

The Pampa News

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MIAMI -- The Canadian River Municipal Water Authority is considering mixing water from Roberts County and water from Lake Meredith, according to an official of the water authority.

By mixing water from Roberts County and water from Lake Meredith, the water authority is hoping to improve the general quality of the water and increase the amount of water available to the city along the line, said John Williams, general manager of the CRMWA. To date, Amarillo is the only city in system to give their support to the project, Williams said. Plainview held a public hearing on the subject but no further actions have been taken.

Pampa's City Commission has not formally addressed the project, which would involve more than 42,000 acres in Roberts County, located north of Pampa. While a specific plan to mix the water has not been drawn up, Williams said the cost to the CRMWA could total \$38 million, which would be paid by the cities. If some cities refuse to go along with the project, then the cities which remain will foot the bill, Williams said. He declined to speculate how the water would be routed if the decision to fund the project was not unanimous.

PAMPA -- Congressman Bill Sarpalius and Judge H. Bryan Poff are two of the elected officials scheduled to attend the opening of the Gray County Democratic Headquarters Saturday.

The opening ceremonies are slated for 2 p.m. Saturday at 116 W. Foster.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) -- Prosecutors subpoenaed videotape of Tonya Harding's recent TV appearances to find out what she knew and when she knew it. U.S. figure skating's governing body, meanwhile, opened an inquiry that could knock her out of the Olympics. The U.S. Figure Skating Association acted on Thursday after Harding denied any prior knowledge of the Jan. 6 attack on Nancy Kerrigan but admitted that she did not come forward with "things that I learned" afterward.

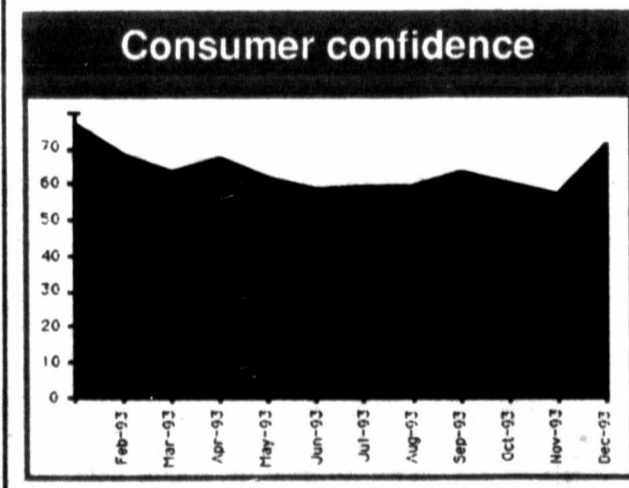
The association named a five-member panel to look into whether Harding violated its standards of ethics or sportsmanship. The panel's recommendation will go to USFA, which will forward the team roster to the U.S. Olympic Committee for the Winter Games next month in Lillehammer, Norway. "The United States Olympic Committee is deeply concerned with statements made today by Tonya Harding relative to her stated knowledge of the attack on Nancy Kerrigan," USOC executive director Harvey W. Schiller said.

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- America's porn industry felt the earth move, all right. The quake damaged expensive video production equipment used by makers and distributors of X-rated flicks in the San Fernando Valley, a region with so many porno businesses it gives new meaning to the term "bedroom community."

"These religious fanatics may think it's the Lord's way of telling us, 'Hey, straighten your act out,'" admitted Lenny Friedlander, president of New Beginnings, which distributes adult videos, magazines and sex toys. Not that there's any danger of a smut shortage.

"It probably slowed them down by about a week," said Mark Kernes, manager of *Adult Video News*, a trade magazine. More than 80 percent of the nation's adult videos come out of the valley, and most of those businesses lie within a five-mile radius of the quake's epicenter, police said.

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The Pentagon is ready to propose a fiscal 1995 budget plan that will give the military \$3 billion more than last year and maintain President Clinton's push to slash military spending some \$120 billion over five years. The new budget calls for \$264 billion in spending authority, a "hold-the-line" approach that will neither appease critics of Defense Department spending nor give military backers much comfort, Pentagon officials say.



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U.S. dependence on foreign oil expected to grow

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -- America's dependence on foreign oil will continue to grow into the next century, with net imports reaching 60 percent of domestic consumption by the year 2010, the Energy Department predicted today.

The department's annual Energy Outlook Report said that the growth of petroleum imports will come despite significant gains in energy efficiency and a greater use of natural gas as a fuel and use of other energy sources.

The forecast, using various computer models, predicted that domestic crude oil production

will continue on its current decline until 2006 and then rebound somewhat because of rising prices.

It said petroleum use will likely increase to about 21 million barrels a day by 2010, compared with 17 million barrels a day in 1992 -- the latest year for which complete figures were available. Natural gas use also will increase by about 13 percent during the same time period, although utilities will continue to rely heavily on coal for electricity generation.

The outlook said that in 1992 net petroleum imports -- the difference between domestic production and consumption, which takes into account U.S. petroleum exports -- was 39

percent. The outlook study said there are expected to be considerable energy savings over the next 16 years because of more efficient appliances and improved building design and construction. This will restrain growth in energy consumption that otherwise might have occurred, said the report.

"Advances in appliances and building efficiencies are driving much of the anticipated (energy consumption) improvements," said the report by the Energy Information Administration, a research agency within the Energy Department.

It said the efficiency gains are anticipated without development of new technologies. The

widespread use of the most efficient appliances already on the market could cut residential energy use by 25 percent, the analysis concluded.

The study said that while significant efficiency gains are likely to be made in residential and industrial energy use, it does not envision great reductions in petroleum use for transportation.

"People will continue to drive more and new car efficiency gains will not be as rapid as in the 1980s," said the study. More cars and more congestion on the road are likely to result in poorer actual gasoline mileage than what cars would be expected to get under test conditions, it said.

Other findings in the outlook study were:

— Total primary energy consumption is expected to grow 23 percent by 2010, compared with 1992, despite energy conservation and technological advancements that will moderate the expected growth.

— Coal production is expected to increase by 20 percent to 1.2 billion tons by 2010, though much of it will be exported. There also will be continued heavy reliance on coal to generate electricity.

— Natural gas production will increase 13 percent to 20.2 trillion cubic feet by 2010. Natural gas prices are predicted to increase on average 3.9 percent a year at the wellhead.

Inside, it was an Hawaiian holiday



Despite a forecast that includes snow flurries, Laci Long, left, and Hunter Hadley today enjoyed a luau at St. Matthews Day School. While outside the temperature hovered in the 30-degree range, inside the *haolis* feasted on fruit as if on the sands of Waikiki. (Pampa News photo by Darlene Holmes)

70 million consumers, oil and coal up for grabs

By GEORGE ESPER
AP Special Correspondent

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) -- A market of 70 million consumers, a pool of cheap labor, and oil and coal resources await American businesses as they wait on Washington to lift its 19-year trade embargo against Vietnam.

The wait may soon be over after Thursday's Senate vote urging the Clinton administration to lift the ban.

Virginia B. Foote, director of the Washington-based United States-Vietnam Trade Council, said she believed a decision from President Clinton could come within 10 days, even though the Senate vote is not binding.

U.S. businesses expect Vietnam to show strong growth in the years ahead as it develops a market economy, which was introduced in the late 1980s after years of failed communist economic policies.

Vietnam estimates it would need \$40 billion in private and

public investment to rebuild the country and double economic output by 2000.

Mobil Corp. has already won the right to explore for oil off southern Vietnam. But the trade ban prevents Mobil from producing or selling its find. IBM and Digital Equipment, meanwhile, have signed agreements to help Vietnam with \$300 million in information technology purchases over the next seven years.

General Electric estimates there is as much as \$500 million in potential sales of power plants, jet engines, medical equipment and locomotives from Vietnam's rebuilding program. Boeing says it could sell up to \$5 billion worth of planes to Vietnam. The country is also rich in coal, and wages are relatively low.

American firms can open offices, make contacts, gauge the market and sign contracts with Vietnamese counterparts but with few exceptions they cannot do any business. There are 35 U.S. companies with rep-

resentative offices in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs hailed the Senate vote as a "positive action required by the current reality and in accordance with the aspirations of the American people."

Among the dissenters were veterans groups and members of the families of 2,238 Americans unaccounted for in Indochina from the Vietnam War, including 1,647 of them in Vietnam.

The American Legion, the largest veterans group in the United States with 3.1 million members, said in a statement issued in Hanoi that veterans and POW/MIA families will take their case to the White House.

"Rather than give the president 'political cover,' the Senate has ensured that the president will have to personally decide whether to abandon the families of our POWs," said Bruce Thiesen, commander of the American Legion.

Police officer charged in abduction-slaying

By KAREN THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

GILMER, Texas (AP) -- When Kelly Wilson vanished, police Sgt. James Brown took the call and led the search, tracking leads, posting fliers and helping set up a billboard with her smiling picture on it.

Two years later, the investigation led straight back to Brown himself.

The police officer was indicted along with seven other people Jan. 21 on charges of abducting the 17-year-old woman, sexually assaulting her and finally stabbing her to death. Investigators said it may have been a ritual slaying.

Police said Wilson was kidnapped one rainy night in 1992. Her car and purse were found outside the video store where she worked. Her tires had been slashed.

Brown was on duty when the call came in reporting Wilson missing. He was immediately assigned to the case, Police Chief Al McAllister said.

Wilson's body has not been found, but prosecutors don't expect that to be a problem. A person can be tried for murder in Texas when no body has been found if there's enough evidence to believe

the victim was slain.

And police in this East Texas community of about 5,000 think they've got that, thanks to a break stemming from the 1993 arrest of eight residents on charges of molesting their own children and foster children in their care.

The children told investigators they were forced to have sex and watch people dressed as devils conduct ceremonies in the woods. One of the 16 youngsters also gave investigators a lead in Wilson's disappearance.

Two of the adults offered information as well. The most damaging blow came from Connie Martin, 27. She told authorities that she and her co-defendants sexually assaulted and stabbed Wilson.

Brown remained in jail Thursday on \$225,000 bail after District Judge E.L. "Tiny" Garrison reduced the bail from \$650,000 at an arraignment Thursday.

His supporters said the 35-year-old lawman would never have participated in such a diabolical scheme.

"I work with him and I don't believe it," said Becky Skinner, secretary for the Police Department. "I would trust him with my own kids."

PEDC leases grazing land

By RANDAL K. MCGAVOCK
Staff Writer

The Pampa Economic Development Corporation is involved in the cattle business today.

The corporation's board of directors voted unanimously Thursday night to allow Billy Scribner to graze cattle on 218 acres of land owned by the PEDC. Scribner's bid was the highest of the three bids received and would bring \$145 a month to the PEDC or \$1,740 a year for the right to graze the land.

In other business, PEDC President Bill Waters announced the architectural plans for the 420 bed addition to the Rufe Jordan Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections, located east of Pampa, should be finished by Feb. 9. The bidding process of the project will then begin, he said.

In a related matter, plans for

an increase of 300 beds to the prison are still on track and continuing smoothly, Waters said.

The board also formally accepted the audit of the corporation finances during Thursday regular monthly meeting of the group.

The Pampa accounting firm of Grantham, Cory, Call & Heare, P.C., conducted the audit at a cost of \$1,200.

The auditors detailed the assets, liabilities and fund balance of the PEDC which stand at approximately \$547,600 while the PEDC's cash and cash equivalents fund totaled \$531,438.85 as of Sept. 30.

Thomas Grantham, who presented the report to the board members, said nothing out of the ordinary appeared in the audit and that in the future PEDC might want to get a letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service detailing the corporations standing as non-taxable entity.

Oops! Try again!

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

On Thursday as Mayor Richard Peet was about to sign the ordinances recently approved to raise water and sewer rates, he noticed a mistake. The figures in the ordinance read for the second time didn't match the figures originally proposed in the first reading.

The mistake, if implemented, which was never legally possible, could have cost people living in and around Pampa thousands of dollars more for water.

Instead, the mistake is only going to cost the City Commission a small amount of time.

At 8 a.m. Monday in the City Commission chambers at City Hall, the mayor and commissioners will conduct the first reading of the ordinances raising water and sewer rates.

Then on Tuesday, they will conduct the second reading of the ordinances, which would make them part of the City Code, barring any mistakes.

Undercover agent says Koresh prepared for arrival of federal agents

By KELLEY SHANNON
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Undercover agent Robert Rodriguez says he came to know David Koresh as a charismatic preacher with a fondness for guns and a dislike for gun laws.

And it was no secret Koresh loathed the U.S. government, the agent testified.

The day of a failed raid on Koresh's compound by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Rodriguez said he witnessed a calm Koresh become nervous and shaky when he learned government agents were on their way.

"The time has come," Koresh reportedly told his followers again and again the morning of Feb. 28, 1993, just before the raid.

After returning from another room, supposedly after a telephone call, Koresh said, "Neither the ATF nor the National Guard will get me. They got me once and they'll never get me again," the agent said.

Rodriguez testified Thursday in federal court that he immediately told his superiors Koresh knew of their plan.

The agent said he mistakenly thought the ATF operation would be called off.

"I was upset because they were continuing with the raid because I knew what was going to happen," Rodriguez said.

Eleven Branch Davidians are on trial for murder and murder conspiracy in the deaths of four federal agents in a shootout that followed the botched raid. Six Branch Davidians are believed to have died.

The defendants could face up to life in prison if convicted.

Posing as a technical school student, Rodriguez told jurors he made eight visits to the Branch Davidian compound near Waco to try to collect information about Koresh and his followers.

Rodriguez described the Davidians as a curious bunch who lived relatively secluded in their commune and were suspicious of outsiders.

"They stare at you a lot. That's one thing they love to do. They stare you down," Rodriguez said.

Inside the compound, men and women generally were separated, Rodriguez said.

Outside the presence of the jury, Rodriguez testified

about Koresh's teachings about the "violence and destruction" of the Seven Seals of the Book of Revelation.

Koresh taught there would be a final deadly confrontation between "believers" and "non-believers," but that the believers ultimately would return.

"He considered the United States of America a beast, a dragon. He looked at us as a nation of non-believers that cause a lot of violence in the world," Rodriguez said.

The agent said he and another agent shot AR-15 rifles at the compound with Koresh and other Davidians and that Koresh said he disliked a federal law regulating parts that could be added to AR-15s.

Koresh reportedly said the ATF violates the rights of gun owners with "threats and lies."

Defense lawyer Dan Cogdell argued that those remarks don't demonstrate a conspiracy to kill federal agents.

"It shows at best a distrust and a dislike of the ATF. It certainly does not show a conspiracy to kill the ATF," Cogdell said.

Still outside the presence of the jury, Rodriguez testified that the day before the raid, Koresh was upset at someone who was quoted in a Waco Tribune-Herald arti-

cle about Koresh and expressed his sentiments to followers in the compound chapel.

"He told the group ... 'Now for sure they'll be coming,' " Rodriguez said. "He turned more to the women's side (of the chapel) and said, 'Now for sure they'll be coming. When the time comes, don't get hysterical. When the time comes, just do as you have been taught.' "

U.S. District Judge Walter Smith did not permit jurors to hear about Koresh's comments in the days leading up to Feb. 28, though for legal reasons he did allow testimony about remarks the morning of the raid and shootout.

Under cross-examination in front of the jury, Rodriguez acknowledged that during their weeks of surveillance from a house across the street and in his visits to the compound, he did not witness any illegal activities.

He also said as he left the compound, Koresh shook his hand and said, "Good luck" and that no one tried to prevent him from going.

Cogdell accused Rodriguez of using the Bible "as kind of undercover camouflage, as something to deceive." Cross-examination of Rodriguez continues today.

University student wins judge's decision to take courses without passing math test

HOUSTON (AP) — A judge has ordered the University of Houston to allow a journalism student to take upper-level courses even though she can't pass a state-mandated math test.

Student Jennifer Silverman claims she has a learning disability that prevents her from passing the test.

"What's the relevance of me being able to calculate the slope of a triangle if what I want to do is feature writing?" Ms. Silverman said after the Thursday ruling by state District Judge Mark Davidson. She will now be able to take the courses until a hearing next month.

Silverman, won national attention last year when she wrote in last April's *Glamour* magazine how she paid for school by topless dancing at Rick's Cabaret in Houston.

Davidson granted a temporary order forcing the university to allow

Silverman to take the needed courses. Another hearing was set for February.

Silverman sued the university and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board after she failed the math portion of the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) test. TASP passage is a prerequisite for taking upper-level courses.

Silverman said she was diagnosed in high school with a learning disability known as dyscalculia that keeps her from being able to comprehend mathematical concepts beyond simple arithmetic and thus being able to pass the TASP.

She contends she is being discriminated against on the basis of her disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the U.S. Constitution's equal-protection clause.

"I'm hoping to work with U of H

to get the Higher Education Coordinating Board to take a look at this and go back to the Legislature (to rewrite the statute governing the TASP)," said Beatrice Mladenka-Fowler, Silverman's attorney.

Silverman said that if she does not prevail, she will complete her degree at a private college.

University of Houston officials were not immediately available for comment today.

Dr. Danny Williamson, who specializes in developmental pediatrics, including the diagnosis and treatment of learning disabilities, said dyscalculia is a rare but real disorder.

"You don't cure it; you don't make it go away," he said. "You try to teach the person compensatory methods to get around the problem or you try to compensate or bypass it (by using a calculator, for example)."

Richards wants answers on vacant prison beds

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards says she hopes to know by next week whether there are empty beds in the Texas prison system.

News reports this week said state auditors had found space in existing prisons for some 6,000 inmates.

Voicing sympathy for county officials whose local jails are crowded with state convicts awaiting transfer to state prisons, Richards on Thursday asked Secretary of State John Hannah to investigate the situation.

"It is imperative that we get to the bottom of this question and, if there are prison beds available and not being used, then we must move quickly to use them to cut down on county jail overcrowding," Richards told Hannah in a letter.

"I know what county administrators and sheriffs are going through with the number of state inmates currently housed in their county jails awaiting space in the state prison system," Richards said.

Although the state is embarked on a massive prison-building program, a total of about 29,000 state prisoners now are being held in county jails until space opens up in a state prison.

Richards said she is determined to keep violent criminals in prison but also wants to know just how many

extra prison beds might be available.

"We have been told by (Comptroller John) Sharp, based on a very preliminary study he did, that there may be empty prison beds. If there are, they should be put immediately to use. There is no justification for the beds to be empty if they can be used," said Bill Cryer, the governor's press secretary.

While not confirming the 6,000 number, a spokesman for Sharp said Thursday that auditors had found a number of problems in accounting for all available space.

"They have a problem because of a lack of computerization. They don't know at any given time on a systemwide basis which prisoners have been dismissed from which

units," said comptroller's spokesman Andy Welch.

"They don't know how many spaces they may have freed up at this unit or that unit. Maybe they need a short course from Holiday Inn," Welch said.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials said there are some beds within the system not being used, but attributed that to the settlement of the lawsuit against the system brought by inmate David Ruiz.

In the settlement that ended the 20-year Ruiz lawsuit, the state agreed to limit the number of prisoners housed in some prison units and to increase the population of other units only if additional showers and other facilities were installed.

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Author says she was 'uninvited' to speak at school in Denton

DENTON (AP) — A nationally acclaimed author was "uninvited" to speak at a Denton school, prompting a charge of censorship from two civil rights groups and the author, the *Denton Record-Chronicle* has reported in a copy-right story.

Bette Greene, an author of books for young adults, was scheduled to speak Jan. 18 to Calhoun Middle School students as part of a national program sponsored by the National Book Foundation and a national bookstore chain.

However, the author told representatives of the People for the American Way and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force that school officials told her on Jan. 10 not to come.

The trip to Denton was to be at no charge to the school. Ms. Greene said the visit was arranged in October 1993 by the National Book Foundation.

"No one has been disinvented," said Anita Stipnieks, assistant superintendent for school opera-

tions. "That is totally, totally erroneous." She said no invitation was ever extended.

Dianne Blair, principal at Calhoun Middle School, said she spoke with a Denton book store in November about a speaking appearance by Ms. Greene, but denied ever setting a firm date.

Ms. Stipnieks said all material and speakers deemed controversial must be pre-approved by a committee.

Approval could take up to two months. The group that will decide the author's fate already has its hands full approving new health texts, she said.

Among the books Ms. Greene has written are *Summer of My German Soldier*, which was turned into a TV movie, *Philip Hall Likes Me*, *I Think, I Reckon, Maybe*, and *The Drowning of Stephan Jones*.

The latter deals with the drowning of a gay antique dealer by teenagers. The national civil rights groups became involved in the controversy after being contacted by Ms. Greene.

Islamic fundamentalists prepare for role in autonomy

By KARIN LAUB
Associated Press Writer

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — Muslim fundamentalist Hamas, a leading opponent to the Israel-PLO accord, now may want to share the fruits of leadership when the Palestinians begin running their own territory.

Such a shift could ease the threat of civil war for PLO chief Yasser Arafat when he establishes Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank region of Jericho.

Prominent in the pragmatist camp, which now appears to hold sway in Hamas, are former deportees who recently returned from a year of exile in Lebanon.

Dr. Omar Ferwana, 38, a leading Hamas ideologue, said his group would support any result of the Israel-PLO negotiations that improved Palestinians' lives.

"Whatever the (PLO) negotiators achieve, we will support it," said the British-educated physician. "If we have a chance to see Israeli soldiers leave, that is a win. If we see a better economy, a better education, that is a win," said Ferwana, speaking in his clinic.

Some of Ferwana's pragmatism was born in Marj al-Zahour, the southern Lebanon tent camp where he and more than 400 other Islamic activists were stranded after being deported by Israel in December 1992.

"In Marj al-Zahour ... we decided that Palestinian

unity is a priority, and that there shouldn't be any fighting," said Ferwana.

Ferwana's views are a far cry from Hamas' initial denunciation of the Israel-PLO talks as a sellout and reflect a growing pragmatism as autonomy is approaching.

Hamas intellectuals remain adamant that they will not recognize a Jewish state. But they can accept a Palestinian state alongside Israel as a compromise until all of Palestine is reclaimed.

The political avenue for Hamas is elections. It claims the support of about one-third of Gaza's 780,000 residents and believes it could win control of many city halls as well as a share of the seats on a self-governing council that runs Gaza and Jericho.

If elections were held today, Hamas would be the second-largest faction in Gaza, winning 17.3 percent of the vote, compared with 36.1 percent for Arafat's mainstream Fatah group, according to a survey released this week by the Center for Palestine Research and Studies in the West Bank city of Nablus. The survey of 518 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip did not give a margin of error.

Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the spiritual leader of Hamas who has been held in an Israeli jail since May 1989, has sent out messages through visitors that he supports a power-sharing arrangement with the PLO and elections.

"There is a growing realism in Hamas," said Mamdouh al-Aker, a Palestinian peace negotiator and Fatah member.

Some PLO leaders say Hamas has no choice but to participate.

"Hamas is cornered. They know that if they don't participate, they will be deprived of a lot of things," said Sami Abu Samhadaneh, a Fatah activist.

"For example, if they are not part of the autonomy rule, the new, secular government will dictate what is taught in the schools."

In a Hamas leadership session in the fall, 70 percent of those present voted for participating in the new self-rule government, said Abu Samhadaneh, who obtained minutes of the meeting.

But all this doesn't mean Arafat can drop his guard.

Hamas leaders have said they will continue their fight against Israel's occupation and it is unclear if young Islamic radicals will stop attacking Israelis even if Hamas agrees to share power with the PLO.

The militant Islamic Jihad movement opposes any compromise with Israel. Although support for Islamic Jihad is low, at about 5 percent, its fighters could pose a threat.

If Arafat uses his police force — which is expected to number 15,000 — to rein in Hamas or Jihad fighters he could set off PLO-fundamentalist warfare.

"If they start to threaten our people or kill them, that's the time we would fight back," said Ismail Hanieh, also a former Marj al-Zahour refugee who is now an administrator at Gaza's Islamic University. "But we are 100 percent sure we will not have this civil war."

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The Pampa News

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Head cover
- 4 Pig meat
- 7 Small carpet
- 10 Willow
- 12 Uniform
- 14 Lincoln's nickname
- 15 Wyatt —
- 16 Japanese native
- 17 Neighbor of U.S.
- 18 Hidden shooter
- 20 Golfer Sam —
- 22 Participant
- 24 Injure
- 26 Ravens' cry
- 30 Highest
- 31 Crude metal
- 32 Actress —
- 33 Of tiny spaces
- 37 Not straight
- 39 Doghouse

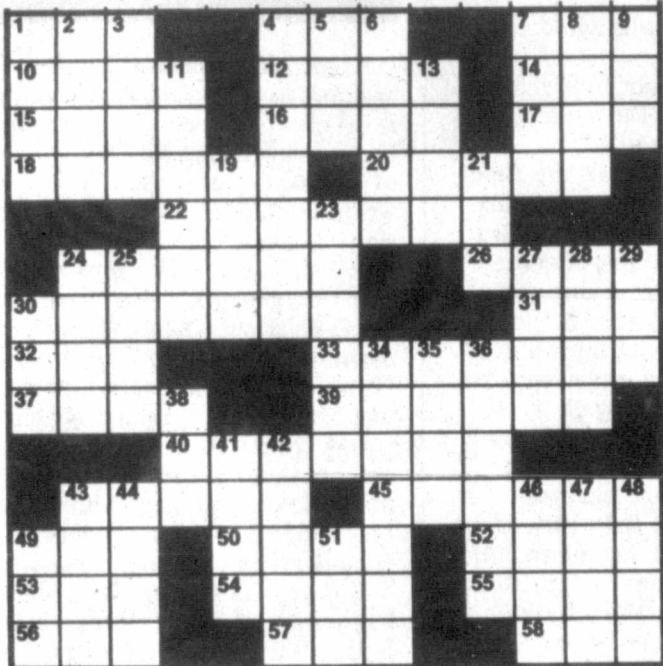
DOWN

- 1 Hurries
- 2 — angle
- 3 Garr
- 4 Fireplaces
- 5 Bird (pref.)
- 6 High I.Q. society

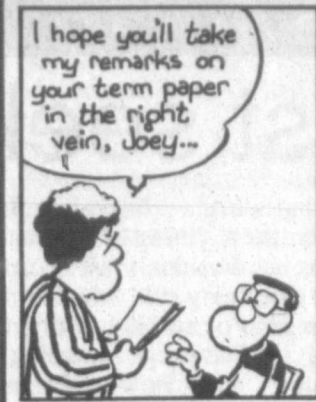
Answer to Previous Puzzle

KIDDED BRENDA
 ORIOLE EASIER
 LADDER RIPPLE
 ANO MIDAS SEA
 PIVOTAL
 CYME EME EGGS
 RIODE BELAY
 APIAN BRUIN
 BELL ERS ETTIE
 STABLED
 EEL BRIER LAP
 KEATON ERRATA
 ERMINE VOICES
 SOPPED ERNEST

- 7 Papa's mate
- 8 Sleeping
- 9 Lone Star
- 10 State (abbr.)
- 11 Be attractive
- 13 Senator Sam —
- 19 Grafted, in
- heraldry
- 21 Summer (Fr.)
- 23 Seize again
- 24 Rescue
- 25 Group of families
- 27 Field mouse
- 28 Of the mouth
- 29 Eternally (post.)
- 30 Restaurant bill
- 34 Comments
- 35 Oklahoma town
- 36 At reduced price (2 wds.)
- 38 Make lace
- 41 Stop working
- 42 Boy Scout group
- 43 Pod vegetables
- 44 Bronte heroine Jane —
- 46 Roams idly
- 47 — the
- Mood for Love
- 48 Follow orders
- 49 British Navy abbreviation
- 51 Collection of facts



WALNUT COVE



By Mark Cullum

ARLO & JANIS



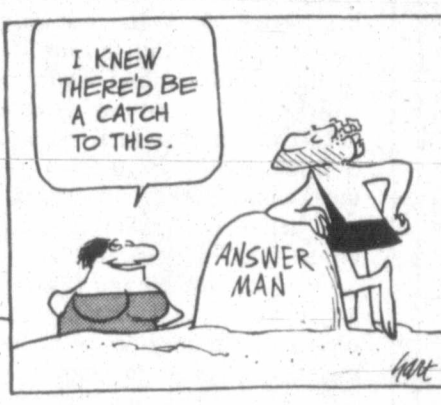
By Jimmy Johnson

ECK & MEEK



By Howie Schneider

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

Astro-Graph

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Others might think the objectives you establish for yourself today are a bit too grandiose. Perhaps from their perspective they are, but this won't be true from where you're standing. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2 and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, N.Y. 10163.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your chart looks pretty strong at this time where legal matters are concerned. Be sure you have the best counsel possible, because you should be lucky with contracts or agreements.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) A frustrating situation you've been trying to change, but thus far have been unable to, might make a shift today of its own volition. You should like the results.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Today if you're with optimistic, lucky people, there's a good chance you'll take on their vibes. Which means you might be fortunate in an area you previously felt was hostile.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Strive to be persistent and consistent today, because your luck increases as you near the finish line. This might be especially true in either commerce or sport.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Do not be picky today if a friend invites you to participate in a fun pastime you've never tried previously. You could be in for a very pleasant surprise.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today you might be luckier than usual in situations where something is either being bought or sold. Regardless of the role you play, it could be profitable.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Something good you already have going for you can be improved upon if you don't make change merely for change sake. Instead focus on expansion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You could be more fortunate than usual today in arrangements you have with persons to whom you have strong emotional ties. Be supportive of what they initiate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A friend who has always told others how lucky you are for him/her might do a role reversal today and be the catalyst who is fortunate for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You are now in a cycle where a hope you've been nurturing for quite a long time could finally become a reality. Strengthen your belief, don't diminish it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Friends are likely to put considerable credence in your opinions today. Feel free to express yourself, but be sure the thoughts you impart are worthy of emulation.

MARVIN



By Tom Armstrong

MARMADUKE



By Brad Anderson

KIT N' CARLYLE



By Larry Wright

ALLEY OOP



By Dave Graue

BEATTIE BLVD.



By Bruce Beattie

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



By Bill Keane

WINTHROP



By Dick Cavalli



THE BORN LOSER



By Art and Chip Sansom



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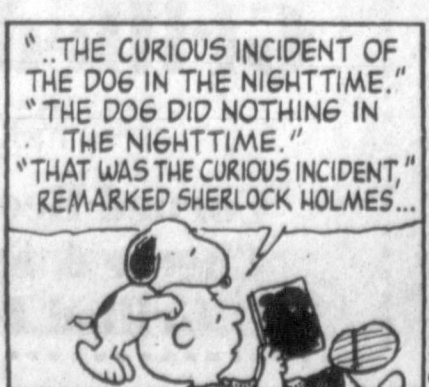


By Bob Thaves

PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz



GARFIELD



By Jim Davis



Dissidents say linking trade to human rights works in China

By KATHY WILHELM
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP) — The two godfathers of China's democracy movement make their point with a certain authority: They know Western pressure advances human rights in China — it got them out of prison.

Wei Jingsheng and Xu Wenli, who topped the list of prominent Chinese political prisoners for more than a decade, say they're Exhibits A and B in this year's debate in Washington over how to deal with China.

Using trade to wring human rights concessions out of China "may not be the best method, but it's what the United States chose," Wei said. "If you retreat, you lose."

They're articulate and savvy exhibits, especially Wei, who arrived for a joint interview at Xu's home with his own translator.

The soft-spoken Xu put a tape recorder on the table and turned it on. Nothing personal, but misquotes could get him in trouble with the police, he said.

Any suspicion that the media-wise pair actually spent the last dozen years in politics, instead of jail, vanishes when they laugh: there's barely a full set of teeth between them.

Xu, 50, and Wei, 43, were leading advocates of democratic reform in 1979-80, cranking out home-mimeographed journals of political essays. Wei was arrested in 1979, Xu in 1981; both were sentenced to 15 years.

Xu was released last May, as Washington debated for the fourth year whether to cancel China's most-favored nation trade status as punishment for suppressing dissent. Loss of normal trade status would sharply raise tariffs on Chinese exports to the United States, effectively shutting them out of their largest market.

Wei was freed in September, 10 days before the International Olympic Committee voted on Beijing's bid to hold the 2000 Olympic Games.

China lost the Olympic bid, but kept its MFN status for another year.

Now, as the U.S. government again debates what to do about MFN, Xu and Wei said they hope Washington will be tough.

The pressure on the U.S. government to play down human rights is strong this year. China is wooing American companies with the prospect of rich contracts if MFN stays in place. Some China scholars in the United States say the annual MFN battle is too bruising and that quiet diplomacy is more effective.

A growing chorus — including U.S. Ambassador Stapleton Roy — says China has already made big human rights improvements.

Wei, who isn't free to travel or find work, responded angrily.

"It's certainly not true that now is the best time in Chinese history. Many Chinese are disgusted with what your ambassador said."

Xu said he was alarmed by U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen's hints that the United States might make China's MFN status permanent, eliminating the annual pressure for human rights improvements, if China makes significant concessions this year.

Study: Last summer's chilly warnings too dire

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Warnings that the climate along the north Atlantic could chill abruptly by tens of degrees were a little too dire, new research indicates.

Instead, the earth's climate is remarkably stable, and there is little reason to think that will change, according to a study to be published Friday in the journal *Science*.

The study "is mollifying what appears to be a rather sensational finding and in some sense a disturbing finding," said Dr. Richard Fairbanks, a senior scientist at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory.

Last summer, a group of European scientists found evidence of repeated abrupt coolings in Greenland during the generally warm period before the last ice age. They studied samples of ice that indicated average temperatures in Greenland dropped by 25 degrees Fahrenheit within one or two decades — remarkably quick for climate change.

These chilly periods occurred between 135,000 and 115,000 years ago, when the earth's average temperature was 4 degrees warmer than now.

In a series of articles and talks, the scientists said future global warming could lead to more such temperature drops, with periods of markedly colder climate in countries bordering the north Atlantic. And they urged quick study to find out just what caused these plummeting temperatures.

Fairbanks and a team of researchers from Columbia and the University of California, San Diego, did — and found things not as grim as their European colleagues thought.

The first study assumed all climatic evidence buried in Greenland's ice reflected the country's

ancient air temperature. But Fairbanks says those ice samples also show where the snow that fell on Greenland centuries ago originally came from.

That means the ice core samples are not an untainted climatic record. The temperatures they reflect are a mixed bag of ancient temperatures from around the world, Fairbanks explained.

"It would be an overstatement to say the temperature oscillations were only half as much as they concluded, but I think it's on that order," he said. "We find that in the last 9,000 years the climate has been remarkably stable."

Fairbanks' team used a computer model that has proved reliable for forecasting weather to look back at Greenland's history. The ice samples contain different isotopes of oxygen. The ratio of the heavier isotope to the lighter isotope indicates the temperature at the time the ice was formed. Less heavy oxygen signals colder temperatures, while more indicates warmer climate.

But Greenland is a major intersection where global air masses collide before dumping snow and sleet. Climatic shifts that sent rain from Hawaii to become snow in Greenland would shift the type of oxygen isotopes discovered centuries later.

Plus, the farther that moisture had to travel, the more heavy oxygen it lost on the way — giving a false message of colder temperatures, Fairbanks' team concluded.

Last summer, people were frightened by the Greenland ice study because no one knew what caused the seemingly large temperature shifts.

"The implication was that this (unknown) process could affect modern climate at any time in the future," Fairbanks said. Now, "we're closer to understanding what produced those changes in the past and therefore we're better prepared to monitor likely changes in the future."

Factory orders jump 8.6 percent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Orders to U.S. factories for durable goods jumped 8.6 percent in 1993, the biggest advance in five years that included a broad-based 2.2 percent increase in December, the government said Thursday.

The Commerce Department said the annual increase was the steepest since orders rose 9.6 percent in 1988, despite the sixth consecutive drop in defense orders.

The 1993 advance was the second straight, including a 3.9 percent increase a year earlier. Orders fell 4.4 percent in 1991 and 1.1 percent in 1990 after a 2.8 percent gain in 1989.

In December, orders set a new record, totaling a seasonally adjusted \$142.8 billion, up from the previous high of \$139.7 billion a month earlier. It was the fifth consecutive monthly advance, the longest string since 1987, when orders rose each month from February through July.

In another economic report Thursday, the government said the number of Americans applying for initial unemployment benefits declined by 56,000 last week, due in part to the effects of frigid weather, a federal holiday and the California earthquake.

The Labor Department said a seasonally adjusted 309,000 people sought benefits for the first time in the week ended Jan. 22, down from a revised 365,000 the previous week.

The December increase in factory

orders was the latest sign of strength in the manufacturing sector. The Federal Reserve reported earlier that industrial production had risen in December for the seventh straight month.

Durable goods orders are a key barometer of manufacturing industry plans. Increased orders often lead to more production and jobs.

Orders for electronic and other electrical equipment led the December increase, up 5.4 percent due to advances in electronic components and communications equipment after plunging 7.2 percent a month earlier.

Transportation orders rose 1.2 percent, slower than November's 5.1 percent gain. There were increases in all categories except aircraft. But excluding this sector, orders still rose 2.6 percent.

Primary metals orders were up 1.7 percent, stronger than the 1.3 percent a month earlier. Orders for industrial machinery and equipment rose 1.4 percent, down from a 6.6 percent advance the previous month.

Unfilled orders fell for the 10th straight month, down 0.7 percent to \$421.2 billion, lowest since March 1988.

The orders backlog often is a measure of whether current facilities and manpower are able to keep up with demand. When they fall, it often suggests no need for larger production lines and increased employment.

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