

The Hereford Brand

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Lawmakers back at work

Special session called

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawmakers filed back into the Capitol today for a special session after the clock ran out on closing-night efforts to pay for a plan to provide health care for poor Texans.

The House clock was stopped briefly to squeeze additional minutes to take a vote, but Rep. Bill Ceverha, R-Richardson, succeeded in talking away the final minutes of the 140-day session.

Gov. Mark White, blamed by some for the bill's failure, took less than an hour to announce the special session. "I was terribly disappointed to learn that there was not a bill passed for the indigent health care package as was very artfully designed by the leadership in the House and Senate," said White.

Legislators trying to put together a \$100 million health care program said they had planned to pay for it by picking up part of the federal cigarette tax that is scheduled to be rolled back by Congress.

White at the last minute refused to go along with the plan and threatened a veto, lawmakers said.

"Contingency cigarette tax was at one time the route that we had pro-

ceeded to take ... up until the 11th hour when obviously that particular scenario was derailed," said Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi.

Under the compromise, the health care program would be trimmed from \$100 million-plus to \$70 million in 1986 and 1987.

The Senate approved the measure, but House rules prevented it from coming to the floor until 11:57 p.m., three minutes before the end of the Legislature.

Several Hispanic and black lawmakers gathered around the House microphone to stave off debate on other bills to get to the health care bill.

Indigent health care bill sponsor Jesse Oliver, D-Dallas, got to the microphones at 11:56. Speaker Gib Lewis said, "Wait 'til 11:57, and we will be sure nobody can raise a point of order."

"My watch says you've got it. Go," Lewis told Oliver.

Oliver finished in seconds. Ceverha then rose to speak against the money bill. Many House members hissed.

"I think it should be done at some other time," said Ceverha. "Even if

it calls for a special session." The House digital clock was frozen on 11:57. The hands on another clock stuck at one second beyond midnight.

Rep. Bill Hollowell, D-Grand Saline, said, "Mr. Speaker, I'd like to raise a point of order that the session is over under the Constitution of the state of Texas."

Lewis had no choice. He gavelled the session to a close.

Ceverha was accosted by Austin Rep. Lena Guerrero, who told him, "There's a lot of small people out there who can't afford it, Bill, and it's not fair."

Fewer fatalities this year

CHICAGO (AP) — Nearly 370 people died in traffic accidents nationwide during the long Memorial Day weekend, fewer than the 380 to 480 victims the National Safety Council had predicted.

By the end of the three-day weekend which traditionally marks the start of the summer vacation season, police reported 368 deaths on the nation's highways.

The council's estimates, made available since the 1960s and based on driving trends and travel forecasts, are based on the holiday period that began at 6 p.m. local time Friday and ended at midnight local time Monday.

In 1984, 375 people died in traffic accidents during Memorial Day weekend. The highest recorded toll for the holiday period came in 1968, when 629 people died in traffic accidents.



Pioneer Honorees

Roberta Wilson and Ira Ott took honors as the oldest woman and man attending the 62nd annual Pioneer Day Celebration, and Sue Robertson was noted for travel-

ing the greatest distance. She came to the event Saturday from South Bend, Washington. The annual reunion was held in the Bull Barn.

Pet Ott 'Pioneer of Year'

Pet Ott was named the Pioneer of the Year Saturday at the annual Pioneer Day celebration.

A longtime "people-person," Mrs. Ott has many club and service organization memberships on her resume. Her most recent honor was in April when she was received a medal of honor from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

She is married to Ira Ott, a World

War I veteran, who was honored at the celebration for being the oldest man present.

Mrs. Ott currently holds membership in the American Legion Auxiliary, the Wyche Extension Club, the World War I Auxiliary, the La Afiliatus Estudio Club, and the Presbyterian Church.

She has served with the Deaf Smith Historical Society, the American

Red Cross, the United Way, Meals on Wheels, and the King's Manor Auxiliary.

She has been an assistant extension agent for the county and has done extensive work in 4-H clubs.

She has given 30 years of service, and many miles of travel, to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Amarillo, and has presented workshops on volunteer needs.



PET OTT

Hurricane toll zooms upward

URIRCHAR, Bangladesh (AP) — Navy ships are plucking bodies from the Bay of Bengal and air force planes are dropping food packets to survivors in the aftermath of a hurricane that news reports say could claim tens of thousands of lives.

The official government count of the dead today was 1,569. But the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland, put the death toll from Saturday's storm at 3,000.

Unofficial reports from the hardest hit offshore islands and the devastated southern coastal areas said 25,000 people may have perished in the Saturday storm. Hardest hit were the islands of Pirbakhsh, where 10,000 people reportedly died, and Urirchar, with 7,000 to 8,000 reported fatalities.

Another 3,000 people were said to have died in the Noakhali district along the southwestern coast. About 5,000 people were feared dead on Sandwip Island, and 1,000 fishermen from the island also were missing and presumed dead.

Authorities estimate 5.5 million people in the coastal area were affected by the hurricane, which washed away entire communities with huge waves and flooded large areas of cropland.

In a helicopter tour of the stricken

Weather

MONDAY'S HIGH: 91 (normal: 83 record: 99 in 1974)

OVERNIGHT LOW: 55 (normal: 56 record: 39 in 1947)

OUTLOOK: isolated evening thunderstorms tonight, less than 20 percent chance of rain. Low in the low 60s. Wednesday, sunny and hot, high in the mid-90s.

area Monday, reporters saw decomposing bodies lying on the islands and in channels of Bay of Bengal.

In Urirchar, survivors were crouched under broken bamboo roofs, their crops destroyed, clothing tattered and faces pale with fear and hunger. During a walk on Urirchar this reporter counted 97 bodies, and found only a few houses and trees standing on the western side of the island.

Sixty families were completely wiped out, 20 families have only one surviving member, and 23 families have two survivors. Survivors said none of the families on Urirchar escaped the devastation.

Abul Khair, sitting on a raised piece of ground where his home once stood, began sobbing when he recounted the loss of seven members of his family, including his wife.

"Ask Him (God) what He has done," Khair said, looking at the sky. "Today even He must be crying over the tragedy."

An elder on Sandwip Island, Abdul Momin, told The Associated Press that residents and farm laborers on several neighboring islands did not move to shelters for fear their cattle and other property would be stolen.

Laborers piled up earth to make shelters, but the tidal waves demolished them and washed away many of the people, Abdul Momin said.

Victims are faced with a shortage of drinking water, medicine and food. Survivors were living under scorching sun and frequent bursts of monsoon rain. Army medical teams were working to prevent an epidemic caused by the decaying bodies.

dispatch from Dhaka, quoted "reports from outlying areas" as saying the death toll could reach 40,000. It said 200,000 people were left homeless by the storm.

Firemen investigate barn blaze

Hereford Fire Marshal Jay Spain is investigating the cause of a fire early this morning that destroyed a horse barn north of Sugarland Mall.

The Hereford Volunteer Fire department was called out at 4:03 a.m. and Spain said the barn was totally involved in flames when they arrived. The structure belongs to Meredith Ireland, who was apparently out of town.

Volunteer firemen made just one other call over the long weekend, to extinguish a lawn mower fire at 124 Nueces.

Reagan to call for 'new revolution'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan will call on the nation tonight to join "a new American revolution" he hopes will spark the economy through an overhaul of the federal tax code that lowers individual rates, eliminates various deductions and increases the burden on big business.

The initiative, being announced in a nationally broadcast address from the Oval Office at 8 p.m. EDT, also is a high-stakes political gamble for the president, who is trying to reverse a string of congressional setbacks he has suffered in the first four months of his second term.

Setting the stage for his broadcast speech during a Florida visit Monday to Disney World's Epcot Center, a 260-acre showcase of futuristic technology and foreign cultures, the president told an audience that included many teen-agers, "It's a proposal intended to launch a new American revolution and to give to you young people, as you come of age, a nation of even greater freedom, vitality and strength."

He added, "Just as the American people rebelled against oppressive taxation some two centuries ago, the reform that I will announce tomorrow will represent a dramatic effort to make our tax code more simple, efficient and fair and place more resources into the hands of your

families and, ultimately, you yourselves."

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the president will give examples of how the changes will affect various income groups and describe incentives for business, "particularly small business and their entrepreneurial efforts."

Children in small families may have higher IQs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A study showing children in small families have higher IQs and complete more years of schooling than those of large families should not be used for planning purposes because it ignores important factors, a researcher said.

Robert Zajonc of the University of Michigan said his research shows that the greater the number of children in a family and the shorter the spacing between them, the less their intellectual maturity.

Zajonc cautioned, however, that it would be unwise to base family planning decisions on his research.

"I would not advocate any pattern of spacing or children because many other factors are completely unknown," he said.

The unknowns include the effect of family size on sociability, morality and coping ability, he said.

Zajonc said that the surprising nationwide upturn of SAT scores beginning in 1980 corresponds closely to the decrease in family size during the 1960s and 1970s, when children now taking the Scholastic Aptitude Test were born.

He predicted scores would continue to climb until the year 2000, when the children of today's larger families will begin to show another decline in scores.

Police, deputies make 20 arrests

Hereford police and sheriff's deputies were busy over the long Memorial Day weekend, making a total of 20 arrests and answering a number of disturbance calls.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of a man accused of aggravated kidnapping. A Hereford woman said the man held her at knife point for several minutes Monday but had released her by the time police arrived.

The incident was reported by the victim's husband, who witnessed the abduction and ran to a nearby residence for a ride to the police station.

The largest of the theft reports taken was from Juan Balderaz Jr., who lost \$2,835 worth of tires and tools when a storage building at his 504 Mable residence was burglarized.

Two men reported they were beaten with chain belts during a skirmish at Veterans Park. They identified their assailants but no arrests have been made.

Arrests by Hereford police included four on traffic violations, three for driving while intoxicated, six for public intoxication, one for possession of marijuana, one for theft and two for minors consuming liquor.

Investigations included several juvenile complaints, a number of domestic disputes, minor thefts and one from a man who accused another of spraying him with a fire extinguisher.

Sheriff's deputies made one arrest for DWI, took a theft report, talked to a man discharging a firearm near a trailer court and broke up a family fight.

LOMAS HACKER WAGON YARD



Barn Dedication

Families of Harry Lomas and Bill Hacker, early founders of the Deaf Smith County Museum, gathered for the formal dedication ceremonies of the Lomas and Hacker Wagon Yard at the museum Sunday. Also at-

tending was Mrs. A.J. Schroeter, whose late husband's memorial financed the lighting for the building. The new barn houses the farm and ranch collection, and a handcar recently donated by Santa Fe Railroad.

News Roundup

State

Railroad opened after crash

EASTLAND, Texas (AP) — Union Pacific System tracks through Eastland are open again today, four days after an explosive collision between a truck and freight train that devastated this West Texas city.

Union Pacific spokesman Mark Davis said that most of the damaged cars had been removed from the area and the railroad reopened late Monday afternoon.

A tanker of propylene gas burned itself out earlier Monday. More than 1,000 people in this West Texas town after 25 cars derailed when the truck slammed into a train loaded with hazardous materials.

The evacuation area was reduced to five blocks by late Sunday, fire officials said. Police Chief Lyndell Underwood said Monday that residents of about 15 homes were still being kept out of the area.

Meanwhile, work crews finished moving the 25 derailed cars and the touchy task of transferring containers of dangerous chemicals to other vehicles.

Mayor Charles Marshall issued a plea to Gov. Mark White to declare Eastland a disaster area. Marshall declared a disaster about 5 p.m. Friday.

"It appears, at this time, damage will run into millions of dollars, not counting business losses for several days and evacuation of population from their homes," Marshall said in a statement to White.

The derailment occurred after an empty water-hauling truck, driven by Gaylon Nelms, 42, and owned by B.C. Construction Co., slammed into the second of four engines of the 99-car Union Pacific System train.

The locomotive's diesel fuel tank ignited while freight and tanker cars piled on top of one another, puncturing a liquid propylene tanker. When the gas hit the flames from the locomotive, the explosion rocked the city and shot a 500-foot fireball in the air.

Several of the derailed cars contained hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric acid and sulfuric acid.

National

Hazardous waste law hurts industry

WASHINGTON (AP) — American industry may have to almost double spending on hazardous waste disposal in the next five years to meet new federal requirements, according to a study by the Congressional Budget Office.

This could mean price increases for products made by firms that generate a lot of hazardous waste, and closing of some plants unable to meet the new costs, said the study prepared for the Senate Environmental Committee and released last week.

The study examined 70 broad industry groups and made no attempt to pinpoint individual plants. It did find three groups — wood preserving, primary metals and rubber and plastic — that would have to spend more than half their projected 1990 profits to meet the increase in disposal costs unless they can generate less waste.

Wood preservers will have to spend 111 percent of profits unless waste volume is reduced, the study said.

Hazardous waste is not ordinary garbage, but those substances that can poison people or are suspected of causing birth defects, genetic changes or cancer. The Environmental Protection Agency classifies more than 400 substances as hazardous waste.

International

American kidnapped in Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Gunmen kidnapped the American manager of the American University Hospital today as he walked to work in Moslem west Beirut, a university spokesman said.

David Jacobsen, 54, of Huntington Beach, Calif., became the sixth American kidnapped in Beirut since March 1984.

There was no claim of responsibility for the abduction. Islamic Jihad, believed to be an extremist Shiite Moslem group with links to Iran, has claimed responsibility for the other kidnappings.

Jacobsen was walking from the American University of Beirut campus, where he lives, to the hospital complex a block away when he was abducted at gunpoint, said the spokesman, who declined to be named.

An eyewitness, who also refused to be identified, said the six kidnapers climbed out of a blue van as Jacobsen stepped out of the hospital's medical gate.

They fired one pistol shot at the feet of an unidentified doctor who was walking with Jacobsen at about 8 a.m., the witness said.

He said Jacobsen told the gunmen in broken Arabic: "Okay, I'll go, I'll go." Jacobsen then stepped into the back seat of the van with the gunmen and it sped away, the witness added.

In Washington, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department said: "We can confirm that the kidnapping took place and the man was in fact David Jacobsen. We have no further comment at this time."

One-legged runner cheered

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — With cheers of tens of thousands of supporters ringing in his ears, Steve Fonyo was just 21 miles short today of completing his cross-Canada run on an artificial leg replacing the limb he lost to cancer.

Fonyo was welcomed to the West Coast on Monday night by about 20,000 people who shook Vancouver's domed stadium with thumping feet when the 19-year-old runner arrived, moving with a shuffling gait now famous in Canada.

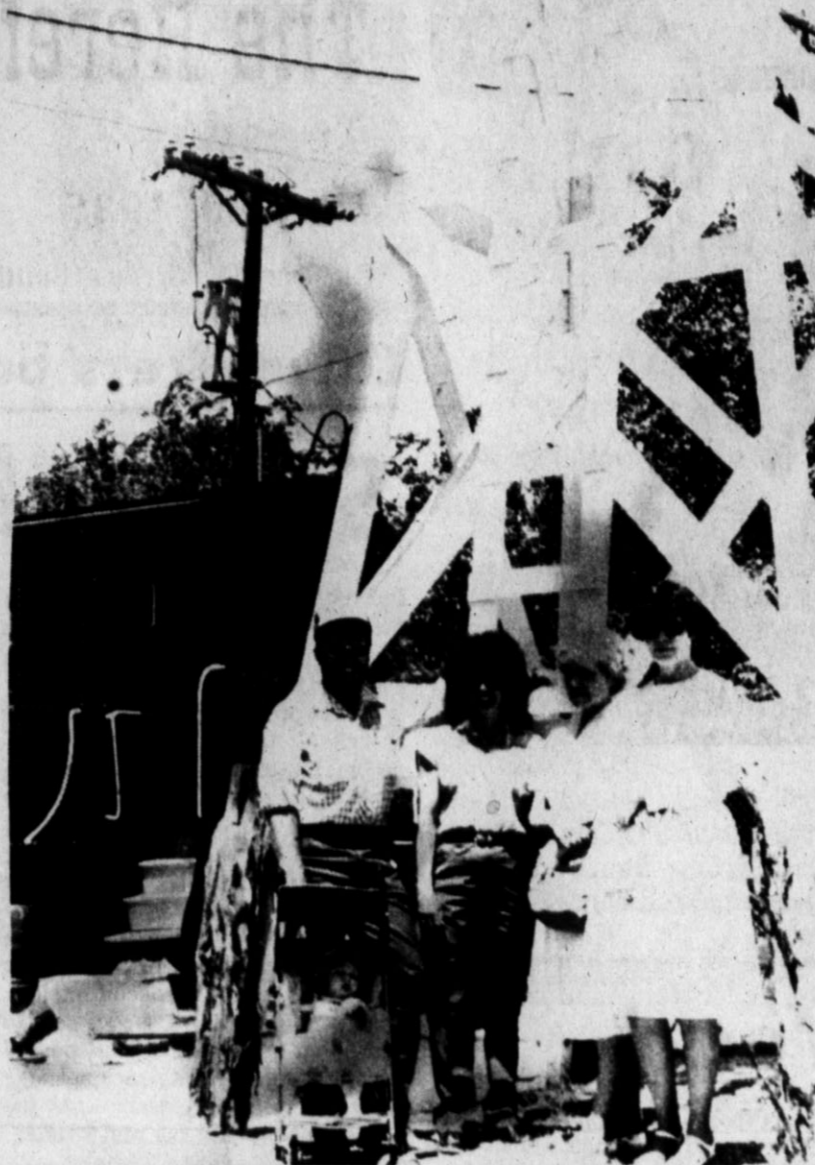
Waving and flashing a thumbs-up sign, Fonyo marched across a giant map of the country spread across the B.C. Place football field, re-enacting his 14-month run from St. John's, Newfoundland, to the Pacific.

After a ride across the Strait of Georgia on a naval destroyer, Fonyo was in easy striking distance of his goal, Mile Zero on the trans-Canada highway in Victoria, at the southern tip of Vancouver Island.

"I have run in rain. I have run in sunshine," the youth from Vernon, British Columbia, told the stadium crowd. "But mostly I have run in hope — hope there will soon be a cure for cancer."

His "Journey for Lives" has raised more than \$5 million for the Canadian Cancer Society to use for research, education and patient care, and the pace of contributions has quickened in recent days.

The runner's father, Stephen Fonyo Sr., said he estimated the crowds lining Vancouver streets along the six-mile route to the stadium on Monday at about 50,000, many of whom pressed forward handing cash to members of the entourage.



Windmill Named

John "Windmill" Turner was honored with the designation of the Deaf Smith County Museum windmill in his name. Turner is honored for his work with the museum and his maintenance of the windmill. The windmill recently fell into a fence at the museum and Turner's grandson, Scott, plans to repair the windmill back into working order. With Turner on Sunday were Dusty Turner, Brenda Turner, Mrs. Doyle Turner, and Merle Turner Roberson.

Foreign market even bigger

DETROIT (AP) — Foreign automakers will grab an even bigger share of the U.S. new-car market in the coming years, according to a Commerce Department study detailed in an auto industry journal.

By 1988, only 57 percent of the cars sold in this country will be made by U.S. companies — down from 76 percent last year, a federal official told the Automotive News.

The erosion of U.S. automakers' market share could mean the loss of 100,000 manufacturing jobs, the trade journal reported.

Japan will produce 4.06 million of the 11.2 million new cars sold in the U.S. in 1988 — comprising about 75 percent of all imports, the Commerce Department said in the report.

Meanwhile, sales of cars built in North America will drop to 6.36 million in 1988, compared with 7.8 million last year, the publication said.

Commerce Department projections for 1988 gave U.S. automakers a 57 percent share of the domestic market; Japanese companies, 27 percent; other foreign producers, 9 percent; and Japanese cars built in the U.S., 7 percent, Automotive News said.

New purpose discovered for old tires

By ALAN VAN ZELFDEN Dallas Times Herald

DALLAS (AP) — The Firestones, Goodyears, Michelins, Uniroyals and Goodriches lie buried beneath the sandy loam, their graves unmarked by tombstones or epitaphs.

The graveyard is congested with them. Some went to their burial plots with their ruptured steel belts. Some got slashed; others failed to make the rubber meet the road.

Some just couldn't hold their air any longer.

Tires. Millions of them. They arrive by truckload as factory cast-aways, their battered bodies dumped onto growing volcanic mounds of rubber that smell faintly of creosote.

And every day the great tire baron of the Southwest rides herd over his 100-acre dump, where his brood is offered a brief respite before being shipped to distant lands to assume some of the oddest duties ever imagined.

To Frank Prasifka, rubber is the quintessential black gold.

During the past six years, Prasifka has amassed enough old, abandoned tires in a southeastern Dallas County gravel pit to outfit just about every car in the Dallas area. So far, he has collected almost 4 million tires. It may sound like a strange profession, but rubber has made Prasifka independently wealthy.

Canadian and German shipping companies, interested in melting the tires to reclaim their oil, have offered to buy the graveyard for "substantial sums." And although Prasifka could retire if he accepted the offers, the 55-year-old Dallas native isn't selling.

"I didn't sell because I don't believe anybody could carry on my tradition of disposing of tires," said Prasifka, who operated three smaller scrap graveyards since 1956 before digging the pit near Hutchins in 1979.

"My sons might sell out when I'm dead and gone, but until then, it stays. It was a different challenge every day. People call me from all

over the world wanting to use the tires for all kinds of things."

More than 300 tons of used tires are dumped in the graveyard every week, adding to the bulky mountains of rubber that fill the pit. Crews battle the mounds daily with bulldozers, burying thousands of the poorer quality tires, which will be unearthed later for reincarnation.

Better quality tires, however, are treated with more respect.

Once unloaded, they are separated from the 2,000-pound truck tires that rest along the yard's northern perimeter. Some of the tires are so large the treads are as wide as a man's arm, and a child easily could stand inside them.

And as long as the internal combustion engine survives, the graveyard — the only one in the county and, Prasifka claims, one of the largest in the Southwest — is destined to be a moneymaker.

Five Dallas-Fort Worth tire companies pay Prasifka as much as \$300 for every 40-foot trailer of used tires he hauls from their warehouses. To top it off, they even go through the trouble of loading the trailers.

But the real profit comes from dismembering the tires and selling the parts. A used 21-inch truck tire, for example, can bring anywhere from \$6 to \$80 or more.

When such tires arrive, crews separate the good inner tubes from the bad. The good tubes are reconditioned and sold for \$1,000 a ton for rafting and swimming purposes; the bad tubes are bundled and sold to rubber companies for about \$120 a ton. If the tubes are bad, the stems are cut out, melted and the brass sold to wrecking yards.

Crews then extricate the tires' inner flaps — a wide slab of rubber stripped along the inner surface to separate the tube from the tie. If the inner flaps are good, they are resold to tire companies for about \$10 apiece. The bad ones are sold for \$6 apiece to oil companies, which use them to protect plastic pipe stacked in pipe yards.

Obituaries

CECIL HART

Cecil Hart, 68, of Hereford died at 10:25 p.m. Saturday in Deaf Smith General Hospital after a brief illness.

Services were held at 10 a.m. today in Central Church of Christ with Phil Collard and Bob Wear, officiating. Burial was in West Park Cemetery under the direction of Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home.

Born in Willbarger County, he moved to Hereford in 1958 from Amarillo. He married Juanita Switzer Jan. 16, 1936 in Silverton.

Mr. Hart was a farmer and a rancher and was a member of Central Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Nina; his mother, Mrs. Floy Hart of Dimmitt; three daughters, Nancy Todd of Dallas, Linda Lee Ferguson of Plano, Suzanne Davis of Amarillo; and seven grandchildren.

EULOGIO VALDEZ

Eulogio Valdez, 81, died Sunday in Hereford. Rosary will be recited at 7:30 p.m. today at Rix Funeral Directors.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the San Jose Catholic Church with the Rev. Joe Bixeman, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Westpark Cemetery by Rix Funeral Directors.

Mr. Valdez was born in Mexico and had lived in Hereford since 1947. He was retired from Santa Fe Railroad and was a member of San Jose Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife, Natalia; five sons, Felip, Julio and Jose, all of Hereford, Cain of Washington state and Manual of Brownsville; two daughters, Nydia Rencón of Hereford and Frances Avila of Phoenix, Ariz.; two brothers, a sister; 36 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

BRITTYE McCATHERN

Brittaye McCathern, 75, died at 6:35 a.m. Saturday morning in her home following a lengthy illness.

Services for the woman were to be held at 2 p.m. today at the Nazarene Church with the Rev. Bob Huffaker, pastor, and the Rev. Buster Griggs of Avenue Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be in West Park Cemetery under the direction of Rix Funeral Directors of Hereford.

Mrs. McCathern was born July 21, 1909 in Bacom County, Okla., and married S.A. McCathern in 1928. She had been a Hereford resident since 1947.

She was a housewife and a member of the Lone Star Study Club and was a member of the Church of the Nazarene.

Survivors include her husband; a son, Jau Don McCathern of Hereford; a daughter, Maxie Heck of

Claude; three sisters, Bobby Wilson of Alabama, and Gladys James and Nemi Rozenstein, both of Colorado Springs, Colo.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

LEOTA R. GOOD

Leota R. Good, 75, died today at 8 a.m. at High Plains Baptist Hospital in Amarillo after a lengthy illness.

Services are pending with Rix Funeral Directors of Hereford.

Mrs. Good was born Sept. 14, 1909 at Tyrone, Okla. She had been a Hereford resident since 1954, moving here from Arkansas.

Mrs. Good was a member of First Presbyterian Church, and was a five star member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by a son, Roy of Dumas; a sister, Virginia Wallace of Hereford; one nephew, Duwayne Wallace of Dallas; and three grandchildren.

TOM FROST

Tom Frost, 61, of Kerrville, died Sunday morning in that city.

Services were to be held at 2 p.m. today in Kerrville Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bill Blackburn, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Glen Rest Cemetery by Kerrville Funeral Home.

Mr. Frost was the brother of Rene Morrison of Hereford.

He was born in Chillocothe. He had lived in Amarillo for many years and served in the Navy and fought in World War II and the Korean conflict. He was a barber with the Esquire Barber Shop in Kerrville. He was a member of Veteran of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Frost married Helen E. Hollis in 1941 in Hollis, Okla.

Other survivors include his wife; three daughters, Peggy Fore of Houston, Carol Cook of Austin, and Mary Jacobs of Mission; a son, Rick of Amarillo; three sisters, Rene Morrison, Pat Tadlock of Stephenville, and Jack Gibson of Quanah; and eight grandchildren.

DAYTON CHISHOLM

Dayton Chisholm, 72, of Pierre, S.D. died Sunday evening in Pierre after a brief illness. Services for the former Hereford resident are set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in First Baptist Church in Pierre.

Mr. Chisholm was a licensed pilot and president of Flying Farmers of America. He had lived in Pierre for approximately 30 years and was a rancher and member of First Baptist Church in Pierre.

He is survived by his wife, Lois; a son, Danny of South Dakota; a daughter of Idaho; and four grandchildren.

Witness disrupts trial

ROME (AP) — Mehmet Ali Agca, the state's star witness in the papal plot trial, disrupted the proceedings for the second day today with ramblings about being Jesus Christ and then by refusing to answer questions.

It was not clear how his performance would affect the explosive trial of three Bulgarians and four Turks for conspiracy in the May 13, 1981, shooting of Pope John Paul II. All seven defendants face life sentences.

Today, the second day of the trial, he asked Judge Severino Santiapichi to be allowed to make a statement, and repeated his Monday claims that he was Jesus Christ and was not crazy.

He added: "In this generation the days are counted. No one — not even the Americans or the Soviets — can save us from this. . . . There will be total destruction."

He called on the Vatican to "reveal the third mystery of the blessed Virgin of Fatima."

The Vatican has refused to disclose the so-called third secret of Fatima, which some say is a prophecy of another global war or the end of the world.

The judge tried to make Agca respond to his questions.

Hereford Brand

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Lifestyles

Woman continues love affair with her car



Ann Landers

Just move the couch



Talking It Over

B.J. and Erica Shipp explain to their dog about the annual Pet Show scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Bull Barn. The show, which is sponsored by the Women's Division, will last approximately two hours. This year's pet show chairman is Jane White. There is no charge to enter a pet.

The Army Air Force started on Aug. 1, 1907, as the Aeronautical Division of the U.S. Army's Signal Corps. It consisted of one officer and two enlisted men, and it was a year before it carried out its first mission in its own plane. At its peak in 1944 during World War II, the Army Air Corps had 2,411,294 officers and enlisted men.

When you were 20, there were dragons to slay and damsels to rescue; after 40, you join the Save the Dragons movement.

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DR. GOTT



Peter Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT — My father used to get migraine headaches. Five years ago he retired and he quit getting the headaches, but now he's discovered he has an ulcer. Are these both tension-related diseases? I hate to think that he'll be tied to medicine the rest of his life. Are there lifestyle changes he should be trying instead?

DEAR READER — Migraine, a vascular instability of the brain covering, appears to be triggered by stress in some people. Not all headaches are migraines; the majority of headaches are due to tension-related contractions in the scalp and back of the neck. Be that as it may, migraines can be stress-induced. If, after your father retired, he stopped having headaches, I would conclude that certain job-related factors apparently caused his headaches.

Now that he has an ulcer, which may also be brought on by stress, it sounds as though he has had a problem dealing effectively with both the tension at work and the tension of retirement.

Retirement stress is becoming a hot topic. Many career-oriented, aggressive men and women find the supposed serenity of retirement to be an ordeal. For a person accustomed to controlling his world and making decisions, life after 65 can be a sudden and devastating wasteland. Usefulness becomes a distant memory and the excitement of a career changes into numbing frustration. The anger of being "put out to pasture" may be turned inward to cause chronic gastric hyperacidity. Your mother may ruefully be learning that she married your father for better or for worse ... but not for lunch.

He probably needs to regain some balance in his life and, if he is alert and willing, he may provide an extraordinary resource for your community. For example, he could volunteer at your hospital or local school. He could become active in church affairs or men's clubs. He may be able to discover a part-time job that will not jeopardize his Social Security benefits. What he needs is to be busy and useful to someone.

DEAR ANN LANDERS: I am 30 years old, married and the mother of two children. I don't know who else to turn to, so please come up with some help.

My husband, Eddie, lost his job over a year ago and if he doesn't find something soon it's going to be the end of our marriage. He wants to make love every afternoon because the best TV shows are on at night and he wouldn't miss them.

The problem is, the only place he can get really satisfied is on the living room couch. I can't understand it because the couch is narrow and lumpy. The bed is much more comfortable. Also I am afraid the kids will get up from their naps and walk in on us.

Please come up with a solution, Ann. I think the man is a little off his rocker, but I don't dare tell him because he has a short temper and I hate to cross him.—EMMA IN POUGHKEEPSIE

DEAR EMMA: Move the couch into the bedroom.

DEAR ANN LANDERS: My father died of a liver ailment brought on by his drinking. I knew he was a severe alcoholic and promised myself I would never end up that way, but it happened.

My feelings of inferiority, loneliness, depression and guilt were indescribable. The broken promises, lies and self-hate nearly drove me crazy. I knew I was hurting everyone around me and came very close to swallowing several dozen pills that I had managed to save up by going to three different doctors and getting prescriptions from all of them.

My life changed completely when I read a piece by rock star Grace Slick. I decided if she could get off the booze and drugs, I could, too. That very evening I flushed the pills down the toilet and went to a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

That was six months ago. My sobriety has given me a level of self-respect I had never known. I have replaced self-pity and self-hate with a fierce determination to make something of my life. Being free of alcohol has made me appreciate simple things, like a good night's sleep, a walk in the sunshine, the smile of a stranger, the beauty of an old oak tree.

I am 20 years old and plan to enroll in college next September. The change in my life came about because A.A. opened my eyes and gave me the strength to say NO to booze and YES to life.

Please print my letter for the alcoholics who are out there by the millions. Tell them if I can do it, they can, too.—ONE WHO GOT SICK AND TIRED OF BEING SICK AND TIRED

DEAR FRIEND: Thanks for the opportunity to tell my readers once again about Alcoholics Anonymous. It is as near as your phone book. Look up the number, call and find out when the next meeting in your neighborhood is scheduled. It's free. It's anonymous. It's a life-saver.

I've been singing the praises of A.A. for 30 years. Thousands of readers have written to thank me for

sending them to this wonderful organization. I cannot count the number of times I have read these words: "A.A. helped me when everything else failed. You saved my life."

Going to a wedding? Giving one? Or standing up in one? Even if you're already married Ann Landers' "New Bride's Guide" will answer questions about today's weddings. For a copy, send \$2.00, plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope (39 cents postage) to Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11995, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Penelope, her Rolls Royce, would roll no more, Sandy Liebert whispered to the mechanic to avoid hurting its feelings.

"I have a love affair for this car," she said. "I'll love her for life. She makes me feel luxurious. Like I'm wearing a sable coat."

Ms. Liebert, of suburban Encino, told "service engineer" Cal West that her 1974 Silver Shadow "broke down."

West said he understood that the car had "failed to proceed." Ms. Liebert was offered fruit,

cheese, and imported wine while the car underwent his tender ministrations and was found to be in need of a fuel pump and brake pads.

West said competition for Rolls Royce, which offers an economy model for \$99,000, is measured by a different yardstick.

"Mercedes and Cadillacs aren't our competitors," he said. "Our competitor is the option of buying another house. Our competitor is a corporation's decision to diversify, rather than buy a Rolls as a company car," West said.

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Sports

DeLeon of Pittsburgh loses 7th game

Astros, Knepper defeat Pirates, 4-2

By MICHAEL A. LUTZ
AP Sports Writer

Pittsburgh pitcher Jose DeLeon would like to get onto some of the luck that Houston's Bob Knepper has been enjoying this season.

If he doesn't do something soon, he may find himself back in the minor leagues.

While Knepper benefitted from a four-run cushion in the second inning that led to a 4-2 victory Monday night, DeLeon lost for the 16th time in his last 17 decisions over two seasons.

DeLeon, 0-7 this season, has received only 17 runs from his teammates in his last five starts. Last season, the Pirates averaged 3.21 runs in games DeLeon started.

Knepper, at 5-0, is off to his best start as an Astro despite a pair of off-performances in the recently completed road trip.

"I won three games on the last road trip and I didn't pitch all that well," Knepper said. "But I was lucky and had a few runs so I was able to work out of it."

Terry Puhl's two-run double, a triple by Phil Garner and Craig Reynolds' single scored Houston's four runs in the second inning and could signal a trip to the minors for DeLeon.

"We've talked about it (sending DeLeon to the minors)," Pittsburgh Manager Chuck Tanner said. "But it will be up to Joe (Brown, general manager). He pitched well his last time out but tonight Jose got the ball up and couldn't get it down."

"We know he has a great arm (and) it's just a matter of learning to keep the ball down. He's learning the hard way."

The Astros were breaking away from a string of two straight losses to Chicago when they blew leads.

"We had some tough games in Chicago when it looked like we had the games locked up," Astros manager Bob Lillis said. "But you never have enough runs in Chicago."

The Astros set about getting the lead Monday night when Harry Spilman led off Houston's big second inning with a single to centerfield and scored the first run on Phil Garner's triple off the center field wall.

Mark Bailey walked, went to second on Knepper's sacrifice bunt and brought up Puhl, who sliced a double down the leftfield line scoring Garner and Bailey.

Pirate reliever Rod Scurry then came on to retire the next two batters and end the inning. He retired 12 batters in a row before Spilman singled through the middle in the sixth.

Pittsburgh got one run in the third inning when Bill Almon singled to leftfield and scored when former Astro Scott Loucks banged a double off the centerfield fence.

Knepper yielded a double to Tony Pena and single to Steve Kemp to start the ninth, and a fielder's choice grounder by Marvele Wynne off reliever Dave Smith allowed Pena to score the second run.

Phillies 10, Padres 9
Mike Schmidt and John Russell hit three-run homers, Tim Corcoran hit a game-winning sacrifice fly, and they all lost their jobs.

The three put the Phillies over the top in a 10-9 slugfest with the San Diego Padres Monday, then each found something unpleasant waiting for him in the locker room.

Phillies Manager John Felske announced that a top prospect, third baseman Rick Schu, had been recalled from Philadelphia's Pacific Coast League affiliate in Portland.

Schu's arrival in Philadelphia means that Schmidt, nine times a Gold Glove winner at third base, is on his way to first base.

Schmidt's arrival at first base means that Corcoran, who has played most of the Phillies' games at first base this year, is on his way to becoming a pinch hitter.

Corcoran's arrival on the bench means that Russell, who homered Monday as a pinch hitter, is on his way to Portland.

"I'm nervous," said Schmidt, who has played only one game at first base in 13 years with the Phillies.

"I don't look forward to playing first base the rest of my career. I won't be anything more than a de-

quate over there for a while," he said.

The Padres clubbed 17 hits off six pitchers in a failed effort to maintain their seven-game winning streak. Terry Kennedy, Jerry Royster and Garry Templeton each had three hits. Kennedy had four RBIs and lengthened his hitting streak to 11 games.

Cubs 4, Reds 3
Bob Dernier doubled with the

Hereford Track Club meeting scheduled tonight

The Hereford Track Club will hold an organizational meeting tonight at 7 p.m.

The meeting will be held at Stanton Junior High School.

Club members will compete in seven track meets this summer. The first meet of the summer season is scheduled on Saturday, June 8.

Suzanne Duvall asks that anyone who cannot attend the meeting should contact her.

bases loaded for two runs and Keith Moreland broke out of a slump with three hits, including an RBI double. Ron Cey drove in the fourth run for the Cubs with a double off the wall.

Lee Smith, relieving in the ninth with the bases clear and the score 4-2, soon had a man on third with none out and the score 4-3. The man stayed there as Smith notched a groundout, a strikeout and a popout.

Mets 8, Dodgers 1
Ray Knight had started 11 games at second base before Monday night—the last one in 1978. He was still queasy from a viral infection but was penciled into the lineup late when starting second baseman Kelvin Chapman came down with back spasms. Knight responded by driving in four runs with a three-run homer and a double to pace the Mets.

Ron Darling, 4-1, won his third straight decision.

Giants 6, Expos 1
Atlee Hammaker won his first game of the year for the Giants. "It's been a long time," said Hammaker, 1-4, who worked seven shutout innings. "After a couple of months you really want to get that first one over with." Hammaker allowed four hits and struck out four.

KAMR schedules golf tourney in Hereford

Hereford's John Pitman Municipal Golf Course will be the site of the KAMR Action News 4 Open Saturday and Sunday.

The tourney, 36 holes of medal play, will have shotgun starts at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday. Players will be flighted according to first-day scores. The six-stroke rule will be in effect.

Entry fee is \$40 per golfer, which includes green fees and a happy hour

and hamburger dinner Saturday night from 7 to 9. Trophies will be awarded to flight winners.

The tourney is open to the first 200 entrants. Call or mail entry to Mike Horton, Box 814, 364-2782, at Pitman Golf Course.

The Chicago Bears defeated the Washington Redskins 73-0 in the 1940 National Football League championship game.

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USFL standings

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA	
Birmingham	10	4	0	.714	285	242
New Jersey	9	5	0	.643	325	296
Tampa Bay	9	5	0	.643	346	306
Jacksonville	8	6	0	.571	329	317
Memphis	8	6	0	.571	311	275
Baltimore	7	6	1	.536	285	214
Orlando	3	11	0	.214	227	285
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Oakland	10	3	1	.750	349	281
Denver	9	5	0	.643	367	291
Houston	9	5	0	.643	434	291
Arizona	5	9	0	.357	286	333
Portland	4	10	0	.286	192	322
Los Angeles	3	11	0	.214	199	289
San Antonio	3	11	0	.214	229	334

Saturday's Games

Jacksonville 21, Los Angeles 7

Portland 17, Memphis 14

Sunday's Games

Houston 41, Arizona 20

New Jersey 36, Tampa Bay 24, OT

Baltimore 28, San Antonio 10

Monday's Game

Birmingham 41, Orlando 17

Thursday, May 30

Denver at Los Angeles

Saturday, June 1

Tampa Bay at Orlando

San Antonio at Arizona

Sunday, June 2

Jacksonville at Baltimore

Memphis at New Jersey

Portland at Oakland

Monday, June 3

Birmingham at Houston

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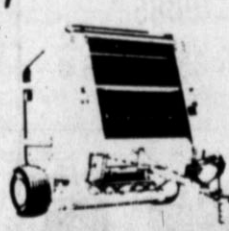
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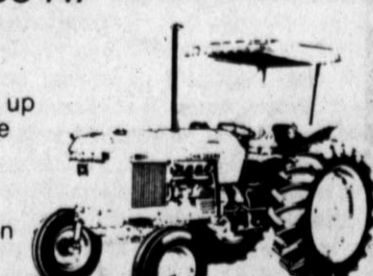
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DEAL 7. PLANTERS

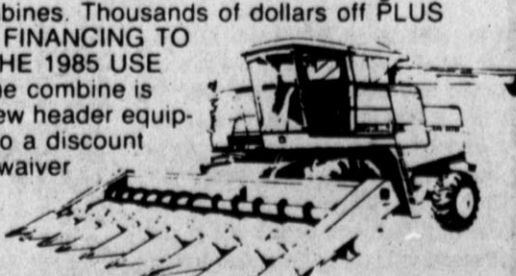
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Brett leads Royals to 4-2 win over Rangers

By DOUG UCKER
AP Sports Writer

It's amazing how much difference one player can make.

The first six weeks of this season, the Kansas City Royals struggled fitfully to score runs. Their hopes of defending their American League West title seemed dim.

Then from the other side of the state came Lonnie Smith, a fleet, spray-hitting outfielder who was inserted into the batting order as the No. 2 hitter between Willie Wilson and George Brett.

The result has been dramatic. The Royals' 4-2 victory over the Texas Rangers Monday night was their sixth straight triumph. Brett's three runs batted in gave him 15 in the past seven games, with 12 of those runs being scored either by Wilson or Smith. Against the Rangers, Smith reached base three times, stole three bases and scored twice.

"We're just a much better offensive club than we were 10 days ago," said Kansas City Manager Dick Howser, who has given Smith and Wilson a perpetual green light to run

the bases at will. "You just look at what those two guys in the front of the order are doing for us. Smith has the same kind of speed on the bases that Willie has."

The Royals' winning streak has carried them to within one-half game of the front-running California Angels in the American League East, but Brett has no illusions about maintaining his torrid run produc-

tion.

"It's going to be tough to continue that—15 in seven games," he said. He also noted that Wilson is under his career average of .304 and Smith, who came over from the St. Louis Cardinals, is still getting acquainted with American League pitching.

When those two hit full stride, said Brett, things could get interesting.

Bret Saberhagen gave up three

hits through six innings and Dan Quisenberry pitched the final three frames for his ninth save as the Rangers, who unveiled their new gray road uniforms, saw their winning streak halted at four games.

"With guys stealing three and four bases a game," said Saberhagen, 5-3, "George is going to get 200 RBIs this year."

struck out 10 and walked none in tossing his 49th career shutout. Blyleven is tied for 20th place on the all-time shutout list with Don Drysdale, Luis Tiant, Ferguson Jenkins and Early Wynn.

A's 2, Yankees 1

Dwayne Murphy led off the bottom of the 10th inning by clouting a home run to center field off Yankee reliever Dave Righetti, 3-4. He hit a 3-1 pitch that just carried over the 390-foot mark for his sixth homer of the year. It was the first homer hit off Righetti this season.

Former Yankee reliever Jay Howell, 3-2, worked the last three innings for the victory.

Oakland starter Don Sutton pitched five hitless innings and left after seven, allowing two hits, walking two and striking out five.

CELTICS OUTSHOOT LAKERS, 148-114

Celtics outshoot Lakers, 148-114

By HOWARD ULMAN AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — It was the runners against the gunners.

The Boston Celtics solved the puzzle that baffled so many Los Angeles opponents. They showed, in record-setting fashion, that the way to slow down the Lakers' fastbreak is to keep hitting shots.

With Scott Wedman and Danny Ainge connecting with long-range bombs, the National Basketball Association's defending champions overwhelmed the Lakers 148-114 Monday in the opener of the best-of-seven championship series.

"After we got up by 30 points, I thought it was a dream," said Boston forward Cedric Maxwell.

"Not in my wildest dreams would I have thought this would happen to us," said Los Angeles guard Earvin "Magic" Johnson. "It was like a nightmare."

Lakers in 1970, and by building a 63-43 rebounding advantage.

They also set championship series records for most points, largest halftime lead, most points in the first half and most field goals, 62.

The old marks were 142 points by Boston against Los Angeles on April 18, 1965, a 27-point halftime lead by New York against Los Angeles on May 8, 1970, and 76 points in the first half and 61 field goals, both by Boston against St. Louis on March 27, 1960.

Wedman made all 11 of his shots, including four three-pointers, to set a championship series record for players making a minimum of eight shots. James Worthy of Los Angeles and Bill Bradley of the New York Knicks shared the previous shooting mark of .917 with 11-of-12 marksmanship.

Kevin McHale had 26 points to share scoring honors with Wedman, who played 23 minutes as a substitute. Ainge and Larry Bird added 19 apiece. Los Angeles was led by Worthy with 20 and Johnson with 19.

After Thursday night's game, the series moves to Inglewood, Calif., for games Sunday and June 5. A fifth game, if needed, would be at the Lakers' home June 7. Games 6 and 7 would be in Boston.

Red Sox 3, Twins 2

Rookie Steve Lyons is starting to make the kind of noise the Boston Red Sox like to hear.

In his first start in the major leagues, Lyons belted the first two home runs of his career and drove in four runs Monday to lead the Red Sox past the slumping Minnesota Twins 9-2.

Lyons also had a single in five at-bats while starting in place of center fielder Tony Armas, who leads the majors in home runs with 13 but was nursing a sprained wrist.

Lyons broke a 1-1 tie in the third inning with a towering home run into the Minnesota bullpen off Ken Schrom, 3-4. Lyons then drilled a three-run homer into the Boston bullpen, near the 420-foot mark, off Ron Davis during a five-run eighth.

"I was just hoping it would be a memorable day," Lyons said. "I think it will be now."

Indians 8, Brewers 0

Bert Blyleven has found the surest way to win with Cleveland — throw a shutout.

Blyleven pitched a three-hitter and won his third game this season, all by shutout, against five losses. He

scored singles by Bob Melvin and Tom Brookens in the seventh.

Loser Dan Petry, 8-3, was the victim of Detroit's miscues.

Orioles 6, Angels 4

Scott McGregor, continuing his success at Anaheim Stadium, turned in another strong outing with a six-hitter against the Angels.

McGregor, who lost four of his first five decisions and also lost a turn in Baltimore's starting rotation, followed a three-hit shutout at Oakland last week with his victory over California. McGregor has won 10 of his last 11 decisions in Anaheim.

The Orioles broke a 4-4 tie in the seventh with two runs.

Mariners 5, Tigers 2

Detroit made four errors, setting up three unearned runs that carried Seattle and Matt Young to victory.

Young, 4-5, went 6 2-3 innings. He allowed eight hits, including run-

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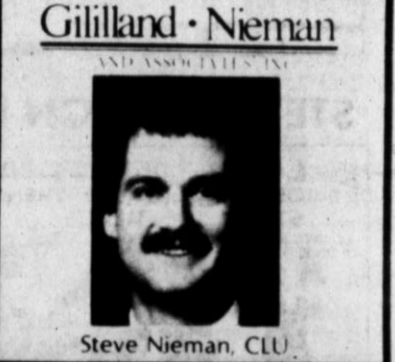
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Baseball standings

By The Associated Press
AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	28	14	.667	—
Detroit	24	17	.585	3½
Baltimore	24	18	.571	4
New York	21	20	.512	6½
Milwaukee	18	22	.450	9
Boston	19	24	.442	9½
Cleveland	18	27	.372	12½

West Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
California	25	18	.581	—
Kansas City	24	18	.571	½
Minnesota	21	22	.489	4
Oakland	21	22	.489	4
Chicago	19	20	.487	4
Seattle	18	24	.432	8
Texas	15	28	.349	12

Monday's Games

Boston 8, Minnesota 2
Toronto at Chicago, ppd., rain
Cleveland 8, Milwaukee 8
Baltimore 6, California 4
Seattle 5, Detroit 2
Kansas City 4, Texas 2
Oakland 2, New York 1, 10 innings

Tuesday's Games

Minnesota (Viola 4-3) at Boston (Ojeda 3-1), (a)
Toronto (Clancy 3-1) at Chicago (Lollar 1-2), (a)
Cleveland (Heston 3-3) at Milwaukee (Haas 4-2), (a)
Texas (Hooton 1-1) at Kansas City (Go-bicza 1-2), (a)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	25	15	.625	—
New York	25	15	.625	—
Montreal	25	18	.581	1½
St. Louis	21	20	.512	4½
Philadelphia	16	26	.381	10
Pittsburgh	14	27	.341	11½

West Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Diego	25	15	.625	—
Houston	23	20	.535	3½
Cincinnati	22	21	.512	4½
Los Angeles	21	23	.477	6
Atlanta	17	24	.415	9½
San Francisco	16	28	.361	13

Monday's Games

Philadelphia 10, San Diego 9
San Francisco 8, Montreal 1
New York 8, Los Angeles 1
Chicago 4, Cincinnati 3
Houston 4, Pittsburgh 2

Tuesday's Games

Chicago (Sorensen 1-4) at Cincinnati (Thibb 2-7), (a)
St. Louis (Forsch 3-2) at Atlanta (Barber 1-4), (a)
Pittsburgh (Robinson 2-4) at Houston (Mathis 3-1), (a)
Montreal (Smith 5-1) at San Diego (Shaw 4-2), (a)

The Lakers, who had scored 153 points to beat Denver by 44 in their previous game, lost Monday by 34, their biggest deficit in a championship series.

It came on the anniversary of Los Angeles' 115-109 victory over Boston in the opener of last year's finals. Since then, the Celtics are unbeaten in 12 home playoff games.

Los Angeles also was on a roll, averaging 131.2 points per game in building an 11-2 playoff record this year before Monday's contest.

"We're a good running team when we rebound, but you have a hard time fastbreaking consistently when you're taking it (the ball) out of your net," said Los Angeles Coach Pat Riley. "The majority of your fastbreaks come off good defense and long rebounds and we didn't have it."

"We controlled the boards, we showed patience on offense, moved the ball around and looked for the good shot," said Boston Coach K.C. Jones. "That's how we controlled their fastbreak."

"We are not going to shoot like that every night. Hopefully, we will be the same Thursday (in the second game), but I know better than that."

In the first half, Boston had 21 fastbreak points to just eight for Los Angeles.

"Their team is a fun-loving team that likes to play offense," Maxwell said. "We created situations that made them play defense. We took them out of their game somewhat."

The Celtics did it by hitting 60.8 percent of their field goal attempts, breaking the championship series record of 60.6 percent set by the

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8RW	1100
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7000 Drawn Folding	
8RW	2800
12RN	2800
12RW	3100
16RN	3500
18RN	4000
24RN	7500
7000 Drawn Conservation	
4R	650
6RN	1000
8RN	1200
7000 Flex Fold	
8RW	500
12RN	600
7100 Int. Rigid	
4RW	500
6RN	600
6RW	650
6RW Skip	550
8RN	800
8RW	850
8RW Skip	750
7100 Int. Folding	
8RW	1000
12RN	1400
7100 Soybean Special	
8RN	850
10RN	1000
12RN	1200
Split Row Planting Attachment	600

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Model 3960	850
Model 3950	500
Model 3970	500
Model 4720	500
Mower Conditioners (except 1424)	450
Model 1424	1000
Self-Propelled Windrowers	
Model 2320 (grain only)	1500
Model 2420 (grain only)	1500
Model 2320 (auger platform)	2000
Model 2420 (auger platform)	2000
Model 2280 (auger platform)	3000
Model 3430	650
Model 3830	650

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(Source: U.S. Department of Education)

NEA GRAPHIC

Today's lesson? Name the U.S. top 10 when it comes to the highest average salaries for public-school teachers — kindergarten through eighth grade. Answer: See above. Ranked No. 1 among the states is Alaska at \$34,510.

Texas leads nation in railway accidents

EASTLAND, Texas (AP) — Texas leads the nation in railway accidents, accounting for more than 10 percent of all mishaps, statistics compiled by the Federal Railroad Administration show.

And the Missouri Pacific Railroad, owner of a freight train that derailed in Eastland on Friday after being hit by a truck, ranks third nationally among the nation's major rail carriers in accidents that involve hazardous materials.

The carrier ranks first, however, in the amount of hazardous material transported by any railroad.

Statistics show that Texas was the site of 432 accidents in 1983, including eight fatal crashes and 43 accidents involving hazardous cargo.

Illinois, which had the second worst record in 1983, had 315 accidents.

A spokesman for the railroad administration said preliminary figures for 1984 indicate that Texas retained its position as the most dangerous state for rail travel. Texas had 383 accidents, including

five deaths, and 63 train accidents involving hazardous material last year. Leakage of chemicals was reported in nine cases.

"Texas is so large and there are so many miles of track and so many trains out there, there's a better chance of an accident," administration spokesman Tom Simpson told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

But officials with the Texas Railroad Commission acknowledge that the accident record cannot be explained solely by the law of averages.

Michael James, the commission's acting director for transportation, blames the high number of accidents on lax railroad inspection. Until 1973, Texas relied on five federal inspectors to oversee nearly 14,000 miles of main line track — a workforce that James called "totally inadequate."

Since then, the federal inspectors have been augmented by 10 additional rail experts funded jointly by the state and federal governments. "If the experience of other states

proves true here — and we think it will — we should see those (accident) rates coming down," James said. "In a state with this much track, you're never going to be able to totally dispense with the potential for derailment. But we are confident that we can bring them down."

Ellen Elick, a spokeswoman for Missouri Pacific's corporate offices in St. Louis, Mo., said it appeared that there was no way the railroad could have prevented Friday's accident in Eastland.

"How could we have avoided this particular accident? I can't think what we could have done," Elick said.

In 1984, Missouri Pacific trains carrying hazardous materials were involved in 40 accidents. Only Southern Pacific and the Seaboard System Railroad had more. However, in only three of the accidents were chemicals released into the air, federal records indicate.

James said that he is concerned about Texas' high train accident count because of the large number of

trains carrying hazardous materials. Elick said more than 1 million carloads of hazardous material were transported by all trains in 1983, and a large portion of that moved through Texas and Louisiana on Missouri Pacific tracks.

"We are the railroad that handles the most hazardous materials," she said, adding that most of those carloads originate at petrochemical plants along the Gulf Coast.

The Federal Railroad Administration says that 700 people were evacuated in Texas in 1983 because of accidents involving hazardous substances.

About 3,000 residents have been evacuated in accidents this month in Texas — 2,000 at Eastland on Friday and 1,000 in Childress on May 2 when six Burlington Northern freight cars derailed and hydrogen peroxide began leaking from a ruptured tank car.

James estimates that more than a fourth of all of the trains in the state are carrying dangerous chemicals.

COMICS

PEANUTS by Charles M. Schultz



STEVE CANYON by Milton Caniff



FRANK AND ERNEST by Bob Thaves



THE BORN LOSER by Art Sansom



EK & MEK by Howie Schneider



ALLY OOP by Dave Graue



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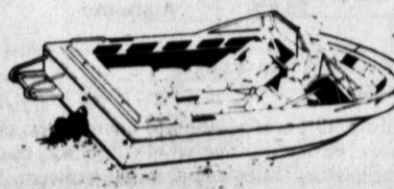
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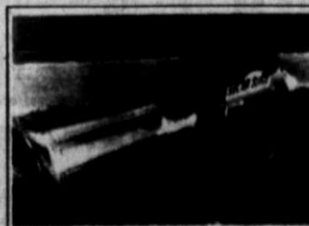
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