

Parity Sinks to 44-Year Low Last Year



Mahon Visits with Media

George Mahon, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and retiring member of the Congress after serving as the 19th Congressional District's representative to the House for more than 40



years, makes points in Thursday's Hereford press conference. (Brand photos)

WASHINGTON (AP) - The government's farm parity ration, an economic indicator used as a battle cry by protesting farmers who called a strike last month, sank to a 44-year low in 1977, according to preliminary figures by the Agriculture Department.

Over the 12 months of last year, the parity ratio averaged 67 percent, compared with 72 percent in 1976, 76 percent in 1975, 87 percent in 1974 and 94 percent in 1973, when prices for many commodities rose to record levels.

According to department records going back to 1910, last year's parity ratio average of 67 percent was the lowest since it averaged 64 percent in 1933 during the nation's worst economic depression. The all-time low was 58 percent in 1932. Thus, the 1977 average was the third-lowest on record.

As used by the department, at 100 percent of parity farmers receive enough for their commodities to give them the same buying power their forebears had in 1910-1914.

For example, full parity price of what

last month was \$5.05 a bushel. However, farmers actually got \$2.47 a bushel for wheat national last month, or 49 percent of parity.

The Colorado-based group called American Agriculture called for a nationwide strike of farmers on Dec. 14 as a movement to get commodity prices raised to 100 percent of parity.

Although protests by participating farmers have been scattered among many states, most activity has been in the major wheat area of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, and along the Eastern seaboard, particularly in Georgia.

Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland was scheduled to meet today in Omaha, Neb., with a group of farm-state governors and strike leaders to talk over the situation.

Bergland has expressed his sympathy with strikers but has said repeatedly that he does not think the movement will have any significant effect on prices of farm

(See PARITY, Page 2)

Striking Farmers Hope To Block Cattle Trucks

EL PASO, Texas (AP) - A group of striking farmers were in this border city today, planning possible ways to prevent trucks carrying Mexican cattle from entering the United States.

"Our main object for coming to El Paso is to try to stop importation of live cattle from Mexico," said Mike McCathern, a spokesman for the American Agriculture group coordinating the strike. "Right now we don't have any definite plans. We're just playing it by ear."

No tractors were in El Paso, McCathern said, and no pickets had been established. McCathern said some of the bulldozer-like tractors might be brought in, however.

Imported beef hurts the domestic cattlemen, say farmers who are striking for higher prices.

Farmers in the Fort Worth suburb of Saginaw used their tractors Wednesday and Thursday to block shipments from the Burrus Mills flour mill for 30 hours

before agreeing to a compromise with Burrus officials.

A statement read by William Fielding. (See STRIKE, Page 2)

Price Gains Vote in County

Bob Price, R-Pampa, picked up one vote over Bob Simpson, D-Amarillo, who lost one, in today's recount in Deaf Smith County. The Brand learned shortly before presstime.

Results from the other 24 counties involved in the 31st senatorial district recount were not readily available.

Simpson, who had requested the recount in 25 of the 26 counties in District 31, gained 510 votes in Deaf Smith County, compared to 590 for Price.

The Dec. 10 runoff vote in the county was 589-511, in favor of Price.

Farmers, Bergland Meet Today

Farm strike movement delegates from a number of states are in Omaha, Nebraska today for a meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland.

Gerald McCathern of Hereford is representing Texas in the session which was set up to allow American Agriculture movement representatives to present proposals to Bergland during a two hour session.

Among demands which farmers are expected to present during today's meeting are calls for 100 percent parity for agricultural commodities, a reduction in foreign commodity imports and sufficient notice on various crop cycles to

allow producers to make proper adjustments.

Representatives of some 41 states met with Bergland today at a luncheon prior to the bargaining session, at which only eight persons were designated as Ag movement spokesmen.

On Thursday, governors from Montana, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska petitioned President Carter for a meeting on farm policy.

Striking farmers plan to take their demands to Capitol Hill in Washington on Jan. 18 if Bergland fails to meet with their demands.

Intrusion into Private Sectors Criticized by Touring Mahon

By PAUL SIMS
Managing Editor

George Mahon, the only congressman District 19 has ever had, said Thursday he hopes he will be remembered as "one to hold the line and prevent intrusion of the federal government into private lives."

Mahon, retiring at the end of his present term after serving in Congress since 1934, met with the local news media Thursday in the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce during a farewell tour of the 19th district.

The chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, called on occasions one of the five most powerful men in Washington, D.C., said the thing he will most remember about political life after his retirement is the grueling, daily pressure.

"I've worked under constant pressure

on the job each day," said Mahon, 77. "When I was first elected in 1934, I had a staff man and two secretaries. We were able to take care of the situation very well."

"Now I have 12 people, and we don't keep up with what we're supposed to do."

Mahon, faced with retirement at the end of this year, said he has had no time to plan the next stage of his life, although he knows "I won't be in a rocking chair."

He plans to donate his papers to Texas Tech University.

"I assume the historians and students will find these things considerably interesting."

His books, Mahon said, will be given to the George and Helen Mahon Library in Lubbock.

Mahon said that government intrusion is at an all-time high.

"The government has intruded so deeply, about 40 percent of the income of people goes to the support of government on local, state and federal levels."

"In the course of a conversation with the President, we said we hoped we could reduce the percentage of the gross national product (GNP) from 23 percent to a lower figure. That 23 percent is the federal government's take, including social security and everything else."

"The value of goods and services produced this year will be \$2 trillion, at least 20 times what it was 30 years ago."

Mahon said the federal government is not well enough equipped to run the country's business.

"One of the major roadblocks to the growth of the economy is not having sufficient certainty as to what is involved. There are no simple answers to our

(See MAHON, Page 2)

Compressor Explosion Kills Hereford Woman

By PAUL SIMS
Managing Editor

An air compressor inside a small metal storage building exploded on S. Main Thursday, killing a 49-year-old Hereford woman who was hit by a projectile.

Mrs. Johnnie Ford Hawkins of Star Route, Hereford, died Thursday night in St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo. According to Deaf Smith County Sheriff Travis McPherson, who investigated the explosion around 3 p.m., Mrs. Hawkins appeared to have received severe injuries to her back and right leg.

McPherson, four sheriff deputies, and Hereford firemen found Mrs. Hawkins, apparently in shock, lying five to 10 feet from the building after an unidentified man telephoned for an ambulance.

Authorities said a pressure-release valve on the compressor malfunctioned, causing pressure to build.

"The end blew out. Apparently she was blown through the door," McPherson said.

The sheriff said that apparently the end of the compressor hit Mrs. Hawkins.

The door was blown 15 feet from the shed.

McPherson said Mrs. Hawkins' husband, Willis, was working near the shed at the time of the mishap.

Mrs. Hawkins was taken to Deaf Smith General Hospital by ambulance, remained there approximately 45 minutes, then was transferred to Amarillo.

She was semi-conscious and in shock en route to Amarillo, according to Gary Phipps of Smith Ambulance Service in Hereford.

The fire department issued a general

(See EXPLOSION, Page 2)

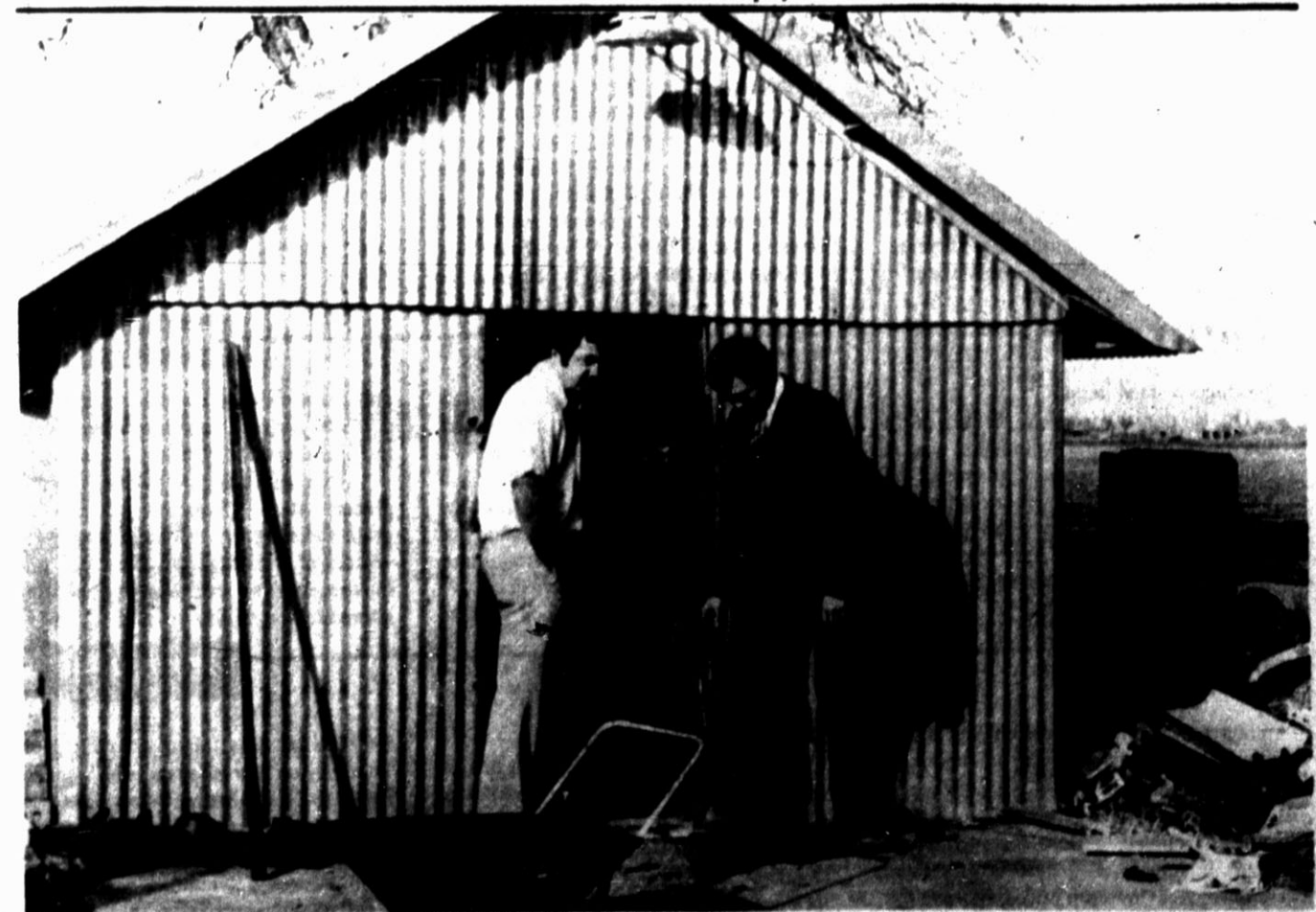
Voyles, Rose Seek Positions

Deaf Smith County commissioners James Voyles and Austin Rose announced Thursday for re-election, bringing to four the number of county or district incumbent officials to file for the May 6 election.

Voyles is commissioner of Precinct 4, while Rose is Precinct 2 commissioner.

County Treasurer Vesta Mae Nunley, County Clerk B.F. Cain and 222nd District Clerk Lola Fay Veazy previously announced for re-election.

Filing deadline for state and county offices is Feb. 6.



Explosion Scene

A storage building south of Hereford was the scene Thursday afternoon of an air compressor explosion which resulted in the death of a

Hereford woman, Mrs. Willis A. Hawkins. (Brand photo by Paul Sims)



That feller on Tierra Blanca Creek says the cheapest way to have your family tree traced is to run for office.

A FORMER HEREFORD resident, Mrs. William Lacombe, gave birth to the first baby of the New Year in Comanche, it was reported here this week by one of her friends. Even if you don't know Bill or Gail Lacombe, there's another unusual aspect to the story.

Here's the kicker: Crystal Lacombe was Hereford's first baby of the year five years ago, so Mrs. Lacombe has now recorded two "first babies of the year." Husband William is employed with Bill James Trucking Co., which also has a shop in Comanche. The new "first baby" is Tina Louise, born Jan. 1 at 9:59 p.m. Crystal was born at 11:59 p.m. on Jan. 1, 1973 in Hereford.

But the odds are pretty high on having two "first babies."

IF YOU HAVEN'T taught your children to respect animals, it might be a good idea. What reminded us was a call from a lady who keeps a big German Shepherd dog in her backyard. She reported that children on the way to school were teasing the dog, thinking they are "protected by the fence."

We appreciated the call, because the lady is more concerned about the safety of the children than she is about a frustrated dog. She points out the dog could jump the fence if it got too upset, and added that the same situation might exist in other neighborhoods. The caller thought we might mention this in our column so that parents might consider cautioning their children. End of sermon.

"GENERAL" JOHN HILL made some points with a number of the American Agriculture movement folks here Wednesday. Make no mistake about it, Hill is running for governor. The farmers know it. Hill told them some things they wanted to hear, including some encouragement of their "strike" efforts.

But, the attorney general also made it clear that he was there to listen and learn, and the farmers apparently liked his attitude toward the situation. As several pointed out, one reason for the strike movement is that nobody has been listening.

There are more nonfarm than farm

(See BULL, Page 2)

Evaluator Says Brothers Got Contracts

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) - A state evaluator told a pair of Harlingen brothers had continued to receive state and federal contracts despite unfavorable evaluations.

Bruce Watson of the Texas Department of Community Affairs TDCA testified that his first evaluation of the Manpower

program here in May 1977 found the program to be in "noncompliance" in 17 areas.

The court of inquiry was convened by State District Judge Darrell Hester to look into alleged misuse of federal Manpower funds in the Rio Grande Valley.

Hester told Watson, "What I am particularly interested in,

frankly, is stealing."

Reports filed by Watson after his May evaluation included a comment that bank accounts of the two brothers, Clarence and Don Gray, were "not readily available."

"You told them to clean up their act, I'm sure," Hester said.

Watson said he did, and also

acknowledged that his report indicated that the employees handling the money were not bonded as required.

The report also documented expenditures not on the budget and the existence of a prohibited lease-purchase agreement.

Watson also testified that the Manpower money was in an account controlled exclusively by the Grays.

"They agreed to make some changes," Watson said, adding that a third person, Eddie Long, was later allowed to sign checks out of the account.

Long, a former employe of the Grays, was arrested Wednesday on three felony theft charges.

Watson also said that during a "debriefing" with his supervisor he suggested that "technical assistance" might be needed.

Earlier, Hester said he was "startled" when a pair of state

officials refused to testify, claiming their Fifth Amendment rights.

Rogelio P. Perez, GOMA's executive director and an appointee of Gov. Dolph Briscoe, refused to testify Wednesday as did Joaquin Rodriguez, GOMA's programs chief.

Hester, annoyed at the state officials refusal to talk about subpoenaed records they had bought from Austin, instructed the prosecution to call the governor's office to see if anyone there would talk about the records in court.

Fred Galindo, attorney for the state officials, said the Fifth Amendment pleas did not mean the men were guilty.

But Hester quickly replied, "I assume no one would take the Fifth if they had nothing to

hide."

The Fifth Amendment was also invoked by Eliseo Sandoval and Nick Ramirez, directors of the Rio Grande Valley area poverty programs. Hester told Sandoval he was one of "the subjects" of the court of inquiry and was being investigated for allegedly taking kickbacks through R&S Janitorial services.

Sandoval and Ramirez are listed as partners in the firm.

Courthouse sources have said R&S received up to \$350 per month for 10 months from the Grays, although no services were being provided.

Gun Battle Puts 2 Men behind Bars

JOURDANTON, Tex. (AP) - Two South Texas men were in jail Thursday under bonds totaling \$450,000 each after a 90-minute gun battle in which officers flushed the duo from a fortress-like home in Atascosa County.

Atascosa County Sheriff Tommy Williams said four lawmen were wounded - none seriously - during the 90-minute exchange as officers fired about 500 rounds of ammunition into the house where two men were barricaded.

Antonio and Jourdanton, about 30 miles to the south.

Williams said he sent a deputy to Priestly's home Tuesday night to serve a misdemeanor warrant but that Priestly warned the deputy to leave or he would shoot.

Shortly before noon Wednesday, a neighbor of Priestly's was shot in the leg, Williams said, and the sheriff obtained an arrest warrant from Justice of the Peace E.E. Litty charging intent to commit murder with a deadly weapon.

Then Williams called in all the support he could muster - including five Texas Rangers from San Antonio, four highway patrolmen and a number of constables and deputies - and headed for Priestly's home.

Williams said the two-story frame house was reinforced with steel plates and a heavy concentration of barbed wire.

"We surrounded the house and I yelled for him to come out," Williams said, "but he answered us with what sounded like gunfire from an automatic weapon."

The seige began then, and Williams said officers fired nearly 500 rounds plus tear gas into the house and an unaccounted number of rounds were fired at them from within the house.

"We used 45s, shotguns, carbines and a variety of automatic rifles," the sheriff said.

"Finally, when the house caught on fire - and we don't know for sure what started the fire - they yelled they were ready to surrender and came out the back with their hands up."

Williams said no weapons were confiscated because the house burned to the ground, leaving only a massive stone fireplace standing.

Priestly later told reporters he shot at his neighbor because "he called me yellow. I lost my temper and poked him one."

Among the officers who suffered bullet wounds was Jourdanton Police Chief Clifton Lott, who was hit in the hand.

The battle ended when the men surrendered to officers Wednesday afternoon after the house caught fire and began burning to the ground, Williams said.

Held in the Atascosa County jail were Alfred Priestly Sr., 42, and his son, Alfred Priestly Jr., 19. Neither was injured in the shootout. They were charged before Justice of the Peace J.D. Oliphant with six counts each of deadly assault on a peace officer.

Williams said more charges might be filed today by other officers who were fired on during the shootout at Priestly's home halfway between San

Jourdanton and Springtown, about 100 miles apart.

Williams said the fire started in the back of the house and spread to the front where the two men were barricaded.

"The fire was very intense and we were unable to get close to the house," Williams said.

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Chamess Not Satisfied Says Fire Marshal

AUSTIN (AP) - State Fire Marshal Charles Meadows said Thursday that one reason he asked the State Insurance Board to fire Jim Cummins was "he (Cummins) wasn't satisfied."

Meadows appeared at an insurance board hearing at which Cummins is protesting his dismissal.

"If we were writing a report, he had a better way to do it.... he became 'professional' in six

months time when it has taken others 10 years to do it," Meadows said.

Cummins was fired as head of the fire safety section after the insurance board restored Meadows to full authority as fire marshal.

The hearing rapidly became a contest between Cummins' ideas and those of Meadows on how the fire marshal's office should be run.

Cummins was a friend of former insurance board chairman Joe Christie who had reorganized the department in a move that left Meadows his title but no power.

Meadows regained his authority after Hugh Yantis became chairman Sept. 2.

Terry Weeks, Cummins' lawyer, said the cost of an inspection dropped from \$73.11 to \$31.61 after Cummins became head of the fire safety section.

"That don't prove a thing... you can take a fire extinguisher inspection and call it an entire building inspection," said Meadows, a former Odessa fire chief.

Weeks asked Meadows if there were any "qualitative differences" between the way Cummins ran inspection and the way it was done before.

"I feel our job is to get deficiencies corrected and not get men in court or take away their license to do business, and that's what Mr. Cummins did," Meadows said.

"You feel that Mr. Cummins over-enforced," Weeks asked.

"In some cases," Meadows said.

Meadows said that although he signed documents coming out of Cummins' division, he knew virtually nothing about what was going on there.

"I wasn't told anything that went on in that office that went on the whole 11 or 12 months... they made it a point to see I did know anything," Meadows said.

Assistant AG Fired as Counsel

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - An assistant attorney general has been removed as legal counsel to the Texas Board of Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies because he misused his powers, the attorney general's office said.

Assistant Attorney General Steve Bickerstaff said another assistant, Bill Campbell, was "severely reprimanded" but there appeared to be no cause for prosecution of violations of the department's policies.

Bickerstaff, Campbell's superior, said in a special report to Attorney General John Hill that Campbell had committed "an inexcusable violation of this office's policy" by using board staff members to obtain criminal histories on friends and associates.

Campbell has served as the board's legal counsel for about three years.

The report, a copy of which was released to the Austin American-Statesman which requested it under the Texas Open Records Act, said there was no evidence the attorney general's department as a whole had any policy for obtaining investigative assistance from employees of the Texas Board of Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies "except where a violation of the law rules or regulations of the board itself is involved."

The report released by Hill said that Campbell admitted: "Twice asking board staff members obtain Department of Public Safety criminal histories on friends and associates.

"Using a board staff member to locate and repossess a missing vibraphone, a musical instrument.

"Using two board field agents to locate a Houston woman wanted for forgery of a certified public accountant's signature.

Campbell also is legal counsel to the Texas Board of Public Accountancy.

"Using a board field investigator to see if an acquaintance was really 'the biggest contractor in San Antonio,'" as he claimed.

Bickerstaff's report added that "Campbell's work as an attorney has been good."

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Contract Awarded For License Plates

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) - Illinois officials have agreed to award a \$9.6 million contract for production of 1979 multi-year license plates to the Texas Department of Corrections, a Texas official said.

"We have what you call an agreement between both of us," Sammie D. Bradley, assistant director for industry for the Texas prison system, said in a telephone interview from Huntsville, Texas. Bradley was in Springfield Tuesday to work out production details for the six-million blue-and-white, five-year license plates.

The Illinois Department of Administrative Services awards contracts and Secretary of State Alan J. Dixon is in charge of licensing motor vehicles.

Under the contract, Texas would produce only passenger auto plates at an average price per pair of \$1.49. Illinois officials said that amounts to \$658,000 savings over the next lowest bid submitted by Famco, Inc., of Conway, Ark.

Famco's plate-making facilities are in the same buildings as those used for years by Polyvend, Inc., to produce Illinois license plates.

A bid of \$1.62 per pair submitted by Polyvend was rejected by Illinois in October because a former president of the firm had pleaded guilty to bribing former Secretary of State Paul Powell.

The former president, J. Patrick Stoltz, died last month.

The bid was rejected under a new state law which prohibits awarding state contracts to persons or firms which have admitted to bribing state officials.

Polyvend challenged the retroactive provisions of the law but lost at the lower court level. Its bid for an immediate appeal also was rejected by the Illinois Supreme Court. The case is pending before an appellate

court in Chicago.

After that, the assets of Polyvend was sold to Famco and the reconstituted firm submitted a new bid.

After Polyvend's offer was rejected, 11 manufacturers submitted new bids along with Famco and Texas, including prisons systems in Wisconsin, Minnesota and New York.

The state has not yet decided who will receive a contract to produce motorcycle and special number plates. That will add about another \$700,000 to the total plate costs.

Trading Cautious In Europe

LONDON (AP) - The dollar fluctuated around the higher levels reached Thursday in early trading on European money markets today. Dealers said trading was subdued and cautious.

"The market is testing the central banks' resolve to keep the dollar steady," a Frankfurt dealer commented.

The United States announced Wednesday, after the close of Europe's business day, that it will buy dollars on the money markets in coordination with European central banks to try to snap the U.S. currency out of a year-long decline.

That announcement and aggressive purchase of dollars by the Federal Reserve Board Thursday caused the dollar to soar on the world's foreign exchanges.

Approximately 13.6 million passengers boarded scheduled airline flights in Atlanta in 1976, reports the Air Transport Association.

Dallas Precincts Reviewed

DALLAS (AP) - The Justice Department has notified Dallas County commissioners court it will review the county's redistricted voting precincts, saying it was concerned that the rights of minorities-especially Mexican-Americans-might not have been protected.

The county redrew the precinct lines in August 1976 for the 1977 elections.

County Judge John Whittington said it is possible, but not likely, that last November's \$215.1 million bond election could be overturned if the Justice Department disagrees with the method of redistricting. A Justice Department official in Washington also said he doubted the election returns will be overturned.

Roanoke Wonders

ROANOKE, Va. (AP) - For two winters, Michael McAbee wondered why his car heater didn't work very well.

He also wondered why he seemed to get a bit dizzy and had headaches when he had the heater on. He checked for a leak in his exhaust, but there wasn't one.

A mechanic at Pet Milk Co., where the 25-year-old McAbee works as a relief truck driver, told him the heating problem was in the coil.

So Wednesday, McAbee began the task of taking apart his heater. He dismantled it and found what he thinks was the culprit - for both the heater problem and the dizzy spells.

Tightly packed in his heater were three plastic bags with marijuana. "I almost laughed myself silly," he said.

Since the bags weren't his, he bought the car two years ago from a friend - he quickly flushed them down the toilet.

"I didn't want to get caught with it," he said.

Lighter Side

BRASELTON, Ga. (AP) - Election Day in Braselton was a family affair - and a ho-hum affair. All the candidates were unopposed and all were related.

J.L. Braselton was re-elected to his 22nd one-year term as mayor Wednesday, and his cousins, city council candidates H.F., H.E., H.B. and H.H. Braselton all managed to keep their seats.

latest manifestation of Colorado's infatuation with the success of a football team that until this year was also - ran in the National Football League.

Lamm, who will be on hand when the Broncos play the Super Bowl, amended his original proclamation to call Friday "a day of thanksgiving in the State of Colorado."

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Whiteface Girls Surprise Bulldogs



Pushin' On

Hereford's Tammy Heard [32] drives on Borger's Mary Ann Line during the Whitefaces' 39-23 win over the Bulldogs Thursday night at the high school gym. Heard finished the night with four points in the HHS win, while Line tallied two points. In background is Borger's Edith Sauls, who led the Bulldogs with 11 points in the game. (Jim Banner Photo)

Red Miller Discounts Experience Factor

DENVER (AP) - Denver Broncos Coach Red Miller says he isn't worried that his team will be at a disadvantage because it is making its first appearance in the Super Bowl Jan. 15 against Dallas.

"I don't think having played in the game before means a damn thing," Miller said Thursday after the Broncos held their first major workout for the Super Bowl.

"That's what they were saying about us in the two playoff games we won-that we hadn't been there before, either."

Miller said he expects his team to "go down there and play like hell."

"This is a loose bunch. We're going down there to have a good time, and we expect to win the game."

The Broncos concentrated on offense in Thursday's workout, but quarterback Craig Morton was held out of the drills. Morton has been bothered by a badly bruised hip the past four weeks.

"I want everyone to know that Craig didn't practice," Miller said jokingly, referring to last week's charges that the Broncos provided false information about Morton's condition.

Prior to Denver's playoff game with Oakland Sunday, the Broncos had kept Morton's condition a secret, and only

after the game did Miller reveal that Morton had spent 2 1/2 days in a hospital and hadn't thrown a pass all week.

"We didn't do anything wrong," Miller reiterated Thursday. "We said he was probable and he played."

Miller said Morton may rejoin workouts on Saturday.

All other players were in pads for Thursday's practice session, which Miller called "rather methodical." Four were nursing minor injuries, however.

Linebacker Randy Gradishar

and wide receiver-kick returner Rick Upchurch still are recuperating from lingering ankle and thigh injuries, respectively, while offensive guard Paul Howard and running back Rob Lytle have thigh injuries.

The Broncos were expected to devote most of today's practice to defense, then concentrate on special teams and basic plays Saturday. Miller said the team would have Sunday off before leaving Monday for New Orleans.

game gone completely? "I was really very nervous starting off."

answered those questions and calmed his nerves with a spectacular 9-under-par 63 that staked him to a 3-shot lead Thursday in the first round of the first tournament of the 1978 tour, the \$200,000 Joe Garagiola-Tucson Open. It matched the best subpar effort of his pro career and, with standing immediacy, re-established him as the game's premier performer.

Watson, now 28, scaled golf's heights with his 1977 successes. The triumphs over Nicklaus in the Masters and British Open were the most publicized. But he also won three other American titles, was fifth or better in another dozen tournaments, led the money-winners with \$310,000 and won the Vardon Trophy for the best stroke average.

But he tailed off just a little at the end of the year.

Charles Coody, a 40-year-old veteran whose last American victory came in the 1971 Masters, was second with a 66 that included two eagles. Frank Beard, who has played so poorly for four years he said he's considering leaving the game, and young Bob Rogers were next with 67s, 5-under-par on the sprawling, 7,305 yard Tucson National Golf Club course.

J.C. Snead and Keith Fergus shot 68s in the mild, sunny weather that graced this desert valley.

Lee Trevino shot a 70. Defending champion Bruce Lietzke and PGA-title-holder Lanny Wadkins has 71s. Johnny Miller, who won this title three consecutive years before hitting the golfing doldrums last season, was well back with a struggling 74.

By BOB NICH Sports Editor

It took a while for them to get started, but the Hereford Whiteface girls' varsity basketball team finally got untracked Thursday night, and went on to surprise the Borger Bulldogs 39-23.

A balanced scoring attack led the way to the win, the sixth against seven losses for HHS on the year, with Penny Whiteside popping the nets for 11 points, and Sheri Whitaker and Marie Schilling providing ample backup with eight points each.

Both teams started out as cold as a Montana Winter with the score standing even after one period at 5-5. The most important event in the period was that Borger's Edith Sauls, who wound up her team's top scorer with 11 points, collected her third foul midway through the stanza.

The Whitefaces came out in the second period hot with Whitaker hitting a couple of quick baskets to offset one by Sauls and Hereford began to stretch the lead.

Schilling hit a short jumper and then added two free throws to make it a 15-9 Herd lead. Sauls cut the lead to four points with a layup, and the two squads traded baskets before Whitaker and Schilling increased the gap to eight points as the

half ended with Hereford ahead 21-15.

The third quarter saw the Whitefaces stall nearly five minutes off the clock trying to force the Bulldogs out of their zone defense. Sauls connected on a pair of free tosses to make it 21-15 with 5:42 left in the period, and the Herd stall went until the 1:13 mark when Whiteside was fouled.

Whiteside missed the one-and-one opportunity, but the Bulldogs failed to score, and Heard ended the stanza with a driving layup to give the Whitefaces a 23-15 bulge.

Fouls took their toll on the Bulldogs in the final quarter with Sauls going to the bench shortly after teammates LaRhonda Francis and Carol Tucker had left the game.

Hereford gradually increased the lead in the period, and scored nine of the game's last 10 points in the stretch to post the final 16-point margin.

Heard and Albracht finished the game with four points each, while subs Debra Rogers and Jean Ann Bartels pitched in a bucket each. Tucker and Mary Ann Line backed up Sauls for Borger with four points each.

The Bulldogs fell to 9-4 with the loss, and Hereford had gained a reversal of an earlier four-point loss to the Bulldogs. In the junior varsity game preceding the varsity match

Herd Has Best Mark

Kitchens Tops Loop Scorers

By BOB NICH Sports Editor

The Hereford Whitefaces, defending District 4-4A basketball champions, currently have the top scorer in the loop in Kelly Kitchens and sport two others in the top eight point-producers. The Herd also owns the best record among the five district teams to date (12-8), just ahead of Monterey's 10-10 mark.

Kitchens, an All-District selection last year after the "Faces captured the district title for the first time ever, is cruising along this season with a 24.0 scoring average to top loop players.

The next most-productive player in the district is Monterey's Tony Hamby, who is scoring points at 16.0 clip. Coronado's Jay Norton is just behind Hamby on the list with a 15.1 standard.

The Whitefaces and Plainsmen are the only two loop teams at or above the .500 mark this season. Coronado is third in wins with a meager four, and Lubbock High and Plainview own only three and two victories respectively.

Other Hereford players high on the list in scoring are David Schumacher, fourth with a 13.0 average, and Robert Lee Graves, tied for seventh with Jamie McAllister of Plainview with an 11.7 standard.

In the rebounding department Lubbock's James Williams tops the loop with 150 caroms in 17 games for an 8.8 average. Hamby is hauling in rebounds at an 8.5 clip, with Norton third and Schumacher fourth (6.6).

Other Whitefaces and their averages in rebounding include Graves (5.4), David Arney (4.5),

and Jackie Mercer (3.8).

The loop squads have but one week left before district play opens. Tonight's slate has Hereford with an open date, Monterey playing, Amarillo High, Lubbock visiting Tascosa, Coronado hosting Palo Duro, and Plainview hosting Caprock.

Tables showing District 4-4A State Through January 3, District 4-4A State Through January 3, Monterey (10-10), Coronado (4-14), Lubbock (3-14), and Plainview (2-16) statistics.

Borger came back off an early deficit to hand Hereford a 39-38 loss in overtime.

The Herd JV led throughout the game until the final two minutes when Borger fought back to knot the score at 38-38 at the end of regulation. A single free throw in the extra period proved to be the winning factor for the Bulldogs.

Hereford lost the services of Darlene Sanders and Beverly Nixon, who finished with 19 and

14 points respectively, during the fourth-quarter spurt by Borger.

Rounding out the scoring for the JV, which fell to 2-3 in the district and 3-8 overall, were Kerry Hacker and Christie Beebe with two points each, and Jennifer Griffin with one.

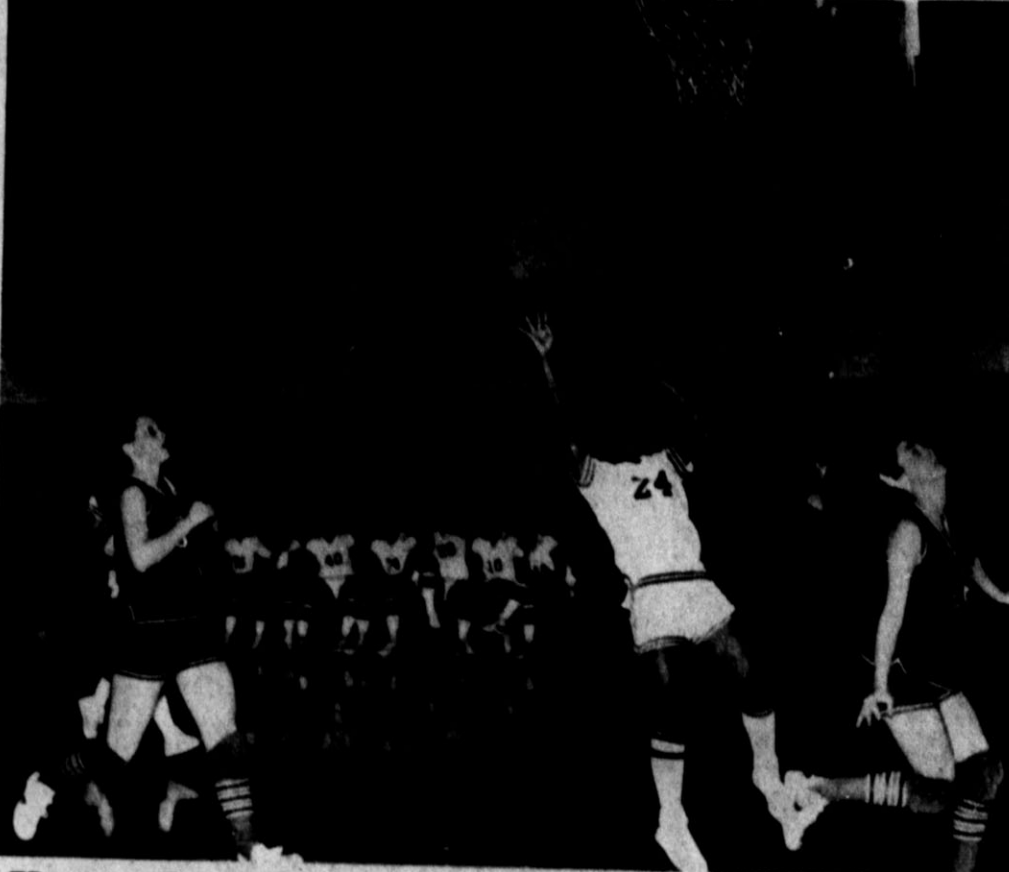
Scoreboard: Hereford 5 21 23 39, Borger 5 13 15 23.

Hereford - Penny Whiteside,

4-3-11; Marie Schilling, 1-6-8; Sheri Whitaker, 4-0-8; Tammy Heard, 2-0-4; Denise Albracht, 1-2-4; Jean Ann Bartels, 1-0-2; Debra Rogers, 1-0-2. Totals - 14-11-39.

Borger - Edith Sauls, 4-3-11; Mary Ann Line, 2-0-4; Carol Tucker, 2-0-4; Nancy Wilson, 1-1-3; Tamara Hess, 0-1-1. Totals - 9-5-23.

Hereford JV 16 28 34 38 38, Borger JV 15 23 28 38 39.



Happy Basket

Panny Whiteside seems to be enjoying this layup attempt off a Herd fast break Thursday night. Whiteside scored 11 points in leading the Whitefaces to a 39-23 win over the Borger Bulldogs. Borger players include Carol Tucker (under basket) and Sarah Robertson. (Jim Banner photo)

Payton Awed By MVP Selection

By HOWARD ULMAN AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) - Now that the Chicago Bears' season is over, star runner and offensive-line booster Walter Payton can take a break from patting others on the back.

But that just isn't the unselfish, never-say-die character of the strong, compactly built man who lunges for extra yards and helps up tacklers when they finally bring him down.

So after a panel of 84 sports writers and broadcasters had picked him on Thursday as the Associated Press' Most Valuable Player in the National Football League, his reaction was predictable.

"I can't believe it. There's so many other guys in the league that I admire and I think are super players, and for me to get it is something that seems to be unreal. I can't believe it," he said by telephone from hattiesburg, Miss., where he was quail-hunting.

Well, then, who would the NFL's rushing king and NFC's

top scorer vote for? He alighted past the question as deftly as he leaves potential tacklers hugging air.

"It's just like a list of who's who. There's guys that play defense that play well and on offense. To name one personally would be an injustice," he said. Payton got 57 MVP votes.

Two quarterbacks, Miami's Bob Griese and Denver's Craig Morton, were tied for second with 10 apiece.

Payton, only 23 years old and in his third season out of Jackson State, led the league in rushing with 1,852 yards, third best in NFL history. The rest of the team ran for just 962 yards. His 27 pass receptions were second most on the Bears. And his combined rushing-receiving yardage of 2,121 was a whopping 46 percent of the Bears' total net offense.

Advertisement for STAR brand deodorant, highlighting its effectiveness and availability.

Advertisement for The Frenchy McCormick Dinner Theatre presenting "Pajama Tops" at the Hilton Inn.

Texas Creams Frogs, 90-41

By The Associated Press Texas' 90-41 slaughter of a young Texas Christian team was not a pretty sight. TCU Coach Tim Somerville thinks - or make that, hopes - it doesn't get any worse.

"I don't think it can get any worse than tonight," said Somerville after Thursday night's game. The rookie coach has four freshmen in his starting lineup. "But the kids try. When you make 15 turnovers in the first half and shoot 15 percent or whatever it was, there's not much you can do."

"We're a freshman team and we played like it tonight," he added.

The Horned Frogs actually shot a dismal 23 percent in the first half as the Longhorns, now 2-2, seized a 32-12 halftime margin in the Southwest conference opener for both teams.

TCU ended the game shooting 26 percent and trailed 50 points at one point. In other SWC action Thursday at Houston demolished Houston Baptist 103-51.

Steve Scates, the Horned Frogs' leading scorer at 17.6 points per game before Thursday night, missed all nine of his shots from the field and finished with two points.

"When Steve Scates has a bad night, we get blown out," said Somerville. Aurdie Evans had 10 points to pace the Frogs. Meanwhile, Jim Krivacs hit 20 points and reserve guard Dave Shepard added 16 for the Longhorns, who last played on Dec. 27.

"We hadn't played in a while and we were a little rusty," said Texas Coach Abe Lemons. "At least we're 1-0 for conference play. Houston must be 22-2 by now, they've played so many games."

The Cougars are actually 10-2 after their easy conquest of Houston Baptist. Mike Schultz hit 21 and Cecile Rose added 19 as the Cougars tined up for their SWC opener Sunday against undefeated Arkansas.

In Saturday's action, Baylor travels to Rice, TCU hosts Southern Methodist and Texas entertains Texas-Tech.

Officials Needed

YMCA program director Weldon Knabe is searching for officials to work basketball games in the Y's high school boys' league this season. The league will begin Thursday, January 12 with two games per night beginning at 7 p.m.

"We may also have some games on Tuesdays," Knabe said. Interested officials may contact Knabe at the YMCA office in Sugarland Mall or call him at the office at 364-6990.

ATLANTA (AP) - Major league baseball's home run king, Henry Aaron, remained hospitalized today for more tests after suffering chest pains earlier in the week, an Atlanta Braves spokesman said.

Randy Donaldson said Aaron, 43, a vice president of the National League club, has had several tests since being hospitalized Tuesday.

Market data section including Texas Cattle Feeders, Grain Futures (Chicago and Amarillo), and Livestock Futures (Chicago and Amarillo) prices and trends.

Hoosier Win, Fans Fail To Please

By KEN RAPPOPORT
AP Sports Writer

The Indiana basketball won, but didn't win artistically enough to please Bobby Knight. The Indiana crowd yelled, but didn't yell enthusiastically enough to please Bobby Knight.

In fact, nothing pleased Bobby Knight, especially after an off night in shooting by the Hoosiers.

"I thought our play offensively in this game was the worst I've seen since I've been here," said Knight after his 11th-ranked Hoosiers routed Iowa 69-51 Thursday night despite a poor 33 percent shooting performance from the field.

The Hawkeyes didn't do much better with 36 percent, and contributed a basketful of turnovers, and therein was the story of their Big Ten opener.

Mike Woodson and Wayne Radford combined for 31 points and led a game-breaking, eight-point streak late in the second half for Indiana.

"Any time you turn the ball over 20 times in the first half, you can pack your bags and go elsewhere," said Iowa Coach Lute Olsen. "We had an immeasurable lack of poise. It was their defense for certain. But I think, their reputation was, for us, the biggest hassle. We were our own worst enemy."

Elsewhere among Top 20 teams, ninth-ranked Nevada-

Las Vegas whipped Cal State Northridge 83-72; No. 17 Providence defeated Brown 68-52; No. 18 Michigan State beat Minnesota 87-83 and Nevada-Reno upset No. 19 San Francisco 82-80.

Willard Govain scored 20 points, leading five players in double figures as unbeaten Nevada-Las Vegas whipped Cal State Northridge for its 14th victory in a row this season and 72nd consecutive homecourt triumph.

A 25-point performance by Dwight Williams led Providence over Brown. The Friars broke the game open with a 12-4 streak midway through the second half.

Earvin Johnson scored 31 points and paced a furious comeback late in the second half to help Michigan State beat Minnesota. Mychal Thompson, who recently returned from NCAA suspension, was the Gophers' top scorer with 27 points.

Johnny High and Michael Gray ignited a second-half rally to pull Nevada-Reno back from a 17-point deficit and give the Wolf Pack its stunning West Coast Athletic Association victory over San Francisco.

Trailing 68-51 with 10:32 remaining, Reno outscored NSF 21-2 to take the lead 72-70 on a basket by Gray with six minutes left.

After NSF's Winford Boynes scored on a jump shot to tie the

game. Reno center Edgard Jones scored two free throws and a field goal to give the Wolf Pack a 76-72 lead with 1:48 to go.

The Dons pulled to within two points three times, but High made four free throws and Steve Hunter added two more to clinch the victory.

"When we were 17 down, I just told the guys to do some gambling," said Nevada-Reno Coach Jim Carey. "It's a great victory for us because they are on top and we're just coming."

"It's very frustrating," said San Francisco Coach Bob Gaillard, "but no way do I want to detract from what Reno did out there tonight. They're so quick they make it look like they have seven guys out there on that press. Our guys have to learn that it's never easy. They've been accustomed to blowing people out when they are up by 17. Tonight, we ran into somebody we couldn't do that to."

Elsewhere, Joel Thompson and Alan Hardy each scored 18 points to lead Michigan to an 80-65 victory over Northwestern; Ohio State whipped Wisconsin 77-61 behind Ken Page's 18 points; Walter Jordan's 21 points led Purdue over Illinois 95-85; Mike Schultz scored 21 as Houston walloped Houston Baptist 103-51 and Texas routed TCU 90-41 behind Jim Krivacs' 20 point performance.

Cavs Halt Streak; Beat New Jersey

By The Associated Press

Bill Fitch was happy to see a losing streak end, but will be happier to see a winning streak start.

"We've still got a few steps to go," the coach of the Cleveland Cavaliers said after Thursday night's 110-94 National Basketball Association victory over the New Jersey Nets halted a five-game losing streak.

"The rebounding was better and we got a little bit out of a lot of people. That's more like us, but we need two or three days off to work and get ourselves back on track again."

Admitting he was relieved by the victory, Fitch noted, "I think this was the worst losing string we've ever been through...even worse than the 15 in a row the first year (1969-70). Of course, in those days, any time we won it was an upset."

"But this was the roughest because the players got down on themselves. We'd have one or two guys play bad in one game, then they'd get themselves turned around and somebody else would go down the tubes."

Fitch added with a weak laugh:

"It was just like when we've going good...Everybody contributed to the five-game streak."

In other NBA games, the New Orleans Jazz defeated the Milwaukee Bucks 116-109 and the Phoenix Suns stopped the Boston Celtics 121-111.

Jazz 116, Bucks 109

Pete Maravich scored 38 points and Truck Robinson 32 to lead New Orleans over Milwaukee. The Jazz neutralized the Bucks with a zone defense that shut off Milwaukee's Marques Johnson inside.

"There just wasn't much room underneath for Marques to drive," Bucks Coach Don Nelson said. "They were giving him the 15-foot jumper, but evidently he didn't feel comfortable taking it because he was hesitating."

New Orleans Coach Elgin Baylor confirmed the game plan.

"We didn't want to let them go to Johnson inside," said Baylor. "He's a hell of a good, young player, and they like to post him up inside and he gets a lot of offensive rebounds. If they beat us, we were going to make them beat us from outside."

Suns 121, Celtics 111

Phoenix displayed a potent outside-inside combination in guard Paul Westphal and forward Walter Davis against Boston. Westphal finished with 43 points, and Davis a rookie, scored 40 points as he consistently found the range within a 15-foot radius of the basket.

The Suns' victory spoiled the coaching debut of the Celtics' Tom "Satch" Sanders, and ruined the first appearance of K.C. Jones as Boston's assistant coach. Jones was named to the post Thursday.



Tip Off

Hereford's Marie Schilling [44] battles Berger's LaRhonda Francis [21] for a tip Thursday night. Schilling popped the nets for eight points in the HHS win, while teammate Sheri Whitaker [12] matched that output. Other Berger players shown are Edith Seuls [13] and Mary Ann Line [43]. [Jim Banner photo].

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Miller Top NFL Coach

By BRUCE LOWITT
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - Red Miller, who guided the defense-minded Denver Broncos into the playoffs for the first time in their history - and into the Super Bowl as well - was named National Football League Coach of the Year today by The Associated Press.

Miller's team had the best American Conference record

(12-2) in the regular season, then knocked off the Pittsburgh Steelers 34-21 and defending NFL champion Oakland 20-17 in the AFC title game. He received 58 of the 84 votes cast by a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters, three from each league city.

Don Shula of the Miami Dolphins received 25 votes. The remaining vote went to Leeman Bennett of the Atlanta Falcons.

By the close of the 1976 season, some of the Denver's players were sufficiently unhappy to openly demand a coaching change. So Robert Miller, who had spent 17 years as an assistant coach in the pros, the last four developing New England's explosive offense was hired.

He succeeded John Ralston as head coach of the discontented Broncos, also-rans from the day they were born in the American

Football League in 1960 until last year, a team which didn't even post a winning season until 1973. It was also Miller's second term with the Broncos. He was their offensive line coach from 1963-65.

"He's one in a million," said Lyle Alzado, Denver's All-Pro defensive end. "I'd go out and die for that man."

Miller's first major move was to acquire Craig Morton, a discounted backup quarterback to Roger Staubach at Dallas and an ineffective starter with the New York Giants for a dozen years.

It was a one-for-one deal. The Broncos got Morton, the Giants got quarterback Steve Ramsey. Morton became the AFC's No. 2 passer. Ramsey was cut before the season began.

"Red is a most unusual man," said Morton. "When I first met him, I felt something special was about to happen. At our first meeting he said we were coming into a unique situation, a new quarterback and a new coach coming to a team that was 9-5. He said, 'We can do an awful lot with this team. Let's get together and do it.' I said I was excited, too."

The Broncos' season began with victories over St. Louis, Buffalo, Seattle and Kansas City. But wait, the experts said. Let's see what happens when they have to play Oakland, the defending Super Bowl champions, five-time division champions and winners in 26 of 34 games against Denver.

What happened was that Denver demolished the Raiders 30-7. The Broncos' winning streak reached six games, then Oakland beat them 24-14 - but they followed that with six more victories in a row, deposing the Raiders as AFC West champs. Denver finished the season with a 14-6 loss to the Dallas Cowboys, the team it meets in the Super Bowl Jan. 15.

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Vilas Beats Connors

By CHRISTY BARBEE
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - The man who was saying just last week that he didn't like Christmas was reaping his goodies late.

"I'm happy because it's a Christmas gift," a tired Guillermo Vilas said Thursday night after downing Jimmy Connors 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 in the second round of the \$400,000 Grand Prix Masters Tennis tournament.

It was their first meeting since the U.S. Open at Forest Hills last summer, when Vilas beat the Belleville, Ill., lefthander in four sets on a disputed line call. For the record crowd of 18,590 at Madison Square Garden Thursday night, it was a tumultuous event.

Vilas had not prepared for the Masters as he had for Forest Hills, emotionally or physically. He has made it clear since before the tournament started that he was playing chiefly so he could collect the \$300,000 bonus he earned by winning the most points on the 1977 Grand Prix circuit.

Connors behaved as though he hadn't played tennis in days and was chipper about his chances in the round-robin tournament.

"I'm still in there. Don't count me out," he told reporters.

It wasn't the same Connors that had, a short while before, raged at a linesman that called

his shot out, allowing Vilas to go up 40-30 in the ninth game. He pounded his racket on the net and screamed at the official, and the second round of the Masters looked as though it might end the same way the finals had at the Open - on a sour note.

But Connors went on to win that game, breaking Vilas' service to pull to 4-5. It was his big step back into the set.

Asked later about his behavior over line calls in the match, Connors twinkled and said sweetly, "What calls?"

Connors does indeed still have a chance in the eight-player Masters, which offers a \$100,000 prize to the winner. After today's concluding regular round-robin matches, each man will have played the other three in his group.

On Saturday, the man with the best match record in each of the two groups will play the runnerup in the other group in the semi-finals. The finals are set for Sunday. Semi-finals and finals will be nationally televised by CBS.

Payton Wins NEA Jim Thorpe Award

By Murray Olderman

CHICAGO (NEA) - Not many professional football players could get by with being called "Sweetness" and have it apply in every sense of the word. That's what Walter Payton is to his teammates on the Chicago Bears, for both the purity of his personality and the way he delivers for them on the football field.

It's apparent now that he rates equal esteem with his peers throughout the game for the special panel assembled by Newspaper Enterprise Association, team representatives and coaches has just named him the recipient of the 23rd annual Jim Thorpe Memorial Trophy.

It symbolizes the individual performance of football at its best and is the most prestigious honor in the sport, and Payton, off his 1977 returns, merits it richly. The evidence is there, first of all, in the statistics, which show that Payton gained more than a mile in rushing yardage during the 14 regular season games and, in fact, was threatening O.J. Simpson's record of 2,003 yards for a season until horrible weather grounded him in the finale.

Maybe the best tribute to Payton is that in his third pro season they've stopped comparing him to other backs in style - he doesn't have the glide of Jim Brown, the fluidity of O.J. Simpson or the flashy lope of Gale Sayers. He simply has incredible balance, befitting his background as a gymnast, better shelter leg movement and unusual strength for a guy who measures in at 5-10 and 204 pounds.

It's significant that as the Bears are maturing as a winning force, Payton is their leading weapon. He was Chicago's first round draft choice in 1975 but was

hampered by injuries as a rookie. In 1976, he developed rapidly as one of the premier running backs in the NFL, getting nosed out for the rushing title by Simpson on the last day of the season.

This season he was unbelievable, gaining 275 yards one afternoon against the Minnesota Vikings, who are not defensive patriots.

There is more to Payton than his ability to play a football. He finished his academic studies at Jackson State in his native Mississippi in three and a half years and is currently working on a master's degree in special education. He has also done some telecasting for a station in Jackson, Miss., during the off-season. His regular contract with the Bears runs out this year, and though there is no difficulty anticipated in renewal, the gag around the Bears' offices is: "How do you want the Sears Tower (world's tallest building) wrapped, Walter?"

Payton is the first running back to win the Thorpe trophy since Simpson in 1973. The only vestige of competition came from the comeback case of '77, veteran quarterback Craig Morton of Denver.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Postal inspectors say they are investigating the apparent theft of 25 tickets to the Super Bowl between the Denver Broncos and Dallas Cowboys here Jan. 15.

The 1977 Clemson football team had brothers starting side by side in the offensive line. Manager Billy Martin of the Yankees played in six world series and batted .333.

The great Kelo won five straight renewals of the Jockey Club Gold Cup, 1940 through 1944.

Super Sport: Bob McAdoo



Bob McAdoo often looks like he might fall asleep on the basketball court. But he's really just playing opossum. The New York Knicks' forward is wide awake and always eyeing the basket. In five pro seasons, Bob has led the league in scoring three times. He has also been picked for four all-star teams. Before joining the Knicks, he starred for the Buffalo Braves. He is married and lives in Greensboro, N.C., during the off-season. He helps sponsor a basketball league. As a kid, he played the piano a lot. He likes dogs. At one time he had three Afghans.

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Spanish Custard






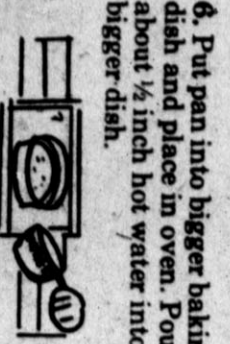
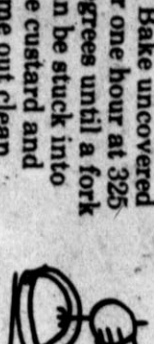
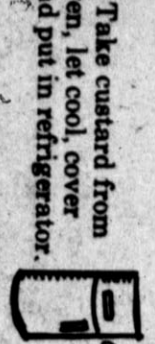
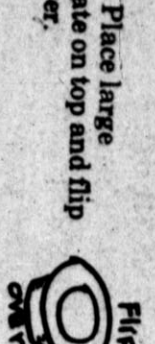
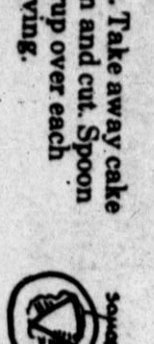
This is a popular recipe in Spanish speaking countries. It is not as easy as some of our Mini Page recipes, but we thought you would enjoy making it with an adult or your teacher at school.

You'll need:

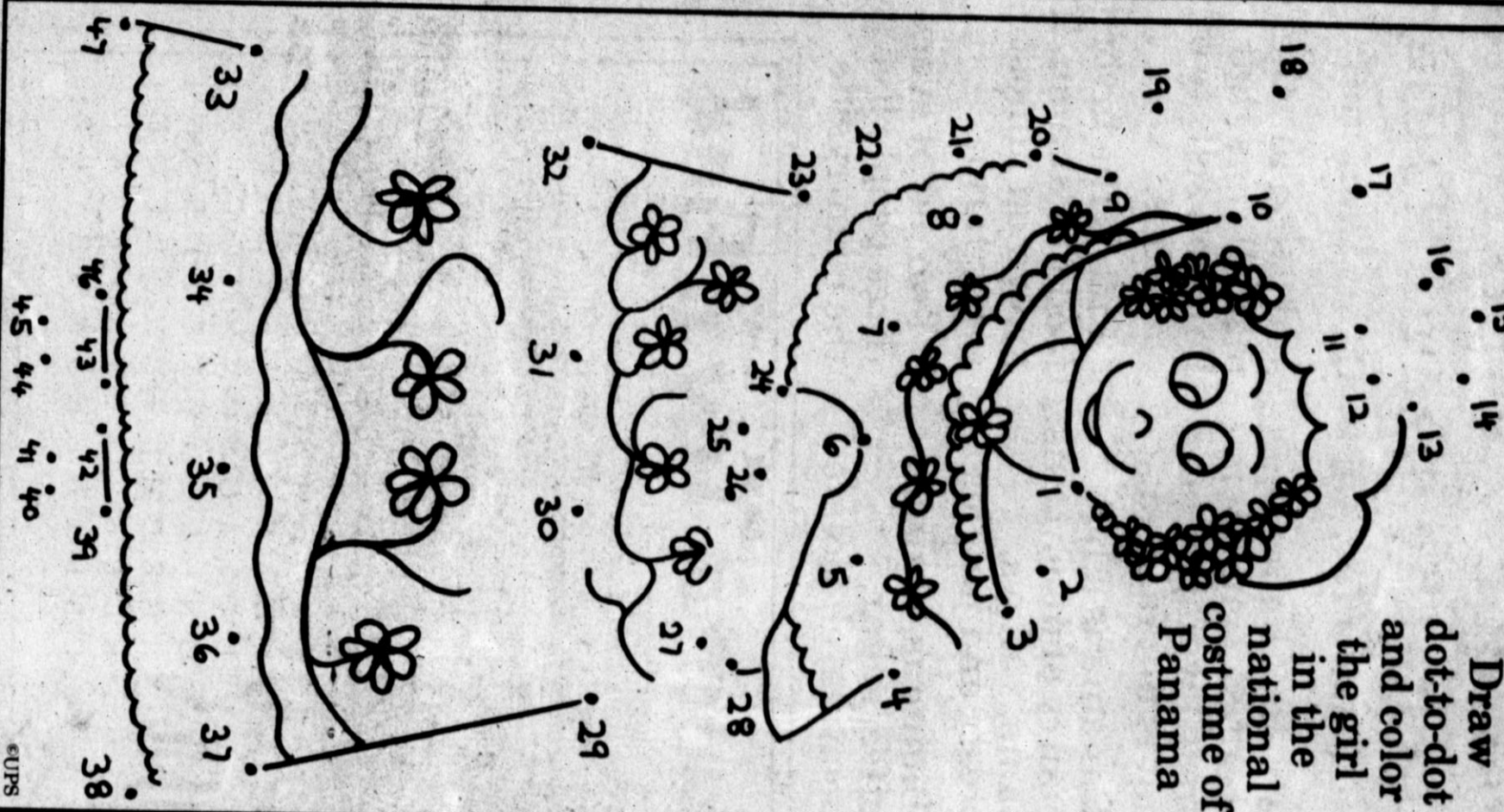
For topping
 1/4 cup water
 1/2 cup sugar

For custard:
 1/2 cup sugar
 2 lemons (for rind only)
 2-13 ounce cans evaporated milk



1. To make topping, mix sugar and water in pan. Use medium heat. Remove from heat when mix turns brown (about 15 minutes). Stir.	
2. Pour into cake pan. Wiggle pan so mix covers bottom and sides.	
3. Grate lemon rinds.	
4. Beat eggs. Mix in other things and beat well.	
5. Pour this mix through sieve into cake pan with water and sugar mix.	
6. Put pan into bigger baking dish and place in oven. Pour about 1/2 inch hot water into bigger dish.	
7. Bake uncovered for one hour at 325 degrees until a fork can be stuck into the custard and come out clean.	
8. Take custard from oven, let cool, cover and put in refrigerator.	
9. Place large plate on top and flip over.	
10. Take away cake pan and cut. Spoon syrup over each serving.	

Draw dot-to-dot and color the girl in the national costume of Panama



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By BETTY DEBNAM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1978

The Panama Canal Problem

The Canal

The Panama Canal is a big ditch between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It is one of the greatest things ever built by man. The canal stretches for 51 miles through the Isthmus (I-S-mus) of Panama. (An isthmus is a thin strip of land joining two large pieces of land.)

The French started the canal in 1882. Over 20,000 men lost their lives. Many died from yellow fever caused by mosquito bites. The French gave up. They had money problems, too.

The Americans took over the building in 1904. They cleaned up the places where the mosquitoes lived. But 5,600 men lost their lives before the canal was finished in 1914.

It takes about 9 hours for ships to go through the canal. Trained pilots go aboard to guide them. Ships must pay tolls before they can start through. Today, 96 out of 100 ships are a size that can go through the canal. Some aircraft carriers and huge oil tankers can't.

See the ships in the locks. Locks work like water stairsteps. A ship enters a lock or chamber. The back gate closes. The water flows in or out until it is even with the water level in the next step. The front gate opens and the ship sails on. Ships that go through the canal are raised or lowered a total of 85 feet. They pass through a lake, three sets of locks and a long, 8 mile ditch.



On September 7, President Carter signed the Panama Canal Treaty. The U.S. and Panama had been working on a new one for 13 years.

The Problem

In 1903, the U.S. signed a treaty or made a deal with Panama.

The treaty gave us control over 5 miles on each side of the canal. We paid Panama \$10,000,000. We agreed to pay a yearly rent.

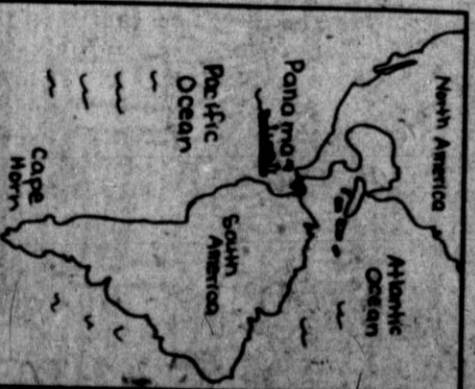
Now the people of Panama are unhappy. They want the canal back.

President Carter signed a new treaty. It would give the canal back to Panama by the year 2000. Until then, we also agreed to raise the yearly rent out of money we collect from the canal. The U.S. Senate must O.K. the treaty. For it to pass, 67 out of 100 Senators must approve. Some do not want us to give it back.

Look at the pictures and see if you can find:
 big ship water hat
 Carter South America Pacific Ocean



General Torrijos is the Chief of Government in Panama.



Ships sailing from the west coast to the east coast or from the east coast to the west coast can save many miles by going through the canal.

Puzzle-le-do

This puzzle is about winter. The letters will only fit one way in the blocks. Can you do it?

Color by Number

Color the ship going through a lock in the canal.

Meet Robert Hegyes

Robert Hegyes plays Juan Epstein in "Welcome Back, Kotter."



Robert graduated from high school in New Jersey and from college at Glassboro State College. He majored in speech and theater arts. His father is an engineer and his mother a housewife. Robert and his wife, Mary live in an apartment in Burbank, California. His hobby is wood-working. He made all their furniture. He still plays sandlot ball and has taken up golf. His birthday is May 7.

The World's Largest Lizard



San Diego Zoo Photo

The Komodo Dragons are the world's largest living lizards. These reptiles can grow to be as long as 10 feet. They hunt animals during the day and sleep at night. They come from the Komodo Island and a few other small islands near Java.

Science Mystery?

MYSTERY: Can you make a gumdrop?



FINDING OUT: Put a package of your favorite gelatin in a bowl. Poke a small hole into the center. Carefully drop 3 drops of water into the hole. Wait a few seconds. Using a fork, reach under the hole and lift up.

What is on the fork?

CLUE: As the drop of water spreads in the gelatin, it is quickly soaked up and held tightly by the gelatin molecules.

Panama... a tiny country about the size of Maine

Here are a few facts about Panama:

Much of Panama (about 85 percent) is forest, swamp or land that is not farmed.

Panama is a hot country of mountains, plains, valleys, forests and jungles.

Bananas, shrimp, coffee, sugar, coconuts, chocolate

and cocoa are the main things that Panama sells to other countries.

Rice is the favorite food of Panama. It is grown on almost every farm.

Two out of every three people live in the countryside.

Panama Try 'n Find

Words about Panama are hidden in the block below. See if you can find: Panama, Spanish, canal, zone, bananas, coffee, oysters, shrimp, fishing, sugar cane, cocoa, rubber, Caribbean, pearls, bamboo, rice, farming, hats, pottery, corn, soap, fiesta, jungle, cities, and farms.

PANAMA AFB ANANAS R
EA CORN AFB ANANAS R
AFIJS HRIMPHBOGA
RICEBAMB OACNARY
LSOGHCIFPOTTERY
SHFSSPANISHSDECC
LIFELAGNMYSTCOCAI
ONERBLAJUNGLEOLEI
RUBBERLJUNSTALE
CARRIBBEREANMBY P

Mini Page Quiz-a-roo

Page 1. Panama is called The Crossroads of the World. Look at a map. Read the story. Can you tell why?

Page 2. The TV star is in the show _____

Page 3. Flan is a type of Spanish _____

Page 4. So many ships fly the flag of Panama because the _____ are lower.



How have you been feeling lately? Next week, read about what kids can do to keep healthy. Read about the vaccination problem.



Panama is 480 miles long and from 30 to 120 miles wide. It is shaped like the letter S. Many ships fly the flag of Panama. These ships are really owned by other countries. Panama charges low taxes for their ships. The waters around Panama have a lot of fish. In fact, the word "Panama" means rich with fish. Shrimp are important, too.

Color the flag.

blue	red

Panama was settled by the Spanish. Spanish is the national language. Many of the children speak English, too. Chinese is another language of Panama. Many Chinese and blacks came to Panama to work on the canal. There are some full-blooded Indians, too.



The woman on the left is a Cuna Indian. Look at the ring in her nose. The woman on the right is dressed in Panama's national costume, a pollera. See the full blouse and skirt.

Mini Spy

See if you can find:

- word "Mini"
- hot dog
- watermelon slice
- can
- hairpin
- butterfly
- apple
- scrub