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The Pampa News

Pampa, Texas

THURSDAY, December 29, 1994

25c

Good Evening!

AREA

SLATON — Pampa High School girls were knocked out of the Slaton basketball tournament this morning, losing to Merkel 43-41.
The top two Pampa scorers for the game were Serenity King with 12 points and Jennifer Jones with eight.
Post handed Pampa its first loss of the tournament Wednesday, beating the Lady Harvesters 58-52.
Pampa's top scorers in that game were Misty Scribner with 17 points and Jennifer Jones with 13.

NATIONAL

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — The first Macintosh computer clones could be ready for sale this spring.
Power Computing Corp., a start-up company backed by the Italian company Olivetti, has reached the first agreement with Apple Computer Inc. to license Mac OS, the Macintosh's highly regarded operating system.
After years of keeping its technology to itself, Apple said this fall it would allow other companies to make clones of its computers. The move is intended to help Apple increase its modest share of the personal computer market.
Power Computing said Wednesday that it plans to sell Macintosh clones under its own name starting this spring, as well as logic boards and other components. Financial terms of the licensing agreement were not disclosed.

NEW YORK (AP) — A German tourist had a brush with bat-wielding New Yorkers near Times Square — and she loved every second of it.
The 20-year-old kindergarten teacher-in-training was making a guest appearance in *Damn Yankees*, the Broadway musical about a fan who sells his soul to become the world's greatest baseball player.
No such price was extracted from Simone Freue of Hamm, Germany, who won a "dream come true" contest sponsored by the German newspaper *Bild Zeitung*.
An amateur dancer, she wrote that she'd love to set foot on a Broadway stage, maybe during a rehearsal. On the plane somewhere over the Atlantic, she was told she would actually appear in Wednesday's matinee as an extra.
"She was paralyzed," said Robert Seildorf, one of her escorts.

STATE

HOUSTON (AP) — Continental Airlines has cut fares by up to 40 percent for travel through early spring.
Tickets will be sold from today to Jan. 13. The discounted fares will apply for travel between Jan. 5 and May 23, except on Florida routes, where the sale will be in effect only until Feb. 15.
The sale includes trips within the United States and travel abroad. Foreign destinations include Mexico; the Caribbean; London; Paris; Frankfurt, Germany; and Madrid, Spain.
A round-trip ticket from Los Angeles to New York-Newark will drop from \$498 to \$298. A Cleveland to London round-trip ticket falls from \$750 to \$498.
American Airlines said it would match Continental's sale on competing routes. Major airlines usually match sales in competitive markets.
Round-trip reservations for Continental's sale fares must be made at least seven days in advance, and a Friday or Saturday night stay is required.

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The jackpot was worth \$3 million.
The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 3, 4, 12, 28, 32 and 33.
Lottery officials estimate the jackpot for Saturday night's game will be 10 million.

WEATHER

Tonight **40** Tomorrow **50**
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Koreans release pilot's 'confession'

By PAUL ALEXANDER
Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Hours after President Clinton demanded the release of Bobby Hall, North Korea countered today with a handwritten statement purportedly from the American pilot asking forgiveness for "a flagrant violation of international law."
It wasn't clear whether the statement was an indication that North Korea is ready to free Bobby Hall or an attempt to intensify pressure for a public U.S. apology.
It was impossible to know whether Hall wrote and signed the statement as the North Koreans claim, or if he did, under what type of pressure.
The statement, dated Christmas Day, was released after inconclusive talks Wednesday between North Korean officials and U.S. diplomat Thomas Hubbard.
Hubbard met today with the first vice minister of foreign affairs, Kang Sok Ju, according to North Korea's official Korea Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo.
A senior State Department official, ask-

ing not to be identified, said in Washington that Hubbard made some progress. No further details were available.
Hall was captured Dec. 17 after his helicopter went down in North Korean territory. His co-pilot died and his body was returned last week.
Korea News Service in Tokyo, a pro-North agency, today released a photograph of the handwritten statement it said it had obtained from North Korea.
The seven-page statement is headlined "CONFESSION." Only the first and last pages are clearly visible. U.S. officials had no immediate comment on whether it appeared to be Hall's handwriting.
In the statement released by the North's official news agency, Hall said he was on a reconnaissance mission when his OH-58A-C helicopter "deviated from the route" and crossed into North Korea.
He did not admit to spying and gave no explanation for the deviation, but said, "I admit that this criminal action is inexcusable and unpardonable. However, at home my parents, wife and kids are anxiously waiting for my return to them.

"I only hope, and it is my desire, that the Korean People's Army will leniently forgive me for my illegal intrusion so that I may return to my home and be with my family again."
After Hall's statement was released, a Clinton administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity, acknowledged that the helicopter could be viewed as having illegally entering North Korean airspace, but reiterated that the action was accidental and not part of a spying mission. U.S. officials have expressed regret over the incident.
In Washington on Wednesday, Clinton denied Hall's helicopter was involved in espionage. "He was on a routine training mission. That's all," the president said.
Clinton and administration officials avoided threatening retaliation, even while insisting the helicopter strayed into North Korean territory because of navigational errors.
Lawmakers and Secretary of State Warren Christopher have said failure to release the pilot soon could jeopardize an agreement to provide \$4 billion in aid to North Korea and improve relations. In

exchange, the isolated communist state, suspected of building nuclear weapons, is supposed to stop work on its nuclear program.
Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana, a senior Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told Fox TV that the statement attributed to Hall today is "a typical North Korean strategy and sort of a Cold War re-enactment again."
"The only basis for hope is the fact that the North Korean government is still coherent enough to want to have a relationship with the United States," Lugar said.
It wasn't clear why North Korea released the statement four days after it was said to have been written and just after Hubbard arrived for the highest-level direct talks yet in the crisis.
But there have been indications of a power struggle between the North's civilian leaders and military hard-liners reported to be upset over the nuclear agreement signed two months ago.
The North's official Korean Central News Agency supplied a text of what it called Hall's confession.

Phillips donation



(Pampa News photo by Melinda Martinez)

Present at the Phillips Petroleum/GPM Gas Company donation to the Gray County Local Emergency Planning Committee this morning are, from left, Ken Hall, Jimmy Schuneman, John Lee, Charles Smith, Dan Perez and Lynda Duncan.

Phillips makes contribution to Gray County LEPC

BORGER — Phillips Petroleum/GPM Gas Co. officials today presented a \$2,000 check to Ken Hall, emergency management coordinator for the Gray County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).
The presentation, made this morning at the Phillips Petroleum Co. offices in Borger, is in appreciation of the LEPC's assistance in preparing and administering an emergency drill conducted Nov. 18 for GPM's Rock Creek Plant.
The purpose of the drill was to assist management and area personnel in being prepared for emergencies. Representatives from the fire, police and sheriff departments attended the drill.

Other participants in the emergency drill included members from the American Red Cross, the Borger mayor's office, The Borger News Herald, ambulance service and Phillips Borger Refinery Emergency Management Team.
Members of the Gray County LEPC who provided guidance and planning for the drill included Hall, Jimmy Schuneman, Charles Smith, Dan Perez, Lynda Duncan and Hunter Chisum.
Representing Phillips/GPM at the presentation today were John Lee, Panhandle Region manager, and Don Thompson Sr., safety representative. The donation is to help the LEPC fund its emergency training programs.

Lawmakers challenging Korea pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers angered by the continued captivity of a U.S. helicopter pilot are threatening to sidetrack a pact with North Korea that freezes its suspect nuclear program in exchange for \$4 billion.

The detention by North Korea of Army helicopter pilot Bobby Hall, now in its 13th day, is casting new doubt on the Pyongyang government as a responsible negotiating partner, Republican congressional leaders say. Talks held by an American diplomat in North Korea have not paid off, though they are continuing.
"There is no reason for his detention," President Clinton said Wednesday as he rejected North Korea's spy charges against the Army chief warrant officer whose craft went down Dec. 17 just inside North Korea on what the Pentagon called a routine training mission. Hall's co-pilot, Chief Warrant Officer David Hilemon, was killed.
Clinton did not threaten retaliation as State Department diplomat Thomas Hubbard held inconclusive talks with Foreign Ministry officials in the North Korean capital.
But Rep. Bill Richardson, D-N.M., who was promised a week ago in North Korea that Hall would be released "very soon," said the \$4 billion nuclear agreement could be shelved if Hall was still in detention when Congress convenes next Wednesday.

And Rep. Benjamin Gilman, R-N.Y., incoming chairman of the newly named House International Affairs Committee, warned that North Korea "could put at risk the entire nuclear power agreement."
"Unless this incident is resolved in a satisfactory way, Congress may well move to prevent the Clinton administration from implementing its commitment to provide oil supplies to North Korea as part of the agreement," Gilman said.

The first oil shipment is due by late January. It's part of a \$5 million energy program for North Korea designed to compensate the communist government for shutting down suspect nuclear reactors.

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas, already opposed to the agreement, said Wednesday that "North Korea's shameful handling of Bobby Hall casts doubt over the entire premise of the Clinton administration's policy — that there is a North Korean government willing and able to deal responsibly with the United States."

Dole added: "I don't believe the American people will support legitimizing our providing assistance to a regime that unjustly holds an American prisoner."

County defers awarding bids on museum wing

Gray County commissioners today bought three cars, a bulldozer and deferred awarding bids on a museum project until next year.
In their last meeting of 1994, Gray County commissioners awarded bids for three four-door vehicles for the sheriff's office to West Texas Ford of Pampa. Low bidder for a new bulldozer for Precinct No. 3 was West Texas Equipment Company.
Action concerning the awarding of bids to add a new wing onto the White Deer Land was deferred until the commission's regularly scheduled meeting Jan. 16. Bids for the Holland Wing planned for the museum had been higher than expected. The bid for the project was over \$155,000 while the museum board had only \$133,300 available for the project. R.L. Franklin, chairman of the museum board, met with commissioners today to discuss the shortfall.

Franklin said a review of the work involved with the architectural firm overseeing the project showed possible reductions in costs to \$140,292, noting that four areas of the project could be postponed.
The museum board chairman requested a delay in awarding bids on the project until mid-January so the museum could apply for a grant from the Amarillo Area Foundation and from other local foundations.
"We hope to get it done," Franklin said of the expansion project, "and we're optimistic that we will."
Commissioners unanimously approved a cover letter in connection with grant money from the Amarillo Area Foundation to be included in the grant request to be delivered to the foundation by Jan. 16.
In other business, Gray County Sheriff Randy Stubblefield was named to act as Local Health Authority officer in situations

involving exposure to suspect rabid animals.
The county also will join a computer network with the Texas Department of Transportation in connection with their registration and title system. The state agency will provide the hardware, software and maintenance for the county, Gray County Judge Carl Kennedy said. The only cost to the county is insurance on the equipment.
County commissioners also approved an agreement with Potter County Probate Court for it to handle mental illness commitments for Gray County.
Commissioners voted unanimously to allow the City of Lefors to sell tax delinquent property and heard from Commissioner Joe Wheeley concerning a petition complaining about clutter on land adjoining the city park in Lefors. A review of the petition was scheduled for a future meeting of the court.

Daily Record

Services tomorrow

SHELTON, Archie E. "Cotton" — 10 a.m., Price-Jackson Funeral Home Chapel, Quanah.
WHITTLE, Oak Allee — Graveside, 10 a.m., Llano Cemetery, Amarillo.
WILLIS, Velma J. — 2 p.m., Lamb-Ferguson Funeral Home Chapel, McLean.

Obituaries

ARCHIE E. 'COTTON' SHELTON
QUANAH — Archie E. "Cotton" Shelton, 98, of Panhandle, father of a Skellytown resident, died Monday, Dec. 26, 1994 in Panhandle. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in the Price-Jackson Funeral Home Chapel in Quanah, with the Rev. Homer Matney and the Rev. John Spangler officiating. Burial will be Wilbarger Memorial Park Cemetery by Price-Jackson Funeral Home.

Mr. Shelton was born Feb. 12, 1896 in Buffalo Springs. He married Lottie Jane Gowdy in 1915 at Vernon. He had lived in the Quanah area since 1916, then moved to Carson County in 1991. He was a cement contractor and an Army veteran of World War I. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Quanah.

He was preceded in death by his wife and two sons. Survivors include two sons, Charles Shelton of Skellytown and Clyde Wayne Shelton of Arlington; a daughter, Maxine Seitzinger of Fayetteville, Tenn.; a sister, Effie, of Quanah; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle.

OAK ALLEE WHITTLE

AMARILLO — Oak Allee Whittle, 82, of Amarillo, a former Pampa resident and mother of a Pampa woman, died Monday, Dec. 26, 1994. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Llano Cemetery in Amarillo with the Rev. Charles Gibson, pastor of Washington Avenue Christian Church, officiating. Arrangements are by Bell Avenue Chapel of Schooler-Gordon-Blackburn-Shaw Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Whittle was born in Cleburne. She married C.M. "Peg" Whittle in Sayre, Okla., on Dec. 30, 1930. They owned and operated Peg's Cab in Pampa until 1956. Mr. Whittle died in June 1975. Mrs. Whittle was an avid bowler and golfer and was a member of Polk Street United Methodist Church in Amarillo. She was a volunteer for R.S.V.P.

Survivors include two daughters, J.K. "Kathy" Massey of Amarillo and Jonnie Ray of Pampa; a sister, Katherine January of Corpus Christi; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101.

The family will be at 5000 S. Parker in Amarillo.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Wheeler-Evans of Pampa.		
Wheat	3.76	
Milo	3.84	
Corn	4.25	
The following show the prices for which these securities could have traded at the time of compilation.		
Nowaco	10 3/8	NC
Occidental	19 3/8	NC
The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.		
Magellan	66.32	
Puritan	14.80	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward D. Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
Ameco	58 7/8	up 1/4
Arco	102 1/4	dn 1/8
Cabot	28 2/4	NC
Cabot O&G	13 3/4	up 1/8
Chevron	45 7/8	up 1/8
Coca-Cola	52 1/8	dn 1/8
Diamond Sham	26 1/8	dn 1/8
Enron	29 7/8	dn 1/4
Halliburton	33 3/8	dn 1/8
HealthTrust Inc.	32 1/8	dn 1/4
Ingersoll Rand	31 5/8	NC
KNE	22 5/8	NC
Kerr McGee	46 3/8	up 1/8
Limited	17 7/8	up 1/8
Masco	50 3/4	dn 1/8
Maxus	3 3/8	NC
McDonald's	29 3/4	up 1/4
Mobil	85	NC
New Atmos	16 5/8	dn 1/4
Parker & Parsley	19 5/8	up 3/8
Texasco	42 3/4	up 1/8
Phillips	33 1/4	NC
SLB	50 7/8	up 1/8
SPS	26 7/8	up 1/4
Tenneco	42 1/4	NC
Texaco	60 1/2	dn 1/4
Valero	71 5/8	up 1/8
West Texas Crude	383.70	4.95
		17.79

Calendar of events

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK

A blood pressure check is offered from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Friday in the Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. Blood sugar tests are offered the first Friday of each month. A donation is accepted to cover expenses.

Emergency numbers

Energas	665-5777
SPS	669-7432
Water	669-5830

Police report

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

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28

Tom Brown, an employee of Alco Discount Store, 1207 N. Hobart, reported theft under \$20.
 Frank Sturgill, 1149 Huff Rd., reported criminal mischief to a car at 424 N. Russell.
 Doyle W. Bowers, 1201 Charles, reported criminal mischief to a pickup truck parked outside his home.
 Ray O'Brian, 1800 N. Banks, reported criminal mischief to a building at 420 W. Brown.
 Roseann Lowing, 1008 E. Francis, reported found property.
 Tommy Clark, an employee of Frank's Thriftway, 401 N. Ballard, reported criminal mischief, spray paint on the exterior wall of the store.
 Janice Brown, 1104 E. Francis, reported found property.
 Lt. Tommy Pickering reported a narcotics violation, possession of marijuana, in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.
 Officer Kyle Battin reported unlawful carrying of a weapon in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.
 A domestic disturbance was reported in the 900 block of Barnard.

Arrests

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28

Randy Townsend, age and address not listed, was arrested in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive on a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon.
 Jeffery Ray Estes, age and address not listed, was arrested in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive on a charge of possession of marijuana.

Accidents

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

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28

11:57 a.m. — A car driven by David Moneymaker, 20, of Fritch, was in collision with a pickup truck driven by Robert Harold White, 35, of Hedley, at the intersection of South Hobart and West McCullough. Police say Moneymaker was eastbound in the 900 block of McCullough when he went through a stop sign and collided with White's vehicle, which was northbound in the 1300 block of South Hobart. Moneymaker was cited for failure to yield right-of-way.

10:07 p.m. — A pickup truck driven by Kamie Ruseh Smyth, 16, of 220 S. Houston, backed out of a parking lot and into the street in the 100 block of South Gray, colliding with a car driven by Stacy Jo Neal, 17, of 736 Sloan. Police reports state that Smyth was unfamiliar with the pickup and backed out of the lot accidentally. Smyth was cited for backing unsafely. Neal was cited for not having proof of liability insurance.

Hospital

CORONADO HOSPITAL	To Kisha Rigby of McLean, a girl.
Admissions	Dismissals
Pampa	Pampa
Warren Brogdon	Cory Chandler
Cory Chandler	Francya Gaytan
Ruby Epperley	Joe Roberson
Ruby Free	Robert Story
Mary Hills	Panhandle
Wilma Orr	Alma Ward
McLean	SHAMROCK HOSPITAL
Kisha Rigby	Admissions
White Deer	There were no admissions reported.
Stephen Sugar	Dismissals
Births	Shamrock
To Christine Pruitt of Canadian, a girl.	Virginia Clay

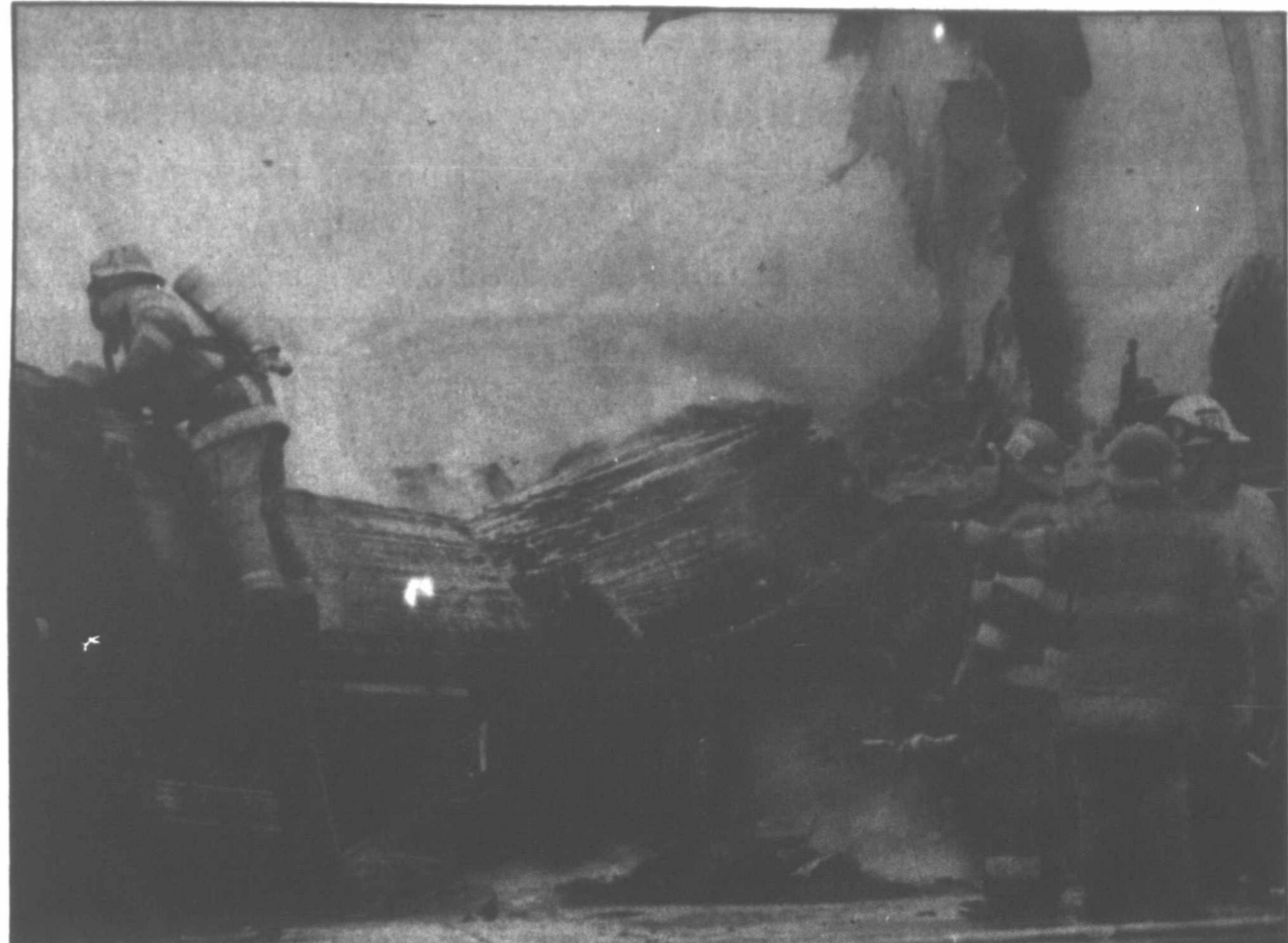
Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. No incidents were reported.

Arrests

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28

Walter Lawrence Johnson, 22, of 936 S. Wells, was booked into county jail after being transferred by city police on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. He remained in jail late this morning.
 Danny Ray Boyd, 46, of 326 Anne, was arrested on a charge that he violated terms of probation. He remained jailed late this morning.



(AP photo/Bakersfield Californian)

Los Angeles County firefighters extinguish a blaze on a flatbed truck hauling lumber of the southbound Interstate 5 in Gorman, Calif., on Wednesday after foggy conditions led to a collision pileup of at least 30 vehicles.

Huge wreck in foggy mountain pass kills two

GORMAN, Calif. (AP) — At least 10 tractor-trailers and 20 cars piled up in dense fog on a mountainous stretch of freeway, killing two motorists and injuring 27 others.

The smashup occurred Wednesday afternoon on southbound Interstate 5 in the Tejon Pass over the Tehachapi Mountains, about 50 miles north of Los Angeles.

A less serious pileup involving about 10 cars occurred in the same area on the freeway's northbound side, said a California Highway Patrol spokesman, Glen Dominguez.

Some of the big rigs burned and others were torn open in the collisions. One truck's cab was compressed back to its trailer. Wreckage, including a lumber truck, smoldered for hours on the damp pavement.

The fog cut visibility to near zero, said highway patrol officer Rhett Price.

The southbound interstate, a major route from San Francisco to Los Angeles, was closed for about eight hours.

A helicopter flew some of the injured to hospitals. The Kern and Los Angeles County fire departments took others away by ambulance.

Two people died and 27 were injured, said Inspector Brian Jordan of the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

The smashups, which were reported at 12:30 p.m., closed Interstate 5's southbound lanes for hours. The highway is one of the major routes between Los Angeles

and San Francisco.

Southbound traffic was diverted to a side road north of the big-rig tangle, but numerous cars were stuck between the detour and wreck site, Dominguez said.

Tejon Pass, rising to about 4,100 feet, carries the interstate over the Tehachapi Mountains, which separate the southern San Joaquin Valley from northern Los Angeles County.

The accident occurred as much of the southern half of the state was covered by clouds.

Fog was so thick that Kern County firefighter Mike Pirtle said he couldn't see the highway 150 feet from his station in Lebec.

"We could hear the trucks out there but couldn't see them," Pirtle said.

State senator: Emissions testing to start on schedule

HOUSTON (AP) — A state plan requiring car and truck emissions testing in Texas' most-congested cities will take effect as scheduled Jan. 2 despite widespread criticism, an opponent of the plan told *The Houston Post* in today's editions.

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, citing conversations with Gov.-elect George W. Bush's transition team and an attorney for the contractor set to perform testing, said the controversial plan will not be thwarted.

But Whitmire said the maximum charge that motorists must pay to repair pollution-belching vehicles may be lowered.

Other changes to the plan in response to citizen complaints will be discussed among the state, the Environmental Protection Agency and testing contractor Tejas Testing Technology, Whitmire told the newspaper Wednesday.

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission scheduled a news conference for today to discuss its plan in detail. A TNRCC spokesman Wednesday night refused to confirm Whitmire's statements, cautioning that parts of the plan were still being worked out.

The new emissions program was devised to meet federal Clean Air

Act guidelines. Cars and trucks in heavily polluted areas, including Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth, El Paso and Beaumont-Port Arthur, must be tested every other year.

If vehicles fail, they must be repaired or the state will refuse to register them.

Two-year waivers will be granted by the state to people who spend \$450 or more to repair a vehicle that still flunks the test.

Vehicle owners have protested the inconvenience and cost of the tests, which range up to \$23.

"I think TNRCC and Tejas are doing a terrible disservice to the public," Whitmire said.

Teen with jeweled teeth shot to death in robbery

NEW YORK (AP) — A teenager was shot to death on a subway platform for his flashy jewelry, although his mother believes the reason was his even flashier Christmas gift — the gold-and-diamond bridgework in his mouth.

Before he died early Wednesday, 17-year-old Adonis Matthews told police two men confronted him on the platform in the borough of Brooklyn and ordered him to hand over his gold chain and medallion, Transit Police spokesman Lt.

Robert Valentino said.

But Matthews fought back and the gunmen fired one shot into Matthews' stomach.

Matthews' mother, who is unemployed, said she thinks her son was murdered for the \$600 diamond-studded gold teeth she got him for Christmas.

"I know they must have wanted his gold teeth with the little band of diamonds in them," Wanda Matthews said. "It was the flashiest, most

expensive thing he had on him."

Transit Police spokesman Al O'Leary said: "Based on what the victim was able to tell us, the chains were the targets — but we can't rule anything out."

Ms. Matthews said the teeth, including gold fangs, were only for decoration, and she repeatedly warned him:

"Keep your mouth closed at night and hide your gold chains in your clothes."

Serbs consider international peace plan

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Bosnian Serbs might sign a four-month truce with the government today, their leader said, suggesting that intense U.N. diplomacy to save a crumbling cease-fire had produced results.

Last week, former President Jimmy Carter brokered a two-stage halt to fighting between the Bosnian Serbs and the Muslim-led government.

A weeklong cease-fire — which is to end Saturday — is to allow time to nail down a four-month truce. But continuing attacks by Serb allies on government forces have threatened the process.

The leader of the rebel Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, said without elaboration today that "several points" of the longer truce were still

being discussed. But "the Serb side might sign the agreement later today," he said.

Karadzic spoke after talks with Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose, the U.N. commander in Bosnia, in the Serb stronghold of Pale outside Sarajevo. The United Nations has stepped up its diplomacy in an effort to try to make this cease-fire work where numerous others have failed.

On Wednesday, Rose traveled to the Bihac enclave in northwestern Bosnia, where Serbs from neighboring Croatia and rebel Bosnian Muslim rebels have been attacking government forces since the week-long cease-fire took hold Saturday.

Croatian Serbs and rebel Muslims are not party to the weeklong truce. But the government says they are

aided by Bosnian Serbs, and their attacks jeopardize peace efforts.

Rose won verbal agreement to a cease-fire from Fikret Abdic, a renegade Muslim warlord controlling 6,000 fighters in the Bihac region. The commander of Bihac government forces, Gen. Atif Dudakovic, told Rose he would have to consult with Sarajevo before agreeing to a truce in the area.

Today, Rose gave the Bosnian Serbs a revised draft of a four-month cease-fire agreement that look into account comments by the Serbs and the government, U.N. spokesman Alexander Ivancko said.

As outlined by Carter last week, the agreement would take effect Jan. 1 and last four months.

One of the Bosnian Serb leaders who met with Rose today was Gen. Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military commander and a key figure in any peace settlement.

Karadzic left the talks with Rose to attend a simultaneous session of the Bosnian Serbs' self-styled parliament. The assembly was expected to decide whether to reconsider an international peace plan it has repeatedly rejected.

Memorial fund set up for funeral expenses

A memorial fund has been set up at Citizens Bank and Trust Co. to aid with funeral expenses incurred due to the death of a child.

Roy Tyler Jordan Reeves, 15-month-old son of Troyce and Julie Reeves of Pampa, died Thursday in an Amarillo hospital.

Those wishing to contribute toward the funeral expenses may make donations to the Tyler Reeves Memorial Fund at Citizens Bank by contacting Melinda Jenkins or notifying other cashiers that the donation is for the memorial fund.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Mostly cloudy tonight and Friday. Low tonight near 40. High Friday near 50. There is a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms Friday, and a chance of snow early Saturday. Otherwise, Saturday will be partly cloudy. Wednesday's high was 49; the overnight low was 41. Pampa received 0.02 inch of moisture in the 24-hour period ending at 6 a.m. today.

REGIONAL FORECAST

West Texas — Panhandle: Tonight, mostly cloudy east, partly cloudy elsewhere. Lows in the 30s. Friday, mostly cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs near 50. South Plains: Tonight, part-

ly cloudy South Plains, mostly cloudy Rolling Plains. Lows from mid to upper 30s. Friday, mostly cloudy. A slight chance of showers. Highs in mid 50s.

North Texas — Tonight and Friday, mostly cloudy. A slight chance of rain west and central Friday. Lows 38 to 47. Highs 52 to 58.

South Texas — Hill Country and South Central: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows near 40 Hill Country to 40s south central. Friday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the 60s. Coastal Bend: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows from the 40s to near 50 inland to 50s coast. Friday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the 60s to near 70. Lower Rio Grande Valley and Plains: Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows near

50 inland to 50s coast. Friday, partly cloudy. Highs from the 70s inland to near 70 coast.

BORDER STATES

New Mexico — Tonight, mostly cloudy with increasing chance for showers and mountain snow west and central sections. Increasing clouds east. Lows 20s and 30s mountains and north with mostly 30s south. Friday, good chance for snow mountains and north with scattered showers lower elevations south. Clouds and showers diminishing west in the afternoon. Highs 30s and 40s mountains and north with 40s and 50s south.

Oklahoma — Tonight, mostly cloudy. Lows mid 30s to low 40s. Friday, cloudy with a chance of rain. Highs upper 40s to mid 50s.

City briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisements.

EASY'S POP & Cheese Shop. let us make your cheese, fruit and vegetable trays for your party or your next get together. Adv.

AARP TAX Aid-Help elderly people with tax returns. Call Ernie Wilkinson, 665-0356 Adv.

EARLY ADVERTISING deadlines this week for the holiday. Happy New Year from The Pampa News!!

MOOSE LODGE. Make reservations for New Year's Eve. Dance to Road Hard (country & western). Members and guests. 669-5461. Adv.

SHOP SANDS Fabrics After Christmas sale. Save from 10% to 75%!! Adv.

PARTY DRESSES 50% Off. VJ's, Pampa Mall. Adv.

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Clinton now looking for new CIA chief

By LAWRENCE L. KNUTSON
Associated Press Writer



James Woolsey

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton is opening a search for a new CIA chief to polish the spy agency's image in the aftermath of nearly a decade of treachery by Russian mole Aldrich Ames.

James Woolsey, 53, resigned Wednesday after two tumultuous years as CIA director during which he was dogged by the Ames affair, congressional criticism of the agency's bloated budget and post-Cold War restructuring.

Woolsey cited personal and family considerations, and the White House insisted he was not forced from office.

Deputy Defense Secretary John Deutch, the No. 2 official at the Pentagon, was said to be high on the list of possible successors. White House officials said, however, it was too early to speculate on front-runners.

Deutch, 56, has a reputation as a demanding taskmaster and a shrewd political and strategic adviser to the White House. He has been at the center of many of the administration's most sensitive decisions on the use of military force, particularly the operation in Haiti.

Ames affair were weak and inadequate. But he called Deutch "a very competent fellow" and said he would be an excellent choice to head the agency.

The White House officials said Clinton soon will begin to concentrate on his choice and said it is likely he hopes to conclude the search in the next few weeks. Woolsey agreed to stay through the end of January if necessary.

The Ames affair dealt Woolsey's agency a morale and public relations wallop as well as an intelligence setback.

Although most of the Ames spying took place before Woolsey assumed command of the CIA early in 1993, his decision not to severely punish the CIA officials for whom Ames worked stirred a storm on Capitol Hill.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., current vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and possibly its next chairman, said Woolsey made "errors in judgment."

"The reprimands that Woolsey gave to the individuals who were singled out (in the Ames case) ... were not commensurate with what should have been given those individuals; and indeed were not commensurate

with what public opinion felt was necessary," he said.

The next director, Warner said, should be someone "who has instant credibility across America as a person who has achieved recognition in the area of national security."

Woolsey also faced congressional fire for the agency's estimated \$3 billion budget, a costly secret building project for its spy satellite division and allegations of sexual harassment inside the agency.

Woolsey's successor will have plenty of direction on the future of the agency.

A commission to be headed by former Defense Secretary Les Aspin will soon begin examining the missions and roles of the agency. Clinton's National Security Council already has launched a similar review. The House and Senate intelligence committees are expected to examine the same ground in hearings and to look again at the Ames case.

"The new director would be at the forefront of framing the agenda to downsize the intelligence community while focusing on the quality of its product," a White House official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "In other words, how to spend fewer dollars and improve intelligence."

Leading indicators signal economy not stalling out

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's main forecasting gauge of future economic activity posted a 0.3 percent rise in November, signaling to analysts that the recovery is in no current danger of stalling out.

The Commerce Department report today said that last month's gain in the Index of Leading Indicators was the strongest since a 0.5 percent rise in August. It followed a 0.1 percent drop in October, which had been the first decline in the index in 15 months.

In a second report today, the Labor Department said that the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits fell by 3,000 last week, more than erasing a gain of 2,000 the previous week. The claims figure has remained in the low 300,000 range in recent months, reflecting basic strength in job markets, analysts said.

Cynthia Latta, an economist at DRI-McGraw Hill Inc., said the rise in the leading index, while slightly higher than predicted, was still pointing to an economic slowdown next year.

"The gains in the index over the past six months have been lower than the gains in the first part of 1994, indicating the economy will slow next year, which is what we want to happen," she said.

The report noted the compilation of forward pointing business barometers was equally split, with five components showing strength and five subtracting from the overall total.

The biggest source of strength in the leading index came from a rise in orders for new plant and equipment, which posted its best gain in a year.

Other components showing strength were gains in factory orders for consumer goods, a rise in unfilled orders for durable goods, a decline for the month in the average weekly unemployment claims and a rise in sensitive material prices.

The biggest negative factor was a slowdown in growth of the money supply followed by a fall in stock

prices, a drop in building permits, changes in business deliveries and a drop in consumer expectations.

One component, the length of the average workweek, was unchanged last month.

A variety of statistics have shown that 1994 was ending on a strong note with retail sales up and the jobless rate dipping to a four-year low of 5.6 percent.

Many economists believe that overall economic growth, as measured by the gross domestic product, will come in above 4 percent at an annual rate for the final three months of this year, contributing to the strongest growth for the U.S. economy in perhaps a decade.

But with job markets tightening and factories beginning to bump against production constraints, the Federal Reserve has been trying since last February to slow growth in order to keep inflation under control.

Many economists are predicting that the Fed will move by early February to boost interest rates for a seventh time. However, analysts believe that could be the last rate hike if, as they are forecasting, the economy begins to slow under the effects of the interest boosts that have already occurred.

Private economists believe the first three months of 1995 will be crucial in determining whether economic growth slows to a more sustainable pace or continues at such a rapid clip that it forces the Fed to take more drastic action.

If the Fed is forced to clamp down too hard, these analysts believe, that would represent a classic boom-bust cycle in which an overheated economy prompts the Fed to slam on the brakes so hard that it brings on a recession.

Under their current forecasts, many analysts are looking for growth next year to slow to next year to less than 3 percent. The Fed has indicated that at this advanced stage of the recovery, it considers growth of around 2.5 percent to be the upper limits before the economy starts bumping against tight job markets and capacity constraints.

Lawsuit filed against TWU changes

FORT WORTH (AP) — Some faculty, students and alumna of Texas Woman's University have begun a legal challenge to keep the school from going co-ed.

They filed a lawsuit Wednesday accusing school regents of violating the Texas Open Meetings Law and of usurping authority by opening all undergraduate programs to men.

"The constitutional authority to exist in our present structure has not been set aside by the Legislature," said Bettye Myers, a TWU alumna and kinesiology professor at the Denton school who is the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit.

"So if the regents want to do this, they need to go to the courts or to the Legislature and get it changed there," she told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

The lawsuit asks state District Judge L. Dee Shipman to issue a temporary injunction against the

policy change and to uphold the constitutionality of the 1901 Texas statute that created the university.

Regents voted 6-1 on Dec. 9 to allow men to enroll in all of the university's 166 undergraduate programs. The action triggered student-led protests on campus.

The lawsuit, which was filed by 23 people, alleges the board violated state law by not posting notice of the meeting.

Nine regents and board secretary John Lawhon were named as defendants.

"I am confident that what we did was right," board Chairwoman Jayne Lipe said Wednesday.

"I don't think in the long run there will be any finding of bad faith or negligence on behalf of the board for making what, in essence, was a very difficult decision," said regent Cheryl Wattlely, an attorney in Dallas.

Aftershocks shake Japan

TOKYO (AP) — Strong aftershocks rattled northern Japan early today, hours after a strong earthquake struck, killing two people and injuring 274.

The undersea quake Wednesday evening was centered in the Pacific Ocean about 390 miles northeast of Tokyo. It had a preliminary magnitude of 7.5.

It ripped roads, wrecked dozens of buildings and forced thousands of coastal residents to flee during a short-lived tidal wave alert. In the capital, the quake was felt as a long, low rumble that made some buildings sway.

Most of the injured were cut by broken glass or hit by falling objects. Police said at least 179 of those hurt were in Hachinohe, a coastal city about 95 miles west of the epicenter.

The two deaths and eight of the injuries occurred when a pachinko, or pinball, game parlor collapsed in Hachinohe.

A total of 135 aftershocks — including one with a preliminary magnitude of 6.2 early today — rocked the region overnight and into the morning, the Central Meteorological Agency said.

"The shaking was strong. I couldn't stand. I saw many people squatting down on the street, and some ran away," said Takashi Masaya, a Hachinohe city official. "I saw pieces of broken glass on the street."

Water pipes damaged by the quake left 30,000 households in Hachinohe without water today. Self-defense forces trucked water into the city. Citizens collected water in buckets and plastic bags.

Soon after the quake, thousands of people living along Japan's Pacific coast fled toward the mountains after an official warning that the quake could trigger tidal waves. The evacuation warnings were lifted 2 1/2 hours later.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a funeral spray, if so we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say; perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much whatever the part.

The Family of Paula F. Collier

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Viewpoints

The Pampa News

EVER STRIVING FOR THE TOP O TEXAS TO BE AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

Let Peace Begin With Me

This newspaper is dedicated to furnishing information to our readers so that they can better promote and preserve their own freedom and encourage others to see its blessings. Only when man understands freedom and is free to control himself and all he possesses can he develop to his utmost capabilities.

We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not a political grant from government, and that men have the right to take moral action to preserve their life and property for themselves and others.

Freedom is neither license nor anarchy. It is control and sovereignty of oneself, no more, no less. It is, thus, consistent with the coveting commandment.

Wayland Thomas
Publisher

Larry D. Hollis
Managing Editor

Opinion

Generation gap is a large myth

We could bury a coffee table under all the cover stories and think pieces that have been written on the disillusionment of young Americans and the growing "generation gap." If only it were true.

Is there really a gulf between generations on such basic matters as work, religion and government? A revealing poll published in the current issue of *Reader's Digest* says no.

In a scientific sampling of more than 1,000 Americans, the survey compared the deepest beliefs and values of four generations of Americans. The four groups questioned were Generation Xers (18 to 30), Baby Boomers (31 to 48), the so-called Silent Generation (49 to 62) and Depression Era seniors (63 and older).

The survey, conducted by the Roper polling organization, found a remarkable continuity of opinion regardless of age.

Participants were asked whether they believed that if you work hard, you can get ahead. Of the Depression Era seniors, 78 percent answered yes. But the 20-something Xers were close behind, with 74 percent answering yes.

On the issue of equality of income vs. economic opportunity, the generations were all within 10 points of each other in affirming opportunity.

In the Roper poll, 72 percent of Generation Xers said unlimited opportunity is more important than ensuring greater equality of income. That compares to 74 percent of Boomers, 78 percent of the Silent Generation and 69 percent of Depression-Era seniors.

And, in a question that provides no comfort for the Democratic Party, 67 percent of respondents said "big government" poses the greatest threat to the nation's future. The margin was actually a bit higher (70 percent) among the Xers and Boomers than among seniors (63 percent).

The same consensus emerged on other issues, including job satisfaction, prayer, belief in God and the importance of family in shaping values.

Given these survey results, the cover story is not how divided the generations have become, but how remarkably similar they are in their views of the world.

Thought for today

"A fellow who is always declaring he's no fool usually has his suspicions."
— Wilson Mizner, American playwright (1876-1933).

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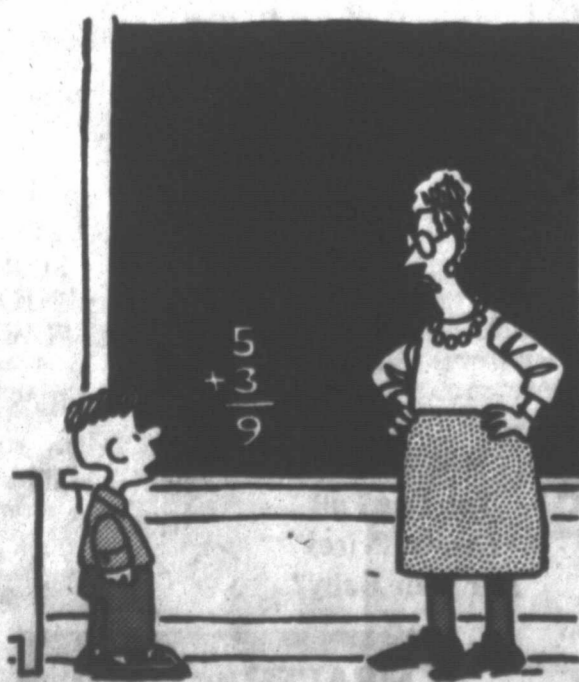
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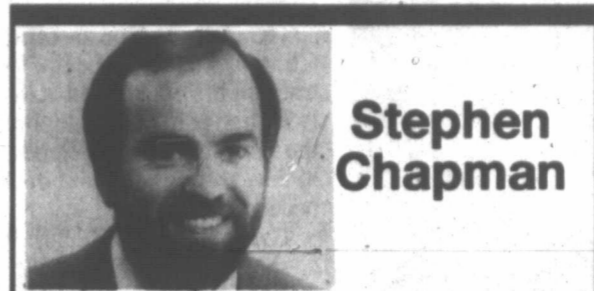
Looking at the real danger

I don't know if it's true that elephants will panic at the sight of a mouse, but the federal government certainly will. Two commuter airline crashes in two months were enough to send the Clinton administration into a regulatory frenzy, with the secretary of Transportation giving regional carriers a brief 100 days to meet all the safety standards now imposed only on large airlines. Overlooked in the hubbub is the fact that this sort of overreaction will more likely squander lives than save them.

From the news coverage of recent aviation accidents, most Americans presumably now believe that traveling by commuter airliner is roughly as hazardous as jumping headfirst out of 25th floor window into a toxic waste tank full of crocodiles while smoking an unfiltered cigarette. Eighty-three people died in the two crashes, the first of which took place on Oct. 31. Travel agents report that passengers are canceling trips and switching to bigger airplanes in droves. Safety worries forced American Eagle, whose planes were involved in both accidents, to cancel hundreds of flights.

But why the alarm over 83 fatalities? Every day in this country, there are about 107 deaths in traffic accidents. During the time 83 people died on those two commuter airliners, about 4,700 died on the nation's roads and highways. About 145,000 Americans fly daily on regional carriers, which means that if you were one of them, your chance of dying in a commuter crash over the last two months was less than one in 100,000. You have more to fear from climbing a step ladder.

Transportation Secretary Federico Pena, in ordering stricter regulations for commuter airlines, made a token effort to appear level-headed, acknowledging that their safety record has improved over time.



Stephen Chapman

"But these statistics have little meaning at a time like this," he said, throwing rationality to the wind.

Actually, it is precisely at times like this that statistics and other mundane facts have the greatest meaning, since they can be exceptionally useful in dispelling mindless fear. The duty of the Transportation secretary is to inform travelers of the real risks they face, instead of assuming that their visceral responses provide an infallible guide. And the truth is that commercial airlines offer far and away the safest form of travel, and commuter airlines are not much riskier than the majors.

It is obviously silly to stay in bed with your head under the covers to avoid the least dangerous form of locomotion known to man. But silly does not describe a business traveler like the one who informed *The New York Times*, "I've always been leery about these itty-bitty planes, but now I've made up my mind. To get to these small towns, I'm going to rent a car and drive. I may lose a day, but I'll get there."

He may lose more than a day. Driving from one place to another is anywhere from 80 to 100 times more dangerous than flying, according to David Murray of the Statistical Assessment Service in Washington — even with a one-legged bush pilot

just in from the Yukon."

The dubious safety reputation of commuter planes is largely unwarranted. Murray notes that they have an appreciably higher death rate per passenger-mile than their bigger rivals but notes that the majors rack up lots of passenger-miles cruising across continents and oceans — the aviation equivalent of garbage time.

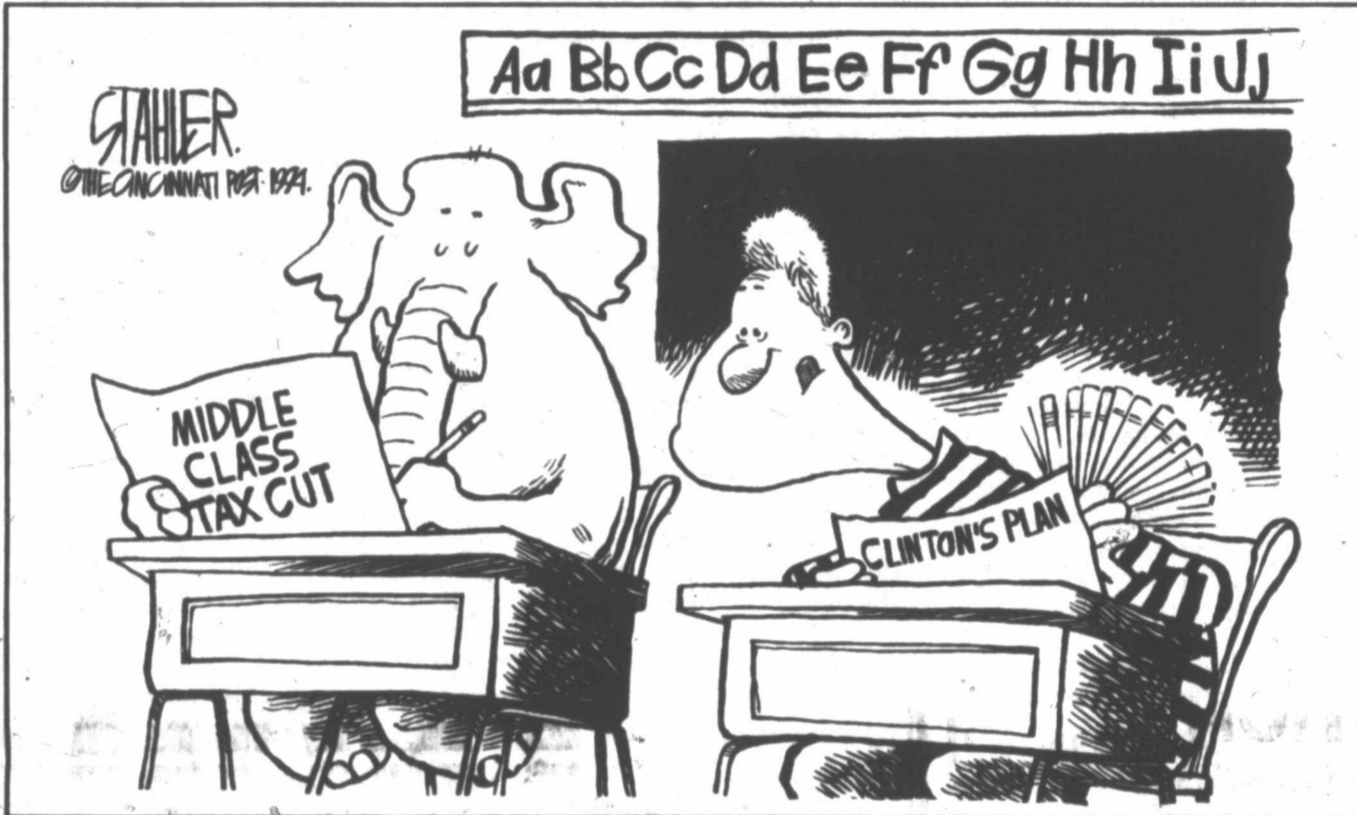
Most of the hazards in non-terrestrial travel arise at takeoff and landing, and looking at fatalities per flight, regional airlines don't look bad at all — especially if you exclude Alaska, where severe weather and small, remote airports serve to keep the excitement level high. In the rest of the country, the major carriers average one fatal accident for every 3.4 million departures. The commuter lines average one for every 2 million flights.

The thinking at times like these, though, is that even if the current level of safety regulation is good, a higher one would be better. There is no political risk to the Clinton administration in coming out foursquare for safer skies.

But those pesky unintended consequences can foil the best-laid plans. Demanding more advanced equipment and more rigorous pilot training may make air journeys just a tad more worry-free than they are today — for those who can still afford to fly, that is.

Raising standards means raising costs; higher costs mean higher fares; and higher fares push some weary voyagers off the plane and over to the Hertz counter. Pena's approach ignores the first law of travel safety: Anything that makes it harder for people to fly will shorten their life expectancy.

Of course, you may decide to stay home and not travel at all, in which case, you could be safer as a result of Pena's policy. If you stay off that ladder.



'Bell Curve' has compassion

You should read *The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life* (Free Press/Macmillan) by Charles Murray and the late Richard J. Herrnstein for several reasons.

One, just to see how much a book can be distorted, misrepresented and vilified by the current menagerie we call the press and television. If you read the book, you will be hard-pressed to recognize it as the same book that was so furiously vilified. It makes no difference if you agree or disagree with the book's conclusions. You should, as a citizen in a free society presumably based on reason, be disturbed by what can only be called a calculated campaign to trash anyone who attempts an honest discussion of the problems facing American society.

Murray and Herrnstein are not racists. They are not even conservatives by my definition. Herrnstein was a respected, thoughtful scholar on the faculty of Harvard. I don't think Harvard has hired a conservative since the early 19th century. Murray is a respected writer and a Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.

Furthermore, race is not even the point of the book. There is only one chapter on ethnic groups, and all the data in it has been known and undisputed for decades. They carefully point out that group averages are meaningless in terms of how individuals should be dealt with. They point out that whether intelligence is all genetic or all environmental or, as most people in the field of study think, some mix-

Charley Reese

ture of the two, the thrust of the book remains valid.

In fact, I think race has been used as subterfuge by the critics. If the authors had excluded the entire chapter on ethnic differences, the reaction from liberals would have been the same.

For what the data in the book suggests is that the fundamental premise of liberalism is false. Some of us have known that intuitively for a long time, based on our own life experiences. But many American liberals are in a state of angry denial, and the data presented in the book piles up to be cognitively deficient not to admit its truth.

You see, modern liberalism (in all its forms) is built on the premise that human beings are infinitely malleable and that, with the right combinations of education, indoctrination and training, any deficiencies in character or economic social standing can be evened out.

This is the egalitarianism that demands, not equal opportunities, but equal outcomes. Obviously if you decree equal outcomes, you cannot admit unequal inputs — or inequality of abilities that are fixed by nature.

And that's one of the book's major points.

Genetic or environmental or both, present knowledge indicates that intelligence, for all practical purposes, becomes more or less fixed by about age 10. Therefore, education, training or indoctrination is not going to make a great deal of difference in some people's lives because the simply do not have the smarts.

Nothing revolutionary about that. That's also a common observation. Have you ever known a dull person to become brilliant? No. If we knew how to increase intelligence at any stage of life, we would not have to provide sheltered environments for people whose IQs are very low.

And, of course, study after study shows a strong correlation between low intelligence and crime, poverty, illegitimacy, school dropouts, etc. Any program directed at these problems which ignores differences in intelligence is bound to fail. And, in fact, that's been the experience. After trillions of dollars, no appreciable dent has been made in America's social problems. In fact, they've gotten worse.

It's a complex book, and I've only touched on one or two points. But don't be put off by propaganda. Read the book and decide for yourself. The cruel irony created by the critics who trashed this book is that they have depicted it as an attack on the less gifted, when, in fact, the authors are urging us to find a way to create a society in which the less gifted can have a place of dignity and self-respect. It is a compassionate book.

When the Christmas spirit goes awry

Newspaper columnists are sometimes accused of making things up, so let me say at the outset I am not making this up. I swear on my 35-year-old Barbie and Ken collection (including Barbie Dream Corvette and Barbie Prom Queen-with-rabbit-stole ensemble), my most prized Christmas gift ever and packed carefully in an old trunk, that not only am I not fabricating, I am not even exaggerating.

If you still don't believe me, call the mayor of Galena, Mo., David Hollister. It will be a long-distance call, but believe me, it will be worth it to hear him tell the story first-hand. He may have to call you back, though. He's pretty busy these days, trying to wrest the town's Christmas decorations back from the ex-mayor, Lee Young, who has hidden them in his garage.

Why, you ask, would a former elected official of an all-American town hide his former constituents' Christmas decorations, which he admits do not belong to him and which were paid for by volunteers who raised the money from local residents and businesses, in his garage? Well, it all started with some pretty un-Christmasy allegations which ended with a state audit of Galena's books and an effort to impeach Young this fall.

A lot of scrapping ensued, culminating in a fistfight between one of ex-mayor Young's backers and Hollister, the current mayor. After that, Young quit.

(I know, those of you who were just about to buy this story are becoming skeptical now, but let me



Sarah Overstreet

tell you why I believe it. As a TV reporter a few years back I was covering a story in a town not too far from Galena when one of the county commissioners tried to elude me by orbiting the main courtroom in his overalls, spitting Skoal onto the floor, while a cameraman and I followed him around the room like a couple of spaniels. I was thinking at the time that this might just be my first small-town fistfight, and I was hoping I'd at least get a hard job in with my Bic before he got any tobacco juice on me.)

When a reporter at the newspaper where I work now asked Young why he was holding the town's decorations hostage, the ex-mayor shared with him that he was so mad at one of his rivals that if she caught on fire on Christmas Day, he wouldn't walk across the street to, uh, relieve himself on her. Merry-r-r-y Christmas! Ho, ho, ho!

(I have a feeling that even if the town gets its lights back, they'll have the same luck I did when I

got mine out this year, which means only half of them will light up. I don't understand why my parents could keep a set of lights 15 years and all we had to do was try every socket to see which offending disparate bulb was causing the rest of them not to illumine, and we were back in business another season. Yet in the age of pocket computers and mobile phones, I can unplug my burning lights one year, wrap them carefully back onto their plastic beds and let them lie undisturbed in a closet all year and they won't light up when I unwrap them again. But I digress.)

It's hard to imagine how a grown man could deprive children of a lit-up town so that Santa can find his way to their homes, but I guess we wouldn't have any Christmas literature whatsoever without Ebenezer Scrooge, a Grinch, a King Herod, a Lee Young. Perhaps Young knows this intuitively, and is just providing the nation's animators with their next made-for-TV Christmas special. He's even obliged them by wearing a black cowboy hat, in case they want to make a Western.

But for those of you who were thinking of updating your Christmas decorations, let me suggest you mail any still-working discarded Christmas lights to Galena, Mo., Zip Code 65656. It's nice town and residents deserve a Christmas display, late though it may be. And if you have any extra Christmas cards, send them to Young. He could use some Christmas spirit.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, Dec. 29, the 363rd day of 1994. There are two days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Dec. 29, 1890, the Wounded Knee massacre took place in South Dakota. Some 300 Sioux Indians were killed by U.S. troops sent to disarm them. About 30 of the soldiers were slain.

On this date:
In 1170, Archbishop Thomas Becket was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral in England.

In 1808, the 17th president of the United States, Andrew Johnson, was born in Raleigh, N.C.

In 1813, the British burned Buffalo, N.Y., during the War of 1812.

In 1837, Canadian militiamen destroyed the Caroline, a U.S. steamboat docked at Buffalo, N.Y.

In 1845, Texas was admitted as the 28th state.

House fire claims lives of nine family members

ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — An electric space heater apparently started a fire that killed nine members of a Haitian immigrant family, including six young children found under their mother's body or huddled in a closet.

There were no smoke detectors in the three-story wooden house, said Orange Fire Director John Gamba. "If they had some, maybe some fatalities could have been avoided," he said.

Killed in the blaze Wednesday morning were 39-year-old Viviane Moise; all her children, ages 2 to 8; her mother; and her sister. Four of the children were found under their mother's body and two were found huddled in a closet.

Moise's husband, Pierre, left for work before the fire erupted.

"It's a disaster. All I can say is that the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away," Pierre Moise said Wednesday night at his pastor's home in East Orange. He disputed officials' assertions that the house lacked smoke detectors, *The Star-Ledger* of Newark reported today.

City Business Administrator Thomas Morrison said the house is zoned for one-family but had three kitchens, and he suspects a third-floor apartment was illegal.

"It's a nice house, on a nice street, but there were 17 people living there," Morrison said.

Investigators believe the fire was started by an electric heater on the

first floor and spread quickly up a stairway, Gamba said. The victims were found on the second floor.

"I heard a lot of screaming and I thought they were just having a fight and then the whole house went up in flames in two minutes," said a neighbor, Lisa Williams.

Mayor Robert Brown, who lives nearby, said he was driving by when he spotted smoke coming from a first-floor window and saw a barefoot man yelling for help. He used his car phone to summon the fire department.

"A man ran around the house screaming to someone in a second-story window," Brown said. "This woman jumped out and he tried to catch her and she fell and hit the ground."

Two people who escaped the blaze by leaping from a second-story window were hospitalized today. One was in fair condition with a fractured pelvis and wrist; the other was stable with back and hip fractures. A third victim was in stable condition with scrapes and bruises.

Josef Moise said his 36-year-old brother and his family had lived in the house for four years.

The children who died were Vanessa, 8; Nirva, 7; Frantz, 6; Jennifer, 5; Stevenson, 3; and Stella, 2. Also killed were Mrs. Moise's mother, Infaudra Charles, 64, and her sister, Altigracia Michel, 19.

Russians press attack around Grozny

By MAXIM KORZHOV
Associated Press Writer

SLEPTSOVSKOYE, Russia (AP) — The thud of artillery and the crack of gunfire shook Chechnya early today as Russian troops and the vastly outnumbered rebels engaged in fierce battles outside the capital of the separatist republic.

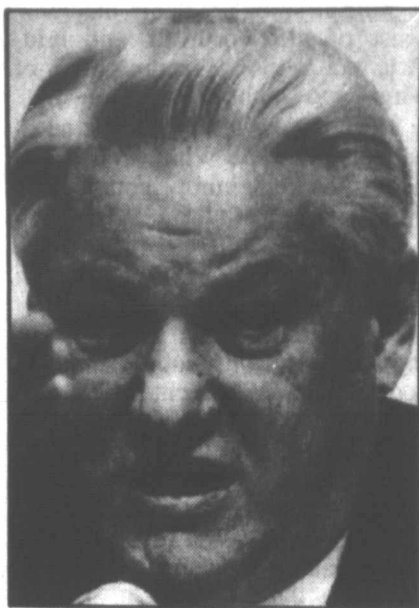
Reports of fighting within Grozny could not immediately be confirmed, but clashes broke out to the west and east of the Chechen capital.

Hundreds of Russian tanks and armored vehicles rumbled toward Grozny from several directions Wednesday as the Kremlin pressed its offensive despite fierce resistance.

Intense battles were reported in several villages and the outskirts of Grozny late Wednesday. The Chechens claimed heavy civilian casualties from bomb attacks and accused Russian President Boris Yeltsin of hypocrisy for breaking his promise to stop bombing the city.

One of Wednesday's raids destroyed an orphanage in Grozny. The children, using the basement as a bomb shelter, were not injured.

"Why are they bombing us?"



Boris Yeltsin

asked Misha, one of the children. "We're terrified. They already blew up our school."

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, echoing a remark by Yeltsin the day before, declared to Russia's Ostankino television that "as much force as is necessary will be used to settle this matter."

But the president's already tattered

credibility was called into serious question by air attacks that belied his pledge to halt bombing that risked killing civilians.

The Russian government press service flatly denied bombing Grozny, despite eyewitness accounts from Russian and foreign journalists.

"The Russian president's promise to stop bombing turned out to be mere hypocrisy," Chechnya's deputy foreign minister, Ruslan Chimayev, said in Moscow.

Chimayev claimed at least 200 people were killed in raids on Grozny and many others in attacks elsewhere. The casualty figures could not be confirmed; both sides have been accused of exaggerating their death tolls.

Chechen fighters, well outnumbered by as many as 40,000 Russian troops, have vowed never to surrender or even negotiate with Russian troops in Chechnya.

The southern republic of 1.2 million people, mostly Muslims, declared independence from Russia in 1991. Yeltsin said he sent troops into Chechnya to free it from the grip of criminal gangs and bring it back into Russia's fold.

Entering the 19th day of the offen-

sive today, Russia claimed its forces had captured the strategic village of Pervomayskoye, 6 miles north of Grozny, along with the Khankala airfield near the city's outskirts.

On the southwestern edge of Grozny, Russian armored units clashed with local forces.

Artillery thudded on the outskirts of the besieged city all day Wednesday and Russian warplanes buzzed overhead, sending terrified people fleeing for cover.

The Russian government press service said nine civilians died in one clash and claimed Chechen fighters had fired on their own people.

A member of Yeltsin's hawkish Security Council, Oleg Lobov, told reporters in Moscow that Russian troops would take Grozny, no matter how fierce the resistance.

"It will not be taken by storm," he said. "It will be liberated."

One airstrike Wednesday hit the house in Grozny where Yeltsin's own human rights commissioner, Sergei Kovalyov, has been staying, Russian news reports said.

Kovalyov, a sharp critic of the Chechen operation, is trying to dramatize the plight of civilians by remaining in the devastated city.

Drop in Mexican currency is boon for U.S. travelers

By DAVID E. KALISH
AP Business Writer

Financial markets are trembling because of a plunge in the value of the peso. Looks like it's time to party in Mexico.

Enjoy \$6 off a \$23 surf-and-turf dinner in Cancun. Save \$8 on a leather purse in Mexico City. Curl up with a bottle of tequila that costs \$3 less than before the peso's drop.

Mexico, already an inexpensive warm-weather destination for U.S. travelers, just got cheaper.

But if you want to enjoy the savings, book a trip soon, just in case the

peso rebounds from its 30 percent drop. The peso partly recovered on Wednesday, trading just under 5 to the dollar on Mexican markets, compared with 5.6 to the dollar on Tuesday.

Several large travel chains reported inquiries this week from Americans wondering whether the cost of vacationing in Mexico has dropped.

The answer is a qualified "yes." U.S. operators of airlines and hotels in Mexico aren't likely to lower their rates anytime soon, since they generally set their prices months in advance and demand travelers pay in dollars, not pesos.

Furthermore, some Mexicans

hawking T-shirts, sombreros and leather jackets say they have started charging more pesos to keep pace with the dollar's advance. The hikes come despite a wage and price freeze by the Mexican government to check inflation arising from the peso's decline.

In general, though, travelers south of the border are happily stretching their dollars to buy more goods and services, from food to Mexican blankets.

"This is working out great for me. Everything is cheap," said tourist Gary Smith of Cleveland, who was in Mexico City on Wednesday. He said he had gotten steep discounts on meals throughout Mexico.

In Cancun, a special at the Fiesta Americana Condessa hotel is a lobster and steak dinner with soup and salad. It costs 83.5 pesos — about \$17 at Wednesday's exchange rates, compared with \$23 last week.

Even music is cheaper. Mariachi bands in Mexico City tourist restaurants charge 50 pesos, or \$10 to play a song — down from the old rate of \$13.

"You have people who don't like to spend a lot on their vacations who are going to love Mexico," said Peggy Van Sickle, who organizes travel packages for Carlson Wagonlit Travel, a global chain of 4,000 agencies.

FDA approves epilepsy drug

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration has approved a new drug for epileptics whose current anti-seizure medicine doesn't work well enough.

Lamotrigine, sold by Burroughs Wellcome Co. under the brand name Lamictal, was approved Wednesday as adjunctive therapy to control partial seizures — the most common epilepsy type — in adults.

About 2 million Americans have epilepsy, a nervous system disorder. Medication brings the resulting seizures under control for many. But about 30 percent of partial-seizure sufferers still experience break-

through seizures despite taking two or more drugs.

Clinical trials of more than 3,000 patients found Lamictal helped more than 65 percent of such patients, Burroughs Wellcome said. About half had at least a 25 percent reduction in seizure frequency when Lamictal was added to their current medicines.

In the trials, the typical Lamictal dose was 300-500 milligrams a day. The drug can be added to two common epilepsy drugs — carbamazepine and phenytoin — without altering their blood concentrations, reducing the need for dose adjustments, Burroughs Wellcome said.

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Day of Insertion	Deadline
MONDAY, JAN. 2.....	THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 4 P.M.
TUESDAY, JAN. 3.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 11 A.M.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 4 P.M.

CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

Day of Insertion	Deadline
FRIDAY, DEC. 30.....	THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 2 P.M.
SUNDAY, JAN. 1.....	THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 5 P.M.
MONDAY, JAN. 2.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 2 P.M.
TUESDAY, JAN. 3.....	FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 5 P.M.

All other DEADLINES will remain at their regular times. We appreciate your cooperation and wish you and your friends a safe and happy holiday.

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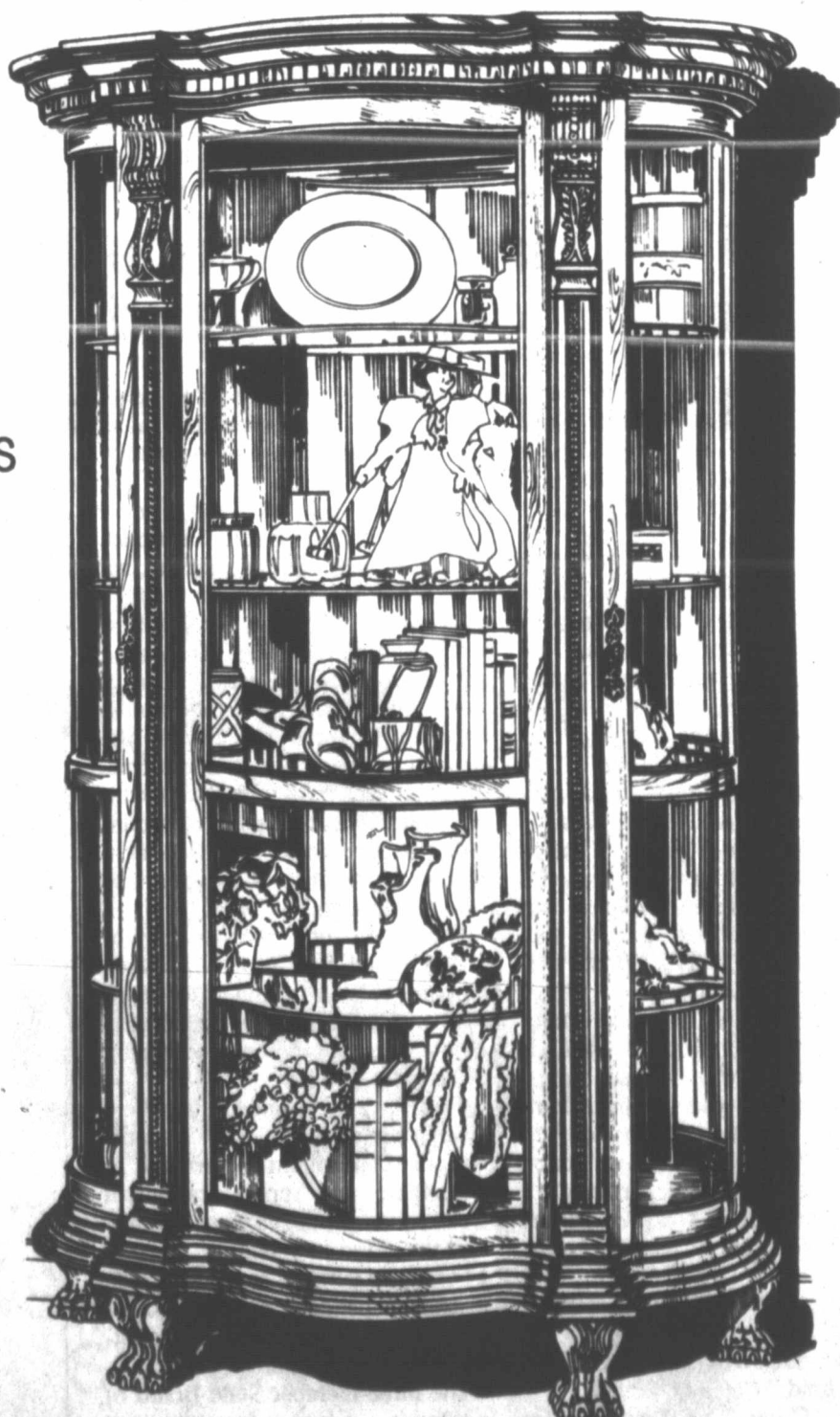
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EPA says new gas not costing more; others say wait and see

By JEFFREY GOLD
Associated Press Writer

ELIZABETH, N.J. (AP) — The cleaner-burning gasoline that becomes the only fuel for 50 million American motorists next week has been sold for most of December without the price increase stations predicted, top environmental officials said Wednesday.

But the American Automobile Association and a group of New Jersey station owners countered that prices in the 17 states where the reformulated gasoline is being sold haven't dropped as they normally do in winter.

Standing beside the pumps at an Exxon station near the New Jersey Turnpike, Jeanne M. Fox, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's administrator for New Jersey and New York, said prices haven't changed much, and certainly not by the 11 cents to 20 cents per gallon some had foreseen.

"So all the talk about hikes in the price of gas was just that — talk — much of it coming from special interest groups looking for the chance to increase their profits and blame somebody else, that being the government," Fox said.

The EPA, AAA and gasoline refiners agree the reformulated gasoline is the most cost-effective way of reducing pollution and smog. They also say although prices have been stable this month, an increase is inevitable because the cleaner gasoline costs more to produce and distribute.

The EPA predicts an increase of 3 cents to 5 cents a gallon. State retailers believe they will have to pass along to customers a 5 cent to 8 cent increase in their costs from refiners; refiners won't say.

The new fuel also cuts mileage up to 3 percent. That's on top of the normal drop in automobile performance in colder weather.

Federal law mandates the new gasoline be sold in urban areas with

significant smog problems, including most of the Northeast and mid-Atlantic region, from parts of Virginia to southern Maine.

Most of New Jersey was included, and Gov. Christie Whitman opted to add the remaining counties — Atlantic, Cape May and Warren.

The fuel also will be required in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas; in and around Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth; in the Chicago area, stretching into northwestern Indiana and southeastern Wisconsin; and in the Louisville, Ky., area, as well as in three counties near Cincinnati.

The law lets other regions join the program. Scores of cities and entire states have signed on in an effort to meet clean air standards, so the new formula will account for one-third of all gasoline being sold in the nation.

Stations started getting it in early December, and it becomes the only gasoline that can be sold starting Sunday — Jan. 1 — in those areas.

A special AAA survey released

Wednesday found the price per gallon in cities selling conventional gas has declined an average of 2 cents in the past three weeks, while it is only down 0.6 cents in cities selling reformulated gas.

"The federal mandate has kept prices from falling as they normally do during the winter months," said William Berman, AAA environment affairs director in Washington, D.C.

Some critics of the new formula say an additive called MTBE, or methyl tertiary butyl ether, makes people sick and leads to cancer-causing vapors being emitted into the atmosphere. However, reformulated gasoline uses a slightly lower level of MTBE than previous oxygenated fuels that have caused consumer complaints in recent winters.

The EPA, noting MTBE has been used in gasoline to boost octane since lead was phased out in the 1970s, and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have said they have no evidence MTBE

poses any more danger than other gasoline components.

Prices in New Jersey are generally higher than last year because refiners didn't reduce prices in April, when they stopped selling oxygenated fuel, said Jerry Ferrara, executive

director of the New Jersey Gasoline Retailers Association.

"If the refiners don't intend to raise the price after the first of the year, we'll be very, very happy," said Ferrara, whose group represents most of the state's 3,500 retailers.

MADD pushes agenda to toughen DWI laws

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — Bill Lewis of Mothers Against Drunk Driving wants the Legislature to help him fulfill a New Year's resolution to get intoxicated drivers off the streets.

As one of the deadliest weekends for alcohol-related accidents approaches, MADD is pushing a legislative agenda that includes sobriety checkpoints, revising the state open container law and lowering the threshold for legal intoxication.

"MADD is really not interested in taking away licenses and putting a lot of people in jail," Lewis said. "We are interested in laws that might persuade people not to drink and drive in the first place."

Two bills filed for the legislative session beginning Jan. 10 would lower the threshold for legal intoxication.

A proposal by Rep. Scott Hochberg and Sen. Rodney Ellis, both Houston Democrats, would lower the limit from .10 to .08 for persons 21 and older and to .02 for minors.

Too many drunken drivers are going free under the current limit, Hochberg said.

"There are a lot of people brought in who are obviously drunk and test out at .09," he said. "There's definitely an impression that you can drink a bunch and not be legally drunk, and that's true."

Hochberg said a 150-pound person must drink a minimum of five mixed drinks an hour to reach the .10 level. The same person would test at .08 after four drinks, he said.

"We're not going after the social drinker or the person who drinks with dinner," he said. "What we're going after is the people who drink to excess and get behind the wheel of a car, and that's where it's a danger to the public."

The .02 limit for minors would be in essence a "zero-tolerance" policy because breathalyzers cannot establish accurate readings below that, Hochberg said.

Rep. Kim Brimer, R-Fort Worth,

has proposed lowering the threshold for minors to zero.

Topping MADD's agenda is a proposal to allow cities with a population of at least 250,000 to establish sobriety checkpoints.

Under the measure by Rep. Will Harnett, R-Dallas, the time in which a police officer could inspect a car would not exceed two minutes, and the time a driver must wait to pass through the checkpoint would not exceed 10 minutes.

An officer must have "reasonable suspicion" to ask a driver to leave his or her car or to perform a sobriety test.

Lewis said about 40 states have laws allowing for sobriety checkpoints.

"This is a law that can prevent drunk driving because if persons ... know there's some chance of going through a checkpoint on their way home, there's a chance they may think twice about driving home drunk," he said.

A third proposal would cork the open container law.

Under the current law, a police officer must see someone drinking from an open container in an automobile to issue a citation.

Rep. Fred Hill's plan would revise the law to prohibit open containers in an automobile outright.

"Police officers will tell you that in approximately half of the accidents that they investigate involving fatalities, they will find an open container in at least one of the cars," said Hill, R-Richardson. "So we know that it's a major factor in accidents and deaths."

Alcohol is a factor in about half of all fatal auto crashes, according to MADD. That rate increases to about 70 percent over the New Year's holiday, Lewis said.

Twenty-eight people died on Texas roads during the New Year's weekend last year, according to the Department of Public Safety. Alcohol was a factor in 15 of the deaths.

In the first six months of 1994, 516 people died in alcohol-related accidents in Texas, the DPS said.

Grand jury says insurance department weak on fraud

AUSTIN (AP) — A Travis County grand jury has sent a letter to Gov.-elect George W. Bush criticizing the Texas Department of Insurance for failing to investigate fraud and other criminal misconduct within the industry.

Texas Insurance Commissioner Rebecca Lightsey on Wednesday deflected state regulators, but said the allegations would be investigated by the State Auditor's Office and insurance department auditors.

"I am determined that a full accounting will be made to the people of Texas," Ms. Lightsey said.

The grand jury's letter, released Wednesday, followed "several dozen hours of testimony about specific insurance fraud cases," said Steve McCleery, Travis County first assistant district attorney.

The testimony included statements from department officials about how they handle fraud cases, said McCleery, who declined comment on whether the grand jury would take any substantive action against the insurance department.

The letter drew sharp responses from Bush and Gov. Ann Richards' office.

Bush called the allegations "disturbing" and vowed "that my administration will not tolerate fraud of any kind."

Bill Cryer, spokesman for Richards, said the allegations were being taken seriously, but he defended much of the department's work.

"They have been very active over

the past few years in filing civil cases against bad actors and have received record fines from insurance companies that have crossed the line," Cryer said. "But any time an accusation is made that the insurance regulators aren't doing their job, we want it investigated."

Industry spokesman Jerry Johns, of the Southwestern Insurance Information Service, said, "Insurers have noted a lack of aggressive response to fraud cases from the insurance department for some time."

"Their lack of aggressive pursuit of fraud cases damages every consumer in Texas and penalizes them in the form of higher insurance rates," Johns said.

The grand jury interviewed witnesses ranging from insurance department field examiners to upper-level management. The panel also reviewed agency records, according to the letter.

"We have determined that there exists a significant reluctance on the part of department personnel to investigate and report fraudulent occurrences in the insurance industry," the grand jury said.

"Of great concern to us is the lack of an independent board or other means of ensuring public accountability," the letter said.

The three-member State Board of Insurance, which formerly set department policy, was dissolved in December 1993 and replaced with a single commissioner appointed by the governor.

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Lifestyles

Man soars as lifelong dream comes true

By LOIS LUECKE
Wichita Falls Times Record News

ARCHER CITY, Texas — Old-timer Bud Scott says unabashedly that he fell in love with the airplane the first time he saw it in 1935 — a Russell, one-seater, monoplane, straight out of a 1929 flying manual.

"Any time an airplane came over, the screen doors went to slamming all over this end of town and all the kids would run out and look," said Scott, who was then 15.

As the plane flew in from Meacham Field (in Fort Worth) it circled and landed at the airstrip north of town here.

"It stayed out there until the owner, Pete (Minnich) gave it to me in 1939," Scott said.

Recently, what Scott had waited 55 years to see — the little homemade airplane that he twice rebuilt — flew without incident with veteran pilot Dave Eby at the controls.

Its first test flight in midsummer was cut short because of carburetor problems. Scott found a replacement carburetor at El Reno, Okla. Subsequently, Eby said he flew the plane about four times and each time, after 35 minutes, the magneto would stop working.

"Any time an airplane came over, the screen doors went to slamming all over this end of town and all the kids would run out and look," — Bud Scott.

"Each time we would try to fix it and finally we cured the problem by replacing a condenser," said the pilot.

In November, Eby was able to fly the plane on a 36-mile roundtrip, from Archer City to Danaher Airport on the south side of Lake Wichita, without any problems.

The airplane "is now delightful," said Eby. But it is restricted to a 25-mile radius until it has 25 hours on it, in accordance with a Federal Aviation Administration rule.

"So far it has about 10 hours on it." It was a happy ending to what was practically a lifelong effort, said Scott. "I'm 74 now and the man who gave me the airplane is 88."

Scott, a former pilot, initially rebuilt the plane after it was damaged when the pilot flying it landed in a mesquite tree. "It was ready for flight in about 1940

or 1941. But it just set out there and rotted down while I was gone to the war (World War II)," he said.

"I didn't have anything but the wheels and instruments left. I took the wheels over to the bicycle shop in Wichita Falls and got them straightened up and tightened up. I think ... (it was) in 1978 when I really started in earnest getting it together," said Scott.

Scott built the plane out of spruce. "It looks like it did in 1929," he said.

He installed a Franklin 65-horsepower engine and painted the plane red and silver. Most of the controls are the same ones that came with the plane when he got it.

"It's like a woman who has an ugly baby. It's pretty to me," said Scott, as he surveyed his handiwork.

The propeller-driven plane has a speed of 80 to 90 miles an hour and an open

cockpit. Charlie Young, also of Archer City, helped him rebuild the aircraft, Scott said.

Young, who is retired from a career in the regular Navy, said he has watched the reconstruction of the aircraft since about 1983 when he moved back to Archer City.

"I think he (Bud Scott) did a wonderful job of it."

A lifelong Archer County resident, Scott was a flight engineer in the Army Air Forces during World War II. He retired after working in the oil fields for years.

This isn't the first homemade plane Scott has built. He built from scratch a Piepentol plane in 1966 or 1967.

"Most of them (the Piepentol planes) had Model A engines. Mine had an airplane engine. I flew it around here for about 10 years and then sold it."

"It went to Florida and they flew it for a long time until they ran it into a gopher hole and turned it over. And they had to rebuild. It's back flying again. I heard from the old boy (who bought it) here a while back."

Scott said he doesn't know what he will do with the 1929 Russell. "I guess I will just give it to my boys. They can worry about it then."

Newsmakers of the area

Winners of the Pampa Middle School art show held recently have been announced.

Stefanie Caldwell placed first in Tissue Paper Outlines category. Starla Honeycutt came in second, Bernice Solice placed third and Heath Keeton received an honorable mention.

In the Printmaking category, Aaron Cummings took first; Ryan Silks, second; Stephanie Moreno, placed third; and Judy Trevino received an honorable mention.

In the Watercolor category, Erica Villalon took first with Jose Gutierrez placing second and Leslie Clark taking third. Four students receiving honorable mentions were Sara Newhouse, Andy Fernuik, Jody Richardson and Vicki Williams.

In Contour Drawing, Jose Soto took first, Ashley Knipp placed second and Eljia Hernandez came in third. Receiving honorable mentions were Daniel Abernathy and Jill Daugherty.

Kristi Randall placed first in the Elements of Art category with Judy Trevino placing second and Joel Bolz placing third. Ollie Lowe received an honorable mention.

Judy Trevino placed first in the Ceramics division with Sandra Brooks taking second. Angela Garza came in third and Carla Dunn received an honorable mention.

Lee Ann Gunnels placed first in the Masks division. Jamie Mears took second and Heidi Searl came in third.

In the weaving category, Mandy Poole placed first with Rachel Bowles placing second. Nicole Bruton came in third and Candace Cathey received an honorable mention.

With Word Shape, Larry Harley placed first. Reed DeFever took second and Jessica Reed came in third. Ricky Reynolds received an honorable mention.

Heidi Searl placed first in the Shape Collage category and Cary Schumacher placed second. Chelsea McCullough was third and Kristi Randall received an honorable mention.

In the Half Magazine-Half Drawing category, Kevin Persyn came in first with Stephanie Ensey placing second. Roy Devoll took third and Lisa Dwight received an honorable mention.

Lucas Oliva placed first in the Mosaics category and Heath Keeton placed second. Casey Meharg placed third and Artemio Alfaro received an honorable mention.

In Pastel Portraits, Cory Fowler placed first, Erik Black placed second and Richard Thigpen third. Nuni Silva and Lance Burton received honorable mentions.

Nicole Terry placed first in the Woodcut category, Sheila Berry placed second, Jack Leland placed third and Joel Bolz and Jonathan Ladd both received honorable mentions.

In the Tessellations category, Casey Brookshire placed first. Placing second was Tasha Lenz with Kira Chumbley coming in third. Damon Whaley received an honorable mention.

In the Renoir-Full Body Pastel Portrait, Joseph Huffman placed first, Lorena Baker placed second and Sean Pope placed third. Megan Coutts received an honorable mention.

Students placing first in the Group Project category with the theme of "Trash Monsters," were Mandy Rains, Shanna Buck, Jayme Rillhaler, Cindy Hernandez and Ashley Knipp with "Fred the Potter." The makers of "Curley Top Sue" who placed second were Stefanie Caldwell, Kira Chumbley, Annie Sims, Meredith Hendricks and Vicki Williams. Chelsea McCullough placed third with "Sally" and receiving an honorable mention for "Dolly Harvester" were Judy Pepi and Ashleigh Patton.

Vacation house of a different kind

By JENNIFER MERIN
For AP Special Features

NEW YORK (AP) — When Bridget Potter, her husband Bob Wool and their two teen-age daughters vacation abroad, they bypass fancy hotels with bilingual staffs in favor of private homes in quiet neighborhoods.

Potter and her family are house swappers. They are members of the Vacation Exchange Club, a worldwide group with 4,000 Americans and more than 10,000 people in some 50 other countries. So far, they have traded their New York apartment with families in London, Paris and Rome.

"You experience the intimacy of life in a new, different place; shopping for groceries, dealing with details like water pressure and garbage collection, getting to know neighbors and local customs," says Potter, a New York television executive. "It's a marvelous gift you give yourself and your family."

In addition to the Vacation Exchange Club, INTERVAC U.S.-International Home Exchange provides access to swaps in 34 countries.

House swaps cut costs. There's no hotel bill, and a kitchen helps reduce the cost of eating out. Since property, not money, is exchanged, swappers are technically guests in the home, so most home insurance policies cover them during the exchange period.

For an annual fee of \$65, Vacation Exchange Club members receive several Holiday Exchange Books listing houses worldwide, including their own, that are available for swaps. The first edition appears in October. The second and third editions come in January and March, with late listings in April, May and June.

INTERVAC U.S. publishes four catalogs a year between December and June, each listing available swaps. A \$75 annual fee — \$68 for seniors — covers your listing and catalog subscription. A U.S.-only catalog is \$40.

Listings include city apartments, beachside condos and mountaintop chateaux. Descriptions include address, phone number, preferred swap dates and features such as number of rooms, available appliances, swimming pool and other amenities. Also listed are neighborhood attractions such as parks, beaches, cultural centers and access to public transportation. Some house swaps include automobiles, boats and pet care. Some list the owners' professions. Photos are extra.

Potter, who has a luxury apartment in one of the city's prime neighborhoods, says they sacrificed some of the comforts of home abroad.

"European apartments don't provide some conveniences we're used to," she says. "The London flat was great, not luxurious but comfortable. ... The Paris place was charming and wonderfully

located, but tiny. In Rome we experience history's hottest August without air conditioning."

While Potter and her family look on the swaps as a learning experience, she says they aren't for travel wimps or people who worry about leaving their possessions with strangers.

For a successful swap, Vacation Exchange Club offers this advice:

—Before subscribing, ask for a list of experienced swappers in your area. Question them about their experiences.

—Choose an area you want to visit and study the catalog for listings in that area. Send descriptive invitations to owners of properties that seem appealing. Be flexible and persistent. It might take several attempts to find the right swap.

—Establish a relationship via letters or phone with serious candidates. Ask for references and speak with neighbors, employers or others who know them well.

—Ask specific questions about what's important to you: Room size, number and type of bathrooms, mattress type, for example. Also ask about home security, neighborhood safety, shopping and transportation.

—Try to meet the family before finalizing the swap. Frequently, people with similar professions find it easy to swap and may exchange names of colleagues as well as homes.

Once the deal is done:
—Be sure guests are covered by home-

owners' insurance. If you're swapping cars, be sure you're insured and that drivers are properly licensed.

—Prepare your house by cleaning thoroughly. Store valuables and clear enough closet and drawer space for guests' use.

—Leave specific instructions for appliances, locks and home alarm systems. Tell neighbors, doormen and housekeepers that friends will be staying in your home while you're away. Leave a phone number and ask them to call if anything seems amiss.

—Agree on how to handle any damage or breakage that might occur during the swap.

—Check in with your house guests before you return home so you will have some idea of how things went.

Members of Vacation Exchange Club and INTERVAC U.S. have identification numbers. For your protection, verify the number with prospective swappers.

"Basically, we're a listing service and make no guarantees," Karl Costabel, owner of Vacation Exchange Club, says.

"But in more than 30 years of experience we've found that people who exchange houses are usually responsible, honest, well-educated folk who respect other people's belongings."

"And, their own houses are simultaneously occupied on the same basis of trust."

Where do tornadoes come from

Scientists don't completely understand how tornadoes form. They do know that most tornadoes are born in violent thunderstorms.

Violent thunderstorms form in a zone where cool, dry air meets warm, moist air. As the warm air shoots up, more warm air takes its place. If this happens over and over, the air starts to swirl.

The swirling air becomes a tunnel of racing winds wrapped around a tube of low pressure. The low pressure gives the tornado suction power. Its winds can whirl at speeds over 200 miles per hour. The tornado itself zips across the ground at 25 to 60 miles per hour.

The National Weather Service keeps an eye on tornado weather. Most tornadoes twist and turn in late spring in the southern and midwestern United States. People in tornado zones are prepared to take cover when a tornado stops by on its "whirl tour!"

Crisis Pregnancy Center
669-2229



HAPPY "40" BIRTHDAY DOUG
Love, Julie, Doug, Christi & Casey



IF SANTA GOOFED...

We Will Exchange It If It Is The Same Exact Merchandise

Check Out Our Great After Christmas Specials.

WAYNES WESTERN WEAR, INC.
OPEN 9-8 DAILY, CLOSED SUNDAY
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SIRLOIN STOACKADES' NEW YEARS EVE

Weekend Special

THURS., FRI., SAT. AND SUN.

GIANT 17 oz. TOP SIRLOIN FOR TWO

JUST \$9.99

Includes Choice of potato, texas toast and OUR SUPER DESSERT AND SUNDAE BAR



518 N. HOBART, 665-8351

Helmetless horseback riders won't be hardheaded for long

DEAR ABBY: From time to time, you mention the importance of bikers wearing safety helmets, which prompts me to write to you regarding horseback riding.

According to the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, each year more than 42,000 people are sent to hospital emergency rooms due to riding-related accidents. The American Riding Instructors Association sponsors a certification program. Instructors certified by this program are required to use approved safety headgear for their students and themselves.

Since this program was instituted in 1984, we have received a number of letters from individuals who, thanks to the fact they were wearing protective headgear, received non-catastrophic injuries. (In one instance, the rider's doctor told her that the helmet saved her life.)

Few people realize that head injuries are cumulative; several seemingly "minor" bumps and bangs can result in serious problems. Your readers should be aware that appropriate safety headgear is vital in any activity in which the head is readily exposed to injury. Those who say they can't afford a helmet should check out the cost of brain surgery!

CHARLOTTE BRAILEY
KNEELAND, A.R.I.A.
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM,
ALTON BAY, N.H.

DEAR CHARLOTTE: Since



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

most people might associate riding accidents with bicycling or motorcycling, your letter provides a helpful reminder of the fact that horseback riding, too, contributes its share of head injuries.

Many enthusiasts insist that "to wear or not to wear" should be a matter of personal choice. However, it should be remembered that organ banks report that the best candidates for organ donations are hospital patients on life support, with non-reversible head injuries.

DEAR ABBY: I enjoyed all those letters about zippers. Here's another one: A gentleman was dining alone at a Beverly Hills restaurant, unaware that his fly was unzipped.

His waitress noticed this, and very discreetly handed him a piece of paper on which she had written:

"Dear Sir: I notice that your fly is unzipped and wide open. I will go to the other end of the room and drop a tray full of silverware on the

floor to attract everyone's attention to that area while you zip up your fly."

LONGTIME READER
IN BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.

DEAR LONGTIME: I hope he gave that waitress a nice tip for the tip-off.

DEAR ABBY: I just read the letter from the retired couple who is on a fixed income and had very little to spend for Christmas gifts.

My husband's grandparents are also on a limited budget, but every year, we get a wonderful homemade gift from them. The great-grandchildren get handmade ornaments and paperback books.

One year, Grandma bought some candy tins and filled them with the most delicious homemade fudge, and she taped the recipe on the lid!

Now, I, too, can make the world's best fudge!

MALEAH SMITHAM

DEAR MALEAH: If it's not a secret, please send me the recipe.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61064-0447. (Postage is included.)

Horoscope



Your Birthday

Friday, Dec. 30, 1994

The year ahead could be prosperous for you if you're inspired to work harder to provide for those you love. Taking care of them will help you as well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Hopes and expectations have a good chance of being fulfilled today if you approach your objectives in a practical manner. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences which govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$1.25 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box

4465, New York, NY 10163. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) This might be a day of substantial achievement. What occurs may appear to be reasonably easy, but you'll know better.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You may be very well equipped for dealing with groups today. The larger the group, the better you'll do.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today you might have to deal with two individuals the world has mistreated lately. Your compassion will guide you and you'll know just what to say and do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The greatest lessons today aren't apt to come from textbooks. Knowledge you acquire through personal experience could prove invaluable.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your earning capacity could increase at this time. You are in a cycle where the service or expertise you offer could yield unusually larger returns.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you want to earn a reputation as a good guy, make

a sincere effort to treat others as you would have them treat you. The golden rule is the best measure today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A solution might be found today for a problem you've been unable to solve. The answer will affect your entire family, not just the perpetrator.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Even though you might feel a little lonely today, you should still choose your companions carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your luck in financial situations will be unusually good today. Think logically, but do not ignore strong hunches or intuitive perceptions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Over the next few days, you might hear from several friends you've been out of touch with for quite some time. Strange circumstances could compel them to call.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Good things might happen to you today just because you'll be in the right spot at the right time. Watch for opportunities from sunup to sundown.

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"For Christmas PJ gave us each a cold."

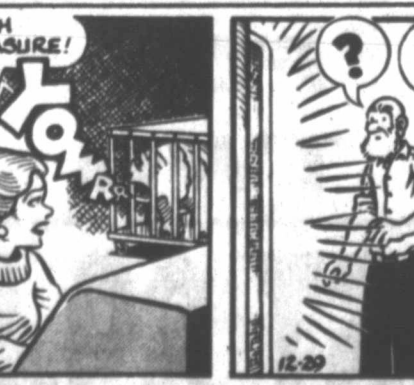


"Oh, everybody gains weight around the holidays."

The Family Circus



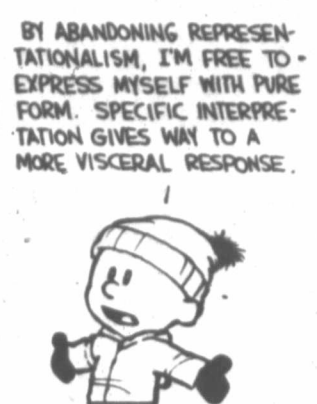
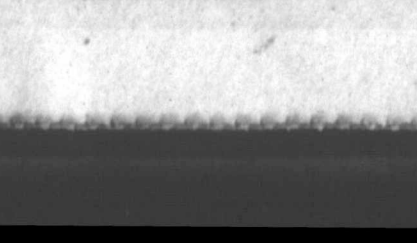
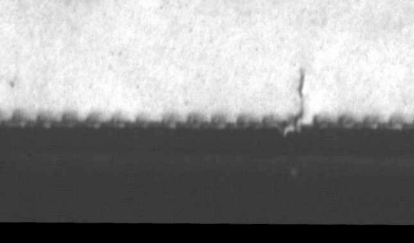
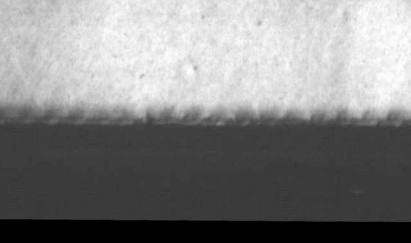
Grizzwells



Alley Oop



Peanuts



Calvin & Hobbes



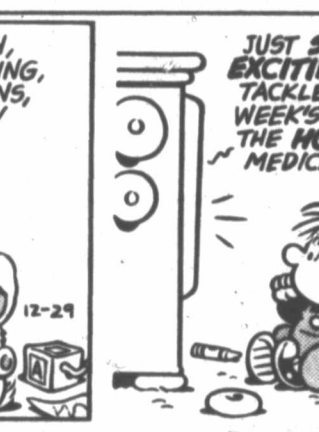
Ario & Janis



Garfield



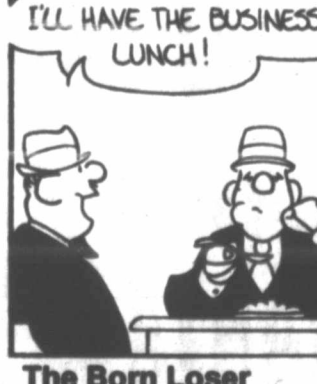
Walnut Cove



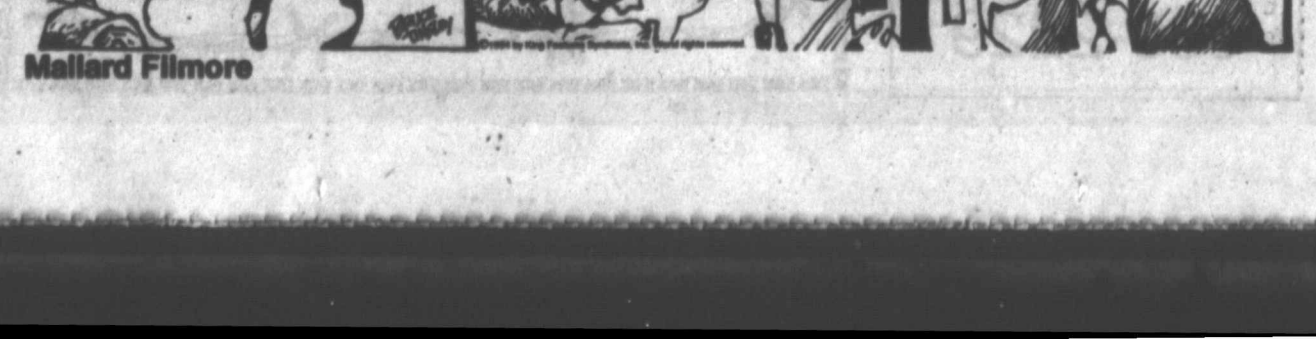
Marvin



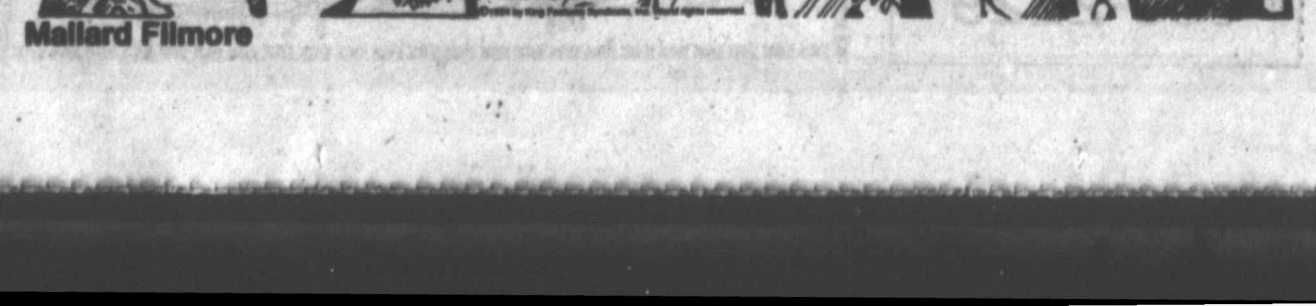
B.C.



The Born Loser



Frank And Ernest



Mallard Filmore

Sports

Notebook

FORT WORTH — Pampa plays Cleburne today at the Whatburger West Side Lions Club Tournament.

The Harvesters were to meet Cleburne at 9 a.m. today in this Fort Worth tournament after defeating Arlington Heights in first round play.

SLATON — The Lady Harvesters lost to Post in first round action at the West Texas Girls' Invitational tournament at Slaton High School.

FOOTBALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Detroit Lions star Barry Sanders, who led the NFL in rushing with 1,883 yards and had 44 receptions for 283 yards, was selected the 1994 Associated Press Offensive Player of the Year.

Sanders received 53 of 98 votes from a panel of writers and broadcasters. San Francisco quarterback Steve Young was second with 41, followed by 49ers receiver Jerry Rice with three and Minnesota receiver Cris Carter with one.

San Francisco cornerback Deion Sanders, who waited until the baseball season was canceled before signing with the 49ers, was selected the Defensive Player of the Year. Sanders, who had six interceptions and three touchdowns, received 39 votes. Pittsburgh cornerback Rod Woodson, last year's winner, was second with 16 and Steelers linebacker Greg Lloyd had 14.

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Green Bay receiver Sterling Sharpe will miss the playoffs because of a neck abnormality.

Sharpe, who had 94 receptions for 1,119 yards and 18 touchdowns this season, sustained "stinger" nerve injuries in each of the last two games and missed practice Tuesday to be examined by a specialist in Indianapolis.

Team physician Patrick McKenzie and trainer Pepper Burris said the injuries resulted from looseness between the top two vertebrae in Sharpe's neck. McKenzie said surgery will be required to fuse the vertebrae.

NEW YORK (AP) — Kansas City's Marcus Allen, who rushed for 132 yards in the Chiefs' 19-9 victory over the Los Angeles Raiders, was selected the AFC offensive player of the week.

Cleveland safety Eric Turner and San Diego kick returner Andre Coleman also were honored in the AFC. Green Bay receiver Sterling Sharpe, Minnesota defensive tackle John Randle and New Orleans punter Tommy Barnhardt were selected in the NFC.

KIRKLAND, Wash. (AP) — Tom Flores returned to the Seattle Seahawks' headquarters, refusing to say what happened after meeting in California with club owner Ken Behring. Flores, the coach and general manager, is expected to be fired. Seattle was 6-10 this season and 14-34 in three years under Flores.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The New Orleans Saints fired defensive coordinator Steve Sidwell and defensive line coach John Pease, who oversaw a defense that fell from one of the best in the NFL to one of the worst.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — University of Oklahoma regents formally approved the hiring of Howard Schnellenberger as the Sooners' coach. Schnellenberger was selected Dec. 16 to replace Gary Gibbs.

BASEBALL

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Baseball's biggest trade in 37 years, a 12-player deal between Houston and San Diego, also had a family angle.

Padres general manager Randy Smith sent shortstop Ricky Gutierrez, center fielder Derek Bell, left fielder Phil Plantier, left-hander Pedro Martinez, right-hander Doug Brocail and infielder Craig Shipley to Houston.

The Astros, whose president is Randy's father, Tal, sent third baseman Ken Caminiti, shortstop Andujar Cedeno, center fielder Steve Finley, right-hander Brian Williams and first baseman Roberto Petagine to San Diego. The Padres will get a minor league player to be agreed on by April 30, or \$50,000.

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball's second labor dispute began when owners notified umpires they will be locked out after this weekend and won't be paid.

National League president Len Coleman said the umpires received the lockout notification by overnight mail. Umpires are paid on a year-round basis and their four-year contract expires Saturday.

The union filed unfair labor practice charges against both leagues with the National Labor Relations Board office in Philadelphia, accusing them of bargaining in bad faith. The AFL-CIO denied a report that it would honor players' picket lines. The AFL-CIO said decisions would be made by individual unions.

BALTIMORE (AP) — Cal Ripken's agent, Ron Shapiro, said the Baltimore shortstop will never break ranks, even if the striking players give him their blessing so he can continue his chase for Lou Gehrig's record. According to a report in the Houston Post, Astros reliever Todd Jones said the union told Ripken it wouldn't mind if he played with strikebreakers. Ripken has played in 2,009 consecutive games and is 121 shy of Gehrig's mark.

Razorbacks raggedy ride beats Sooners smooth walk

By JIM O'CONNELL
AP Basketball Writer

HONOLULU (AP) — Few coaches can turn a phrase as well as Arkansas' Nolan Richardson, and he had one of usual on-the-mark remarks after the third-ranked Razorbacks barely escaped with a victory over Oklahoma in the opening round of the Rainbow Classic.

"I've always told our players I'd rather have a raggedy ride than a smooth walk especially in the snow," he said Wednesday night after the Razorbacks rallied from a 15-point second-half deficit for an 86-84 victory.

"We're the national champions and every game is a national championship game for our opponent. If a team gets hot and gets a few calls, they're right in the ballgame. It's not the same as last year

when we were the ones doing the chasirig."

The Sooners were well ahead, leading 51-36 with 17:46 to play. Arkansas was struggling from the field and just wasn't playing the way people have come to expect the Razorbacks (9-1) to play.

They turned up their vaunted pressure defense and forced turnover after turnover as they chipped away at the lead, finally taking it for good at 81-79 with 1:11 to play on a 3-pointer by Clint McDaniel.

Still, they weren't assured of their ninth straight victory and a semifinal matchup tonight with No. 20 Cincinnati until after a wild final minute that saw the Sooners (7-1) have three chances to tie from the free throw line and come up empty every time.

"Oklahoma probably out-

played us in every aspect of the game except going down the stretch when things went in our favor," Richardson said. "Our kids found a way to win and that's what I told them at halftime."

The way to the win was with the inside scoring of Corliss Williamson, who had 15 of his 19 points in the second half, and the team's 3-point shooting as Arkansas finished 9-for-25 from that range after missing 15 of its first 20 from behind the arc.

"Of course our big guy came through inside when we needed him in the second half," Richardson said. "We struggled outside until we hit those shots down the stretch."

With 49 seconds left and Oklahoma down 81-79, Dion Barnes had one free throw taken away on a lane violation, and he missed the sec-

ond, only to have teammate Calvin Curry grab the rebound and miss. Arkansas' Scott Thurman then made one of two free throws with 46 seconds left for an 82-79 lead. Barnes then drove the length of the floor for a layup and was fouled. He missed the free throw and the second chance to tie.

Corey Beck then made one of two free throws for Arkansas with 28 seconds left. Oklahoma's last chance to tie ended when freshman guard Prince Fowler, who had committed the lane violation, missed two free throws with 17 seconds left.

Thurman made two free throws with 12 seconds left and Barnes hit a 3-pointer with 0.5 seconds left. Oklahoma called a timeout it didn't have and Thurman made one of two free throws on the technical for the final

margin. "As a freshman I have to learn from this and get the game out of my mind," said Fowler, who had five points and five assists. "I have to think of the next game, play hard and keep my head up."

Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson made sure his Sooners kept their heads up. "I looked those kids right in the eye and asked them if they did everything they could to win. If they did they I don't want them sitting there feeling sorry for themselves," he said. "Arkansas did what it had to do to win, make the free throws, make big plays and show character."

Thurman had 16 points for Arkansas and McDaniel and Reggie Garrett added 13 each. Ryan Minor led Oklahoma with 31 points and tied a tournament record with nine steals.

Gary Gibbs finale tonight

By ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN
Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Oklahoma coach Gary Gibbs, whose six-year career ends tonight after a Copper Bowl matchup with No. 22 Brigham Young, thinks too much is being made of his departure.

"It's not a big deal. Our focus is BYU," Gibbs said. "My focus is to try to allow these guys to go out on top against BYU, to have success."

Asked if Gibbs' resignation under fire was providing added incentive for the Sooners (6-5), Oklahoma receiver Albert Hall said, "Coach has always told us to go out and play for ourselves, and he will take care of his part."

The game offers a stark contrast in quarterbacking as well as coaching situations. The Sooners will be playing with reserve quarterback Terence Brown, who has completed one pass this season and has attempted nine passes in his career. He's starting in place of Garrick McGee, recovering from viral-caused spinal meningitis.

On the other hand, BYU (9-3) features an offense directed by junior quarterback John Walsh, who has passed for 3,712 yards and 29 touchdowns this season and 8,390 yards during his career.

The game is the Cougars' 17th straight postseason appearance under coach LaVell Edwards, who is completing his 23rd season.

It also could be the last for Walsh. It was reported this week that Walsh, a top prospect, will be leaving early for the NFL, but he insisted he hasn't made up his mind.

Oklahoma, making its 32nd bowl appearance, will need a victory to finish a 29th straight winning season. The Sooners finished fourth in the Big Eight.

Gibbs said BYU, which defeated Notre Dame 21-14 at South Bend, is anything but a finesse football team. Aside

from turnovers, the key will be the line of scrimmage, and his team will have to be as physical as the Cougars, he said.

"Late in the third quarter and the fourth quarter, they physically beat Notre Dame at its game," Gibbs said. "We've got to disrupt what they like to do. This will be a chess-match type of game because they've seen everything."

Gibbs said his team won't rely on a three-back running attack because of Brown's inexperience. He said he's been surprised by how well Brown played in practice.

"The first day he struggled a little bit, but his improvement has been evident to all of us," he said. "We hope he saves some of that good play for Thursday night."

Edwards, meanwhile, said that despite Walsh's passing prowess, a key to BYU's success will be its ability to run the ball, a strength this season.

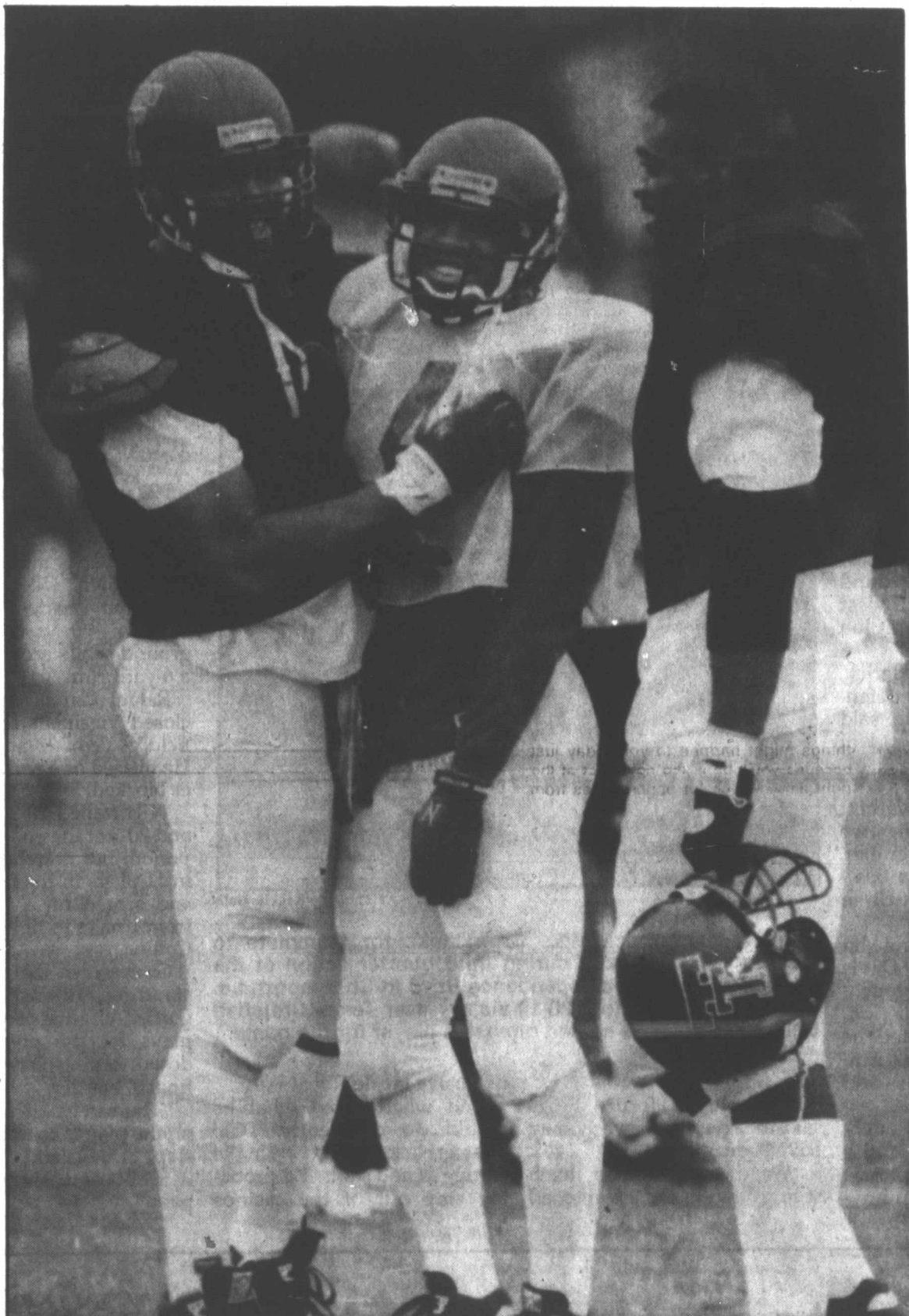
The Cougars, who finished tied with Utah and Air Force for second in the Western Athletic Conference, averaged 144.5 yards on the ground while rushing 480 times and attempting 475 passes.

Jamal Willis ran for 1,042 yards, his second 1,000-yard season in three years, and fullback Hema Heimuli added 552. "We're getting better at it," Edwards said.

His biggest concern: Oklahoma's defensive speed. "Few teams that we've played have better defensive speed than what Oklahoma has," he said.

Oklahoma ranked 12th nationally in total defense this season. Linebacker Iyrell Peters and end Cedric Jones had 101 and 86 tackles, respectively.

"The biggest factor to their defense is they have incredible speed in their linebackers," BYU center Jim Edwards said. "We haven't played a team that fills the holes better than Oklahoma's linebackers."



—AP Photo by Pat Sullivan

Byron Haspard, center, jokes with Jabbar Thomas, left, and Byron Wright during a Texas Tech practice in Dallas in preparation for the Cotton Bowl on Jan. 2.

Red Raiders out for respect in Cotton Bowl

By DENNE H. FREEMAN
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — The Cotton Bowl pairs two teams who have lost a total of eight games. Who cares? Just call it the "Forgotten Bowl."

Of all the major bowl games over the New Year's collegiate football extravaganza, the Cotton Bowl means the least nationally. No top 10 ranking is at stake.

The two participants, Texas Tech, the first 6-5 team in the Cotton Bowl's 59-year history, and 21st-ranked Southern California, a 7-3-1 club, are playing for little more than the fun of it.

Texas Tech hasn't been to a Cotton Bowl since 1939, or as Red Raiders coach Spike Dykes puts it: "Since Moby Dick was a minnow."

It's the first Cotton Bowl appearance for the Trojans and only the third by a Pac-10 team.

Despite little national interest, the game is a hot ticket and is approaching a sellout. "The ticket response has

been very good," said the Cotton Bowl's John Crawford, who expects a sell-out by Jan. 2. "The telephone keeps on ringing."

Over 24,000 Tech fans have bought tickets and are looking for more. USC has sold 5,000 tickets.

"If you have any Red Raider blood in your body you'll be here for this game," Texas Tech alumnus and golf pro Randy Smith said. "We've been waiting for this for decades."

Tech sees the game as a crusade for respect.

Dykes said the Red Raiders are a little irked by people who say they backed into the bowl when unbeaten Texas A&M couldn't play because of probation.

"We've been waiting some 60 years to get here and people act like they drew our name out of a hat," Dykes said. "We did have a tough schedule this year. I can say it's definitely harder to beat Nebraska than Peabody State."

USC lost to Oregon 22-7 on Oct. 1. Oregon won the Pac-10. "We played them (the

Cornhuskers) tough for three quarters then ran out of manpower. What's the shame in that?"

"This won't be a game between No. 1 and No. 2 but it will be a fun game. USC has a tremendous tradition. They are big. When their offensive line walks in the room, it gets dark. They blot out the sun and the lights."

He added, "We're tired of everybody insulting our record and spitting on our grave. Our goals before the season started were to try to finish first in the conference and go to the Cotton Bowl. Well, we did it and it means something to us."

USC coach John Robinson said he hates to play a talented team like Tech with a 6-5 record.

"We learned a lesson this year when we played Oregon," Robinson said. "Nobody said Oregon was any good until the game was over."

USC lost to Oregon 22-7 on Oct. 1. Oregon won the Pac-10.

TV SPORTSWATCH

Live, same-day and delayed national TV sports coverage for Friday (schedule subject to change and/or black-outs):

All Times EST

1 p.m.

ESPN — NCAA Football, Heritage Bowl, South Carolina St. vs. Grambling, at Atlanta

2:30 p.m.

CBS — NCAA Football, Sun Bowl, Texas vs. North Carolina, at El Paso, Texas

7:30 p.m.

TBS — NCAA Football, Gator Bowl, Tennessee vs. Virginia Tech, at Gainesville, Fla.

8 p.m.

PRIME — NCAA Hockey, Great Lakes Invitational, championship game, at Detroit

8:30 p.m.

WGN — NBA Basketball, Miami at Chicago

9 p.m.

ESPN — NCAA Football, Holiday Bowl, Michigan vs. Colorado St., at San Diego

10:30 p.m.

ESPN2 — NCAA Basketball, Fiesta Bowl Tournament, championship, at Tucson, Ariz.

1:30 a.m.

PRIME — NCAA Basketball, Rainbow Classic, championship game, at Honolulu

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Ski report

WOODSTOCK, Vt. (AP) — Latest skiing conditions as supplied by Sno Country Reports (conditions are subject to change due to weather, traffic and other factors):

New Mexico
 Angel Fire — packed powder 18-24 base 27 trails 6 of 6 lifts 67% open sm
 Red River — machine groomed 18-40 base 6 of 6 lifts 80% open
 Sandia Peak — machine groomed 15-17 base 2 trails 2 of 7 lifts 15% open sm 8:30a-4p
 Santa Fe — machine groomed 50 base 36 trails 7 of 7 lifts 99% open 9a-4p
 Sipapu — packed powder 42 base 2 trails 1 of 3 lifts sm
 Ski Apache — packed powder 25 base 52 trails 10 of 10 lifts 8:45a-4p
 Ski Rio — packed powder 36 base 62 trails 3 of 3 lifts sm
 Snow Canyon — packed powder 1 of 2 lifts sm
 Taos — packed powder 56 base 72 trails 11 of 11 lifts 100% open sm

Colorado
 Arapahoe Basin — packed powder 25 base 5 of 5 lifts
 Arrowhead — packed powder 16-18 base 2 of 2 lifts 8:30a-4p
 Aspen Highlands — packed powder 32-36 base 80 trails 9 of 9 lifts 83% open
 Aspen Mountain — packed powder 30-31 base 75 trails 8 of 8 lifts 98% open
 Beaver Creek — packed powder 22-32 base 10 of 10 lifts 8:30a-4p xc:32km
 Breckenridge — packed powder 24-31 base 83 trails 17 of 17 lifts 75% open
 Copper Mtn. — packed powder 22 base 70 trails 18 of 19 lifts 66% open xc:24km
 Crested Butte — packed powder 28-48 base 11 of 13 lifts 9a-4p
 Eldora — packed powder 23 base 9 of 9 lifts 9a-4p
 Howelsen — packed powder 12 base 3 of 3 lifts
 Keystone — packed powder 22-26 base 19 of 19 lifts sm
 Loveland — packed powder 20-21 base 26 trails 5 of 10 lifts 40% open 8:30a-4p
 Monarch — packed powder 37-39 base 50 trails 4 of 4 lifts 91% open 9a-4p
 Powderhorn — packed powder 30 base 3 of 4 lifts
 Purgatory — packed powder 42 base 9 of 9 lifts 100% open 9a-4:15p xc:16km
 Silvercreek — packed powder 18 base 3 of 5 lifts 9a-4p
 Ski Cooper — packed powder 21 base 4 of 4 lifts 9a-4p
 Ski Sunlight — packed powder 24-34 base 4 of 4 lifts
 Snowmass — packed powder 27-42 base 66 trails 16 of 16 lifts 88% open
 Steamboat — packed powder 35-43 base 98 trails 20 of 20 lifts xc:30km
 Telluride — packed powder 36-37 base 10 of 10 lifts 99% open
 Tiehack — packed powder 23-24 base 37 trails 7 of 7 lifts 96% open
 Vail — packed powder 24-30 base 20 of 25 lifts 8:30a-4p xc:16km
 Winter Park — hard packed 31 base 97 trails 20 of 20 lifts 80% open
 Wolf Creek — packed powder 63-64 base 6 of 6 lifts 100% open 10a-3:45p

Utah
 Alta — powder 67 base 8 of 8 lifts 95% open 9:15a-4:30p
 Beaver Mtn. — packed powder 46 base 3 of 3 lifts
 Brian Head — packed powder 60 base 53 trails 6 of 6 lifts 100% open 9a-10p xc:45km
 Brighton — packed powder 64 base 64 trails 7 of 7 lifts 100% open 9a-9p
 Deer Valley — packed powder 58 base 66 trails 13 of 13 lifts 99% open sm 9a-4p
 Elk Meadows — packed powder 52-54 base 29 trails 5 of 5 lifts
 Nordic Valley Resort — packed powder 34 base 2 of 2 lifts
 Park City — packed powder 55 base 88 trails 14 of 14 lifts 100% open sm 9a-9p
 Powder Mtn. — packed powder 63 base 4 of 4 lifts
 Snowbasin — packed powder 57 base 5 of 5 lifts 100% open
 Snowbird — packed powder 60 base 8 of 8 lifts 95% open

Oregon finds Penn State offense nauseating

By KEN PETERS
 AP Sports Writer

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Oregon coach Rich Brooks finds Penn State's offense nauseating. Literally.

The second-ranked Nittany Lions fielded the nation's most prolific offense this season, rolling up 520 yards and 47.8 points a game. Their scoring average was the fourth highest in NCAA history.

"I got a little upset stomach watching that offense go up and down the field against Michigan State," said Brooks, who tuned in as Penn State romped to 653 yards of offense in a 59-31 rout that closed out the regular season.

Led by tailback Ki-Jana Carter, who rushed for 1,593 yards, and quarterback Kerry Collins, who completed 66.7 percent his throws for 2,679 yards and 21 touchdowns, the Nittany Lions (11-0) were virtually unstoppable.

"Penn State offensively is without question one of the best teams ever in college football," Brooks said. "They have great weapons and their offensive line is outstanding."

"Ki-Jana Carter is the best back we've seen. Their receivers are probably the best we've seen. Collins is the best quarterback we've seen. So our defense really has its hands full."

The 12th-ranked Ducks (9-3), 18-point underdogs in the Rose

Bowl matchup, allowed 331.7 yards and 17.7 points per game.

So potent was the Nittany Lions' attack that Carter sometimes seemed slightly overlooked. He carried the ball an average of just 18 times a game, but made the most of it, averaging 7.8 yards a carry, tops in the nation among runners with 1,000 or more yards.

Carter was runnerup to Rashaan Sallah of Colorado in the Heisman balloting, with Collins fourth.

Although the split vote among two Nittany Lions may have cost Carter the Heisman, he said: "I think it's a tribute to our team and our offense and how well we've done, to have two people in the same backfield in the run-

ning for the Heisman."

While Penn State's offense has been overpowering, Oregon's has been productive, if not so spectacular.

The Ducks, led by quarterback Danny O'Neil and tailbacks Dino Philyaw and Ricky Whittle, averaged 331.7 yards and 27.4 points.

O'Neil, who missed some playing time with a staph infection that required surgery on his right hand, completed 141 of 280 passes for 1,756 yards. Philyaw carried 177 times for 702 yards and seven TDs, and Whittle, sidelined a couple of times by injuries, ran for 561 yards and seven touchdowns on 118 carries.

Oregon's offense will try to exploit what has been Penn State's only sign of weakness —

Virginia Cavaliers cut up TCU Horned Frogs in Independence Bowl

By MIKE COCHRAN
 Associated Press Writer

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — Virginia buried its demons in the rain, mud and cold of the Independence Bowl, and coach George Welsh and his 18th-ranked Cavaliers are delighted.

"It's great to finally get that bowl losing streak off our backs," Welsh said Wednesday night after the Cavaliers used their powerhouse defense and a balanced offense to ambush Texas Christian 20-10.

"We had a sense of urgency," Welsh said, in part because of a frustrating string of four bowl losses, but also because of a season-ending 30-27 loss to North Carolina State.

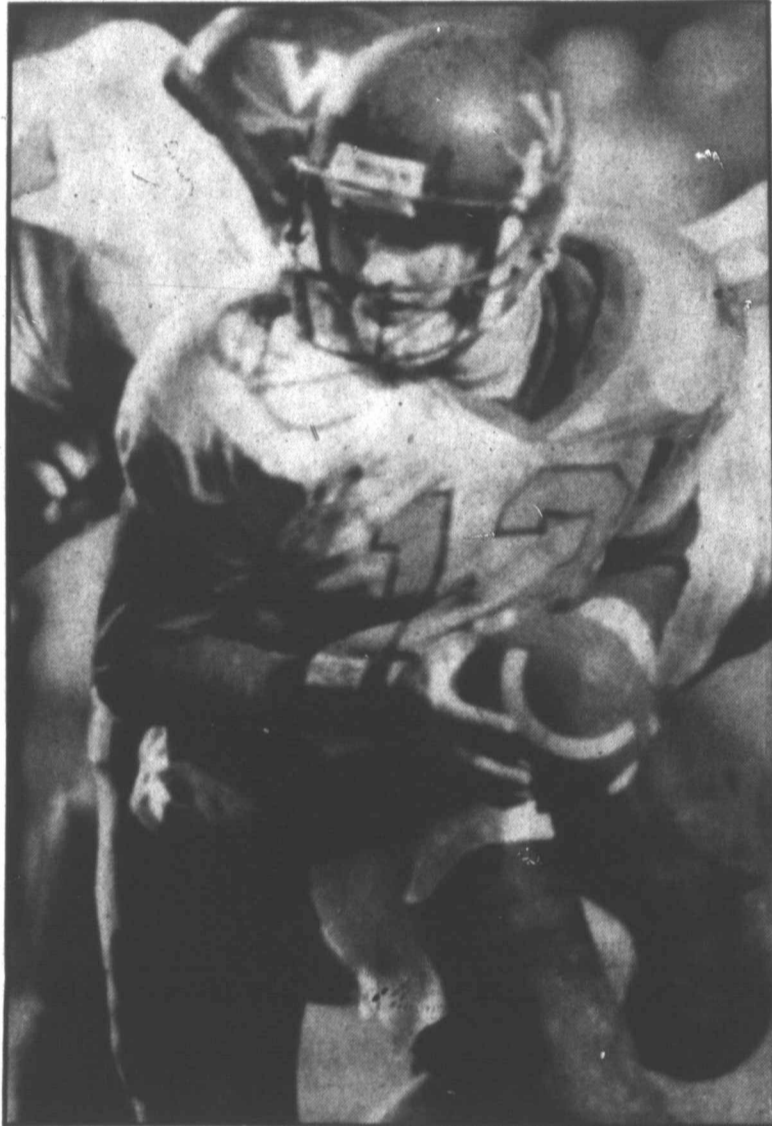
The Atlantic Coast Conference Cavaliers wound up 9-3, the Southwest Conference co-champion Frogs 7-5.

Virginia end Mike Frederick, voted the outstanding defensive player of the game, said the victory cured a world of intangible ills.

"It kept coming up all year," he said. "First, we weren't beating anyone, then we couldn't win in November, then we couldn't win a bowl game. But we just stuck to believing in ourselves."

Quarterback Mike Groh hid wide receiver Tyrone Davis with a pivotal 37-yard touchdown pass in the third period, and the Cavaliers pounded the Horned Frogs with the running of Kevin Brooks and Charles May.

"When we hit for that touchdown, we knew we could relax," Davis said. "We knew we could score on them any-



—AP Photo by Rogelio Solis

Virginia quarterback Mike Groh looks for teammate to make a quick pitchout during third quarter action at the Poulan/Weed Eater Independence Bowl in Shreveport, La. Groh led his team to a 20-10 victory over Texas Christian University and was named offensive player for the game.

time we wanted."

A couple of Horned Frogs said the riverboat revelry may have been a factor.

"We did a little too much seeing the town," confessed

defensive tackle Royal West.

And when asked what he would do differently, TCU quarterback Max Knake shrugged and said: "I'd probably stay out of the casinos

before having to get up at 8:30 the next morning."

Knake, the top passer in the SWC with 2,642 yards, completed only eight of 24 passes for a meager 65 yards and was intercepted once by the Cavaliers, who led the nation with 27 steals.

"The truth of it is, I played terrible," Knake said. "If I would have played better, there may have been a different outcome in the game."

Groh completed 14 of 23 passes for 199 yards and hit several clutch shots.

The Cavaliers allowed TCU's All-SWC running back Andre Davis to gain 97 yards on 24 carries, but yielded only a total of 126 rushing yards.

Meanwhile, Brooks carried for 114 yards and set up one touchdown with a 52-yard run. And Charles Way added another 90 yards on the ground while scoring once on a 6-yard run.

Rafael Garcia opened and closed Virginia's scoring with field goals of 20 and 32 yards. He missed one and had another blocked.

TCU trailed 10-3 at halftime and 20-3 at the end of the third period, but marched 48 yards in 11 plays in the final quarter and scored on a 1-yard pass from Knake to tight end Brian Collins.

Groh, voted the game's outstanding offensive player, guided Virginia 68 yards in six plays for the pivotal touchdown, hitting Davis with the final 37-yarder.

"The safety bit just enough on the play fake to let me get a step," Davis said. "Mike read it right and threw a great pass."

Holiday pits ranked teams on boards

By The Associated Press

Bring together four of the nation's best basketball programs, including the national champions, and you might get some terrific games.

The Rainbow Classic was the place to be Wednesday night as NCAA champ Arkansas, ranked third, rallied from a 15-point second-half deficit to beat Oklahoma 86-84. In the other first-round game, No. 20 Cincinnati held off No. 17 Georgia Tech 69-66.

The Razorbacks (9-1) trailed 51-36 with 17:46 to play before turning to their vaunted pressure defense to force Oklahoma (7-1) into turnover after turnover as they chipped away at the lead.

The Razorbacks took the lead for good at 81-79 on a 3-pointer by Clint McDaniel with 1:11 to play en route to their ninth consecutive victory.

In other games involving ranked teams, it was No. 2 UCLA over North Carolina State 89-80; No. 10 Arizona 95, Richmond 68; No. 12 Georgetown 83, Grambling 66; No. 14 California 79, Columbia 43; No. 16 Arizona State 65, Pacific 50; and No. 24 Indiana 92, Eastern Kentucky 49. No. 20 Cincinnati 69, No. 17 Georgia Tech 66.

Hawaii provided the right setting for the Bearcats to get things back in order. Sort of.

Minus two starters and with their best shooter, LaZelle Durden, still in a funk, the Bears (8-3) knocked off the Yellow Jackets (7-2). Freshman Danny

Fortson had 20 points and nine rebounds to lead Cincinnati (8-3), while Darnell Burton added 16 points.

"We were short, but we played hard and as intelligently as we've played all year," Cincinnati coach Bob Huggins said. "That was a good win over a very good basketball team."

They got it even though Durden, who holds every school record for 3-point shooting, continued his scoring slump after a three-game span in which he had 94 points. He had 7 in the Bearcats' loss to California before they headed to Honolulu, and managed 9 on 4-for-14 shooting against Georgia Tech.

"LaZelle looked good in warmups," Huggins said, "but that's how shooters are. He may be leaving his left hand on the ball too long. He might be out shooting at a playground tomorrow." No. 2 UCLA 88, North Carolina State 80.

The host Bruins put away their sixth successive win by outscoring the Wolfpack 20-6 over the end of the first half and the start of the second. Ed O'Bannon had 21 points and Tyus Edney added 20.

Czech George Zidek playing college basketball in front of his father for the first time, and opened the game with a 6-foot hook, a shot that made his father, Jiri, one of Europe's best shooters in the early 1970s.

"It's in the genes, because I lived off that shot for many years," Jiri said.

The Wolfpack (5-2) were playing their first road game of the season.

No. 10 Arizona 95, Richmond 68. Damon Stoudamire turned up the juice defensively and the rest of the Wildcats followed his lead.

Arizona (8-2) ran off a 32-6 burst in the first 10 minutes of the second half to overwhelm Richmond (3-5). Stoudamire, who scored 19 points, triggered the man-to-man press that clinched the victory.

"His intensity was infectious on defense," said coach Lute Olson, who has been critical of his team's rebounding and aggressiveness much of the season.

The Wildcats tied a tournament record by shooting 64.4 percent. They made 10 of 16 3-point attempts, with Stoudamire going 5-for-8 and Corey Williams 3-for-4. No. 12 Georgetown 83, Grambling 66.

Freshman Allen Iverson had 27 points and five steals as No. 12 Georgetown won its sixth straight after an opening loss to Arkansas. The Hoyas advanced to the title game of the Sacramento Holiday Classic against Fairfield, which beat host Sacramento State.

The Hoyas trailed early in the second half, then went on a 14-2 run. No. 14 California 79, Columbia 43.

California closed with a 36-6 run over the last 9:14 in the first round of the Otis Spunkmeyer Classic. Cal (7-0), off to its best

start since 1967-68, advanced to the championship match against Alabama, which defeated Texas Christian 83-64.

Tremaine Fowlkes scored 18 points for the Golden Bears, who forced Columbia (2-5) into 34 turnovers.

No. 16 Arizona State 65, Pacific 50.

Ron Riley, who began the game on the bench, scored 17 points in the first round of the ASU-Tribune Classic. Arizona State (8-2) will face Vanderbilt (6-1) in the championship game.

Arizona State led 36-35 remaining before Riley keyed a 12-3 run with four points and a pair of steals.

No. 24 Indiana 92, Eastern Kentucky 49. At Indianapolis, Alan Henderson had 20 points and eight rebounds for Indiana in the Hoosier Classic. Brian Evans added 19 points for the Hoosiers (7-4), while freshman Michael Hermon scored a career-high 16 to help Indiana to its fifth consecutive victory.

The Hoosiers will play Arkansas-Little Rock in the final. Tournaments. Tournament MVP Roderick Anderson scored 29 points and had seven assists, leading Texas past Washington State 86-81 in the championship of the Sun Classic Tournament at El Paso, Texas.

New Orleans won its tournament, beating Princeton 50-43, holding the Tigers to six baskets in the last 10 minutes.

Scoreboard

College Bowl Games

By The Associated Press
 All Times EST

Thursday, Dec. 15

Las Vegas Bowl
 At Las Vegas
 UNLV 52, Central Michigan 24

Sunday, Dec. 25

Blue-Gray Classic
 At Montgomery, Ala.
 Blue 38, Gray 27

Aloha Bowl
 At Honolulu
 Boston College 12, Kansas State 7

Tuesday, Dec. 27

Freedom Bowl
 At Shreveport, La.
 Utah 16, Arizona 13

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Independence Bowl
 At Shreveport, La.
 Virginia 20, Texas Christian 10

Thursday, Dec. 29

Copper Bowl
 At Tucson, Ariz.
 Oklahoma (6-5) vs. Brigham Young (9-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 30

Heritage Bowl
 At Atlanta
 South Carolina State (9-2) vs. Grambling State (9-2), 1 p.m. (ESPN)

Gator Bowl

At Gainesville, Fla.
 Tennessee (7-4) vs. Virginia Tech (8-3), 7:30 p.m. (TBS)

Holiday Bowl

At San Diego
 Colorado State (10-1) vs. Michigan (7-4), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

Sun Bowl

At El Paso, Texas
 Texas (7-4) vs. North Carolina (8-3), 2:30 p.m. (CBS)

Saturday, Dec. 31

Alamo Bowl
 At San Antonio
 Baylor (7-4) vs. Washington State (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Liberty Bowl

At Memphis, Tenn.
 Illinois (6-5) vs. East Carolina (7-4), 1 p.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan. 1

Peach Bowl
 At Atlanta
 North Carolina State (8-3) vs. Mississippi State (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Orange Bowl

At Miami
 Nebraska (12-0) vs. Miami (10-1), 8 p.m. (NBC)

Monday, Jan. 2

Hall of Fame Bowl
 At Tampa, Fla.
 Wisconsin (6-4-1) vs. Duke (8-3), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Citrus Bowl

At Orlando, Fla.
 Ohio State (9-3) vs. Alabama (11-1), 1 p.m. (ABC)

Fiesta Bowl

At Tempe, Ariz.
 Colorado (10-1) vs. Notre Dame (6-4-1), 4:30 p.m. (NBC)

Carquest Bowl

At Miami
 South Carolina (6-5) vs. West Virginia (7-5), 1:30 p.m. (CBS)

Cotton Bowl

At Dallas
 Texas Tech (6-5) vs. Southern California (7-3-1), 1 p.m. (NBC)

Rose Bowl

At Pasadena, Calif.
 Penn State (11-0) vs. Oregon (9-3), 4:50 p.m. (ABC)

Sugar Bowl

At New Orleans
 Florida (10-1-1) vs. Florida State (9-1-1), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

Saturday, Jan. 14

East-West Shrine Classic
 At Stanford, Calif.
 East vs. West, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 21

Senior Bowl
 Mobile, Ala.
 North vs. South, 2 p.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan. 22

Hula Bowl
 At Honolulu
 East vs. West, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

National Football League Playoffs

Wild Card Playoffs

Saturday, Dec. 31

Detroit at Green Bay, 12:30 p.m.
 Kansas City at Miami, 4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 1

New England at Cleveland, 12:30 p.m.
 Chicago at Minnesota, 4 p.m.

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 7

Cleveland, Kansas City or New England at Pittsburgh, 12:30 p.m.
 Chicago, Detroit, Green Bay or Minnesota at San Francisco, 4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 8

Detroit, Green Bay or Minnesota at Dallas, 12:30 p.m.
 Cleveland, Miami or New England at San Diego, 4 p.m.

NOTE: The division champion with the best record plays the surviving wild-card winner with the lowest-ranking record. The division champion with the second-best record plays the other remaining wild-card playoff winner.

Sunday, Jan. 15

AFC and NFC Championship, 12:30 and 4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 29

Super Bowl at Miami, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 5

Pro Bowl at Honolulu, 6 p.m.

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The Pampa News

2 Museums
OLD Mobeetic Jail Museum. Monday thru Sunday 1-5. Closed Wednesday.
PANHANDLE Plains Historical Museum. Canyon. Regular museum hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, weekends 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

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

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

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

PAMPA Masonic Lodge 966, meeting Thursday December 29, 7:30 p.m. Study and practice.

TOP O Texas Lodge #1381, business meeting, Tuesday night 7:30 p.m.

10 Lost and Found
LOST Thursday 22nd, female long hair cat, light gray, from 2100 block Christine. Elderly lady companion. 665-0818. \$25 reward.

14b Appliance Repair
RENT TO OWN
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14t Radio and Television
Johnson Home Entertainment We will do service work on most Major Brands of TV's and VCR's. 2211 Perryton Pkwy. 665-0504.

14y Upholstery
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19 Situations
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pueblo Indian
 5 South African tribe
 9 Gridder or griddle
 12 Armadillo
 13 — on the back
 14 Roman 3
 15 Hissing sound
 16 Attention-getting sound
 17 Female name
 18 Actress Merle
 19 Opp. of NW
 20 Growing out
 22 Mountain lake
 24 Poured
 25 Close-fitting jacket
 33 Axlike tool
 34 Footless game of cards
 37 Born
 38 Siblings (abbr.)
 39 Prejudice
 40 Lock — 4
 42 Tennis

DOWN

1 Actress
 2 — arms
 3 Said through the nose
 4 Apr. 15
 5 Smashes (sl.)
 6 Unexpected win
 7 — Vegas
 8 Declared
 9 1492 ship
 10 Decree
 11 Motion picture
 19 View
 21 Compass pt.
 23 Like (suff.)
 26 Got up
 27 Frog
 28 Arabians sport
 29 Actress — Hannah
 30 Old-fashioned gun
 31 Pertaining to the

Answer to Previous Puzzle

OWE EMILE OWN
 ORB CORAL ORA
 PARSONAGE NEP
 SPOTIL CLAINS
 NOV PIG
 PRIGLISH BASS
 OUR YOUR ELAL
 ELAN LEAK ANO
 MENU ESSAYIST
 DIIT IDE
 EMBED DWARF
 OUT ODALISQUE
 ANT LARES USE
 NITY SLASH AIT

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BANKS - Nice brick home close to school and shopping. Master closet very large, 2 storage buildings. Sewing room off living area. 2 full baths. Double garage at alley. MLS 2936

CHARLES - Very neat and clean 3 bedroom. Good carpet, home has excellent care. Great street appeal, all brick. Close to school and shopping. MLS 2795

CHESTNUT - Lovely home with tile entry and walk ways. Sunroom, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 living areas. Land scaped yard with hot tub. Office area. Shop area off garage. Corner lot. MLS 3225.

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Beulah Cox Bkr. 665-3667
Susan Pittzoff 665-3285
Hazel Christoffer 665-6288
Carol Johnson 665-6281
Shi Stephens 665-7790
Roberta Bobb 665-6168
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Shelli Turpley 665-0531
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American investors who dabbled in Mexico feel the pain

By LISA GENASCI
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Mexican peso's tumultuous drop has been felt primarily in Mexico. But if you're an American owner of Mexico stocks or mutual funds that invest there, you could be smarting from the sting.

Many investors who jumped into Mexico and other so-called "emerging markets," reaping double-digit returns in 1993, now are experiencing the risks and pain of foreign stock ownership.

The value of Mexican holdings owned by American investors has fallen by billions of dollars in a matter of days.

There were signs Wednesday that the Mexican turmoil might be abating somewhat. The peso and

Mexican stocks recovered some lost ground amid possible signs of peace from insurgents in southern Mexico and word that an International Monetary Fund delegation was visiting Mexico City.

Nonetheless, the Mexican stock market has lost in dollar terms 44 percent this year. In 1993 it rose 47 percent, prompting enthusiasm among American investors at a time when interest rates at home were at 25-year lows.

In late October, there was \$55 billion in foreign investments in the Mexican stock market and 75 percent of that was U.S. money, said Lars Schonander, Latin America economist at Baring Securities Ltd.

With the peso drop, people lost about one-third of their holdings, adding up to significant losses. "That can't fail to have an impact

on the idea of investing in Latin America," Schonander said.

Investors in mutual funds that specialize in the fledgling markets of Latin America also have been hurt by the Mexico debacle. Many have lost between 6 percent and nearly 20 percent since early last week.

Still, there has been little evidence so far that investors in this species of mutual funds are bailing out. At Fidelity Investments Inc., the nation's leading mutual fund company, redemptions in international funds have been "very modest," said Connie Hubbell, a spokeswoman.

Fidelity's New Markets Income fund, however, had seen redemptions on the order of 23 percent of assets as of Wednesday, Hubbell said.

The losses in Mexican stocks followed the government's decision on Dec. 20 to scrap its policy of defending the peso's value vs. the dollar, a move that came despite assurances to foreign investors that no such action was imminent.

The Mexican stock market plunged, as did American depositary receipts in Mexican stocks, which are the equivalent of Mexican stocks traded in this country.

The peso's devaluation instantly reduced the value of Mexican shares by making them much cheaper when purchased with dollars.

In addition, the peso's devaluation generated concern that the debt burdens of some big Mexican companies had suddenly ballooned in dollar terms, which would devour their

profits and hurt their stock prices.

"Those heavy debt burdens will be harder to dispatch," said Joyce Chang, a director in the emerging markets group at Salomon Brothers Inc.

Furthermore, the peso's declining value makes imports to Mexico more expensive. That can bring inflation, higher interest rates, lower economic growth and lower corporate earnings, Schonander said.

Still, there is some feeling that American investors have overreacted, pushing solid stocks such as the telecommunications monopoly Telefonos de Mexico down more than 14 percent in a week.

"People are not trading on fundamentals, they are trading on panic and the possibility of making short-term gains," said Marla Marron,

Latin American equity analyst for Salomon Brothers.

Indeed, while consumer product companies, banks and those with large import bills may fare poorly with a shriveled peso, others could benefit or feel little effect, Marron said.

Telmex has dollar revenue from international calls, yet it also pays its suppliers in dollars, providing somewhat of a balance.

Companies with strong exports such as the glassmaker Vitro could also benefit because the cheaper peso means they can sell their products more competitively abroad.

Mexican hotel and resort operators also are expected to gain as more foreigners visit Mexico, exploiting bargains created by the expanded purchasing power of their dollars.

Scientists say sulfur clouds killed dinosaurs

By JANE E. ALLEN
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The asteroid collision with Earth that is believed to have wiped out the dinosaurs may have been deadly because it sprayed clouds of sulfuric acid high into the atmosphere, scientists said Wednesday.

The clouds could have then blocked out sunlight and plunged the Earth into near-freezing conditions for as long as a century.

According to the asteroid theory, the impact 65 million years ago at what is now Chicxulub, in Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, would have thrown enough debris into the air to block out sunlight and cool the atmosphere.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientists contend that most of that dust and soot would have fallen back to the ground within six months, however, too soon to chill the world enough to kill off the dinosaurs.

But they say lightweight sulfur compounds could provide the missing piece of the extinction puzzle, according to their study, detailed in the latest issue of *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, a monthly European science journal.

The asteroid would have vaporized sulfur contained in the rock at Chicxulub and spewed more than 100 billion tons of it into the air, the NASA scientists and their outside collaborators said Wednesday.

The sulfur would then form tiny droplets of sulfuric acid, creating a dense haze that could filter out enough sunlight to drop surface temperatures to near freezing for at least a decade, they said.

"It could have been up to a century. Most of us are betting on 20 to 40 years," said Kevin H. Baines, an atmospheric scientist with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

"What we have here is a worldwide mechanism long-lasting enough to diminish sunlight by 20 percent or so, thereby cooling the surface of the Earth 20 to 30 degrees, even in once balmy seas," he said.

The new theory drew praise from a leading dinosaur expert.

"It seems to me this would solve some of the problems that had plagued the asteroid model — as to how long you can keep a huge cloud up there which would then have an influence on life and death on land and in the sea," said David B. Weishampel, a paleontologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

The report is based on studies in a sulfur-rich area of the Yucatan, where the asteroid hit with 10,000 to 50,000 times the punch seen last summer when chunks of comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 smashed into Jupiter's atmosphere.

Adriana Ocampo, a JPL planetary geologist who has explored the impact area at Chicxulub, estimates the asteroid was 6 to 12 miles in diameter.

The NASA scientists believe things would have been different if the asteroid had not struck the Yucatan.

"If this asteroid had struck almost any other place on Earth, it wouldn't have generated this tremendous amount of sulfur," Baines said.

"Dinosaurs could still be roaming the Earth."

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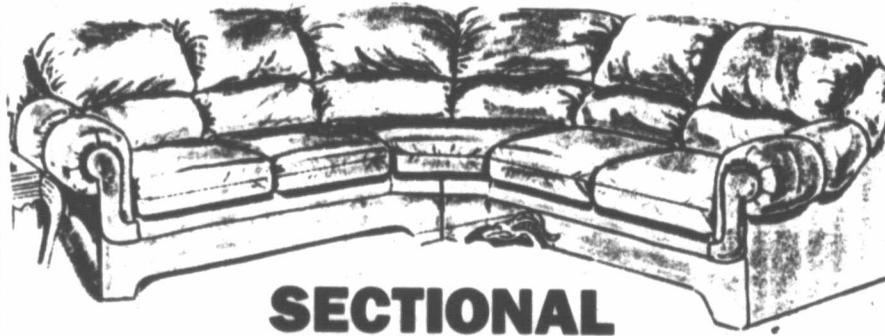
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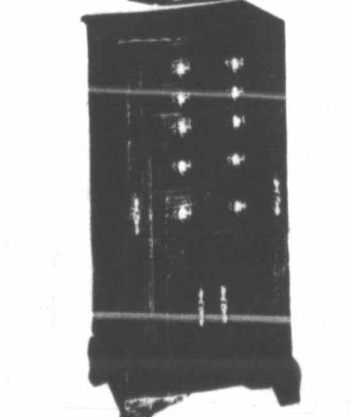
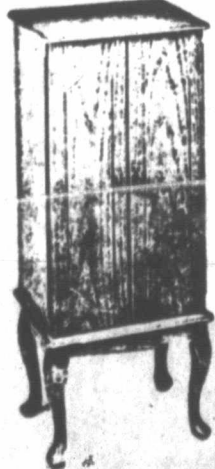
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