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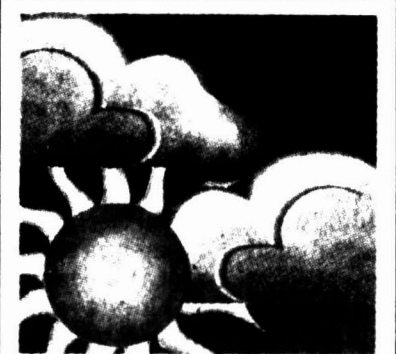
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Pampa

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Today's high 50
 Tonight's low upper 30s
 For weather details see Page 2

Planning meet set for county birthday

PAMPA — Planning session for Gray County's 100th birthday event is Thursday, March 29, at 5 p.m. in the Chamber of Commerce conference room at 200 N. Ballard. Representatives of organizations, interested people, and community leaders are encouraged to attend to help plan the fall 2002 celebration.

Man convicted of capital murder

BRYAN, Texas (AP) — A 20-year-old man was convicted of capital murder and sentenced to life in prison for breaking into his ex-girlfriend's apartment and stabbing her to death last summer.

Jurors deliberated for three hours before returning the guilty verdict Monday against Jonathan Nelson.

A life sentence was automatic because prosecutors waived the death penalty.

No deaths were reported to The Pampa News today.

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\$150,000 grant gives big boost to public radio

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Public Radio is a step closer to becoming a reality in the Texas Panhandle.

The Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation announced Tuesday the organization has awarded a \$150,000 grant to the Top O' Texas Public Radio Project in the Panhandle. Funds will be used to construct a new 100,000 watt FM noncommercial radio station to provide service to residents of 10 counties of the northeast Texas Panhandle in the High Plains Public Radio project.

"Whoopie! Only a little less than \$100,000 to go," said Loralee Cooley Tuesday afternoon after the announcement was made. She is the Pampa/Gray County coordinator for the project.

Cooley said the 10 counties have raised approximately \$26,000 on the project, with a little over \$5,000 contributed by Pampa businesses and residents.

ReDonn Woods, a member of the committee working to raise funds for the project, was equally pleased at the announcement.

"It's nice to see such great support from Pampa and the other nine counties. This seems to be something that the community wants," said Woods.

The \$150,000 was required to be raised by Friday, March 30. The total cost for the project is \$711,901. A grant of \$437,000 was received in Sept., 2000, from the national Public Telecommunications Facilities Program to help fund the Texas Panhandle Project.

(See RADIO, Page 3)

Super Playground bridge grant sought

An effort is under way to secure a grant to help pay for a foot bridge to be built in Highland Park in close proximity to the Super Playground.

Community Services Director Bill Hildebrandt said application is being made for a 50/50 grant through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Texas Recreation and Parks Account Small Grants Program.

City Commissioners on Tuesday gave their blessing to the idea which calls for a steel bridge to be erected high enough that it won't be affected when the Red Deer Creek waters run high.

If implemented, the bridge will allow park users to cross from the new facility to the older equipment on the North side of the creek without having to traverse through the often-muddy creek bed itself.

Hildebrandt said the application, which seeks up to a maximum of \$50,000 must be submitted by April 15 with an answer expected in August.

Also, an application will be made to the Nona Payne Foundation for additional funds.

As far as the city's matching funds are concerned, Hildebrandt said in addition to cash, in kind contributions such as labor will count.

If all efforts at funding fail, Hildebrandt said, "we may try to build the bridge ourselves."

Buildings to be torn down; another sold

By KATE B. DICKSON
 Associate Publisher

Approval to demolish three tax delinquent dilapidated structures and to sell another for demolition has been approved by the Pampa City Commission.

In addition, City Attorney Don Lane has been asked to work out legalities that will allow the city to require earnest money be placed down when bids on such property are made.

Behind that is the fact that some bids have been approved, have gone to the other two taxing entities (PISD and the county) for approval only to have the bidder renege.

One piece of property that has been through the process twice before being approved for sale again Tuesday is a small apartment complex at 401 Yeager.

(See BUILDINGS, Page 3)

Lawmaker drops plan to tax water, sewer use

His proposal still includes charging counties \$1 for every county resident, which would raise about \$21 million under current state population figures. Brown said counties could raise that money with a surcharge on bottled water sales.

AUSTIN (AP) — The state lawmaker driving the effort to raise money for future water projects in Texas has abandoned a proposal to tax domestic water and sewer use.

Sen. J.E. "Buster" Brown, R-Lake Jackson, chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, said Tuesday the plan wasn't realistic in a year that state lawmakers are reluctant to raise any taxes.

"We left out the sales tax because that would be a very difficult task to do through the session," said Brown, who has proposed creating a fund to pay for an estimated \$16.9 billion in water projects over the next 50 years.

A fee on authorized water rights and a county-assessed water fee would raise about \$27 million a year for the proposed Water Infrastructure Fund, according to Brown's office.

His proposal still includes charging counties \$1 for every county resident, which would raise about \$21 million under current state population figures. Brown said counties could raise that money with a surcharge on bottled water sales.

"Anybody who can afford bottled water can afford a surcharge," Brown said.

More money would be raised by annual fees on surface water rights and taking a share of export fees charged by water districts.

Texas' population is expected to increase to nearly 40 million people by 2050, which regional water planners say will strain water resources.

State officials say Texas' water demands are expected to rise about 18 percent over that time with a need for seven new major reservoirs and other projects such as pipelines to move water around the state. The projects are expected to cost up to \$17 billion.

(See LAWMAKER, Page 3)

All decked out ...



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Three students from St. Matthew's Episcopal Day School, from left, Destry Baten, 5; Shelby Langley, 3; and Gage Greenhouse, 3; provide a sneak preview to the school's annual style show wearing spring fashions from Kids Stuff. Theme for the school's annual fund raiser is Wizard of Oz with decorations donated by M&H Leasing. The style show is set for 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$1 for students and will be available at the door.

Closing of school cafeteria on agenda

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

SKELLYTOWN — Rumors have been flying in the White Deer and Skellytown communities as the White Deer Independent School District Board of Trustees prepare to meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

The board will consider probationary contracts and renewal or non-renewal of term contracts. Closing of the Skellytown cafeteria is another agenda item.

Also to be considered on the agenda are administrative contracts. Superintendent Danny Ferrell said White Deer High School Principal Ronnie Shepherd has resigned his first-year position. Ferrell said while some staff positions will be eliminated by attrition, the high school principal position will be filled. "Obviously, that is a position that we cannot do without," said Ferrell.

He said the cuts will be throughout the district, in both White Deer and Skellytown schools. He said two White Deer teachers, Dianne Dalton and Jackie Wyatt will be retiring and their positions will not be filled.

The consideration of closing the Skellytown Cafeteria is another controversial item to be considered Thursday night. Ferrell said preliminary plans are to have a "Meals on Wheels"

(See WDISD, Page 3)

Good news! TAAS test scores hit peak

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Pampa High School students are getting smarter and smarter. Preliminary TAAS results from the state reveal PHS students apparently have scored better than ever on the state-mandated testing.

"It looks good. In fact, the scores are higher than they've ever been," said PHS Principal John Kendall speaking about the preliminary results. He has received "Our mathematics is 94 percent and reading 93 percent. We will be getting out writing scores later in the year."

Kendall told the Pampa Independent School District Board of Trustees Tuesday night he is very pleased with the preliminary results he has received from the state.

"In the past the final results have come back a little higher than preliminary results — about one percent or so higher," said Kendall. "We're really excited about the good news."

Three teachers will retire from the Pampa Independent School District at the end of the 2000-2001 school year.

The retirements of Sharon Jeff, Pampa Middle School teacher; Ivy Rice, Austin Elementary teacher; and Shirley Moore, Travis Elementary teacher, were announced at the PISD Board of Trustee meeting Tuesday night.

Ali Elias was hired as a Pampa High School teacher in the upcoming year. Resignations of Don Fedesma, a teacher at Pampa Middle School, and Carol Reed, Lamar Elementary teacher, were also accepted.

Support staff contracts



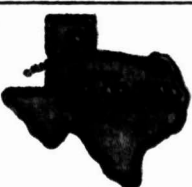
(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

PHS Principal John Kendall was all smiles when reporting preliminary TAAS test results.

renewed by the board were Carol Fields, Assistant Business

(See TAAS, Page 3)

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72nd Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet And Citizen Of The Year Award April 10th 7:00 PM In The MK Brown Auditorium - Ticket \$20 Per Person - Guest Speaker: Marsha Sharp, Lady Raiders Head Coach

Daily Record

Police report

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

Tuesday, March 27

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 200 block of East 19th. A purse containing \$68, a credit card, and miscellaneous items and a car stereo was stolen from the unlocked vehicle. Total loss was estimated at \$194.

An unattended death was reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road.

Burglary of a building was reported in the 600 block of North Christy.

A juvenile reported an assault with minor injury in the 1400 block of North Harvester.

An inmate injury was reported at the police station, 200 W. Foster. Gray County Jail inmate Anthony Paul Gamble, 30, reported a minor injury to the upper left arm while on a work detail at the police station. The injury did not require medical treatment, according to police reports.

A juvenile reported an assault with minor injury at Pampa Middle School, 2401 Charles.

Wednesday, March 28

A representative for Bealls, 1201 N. Hobart, reported burglary of the business. At 4:25 a.m., someone broke a window glass at the back of the store with a brick. A check of the business showed only the men's leather belts had been disturbed. Nothing appeared to have been taken from the store. Estimated damage to the window was \$200. Detectives are continuing to investigate the break-in.

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Obituaries

No obituaries or services for tomorrow were reported to The Pampa News by press, time today.

Sheriff's Office

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

Tuesday, March 27

Melody Ann Feil, 35, 2116 N. Zimmers was arrested on seven charges of issuing bad checks and a charge of theft by check.

Fires

Pampa Fire Department received no emergency calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Accidents

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

Tuesday, March 27

8:05 a.m. — A 1995 Saturn driven by David Joseph Auwen, 18, 404 Louisiana, and a 1993 Pontiac Grand Am driven by Brittany Jill Morgan, 18, 1920 N. Dwight, collided at the intersection of Randy Matson and Hamilton streets. No citations were listed on the police report. No injuries were reported at the scene.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of Pampa.		Columbia/HCA.....	38.14	up 0.09
		Enron.....	58.13	dn 2.33
		Halliburton.....	37.00	dn 1.00
		KMI.....	51.20	NC
		Kerr-McGee.....	64.08	dn 0.57
		Limited.....	15.19	dn 0.48
		McDonald's.....	25.45	up 0.02
		Exxon Mobil.....	78.96	dn 1.68
		New Atmos.....	22.00	NC
		XCEL.....	29.00	dn 0.09
		NOI.....	36.32	dn 0.75
		OKE.....	39.81	dn 0.01
		Penney's.....	15.81	dn 0.09
		Phillips.....	53.84	dn 0.30
		Pioneer Nat.....	16.31	dn 0.39
		SLB.....	61.70	dn 1.10
		Tenneco.....	2.80	dn 0.19
		Texasco.....	65.14	dn 1.06
		Ultramar.....	34.92	dn 0.10
		Wal-Mart.....	48.50	dn 1.79
		Williams.....	42.04	dn 0.96
		The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
		BP Amoco.....	49.43	dn 0.45
		Celanese.....	17.95	dn 0.02
		Cabot.....	30.68	dn 0.44
		Cabot O&G.....	27.84	dn 0.06
		Chevron.....	86.56	dn 1.27
		Coca-Cola.....	46.68	up 0.07
		New York Gold.....	261.55	
		Silver.....	4.44	
		West Texas Crude.....	27.89	

Texas Round Up...

Lawmakers could take money out of rainy day fund, budget bill says

AUSTIN (AP) — A provision in the proposed Senate budget bill that would allow the state to dip into its emergency fund if money gets tight is drawing some heat.

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander calls the provision "bad public policy" and said it would "gut the spirit and the heart" of the rainy day fund.

Senate Finance Chairman Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, said Tuesday the criticism was "much ado about nothing." The budget proposal included the provision "as a potential safety net and to generate discussion only," he said.

The Senate will take up the provision and the entire \$111 billion budget for the first time Wednesday. After the budget hits the floor, it will be sent to a joint Senate and House committee, where lawmakers are expected to put together a budget acceptable to both chambers. Budget writers this session faced little money for new programs and high priced legislative priorities.

The provision that the Senate Finance Committee slipped into the budget bill would allow the state to take money out of the rainy day fund to provide for emergency or contingency needs. Money taken out could not exceed the amount that the fund grows from Aug. 31 to Aug. 31, 2003.

Officers' arrests may jeopardize thousands of criminal cases

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — More than 3,000 state criminal cases ranging from drunken driving to narcotics trafficking could be in jeopardy because they involve at least one of nine law enforcement officers arrested last week on federal drug charges.

The cases date from 1998, when the first allegations against the officers are said to have occurred, Bexar county officials said Tuesday.

After a five-hour hearing for four officers' on Monday, a judge set bond for each of the defendants at \$100,000. Federal prosecutors say four of the officers — Sgt. Conrad Fragozo Jr. and Police Officers Patrick Bowron, Manuel Cedillo Jr. and Lawrence Bustos — admitted to drug crimes shortly after they were arrested last Thursday.

In detention hearings Tuesday, U.S. Magistrate John Primomo denied bond for the two San Antonio officers, Fragozo Jr. and Bowron, who are accused of leading the group.

Additional detention hearings were set for Wednesday.

Nortel, Nokia, Ericsson announce more employee layoffs and job cuts

DALLAS (AP) — Amid a sluggish U.S. economy, telecommunications giants Nortel Networks Corp., Ericsson Inc. and Nokia have announced further job cuts, blaming losses that have forced them to trim costs.

The companies, which have their American headquarters in the Dallas area, have already cut thousands of jobs so far this year before the latest moves which show the high-tech downturn's impact on North Texas' economy.

Nortel said first-quarter losses would be greater than previously thought and that the company would dismiss 5,000 more workers by the middle of the year, bringing its total cuts to 15,000.

Executives of the Canadian firm with U.S. headquarters in Richardson said they would lose 10 to 12 cents per share in the quarter, compared with the loss of 4 cents a share it predicted in February.

Ericsson will cut 3,300 manufacturing jobs in Sweden and the United Kingdom, freeze hiring across the company and dismiss a large number of consultants, transferring their work to staffers.

The Swedish wireless technology company with U.S. headquarters in Plano plans to provide more details on April 20.

More Texas paintings on display at White House, artist says

EL PASO (AP) — Art from a West Texan whose writings were the inspiration for part of President Bush's speech after winning the Republican presidential nomination has joined other works from the Lone Star State in a White House display.

The late Tom Lea's painting "Rio Grande" is now hanging in the Oval Office after two years on display at the Tom Lea Gallery in the El Paso Museum of Art. It is at least the fourth painting with strong Texas ties to be moved to the first family's new home.

The former Texas governor also displayed a Lea painting in his office at the state Capitol during his term, said gallery owner Adair Margo, who also represents Lea's work.

"The president has selected this painting to surround him while he is in the most important position in the world," Margo told the El Paso Times in Wednesday's editions.

Margo said he was contacted by President Bush and first lady Laura Bush several weeks before Lea's death in January. The first couple asked to borrow the painting for an indefinite length of time.

Census may have missed 260,000 residents in Florida and Arizona

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of people in Florida and Arizona may have been missed in the raw head count from the 2000 census, according to new estimates from critics of the Bush administration's decision not to adjust the census for redistricting.

The estimates released Tuesday were the latest development in the continuing debate between Democrats and Republicans over whether data adjusted using a statistical method known as sampling provided the most accurate count of America.

The undercount estimates for Florida and Arizona were based on an analysis of 2000 census data by Democratic members appointed by former President Clinton to a bipartisan board overseeing the census. The estimates were not sanctioned by the Census Bureau or Republican members of the board.

The Democratic estimates were expected to be addressed Wednesday at a hearing of the Senate Commerce Committee.

Nearly a half-million Californians may have been overlooked, along with 350,000 people in Texas and 300,000 in New York, according to a published report.

U.S. taste for beef surviving disease outbreaks in Europe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans love their beef.

They spent a record \$52 billion on the red meat in 2000 and ate 70 pounds of it per person. Although concern about livestock diseases in Europe has grown in recent weeks, Americans apparently aren't ready to ignore their cravings for a juicy T-bone just yet.

"I have great faith in the USDA," said Gordon Harvey, 65, of Arlington, Va., who bought some bacon, a pork roast and a steak at the bustling Eastern Market near the U.S. Capitol before heading to the poultry counter.

But, "I wouldn't hesitate to stop buying meat altogether if I thought it was dangerous."

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said Tuesday there are no signs yet that Americans are shunning beef, although they are confusing foot-and-mouth disease with the much rarer and more dangerous mad cow disease.

Mad cow disease has never been found in the United States, officials say. But inspectors for the U.S. Department of Agriculture seized hundreds of imported sheep from two Vermont farms last week — the first such action against any U.S. farm animals — fearing they may be infected with a version of mad cow.

City Briefs

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Weather focus

PAMPA — Tonight, mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. Lows in the upper 30s. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph. Thursday, partly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs around 60. Variable winds 5 to 10 mph. Thursday night, mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers or thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 40s. Friday, partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs 60 to 65.

STATEWIDE — Continued rains throughout the week in parts of Texas have prompted flooding advisories, with more precipitation expected this weekend.

The National Weather Service

on Wednesday had numerous reports of light fog, with light rain and drizzle east of a line from Wichita Falls to Alice.

A dense fog advisory was posted for West and South Texas.

Winds were mostly easterly at 5 to 15 mph over the eastern third of the state, with southeasterly winds around 10 mph in the lower Rio Grande Valley.

Light and variable conditions were reported over the western sections of the state, except for southwesterly winds of 15 to 20 mph in the northwestern Panhandle.

Early-morning temperatures were well below normal from the same period last year, ranging from 34 degrees at Amarillo to 69 at Brownsville.

Other readings were 40 degrees at Abilene and 45

degrees at Lufkin.

Clear skies were only reported in the extreme lower Rio Grande Valley, with partly cloudy conditions in the Big Bend.

The weather service posted a flash flood warning for Harris and Chambers counties in Southeast Texas, where water covered area roadways. Flooding was expected in or near Channelview, Baytown, Anahuac and Winnie.

More rain and thunderstorms were expected through Friday, when skies should clear from the west. But another storm system was predicted for Saturday.

Daytime highs were expected from the 40s to 50s, with 70s and 80s in the far south.

Lows overnight should range from the upper 30s to upper 40s.

People in the News...

NEW YORK (AP) — Alice Munro, a Canadian author long acclaimed as one of the world's greatest short story writers, has won the Rea Award for lifetime achievement. The \$30,000 prize is given annually for contributions to the short story form.

"In her art of the story, Alice Munro encourages us to reflect, to see our own time and place and perhaps to redeem, if not ourselves, at least our own stories in the larger setting of the world," award jurors said in a statement Tuesday.

Munro is the author of several short story collections, including "The Love of a Good Woman," "The Beggar Maid" and "Friend of My Youth." She has received many awards, including the National Book Critics Circle prize for "The Love of a Good Woman."

Previous winners of the Rea Award, established in 1986, include Eudora Welty, Richard Ford and Cynthia Ozick.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Will the XFL get its cancellation notice?

"If they choose to cancel it, that's their call," Gov. Jesse Ventura said during an interview Tuesday on Minnesota Public Radio. "The players gave their hearts. I gave mine and all the broadcasters, we're doing the best job we can do and that's all you can do."

Ventura is the lead analyst for the broadcasts. Dick Ebersol, NBC Sports president, said Sunday the network is considering pulling the plug on the XFL if ratings don't improve during the new football league's playoffs games next month.

Ebersol said a decision would be made no later than the end of April as to whether the league would make it into a second year.

The XFL, an offshoot of the World Wrestling Federation has a two-year agreement with NBC that also included the broadcast company spending \$100 million during the first two seasons.

WOODSIDE, Calif. (AP) — Oracle chief Larry Ellison is building quite the dream home in rustic Woodside.

Taking shape on Ellison's 23 acres is a Japanese-styled villa with man-made ponds, waterfalls and teahouse and a moon pavilion.

The cost for Ellison's not-so-humble abode? More than \$80 million.

"It's the biggest development in Woodside," said David Rizk, the town's planning director. "It's unique in magnitude, materials and architectural design."

One goes about building a home like Ellison's by moving 81,000 cubic yards of earth, importing more than 500 mature trees and 3,750 tons of hand-chiseled Chinese granite.

The project is expected to continue for another two years, although it was originally scheduled for completion in 1999.

Ellison's home is still no match for that of Microsoft's Bill Gates. Gates' house in Medina, Wash., is more than 48,000 square feet and is being expanded.

NEW YORK (AP) — David Copperfield lives in

Blind American climber sets out to conquer Mount Everest

KATMANDU, Nepal — An American who has climbed mountains around the world since losing his sight at the age of 13 set out on Wednesday to become the first blind person to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

Erik Weihenmeyer, 32, of Golden, Colo. will follow the

sounds of bells tied to the jackets of his 12 teammates and their Sherpa guides, all of whom can see.

"Because Everest is so famous and you read and hear so much about it, I wanted to try it out," Weihenmeyer said before he and the other mountaineers from the

National Federation of Blind Allegro Everest Expedition boarded a helicopter and left Katmandu, Nepal for the mountain.

"I have developed skills with my hands that most people have using their eyes, and I always climb with strong people," Weihenmeyer said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RADIO

Work is under way with the FCC to secure a construction permit to build the station at 89.5 FM. However, before construction can begin approximately \$275,000 is required to match the PTFP grant, cover additional construction costs and initiate operation.

After more than two years of planning, the new projected timeline for project completion and broadcast sign-on is January, 2002.

Pampa and Borger AM-FM commercial stations are accepting of the project, said Cooley. While much of the High Plains multi-state area has public radio, this area is without it.

Counties involved in the project are Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Carson, Gray and Wheeler, said Woods.

Public radio is non-commercial, listener supported radio that is in-depth national, international and regional news including market reports, community calendar and weather.

Other popular programs include blues, classical, jazz and western swing music. It also includes regional headline news, public service announcements, gardening, entertainment, poetry and more.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Cooley, 665-7321, in Pampa (lcoolestor-spinning@hotmail.com).

Skip Mancini, Director of Regional Program Development, 800-678-7444, may also be contacted. Her e-mail address is (hprp@pld.com). Contributors may be mailed to her at High Plains Public Radio, 210 N. Seventh, Garden City, Kan. 67846. Checks are to be made payable to High Plains Public Radio and marked Top O' Texas Public Radio Project.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

WDISD

type delivery system made daily from the White Deer cafeteria to the Skellytown students.

Board members approved busing fifth and sixth graders to White Deer at last week's meeting, but leaving the pre-kindergarten through fourth graders at the Skellytown-based school.

At Thursday's board meeting, board members said \$200,000 to \$210,000 must be cut by the district. Ferrell said the cuts are being made throughout the district, not just Skellytown.

He said the closing of the Skellytown cafeteria would save a substantial amount as the cafeteria is presently operating \$45,000 in the red. He said approximately one and one-half cafeteria staff positions would be cut. He said the cuts would be based on district-wide seniority.

"In fact, the people in Skellytown have the most years, so they will be offered the jobs first," said Ferrell.

Kelly Tull, mother of a third grader at Skellytown, has expressed concern about the health issue of transporting school meals from White Deer to Skellytown. She told *The Pampa News* Wednesday she has contacted the Texas Department of Health about the requirements involved.

"The road between White Deer and Skellytown is my main concern," Tull said. She said she felt it was unsafe to bus the students on the 10-mile stretch.

Based on action taken by the

WDISD board Thursday, para-professionals in fulltime positions in specific areas with the most seniority will be given first consideration in any staff position cuts.

Skellytown resident Mike Tice told *The Pampa News* Skellytown residents have asked questions over and over again at school board meetings, but get no answers.

"They just won't answer our questions," he said. He said the school issue has revived contentious feelings between the two small communities.

Tice also spoke of an agreement which he said he had heard was made many years before that White Deer and Skellytown would have equal representation on the board, and said that was not followed. He said he has understood that the Skellytown area pays 69 percent of the taxes to the school district and White Deer only 31 percent, but he hasn't inquired with the taxing district about the accuracy of that belief being circulated.

At last Thursday night's school trustee meeting, several residents spoke during the public forum and asked numerous questions that were not answered during the meeting.

Ferrell said the questions posed by many during the Open Forum were not answered due to the advice of their attorney. "Our attorney said it is best not to answer questions during the open forum because of the emotionally-charged situation," said Ferrell.

He said the attorney also recommended a three minute time

limit for each speaker.

Ferrell said at two previous school board meetings he answered all questions which were asked Thursday night. He said at one meeting he presented 16-17 transparencies and at another 15 were presented.

"In addition, literature about the issue has been passed out in Skellytown," said Ferrell. "Also, I had a call Tuesday about the information I presented from the transparencies. I told them I would make copies of that information and give to them. I will be happy to make copies for anyone who wants it."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

TAAS

Manager; Eric Craig, Network Specialist; Ramona Hite, Program Specialist; Sue Thornton, Parental Involvement Coordinator; Debbie Middleton, Food Service Director; and Anita Patterson, Purchasing Director.

A bid from Unique Solutions of Amarillo to provide additional network connections in the Pampa Middle School Library and the Pampa High School Library was accepted by the board. The bid for the high school was \$3,108 and the middle school bid was \$4,045 bid for the cabling.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

BUILDINGS

But unlike previous bidders, Ernest Huddleston, 411 Yeager, offered \$1,100 for the property that he does not want to fix up but rather tear down the apartments to make way for a garage. His home is next door.

Building Official Danny Winborne told the City Commission one reason people bid on vacant tax property and back out is because often they find out bringing the homes up to code turns out to be cost prohibitive.

Winborne praised the earlier adoption of requiring vacant tax property purchasers to bring structures up to minimum code requirements. He noted two addresses, 416 Wells and 424 Sumner, where progress is being made to fix those homes up.

Bids were not awarded for cabling the Mann Support Center based on the recommendation of Business Manager Mark McVay. He recommended action be tabled for additional study.

McVay also reported the budget is holding steady. "I feel confident we'll come in on budget," said McVay. He said there should be enough in the surplus to cover the unexpected high utility costs this year.

The January gas bill was \$76,228, but dropped to \$43,703 in February. McVay said he expected a further decline in the March bill because of the weather not being as cold.

He said such purchases are generally for family members noting, "if not for the minimum standards we'd have slumlords buying and renting them."

Houses that were given the go ahead to demolish, once like approval comes from PISD and the county, are at 421 Elm, 1064 and 1068 Varnon.

Police Chief Charlie Morris said there have been drug-related problems associated with the vacant houses on Varnon.

"We get calls from the neighborhood when any of these vacant properties are being used as crack houses or if someone's grand kids find syringes," Morris told commissioners. "We let Danny [Winborne] know ... some of the houses that were causing us the biggest problems have been taken down."

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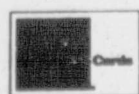
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

LAWMAKER

Brown's proposal would also set up a Texas Water Policy Council to recommend what water projects across the state should be a priority.

Brown originally proposed the sales tax on domestic water and sewer use as a kind of "pay-as-you-go" mechanism for water use.

Texasans are beginning to realize the importance of water and their responsibility to help ensure that it is available in the future, Brown said.

"Two sessions ago we talked about a fund and we weren't ready for it. I think we're closer to getting the public acceptance of contributing," Brown said. "The important thing is to get this bill passed and get funding started."

Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, said that even with the sales taxes removed, the bill could still run into heavy debate in the Senate.

A CONSTANT REMINDER

AS A CHILD, I REMEMBER KNOWING WHEN DAD HAD COME HOME, THE SMELL OF OIL AND GAS WOULD FILL THE HOUSE, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HIS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE FOR US.

WHEN I WOULD WAKE UP EARLY AND GO INTO THE KITCHEN, DAD WOULD BE AT THE DINING TABLE STUDYING HIS BIBLE, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HIS EFFORTS TO WALK WITH GOD.

WHILE ON VACATION IN CALIFORNIA I REMEMBER, DAD GAVE MONEY TO A MAN WHO CAME AND ASKED, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HOW HE GAVE WITHOUT EXPECTATIONS.

ONE TIME I WENT TO PICKUP AN OFFICE DESK WITH HIM, BEFORE WE LEFT, DAD ASKED THE LADY ABOUT HER FAITH IN CHRIST, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HOW HE SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS.

WHILE YOUNG AND IMMATURE I ALLOWED A FRIEND TO WRECK MY PICKUP, HE MADE ME STEER IT HOME IN THE RAIN WITHOUT A FRONT WINDSHIELD, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HIS EFFORTS TO MAKE ME INTO A MAN.

AFTER I MOVED AWAY FROM HOME AND MARRIED, DAD WOULD CALL ALMOST EVERY WEEK, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HOW MUCH HE CARED.

I WOULD WATCH MY DAD WITH MY MOM, HE WOULD PLAY WITH HER, HOLD HANDS WITH HER, AND PRAY WITH HER, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HOW TO BE A HUSBAND.

WHEN I WOULD RETURN HOME WITH MY WIFE, WE WOULD TALK ABOUT OUR CONCERNS AND HE WOULD SAY, "LET'S PRAY," THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF HOW TO LEAD MY FAMILY.

NOW DAD HAS REACHED HIS GOAL, HE IS WALKING STREETS OF GOLD AND TALKING WITH JESUS, THIS IS A CONSTANT REMINDER THAT I WILL SEE HIM AGAIN.

John Hazle, Jr.
Chris Hazle
March 24, 2001



IN MEMORY OF
JOHN HAZLE SR.

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DR. JAMES DOBSON is a psychologist, author and president of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home.

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Q

What kind of treatment is available for attention deficit disorder?

A

Treatment involves a range of factors, beginning with education. The adult with ADD is often greatly relieved to learn that he or she has an identifiable, treatable condition. Dr. Robert Reid from the University of Nebraska calls it the "label" of forgiveness." He says: "The kid's problems are not his parents' fault, not the teacher's fault, not the kid's fault." That is good news to the person who has been told all his life that he's dumb, stupid, lazy, obnoxious and disruptive.

The first step in rebuilding the self-concept of an adult, then, is to get an understanding of the forces operating within. My advice to that individual and to his or her family is to read, read, read! One helpful book is "Driven to Distraction" by Edward Hallowell, M.D., and John Ratey, M.D. An excellent set of cassette tapes by these authors is also available. Another well-written book is "The Hyperactive Child" by Grant Martin, Ph. D., a Christian psychologist.

The second step is to teach the ADD person, especially an adult, to minimize his or her distractibility and impulsivity. He or she can learn to use "to-do lists," daily calendars, schedules and written plans. "it ain't easy," as they say, but it can be done.

The third step is to secure the assistance of what Hallowell and Ratey call "a coach." A knowledgeable friend is needed to stand nearby with a whistle, offering encouragement, pointing out mistakes, and modifying behavior. If a wise instructor can teach a novice to play tennis or golf, a caring coach can help a person with ADD learn to behave in more successful ways.

In regard to children, a knowledgeable professional is needed to advise and encourage parents, who are often bewildered and frustrated by behavior they neither control nor understand.

Finally, there are the considerable benefits to the use of prescription drugs for both children and adults. Approximately 70 percent of ADD patients benefit from appropriate medication. Surprisingly, certain stimulants are often effective in helping ADD children, including those who are hyperactive. No one knows exactly how they work, but they probably affect the electrochemical processes in the frontal lobes of the brain that regulate behavior. The most commonly prescribed drug is Ritalin, although some patients do better on Dexedrine or Cylert. In some instances, these substances have a remarkably positive effect.

Q

What can we as parents do to improve public schools in our area?

A

Most educators know that parental involvement is absolutely critical to what public schools are trying to do. Others (fortunately not the majority) see themselves as professionals who resent parental interference.

We should never accede to that idea. Parents are ultimately responsible for the education of their kids, and they should not surrender that authority. Educators are their employees, paid with tax dollars, and are accountable to the school board members whom parents elect. The best schools are those with the greatest parental involvement and support.

With that understanding, let me urge you to visit your child's school to answer questions of interest to you. Does the staff understand the necessity for structure, respect and discipline in the classroom? If so, why not call your child's teacher and the principal and express your appreciation to them. They should get a pat on the back. Tell them you stand ready to assist in carrying out their important mission.

If your school system is not so oriented, get involved to help turn the tide. Meet with parents groups. Join the PTA. Review the textbooks. Work for the election of school board members who believe in traditional values and academic excellence. Let me say it again: Schools function best when the time-honored principle of local control by parents prevails. I believe it is making a comeback!

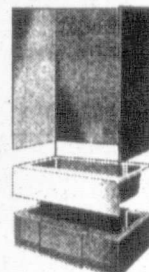
Dr. Dobson is president of the nonprofit organization Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO. 80903; or www.family.org Questions and answers are excerpted from: "Solid Answers," published by Tyndale House.

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Calendar of events

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM

White Deer Land Museum (112-116 S. Cuyler) winter visiting hours are 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. No charge for admission; elevator provided.

LAS PAMPAS WATER GARDEN AND KOI SOCIETY

Las Pampas Water Garden and Koi Society meets at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at First Landmark Building in the Pampa Mall. For more information, contact Sharron Andrew at 665-6138 or Loyd Waters 665-6466.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle is changing its hours. It is now open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 408 W. Kingsmill Ave., #175-A, in Pampa. For more information or for an appointment, call 665-2291. Planned Parenthood is a not-for-profit health care organization serving women and men in 17 offices covering 26 counties in the panhandle.

HIGH PLAINS EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION
High Plains Epilepsy Association of Amarillo, funded in part by Pampa United Way, will have a licensed social worker in Pampa from 9:30-12 noon the second Tuesday of each month at Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard. The program assists people with epilepsy and their families. To make an appointment, contact the Amarillo office at 1-800-806-7236.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

The local Alzheimer's Support Group meets regularly at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest. For more information, call Dauna Wilkinson, 665-0356.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY HOUR

Lovett Memorial Library will sponsor a pre-school story hour at 10 a.m. every Tuesday this fall beginning Sept. 5. The free program is open to children 18 months to 5 years of age and will include stories, crafts and other activities. No registration is required. For more information, call the library at 669-5780.

CLASS OF 1961

Pampa High School Class of 1961 will hold its 40th class reunion this year. Anyone interested in helping plan and organize the event should contact Zip Swaney at 665-5532.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Local Friends of the Library will sponsor the annual library book sale March 29-April 1 at Lovett Memorial Library, 111 N. Houston. Sale hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Thursday and Friday and 2-5 p.m., Sunday. New books are added daily. Donations will also be accepted at the sale.

GRAY CO. 2002 ANNIVERSARY

Organizers of the Gray Co. 100th birthday celebra-

tion will hold a planning session at 5 p.m., Thursday, March 29 in the Chamber of Commerce conference room. Community leaders, organizations and individuals interested in volunteering with the 2002 anniversary effort are encouraged to attend.

ANNUAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

Panhandle Chapter of American Society of Safety Engineers and Amarillo College Business and Industry Center will sponsor the Annual Safety Conference Tuesday, April 17 at AC B&I, 1314 S. Polk, Amarillo. Conference topics will include: "A Company's Perspective on Safety"; "OSHA's New Record Keeping Standard"; "Advanced Safety Audits"; "Legal Liabilities"; "Ergonomics"; and "Workplace Violence." Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. Cost of registration is \$50 on or before April 10 and \$60 after that date. For more information, contact Tom Follis at (806) 351-1222 or Bob Pearce at (806) 371-2927.

TURKEY STRUT FESTIVAL

The first-ever Donley County Spring Turkey Strut Festival will be held April 21 and 22 in downtown Clarendon. Activities and entertainment will include: Turkey cook-off, craft show, Kids Turkey Strut Contest, Parks and Wildlife demo, Strolling Bluegrass Fiddlers, wildlife viewing, raffle, KEFH Street Dance, turkey breakfast, nine-hole golf scramble and a turkey shoot. For more information, call (806) 874-3889 or visit www.aceno8westtexasbedandbreakfast.com on the Internet.

WALK FOR LIFE

Pregnancy Support Center of Pampa will host its annual "Walk for Life" fund-raiser at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, April 22, in Recreation Park. Sponsored walkers will receive a free T-shirt. For more information or to volunteer, call PSC of Pampa at 669-2229.

HOSPICE LUNCHEON

Crown of Texas Hospice will sponsor a bereavement luncheon or "Sunshine Lunch" beginning at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 25 at Dyer's Bar-B-Que in Pampa. Cost of the meal will be between \$5-\$8. For more information, call 1-800-572-6365.

TOP O' TEXAS CATTLEWOMEN

Top O' Texas CattleWomen Scholarship application forms are currently available at area schools. A scholarship in the amount of \$500 and two in the amount of \$250 will be awarded. Students in the following counties are eligible to apply: Carson, Collingsworth, Gray, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Roberts and Wheeler. The application deadline is April 27. Applications must be returned to Sandra Christner by that time. Christner's address is: P.O. Box 522, Wheeler, TX 79096. For more information, call (806) 826-3572 or (806) 826-5719.

AB Honor Roll

Heather Bryan, Amber Chavarria, Tyree Johnson, Azalia Lopez, Shawntavia Parker, Callie Preston, Jose Ramirez, Mayra Salazar, Kelsie Serrato, Paul Soria, Michael Taylor, Richard Terry.

FIFTH GRADE

Andy Akins, Scotty Brown, Erin Hall, Veronica Solarzano.

AB Honor Roll

George Albear, Yesenia Flores, Samuel Galvan, Veronica Herrera, Elizabeth McGrath, Sonia Martinez, April Newsome, William Rivera, A.J. Russell, David Soto, Elizabeth Wade.

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We will provide refreshments and door prizes. Come join the fun!

LSB TALENT SEARCH

Lone Star Ballet and Guild will sponsor a "Director's Choice Talent Search" at 8 p.m., Saturday, April 28 at Crockett Middle School in Amarillo. Up to \$700 in prize money will be awarded. Preliminaries will be April 7. Categories of competition are: Level 1 (ages 12 and under, \$100); Level 2 (ages 13-17, \$200); Level 3 (adults, \$500). Application deadline is March 28. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. For an application or more information, call (806) 468-8476.

RSVP ADVISORY COUNCIL

An exciting opportunity is on the horizon for a Pampa-area resident who: 1) Would like to volunteer his/her services for the betterment of their community; and 2) can travel to Amarillo once a month to attend scheduled meetings after 5 p.m. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, or RSVP, a national organization with an office in Amarillo, has an opening for an Advisory Council position to represent the Pampa community. Pampa has been represented since 1992, and a lot of positive things have been done, including increased volunteer participation and the addition of more volunteer stations (locations where the volunteers work). Gray Co. is but one of 11 counties served by RSVP's Amarillo office, and representation from our own area is important. The Advisory Council term would be for two years, starting at the end of March, and is not limited to someone who is 55-years-old or older. Interested in senior volunteerism? Interested in improving Pampa's social services? For more information or to receive an application, call Amarillo RSVP Director Nova Neuhaus toll-free at 1-877-373-8389.

LOVETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Lovett Memorial Library will offer four introductory hands-on computer workshops: "Computer Comfort I" for beginners; "Computer Comfort II" for individuals who can open and close files and use the mouse; "What is the Internet?"; and "Introduction to E-Mail," for individuals who wish to learn how to establish a free web-based e-mail account. All classes are free but registration is required. Class size is limited to 10, so space is limited. For information, contact the library at 669-5780. The workshops will continue monthly through the spring.

INDUSTRIAL CONTROL TRAINING COURSE

The Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center of the Texas Engineering Extension Service will offer the following Industrial Control Training Courses — 8 a.m.-5 p.m., March 26-27 at the University of Texas at Arlington and April 10-11 at the Houston Regional Training Center in Houston. Each course will target maintenance technicians, facility maintenance employees, electrical maintenance personnel and automation technicians. For more information, call TMAC at 1-800-625-4876 or visit www.tmac.org on the World Wide Web.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

International Library of Photography is sponsoring a free "International Open Amateur Photography Contest." To enter, send one color or black and white unmounted 8x10 print in only one of the contest categories (People, Travel, Pets, Children, Sports, Nature, Action, Humor, Portraiture or Other), to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-2611, 3600 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Deadline for entries is May 31, 2001. For more information, visit www.picture.com on the World Wide Web.

USABDA

United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association is seeking support for a chapter for beginner social or recreational ballroom dancers in the Amarillo area. If enough interest is expressed, a local steering committee will be formed to guide the project and enroll members. For more information, call 1-800-447-9047; e-mail USABDACC@aol.com; or write: USABDA, P.O.

Box 128, New Freedom, PA 17349.

FSA WEBSITE

USDA's Farm Service Agency has launched a redesigned website located at www.fsa.usda.gov on the Internet. The redesign includes user-friendly features and easily accessible on-line FSA forms.

RELIGIOUS POETRY CONTEST

New Jersey Rainbow Poets is sponsoring a free religious poetry contest. The grand prize winner will be awarded \$1,000. The entry deadline is April 7, 2001. To enter, send one poem, 21 lines or less, to: Free Poetry Contest, 103 N. Wood Ave., PMB 70, Linden, NJ 07036. Or enter on-line at www.freecontest.com

WILL TO WIN SCHOLARSHIPS

The "Will to Win" Asthma Athlete Scholarship Program is currently accepting applications. The program will grant \$35,000 in scholarships to 10 high school seniors who have excelled in athletics while coping with asthma. The deadline for entries is April 30, 2001. Scholarship applications may be obtained by calling "The Will to Win" hotline at 1-800-558-7305.

ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

The National Arbor Day Foundation is offering a free "Conservation Trees" booklet with colorful photos and illustrations and easy-to-understand descriptions to help people plant and care for trees. To obtain a booklet, send name and address to: Conservation Trees, The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

WORLD HERITAGE

World Heritage, a non-profit student exchange program, is currently seeking a local community representative to provide high school exchange students with program support. For more information, call Ande Bloom at 1-800-888-9040 or visit www.world-heritage.org on the World Wide Web.

82ND AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION

The 82nd Airborne Division Association is seeking new members. Airborne is the only requirement for membership. The Association holds a national reunion each year plus many mini-reunions, picnics and dinner dances. For more information, write AIRBORNE 2001, 5459 Northcutt P, Dayton, OH 45414-3742; or call S.R. Gossett (WWII) at (937) 898-5977.

U.S. LST ASSOCIATION

U.S. LST Association is seeking shipmates from World War II to the present date to participate in its upcoming reunion Sept. 18-24, 2001, at Mobile, Ala. For more information, contact: Bob Garner LST 461, HC 52 Box 362, Hemphill, TX 75948; 1-800-228-5870; or e-mail USLST@KMBS.com

POWER WHEELCHAIRS

Miracle on Wheels is offering Power Wheelchairs to non-ambulatory senior citizens (65 years and up) usually at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. No deposit is required. The chairs are provided to those who cannot walk and self-propel a manual wheelchair at their home or independent living quarters and who meet additional qualifications of the program. This service may also be available to the permanently disabled of any age. For more information, call 1-800-749-8778 or visit www.durablemedical.com on the World Wide Web.

FREE BOOKLET

The Free Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., is offering a new booklet, "The 100 Most Popular Government Giveaway Programs," to consumers nationwide. To obtain a copy of the booklet, send \$5 to cover cost of printing, postage and handling to: Free Enterprise Institute, 100 Government Giveaways, Dept. 100GG-0816, P.O. Box 96071, Washington, D.C. 20090-6071. For more information, call (202) 595-1031 or visit www.FreeEnterpriseInstitute.org on the Internet.

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While Quantities Last

Bush budget heading for House of Representatives

WASHINGTON (AP) — A divided House is ready to embrace a \$1.94 trillion budget outline for next year mapping President Bush's vision of deep tax cuts and curbed spending, even as he duels with Democrats over delivering a fiscal nudge to the economy.

The Republican-led House planned to endorse the budgetary blueprint on Wednesday. It would be the first vote by either chamber of Congress on Bush's overall tax and spending plans, which face a sterner test next week in the evenly divided Senate.

The measure lays the groundwork for Bush's proposed 10-year, \$1.6 trillion tax cut plan, steers \$2.3 trillion toward debt reduction over the same period and limits spending for many programs in 2002 to 4 percent more than this year. That is half the spending growth that lawmakers and former President Clinton approved last year.

"This is an opportunity that only comes around every few years ... to have a watershed budget," House Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle, R-Iowa, said Tuesday as debate began.

The GOP plan also sets aside Medicare surpluses for overhauling that program, including \$153 billion over 10 years for a new prescription drug benefit.

Democrats readied their own budget with a smaller tax cut, more debt reduction and additional money for prescription drugs, aid for schools and other initiatives. Bush's tax cut is so big that if huge surpluses don't materialize as projected, it would force a return to annual federal deficits and erode Medicare's trust fund, they warned.

"It has been too long, too hard getting to where we are to risk it all," said Rep. John Spratt of South Carolina, senior Democrat on the House budget panel.

The Democratic budget was fated for defeat, as were other alternatives by liberals, conservative Democrats and conservative Republicans.

Congress' budget, which does not need the president's signature, maps broad tax and spending goals that are enacted in detailed bills

later. This budget covers fiscal 2002, which begins next Oct. 1.

Bush on Tuesday predicted the economy will "come roaring out of its doldrums" and lambasted Democrats for proposing a mere "pick-me-up" as a stimulus: one-time, \$300-per-taxpayer rebate checks this year.

Bush endorsed the idea of a retroactive tax cut "to get cash into the consumers' hands as swiftly as possible." But he said he would not separate it from his 10-year plan to lower income-tax rates, eliminate the estate tax and reduce other levies.

"If we face facts and act boldly, I'm confident we can build the long-term prosperity we seek," he said in a speech in Kalamazoo, Mich.

For a \$60 billion price tag, Senate Democrats would provide rebates to everyone who pays income or Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes. Only taxpayers — not their dependents — would qualify.

Democrats also would immediately cut the lowest 15 percent income tax rate to 10 percent for the first \$6,000 of income for individuals, \$12,000 for couples. This would produce additional tax savings starting this year, costing the government another \$400 billion over the next decade.

The proposal lets Democrats endorse Bush's goal of invigorating the economy while rejecting his long-term tax cut as too big and skewed toward the rich. They taunted Republicans for rejecting the Democrats' plan.

4-H Tour



(Community Camera photo by Judy Elliott)

Spring break gave area 4-Hers and adult leaders involved in Gray County clothing and textiles project an opportunity to tour Dion's of Texas, a clothing designer and manufacturer in Shamrock. Above: Phyllis White Thunder, Dion's employee, demonstrates a commercial button-holing machine while Tammy Syrett, Linda Smith, Mark Smith and Travis Fish, all of McLean, Gray County Extension Agent Joan Gray, Emily Jackson and Gabriel Miller, both of Lefors, and Kendra Strickland and Joy Hart, both of Pampa, look on.

Dormant oil is murder to mites, other pests

Spring is teasing us with golden warm days and light winds. Will this taunting ever end? Absolutely! But, not today. It has snowed again.

Once again, wrapped in a blanket, the heater warms my feet. Feisty from the cool air, the Cat Brothers flit playfully with the barrier tape around my deconstruction zone.

Daffodils and early tulips bloom outside my doorstep. Their cheerful blossoms dissolve my impatience and grumpiness. With everything, there is a season. This is the season of waiting.

Don't confuse waiting with inactivity. Though we must delay planting petunias, geraniums, squash and tomatoes, many plants grow well in cool weather.

Wise vegetable gardeners plant their early gardens with baby green peas, spinach, strawberries, onions and radishes. Vegetables in the crunchy cabbage family demand cool weather.

The cottonwoods, locusts and redbuds sport a few promising buds. Flushed with color, purple plums and willows brighten the tree house. Planted early, trees and shrubs suffer less transplanting shock.

Eliminating bugs before they hatch is a perfect answer to pest control. Of course, timing is everything. While we wait to plant petunias, bug prevention time is here.

Dormant oil is murder on mites, scales and aphids. This environmentally safe concoction suffocates and prevents insect eggs from developing. Dormant oil works best in temperatures above 45 degrees. Apply to all areas of the plant, especially under leaves and on the branches.

Scale is a disgusting, sucking insect covered with a protective shield. Though lump-like and

immobile, they colonize rapidly. The adult scale protects its eggs with its tough shield. Scale can be removed manually, but a dose of dormant oil is a time and plant saver.



Kathy Davis Morris
GARDEN WISE
(Watson's Garden Center)

Have you ever noticed ants marching up a tree? Or tiny drops of a sticky substance on your car? This is honeydew. Ants lunch on the honeydew excreted by scales and aphids.

Many decades ago, an old uncle planted a huge plot of potatoes. Hordes of potato bugs descended. In desperation, the old man mail-ordered a "guaranteed potato bug killer."

Finally it arrived. Inside were two wooden paddles. The instructions read: "Place potato bug on one paddle. Smash it with the other paddle." I never knew whether he saved the potato crop.

◆◆◆
"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Deadline for nursing conference extended

LUBBOCK — The registration deadline for the annual statewide Nursing Leadership Conference slated April 10-12 at Civic Center Holiday Inn in Lubbock has been extended to April 2. This year's conference, entitled "Staking our Claim: Expanding Territories of Public Health Nursing," is being sponsored by Texas Department of Health.

A wide variety of health care concerns will be addressed at the conference including diabetes management, nursing shortages, recruitment and retention, youth issues and elimination of health disparities.

The keynote speaker will be Texas Board of Health member

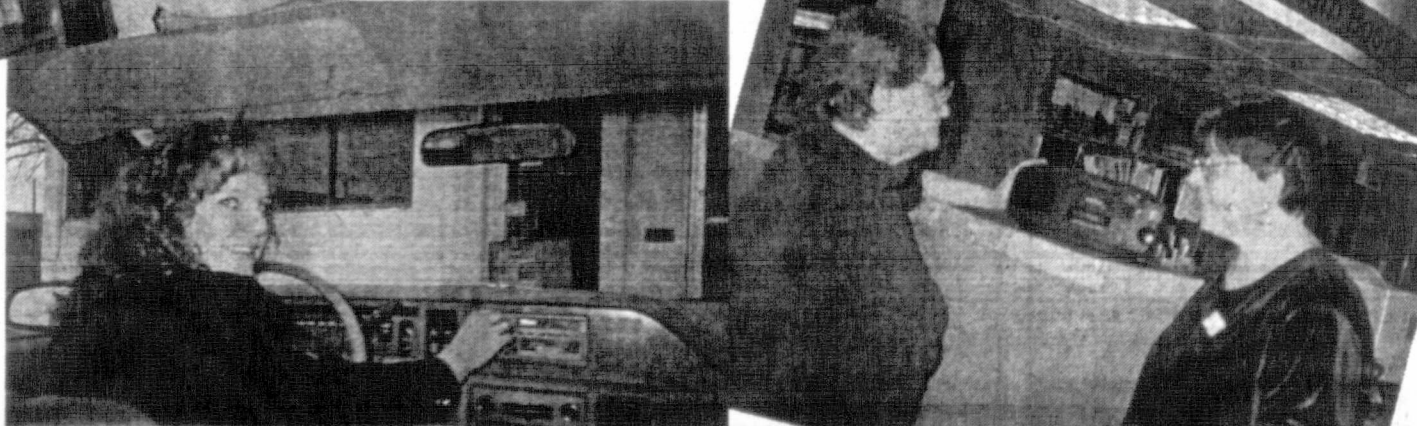
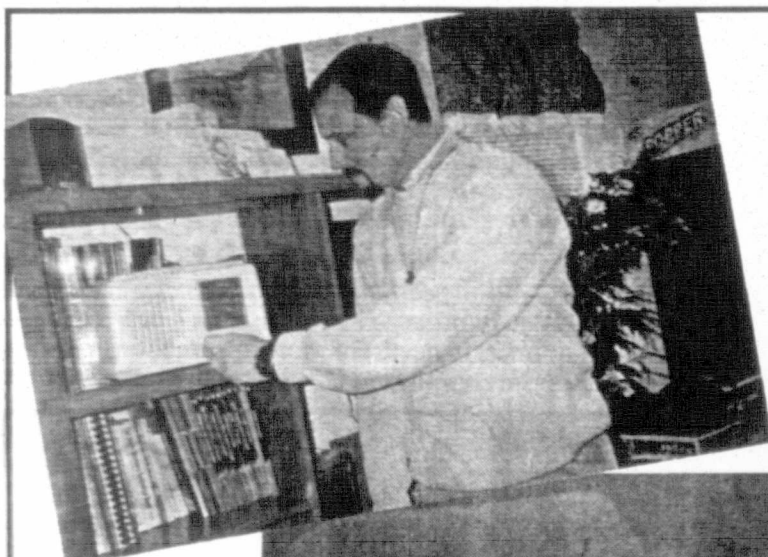
Beverly Robinson, PhD, RN, C, FAAN, who will address conference attendees on "Public Health Nursing: The Perspective for Tomorrow."

Other events scheduled for the Nursing Leadership Conference include the annual Leadership 2001 awards, a series of Luncheon Roundtables, and a "Taste of Lubbock" evening buffet reception.

Nurses attending the event can earn up to 14.6 contact hours.

For more information about the conference or registration, contact TDH Programs' Consultant Sheila Rhodes at (806) 767-0407 or conference coordinator Jay Todd at (512) 458-7771.

A New Sound For The Top O' Texas



PUBLIC RADIO

High Plains Public Radio is ready to bring public radio service to our area. Soon a wealth of commercial-free programming will be available ... programming that includes in-depth news and information, quality classical, jazz and folk music, and a variety of other stimulating and entertaining programs including all the best programs from National Public Radio and Public Radio International.

Public radio will also promote the community by focusing on regional issues of interest, as well as creating a no-cost means of promoting Panhandle Cultural and Educational Events throughout the broadcast area. Our 100,000 watt tower will be centrally located to reach panhandle residents - at home, at work or on the road - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The total funds we need to raise are \$275,065. \$150,000 needs to be pledged before March 31, 2001. To make a pledge please call 1-800-678-7444. This pledge is tax deductible!

Keeping an Eye on Texas

WebFile Brings WebSmiles

Since October of 1998, nearly 81,000 sales tax returns have been filed online through the Comptroller's WebFile system. In October of 2000, WebFile system enhancements earned Texas bragging rights as the first state to implement and combine online registration with immediate filing, payment and confirmation. Texas taxpayers can access WebFile 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

WebFile

WebFile provides:

- ☒ Security and privacy
- ☒ Online registration and immediate filing
- ☒ Interactive Web pages with online help
- ☒ Automatic sales tax calculations
- ☒ Two payment options (WebFile or credit card)
- ☒ Instant filing confirmation

SOURCE: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller (www.window.state.tx.us)

U.S. taste for beef surviving disease outbreaks abroad

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans love their beef.

They spent a record \$52 billion on the red meat in 2000 and ate 70 pounds of it per person. Although concern about livestock diseases in Europe has grown in recent weeks, Americans apparently aren't ready to ignore their cravings for a juicy T-bone just yet.

"I have great faith in the USDA," said Gordon Harvey, 65, of Arlington, Va., who bought some bacon, a pork roast and a steak at the bustling Eastern Market near the U.S. Capitol before heading to the poultry counter.

But, "I wouldn't hesitate to stop buying meat altogether if I thought it was dangerous."

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said Tuesday there are no signs yet that Americans are shunning beef, although they are confusing foot-and-mouth disease with the much rarer and more dangerous mad cow disease.

Mad cow disease has never been found in the United States, officials say. But inspectors for the U.S. Department of Agriculture seized hundreds of imported sheep from two Vermont farms last week — the first such action against any U.S. farm animals — fearing they may be infected with a version of mad cow.

Officials are also eyeing more than two dozen imported cows in Minnesota, Texas and Vermont for signs of the disease, which is linked to a brain-wasting illness in humans.

Foot-and-mouth disease, which is harmless to humans but can be spread by them, was last in the United States in 1929.

Unless one of those diseases hits the United States, consumers are unlikely to change their beef eating habits, some say.

"That fact is, it's not here," said Chuck Levitt, a meat analyst with Alaron Trading Corp. of Chicago. "The American people by and large still feel we have the safest food supply on the planet and by and large we do."

Farmers fear the economic consequences of foot-and-mouth more than the disease itself, as infected pigs, sheep and cows lose their appetite and stop growing and producing milk.

The fast-spreading disease struck Britain in mid-February and has touched France, the Netherlands and Ireland. Argentina also is contending with a new outbreak.

Britain says it has lost \$240 million and the toll in lost trade and

"If England doesn't have any meat, they're going to have to buy it from somewhere," said Tony Heath, owner of Quality Cash Market in Concord, N.H. "They're probably going to buy it from us, and we have just so much, so all prices will rise because of the limited supply."

livestock — which are being destroyed in an effort to contain the spread — could approach \$1 billion.

The United States has banned meat imports from 15 European countries and Argentina until the outbreak is brought under control. U.S. consumers could face higher beef prices at neighborhood butcher shops, grocery stores and restaurants as a result.

"If England doesn't have any meat, they're going to have to buy it from somewhere," said Tony Heath, owner of Quality Cash Market in Concord, N.H. "They're probably going to buy it from us, and we have just so much, so all prices will rise because of the limited supply."

Chuck Boppell, president and chief executive officer of the Sizzler chain of steakhouse restaurants said, "We're seeing the prices on the futures market just go crazy." Contracts for certain cuts of beef, for future delivery, have risen by half, he said.

This comes as beef consumption has been on the upswing after years of decline.

A record \$52 billion was spent on beef last year, up from \$48.7 billion in 1999, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association says.

Americans also ate 69.5 pounds of beef per person last year, reflecting steady but modest increases since 1993, when consumption fell to 65.1 pounds. Even so, Americans ate more chicken last year, 82.1 pounds.

Even the recall last year of nearly 3 million pounds of ground beef and beef products because of possible contamination with dangerous E. coli and listeria bacteria didn't seem to affect U.S. beef-eating habits, Levitt said.

He predicted the jittery economy and rising fuel prices would influence beef consumption more than the outbreaks of animal disease overseas.

Still, mad cow disease worries people, with nearly two-thirds of Americans concerned about it becoming a problem in the United States, says the latest CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll.

Fewer than half of respondents had expressed concern about the disease in an ABC News-Washington Post poll in mid-January.

"I haven't considered it, but if I traveled to other places I'd be concerned about it," said Sylvester Copeland, 64, an Army veteran who enjoys a good "half smoke" sausage. He bought six at Eastern Market, a short walk from his senior citizens' home.

Comparing meat prices at the Washington market, Brenda Bunting of Haleiwa, Hawaii, said she'll worry when, or if, the disease is confirmed in the United States.

"Then I will think it's only a matter of time before it reaches me in Hawaii," she said.

On the Net: National Cattlemen's Beef Association: <http://beef.org>

U.S. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.usda.gov>

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/oa/fmd/index.html>

American Meat Institute: <http://www.meatami.org>

Community Camera 669-2525



Keeping an Eye on Texas

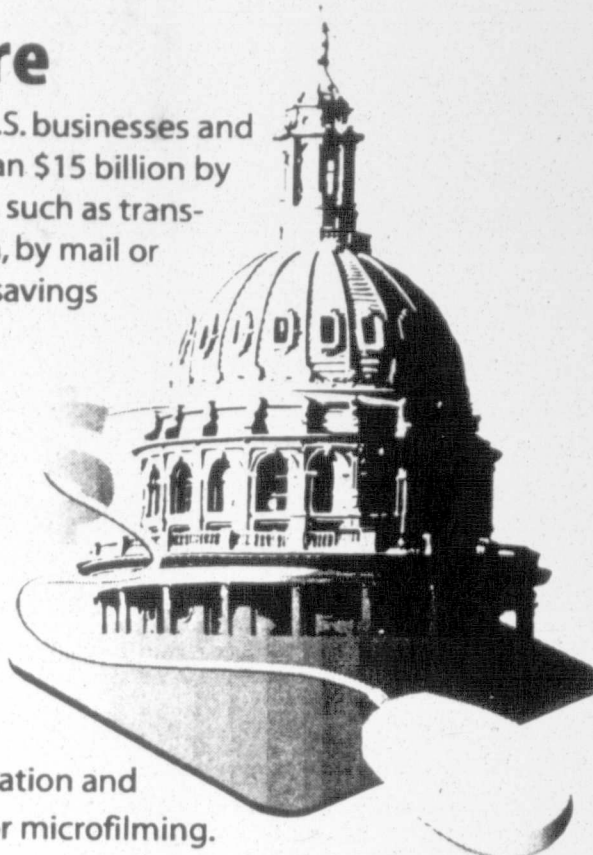
Do Less, Save More

According to a recent research study, U.S. businesses and nonprofit organizations saved more than \$15 billion by using the Internet for various purposes, such as transactions previously conducted in person, by mail or by phone. Researchers estimate these savings will rise to about \$600 billion by 2002.

State and federal government agencies also could reap savings by eliminating or streamlining the following activities through technology:

- error correction,
- manual data entry,
- paper forms handling,
- outdated mail sorting procedures,
- call centers providing basic information and
- physical handling of documents for microfilming.

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller (www.window.state.tx.us), and Giga Information Group.



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BEALLS

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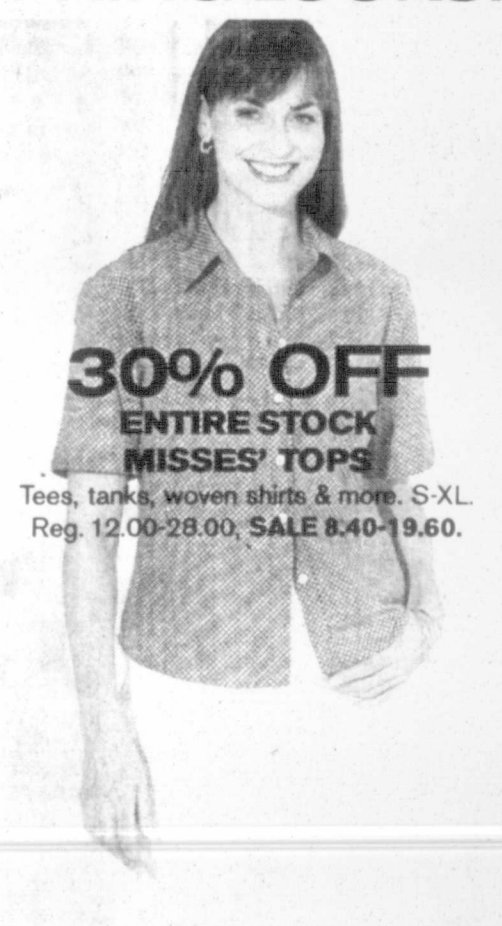
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Principals, psychologists to man education hotline

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Questions on children and education should not be left unanswered. By calling the National Principals' Hotline in April, parents and caregivers can speak directly, but anonymously, with a school principal or school psychologist. On April 8, 9, and 10, 2001, the National Association of Elementary School Principals will hold its 12th annual Hotline for parents, grandparents, or anyone with a question on education or children.

It's a once-a-year, toll-free service. Approximately 150 school principals will staff the phones and computer terminals while they are attending NAESP's annual convention. Their purpose is to ease difficulties and encourage constructive communication between schools and families. Parents who are curious, troubled or simply need some reassurance regarding their child's education may speak confidentially with a principal or get specialized advice from a school psychologist from the National Association of School Psychologists.

Call toll-free, 1-800-944-1601 or e-mail the Hotline by accessing www.naesp.org during the following days and times in your area (Computer users can e-mail on Saturday, April 7): Sunday, April 8, 1-9 p.m.; Monday, April 9, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Tuesday, April 10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Co-sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals, TIAA-CREF and "Family Circle" magazine, the Hotline averages up to 1,000 calls each year from the continental U.S., Hawaii, Alaska and Canada.

Callers ask about a variety of topics including children's reading problems, school discipline, special education policies, testing, learning difficulties, kindergarten entrance and school safety. Calls on any subject are welcome.

The 2001 Hotline originates from San Diego Convention Center where approximately 5,000 K-8 principals will attend their professional meeting. Educators volunteer in two-hour shifts. Callers may also request a free copy of "What Parents Should Look for in Their Child's Elementary School," a booklet produced by NAESP and TIAA-CREF.

Established in 1921, the National Association of Elementary School Principals serves 28,500 K-8 educators in the United States, Canada and overseas. NAESP is located in Alexandria, Va.

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Boy's Drowning in Pool Haunts Those Who Tried to Save Him

DEAR ABBY: I remember the morning being cold. I had arisen early to wash and clean the ambulance. We listened on the radio as our other unit received a call, and I chilled to hear the nature of the response. Without a word or hesitation, my partner and I scrambled to back up their call.

The living room was choked with men, some in fire bunker gear, some in police uniforms. As I brought additional equipment through the crowd, I saw the little boy lying lifeless on the stretcher, his pale skin tinged with blue at the lips.

The paramedic was a trainee, desperately trying to secure the boy's airway and push oxygen into his lungs. A fireman provided compressions to his heart. I glanced out into the back yard and saw an open gate and plastic sheeting strewn across the pool. It was obvious what had happened.

The mother stood paralyzed in the kitchen, unblinking eyes watching for the smallest sign of life. We did an EKG, inserted an IV and did CPR. We were out of the house with him in what seemed seconds, rushing him to the emergency room. Everything appeared to be going as it should.

In the emergency room, the staff moved quickly to treat the small body before them. After all efforts had been expended, the doctor raised a single hand and quietly said, "No."

Silence rippled across the room, even the machines falling quiet.

I walked out of the emergency



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

room, past the parents who alternated between shouting accusations at each other and holding each other as waves of grief overcame them.

I called my brother that night, the one with three children and a big new house with a pool. He probably thought I was strange asking if the gate had been fixed yet.

I keep in touch with the paramedic on that scene, the one who held the boy's life in his hands as it ebbed away. After all these years, we still talk about that tragedy, and it sometimes plays out in our dreams.

Abby, please urge your readers to fence the pool and lock the gate to save the lives of their children.

DAN BERGER, LANCASTER, CALIF.

DEAR DAN: I'm pleased to print your dramatic warning. Children are elusive, and it's impossible to watch them every minute. A child can drown in as little as 3 inches of water. Families with swimming pools must keep them fenced and securely

locked. Otherwise, they are a tragedy waiting to happen.

DEAR ABBY: Your response to "Minneapolis Bride-to-Be," essentially affirming that it is acceptable for her to invite a former brother-in-law to her second wedding, was right on!

It should be the quality of the friendship, rather than some antiquated notion of propriety that guides such decisions.

My fiancée and I happily remain an active part of the lives of our former in-laws. They are good people with whom I developed a relationship over a period of several decades. We not only continue to celebrate holidays and birthdays together, but a table is always reserved for us "outlaws" (aka ex-spouses) at family weddings.

THE MAN FROM MAINE

DEAR MAINE MAN: The "outlaws"? I love it!

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

superior or higher-up. Carefully consider your options. Take a stand, and others will follow. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Aim for what you want. A foreigner or a distant element plays a big role in what happens. Someone you meet today could become instrumental to your well-being and your long-term goals. Express your caring. Don't hold back. Your warmth means a lot to others. Tonight: Where your friends are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Deal with money matters head-on. You have a golden opportunity, or so it seems. Another wants to acknowledge you in a way that means something to you. Your public image blossoms, bringing a special offer or perhaps a pay raise. The only answer is yes. Tonight: In the limelight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Reach out for another. You make a difference on a level that is very special to someone. Another's inner beauty touches you deeply. Choose to take the high road, and detach. Understanding builds between you and a special person. Tonight: Relax with a favorite TV show or movie.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** One-on-one relating rewards you in an unprecedented way. You care about another. Let this person know of your willingness to go out of your way for him. Don't worry so much about a day-to-day matter. Answers surface quickly, thanks to your openness. Tonight: Quality time with a loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** Accept another's caring gesture. This person means well. All sorts of possibilities exist here. Others seek you out to such an extent that you might need to screen your calls. Follow a feeling involving a call or making plans. You will be right on. Tonight: Be with the one you love.

ture. This person means well. All sorts of possibilities exist here. Others seek you out to such an extent that you might need to screen your calls. Follow a feeling involving a call or making plans. You will be right on. Tonight: Be with the one you love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Dig into work. Develop a stronger relationship with a co-worker who means well. Together, you make a strong team. A family member wants to make you more comfortable. Accept his offer. Consider a new addition to your home. Tonight: Get some exercise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** You have a gentle way with a special person in your life. Express your caring in a way that counts. Your loving, nurturing side emerges, making others feel more comfortable. Let your imagination flow into your work as well as into your personal life. Tonight: Enjoy yourself wherever you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** An expense proves to be worthwhile. A family member expresses caring. Build security around an investment that might involve real estate. Right now, your instincts serve you well. You make the right decision at the right moment. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

BORN TODAY
Model Elle MacPherson (1964), former president John Tyler (1790), singer Pearl Bailey (1918)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
© 2001 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Horoscope

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2001

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
5-Dynamic; 4-Positive;
3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

***** Speak your mind. A dream might have a lot to do with your choices. You can mobilize your energy and express it in a way that moves others. Agreement finally occurs naturally. Express your affection so that it means something to another. Do nothing halfway. Tonight: Out at a favorite spot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Your intuition about another plays a big role in your actions. Be careful with someone you meet today. While very attractive, this person is not what he seems. Be careful about making decisions. You could be overly sensitive. Tonight: Treat yourself to something new.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** You bloom in the present atmosphere. Ask for more of what you want and need. A friendship could be developing into a lot more. Reach out for another. Make an effort to share more of yourself. Go for what you want. No one will block you now. Tonight: It's your call.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Step back and think before you take a stand with someone. One-on-one relating takes you to a new level with a

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Rat's

home

5 Fancy

eggs

11 Silly song

12 God of

sunlight

13 Swimmer

Biondi

14 BB, e.g.

15 Yale

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16 Speech

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16 Golf
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18 Harrow
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20 Press
21 Big book
22 Headliner
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33 Colorless
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34 Some bills
36 Protracted
37 Church
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38 Gear part
39 Mimic
40 Convened
41 Haggard
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Yesterday's answer

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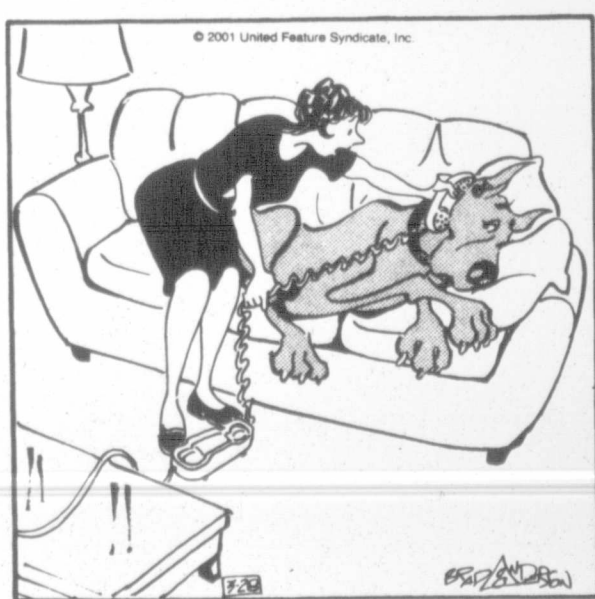
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35 In the

style of

Marmaduke



"Do me a favor...bark when I'm off hold."

The Family Circus



"I thought I was gonna sneeze, but my nose was wrong."

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



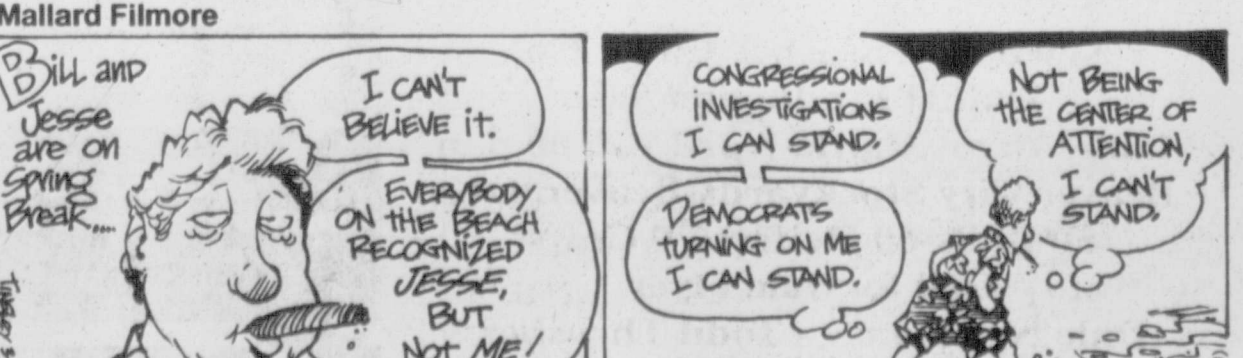
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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SPORTS

Notebook

GENERAL

PALESTINE, Texas (AP) — Illegal catches of fish and poaching of game have prompted state wildlife officials to conduct their own hunt — this time, for dozens of accused perpetrators.

Twenty-three East Texans and one juvenile were arrested Tuesday for catching fish by electrifying the water and other offenses.

Two more suspects were expected to surrender Wednesday. Four others were still being sought but were expected to be in custody within the week, law officers said.

The arrests capped a three-year undercover investigation called Operation Yard Dog by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department game wardens into illegal fishing activity on the Trinity River.

Department spokeswoman Lydia Saldana said the illegal activity, which included more than 200 offenses, occurred at a fishing camp in the community of Yard on the Trinity River in northwest Anderson County.

Cmdr. Larry Williford of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said it took undercover wardens close to a year to gain the confidence of those in the camp before they were invited to participate in the fishing trips.

During the trips, an electronic stun device was used to catch blue and yellow catfish along a 20-mile stretch of the Trinity River.

Called a zapper, the device is small enough to fit in a pill box. Wardens said the units are constructed with \$10 worth of parts available from electronics stores.

Connected to a 12-volt battery and a frayed extension cord dragged behind a boat, the device is capable of pulling up fish from as much as 50 yards away.

"There were some days we didn't catch anything in January. They don't work when it is cold," one of the undercover wardens said in Wednesday's editions of the Tyler Morning Telegraph. "When they worked, we would get at least 13. The most we ever got was about a thousand pounds."

While a few of the fish were believed to have been sold, wardens said most of the fish were kept by the group.

Charges ranged from catching fish with an electricity-producing device, a Class B misdemeanor, to possession of improperly-tagged deer, taking wildlife resources without the consent of the owner, possession of an alligator without a license and possession of an illegally taken game bird.

BASEBALL

PAMPA — Pampa Kids & Youth Club will be having baseball signups through April 6 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Baker Elementary. Additional signups will be held March 31 at United Supermarkets and Frank's Foods from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

From 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., another signup will be held April 7 at Baker Elementary.

For more information, call Peter Rodriguez at 669-6023 or Robert Saiz at 669-1740.

Flashback

1966: Pampa's Gary Crossland and Doc Cornutt both brought home third place medals from the Amarillo Track and Field Relays. Crossland placed third in the broad jump and Cornutt was third in the shot put. They were the top finishers for the Harvesters.

Banks is quarterback of the future for Dallas

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Tony Banks is the quarterback of the future for the Dallas Cowboys.

Banks agreed Tuesday to a one-year, \$500,000 deal to become the successor to Troy Aikman, who won three Super Bowls in his 12 seasons.

Considered Baltimore's quarterback of the future about a year ago, Banks instead went from being the starter to Trent Dilfer's backup as the Ravens won the Super Bowl last season. He was cut this month because of salary cap concerns.

"They have a lot of history, and no one thinks of Dallas as rebuilding," Banks said on the Cowboys' Web site, where the team announced the deal. "More or less reloading. That's

part of why it's attractive to me. I don't want to be on a rebuilding team. I don't want to have to be the savior again."

Cowboys vice president Stephen Jones and Banks' agent, Marvin Demoff, finalized the salary cap-friendly contract while both were at the NFL owners meetings in Palm Desert, Calif.

"We think he's going to fit in well in our offensive system," Jones said. "Our coaches are excited about getting him in here."

The Cowboys' offensive coordinator is Jack Reilly, who was quarterback coach in St. Louis when the Rams took Banks out of Michigan State in the second round of the 1996 draft.

The Cowboys cut Aikman this month for salary cap reasons and health concerns.

Aikman was due a \$7 million bonus and an extension through 2007 if he was still been on the Dallas roster March 8. The 34-year-old quarterback played in only eight games last year because of two concussions and a chronic back problem. He had four concussions in his last 20 starts.

The Cowboys have \$23 million counting against their salary cap this year for players no longer on the roster. That includes at least \$10 million for Aikman.

The 27-year-old Banks was cut by the Ravens on March 1, just before he would have been

due \$2.8 million on a four-year, \$18.6 million contract he signed in February 2000.

Banks visited the Cowboys on March 6, the day before Aikman was released. No other free-agent quarterback visited the Valley Ranch facility.

In his five-year NFL career, Banks has started 61 games. Last season, he completed 150 of 274 passes (55 percent) for 1,578 yards, eight touchdowns and eight interceptions.

Banks played three seasons in St. Louis before being traded to Baltimore in 1999, when he threw a career-high 17 touchdown passes.

Steve Beuerlein, recently waived by Carolina and coming off reconstructive surgery on

his left shoulder, also was considered by the Cowboys. The 36-year-old Beuerlein played for Dallas in 1991 and 1992.

The Cowboys didn't have salary cap room to claim Ryan Leaf off waivers and couldn't work out a trade to get him from Tampa Bay.

Before Banks, the only quarterbacks on the Cowboys roster were Anthony Wright and Clint Stoerner. Wright started and lost the last two games last season, and Stoerner was 3-for-5 passing in his only game last season.

Veteran Randall Cunningham was also with Dallas last season, but he met performance incentives in his contract that made him a free agent.

Pampa beats Dumas in District 3-4A clash

DUMAS — Michael Galloway's two-RBI single gave Pampa a 2-0 win over Dumas in a District 3-4A baseball game Tuesday night.

The victory was Pampa's first in district play after two losses. Dumas is 0-2 in district.

The contest boiled down to pitching duel between Pampa's Adam Jones and Dumas' Marcus Simpson with Galloway's base rap making the difference.

With the bases full and one out in the third, Galloway, a junior catcher, delivered his hit that gave Pampa a 2-0 lead.

Both Jones and Simpson went the full seven innings on the mound. Jones, a junior left-hander, struck out 15, walked 5 and gave up 4 hits. Simpson whiffed 17 while walking 4 and also giving up 4 hits.

Jones record is now 2-3 for the season. Simpson is 2-4.

Adam Wright, Kyle Francis and Jones each had base hits for the Harvesters.

Brandon Stroebel had two hits to lead Dumas.

Pampa, 7-13 for the season, hosts Caprock at 1 p.m. for more district action.

Hereford, the district leader at 3-0, defeated Caprock 8-4 on Tuesday.

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Some of the biggest names in baseball will be dealing with doctors on opening day.

Nomar Garciaparra and John Smoltz admitted Tuesday they won't be ready for the start of the season next week, and Ken Griffey Jr. and Derek Jeter might be headed to the DL, too.

Kevin Brown (Achilles' tendon), Orlando Hernandez (elbow) and David Cone (shoulder) also are ailing. They would join Kris Benson (elbow), Charles Nagy (elbow), Jarret Wright (shoulder) and John Valentin (knee).

And Albert Belle will be there, too, his career ended by an arthritic hip.

Garciaparra is likely to miss at least the first 2 1/2 months of the season — and possibly up to four months — because of an injured right wrist.

The Boston Red Sox shortstop said Tuesday the probability of surgery is "extremely high." The two-time defending AL batting

Baseball

champion, who split a tendon in the wrist when he was hit by a pitch from Baltimore's Al Reyes in September 1999, is to meet with the team doctor.

"It seems like we've kind of exhausted a lot of our options right now," Garciaparra said.

Though decision has been made, Garciaparra sounded as if he was resigned to an operation. He hasn't batted this spring.

"It's going to be hard not being part of baseball, period," he said. "You're watching your team play, and you want to be out there with them."

Griffey won't play for the rest of spring training, and his status for opening day is in doubt.

He pulled his left hamstring while rounding third base Monday and had to be helped off the field. The leg was swollen on Tuesday, when he got several hours of treatment.

"We're not looking at putting him on the disabled list," Dr. Timothy Kremchek said. "Right now, I truly believe there's a possibility he'll play on opening day. We're going to do everything we can to get him in the best shape we possibly can."

"On the other hand, we're not going to do something that's going to allow him to hurt himself on opening day, just to play that one particular game."

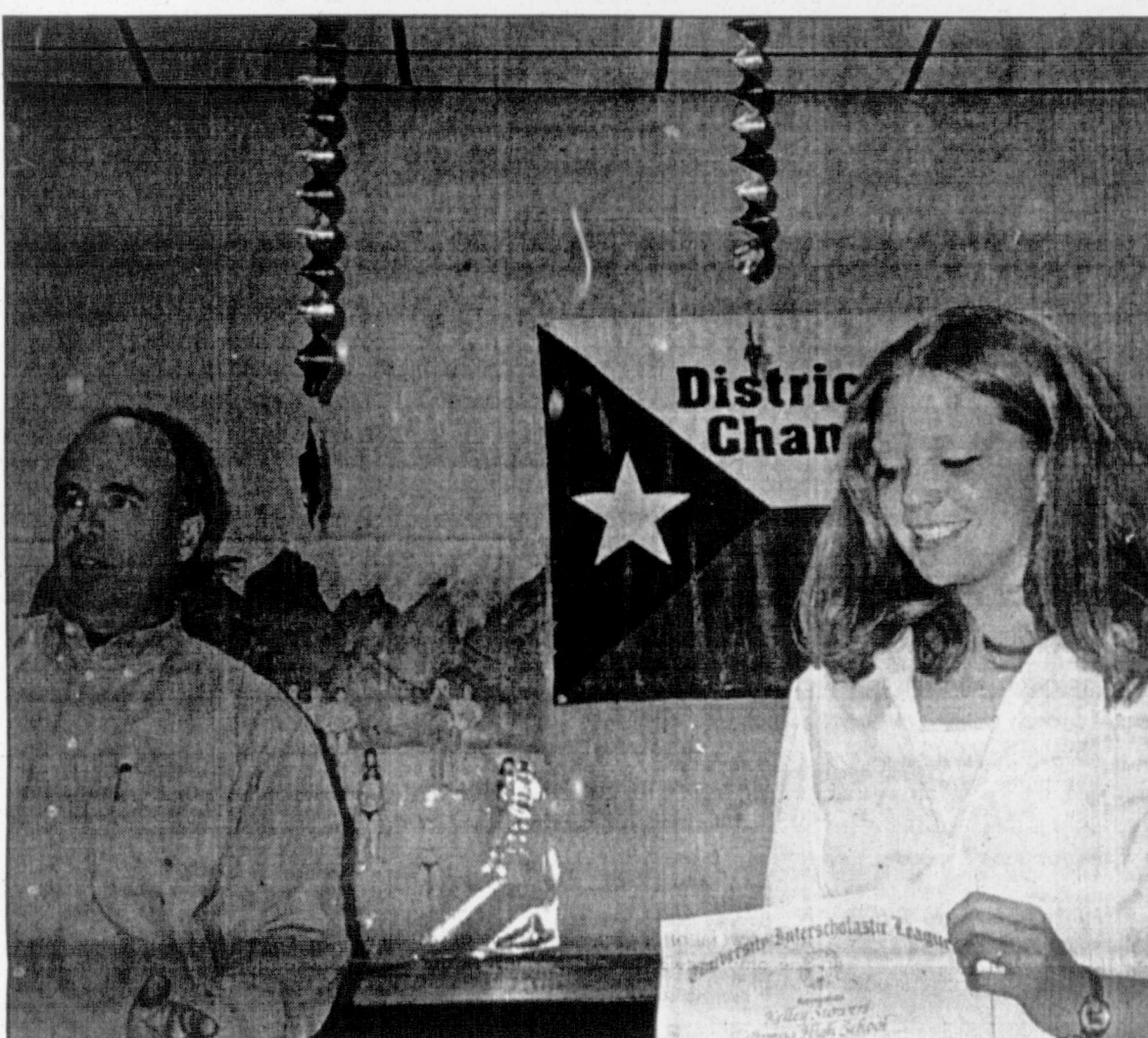
Smoltz, who missed all of last year following reconstructive elbow surgery, will miss at least two starts. He threw for 10 minutes in the bullpen Tuesday.

"My arm will always be the indicator, and today it was really good," Smoltz said. "I tried to approach it like a game." Jeter, sidelined since March 16 by a strained right quadriceps, was the designated hitter Tuesday in an exhibition game for the Class-A Tampa Yankees and went 3-for-7 with a solo homer and was hit by a pitch.

Still, manager Joe Torre said his shortstop is likely headed to the DL.

"I'm leaning that way only because it's probably safer to do that for me in my mind," Torre said. "I don't want to be sorry. He's getting better. If it's going to cost him a week, let it be that way."

Comeback athlete



(Pampa News photo by Lance Burton)

Comeback athlete Kelley Stowers receives her UIL Region 1 Swimming and Diving Certificate at this week's Pampa High School Swim Team Banquet. Stowers overcame a near-fatal battle with Toxic Shock syndrome to re-join the swim team. She was a member of the state-qualifying 400-meter freestyle relay team. Also shown is swim team supporter Roger David, who introduced the guests at the banquet.

Harvester JV wins tennis tourney

DUMAS — The Pampa junior varsity tennis team won the first-place Team Trophy last weekend at the Dumas Small School Tournament.

The schools participating with Pampa JV were Borger JV, Boys Ranch, Canadian Canyon JV, Caprock JV, Dumas JV, Gruver, Palo Duro JV, Perryton, Randall, Sunray and Vega.

The Harvester JV was led by sophomores Kevin Turner and Josh Nachtigall, who won the boys' doubles.

Girls Singles
Ashley Willis: def. Alicia Grandon (B) 8-4; def. Ashley Sheperd (C) 6-2, 6-2; lost to Resa Diaz (PD), 6-0, 6-0; def.

Lindsey Wilkens (PT), won by default.
Vanessa Orr: lost to Tessa Dollar (PT) 8-5; def. Missy McClish (BR) 8-3; lost to Trudy Hazlett (S) 8-6; lost to Amanda Davis (R) 8-3.

Liz West: def. Lesley Francis (CD) 8-4; def. Nancy Kovinsky (PD) 8-0; lost to Courtney Parsley (C), won by default.

Girls Doubles
Stephanie Nelson-Shelly Smith def. Lair-Mitchell (S) 8-6; def. Gage-Ragsdale (PT) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1; lost to Isaac-Gallett (Ca) 8-2.

Erin Norris-Katie Shaffer def. Flores-Lunkin (G) 8-2; def. Snyder-Forrest (Ca) 8-4; lost to Patton-Lunt (6-4, 4-6, 6-2); def. Hutcherson-Comb (CY) 8-6; def. Gage-Ragsdale (PD) 8-6.

Brianna Bailey-Natalie McVay: lost to Miller-Edwards (R) 9-7; lost to Avery-Patterson (BR) 8-6; def. Schroder-Grain (B) 8-2; def. Acklin-Baldiver (CP) 8-5.

Boys Doubles

Josh Nachtigall-Kevin Turner def. Moore-Weston (R) 8-0; def. Daves-Foster (PT) 8-4; def. Heatole-Heatwole (Ca.) 6-3, 6-3; def. Green-Frye (D) 6-2, 6-2; def. Nelson-Etchison (PT) 8-5.

Stephen Nelson-Adam Etchison def. Miner-Barvindy (G) 8-3; def. Bittner-Hatter (D) 6-3, 6-4; def. Joynes-Gentzel, won by default; lost to Nachtigall-Turner (P) 8-5.

Boys Singles

Tyler Howard def. Nathan Farmer (R) 8-3; lost to Maurice Davis (BR) 8-6; def. Josh Castor (PT) 8-2; def. Tyson Harper (S) 8-2; def. Chase Bixeman (CP) 8-3.

Britton White def. Jonathan Green (Borger) 8-3; lost to Blake Kozak (D) 8-4; def. Paul Lipzy (BR) 8-5.

THE Pampa NEWS

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Dr. Howard Batson To Preach

Pastor Of First Baptist Church

Amarillo, Texas



At First United Methodist Church

Pampa, Texas • 201 E. Foster • April 8-10

Andretti has unfinished business at Indy Speedway

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Michael Andretti has unfinished business at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Absent since the formation of the Indy Racing League five years ago, Andretti will return in May with the new Motorola-Andretti team formed by CART team owner Barry Green.

"Had I won this race, maybe I wouldn't be going through the effort I am now to try to do what we're doing, because it's going to be a lot of hard work," Andretti said Tuesday. "I'm not kidding myself."

"I'm doing it because I've never won at this place, and my age is saying, 'You're running out of chances.'"

The son of 1969 Indy winner Mario Andretti is 38.

Andretti has won a record 40 CART races. Like his father 19 years before, Andretti was Indy's Rookie of the Year in 1984 — when he shared the award with Roberto Guerrero. Three times, Andretti has dropped out while leading the race. In 1992, he was in front with just 10 laps remaining.

"I don't like to call it a jinx," he said of his failure to win at Indy in 11 tries. "I use 'luck' because that's the easiest thing to say. It's just the way things have happened."

"But taking five years off has erased that, cleaned that whole thing off so now we're starting fresh."

Green also owns the Team Green cars driven in CART by Paul Tracy and Dario Franchitti, who are not racing at Indy. The joint effort at Indianapolis will put Andretti behind the wheel of a Dallara-Oldsmobile, with the work being done at the IRL Panther Racing team's Indianapolis shop.

Andretti was fourth in the CART season-opener in Mexico, and confirmed two weeks ago that Green was trying to put the deal together.

"When we signed the contract, Barry knew one of the things I wanted was to drive at Indianapolis, and he put together a great effort — a winning effort, I think," Andretti said.

Andretti tested an IRL car last

weekend in Homestead, Fla.

"The cars are quite different. The weight and horsepower are different. It took a bit to get used to that," he said. "But we made the car feel pretty good. And it felt really comfortable."

Andretti said his feeling about the IRL has changed since the league was founded five years ago.

"I talked to a lot of people and started to understand what the IRL is about, and I like the direction they're going," he said. "There's always going to be two series. We have to accept that."

"I definitely said some things that were probably wrong at the beginning, but that was more from emotion because I wasn't going to be at the Indianapolis

500." The CART boycott began to crumble last year, when Ganassi Racing returned to Indy and won with driver Juan Montoya. Ganassi and Penske Racing, whose drivers have won a record 10 Indy 500s, already have said they will enter the race this year.

"It was really tough, especially the last few years because I started to feel like I was never going to get back here," Andretti said. "Last year was tough and when I saw Juan win I thought I could at least have kept him honest. I thought, 'This is not fair. I need to be there, too.'"

Al Unser Jr., a two-time Indy winner and former driver for Penske, joined the IRL last year with Galles Racing.

Ganassi last week entered four cars for rookies Bruno Junqueira and Nicolas Minassian, who last season finished 1-2 in the Formula 3000 series. Montoya left Ganassi to drive this season in Formula One.

Andretti, whose best finish at Indianapolis was second to Rick Mears in 1991, has led more laps than any driver who has never won the world's richest auto race.

"A lot of fans are excited and intrigued by this," speedway president Tony George said of Andretti's return. "We were happy when Ganassi came back last year, and hopefully this signals that things are starting to stabilize and we can coexist (with CART)."

Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

NFL Realignment Plans

PALM DESERT, Calif. (AP) — Seven plans under consideration for realignment when Houston reports the NFL for the 2002 season. There are other plans also under consideration.

OPTION A1

NFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

AFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

South

Atlanta, Carolina, New Orleans, Tampa Bay

North

Chicago, Detroit, Green Bay, Minnesota

West

Arizona, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle

AFC

East: Buffalo, Miami, New England, New York Jets

South

Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Tennessee

North

Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh

West

Denver, Kansas City, Oakland, San Diego

OPTION A2

NFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

AFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

South

Atlanta, Carolina, New Orleans, Tampa Bay

North

Chicago, Detroit, Green Bay, Minnesota

West

Arizona, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle

AFC

East: Buffalo, Miami, New England, New York Jets

South

Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Tennessee

North

Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh

West

Denver, Kansas City, Oakland, San Diego

OPTION A3

NFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

AFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

South

Atlanta, Carolina, New Orleans, Tampa Bay

North

Chicago, Detroit, Green Bay, Minnesota

West

Arizona, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle

AFC

East: Buffalo, Miami, New England, New York Jets

South

Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Tennessee

North

Baltimore, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh

West

Denver, Kansas City, Oakland, San Diego

OPTION A4

NFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

AFC

East: Dallas, New York Giants, Philadelphia, Washington

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OPTION A2

NFC

High Court to decide if patients can get illegal drug

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seriously ill people who claim marijuana is nothing short of a miracle drug are watching anxiously as the Supreme Court examines whether the drug may be dispensed legally.

The court's watershed ruling, expected by June, likely will settle whether patients may get marijuana as a "medical necessity" even though it is an illegal drug under federal law.

A ruling for the Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club would allow special marijuana clubs to resume distributing the drug in California, which passed one of the nation's first medical marijuana laws in 1996.

A ruling for the federal government would not negate the California voter initiative, but would effectively prevent clubs like Oakland's from distributing the drug.

A vocal assortment of interest groups and activists supporting the use of marijuana as medical treatment have mounted an energetic public relations campaign ahead of Tuesday's oral arguments.

"No matter what the Supreme Court does, the medical marijuana movement has won," said Kevin Zeese, president of Common Sense for Drug Policy, a group promoting medical marijuana use and reform of drug laws generally.

"There is no way the federal government can put this genie back in the bottle," Zeese said.

A ruling against the club would mean the government could prosecute distributors aggressively in federal court, regardless of whether states have approved medical marijuana use. That would force providers underground or out of business altogether, advocates of medical marijuana say.

Gerald Uelman, lawyer for the Oakland club, said he is optimistic the court will see the case not as a referendum on medical marijuana, but as a rather ordinary legal examination of whether lower federal courts used their powers correctly. That would leave aside grander constitutional challenges to a 1970 federal drug law that found no medical use for marijuana.

"We're trying to structure the argument as narrowly as possible in this case," Uelman said. "We want the court to render a very narrow decision."

California Attorney General Bill Lockyer is backing the Oakland club, arguing that the state has the right to enforce its law allowing seriously ill patients to use marijuana.

Some patients and doctors say the drug relieves nausea, improves energy levels and helps combat the symptoms of ailments ranging from cancer to AIDS to glaucoma and multiple sclerosis.

The Clinton administration sued the Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club and five other California distribution clubs in 1998, arguing that the clubs broke federal drug law by distributing, and in some cases growing, marijuana for medical use.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer, brother of Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, sided with the government. All the clubs except for the Oakland group eventually closed down, and the Oakland club turned to registering potential marijuana recipients while it awaited a final ruling.

Last year, an appeals court revived the case by ruling that "medical necessity" is a legal defense.

Before leaving office, the Clinton administration appealed to the Supreme Court.

The government said the Oakland club flouted the law and continued to distribute marijuana after an order to stop. Then-Solicitor General Seth Waxman also rejected the notion that marijuana could be a medical necessity, and said Congress had spoken clearly on the issue in a broad 1970 law that regulated drug distribution.

A lower court "may not override those determinations by reweighing the scientific and medical data and social policies considered by Congress, the attorney general and the secretary of Health and Human Services, and concluding that the public interest supports the illegal distribution of marijuana," Waxman wrote in legal papers.

Another Justice Department attorney will argue Tuesday's case for the government. President Bush's choice to succeed Waxman, Theodore Olson, has not yet been confirmed by the Senate.

Justice Breyer will not hear the Supreme Court case nor participate as the other eight justices consider their ruling. Should the court divide 4-4, the appeals court ruling would stand and the marijuana club would be back in business.

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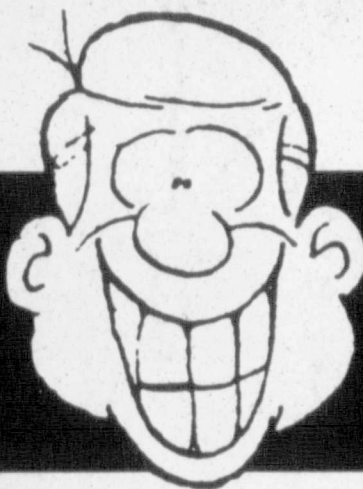
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3 Personal

BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

5 Special Notices

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7 Auction

NEWMAN-THRASHER Cattle Co., Annual Sale, April 1, 2pm. Beaver, Ok. Maine/Angus Bulls and Females. Dale Newman (316) 624-1068.

13 Bus. Opp.

AMERICA'S #1 Truck Driver Training Program
*Earn \$800-\$900 A Week Plus Benefits When Trained!
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Experience-Not Required
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14b Appli. Repair

HAPPINESS IS Good Operating Appliances. Call William's Appliance, 665-8894.
B&B Electric, 779-3252, 779-2517, 800-834-6058. Service on all appliances, in or out of warranty.

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BASEMENT repairs, faux finishes, concrete, ceramic tile, shower & repair. Little Houses, Inc. 662-9520.

CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / commercial Deaver Construction, 665-0447.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, all types of home repairs. 25 years local experience. Jerry Reagan 669-3943

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NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost. It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

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

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling, 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, Tx.

14n Painting

50 yrs. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm., residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214

14r Plowing/Yard

LAWN Care: Call Family Lawn Care for all your lawn maintenance needs. 665-3257

TC Lawn Service-mowing, rototilling, tree trimming, flowerbeds, clean-up. Reas. 665-1102

TREE & shrub trimming, tree feeding, yard & alley cleanup, rain gutter cleaning & repair, caulk cracks in driveways. 665-3672

14s Plumbing/Heat

CHIEF Plastic Pipe & Supply-pipe, water heaters, sump tanks, plumbing supplies. 665-6716.

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. faucets, plumbing supplies, new const., repair, remodeling, sewer/drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

14t Radio/Tv

RENT TO RENT TO OWN We have TVs, VCRs, camcorders to suit your needs. Rent by hour, day, week. We do service on most major brand of TVs & VCRs. Call for estimate. Johnson Home Entertainment, 2211 Perryton Pkwy. 665-0504.

ATTENTION Owner-Operator Regional heavy oil transporter needs owner-operators who live within 75 miles of the Pampa/Borger area for year round haul. Earn 70% of gross revenue and safety bonuses. Must be 23 yrs. of age with Class A CDL with X endorsement and clean driving record. For more information call 1-800-725-3635.

ST. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle has the following positions open: PT 3-11 LVN & CNA, PT 3-11 CNA, PRN LVN's & CNA's all shifts. Apply in person or call Andi @ 537-3194.

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

ATTENTION Owner-Operator Regional heavy oil transporter needs owner-operators who live within 75 miles of the Pampa/Borger area for year round haul. Earn 70% of gross revenue and safety bonuses. Must be 23 yrs. of age with Class A CDL with X endorsement and clean driving record. For more information call 1-800-725-3635.

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21 Help Wanted

ABSOLUTELY free info! Earn online income \$2,000-\$5,000 mo. www.budget4life.com.

SEASONAL Golf Course Maintenance Workers needed. Hidden Hills Golf Course, \$5.15-\$7. Contact J.K. 669-5867 for appli.

PAID Nursery Worker position avail. If interested, fill out appli., Trinity Fellowship, 1200 S. Sumner, or call Sheila 669-6995.

ATTENTION: Need help, \$500-\$1500 pt. \$2000-\$6000 ft. 877-853-2760.

SIVALL'S Inc. needs welder / fabricators. Welding & drug test req. 800-665-7111, Pampa, Tx.

HOMEWORKERS needed \$635 wkl. processing mail. Easy! No exp. 888-393-3164 ext. 1025 24 hrs

WORK from home \$500/\$5000 PT/FT. Free booklet. 877-509-5856.

LOOKING for someone to work every Saturday. Must be 18 yrs. Apply at Bartlett's Ace Hdwe., 500 W. Brown.

NEEDED man to assist with lawn mowing business. Call 662-1568 leave message.

CNA's All Shifts. Pampa Nursing Center Apply In Person 1321 W. Kentucky EOE

LVN's All Shifts Pampa Nursing Center Apply In Person 1321 W. Kentucky EOE

RN's All Shifts Pampa Nursing Center Apply In Person 1321 W. Kentucky EOE

PART Time Mail Clerk. M-F 9am-1pm. Must have reliable transportation. Will train. Apply in person only. 200 N. Cuyler.

NEED experienced riggers/operators & logger/perforating engineers in Weatherford, OK. We offer health ins., 401K & other benefits. Call Michael at 580-772-8133.

WAITRESSES needed. All shifts. Apply in person. No phone calls. Texas Rose Steakhouse.

EXP. tank truck driver & drip truck driver w/ Class A CDL & HAZMAT. Apply 129 S. Price Rd., Triangle Well Service. 665-8459.

CLERK NEEDED, Bel-Mart, 1020 E. Frederic. Management exp. a plus!

NURSE Aide positions: evening and night shift, part-time and full-time. Certification Classes avail. at facility, no cost to employees. Contact Cecilia Alvarez, McLean Care Center, 605 W. 7th, McLean, Tx. 806-779-2469.

CNA's, LVN's & RN's Coronado Healthcare Center is looking for employees who share our New Administrative Team's high standards of excellence. If quality healthcare is your goal, you need to join our team. Please contact our new DON Teresa or our new Administrator Bobby at 665-5746.

FULL-time laborer needed. Apply in person at 120 S. Hobart, West Texas Landscape. No phone calls please.

21 Help Wanted

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21 Help Wanted

CALDWELL Production needs oil field pulling unit floor hands. Competitive wages, plus incentive bonus & steady work. 6 pd. holidays, plus 1 wk. pd. vacation per year. Hwy 60 West of Pampa. 665-8888.

AVAILABLE Immediately Charge Nurse positions. Full-time and part-time positions. LVN or RN. Salary based on license, shift and exp. Contact Cindy Lee RN or Cecilia Alvarez, LVN at McLean Care Center, 605 W. 7th, McLean, Tx. 779-2469.

WEEKEND RN Supervisor, alternating weekends. Salary negotiable. Contact Cindy Lee or Cecilia Alvarez, McLean Care Center, 605 W. 7th, McLean, Texas, 779-2469.

IMMEDIATE opening for Accounts Payable Clerk. Exp. preferred. Requires much data entry and good telephone skills. Excellent benefits. Applications / Resumes being accepted at W-B Supply Co., 111 N. Naida st., Pampa, EOE.

Receptionist with good people skills and professionalism. Ability to handle heavy multi-line phone system. Exp. with Windows, MS Office, light bookkeeping skills. Salary negotiable. Based on exp. also. Exp. on Full Charge Bookkeeper, heavy bookkeeping skills, exp. with MS Office, Windows, Salary negotiable based on exp. Mail Resume to Box 17, Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

NURSERY Worker needed Sunday & Wednesday evenings. Must be 18. Call 669-3144.

JOB Opportunity-Drive-up Teller Must be proficient on 10-key. Apply at National Bank of Commerce, Pampa. NBC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

49 Pools/Hot Tubs 24 Round Pool-display demo with pump & filter. 40% Off. (806) 358-9597.

5 Person Spa-display as new. Only one left. Warranty, will deliver. (806) 358-9597.

50 Building Suppl. White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

HOUSTON LUMBER 420 W. Foster 669-6881

55 Landscaping WEST Texas Landscape & Irrigation. Residential & commercial. 669-0158, mobile 663-1277

60 Household JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS Rent 1 piece or house full Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom 801 W. Francis 665-3361

MUST sell 5 piece living room suite & 2 swivel rockers. Call 665-5117.

WOOD Roll-Top Desk. Late 1800's Armoire, din table w/4 rolling chairs, lighted hutch, Brunswick Pine Hearst oversized pool table. 665-3084 aft. 4pm.

68 Antiques

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21 Help Wanted

DELIVERY Personnel needed. CDL Class A preferred. Will train. Mostly day trips-home weekends. Crane or backhoe exp. helpful. W&W Fiberglass Tank Co., Pampa, Tx. 1-800-882-2776, 669-1128.

AMBERS is now hiring full and part time cook, servers and dishwashers. Apply in person. No phone calls.

INTERNET ACCESS-The leading Internet Service provider in the Eastern Texas Panhandle. PAMPA CYBER NET 1319 N. HOBART PAMPA, TEXAS 806-665-8501

ANTIQUE Clock Repair, auth. by Ridgeway & Howard Miller. Larry Norton, 669-7916 aft. 5.

Memory Gardens of Pampa assigning FREE Cemetery Spaces to local VETERANS that qualify and do not own cemetery property SPACES are limited Call today to receive yours 665-8921

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

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BRIEFS

Regulators approve rate hikes of up to 46 percent

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Amid the jeers of protesters, the five-member Public Utilities Commission approved increases that allow the state's largest two utilities to raise rates as much as 46 percent. The commission said the increases were necessary to head off more blackouts and to keep the cash-starved utilities from going under. The rate hikes approved for Pacific Gas and Electric and Southern California Edison, effective immediately, are the largest in California history. The hikes come on top of a 9 percent to 15 percent increase the PUC approved in January and an additional 10 percent scheduled for next year. Protesters have labeled them a "rip-off" that could hit as many as 10 million homes and businesses fighting to stay cool amid rolling blackouts and spiraling energy costs. The rate hikes could effect as many as 25 million Californians.

U.S. vetoes resolution backing U.N. observer force

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — In its first U.N. veto since 1997, the United States heeded a call from Israel and killed a resolution backing a U.N. observer force to help protect Palestinians, who have largely been the victims in six months of Mideast violence. Palestinians reacted with disgust Tuesday to the first U.S. veto in four years, saying it reflected badly on the Bush administration. After five days of around-the-clock negotiations, the Palestinians had secured the nine votes they needed to pass the measure in the 15-member U.N. Security Council. The four European council members — Britain, France, Norway and Ireland — abstained, and

Ukraine didn't cast a vote.

Quick tax relief could help ailing economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Providing Americans with an additional \$60 billion of spending power this year through accelerated tax relief should deliver a sizable shot in the arm to the sluggish economy. That's the view of private economists, who were generally supportive of new ideas being pushed on Capitol Hill to speed up tax relief by sending a \$300 rebate check to every American taxpayer and by changing tax withholding levels. Some said those ideas offered more positive benefits than President Bush's \$1.6 trillion, 10-year tax cut program. On Tuesday, Senate Democrats proposed providing a \$300 check for every taxpayer this year, or \$600 for two-earner homes. They estimated this would cost the government \$60 billion.

Macedonia launches new offensive against rebels

SKOPJE, Macedonia (AP) — Macedonia's army launched a fresh offensive Wednesday to clear ethnic Albanian rebels from the hills along the northern border with Kosovo in an apparent push to crush remaining insurgent strongholds. The operation was a broad effort to clear out the terrain, army sources said, speaking on customary condition of anonymity. Artillery booms could be heard six miles away in the capital, Skopje. The area under attack stretched from the village of Lipkovo to the east to the village of Brest to the west, including other insurgent strongholds such as Gracane, Malino Mala and Gosince. Fighting also occurred in the area Tuesday, when government troops attempted to take the Caska mountain pass.

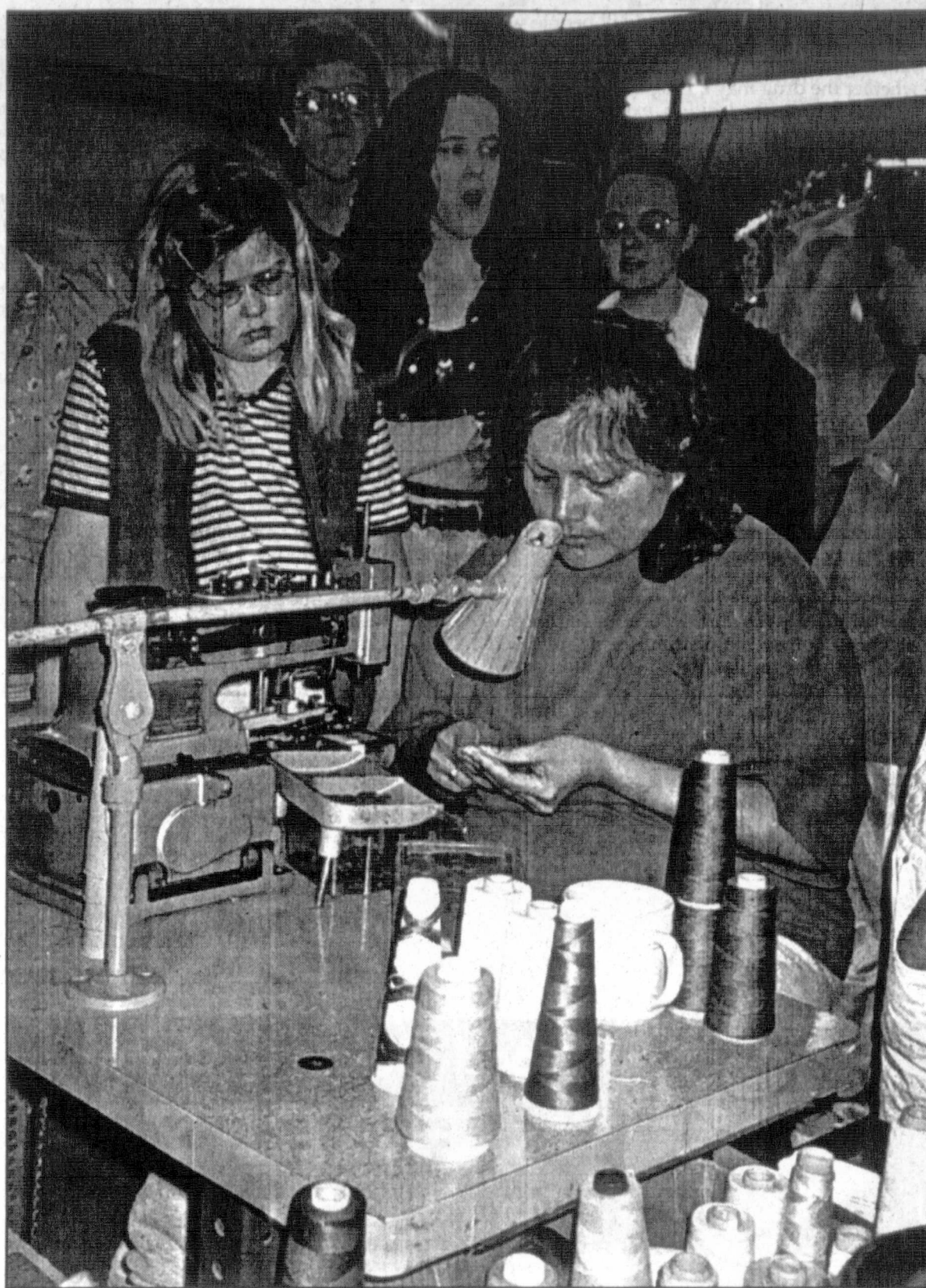
Soldiers dig up 75 skeletons from 1980s killings

CAGAYAN DE ORO, Philippines (AP) — Soldiers discovered the skeletal remains of 75 men, women and children in the southern Philippines, 15 years after communist rebels allegedly launched a bloody purge of suspected informers, officials said Wednesday. A military report from the southern city of Cagayan de Oro said soldiers dug up the bodies Tuesday in a remote area of the southern region of Mindanao. A witness to some of the killings led soldiers to the eight mass graves, the report said. The killings were part of Operation Zombie, an alleged campaign by the communist New People's Army in the mid 1980s to execute alleged spies and government informers, the report said. "Zombie" is rebel slang for a suspected army informer.

Five foreign aid workers, two Somalis, moved to safety

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Five foreign aid workers trapped by militia fighting have been moved to safety in a hotel in north Mogadishu, but four others were still missing, a Somali official and aid agency representatives said Wednesday. The aid workers — two Spaniards, a Briton, an American and a French national — were taken to the Hotel Ramadan in Mogadishu, said Dahir Dayah, the interior minister of the national transitional government. Two Somali aid workers caught up in the fighting were also with them. The Spaniards, French and Somalis work for the French agency Medecins sans Frontieres, or MSF, which is also known as Doctors Without Borders. The Briton and the American work for the U.N. children's agency, UNICEF.

Dion's of Texas tour



(Community Camera photo by Judy Elliott)

Spring break gave area 4-Hers and adult leaders involved in Gray County clothing and textiles project an opportunity to tour Dion's of Texas, a clothing designer and manufacturer in Shamrock. Above: Phyllis White Thunder, Dion's employee, demonstrates a commercial button-holing machine for Jessica Baggerman, Kay Stephens, adult leader, Lori Stephens and Sarah Schwab, all of Pampa, and Kody Payne of Shamrock.

Charlie's Carpet

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Laminate Flooring!
Special Pricing!

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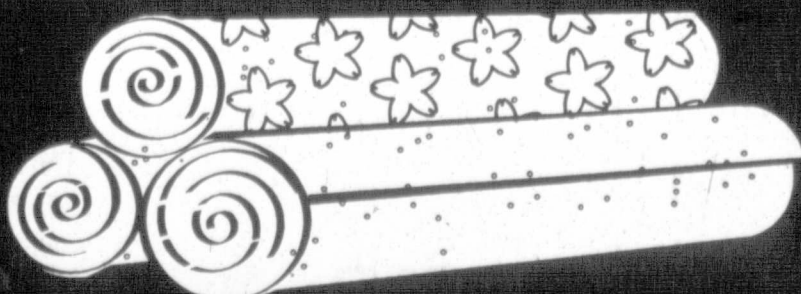


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9:00 am to 9:00 pm

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