war in Croatia while Bosnian Muslims and Serbs continued to battle each other. The Clinton administration announced it was lifting virtually all export controls on non-military products to China and the former Soviet bloc.

One year ago: Rolls-Royce was purchased by German automaker BMW in a \$570 million deal.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Frankie Lane is 86. Former CIA Director Richard Helms is 86. Actor Richard Dysart is 70. Actor John Astin is 69. Game show host Peter Marshall is 69. Actor-director Warren Beatty is 62. Rock musician Eric Clapton is 54. Actor Paul Reiser is 42. Rap artist M.C. Hammer is 36. Singer Tracy Chapman is 35. Singer Celine Dion is 31.

Thought for Today: "If men could foresee the future, they would still behave as they do now." - Russian proverb.

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