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'Holiday blues' brings sadness to Christmas for many Americans

By JOHN McMILLAN
Staff Writer

The lights may shine more brightly during the month of Christmas than any other time of the year, but many people suffer from periods of emotional dimness and dreariness at this time of the year, local social service agency counselors say.

Robert A. Smith, director of Pampa Family Services, 1224 N. Hobart St., refers to the holiday-related sadness of many people as "holiday blues."

Such blues are precipitated, among other reasons, by the gap between holiday expectations and a daily reality that proves to be otherwise, according to Smith, who advised that people facing such circumstances lower their expectations from the holidays and thereby minimize their disappointments.

Dr. Richard Bond, the new director of the Pastoral Counseling Center, 525 N. Gray, recommended that people who are disappointed by the holiday season acknowledge their sadness over it and discuss such feelings with a close friend, relative, professional counselor or pastor.

A half-dozen of the clients currently being served by the Pastoral Counseling Center appear to be suffering directly or indirectly from holiday-related blues, Bond said. The center, which charges the general public for services on a sliding-fee basis, has extended its hours as of Sept. 1 and now provides counseling services from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays as well as on evenings and weekends.

Although the news media often refers to unhappiness relating to the holiday season as "depression," Smith said he believes that term exaggerates the negative effects on people's mental health from the social pressure and disappointments of the Christmas season.

Among the other causes of "holiday blues" identified by Smith include conflicts among relatives during family get-togethers at Christmastime and the accompanying "intense interaction."

"I've known of families that come together for Christmas and it becomes a Battle Royale," observed Smith, who offered this advice: "Resist the urge to argue."

Smith also suggested that people be guided in their holiday season conduct by the recognition that it traditionally serves as a "communal experience" among relatives and friends.

Also contributing to holiday blues are the absence of one relative during the Christmastime celebration, such as when that

relative died before the holidays or when a divorce occurred in a marriage and the children miss the absent parent, Smith said.

Even in recently formed single-parent households in which the mother was previously abused by the husband, it is common for the children to miss their father during their first Christmas without him, said Janet Watts, executive director of Tralee Crisis Center, 119 N. Frost.

Watts suggested that single parents establish constructive traditions for their families during the holiday season, such as making craft items as a present or shared activities including the watching of a Christmas play together, as one way to alleviate the blues at this time of the year.

"It's important to be with friends and relatives," Smith counseled, speaking in general about the problem of loneliness at Christmastime. "Those can be a tremendous source of support."

Smith also identified a tendency by many people to overspend during the Christmas season as a contributor to holiday blues. "Don't overspend during Christmas, because when the bills come due that in itself can be depressing," he advised.

Regretfulness can also occur during the holiday season from reflection on goals that people failed to meet during the previous 12-month period, Smith observed.

Guilt feelings stemming from violation of one's religious or moral beliefs during the holiday season can also contribute to a person's sadness at this time of the year, Bond said.

Bond pointed out that people tend to drink more alcohol at this time of the year, which can lower their inhibitions and increase the likelihood of their violating their moral or religious beliefs such as by committing adultery, he said.

Increased alcohol consumption can also aggravate a depression from which a person is already suffering, Bond said.

Bond, who holds a doctor of ministry degree, suggested that Christian people might benefit from reflecting on the sufferings of Jesus Christ during the holiday season, which can alleviate their own feelings of loneliness at Christmastime.

Bond emphasized, however, that many people are at their most joyous during the Christmas season, reflecting the influence of happy music and other cheerful messages as well as the anticipation of Christmas-related sharing and family togetherness, he said.

"People who believe in Christianity have a chance to celebrate Christmas in a positive way," Bond said.

Two men injured in house explosion

By JOHN McMILLAN
Staff Writer

Three Pampa residents were injured, two of them seriously, from an early Saturday morning natural gas-related explosion that caused major damage to a rental house at 717 N. Wells St.

James Kirk Douglas, 41, and Kim Sewell, 38, both of that address, were receiving intensive care in the burn unit of University Medical Center in Lubbock as of Saturday afternoon. The two men had been airlifted to the hospital by helicopter and airplane, said Pampa Fire Marshal Tom Adams, who is investigating the explosion.

Douglas was listed in critical condition Saturday afternoon and Sewell's condition was downgraded from critical to serious condition as of Saturday morning, a spokesman for the hospital in Lubbock said. Both men are employees at the Phillips Petroleum Company plant at Borger, Adams said.

Adams, who is being assisted in his investiga-

tion by Assistant Fire Marshal Gary Stevens, said he does not yet know whether the fire was caused by arson or an accident, although he suspects it was the latter.

Three vehicles of the Pampa Fire Department and 10 Pampa firefighters, including three off-duty firefighters, responded to the explosion and fire at 717 N. Wells. Battalion Chief Davie Turner of Pampa Fire Department led the firefighters at the scene.

A third resident of the house, Douglas' wife, Bobby Douglas, was treated at Coronado Hospital for minor injuries she sustained in the incident and released. A fourth resident of the house, Jimmy Douglas, 7, a son of the Douglasses, was asleep in the home at the time of the incident and did not suffer any injuries, Adams said.

The explosion, which occurred at about 2:25 a.m. Saturday, apparently was caused by a natural gas leak in the house, Adams said. Layne Clark, 2638 Fir, is owner of the house, according to the Pampa Fire Department.

A brief fire occurred before the explosion in the house and apparently was caused by a natural gas leak in the house, Adams said. Damage from the fire was minimal, he said, adding that a pilot light on the kitchen stove apparently ignited the gas.

The explosion caused heavy damage to the kitchen and living room of the house, a two-bedroom, wooden-frame building of about 1,000 square feet that was roughly 30 to 40 years old, Adams said. The one-story building appears to have been in good condition before the explosion, Adams said.

Two engineering technicians for the Texas Railroad Commission visited the site of the explosion on Saturday to investigate whether the company that provided natural gas to the house - Energas, based in Lubbock - complied with federal safety regulations on the property. One of the technicians, Glenn Taylor, said he expects to prepare a report offering his conclusions within 45 days.



Pampa firefighters inspect the damage from an early Saturday morning fire and explosion at 717 N. Wells house. (Pampa News photo by Cheryl Berzanskis)

U.S. troop pullout from Somalia beginning

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER
AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - A battalion of U.S. Army soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division is expected to begin heading home this week from Somalia, the first wave of a lengthy troop pullout that will extend through March.

About 1,000 soldiers from the Fort Drum, N.Y., base - which was among the first to send troops into the starving nation last year - are expected to be among the first flying home at the end of the week, said military officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Last week, Defense Secretary Les Aspin pledged that a "fairly significant" number of the approximately 8,000 troops in Somalia should begin leaving before Christmas, but he did not give an exact figure.

"Some of these soldiers have been away from home for Christ-

mas ad nauseam. It's wonderful that they're going to be able to get back for this one," one senior officer said.

President Clinton decided to bolster the U.S. forces after an Oct. 3 battle in which 18 American soldiers died and 75 were wounded in a raid against Gen. Mohammed Farah Aidid.

But he also set March 31 as the deadline for pulling out all the American troops.

"All he had to do was say the date, and the logisticians started figuring it out all backwards to find the point when they'd have to start" removing the forces, their weaponry and support structure, said a second military officer.

Somalia's lack of an infrastructure hasn't changed much since the military's initial humanitarian mission began last year. Thus, the withdrawal operation could stretch more than three months, the officer said.

"There's still only one airport in Mogadishu, and only one port," he said, noting that the pipeline through which troops and their equipment may move is extremely tight.

"There's only so much you can move in or out on any given day," he said.

Dozens of flights by chartered or military aircraft and more than a half-dozen cargo transport ships will be needed to accomplish the transfer of the U.S. forces, officials said.

And complicating the exit is Somalia's status as one of the most unhealthy nations on earth.

The Pentagon is sending in several hundred packing specialists and "de-buggers" who will clean up the force's equipment and ready it for transport home.

"The Department of Agriculture has nightmares about what kind of things could crawl home on our tanks," one officer laughed. "They

hose that stuff down and go over it with a fine-toothed comb."

Last week, the USS America left the coast of Somalia, reducing the number of forces stationed offshore by 5,500. About 4,000 U.S. Marines and Navy sailors remain on vessels in the area, officials said.

Col. Steve Rausch, a U.S. military spokesman, said USS America would be replaced by the USS Independence carrier battle group. But he said the Independence will be posted farther from Somalia than the America had been.

Overall, there are some 29,000 troops in Somalia participating in the U.N. peacekeeping effort. They come from countries including Pakistan, France, Belgium, Sweden and Egypt.

In the wake of Clinton's decision, several other nations announced their troops would also pull out stakes, further complicating the departure flow.



Dr. Richard Bond, director of the Pastoral Counseling Center, talks with a client. (Pampa News photo by John McMillan)

Scientists produce record energy levels from atomic fusion reaction

PLAINSBORO, N.J. (AP) - Scientists say it's the biggest thing since fire - record-breaking atomic fusion that may lead to limitless safe, clean energy for Earth's overextended environment.

Princeton University scientists produced the world's most powerful controlled fusion reaction just before midnight Thursday. Hours later on Friday, they produced one nearly twice as powerful.

"There was some point in time where the first man and woman were able to rub two sticks together and light a spark. We now know how to light the fusion spark," said Stephen Eckstrand, the project's federal program manager.

The Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory's fusion reactor set the record, generating the equivalent of over 5 million watts of power, on day one of a nine-month series of experiments promising even higher energy levels. It was not supposed to have reached that level of energy for another week.

Fusion, the process that powers the sun, is a reaction in which lightweight atoms, such as hydro-

gen, are squeezed together at high temperatures to fuse, releasing energy in the process. The researchers' goal: harness more energy from the reaction than the millions of watts needed to run the mammoth reactor.

Twenty-four million watts are needed for the reactor to run itself. Previous experiments have consumed several times the energy they produced.

Scientists learn much from the physics of each reaction to help them design better reactors that they hope could lead to commercial fusion by the year 2035.

They argue that fusion energy will be desperately needed by then and can compete economically with polluting energy sources such as oil and coal. An average coal plant each day emits 30,000 tons of carbon dioxide, which can contribute to global warming, and 600 tons of sulphur dioxide, which causes acid rain.

"We're trying to replicate the sun here on earth," said Dale M. Meade, deputy director of the lab funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. "What we have is a piece of the sun and it's ... producing fusion energy."

Grad student prepares to be king

ATLANTA (AP) - The elders were determined to make Anthony Ephirim-Donkor their king. He was equally determined to avoid them.

Ephirim-Donkor, a Methodist minister who has just completed a doctorate in religious studies at Emory University, held out until August. That's when the elders, with the help of Ephirim-Donkor's brother, trapped him.

Ephirim-Donkor had wanted only to be a missionary and a religion professor. Now he will be the reluctant king of his mother's town in the African nation of Ghana.

"I was angry. Being a monarch was not part of my vocational priorities," says Ephirim-Donkor, 37. "Being seized, you have to put everything on hold and redirect your priorities. I get up and think not about myself anymore, but what I can do for them."

Ephirim-Donkor will return to Africa early in the new year for a coronation that will be attended by as many as 50 kings from neighboring regions and the 4,000 people who live in Gomoa Mprumem, an agricultural town in central Ghana.

He will also be the host and needs to raise at least several thousand dollars to pay for the festivities.

The celebration will mark a milestone in a remarkable cultural journey. The man who dresses in casual Western clothing while strolling around an American university campus will become Nana Obrafo Owam X, King of the Akan people. "I see myself as someone with dual identities," he says.

After the elders captured and indoctrinated him, Ephirim-Donkor returned to Emory "a changed man," says James Fowler, a professor who is directing his dissertation.

"It was like he was more burdened, like he had aged in the course of that time."

Now that he is to be king, Ephirim-Donkor may no longer go near a corpse, allow his bare feet to touch the ground or speak directly to people in public. An interpreter accompanies the king everywhere and will speak for him on formal occasions.

Ephirim-Donkor came to the United States in 1982 and earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 1985. He graduated from Emory's divinity school in 1988 and was ordained by the United Methodist Church.

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A FREEDOM
NEWSPAPER

Wyoming author providing 'Dictionary of the American West'

By MATT KOHLMAN
Associated Press Writer

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — Ask a cowboy of the 1800s about the finer points of parliamentary procedure and he might respond with "What I know about that you could put in one eye."

But when the subject is Western words, an expert can be found in Jackson, Wyo., author Win Blevins, who is familiar with the entire body of language common in the West.

Blevins, 55, has compiled the *Dictionary of the American West*, which explains the meaning and history of more than 5,000 terms and expressions, including the phrase for ignorance listed above.

The idea for the dictionary, which had a first printing in October, came in the mid-1980s when Blevins listened to authors of western literature gripe about editors misunderstanding the language and mauling their words.

One writer described buckskins cantering across the field and received the following comment back from a New York editor: "I know that buckskins get old and

black and stiff, but I'm pretty sure they don't get rank enough to run."

"She thought he was talking about Davy Crockett garments, but didn't know that buckskin was the type of horse," Blevins said.

Blevins then decided to develop a pamphlet that eventually blossomed into a 400-page bible for western writers.

While other dictionaries of Western terms have been published, Blevins said they were either pamphlet-size or centered mainly on cowboy talk. His book takes that concept one further.

"If we want to get political, we could say the old dictionaries are male-centered, cowboy-centered and Texas-centered," he said. "This book has mountain men, and miners and loggers and Mormons and Indians and everybody."

It also doesn't focus on a specific time period, running from old Indian words like the greeting term "How!" to modern-day terms like "Sahara Club," the mocking name some Westerners give the Sierra Club.

In between are such words and phrases as "case of slow" (What was wrong with the loser in the gun bat-

tle, "face-licking" (a good-time, with people extra friendly, as at a reunion), "prayer book" (a cowboy's book of cigarette papers), and "roostered" (drunk).

Blevins, who has written six fictional novels based on the West and three books of Western history, said researching the dictionary meant digging into current literature as well as 100-year-old dictionaries, old novels, western newspapers and individual journals and diaries.

The letters of 19th-century U.S. Army wives provided many sexual euphemisms and editors in the infant days of newspaper journalism made heavy use of double-peak.

In print, a prostitute became known in print as a "calico queen," "ceiling expert" and "horizontal worker," for instance.

"You can write syphilis in a modern paper. You sort of had to be creative in the old times," Blevins said.

Blevins also discovered other facts in the course of writing the book, such as the knowledge that seemingly simple words aren't always that.

"My favorite word that comes out of the Southwest was 'Anglo.' It does not necessarily mean a white per-

son. It means the person of a dominant culture. ... Down there, the world is Hispanic, Indian and Anglo."

"What you really discover when you look at somebody's language is you discover their culture," he added. "What I found out that I never expected was the West was a kind of battle for language."

"Most Indian names for white men are unflattering. Indian names for Mexicans are unflattering and Mexican names for Indians are unflattering."

Indian terms for white men ranged from "yellow eyes" to the early Navajo term "those who fight with their penises," because white men always seemed woman-hungry.

The Western culture in general also showed a spirited dislike for lawyers, he said.

Attorneys were known by loggers as "flatheads." And a spicy stew of marrowgut from a freshly killed calf called "son-of-a-bitch stew" became known as "district attorney stew" after the judicial system arrived.

Dictionary of the American West is published by Facts on File Inc. of New York and has a suggested retail price of \$17.95.



Sen. Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo), left, greets supporters at Perry Lefors Airport on Friday, where he announced his candidacy for re-election in 1994. (Pampa News photo by Cheryl Berzanskis)

State Sen. Teel Bivins seeking re-election

By CHERYL BERZANSKIS
News Editor

Education remains the number one issue in the state of Texas, said Sen. Teel Bivins during a flying-stop tour of the Panhandle.

Bivins, sky hopping from city to city over a two-day period, stopped at Perry Lefors Field Friday to announce his candidacy for re-election to the post of state senator of District 31.

He reported to a small group of people gathered at the airport that the 73rd legislative session just completed had a distinctly Panhandle flavor, due at least in part to the unity among Panhandle delegates to the legislature.

"Because we're not (fighting

among ourselves), we're able to focus on Panhandle issues," Bivins said.

Progress has been made in the areas of product liability laws, workers' compensation and trucking laws, he said.

The main issue will continue to be education finance, he said, though he prefers to focus on the product of education — an adult who can read, write and cipher.

"You can pass all the laws in the world and you are not gonna educate the children of Texas," Bivins said.

He expects an overhaul in the Family Code which governs juvenile justice, noting the code was last changed in 1963.

Health care will be a "high boil" when the Legislature next convenes,

Bivins said. He told the assembled group that counties, which are now required by law to provide indigent health care, may be able to drop that coverage if universal health care is provided by the federal government.

Bivins criticized the Texas Education Agency for its size and for decisions it makes regarding textbook selection. It does, however, have a role in educating the children of the state, he said.

"I don't think it takes 1,000 people to carry out that role," the senator said referring to the size of TEA.

The Amarillo Republican is beginning his sixth year in the Senate. He serves on the finance, education, natural resources and international relations, trade and technology committees.

Navy supports plan calling for more Ospreys

DALLAS (AP) — The U.S. Navy wants to buy at least 18 more V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft in a deal that could pump billions of dollars into Fort Worth's sagging defense industry over the next five years, *The Dallas Morning News* reported in its Saturday editions.

U.S. Rep. Pete Geren, D-Fort Worth, told the newspaper that the Navy has expressed its intentions to several U.S. congressmen.

"The Navy has confirmed they intend to press forward to put \$4.9 billion in the budget during the next five years," Geren said. "It's a real strong statement of support for the program."

A Pentagon review of the V-22 Osprey aircraft scheduled this week was postponed until next fall so the Navy can take another look at the cost and role of the experimental plane.

The Defense Acquisition Board was to have assessed how the tilt-rotor aircraft that takes off like a helicopter but flies like a plane will meet future requirements of the Marine Corps and special forces.

The V-22 is jointly made by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. in Fort Worth and Boeing Helicopter Co. near Philadelphia.

To date, the Navy has bought six V-22s as part of its testing and development of the program. The Marines hope that the government buys as many as

500 tilt-rotor aircraft, which primarily would be used as troop transports. Such an investment could cost \$30 billion and create thousands of jobs in Fort Worth.

The Navy's commitment to buy more V-22s over the next five years would be a much-needed shot in the arm for Tarrant County, which has seen its second-largest employer, Lockheed Corp., dismiss thousands of workers as orders decline for the F-16 fighter.

"It's a very good sign in this budget climate," Geren said.

The new assurances from the Navy, which came late Thursday in a meeting with a senior Navy official, represent the first time the military branch has

told members of Congress they are strongly behind a plan to spend nearly \$5 billion more for the program through 1999.

Before Thursday, Geren said, the Navy's support had been "unofficial."

"There's been a strong Marine commitment to it, but there's been schizophrenia in the Navy over the issue. This demonstrates a stronger top-down Navy commitment," Geren said.

Additionally, officials in Congress have told him that John Deutch, the undersecretary of defense who oversees acquisitions, supports the Navy's plan, Geren said.

A Pentagon spokeswoman declined comment on Deutch's support.

Astronauts recuperating for planned shuttle landing

By MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA's Hubble Space Telescope repair crew recuperated Saturday from an exhausting yet successful nine days in space before packing to come home a little sooner than expected.

NASA pushed up tonight's landing at Kennedy Space Center to 11:26 p.m. CST, 1 1/2 hours, or one orbit, earlier than planned. The weather was expected to deteriorate through the morning, so mission managers decided to aim for an earlier touchdown.

The seven Endeavour astronauts spent their one and only day off in space gazing down at Earth and relaxing.

"You know something?" shuttle commander Richard Covey asked. "We've all been putting in some awful long hours."

"We have, but it's been worth it,"

replied Mission Control's Gregory Harbaugh, who was the backup spacewalker for the flight.

Last week, the crew accomplished the most extensive repair job in space history, culminating months of grueling training.

During five spacewalks five days in a row — a U.S. record — the astronauts installed 11 new parts in Hubble in hopes of fixing its blurry vision and replenishing its guidance, power and computer systems.

NASA launched the \$1.6 billion telescope in 1990 with a defective primary mirror that caused myopia and spent the next 3 1/2 years working on a fix — this fix. The space agency won't know whether its optical repairs worked until late January or February, after the instruments are focused and aligned.

On Saturday morning, one day after being released from Endeavour, Hubble was trailing the shuttle by 87 miles. Covey described the receding telescope as "the brightest

morning star you ever saw." About the only work the crew did was to conduct a shuttle water-disposal experiment.

"I'm very pleased that the crew gave us a day off," said lead flight director Milt Heflin. "It's been a good time for the flight control team to relax as well."

Endeavour's nighttime touchdown will be only the second time a shuttle has landed at Kennedy in darkness. The first was three months ago.

NASA needed a middle-of-the-night launch and landing so Endeavour could rendezvous with Hubble using a minimum amount of fuel. That in turn prompted the not-so-prime-time spacewalks; the 6 1/2-to-eight-hour outings began late at night and ended just before dawn.

The next Hubble service call in 1997 will be planned with shorter spacewalks "that can be done during the daytime," promised Joe Rothenberg, a top Hubble manager.

More adult penalties sought for juvenile offenders

HOUSTON (AP) — A Harris County commissioner wants juvenile offenders as young as 14 to face adult criminal penalties.

Harris County Commissioner Steve Radack said Friday he thinks Gov. Ann Richards should call a special legislative session to consider the issue.

"We have a tremendous number of 14-year-olds committing a tremendous amount of crimes," Radack said. "I think it's time to deal with these offenders and make it clear that we are going to deal severely with them."

But critics attacked Radack's idea as a sorry attempt to correct a serious problem, rising juvenile crime that comes each day with a younger face.

"It's a feeble attempt for a quick fix," said El Franco Lee, who favors strengthening community-based efforts — from families to churches — that provide positive environments for youth.

Radack plans to ask the Harris County Commissioners Court next week to approve a resolution calling

for the session, an idea Lee does not agree with.

"If we continue to increase penalties without dealing with the source of the problem, we are going to continue to have more offenses and bigger jail populations, as we have seen before," Lee said.

On Friday, statistics showed 68 youths have been referred to the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department in connection with homicides since November. There were 62 such young offenders for all of 1992.

Today, 15- and 16-year-olds can

be certified to stand trial as adults. But the cases of those as young as 10 can be taken up by a grand jury, which can certify that if the child is convicted he can be sentenced to as much as 40 years.

The offender then stays in a Texas Youth Commission facility until a judge rules he is old enough to serve the rest of the sentence in an adult prison.

County Judge Jon Lindsay agreed with Lee that families should take more responsibility, but added that "by the time these kids are to 13 and 14 years old it's too late."

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Viewpoints

The Pampa News

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Let Peace Begin With Me

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

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

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

Louise Fletcher
Publisher

David Bowser
Managing Editor

Opinion

U.S. on collision course over Korea

Are you ready for another Korean War? Fresh from his foreign-policy stumbles in Somalia and Haiti, President Clinton is bumbling toward a possible confrontation with North Korea. This time the problem isn't small-time warlords, but the 700,000-man North Korean army, which, according to some intelligence estimates, holds chemical weapons and is developing nuclear bombs.

A war with North Korea could cost thousands of American lives. As in the Gulf War, the enemy would lose. But there's a difference. Saddam Hussein at least wanted to stay alive and perhaps fight again. Kim Il Sung, the North's megalomaniacal dictator, is in his late 80s and knows he's not going to live much longer.

Kim — to whom Romania's late ruler, the malevolent Nicolai Ceaucescu, looked for guidance — has been a malicious, murderous dictator longer than Clinton has been alive. He has witnessed the disgrace of communism, to which faith he still holds, and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, which set him up in power. His final glory might be to inflict untold destruction and death on South Korea, the capitalist, democratic adversary whose success has embarrassed and disgraced him.

The best U.S. policy now is to avoid stumbling. Clinton should devise a policy, enact it and stick with it. Time is on the side of the forces of freedom and peace. After Kim dies, his son and heir apparent, Kim Jong Il, could be overthrown by the military. And Kim's military is decaying. As was seen in the Gulf War, modern militaries depend on vast, complex and expensive logistical networks. Only advanced capitalist countries have the management skills to run such networks. The U.S. and South Korean militaries possess such networks; North Korea's military does not. In a war, Kim's forces quickly would run out of supplies.

The major U.S. concern, of course, is North Korea's nuclear threat. Kim seems unwilling to allow any major inspections of his suspected nuclear facilities. But Clinton has been all over board — first demanding inspections, then even threatening to wipe out the North Korean regime, most recently going soft by halting U.S. military exercises in return for anticipated "concessions."

Clinton seems to be following the same script President Johnson used in his disastrous dealings with the North Vietnamese communists in the mid-1960s. Ironically, the young Bill Clinton marched in protest against LBJ's policies.

The Reagan and Bush administration dealt firmly and consistently with North Korea. Aside from Kim's cowardly terrorist attacks on South Korean diplomats — one of them infamously shooting down an airliner over Burma a few years ago — the peace was kept. Such a wise policy should be restored.

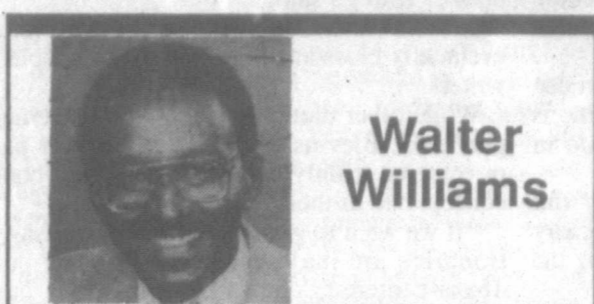
Update on assorted nonsense

The average American hasn't time to keep up with all the asinine goings-on in the name of the environment, fairness and sensitivity. You won't learn about it on the 6 o'clock news and that's where Williams comes in.

On Aug. 3, Rep. Phil Crane (R-Ill.) invited the Christian Action Network to display in the House of Representatives art funded through the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibit included the homoerotic art of Robert Mapplethorpe and Joel Witkin, featuring stretched testicles, a bare-breasted female Christ painting and a fat nude holding two fetuses. Within hours, Reps. Rostenkowski and Foley ordered the exhibit removed. It appears that while Rostenkowski and Foley vote to support NEA-funded filth, they don't want a public display of your tax dollars at work.

The enviro-nazis must feel good. According to Access to Energy (July 1993), the U.S. Air Force reacted to the Environmental Protection Agency ban on chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) by replacing the cooling systems on its multiple-warhead nuclear intercontinental ballistic missiles. Thus, should there ever be a nuclear exchange, it will be an environmentally friendly event not threatening to the earth's ozone layer.

You might be wondering about all the crime in the nation's capital. Here's what may be part of the answer. According to the September 1993 *Mediawatch*, one out of every 61 Washington



Walter Williams

cop is currently under criminal indictment or has a case pending. Plus, there are affirmative-action policies whereby police exam scores are manipulated on the basis of race, sex, residency and whether they went to D.C. schools. So, if you visit the nation's capital and happen to be confronted by a criminal, think twice before you run into the arms of a cop.

This is my 13th year at George Mason University, a university previously spared from nazi-like brownshirts. But as with any disease, their contamination spreads. George Mason just came out with a brochure classifying what constitutes sexual-orientation discrimination and harassment. "Thinking that a homosexual might come on to you" or "jumping when a homosexual touches you on the arm" are listed among the forms of discrimination and harassment. Plus, "keeping a physical distance from someone because they are

a known gay or lesbian" and "staring at two homosexuals holding hands" are also forbidden.

You ask, "Williams, what are you going to do?" It's business as usual with minor modifications. Since I think that women might come on to me, in the name of equality, I must think that a homosexual might come on to me as well. After all, I'm fairly handsome guy. I may call George Johnson, our president, to find out what is the politically correct physical distance one should be from anyone and extend the same courtesy to homosexuals. While I have his ear, I shall seek counsel on how long you can look at homosexuals holding hands, or otherwise physically connected, before it constitutes an illegal stare. If the president says to me you can't be more than 13 1/2 inches from someone — no problem. There's not even a problem if he tells me that looking for more than 47 seconds at homosexuals physically connected violates university policy. And even if it imposes a self-esteem burden, there's no problem being told I must not think homosexuals might come on to me.

But I draw the line at touching. I do not play touching. Even though we've been married 33 years, my wife must gain permission before she touches me. In fact, she must verbally specify, in advance, where and in what manner she wishes to touch me.

End of update on insanity in America.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Sunday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 1993. There are 19 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 12, 1917, Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Neb.

On this date:
In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1893, 100 years ago, actor Edward G. Robinson was born in Bucharest, Romania.

In 1901, the first radio signal to cross the Atlantic was picked up near St. John's, Newfoundland, by inventor Guglielmo Marconi. (The signal was transmitted from a point some 2,000 miles away.)

In 1913, authorities in Florence, Italy, announced that the "Mona Lisa," stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris in 1911, had been recovered.



Ed Stein '93
Rocky Mtn.
News-Net 2

In defense of hillbillies, et al.

ATLANTA — Columnist George Will was writing recently about the rising sensitivity level of the nation's inhabitants.

He pointed out something that didn't receive a great deal of coverage but certainly should have.

Last year in Cincinnati, the city council passed a human rights ordinance that included forbidding discrimination based on "Appalachian regional origin."

What that meant was you're not supposed to make fun of hillbillies anymore.

I am foursquare behind such an ordinance. Just like all Italian-Americans aren't part of the Mafia, people born in Southern mountainous areas don't all tie up their pants with rope and commit unspeakable acts against canoeists.

Had this ordinance been in place on a nationwide basis, we might have spared all those reruns of *The Beverly Hillbillies*, which I despise.

One, if they could have convinced Uncle Jed and all his clan that "Californy is the place you ought to be" and that he should have a mansion complete with a cement pond, than it looks to me as if somebody could have also talked him into junking that claptrap of a truck for a new car.

Two, I don't care where they lived before, once they move to Southern California, women will, in fact, eventually find Rodeo Drive. You can't tell me that with all that money in the bank, Granny and Elly May wouldn't finally have traded in their rags on Rodeo Drive for Gucci and Pucci —



Lewis Grizzard

which they never did.

Three, it would have been politically incorrect to make a *Beverly Hillbillies* movie and a lot of perfectly good film wouldn't have been wasted.

On top of that, if those born in the Appalachian region are now being protected in such a manner, I think precedent finally has been set to add yet one more group of beleaguered Americans to such a list.

A friend and I were talking recently and he said to me, "My fellings are terribly hurt."

"What's the matter?" I asked.

"I was reading in the paper the other day where this high school had a 'Redneck Day,'" he explained. "Everybody was asked to come to school dressed like a redneck. My grandfather was a redneck. I'm terribly offended."

Of course he was, and he had every right to be, and for the record, I'm offended. My grandfather was a redneck, too. That's because he was an agri-

culturalist. He grew things to eat. In order to do that, he had to toil in the sun during the warm months of the year.

Since nobody had invented sun screeners at that time, the back of his neck, the area not covered by his shirt nor his straw hat, was constantly red due to its exposure to the Southern sun.

That didn't make him a bad person. It simply made his tan uneven. To portray him on "Redneck Day" as ignorant and racist is an affront to him and to all who knew him and loved him as the intelligent, kind person he was.

If we are going to put the hillbilly on the protected list, then the redneck, the Southern white person from an agriculturally based background, deserves to be treated the same and not to be treated contemptuously by the media.

Cincinnati is located just outside the Appalachian region and is inhabited by many migrants and their descendants. Atlanta is in the same position with the so-called redneck. A city so steeped in the tradition of tolerance, soon to host the world in the 1996 Summer Games, ought to go ahead and offer some protection from insensitivity to its sons and daughters who sprang from the potato patches and bean fields and corn rows of the outer reaches.

You don't do for Jethro and then ignore Bubba. Atlanta has a brand-new mayor-elect, Bill Campbell. The dog is squarely under his porch, barking for action.

Diversity is a cause for celebration

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The white woman at the airport news counter nodded toward my coat lapel pin. "I like your geography. And it's pretty." Red, black, white, yellow and brown are indeed pretty colors, especially when symbolizing the five races of humankind.

On my People Pin, the races are defined by profiles within an outline of the United States. One nation, five races and a very hip commitment to multiculturalism.

The pin also reaffirms the significance of this time of the year. Beginning at Thanksgiving and ending in February 1994, Americans of different faiths and ethnicities will have celebrated seven holidays, some honoring their uniqueness, others commemorating our commonality.

For so short a period of time and so diverse the celebrations, this American festival of holidays — Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Year's Day, Los Tres Reyes Magos (Festival of Three Kings) and the Chinese New Year — are a felicitous excuse to party interminably.

In Washington, D.C., a small group of outstanding high school students of African, Asian, Hispanic, Indian and Caucasian ancestries from 14 states anticipated the annual celebration of holidays with a reunion at the Freedom Forum. This past summer, they had attended the Forum's three-week journalism workshop at the university of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Several of them are Pulitzer Prizes waiting to happen.

But the American festival of holidays occurs annually. After Thanksgiving comes Hanukkah, the



Chuck Stone

Jewish commemoration of the Maccabean victory in 165 B.C. over the Syrian tyrant, Antiochus IV. Each day for eight days, beginning this year on Dec. 9, a shamas candle will light another candle in the menorah to commemorate the miracle of Jewish survival in a temple.

Christmas, Dec. 25, is so universally beloved and celebrated that it almost doesn't require an explanation. On the day after Christmas, an increasing number of African-Americans begin a seven-day celebration of Kwanzaa (Swahili for "first fruits"). As do Jewish children at Hanukkah, a black child lights a celebratory Kwanzaa candle each day.

Founded in 1967 by the culturalist nationalist, Dr. Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa celebrates the African heritage and de-emphasizes what Karenga felt was the excessive commercialism of Christmas.

Each day represents a different principle of life, all of which some morally rootless blacks desperately need these day — *ujmoja* (unity), *kujichagulia* (self-determination), *ujima* (collective work and responsibility), *ujamaa* (cooperative economics),

nia (purpose), *kuumba* (creativity) and *imani* (faith).

On the last day of Kwanzaa, the whole world joins all Americans in recuperating from late-night hangovers on New Year's Day. This all-day electronic profusion of football games encourages what Cornel West calls "spectatorial passivity."

Five days later, Puerto Ricans and many Latinos celebrate the Christian Epiphany, when the three wise men — always interracial depicted — paid homage to the newborn babe in Bethlehem.

The last of the seven holidays, the Chinese New Year's Day in February (the year of the rat) is a pyrotechnic explosion of fun and festive spirits in which you can participate if your community is blessed with a Chinatown.

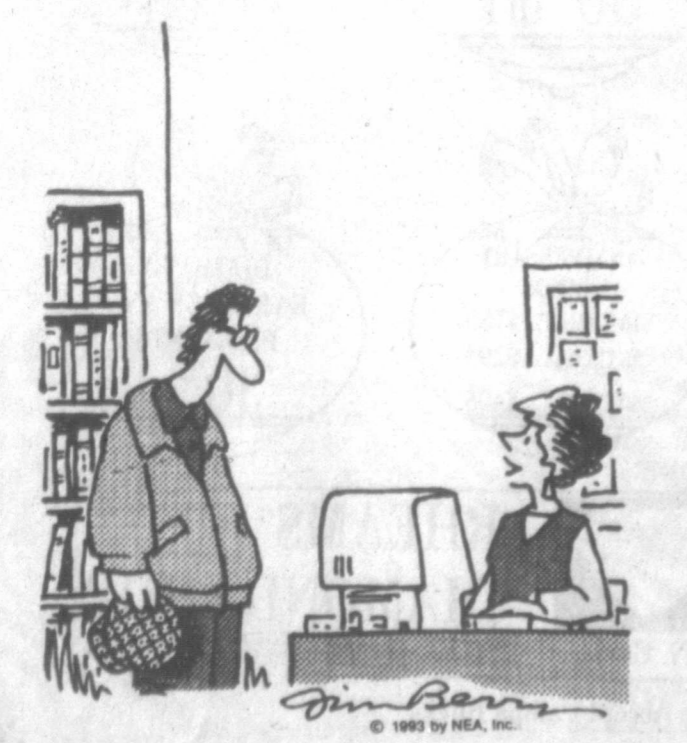
Last year, this cornucopia of festivities was celebrated by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which publicly announced plans to build "a humane refugee center for 20,000 Somalis."

The AJJDC's religion-blind humanity must be factored into the equation of universal goodwill that helped to foster this year's Israeli-Palestinian peace.

All of these manifestations of goodwill are reasons to ignore the Jeremiahs who deplore multiculturalism as divisive. THEY are the apostles of divisiveness. And if you want to know where you can get a People Pin, write me and I'll send you the address.

In the meantime, celebrate your uniqueness within the pantheon of our national unity. But above all, have a ball!

Berry's World



"Financing Health Care Reform? That MAY be in the 'Mystery' section."

Letters to the editor

Become an American ...

To the editor:
In recent weeks there has been several writers who were espousing the "sad" plight of the Hispanics or the Latinos, including Emilio Fuentes, Barbara Gonzales, Arturo Cifuentes and others. It was stated that "two out of three Hispanic children live in poverty because of the underemployment of the children's parents." During my several months stay in Mexico, I would guess five out of six children lived in poverty in a socialist-type economy where there is 25 percent of the work force unemployed — "Thousands of Hispanics have received the Medal of Honor." There have been many more thousands of non-hyphenated Americans who also have received the Medal of Honor — "Less than one percent of the board seats in the major companies of the U.S. are held by Hispanics." This is about the same percent of "whites" who have not qualified themselves for advancement. One can be assured that at the "top of the ladder" major companies, in their "greed" to make a profit, employ those that can contribute to those profits, regardless of race or ethnic background — There were many other fallacious examples by the writers concerning the "plight" of the Hispanics that could be similarly refuted.

Several years ago I attended a LULAC meeting of about 300 "Mexican-Americans" in Kingsville. The speaker was one of the major leaders in this organization. He exhorted those present to "quit complaining about racial discrimination; many of you have been here several years and still cannot communicate in the language of your new country. You are experiencing 'social' discrimination, not 'racial' discrimination. You become an American and 90 percent of your discrimination will not occur." The Hispanics, as well as any other immigrant, must learn that this is a capitalist, competitive, English-speaking country. In a competitive economy, businesses are interested in productive qualifications of employees, not excuses or ethnic origin.

The Hispanic writers should do more to encourage the Hispanics to take advantage of the opportunities to get an education, learn English and show they are willing to adjust to the U.S. culture. As the LULAC speaker said, "become an American." All minority groups should be encouraged to read, Walter Williams, George Will, Bill Buckley, Paul Harvey and others. The writers should encourage the Hispanics to stay in school, learn English and become knowledgeable as to how a capitalist competitive system works, instead of continually quoting statistics that states "how poorly they are treated" — and emphasize it is their responsibility to improve themselves.

W.A. Morgan
Pampa

Letters to editor policy

The Pampa News welcomes and encourages readers to express their opinions on issues of public interest and concern.

Letters should be 300 words or less; however, exceptions may be made for exceptionally well-written and/or important letters. Letters submitted for publication should be neat and legible, typed if possible, or at least handwritten in a clear manner. Letters may be edited for length, clarity, spelling, grammar, taste and potentially libelous statements. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication, nor can we guarantee a date of publication due to space and time limitations.

ALL letters must be signed for publication; no unsigned, name withheld or anonymous letters will be published. The writer must list an address and a telephone number or numbers where he or she may be contacted for verification; addresses and telephone numbers will not be printed, unless requested for a specific reason.

Poetry, candidate or political endorsements, letters to third parties and "thank you" letters will not be published except at the discretion of the editor, depending on general interest.

Letters may be dropped off at the office, 403 W. Atchison, or mailed to The Pampa News, Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066.

High level MIA talks open Monday in Vietnam

By GEORGE ESPER
AP Special Correspondent

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Searchers along the Vietnam-Laos border have found wreckage and human remains from an American helicopter shot down with five men aboard in 1970, U.S. officials said Saturday.

The discovery was made as part of a U.S.-Vietnamese-Laotian operation, the first time that the three countries have coordinated searches for American MIAs.

The unprecedented trilateral cooperation comes as the United States and Vietnam begin high-level meetings on intensifying the search for MIAs and on the U.S. trade embargo.

Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord is to arrive Monday for talks with Vietnamese leaders. He will attend a ceremony in which the Vietnamese will turn over the remains of Americans found during searches in October and November.

On Wednesday, Lord is to have a look at the three-country operation along the Ho Chi Minh Trail that runs between Vietnam and Laos. The trail was a major supply route during the war.

Scores of American airmen were downed in the region in the 1960s and 1970s during operations aimed at stopping North Vietnamese trucks and troops moving southward into South Vietnam.

The State Department said Lord will urge Vietnam "to further intensify its efforts to help us account for American servicemen who did

not return from the war."

The United States lists a total of 2,248 Americans still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, including 1,648 in Vietnam, 514 in Laos, 78 in Cambodia and 8 in China.

U.S. officials have said it is unlikely that there will ever be a full accounting, citing the amount of time that has passed and the fact that many of the MIAs were shot down over water or in mountainous terrain.

President Clinton has made the fullest possible accounting of MIAs a condition for establishing normal relations with Vietnam.

Lord will tell the Vietnamese that any further steps in U.S.-Vietnamese relations "will depend strictly on further tangible progress in POW/MIA accounting," the State Department said.

Army Lt. Col. David L. Fredrikson, a spokesman for the trilateral search operation, said an excavation team on Laotian side of the border had uncovered both physical evidence and human remains from the site of a crash of an Air Force search-and-rescue helicopter in Savannakhet Province.

Asked how he assessed cooperation from the two countries, Fredrikson said:

"It continues to be excellent on the Vietnamese side, and while we have been challenged on the Laos side of the border, there's still cooperation. Last month that cooperation was excellent, the best ever."

"And now with this trilateral, we're breaking new ground," Fredrikson said. "Just by virtue

of the fact we've gotten as far as we have is encouraging. There are many more similar border area cases that we're going to have to approach."

U.S. search teams have been operating in both Vietnam and Laos with their counterparts, but heretofore independently of each other and without exchanging information on the spot.

This marks the first time that the three countries are working together at the same time in the same area, linking up and sharing the data immediately.

A team of 11 American specialists and their Vietnamese counterparts are operating on the Vietnam side of the border. Thirty-three Americans and their Lao counterparts are on the Laotian side. The operation began Dec. 3 and runs through Dec. 20.

Lord has said the Vietnamese have been going all out to be cooperative.

"The prospect is, on the basis of continued Vietnam cooperation, you will continue to see an incremental approach toward better relations," he said.

This approach was taken in September when Clinton announced that American companies could bid on proposed development projects such as the rebuilding of Vietnam's ports and roads as long as they were funded by international financial institutions.

But Sen. Frank Murkowski, an Alaska Republican, says the Treasury Department and the State Department have not put the order into effect.

Deadline nears; GATT talks poised between success and failure

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

GENEVA (AP) — U.S. and European Community negotiators haggled over movies and aircraft subsidies and Japan voiced complaints about rice Saturday as world trade talks remained dogged by disputes, four days before a cutoff deadline.

The rest of the world waited as officials tried to wrap up a 116-nation effort to lower global trade barriers.

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Sir Leon Brittan, the EC's top trade negotiator, both sounded optimistic at the start of their daylong talks but acknowledged that a number of differences remained to be worked out.

Six hours later, negotiators brushed past reporters and refused to say what progress, if any, had been made.

"It's going to be a long night," said Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Rufus Yerxa.

Negotiators were having difficulty on a number of issues.

Chief among them were U.S. demands for limits on the amount of government subsidies that can be funneled to Airbus Industrie. The European consortium is now the No. 2 maker of civilian aircraft worldwide, threatening America's biggest manufacturing export.

Also at issue was a U.S. demand that France and other European countries lower barriers to American films and television shows — also a lucrative U.S. export industry.

Europeans were unhappy over American insistence that the United States be allowed maximum flexibility to impose punitive tariffs on countries deemed to be engaging in unfair trade practices, such as dumping products at artificially low prices to capture foreign markets.

The United States has used those dumping duties to protect American manufacturers of everything from steel to computer screens.

All the discord raised questions over whether negotiators would be able to meet a midnight Wednesday deadline for wrapping up the talks, being held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the organization that governs world trade.

Peter Sutherland, the GATT director general, said it was time for the United States and the EC, the world's biggest exporters, to put aside their differences and reach a compromise.

"They no longer have time on their

side," he said. "It is not a matter of days but of hours," he said.

Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata traveled to Geneva to tell Sutherland about the difficulties Japan faced in lowering its rice barriers.

A trade source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Sutherland had replied forcefully that chances for completion of a trade agreement would be seriously jeopardized without Japanese movement on the rice issue.

The goal of the seven-year effort, dubbed the Uruguay Round for the country where the talks began, is to cut tariffs on hundreds of manufacturing products, beef up copyright protection for movies and computer software and extend GATT rules to such fast-growing areas as trade in financial services.

In return, rich nations are supposed

to lower their barriers on Third World exports such as textiles and agricultural products.

All of this is intended to give the sluggish global economy a badly needed shot in the arm, boosting world output by more than \$200 billion annually.

But with the United States, Britain and Canada emerging from long and painful recessions and Japan and Germany still in downturns, negotiators have found it hard to remove barriers that would cost jobs in politically sensitive sectors such as agriculture, textiles and steel.

France, concerned about upsetting its 1 million farmers, refused to go along with the tariff-cutting package until the United States relented and made concessions this month to a tentative deal on reducing the level of subsidized food exports.

Apartment building collapses

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — A 12-story luxury apartment building was smacked by a landslide and collapsed Saturday. At least one person was killed, and police said more than 50 were believed trapped.

The condominium building pancaked to less than a third of its original height and was a mass of crumbled concrete and twisted steel beams. The 46-unit building folded at about 1:30 p.m. when a landslide broke through a retaining wall, witnesses said.

Area residents said the building, which was perched on a hillside in the posh residential area of the suburb of Ampang Jaya, was home to many foreigners. The U.S. Embassy said it believed no Americans were trapped.

By late Saturday night, only three people had been taken from the wreckage, and one of them died at a hospital.

Rescuers were working gingerly during the night because they were afraid of upsetting two other apartment blocks about 50 feet up the hill.

Those buildings were evacuated, and the area was cordoned off.

Shizue Nakajima, 50, of Japan died of abdominal injuries, doctors said at General Hospital.

Two others — a woman believed to be Indonesian and a 3-year-old girl — were hospitalized in stable condition.

Officials said they hoped to bring in expert tunnelers at daybreak.

The police inspector general, Hanif Omar, estimated that 53 people remained buried in the ruins of the Highland Towers. His estimate was based on reports from friends and relatives.

"We are very hopeful we'll find some survivors," he told reporters.

Heavy rains have fallen for the past two weeks, and witnesses reported the building had been hit by a landslide before collapsing.

A security guard from the collapsed building, V. Anbalagan, said a landslide came from the back and shook the building, and up to 20 people ran out. Moments later, the building "moved forward and fell like a tree," he said.

A resident from a nearby building said mud had been sliding down a hill behind the apartment for the past few days. Ong Tean Teong, who lives in the adjacent building, said a develop-

er recently cut down trees on the hillside.
Six people from Britain and the United States who had experience in earthquake rescue and who happened to be in the city joined the rescuers, Hanif said.

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Area meetings

Pampa City Commission

The Pampa City Commission will meet in regular session at 6 p.m. on Tuesday in the City Commission chambers on the third floor of City Hall. Items scheduled to be discussed include:

- three ordinances relative to changing water rates in Pampa,
- the cancellation of the Dec. 28, 1993, commission meeting,
- the appointment of three people to serve on the Lovett Memorial Library Board,
- awarding a bid for the purchase of three police vehicles, and
- awarding a bid relative to the purchase of a security system for Lovett Memorial Library.

Prior to the regular meeting of the commission, the mayor and commissioners will meet in a work session to discuss such things as a cost reduction study, a take-home vehicle study and an update on the street improvement project.

Following the regular meeting, the commission will meet in executive session to discuss hiring a new city manager.

Pampa's City Commission normally meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Both the work session and the regular session are open to the public.

White Deer School Board

WHITE DEER — White Deer school board on Monday is expected to approve the audit report for the fiscal year that ended Aug. 31, 1993.

The board meeting that day is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the board room of the White Deer ISD administration building, 601 Omohundro, White Deer.

Also on Monday, the White Deer school board is expected to:

- Recognize Special Olympics students.
- Recognize Christmas Card contest winners.
- Approve enrollment of some transfer students.
- Approve a budget amendment.
- Review the first-semester exemption plan and approve the second-semester exemption plan.
- Consider approval of a professional liability insurance policy.
- Approve purchase of a copier for the White Deer ISD administration office.

Hear reports from Superintendent Larry Johnston concerning monthly travel issues and workers' compensation claims as well as a monthly financial report from the business manager.

Hold a closed session. The agenda provided by White Deer ISD did not specify the purpose of that session.

White Deer school board is expected to reconvene after the closed session and consider taking action on items discussed during that session.

Miami School Board

MIAMI — Miami Independent School District board of trustees on Monday is expected to evaluate the performance of Miami ISD Superintendent Allan Dinsmore during a closed session.

The Miami school board is expected to discuss other personnel matters as well during the closed session on Monday, after which the Miami board will consider taking action on the items discussed during closed session.

During open session earlier during the Monday school board meeting, the Miami school board is expected to consider approval of bids on roof installation on top of the Miami school building.

The Miami school board meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Monday in the board administration room inside the Miami school building.

Mystery Santa spreading cheer on Boston streets

BOSTON (AP) — Traveling by stretch limo instead of by sleigh, a secretive Santa is spreading good cheer on city streets by handing out \$50 bills.

Most of his beneficiaries get a card with the message, "Yes, Massachusetts, there is a Santa Claus," and signed "Kris Kringle." But instead of waiting around for milk and cookies, he disappears without a word after handing out the cash.

Santa's identity remained a mystery Saturday. His limo belongs to a suburban limousine service, but employees there said they couldn't divulge any information about their clients.

When asked whether Santa would ride again, a company spokesman said: "The job is not complete."

Santa began his odyssey Monday, when he showered money on 10 customers and employees at a Marshall's store.

Each day, he made more stops. "It was like a *Miracle on 34th*

Street type thing," said Salvation Army bell ringer Michael Kiely after he received \$50 outside an FAO Schwarz store.

On Thursday, Mayor Thomas Menino called the mystery "wonderful" and said he hoped Santa would give some money to the poor.

The next day, Santa dropped into City Hall unannounced and tried to present His Honor with five crisp \$50 bills and a card that read: "Yes, Mr. Mayor there is a Santa Claus. Please deliver to needy families."

"I can't take this. Who are you, the FBI?" Menino said. He directed the mystery man to a homeless shelter, where he turned over four bills.

"I think it seems like some secret Stephen King sort of thing," joked Jeanine Lombardo, who was at one of the mystery Santa's stops, referring to the horror novelist. "Everyone who got the \$50 will start getting a rash and start losing body parts."

Coalition candidate winning in Chile

By EDUARDO GALLARDO
Associated Press Writer

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — The candidate for the pro-government coalition, Eduardo Frei, was headed to a wide victory in Saturday's presidential election, the government reported.

The first official returns announced by the government, covering 6.04 percent of around 8 million votes cast, gave Frei 55.69 percent, followed by Arturo Alessandri, the candidate for the right-wing opposition with 25.57 percent.

The announcement by Deputy Interior Minister Belisario Velasco gave the four other candidates — one rightist and three leftists — 1 to 7 percent.

The winner will succeed President Patricio Aylwin, who took office in 1990, putting an end to the 16 1/2-year rule of Gen. Augusto Pinochet. Velasco's announcement didn't include results for the simultaneous congressional election, but projections by television networks based on exit polls anticipated a landslide victory for Frei's center-left coalition.

The polls indicated the coalition was headed to widen its majority in the lower house, and possibly reversing the majority held now by the right in the senate.

Frei has promised to amend the constitution, which bars the president from firing Pinochet and other top military commanders. Alessandri opposes changing the constitution.

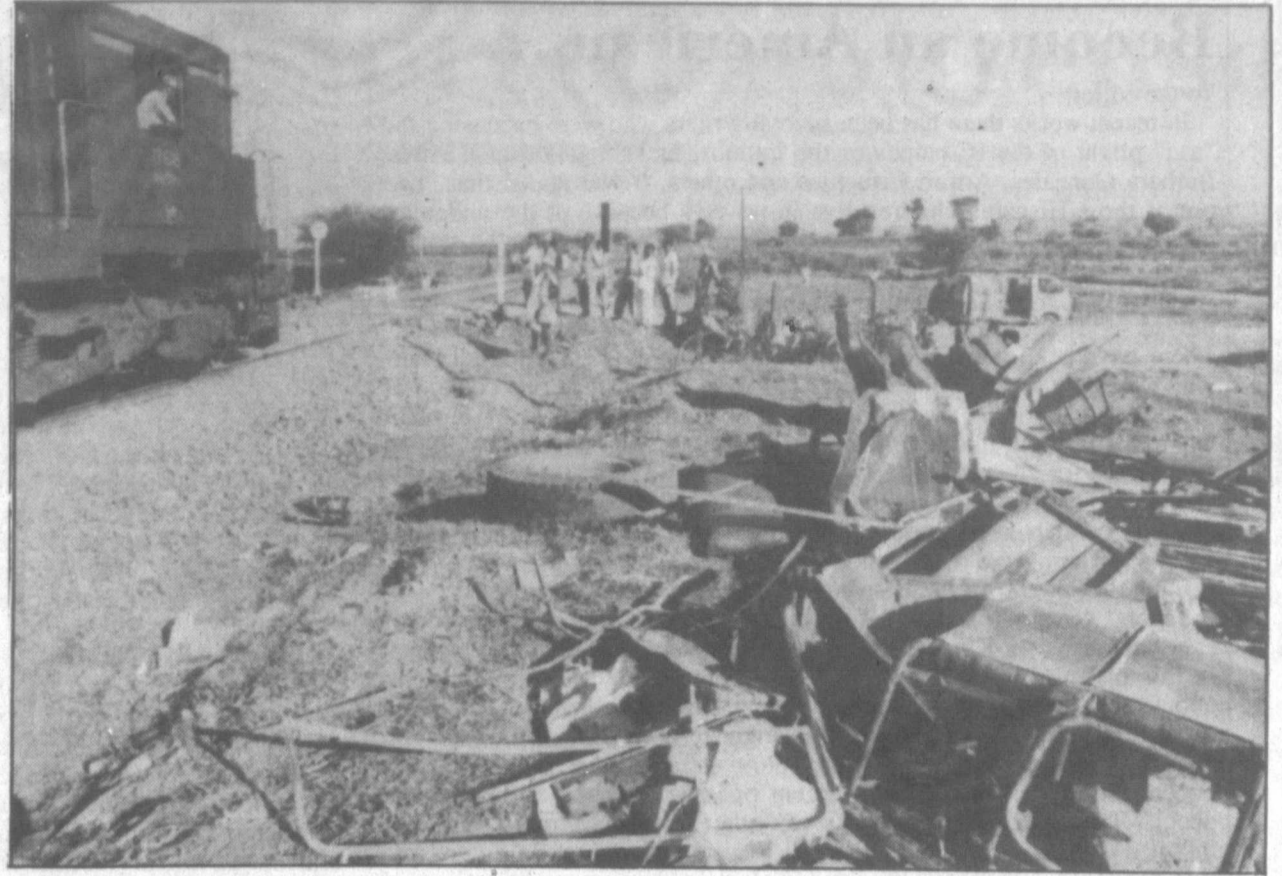
Frei, 51, was the clear front-runner in the presidential race. He is a member of Aylwin's Christian Democratic Party and was backed the same eight-party center-left Coalition for Democracy that gave Aylwin a landslide victory.

Voting proceeded peacefully despite reports of two bombs at southern Santiago suburbs during the night before polls opened, officials said. The blasts damaged an electric power tower and a school, but there were no casualties and electricity was not interrupted.

Interior Minister Belisario Velasco said turnout was heavy at many of the nation's 26,875 polling stations. Voting is mandatory, and people failing to cast ballots face fines of up to \$115.

Voters also were choosing 18 members of the 48-seat senate and all 120 deputies in the lower house of congress.

Train-school bus accident



A train passes by the wreckage of a school bus after another express train ploughed into it at an unmanned railway crossing near Poone in Maharashtra state, India, on Saturday. News agencies said at least 32 children on their way home from a picnic and four adults were killed in the collision with the passenger train. The train involved was removed from the scene by officials. (AP photo by Machindra Pardeshi)

Fight violence with values, president says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation must fight "violence with values," President Clinton said Saturday in praise of radio stations that refuse to play songs advocating violent crime or showing contempt for women.

Clinton, in his weekly radio address, said guns, drugs and violence "fill a vacuum where the values of civilized life used to be" and called for greater emphasis on work, family and community.

Tough talk about crime has been constant during a week when a New York gunman killed five commuters on the Long Island Rail Road and the body of 12-year-old kidnap victim Polly Klass was discovered in California.

"These tragedies are part of the epidemic of violence that has left Americans insecure on our streets, in our schools, even in our homes," Clinton said.

The president renewed his call for tough anti-crime legislation but steered clear of any discussion of licensing guns — something he has asked the Justice Department to study.

Clinton said he wants a crime bill that will put 100,000 more police officers on the streets, ban assault weapons, and provide more money for boot camp-style programs to teach discipline to first-time offenders.

A broad crime bill passed by the Senate authorizes 100,000 extra police; a narrower bill passed by the House approves 50,000. Both chambers voted to prohibit the sale or transfer of handguns to juveniles, but a conference will be needed next year to reconcile differences.

Clinton said putting more police on the street "will do more to reduce crime than anything else we can do."

But in the Republican response to Clinton's radio address, Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of New York said more attention should be paid to locking up violent criminals and less to proposals to license guns.

"Everyone knows the answer to the problem except the politicians in Washington and the state capitals," D'Amato said. "Americans know that the best way to protect themselves is to put violent criminals in jail and keep them there. It's that simple."

He said Republicans support putting more police on the streets but also want a crime bill that requires a 10-year sentence for committing a crime with a gun.

A poll released Saturday showed a majority of Americans believe existing laws make it too easy for people to get guns but also detected uncertainty about whether stricter gun con-

trol laws would curtail violence.

The CNN-Time survey by Yankelovich Partners Inc. found that 67 percent of Americans believe it is too easy for people to buy guns. Forty-nine percent thought stricter gun controls would reduce violence and an identical percentage did not. The survey of 500 adults, conducted Dec. 2, had a 4.5 percentage point margin of error.

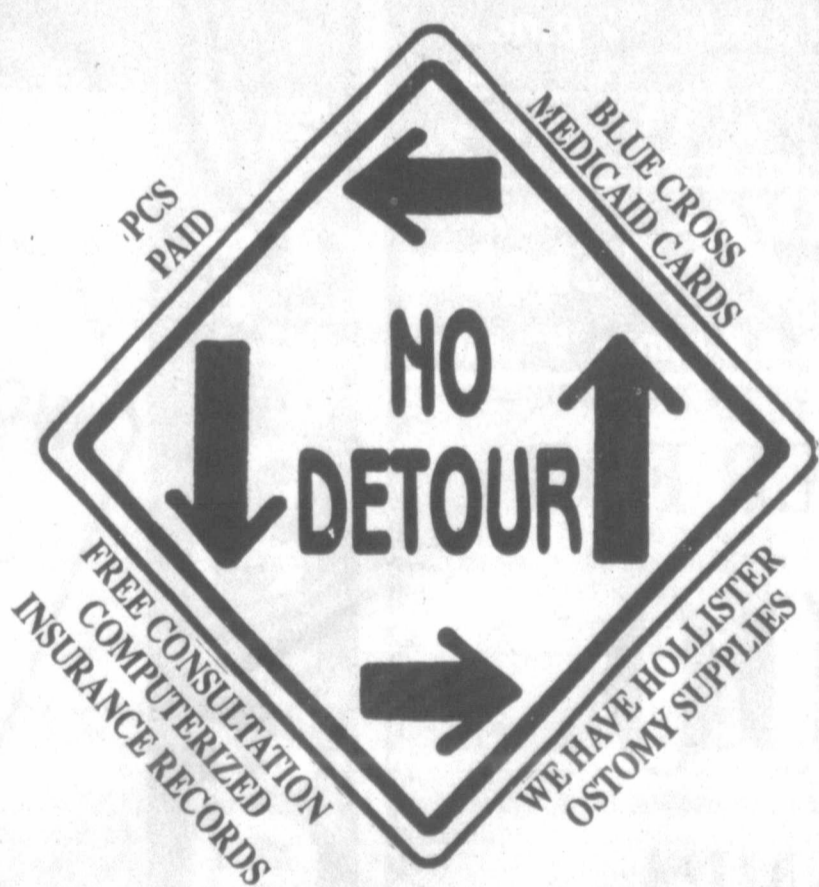
Clinton is trying to enlist the entertainment industry in his campaign to combat violence and promote stronger values. At a Hollywood fund-raiser a week ago, he asked stars and entertainment executives to help "give children non-violent ways to resolve their own frustrations" and do more to reduce violence in shows and movies.

"Let's face it, drugs and guns and violence fill a vacuum where the values of civilized life used to be," Clinton said in his radio address.

All Americans have an obligation to "fight violence with values," he said and praised several radio stations around the country for deciding not to air songs that "advocate violence or show contempt for women."

"Whether we're ministers or moviemakers, business people or broadcasters, teachers or parents, we can all set our sons and daughters on a better path in life," he said.

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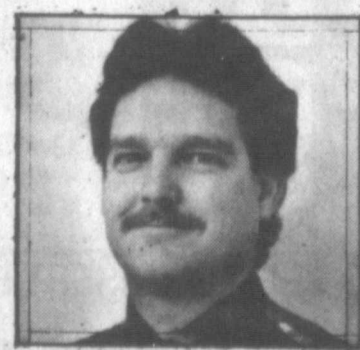
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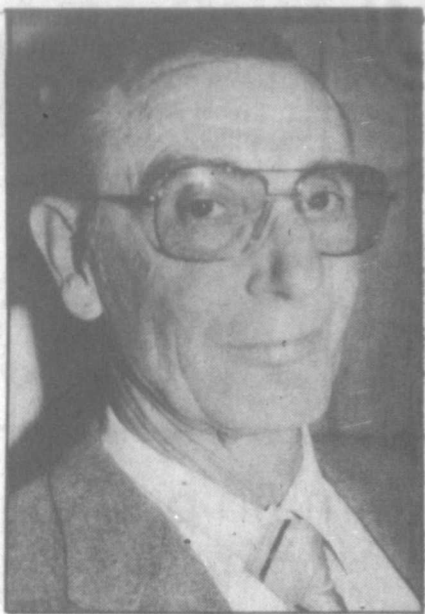
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Albert Nichols



Kim Davis

Juvenile Probation Board hires new chief and assistant officer

In 20-minute meeting Friday, members of the Juvenile Probation Board hired a chief juvenile probation officer and an assistant officer.

Named to replace Ed Barker, current chief juvenile probation officer, was Albert Nichols, who is now

employed as the assistant officer. To work as Nichols' assistant is Kim Davis, now employed in Community Supervision and Corrections Department.

Both appointments will become effective Feb. 1, 1994.

Santa visits kids at funeral home

MESQUITE (AP) — Over the years, Richard Pollak, owner of a party entertainment company, has booked some unusual Santa appearances.

Pollak has had Santa ride the Zamboni machine for the Zamboni team, one had to show up with a live reindeer, and one Santa parachuted into a parking lot.

But this week will mark the first time that Pollak has sent a Santa to a funeral home.

"I think it's going to be great for the community," Pollak said of Santa's planned appearance from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday in the foyer of the Chapel of Anderson-Clayton Bros. Funeral Home in this east Dallas suburb.

Santa's wife will be with him. She will take free souvenir photographs. The chapel is in a separate building from the rest of the funeral home.

"It's just like having it in a church," said Dan Hiatt, manager of the funeral home.

Hiatt says he wants children in the neighborhood to have an opportunity to talk to Santa Claus and sit in his lap.

Drug traffickers still have run of Colombia's third-largest city

By ANDREW SELSKY
Associated Press Writer

CALI, Colombia (AP) — The drug gangster stood on a hillside park overlooking the red-tile roofs of Cali. He gestured with his hand toward the city that he said controls 80 percent of the world's cocaine supply.

"It looks like a nice city," the man said. His black shirt was unbuttoned to the chest in the tropical heat.

Cali was once called charming by a guidebook because of its friendly inhabitants and salsa music.

No more. Now it's mostly dangerous.

While the government battled the more violent Medellin cocaine cartel over the past four years, a Cali gang quietly built the world's biggest cocaine distribution network, drawing a deadly infusion of guns, drugs and money into this city nestled against the lush green foothills of the Andes.

The killing of Medellin cartel leader Pablo Escobar by security forces Dec. 2 was trumpeted as a demonstration of the government's will to fight traffickers. However, Escobar was hunted not so much for trafficking cocaine but for killing hundreds of innocent Colombians in bombings and assassinations.

The real test of whether Colombia

is Washington's partner in its war against drugs will be if Bogota vigorously fights the Cali cartel, a loose alliance of dozens of drug gangs that run this city like a fiefdom.

Drug traffickers in their 20s — who have made millions sending cocaine to the United States and Europe — speed down Cali's boulevards in luxury cars or jeeps with tinted glass. They are followed by one or two other jeeps, their windows rolled down so the hard-eyed bodyguards inside can open fire if needed.

At night, the young dealers — called traquetos (pronounced trah-KEH-tohs), in imitation of the sound of a submachine gun firing — saunter into discos filled with throbbing salsa and disco music and flashing lights.

As young men and women wearing scant clothing dance themselves into a sweat, muscular bodyguards — who are allowed to keep pistols in their belts by bouncers who frisk everybody else — closely watch the crowd.

Sometimes gunfights break out. An average of 50 people are killed every weekend in this city of 1.5 million. Many deaths are drug-related.

Cartel hit men have murdered hundreds of rivals and others who got in their way, including a crusading anti-drug journalist in New York in 1992. But unlike Escobar's group,

they don't use violence indiscriminately.

"Cali cartel hit men kill only the person they're after. If the target is in a restaurant, they'll go after just him. The Medellin cartel would drive in a car bomb and take out the whole restaurant," said a top U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency official in New York. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

Even Cali's championship soccer team is owned by the cartel. Inside the stadium, signs advertise a drug store and a car dealership, both cartel-owned.

The black-shirted cartel member, who works for a traqueto, gave a reporter and photographer a trafficker's-eye view of the city Thursday on condition he not be identified. The man's information has been reliable in the past.

He said the older, established drug dealers have bought office towers, hotels, shopping centers, hardware stores and even a hospital in Cali, using a variety of fronts.

There are rumors the four cartel leaders — wanted for drug trafficking, illegal profiteering and weapons charges — may turn themselves in because of a new law that offers leniency to criminals who surrender, disclose details of their operations and turn their ill-gotten gains over to the state.

Lawyers for the cartel have reopened surrender talks with the

government, Federal Prosecutor-General Gustavo de Grieff said, according to news reports Saturday.

The day after Escobar was killed, U.S. Ambassador Morris Busby told a news conference he would like to see the Colombian government swing the spotlight over to Cali.

But while a 3,000-member force composed of soldiers and police was dispatched to hunt Escobar full-time, there are no plans to mount a similar operation in Cali, said Defense Ministry spokesman Jaime Vasquez.

Hampering police operations is the cartel's intelligence branch, which has infiltrated the highest levels of government.

De Grieff said in a recent interview that law officers in Cali are so corrupted by cartel payoffs they are kept in the dark about police raids planned in Bogota so they can't warn the cartel.

In September, the nation's top judicial officer overseeing police, Guillermo Villa, was fired for allegedly working for the cartel. In June, retired national police Capt. Jorge Rojas — the suspected chief of security for the cartel — was arrested by de Grieff's agents.

Rojas escaped from jail after another man pretended to be him. Jailers said they didn't notice the switch for days, even though Rojas was a familiar face among Cali lawmen.

Two teens charged in schoolyard shooting

LANCASTER (AP) — Two Longview teenagers were being held on \$50,000 bond each in connection with the schoolyard shooting of a 14-year-old girl who was feuding with the younger sister of one of them.

Monica Lenchelle Bush, 18, and Monica Michelle Harris, 19, were charged Friday with injury to a child with a deadly weapon, a first-degree felony, and possession of a weapon on school grounds, a third-degree felony.

Nicole Hogg, 14, was shot Thursday morning in the shoulder during an altercation with the two women and Ms. Harris' younger sister. Other students said Ms. Harris' sis-

ter was upset because Miss Hogg had been talking to her boyfriend.

Miss Hogg was reported in serious but stable condition at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas.

Students told police they thought the two younger girls were about to start fighting. Then, Ms. Bush pulled out a .380-caliber semi-automatic pistol and shot Miss Hogg once in the left shoulder, police were told.

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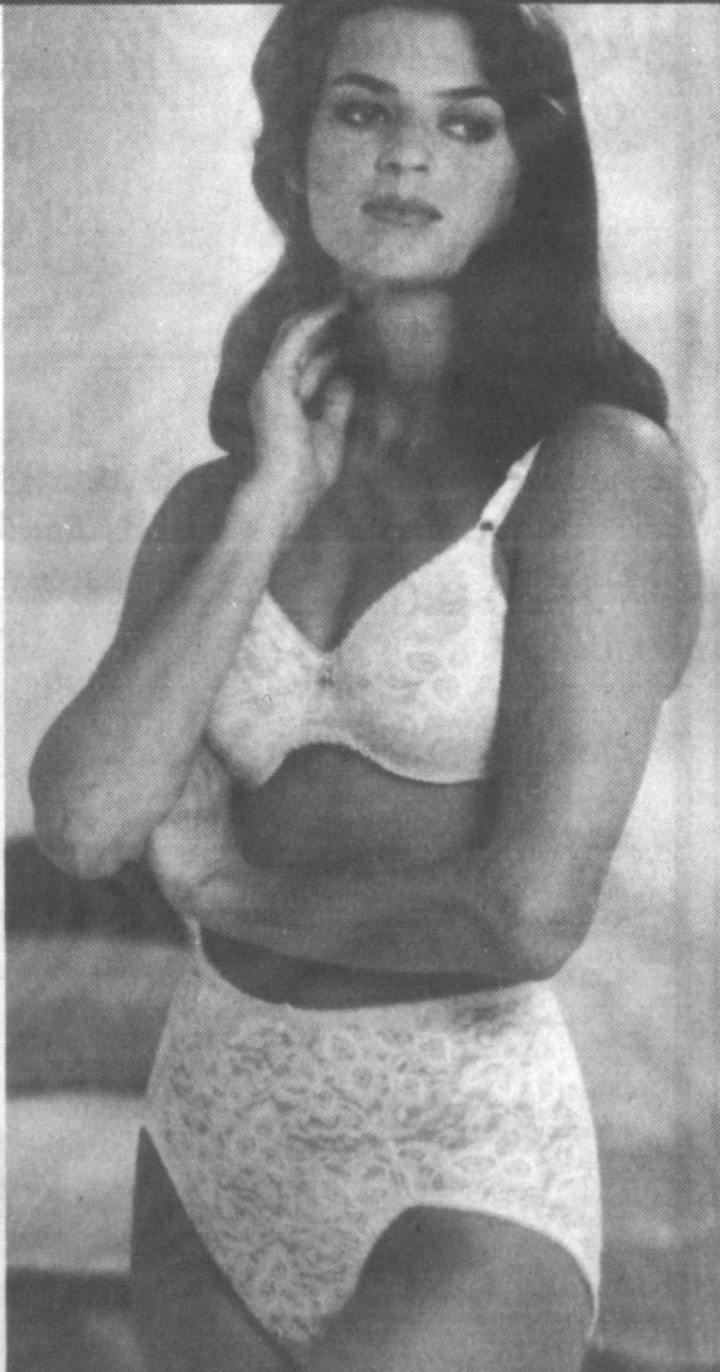
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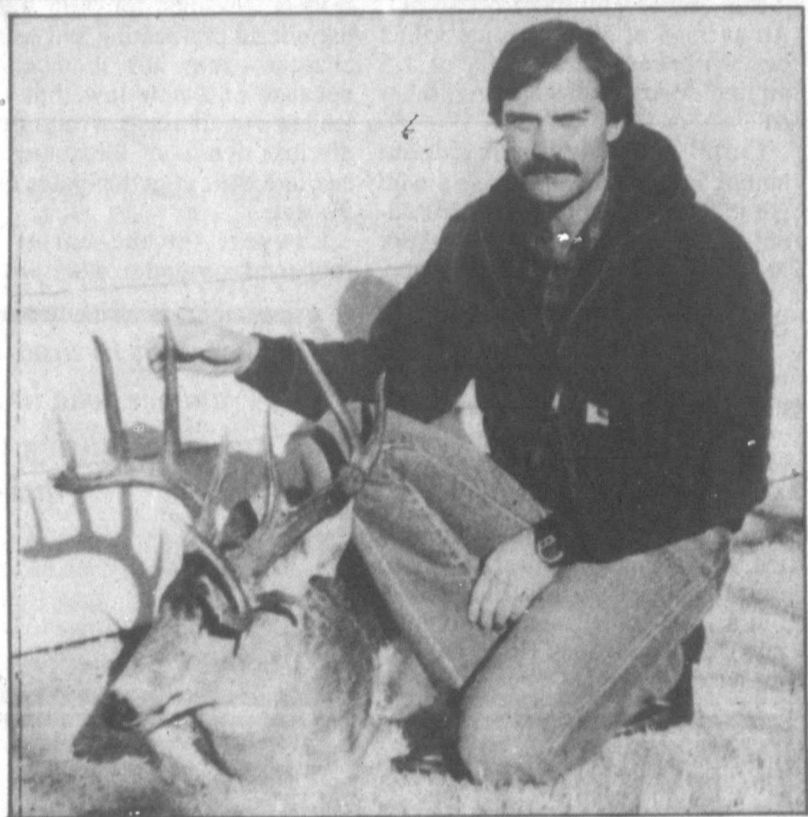
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Strange deer



This deer head, which features a strange third antler protruding from its left temple, originally had a fourth coming from its forehead. Pampa hunter Victor Williams, in photo at right, shot the white-tailed deer on Nov. 27 near Shamrock. Williams says the freak antler may have allowed him to get the successful shot off, since it blocked the deer's peripheral vision. He noticed that the deer seemed to suffer no lack of motor skills due to the deformity and was otherwise perfectly healthy — and a fast runner. Williams plans to have the unusual head mounted after the holidays. (Pampa News photos)



Hutchison camp dismisses 'standby' candidate idea

AUSTIN (AP) — U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's camp Friday dismissed calls by some prominent Republicans to put an "insurance" candidate on the GOP primary ballot just in case the senator is convicted of pending ethics charges.

"It's just not going to happen," said David Beckwith, Mrs. Hutchison's spokesman.

"The current Republican leadership and the rank-and-file have thought this through, they know what's going on in Austin, and they're confident that Kay will be exonerated," Beckwith said.

Hutchison, who won a special election on June 5, is seeking re-election to a full, six-year term in 1994.

On Wednesday, she was indicted for a second time by a Travis County grand jury on charges stemming from her 2 1/2-year tenure as state treasurer. Hutchison denies any wrongdoing. Similar charges were dismissed on a technicality in October.

Both former Gov. Bill Clements of Dallas, the only GOP governor this century, and former party chairman George Strake of Houston suggested in newspaper interviews this week that a standby candidate could be a good idea.

"We Republicans would be stupid, absolutely stupid, to allow ourselves to get into a trap where we are vulnerable to the election process with either no candidate

or a candidate declared guilty and under a penalty," Clements said.

Strake, party chief from 1983 to 1988, said that because Democrats control the Texas judiciary, even Republicans who believe Hutchison's case is a political maneuver shouldn't discount the possibility she may be convicted.

"You have to have full faith in Kay, but not full faith in the system," he said.

But current Republican Chairman Fred Meyer said such talk is pointless and that Hutchison remains a formidable candidate.

"Sen. Hutchison won with a resounding 67 percent of the (June) vote. She is our senator. We have every confidence that she will be acquitted and lead our Republican ticket to victory in 1994," Meyer said.

"The only beneficiary of this kind of discussion is the Democrats, because this is the whole purpose of their filing these political charges," he said.

The U.S. Senate election will top the general election ballot. Under state law and party rules, Jan. 3 is the deadline for candidates to file for office for the March 8 primary elections.

Although the senator's lawyers have said they want a speedy trial, it appears unlikely that one would be held before the filing deadline.

Democrats join move to impeach Gov. Walters

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — State Rep. Bill Paulk of Oklahoma City and three other Democrats filed a resolution Friday calling for an impeachment inquiry of Gov. David Walters.

House Resolution 30 is almost identical to one filed Nov. 22 by House Republican leader Larry Ferguson, R-Cleveland.

It was filed the day after a multi-county grand jury urged lawmakers to initiate impeachment proceedings against Walters, saying his office has been "compromised" by his guilty plea to a campaign law violation.

Listed with Paulk as co-authors were Reps. Howard Cotner of Altus, Ed Crocker of Norman and Gary York of Blanchard.

House Democrats, who outnumber Republicans 70-30, are to caucus at 1 p.m. Monday on the Walters case.

So far, there has been no clear signal from House leaders on their position on impeachment.

"All the roadblocks to impeachment have been removed," Paulk said in reference to the grand jury issuing its final report and the Supreme Court throwing out a senator's lawsuit alleging Walters violated his oath of office.

"Now it's time for the Legislature to act. This matter needs to be resolved, one way or the other," Paulk said.

After issuing its report, some jurors urged Walters to resign. But the governor said he would not quit because it would set a "dangerous precedent" of governors giving in to "those foes who try to win by manipulating the court of public opinion."

House Speaker Glen Johnson, D-Okemah, has had little to say about the matter, other than legislators will perform their constitutional duties.

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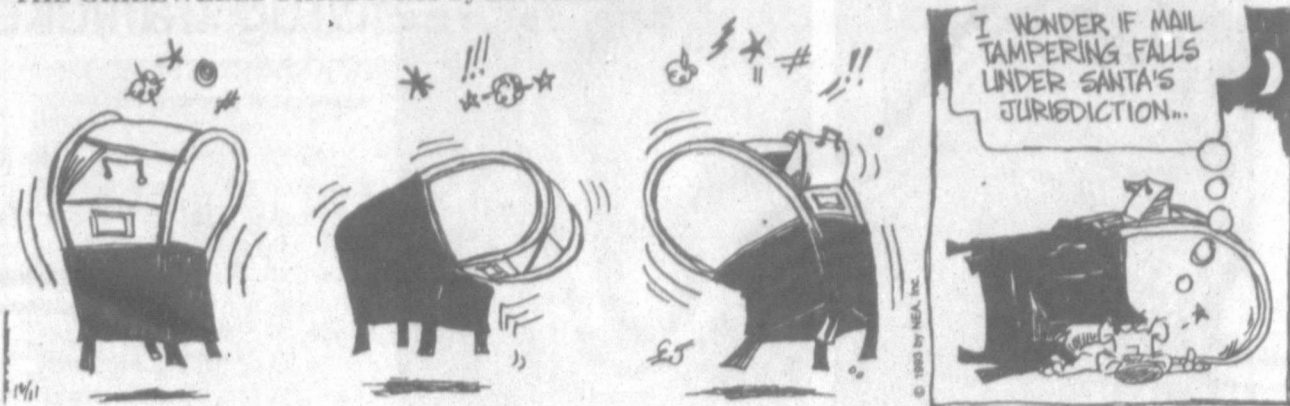


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Snag found in solution to famous math problem

By MALCOLM RITTER
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Here's some news that anybody who tries to balance a checkbook can appreciate: A mathematician who recently claimed to have solved the world's most famous math problem now says he's hit a snag.

Andrew Wiles, a Princeton University math professor, made headlines in June when he presented an apparent proof of Fermat's last theorem in a series of lectures in Britain.

Wiles said last week on a computer network bulletin board that experts reviewing his 200-page argument found a problem that he had not yet solved.

"I believe that I will be able to finish this in the near future using the ideas explained in my Cambridge lectures," he wrote.

Peter Sarnak, a Princeton math professor, said Wiles' problem was "a local difficulty" in the lengthy work.

"A proof has to be airtight, and the thing is not completely airtight, but nobody really feels this is going to be the end," Sarnak said. Wiles' basic approach appears strong enough to work, he said.

When Sarnak was asked whether he was confident the problem would be solved, he said that only Wiles "has the intuition behind these complicated arguments" and "only his view is really important here."

Ken Ribet, a math professor at the

University of California, Berkeley, said "most people think that the problem will be solved. ... It's just a question of technique to get it right."

A proof for the theorem proposed by 17th-century French mathematician Pierre de Fermat has eluded mathematicians for more than 350 years.

The theorem states that if "n" represents any whole number larger than two, then there is no solution to the equation "x to the nth power plus y to the nth power equals z to the nth power" if x, y and z are positive whole numbers.

Fermat scribbled in the margin of a book that he had a proof but didn't have enough room to describe it. No such proof has been found.

Massachusetts governor signs gay youth rights law

BOSTON (AP) — Gay people have new protection against discrimination in public schools through a measure Gov. William Weld signed into law Friday.

"We hope that the bill's passage here is going to signal a whole new frontier in the gay rights movement," said David LaFontaine, who heads the Governors Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth.

Some school systems have gay rights policies, but no other state has adopted such a law, which flatly bans discrimination against gays in schools, said the group Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, which is based in Washington.

In 1989, Massachusetts became the second state, behind Wisconsin, to enact a gay rights law that banned discrimination against homosexuals in housing, credit and employment.

"The governor feels schools should be places where students can learn. No one should be discriminated against based on their sexual preference," said Virginia Buckingham, a Weld spokeswoman.

Weld made a low-key announcement of the bill signing at a news conference on another issue. LaFontaine said some gay youth who worked in support of the legislation were disap-

pointed he didn't hold a formal ceremony.

LaFontaine, also political director of the state Coalition of Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights, said the law will open all school activities to gay students. He also said harassment cases could be taken to court.

"Gays will be able to sue school systems that are failing to protect their safety, and it's the rare school system at this point that is a safe place for gay students," LaFontaine said.

Many students have been prohibited by principals and school districts from organizing gay and lesbian student groups, he said.

"We're going to be making a big push to encourage students to go to their senior prom this year,"

LaFontaine said. "We're going to attempt to make a legal case that when a school teaches health or sex education they're obligated to include gay and lesbian issues."

Weld, a Republican, said it was "an unanswered question" whether gay students could sue "upon alleging that the atmosphere at a school had become intolerable."

Opponents of gay rights condemned Weld's "total subservience to the homosexual lobby."

"The next step is homosexual programs in public schools that specifically affirm the gay lifestyle, and that will be done at taxpayer expense," said C.J. Doyle, director of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights.

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Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill
CARSON (WEST PANHANDLE) Conoco, Inc., #1R A.F. Bennett (650 ac) 1320' from North & West line, Sec. 6,5,B&B, 3 mi south from Deal, PD 3100' (3817 NW Expressway, Okla. City, OK 73112) Replacement well for #1 A.F. Bennett

HANSFORD (WILDCAT & COLLARD Fl. Riley) Jones Energy, Ltd., #2 Dunniho '40' (641 ac) 467' from North & East line, Sec. 40,4-T,T&NO, 4.5 mi NE from Spearman, PD 4000' (221 West 6th., Austin, TX 78701)

HANSFORD (WILDCAT & COLLARD Fl. Riley) Jones Energy, Ltd., #2 Dunniho '40' (641 ac) 480' from North & East line, Sec. 40,4-T,T&NO, 4 1/2 mi NE from Spearman, PD 4000'

HARTLEY (WILDCAT & LATHAM CANYON Granite Wash) Benson-McCormack & Company, #1 Vernon Reif (160 ac) 1980' from North & 660' from West line, Sec. 109,48,H&TC, 7 mi N-NW from Hartley, PD 6800' (1616 S. Kentucky, Bldg. C-305, Amarillo, TX 79102)

MOORE (PANHANDLE & WEST PANHANDLE) Kerr-McGee Corp., #C2R McDowell '40' (641 ac) 330' from South & 660' from West line, Sec. 15,M-16,AB&M, 13 mi SE from Sunray, PD 3600' (Box 25861, Okla. City, OK 73125)

SHERMAN (TEXAS HUGOTON) Wood B. & Bettie Craig, #1 W.C. Partnership (603 ac) 660' from South & East line, Sec. 10,3-T,T&NO, PD 3300' (HCR-3, Sunray, TX 79086)

Application to Re-Enter
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Morrow) Union Oil Co. of Calif., #1-20 Fillingim (640 ac) 1867' from South & West line, Sec. 20,M-1,H&GN, 8 mi west from Allison, PD 15600' (Box 4551, Houston, TX 77210)

Gas Well Completions
HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) UMC Petroleum Corp., #5-156 State, Sec. 156,41,H&TC, elev. 2259 gr, spud 8-29-93, drlg. compl 9-13-93, tested 11-1-93, potential 2400 MCF, rock pressure 1044, pay 7066-7219, TD 7461', PBTD 7454' —

LIPSCOMB (BRADFORD Cleveland) Samson Resources Co., #3-A R.C. Bradford, Sec. 686,43,H&TC, elev. 2558 gr, spud 9-19-93, drlg. compl 10-1-93, tested 11-11-93, potential 11247 MCF, rock pressure 1898, pay 7569-7670, TD 7800', PBTD 7702' —

MOORE (TEXAS HUGOTON) Phillips Petroleum Co., #2RA Schroeter, Sec. 30,2-T,T&NO, elev. 3629 kb, spud 9-14-93, drlg. compl 9-19-93, tested 11-1-93, potential 12.9 MCF, rock pressure 60.7, pay 3184-3218, TD 3362', PBTD 3228' —

POTTER (WEST PANHANDLE) Seagull Midcon, Inc., #17 Bivins 'D', Sec. 56,2,G&M, elev. 3441 kb, spud 10-1-93, drlg. compl 10-19-93, tested 11-8-93, potential 3000 MCF, rock pressure 58.6, pay 2520-3186, TD 3186' —

ROBERTS (WEST LIPS Cleveland) Amoco Production Co., #34 Lips Ranch 'B' Unit 14, Sec. 168,C,G&M, elev. 2999 gr, spud 8-27-93, drlg. compl 9-8-93, tested 10-27-93, potential 3020 MCF, rock pressure 1645, pay 6728-6764, TD 6900', PBTD 6850' —

ROBERTS (WEST LIPS Cleveland) Amoco Production Co., #3 W.B. McIntire 'B', Sec. 2,R,P,W. Lampkin, elev. 3032 gr, spud 10-1-93, drlg. compl 10-17-93, tested 11-9-93, potential 1700 MCF, rock pressure 1764, pay 6685-6760, TD 8810', PBTD 6944' —

ROBERTS (N.W. MENDOTA, S.W. Granite Wash) Seagull Midcon, Inc., #6-4 Flowers 'A', Sec. 4,—,B,S&F, elev. 2886 kb, spud 7-15-93, drlg. compl 8-18-93, tested 11-1-93, potential 23000 MCF, rock pressure 2548, pay 9720-10517, TD 10700', PBTD 10613' —

Plugged Wells
WHEELER (PANHANDLE) Mutual Oil of America, Inc., Jackson, Sec. 11,27,H&GN (oil) — for the following wells:

#4, spud 8-20-36, plugged 10-25-93, TD 2320' — Form 1 filed in North Fork Oil
 #11, spud 9-30-61, plugged 11-4-93, TD 2300' — Form 1 filed in Johnny Grims
 #12, spud unknown, plugged 10-19-93, TD 2278' — Form 1 filed in Johnny Grims

No, Virginia, money doesn't grow on Christmas trees

By VIVIAN MARINO
 AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For families whose children think money grows on trees — particularly the decorated evergreen variety — the holidays may be more stressful than joyful.

But they also can provide the best opportunity all year to teach youngsters about money and to introduce them to the world of investing through gifts of stocks, bonds and other financial products.

"This season is a perfect time if you haven't already started to discuss money," said Neale S. Godfrey, who heads the Children's Financial Network in Mountain Lakes, N.J., which produces educational teaching materials.

"No. 1, kids are bombarded with commercials, and No. 2, there's the feeling in terms of having to keep up with the Joneses. It doesn't matter what socio-economic group you're in."

Without sounding like Schrooge, parents must convey to children the importance of setting financial limits and of making choices. It also wouldn't hurt if they followed their own advice when making holiday purchases.

"You might say, 'Sure, you can have the \$100 sneakers or computer game, but you can't have much else,'" said Godfrey, also co-author of the recently published book *Money Doesn't Grow on Trees*.

"You have to be satisfied with the finite amount. That's the real message."

One place to start is the Christmas wish list, which may be long enough to wallpaper a room or two in some households.

"Ask the child which three items are most important; they can circle them or underline them," said Bonnie Drew, author of *Money Skills: 101 Activities to Teach Your Child About Money*. "And ... ask them to make a list for what they want to give, so they begin to think about their contribution. Maybe it can be something they can make or do."

What about the younger child who believes there's a Santa carrying around a bottomless sack of goodies?

"Tell them, 'Santa has so many people that he has to cover ... and he has to have a budget and stick to it.' That's how we cover the Santa Claus thing," Godfrey explained.

Older children also should be taught to maintain a budget. Some financial experts suggest the envelope approach: putting aside a certain amount for each person for whom they want to buy a gift.

Paul Richard, who runs the National Center for Financial Education, a non-profit San Diego, Calif., group that distributes educational games and publications, says parents should avoid merely handing out money.

"They (the children) should get money for their shopping from their

allowance, doing household chores for extra money. And we never tie the allowance to basic chores," Richard said.

Children also need to learn comparison shopping. "Differentiate between a shopping trip and a spending trip. Try to compare prices, quality and value, then go back and buy the item," Richard said.

One interesting gift mix — particularly for the older child — can be stocks, bonds, mutual funds, even cash, given along with the Barbies, video games and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers.

"I don't think you'd win the favorite aunt or uncle award. But you can teach them an important lesson ... and they'll appreciate it when they get older," said Nathan, associate editor of *Zillions* magazine, a children's version of *Consumer Reports*.

Nathan recommends starting off simple with bank investments, such as certificates of deposit, or U.S. savings bonds, which can be bought for as little as \$25 at most financial institutions.

She also notes that some mutual funds will allow initial investments starting at around \$250, while a few others set no minimum.

Another gift idea is to purchase a share or two of stock, which children can then follow throughout the year. It doesn't come cheap through the usual channels, but if you have an established relationship with a broker-

age firm or bank, you might be able to get the usual fees waived as a courtesy.

Other options are to transfer a share you already own into the child's name or contact the investor relations department of a company.

Some companies, such as Texaco Inc., as well as many utilities, let you buy initial shares directly from them. Many more offer dividend reinvestment plans that allow for periodic additional purchase of shares without brokerage commissions, sometimes at a discount.



Food For Thought
 By
 Danny Bainum

Seafood and pasta, yes! Cook shrimp in a large pot of boiling water for about a minute. Use a slotted spoon to transfer them to a colander, then cook pasta in the same water! Drain well, then toss shrimp, pasta and thinly sliced bell peppers in flavorful pesto sauce.

Warm pineapple "sandwiches" start with 1/4-inch slices, an X cut in each core. Top with a mixture of chopped nuts, dates and sweetened cream cheese. Cover with more slices. Brush with brown sugar and orange juice and broil about 3 inches from heat, 5 minutes a side.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released and has okayed soft-boiled eggs. Cooked egg white should be opaque but not hard. Raw eggs are still a no-no, because of the threat of salmonella.

To celebrate the 80th birthday of Julia Child, 30 chefs from all over the world gathered in Los Angeles to prepare a special dinner in her honor that benefitted the food-and-wine study organization she founded. They called her "the lady of the century."

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County workers receive delayed funds

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) — About 150 employees from a defunct county agency have received more than \$1 million in refunds from a retirement account after fighting for nearly a year to get the money.

Meanwhile, 11 former county workers have filed a breach of contract lawsuit, alleging that Hidalgo County Judge J. Edgar Ruiz and other officials mishandled the pension funds and withheld account information from employees.

The workers had been trying to retrieve their money since the commissioners court decided in March to abolish the Department of Community Affairs and to build a new agency from scratch.

Ruiz, who spent six months as the agency's self-appointed executive director, said the money had been in a trust fund collecting interest since July, when the plan was terminated and the department was dismantled.

The refunds could not be produced until Friday, he added, because the agency was auditing the accounts.

"I don't think it's been maliciously intended," Ruiz said. "We, as a government, have to be cautious."

The lawsuit filed last month accuses county and agency officials of repeatedly withholding personal account information from the plaintiffs during the months that followed the agency's adoption of a new retirement plan in January 1993.

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Minding your own Business

By Don Taylor



Customer batting average

(Last of Two Parts)

Last week we introduced you to an important business statistic called your Customer Batting Average (CBA). You can calculate your CBA by counting the number of customers who visit your business during a period. You then divide that number into the number of customers who made purchases. For example, if 200 customers enter your business this week and 126 buy something, your CBA is 0.630 or 63 percent.

We left you in suspense last week by asking you to consider two fictitious business situations involving Joe's Hardware and Mary's Gift and Card Shop. Let's review the situations.

Joe monitored traffic in his store one Thursday and found out that 100 people came in, but only 47 bought something. Though Joe's CBA was only 47 percent, the total sales for the day were \$470 or almost 9 percent above Thursday's average sales volume. We asked if Joe should be concerned.

The second example was Mary's Gift and Card Shop. On a busy Saturday, Mary's staff counted 250 shoppers and added up 200 purchases. Mary's CBA is 80 percent and sales volume for the day was 28 percent above her Saturday average. We asked if Mary should be uneasy about her numbers.

The More You Know

We believe the more you know about your business, the better your chances are of improving it. We also believe you can't improve what you can't — or don't — measure. Making customer counts can be very useful in determining how well your store is performing.

Let's analyze our two examples. Although Joe's sales were above average, he should be concerned when his CBA falls below 90 percent.

According to Ellen Hackney, spokesperson for the National Retail Hardware Association, hardware customers have specific needs when they visit a hardware store. Therefore, owners should expect 99 percent of the traffic to become buyers if the store can meet their needs. Hackney said, "Even allowing for seasonal gift shopping, at least 90 percent of shoppers should become buyers."

Joe should monitor traffic for several more days to see if last Thursday's 47 percent CBA was a fluke. If at least 90 percent of future customers don't become buyers, Joe needs to ask himself these questions: Why didn't customers buy? Was the desired inventory lacking? Were prices too high? Were store personnel unfriendly or not helpful? Was the merchandise old, dirty or displayed poorly?

Mary, on the other hand, has less to be concerned with. Her sales are significantly higher than her daily average and 8 of 10 customers were buyers. This is close to the retail average of 85 percent.

However, Mary does have room for improvement. The 50 customers who came and went without buying represent more than \$600 in potential business.

Three Ways to Grow

There are three ways to grow your business using CBA information. First, you can divide your sales by the number of buyers to compute your average sale per customer. Joe sold \$470 worth of merchandise to 47 customers last Thursday for an average sale of \$10. Mary had \$2,500 in sales to 200 customers for an average sale of \$12.50. Both owners could set a goal to increase their average sale by 10 percent next year.

A second growth goal is to improve your batting average. If 8 of 10 customers are buyers now, aim for 9 of 10 next year. Find out why they didn't buy and make the necessary changes.

The third way to grow your business is to increase the number of prospects or potential buyers. Advertising can help you accomplish this strategy.

Here is the wind-up and the pitch: You can't improve what you don't measure. So start counting customers and figuring your batting average. Then aim a little higher next year.

D&D Club to install its '94 officers

Because of Christmas, the Desk and Derrick Club of Pampa will hold its regularly scheduled meeting one week earlier on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at the Pampa Country Club.

Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., with the dinner and program following at 7 p.m.

Mrs. Nancy Jorren-Gill, 1993 Region V director from Artesia, N.M., will be installing the newly elected 1994 Pampa officers at the December meeting.

Mrs. Gill began her oil and gas career with Harvey E. Yates Co. in Artesia. Today, she operates the family-owned down-hole rod pump company, B&I Pump Co. Inc. in Loco Hills, N.M., serving as secretary-treasurer and office manager.

She has attended various educational classes and seminars through the Permian Basic Graduate Center and the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs. In 1990, she obtained her New Mexico real estate license.

Gill has been a member of Desk and Derrick since 1972. She has held all offices in her local club, chaired several association committees and presently serves as Region V director. In October at the association's convention in Dallas, she was elected to serve as 1994 secretary of the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs for the United States and Canada.

Christmas carol selections will be provided by vocalist Sharon Ward.

Officers of the Pampa Desk and Derrick Club to be installed Tuesday include Norma Briden, IRI International, president; Teresa Snow, Adobe Operating Co., vice president; Scena Snider, Empire Operating Inc., secretary; and Linda Slaybaugh, National Bank of Commerce, treasurer.

Directors for 1994 are Sharon Ward, Adobe Operating Co.; Carol Cofer, IRI International; Ester McAdoo, McAdoodles; and Elaine McDowell, W O Operating Inc. Diane Lumley, W O Operating Inc., will serve as immediate past president.

For reservations, contact Teresa Snow Adobe Operating Inc., at 669-2535 before noon on Monday.

Failed bank depositors win summary judgment

WACO (AP) — More than 300 depositors who lost money when the Leroy Bank failed six years ago have finally won a court judgment, but some hold little hope of actually recouping their funds.

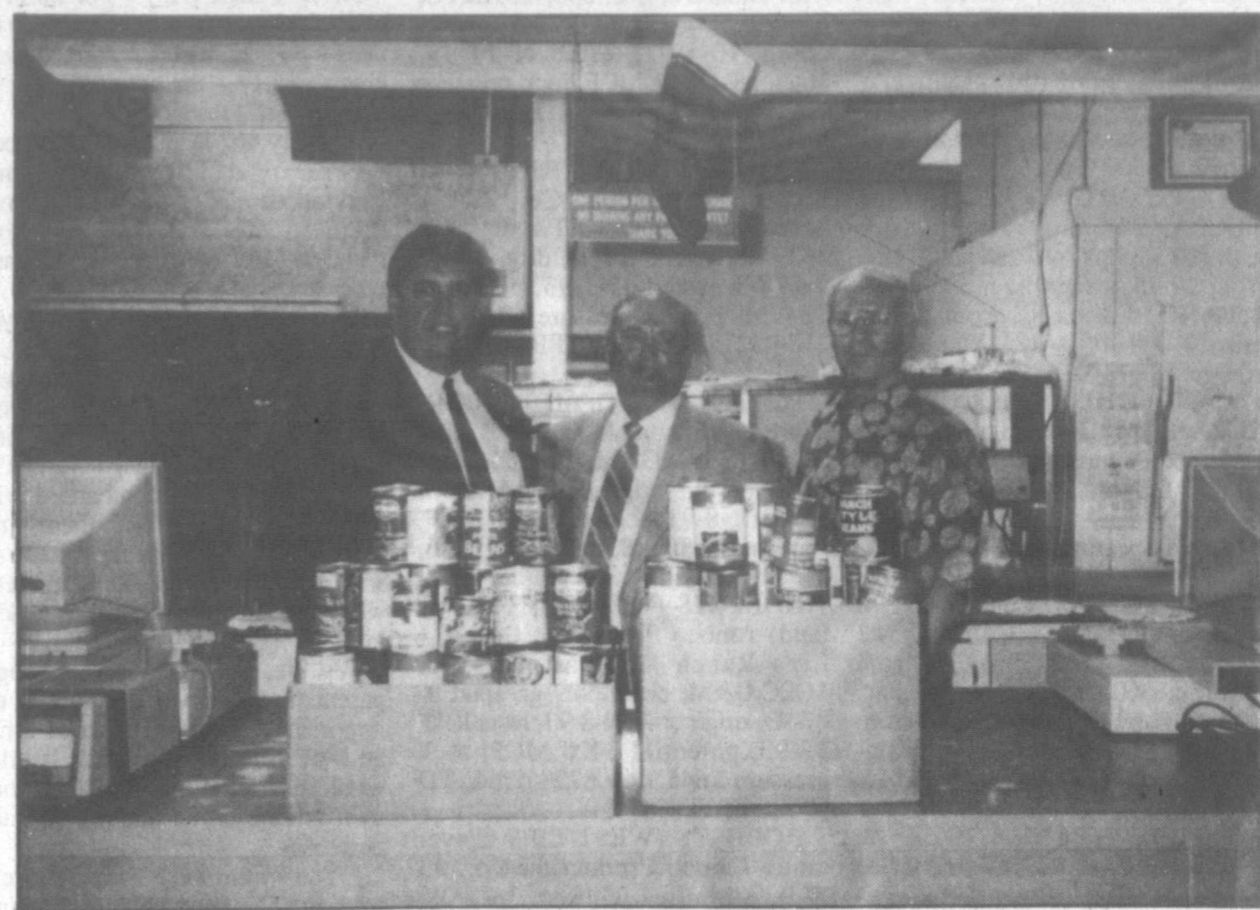
Visiting Judge James F. Clawson Jr. Friday granted a motion for summary judgment in favor of 311 of the more than 1,000 depositors who collectively lost about \$5.5 million when the private, unincorporated bank closed Aug. 7, 1987.

The judgment orders California residents and former Leroy Bank owners Ronald O. Bailey and Bill Tankersly to pay about \$22 million to the 311 depositors. But Waco attorney Bill Vannatta, who represented all but 12 of the depositors, said it was a small victory. "You can get all the judgments in the world and it doesn't help if you can't collect anything," he said.

Bailey and Tankersly failed to respond to Vannatta's motion for summary judgment on behalf of the depositors, clearing the way for Clawson to enter his order.

The judgment orders Bailey and Tankersly to pay \$1.83 million plus \$10 million in punitive damages to Vannatta's clients; \$18,863 to the 12 depositors represented by the state; and \$10 million in punitive damages to the state.

Modern Woodmen food drive



Modern Woodmen of America Camp #15460 had its monthly activity at Mr. Gatti's Pizza in the Pampa Mall on Monday, Dec. 6. In a cooperative effort between Mr. Gatti's and the membership of MWA Camp #15460, approximately 230 cans of food were collected to be donated to the Good Samaritan Christian Services. Looking over some of the canned goods collected during the drive are, from left, Modern Woodmen representatives Kent Meyer and Buddy Epperson, and Rick Massick of Mr. Gatti's Pizza. The collected food will be distributed among Pampa Community Day Care Center, Genesis House, Meals on Wheels, The Salvation Army, Southside Senior Citizens Center and Tralee Crisis Center. (Courtesy photo)

Six pharmacies say 19 drug firms illegally fixed prices

HOUSTON (AP) — Six independent Houston-area pharmacies have filed a lawsuit against 19 drug companies and one large mail-order pharmacy, claiming small drug stores are victims of discrimination and illegal price-fixing.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Galveston, accuses the firms of selling brand-name prescription drugs to them at higher prices than they have sold to hospitals, nursing homes and health maintenance organizations.

At least 45 similar lawsuits have been filed around the country over the past two months, said Aubrey Calvin, attorney with Houston-based Calvin, Gibbs & Verner, which, with New York firms Duker & Barrett and Mary Boies & Associates, filed this lawsuit.

The lawyers said they expect to file similar lawsuits around Texas. They already have had discussions with druggists in Beaumont, San Antonio, Dallas-Fort Worth and in West Texas, he said.

"Many local independent pharmacists and druggists have already been driven out of business while others face certain extinction as a result of these practices," Calvin said.

Sunny Chin, 47, owner of Bob's Apothecary in Houston said he joined the lawsuit to gain a level playing field.

"We want equal footing so we can compete with mail-order prescriptions and (preferred provider organization) plans," Chin said. "We are not looking for financial rewards out of this."

Chin said he has seen the pricing discrepancies firsthand because he worked in a hospital pharmacy in 1971.

Chamber Communique

To register for the Dec. 22nd 500 "JOLLY DOLLARS" drawing, stop by the following participating merchants: Alco Discount Store; Brown's Shoe Fit; C.R. Anthony's; Culberson-Stovars Inc.; Dorman Tire & Service; Dunlap's Department Store; Easy's Liquor Store; Footprints; Images; J C Penney Co.; Kids Stuff; Mr. Gatti's Pizza; Nu-Way Cleaning; Pampa Office Supply; Rheams Diamond Shop; Tarpely's Music Company; Wal-Mart Discount Cities; and Wayne's Western Wear. This Christmas promotion is sponsored by the Chamber Retail Committee.

The Chamber SANTA CLAUS has been found! The suit can be rented from the Chamber of Commerce, for a nominal fee, by calling the Chamber office, 669-3241.

Tuesday — 11:30 a.m. — Chamber Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday — 10:30 a.m. — Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

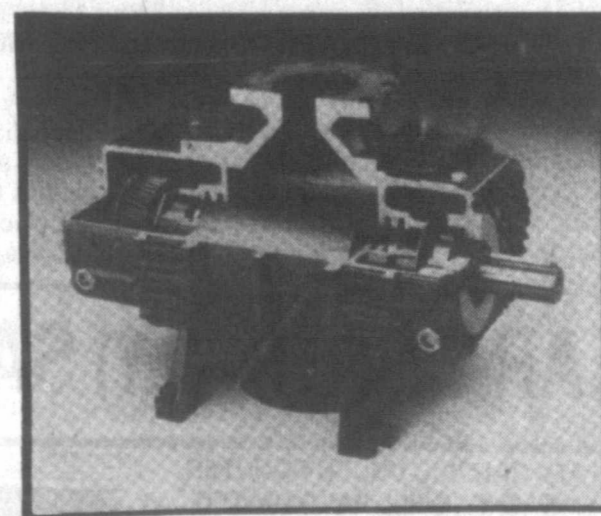
To date, the Chamber of Commerce has sold \$25,925 in PAMPA BUCKS and PAMPA GIFT CERTIFICATES, that can only be redeemed at Pampa Chamber member businesses. What a great "stocking stuffer" to shop Pampa businesses who support the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce!

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Thursday — 10:30 a.m. — Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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Former Raton S&L chief sentenced

ALBUQUERQUE (AP) — A 56-year-old banker sentenced to 5 years for bank fraud has blamed federal regulators for costly delays that harmed his Raton-chartered Liberty Federal Savings and Loan.

William Michael Furman, who owned or controlled 97 percent of the thrift's stock, was sentenced Friday by U.S. District Judge Juan Burciaga.

Furman, of Odessa, Texas, was convicted on the lone bank fraud count as jurors deadlocked on seven counts that alleged he enriched himself with fraudulent loan schemes.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Paula Burnett said Furman worked out arrangements for his debts to be assumed by his partners, knowing they wouldn't be repaid. Taxpayers lost nearly \$700,000 in the single transaction on which Furman was convicted, Burnett said.

But Furman wasn't ordered to pay restitution because of his lack of

funds. He had a court-appointed attorney.

The government and defense attorney Dick Winterbottom negotiated an agreement avoiding a retrial on the other seven counts and limiting areas in which Furman might seek to appeal. If Furman's conviction is overturned on appeal, the government retains the option of retrying him on all counts, Burnett said.

Partner William Straughn pleaded guilty last year and testified at Furman's trial but then disappeared before his own sentencing. Burnett said a fugitive warrant has been issued for Straughn.

Furman is already serving a 6 1/2-year sentence at the federal prison in Safford, Ariz., stemming from a similar conviction in Louisiana.

Burciaga ordered the New Mexico sentence to be served consecutive to the Louisiana term, not concurrent, Burnett said.

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Feminist coalition tries to revive equal rights amendment — again

By KIM I. MILLS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A coalition of women's groups launched yet another drive Friday to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, arguing that a 1982 deadline for ratification was arbitrary and political.

Members of the ERA Summit said since the measure passed 35 of the 38 state legislatures required by 1982, only three more states must pass it to make the amendment law.

"We are aware that it is within the prerogative of Congress to lift that expired deadline so that ratification of three additional states may be secured," said Allie Corbin Hixon, spokeswoman for the ERA Summit.

"With an administration that favors constitutional equality for women, we also believe the time is now favorable to push our suit for justice for all."

Hixon cited the passage last year of the 203-year-old Madison Amendment, which requires that an election intervene between the approval of a congressional pay raise and its effective date.

"We think a concurrent resolution could be passed that says putting a deadline on the (Equal Rights) amendment was in error," she said at a news conference at the Capitol.

The coalition does not yet have sponsors for the proposed resolution, Hixon said.

Until the 18th Amendment establishing Prohibition, Hixon added, no deadline was ever placed on a proposed constitutional amendment.

Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women, said the 12-year Reagan-Bush era was, for women, "like being a hamster in an exercise wheel, running as hard as we could just to stay even."

"We are going to mobilize the movement once again around what has been the Holy Grail of the feminist movement once we won the

right to vote," she said.

Standing in front of a statue of suffragists Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, the ERA Summit members said the United States should be embarrassed that its Constitution excludes women.

"In a country that considers itself a democracy, it continues to say that women are not included, that women can be discriminated against, that women continue to live second-class citizens' lives," said Paula McKenzie, a member of the board of the National Woman's Party.

The Equal Rights Amendment was first introduced in Congress in 1923. The proposed amendment, written by feminist Alice Paul, stated simply: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

The measure failed, but it was reintroduced by modern-day feminists in 1972, and passed both houses with a seven-year limit for ratification by at least 38 states.

The deadline was extended for three years, but elapsed before enough states could pass it.

The ERA has been reintroduced in Congress every two years since, but has never again won the two-thirds support needed to be submitted to the states.

Hixon said the coalition will focus its efforts on the 15 states that failed to ratify the ERA by 1982. She said Virginia, which defeated the ERA by one vote, would be the next state in which there would be an attempt to pass it.

The other prime target states are Illinois, Florida, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Missouri.

Trucking company getting \$100,000 a month despite not hauling waste

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A trucking company that was supposed to haul radioactive waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant for testing is to be paid \$800,000 despite a decision against bringing the waste to WIPP.

The U.S. Department of Energy signed a contract with Dawn Enterprises Inc. of Farmington that pays the trucking firm \$100,000 a month for an eight-month period

starting Nov. 9.

A DOE official said there is little need for the trucks in light of the decision not to bring radioactive waste to WIPP. The official said the department would try to renegotiate the contract to reduce the cost.

The DOE in October canceled the plan to transport small amounts of waste to WIPP for tests. Officials said it would be at least five

years before the shipments are made.

WIPP is a DOE project designed to bury plutonium-contaminated waste from the nation's defense industry 2,150 feet below the surface in salt beds 26 miles southeast of Carlsbad. The repository has yet to open.

The Farmington company maintains a crew of six drivers, two mechanics and a secretary in Carlsbad.

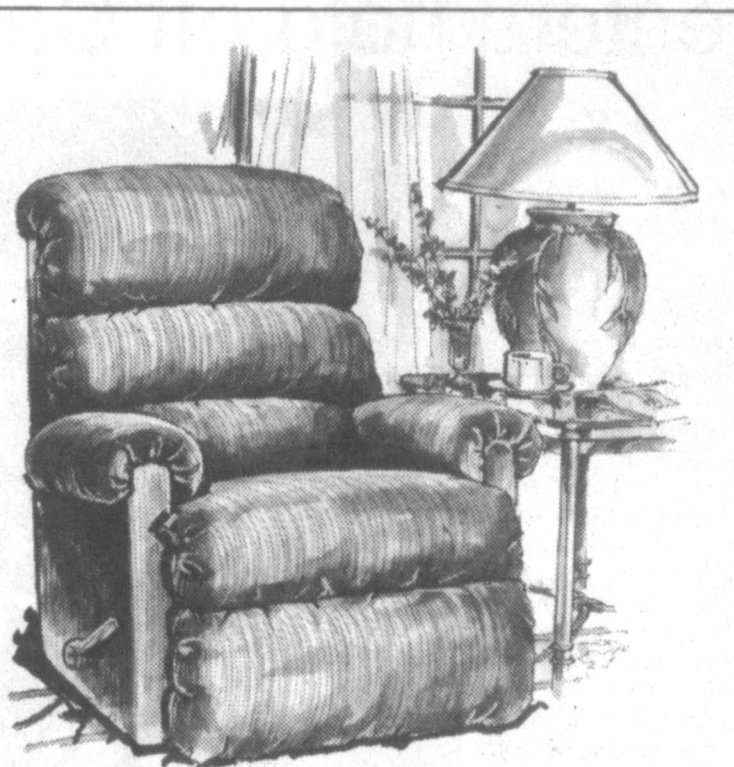
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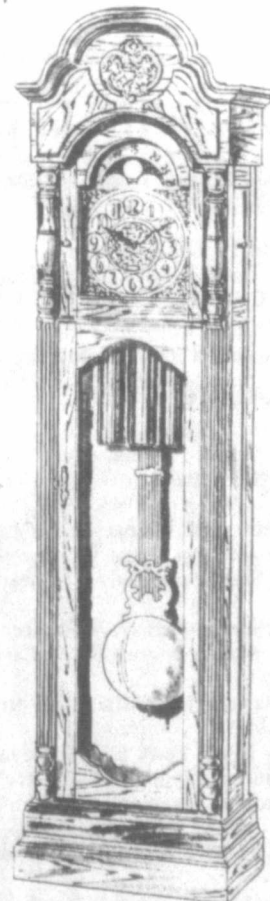
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College football playoff on distant drawing board

An AP Sports Analysis
By DENNE H. FREEMAN
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — The second week of January, NCAA college presidents will be strolling the riverwalk in San Antonio and tasting the wonderful Tex-Mex cuisine which is famous in those parts. During dinner, the college football playoff problem will surface once again. While they linger at the table over margaritas and leisurely smoke their pipes, many of them will decide it's too burdensome a problem to take to work the next day at the convention. Stroking their beards in pensive

reflection, some will argue that extending the college football season will cause severe academic hardship for the degree-seeking athletes.

They miss enough class time as it is, some of the chief executive officers will reason. An extra two weeks of football could cause undue hardship. This is still the prevailing attitude among most college presidents and Jose Cuervo and enchiladas won't change it.

As Jack Lord on Hawaii 5-0 used to say, "You Can Book it, Dano." No action will be taken and the off-season will be punctuated with cries from the wilderness for a true national college champion.

It could happen so easily and so painlessly.

Just take the winners of the four major bowl games, Sugar, Orange, Cotton and Rose. Have the Rose meet the Cotton and the Sugar take on the Orange in the semifinals.

Then play the championship game the next week. Or, if the college presidents had any imagination at all, play it the Saturday before the Super Bowl.

The television ratings would equal the first moon walk.

And the sponsors and advertisers would be paying schools so much money they might be able to balance their budgets and pay for gen-

der equity which has become something of a financial anchor for athletics programs.

Several companies, including Nike, have made lucrative offers that would take care of every NCAA Division I-A school playing football.

It makes no sense to keep deciding the national collegiate football champion by ballot box. Even the lower NCAA divisions decide their championships in playoffs, as does the NAIA.

There have been no reports of severe academic damage to any of the athletes participating in those games. What about basketball? There's

an NCAA basketball championship. Do the basketballers take different curricula than the footballers? •

Even Texas high schoolers, where you don't play if you don't pass, play out a 16-game schedule to the championship.

Many opponents of a playoff say the bowl system would suffer? How? There will always be the minor bowls and the vision of a playoff should help the ratings of each and every bowl.

There's been a big push on to reduce scholarships by the college presidents. This wouldn't even be necessary if they would just adopt a playoff system.

And Title IX wouldn't be about to

bankrupt a lot of athletic departments.

When the college presidents leave San Antonio next month, a college football playoff will still be on some distant drawing board.

But the day will come when the college presidents will have to do something to blot up all the red ink which is prevalent in most athletic programs. There will be so many departments under economic heat the chief executive officers will be forced to do something.

Until then, the collegiate football championship will be decided by the ballots of coaches, sports writers and broadcasters.

Hardly, an exact science.

High school basketball results

Sunray Invitational at Sunray High School

BOYS
second round
White Deer 10 30 39 47
Sunray 17 27 42 50
WD - Sides 18; S - Liles 13.

GIRLS
White Deer 8 21 28 36
Sunray 3 18 30 44
WD - Lanham 13; S McDowell 13.

Samnorwood Invitational at Samnorwood High School

BOYS
consolation semifinals
McLean 25 41 64 80
Wellington JV 18 26 44 60
M - Northcutt 30; W - Kane 36.

semifinals
Groom 15 23 42 63 71
Sam. 10 22 41 63 73

G - Crowell 17; S - Kindrick 25.

GIRLS
consolation semifinals
Kelton 6 15 21 28
Samnorwood 21 40 55 70
K - Crockett 15; S - Brandon 18

semifinals
Hedley 13 22 44 59
McLean 18 31 44 56
H - White 14; M - Magee 24.

Follett Invitational at Follett High School

BOYS
semifinals
Canadian 17 29 44 56
Miami 11 28 32 41
C - Bivins 20; M - A. Neighbors 24.

GIRLS
consolation semifinals
Miami 12 26 42 53
Tyrone 6 18 26 51

M - Lunsford 14; T - Duvall 15.

semifinals
Beaver, OK 16 31 40 55
Canadian 6 6 23 43
B - Gregg 21; C - VanHooser 21.

Mustang Stampede at Wheeler High School

BOYS
consolation semifinals
West Texas 18 31 57 72
Wheeler 17 29 43 57

WT - Monden 20; W - Ledbetter 22.

GIRLS
semifinals
West Texas 17 22 40 58
Wheeler 6 17 32 48

WT - Thompson 16; W - Nelson 15.



Wheeler girls lost to West Texas in the semifinals of this weekend's Mustang Stampede tournament. The boys' team also fell to West Texas, in yesterday's consolation semifinals. (Pampa News photo by Susan Adeletti)

Falcons rally for 27-24 victory to snap 49ers six-game winning streak

ATLANTA (AP) — San Francisco's march to the doorstep of another NFC West title ran aground Saturday when the 49ers blew a 17-point fourth-quarter lead that kept Atlanta's playoff hopes alive. Norm Johnson, who saw his string of 26 consecutive field goals end in the first half, kicked two in the final 2:12, from 47 and 37 yards, as the Atlanta Falcons rallied for a 27-24 victory, snapping the 49ers six-game winning streak.

The 49ers (9-4) could have moved within a victory of clinching their fourth division crown in five seasons under coach George Seifert, and this one appeared to be safely in hand after Steve Young built a 24-7 lead with a 10-yard scoring run with 2:22 left in the third quarter.

Atlanta rallied behind the passing of Bobby Hebert and the fumbling of San Francisco's kick return specialist Dexter Carter. Hebert hit Michael Haynes on a 1-yard touchdown to camp an 80-yard drive 1:23 into the final period. Less than seven minutes later, Andre Rison hauled in his second touchdown catch from Hebert, a 6-yarder set up when Carter muffed Harold Alexander's punt.

Charles Washington recovered the ball in the end zone, but the muff ruling gave Atlanta possession on the San Francisco 6. The score to Rison came on the third play, cutting the lead to 24-21. Atlanta stopped the Niners, forcing a punt that gave the Falcons possession on their 38. Hebert's pass tipped by Mike Pritchard into the arms of David Sims netted 17 yards and a first down on the 49ers 34, setting up Johnson's 47-yarder that tied the game with 2:12 to play. Carter was stripped of the ball on the following kickoff on a hit by Darion Conner, with Ken Tippins recovering on the San Francisco 18.

Hebert fell forward into the line for three plays and Johnson came in to kick the game-winning 37-yarder with 28 seconds to play. Deion Sanders picked off Young's pass after that and Atlanta ran out the clock. The Niners had built the lead on Young's 6-yard scoring pass to Amp Lee in the first quarter, a 3-

yard run by Tom Rathman in the second and a 32-yard field goal by Mike Cofer, also in the second. San Francisco missed a score on its first possession, driving 58 yards to the Atlanta 20 before Sanders cut in front of Jerry Rice for an interception one yard deep in the end zone.

Westminster shuts out Hardin-Simmons to advance to NAIA Division II finals

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. (AP) — Andy Blatt ran for 104 yards and a touchdown Saturday, and Westminster, Pa., advanced to the NAIA Division II finals for the fourth time in six years with a 10-0 win over Hardin-Simmons.

The closest Hardin-Simmons (10-3) came to scoring was the Westminster 9 with the score 3-0 in the second quarter. Craig Villwock blocked Rusty Oglesby's field goal, Oglesby recovered and the Titans stopped him 2 yards short of a first down.

Aldrich Jones stopped a third-quarter Cowboys' drive at the Westminster 33 with an interception of Kevin Beam. Beam, who entered the game with 2,951 passing yards, completed 15 of 31 for 184 yards against the division's second-best pass defense.

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WACO (AP) — Jerod Douglas scored four touchdowns and rushed for a title game record 245 yards Saturday, carrying Converse Judson to its second straight Class 5A Division I state football championship with a 36-13 victory over the Plano Wildcats.

The All-time Texas schoolboy rushing record for a championship game is 296 held by Eric Dickerson of Sealy. It was the fourth state title for the Rockets (13-0-2).

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P195/70R14	\$70.25	P215/65R15	\$79.75

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Annette Brown

Vietnamese harvest war scrap metal for survival

By BRUCE STANLEY
Associated Press Writer

GIO LINH, Vietnam (AP) — Farmers in Vietnam's poorest province are fighting to survive their worst drought in 80 years by scavenging live American ammunition remaining from the Vietnam War.

Eight months of withering heat destroyed most of this year's rice crop for some 350,000 residents of Quang Tri province in central Vietnam. Two months of rain followed, but came too late.

Many families face possible starvation. To survive they pick up scrap metal left from the war, including unexploded bombs and artillery shells that have maimed and killed scores of farmers.

Quang Tri province straddles the former demilitarized zone that once divided Vietnam into a communist North and a pro-American South. As the scene of some of the war's fiercest battles, including Khe Sanh and Hamburger Hill, Quang Tri was a military junkyard when the war ended in 1975.

"I don't care what type of job it is, I'll do anything I can," said Nguyen Thi Doai, a scrap metal trader in Gio Linh, 280 miles south of Hanoi. "At least when I do this business, I can reduce the amount of junk left over from the war."

Doai and her husband started last month to buy metal from local scavengers and sell it to foundries. Their front-yard scrap heap is one of two in Gio Linh that started operating after the drought began in January.

One of Doai's suppliers is Nguyen Thi An, a rice farmer who said this year's crop failure forced her to work full time in the metal trade. As An spoke, she emptied a gunnysack containing rusty shards and a battered shell casing onto a set of scales in Doai's shop.

An buys scrap from another trader, who in turn purchases directly from the "diggers." She earns up to dong 5,000, or the equivalent of 47 cents a day. As the drought got worse, more people started scavenging, and now the best spots in the district have been picked over, An said. She hears that some diggers have been maimed or killed.

One metal casing in good condition sells in Gio Linh for the equivalent of \$2, more than three times the price of other scrap. Local authorities say they warn people to contact local military experts instead of trying to defuse live shells themselves.

But doctors at Quang Tri hospital in Dong Ha, the provincial capital, know the cost for scavengers made desperate by drought.

In a typical year, the former U.S. field hospital treats about 100 patients mutilated by exploding ammunition, says Dr. Huynh Xuan Tin, chief of the intensive care unit. In the first nine months of this year, Tin says he has already seen 115 cases.

An additional 60 people have died on the spot after touching off explosions, he estimates.

"In most cases, the patients didn't want to tell us they were looking for scraps," Tin said. "Maybe they're ashamed of their poverty... They just do this to escape hunger."

Farmers in Quang Tri were struggling even before high temperatures, devastating southwesterly winds, and a 48 percent reduction in rainfall caused rivers and wells to dry up during the first eight months of this year.

"Quang Tri is about the most desolate province I've seen in Vietnam," said Jim Monan, who visited the area in September as a consultant for the aid agency Oxfam Hong Kong.

Furthermore, deforestation from the war has reduced natural water supplies, and salt water spreading inland from the coast has made much of the farmland sterile.

The average annual income in Gio Linh is about \$204, making it one of the country's poorest districts, says Pham Quoc An, vice-chairman of the local People's Committee.

The recent drought wiped out 70 percent of Gio Linh's August and October rice harvests, leaving some 6,000 people close to starvation, and that number could rise to 24,000 by next May if secondary crops of sweet potatoes, peanuts, and other vegetables also fail, he said.

For the entire province, effects of the drought were worse still. Quang Tri lost 86 percent of its rice crop and 70 percent of its secondary crops, according to an official report prepared in August. Provincial officials calculate farm losses at \$5.4 million. Rains finally came in September and October, but there was little left to save.

Farmers say its the worst drought in Quang Tri for some 80 years, and that some have few options but to buy and sell scrap metal.

Nguyen Duong, a Gio Linh rice farmer turned scrap trader, estimates more than 3,000 tons of military metal have been taken from his district this year.

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Larry and Linda Starnes

Starnes anniversary

Larry and Linda Starnes, Pampa, are to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary with a family dinner at Dyer's on Monday. It is to be hosted by their children and grandchildren.

Starnes married Linda Edwards on Dec. 14, 1963 in Plainview. They have lived in Pampa 18 years and have owned S&K Builders for 15 years. The Starnes are members of First Baptist Church.

They are the parents of Chris and Lori Starnes and Johnny and Cheryl Malone, Pampa, and have three grandchildren.



Wendel W. and Lyna O. Bolin

Bolin anniversary

Wendel W. and Lyna O. Bolin, Pampa, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary with a family dinner at Dyer's on Dec. 1. It was hosted by their daughter and son-in-law Teresa and Sotero Anguiano, their son and daughter-in-law Wayne and Janet Bolin, and their son and daughter-in-law Darrell and Tonie Bolin, all of Pampa.

Bolin married Lyna O. Jenkins on Dec. 1, 1958 in Pampa, where they have lived the last 35 years. He is a retired painter. She is a clerk at Pak-A-Burger. They are members of Central Baptist Church. They have 10 grandchildren.



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Summers
Melissa Wilson

Wilson - Summers

Melissa Wilson and Michael Summers, both of Broken Arrow, Okla., were married Nov. 6 at Calvary Baptist Church of Broken Arrow by the Rev. J. Stith of the church.

The bride is the daughter of Charles and Patty Wilson, Broken Arrow. The groom is the son of Butch and Gail Summers, Pampa. He is the grandson of Carl and Carolea Summers of Lefors and Joe and Faye Brewer of Pampa.

Maid of honor was Melinda Summers, Broken Arrow. Standing as best man was Chase Day, Broken Arrow. Serving as ushers were Matt Elliff, Cole Giles and Chadd Giles, Pampa, and Shane Hahn, Broken Arrow.

Guests were registered by Amanda Reeves, cousin of the bride, Broken Arrow.

Providing vocal music was Brenda Zedlitz, senior minister of Spirit of Truth Ministries in Pampa.

Following the service, the couple was honored with a reception in the church parlor. Guests were served by Misty Summers, sister of the groom, Pampa, and Jenny and Rebecca Reeves, cousins of the bride, Broken Arrow.

The bride is scheduled to graduate from Broken Arrow High School in 1994. The groom is a 1991 graduate of Pampa High School and attended Tulsa Vo-Tech for two years. He is employed by Blue Bell Creameries in Broken Arrow.

They are making their home in Tulsa.

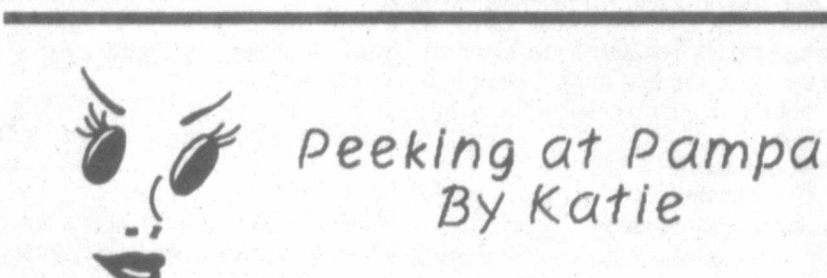
Gold Coats strut their stuff for Christmas

Splash your face with cold water and soak your feet in hot water. In that comfortable state of preparation, we can then take a good look-see around town.

A total of 50 Gold Coats, ambassadors of good will for the Chamber of Commerce, and their spouses held their annual Christmas party in the Pampa Community Building last week. Seleta Chance, Mike Keagy and David Caldwell showed their culinary skills with tasty go-togethers for the meat cooked by John Chaney. For entertainment Wanetta Hill and Donna Caldwell presented the Elementary School Chorus in a short well received concert. The two musicians deserve a round of applause and appreciation for their beyond the call of duty efforts in such a worthwhile cause. Mike, Seleta and Paulette Hinkle will share the pleasant task of filling the needs of several angels from the Salvation Army's Angel Tree from money given in lieu of a gift exchange.

Richard Morris is the president, Jerry Foote, president-elect and Ken Rheams is vice president-elect. Gold Coats do a superb job as a welcoming organization for the Chamber.

Lynn Snider had no choice but to make a birthday card for her mother, JoAnn Knutson. The card, containing 10 pages of original poetry, revealed that JoAnn and her three daughters, Lynn of Pampa, LaDonna McCoy and Laurie Knutson of Amarillo, would make a girls only



Peeking at Pampa
By Katie

trip to Las Vegas for the mom's birthday gift. Maybe the date has not been set, but anticipation of the trip is plenty high.

Fred Epperly was honored with a retirement party after 31 years of service with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in Amarillo last Friday. Fred and Dana's daughter Cyndi Hassell flew in from Arkansas for the party and to spend a few days at home. Tom Spencer and Zip Swaney of the Pampa helped with details. Cameras clicked and incidents, most of them funny, were recalled. Latrelle Shaw presented an award and a scrapbook before guests from Pampa, Amarillo, Gruver, Borger, Abilene, Lubbock and Dallas. According to Fred, retirement is wonderful!

If you think the new face lift at Citizens Bank and Trust is ritzy, do go inside and feast your eyes on some beautiful decor and up to date changes. It's uptownish and something for Pampa to be proud of.

Congratulations to Jeff and Brenda Leigh on the birth of their first child, a little girl named Shannon.

Eunice McMillan enjoys her retirement from First National Bank in volunteer work at Coronado Nursing Home in the weekly Bible study provided by ladies of Central Baptist Church and on another day in helping residents do crafts.

A birthday club of ladies from First Baptist Church met for their monthly dinner party recently in the home of Betty Lou Marak. Enthusiasm has lasted through the past five years of the club's existence for honoring at least two members each month, not necessarily correlated to their birthday months. Picture the hilarious laughter when 17 to 22 gals read 17 to 22 funny cards.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Rapstine hosted a party last weekend for teachers and employees of Travis School.

Linda and Dr. Jay Johnson, Laura and Anna are getting settled in their new home in time for Christmas enjoyment.

R.C. Parker vowed in his retirement that he will relax and enjoy life with a little travel thrown in for good measure. He retired as a

Texas Highway Patrolman before serving as justice of the peace and finally as a bailiff. Sounds like a well deserved retirement this time.

Peggy Baker spent three weeks recently on a tour of Spain and Portugal and Morocco with some friends from Mexico, Maria Elana Sosa and daughter Lucera, who met her in Houston. Several Pampans will remember Mary Elana as a tour guide on a tour of Mexico a few years back. This weekend Peggy is in San Antonio visiting a couple of granddaughters and families and celebrating the birthday of one, Shana Harden, a former Pampan.

Donna and Dean Burger, Geneva and Bill Tidwell are only a few Pampans who attended the National Rodeo Finals in Las Vegas last week.

Charlene and Roy Morris spent the past week in the Austin area on a past Thanksgiving vacation with Charlene's mom Alpha Carter and sister Edith Flinn and husband Jack. Cliff and Joyce Scott spent a few days with Cliff's daughter Mickey. Betty Scott spends her nights on a lung ventilator and not an iron machine, as reported last week.

The cast and crew of "The Nutcracker" did a terrific job as usual of bringing to life Tchaikovsky's Christmas classic. Little Meredith Hendricks-Young was a lovely Clara and Chris Shaffer was a mighty handsome Fritz. Weeks of rehearsal paid off before an appreciative audience.

See you next week. Katie.

4-H Futures & Features

DATES

12 — 5-H club meeting, 3 p.m., Lefors School cafeteria

Top of Texas Jacket Show, Bull Barn

Ambassadors club meeting, 2 p.m., 2742 Cherokee

Horse project Christmas party, Annex

13 — Fashion Club meeting, 7 p.m., Annex

14 — Prime Swine meeting, 6 p.m., Community Christian Center

Rabbit Raiders meeting, 7 p.m., Annex

16 — Dog Project meeting, 7 p.m., Bull Barn

19 — Showmanship Clinic, 2 p.m., Bull Barn

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Panhandle District 4-H Council will host a Christmas party 1-4 p.m. Saturday in the War Memorial Building in Panhandle. All 4-H youth ages 13 and older are welcome to attend. Everyone should bring a \$5 unisex gift to exchange and a snack. Dress is casual.

STATE 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

4-H members in the third grade through 19 years of age may enter photographs in the state 4-H photography competition. Photographs must have been taken by the 4-H members during the 1993-94 4-H year (June 1, 1993-April 1994). Entries must be in the form of prints or enlargements, color or black and white, and mounted on white poster-board.

Entry classes include: people (portraits or candid); animals (domestic, zoo, wildlife); landscape, flora, and scenic; humor; and promote 4-H (pictures that capture 4-H members or leaders in action, demonstrate 4-H programs or activities, and communicate the meaning of 4-H). Negatives must be submitted with photos.

Photography entries are due in the State 4-H Program office by May 2. A local deadline will be determined later. For more information, contact the Extension office.

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

The 4-H photography project is now officially organized! The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 10. It is not too late to join! 4-H'ers in the project need to take one roll (12 exposure) color prints of still life. Bring the pictures (developed) to the January meeting.

4-H CONSUMER PROJECT

The 4-H Consumer Life Skills project will be organizing soon after the first of the year. If you are interested in being a part of the project or learning more about the project, call the Extension office soon.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship application materials have arrived! 4-H members who are graduating seniors and are interested in applying for the scholarships may pick up the materials in the Extension office.

Did you know?

If all Earth's water fit in a gallon jug, available fresh water would equal just over a tablespoon — less than half of 1 percent of the total, says *National Geographic*.

The typical U.S. household uses about 100 gallons of water per person per day, while two-thirds of the people in the world use less than 13 gallons each.

The United States uses three times as much water a day — 1,300 gallons per person — as the average European country and astronomically more water than most developing nations.

Earth has virtually the same amount of water today as it did when dinosaurs roamed the planet, but only 3 percent of the water is fresh, and two-thirds of that is ice, notes *National Geographic*.

Bridal Registry

Ketha Clark-Mike Clayton
Brandi Eads-Charles Killebrew
Amy Heard-Chris Steele
Jennifer Leathers-Sean Hardman
Tonita Stefanatos-Jerod Cox
Their selections are at

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Couple wants wedding bells to ring again - 10 years later

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are planning to renew our wedding vows on our 10th anniversary, but we don't know where to start. Our first wedding was such a rush and poorly organized. Here are some questions I had in mind:

1. How do we walk down the aisle? Individually or as a couple? How about the best man and the bridesmaid, etc.?
2. Do we exchange rings again - also, does the best man carry the rings?
3. Can we send out as many invitations as we want to? How do we write them, and when should they be mailed?
4. About my gown: I would like to wear velvet. Where can I buy one, or have one made? Or will a bridal shop do it to my satisfaction?
5. What are the colors I can use? My original color was lavender - can I change the color if I wish?



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

6. Could I possibly change my wedding date to the summer instead of having it in December as it originally was?
7. We never had a honeymoon. We would love to go to Hawaii, but my husband will not travel on a plane. What should we do?
8. What does a travel agency really do? Can they help to cut the costs, and do they give estimates for free?

Our anniversary is a year from now, but I know the time will go very fast, and it takes a long time

to plan and budget money for our second honeymoon. I will really appreciate any help you can give me. The reason our wedding was in December was because I was expecting, and the baby was due in February. So please do not publish my name or location.

RENEWING OUR VOWS

DEAR RENEWING: There is no "right way" or "wrong way" to renew one's wedding vows. It can be done as formally as a church ceremony (white dress and all) - or as casually as giving a party, inviting a clergyman, and verbalizing your love and commitment to each other in the privacy of your living room, surrounded by loving friends and family.

You may walk down the aisle together on the arm of your husband, or, if you prefer, he may wait for you to join him at the altar, as is traditional at first weddings. If you opt for the more formal, traditional

style, your best man and bridesmaid will have preceded you. If you wish to exchange rings again (either the same rings or new ones), the best man should have them in his possession.

You can send as many invitations as you wish. Your local printer can help you select the style and wording. Allow six to eight weeks for the invitations to be produced, and one month to mail them out and get responses.

Wear whatever style you wish, in whatever fabric you favor. However, if you want a traditional bridal gown, a bridal shop is the place to shop. If you are hard to fit, a dressmaker may be preferable - but will probably cost more.

I would advise against changing the date and month of the occasion. Traditionally, wedding vows are repeated on one's anniversary.

Since your husband is afraid of flying, book passage on an ocean liner if you wish to fulfill your dream of a Hawaiian honeymoon. A good travel agency can be very helpful, because it's their business to know how to get the most for your money.

I hope these suggestions prove helpful, and that the occasion is a happy and successful celebration.

Lifestyles policies

1. The Pampa News will not be responsible for photographs used in announcing weddings, engagements, or anniversaries. We reserve the right to refuse publication of photographs of poor quality. Photographs cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or they may be picked up in the office after appearing in the paper.
2. All information must be submitted by **5 p.m. Wednesday**, prior to Sunday insertion.
3. Engagement, wedding, and anniversary news only will be printed on Sunday.
4. Engagement announcements will be published if the announcement is submitted at **least one month before the wed-**

ding, but not more than **three months before the wedding**.

5. Bridal photos and information will not be accepted in **The Pampa News office later than one month past the date of the wedding**.
6. Anniversary announcements will be published for celebrations only of 25 years or more, and will not be published more than **four weeks after the anniversary date**.
7. Information that appears on engagement, wedding and anniversary forms will be used at the discretion of the editor. Forms are available from the office 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by sending a SASE to The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198

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(AP Photo) Broom maker Frank Hrupsa holds up some of the brooms that he makes at his home near Mastens Corner, Del. Hrupsa, 77, continues a handcraft brought to American by his father, a Czech immigrant.

Broom maker continues father's Czech traditions

By THERESA HUMPHREY
Associated Press Writer

MASTENS CORNER, Del. (AP) — Ain't nothin' like a handmade broom. It's made of homegrown broom straw. Got fine bristles on the end to catch all the dirt and lint. Store it properly, it can last 20 years.

Now, if Frank Hrupsa made it, you can bet the straw was grown on a quarter-acre plot on his farm. Next to the plot is the workshop where Hrupsa makes his brooms — wrapping and sewing the straw on a contraption about 4 feet high and about as wide as a child's wagon.

Hrupsa, 78, is one of only two known active broom makers in southern Delaware, where artisans of all types, from blacksmiths to whittlers to basket makers, have kept alive the state's ties to its colonial past.

A shoe repairman and farmer by trade, Hrupsa learned his broom-making skills from his father, a Czechoslovakian immigrant, who made a much cruder version that he would give away to neighbors.

"He'd take a bunch of straw and run a stick in it," Hrupsa said. "He would drive it in there and put a nail in there to hold it in position."

Hrupsa's contraption holds the broom handle in place, parallel to the floor at about chest level. Hrupsa takes three fistfuls of straw, one at a time, and secures them around the end of the wooden broom handle with wire. Electric fence wire works well.

"It's a slow process. It takes me about three-quarters of an hour to make a broom. Some people can go faster. I'm not trying to break any record," he said.

He uses a foot pedal to twist the broom and wrap the wire around the neck. He chuckles when he talks about the exercise he gets in his feet, legs and hands.

Once the straw is in place, he fastens the broom upside down in the contraption and begins to painstakingly sew three rows of stitching across its width with nylon thread.

Hrupsa might paint or varnish the handle and then etch his name in the wood. He lines up the finished products, upside down, along a work counter.

Upright? According to broom aficionados, that's the only way to store them if they're going to last. Or, they could be hung up on a wall. The broom should not be allowed to rest on its bristles on the floor because it bends them, decreasing their ability to clean.

"They last a long while if you take care of them," Hrupsa said.

Anna Massey, 62, will testify to that. She's had a handmade broom for 20 years and won't use anything else. She said they clean better because they're thicker. Besides, her mother always used handmade brooms.

"My mom's didn't last as long because she didn't have a lot of carpet," said Mrs. Massey. She hasn't bought any brooms from Hrupsa, but now she knows where to get one when she needs it.

"I'd pay \$20 for it. After all, that's only a dollar a year," Mrs. Massey said.

Hrupsa, who still gets a kick out of running the big combines on his

500-acre grain farm run by his sons, has been making brooms on a steady basis for 10 years. He took over the craft when his brother, Charlie, died.

Charlie Hrupsa had taken over from their father, Bartos. Hrupsa said he expects his son, Frank, to carry on the craft when he dies.

He sells his creations, from decorative fireplace brooms to the sweep-the-porch kind, at craft fairs and shows throughout the state and Maryland's Eastern Shore. The decorative brooms can go for \$10 to \$14, while the household variety are \$8 or \$10, depending on size.

Hrupsa has made several hundred brooms over the years, knocking out about three a night during the winter. He doesn't sell in stores, but he loves to go to the craft shows and festivals, where he sells and demonstrates broom making.

"It's no fun if you don't get to talk to people," he said. But he does impose limits on where he will showcase his skills.

"If I can't sell, I ain't going," he said.

Be surrounded by mirth not girth during holidays

Holidays are a time of year when the environment is often saturated with food. Events often center around food. For someone with special food needs or just watching their calorie and fat consumption, it can be a difficult time.

Although holiday foods often include an abundance of high-fat choices, planning ahead for a healthy eating strategy can allow you to enjoy your holidays and eat, too.

One of the most important ways to control food intake is preplanning. If a special food event is on the agenda, take this into consideration in planning other meals of the day. "Bank" some calories by eating light for other meals of the day.

If the event is a buffet, several strategies may work. Survey the buffet offerings. Decide to select only a few items, or fill your plate with mini-size portions only once. Walk away from the table and circulate. Standing, talking, and eating near the serving tables makes it too easy to lose track of what you are eating. If the lure of food is too great when it's nearby, find a place to settle that is away from the table, so that it takes effort to grab another bite.

If a dinner party is being held at a later hour than your usual dinner hour, stave off hunger by eating a piece of fruit or something light at your normal eating time. This may help you avoid overeating at dinner or overindulging in hors d'oeuvres. It seems that your host will be offended if you don't go for second servings, select second servings of the foods that are lower in fat and calorie content.

If it's a potluck type of event, be sure that your contribution is a healthy one. If it's an event in a friend's home, call the host and offer to bring a low-fat menu item.

Office parties and the work situation may also be a source of extra food. If co-workers have holiday foods available and you want to enjoy, but not overdo, make a contract with yourself only to eat at certain times of the day, or to only eat in designated places, not constantly in your office or at your desk.

If you are hosting a healthy meal, some basic changes you can offer your guest are a variety of lower-fat, lower-calorie foods along with traditional favorites. Modify recipes using some of the many low-fat choices offered by many of the food processors in response to consumer's concerns about health. Use more oils to replace hydrogenated or solid fats. Baste meats with wine, fruit juice, or broth instead of butter or margarine, or shortening on the pan when baking. Two egg whites can be substituted for a whole egg in most recipes to reduce cholesterol content. Replace buttered bread crumbs on tops of casseroles with crushed cereal. You not only reduce the fat, but you also

increase complex carbohydrates. Another excellent complex carbohydrate source is special recipe, lower fat, or air popped popcorn. Use flavored salts to add flavor and interest to popcorn.

Meat processors are offering a variety of lower fat alternatives for holiday fare. Low-fat varieties of cocktail sausages, lower fat beef or turkey sausages, and lower fat cold cuts are available. Serve process meats on top of a variety of breads with mustard,

horseradish, or low-fat mayonnaise or salad dressing that will add nutrition and flavor with less fat. Add vegetable dippers with low-fat dips to add flavor, nutrition, and interest to holiday snacks. Fruit served with a special dip made with light cream cheese flavored with brown sugar and vanilla also adds interest and flavor to any holiday meal.

Cutting portions for each food group is also important. Select leaner cuts from the (leg/loin) meat group to two 3-ounce portions which is about the size of a deck of cards. A skinless chicken breast is about three ounces also. Choose two or more servings of milk from low-fat choices. One half-cup cooked or one cup of raw vegetables is a serving. Try to eat at least three serving of vegetable and two servings of fruit daily.



Homemakers' News Donna Brauchi

Menus Dec. 13-17

Pampa Meals on Wheels	
Monday	Lima beans and ham, mixed greens, carrots, cookies.
Tuesday	Impossible pie, okra and tomatoes, corn, pineapple.
Wednesday	Oven fry chicken, green beans, spiral macaroni salad, jello.
Thursday	Barbecue beef, potato salad, cole slaw, apricots.
Friday	Chicken patties, macaroni and cheese, pickled beets, applesauce.
Pampa Senior Citizens	
Monday	Chicken fried steak or chicken pot pie; mashed potatoes, spinach, beets; pinto beans; slaw, tossed or jello salad; pineapple pie or coconut cream cake, cornbread or hot rolls.
Tuesday	Smothered steak or kraut and Polish sausage; mashed potatoes, green beans, buttered squash, beans; slaw, toss or jello salad, dump cake or chocolate pie, hot rolls or cornbread.
Wednesday	Roast beef brisket with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, beans, turnip greens, slaw, toss or jello salad, cherry cobbler or lemon cake, hot rolls or cornbread.
Thursday	Oven fried chicken or Swiss steak, country potatoes, corn on the cob, pinto beans, okra, slaw, toss or jello salad, Boston cream pie or banana pudding, hot rolls or cornbread.
Friday	Fried cod fish or beef enchiladas, French fries, broccoli, pinto beans, cheese grits, slaw, toss or jello salad, butterscotch icebox pie or rice pudding garlic bread, cornbread or hot rolls.
Pampa Schools	
Monday	Breakfast: Pancake and sausage, fruit or juice, choice of milk. Lunch: Stew, grilled cheese sandwich, peaches, choice of milk.
Tuesday	Breakfast: Cinnamon toast, fruit or juice, choice of milk. Lunch: Fish sticks, macaroni and cheese, spinach, pineapple, choice of milk.
Wednesday	Breakfast: Rice, toast, fruit or juice, choice of milk. Lunch: Burrito supreme, corn, pears, choice of milk.
Thursday	Breakfast: Scrambled egg, biscuit, fruit or juice, choice of milk. Lunch: Baked ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, applesauce
	cake, hot roll, choice of milk.
	Friday Breakfast: Cereal, toast, fruit or juice, choice of milk. Lunch: Hamburger, burger salad, pickle slices French fries, pudding, choice of milk.
	Lefors Schools
Monday	Breakfast: Pancakes, sausage, cereal, juice, milk, peanut butter. Lunch: Frito pie, salad, ranch beans, cornbread, apricots, milk.
Tuesday	Breakfast: Sausage, biscuits, gravy, cereal, juice, milk, oats. Lunch: Turkey, ham trimmings, dressing, potatoes, green beans, pea salad, fruit salad, rolls, milk, salad bar.
Wednesday	Breakfast: Ham and cheese omelet, cereal, juice, milk, peanut butter. Lunch: Comdogs, macaroni and cheese salad, orange, milk, salad bar.
Thursday	Breakfast: French toast sticks, juice, milk, cereal, peanut butter. Lunch: Fish, oven fries, cole slaw or salad, jellow with fruit, milk, salad bar.
Friday	Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, juice, milk, cereal. Lunch: Hot ham salad, spicy potatoe wedges, salad, tapioca pudding, milk.
	Groom Schools
Monday	Breakfast: Cereal, blueberry muffins, juice, milk. Lunch: Lasagne with meat and cheese, salad, fried okra, breadsticks, peach slices, milk.
Tuesday	Breakfast: Pancakes, peanut butter, syrup, juice. Lunch: Cheeseburgers, French fries, lettuce, onions, pickles, tomatoes, Christmas ribbon cookies, milk.
Wednesday	Breakfast: Breakfast burritos, hash browns, juice. Lunch: Brisket, pinto beans, potato salad, cole slaw, Texas toast with honey, milk.
Thursday	Breakfast: Biscuits, bacon, gravy, juice, milk. Lunch: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, hot rolls, strawberry shortcake, milk.
Friday	Breakfast: Donuts, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk. Lunch: Taco salad with meat and grated cheese, shredded lettuce, chopped tomatoes, corn, picante sauce, flour tortilla, cheesecake, milk.

Nursing home wins case to remain smoke-free

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — A nursing home whose no-smoking policy had been challenged by the state won a court case and will continue to ban smoking.

The state court ruling ended a case that began last January when the state Department of Health ordered the Maplewood Nursing Home to add a designated smoking area.

Although the department usually campaigns against smoking, in this case health officials said residents should be permitted to smoke because Maplewood was their home. The department said it would not appeal.

Residents range in age from 67 to 102; one smokes occasionally.

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(AP Photo)

Bernice Stuart relaxes in her Richfield, Minn., home on Oct. 3. At age 79, she knew she couldn't live on Social Security, and after studying her options for two years she took out a reverse mortgage. With a reverse mortgage, Stuart receives cash whenever she needs it for such things as paying property taxes or new tires for her car.

Reverse mortgages let senior citizens tap home equity

By LAURA BAENEN
Associated Press Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — At age 79, Bernice Stuart knew she couldn't live on Social Security and still afford to keep her three-bedroom bungalow. But she didn't want to move.

"I had worked so hard to pay for it," she said, "and it was free and clear."

After studying her options for two years, Stuart found a way to keep her house in the Minneapolis suburb of Richfield and bring in enough money to pay her bills: a reverse mortgage.

As its name suggests, a reverse mortgage turns the tables on a conventional home mortgage, where a buyer borrows a lump sum to purchase a house and repays the money in installments, with the house serving as security for the loan.

In a reverse mortgage, the homeowner typically owes little or nothing on the house and receives a loan either in a lump sum, monthly installments or whenever he or she needs money. The homeowner's equity serves as security for the loan, which usually doesn't have to be repaid until the owner sells, dies or moves permanently.

With her reverse mortgage, Stuart receives cash whenever she needs help paying property taxes and for necessities, such as new tires for her car.

"You can maintain your dignity and your lifestyle without worrying your head," Stuart said. "It's been a blessing."

It's also new, and information can be hard to come by. "The literature I would get from these banks didn't answer all the questions," Stuart said.

Finance experts say one of the best sources in the field is "Retirement Income On the House: Cash in on Your Home With a Reverse Mortgage," a book published last year by Ken Scholen of Eagan, Minn.

Scholen, 47, was an early advocate of reverse mortgages, beginning when he was director of the Wisconsin Board on Aging nearly 20 years ago.

"I ran into people looking for a

product that didn't exist," Scholen said. He developed a proposal passed by Congress in 1987 authorizing a federally insured reverse mortgage program; then he worked with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to bring it into existence.

"It was a kind of insurance that had never existed before," said Scholen, who works with HUD, the American Association for Retired Persons and other groups to spread the word about reverse mortgages.

Private programs also are offered by San Francisco-based Transamerica HomeFirst in California, New Jersey and Pennsylvania and by Freedom Home Equity Partners of Irvine, Calif., in California. Their involvement has reassured some reluctant consumers, Scholen said.

"To have corporate America's faith ... that's a real big step," he said.

Meanwhile, the Federal National Mortgage Association, or Fannie Mae, is developing a privately insured reverse mortgage program.

Reverse mortgages funded by government agencies are offered to homeowners with low and moderate incomes. Generally, they may be used only for specified purposes, such as paying property taxes and repairing or improving homes.

Private-sector reverse mortgages fall into three categories:

—Federal Housing Administration-insured loans offer lump-sum payments, a line of credit, equal monthly installments for as long as a person lives in his or her home, or cash installments for a fixed term.

—Privately insured reverse mortgages may offer higher cash advances than FHA's program. Some plans let homeowners safeguard some equity for heirs and others continue monthly advances through annuities even if borrowers sell or move.

—Uninsured reverse mortgages provide monthly cash advances, usually for at least three years but not more than 10 years, and must be repaid when the loan advances stop.

Scholen doesn't recommend reverse mortgages for some people,

such as those who want to leave their house to their heirs debt-free and retirees in their early 60s, who probably should not tap their equity until they are older.

But other elderly people have used reverse mortgages to save homes from foreclosure by paying off an existing mortgage. "It can pretty dramatically change somebody's circumstances," Scholen said.

Or allow them to continue gardening.

Scholen's book begins with a cryptic dedication to "Carol Arnold and her 87 rosebushes." Arnold once contacted Scholen to tell him how a reverse mortgage allowed her to remain in her home surrounded by a rose garden. He lost her return address and doesn't know where to find her.

"It's sort of like the Unknown Soldier," Scholen said. "To me, she came to symbolize all the consumers I've talked to over the years. It's like Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ken Scholen's office address is National Center for Home Equity Conversion, 7373 147 St. W., Suite 115, Apple Valley, Minn. 55124.

American Quarter Horse Heritage Center displays more artifacts

A temporary exhibit entitled, "Treasures from the Permanent Collection" opens Dec. 18 at the American Quarter Horse Heritage Center and Museum in Amarillo and is set to run through May 30, 1994. The exhibit draws on artifacts included in the Heritage Center collection which are not a part of an established display.

According to James May, director of curatorial services, the goal of the museum is to maintain a record of the history of the American Quarter Horse, while drawing new fans to the breed with entertaining and informative exhibits. He added that the generosity of thousands of donors is evident throughout the museum in the form of artwork, tack, photographs and other artifacts; however, there are numerous objects in the Heritage Center's collection which currently are not a part of a permanent exhibit.

"The fact that these items have not been on display to the public in no way detracts from their importance to the Heritage Center's mission," May commented. "Even though contributions might not be put on display immediately, they still are considered valuable."

In his opinion, this special exhibit will give museum visitors an idea of what the Heritage Center has to offer in its collection and archives.

"Treasures from the Permanent Collection" will include such items as a horse hair bridle with reins, donated by Gail DiDonato of Shelbyville, Ky.; a bronze by Earl W. Bascom titled "Open Pro," donated by Tsilina Motev of Highland Park, Ill.; a door from the former AQHA headquarters on 10th Street in Amarillo, decorated by artist E. Castells Catudro in 1957; a charro suit, donated by AQHA past president Bill Verdugo of Clo-

vis, Calif., who received it from the Asociación Mexicana Cuatro De Milla during the 1971 AQHA convention in Mexico City; an award won by HARD TWIST at the 1947 Rillito Quarter championship, donated by Lewis Blackwell of Amarillo; jockey silks worn while riding PALLEO PETE, the 1954 world champion two-year-old colt, world champion stallion and 1956 superior race horse, donated by Mrs. Fred Swalley of Ponca City, Okla.; a Brazilian saddle given to and donated by AQHA judge Joe Sawyer and his wife, Katherine, of Sapulpa, Okla.; and a stock saddle belonging to AQHA past president Bud Warren, donated by Reba Warren of Perry, Okla.

The American Quarter Horse Heritage Center and Museum showcases the history and modern activities of the breed. For information call 376-5181.

Back ache is a real pain in the neck

By COSMOPOLITAN
For AP Special Features

Back problems are an annual \$60 billion pain in the neck in the United States, where it is the most common cause of job absenteeism.

Back pain also is the most common cause of employee absenteeism in Canada, Sweden and Great Britain, Wyatt Townley wrote in an article in the current issue of *Cosmopolitan*, and it afflicts four out of five people at some point.

Some experts believe back problems occur because of lack of exercise.

"If you go out to the farms of Iowa, you don't find those farmers lying around, disabled by bad backs," said orthopedic surgeon Dr. Arthur White, medical director of the San Francisco Spine Institute.

Common back pain can be conquered. The spine is comprised of 33 interlocking bones called vertebrae. It has three natural curves — the cervical (neck), thoracic (upper back) and lumbar (lower back.) With so much weight on the lumbar curve, the lower back suffers most. Problems arise from misuse through bad posture, overuse and nonuse.

It has been estimated that 96 percent of people don't stand properly. Fixing the problem sounds simple — keep your spine aligned. But most people don't know how. Tell them to stand straight and most will pull their shoulders back and stick their chest out.

"That's the worst thing to do," said Dr. Silvia Ferretti, dean of the

Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. "This military alignment actually stresses the back."

The goal is to be vertical, to cross an imaginary line with all three centers of your body — head, heart and hips. Picture someone pulling on a wire attached to the middle of the crown of your head. The weight of your head stops exerting pressure on your body, your neck pulls up in line with your back, your pelvis swings forward and your lower back straightens out. Loosen your jaw so your teeth aren't touching, let your shoulders

drop down but not forward, and breathe easily.

You can throw your back out by overusing it. To keep your spine healthy during unavoidable overuse, utilize your legs, not your back. When gardening, kneel and squat rather than stoop and hunch. If you're lifting something heavy, bend your legs and get under the load, hug it close to your body and push down with your feet to stand. When sweeping, raking or vacuuming, use short strokes, lunging forward with your legs instead of bending your spine.

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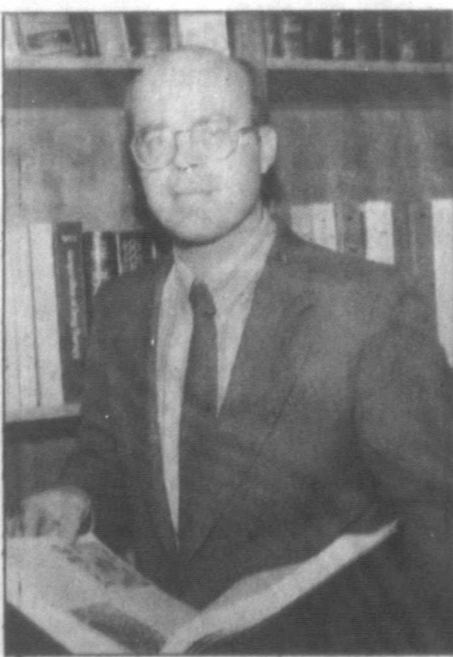
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JUNO

Entertainment

Australia's INXS is not a typical rock band

By KEITH LORIA
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI (AP) — There are a lot of things you can call INXS, but typical is not one of them.

INXS demonstrated their uniqueness with their decision to bypass the usual MTV style — high flash — form of video and opt instead for a film clip for each of the 12 songs on their new album. The group also wants a more intimate feel for the audience, so they will be playing places that usually come at the end of a tour, rather than stadiums and arenas.

"INXS writes music that is challenging and sends a message to our fans that we are not afraid to be different," said the group's Michael Hutchence in an interview shortly before he and the rest of INXS embarked on a five-week North American tour.

The tour, to support the release of their 10th album, *Full Moon, Dirty Hearts*, will have INXS playing small venues.

"It will be like a bunch of warehouse parties," said Hutchence. "so the audience is at one with us."

Hutchence said the group wants a more intimate feel for the audience. He also said that INXS will be back in the States next year for a longer and bigger tour.

Don't expect the usual from this tour, though. "We don't plan to do anything typical," said Hutchence. "We're going to do as much to be different as possible."

The idea to do film clips for the LP's songs originated from discussions the Australian group had about finding ways to be, well, different.

"We wanted to know what else we could do with the medium and how we could approach it," Hutchence said.

Nine filmmakers from Melbourne and Sydney worked on the project and Hutchence believes the videos will stand out on MTV. "These are not girls with leather hot pants. There's enough of that," he said.

One video shows a tracking shot of a castle door. As it pans closer, the camera leads toward the keyhole and the point of view shifts through the keyhole and onto a black void



INXS lead singer Michael Hutchence performs before a sold-out crowd at the West Palm Beach, Fla., Auditorium during a November concert. The concert kicked off the first leg of the band's North American tour. (AP photo)

with INXS playing. Another is about female terrorists, dressed in 1960s garb, kidnapping the band with the aid of toy guns. "I always wanted to make a funny video," Hutchence said.

'INXS writes music that is challenging and sends a message to our fans that we are not afraid to be different.'

Full Moon, Dirty Hearts is the 10th album released by INXS in the last 13 years. The group's breakthrough album was the 1987 *Kick* release, which featured the "Need You Tonight-Mediate" single and video.

Although the smaller venues may show that INXS has lost some of its popularity, the new album offers songs that easily could send INXS back to the top. The haunting ballad "Kill the Pain" is the strangest song on the new album and should warrant the airtime and success that "Need You Tonight" achieved.

To work on *Full Moon, Dirty Hearts*, INXS traveled to an old hotel on the island of Capri, Italy.

"It was beautiful," Hutchence said. "In winter, it's just the local people and it was a very cultural experience for six young Australian men."

Hutchence said that by living together the band was able to "live the album," and that helped give the album "a lot of attitude."

Much of that attitude was provided by Hutchence's soulful singing over the diverse musical talents of

Garry Gary Beers, Kirk Pengilly and the Farris brothers — Andrew, Tim and Jon.

"Hard to classify," that's how Hutchence describes INXS' brand of diverse music. "We're not just rock and we're not just funk. We're a mixture of the two."

On the new album, INXS plays some funk, dabbles in a bit of jazz and even delves into the blues with a duet between Hutchence and Ray Charles. It's this type of musical mix that has kept INXS in the mainstream over the past 17 years.

Besides "Please (You Got That...)," the song on which Charles appears, Hutchence goes the duet route on the title track with Pretenders legend Chrissie Hynde. Hutchence blends strikingly with Hynde to create a much felt seductive sound.



Patrick Shea, left, and Matt Callahan appear in a scene from 'Shear Madness,' currently playing at Downstairs at the Improv in Santa Monica, Calif. (AP photo)

Audiences solve murder in comic whodunit now playing in 12 locations

By JACKIE HYMAN
For The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The jokes are tailored to each locale and the villain changes nightly in *Shear Madness*, a cutting-edge murder mystery that's playing here and in 11 other cities from Australia to Israel.

"There's a lot of topicality, there's a lot of improvisation. It's much more a comedy than a mystery," said Marilyn Abrams, who, with partner Bruce Jordan, developed, co-produces and owns rights to the play.

In Santa Monica, there are Hollywood jokes. In Washington, where *Shear Madness* has been running for six years at the Kennedy Center, there are political jokes. Everywhere, local sports teams and politicians get ribbed.

In Boston, the campy hero insults a stuffy female character by telling the audience, "Remember the Boston Tea Party? She was one of the bags they tossed over."

For the California audience, a sleazy antiques dealer is accused of fraud, forgery and driving in the carpool lane with two dummies. For the Washington audience, make that the HOV (high occupancy vehicle) lane.

Even locale is changed.

"The cop here (the Los Angeles area) lives out in the country, and they say 'Whereabouts?' and he says, 'Burbank,' which is certainly not the country, and it gets a wonderful laugh," Miss Abrams said. "In Fort Lauderdale, he lives out in Tamarac, where they have an oil refinery."

The humor also gets updated to fit what's in the news.

"Now I haven't gotten to the paper yet today but if there's something locally or nationally that will tickle the audience, you can be sure it will be in *Shear Madness*," said Abrams, who was in Santa Monica for the play's recent opening at the Downstairs at the Improv.

Other productions recently opened in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Melbourne, Australia. Others include Austin, Texas; St. Paul, Minn.; and Kansas City, Mo.

Audience members also influence each performance. They call out questions, shout clues, talk back to the actors and decide on the villain's identity, which changes from night to night.

"A murder takes place above a unisex beauty salon and the audience is witness to this crime and they become involved in solving the crime," explained Abrams.

During intermission, the "salon employees" make appointments with customers from the audience. One

woman in Philadelphia, where the show ran for five years, is reported to have called the theater the next day to reschedule her haircut.

Ironically, the play on which *Shear Madness* is based, *Scherenschnitt*, written by Swiss playwright Paul Portner in 1965, was a serious psychodrama.

In the late 1970s, Bruce Jordan encountered a version of the play at an acting workshop in Rochester, N.Y. Intrigued by its comic possibilities, he got together with Abrams, an actress with whom he previously had worked.

Together they bought the rights and reworked the script, which they enacted at a dinner theater in Lake George, N.Y.

"It literally cried out to be a comedy — the setting, the characters, the things that happened naturally became funnier and funnier," Miss Abrams said.

"As the actors came in and improvised, all of these ingredients were put into the stew and it developed very naturally into being a comedy."

In the story, a reclusive concert pianist who lives above the salon is dispatched with hairdressers' shears.

Suspects include Tony the flamboyant salon proprietor, Barbara the gum-chewing manicurist, a society lady named Mrs. Schubert, a sleazy antiques dealer and even the two policemen.

"One of the things that happens with *Shear Madness* is people come back to see it because the clues change every night; the murderer can change," Abrams said.

"Or they go home and they say, 'Oh, if I'd asked that question, I'd have stumped those actors cold,' so they go back."

The Boston production, which debuted Jan. 29, 1980, is the longest-running nonmusical play in American theater, according to the show's publicists.

Although it has played in such farflung locales as Barcelona, Buenos Aires and Budapest, *Shear Madness* never has opened in New York.

"Our intent was to open it in Boston for eight weeks, make back all our money and take our play to New York 14 years ago," Abrams said.

"Step one, we did not make back our money in eight weeks and we stayed in Boston, and we got this incredible opportunity to open it in another venue in Philadelphia. Then we felt Chicago was the perfect city for us and we kind of stopped thinking about taking the play to New York," she said.

"We get requests about every week from producers who want to produce the play in New York and I think we will at some point."

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Tiny immigrant Christmas tree beetle hits North American forests

By PAT DURKIN
National Geographic
For AP Special Features

An immigrant beetle with a taste for Scotch pines has taken the joy out of the holidays for many Christmas tree growers and eventually may threaten all of North America's pine forests.

Christmas tree buyers aren't expected to see higher prices or tree shortages this year, according to industry spokesmen.

But the U.S. Agriculture Department estimates that the pine shoot beetle will cost American businesses and taxpayers nearly \$900 million over the next 30 years in damage to tree crops, landscape trees and standing timber.

"No question, it will do very, very well in North America," says Robert Haack, an entomologist with the U.S. Forest Service. "We could build up some large numbers quite rapidly. The beetle has the potential to do a lot of damage here."

The Christmas tree business could greatly speed the process. The seasonal movement of more than 35 million freshly cut trees could spread the pest all over the continent. And stumps left after the harvest provide ideal breeding spots.

That's the reasoning behind the quarantines established last year in the United States and Canada that prohibit shipment of infected trees outside the county where they were grown.

Quarantines of farms have been extended to twice as many counties as last year in the two countries, but foresters say this will only slow, not stop, the beetle's inevitable spread to natural woodlands.

Six states — New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan — and Canada's Ontario Province have quarantines this year.

Standards are strict. Agricultural inspectors in both countries check each



Cutting the family Christmas tree is a venerable tradition, as practiced at this farm near Lost River, W.Va. The tree, a Scotch pine, is now threatened by the pine shoot beetle. (National Geographic Society photo by Stephen C. St. John)

Christmas tree grove in November, just before harvest. Every tree is inspected for any sign of the beetle. All trees from an infected grove are restricted.

"One beetle can literally shut you down," Gary Reissen, owner of a 1,700-acre Christmas tree farm in Greenville, Mich., tells *National Geographic*.

The shiny, dark, cylindrical insect, no larger than a match head, is a recent invader from Europe and Asia. It has swept through Christmas tree farms around the Great Lakes since it was discovered last year in Ohio.

Preliminary studies show that it will thrive on any of North America's 35

pine species, although it prefers the Scotch pine, the favorite Christmas tree, which is plentiful on tree farms and in forests.

Pine shoot beetles weaken trees in several ways. New shoots die shortly after a single beetle enters to feed on the soft pulp inside. Heavily infested trees lose shape and eventually become susceptible to deadlier diseases. Long-term infestations in Europe have reduced the size of pines by as much as 40 percent.

The beetle has been a problem for decades throughout European and Asian forests, where timbering is regulated to keep the pest in check.

No one knows how the insect entered North America. Some scientists believe it came in on lumber used to brace cargo shipped to Great Lakes ports.

Hasty research, begun last year by the Forest Service after the beetle was discovered, suggests that the insect eventually will have a heyday in North America. Nobody can predict how fast it will spread. Scientists are studying possible ways to control it and hope to make recommendations next year.

Meanwhile, the beetle will find plenty to eat almost anywhere on the continent. The insect has no natural enemies in this part of the world. Entomologists predict and fear that it will

spread as far north as Alaska and as far south as Mexico.

It is likely to benefit from the North American practice of harvesting timber year-round.

In natural conditions, pine shoot beetle infestations spread slowly, allowing biological controls — mainly small wasps — to develop. The beetle travels only short distances and breeds just once a year. New colonies start only in freshly opened wood, such as storm-damaged branches, lightning-fractured trunks — and chain-sawed stumps.

Gary Reissen is one of the Christmas tree growers who considers himself lucky this year. He carefully pruned each tree throughout the growing season, eliminating any shoot that showed the tiniest sign of a beetle among his 170,000 harvest-ready trees.

"It was a lot of work," he says, "but consider the alternative. It's not just a one-year type of thing. If all of a sudden you can't fill an order, do you think they'll order from you again next year? I don't think so."

As it turned out, only 1 percent of Reissen's stock, in one field, was infested. Some of his friends in the business didn't fare so well.

Reissen and other growers worry more about the quarantines than about the pine shoot beetle itself. Most Christmas trees are cut before beetles

can damage them aesthetically. Quarantines cost growers money in trees they're forbidden to sell.

The growers grudgingly support quarantines as a courtesy to their sister industries, whose trees are older and therefore more subject to deformity or death.

"This little beetle is a much bigger threat to the timber and nursery industries," says Joan Geiger, executive director of the Milwaukee-based National Christmas Tree Association. "We're just trying to help control it."

The biggest fear among Christmas tree growers is losing customers, who mistakenly may assume that the beetle is a threat to themselves or their homes — and switch to an artificial tree. Already, artificial trees are almost as popular as natural ones.

"You're not going to get sick. It can't eat your house," says Geiger. "We just hope it doesn't destroy the industry."

No one knows what becomes of dormant beetles in Christmas trees. "We don't know whether they die from the heat, drown in the stand or survive to infest other trees," says Robert Haack.

To find out, he and a team of Michigan technicians will monitor 12 infested Christmas trees during the coming holidays.



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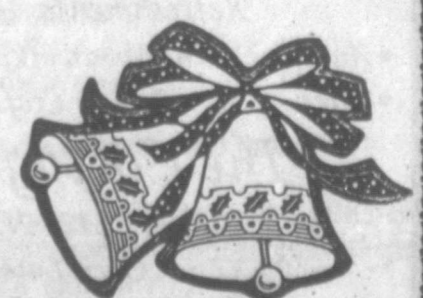
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New surgery fixes dangerous bulges in artery from within the blood vessels

By MALCOLM RITTER
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A new surgical technique for fixing dangerous bulges in the abdomen's main artery may mean shorter, cheaper and less painful hospital stays for patients, surgeons say.

At least 40,000 Americans a year undergo surgery to fix the bulging weakened areas, called abdominal aortic aneurysms. If not repaired, aneurysms can rupture and cause a quick death.

With standard repair surgery, a patient requires general anesthesia, a long abdominal incision, intensive care for up to several days and maybe a week to 10 days in the hospital.

But the new technique holds out the promise of only local or regional anesthesia, a smaller incision in the groin that causes much less pain, no time in intensive care and only two days of hospitalization. It can also eliminate the need for blood transfusions and so the risk of transfusion-related disease, doctors say.

The shorter hospital stay and lack of intensive care should save on health care costs, they say. And because the surgery is less physically traumatic than the standard procedure, it may have lower risks of complications and death.

The technique follows a recent trend toward minimally invasive surgery, procedures that cause less

physical trauma than standard surgery requires. For example, doctors can now remove a gallbladder or an appendix by inserting tubes through small punctures in the skin.

The new aneurysm procedure has been performed so far by only a handful of surgeons around the world, starting in 1990. Its availability is limited in the United States because it involves equipment not yet approved for routine use.

It is still not clear whether the surgery's repairs will be durable, nor has there been a rigorous head-to-head comparison with standard surgery. That might happen soon.

In the meantime, surgeons say they are cautiously optimistic that the surgery will eventually prove useful for many if not the majority of patients whose aneurysms require surgery, including people whose poor health would make the standard procedure unacceptably risky. Most abdominal aneurysms occur in people older than 60.

The technique has also been used for fixing abdominal and leg arteries plugged by atherosclerosis and arteries damaged by gunshots and stab wounds.

"This has enormous potential ... for radically changing the way we deal with many types of arterial disease," said Dr. Frank Veith, chief of vascular surgery at Montefiore Medical Center in New York, who has used the technique.

Veith said that to see a patient avoid a stay in intensive care and instead sit up in bed and ask for a meal two hours after surgery "is truly remarkable. ... That's happened many times."

With standard surgery, the surgeon enters the abdomen to remove the bulge and sew a man-made tube in its place. But with the new procedure, called stented graft repair, the artery is fixed from within.

The surgeon inserts a tiny package of equipment into the artery through the incision in the groin. Then he or

she guides it up the artery to the bulge. By careful manipulation, the replacement tube is then anchored to healthy tissue on each side of the bulge. Now the blood flows through the tube and no longer presses on the weakened walls of the bulge.

"Our experience has been very pleasing," said Dr. Wesley Moore, chief of vascular surgery at the University of California, Los Angeles, Center for the Health Sciences, where 10 such operations have been done since February.

Eight of those operations were suc-

cessful, he said. In hindsight, the other two patients were not good candidates for the surgery, he said.

Dr. Juan Parodi of Salvador University in Buenos Aires, Argentina, who pioneered the operation and has used it on 39 abdominal aneurysms, said the new procedure "is going to change vascular surgery, no doubt about it."

Others stress caution.

"The real unknown is what the

long-term durability (of the repair) is going to be," Moore said. "Will it be as durable as the conventional operation?"

The standard technique does a good job of providing long-term repair, said Dr. Calvin Ernst, chief of vascular surgery at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. He said he hopes to start using the new technique next year as part of a study comparing it to standard surgery.

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Study: Kids can tell when parents resolve their spats

NEW YORK (AP) — Children as young as 5 or 6 can sense when Mommy and Daddy have made up after a spat, even if they don't see the resolution occur, new research suggests.

Children watched videotapes that included simulated arguments between a man and a woman. Their reactions to disputes that were apparently resolved off-camera were compared to how they felt after viewing disputes with no resolution.

The children showed less anger if the adults disappeared behind closed doors and later emerged acting friendly. Boys, but not girls, also showed a reduction in sadness.

Children also showed less anger and sadness after viewing different tapes that included an argument followed by a scene in which one of the participating adults briefly explained that the dispute had been resolved.

When viewing the tapes in which the adults went behind the closed doors, about half the children ages 5 and 6 guessed when the adults disappeared that they were resolving their differences, and "that's pretty amazing," said researcher E. Mark Cummings of West Virginia University in Morgantown.

About 90 percent of children ages 9 and 10 had the same suspicion, researchers found.

The fact that the children could interpret friendly behavior as a sign of dispute resolution shows that "kids are more sensitive than we realize," Cummings said. He cautioned that children will probably not be fooled by faked affection, because research shows they can detect silent anger.

Cummings and colleagues report the new results in the November issue of the journal *Developmental Psychology*. The study on interpreting friendly behavior after a dispute involved 40 children, evenly split between the older and younger age groups. The study on the effect of hearing an adult explain the fight was resolved involved 48 children in the two age groups.

Timothy Moore, a psychologist at York University in Toronto who studies the effect of parental fighting on children, said the study "reinforces the idea that children are probably by and large a lot sharper than we suppose."

He said that although watching actors on a videotape is not the same as seeing one's own parents in a real conflict, prior work has shown that such videotapes can still provoke physical arousal and emotional reactions.

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- 21⁸⁸ CUT 12%** 4-in-1 electronic IQ game tests your skills! LCD stack game. Reg. 24.99 #60-2474
- 39⁹⁹ CUT 20%** Radio-controlled Flame Thrower 14". Reg. 49.99 #60-4112
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- 29⁹⁹ CUT 25%** Musical keyboard has 24 accompaniments. 5 demo tunes. Reg. 39.99 #42-4018
- 37⁸⁸ CUT 37%** Tempo control makes playing fun and easy! Micro-answerer with digital outgoing message. Remote. Reg. 59.99 #43-755
- 59⁹⁹ SAVE \$30** Rivals corded phone sound quality. Compact cordless phone. Compander circuit. Reg. 89.99 #43-571
- 49⁹⁹ Each SAVE \$30** Optimus® 3-way speaker Great value and sound! 8" woofer. Reg. 79.99 #40-4046
- 99⁹⁹ Low As \$15 Per Month + SAVE \$30** Built-in charging circuitry. Optimus portable CD player has 3 EQ settings. Stereo cable. Reg. 129.99 #42-5034
- 99⁹⁹ Low As \$15 Per Month + SAVE \$60** Hear police, fire, more! 50-channel scanner with one-touch weather. 108-MHz aircraft. Reg. 159.99 #20-403
- 169⁹⁹ Low As \$15 Per Month + SAVE \$50** All-band shortwave radio with digital tuning. 45-station memory. Reg. 219.99 #20-214

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The Pampa News

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Church head
- 5 Stringy
- 9 MD's chart
- 12 Australian birds
- 13 Jal —
- 14 Actress — Claire
- 15 Not definite
- 17 Make less bright
- 18 Rye fungus
- 19 Like a soft fabric
- 21 Fleas fruit
- 23 The (Ger.)
- 24 Small organisms
- 27 Writer — Ephron
- 29 Esau's country
- 32 Wrongful dis- possession
- 34 Nobleman's domain
- 36 Idle
- 37 Reply

DOWN

- 1 Baseballer — Rose
- 2 Hebrew
- 3 Former Rus- sian ruler (var.)
- 39 Actress — Albright
- 41 Firearm owners' org.
- 42 Range (abbr.)
- 44 Spanish pot
- 46 Lifted
- 49 Last Greek letter
- 53 Sea eagle
- 54 Type of crocodile
- 56 Bother
- 57 Guitarist — Atkins
- 58 Snick and —
- 59 Rocky hill
- 60 Show affection
- 61 Impudence (sl.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

J	U	I	C	E	S	J	A	I	L	O	R
U	S	A	B	L	E	U	R	S	U	L	A
J	I	G	S	A	W	L	E	A	N	E	D
U	S	O	A	V	I	E	O	S			
L	E	G	H	O	R	N					
J	O	N	E	S	E	S	E	O	S	I	N
U	N	I	T	S		C	O	M	B	O	
M	O	N	T	E		I	D	E	A	S	
P	R	E	E	N		B	U	T	L	E	R
R	E	F	E	R	E	E					
H	O	T		E	N	S		L	O	B	
U	R	B	A	N	E		I	M	B	I	B
G	L	A	R	E	D		N	E	R	E	I
H	E	R	M	E	S		E	R	A	S	E

- measure
- 3 Sleigh
- 4 Bar legally
- 5 Rodent
- 6 Film director — Stone
- 7 Surface (a street)
- 8 Produce
- 9 Soft duck feathers
- 10 Make sweaters
- 11 Slightly tainted
- 16 Makes amends
- 20 Swerves
- 22 Type of mushroom
- 24 — suit
- 25 Baseball events
- 26 Mediterranean sub- continent (2 wds.)
- 28 Have — (live it up)
- 30 Unusual person (sl.)
- 31 — Breckin- ridge
- 33 Civil wrongs
- 35 Similar item
- 40 Lots
- 43 Large pile
- 45 Collect
- 46 Warmth
- 47 Church calendar
- 48 Of grades 1-12
- 50 Sicilian volcano
- 51 Leaves
- 52 War god
- 55 The thing's

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
18			19					20		
21			22					23		
24	25	26	27			28	29	30	31	
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38			39	40				41		
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46	47		48			49		50	51	52
53			54			55				
56			57			58				
59			60			61				

WALNUT COVE

I think this one's a little nervous... Nonsense! He's just wondering if Santa has any toys for such a strapping young man. Well! How would you like a Rambo assault rifle? Or a G.I. Joe incendiary grenade? ...um... land mine... How about a dry pair of pants? That would be nice...

ARLO & JANIS

DADDY AND I ARE GOING TO A PARTY NEXT WEEK... AND WE'RE GOING TO LET YOU STAY HOME ALONE. ALL RIGHT!! IT'S ABOUT TIME! OF COURSE, IF YOU'RE AFRAID TO STAY ALONE...

ECK & MEEK

I'M AN AVID READER MYSELF. I COULD SPEND HOURS ALONE AT HOME WITH A GOOD BOOK. LET'S SEE. REALLY?

B.C.

I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU. SHOOT. THAT'S UNCANNY! I WAS GOING TO ASK WHAT SKYDIVERS USE FOR EMERGENCIES.

MARVIN

BITSY, WHERE DO YOU SUPPOSE THE EXPRESSION "SICK AS A DOG" CAME FROM? ACTUALLY, IT'S A PHRASE I COINED... ...TO DESCRIBE MY MOOD ON THE DAY YOUR PARENTS BROUGHT YOU HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL!

ALLEY OOP

HOW DO YOU WANT TO HANDLE THIS DEAL, DOC? WE'RE GOING TO SEND YOU BACK TO MOO, OSCAR! YOU'LL HAVE TO LOCATE ALLEY AND TELL HIM WHAT THE SITUATION IS! HERE'S A LIST OF THE ANIMALS PIKE WANTS! WE'LL SEND SOME TRADE GOODS WITH YOU TO INSURE ENOUGH COOPERATION TO GET THE JOB DONE! OKAY! WHEN DO YOU WANT ME TO LEAVE? AS SOON AS YOU CAN GET YOUR THINGS TOGETHER!

BEATTIE BLVD.

He's taking them for their S...H...O...T...S."

THE BORN LOSER

DID YOU THROW YOUR WET TOWEL DOWN THE LAUNDRY CHUTE? NAH. AND WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH A DIRTY TOWEL, YOUNG MAN? BUT IT'S NOT DIRTY... HECK, WASN'T I COMPLETELY CLEAN WHEN I GOT OUT OF THE SHOWER AND USED IT?

PEANUTS

WASN'T THAT FUN, MARCIE? GOOD OLD FASHIONED PLAY IN THE RAIN, DOWN IN THE DIRT, FOOTBALL! I THINK I LOST MY SHOES... AND NOW IT'S STARTING TO SNOW! WE SHOULD PLAY AGAIN TOMORROW... I NEVER KNEW LIFE COULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL!

MARMADUKE

"I wonder why it didn't stop."

WINTHROP

MY UNCLE BOBO HAS A TV SET THAT WAS MADE IN THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD. WHEN THEY SIGN OFF FOR THE NIGHT, IT FIRES A 21-GUN SALLITE.

CALVIN AND HOBBS

THEY SAY THE WORLD IS A STAGE. BUT OBVIOUSLY THE PLAY IS UNREHEARSED AND EVERYBODY IS AD-LIBbing HIS LINES. MAYBE THAT'S WHY IT'S HARD TO TELL IF WE'RE IN A TRAGEDY OR A FARCE. WE NEED MORE SPECIAL EFFECTS AND DANCE NUMBERS.

FRANK AND ERNEST

I FINALLY GOT OVER MY COLD WAR, BUT NOW I'M BREAKING OUT IN HOT SPOTS!

GARFIELD

C'MON, GARFIELD! WE'RE LEAVING FOR THE FARM! JUST A MINUTE... HURRY UP! WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THERE? LEAVING SANTA A FORWARDING ADDRESS

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Just being busy won't cut the mustard today. In order to truly gratify your industrious inclinations, you must do something that is useful, as well as productive. Major changes are ahead for Sagittarius in the coming year. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today. Mail \$1.25 and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, N.Y. 10163 Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your probabilities for financial or material gratification look very good today. However, when the dust settles, your gains are likely to be due to the efforts of others rather than your own.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If there is something important in which you're presently involved that requires the help of others, go to your old friends first before talking about it to anyone else.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Don't be afraid of a little competition today, especially where your work or career is concerned. When conditions get critical, you're the one who'll rise to the challenge.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're a quick study today and what you learn from either books or personal experiences will be retained and used to your advantage at a later date.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Sometimes in order to accomplish our purpose, a little bravado is required in areas or situations in which we feel a bit shaky. Today your bluffs should be effective.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today if you have a problem you can't work out on your own, go to a friend who always seems to offer you wise counsel. Your pal has not lost his/her touch.

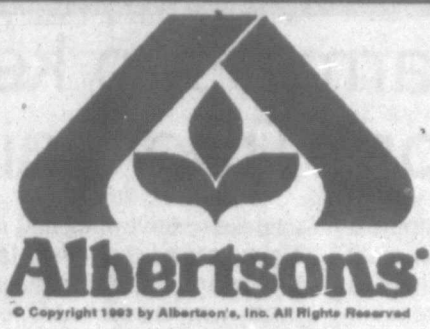
CANCER (June 21-July 22) Earnings can be generated at this time from more than one source, so if you haven't tapped all of your possibilities, look for new opportunities today. There might be a few right under your nose.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A partnership arrangement in which you are presently involved looks like it will continue to be strengthened as time ticks on. Bigger benefits are possible.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A situation where you were not fairly compensated or acknowledged might be rectified soon. In fact, you may see some indication of this today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) An endeavor in which you'll be involved today should turn out successful, provided you continue to mastermind all of the moves. Don't delegate too much authority.

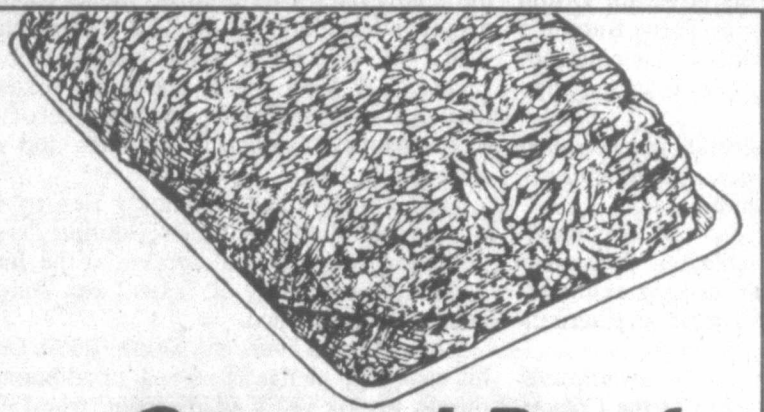
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) An opportunity might develop at this time that will enable you to alter a negative situation into something rewarding for you and a loyal supporter.



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lb.



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Chunk Light, 6.5 oz.

59¢
ea.



Budweiser Beer
Reg. or Light, 12 oz. cans

879
18 pk.

MEAT DEPT.	ALBERTSONS	FOOD KING	HOMELAND
Rib Eye Steaks lb.	5.49	5.99	6.49
Boneless Pork Chops lb.	3.99	4.89	4.99
Whole Fryers lb.	.75	.79	.89
T-Bone Steaks lb.	4.49	5.39	5.99
Boneless Loin Tip Roast lb.	2.79	3.19	3.89
Fryer Thighs Plus Paxx lb.	.79	.89	.89

MEAT DEPT.	ALBERTSONS	FOOD KING	HOMELAND
Boneless Cure 81 Ham Hormel lb.	3.49	3.79	3.99
Shank Portion Ham Cook's lb.	.99	1.69	1.29
Butt Portion Ham Cook's lb.	1.29	1.79	1.59
Ham & Cheese Oscar Mayer 16 oz.	2.39	3.39	3.69
Smoked Ham Oscar Mayer 12 oz.	3.79	3.98	3.89
Oscar Mayer Lunch Loaf 8 oz.	1.89	2.35	2.29

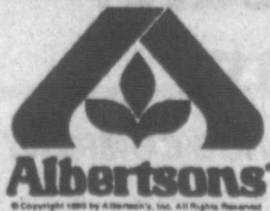
PRODUCE	ALBERTSONS	FOOD KING	HOMELAND
Roma Tomatoes lb.	.50	1.29	.99
Small Lemons each	.10	.33	.25
Red Cabbage lb.	.49	.59	.69
Head Lettuce each	.34	.79	.89
Bulk Garlic lb.	.75	1.79	1.99
Golden Ripe Bananas lb.	.39	.44	.49

DRUG	ALBERTSONS	FOOD KING	HOMELAND
Colgate Shaving Cream 16 oz.	1.19	1.32	1.39
Playtex Tampons 22 ct.	2.99	4.99	5.19
Vaseline Lotion Hand & Nail 6 oz.	2.29	2.45	2.39
Degree Solid Deodorant 1.7 oz.	1.99	2.09	2.37
Vicks NyQuil 6 oz.	6.59	7.12	7.49
Baby Fresh Wipes 84 ct.	3.19	3.69	3.89

GROCERY	ALBERTSONS	FOOD KING	HOMELAND
Pepsi 3-Liter Soft Drinks each	1.39	1.79	2.19
Imperial Margarine 16 oz. Qtrs.	.50	.76	.59
Kraft Miracle Whip 32 oz.	1.69	2.09	1.99
Kellogg's Raisin Bran 20 oz.	3.58	3.97	3.99
Nabisco Saltines 16 oz.	.99	1.19	1.79

GROCERY	ALBERTSONS	FOOD KING	HOMELAND
Gerber Baby Food 4 oz.	.29	.40	.29
Cream of Chicken Campbells 10.75 oz.	.75	.84	.79
Duncan Hines Cake Mix 18.75 oz.	.99	1.19	1.19
Coronet Bath Tissue 8 pack	1.67	2.25	2.85
Del Monte Corn 17 oz.	.50	.59	.65

ALBERTSONS TOTAL	FOOD KING TOTAL	HOMELAND TOTAL	YOU'LL SAVE UP TO	18⁹²
65³⁰	80⁰⁹	84²²		



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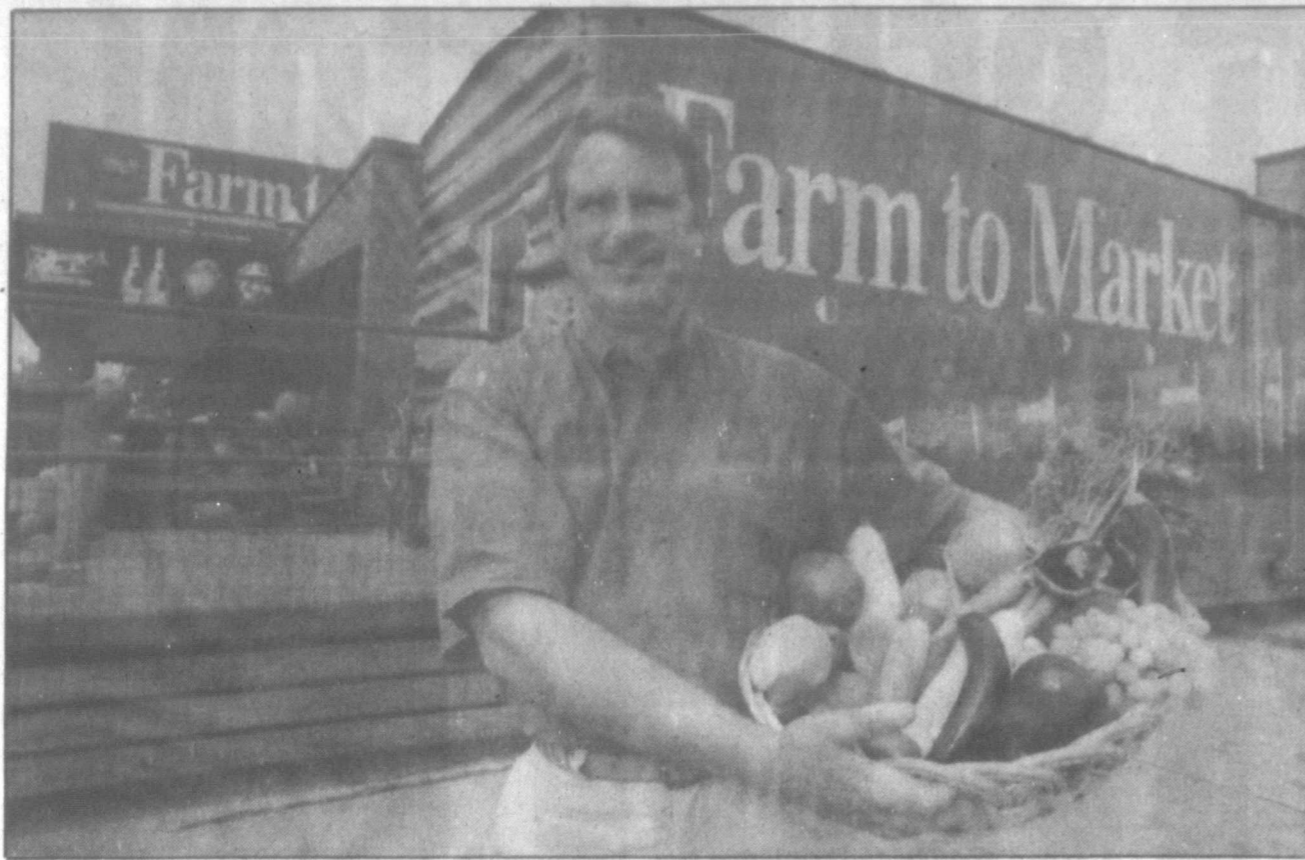
On December 8, 1993, we went shopping at Food King at 1401 N. Hobart and Homeland at 2545 Perryton Pkwy., Pampa, and compared identical items. The results are shown above. Savings shown here are not a random sample and may include some promotional items.

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Agriculture



Phil Dyer holds a basket of vegetables in front of his upscale produce market in San Antonio. (AP photo/San Antonio Express-News by Kevin Geil)

Gourmet grocer really a farmer at heart

By CHUCK McCOLLOUGH
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Phil Dyer is a farmer at heart, if not in fact.

Two years after leaving his family's 2,500-acre farm in the lower Rio Grande Valley, Dyer still felt the tug of its soil in his soul.

What was a farm boy living in the city to do?

In 1983 Dyer opened Farm To Market as a small roadside produce stand at 1133 Austin Highway. Today, the operation has grown to accommodate tastes ranging from general to gourmet.

Texas Monthly magazine recently described the 3,200-square-foot store as "Texas' most sophisticated Epicurean market."

"Our store is a gathering place, where people visit and shop slowly," Dyer said. "We like it to be a shopping experience, not a chore."

"Our customer wants to browse the shelves, see what's new, read the labels, ask questions. They're conscious of what they eat. They want the finer things, and they want to take their time shopping."

They also make requests and recommendations.

"Between 25 and 30 percent of what's on our shelves came about because of recommendations from shoppers. Many of them travel and will bring back a jar of something they found in another city, but can't find here. They'll say 'Try it,' and if we think it will sell, we'll stock it."

"If someone wants raspberries from New Zealand and is willing to pay for them, we'll fly the raspberries in. We take special orders all the time. We can complete any menu."

Ed Stone said he has been shopping at Farm To Market for six years.

"Without question they have the finest produce and food selection in the city. And it is the only place to find certain kinds of European foods," he said.

Stone, who lives a mile from the store, stops by Farm To Market every

day after work to get fresh items for the evening meal.

"My family likes to cook and we are always discovering new things to try at Farm To Market," he said.

Mark Bliss, a chef at Restaurant Biga, has been a customer for nine-and-a-half years.

He buys foodstuffs mainly for his home and also for his restaurant, "especially if supplies are low and we need it for the evening," he said.

"The store's biggest advantage is the freshness of its fruits and vegetables. They're a little pricey, but you get what you pay for."

Dyer's path to the produce market began in 1981, when he came to San Antonio to attend the graduation of his sister from Incarnate Word College. That's also where he met his future wife, and three months later he decided to move to San Antonio.

"I discovered I wasn't as happy in the Valley as I had been as a child. Besides, the agriculture economy was very depressed in the area at that time in the late 1970s," said Dyer, who had returned to the Valley in 1977 after graduating from Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in agronomy.

He worked for several years at a local farm helping the owners, harvest, pack and ship vegetables, just like his family's farm operation.

"I left work there about the same time I got married. I considered it a steppingstone in my career."

With a wife and no job, Dyer looked at his options.

"There wasn't much opportunity for me in the agriculture field in and around San Antonio at that time," he said.

Dyer then decided to try another approach.

"I had experience in all aspects of agriculture except retail."

"I worked out a business plan. It was simply to find a location on a busy street and offer a wider variety of fresh produce than supermarkets," he said.

Dyer and a friend, Tony Gonzalez,

found an empty Exxon station at 1133 Austin Highway, and bought it.

"We would get up at 3 a.m., go to the produce market and select the best item, return to the store, display the items and run the store. We worked until 8 p.m. or 9 p.m., seven days a week for nine months. It almost killed us," he said.

A year after opening, Dyer hired Alan Band as produce buyer.

"Alan knows more about produce than almost anyone in state," Dyer said.

With Band doing the buying, Dyer and Gonzalez were free to run the store.

Dyer said about half his customers come from San Antonio and half from out of town. Some people come from as far away as Beeville, Kerrville and even Laredo.

"The first year was shaky. We had to educate ourselves about retailing, and our customers were learning about higher quality produce," Dyer said.

"We were in the black within nine months and we've stayed there since."

Dyer said two factors contributed to the market's success:

"Our timing was fortunate. That was at the beginning of new public awareness about health, nutrition and eating right."

"Second, we are located in a neighborhood where people like to cook and entertain. Many of those people will take time to search and find the right makings for their meal," he said.

In the 10 years since it was founded Farm To Market has added a meat market, bakery, new deli area and wine cellar.

"At first our business was just traffic off the street, but as word spread that we had a different selection and knowledgeable people here to answer questions, more customers showed up," he said.

Dyer said his store's selection of produce comes in part from the long-term relations it has developed with local growers.

Profit necessary for farmers to keep U.S. as best-fed nation, True claims

SAN ANTONIO — It is imperative that the non-farm public and policy-makers understand that a profit for farmers and ranchers is necessary if the United States is to continue to be the best-fed nation in the world at the lowest per capita cost.

This was the message for delegates at the Texas Farm Bureau convention from the group's president, S.M. True Jr. of Plainview.

The head of the state's largest farm organization delivered his annual address to the delegates at the convention held earlier this month. He said agriculture's most immediate challenge for the future is restoring a profit for farm families.

True noted that sustained agriculture is a term much in vogue in the nineties, and cautioned that economic sustainability must be achieved first.

"Sustainable agriculture is a term that means different things to different people," True said. "Some would like to reduce it to its most basic

terms as a strictly organic approach to agricultural production. In reality, however, sustainable agriculture is a system that is capable of renewing itself, allowing virtually endless use of the resources involved."

True said farm profit is under many pressures, including government manipulation of markets and constant tinkering with farm programs that help minimize the considerable risks in farming.

"Everyone's hit list for deficit reduction has agriculture at the top," True said.

"Someone will have to explain to me how cutting farm program benefits will balance the budget, when they amount to less than one percent of federal spending."

He also said that increasing regulation of farm practices "steal profit like a thief in the night."

True said that a new wave of "regulatory takings" have occurred when farmers and ranchers have been deprived of the use of their land by

aggressive environmental regulation. He suggested that when landowners are compensated for these takings, many environmental economic objectives can be met.

True praised Congress for passing the North American Free Trade Agreement. He predicted that the new era of free trade will be a boon for Texas agriculture.

"It is clear that the agreement will be a net gain for agriculture and for the country," True said. "We must aggressively pursue markets wherever we can find them."

True told the Farm Bureau delegates that America cannot afford to close its borders and live in fear of competition.

Because of NAFTA's passage and an increasing awareness of the problems of over-regulation, True predicted that agriculture's future will be better than the recent past.

"We are the best in the world at producing what the world needs most," True said.

Briscoe receives TFB's Meritorious Service Award

SAN ANTONIO — Former Texas governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. has been awarded Texas Farm Bureau's prestigious Meritorious Service Award for his outstanding contributions to the state's largest farm organization and to agriculture.

The award was presented to the Uvalde rancher-businessman during the Texas Farm Bureau's 60th anniversary convention held earlier this month.

"This award is not given every year," said TFB President S.M. True, who made the presentation. "It is given only in recognition of an individual making extraordinary contributions to Texas Farm Bureau and agriculture."

A notable achievement cited during the award ceremony was the recipient's co-authorship of the Colson-Briscoe Farm-to-Market Road Program, written while Briscoe was serving in the Texas Legislature in the early 1950s. The legislation, True said, revolutionized the lives of rural Texans.

True also extolled Briscoe for his leadership role in launching a comprehensive campaign to eliminate screwworms in Texas while serving as president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, from 1960-1962.

"That effort, of course, resulted in total eradication of

the deadly fly, for which Texas farmers and ranchers are deeply indebted today," the TFB leader stated.

In 1967, Briscoe served as chairman of the National Livestock & Meat Board. The South Texas rancher and livestock industry leader was also one of the founders of the Mohair Council of America and served as its chairman in 1970.

True emphasized Briscoe's ties to Texas Farm Bureau, recalling that Briscoe, during his first term as governor, was principal speaker at the June 13, 1973, dedication ceremony of Texas Farm Bureau's current headquarters in Waco.

According to True, the South Texas Democrat kept his campaign pledge of no new or additional state taxes during his six years as governor, from 1973 to 1979, and was a credit to his profession and to his state.

The 70-year-old Briscoe continues to ranch today. He remains a staunch advocate of agriculture and is involved in ensuring its future by currently serving as chairman of the Agricultural Leadership Council of the TALL (Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership) Program.

The TFB Meritorious Award recipient also chairs the Agri-Food Education Council, a nonprofit educational council sponsor of Agri-Food Masters.

USDA, colleges to assist underdeveloped rural communities

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department is beginning a \$3 million program with seven land-grant universities to develop jobs and income-producing projects for underdeveloped rural communities.

"The intent of this project is direct, hands-on jobs creation in traditionally agricultural-dependent

communities," said Bob Nash, USDA's undersecretary for small community and rural development.

The agreement will establish pilot projects to provide technical assistance to communities and small businesses in such communities over an 18-month period.

It will be coordinated through

USDA's Rural Development Administration and Extension Service.

This is the first of several initiatives resulting from President Clinton's Nov. 1 executive order to advance the capacity development of black colleges and universities, Nash said.

USDA to survey farmers' finances

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department will soon conduct its annual survey measuring the financial condition of American farming and the costs of producing agricultural products.

Interviewers trained by the National Agricultural Statistics Service will contact about 12,000 farmers and ranchers from mid-February through March 1994, asking them to take part in the survey on farm costs and returns.

The service conducts the survey each year to obtain detailed information about production expenses, capital purchases, financial information, production practices and other operating characteristics.

Particular emphasis will be placed on the costs of dairy production as information is collected about 1993 production expenditures and practices.

The farm costs and returns survey "shows how viable agriculture is as a whole, how the various types of enterprises within agriculture are faring and whether some sectors are more financially vulnerable than others," a USDA statement said.

"The high-quality data produced by the USDA survey are essential to policy-makers' understanding of agriculture, their analysis of its strengths and weaknesses, and their formulation and adjustment of policies," it said.

For example, it said, the data reveal whether producers' debt-asset ratios are up or down and whether their interest expenses are increasing or decreasing.

"The secretary of agriculture can then make adjustments in farm programs that guide the sector in ways that improve returns to farmers," the department said.

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Check It
Twice!**

- CHECK ALL CORDS for frayed or bare wires, cracked insulation, loose connections and damaged plugs or light sockets.
- TEST LIGHTS BEFORE STRINGING.
- UNPLUG LIGHTS BEFORE MAKING REPAIRS or replacing light bulbs.
- DON'T OVERLOAD CIRCUITS. Too many lights on one circuit can cause fire.
- NO LIGHTS ON METALLIC TREES.
- KEEP YOUR TREE FRESH. Trim the base and keep plenty of water in the tree stand.
- TURN OFF ALL LIGHTS BEFORE LEAVING or going to bed. You'll save money and be safer, too.
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- AVOID OUTDOOR ELECTRICAL LINES when hanging lights on the rooftop or in tall trees.
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Ag briefs

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Agriculture Department is proposing to revise its label review and approval system for meat and poultry producers.

Department said in an announcement. "Over the last decade, Namkoong has become a leading advocate for the conservation of genetic variation in plant species," the announcement said.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy is reminding producers who enrolled land in the Conservation Reserve Program by Nov. 28, 1990, that they have added benefits available under CRP conversion provisions.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy has administered the oath of office to four new top officials in his department.

WASHINGTON (AP) - A Forest Service scientist dedicated to conserving genetic variation in plant species is the winner of an international prize that will be presented by the King of Sweden next fall.

Buntrock previously headed the Washington office of the National Farmers Organization; Dunn was vice president in charge of the National Farmers Union operations in Washington; Beyer was general manager of Verendrye Electric Cooperative Inc.

GATT: Did U.S. blink first? And did it win promises for new farm markets?

By SALLY JACOBSEN Associated Press Writer

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) - In what some saw as a game of chicken in crucial talks on a world trade accord, the United States appears to have blinked first by granting concessions on farm subsidies to France.

Many American commodities will have better sales opportunities in Europe than under the original farm agreement, he said.

But in doing so, U.S. negotiators seem to have won promises of new markets in the 12-nation European Community for American corn, nuts, asparagus and other agriculture exports, as well as some manufactured products.

Other EC nations did their part, too. They agreed to consider French demands that their farmers be given financial compensation if the reductions pinched too much.

Details of the tradeoffs that led to the farm agreement were sketchy since talks are still under way at the GATT headquarters in Geneva.

More importantly, they may have saved the 116-nation Uruguay Round negotiations from collapse and improved chances of their successful conclusion, after seven years, by Wednesday's deadline.

But not surprisingly, American officials didn't concede defeat.

EC officials said the Americans agreed to spread out a 21 percent cut in subsidized exports over a six-year period, and postpone the year the cuts are to begin.

"If we did not get a satisfactory deal on agriculture, then the probability would have been there would be no (global) agreement at all," said Robert Hormats, vice chairman of Goldman Sachs International in New York.

It was enough for Balladur to claim victory. "We have emerged from our isolation in this negotiation without conceding anything essential," he told the French National Assembly.

The concessions also worked to the Americans' advantage, Espy said.

But conclusion of the talks by Wednesday is still far from certain, as the United States and the EC began a new battle over opening U.S. shipping markets, and dozens of other issues remained unresolved.

Espy told reporters in Washington that the United States won promises that more farm products would be allowed into the European market.

The United States also extended the six-year "peace clause" in the accord by three years. During that time, the United States cannot file complaints against the EC's farm subsidy program.

The fight between the United States and France over payments to farmers had been escalating for several years.

"Our insistence was on this matter of market access," Espy said.

By the Blair House agreement was intact and it got us where we wanted to go," he said.

France, the EC's largest farm producer, refused to accept an agreement reached last year between U.S. and EC negotiators to sharply pare its subsidized farm exports.

France, he said, will be able to export an additional 7.5 million tons of subsidized wheat and flour over six years and sell 1.2 million tons of vegetable oil exports.

In addition, Espy said, the Europeans agreed to open their markets wider to dairy products and specialty items such as almonds, walnuts and asparagus.

France, the EC's largest farm producer, refused to accept an agreement reached last year between U.S. and EC negotiators to sharply pare its subsidized farm exports.

New Mexico rancher's conservation practices net him an environmental stewardship award

By JOAN GOESSL Associated Press Writer

Bowe, who has an undergraduate degree in agricultural business and a master's in economics.

Most ranchers are taught that the more you scatter out cattle, the better - that's what I was always taught. But if you look back in history, you'll find that scattering cattle is not the best thing to do.

Bowe looks at the land his grandfather homesteaded in early 1900s and sees the future.

But the main benefit "is our land is improving," Bowe says. "We've seen significant improvement in the landscape - more mulch, less bare ground and a whole lot less erosion."

By now, Bowe thinks of his children - 13-year-old Nicholas and 12-year-old Nicole - as he preserves the family ranch. He and Nicholas, who's particularly interested, have done science projects on the ranch for the past four years.

That may be an understatement. Bowe is one of seven regional winners of the National Cattlemen's Association annual environmental stewardship award, which recognizes cattle producers who use conservation practices to improve their businesses' productivity and profitability.

The large herd grazes grass down more evenly, and the paddock system allows the grass and brush to recover, resulting in better vegetation, he says.

Bowe left an unfulfilling office job with the University of Missouri extension service in 1979 and teamed up with his father to run the ranch east of San Jon in Quay County. His father retired in 1990, when Bowe's brother stepped in as his new partner.

He sounds like a rancher for the environmental-conscious '90s, but his hard conservation work has made sound business sense as well.

The "hoof action" from the animals breaks up the soil, making it easier for minerals to circulate and water to penetrate instead of running off and eroding the land. The big herd also knocks down taller grass which is recycled into the soil.

According to Ms. Macy, all of her trials and test have resulted in a hand cream that is second to none. "I've been working on it since 1986," she said. "I think I've gotten it just about right now. I think I did pretty good this time."

In a decade, Bowe has nearly doubled the stocking rate at the 12,000-acre Rafer F Cattle Co. he runs with his brother, Russell. He now runs one cow to about every 18 acres, compared with one to every 30 to 35 acres in 1983.

Bowe says he uses no chemicals, opting instead to allow "different little bugs" such as dung beetles and

was a little credit for coming up with the idea of using the buffalo tallow," she wrote in a short description of the product that is attached to every jar of the cream that she sells. "So this hand cream is a tribute to my brother."

"I'm trying to get close to how the buffalo used to graze," says

"Well, after the soap was made up, I decided to try some on my shoulder to see if it helped my bursitis any," she explained. What she didn't realize, however, was that, aside from the buffalo tallow, a major ingredient in the soap was lye - a substance that can be fairly harsh on soft skin.

Her brother died before she came up with the idea that would put the buffalo tallow to good use. But Ms. Macy refused to give up on her vision.

What followed, she says, were many hours of mixing, testing and reformulating the new mixture in her kitchen crockpot until the consistency and texture were just right.

Since known instances of cancer in buffalo were next to zero, the theory went, the doctor figured that a buffalo-based product might just be the answer to relieve some of the disease's more virulent characteristics.

"So, Bud bought about 300 pounds of buffalo tallow," Ms. Macy said.

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Buffalo cream will soothe anything, inventor says

BY JOHN CHURCHILL Sulphur Springs News-Telegram

SULPHUR SPRINGS, Texas (AP) - Its ingredients are few, its uses are many.

Consisting largely of natural elements, it is a white, creamy-smooth substance that resembles nothing so much as old-fashioned cooking lard.

Like duct tape and hammers, its inventor says, there is virtually nothing that it can't fix.

But it isn't a tool. Call it an idea that blossomed into an invention, which, through a little persistence and good old-fashioned stick-to-itiveness, became a pretty good little business venture.

That's the happy part of the story, Ruth Macy, the product's inventor, says. The sad part, she explains, is the tragic event that gave her the idea in the first place.

"Several years ago, my brother Bud had cancer," Ms. Macy said recently, relaxing over lunch in a Sulphur Springs cafe. "Well, he had been reading about a doctor who was experimenting with all sorts of things that were made from the buffalo as possible cancer treatments."

Since known instances of cancer in buffalo were next to zero, the theory went, the doctor figured that a buffalo-based product might just be the answer to relieve some of the disease's more virulent characteristics.

"So, Bud bought about 300 pounds of buffalo tallow," Ms. Macy said.

In memory of her brother, she calls it Bud's Buffalo Cream.

"So, Bud bought about 300 pounds of buffalo tallow," Ms. Macy said.

"Bud did not live long enough to know anything about the hand cream, but (he) had said that all he wanted

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Mideast nations more worried about water supplies than oil

By NICOLAS B. TATRO
Associated Press Writer

SEA OF GALILEE, Israel (AP) — The Sea of Galilee is Israel's drinking fountain, but the taps are on Arab land.

A quarter-century ago, Syria tried to shut off the water by diverting the headwaters of the Jordan River. Israel attacked and the conflict grew into the 1967 war.

Since then, water has become ever more precious in the Middle East, and more explosive than oil.

Syria and Turkey nearly came to blows in 1990 when Turkey halted the flow of the Euphrates to fill its Ataturk Dam reservoir.

Iraq and Syria are said to support Kurdish guerrillas in eastern Turkey as a means of keeping pressure on the Turkish government not to hold back too much water with a series of Euphrates dams and irrigation projects.

Jordan is at odds with both Syria and Israel over the waters of the Yarmouk River, and with Saudi Arabia over the Saudi pumping of non-renewable water from a joint aquifer.

Egypt, which relies on the Nile for all of its water, has worked out a sharing agreement with Sudan. But it also must keep an eye on the population growth and agricultural development of six other countries that control the river upstream.

"If there is a political will to find the solution, then water should not be a problem, but if you want to fight, water will give you ample opportunity," said Uri Shamir of Technion University in Haifa, a water negotiator for Israel.

A recent study by Worldwatch Institute in Washington reported that 26 nations were short of water, 14 of them in the Middle East and North Africa, and that most are expected to double their populations within 30 years.

"By the end of the 1990s, water problems in the Middle East will lead either to an unprecedented degree of cooperation or a combustible level of conflict," said Sandra Postel, author of the study.

Water cutoffs occur every day in parts of Damascus, capital of Syria. Israel has sharply reduced the water available for agriculture. Persian Gulf states rely on desalination plants. Egypt and Iraq face future shortages.

The region's thirstiest nation is Jordan. In Amman, the capital, families have 250-gallon rooftop tanks and fill them on the three or four days a week the water flows. Farmers in the Jordan Valley sometimes supplement inadequate rations by illegally taking water from canals at night with portable pumps and hoses.

"Rationing scares people," said Elias Salameh, a water expert at Jordan University. "Everybody fears running out of water."

In only six years, Egypt will not have enough to reclaim desert land it needs to feed its fast-growing population.

"Many people think that, because we have the Nile, that means we are rich in water," said Adli Bishay, director of a U.N.-sponsored development program. "But that's not true at all, because we have to consider the huge population we have. It's nearly 59 million now and expected to be 110 million by 2025."

As might be expected, water has become an important element of the

First fish caught after big eruption of Mt. St. Helens

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP) — A state biologist has caught an eight-inch rainbow trout in Spirit Lake, the first confirmed catch since Mount St. Helens boiled the lake 13 1/2 years ago.

Jim Byrd, who works at the fish collection station on the Toutle River, hiked down to the 2,500-acre lake one day recently and set two gill nets from an inflatable raft.

For years, scientists have speculated that trout had returned to the lake.

Byrd said he did not see indications of fish but assumes more trout live there.

In its eruption on May 18, 1980, Mount St. Helens leveled 230 square miles of forest, left 57 people dead or missing and covered a vast area — including Spirit Lake — with volcanic debris. The resulting wave splashed 600 feet up the opposite shore.

Spirit Lake has not been stocked since the eruption in order to provide a place for scientists to study the natural recovery of the ecosystem.

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Arab-Israeli conflict.
Munther Haddadin, chief Jordanian water negotiator in the Middle East peace talks, claims Israel is hijacking the Jordan River.

"Israel, through unilateral actions, diverted the fresh water flow of the Jordan River for its exclusive use and has denied Jordan any portion of the flow," he said.

A study by the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University concluded that Israel cannot afford to give up captured water sources unless its future supplies are guaranteed.

"Water is essential," said Joseph Alpher, director of the center. "It doesn't mean you can't withdraw, but you can't withdraw without making certain that Israel's supply is secure and that there is guaranteed access to the water resources."

A study by the Israel-Palestine Center for Research and Information said \$2 billion to \$3 billion will be needed to import or desalinate enough new water to make up shortages in the next few decades for Jordanians, Israelis and Palestinians.

Zvi Ortenberg, in charge of the Sea of Galilee's water quality, said it

is easy to upset the delicate system of rain runoff and underground water that feeds it. The 64-square-mile lake supplies 30 percent of Israel's water.

Pollution of the water supply is a constant concern. Israeli authorities regularly inspect cow barns, for example, because they produce nitrogen that can ruin water quality by spurring the growth of algae.

If Israel returns the Golan Heights, will Syria be as judicious about avoiding pollution in the Sea of Galilee?

"If we return everything, the Syrians will be 10 meters from the beaches at some points and they will have the ability to cause harm," Ortenberg said. "If the agreement is guaranteed by the United States or another party, then I can sleep quietly. If not, I have a problem."

At the U.S.-sponsored regional peace negotiations, Arabs and Israelis are talking directly for the first time about sharing water. But both sides agree little headway has been made.

Riyad al-Khudari, a geologist who heads the Palestinian team, called it "a dialogue of the deaf."

The Palestinians want a greater share of the water in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to remain there. Israel gets more than 50 percent of its water from the occupied lands, most of it from aquifers in the West Bank.

Agriculture Minister Yaacov Tsur said Israel's main goal in the water talks has been to preserve the current allocation of water and seek new water to share, mainly through desalination and recycling waste water.

"We have to try to add to the entire quantity of water," he said in an interview.

Palestinians say Israel has refused to let them sink new wells for irrigation while allowing Jewish settlers to use water for such wasteful crops as bananas, and even for swimming pools.

"In the West Bank, it's not limited water resources but military orders that are preventing us from using the water," said Abdel-Rahman Tamimi, a Palestinian water expert involved in the talks.

Tamimi predicts Palestinians will double their water use to about 25 gallons per person a day by 2000 if

peace brings a rising living standard and the return of thousands of refugees. He said current Israeli use is about twice that.

In the talks, "Sharing the water became another way of saying, 'Why don't you give me some of yours?'" said Dan Zaslavsky, who retired recently as head of the Israel Water Commission.

Too much underground water already is being pumped, he said, especially from the large "mountain aquifer" that sits under both the West Bank and Israel.

"This means that if they take

more, we get less," he said.

Some proposed solutions to the water shortage are ambitious. The Turks dream of a "peace pipeline" to carry their surplus water through Syria, Israel and Jordan to the desert countries of the Persian Gulf.

Most experts feel, however that desalination and recycling are the most feasible approaches.

"In Israel, we can build a sea-water desalination plant to meet the demands of a city of 100,000 for the price of a single fighter-bomber," said Yoram Avnimelech, chief scientist of the Environment Ministry.

SOME POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

By The Associated Press

Possible ways of alleviating the Middle East water shortage:

Peace Pipeline — Turkish proposal to carry water from Seyhan and Ceyhan rivers to Syria, Jordan, Israel and Persian Gulf states. Proposed daily capacity of 2.6 billion gallons, enough for about 15 million people.

Supply by sea — Export surplus water from Turkey in tankers or giant water-filled bags guided by tugboats. Israeli experts say importing water by sea would be cheaper than bringing it from the West Bank with pumps powered by imported oil.

Regional water bank — Link reservoirs, pipelines and dams into single system, allowing more equitable management and pricing. Surplus countries such as Turkey and Iraq would be paid for their extra water and deficit nations, like Jordan, would be assured supply.

Desalination — In use in Persian Gulf countries. Nations with no oil revenue, like Israel and Jordan, would need financial help to build the required billions of dollars worth of plants.

Dead-Med project — Link Mediterranean and Dead Seas with a canal, build dams to produce hydroelectric power and use the energy to desalinate the water.

Nile-Gaza pipeline — Build a canal to connect the Gaza Strip and Negev desert with the Nile River. Egyptian experts say Egypt cannot spare the water.

The law and legal arguments on water

By The Associated Press

It is generally agreed that all nations bordering a water source have some rights to the water under international law. But there is no single accepted formula for determining those rights.

Several arguments enter the debate on how rights should be allocated:

• The "territory of origin" doctrine says a country may control the allocation of water if the source is within its territory.

Palestinians, for example, claim the "mountain aquifer" that stretches from the occupied West Bank into Israel because it is fed by rains that fall on Palestinian territory.

This concept is called the Harmon doctrine for Judson Harmon, the U.S. attorney general who developed it in a conflict with Mexico over the Rio Grande in 1895.

• Another doctrine, "historical use," maintains that a country's rights to a given water source depend on how much it has used the water. If the country has traditionally taken most of the water, it has a right to continue.

Egyptian claims of historic rights to Nile River water are based on this argument.

• The "no significant harm" doctrine says a nation may control the water from a given source only to the extent that it causes no major harm to others downstream.

Under this argument, Turkey's damming of the Euphrates would be legal only as long as Syria and Iraq did not suffer from the reduced flow.

• "Equitable apportionment" requires that each country's rights to water from a shared source be assessed according to current and historical use, current and future needs and access to alternative sources.

Israelis argue that they used 80 percent of the water from the West Bank's main aquifer even before 1967, thus satisfying current and historical use. Palestinians counter that they would have used more of the water if Israel had not limited their access.

The concept of equitable apportionment, also known as the Helsinki doctrine for the Helsinki congress of international lawyers where it was formulated, seems to be winning the international debate on how to allocate rights.

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THE CALL OF THE GOSPEL

"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, for that God chose you from the beginning unto salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: whereunto He called you through the gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." (2 Thess. 2:13-14.)

Without exception, the call, or appeal of the gospel of Christ is to the intellectual ability of man to reason and decide regarding the salvation of his soul. Never do we read of the apostles, or any other early day disciple appealing to the fleshly appetites of man.

The power of God to save the soul of man is the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:18-21.) Jesus rebuked the multitude who followed Him only to be fed a physical meal (Jn. 6:26-27.) While many today seek to entice sinners into their assemblies with food, fun, entertainment and recreation, the only drawing power God authorizes is the simple story of Jesus Christ. Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." (1 Cor. 2:2.) His desire always was just for the opportunity to declare the whole counsel of God.

So much attention today is focused upon all the different gimmicks to entice and influence the masses to "join" a particular group that those unfamiliar with the scriptures are led to believe that churches exist only for the purpose of providing entertainment, recreation and earthly pleasures for the people. And the greatest challenge of a congregation is how well their ball team is doing in the church league.

Jesus said: "No man can come to me, except the Father that sent me draw him: and I will raise him up in the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall all be taught of God. Every one that hath heard from the father, and hath learned, cometh unto me." (Jn. 6:44-45.) Jesus is saying that the teacher is God and man is to be the learner. God, through the Holy Spirit directing the preaching and writing of men is teaching us the things we need to learn in order to be saved. Therefore, the call of the gospel is the call we must respond to if we are to reach heaven.

—Billy T. Jones.

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