

STATE:
Teachers urge officials to keep
70% passing standard, Page 3

GOOD EVENING
Thursday, February 15, 1996

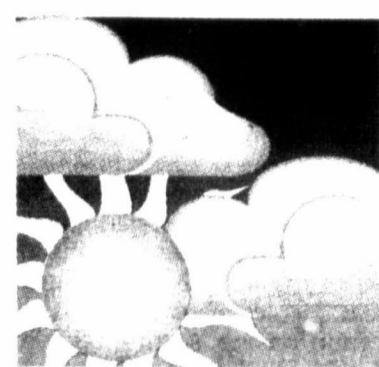
SPORTS:
Harvesters to play Monterey
in practice game, Page 7

THE PAMPA NEWS

VOL: 88 NO: 269

Pampa, Texas

50¢ DAILY/SUNDAY \$1



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

LOCAL

ADRIAN — The Adrian School Homecoming Association has announced its 1996 Homecoming meeting will be held during Thanksgiving weekend 1996.

Association members said updates are urgently needed for addresses of former students and staff.

Updates may be sent to Adrian School Homecoming Association, Box 189, Adrian, TX 79001.

The information also may be telephoned to (806) 538-6357 or (806) 538-6202, or faxed to (806) 538-6291.

NATION

WASHINGTON (AP) — Maybe last year wasn't the hottest on record after all.

The National Weather Service reported Wednesday that 1995 was the second warmest year on record, averaging 52.36 degrees Fahrenheit.

That estimate, based on land-surface measurements, was 0.18-degree cooler than 1990, the warmest year recorded by the Weather Service. It was 0.76-degree warmer than the long-term average, however.

In early January, researchers from the University of East Anglia in England had placed 1995 as the warmest year on record using both land and ocean readings.

That report, mostly land measurements with a few ocean readings, didn't include complete data for December, the latter part of which turned out to be unusually cool, NWS researchers noted.

A third group of scientists at the University of Alabama and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ranked 1995 as only the eighth warmest in 17 years of satellite temperature measurements.

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — Michael McGuire was listed in fair condition today, the day after his wife, Noreen, gave him a special Valentine's gift: one of her kidneys.

The couple spent several hours in surgery Wednesday as doctors at Stanford University Medical Center removed one of her kidneys and transplanted it into her husband.

"He is in fair condition and she is in good condition," hospital spokeswoman M.A. Malone said today.

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket bought in Irving correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The jackpot was worth \$8 million.

The numbers drawn from a field of 50 were: 10, 18, 23, 33, 34 and 49.

Lottery officials estimate the jackpot for Saturday night's game will be \$4 million.

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Runaway train crashes into office building

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A runaway freight train traveling up to 50 mph slammed into a railroad office building, injuring nine men, and authorities said today that sabotage was suspected.

"There appears to have been some tampering with the train. As a result we have called in the FBI," said Dick Russack, a spokesman for Burlington Northern Santa Fe in Illinois.

Russack declined to elaborate on why sabotage was suspected.

The Burlington Northern train, carrying lumber, grain and other cargo, originated in Minneapolis and was bound for Galesburg, Ill., when its brakes failed just before midnight Wednesday, said Rick Ellis, a BN division superintendent. It was approaching the freight yard of Canadian Pacific Railroad.

One of the injured men was pinned for three hours beneath a car holding 15 tons of grain. He was freed after rescuers dug into the frozen ground to jack up the car.

He was upgraded from critical to fair condition today, suffering from hypothermia. Wind chills

had been below zero as rescuers worked to free him from the wreckage.

None of the other injuries, mostly fractures and sprains, appeared to be life-threatening, authorities said. Five men were treated and released.

FBI agents were examining the wreckage today, Russack said.

"Clearly it appears the brakes failed, but in an investigation one has to look at everything," he said.

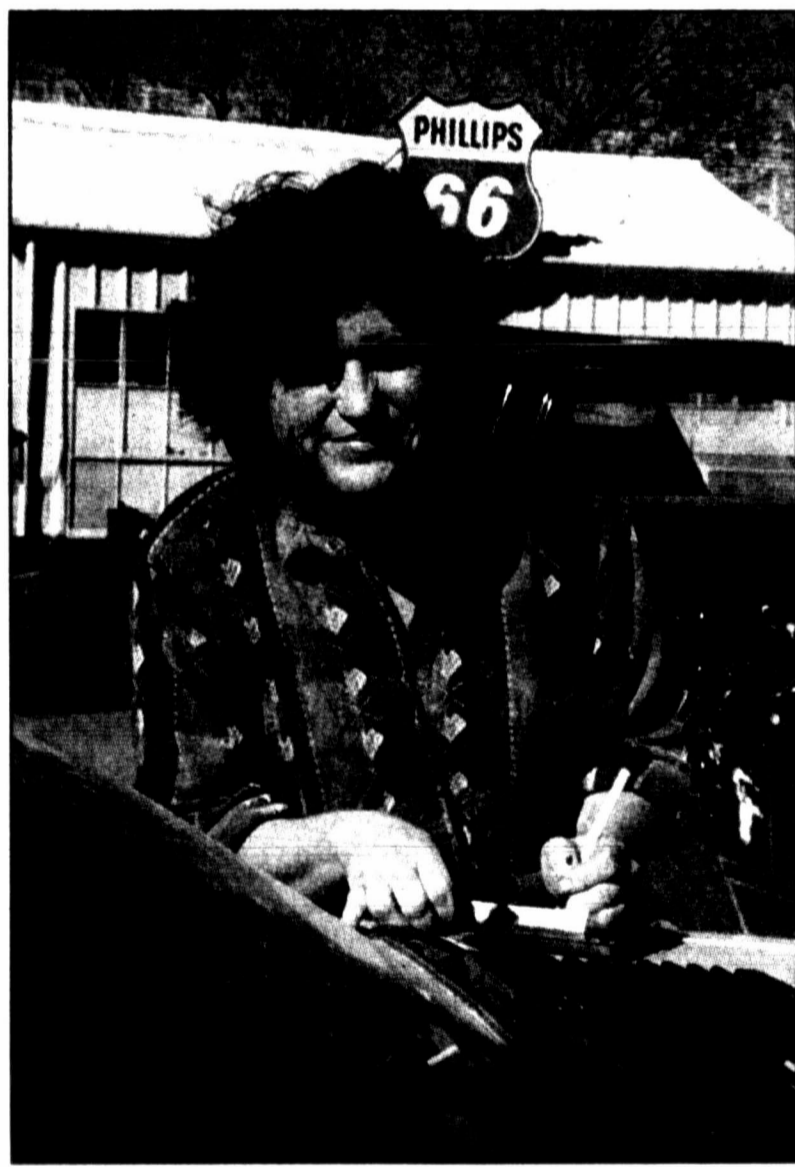
Canadian Pacific officials said 44 rail cars and six locomotives derailed, including cars and engines that were knocked off the tracks by the oncoming train.

Cars were twisted in every direction, some upside down, some on top of each other. The impact knocked the rails off their bed and wiped out a steel pedestrian bridge over the train yard.

Big sheets of plywood spilled out of railway cars like decks of cards, and grain poured onto the frozen gravel beneath the wreckage. Cleanup crews were siphoning diesel fuel out of the tanks and off the ground.

See TRAIN, Page 2

Car inspection



(Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

Debbie Thomas performs an inspection sticker check on a car Wednesday afternoon at the Post Office Service Station, something all vehicle owners go through each year. In addition to the usual inspections required for the stickers, Thomas said the service station also has added a new one: checking that window tinting isn't too dark.

Jury convicts man in DWI case

WHEELER — A Wheeler County district court jury on Wednesday convicted 32-year-old Ocie Dale Menefield of the felony offense of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, subsequent offense.

Menefield was arrested April 9, 1995, on Interstate 40 east of Shamrock by Wheeler County Deputy Sheriff Jerry Bailey and Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper David Joynes. Menefield's erratic driving prompted the stop.

Menefield had two prior convictions

for driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, one in 1993 and one in 1994.

The two-day trial resulted in what one juror described as "sending a message to Wheeler County of what we think of persons who continue to drink and drive after having been given a chance to stop."

Menefield remains jailed in Wheeler County in lieu of bail relative to five counts of burglary. The 31st Judicial District Attorney's Office plans to try Menefield before a jury on all burglary counts.

Life's Lessons



(Pampa News photo by Chip Chandler)

Darren Peterson, the "cabbie from Calcutta," frightens passenger Alex Soria while showing her the sights and ignoring the road ahead. Peterson, Soria and 18 other seventh and eighth grade students in Dean Birkes' theater class will present 15 monologues and dialogues in "Life's Lessons" Friday night. The short character dramas include the range from sorrow to joy in life, Birkes said. The program begins at 7 p.m. in the Pampa Middle School auditorium.

McLean ISD trustees approve early retirement plan, contracts

By CHIP CHANDLER
Staff Writer

An early retirement plan, salary schedules and the non-renewal of an administrative contract dominated a near-three hour executive session of the McLean school board Wednesday.

The board in open session voted "with regret" not to renew the contract of school counselor and teacher Rick Reeser, but extended contracts of elementary Principal Dick Crockett, high school Principal Charles Callum and Athletic Director Jerry Miller.

Superintendent John Griffin's contract was extended at the January meeting.

Griffin said the board's decision not to renew Reeser's contract "came down to everyone else's problem — money," citing a common complaint of area school districts, a declining tax base.

In another move that board members hope will save the district money, trustees voted to adopt a voluntary early retirement plan to be offered on a one-year trial basis.

If all of the four teachers eligible for the plan accept it, Griffin said, the immediate cost to the district would be \$49,200. However, should the district replace those experienced teachers with new teachers with lower salaries, board President Jake Hess said he felt the district would replenish its bank account quickly.

Attrition would not be a feasible option to pursue with this plan, Griffin indicated today, because the positions held by the teachers would have to be replaced next year.

The plan, modeled after one adopted recently in Lefors, would pay each teacher \$400 for each year of experience. Only teachers who have taught in McLean ISD for five years would be eligible under the plan adopted Wednesday night.

Retiring teachers could choose a lump-sum payment or a pay-out over 12 months.

Griffin indicated he was not currently aware of any teacher who would accept the plan.

The board agreed to a March 31 deadline for teachers to be eli-

gible for the plan.

Also in executive session, the board discussed a salary ladder required by the state in Senate Bill 1, but took no action in open session.

Trustees also officially called the May 4 school board election, announcing that positions currently held by Hess and Gene Galley would be on the ballot.

In other action, the board accepted an amendment increasing the budget by \$5,970 following the receiving of state funds for technological improvements in the elementary school computer lab.

The board also accepted the resignations of social studies teacher Cherry Eldredge and cafeteria employee Brenda Jasper and tabled a bid of nearly \$8,000 from Tarpley Music for a sound system in the school's auditorium.

Griffin told the board that L.H. Webb requested being removed from the agenda. Webb has sought deannexation from the Lefors school district and hopes to be annexed into McLean's boundaries.

Composition honors former Pampan

By DIANE MURRAY
San Angelo Standard-Times

SAN ANGELO (AP) — The death of Dr. David Fennell knocked the breath out of the Angelo State University Ram Band.

Fennell, 48, had been the band's assistant director for 20 years when he died Aug. 20 after battling pneumonia. His death came the first day of an intensive week of summer band in preparation for marching season.

Half a year later, the band is poised to premiere "A Gathering of Angels," a piece written for and about Fennell.

The music, by well-known band composer Jared Spears, "sounds to me like a celebration of his life," said Fennell's widow, Mary Jo. "It doesn't sound maudlin. It doesn't make you sad."

Harris Brinson strides past a cacophony of musicians warming up in the ASU band hall. He takes his place atop the podium, opens a musical score and quietly says, "A Gathering of Angels."

Tuning notes cease, and music shuffles.

The rehearsal begins. Brinson had the idea to commission a piece of music.

"I just thought this is something I'd really like to do for David," he said. "At first I was a bit hesitant because of the money."

Music of the quality of "A Gathering of Angels" costs several thousand dollars to commission.

"We sent out letters asking for donations," Brinson said. "I thought, even if we don't raise enough, we're going to do this. I'll pay for it myself if I have to."

"That's the way I felt about it."

The response to the donation appeal was overwhelming. Enough for the composition — as well as money to endow a scholarship — came pouring in from colleagues, former students and patrons of the San Angelo Symphony Orchestra. Fennell was the symphony's principal clarinet for 20 years.

"A Gathering of Angels" will be published as a piece suitable for college and 4A and 5A high school bands.

"This will be a living memorial to David," Brinson said, flip-

ping through the score.

"A Gathering of Angels" begins soft and low with the mellow tones of tympani drums and bass and contrabass clarinets. A French horn enters into the mix, followed by flutes and clarinets.

And the music builds. The Brinson-Fennell directing team predated their Ram Band years.

They paired in the early 1970s as directors of the award-winning Pampa High School Band, before Brinson set down his baton to dabble in the world of business.

Less than a year later, he found himself anxious to return to band directing, this time with a college band.

Brinson came to ASU in 1974. His protegee followed in 75.

Over the last two decades, the two formed a partnership unusual in band circles where few directing teams stay together more than a few years. But at ASU, both had found their niche.

"When I first came, I saw the opportunity," Brinson said. "I decided, hey, this is my place."

See PAMPAN, Page 2

Newsmakers

COLLEGE STATION - Texas A&M University's Corps of Cadets has announced its Commandant's Honor Roll students for the fall 1995 semester, recognizing 446 cadets for outstanding academic service.

To be eligible for the honor, cadets must maintain a 3.0 grade point ratio upon completion of 12 credit hours.

Area residents named to the list include: Cory Ray Davis - chemical engineering major; David T. Kludt - agricultural engineering major; and John Kyle Sparkman - biomedical sciences major, all of Pampa.

NORFOLK, Va. - Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Geoffrey W. Sisk, son of Charles and Elizabeth Sisk of Pampa, recently received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Sisk was recognized for outstanding achievement while serving as radio central watch supervisor aboard the destroyer tender USS Yellowstone, homeported at Norfolk. Sisk was singled out for the award because of his superb initiative and contribution in helping the command fulfill its mission.

Sisk joins a select group of

men and women who have demonstrated outstanding ability to excel in serving on the Navy-Marine Corps team. Whether assigned to ships, squadrons or shore commands around the world, men and women like Sisk are making a difference as they work to improve their knowledge and skill as part of the most highly technical naval force in history.

LEVELLAND - April Tiedt from Pampa has been named to the Dean's Honor List for the fall 1995 semester at South Plains College. Students named to the Dean's Honor List must maintain a 3.25 GPA while carrying a minimum full-time load of 12 semester hours.

ABILENE - Angie Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Allison of Pampa, graduated magna cum laude from Abilene Christian University. Thompson of Odessa, received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education.

ACU is a private university affiliated with the churches of Christ and with an enrollment of 4,400 students.

Nation briefs

Minister pleads guilty, receives life sentences
SEBRING, Fla. (AP) — A minister who held power of attorney for an elderly couple he had married pleaded guilty to strangling them after they discovered he had stolen their money and sold one of their homes.

The Rev. John Nelson Canning will receive two consecutive life sentences with no possibility of parole when he is sentenced March 6.

In exchange for Canning's pleas Wednesday to two counts of first-degree murder, prosecutors agreed not to seek the death penalty.

Canning, 59, has been in jail without bail since his arrest last March.

Canning, pastor of Fountain of Life church, married Hazel and Leo Gleese in 1988 and presided over their graveside memorial service in January 1995 — after beating and strangling them.

The Gleeses, both 90, had granted Canning power of attorney after their health began to fail in 1994.

Police and prosecutors said the couple's bank records showed at least \$8,000 of \$28,000 in proceeds from the secret sale of their second home were transferred into Canning's account.

Art for Heart



(Special photo)

Local artist and surgeon Vijay K. Mohan, M.D., F.A.C.S., created and donated the three pastels he is shown with for the American Heart Association's "Art for Heart" auction at Pampa Country Club Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. The pastels are "The Lyric in Lava-Hawaii," "Indian Village Belle" and "Life is Boring." Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served beginning at 6 p.m. with the live auction beginning at 7 p.m. Many local and area artists have donated watercolors, pastels, oil paintings, wood carvings and sculptures. Area merchants have donated several pieces for the silent auction as well. Tickets may be purchased by calling Terri Gambin at NBC Bank, or Chrys Smith and Dee Barker at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency at 665-0356.

Club news

Pam FCE Club

The Pam Family and Consumer Education Club met Feb. 9 at Pam Apartments with president Virginia Horton presiding. There were 12 members and one guest present.

The program was given by Boots Barnett, Janice Carter and Horton care giving options.

The next meeting will be March 8.

Heritage Art Club

Heritage Art Club met Feb. 5 with 16 members present. Faye Nichols called the meeting to order. A discussion followed concerning the coming art show March 30 and 31.

Frances Hall demonstrated palette knife painting.

Theresa Maness won the door prize.

The next meeting is set for March 4.

Top O' Texas CattleWomen

Top O' Texas CattleWomen met Feb. 6 with Darena Begert, president, calling the meeting to order.

Treasurer Louise Coulter reported 36 members had paid dues.

Begert reported on the National Cattlemen's meeting and National CattleWomen's meeting in San Antonio and handed out materials from the meetings. She also had a copy of "Beef - It's What's for Dinner," the national beef cook off winning recipe.

The group voted to send a \$25

gift certificate to Pampa's Art for Heart silent auction.

Diane Buckingham reported on a beef recipe book. She is to present it at the next meeting.

Herman Boone, retired Roberts County Extension Agent, spoke on lawn care, gardening and trees.

Members were present from Lefors, Skellytown, Allison, Shamrock, Pampa and Wheeler.

The next meeting is set for March 5 at Maxey's in Wheeler with Ravonda Hardcastle speaking on mix and match clothing for spring.

Highland Hobby Club

The Highland Hobby Club met recently in the home of Jewel Holmes. Gloria Norris, president, conducted club business, and secretary-treasurer, Marilyn Kirkwood read minutes from the previous meeting.

Guest, Helen Smith, was welcomed. Smith won the door prize along with Gloria Norris.

Supper was served.

The club's next meeting will be next month at the home of Marilyn Kirkwood.

Singer pulls publicity stunt in bid for attention

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — When aspiring singer-songwriter Kristi Lockwood said she was looking for a little exposure, she meant it.

Wearing only cowboy boots and a cowboy hat Wednesday, Lockwood strolled down the city's famous Music Row, stunning motorists and other onlookers.

"Yeah, I saw Lady Godiva walking around," said George McLain, who works at a recording company. "She looked at us and said 'Hi guys.' It was pretty amazing."

Lockwood, 32, originally from Cody, Wyo., said she came to Nashville three years ago to pursue a recording career. She admitted her revealing lunchtime stroll was a publicity stunt.

"I've been working real hard on my voice, and getting good feedback on my songs. But nobody was paying much attention," she said.

After several complaints, police caught up with Lockwood, who was covered up and taken home. She was issued a citation for indecent exposure.

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Counseling Helps Ease Stress Of Caring For Invalid Husband

DEAR ABBY: "Illinois Reader," who cares for her bedridden husband, requested that friends who run into her at the grocery store or beauty shop not ask her about her husband, but instead talk about other, lighter topics.

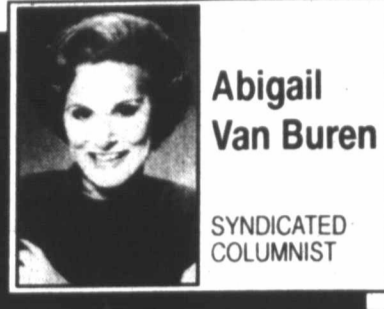
It's often hard for friends and acquaintances to know just what to say in situations like this. Sometimes people are hurt when friends don't inquire about an ailing loved one.

My suggestion to her is to give a brief, polite reply about her husband and then turn the conversation around and ask how the other person's children are doing. Mention she'd like to rent a movie, and ask if they've seen any good ones lately. Most people welcome the chance to talk about something more positive, and this lets them know that it's OK.

OHIO READER

DEAR OHIO READER: Your suggestions can make even the briefest encounter a moment of respite for those who need it most. Thank you for sharing them. I received many compassionate letters from readers offering to share their tips for coping with the stress of caring for invalids at home. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I was moved when I read the letter from "Illinois Reader." That letter could have been written by me.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

In 1977, my husband was diagnosed with an incurable, degenerative illness. By 1986, he was wheelchair-bound. I was his sole caregiver, and in 1989 when my husband could no longer be left alone, I had to retire in order to care for him.

When I turned 50, I realized I was only existing, not living. People no longer recognized me unless I was behind my husband's wheelchair. I was angry at my life, my church and my husband's family. I finally sought the counseling my daughters had been urging me to get.

I want "Illinois" to know that help is available. Caregivers deserve a life as much as the sick person for whom they are caring. I had become a widow with a living husband. A widow receives emotional support, and that's exactly what I needed.

Today I am the manager of my husband's illness, but no longer a victim of it. He is still at home (now on feeding tubes), but I have help — nurses and aides — and he will

remain at home. However, I, too, have to live while he is alive and not wait until he is gone — because now is the time for the living, and now is all I have.

ELKE MCALEXANDER, THOUSAND OAKS, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: I've been following the letters from job-holding and at-home mothers, each of whom is critical or envious of the other.

Isn't it time to declare that parenting is just plain difficult? If there were a way to raise kids to ensure that they'll turn out to be happy, well-adjusted adults, we would have noticed by now.

Let's stop wasting time and join our efforts to make a better place to raise children. Give parents more help and respect, make our schools great and our streets safe. Let's applaud mothers who go out and work to support our economy, as well as those who stay at home and keep the neighborhood alive.

DIANE E. BAKER, BERKELEY, CALIF.

DEAR DIANE: Thank you for a headlined letter. You said a mouthful.

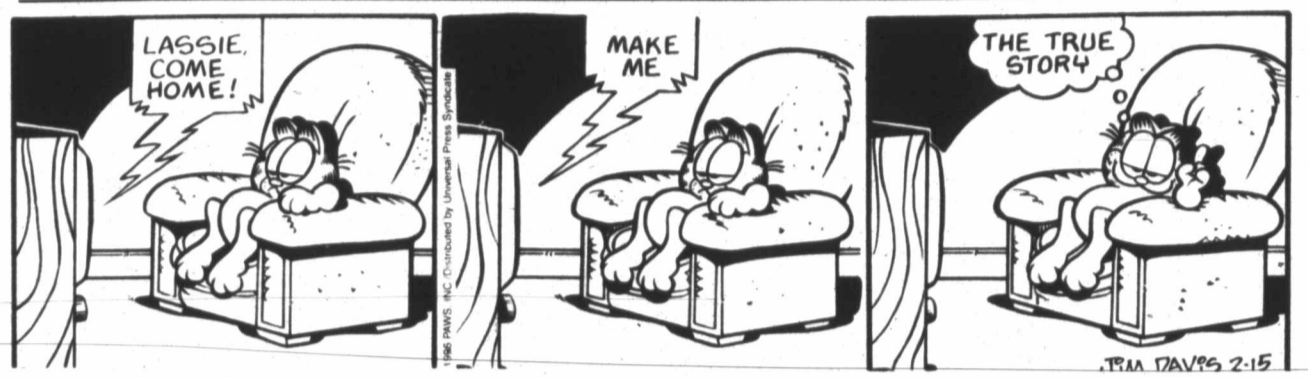
Abby shares more of her favorite, easy-to-prepare recipes. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, More Favorite Recipes, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61064-0447. (Postage is included.)



For Better or For Worse



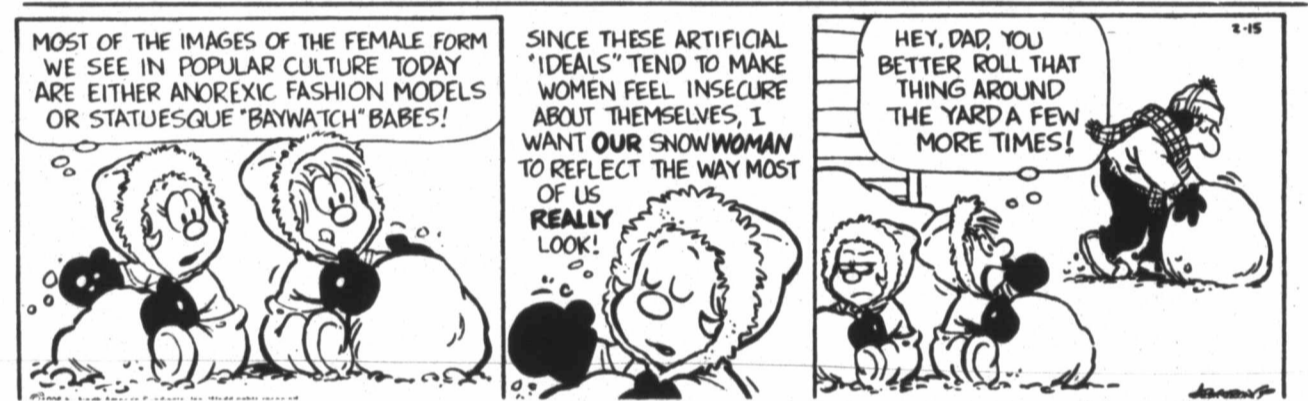
Arlo & Janis



Garfield



Walnut Cove



Marvin



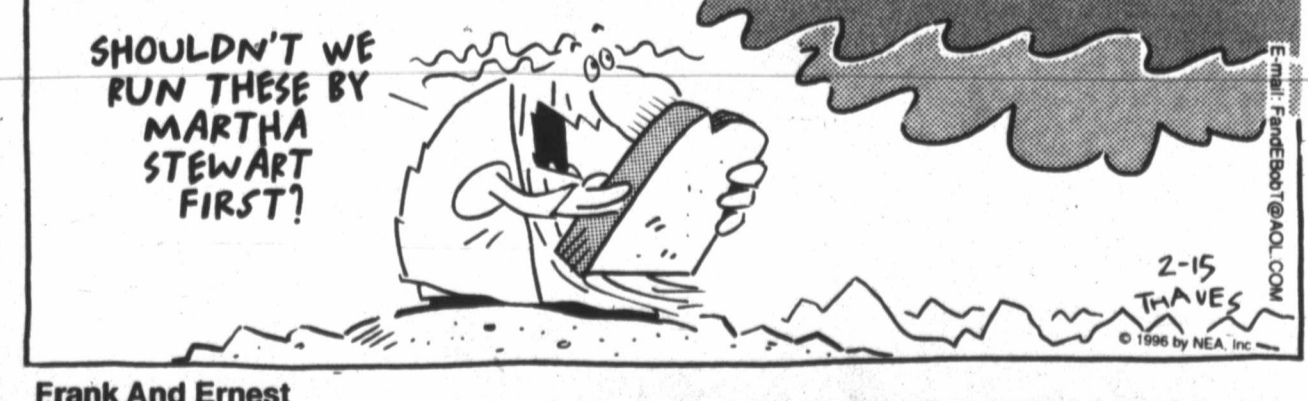
B.C.



Eek & Meek



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 16, 1996

In the year ahead you might become involved in a new endeavor that uses both products and precepts. This could become both fun and profitable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You can make bigger strides today if you focus on personal ambitions rather than half-heartedly supporting the objectives of another. Do your own thing. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing

\$2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Things will work out better for you today if you don't broadcast your business intentions to others. Keep a low profile.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Start looking ahead today. You can begin effectively to blend your present efforts into something you hope to achieve in the near future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Your words and actions could have a powerful impact on your companions today, so use caution in regard to what you say or do in front of others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your mind will function at full speed today and bombard you with constructive thoughts. Try to implement the ideas relating to your social interests first.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Today you will have a special aptitude for ferreting out the root causes of vexing problems. Finding solutions could be easy if you put your mind to it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Suggestions offered today by your mate or partner regarding a joint interest could be mutually advantageous. Keep your mind open.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A frustrating condition that has plagued you lately could suddenly shift for the better today. Make sure to hop on board.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If you pal around with people today who act and think young, it could have a marvelous effect on your outlook. Let your hair down and try to have fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You will not have to settle for the status quo today. If you find a way to improve something, don't be afraid to implement your ideas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Rely equally on your mental and physical abilities if you get involved in a competitive, social sport today. Using your head will give you the edge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Conditions in general will favor you today, but your luckiest area will be your material affairs.

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"Never mind, Mommy, I found it! It was hangin' in my closet."

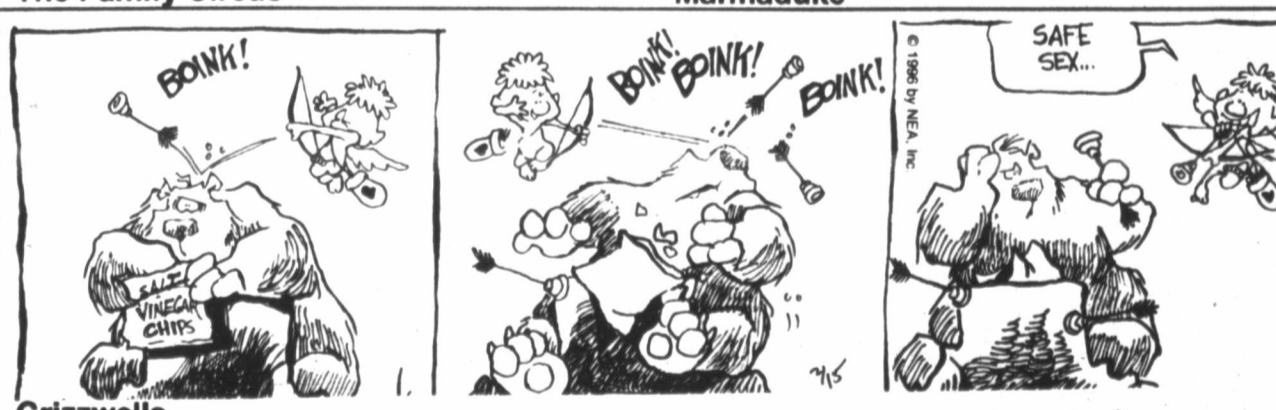


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"Marmaduke, I'll never learn how to juggle with you around."

The Family Circus

Marmaduke



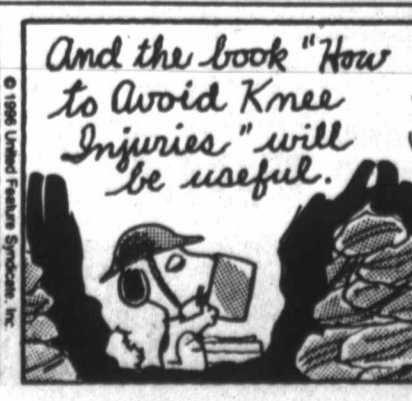
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



NO... BAS... PAI... junio... close... ishing... distri... Par... 56-4... 9-3... if... the se... Jar... and I... Pam... Ur... and... Here!... Ran... title... BAS... PE... the h... basel... Perry... Th... with... Harv... two... to th... To... Han... Schu... stan... Den... Co... coml... hold... Fir... shor... "E... of... Dou... Th... uled... Sanf... ing... Pa... Tues... GO... M... (AP)... Gree... toda... a sh... in t... with... Lay... Au... and... with... layo... Briti... 37... per... a "s... "I... for... atro... "Wi... not... G... clut... Hur... day... Aus... "I... er... Gre... rec... teur... way... A... and... stro... Bra... Far... Mat... Am... and... witl... D... Sen... sho... HC... B... the Gre... Los... of... wer... cau... E... pla... and... wit... We... and... wor... "my We... and... obv... goi... per... C... trac... up... con... E... for... wit... bec... bec... bag...

Comatose officer speaks after seven and a half years; family's joy muted as tragedy strikes second time

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — Seven years, five months and five days after police Officer Gary Dockery was shot in the head, he emerged from a coma, spoke to his sister and cracked jokes as if no time had passed.

The 12-year-old son Dockery remembered is now 20 and engaged to be married. Dockery didn't know Ronald Reagan is no longer in the White House.

Then just as his family started celebrating, Dockery began slipping away again. He couldn't stop talking on Monday, spoke less on Tuesday and not at all on Wednesday, his son Shane said.

Dockery, 42, was to undergo life-saving surgery today to fight the infectious fluid filling his lungs.

The family's decision to go ahead with the surgery was a tough one: Doctors said the anesthesia may sedate forever the last working parts of his brain.

"This isn't a success story," said

Shane, a little dazed from the emotions of the last couple days and the onslaught of reporters who had just learned of Dockery's apparent recovery. "He's very sick."

On Sept. 7, 1988, Dockery answered a trouble call in Walden, a mountain town 15 miles north-east of Chattanooga. He was shot

point-blank with a .22-caliber deringer as he stood talking to the 911 caller in his driveway.

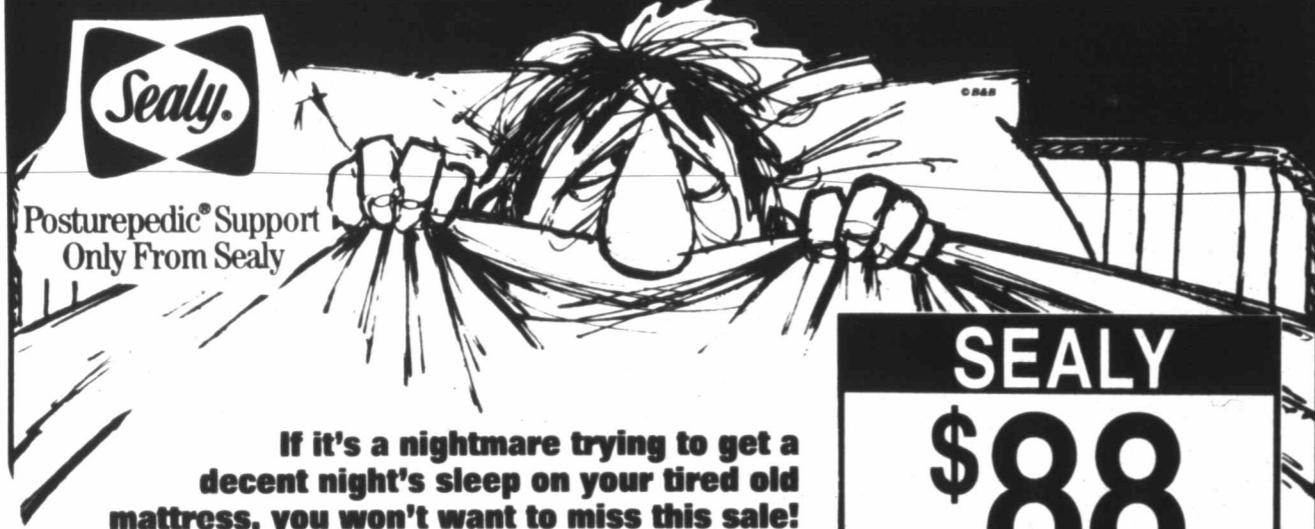
The shooter, Samuel Frank Downey, told officers he made the bogus call to get back at police for reprimanding him about noise after neighbors complained. Downey, 68, was sen-

tenced to 37 years in prison and will be eligible for parole this May.

Dockery drifted into a coma that limited him to occasional communication through blinking, grimacing or groaning. His family was never sure how much he really understood.

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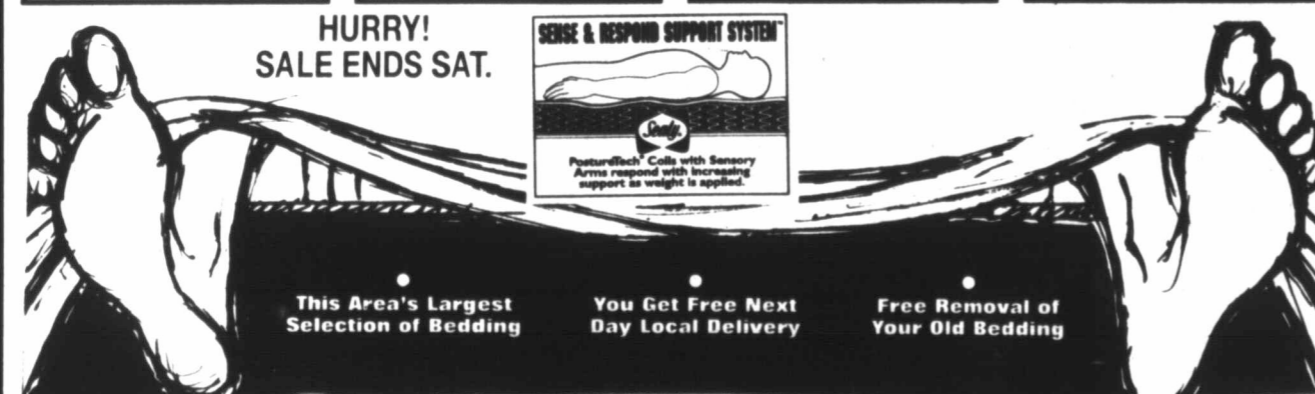
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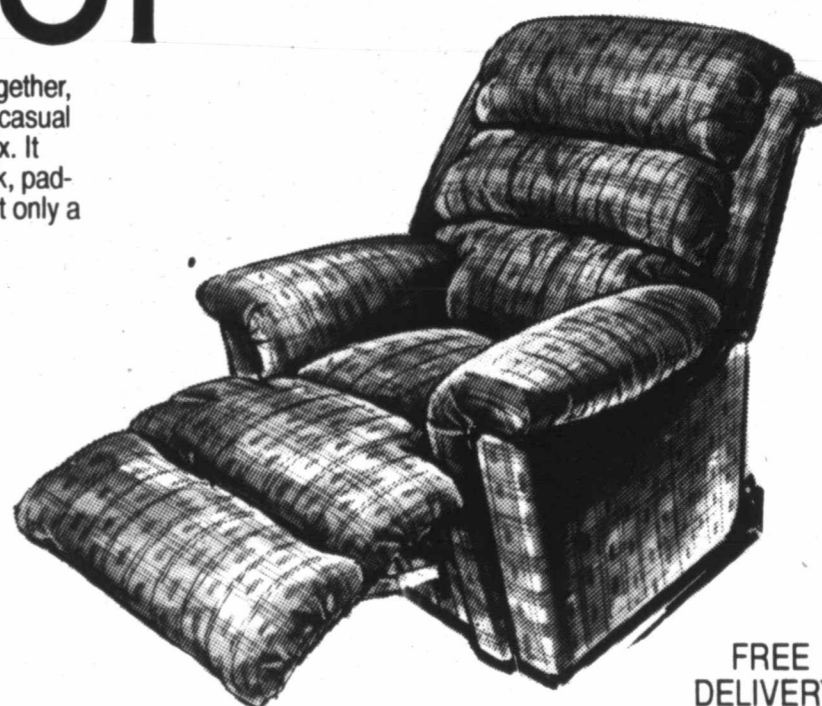
Comfortable cushioning and bold lines invite hours of lingering in this casual style. Featuring a channel stitched tapered back, pillow arms.



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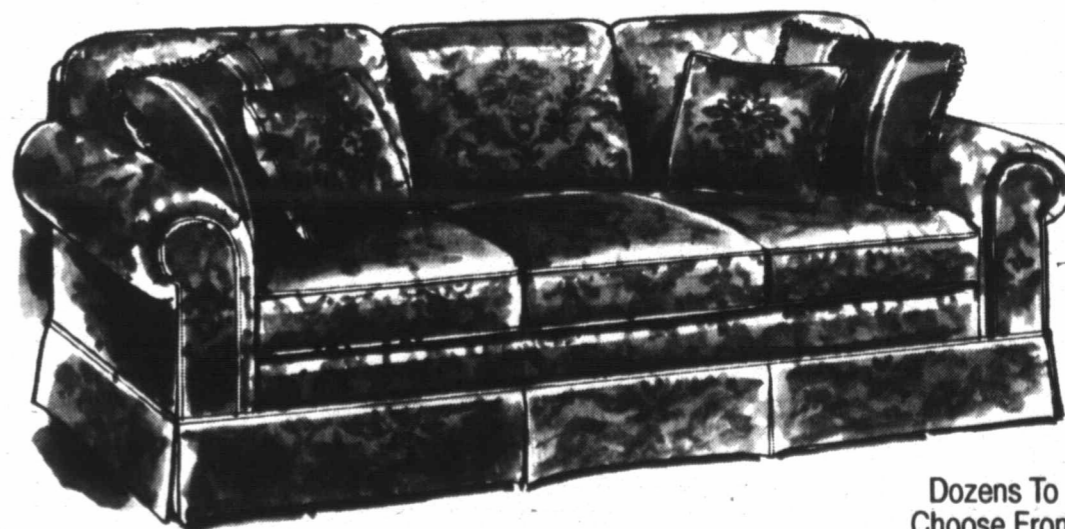
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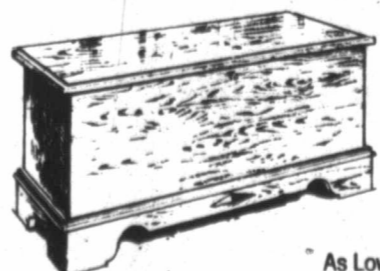
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