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The Pampa News

25¢ MARCH 3, 1992 TUESDAY

Words flow in water dispute

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

A Texas Water Commission official claims quotes attributed to him at a Monday public forum were taken out of context.

Don Manning, TWC district director, said statements made by him under oath and played on tape Monday night at the M.K. Brown Civic Center may give the impression the agency is concerned Hoechst Celanese withheld evidence of serious pollution to the environment.

Amarillo attorney Tom Upchurch, during the forum, introduced "sound-bites from an eight-hour deposition" of Manning to allege widespread contamination by Celanese of the Ogallala aquifer.

Manning said in a Monday night telephone interview from Austin his comments were taken out of context and prove nothing.

Manning says on the tape - reportedly entered into evidence in a Harris County toxic tort against the chemical company - his agency lacks funds to monitor Celanese and must rely on the company's tests to indicate any pollution.

"What they are probably leaving out is how Tom Upchurch questioned me," Manning said. "He would ask me something nine or 10 times in different ways until he got the answer he was looking for."

Manning explained that during the deposition he was asked to read a Celanese inter-office memo dated Dec. 21, 1981. That memo has reportedly been held as protected by a court-ordered confidentiality agreement.

Excerpts of Manning reading from that memo were played by Upchurch for the media and public.

"When you first read the memo it appears to say one thing - that they may have not given us all the information they had (of contamination of the Ogallala aquifer)," Manning said during the telephone interview. "But it goes on to say they are just not ready at that time with their report. That begins to indicate something else. We (the TWC) allow people to get things together before they submit."

Manning said he was caught off guard by the memo and then asked if it appears to indicate Celanese intentionally withheld vital information from the TWC.

"He (Upchurch) apparently doesn't show you that I said you could take that memo two or three ways," Manning said.

Upchurch asks Manning on tape if the memo appears aimed at misleading the TWC. He responds, "The way it is written here, that's what it appears to me."

He said he has since changed his mind.

Manning is next seen on tape saying Celanese's environmental problems qualify as a "worst case scenario."

Manning said he is "getting real tired" of having his comments taken out of context in an attempt to prove environmental crimes by Celanese.

"Our (water) samples and the TDH (Texas Department of Health) samples still show nothing in the Kingsmill water supply," Manning said. "From a regulation standpoint, we still can't say there is contamination in the Kingsmill (community) well."

Attorneys Upchurch and Wayne Barfield of Amarillo and Charles Hayden of Houston represent Kingsmill Water Corp. and "800 or 900 other people" who insist the company "knowingly and systematically poisoned you over 30 years."

"When they rely on Celanese to report their own pollution, that's a case of the fox guarding the hen house," Barfield told about 60 Kingsmill residents gathered to watch the tape.

Hayden stated, "When you smell those smells coming off that plant, they are poisoning you. People are expendable and economic gain is the most important thing to those people."

"This place is a toxic waste dump," Upchurch asserted. "How easy it would be if they would just admit they have polluted the Ogallala aquifer."

Celanese officials declined an invitation sent by Upchurch through the media to attend the meeting.

However, Dave Phillips, Celanese human resources director, said, "When you take half a memo that is, by the way, court-protected, and read it like that, of course it can look bad. We haven't had a chance to cross-examine Don Manning. You have heard one side of the story. What else is new? What have they proven? When you hand someone a document cold and ask them what it means, like they did to Mr. Manning, that is tough."

Barfield said of Celanese, "They are a multi-billion dollar corporation and they control a lot of people. They control a lot of senators. I've seen those documents. They are very good at handling the media."

Hayden stated, "The contamination, according to documents ... shows that Celanese has known they were contaminating the environment for the last 40 years.

"They have known for the last 12 years they were impacting the Ogallala aquifer and, as a consequence, their failure and refusal to tell the Texas Water Commission speaks for itself."

Manning responded by saying Celanese has been very forthcoming with information and any comments of his "taken out of context by attorneys" should be disregarded.



(Staff photo by Bear Mills)

Kingsmill residents listen Monday to allegations of widespread environmental pollution by Celanese as well as widespread cover-ups by county and state officials.

Kennedy denies charges of attempted coverup

An Amarillo attorney insists Gray County Judge Carl Kennedy knew in 1987 of "contamination problems and a public disaster" caused by alleged pollution from the Hoechst Celanese plant.

Tom Upchurch, attorney for litigants in a toxic tort against the plant, accuses Kennedy of destroying documentation about the situation.

Kennedy denies the charges.

During a public meeting Monday at the M.K. Brown Civic Center, Upchurch said, "Mr. (Don) Manning (of the Texas Water Commission) testified he (Kennedy) probably deep-sixed it, which means he threw it in the garbage."

Upchurch said he has evidence Kennedy received the memo in 1987 prior to the plant's explosion. He said that if the judge had "gone public" it might have prevented the explosion from occurring because of investigations into pollution and safety at the facility six miles west of the city.

Attorneys in the toxic tort insist Kennedy's alleged destroying of evidence of serious pollution by Celanese is only one in a string of incidents of "misguided loyalty because of fear that plant will close" by local, area and state officials and members of the media.

"That document was a public notice to the people of Pampa and Gray County to be aware of the contamination of a major water system up here," Upchurch said. "We have not razed the county commission or the judge, but I will leave it to moral persuasion of people up here what they should do about this."

In a Monday interview, Kennedy said he doesn't have any idea what Upchurch is talking about.

"His memory is a lot better than mine about all that," Kennedy said. "What I normally do with any type of letter the public should be aware of is date it and mark it for posting on the bulletin board in the court house lobby. That bulletin board is for the purpose of public notices. To say I did or did not do that in 1987 is speculation. I don't know what he is talking about."

Kennedy said he is aware Upchurch is accusing him of participating in a cover-up, but said it is hard to take seriously accusations by people "who don't even know me or know what I did or didn't do."

- Bear Mills

Hopefuls look for primary success

By JOHN KING
AP Political Writer

Voters turned out in seven states today as Democrats struggled to clarify their muddled, five-way race for the nomination and Patrick Buchanan hoped for a southern boost in his race with President Bush.

It was by far the biggest day thus far in a confusing primary season for both parties, shaped by voters anxious over the economy, angry with government and unusually quick to cast protest votes.

President Bush, heading for Chicago, told reporters on the White House lawn he expected to win today's Republican primaries in Georgia, Maryland and Colorado. He is also expected to win party caucuses in Minnesota.

At the polling places, early morning voters often expressed discontent but that was not all bad for Bush. "Overall, I feel he's done 90 percent of the things I would like to see done and certainly made everyone proud of the way he handled the Middle East crisis," said Tom Ragsdale, 53, an Albany, Ga., pecan grower.

Baltimore longshoreman Toby Valmas, 49, said he voted for Gov. Bill Clinton because "I like his proposal about giving the middle class a tax break, and I think he's the most realistic about winning against Bush."

"I should vote for Bush because I'm a Republican, but I'm going to vote for Buchanan because I want to send a message," said Tom Grove, 50, of Hagerstown, Md., a retired salesman. In Denver, Peter Betsch, 24, an insurance representative, was a Paul Tsongas voter because "I like his strong, forward approach and his realistic economic ideas."

Clinton said at an airport news conference in Atlanta that he expected to win the Georgia primary but would not predict any other contests.

"When we came out of New Hampshire, I knew it would take some time for the dynamics to settle down and for me to get my message out there," Clinton said. Buchanan, hungry for a victory to help refashion his image as more than a protest candidate, was campaigning in South Carolina but looking across the state line to Georgia.

"Voters of Georgia will determine whether or not this campaign — which is still in its infancy only 14 weeks old — will go forward," Buchanan said in a speech at Bob Jones University.

Bush's strength will be judged by his margins against Buchanan. The conservative commentator embarrassed the president in New Hampshire and in Georgia sounded the patriotic and religious themes of the Republican right.

The Bush-Buchanan slugfest — highlighted with nasty attack ads — has torn the Republican Party as conservatives and other dissatisfied Republicans rally to the challenger's side. Buchanan camped in Georgia, while Bush sought to draw conservatives' support by winning the endorsement of the anti-abortion National Right to Life Committee.

A new CBS-New York Times poll showed Bush's approval rating at 40 percent, but only 19 percent on economic issues, the lowest for a president in this poll since Jimmy Carter.

Bush gave a series of television interviews in Maryland and Colorado on Monday, saying, "The economy's going to turn around. ... When people are hurting out there ... people are going to be concerned. But I think I'll be all right. I think I've been a good leader."

County officials delay grant application

By BEAR MILLS
Staff Writer

Gray County commissioners were told Monday not to proceed on a Panhandle Regional Planning Commission grant application for a new Kingsmill water well.

Gray County Attorney Bob McPherson made the recommendation, explaining the water corporation is declining to sign a hold-harmless agreement.

McPherson said the agreement would prevent Gray County from being entangled in possible suits by Kingsmill Water Corp. against Hoechst Celanese, which, it is alleged, has polluted the well with benzene.

It would also keep Gray County out of a pending Harris County toxic tort alleging widespread environmental contamination by the chemical company.

An Amarillo attorney representing the Kingsmill Water Corp. said he is reluctant to sign the hold-harmless.

"But I have left that decision up to the Kingsmill water community because I'm not sure the language in that agreement is something required," said lawyer Wayne Barfield during a telephone interview today. "I think that is only required by the county attorney and not by the grant application."

Peggy Ward, manager of the Kingsmill Water Corp., was at Monday's meeting and seemed surprised the agreement had not been turned in.

Monday night, however, she indicated it may never be signed.

Ward said, "There are little facts like Judge (Carl) Kennedy knowing about this since 1987 and sitting on it [please see related story] that make us wonder if we are going to sign this or not. That makes you wonder if that is why we are having trouble getting this grant through."

She said the grant and hold-harmless agreement will be discussed at a still-to-be scheduled community meeting.

In other business, commissioners agreed dirt streets at Walnut Creek Estates can be strip-paved by home owners providing two narrow roads are widened prior to paving.

When paved, Commissioner Jim Greene said, the county will assume maintenance on the thoroughfares.

Commissioners also agreed to send resolutions to State Rep. Warren Chisum, State Sen. Teel Bivins and Gov. Ann Richards asking them to fight the proposed closing of Pampa's National Guard armory.

Commissioners also discussed, but took no action on, how meals should be provided at the new county jail.

Three bids for food service were considered, but commissioners deferred any action for 15 days, saying they wanted to study the options further.

A pipeline owned by Koch Pipeline and running through Gray County was given approval by commissioners, as was a cathodic protection installation within a county right-of-way by Westar Transmission Co.

Appointments to the Gray County Airport Board included three-year terms for Kenneth Gray, Paul Loyd and Vernon Stowers, two years for Wade Kirk and Denver Tucker, and one year for Lawrence Paronto and Jim Leverich.

Kennedy informed the court the Farmers Home Administration may soon be opening a three-to-five person office in Pampa and is seeking office space from the county. No action was taken on the item and discussion was tentatively set for the next meeting.

Contest entries swamp postal sorting center

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) - A contest conducted by the television show "Wheel of Fortune" swamped a postal sorting center with so much mail that some deliveries were delayed by a day or more, postal officials said.

The Omaha center received about 1 million pieces of unexpected mail each day last week, a 40 percent increase over the normal daily volume of 2.5 million pieces, postal spokesman David Failor said Monday.

He said the additional mail was entries in a contest judged by D.L. Blair Corp. in Blair, 20 miles north of Omaha. The company administered the three-week contest run by "Wheel of Fortune."

D.L. Blair vice president Richard Isham said the final clue in the contest was given Friday, so the mail volume should fall as rapidly as it rose.

VanZandt resigns

Joe VanZandt, for 16 years the Gray County agricultural extension agent, announced Monday he is retiring at the end of March.

"I'm going to take an early retirement option that was offered to me effective March 31," VanZandt said. "It kind of came up spur of the moment and after agonizing over it for a couple of weeks I decided to go for it."

He stated the reduction of a staff position in the county extension office played a direct role in his decision to retire.

"It sure did. A staff of two professionals and knowing there wasn't going to be any more help sur had an influence," VanZandt said. "I've been under quite a bit of stress and when you get used to an assistant, it makes it hard when that person isn't there anymore."

VanZandt said the assistant's position, most recently held by Joe Vann, was the victim of both a state and county funding cut.

"All the positions are funded by the county, state and federal government," VanZandt said. "It was de-funded by the county a week before it was de-funded by the state."



Joe VanZandt

VanZandt said he thinks a new agricultural extension agent will be named "in a month or two at the most."

- Bear Mills

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VOL. 84, NO. 282, 14 PAGES

A FREEDOM NEWSPAPER

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

GOBER, W.T. – 2 p.m., Morrison Memorial Chapel, Dumas.

HACKNEY, Lorena Railsback – 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel.

Obituaries

ENOCH FULLER

Enoch Fuller, 73, died today, March 3, 1992. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Fuller was born Oct. 24, 1918, in Cushing. He was a resident of Clovis, N.M., for the past two years. He married Gladys Williams on Aug. 19, 1939, in Ponta. He was a Church of Christ minister for 37 years, retiring in 1990. He was the former minister of the Oklahoma Street Church of Christ in Pampa. He also preached in Floydada, Wellington and Clovis, N.M.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys, of the home; two daughters, Angel Faye Davis of Englewood, Calif., and Pearlie Morgan of Pampa; one sister, Mary Brown of Dallas; 20 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jessie Fuller, in 1983.

W.T. GOBER

DUMAS – W.T. Gober, 78, relative of area residents, died Monday, March 2, 1992. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Morrison Memorial Chapel with Dr. Edward Rogers, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in the Dumas Cemetery.

Mr. Gober was born in Wheeler County and had been a Dumas and Moore County resident since 1937. He married Bessie McAvoy in 1933 at Wheeler. He was a former owner-operator of Livestock Transport Co. before selling it in 1969. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife; a daughter, VaLoise Woodman of Lubbock; two sons, Bill Gober of Houston and Charles Gober of Albuquerque, N.M.; two brothers, Perry Gober of Canadian and Clayton Gober of Livingston; two sisters, Obeda Rucker of Lubbock and Alma Goodner of Pampa; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be made to Memorial Hospice, Meals on Wheels or to a favorite charity.

The family will be at 1224 Beard in Dumas.

ELMA LEE GRIFFIN

FRITCH – Elma Lee Griffin, 88, mother of a McLean resident, died Monday, March 2, 1992. Services are set for 2 p.m. Thursday in Brown's Chapel of the Fountains with the Rev. David Tollett, pastor of the Borger Christian Center, officiating. Burial will be in Westlawn Cemetery by Ed Brown & Sons Funeral Home.

Mrs. Griffin was born in Taylor County and had been a Fritch resident for 45 years. She was a member of the Fritch Church of Christ. She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Lee Griffin, in 1971.

Survivors include a son, Steve Griffin of Coleman; three daughters, Odessa Middleton of Fritch, Lenora Preston of McLean and Delores Williams of Tonto Basin, Ariz.; two sisters, Geneva Jennings of Corpus Christi and Vida Simon of Fort Worth; seven grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Wheeler-Evans of Pampa.

Wheat	3.72
Milo	4.44
Corn	4.84

The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation.

Ky. Cent. Life	8 3/8	up 1/4
Serfco	2 1/8	NC
Occidental	19 1/8	dn1/8

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.

Magellan	70.22
Puritan	14.66

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa.

Amoco	43 7/8	dn 1/2
Arco	102 5/8	NC
Cabot	38	NC
Cabot O&G	10 3/8	NC
Chevron	61	NC
Coca-Cola	81 7/8	up 1/2
Enron	34 1/8	up 1/2
Halliburton	27 7/8	up 1/8
HealthTrust Inc	19 5/8	dn 1/4
Ingersoll Rand	62 1/2	up 5/8
KNE	24 5/8	NC
Kerr McGee	36 3/4	dn 1/4
Limited	29 1/8	up 5/8
Mapco	62	up 1/4
Maxus	7 3/4	NC
McDonald's	41 3/4	up 1/2
Mobil	60 1/8	dn 5/8
New Atmos	20 1/2	up 1/8
Parker & Parsley	12 1/4	dn 1/8
Penney's	61 7/8	up 3/4
Phillips	23	NC
SLB	60	up 1/8
SPS	31	up 1/8
Tenneco	39 1/8	up 1/4
Texaco	57 7/8	up 1/8
Wal-Mart	54 1/8	up 1/8
New York Gold		351.10
Silver		4.13
West Texas Crude		18.41

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	665-5777
Fire	911
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	669-5700
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

Hospital

CORONADO HOSPITAL
Admissions

William Felter, Pampa
Lawrence Frazier, Pampa
Mary Lee Gilliland, Pampa
Lori Dawn Steen, Mobeetie
Polly West, Pampa
Sarah Ellen Dickerson (extended care), Groom

Births

To Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Green of Mobeetie, a girl.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Warren of Borger, a boy.

Dismissals

Sarah Ellen Dickerson, Groom
Thelma Ann Faggett, Pampa
Jackie Hamilton, Pampa
Billy Ray Vansickle, Pampa
Ada Marie Whatley, Pampa
Anna Wolf, McLean

SHAMROCK HOSPITAL
Admissions

None

Dismissals

Madeline Syms, Shamrock

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

MONDAY, March 2

David Tomascheske, 115 Wynne Apt. C, reported a theft at 401 S. Starkweather.

Frank Slagle, 508 Powell, reported theft of motor vehicle parts at the residence.

A juvenile reported an assault in the street at Red Deer and Browning streets.

DPS-Arrest
SATURDAY, Feb. 29

James William Barnes, 41, Wheeler, was arrested on U.S. 60 on a charge of driving while intoxicated (first offense).

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

TUESDAY, March 3

Carol Morgan, Route 1, Box 73A, reported an assault.

Accidents

The Pampa Police Department reported no accidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m.

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department reported no calls during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Calendar of events

LAS PAMPAS DAR

Las Pampas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) plans to meet at 2 p.m. Thursday at the home of Mrs. Otto Mangold. A program "Education for Native Americans provided by DAR" will be presented by Mrs. P.R. Britton. Members and prospective members invited.

BAND BOOSTERS CANCELLED

Due to the basketball playoff game, the Pampa Band Boosters meeting scheduled for tonight has been rescheduled for Tuesday, March 10.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Alzheimer's Support Group is set to meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, 422 Elorida. Public invited.

LAS PAMPAS GARDEN CLUB

Las Pampas Garden Club is set to meet at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, Chamber of Commerce building. Clean Pampa Inc. is scheduled to present the program. Public invited.

LEFORS SCHOOLS OPEN HOUSE

Lefors Independent School District is set to host an open house from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. today. Both the high school and elementary buildings will be open. Superintendent Joe Roper said parents and members of the community are invited to attend.

Marriage licenses

Rodney Cecil Parks and Pamela Sue Velasquez
Jeffrey Wayne Adams and Melissa Ann Fry

Divorces granted

C. Kenneth Williams and Patricia Gayle Williams
Pamela Jo Harris and Michael Andrew Harris
Joel Glen Walton and Pamela Joe Walton

Begin suffers heart attack

Israel's former prime minister is seriously ill

By G.G. LaBELLE
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) – Menachem Begin, the former prime minister who made peace with Egypt but led Israel into a divisive war in Lebanon, suffered a heart attack today and was rushed unconscious to a hospital.

A Polish Jew whose parents were killed by the Nazis, Begin came to political power after serving as a guerrilla in the underground war to create the state of Israel. He won the Nobel Peace Prize during six years as prime minister, then abruptly went into seclusion, giving no explanation.

The 78-year-old Begin remained unconscious at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, but his condition improved late today from critical to serious, Health Ministry spokesman Hagai Elias said.

Dr. Dan Michaeli, the hospital's director, said Begin was paralyzed on his left side and using a respirator. He said Begin had been breathing on his own when he reached the hospital.

Begin's son, Benjamin, a member of parliament, was at his father's bedside, along with his daughters Leah and Hasia, Israel radio said. His daughter Leah had called an ambulance after her father collapsed shortly before 7 a.m. at their Tel Aviv apartment.

Begin has previously suffered several heart attacks and was hospitalized for a fractured hip last year. He once reflected on human frailty in a letter to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, also a cardiac patient.

"So what is the human heart? Simply, it is a pump," Begin wrote. "And I thought, God almighty, as long as this pump is working, a human being feels, thinks, speaks, writes, loves his family, smiles, weeps, enjoys life, gets angry, gives friendship, prays, dreams, remembers, forgets, influences other people, is influenced by other people – lives.

But when the pump stops – no more."



Menachem Begin

Begin steered his right-wing Likud bloc to power in 1977 after the center-left Labor Party governed the country for its first 29 years. Likud remains the governing party 15 years later.

Those who feared Begin, a former guerrilla leader, as a warmonger were confounded when Sadat made his historic peace pilgrimage to Jerusalem six months after Begin took office.

Begin later signed the peace treaty with Egypt, the only Arab country to reach a settlement with Israel. He shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1978 with Sadat for reaching the accord, fostered by President Jimmy Carter.

But Begin also led Israel into its fifth and most unpopular war, the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. More than 600 Israelis and an estimated 20,000 Arabs died in the invasion and occupation that followed.

Begin resigned in 1983, suffering from depression because of the death of his wife, Aliza, a year earlier and Israel's involvement in Lebanon, which led to large peace demonstrations in Israel.

He has remained in virtual seclusion since then. His last appearance in public was Oct. 3 for the wedding of his granddaughter, Orit.

As prime minister, Begin swore to drive the Palestine Liberation Organization out of Beirut, and did so during the Lebanon invasion. He vowed the Arabs would have no nuclear weapons, and bombed Iraq's atomic reactor.

To achieve peace with Egypt, he gave up the strategically valuable Sinai desert despite violent resistance by Jewish nationalists.

Begin said the occupied West Bank was an inseparable part of the biblical Jewish birthright and he peopled it with Jews. He annexed the Golan Heights of Syria and reinforced the annexation of Arab east Jerusalem.

Born in Poland, Begin fled after the Nazi invasion, and was imprisoned by the Soviets for Zionist activities. He was freed in 1942, and reached Palestine.

He then took over an extremist guerrilla group, the Irgun Zvai Leumi, which became the scourge of Palestine's British rulers. It attacked British police stations, executed British soldiers and blew up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, killing nearly 100 Jews, Arabs and British. Even some Jews called Begin a terrorist.

In 1948, with Israel independent, Begin founded the right-wing Herut Party and was voted into the first parliament.

Begin was haunted by the Holocaust throughout his life. In his mind, a straight line led from Hitler to PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Begin also saw the Gulf War, when Israel came under Scud missile attacks from Iraq, as justification for the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

"In the days when the Scuds fell on our heads, many understood ... that they were not right ... and we were right," he said last July.

Tree sales ending

Tree sales are coming to a close from the Gray County Soil and Water Conservation District with the deadline for placing an order set for Friday.

A few species of trees are still available to order, according to officials with the district.

These include catalpa, desert willow, green ash, mulberry, skunkbush, sumac, ponderosa pine, pinon pine, Scotch pine, Austrian pine and Colorado blue spruce.

Order forms can be obtained at the district office at the Gray County Courthouse Annex on East Frederic Street.

Morales: Texas must OK missile dump

AUSTIN (AP) – Texas will require regulatory review and oversight of a federal government program to dismantle and store nuclear missile warheads in Amarillo, Attorney General Dan Morales said today.

Morales said U.S. Energy Department officials last week told a congressional committee of a program to store the nuclear weapons material from around the world at the Pantex missile assembly facility.

DOE officials told the congressmen the department doesn't need to comply with state safety and environmental laws in storing some 100,000 pounds of plutonium, Morales said.

But Morales noted that the Pantex plant is situated atop the Ogallala Aquifer, the public water supply for seven states.

Saying he was informing DOE officials that the state would require oversight, the attorney general added that it hasn't yet been announced if Pantex would receive the nuclear shipments via railroad of highway, or how other Texas communities might be involved in transportation safety planning.

City briefs

BRICK REPAIR: Harley Knutson 665-4237. Adv.

THATCHING, SCALPING, Fertilize, Evergreens and Cedars shaped. Senior discount. Bobby 669-6357, Howard 665-0688. Adv.

TAX RETURNS - Competitive rates. M. David Webster, 109 W. Kingsmill, 669-2233. Adv.

SERVICE SPECIALISTS Personnel & Total Temporaries a Full Service Agency. One call does it all! 408 W. Kingsmill Suite 101. 665-4487. Adv.

MARY KAY Cosmetics Deb Stapleton consultant. Facials, supplies, deliveries. 665-2095. Adv.

DANCE WITH Tiny Lynn Band, M.K. Brown, March 7. Sponsored by Top O Texas Rodeo Association. Tickets available at NBC Bank, Wayne's Western Wear, or at door. $20 couple. 8 p.m.-12 p.m. Adv.

50% OFF large selection of books. Up to 25% off selected bible cases. Sale begins March 2. The Gift Box. Adv.

NAILS BY TJ, Opening special, free gift with the 1st set of nails. 665-4235 or come by 1105 W. Wilks, Street Stuff. Adv.

2 PLOTS, northeast corner of Memory Gardens for sale, make an offer. 665-7015. Adv.

NEW SHIPMENT onion plants and sets including 1015y Super Sweet Watson's Feed & Garden. Adv.

TRY OUR fresh baked cakes, cobblers and rolls free with any meal. Tuesday: Texas size cheeseburger with fries or salad $3.99 feed a friend for $2.99. JC's Restaurant. Adv.

ROLANDA'S HAS moved downtown. Visit our new location. 119 W. Kingsmill. Adv.

DANCE SATURDAY night, March 7, to Prairie Sons. Members and guests, Moose Lodge. Adv.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Tonight, cloudy with thunderstorms likely, a low near 48 degrees and southerly winds 10-20 mph. Wednesday, continued cloudy with lingering rain, a high in the upper 50s and southerly winds 15-20 mph. Monday's high was 78 degrees; the overnight low was 50 degrees.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas – Thunderstorms likely most sections tonight. Locally heavy rain also possible tonight Concho Valley. Mostly cloudy Wednesday with widely scattered thunderstorms lingering east of the mountains during the morning. Lows tonight near 40 Panhandle and mountains to lower 50s Concho Valley and Big Bend lowlands. Highs Wednesday mid 50s Panhandle to near 70 Big Bend lowlands.

North Texas – A flash flood watch is in effect for the central and east parts tonight. Occasional thunderstorms tonight, possibly severe, rain heavy at times. Cloudy Wednesday with thunderstorms east and a chance of rain and thunderstorms central and west. Highs Wednesday in the upper 60s to lower 70s. Lows tonight in the mid 50s west to lower 60s east.

South Texas – Mostly cloudy and breezy tonight with occasional showers or thunderstorms more numerous south central and southeast, some possibly severe with locally heavy rainfall causing flooding. Decreasing clouds west Wednesday with showers or thunderstorms ending, continued cloudy east with showers or thunderstorms continuing, locally heavy rainfall again possible. Highs Wednesday in the 70s, lower 80s Lower Rio Grande Valley and Rio Grande plains. Lows tonight 50s and 60s, near 70 lower coast and lower valley.

EXTENDED FORECAST
Thursday through Saturday

West Texas – Panhandle: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 60s. Lows in the lower 40s Thursday and in the upper 30s Friday and Saturday. South Plains, Low Rolling Plains: Partly cloudy. Highs near 70 Thursday and in the mid 60s Friday and Saturday. Lows in the lower 40s. Permian Basin, Concho Valley, Edwards Plateau: Partly cloudy. Highs in the 70s and lows in the mid to upper 40s. Far West Texas: Partly cloudy. Highs in the 60s and lows in the mid 40s. Big Bend: Partly cloudy. Highs in the 60s to near 70 mountains and in the lower to mid 80s along the Rio Grande. Lows from the upper 30s mountains to the upper 40s along the river.

North Texas – No rain through the period. Fair Thursday and Friday. Increasing cloudiness west on Saturday. Unseasonably warm. Highs in the 70s. Overnight lows in the 50s west and central and near 60 east.

South Texas – Hill Country, South Central Texas: Partly cloudy. Lows in the 50s. Highs in the 70s to near 80. Coastal Bend: Partly cloudy. Lows in the 60s. Highs in the 70s on the coast coast, in the 80s inland. Lower Rio Grande Valley and Plains: Partly cloudy. Lows in the 60s. Highs in the 70s along the coast, in the 80s inland. Southeast Texas, Upper Texas Coast: Slight chance of showers or thunderstorms Thursday. Otherwise partly cloudy. Lows in the 50s to near 60: Highs in the 70s.

BORDER STATES

Oklahoma – Thunderstorms tonight with rain heavy at times in the southeast. Lows in the lower 40s Panhandle to near 60 south. Mostly cloudy west with a chance of showers, thunderstorms likely east. Highs in the mid 50s Panhandle to the upper 60s south.

New Mexico – Tonight a chance of showers mostly north and east. Snow level lowering to near 7000 feet. Partly cloudy south and west. Wednesday showers ending and clouds diminishing north, partly cloudy and warmer south. Windy northeast. High Wednesday 45-55 mountains, 55-65 lower elevations. Lows tonight 25-35 mountains, 35-45 elsewhere.

FBI interviews men detained in assassination

DALLAS (AP) – The FBI has located and questioned two of three "railroad tramps" who were taken into custody after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the head of the agency's Dallas office says.

The disappearance of the arrest reports was noted in the movie "JFK" as part of the evidence supporting theories of a conspiracy and government coverup.

The reports surfaced in late January after some Dallas police department files were made public in response to new demands that still-secret government documents on the assassination be made public.

Oliver B. Revell, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Dallas FBI office, said Monday that interviews with John Forrest Gedney, who now lives in Melbourne, Fla., and Harold Doyle, who lives in Klamath Falls, Ore., produced no new information.

Gus W. Abrams, the third man arrested in the railroad yard shortly after Kennedy was shot on Nov. 22, 1963, is dead, Revell said.

The arrest reports said Doyle, Abrams and Gedney were "taken off a train box car in the rail yards right after President Kennedy was shot."

A widely circulated photograph shows officers arresting the "tramps" near the assassination site at Dealey Plaza in downtown Dallas, and skeptics have long wondered why vagrants on railroad cars would have fresh haircuts and recently shined shoes.

"They both said they had been at the mission, they had gotten some food and gotten cleaned up and were wandering back toward the railroad yard" near Dealey Plaza, Revell said.

"Both of them checked out. They rode the rails for a while and then straightened their lives out," Revell said.

Gedney confirmed he was one of the three and had talked to the FBI, but refused to discuss the interview.

Doyle, reached at the Waldorf Billiard Parlor in Klamath Falls, also refused to discuss the interview.

According to the arrest reports, written less than four hours after the assassination, Gedney was 38, Doyle 32 and Abrams 53. That would make Gedney now about 66 and Doyle about 60. Abrams would be 81 if he were still alive.

Until researchers and journalists came across the arrest reports in February, the three railroad tramps had never been identified publicly and no documents on the three had been found.

The newly discovered documents indicate that the three were detained for four days on vagrancy charges. It had always been said the three were released hours after being questioned.

"The reports of those arrests disappeared and it was always a point of contention that there was some ominous reason behind that," Revell said.

"Since they had not been interviewed by the FBI, I wanted to complete the record," Revell said.

"We're not reopening the Kennedy investigation per se," Revell said. "The broad-based free-wheeling investigation has been closed, but, as always, any new information has been checked out."

The official Warren Commission investigation concluded that Kennedy was shot on Nov. 22, 1963, by Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone.

Headquarters opens



(Staff photo by Bonner Green)

Sen. Teel Bivins, R.-Amarillo,greets Maxine Smith, left, and Carolyn Stroud, second from left, at the opening ceremonies of the Pampa Republican Party Headquarters Monday. Bivins served as guest speaker for the occasion. The headquarters is located on the first floor of the Hughes Building, facing Somerville Street.

Indictments name corporation, individuals in two deaths at Amarillo nursing home

By PEGGY FIKAC
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) – The attorney general says that state law against injury to elderly people and invalids has been used for the first time to indict a major corporation in the nursing home industry.

A Potter County grand jury has returned felony indictments against Texas Health Enterprises, Inc. of Denton in the deaths of two Amarillo nursing home residents, Attorney General Dan Morales said Monday.

Eight individuals also were indicted, including four employees of Texas Health Enterprises and four employees of Westgate Care Center in Amarillo, which the company owns, Morales said.

Texas Health Enterprises owns 99 Texas nursing homes, the attorney general's office said. It is the third-largest nursing home operator in Texas and the nation's ninth-largest, with operations in several states, according to Morales' office.

The Westgate home referred questions to Texas Health Enterprises, which responded with a written statement that said it is "committed to the delivery of quality nursing services in all of its nursing homes in Texas."

"The company and its employees will defend themselves and fully expect to be exonerated at trial," the corporation said. It also operates nursing homes in Iowa, Oklahoma, Michigan, Massachusetts and New Mexico.

"My office will aggressively pursue those who mistreat our senior citizens. The perpetrators of these crimes should be punished to the fullest extent of the law," Morales said.

He said the law was changed in 1989 to give prosecutors more ability to prosecute such cases.

All but one of the defendants were arraigned and their indictments unsealed Monday, Morales said.

The attorney general's office said the indictments followed the deaths of Loise Collins, 53, who died September 7, 1991, allegedly of neglect; and Roy Sneed, 82, who suffered from senile dementia, wandered from the nursing home on Aug. 22, 1991, and died of exposure.

Collins was removed from Westgate Care Center on Aug. 13, 1991. He died after being taken to a hospital. The 6-foot-1 man weighed about 102 pounds when taken to the hospital, the attorney general's office said.

Twenty-nine indictments were handed up by the grand jury, said Assistant Attorney General Beth Taylor.

Of 15 returned against the company, one alleged injury to an invalid; one, injury to an elderly person, and 13 that the corporation tampered with a government document, she said. The attorney general alleges that corporate officers falsified and fabricated records related to in-service training of nursing home employees.

The maximum fine is $50,000 per indictment for the corporation, Ms. Taylor said.

She said people indicted on charges of both injury to an invalid and to an elderly person were Donna Rich, divisional director for Texas Health Enterprises; Albert Germann, regional director for the corporation; Georgia Cargal, regional nurse consultant for the corporation; Marguerite Van Zandt, Westgate administrator; and Peggy Bosley, Westgate director of nurses.

Ms. Taylor said that Paul Keller, corporate engineer and life safety code compliance officer, was accused in the indictment of injury to an elderly person; and Rheda Annette Lively, Westgate assistant director of nurses, of injury to an invalid.

The fourth Westgate employee was not identified. Ms. Taylor said she could not give details contained in that still-sealed indictment.

Penalties for the individuals could range from two years to life in prison, and a possible $10,000 fine, depending on whether they are convicted of first- or third-degree felonies.

REPORT SUGGESTS CHANGES

AUSTIN (AP) – Texas should start a nursing home "Crime Stoppers" program to pay people who report abuse or neglect that results in serious injury or death, a lawyer says in a report.

Such a program, similar to those used in police departments, could help make it more likely that wrongful deaths are reported, David Bragg said in a report to Gov. Ann Richards. Bragg is studying nursing homes for the governor.

From Sept. 1, 1990 through Aug. 31, 1991, 17,565 of the approximately 91,000 nursing home patients died, Bragg's report said.

He said that the current system for reporting nursing home deaths "makes it relatively easy to prevent the authorities from ever finding out what happened."

To help make it more likely that wrongful deaths are discovered, Bragg made these proposals in a report released Monday:

• A "Crime Stoppers" program should be instituted.

The reward could be paid if the information leads to a grand jury indictment, appointment of a trustee to take over a nursing home, or closing a home.

• The Texas Department of Health should be notified of a patient's death within four hours.

• The department should develop criteria that would automatically trigger an investigation, such as whether a particular home is exceeding the expected number of deaths.

• Embalmers should be required to do a physical assessment of each body they receive from a nursing home, and report the results to the Health Department.

• The state should vigorously prosecute those who fail to report nursing home patient abuse and neglect.

Sara Speights, director of government relations for the Texas Health Care Association, said she had not had a chance to look at Bragg's recommendations.

But she said that nursing home personnel currently "have every reason to want to report any suspicious deaths."

She said that they can face heavy fines or being shut down if such a death is not reported.

Her group includes about 800 nursing homes.

Killer put to death for Houston slaying; third Texas execution in a month

By MICHAEL GRACZYK
Associated Press Writer

HUNTSVILLE (AP) – A bitter Edward Ellis was executed early today for strangling an elderly woman whose body was left in her bathtub at a Houston apartment complex where Ellis once worked.

Ellis, 38, a former maintenance man, received lethal injection after two state courts and three federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, rejected last-day appeals. The execution was delayed more than 3 1/2 hours while the high court was considering his case.

Ellis was pronounced dead at 3:44 a.m. CST, five minutes after the drugs began flowing into his arms and only 39 minutes after the U.S. Supreme Court turned down the final request for a stay.

"I just want everyone to know I think the prosecutor and Bill Scott are some sorry sons of bitches," Ellis said in his final statement.

Scott was a fellow jail inmate who testified against Ellis at his trial.

One of Ellis' four personal witnesses to the execution, left the death chamber accusing prison officials of being "murderers."

"You killed an innocent man," friend Nick Garcia said.

"We would not have tried the case if we thought somebody else was the guilty party," Eric Hagstette, the prosecutor who handled the case, said. "As far as having doubts about the guilt or innocence of the guy, I can't say we had any. I think everybody on death row is going to say somebody else did it."

The execution was the fourth this year in Texas and the third in a month. It also was the 46th in the state since the U.S. Supreme Court in 1976 allowed states to resume the death penalty.

The Texas total is the highest in the nation and accounts for 28 percent of the 163 executions carried out since the 1976 high court decision.

Ellis' attorneys contended that another man, who died of natural causes a year ago, was responsible for the death of 74-year-old Bertie Elizabeth Eakens.

Mrs. Eakens was found dead March 1, 1983, submerged in her bathtub. She had been handcuffed and strangled with a pillow case left tied around her neck. Jewelry, checks and her car were taken.

The killing was one of three in 1983 that became known as the Houston bathtub slayings, although Ellis was not implicated in the others. Police speculated the other slayings were coincidental or copycat and another man subsequently was convicted of them.

Acting on a tip to a telephone hot line, Ellis was arrested in his native San Antonio after a police chase. He had a lengthy record with arrests for burglary, assault, escape and drugs and weapons possession. He said he once shared a prison dormitory with his father, who had been convicted of killing a woman.

Ellis' fingerprints were found on the door of Mrs. Eakens' apartment and he was seen driving a yellow Cadillac like the one taken from the woman. Witnesses also testified he had been selling jewelry in San Antonio like the items stolen from the Houston woman, although none of those items ever were recovered. Her burned out car was found in San Antonio shortly after Ellis' arrest.

"I always said I didn't commit the crime," Ellis said in a death row interview last week. "I never confessed to nothing like this."

Ellis said his fingerprints were at the scene because he installed the door locks before he had been fired by the complex manager who suspected him of recent burglaries. Prosecutors presented testimony the doors had been scrubbed clean since he worked at the apartments.

"I'd like to take my gun and shoot him," Adaline Palmer, 89, a cousin who was raised with Mrs. Eakens, said. "I feel that if any man should be executed, he should be. When I think about it today, it was just like my sister was killed. It was horrible."



Edward Ellis

Waters named to committee



Judge Waters

Judge Lee Waters has been selected to serve on the six-judge Judicial Advisory Committee to the Texas Punishment Standards Commission.

Purpose of the committee is to give the commission the viewpoints of the judiciary and to make judges aware of the work of the commission.

During the last legislative session, Article 37.15 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure was written to create the Texas Punishment Standards Commission.

The commission has the authority to propose legislation to revise the punishment for criminal offenses, to expand corrections facilities, to revise probation and parole laws, and to expand the probation and parole systems.

The commission is required to submit its proposed legislation by Dec. 1 to be considered by the 1993 Legislature. There are 25 members of the commission, 15 appointed by the governor, five members of the Senate and five members of the House of Representatives.

The commission is divided into four subcommittees: Code Revision, Correctional Resources, Policy Development and Current Sentencing Practices. The commission has invited responses to the subcommittee reports from several organizations including the District and County Attorneys Association, the Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Judicial Advisory Committee.

Waters said, "I am proud to have been selected to assist in this area of vital importance to our state and system of criminal justice. I will provide all the input I can to assist the commission."

–Beth Miller

Pantex plant to assist Russia in disposing of nuclear weapons

AMARILLO (AP) – Pantex officials say they will send 25 specialized railcars and a group of weapons packaging experts to help Russia safely transport nuclear bombs to storage sites for eventual dismantlement.

Officials at Pantex, where the nation's nuclear weapons are assembled and disassembled, said Monday they will help under an agreement between Secretary of State James Baker and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Under the agreement, reached last month, the United is to provide railcars for transporting the warheads.

The agreement is part of a $400 million package approved by Congress to help dismantle the massive former Soviet arsenal. The agreement also included $25 million to establish an institute employing former Soviet weapons designers in peaceful nuclear pursuits.

Pantex, located near this Texas Panhandle city, has the capability to ship nuclear weapons or highly classified weapons parts by rail or truck. The plant also maintains all weapons railcars for the entire U.S. nuclear weapons complex.

Clyde Alley, plant manager and vice presidnet of Mason & Hanger Silas-Mason Co., which operates Pantex for the Energy Department, said details of the plan involving Pantex railcars are still being worked out and must be approved by the government.

But Alley said five Pantex specialists with expertise in weapons packaging and shipment are expected to travel to the former Soviet Union.

Plans for the overall effort remain sketchy, but one specialist could be sent to aid in the effort within a week, Alley said.

Sensitive security devices used to protect U.S. weapons shipments in transit will be removed from the cars before they are sent to Russia, according to Energy Department spokesman Tom Walton.

The Russians will be required to provide their own safeguarding and security systems, he said.

Four Democratic sheriff candidates to speak to Tri-County club tonight

March meeting of the Tri-County Democratic Club tonight is scheduled to feature Gray County sheriff candidates Lynn Brown, Terry L. Cox, Ken Kieth and Randy Stubblefield.

The group is set to meet at 7 p.m. at Lovett Library, said Zetha Dougherty, president.

These four candidates are vying for the Democratic nomination in next Tuesday's primary.

The candidates are scheduled to be introduced by Gray County Chair John W. Warner. Each candidate will outline his background, experience and platform for the group.

"This will be the only opportunity the public will have to hear all four candidates at the same time," Dougherty said.

Also at tonight's meeting, the club is scheduled to hear from Veronica De La Garza, deputy director of the Ann Richards' Committee.

The public is invited to attend.

Election school set

A school for election judges and clerks working the Republican primary is set for 10 a.m. Saturday at the Republican Party headquarters on the east side of the Hughes Building, said Susan Tripplehorn, Republican county chair.

The election school is open to all candidates, poll watchers and anyone else interested, Tripplehorn said.

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Viewpoints

The Pampa News

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O' TEXAS
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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

J. Alan Brzys
Managing Editor

Opinion

Belt tightening for citizens only

Amid the longest economic downturn in half a century, Americans are tightening their belts, curbing their household spending and paying down their debts. Meanwhile, the federal government is doing the exact opposite.

Under the Bush administration's proposed budget for 1993, domestic spending will rise by more than $50 billion and the federal debt will increase by more than $350 billion.

It was less than two years ago that White House Budget director Richard Darman, working in concert with congressional Democrats, promised $290 billion in spending cuts over five years. These cuts, along with $137 billion in new taxes during the same span, were supposed to yield a $23 billion budget surplus by 1995.

The taxes took effect, but the spending cuts were illusory. The net result is that, for every new tax dollar soaked up by the federal treasury today, there is a $2.25 increase in domestic spending.

Fairly or unfairly, George Bush may be remembered as one of the biggest-spending presidents in history. In fact, if domestic spending maintains its current pace under Bush, it will exceed the first-term increases of the last five presidents.

Moreover, with domestic spending rising at an annual rate of $42.3 billion a year, after adjusting for inflation, the real growth under Bush is twice that of Jimmy Carter and eight times that of Ronald Reagan during their first terms.

The $52 billion in new domestic spending slated for fiscal 1993 is across the board. Darman failed to extract savings from any sector of the budget except defense spendings, which would decline by 5.7 percent next year. Even though inflation is projected to rise only 3.3 percent next year, the administration proposes double-digit spending increases in the budgets of the Departments of Education, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, State and Treasury.

All told, the result of this runaway federal spending is that Washington now claims a greater share of the gross domestic product than at any other time during the past half century. One quarter of every dollar generated by the American economy this year will be consumed by the federal spending machine.

It has not always been the case that Washington claimed an increasing share of the nation's output. From 1983 to 1989, federal spending declined from 24 percent of GDP to 22 percent. In the past three years, federal spending has crept back to 25.1 percent of GDP, a post-World War II high.

It also bears mention that, from 1983 to 1989, the relative size of the federal deficit was cut in half, from 6 percent of GDP to 3 percent. Under Bush, the deficit has risen to 4.6 percent of GDP.

The president is not entirely to blame for runaway federal spending and the record deficit of $352 billion projected for next year. Nevertheless, the president's 1993 budget does not go nearly far enough in restraining the growth of spending. Americans have responded to tough economic times by reining in their spending. They should demand no less from Washington.

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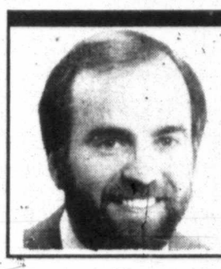
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Berry's World



Clinton guilty of being human



Stephen Chapman

To the politically naive, it looks as if Bill Clinton is being destroyed by a series of embarrassing accusations about his past. Actually, he is shrewdly assembling the elements of a winning coalition—starting with everyone who has ever cheated on a spouse, or wanted to, and everyone who ever tried to finagle his way out of the draft.

Next, I assume, his campaign will plant rumors that he has fudged on his taxes, taken the Lord's name in vain, ignored several parking tickets and mixed aluminum with glass in his recycling bin. Americans will then decide that, as Jimmy Carter told them, they deserve a president as good as they are and elect Clinton by a landslide.

For the moment, though, many voters apparently are stunned by the news that Clinton behaved like many, if not most, of the men of his generation when faced with the prospect of fighting in the Vietnam War, the most unpopular American military undertaking since the Civil War.

What a surprise to find out that he preferred sitting through classes in tax law to dodging bullets in the jungle. What a surprise to learn that he used every legal ploy he could think of to avoid squandering his blood on a war that he and a lot of his countrymen regarded as an appalling waste. What a surprise that he now paints his conduct in the most flattering colors.

It's easy for Americans two decades removed from the event to decree that Clinton should have been proud to die to keep Nguyen Van Thieu in power. It's easy to read his letter to the head of the ROTC program at the University of Arkansas as the raving of a guy desperate to save his hide.

But the fact that Clinton had a selfish reason to oppose the Vietnam War doesn't mean he should have supported it or agreed to participate in it. Few of us would be prepared to throw away our lives if the U.S. government intervened to preserve the white minority government in South Africa or the communists in China—causes which would seem no more absurd to us than the Vietnam War looked to a lot of people.

Dying for a noble cause is hard enough to justify. Dying for a squalid one—and what already looked to be a losing one—was more than a lot of young men, including Bill Clinton, could justify in 1969. The U.S. government had already begun withdrawing troops. Opposition to the war had spread far beyond Berkeley and Madison and was respectable even in conservative communities. Not many teen-age boys yearned for the honor of being the last American GI to die in Vietnam.

Doing the right thing about the war wasn't easy because it was maddeningly hard to figure out what, exactly, was the right thing. If you thought the war was admirable and important, of course, your decision was simple (though not every young man who supported the war volunteered for it). But if you had doubts—or if, like Clinton, you were a dedicated anti-war activist—the dilemmas became tougher.

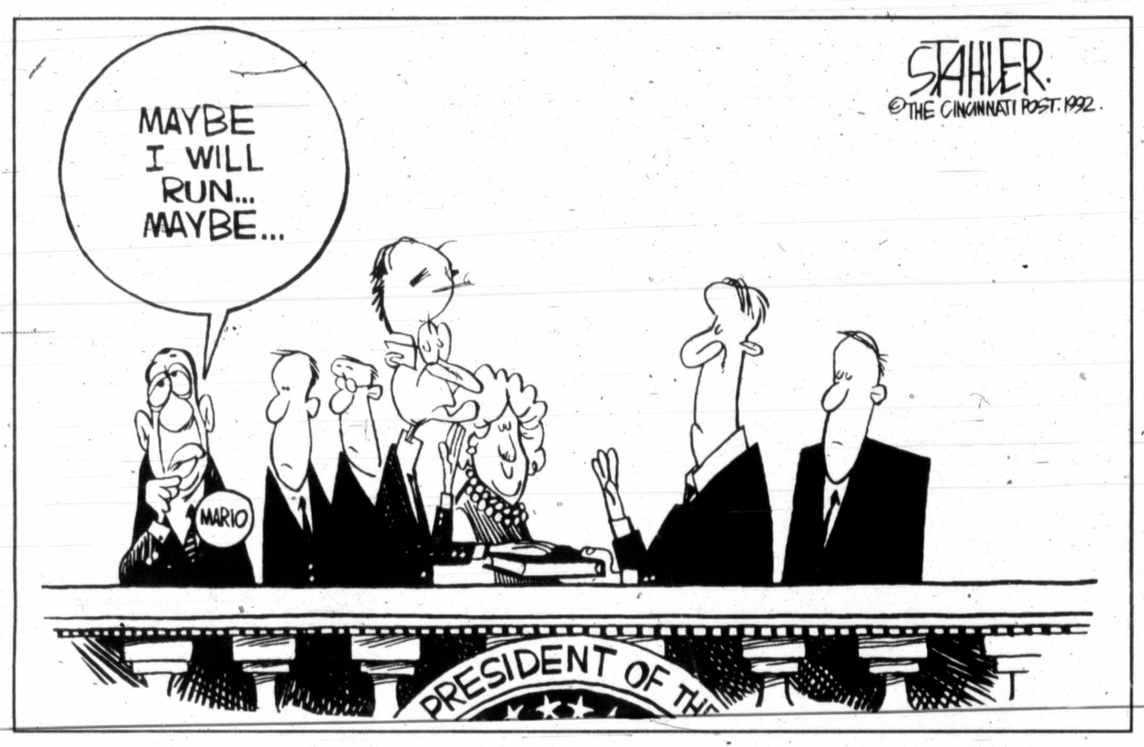
Killing people on the other side of the globe who had never done anything to your country? Sacrificing your life for a cause that even Richard Nixon no longer believed in? Finding a way out of serving even as less fortunate souls were packed off to boot camp? The 1960s raised excruciating questions, the answers to which involved life and death. A lot of people handled them no better than Clinton.

Having come of draft age in 1973, the year the draft was abolished and the last American ground troops left Vietnam, I didn't have to confront those choices. Millions of people did, and most of them managed to keep out of harm's way.

Something like 25 million men passed through the ages of 18 and 26 during the Vietnam War. Fewer than 9 million served in any branch of the military service. Fewer still ever saw combat. And most of those who went to Vietnam didn't go because they were thrilled by the chance to die for their country. The went because Uncle Sam gave them no tolerable alternative.

There was nothing heroic about Clinton's behavior, but there was nothing genuinely contemptible in it either. He opposed the war, he didn't want to fight in it, and he did what he could within the limits of the law to avoid being sent. Most of us, if asked to risk our lives in a war we regarded as an abomination, wouldn't behave a whole lot differently.

Bill Clinton hasn't led a blameless life, but fortunately a blameless life isn't a requirement for a successful president. He's been convicted only of being human. And if we plan to disqualify everyone who's guilty of that, we'll be waiting a lot longer than next January to inaugurate a president.



Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, March 3, the 63rd day of 1992. There are 303 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 3, 1931, "The Star-Spangled Banner" officially became the national anthem of the United States.

On this date:

In 1845, Florida became the 27th state.

In 1849, the Home Department, the forerunner of the Interior Department, was established.

In 1879, Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood became the first woman to be admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1885, the U.S. Post Office began offering special delivery for first-class mail.

In 1974, nearly 350 people died when a Turkish Airlines DC-10 crashed shortly after takeoff from Orly Airport in Paris.

Cleaning carpet the hard way



Lewis Grizzard

Have you ever tried to get toothpaste out of carpet. No? Well, I have. Out of the carpet in my bathroom.

I suppose I should tell you how the toothpaste got on the carpet in my bathroom but it's a little embarrassing.

On the other hand, I've never been one to keep secrets. What happened was, I was in the midst of a rather spirited argument with someone else who was with me in my bathroom at the time.

The argument had to do with the fact I am insensitive, bull-headed, selfish and sometimes my feet don't smell so good.

I realized I was losing the argument, which frustrated me. When I get frustrated, sometimes I get angry.

I got angry, and I happened to be holding a canister of toothpaste in my hand. I was just about to brush my teeth when the argument broke out. It wasn't a tube of toothpaste. The modern shopper like myself now buys toothpaste in a canister with a button on top. You push the button and the toothpaste comes out, which has made it possible for me to avoid another argument I've been having with women all my life.

Beginning with my mother, every woman with whom I have shared a bathroom has complained that I don't squeeze a tube of toothpaste from the bottom, which is the way they are convinced it should be done.

I can never figure out what the big deal is. I squeeze from the top, the middle, three-quarters of the way down or from the bottom. There's still just so much toothpaste in there, and, one way or another, I'll get it all out.

Anyway, I was angry and I couldn't decide whether or not to ram my fist through the glass shower door or slam the canister of toothpaste down to the carpet.

I went for the toothpaste slam. We weren't arguing politics.

The toothpaste canister broke into many pieces, and toothpaste got all over the carpet. She said, "If you think I'm going to clean up that toothpaste, you're crazy."

"Did I ask you to clean up the toothpaste?" I shouted back at here. "I'll clean it up. Don't you worry one minute about it. I'll do it. I'll have this toothpaste up before you can bat an eye. It's my toothpaste. I paid for it. I threw it on the carpet, which is also mine, and I'll clean it up. Yes, siree. I'll clean up the stupid toothpaste. When it comes to cleaning up toothpaste I'm a world champion.

"'If you think I'm going to clean up that toothpaste...'" I mocked her. "You don't have to do it, I'll do it."

First, I tried scrubbing it out with a brush. That didn't work. The toothpaste had caked in the carpet by this time. I tried scraping it out with a knife. That didn't work, either.

I tried a wet wash rag on it. Nope. I wet a mop and tried that. Do you know how much suds a little toothpaste on a carpet can produce when you put water on it? Tons of the stuff, which now was spreading to other parts of the carpet.

I tried to get my dog, Catfish, the black Lab, to lick the toothpaste off the carpet. He refused.

I tried everything I knew. Nothing worked.

So I said to myself, I'll probably sell this house one day, let the new owner get the toothpaste up.

She came home and saw the mess and called a carpet-cleaning service. It was my toothpaste, my carpet, and my carpet-cleaning bill.

But I got even. I put a Pat Buchanan bumper sticker on her car. She likes the wimp from California because he seems so sensitive.

Letter sheds new light on candidate

By Sarah Overstreet

I don't have much of a fleshed-out opinion of Bill Clinton yet. I like some of his policy positions, and I like the fact that he lets you know exactly what those positions are and why.

I don't know if he had a 12-year extramarital affair with Gennifer Flowers or not, but I do think it makes a difference in what kind of leader he would make. If he did do it, even if he was in love with the woman, he has the judgment of a shrub. But we don't know a lot about that story because the "journalists" who related it can't be trusted. Sometimes they come close to the truth and sometimes they don't, and if they know the difference they don't care.

But I do know this about Bill Clinton: I like him better this week than I liked him last week because of the letter that's been given him so much grief from other corners. It's not that I agree or disagree with the position he took on the subject of the letter, the Vietnam War, but because during an agonizing time for young men he ultimately decided not to take the easy way out.

What Clinton said in the letter to his ROTC commander in 1969 was that he had enrolled in ROTC only to avoid having to either take his chances on being drafted, or to follow his conscience and formally resist the draft because he was bitterly opposed to the war.

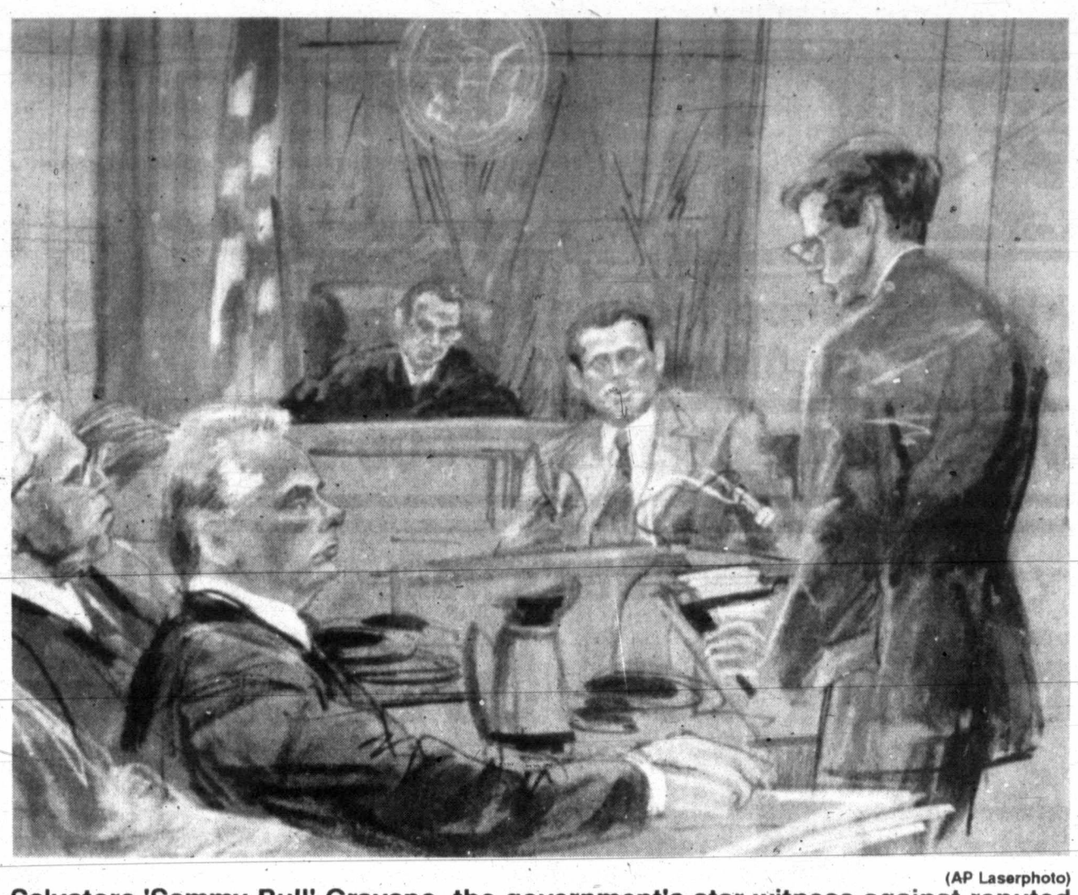
"After I signed the ROTC letter of intent I began to wonder whether the compromise I had made with myself was not more objectionable than the draft would have been" Clinton wrote. "Because I had no interest in the ROTC program in itself, and all I seemed to have done was protect myself from harm." Clinton dropped out of ROTC and took his chances.

Clinton lucked out. When the draft system was changed to a lottery, he drew a high number. And I guess if this were an ethics class where students were graded on how closely they adhered to the equations of philosophy, we'd have to score him better than war protesters who refused to even register for the draft. But on a scale of conscience-following, Clinton is a notch up on those who decided, rather than actively resist the draft, to do anything they could to get a deferment—got to school or have children for no other reason but to with the deferment, become too skinny to meet the physical requirements, smoke cigarettes painted with iodine hoping to damage their lungs, shoot toes or fingers off.

Vietnam was a war that exhausted the though processes of all of us, especially men of conscription age. News accounts brought us what seemed like an endless march of young American men into the meat grinder that was Vietnam, and for the vague, unarticulated goals that changed to suit the public relations aims of the war's proponents. These were not young men who would have refused service in a conflict like World War II. They were men who saw their young lives being sacrificed for a purpose no one could make them understand because the explainers didn't have any answers themselves.

It was horrible enough to wait with the men we loved to see what hand fate would deal them, but I still have no idea how it felt to stand in their shoes and I certainly would not presume to judge them for trying to avoid the draft. If there's any dishonor in my eyes, it's for the guy who avoided the draft any way he could while the war was going on, and then 20 years later began to beller like the gung ho-est Marine who ever missed the opportunity to napalm a bazillion VC, and sure wishes he could been there but—darn the luck!—he wasn't in the war.

What I saw in Bill Clinton's letter was the record of a young man who studied his conscience in a horrendously difficult time and decided to take his lumps if he had to. If I were him, I might've leaked it to the press myself.



(AP Laserphoto)

Salvatore 'Sammy Bull' Gravano, the government's star witness against reputed mob boss John Gotti, foreground, takes the stand to testify against his former boss during Gotti's racketeering trial in New York Monday. U.S. Attorney John Gleeson, right, questioned Gotti's former friend, confidant, and right-hand man as Gotti seldom took his eyes off the man who betrayed him.

Mafia underboss violates oath, says Gotti plotted Castellano hit

By RONALD POWERS
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) – Violating a Mafia loyalty oath sealed in blood, John Gotti's former right-hand man testified Gotti plotted the hit that made him boss of the Gambino family, waiting around the corner while the job was done.

Salvatore "Sammy Bull" Gravano, Gotti's alleged underboss, on Monday became the highest-ranking member of the Gambino family to turn government witness. His testimony was to resume today at Gotti's murder-racketeering trial.

Gotti has been acquitted three times in six years on other charges, earning him the nickname "Teflon Don." But prosecutors have never before used a witness against him who was as highly placed within the Gambino family as Gravano.

Gravano's first day on the stand focused largely on the cornerstone of the government's case against Gotti: the 1985 slayings of then-Gambino boss Paul "Big Paul" Castellano and Castellano's driver and bodyguard, Thomas Bilotti.

Some Gambino family members felt that Castellano had become too greedy and "was selling out the family for his own basic businesses," Gravano said.

"We decided to act," he said.

The 46-year-old career hoodlum and "made member" of the Gambino family also described a life of crime, admitting to 19 murders and a list of other crimes. And he told the jury about his induction into the nation's most powerful crime organization in a 1976 ritual conducted by Castellano.

Castellano pricked Gravano's trigger finger and dripped blood onto a picture of a saint, which was then set on fire, he testified.

"He told me that if I should ever divulge any of the secrets of this organization my soul should burn like this saint," Gravano said.

"Is it fair to say you are violating that oath by cooperating with the government," asked the prosecutor, Assistant U.S. Attorney John Gleeson.

"Yes," Gravano replied.

Gravano, a short, stocky man with a broad face and slicked-back hair, glanced often toward the defense table. A smirking Gotti listened closely.

Gravano said that the night before the hit, he, Gotti and other mobsters met at Gravano's Brooklyn office.

"We discussed where we were going to go on the piece of work the next day. We discussed who the shooters would be, what positions they would take," he said. "The plan was to kill him at Sparks Steak House."

The next day, the group assembled in a park a mile from the Manhattan restaurant and armed themselves with guns and walkie-talkies, Gravano said.

Then, as four shooters and four backups took their posts outside the restaurant, Gravano and Gotti waited in a car around the corner, he said.

"We had Sparks Steak House sandwiched in," the witness said.

Security was tight for Gravano's appearance in Brooklyn's federal court. U.S. marshals and FBI agents lined the courtroom, which was filled to capacity with Gotti friends, law enforcement authorities, spectators and reporters.

Stricter-than-usual searches were conducted at entrances and a bevy of police were posted at the back door, where Gravano slipped inside.

During Gravano's more than two hours on the stand, Gotti's associates filling the first two rows on one side of the courtroom looked on stonefaced as Gravano betrayed the Mafia oath of "omerta," or silence.

According to government surveillance tapes, Gotti considered Gravano a trusted friend and wanted him to take over the Gambino leadership if Gotti was jailed.

However, Gravano was arrested along with Gotti and co-defendant Frank "Frankie Locs" Locascio. Gotti and Locascio face life in prison if convicted.

Last fall, after being held without bail for about 10 months, Gravano agreed to become a government witness. Under a plea bargain signed in November and made public on Monday, Gravano faces a maximum of 20 years in prison.

'Michelangelo' computer virus strikes fear in business world

By LAURA MYERS
AP Business Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) – Do you know where that floppy disk has been?

Taking a page from safe sex manuals, experts are warning computer users to practice safe computing because of viruses like one called Michelangelo, which could trigger millions of computer crashes and erase data on hard disks this week.

The virus lies dormant in an estimated 5 million IBM-compatible personal computers worldwide and is poised to strike on Friday, the artist's birthdate.

"This is one of the most widespread viruses," said John McAfee, president of McAfee Associates, an anti-virus computer consulting firm in Santa Clara. "It's out there in a large way and could cause lots of damage if it isn't stopped."

Computer experts say it might be possible to disable the virus in an already-infected computer by changing the date stored in the machine, so the virus never knows it's March 6. A more foolproof – but more expensive – way is to purchase an anti-viral program.

Dataquest Inc., a market research company in San Jose, released a survey of 300 major businesses Monday showing that the Michelangelo infection rate rose from 5.5 percent at the end of 1991 to 18.2 percent by Jan. 31.

A virus is a computer program created by hackers to destroy data or otherwise disrupt computers. Michelangelo first appeared in Scandinavia in February 1991. Finding the source of the virus is virtually impossible, experts said.

"Many people haven't been real vigilant about protecting their computers against viruses," said Peter Francis, a software analyst for Dataquest.

"People share disks and use disks when they don't know where they've been. And they don't use anti-virus programs to stop this stuff from spreading."

Like biological viruses, Michelangelo is spread through contact with an infected disk, modem or network. Once in the machine, the virus can spread to every disk used. Preventing infection is much like practicing safe sex to avoid human disease: mainly by avoiding computer contact with disks of unknown origin.

Infected computers turned up at an AIDS research lab in the San Francisco area, the San Jose Mercury News and the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Leading Edge Products Inc. of Westboro, Mass., shipped several hundred Michelangelo-loaded computers in January.

On Monday, Intel Corp. pulled its LANSpool 3.01, a print server software program, from the market because some units were infected. Even the federal Sandia Labs nuclear facility in Albuquerque, N.M., discovered a few infected computers.

The problem may be more widespread that commonly thought.

"Ninety-nine percent of the people who get affected by a virus keep quiet because they think it looks like their procedures are loose, or maybe like they pirated some software," said Martin Tibor, a data security specialist with Synapse Data Recovery. "But it's widespread."

The Michelangelo virus is more widespread and potentially destructive than previous large virus strains such as Columbus Day, Jerusalem, Friday the 13th and Stoned, experts said. Those viruses were also triggered by dates.

"Most viruses tend to fizzle," said Ed Foster, editor of InfoWorld, a computer trade magazine. "Most of the time, viruses are more hype than danger. But I think the Michelangelo might cause problems."

Most viruses are written by computer hackers who want attention, and are relatively harmless, experts said. One virus, for example, knocks letters off the screen. Another causes a tiny ambulance — lights flashing and sirens wailing — to drive across the bottom of computer screens.

"We know of more than 1,000 viruses out there," said Karen Garrison of Central Point Software in Beaverton, Ore. "And there are more and more written every day. Some people are just trying to be clever. But most of it's just simple vandalism."

Brown tide concerns scientists

PORT ARKANSAS (AP) – Marine scientists are concerned that the brown tide organism along the Texas Gulf Coast is resurging, despite earlier optimism that record rains were washing it away, the University of Texas says.

Brown tide, a microscopic plant organism, gives water a brown appearance when it blooms in high concentrations. It is not thought to be toxic.

However, it deprives seagrasses of sunlight, affecting the food chain. The organism also crowds out algae eaten by small animals known as zooplankton.

"My personal opinion is that if it hadn't been for the rain, we'd be up to our ears in brown tide," said Terry Whitledge of the University of Texas at Austin's Marine Science Institute at Port Arkansas.

Whitledge and other scientists reported at the fourth annual South Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting Friday that the brown tide is still greatly reduced in South Texas bays and estuaries, including San Antonio, Nueces, Copano and Baffin bays.

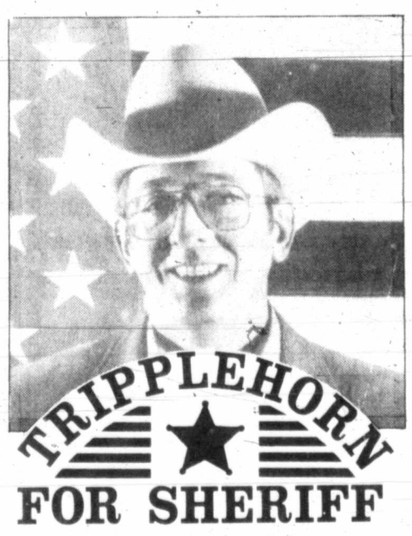
However, it is approaching record levels of concentration in the lower Laguna Madre, they said. The Laguna Madre is between the mainland and Padre Island.

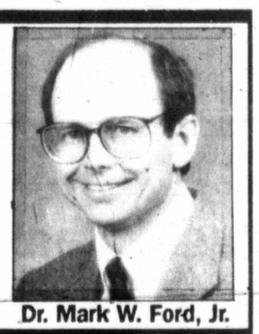
The lower part of the Texas Gulf Coast has received less effect from the rainfall this winter than other regions. Scientists said this factor has been critical in the organism's persistence in the lower Laguna Madre.

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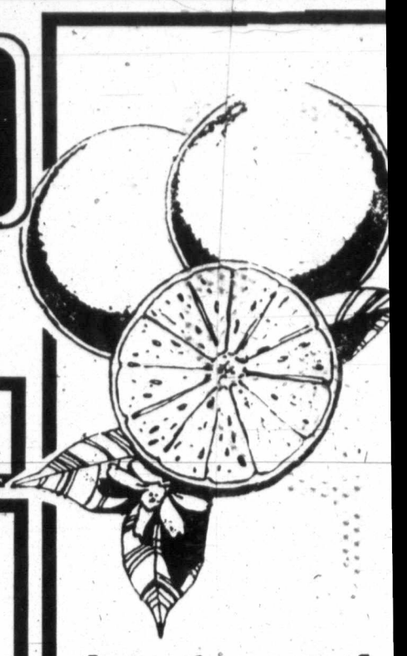
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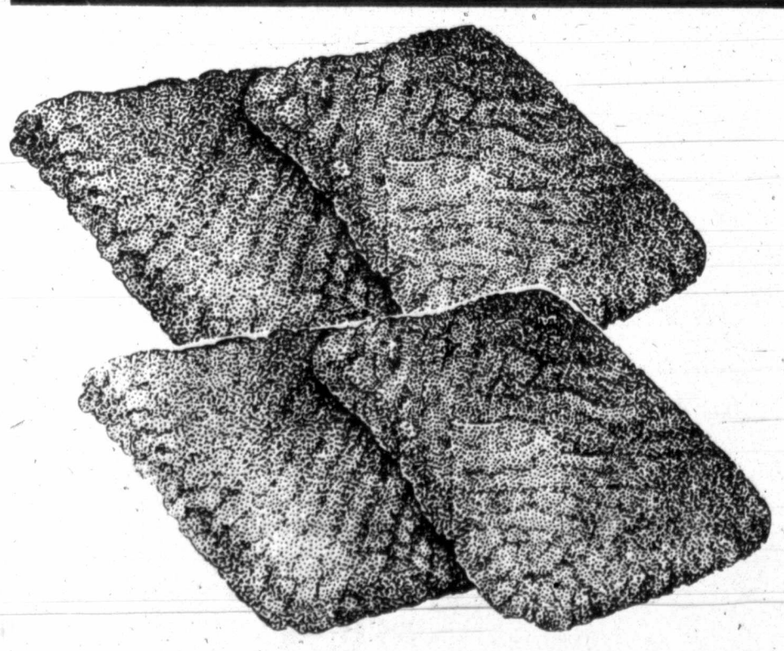
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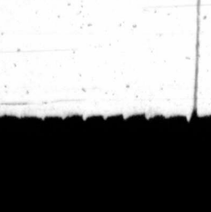


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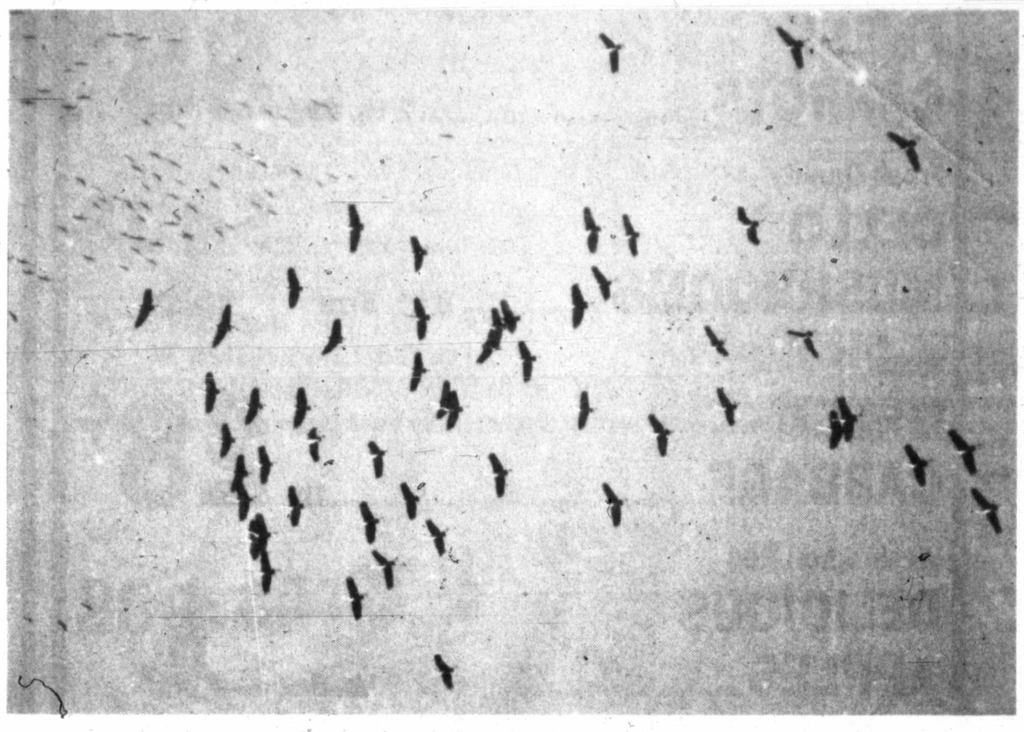
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Flock in flight



(Staff photo by Bonner Green)

Flocks of sandhill cranes fill the sky over a field east of Pampa recently. The birds have begun their spring migration north, with flocks passing over the city and surrounding area almost every day.

Tax bill could scrap landmark court decision on IRS reviews

By JIM LUTHER
AP Tax Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) – A House tax-cut bill would negate a landmark court decision that requires the Internal Revenue Service to prove its claim that a taxpayer has underreported income.

The IRS successfully argued to lawmakers that the court ruling would undermine the effort to catch tax cheats through computer matching of returns with documents listing wages, interest and dividends. That matching finds $20 billion a year of unreported income.

"The entire tax system will eventually crumble" if the decision stands, IRS Commissioner Shirley D. Peterson told Congress.

An amendment to effectively overrule the court decision was one of scores of provisions tacked onto the Democratic tax bill behind closed doors before it was passed by the House last week.

Most other amendments would have far less impact. One eventually could result in taxpayers using a credit card to pay the IRS. Another would change the tax rules for people who hire domestics. Another would help ease the automobile luxury tax on handicapped people.

All these provisions are riders on a bill that would give wage earners a tax credit of up to $400 a year in 1992 and 1993, cut capital-gains taxes on some investments and offer businesses investments for buying equipment this year. President Bush has said he would veto the bill because it would raise taxes on the well-to-do.

The disputed court decision last June threw into question a long-standing policy that when the IRS issues an assessment of taxes owed, it is generally presumed to be correct. If, for example, a bank reports to the agency that it paid interest to a person, that person has the burden of proving the "information return" is wrong.

"The entire tax system will eventually crumble" if the decision stands.

–Shirley D. Peterson
IRS Commissioner

Ramon Portillo, a Texas house painter, contended that an information return overstated cash he had received from a job, but he had no way to prove he did not get the additional money. The IRS contacted the client, who acknowledged he had no records to substantiate his claim.

Nevertheless, the IRS issued a notice of additional taxes and Portillo sued in Tax Court. The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the IRS was wrong because it made no effort to determine whether the information return was correct. The presumption of correctness does not apply, the court held, when an assessment is "without any foundation whatsoever."

Taxpayer-advocate groups hailed the ruling as a major victory, saying it would end the notion that where the IRS is concerned, a person is guilty until proven innocent.

House Ways and Means and Senate Finance subcommittees headed by Rep. J.J. Pickle, D-Texas, and Sen. David Pryor, D-Ark., held hearings and wrote provisions designed to make the Portillo decision work for taxpayers with as little damage as possible to tax collection.

When House Democrats wrote the final version of their tax-cut bill, they attached a version of Pickle's bill requiring the IRS to take reasonable steps to corroborate the accuracy of information returns.

However, that requirement was muddied by the sentence that followed: "Failure (by the IRS) to comply ... shall not invalidate any notice of deficiency or assessment of a deficiency."

Rep. Richard Schulze of Pennsylvania, senior Republican on Pickle's subcommittee, called that a betrayal of taxpayers. "The fine print will allow the IRS to ignore its obligation to verify the facts and still beat the taxpayer because the IRS's conclusion will be presumed valid and correct," he said.

Pickle replied that some of the provisions sought by Schulze would have damaged the computer-matching program, which each year finds about $20 billion of unreported income.

The House provision, Pryor said, "basically would give the IRS carte blanche in disputes with taxpayers." He is asking the Senate to accept an amendment striking down any IRS assessment that is not a result of "thoughtful and considered determination."

Supreme Court upholds overthrown ban on indecent radio, TV broadcasts

WASHINGTON (AP) – Is it possible to designate a time of day for "indecent" broadcasts that can be hidden from children?

A Supreme Court action Monday put the burden on the Federal Communications Commission to try.

The justices left intact a lower court ruling that had thrown out a 24-hour ban on such radio and television programming. The lower court had said the ban, enacted by Congress, violated constitutionally protected freedom of expression.

There must be a daily "safe-harbor" period when such material is permitted on the airwaves, the lower court said.

While the case was pending, the FCC informally decided the hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. was the time, under the theory that a parent had more control over children's activities then.

Peggy Charren, president of Action for Children's Television which fought the ban, said that was proper. If you push the time for material judged indecent much later into the evening, you may endanger some "very nice drama" dealing with adult situations from appearing in prime time, she said.

She called the court's decision not to take the case "a victory for people to know that the place to take care of children is the off button in the home."

But those fighting for the round-the-clock ban said that is silly.

"Millions of children are in the audience 24 hours a day," said James P. Mueller, legal counsel for Children's Legal Foundation in Phoenix, Ariz.

"There are so many radios out there, there is no way for a parent to monitor what their child is listening to at home or away from home," he said.

Indecent material, unlike legally obscene material, is constitutionally protected. It is defined by law as descriptions of "sexual or excretory activities or organs" in terms "patently offensive as measured by contemporary community standards for the broadcast medium."

The FCC has taken action, for example, against a number of daytime disc jockeys whose live chatter or musical parodies drift into such areas. The problems mostly have been with radio, rather than television, the commission said.

FCC Chairman Alfred C. Sikes said he was disappointed by the Supreme Court's refusal to take the case. He said the commission would "be reviewing its options over the coming weeks to determine how to proceed in this complex, but important area."

One advocate of a 24-hour ban said a lawsuit will inevitably be filed immediately after the rule is published, either by the side who thinks it's too strict or the one who thinks it's too lenient.

The issue will work its way through the courts again.

"Until the Supreme Court speaks on this there will be a struggle that will go on endlessly," said Benjamin Bull, general counsel for the conservative American Family Association, based in Tupelo, Miss.

Food stamp trafficking: Guns to drugs

WASHINGTON (AP) – In New Jersey, a real estate agent sold a house for $30,000 in food stamps. In Ohio, a grocer was charged with illegally redeeming $7.2 million in food stamps – purportedly a cool $3 million more than his total sales.

Investigators for the Agriculture Department say food stamps are being used across the nation to trade for most anything, including cash, crack cocaine, appliances, guns and cars.

And as the number of Americans receiving food stamps swells to nearly 25 million and the costs of the program are expected to top $22 billion this year, concerns about abuse are growing. The fraud and waste was estimated at $1 billion in 1990; if anything, the figure likely is higher now.

"The pressure to violate the food stamp program increases when you have more people on the program and more money involved in the program," says Andrew P. Hornsby Jr., the program's deputy administrator.

But fraud and increasingly sophisticated trafficking schemes are just a part of the problem.

The Associated Press recently obtained a USDA report under the Freedom of Information Act that found security breaches and accounting problems at a Pennsylvania plant where more than $6 billion in food stamps were printed each year.

The plant, part of a company founded by Paul Revere, currently prints about 70 percent of all food stamps for the government. The government estimates it will spend $20 billion on food stamp benefits this year.

The audit also found that the Food and Nutrition Service, the USDA agency that manages the program, did not have effective follow-up procedures to ensure that security and accounting problems were quickly corrected.

At the time of the audit by USDA's Office of Inspector General, investigators said $2 billion in food stamp coupons at the printer and distributor that were not fully safeguarded to prevent theft. An additional $2.9 million in food stamps could not be accounted for and the matter is still being pursued.

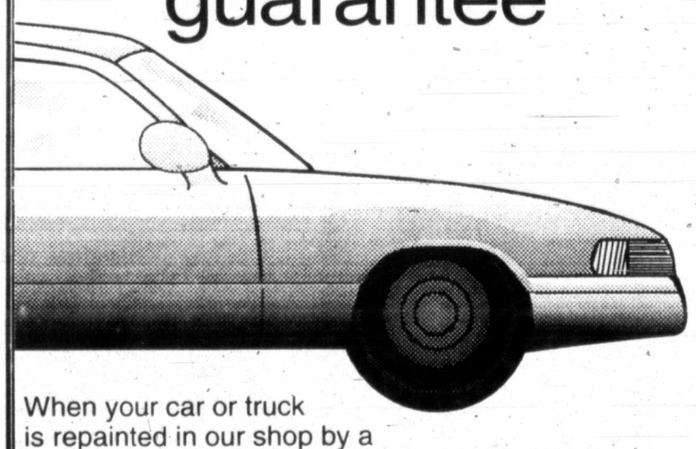
The auditors said they also found entrances left open for prolonged periods of time at the American Bank Note Co. printing plant in Horsham, Pa.

Officials, however, blamed the problem on construction and the movement of printing equipment in and out of the building as a result of a merger with United States Banknote Corp.

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ANTHONYS

Lifestyles

Scavenging Gulls benefit to mankind



Panhandle Bird Watch

by Jan Elston

If you were at the seacoast, you would expect to see Gulls on piers or docks, or maybe large numbers of Gulls flying in huge flocks as they follow garbage scows out to sea, or even accompanying an ocean liner, hoping for chicken scraps which have been dumped overboard. We don't usually think of Gulls as being fairly commonly seen in the Texas Panhandle; but it is not unusual to see them. Actually, the name they are most often called is "Sea Gull"; but that is a misnomer, and the correct name of this family is Gull.

Large numbers of Gulls are sometimes seen in a plowed field, or following a farmer who is doing his spring plowing. Why do you think those birds would be there? Since they eat insects, worms, or grasshoppers, they are probably hanging around, looking for an easy meal which has been turned by the farmers plow.

Usually, Gulls can be seen at the Medical Park lakes near the Discovery Center on the west side of Amarillo, or on some of the playa lakes in the Panhandle, or sometimes on parking lots, particularly where there are puddles of water.

One species of Gull which is often seen in the Panhandle is the Ring-billed Gull. (Because the plumage of Gulls changes yearly during the first three or four years of their lives, I will describe only the adult Ring-billed Gull in this article. For variations in color phases, please refer to your bird book). The body of the Ring-billed is about sixteen inches long, and the wingspan is about forty-eight inches. Ringbills are white, except for gray on the tops of their wings, with dark patches on their wingtips. Their eyes are yellow, and their feet and legs are greenish-yellow. The diagnostic marking is a black ring encircling the yellow bill.

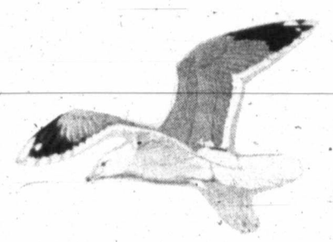
Ring-billed Gulls are extremely adaptable, migrating when necessary, flying from shore to inland, or inland to shore. They are equally at home in the water of an ocean, feeding on fish or refuse, or in an irrigated field, eating drowning earthworms. They have learned to crack the hard shells of clams by dropping them on rocks, tennis courts, or roadways.

Gulls have been called "garbage cans in feathers," eating everything and anything. These scavengers provide an important service, ridding our planet of enormous amounts of potential health hazards.

*****

Exciting news!! Purple Martin scouts have been sighted in the Pampa area! The first ones were reported on February 28, which is about three weeks earlier than usual.

It seems strange that our area has Purple Martins; but Amarillo doesn't have any. Maybe we should capitalize on that fact by calling Pampa "The Purple Martin Capital of the Panhandle". Several towns across America advertise that way in the *PURPLE MARTIN NEWS*.



Ring-billed Gull

*****

With the unseasonably warm weather we have had since Christmas, the Spring Migration this year should be especially interesting. If you don't have a bird book, you may want to buy one, or check one out at the library. My favorite is a Golden Book, *A Field Guide to the Birds Of NORTH AMERICA*.

*****

Have you been hearing House Finches singing so beautifully? Their breeding colors are so bright this time of year.

*****

Some of the birds which have been observed lately are Killdeer, Meadowlark, Kestrel, Horned Lark, Mallard, and Robin.

*****

Other people have been seeing Goldfinches for several weeks. We are just now beginning to see them. If the mild weather holds, they may begin molting earlier than usual this year. Watch for their brown coats to begin to show patches of yellow.

Women in Science Endeavors set annual conference for March 7

The fourth annual Women in Science Endeavors (WISE) conference is set for Crockett Middle School, Amarillo, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.,Saturday, March 7th. The conference is sponsored by the Don Harrington Discovery Center, Amarillo Independent School District, Region XVI Education Service Center, Amarillo College and the American Association of University Women.

WISE was developed to encourage and provide role models for young women in the 7th and 8th grades who have shown an interest in the sciences. WISE also contributes to the education of young people in the field of science. The performance of American students in science related fields has declined in recent history. In a study of 175,000 nine and thirteen-year-olds in twenty different countries, the Educational Testing Service found that the top ten percent of U.S. students rank as high in math and science as the best students in the world, but the other ninety percent are among the worst.

The top five female students from are middle schools who show promise, creativity and a real talent in the field of science are nominated by their principals to attend the WISE seminar. Over 130 young women from the panhandle have been invited to attend. More than twenty schools are participating, including Pampa Middle School.

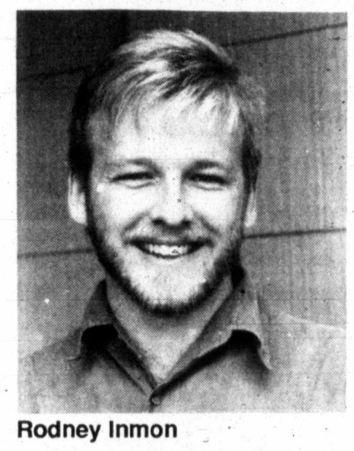
Featured speakers for the conference are geologist Jenny Perry, SPS engineer Gizle Early and aquatic biologist Cindy Zbonar. The guest lecturers will address a typical day in their chosen fields and provide a hands-on learning experience for the girls attending.

Sessions will also be available for parents regarding financial aid assistance, scholarships and high school curriculum choices.

The keynote speaker will be Paige Wolf, an Aquarist 1/Marine Biologist from Sea World, the world's largest marine zoological park. Wolf assists both the the curator of fishes and supervisor in carrying out the tasks required for the successful exhibition of marine fisheries form Texas A&M University, and has worked for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Support from area businesses including, Pantex Plant, the Harrington Regional Medical Center, Inc., the Texas Education Agency, Fifth Season Inn, Maxus Exploration Corporation and the Amarillo Production Credit Association enables the WISE conference to be offered at no charge to the participants.

Newsmakers



Rodney Inmon

Rodney Mike Inmon, a second-quarter Texas State Technical College student, recently received a $500 Aviall Scholarship through the TSTC Development Foundation for his work in the aviation maintenance technology program. Inmon is the son of C.D. Inmon of Pampa and the husband of Gena Leanne Inmon. He is a 1984 graduate of Pampa High School and a member of the Professional Aviation Maintenance Association.

Lonnie Remond Mills, a Tarleton State University senior from Pampa, has been chosen for Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Students are selected based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

A graduate of Pampa High School, Mills is majoring in Exercise and Sports Studies at Tarleton. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mills and Mary Mills.

At Tarleton, Mills is a member of the Delta Chi national mens fraternity and the National Council of Teachers of English. Mills played basketball for the Texans.

Tenor **David Brown**, Pampa, is one of the McMurry University Chanters set to begin its spring tour Feb. 28 at Oakwood United Methodist Church in Lubbock.

Music selections date from the 16th to the 20th century and feature music chosen from sacred and secular music, according to Dr. John Peed, director of choral programs.

Renita Hill Logan, daughter of Bob and Carmenita Hill and daughter-in-law of Jim and Kathy Logan, was named to the president's honor list last semester at the University of Oklahoma. She scored a 4.0, and is studying speech pathology. Her husband, Greg Logan, is E4 Security Policeman at Tinker Air Force Base.

First retrospective of American Indian photographer tours country

NEW YORK (AP) — The first retrospective of photographs by Horace Poolaw, the only American Indian of his generation recognized as a professional photographer, is set to travel to museums across the country.

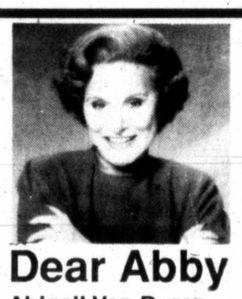
Poolaw, born a Kiowa in Mountain View, Okla., in 1906, photgraphed traditional ceremonies, festive occasions and commonplace events of the Kiowa and other Plains Indians.

His images include portraits of a traditionally dressed elderly warrior with his war lance outside his frame house, and a mother wearing high-heeled pumps carrying her child in a cradleboard. The works form a lively record of dress and customs in the early part of the century, showing both cultural change and continuity.

Tribal events and everyday life, in and around Mountain View and Andarko, Okla., are the subjects of the 72 gelatin silver prints in "Kiowa Culture in Transition, 1925-1955: The Photographs of Horace Poolaw."

The exhibition, traveling under the auspices of the American Federation of Arts, will be at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County through April 26. It then moves on to other venues, including the Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Okla., the Heard Museum, Phoenix, Ariz., and the National Museum of the American Indian, New York City.

Boyfriend's marriage ban is matter of his principles



Dear Abby
Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am a 28-year-old woman with a boyfriend (same age) whom I'll call "David." We've been dating for three years. During that time he has proven himself to be a wonderful man. He's intelligent, responsible, funny, communicative, respectful, and a warm, tender lover. He has a steady job and comes from a good family. David says he wants to have children with me, and I know he'd make an excellent father.

The problem is that he doesn't want to get married. It's not that he doesn't want commitment — for two years he's been trying to convince me to live with him. Whenever I bring up the subject of marriage, he says he's against it in principle because he's an atheist and a libertarian.

I would like to marry David, but I also respect his beliefs, and don't want to force upon him what he so adamantly opposes. Also, my parents are very religious and would be repulsed if I had children out of wedlock. By the way, my family loves David, but they have no idea how he feels about marriage.

Believe me, Abby, David is not hiding anything. We both want to spend our lives together, but the lack of a marriage license would create terrible problems. Please help me. I don't want to lose him.

CONFUSED IN DAVIS, CALIF.

DEAR CONFUSED: Why the confusion? This is no teen-age crush — you are both 28 years old and have invested three years in this relationship. Review the bidding one last time. Tell him you love him and would like to spend the rest of your life with him.

If David opposes marriage because he's an atheist — remind him that there are judges and justices of the peace who are qualified to legalize your union. But if marriage is not for him — neither are you, because you want children within the bonds of matrimony.

* * *

DEAR ABBY: I take exception to your answer to the gentleman who suggested we dig up the old, scary, graphic training films from World War II warning us about the terrors of "social disease" and show them to high school students. You said that scare tactics were not the answer, education was, and that World War II sexually transmitted diseases could be cured by penicillin, whereas AIDS cannot.

Believe me, those scary films were very educational! We are going to have to admit that today's sex education isn't working; witness the illegitimate birth rate and the presence of social disease among our adolescents. "Scare tactics" worked with many of us World War II adolescents, and they should be tried now. How could it hurt to show some of these hormone-rampant boys and girls a graphic and scary picture of someone dying from AIDS? Or a lonely, outcast pregnant girl? Try it — it might work; whatever is being done now certainly isn't!

FORMER SCARED
BUT EDUCATED GI

* * *

DEAR ABBY: I also enjoy limericks — clean ones. May I submit one of my own:

There once was a fellow named Ray,
Who rode Ruth on his bike one fine day,
The bike took a lunge,
And Ruth took a plunge,
And "ruthlessly" Ray sped away.

JACK C. BOONE,
ANTIOCH, TENN.

* * *

Abby's family recipes are included in her cookbooklet! Send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

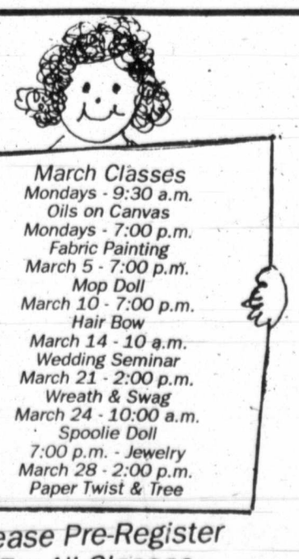
Ranch and feelot operations program recipient of endowment

The Ranch and Feedlot Operations program at Clarendon College has been named recipient of a $5,292 scholarship endowment from the Panhandle Livestock Association.

At its annual meeting February 22nd in Amarillo, a silent auction organized by Kris and Walt Lasley of Stratford, provided the bulk of the funding for the endowment. The first scholarship will be awarded during the 1992-93 college year.

Over 200 persons attended the association's 77th anniversary gathering. The group, which is emphasizing the importance of the young rancher, added 29 new members to its ranks. Officers re-elected for the coming year are: President, Nancy McIntyre, Spearman; Vice President, Earl Wheatley, Hedley; and Secretary-Treasurer, Stacy Stephenson, Amarillo.

Contributions and memorials to the Clarendon College Ranch and Feedlot Operations scholarship fund may be sent to: Panhandle Livestock Association Scholarship Fund, Box 1533, Amarillo, Texas 79105-1553. For additional information, contact: Nancy McIntyre, Spearman (806) 659-2083.



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The Pampa News

Comic Page

The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Kennel sound
4 Child's vehicle
8 From — — Z
11 Additional
13 Relating to a time
14 Gypsy man
15 Gave signal to
16 Haste
18 Have ambitions
20 Useful
21 Household appliance
23 Be obedient
25 God of love
29 Domestic animal
30 Raise
32 Elaborate poem
33 Big —
34 Let fall
36 Kitty
37 Metal fastener
39 More frigid
41 — Scale
44 Australian tree-dweller
46 Strata
50 Refined
52 Plaintiff
53 Individual
54 Surface measures
55 Attention-getting sound
56 — for two
57 Lots and lots
58 Airline info

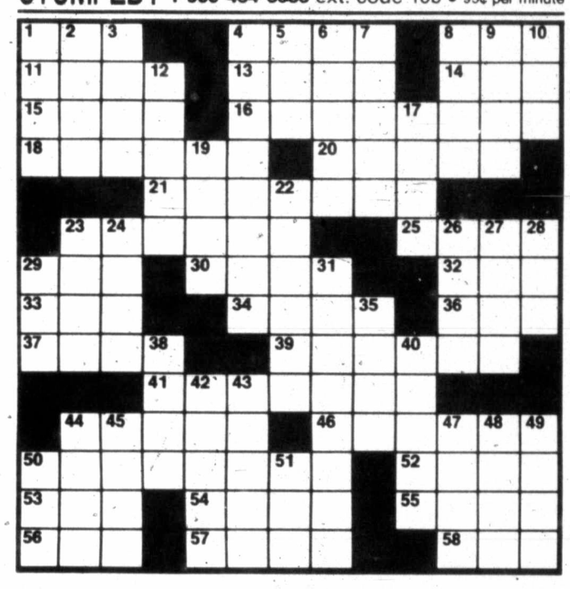
DOWN

1 Non-profit org.
2 Adjective ending
3 — school
4 In state of loss
5 Author — Levin
6 Destroyed (sl.)
7 Type size
8 Seed covering
9 Carry
10 Peg — — Heart
12 Songstress Piaf
17 Disastrous
19 Bellow
22 Quest
23 Existed
24 Alcohol lamp
26 Strong cord
27 Smell
28 Put
29 Non-profit TV
31 Unattached
35 Defendant's answer
38 Entreat
40 Evaporate (2 wds.)
42 — — ease
43 City on the Nile
44 Actress Carol —
45 Concert halls
47 Existence
48 Relax
49 Coarse hair
50 Home site
51 Understanding

Answer to Previous Puzzle

V	E	X		M	O	U	S	E		V	E	T
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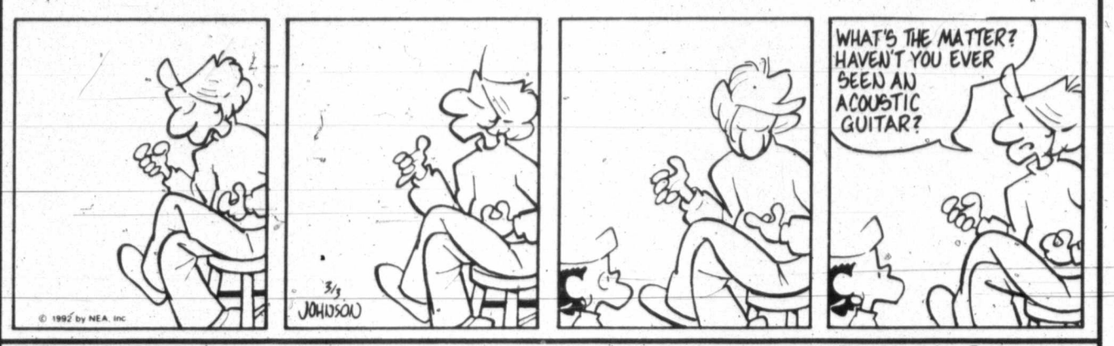
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WALNUT COVE — By Mark Cullum



ARLO & JANIS — By Jimmy Johnson



EEK & MEEK — By Howie Schneider



B.C. — By Johnny Hart



Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) An objective you've placed great significance on could soon lose its appeal today. Your time and effort will be diverted to a more worthwhile target. Pisces, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for Pisces' Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) There is someone who is sincerely concerned about your material well-being. Starting today, this individual may take constructive steps on your behalf to help you reach your objectives.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If things in the romance department haven't lived up to your expectations recently, don't get depressed. Cupid may start stirring up the ambers today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) There are strong indications of improvement in conditions that affect your career. Be alert today, because you could begin to benefit from unusual developments.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Partnerships you enter into at this time have excellent chances for success. They are likely to be durable, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) In this cycle, Lady Luck will be working on your behalf, especially where collective endeavors are concerned. You might be eased into a positive arrangement already initiated by another.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Developments are moving in a favorable direction where your personal relationships are concerned. Several exciting new friends may soon enter your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Make every effort to follow through on bright ideas you get at this time regarding ways to increase your productivity. Compensation will be commensurate to your improved performance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Interest in a social group you're presently involved in might begin to wane. Fortunately, however, you're on the verge of exciting changes that will increase your popularity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Lady Luck may start doing all she can to help improve your financial lot in life. However, she will expect you to do your part as well, so don't take her for granted.

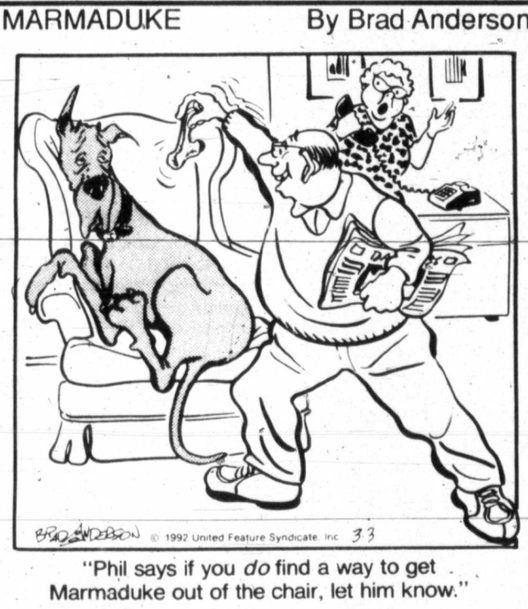
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) An old, unproductive perspective you've been clinging to appears to be on its last legs. It will be replaced by ingenious, positive new thoughts that will enhance your chances for success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Carefully analyze your economic position at this time; it could help you discover new ways to generate income you failed to recognize previously.

MARVIN — By Tom Armstrong

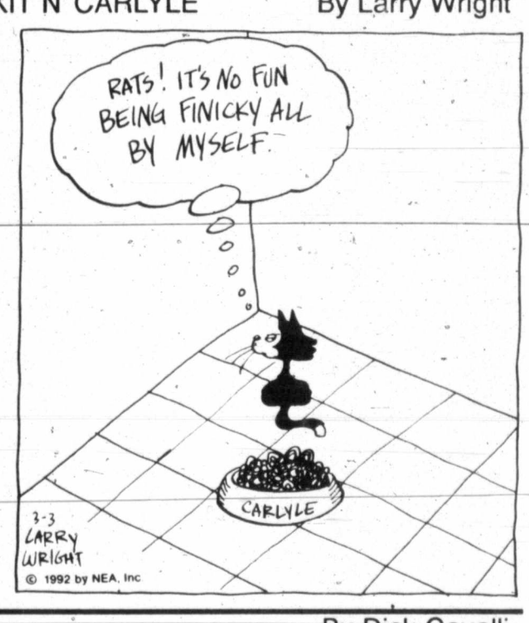


MARMADUKE — By Brad Anderson



"Phil says if you *do* find a way to get Marmaduke out of the chair, let him know."

KIT N' CARLYLE — By Larry Wright



ALLEY OOP — By Dave Graue



WINTHROP — By Dick Cavalli

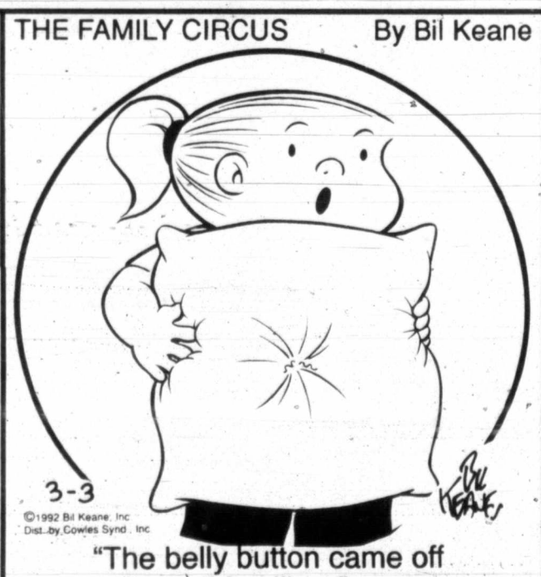


SNAFU — By Bruce Beattie



"He's so dull, he needs a warning label: Do not talk with me while operating heavy machinery."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS — By Bil Keane



"The belly button came off this pillow."

CALVIN AND HOBBES — By Bill Watterson



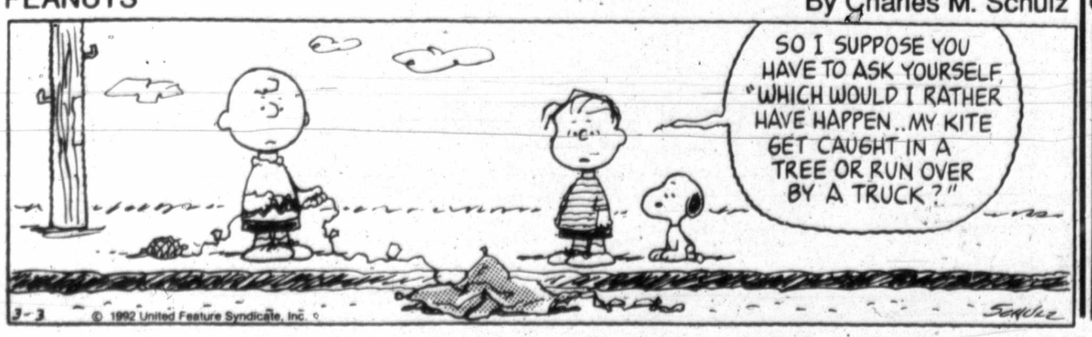
THE BORN LOSER — By Art and Chip Sansom



FRANK AND ERNEST — By Bob Thaves



PEANUTS — By Charles M. Schulz



GARFIELD — By Jim Davis



Sports

Cubs' Sandberg becomes baseball's first $7 million player



(AP Laserphoto)

Ryne Sandberg takes time to sign an autograph for 11-year-old Jimmy Sadleir on the way to a press conference in Mesa, Arizona Monday.

All-Star second baseman easily tops Bonilla's $5.8 million

By MEL REISNER
AP Sports Writer

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — Ryne Sandberg is tied for 160th on the 1992 salary list. As of now, he'll be No. 1 in 1993.

The eight-time All-Star second baseman jumped right over the $6 million barrier Monday and became baseball's first $7 million man, too, agreeing with the Chicago Cubs on a four-year contract extension with an option worth a total of $28.4 million.

Sandberg, 32, easily outdistanced baseball's previous high, which was Bobby Bonilla's $5.8 million average.

"I'm very happy; it's a big relief," Sandberg said at a news conference called to announce the deal. "I think a lot of time and work went into this on both sides, it was handled very professionally."

But his reign at the top may not last very long. Baltimore's Cal Ripken, Minnesota's Kirby Puckett and Boston's Wade Boggs all can become free agents at the end of the season and are looking for extensions.

It was just Nov. 17, 1989, when Puckett became the first $3 million player and June 27, 1990, when Oakland's Jose Canseco became the first $4 million man. Roger Clemens of Boston pushed the top past $5 million on Feb. 8, 1991.

"They can't complain about my contract," Canseco said Monday. "I'm one of the poorest guys in baseball."

Sandberg, who already was signed for 1992 at $2.1 million, gets a $3.5 million signing bonus to be paid in December, $5.1 million over each of the next four seasons and a guaranteed payment of $2 million for personal services, to be paid during the four years after he retires. In addition, the Cubs have an option for 1997 at $5.9 million with a $2.5 million buyout.

"I couldn't be happier with the fact that we're going to have Ryne Sandberg playing second base for a long time with the Chicago Cubs," Cubs general manager Larry Himes said. "His career is going to be a Chicago career."

Sandberg, a nine-time Gold Glove winner, batted .291 last season with 26 homers and 100 RBIs, becoming the first second baseman to drive in 100 runs in consecutive seasons since Bobby Doerr of the Boston Red Sox in 1949 and 1950. Sandberg's 200 homers as a second baseman are the fifth-highest total for that position in major league history.

"He'll be in the Hall of Fame, and there are very few players in the game with that potential who elect to spend their career with one organization," Himes said.

Sandberg had given the Cubs a deadline of March 1 for an extension, then pushed back the deadline by a day. The sides negotiated late Sunday night at a Phoenix hotel, but talks broke down at 11:30 p.m. MST partly because the Cubs wanted a longer deal for less money.

"The deal was dead. It was flat-out dead," said Sandberg's agent, Jim Turner.

About 15 minutes later, Turner called and asked that Sandberg meet one-on-one with Stanton Cook, the Cubs president and the former chief executive officer of the Chicago Tribune Co., which owns the team.

"Ryne and I thought it would be important for us to talk to Mr. Cook," Turner said. "It appeared he we were heading in a direction that wouldn't be good for either side a year from now."

Sandberg, who lives in Phoenix, met with Cook for about 45 minutes. Turner then spoke briefly with Cook at 2:15 a.m. and agreed to talk again in the morning.

"When I woke up this morning at six, I called Ryne and it was busy because he was calling me," Turner said. "I called back and I told him I had creative idea and he liked it. It was a way to add money to the program."

Turner presented the proposal at 8 a.m. during a meeting that included Cook, Himes, Tribune Co. lawyer Dennis Homerin, Sandberg, and his wife Cindy. The Cubs responded an hour later and it was at that point Turner finally thought the deal could get done. The sides went back and forth for about three hours wrapping it up.

"The whole idea with the deadline was that I didn't want to be interfered with in baseball season," Sandberg said. "To me, spring training is very important. That's when you begin to concentrate on baseball and focus on the season ahead."

Previously, the highest annual average belonged to Bonilla, who exactly three months earlier agreed to a $29 million, five-year contract with the New York Mets.

"The main thing is this guy belongs in Chicago, Illinois. Period," Turner said. "When you think of Chicago baseball, Ryne Sandberg is one of the identifying features."

And Sandberg might get to sign a new contract when this one expires. After all, athletes play into their 40s now.

"I'll know that it's time to retire when the time comes," Sandberg said.

PHS baseball squad hosts Canyon; Shockers blank Canyon JV, 12-0

Pampa hosts Canyon at 4:30 p.m. today in high school baseball action at Harvester Field.

Both teams have 1-1 records.

"Canyon has a good team. We're going to have our hands full," said Pampa coach Rod Porter.

The Harvesters opened the season with an 11-5 win over Palo Duro Feb. 25, but were edged by River Road, 6-5, last Friday.

"We made too many errors and mental mistakes against River Road. I don't know if they beat us or if we beat ourselves," Porter said.

Buddy Plunk (0-1) took the mound loss.

Tony Cavalier and Tarin Peet each slammed doubles for the Harvesters.

Pampa was leading 4-1 when River Road rallied to tie the score at 4-4 after four innings. After the Harvesters scored a run in the fifth, River Road went ahead with two runs in the bottom of the sixth to end the scoring.

The Pampa Shockers opened the junior varsity season with a 12-0 shutout of Canyon JV on Monday.

Danny Frye was the winning pitcher, striking out nine and walking four.

Jason Downs had two hits in four trips to the plate to lead the Shockers' 11-hit attack.

Canyon managed only three hits and Boehning was the losing pitcher.

Pampa's big inning was the third when the Shockers put together six runs to take a 10-0 lead.

The Shockers host Borger junior varsity at 4:30 p.m. Friday.

Record-breaking jumper claims Sullivan Award as nation's outstanding amateur athlete for '91

By HANK LOWENKRON
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Mike Powell, who broke Bob Beamon's storied 23-year-old world record in the long jump, was presented the Sullivan Award on Monday night as the nation's top amateur athlete for 1991.

Powell, 28, finished first among 10 finalists in national voting for the award by some 2,500 people. The voting included the media, past winners and representatives of the nation's amateur athletic programs. It was presented by the Amateur Athletic Union.

Five of the finalists attended the 62nd annual Sullivan dinner, where the announcement was made. Three of those attending — swimmer Mike Barrowman, boxer Eric Griffin and synchronized swimmer Sarah Josephson — were there for the second time as finalists. The other finalist who attended the presentation was diver Kent Ferguson.

The voting was based on 1991 accomplishments, but Powell finished first in voting that included two gold medalists in last month's Winter Olympics — figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi and skier Donna Weinbrech, who also was a finalist last year.

Powell became the 36th track and field athlete to receive the Sullivan and the current resident of West Covina is the 23rd Californian to get the Sullivan, which an athlete can receive only once.

A leap of 29 feet, 4 1/2 inches in Tokyo last year topped the record that had stood since Beamon's gold medal performance (29-2 1/4) in Mexico City at the 1968 Olympics.

The jump also ended a streak of 65 victories by Carl Lewis, who had to settle for the silver medal in the world championships after going undefeated for a decade in the event.

"We don't have a rivalry. ... We've competed 16 times and I'm 1-15," Powell said of Lewis, who he's likely to face again in the U.S. Olympic trials and again in Barcelona, Spain.

"As much as Tokyo meant to me, it (his career) won't be as complete unless I get a gold medal," said Powell, who went home with the silver behind Lewis at the 1988 Olympics. "I'm more motivated than ever to get that gold."

The Sullivan was the second major award earned by Powell, who was presented the Jesse Owens International Trophy in New York last month.

"It means approval for what I've done," Powell said of the Sullivan. "As far as being an amateur athlete, the Sullivan is definitely the biggest in the United States."

He then recited a list of recent winners, including Janet Evans, Jackie Joyner-Kersee, Lewis and Florence Griffith Joyner.

"Now to have my name in there, I'm kind of laughing," Powell said.

The ceremony also recognized 1992 as being the 50th anniversary of T. Leslie MacMitchell and the 25th anniversary of Jim Ryan being selected as Sullivan winners.

The finalists who did not attend due to schedule conflicts were sprinter Michael Johnson, Duke's Christian Laettner and gymnast Kim Zmeskal.

The Amateur Athletic Union, which in 1930 created the award in recognition of founder James E. Sullivan, does not announce vote totals.

Scoreboard

Basketball

NBA standings

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	35	23	.603	—
Boston	32	26	.552	3
Miami	27	31	.466	8
New Jersey	27	31	.466	8
Philadelphia	27	31	.466	8
Washington	18	40	.310	17
Orlando	14	44	.241	21
Central Division				
Chicago	48	11	.814	—
Cleveland	37	19	.661	9 1/2
Detroit	34	25	.576	14
Atlanta	29	28	.509	18
Milwaukee	26	31	.456	21
Indiana	26	33	.441	22
Charlotte	21	36	.368	26
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Utah	38	21	.644	—
San Antonio	34	23	.596	3
Houston	31	27	.534	6 1/2
Denver	20	37	.351	17
Dallas	17	40	.298	20
Minnesota	11	45	.196	25 1/2
Pacific Division				
Golden State	39	17	.696	—
Portland	39	18	.684	1/2
Phoenix	37	22	.627	3 1/2
Seattle	32	26	.552	8
LA Lakers	30	27	.526	9 1/2
LA Clippers	29	28	.509	10 1/2
Sacramento	20	38	.345	20

Saturday's Games
New York 103, Minnesota 87
Philadelphia 101, Washington 92
Charlotte 121, Indiana 119
New Jersey 99, Detroit 90
San Antonio 115, Denver 112
Golden State 136, Miami 110
Sacramento 115, Seattle 110

Sunday's Games
Chicago 111, Portland 91
Milwaukee 109, Atlanta 106, OT
Phoenix 114, Utah 109
New Jersey 90, New York 75
Boston 101, Dallas 91
LA Clippers 101, Orlando 96
Seattle 113, Cleveland 107
Houston 105, LA Lakers 97

Monday's Games
Detroit 99, Washington 89
Golden State 118, Sacramento 98

Tuesday's Games
Dallas at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
LA Clippers at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Houston at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
LA Lakers at Portland, 10 p.m.
Denver at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Utah at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
Orlando at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Milwaukee, 9 p.m.
Portland at Denver, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Utah, 9:30 p.m.
New Jersey at LA Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

How top 25 fared

How top 25 teams in the AP poll fared Monday:

1. Duke (23-2) did not play. Next: at Clemson, Wednesday.
2. Indiana (21-4) did not play. Next: at Iowa, Wednesday.
3. Kansas (22-3) beat No. 12 Oklahoma State 77-64. Next: at Iowa State, Wednesday.
4. Arizona (22-4) did not play. Next: vs. California, Thursday.
5. Ohio State (19-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 18 Michigan, Tuesday.
6. UNLV (25-2) did not play. Next: vs. Utah State, Tuesday.
7. Arkansas (22-6) did not play. Next: vs. No. 23 LSU, Tuesday.
8. Southern Cal (20-4) did not play. Next: at Washington, Thursday.
9. UCLA (21-4) did not play. Next: at Washington State, Thursday.
10. Kentucky (22-5) did not play. Next: at Florida, Wednesday.
11. Missouri (20-5) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Wednesday.
12. Oklahoma State (22-6) lost to No. 3 Kansas 77-64. Next: vs. Colorado, Wednesday.
13. Michigan State (18-6) did not play. Next: at Northwestern, Thursday.
14. Cincinnati (22-4) did not play. Next: at Memphis State, Saturday.
15. DePaul (19-6) did not play. Next: vs. Marquette, Wednesday.
16. North Carolina (18-7) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Wednesday.
17. Georgetown (18-8) lost to St. John's 65-49. Next: vs. Pittsburgh, Saturday.
18. Michigan (17-7) did not play. Next: at No. 5 Ohio State, Tuesday.
19. Florida State (19-8) did not play. Next: ACC quarterfinals, Friday, March 13.
20. Alabama (21-7) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Wednesday.
21. Tulane (19-6) lost to N.C. Charlotte 79-69. Next: vs. Memphis State, Wednesday.
22. Seton Hall (18-7) did not play. Next: at Miami, Wednesday.
23. LSU (18-7) did not play. Next: at No. 7 Arkansas, Tuesday.
24. Syracuse (18-7) did not play. Next: vs. Connecticut at the Hartford Civic Center, Wednesday.
25. Massachusetts did not play.

Baseball

High school rankings

CLASS 5A
1. Bellaire 5-0
2. Duncanville 2-0
3. Spring Woods 3-0
4. Carrollton Newman-Smith 4-0
5. Corpus Christi King 5-0
6. Waco 4-0
7. San Antonio MacArthur 2-0
8. Clear Lake 5-1
9. Lubbock Monterey 0-0
10. Corpus Christi Moody 3-0

CLASS 4A
1. Robstown 3-2
2. Brenham 2-0
3. Lubbock Estacado 0-0
4. Austin Travis 2-1
5. Smithson Valley 2-0
6. Belton 2-0
7. Georgetown 3-0
8. Bridge City 4-0
9. Waxahachie 0-1
10. Frenship 0-0

CLASS 3A
1. Falfurrias 2-0
2. Southlake Carroll 1-0
3. Gilmer 1-0
4. Robinson 1-1
5. Hallettsville 1-0
6. Graham 1-0
7. Abilene Wylie 1-0
8. Leander 3-0
9. Buna 2-0
10. Ingleside 2-0

CLASS 2A
1. Elkhart 3-1
2. Howe 0-0
3. Palmer 2-0
4. China Spring 1-0
5. Yorktown 1-0
6. Farmersvile 1-0
7. LaPryor 0-0
8. Wallis Brazos 2-0
9. East Bernard 1-1
10. Liberty Hill 0-1

CLASS A
1. Valley Mills 0-0
2. Ralls 0-0
3. Savoy 0-0
4. Evadale 0-0
5. Lago Vista 1-0
6. Windthorst 0-0
7. Bartlett 0-0
8. Italy 0-0
9. Cushing 0-0
10. Reisel 1-0

Boston's Clemens reports to training camp

By MICHAEL BEZDEK
Associated Press Writer

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. (AP) — It was over in a few early morning laps around the field.

Somewhere along the way, Roger Clemens told new Boston Red Sox manager Butch Hobson he was sorry, and the storm that had risen over the missing pitcher was calmed.

"He apologized," Hobson said Monday. "That's all I wanted to hear. It's over."

Clemens did not mention the apology when he spoke to reporters of his decision to go by the Wednesday union reporting deadline rather than arrive at spring training camp with other Boston pitchers and catchers Feb. 23.

"The reason I was at home for two weeks ... doing what I needed to get ready to pitch down here, is so I didn't have to do what I'm doing with you all right now," he said.

Asked repeatedly why he had not given Hobson a call to let him know his arrival plans, he said it was not an issue and he would not discuss it.

"You can beat that to death all you want," the three-time Cy Young Award winner said.

Clemens, unflinching under the weighty irony of having created a week of headlines by his action, then drew further attention as he began practice with an all-white baseball glove.

Hobson, who had said for a week he was disappointed Clemens did not call, would not discuss the context of Clemens' apology.

"Roger and I got the situation taken care of," he said. "The only thing I told him ... was that I was disappointed he couldn't be a part of that first (team) meeting because I thought it was a good one."

When Clemens entered the locker room after his job with Hobson, catcher Tony Pena loudly hummed a few strains of the traditional wedding march.

"Wrong song," said Clemens, who begins a four-year, $21.5 million contract this year.

In summing up what appeared to be the clubhouse mood, slugger Jack Clark, who last week had said he was curious about Clemens' whereabouts, said he was glad Clemens had arrived and the hoopla would soon be history.

"I wish he would have done it different because of Butch, told him why he didn't come," Clark said. "But that's for Butch to deal with. And he will — not like last year (under manager Joe Morgan)."

Clemens showed little reaction when he got to his locker stall, which players had decorated with a welcome home balloon, a missing persons milk carton with Clemens as the subject, a Waldo search book and other items. The players also had laid a red carpet of fabric to his booth.

"I think it's funny," he said later.

But he quickly added he didn't expect to have much fun for a while. He said he arrived feeling sad about the recent death of Red Sox majority owner Jean Yawkey, and sorry the team did not win a championship before she died.

During practice, fans hooted when he misplayed a ground ball.

Players hooted when he announced while pitching batting practice that he was comfortably throwing around 85 mph — top speed for many major league pitchers.

He faced several batters and cheered them upon good contact. And then he announced he was going to let loose a bit. He asked Mike Greenwell to just stand at the plate.

As he threw 10 pitches around 95 mph all grew quiet. The players looked at one another with raised eyes as the ball hit the catcher's mitt with resounding force.

However vague and disjointed Clemens' comments had been on his whereabouts, he was getting right to the point now.

Braves' Justice unhappy with contract negotiations

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — David Justice refused to participate in picture day at the Atlanta Braves spring training camp to protest his unhappiness with the club over contract negotiations.

"My job is to play baseball for the Atlanta Braves," Justice said Monday. "That's my job description — baseball player."

Justice was the only Braves' player to refuse to have his picture taken Monday, said team spokesman Jim Schultz.

Each spring the club holds a day for the players to be photographed by various organizations, including card companies, newspapers and The Associated Press.

Justice said he refused "because I'm unhappy with my contract."

Justice, a two-year player, earned $296,500 last year. He is seeking $600,000, the Braves have offered $400,000, according to The Daily News of Duluth, Ga.

The Braves may renew contracts at the club's figure if the player has less than three years in the major league.

Moody named Optimist of the Year

Pampa Optimist Club awarded its highest honor, Optimist of the Year, to Garry Moody during a recent awards banquet.

Moody served in several capacities during the year including youth appreciation week chairman, youth in government day chairman, boys and girls basketball commissioner, basketball fund-raiser chairman, baseball and softball commissioner, baseball and softball fund-raiser chairman, equipment room manager for all sports as well as serving on the board of directors.

"I am proudest that my efforts may be an encouragement to the youth of our community by showing them that anyone can achieve their goals if they concentrate on their objectives and take at least one positive step each day," Moody said.

"The members have been a great bunch to work with and the largest amount of credit for this award should be given to the members and hundreds of volunteer parents who assisted in making this year one of the best in the history of the club."

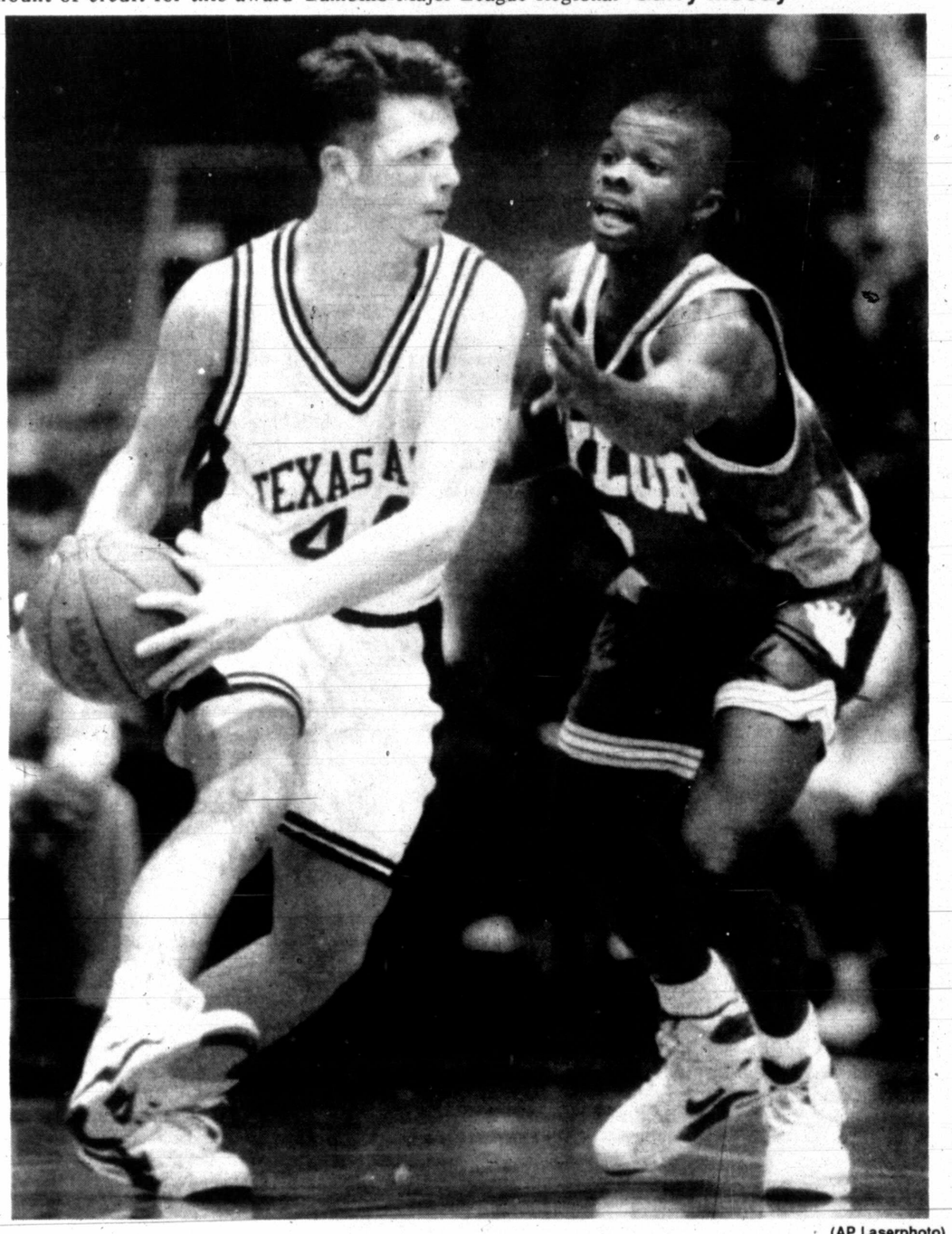
Moody is credited with spearheading one of the largest fund-raiser efforts by the club.

"We made the commitment to upgrade all uniforms and facilities to the best of our ability during the next two to three years," Moody said. "These objectives require us to heavily promote our fund-raisers and seek out private grants since the sign-up fees we obtain largely cover only the cost of administering the programs and replacing worn or broken equipment."

When asked what the future holds for the Optimist programs, Moody said, "We will be working to obtain post-season tournaments in all three of the sports we sponsor. We have initiated this effort by obtaining the Bambino Major League Regional Tournament for the 1992 season. These tournaments will bring much needed tourism dollars to our community and will help us to develop the Optimist Park to be one of the premier showplaces in the Panhandle."



Garry Moody



(AP Laserphoto)

Texas A&M guard Tony Barone Jr. (left) looks to pass around Baylor's Nelson Haggerty in the first half Monday night.

Baylor, Rice capture SWC victories

By The Associated Press

Baylor Coach Gene Iba says the Bears knew it was important to establish themselves early against Texas A&M.

The Bears jumped out to a 50-33 halftime lead and took a 96-86 victory over the Aggies on Monday night. In the only other SWC game, Rice defeated Southern Methodist 58-53 in overtime.

"Getting off to a fast start really helped this team tonight," Iba said.

David Wesley had 35 points and Dennis Lindsey scored 28, including 5 of 9 from 3-point range, to lead the Bears.

"Dennis and David were just super out there. I thought Dennis may have had one of his best games in a long, long time," Iba said.

"After losing to Texas by 30 points, we felt like it was important to come out and establish ourselves early. A&M beat us earlier at home, and we knew it was important to come out ready to play," Lindsey said.

Wesley's 35 points was his second-best scoring night ever. His career high was 37 against SMU earlier in the season. Wesley scored 20 of his points from the free-throw line.

A&M coach Tony Barone said the Bears "seemed to play with a purpose. In the first half, they just took us out of the game, and we couldn't get back until it was too late."

Corey Henderson led A&M with 18 points. Chuck Henderson added 15 and Damon Johnson 14.

Baylor scored its last 14 points from the free throw line as the Aggies began fouling in an attempt to get the ball. Three Aggies fouled out.

Baylor outshot the Aggies, 51 percent to 40 percent.

Kenneth Rourke scored 15 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the Rice Owls to their overtime victory over SMU.

Marvin Moore converted three free throws over the final 1:15 of overtime and added a key steal in the Rice victory.

Rice, which hadn't beaten SMU in a regular-season game in Dallas since 1982, improved to 7-6 in the SWC and 19-10 overall. SMU fell to 4-9 in the SWC and 10-16 for the season.

Rice kept its post-season hopes alive. The Owls would have to win the SWC post-season tournament to reach the NCAA playoffs, but remain in contention for a National Invitational Tournament bid.

"I told the guys this was a game we needed to have," Rice coach Scott Thompson said. "At this time of the year, we needed a game like this ... on the road, against a team we haven't played well against in the past and in a place we haven't played well in in the past."

Brent Scott and Dana Hardy added 12 points each for Rice, which had dropped three of its previous four conference games.

Mike Wilson scored 13 points to pace SMU, which lost its fifth straight in the SWC.

Each team had a chance to win in the final 28 seconds of regulation, but the SMU's Gerald Lewis missed a 3-pointer and Rice was unable to get off a shot on its final possession, leaving the scored tied at 50 at the end of regulation.

SMU coach John Shumate was pleased with most aspects of his team's game, except for its shooting.

"I thought we did everything well except shoot the basketball," Shumate said. "We have guys who are capable of shooting but we didn't get the job done. We put too much pressure on our defense."

Mushers find easier trail in Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race

RAINY PASS, Alaska (AP) — Frontrunners took advantage of a clear, cold day and calm winds to reach this mountainous checkpoint Monday, three days into the 1,159-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Stiff winds that eliminated the trail and slowed teams a day earlier had lifted Tuesday so that mushers found it easier going.

"It's been a picture-perfect day," said four-time champ Susan Butcher.

At 3,400-feet, Rainy Pass in the towering Alaska Range offers a premiere scenic stops along the trail.

Rohn Roadhouse, 48 miles northwest of Rainy Pass, is gateway to the flatlands of Interior Alaska — where extreme cold prevails.

Fifteen frontrunners were in and out of Rainy Pass by early afternoon Monday.

Norwegian-born Ketil Reitan of was first in at 8:31 a.m. and first out at 12:15 p.m.

Organizers said none of the leaders had yet taken a mandatory 24-hour layover.

Following Reitan was Dee Dee Jonrowe of Willow, who left Rainy Pass at 1 p.m., just seven minutes ahead of Butcher of Manley.

Jerry Austin of St. Michael was fourth, John Barron of Ship Creek was fifth and five-time winner and defending champ Rick Swenson of Two Rivers was sixth.

Frontrunners were just five minutes behind each other, with Swenson leaving Rainy Pass at 1:30 p.m.

Severe cold, strong winds and a rough trail out of Skwentna forced frontrunners to reconsider chances of beating Butcher's record time — 11 days, 1 hour and 53 minutes — set in 1990.

Monday's high in the region was expected to be 5 to 10 degrees below zero and the overnight low was to reach 30 to 35 below, the National Weather Service predicted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Sealed proposals for 3.750 miles of grading, base, structures and surfacing on FM 2162 from 6.0 mile SW of Clarendon to 3.75 mile SW, covered by A 1883-2-5 in Donley County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, until 1:00 P.M., March 18, 1992, and then publicly opened and read.

Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Daniel E. Brown Resident Engineer, Wellington, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Division of Construction and Contract Administration, D.C. Greer State Highway Building, 11th and Brazos Streets, Austin, Texas 78701. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award.

Usual rights reserved.

A-53 March 3, 10, 1992

REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Sealed proposals for 38.403 miles of seal coat type work on US 287 from IH 40 to Carson County Line, on IH 40 from 9.223 mile W. of FM 2858 to 0.7 mile W. of FM 2858, on US 54 from FM 694 (South) to Dallam County Line, from Hartley County Line to 0.05 mile W. of Ash Avenue & from near Chamberlin to 0.354 mile NE of FM 807(N) and on SH 207 from Traffic Circle in Borger to junction SH 152 in Stinnett, covered by CPM 42-1-24, CPM 90-2-37, CPM 238-2-26, CPM 238-3-39, CPM 238-4-23 & CPM 356-1-83 in Potter, Oldham, Hartley, Dallam & Hutchinson Counties will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, until 1:00 p.m., March 17, 1992, and then publicly opened and read.

Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Kenneth R. Petr Resident Engineer, Borger, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Division of Construction and Contract Administration, D.C. Greer State Highway Building, 11th and Brazos Streets, Austin, Texas 78701. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

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Usual rights reserved.

A-54 March 3, 10, 1992

1c Memorials

ADULT Literacy Council, P.O. Box 2022, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

AGAPE Assistance, P. O. Box 2397, Pampa, Tx. 79066-2397.

ALZHEIMER'S Disease and Related Disorders Assn., P.O. Box 2234, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

AMERICAN Cancer Society, c/o Mrs. Kenneth Walters, 1418 N. Dwight, Pampa, Tx.

AMERICAN Diabetes Assn., 8140 N. MoPac Bldg. 1 Suite 130, Austin, TX 78759.

AMERICAN Heart Assn., 2404 W. Seventh, Amarillo, TX 79106.

AMERICAN Liver Foundation, 1425 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove, N.J. 07009-9990.

AMERICAN Lung Association, 3520 Executive Center Dr., Suite G-100, Austin, TX 78731-1606.

AMERICAN Red Cross, 108 N. Russell, Pampa.

ANIMAL Rights Assn., 4201 Canyon Dr., Amarillo, TX 79110.

BIG Brothers/ Big Sisters, P.O. Box 1964, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

BOYS Ranch/Girls Town, P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo, Tx. 79174

FRIENDS of The Library, P.O. Box 146, Pampa, Tx. 79066

GENESIS House Inc., 615 W. Buckler, Pampa, TX 79065.

GOLDEN Spread Council Trust Fund for Boy Scouts of America, 401 Tascosa Rd., Amarillo, Tx. 79124.

GOOD Samaritan Christian Services, 309 N. Ward, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

GRAY County Retarded Citizens Assn., P.O. Box 885, Pampa, Tx. 79066-0885.

HIGH Plains Epilepsy Assn., 806 S. Brian, Room 213, Amarillo, TX 79106.

HOSPICE of Pampa, P.O. Box 2782, Pampa.

MARCH of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, 2316 Lakeview Dr., Amarillo, TX 79109.

MEALS on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, TX 79066-0939.

MUSCULAR Dystrophy Assn., 3505 Olsen, Suite 203, Amarillo, TX 79109.

PAMPA Area Foundation for Outdoor Art, P.O. Box 6, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

PAMPA Fine Arts Assn. P.O. Box 818, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

PAMPA Sheltered Workshop, P.O. Box 2806, Pampa.

QUIVIRA Girl Scout Council, City Hall, Room 301, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

RONALD McDonald House, 1501 Streit, Amarillo, TX 79106.

SALVATION Army, 701 S. Cuyler St., Pampa, TX 79065.

SHEPARD'S Helping Hands, 922 Florida, Pampa, Tx. 79065.

ST. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Attn: Memorial/Honor Program FH, One St. Jude Place Bldg., P.O. Box 1000 Dept. 300, Memphis, Tenn. 38148-0552.

THE Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106.

THE Opportunity Plan Inc., Box 1035, Canyon, Tx. 79015-1035.

TRALEE Crisis Center For Women Inc., P.O. Box 2880, Pampa.

WHITE Deer Land Museum in Pampa, P.O. Box 1556, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

2 Museums

WHITE Deer Land Museum: Pampa, Tuesday thru Sunday 1:30-4 p.m. Special tours by appointment.

ALANREED-McLean Area Historical Museum: McLean. Regular museum hours 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Closed Sunday.

DEVIL'S Rope Museum, McLean, Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Open Monday by appointment only.

HUTCHINSON County Museum: Borger. Regular hours 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays except Tuesday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

LAKE Meredith Aquarium and Wildlife Museum: Fritch, hours Tuesday and Sunday 2-5 p.m., 10 a.m. Wednesday thru Saturday, closed Monday.

MUSEUM Of The Plains: Perryton. Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Weekends during Summer months, 1:30 p.m.-5 p.m..

OLD Mobeetie Jail Museum. Monday- Saturday 10-5. Sunday 1-5. Closed Wednesday.

PANHANDLE Plains Historical Museum: Canyon. Regular museum hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, weekends 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

PIONEER West Museum: Shamrock. Regular museum hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, Saturday and Sunday.

RIVER Valley Pioneer Museum at Canadian, Tx. Tuesday-Friday 10-4 p.m. Sunday 2-4 p.m. Closed Saturday and Monday.

ROBERTS County Museum: Miami, Summer hours, Tuesday-Friday 10-5 p.m. Sunday 2-5 p.m. Closed Saturday and Monday.

SQUARE House Museum Panhandle. Regular Museum hours 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 1-5:30 p.m. Sundays.

3 Personal

MARY Kay Cosmetics, free facials. Supplies and deliveries. Call Dorothy Vaughn 665-5117.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 1425 Alcock, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8 p.m., Monday thru Saturday 12 noon, Sunday 11 a.m. Women's meeting Sunday 4 p.m. 665-9702.

MARY Kay Cosmetics and Skincare. Facials, supplies, call Theda Wallin 665-8336.

BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics and skincare. Offering free complete color analysis, makeover, deliveries and image updates. Call your local consultant, Lynn Allison 669-3848, 1304 Christine.

SHAKLEE. Vitamins, diet, skincare, household, job opportunity. Donna Turner, 665-6065.

IF someone's drinking is causing you problems, try Al-Anon. 669-3564, 665-7871.

5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

TOP O Texas Lodge #1381, Tuesday, March 3rd, stated business meeting, 7:30 p.m.

10 Lost and Found

LOST Sunday morning from Lakeside Apartments, black Manx (no tail) cat. Neutered male, no collar, 665-9405, 665-2923. Reward!

13 Bus. Opportunities

FOR lease, one Bay Service Station, gas/diesel, with small convenience store, RV parking, 9.5 acres located on I-40 at Exit 7, Erick,Ok. Easy on/off. Ideal for mechanic with minimal capital for supplies and convenience store inventory. Established 1974, recently remodeled and branded Texaco. Attractive lease. Lessor carries fuel inventory. 405-848-3500.

Shop Pampa first – it's worth it

1c Memorials

HIGH Plains Epilepsy Assn., 806 S. Brian, Room 213, Amarillo, TX 79106.

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14 Business Service

Income Tax
Planning and Preparation
Joseph G. Dickey
Certified Public Accountant
Call for Appointment
806-665-2336 420 Florida

14b Appliance Repair

RENT TO RENT
RENT TO OWN
We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate.
Johnson Home Furnishings
801 W. Francis

14d Carpentry

Ralph Baxter
Contractor & Builder
Custom Homes or Remodeling
665-8248

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. No job too small. Mike Albus, 665-4774, 665-1150.

REMODELING, additions, insurance repair. 20 years experience. Ray Deaver, 665-0447.

OVERHEAD Door Repair. Kidwell Construction. 669-6347.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, new cabinets, ceramic tile, acoustical ceilings, paneling, painting, patios. 18 years local experience. Jerry Reagan 669-1408, Karl Parks 669-2648.

Panhandle House Leveling Floors sagging, walls cracking, doors dragging. Free estimates. Call 669-0958

14e Carpet Service

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541. Free estimates.

RAINBOW International Carpet Dyeing and Cleaning Co. Free estimates. Call 665-1431.

YOUNG'S Cleaning Service. Operator Jay Young. 15 years experience. Free estimates. Call for Special of the Week. 665-3538.

14f Decorators-Interior

PAINTING-Interior, Exterior, wallpaper hanging. References. Work guaranteed, 7 years experience. Call Brenda Born, 665-2308.

SARA'S Home Interiors Sale. Verticles, blinds, draperies, carpet. Installations. 665-0021.

14h General Services

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimate. 669-7769.

Laramore Master Locksmith
Call me out to let you in
665-Keys

Snow Removal
Chuck Morgan
665-7007

HANDY Jim, general repair, painting, rototilling. Hauling, tree work, yard work. 665-4307.

INSTALL steel siding, storm windows, doors. Free estimates. Reid Construction Co. 1-800-765-7071.

14i General Repair

IF it's broken, leaking or won't turn off, call the Fix It Shop, 669-3434. Lamps repaired.

14l Insulation

BLOW in attic insulation and save $$$ all year! Free estimates. Reid Construction Co. 1-800-765-7071.

14m Lawnmower Service

PAMPA Lawnmower Repair. Pick up and delivery service available. 501 S. Cuyler, 665-8843.

RADCLIFF Lawnmower-Chainsaw Sales and Service. 519 S. Cuyler, 669-6395.

14n Painting

CALDER Painting, interior, exterior, mud tape, blow acoustic, wall texture. 665-4840, 669-2215.

PAINTING and sheetrock finishing. 35 years. David and Joe, 665-2903, 669-7885.

14r Plowing, Yard Work

LAWN care. Scalping. Dethatched. Edging. Fertilizing. Fence repair. Call Ron 665-8976.

LAWN work, rototiller, tree trimming, hauling, carpentry, general handyman. M&M's M-Provements, 665-8320.

TREE trim, yard clean up. Lawn areation, dethatching, fertillizing. Kenneth Banks. 665-3580.

JOHNNY'S Lawn Maintenance. $20 and up will scalp most yards. 665-9720.

14s Plumbing & Heating

Builders Plumbing Supply
535 S. Cuyler 665-3711

BULLARD SERVICE CO.
Plumbing Maintenance and Repair Specialist
Free estimates, 665-8603

LARRY BAKER PLUMBING
Heating Air Conditioning
Borger Highway 665-4392

Terry's Sewerline Cleaning
$35, every day. 669-1041.

JACK'S Plumbing Co. New construction, repair, remodeling, sewer and drain cleaning. Septic sytems installed. 665-7115.

14t Radio and Television

CURTIS MATHES
We will now do service work on most Major Brands of TV's and VCR's, 2211 Perryton Pkwy. 665-0504.

14u Roofing

COMPOSITION roofing, competitive rates. 20 years experience. 665-6298.

19 Situations

HOUSECLEANING. Mother and Daughter team. References, reasonable. 669-7120.

HOUSEKEEPER. Trustworthy and meticulous. References. 665-4781.

21 Help Wanted

CLEANING
Housekeepers light work earn $550 week. All shifts part time, full time. 1-800-221-9207.

Nurses/Nutritionists
Part-time position at Nutri/System. YOu must be highly motivated, personable, energetic, out going and organized. You will greet clients, schedule appointments, and help our clients achieve their weight loss. Call Barbara at 665-0433 between 2 and 5 on Monday or Tuesday.

WANTED
Certified Peace Officer to fill position working with school age children to increase drug awareness. Training and travel will be required. Transportation will be provided. Background will be checked. Two years active experience as a Peace Officer required. Call the 31st District Community Supervision and Corrections Department for an application. Submit application to: P.O. Box 508, Wheeler, Tx. 79096, by March 6, 1992.

Counselor/Teacher
Part-time position for enthusiastic motivator who enjoys helping people. Good listening skills required. Background in counseling, teaching, psychology, or related experience a must. Call Barbara at 665-0433 between 2 and 5 on Monday and Tuesday.

CAREER opportunity as a local representative for one of the nation's largest insurance companies. No previous experience necessary, complete training while you learn. Benefits package, opportunity for advancement. Call Randy Edwards at 806-374-0389. Equal Opportunity Employer. M/F/H/V.

EARN with Avon! No door to door necessary. Call for free information today! Ina Mae 665-5854.

EMPLOYMENT applications are being accepted for experienced laundry and dry cleaning pressers. Please apply at Comet Cleaners, 726 N. Hobart or call 665-8100 after 6 p.m.

LOCAL Company seeking experienced, Accounts Recievable Clerk. Send resume to Box 1415, Pampa, 79065.

MAKE approximately $200/day. Need churches, schools, athletic group, club/civic group or person 21 or older, to operate a family fireworks center, June 24-July 4. Call 1-800-442-7711.

ROBERT Knowles Olds, Cadillac, Dodge, Chrysler needs an experienced line mechanic. Pay plan, based on experience, good company benefits. Contact Jimmy Ratlaff, Service Manager, 669-3233.

SECRETARY II- Half-time-Requires High School Diploma or GED, prefer typing at 55 words per minute and dictation 60 words per minute. Perfer supplemental courses in business practices, typing and computer. Responsible for performing advanced secretarial skills, i.e., typing, filing reports, taking minutes at meetings, maintaining records. Contact: Amarillo State Center, Human Resources, P.O. Box 3070, Amarillo, Tx. 79116-3070, 806-358-1681, Tuesday thru Friday 8-5. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMITIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.

UNIQUE opportunity for RN, home health agency needs part time RN Supervisor, excellent benefits, bonus program, mileage reimbursed. Call 665-0294 for appointment. EOE.

30 Sewing Machines

WE service all makes and models of sewing machines and vacuum cleaners. Sanders Sewing Center. 214 N. Cuyler, 665-2383.

50 Building Supplies

HOUSTON LUMBER CO.
420 W. Foster 669-6881

White House Lumber Co.
101 S. Ballard 669-3291

57 Good Things To Eat

FRESH COUNTRY EGGS
665-6435

60 Household Goods

USED appliances and furniture, some like new. Antiques, beauty supplies, beauty salon and restaurant. Abby's Country Store, 201 N. Cuyler.

RENT TO RENT
RENT TO OWN
We have Rental Furniture and Appliances to suit your needs. Call for estimate.
Johnson Home Furnishings
801 W. Francis 665-3361

SHOWCASE RENTALS
Rent to own furnishings for your home. Rent by phone.
1700 N. Hobart 669-1234
No Credit Check. No deposit. Free delivery.

JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS
Pampa's standard of excellence
In Home Furnishings
801 W. Francis 665-3361

NORGE white range, good condition, price $100. Call 669-2025.

CLASSIFIED INDEX THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison 669-2525

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125 Parts and Accessories
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128 Aircraft

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



62 Medical Equipment

HEALTHSTAR Medical, Oxygen, Beds, Wheelchairs, rental and Sales. Medicare provider 24 hour service. Free delivery. 1541 N. Hobart, 669-0000.

69 Miscellaneous

RENT IT
When you have tried everywhere and can't find it, come see me, I probably got it! H. C. Eubanks Tool Rental, 1320 S. Barnes, phone 665-3213.

CHIMNEY Fire can be prevented. Queen Sweep Chimney Cleaning. 665-4686 or 665-5364.

RAILROAD TIES
for sale, 665-0321.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

FOR sale one fiberglass shell. Will fit long wide pickup bed. Also insert makes full size bed. Call 669-3794, 2115 N. Banks.

SOLOFLEX Machine: Top condition. Cash only. $975. Around $400 cheaper than ordering. Call to see. 665-6850.

69a Garage Sales

ELSIE'S Flea Market Sale. New selection flea market items. Towels, sheets, jeans, flower arrangements, rocker, antique dresser, night stand, TV stand, old phamplets, literature, paper packs 10-$1. 10:00 a.m. Wednesday through Sunday. 1246 Barnes.

J&J Flea Market, 409 W. Brown, 665-5721. Close out on all Fuller Brush 25%. Open 9-5 Wednesday thru Sunday. Watkins Products.

70 Musical Instruments

PIANOS FOR RENT
New and used pianos. Starting at $40 per month. Up to 6 months of rent will apply to purchase. It's all right here in Pampa at Tarpley Music. 665-1251.

75 Feeds and Seeds

#1 Alfalfa Hay in barn. Wellington, Tx. 806-447-5108. $3 A Bale

Wheeler Evans Feed
Full line of Acco feeds
We appreciate your business
Hwy.60 Kingsmill 665-5881

77 Livestock

2 young nurse cows and calves pairs- $800 pair. Also young bulls. Call 665-4980.

ROCKING Chair Saddle Shop, 115 S. Cuyler. Now supplying animal health care products. See us for all your needs.

80 Pets And Supplies

Puppies To Give Away
665-9516

CANINE and Feline grooming. Also, boarding and Science diets. Royse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

GOLDEN Wheat Grooming and Boarding. Puppy daycare. 669-6357 Mona.

Grooming and Boarding
Jo Ann's Pet Salon
1033 Terry Rd., 669-1410

GROOMING, exotic birds, pets, full line pet supplies. Iams and Science Diet dog and cat food. Pets Unique, 910 W. Kentucky, 665-5102.

ROTTWIELER, AKC female, excellent pedigree, 14 months old, ready for breeding. $750. 669-7120.

SUZI'S K-9 World, formerly K-9 Acres Boarding and Grooming. We now offer outside runs. Large/small dogs welcome. Still offering grooming/AKC puppies. Suzi Reed, 665-4184.

TO give away female cat, gray short hair, litter box trained. 665-6672.

95 Furnished Apartments

ROOMS for rent. Showers, clean, quiet. $35. a week. Davis Hotel. 1161/2 W. Foster. 669-9115, or 669-9137.

1 bedroom, bills paid. $55 a week. 669-3743.

HERITAGE APARTMENTS
Furnished, unfurnished 1 bedroom. 665-2903, 669-7885.

CLEAN efficiency, $175 month, bills paid. 665-4233 after 5.

EFFICIENCY apartments, bills paid, $200, $50 deposit. 838 S. Cuyler. 665-1605 tone 0118.

LARGE 1 bedroom duplex apartment, partly furnished. Bills paid, $250. 665-4842.

ONE, two and three bedroom apartments, $100 off first months rent. Fitness center, swimming pool, jogging trail, most bills paid. Come home to Caprock Apartments, 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149.

96 Unfurnished Apts.

1 or 2 bedrooms, furnished or unfurnished, covered parking. Gwendolen Plaza Apartments, 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

ONE, two, and three bedroom apartments, $100 off first months rent. Fitness center, swimming pool, jogging trail, most bills paid. Come home to Caprock Apartments, 1601 W. Somerville. 665-7149.

97 Furnished Houses

1 bedroom, $225 month, bills paid, $100 deposit. 669-9475.

FURNISHED 2 bedroom trailer, $175 month, water paid. Call 669-0614.

LARGE 1 bedroom house. No deposit, $200 month, partially furnished. Call 669-7179.

NICELY Furnished 1 bedroom house with carport. In quiet neighborhood. All utilities paid. $250 a month, $100 deposit. 665-8319.

98 Unfurnished Houses

1,2, and 3 bedroom houses for rent. 665-2383.

837 E. Craven
665-7391, 665-8694, 665-3361.

2 bedroom house, nice, clean, 700 Doucette. Attached garage, new fenced back yard, washer, dryer connection. References required. Deposit $150, $275 month. 665-3997, 665-0288.

2 bedroom, 2225 Hamilton. Call 669-3764.

2 bedroom, newly remodeled inside, central heat, cooktop and oven. $300. 665-4842.

CORONADO Village, 2 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home, all appliances, even washer, dryer, central air. 669-9271.

EXTRA Nice one bedroom. Austin school area. Call 665-1346 or 665-6936.

RENTAL properties available. Pickup list at Action Realty, 109 S. Gillespie.

SMALL 2 bedroom house, on Varnon Dr., rent or sale. Partly furnished. 214-618-2087.

TWO bedroom, carpeted, stove, refrigerator if needed, garage. 669-3743.

99 Storage Buildings

MINI STORAGE
You keep the key. 10x10 and 10x20 stalls. Call 669-2929.

First Landmark Realty
665-0717
1600 N. Hobart

GRAT TRAVIS SCHOOL LOCATION
3 bedroom home in excellent condition. New interior paint. Extra insulation in walls and attic. Formal living room. Large den. Bath recently remodeled. Central heat and air. Reduced to $39,000. MLS 2085.

99 Storage Buildings

CHUCK'S SELF STORAGE
24 hour access. Security lights. 665-1150 or 669-7705.

ECONOSTOR
Now renting-three sizes. 665-4842.

TUMBLEWEED ACRES SELF STORAGE UNITS
Various sizes
665-0079, 665-2450

HWY 152 Industrial Park
MINI-MAXI STORAGE
5x10-10x10-10x15
10x20-20x40
Office Space for Rent
669-2142

Babb Portable Buildings
Babb Construction
820 W. Kingsmill 669-3842.

Action Storage
10x16 and 10x24
669-1221

102 Business Rental Prop.

OFFICES for rent. Approximately 400 square feet. Call Paul Simmons 665-1677 or come by 1313 N. Hobart.

RENT or LEASE: Retail, high traffic location. Reasonable rent. Will remodel for tenant, 116 W. Foster. See Ted or John at 114 W. Foster. 669-9137.

103 Homes For Sale

NEED Room? 3 bedroom. Large game room, den, living room, dining, 2 bath, Beech st. Marie, Realtor, 665-5436, 665-4180.

PRICE T. SMITH INC.
665-5158
Custom Houses-Remodels
Complete Design Service

BOBBIE NISBET REALTOR
665-7037. 665-2946

1908 Lynn, 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths, corner fireplace, many extras. 665-4559.

2 bedroom, garage. $9500. Good condition. 904 S. Sumner. Call Roberta Babb, Quentin Williams Realtors, 665-6158, 669-2522.

2306 Duncan: Large 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, formal dining room, formal living room, den, fireplace, swimming pool. Plus many other added features. $160,000. Citizens Bank & Trust Co. 665-2341, 669-2142.

3 bedroom 2 bath 708 E. 14th. 669-6676 or 665-4418.

3 bedroom, 1 bath, den, 1132 Juniper. Call 817-937-8394 after 4 p.m.

3 bedroom, steel siding home, corner lot. Call 665-8658.

TWILA FISHER REALTY
665-3560

FOUR Rental houses for sale. 1148 Neel Rd, 842 S. Sumner, 611 and 615 E. Albert. Any cash offers considered. 512-492-4949.

HOME For Sale: In Country, preferable to be moved. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 826-5888.

INTERIOR completely remodeled. 2 bedroom, central heat, fenced yard. Owner will carry. 665-4842.

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NICE 2 bedroom brick, double garage, fireplace, stove, refrigerator, central heat, air. Close in on Duncan. $25,000. 669-7665 or 669-7663 after 6.

QUIET street, Austin district. 1 1/2 story, 4 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths. 2300 square feet, 18x28 den, fireplace, central heat, air. 665-2428.

104 Lots

BIG Corner lot, might be used commercially. 14x80 mobile home needing repair. MLS 1325. Shed Realty, Milly Sanders, 669-2671.

FRASHIER Acres East-1 or more acres. Paved street, utilities. Balch Real Estate, 665-8075.

106 Commercial Property

GREAT locations at 2115 and 2121 N. Hobart for sale or lease. Call Joe 665-2336, 665-2832.

LEASE or sale shop building. Properties 2600, 2608 Milliron Rd. 669-3638, 669-1221.

110 Out Of Town Prop.

14 x 70 Mobile home and lot on Greenbelt. Owner Finance. 669-0624.

112 Farms and Ranches

FARM (approximately 440 acres). 2 miles west of Pampa. Border the Borger Hwy. Malcom Denson, 669-6443.

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1982 Shasta popup, $1300. Call 868-6541 after 6 p.m.

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Becky Baten	669-2214	Debbie Middleton	665-2247
Beula Cox Bkr.	665-3667	Sue Greenwood	669-6580
Susan Ratzlaff	665-3585	Dirk Ammerman	669-7371
Heidi Chronister	665-6388	Bobbie Sue Stephens	669-7790
Darrel Sehorn	669-6284	Lois Strate Bkr.	665-7650
Bill Stephens	669-7790	Bill Cox Bkr.	665-3667
Roberta Babb	665-6158	Katie Sharp	665-8752
Shelli Tarpley	665-9531	Ed Copeland	665-2552
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BILL ALLISON AUTO SALES
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AAA Rentals
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1969 Volkswagen, new tags, runs good. See at 510 Roberta, call 665-3259.

1977 Monte Carlo. Good car. 669-3639 after 5.

1982 240D Mercedes Benz, good condition. Must sell. 6500. 665-5912.

120 Autos For Sale

Bill Allison Auto Sales #2
623 W. Foster
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MIDSIZE 1983 Lincoln Continental. New motor, tires. Good car. $4000 or make offer. 665-6979

121 Trucks For Sale

1986 Ford 1/2 ton pickup, short wide with topper, carpeted bed insert, 30,000 miles. 665-8089.

124 Tires & Accessories

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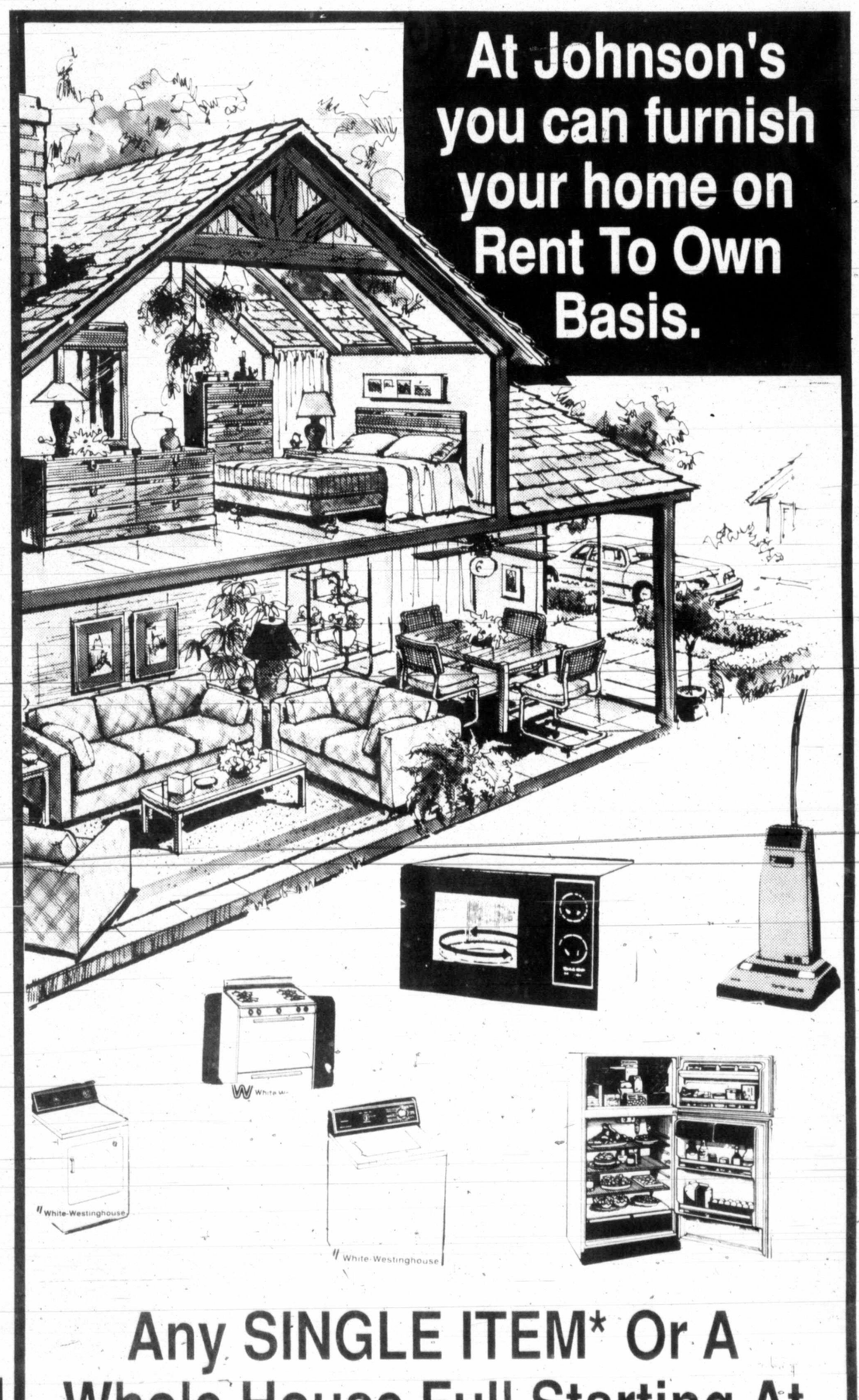
125 Parts and Accessories

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126 Boats & Accessories

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Armenians, Azerbaijanis battle as former Soviet troops depart

By LESLIE SHEPHERD
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) – Armenian fighters attacked commonwealth troops today as the former Soviet soldiers prepared to withdraw from the embattled enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, killing at least one soldier, an army general said.

The attack came as evidence appeared to mount of an Armenian massacre of Azerbaijani villagers — including women and children — in the region last week.

Early reports indicate some of the Armenians who attacked the 366th Motorized Infantry Regiment today were killed, Gen. Sufiyan Bekpayev, deputy commander of regional commonwealth forces, said in a telephone interview.

The regiment's withdrawal will remove the last buffer between warring Armenians and Azerbaijanis in Nagorno-Karabakh, a predominantly Armenian region within Azerbaijan.

Officials estimate at least 1,000 people have died in four years of fighting over the mountainous enclave in the southern Caucasus.

Azerbaijan claims at least 1,000 people were massacred last week by Armenians in the Nagorno-Karabakh town of Khodzaly, many of them women and children. Armenia disputes the death toll, calling it grossly inflated, but it has not given a casualty figure.

"There are a lot of bodies there. Some of them are mutilated," said Khali Imanov, a journalist with the independent Azerbaijani news agency Azerinform.

"About 1,000 people have been killed there, mostly children and women," he said today in a telephone interview from the Azerbaijani capital of Baku.

Foreign journalists toured the area Monday and recovered three bodies. Video and still pictures taken during the visit showed bodies collected on the beds of open trucks and strewn on a hillside.

Gendos Akhunov, an official in the Azerbaijani city of Agdam, said helicopters and cars had brought up to 400 bodies out of Khodzaly.

"Many of them are women and children. They are defaced and mutilated, so it's impossible to identify them."

Akhunov said nearly 1,000 refugees fleeing the fighting have entered his city.

Battles have escalated recently in Nagorno-Karabakh, which has been administered by Azerbaijan since 1923.

Also Monday, Russian television reported that Gen. Boris Gromov, who oversaw the Soviet army's withdrawal from Afghanistan, had been sent to Nagorno-Karabakh to supervise the pullout of the 366th regiment.

Paratroopers were also dispatched to assist in the evacuation, TV reported.

Both Armenia and Azerbaijan, which joined the Commonwealth of Independent States when the Soviet Union collapsed, have accused commonwealth forces of taking part in the fighting.

Marshal Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, commander of the commonwealth forces, denies such claims. He has said he ordered the pullout to protect the troops and prevent their weapons from being stolen.

Since January, attacks have killed eight commonwealth soldiers and left 22 wounded and 28 soldiers have been taken hostage, said Shaposhnikov.

Armenia considered the presence of the commonwealth forces to be a measure of protection against Azerbaijan.

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian said Monday their withdrawal was "not well thought out."



(AP Laserphoto)

Steve Wolf watches festivities from a hammock hanging in the window of his third-story apartment Monday.

Ordinance to corral guns under fire

Folks in Tombstone ready for showdown

By ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN
Associated Press Writer

TOMBSTONE, Ariz. (AP) – The town where Wyatt Earp laid low a few black hats at the O.K. Corral may be headed for a showdown over guns.

At issue is a 1977 ordinance against carrying weapons in the open. Town leaders fear some urban cowboy watching one of the make-believe gunfights staged on Tombstone's picturesque streets might slap leather and plug an actor or tourist.

"We're going to have every wild-eyed flake in the country doing the Hollywood gun act down the street," said Ben Traywick, who heads a mock gunfighting group called the Wild Bunch.

But across town, Jack Fiske and his bunch are standing their ground.

"We're celebrating the Bill of Rights, and when rights are taken away arbitrarily ... then we are having a civil rights problem here," said Fiske, a bookstore clerk who wants to ride his horse through town, a single-action .45 revolver strapped to his hip, unmolested by the law.

A similar law led in part to the 1881 gunfight that etched Tombstone, once a silver mining center, into the annals of the Old West. It was at the O.K. Corral where Earp and his brothers along with Doc Holliday shot it out with the Clanton gang, killing Billy Clanton and Tom and Frank McLaury.

The day before, Earp had buffaloed McLaury, whacking him with a gun and dragging him before a judge for breaking a law against carrying a gun in public. Billy Clanton is among the outlaws buried at nearby Boot Hill cemetery.

The mystique of that gunfight and the Old West today draws visitors to Tombstone. Tourism is the economic lifeblood of the southeastern Arizona town of 1,200 that bills itself "the town too tough to die."

The ordinance exempts police and actors staging re-enactments and mock hangings along streets still lined with wooden boardwalks and brick buildings.

City Marshal Edward E. Schnautz said the ordinance is meant to corral people like the man a few years ago who fired two shots along the main tourist strip, hitting a mailbox. As the sun was setting, the man "just got a feel of the Old West and pulled out a gun," Schnautz recalled.

Another time, a woman brandished a knife at a street show and nearly stabbed an actor. "So we know that this does happen. People get carried away," Schnautz said.

Mayor Alex Gradillas said the City Council won't reconsider the ordinance at its March 17 meeting, despite a request by Fiske, who belongs to a re-enactment group, the Vigilantes, but wants the right to tote a gun when he is not taking part in mock gunfights.

The state attorney general has said the ordinance appears to conflict with the Arizona Constitution by foreclosing the right to bear arms. Under state law, it is illegal to carry a concealed weapon.

Fiske said he doesn't want to go to court but that the city has ignored compromises, including posting gun bans at certain times.

The mayor warned that if the gun ban falls, the city will halt re-enactment permits rather than risk injuries and lawsuits. "If everyone can wear guns up or down the streets, you're asking for trouble," Gradillas said.

Hollis Cook, manager of the Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park, said, "No question — the quirkiness of the town does attract a goofball element ... people out there who never stopped playing cowboys and Indians."

'Fat Tuesday' rolls on

NEW ORLEANS (AP) – The city's trademark Mardi Gras celebration swung into a no-holds-barred blowout today in what could be the last celebration for elitist Carnival clubs.

Thousands of revelers got an early start Monday night on Bourbon Street. Many were unaware of the controversy over a new anti-discrimination law that prompted two all-white, all-male Mardi Gras clubs to cancel parades.

On the contrary, Pete Straub, 26, of Iowa City, Iowa, said he was most impressed by the city's diversity. He was unaware of the controversy.

"I was surprised how well the people of all races get along," Staub said. On the eve of Mardi Gras, thousands took in a Mississippi Riverside concert by New Orleans native Dr. John, fireworks and the parade sponsored by the club, or krewe, called Proteus. The King of Carnival, Rex, arrived by a Coast Guard vessel around sundown Monday.

The annual citywide party culminates today – Mardi Gras means "Fat Tuesday" in French – when 1 million people are expected to fill the streets in the final blowout before Ash Wednesday and the start of the 40-day period of Lent, when believers are supposed to do penance.

It was feared that the law would hamper the fun, even though the new rules won't be enforced until next year and may change before then. The ordinance would deny parade permits to groups that exclude membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, nationality or sexual orientation.

The law's author, City Councilwoman Dorothy Mae Taylor, was lampooned and depicted in caricature on floats, T-shirts and protest buttons.

Herb Jahncke, a contractor who builds floats for several krewes, was worried about next year. Parade plans and contracts for floats customarily are made a year in advance, he said.

"Right now, I know of no one that is committed to it next year," he said.

City Council debate on the issue is expected to resume soon. Some council members want to repeal the ordinance or make exemptions.

Some krewes trace their roots to the early 19th century and zealously guard their invitation-only membership.

Japan charges discrimination in Honda plan

TOKYO (AP) – Japan's trade minister said today that U.S. plans to charge a duty on Canadian-made Honda automobiles may constitute "unfair discrimination" against a Japanese company.

The Bush administration on Monday announced it would levy a 2.5 percent retroactive duty on 90,000 Honda Civics built in 1989 and 1990.

The Customs Service said the cars did not have enough North American parts to qualify for duty-free status under a U.S.-Canada free trade agreement.

To qualify, at least half a car's parts must be North American.

Honda Motor Co. plans to appeal the decision, which it said could cost the company $16.5 million. Honda's U.S. subsidiary said it considers about 69 percent of the Civic's components North American.

Trade Minister Kozo Watanabe called the methods for determining North American content unclear and said Japan will formally complain if it turns out Japanese firms have been unfairly discriminated against, a ministry official said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mochihisa Hanabusa said Japan would ask the United States to explain the guidelines.

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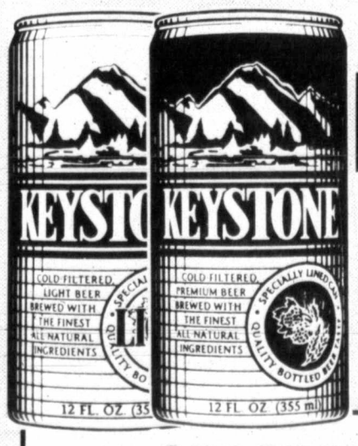
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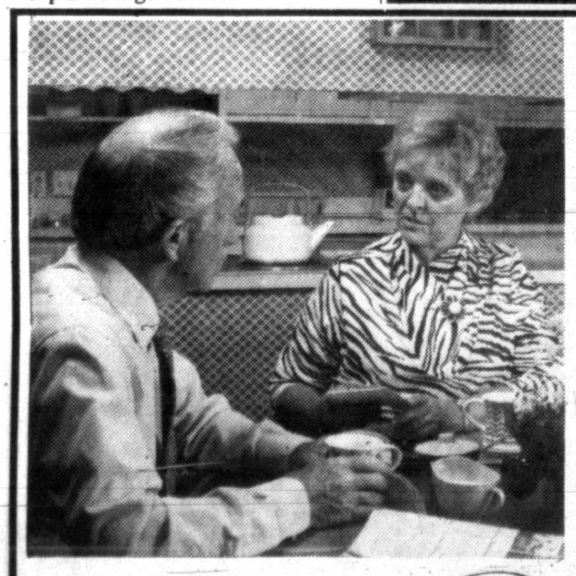
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