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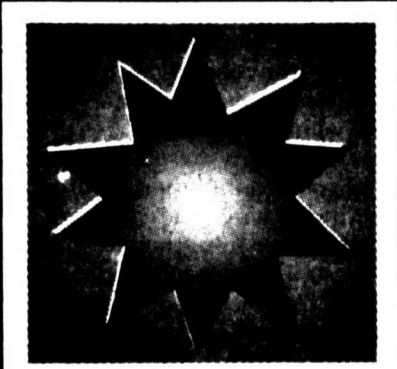
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# Pampa

Vol. 96 No. 149 • Pampa, Texas  
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High today mid 80s  
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 For weather details see  
 Page 2

**One winner in Gilchrist**

One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated \$19 million and was sold in Gilchrist.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 9-17-23-44-45-49.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$4 million.

**Hall of Fame Ceremony Friday**

The Pampa High School Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be Friday at 9:45 a.m. in the PHS Field House. The inductees are Bill Waters and Harold Courson.

- Trisha Broadway, 18, secretary at Lason's in Amarillo
- Juanita Osborn Gregg, 75, homemaker
- W.W. 'Skeet' Gregory, 85, retired owner Davis Trading Post
- Matt Jennings, 86, former Pampan, friend of Woody Guthrie
- T.M. Kivlehen, 86, retired cotton gin employee
- Glenda S. McAlister, 65, sister of a Pampa resident
- Aurileo Munoz, 74, farmer.
- Henry Zacariac Ramirez, 92, former railroad chef
- Tom Short, 60, Curtis Well Service employee for 15 years.

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## Celanese makes changes; aims to stay part of local community

By NANCY YOUNG  
 Managing Editor

Celanese is experiencing some tough times, said Celanese Plant Manager Riley Kothmann.

Layoff packages have been offered to employees, the num-

**"We've recently turned the corner. We've sort of sold off what we don't want, and we are looking at our portfolio and strengthening it with other businesses. We have taken action and are taking actions to improve the profitability of the Pampa plant as well as our contribution to Celanese."**

— Riley Kothmann  
 plant manager

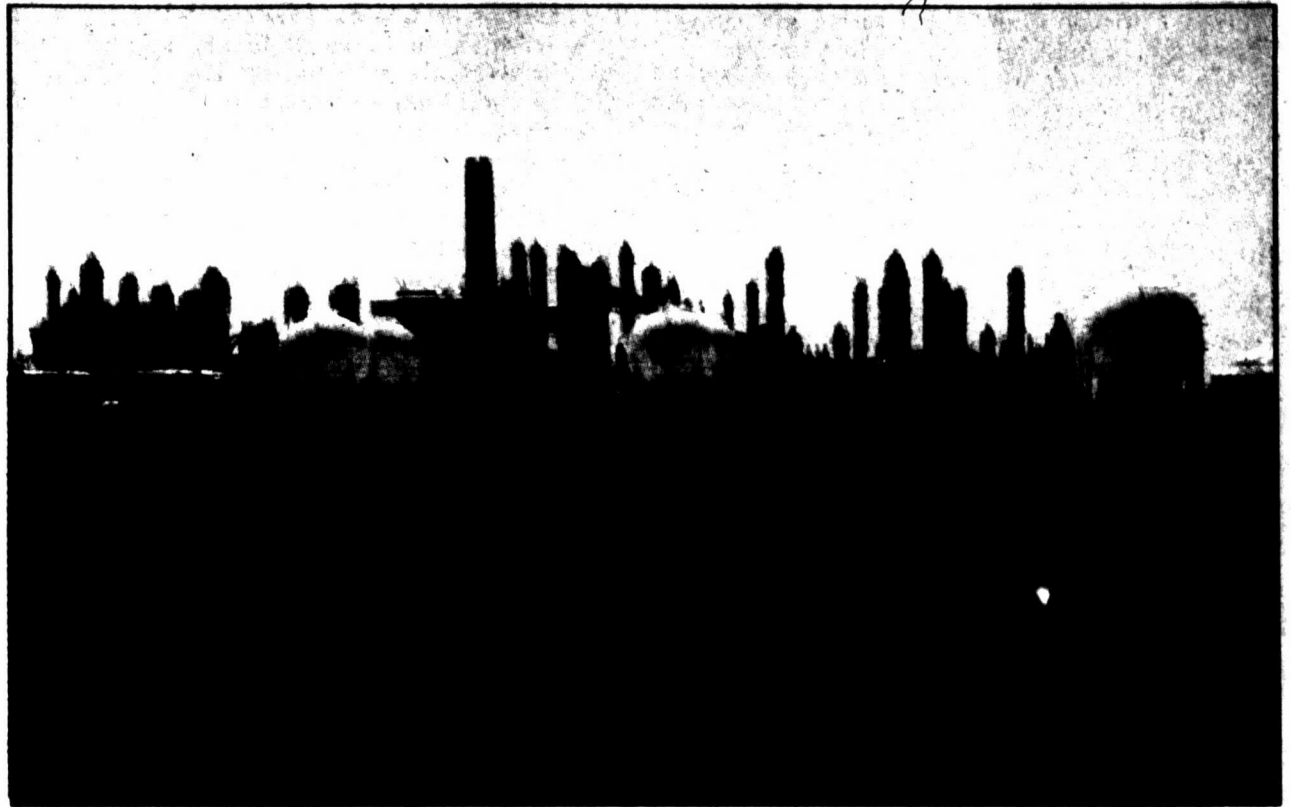
ber of outside contractors has been reduced, the company's property tax values were lowered \$38 million in the recent new tax appraisal, company earnings haven't been as high, and the cost of raw products used at the local plant have doubled and tripled.

Still, Celanese intends to continue to be part of the Pampa community as it has been since 1952, said Kothmann. The company is struggling along with other chemical industrial plants in the industry, but has implemented cost-cutting measures in an attempt to overcome these obstacles.

"We are continually looking for opportunities to strengthen the local plant," he said, explaining the process takes time and results are not seen immediately.

In an effort to remain viable in the chemical industry, the local plant is undergoing a major restructuring. Units are being combined as the number of employees is being reduced.

Approximately 70 Celanese employees have received separation packages offered by the company. Kothmann said 45



The Celanese Plant off Highway 60 has been part of the local economy since 1952.

employees received the packages during August while an additional 25 employees took the packages earlier in the year

and left the company. Most of the employees have been at or close to retirement age, he said. He further said the reduction of

staff has been across the board, beginning with administration. He said most of the employees (See CELANESE, Page 2)

## Car take-home policy probe finds no officer wrongdoing

By DEE DEE LARAMORE  
 Staff Writer

An investigation of claims that Pampa police officers were misusing take-home vehicles showed no evidence of any wrong doing, according to a report by Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris to Pampa city commissioners.

"There is no indication of any violation of the use of take home cars," Morris said when he presented his finding to commissioners at a recent work session.

Morris' investigation was prompted by several complaints from citizens at a public hearing Sept. 5 concerning an increase in the city's 2001 tax rate.

"I talked to three people who said police officers were using city vehicles for personal use," he told commissioners.

The police chief said he followed up on comments made by Monica Roden of 2325 Comanche, Wayne Leathers of 1213 Darby, and Mrs. William B. Nail, 1937 N. Dwight.

"I made contact with Monica Roden who said that a police officer was using his take-home vehicle to

drive to his second job at Radio Shack," Morris said. "It turned out it was an elected constable who was using his official car."

Morris said he also spoke to Wayne Leathers regarding a comment that officers were using a take-home unit to take their children to school. Leathers told the police chief that he did not say that.

In a Sept. 6 News article about the tax rate hearing, Leathers is quoted as saying, "In my neighborhood, I see city vehicles. I see (employees) come and go with their spouses and groceries. I think about that. I think about my tax dollars. The biggest percentage of people I know get themselves to work."

Mrs. William B. Nail had complained because a police car was parking at a residence across the street from their residence and being left running for 45 minutes at a time.

Morris' investigation showed that the increased police car presence was in response to an earlier call from her husband who had asked for closer patrol of the neighborhood because he suspected narcotic activity.

(See PROBE, Page 5)

## Nov. 1 deadline set to plug some wells

AUSTIN — The Texas Railroad Commission passed the final version of a well-plugging measure that gives oil and gas operators until Nov. 1, to plug, produce or secure financial assurance for wells that have not produced for three or more years.

The measure is aimed at ensuring the state's Oil Field Cleanup Fund is no longer forced to take responsibility for abandoned oil and gas wells, according to Chairman Michael L. Williams, who authored the new regulation.

Commissioners Charles Matthews and Tony Garza each voted for the proposal.

Williams said interest generated in honing the measure is a sign of the times.

"We unfortunately have more wells in Texas that are not producing oil or gas," Williams said, "and we have more Texans who are signaling a concern about those wells. This measure reflects our contribution and commitment to striking a balance that's in Texas' best interest."

He said he hopes to see an immediate impact on the number (See WELLS, Page 5)

## Texaco to settle royalty dispute for \$43 million

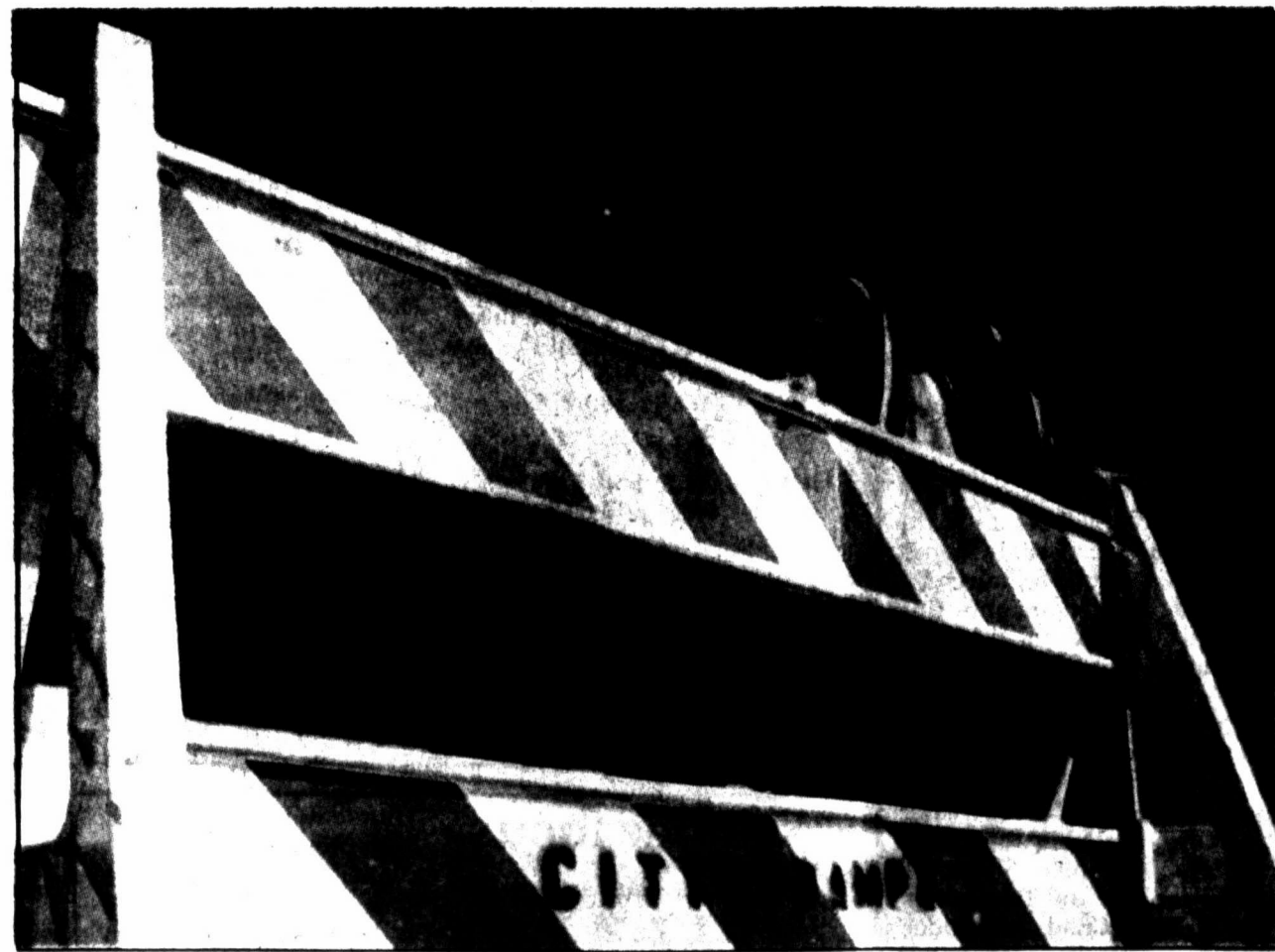
HOUSTON (AP) — Texaco Inc. has agreed to pay \$43 million to settle charges that it underpaid oil royalty payments due for oil produced on federal and Native American land leased from 1980 to 1998.

The settlement resolves allegations that Texaco paid less royalties than it owed from oil produced on federal and Native American lands by systematically underreporting the value of the oil, officials with the U.S. Department of Justice said Wednesday.

The federal government has already reached settlement agreements with several other oil companies for underpayment of royalties, including: Chevron, \$95 million; Mobil Oil, \$45 million; BP Amoco, \$32 million; Conoco, \$26 million; and Pennzoil, \$11.9 million.

The total amount recovered to date is more than \$262 million. The settlements are resolving charges made by two whistleblowers in a 1996 lawsuit against 18 large oil companies.

The lawsuit was filed in federal district court in Lufkin. It alleges that the companies knowingly undervalued oil they extracted from federal and Native American lands beginning in 1988 to reduce the royalties they owed.



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Vickie Long with the City of Pampa Water Department blocks off part of Yeager Street so city crews can work on a broken water line near Red Deer Creek.

Look inside today's Pampa News for a special section all about the First Annual High Plains Classic Ranch Rodeo



Join the Chamber of Commerce ... call Clay Rice at 669-3241



# Calendar of events

**PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL**  
 Pampa Area Literary Council office is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

**THEE PLACE**  
 Thee Place for Singles is open 7-10:30 p.m. Saturdays at 520 W. Kingsmill.

**ADHD/ADD SUPPORT GROUP**  
 If interested in the ADHD/ADD Sport Group call Connie at 669-9364.

**OPEN DOOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
 Open Door Alcoholics Anonymous at 910 Kentucky (across from Albertson's) meeting schedule — seven days a week — two meetings a day — noon till 1 p.m. and 8-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday noon meetings are non-smoking. For more information, call 665-9702.

**TRALEE CRISIS CENTER**  
 Women's Support Group for Child Management offers parenting skills to assist parents and children in dealing with anger and behavioral issues resulting from peer pressure, sibling rivalry, family violence and/or sexual abuse from 7-8 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call Tralee Crisis Center, 669-1131.

**LAS PAMPA WATER GARDEN AND KOI SOCIETY**  
 Las Pampa Water Garden and Koi Society meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Austin Elementary School. For more information, contact Sharon Andrew at 665-6138 or Lance DeFever.

**MONTHLY GOSPEL SINGING**  
 First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
 The Salvation Army, 701 S. Cuyler, will be accepting Christmas applications from 9 a.m.-12 noon and from 1-3 p.m., Oct. 9-13. Applications must include: Picture ID; birth certificates for each child in the household; Social Security cards for

## University reports enrollment up

**CANYON** — West Texas A&M University has announced its second consecutive increase in fall enrollment.

As of the 12th day of classes, enrollment stood at 6,749 students, 101 more students than on the 12th class day of the fall semester in 1999 — a 1.52 percent increase from a year ago.

The most notable increases were in the freshman (1,724) and sophomore (1,063) populations, up from 1,677 and 1,007, respectively, a year ago. Also noteworthy are increases in the ethnic breakdown including 82 more Hispanic students, a 12.39 percent increase over a year ago, and 27 more African-Americans, a 14.14 percent increase from the 12th class day a year ago.

The 12th class day is when Texas' public universities report final enrollment figures to the state.

"While it is always pleasing to see an increase in overall enrollment, it is particularly gratifying when those increases are in the freshman and sophomore populations," University President Dr. Russell C. Long said. "Increases such as these are indicative of the success we are having, not only in recruiting, but in our retention efforts, as well."

"Our increase in African-American and Hispanic students is also very good news," he said. This fall's enrollment also includes 1,118 juniors, 1,625 seniors and 1,219 graduate students.

each individual in the household; and proof of income (pay check stub, award letters) and expense. For more information, call 665-7233.

**PHS HALL OF FAME**  
 Pampa High School Hall of Fame reception will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, in the library of PHS. A Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be at 9:45 a.m., Friday, Sept. 28 in the field house. Both events are open and free to the public.

**MDA FLU SHOTS**  
 The Muscular Dystrophy Association is currently offering free flu shots Oct. 5 at the MDA Clinic in Amarillo for people in the Amarillo area who are affected by any of the more than 40 neuromuscular disorders covered by MDA programs. People registered with MDA may have transportation made available or be reimbursed for travel costs to visit the local MDA clinic located in Dr. Ryan's office in Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo. For more information or to make an appointment for a free flu shot, call MDA Program Services Coordinator Donna Veach at (806) 371-8002 or visit [www.mdausa.org](http://www.mdausa.org) on the World Wide Web.

**BSA HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUP**  
 BSA Hospice will offer "Putting the Pieces Back Together," a grief education and support group for individuals who have experienced the death of a loved one, from 7-8:30 p.m. beginning Thursday, Sept. 28 at BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner in Pampa. The program will last for five consecutive weeks and will be facilitated by John Southern, MEd., LPC. To pre-register or for

more information, contact Janet McCracken, 665-6677.

**MUSEUM DAY**  
 Carson County Square House Museum will hold its 35th annual Museum Day, Saturday, Sept. 30 at the museum in Panhandle. Activities will include a barbecue lunch from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., entertainment by Eddie and the Crazies, an antique car display and homebaked goods and crafts.

**HIGH PLAINS FALL CLASSIC RANCH RODEO**  
 The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association will hold the 2000 High Plains Fall Classic Ranch Rodeo at 7 p.m. nightly, Sept. 29-30. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. Twelve teams from Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma will be competing in Ranch Bronc Riding, Ranch Team Penning, Wild Cow Milking, Team Doctoring and Wild Horse Race and a demonstration featuring Buster McLaury is slated at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Following the demonstration, Pokey the Clown will hold his WRCA Junior Ranch Rodeo at 2:30 p.m. A Chuckwagon dinner will be served at 5 p.m. in Recreation Park. Meal prices are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. During the meal and the Saturday night Rodeo performance, Pokey will auction his world famous "Custom made" Stick Horses. Advance tickets for the chuckwagon dinner are available at the rodeo office, 200 N. Ballard, Wayne's Western Wear and The Hamburger Station. Cowboy breakfast and church will be held at 8 a.m. Sunday and will be sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian

Cowboys. For more information, contact the rodeo office at (806) 669-0434.

**BSA FALL VOLUNTEER TRAINING**  
 BSA Hospice Pampa will present its Fall Volunteer Training and Community Education Class from 6-9 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, Sept. 11-Oct. 12, at Clarendon College, 1601 W. Kentucky. This comprehensive class is designed for adults who are interested in becoming a hospice volunteer, want to learn more about hospice care or desire personal growth and enrichment. This program is offered free of charge to the Pampa, Borger and surrounding communities and continuing education unit's will be awarded by CC. For more information or to pre-register, call Janet McCracken, volunteer coordinator, BSA Hospice Pampa, at (806) 665-6677.

**ACT I COMMUNITY THEATER**  
 ACT I Community Theater's annual membership drive is currently under way and will conclude at the end of the month. Season tickets are available and include three shows: "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940" (November); "Natalie Needs a Nightie" (February); and "Grace and Glory" (April). For more information, contact Membership Director Michele Andorfer at (806) 669-0356. All shows will be staged at the ACT I theater located in the Pampa Mall.

**SCIENCE SPECTRUM**  
 During the month of September, The Science Spectrum and OMNIMAX Theatre, 2579 S. Loop 289, Lubbock, will present the following three films "Michael Jordan to the Max," "Dolphins" and "Mysteries of Egypt." "Dolphins," narrated by Pierce Brosnan and featuring the music of Sting, will close Sept. 14 and "Mysteries of Egypt," with actors Omar Sharif and Kate Maberly, will begin Sept. 15. For more information on ticket prices or show times, call (806) 745-2525.

**HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL**  
 First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, is currently accepting aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will benefit Heifer

Project International, an Arkansas-based service organization which provides livestock (chickens, pigs, sheep, cattle) along with training and support services to families and communities worldwide. For a limited time, donations will be matched 3-1 by a private foundation. HPI is a non-denominational not-for-profit agency. For more information, call the church office at 665-1031. Office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Friday and before 10:45 a.m. Sunday. For more information about HPI, call 1-800-422-0474 or visit <http://www.heifer.org> on the Internet.

**FIRST BAPTIST WOMEN'S RETREAT**  
 First Baptist Church "Choices of the Heart" Women's Retreat is slated Sept. 29-Oct. 1 at New Beginnings Retreat Center in Channing with retreat leader Martha Baker. Total cost of the retreat is \$87 (two per room). Twenty-five dollars is due Aug. 25 to reserve a spot. The balance must be paid by Sept. 15. Fees refundable upon request by Sept. 21. To register or for more information, call 669-1155.

**IMMUNIZATION CLINIC**  
 The Texas Department of Health will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 1-3 p.m., Sept. 14, Shamrock School Clinic, Shamrock; 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 1-3 p.m., Sept. 21, Groom School, Groom; 2-4 p.m., Sept. 22, McLean Clinic, McLean; 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., 1-3 p.m., Canadian Clinic, Canadian.

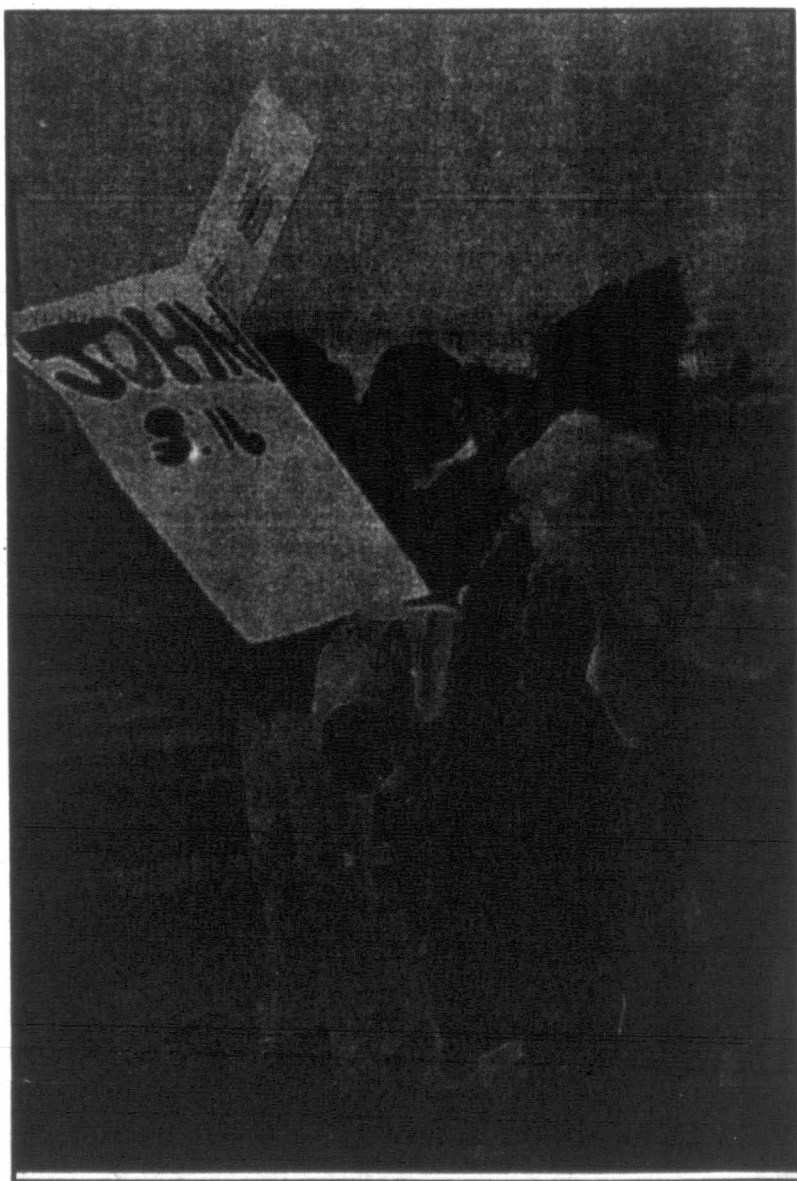
**LIFE AFTER LOSS**  
 American Cancer Society and Crown of Texas Hospice will sponsor a four-week "Life After Loss" seminar for those who have recently suffered the loss of

a loved one from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Aug. 7, 14, 21 and 28 at Crown of Texas Hospice, 10000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo. To register or for more information, call (806) 353-4306.

**HARRINGTON CANCER CENTER**  
 The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following breast cancer screening clinics: Oct. 9, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, and Sept. 5, First United Methodist Church Educational Building, 201 E. Foster, Pampa; Sept. 6, 20, Hemphill County Hospital, Canadian; Sept. 19 United Methodist church, Miami; and Sept. 14, Wesley Community Center, 1615 S. Roberts, Amarillo. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

**ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION**  
 Ten free trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during September 2000. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The 10 trees are the American Redbud, White Pine, Sugar Maple, White Flowering Dogwood, Pin Oak, Red Maple, Birch, Silver Maple, Red Oak and Colorado Blue Spruce. The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Oct. 15 and Dec. 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, "Arbor Day" and "The Tree Book" with information about tree planting and care. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Sept. 30, 2000.

## March for Jesus!



(Community Camera photo by Nora Lisa Martinez)  
 "Honk 4 Jesus!" Andy Santacruz holds a sign as vehicles pass by and honk. Youth from New Life Church/Iglesia Nueva Vida recently participated in "March for Jesus" day.

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## James Devoll and Electric Motor and Equipment Company of Pampa ask you to...

Think Before You Drink And Drive



This message is brought to you in memory of Kami Michelle Minick of Canadian, Texas, who was killed when she was 17 by a drunk driver on August 13, 1997.

VIEWPOINTS

**THE Pampa NEWS**

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This newspaper (UPSS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Days by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: L.W. McCall  
Assoc. Publisher-Editor: Kate B. Dickson  
Managing Editor: Nancy Young  
Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch

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Opinion



Inside the Beltway with Rep. Mac Thornberry

**OSHA rule could cost nursing homes**

With our lives getting busier and busier, it seems like we have more government rules and regulations than ever to worry about. Most people think we have too many, but the administration sees things a little differently.

In addition to the 450 Executive Orders the President has signed since entering office, he has promised to push through more rules and regulations during the last 60 days of his administration. Many of them will directly affect people and businesses in our area.

For example, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration — or OSHA for short — wants to impose new ergonomic standards on businesses across the country. By some estimates, compliance with these new standards could cost businesses nearly \$900 billion over the next 10 years. The American Health Care Association estimates the new standards would cost nursing homes, to take just one industry, \$1.2 billion in the first year alone.

The House has passed legislation that will prevent OSHA from implementing these new standards until more studies can take place. I have also co-sponsored legislation that would limit the president's power to issue Executive Orders and spend federal funds without Congress' consent.

Unfortunately, new OSHA rules may just be the tip of the iceberg. In the last few months of this administration we may see a host of new rules and regulations coming out of Washington.

In the process, we'll be reminded — yet again — that common sense is not all that common in Washington.

**It's hard to believe how time flies**

It just doesn't seem possible the first nine months of 2000 are almost gone. Why, Christmas will be here in less than three months.

This year has been a year of learning for me. It was on Jan. 4 that I first went to the doctor about a headache and casually mentioned a lump in my breast. Diagnosis: cancer. Not a week has gone by that I haven't had some type of medical procedure since then.

Biopsy, mastectomy, chemotherapy, blood tests, bone scans, x-rays, and the list goes on and on. And I don't like going to the doctor, anyway. I began radiation two weeks ago, and have three more weeks to travel to Amarillo five days a week for the brief procedure.

Each morning I travel from my home in Stinnett to Pampa to work. At 3:30 p.m. I leave the office for a 5 p.m. radiation appointment. Then, I return home to Stinnett. After traveling the highways of the Panhandle so frequently, I am not one bit worried about the cancer. It's the idiots on the highways who scare me to death! That is another column though, and I do promise one soon on that subject.

I have learned a great deal this past year. It's not the knowledge of cancer I'm speaking about. It's about how great people are and the "important things in life."

Watching birds flying into my yard for their daily bird seed and to splash in the water, observing the cotton tailed rabbits run around the front yard, seeing newborn puppies grow into gangly four month old pups before find-

**Nancy Young**  
Managing editor

ing a permanent home, watching the sun rise in the morning and set in the evening and being grateful to see those things — those are things that are important.

They are much more important than who carries out the trash or who does the dishes.

Of course, the most important are my family. Those wonderful grandchildren, and their parents. Being able to participate in the growth and experiences of those little children as they grow and develop is magnificent.

I have eight grandchildren: four girls—ages 6 years, twins 5 years, and 2 years; four boys—ages 11, 3 and 2 years, and seven months old. They are all so individualistic and special. The two two-year-olds are both experiencing the Terrible Twos, and so are their mothers. I haven't gotten to see the twins in three years as they live in Washington state where their father is stationed with the U. S. Navy, but I am hoping to see them soon.

Learning how great friends are is really great. I would have never learned what a wonderful cook my neighbor is had I not developed cancer. My friend who took me to

all my chemo treatments is a very special person. How many people would take their time to make all those trips? I have certainly learned a great deal about archaeology and early, early, early day history of the Panhandle.

I thought I had really learned how great people were. Then, on Sept. 13, my family learned so much more about the kindnesses of people. My youngest daughter's home burned in Borger!

The response of the people has been overwhelming. The rural towns in the Panhandle may be declining in population, but their hearts are huge.

I arrived home the day after the fire to find 26 messages on my answering machine offering varying types of assistance to my daughter and her three children. A constant stream of strangers and friends alike has been to my door and her former home in the past two weeks offering help. They have come from all walks of life, all ages and many towns across the Panhandle. It is been a very humbling experience.

Our family has learned the past few months that out of every difficulty in life comes some good. I have met some of the nicest people I probably would never have met before.

The good news is everyone is fine, and life is beginning to return to normal. My most recent bone scans show no trace of cancer which proves cancer is not a death sentence. It is being overcome. Life is great! Appreciate it while you have it.

Today in history

**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, Sept. 28, the 222nd day of 2000. There are 94 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On Sept. 28, 1939, during World War II, Germany and the Soviet Union agreed on a plan to partition Poland.

**On this date:**  
In 1066, William the Conqueror invaded England to claim the English throne.  
In 1542, Portuguese navigator Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo arrived at present-day San Diego.  
In 1781, American forces in the Revolutionary War, backed by a French fleet, began their siege of Yorktown Heights, Va.

In 1787, Congress voted to send the just-completed Constitution to state legislatures for their approval.

In 1850, flogging was abolished as a form of punishment in the Navy.

In 1924, two Army planes landed in Seattle, having completed the first round-the-world flight in 175 days.

In 1967, Walter Washington took office as the first mayor of the District of Columbia.

In 1972, Japan and Communist China agreed to re-establish diplomatic relations.

In 1974, first lady Betty Ford underwent a mastectomy at Bethesda Naval Medical Center in Maryland, following discovery of a cancerous lump in her breast.

In 1989, deposed Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos died in exile in Hawaii at age 72.

Ten years ago: The exiled emir of Kuwait visited the White House, where he told President Bush the Iraqis were destroying and looting his country.

Five years ago: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat signed an accord to transfer much of the West Bank to the control of its Arab residents.

One year ago: The Supreme Court agreed to decide whether a state can give visitation rights to grandparents when, after a divorce or some other family split, the children's parents say no. (Last June, the court ruled that Washington state went too far in letting grandparents and others seek visitation, but it stopped short of giving parents absolute veto power over who gets to visit their children.)

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor William Windom is 77. Actor Arnold Stang is 75. Actress Brigitte Bardot is 66. Blues singer Koko Taylor is 65. Singer Ben E. King is 62. Actor Joel Higgins is 57. Singer Helen Shapiro is 54. Actor Jeffrey Jones is 53.

**Your representatives**

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- U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm**  
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**View and read everything with skepticism**

George W. Bush called a New York Times reporter a bad name and didn't apologize. I like that.

A letter writer remarked that anyone who knows anything about the New York Times knows that Bush was using a euphemism. I don't know if the letter writer was recalling when the New York Times covered up Josef Stalin's crimes in the 1930s or when it was selling Fidel Castro as the new George Washington of the Caribbean. When it comes to spotting evil on the left, the New York Times and the CIA have similar records.

At any rate, anyone offended by Bush's remarks are those who are already committed to Prince Albert Gore. Lest you worry about the sensitive feelings of American journalists, let me reassure you that there is no more arrogant or profane trade in the United States.

People these days are used to the idea of slanted news and biased coverage. The press, however, by and large is blind to its own sins. It's not just the natural defensive arrogance of an institution accountable to no one. When a liberal pronounces a conservative a fool, he thinks he's just telling the truth. To a liberal, the idea — even the possibility — that he, the liberal, might be wrong is strictly beyond the pale.

Of course, even liberals are entitled to their opinions, but if they are journalists, they are not

**Charley Reese**  
Syndicated columnist

entitled to slant the news to bolster their opinions. That's where American journalism has gone wrong.

The formula for slanting the news is quite simple: If you don't like the guy, you maximize his mistakes and minimize his successes; if you like him, you reverse the process. You can watch this process in the presidential campaign. Remember, in-depth national surveys have shown that America's journalistic elite are, with rare exceptions, liberal Democrats.

Any slip of the tongue by George W. Bush will be big news, while Al Gore's more serious sins will be ignored or minimized.

Some years ago, for an article in a journalism trade magazine, an enterprising reporter interviewed editors who had been interviewed for news stories. You guessed it — the editors had the same complaints that readers have. Many said that it was obvious that the reporter had already decided what the story was going to be even before the first question was asked. Some complained of being misquoted.

This is all inside stuff and of no real interest to you, the reader, except as a reminder to read critically anything you see in the press or on television. The most insidious sin is to take things out of context. Another technique is ignoring people with opinions that the liberal papers don't like.

I know of one case where a woman was elected president of the national Right to Life organization. The newspaper's readers never knew, even though she lived within blocks of the office. Yet when the late Abbie Hoffman made an appearance at a university (he wasn't late at that time) well out of the newspaper's circulation area, it gave his puerile ranting two pages.

A similar technique translated to television is to pick the handsomest, most-articulate person you can find to represent the opinion you favor and the ugliest, least articulate person you can find to represent the opposing view. Then, of course, you just turn on the cameras and let them have a "fair" debate.

View and read everything with skepticism. Remember that truth and information are not synonyms. And do learn to think for yourself. There are already more than enough sheep in this world.

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# Former playmate awarded nearly \$450 million from oil rich estate

By JUDY LIN  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Anna Nicole Smith should have good luck in a Texas court now that a California bankruptcy judge has awarded her nearly \$450 million in her battle over her late husband's oil riches, her lawyer says. But the other side promised to appeal.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Samuel Bufford ruled Wednesday that Smith, the model and sometime actress, had been deprived of the inheritance due her when her husband, billionaire Texas oilman J. Howard Marshall, died in 1995 at age 90. The judge also ruled that Smith is entitled to an unspecified amount of punitive damages.

The ruling came on a bankruptcy filing by Smith, who had claimed that fraudulent handling of her late husband's estate had left her penniless. Smith now heads to probate court in Houston, where she and the oilman's elder son, J. Howard Marshall III, are contesting his will. It left everything to his other son, E. Pierce Marshall.

The precise affect on Wednesday's ruling on the Texas case wasn't immediately clear, but Smith's attorney, Philip Boesch Jr., predicted that it paves the way for victory in Texas.

"Does that change things? Oh, I think it does," Boesch said. "It's pretty powerful language and it's telling of the damages done to her." Terry Giles, the lawyer for J. Howard Marshall III, also expressed satisfaction, saying "we expect our verdict to make the one in Los Angeles look small."

But E. Pierce Marshall said he would appeal.

"This extraordinary decision is a miscarriage of justice that is not supported by the facts and will not stand up on appeal," he said in a statement Wednesday night. "We are confident that a Texas jury

that is permitted to evaluate all of the evidence in the case will allow my father's clearly stated wishes to be carried out."

Smith testified in the bankruptcy court last year that E. Pierce Marshall defrauded her of between \$556 million and \$820 million she was entitled to as her share of her late husband's estate. In his ruling, Bufford concluded that E. Pierce had made a key change to the elder Marshall's will after it was signed, and said he had a "scorched-earth" policy toward his stepmother.

Smith was working as a stripper at a topless bar in Houston when she met Marshall in 1991. By the time they married in 1994, when she was 26 and he was 89, she had become Playboy's playmate of the year and a nationally known model for Guess? jeans.

Her husband died the following year, leaving behind an estimated \$2 billion fortune from holdings in Koch Industries, an oil company that is the nation's second largest privately held corporation.

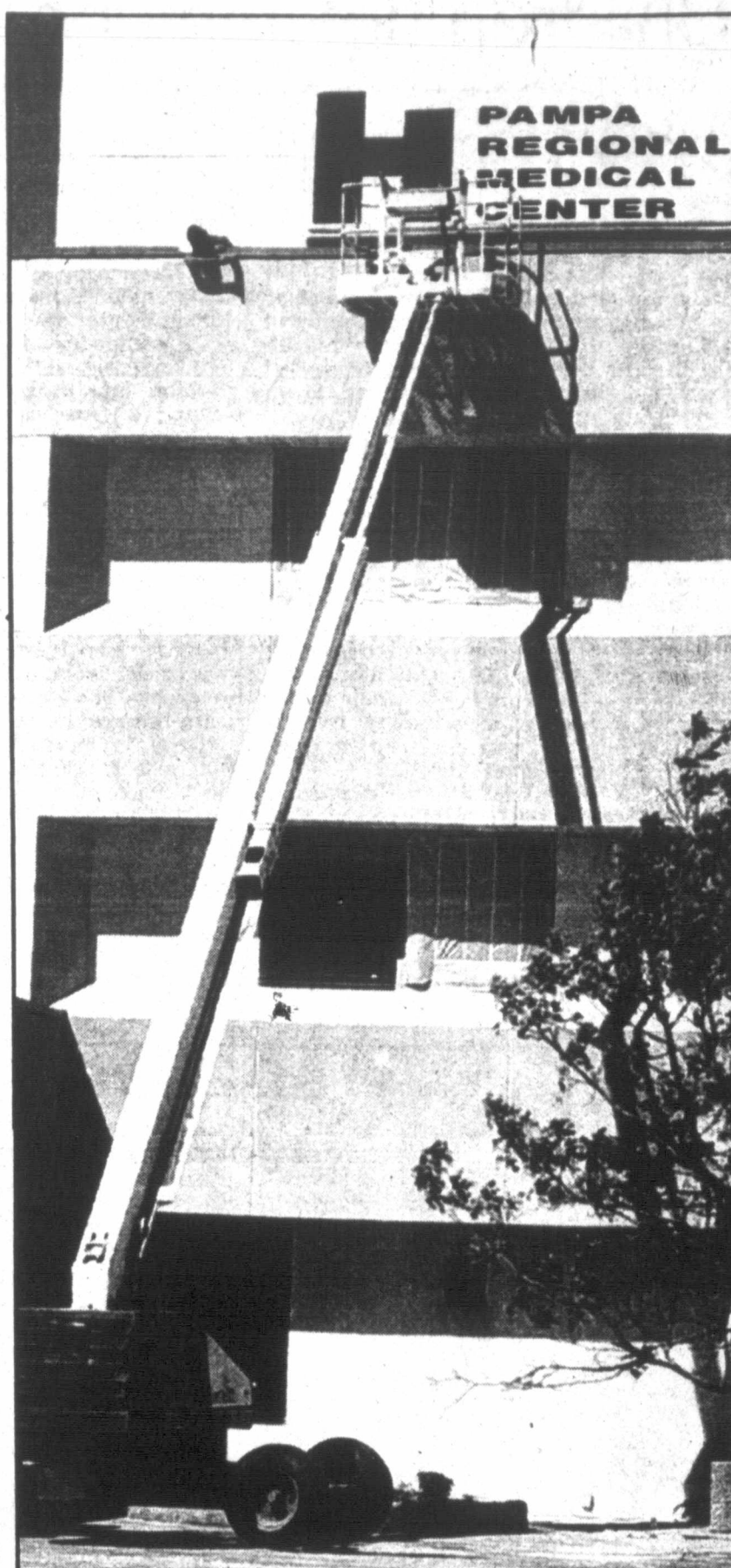
Smith, who uses her married name of Vickie Lynn Marshall in court documents, claims her husband intended she would receive half of his estate. She argued there was an illegal revision to his will made three weeks after their marriage.

"There is no doubt in this case that (Smith) had an expectancy to receive a substantial portion of (Marshall's) wealth after his death," the judge ruled.

Boesch said Smith was "very happy" when she heard the news.

"It's very gratifying because the more time you spend listening to the lawyers and relatives, as the judge did, you hear how much he loved her and wanted to take care of her," Boesch said.

Last year, as the Smith bankruptcy claim was being heard in Los Angeles, Harris County, Texas, Probate Judge Mike Wood said the federal judge in Los Angeles may have strayed into his jurisdiction, but told attorneys he'll "wait and see what happens."



(Pampa News photo by David Bower)

High on his job, Bobby Jones leans over the edge of the roof atop Pampa Regional Medical Center to improve the hospital's image. Jones, with Jack C. Thomas Paint Contractors, is one of several painting the Pampa hospital's exterior.

## Lawyers seek new trial for Selena fan club president

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — A fan serving a life sentence for killing Tejano singer Selena Quintanilla-Perez says she was unfairly convicted.

Former Selena fan club president Yolanda Saldivar appealed this week for a new trial. Saldivar was found guilty of murdering Selena, and is behind bars in Gatesville.

The Grammy winning singer was gunned down March 31, 1995, in a Corpus Christi motel.

Saldivar was convicted of shooting Selena in the back after a confrontation over missing fan club money.

The Court of Criminal Appeals in Austin last year turned down Saldivar's first plea for a new trial.

But in a writ sent this week to the district attorney and the Austin appeals court, Saldivar's lawyer asked the state to revisit the trial.

Prosecutors wrongly dismissed potential jurors because of race, did not disclose the criminal record of a witness and made improper comments in court, defense attorney Bill Berchelmann argued.

Police also violated Saldivar's rights by interrogating her after she asked for an attorney, Berchelmann said.

"We think some errors were made in trial court, and we're

asking for a new trial," Berchelmann told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. "I think everyone from Joe Smith to Yolanda Saldivar is entitled to a fair trial."

Prosecutors will oppose Saldivar's plea for a new trial, said District Attorney Carlos Valdez.

The state appeals court will be asked to rule on Saldivar's request. A hearing on the writ has not been scheduled.

## Texas news round up ...

### Spared earlier by Gov. Bush, condemned Texas killer put to death

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Time finally ran out for convicted killer Ricky McGinn.

McGinn, 43, who avoided the Texas death chamber twice earlier this year — first because of a tornado and a second time when Gov. George W. Bush uncharacteristically stepped in with a reprieve — quietly was executed Wednesday evening for raping and fatally beating his 12-year-old stepdaughter.

"I don't want nobody to be mad at nobody," he said in a brief final statement while strapped to the death house gurney, needles in each arm. "I don't want nobody to be bitter. Keep clean hearts and I will see y'all on the other side."

He smiled at his sobbing mother and siblings watching through a window a few feet away, then closed his eyes, sputtered and uttered a slight groan. Eight minutes later, he was pronounced dead.

McGinn insisted he was innocent of the 1993 killing of Stephanie Flanary and said additional DNA tests on hair and semen evidence would prove his case. Only minutes from execution June 1, McGinn won a 30-day reprieve from Bush so new tests could be conducted.

That death date had been

rescheduled because a tornado swept through his lawyer's office in downtown Fort Worth.

The reprieve from Bush marked his first use of a Texas governor's authority to halt an execution for 30 days. The action, in the midst of Bush's bid to secure the Republican presidential nomination, was viewed as an example of compassionate conservatism, a favorite theme of his campaign.

McGinn's execution was reset for Wednesday when DNA test results disclosed last month confirmed his guilt.

### Feds indict six Dallas men for bilking thousands from compensation fund

DALLAS (AP) — Federal authorities have issued arrest warrants for six North Texas men alleged to have run a two-year scheme that bilked thousands of dollars from the state's worker compensation fund.

According to federal indictments, the three chiropractors and three health workers defrauded the state by padding insurance reimbursement records with ghost employees.

The indictments charge the men with health care fraud, mail fraud, money laundering and conspiracy to commit health care and mail fraud.

The six men listed in the indictments were Abdullah Abdulle,

Charles Dramiga, Rantiola Ogun, Mark Prii, Aftab Qureshi and Jesus Alejandro Villareal.

Villareal was the alleged ring-leader and bag man for the group. Some of the checks from the scheme were sent to a Richardson post office box registered to a company called DFW Therapeutics.

The scheme began in Aug. 1998 when an undercover FBI agent posing as an insurance broker approached Villareal and told him he could bilk money out of insurers by adding fictitious names to workers compensation claims.

The indictments show at least \$16,467.40 in false claims from September through December of last year were sent to the post office box.

### Report: University sorority shut down for hazing that preceded ex-student's rape accusation

HOUSTON — A date rape plot by two women against a fellow member of a Sam Houston State University sorority preceded the East Texas school's decision to shut down the campus group for hazing, according to a published report.

The sorority sisters who allegedly gave the victim the date rape drug then drove her to the

apartment of a male friend, who had sex with her the following morning, according to the Houston Chronicle's Thursday editions.

The newspaper said Sam Houston State's suspension of the Chi Omega chapter's charter was the first time that a fraternal organization has been banned from the campus in Huntsville.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## PROBE

Although no evidence of misuse was found, Morris said he spoke to all the officers with take-home units about using the vehicles correctly.

"I reiterated to the officers, 'Do not abuse this. It is a privilege,'" he said.

Commissioners also discussed comments that citizens made about seeing city workers "standing around a hole" and not working.

"The disturbing thing to me about that meeting was that people felt that way. They think our people aren't working," Commissioner Faustina Curry commented.

"That doesn't tell me anything, that people are standing around looking in a hole" said City Manager Bob Etheridge. "Are they getting the job done? We've got fewer people getting more done. I think our people are working."

"People sometimes have a perception that is different from what is really going on," he added.

Etheridge said when he first took over as city manager he received a call that people were sitting on the back of a city truck drinking coffee.

"We went out and, sure enough, they were out drinking a cup of coffee," he said. "The thing is, they'd been there since two in the morning and they were on a water break."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## WELLS

of wells that go back into production or are plugged with private dollars.

Under the measure, there is a 12-month period to restore a well to production or plug it.

Plugging extensions granted prior to Nov. 1, 2000, will remain in effect for their full one-year term. When that term expires, the well will have to be restored, plugged or an extension obtained under the terms of the new rule.

For wells that have been inactive for more than 36 months for which the operator wants a plugging extension, the operator must file proof of an accept-

able fluid level test or mechanical integrity test demonstrating that the well does not pose a pollution threat. Then he must obtain a well-plugging bond or letter of credit for the well. The well-plugging bond or letter of

credit is required to be the estimated cost of plugging the well.

That cost is presumed to be, Williams said, \$3 per foot of depth for land wells, \$60,000 for bay and inland waterway wells and \$250,000 for offshore wells.

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## Children not immune to clinical depression

**BIG SPRING** — As the school year advances and as children are forced to give up their summer routines of late-night television and afternoons filled with water games or hanging out with friends, they may at first act out of sorts.

But if the behavior continues for a prolonged period of time, it could spell a different problem.

How do parents decipher between the angst of growing pains — new classmates, different teachers, transition to a new school — and difficulties of a more grand scale? Deep-rooted emotional problems aren't limited to an "adults only" diagnosis.

Childhood clinical depression affects between 10 and 15 percent of children and adolescents, according to the U.S. Surgeon General. School phobia — when children are extremely fearful of attending school — is more rare but is estimated to affect about 2 to 5 percent of school-aged children.

According to Gail Zilai, activities therapy director at Big Spring State Hospital, most children experience some form of stress at the beginning of school, but it usually passes quickly or just appears before certain events such as a test or cheerleading tryouts. Children who "can't seem to snap out of it" may be clinically depressed.

Divorce, a new school or the death of a loved one can affect a child's behavior for many years after the event, Zilai, a licensed therapist, says.

"Many of us think that a child is able to get over a troubling event quickly, but that's not the case," she explains. "We shouldn't dismiss how they feel, and we should recognize when they are hurting. A lot of times they will tell us

they're 'OK,' and we believe it because it's uncomfortable for us to think our children aren't happy."

A staggering two-thirds of children with mental health problems do not receive treatment.

Children do give their parents signals that the stress may be evolving into clinical depression. They may be irritable at first, which can lead to outbursts of aggressive behavior.

- Other signs include:
- Lower grades;
  - Changes in eating and sleeping habits;
  - More trips to the office or nurse, complaining of headaches and stomachaches;
  - Constant criticism of themselves or believing that others are criticizing them;
  - Lack of energy and motivation about school, friends, activities or personal hygiene and appearance;
  - No sense of future for themselves;
  - Persistent sadness and hopelessness;
  - Excessive absences.

Occasionally, but not always, depression can lead to school phobia, sometimes referred to as school avoidance and school refusal in professional literature, Zilai says. This usually occurs between the ages of 6 and 13.

"These are children who refuse to attend or avoid school to stay in close contact with parents," Zilai says. "They are frequently anxious and fearful and inundated with thoughts, such as 'What are the kids thinking of me?' or 'I need to be at home to protect my family.'"

Children who did well at school may develop school phobia because of a recent crisis in the community or family, which makes them anxious or fearful. Others may develop it following a long illness or surgery where they're

accustomed to staying home. Those most likely to suffer from school phobia are sensitive, overactive boys and girls who are unable to deal with their emotions, Zilai advises.

If school phobia is not identified early, serious psychological or psychiatric disorders may develop as well as poor grades and deteriorating relationships with friends and family.

"Most children have attended day care and make the transition to school fairly easily with adjustments to the 'change of environment.' But school phobia is real and if there's no medical reason for the child to be absent, he or she should be at school."

"Parents should try to find out if something is causing the problem, such as a test at school or a bully who is making their life miserable. Sitting down with the teacher or counselor can usually help the child."

Some children will refuse to attend school. If the problem is habitual, Zilai suggests talking to a mental health professional to find ways to modify the home and school environment. Drug and behavioral therapy may be an option.

About half of the children who refuse to attend school are depressed.

It is important that educators, parents and school counselors work in concert with each other to discuss what will best help the child. Teachers can give students activities to perform that will give them recognition or status.

A parent's strongest resource is being aware of how long the behaviors have occurred. Armed with information and knowledge from many different sources helps parents determine when to seek advice from a professional who works with children.

### Police fire rubber bullets at Palestinian stone throwers in mosque compound

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Clashes erupted Thursday at a key Jerusalem shrine hotly contested in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, with Israeli riot police firing rubber bullets at about 200 Palestinians who hurled stones and bottles. The violence broke out just moments after the leader of Israel's hardline opposition, Ariel Sharon, left the compound that is revered by Muslims and Jews. Chants of "Murderer, get out" followed Sharon. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Sharon's visit was "very dangerous" and that Arab and Islamic nations should "move very fast" in protecting the shrine. The compound is the fault line of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Deadly clashes erupted in 1990 and 1996, as rival claims to the site heated up.

### Rejecting Yugoslav runoff, opposition calls for government

**BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP)** — Slobodan Milosevic's opponents threatened on Thursday to ratchet up the pressure on the president to step aside after his government released final election figures showing neither candidate won a majority — the requirement for an outright victory. Opposition candidate Vojislav Kostunica finished first in would require a runoff Oct. 8. The opposition, using figures from its poll watchers, claims Kostunica won 52.54 percent to Milosevic's 32.01 percent. Kostunica's campaign manager called the government tally "a bad joke." Zoran Djindjic vowed to take the opposition beyond street protests — which have been unsuccessful — by calling "a total blockade of the system and institutions."

### Anna Nicole Smith awarded nearly \$450 million

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A federal bankruptcy judge awarded former Playboy Playmate of the Year Anna Nicole Smith \$449.7 million Wednesday in her claim to the estate of her late billionaire husband, Texas oilman J. Howard Marshall. U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Samuel Bufford ruled that Marshall's youngest son, E. Pierce Marshall, had deprived Smith "of her expectancy of an inheritance." Bufford's decision came just a day before jury selection was scheduled to end in probate court in Houston, in a dispute over the validity of Marshall's will. It left all of the oilman's estate to his youngest son.

### A star for Gloria Stuart — herself a star again

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Gloria Stuart was once a star. Then she became a star again. Now she has her own star. The 90-year-old Oscar nominee knelt on the sidewalk Wednesday to unveil her star in the Walk of Fame along with "Titanic" director James Cameron and several other cast members. "I didn't expect all this stroking. I have never had such a wonderful period in my life since the past three years on account of Mr. Cameron's 'Titanic.' I wake up every day and say how lucky I am. God loves you and I do too," said Stuart, who played 103-year-old Rose Calvert in "Titanic." Stuart will soon be seen on television in a guest-starring role on the TV movie "The New Murder, St. 'Nrote." She also stars with Mei Gibson in the upcoming film "Million Dollar Hotel." "Titanic" represented a comeback for the actress, who starred in dozens of films in the 1930s and 1940s, including "Airmail," "The Old Dark House," "Here Comes the Navy" and "Poor Little Rich Girl."

### Teen-agers say changes in marketing of R-rated films won't keep them away

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — To Matt Casazza and fellow teens, the debate raging over Hollywood's marketing of violent films to youth leaves them with one question: Who cares? "Sooner or later they're all gonna come out on tape and then you can rent it," the 15-year-old Casazza said. "It doesn't really matter, because they don't card at (video stores)." Teen-agers across the country were largely unaware of — and uninterested in — the Senate committee hearings under way in Washington on Wednesday in which Hollywood executives admitted marketing movies made for adults to children. Despite pressure from lawmakers, executives refused to promise an end to the practice.

### Raducan loses appeal; must surrender gold

**SYDNEY, Australia (AP)** — Gymnast Andreea Raducan — an 82-pound pixie who calls to mind another Romanian, Nadia Comaneci — won't get her gold medal back. Arbitrators on Thursday upheld the International Olympic Committee's decision to disqualify the Romanian all-around champion for taking cold medicine that contained the banned stimulant pseudoephedrine. The presence of the drug constitutes an offense "irrespective of whether or not the competitor intended to ingest the prohibited substance," the Court of Arbitration for Sport ruled Thursday. The Romanians had argued that the 16-year-old shouldn't be punished for the doctor's mistake.

## Art show



(Community Camera photo)

Heather Dean, Ashley Lucas, Linda Justice and Brad Justice took in the Pampa High School Art Show last weekend. The show was held in the high school cafeteria and included 160 pieces of art collected from middle school and high school art classes involved in the Artist in Residence program with Charles Bell. As part of the program, Bell will also visit Pampa elementary schools.

### Museum to host archeology lecture

**PANHANDLE** — The Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle will recognize Texas Archeology Awareness Month on Sunday, Oct. 8. The museum will be the site for a presentation by Rolla H. Shaller, assistant curator of Archeology at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon. The slide program, "The History of Texas Panhandle Archeology," will be from 2-3 p.m. in the Hazelwood Auditorium at the museum. Shaller will trace the history of archeological investigations from the earliest known investigation in 1907 through the depression years and conclude with the recent Red River Indian War Survey, conducted during 1998-99. The presentation is an opportunity to see the contributions that the panhandle has made to the preservation of Texas Archeology. Shaller has been employed by PPHM in Canyon for more than 13 years. He received a bachelor of science degree in biology with a minor in anthropology from West Texas State University in 1969. His duties include the recording, conservation and preservation of the museum's Archeological and Natural History collections. Shaller has worked on archeological sites throughout the Texas Panhandle. Most recently he has been involved in historical investigations at Blanco Canyon in Floyd County, searching for the 1541 encampment of Coronado and working jointly with the Texas Historical Commission and Panhandle-Plains Museum's investigations into the Red River Indian Wars of 1874-75. He is a volunteer Archeological Steward for the Texas Historical Commission, a member of the Texas Archeological Society and a Charter member of the Panhandle Archeological Society.

### Former Miami official embroiled in scandal

**MIAMI (AP)** — The former city manager who was fired days after the Elian Gonzalez raid was indicted Wednesday on federal charges involving more than \$86,000 taken from a police pension fund and a charity. Donald Warsaw is charged with one count of conspiracy and four counts of mail fraud and is scheduled to appear before a federal magistrate on Thursday. He could face one to three years in prison if convicted, U.S. Attorney Guy Lewis said. Warsaw's attorney, Martin Goldberg, said he was disappointed that his client's actions were characterized as crimes. "Don has devoted his career and life to this community for which this city has greatly benefitted," he said. The indictment accuses Warsaw of using the pension fund's American Express card to buy \$16,775 worth of hockey tickets. It also lists \$35,917 taken from the charity Do the Right Thing Inc. in cash and \$33,870 in checks, some written to the pension fund's American Express account.

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## Economy roared ahead at 5.6 percent rate in second quarter

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy roared ahead in the spring, growing at a 5.6 percent annual rate, stronger than the government previously thought. Solid investment by American businesses offset less brisk spending by consumers.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that in the April-June quarter the increase in the gross domestic product surpassed growth in the first quarter, when the economy expanded at a 4.8 percent annual rate. GDP is the nation's total output of goods and services and the broadest measure of economic health.

The government's final reading on GDP showed the economy growing more quickly than the 5.3 percent rate it estimated one month ago and the 5.2 percent rate initially calculated. The 5.6 percent rate marked the best showing since the fourth quarter of last year.

The second-quarter performance also was stronger than many analysts expected. They anticipated that growth would hold steady at 5.3 percent. In the current quarter, many analysts believe the economy has slowed to a growth rate in the 3 percent range.

Even with the robust growth in the second quarter, inflation pressures actually moderated. An inflation gauge tied to the GDP, and closely watched by Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, rose at a revised annual rate of 2.1 percent in the second quarter, better than the previous estimate and down from a 3.5 percent rate in the first quarter.

The Federal Reserve has raised interest rates six times over the last 15 months to slow the economy and keep inflation under control. Many economists believe the Fed will leave interest rates unchanged at its meeting next week, given more recent signs

of moderating economic growth.

The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits fell last week by an unexpected 24,000 to 287,000, a two-month low. That left claims at a level suggesting companies are continuing to scramble for workers.

Thursday's GDP report also said that after-tax profits of U.S. corporations grew by 2.5 percent in the second quarter, down from 5.7 percent in the first quarter.

Consumer spending also slowed in the second quarter, rising at a 3.1 percent rate. While that was slightly stronger than previously estimated, it was the slowest pace since the second quarter of 1997. In the first quarter, it surged at a 7.6 percent rate, a 17-year high.

While consumer spending cooled, that was offset by strong business investment, including spending on computers and other equipment, which rose at an unrevised annual rate of 14.6 percent in the second quarter. That compared with a 21 percent rate posted in the first quarter.

Businesses also increased their spending on inventories, adding to second-quarter growth.

Also contributing to second-quarter growth was increased spending by the federal government, which rose at a whopping annual rate of 17.2 percent, more brisk than previously estimated. That compared with a 14.2 percent rate of decrease in the first quarter.

The U.S. trade deficit continued to be a drag on growth. The bloated deficit subtracted 1 percentage point from growth in the second quarter, compared to a reduction of 0.9 percentage points in the first quarter.

All the changes show the economy growing at an annual rate of \$127.1 billion in the second quarter, pushing the country's total output of goods and services to \$9.3 trillion, after adjusting for inflation.

## Military readiness hot topic in Washington

By ROBERT BURNS  
AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The debate over whether U.S. troops are combat ready has produced a paradox about today's military: While called the best in the world, it also is described as overworked, underpaid, and short of ammunition, pilots and research dollars.

George W. Bush, the Republican presidential nominee, accuses the Clinton administration of running the military into the ground by sending it on too many overseas missions while skipping on defense dollars. Morale among the troops is sinking and combat readiness is on the decline, he proclaims.

In its defense, the Clinton administration points out that last year the troops received the biggest pay raise in a generation, that defense investment is on the rise and that the highest re-enlistment rates are among those units operating abroad on such missions as peacekeeping in the Balkans.

For their part, the chiefs of the military services are quick to boast that the U.S. military is the best in the world.

"In my 37 years in uniform, I have never been around better soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines," Army Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the Senate Armed Services Committee on Wednesday.

Shelton quoted a former Army chief of staff, retired Gen. John Wickham Jr., as saying recently, "The truth is that America has the strongest, best-equipped, best-trained and best-led military capability in the world."

"I think General Wickham has it right," Shelton said. And yet, each of the military chiefs also told the Senate and House armed services committees they are worried that war-fighting capability will erode unless spending goes up dramatically.

"We must find the resources necessary to modernize the force," said Shelton. Otherwise the cumulative strains of carry-

ing out peacekeeping and other overseas missions — while also preparing for major wars — will erode combat readiness, he said.

Shelton did not say how much more should be spent, beyond the current budget of nearly \$300 billion. He said specific figures could be established after a planned review of national security strategy next year.

If the military is performing so remarkably well, what's all the fuss about trouble in the ranks?

Shelton, the highest-ranking military adviser to the president and the secretary of defense, said that for several years the Pentagon has used money that was meant to buy new weapons and equipment to pay for training and other day-to-day costs. That has kept troops ready for combat, but at the cost of replacing aging equipment.

"Our equipment is wearing out at a much faster rate than expected," Shelton said. "Consequently, our troops are paying the price" by spending more time fixing mechanical problems instead of training for war.

And Gen. Eric Shinseki, the Army's chief of staff, said troop

reductions during the 1990s went too far.

"We need more people," he said. "Our soldiers believe that the Army is too small for the missions it is asked to perform." He did not say how many soldiers the Army needs beyond the 480,000 it now has on active duty.

Shinseki and the other military chiefs were speaking to mostly sympathetic audiences on Capitol Hill. Still, there were some voices of caution.

Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., said the \$300 billion in military spending is more than five times larger than the military budget of Russia, the second largest spender. It is more than 22 times as large as the combined spending of the seven countries traditionally identified by the Pentagon as our most likely adversaries: Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan and Syria. And it is more than the combined spending of the next 12 biggest-spending nations, she said.

"We need to spend the money we have better" before trying to make the case for spending more, said Landrieu.

## Wellness Services to present annual health fair

CANYON — The Fourth Annual Health Fair, sponsored by West Texas A&M University's Wellness Services, will be from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 3 in the Jack B. Kelley Student Center commons area.

Admission is free, and the general public is invited. Various booths and exhibits will be present, along with the opportunity to win door prizes.

"Wellness Services coordinates the health fair every year as a way to get more health information out to the students of WTAMU," Karen Knapp, director of Medical Services, said. "It is a fun and easy way to gather lots of information about various health issues."

Among the exhibitors this year are Kershen Chiropractic Clinic; Advanced Eye Care; Nutritional Biomedicine; Coffee Memorial Blood Center; Mary Kay Cosmetics; Bi-City Health

Department; Student Medical Services; Music Therapy Club; Peers Understanding, Listening, Speaking and Educating (PULSE); Shape-Up Canyon; WTAMU's Department of Communication Disorders; and Wellness Services.

Free neck massages will be provided by Sara Schutz R.M.T., who practices at WTAMU Life Services and has her own practice at Head to Toe in Amarillo. Shape-Up instructors will be available to conduct body fat measurements and provide information about fitness opportunities available through Wellness Services and Recreational Sports.

"Approximately 300 people attended the fair last year and a good turnout is expected this year," Knapp said.

For more information, contact Knapp at (806) 651-2344 or Mandy Payne, Life Services secretary, at (806) 651-2335.

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\* Pre-December 1965 Series E Savings Bonds stop earning interest at 40 years, and those purchased after November 1965 stop at 30 years. A public service of this newspaper

### Keeping an Eye on Texas

**Global Visitors Flock to Texas**

Images of cowboys, the Alamo and J.R. Ewing attract international tourists by the millions to Texas each year. Most are from Mexico, but Texas is also popular with visitors from Canada, the United Kingdom and Germany.

International Visitors to Texas, 1998	
(In thousands)	
Mexico	3,270
Canada	304
United Kingdom	163
Germany	124
Japan	88
France	82

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# Daughters' Hanging of Posters Causes Dad to Climb the Walls

**DEAR ABBY:** My stepdaughters like to decorate their room with lots of posters and whatnots. The girls hang them using thumbtacks and constantly rearrange them. As a result, their walls are full of tiny holes. I don't mind their hanging one or two posters, but the number they hang (and move from place to place) is destructive and shows little respect for our home.

My wife disagrees. She is right when she says we can repair the walls when the girls are older, but I feel we are not teaching them discipline by allowing them to be so destructive. My wife is angry that I won't let this go.

Abby, if the girls refuse to respect my decision on the number of posters they can hang in their room, it makes it difficult for me to respect their decisions. Should I just shut up and allow them to hang and move their posters as they please?

**TICKED OFF IN LOUISIANA**  
**DEAR TICKED OFF:** Posters are important to young people. These "interior design statements" are part of growing up. It has nothing to do with a lack of respect for you.

Look at it this way: The holes in the wall can be easily repaired when the girls outgrow this phase — as they will eventually. It's harder to "repair" an overly strict relationship. Loosen up, Dad, and don't sweat the small stuff.

\*\*\*

## Horoscope

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29, 2000

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\*\* Recent professional and emotional gains need to be consolidated. Be direct with associates, and discuss money matters. Confusion surrounds a business plan. Now you can get it straight, if you wish. A co-worker cares a lot more than you realize. Tonight: Take it easy.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

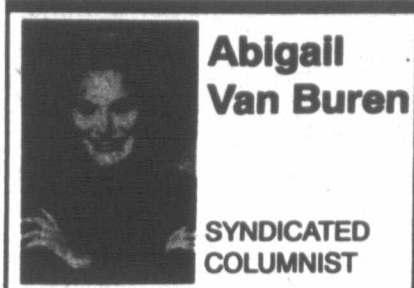
\*\*\*\*\* Someone makes a big effort toward you. Consider what you want to do here. Consolidate work-related gains. You also might decide that it is time to start a diet before the holiday season. A boss sees you a lot differently than others do. Accept a compliment. Tonight: Out among the crowds.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\*\*\* A new flirtation or a loved one reverses course. If single, someone from your past could blast back into your life. Do some hard thinking about what you want. Plan to take off soon. Someone in your day-to-day life goes overboard to make your life work. Tonight: Say thank you nicely.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\*\* Creativity and flirtation mix. Others seek you out. First, decide what you want on the domestic front, and then make other decisions. Listen to a loved one who has great ideas. A partner does-



**Abigail Van Buren**  
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

**DEAR ABBY:** About two years ago, I received a letter from a woman incarcerated in a California state prison. To make a long story short, I ended up sending her stationery, envelopes, stamps and many money orders — one for more than \$600.

She told me she had no family and needed a place to live after she was paroled. Well, I took the bait, hook, line and sinker, and "helped" her for more than 18 months.

I'm 43 years old and thought I had finally found my future mate. Her letters seemed sweet and sincere. I felt sorry for her. She even sent me a document that looked genuine showing her "release date."

All of it was a lie. I'm sick to my stomach, not only because of the amount of money I sent her, but because I was hurt by someone I thought I could trust.

A few months ago I received the same story in a letter from a woman inmate in a Texas prison. Do you think these prisoners are passing my name around? Also, is there any way I can get my money back?

**FEELING USED IN UTAH**

n't see finances as you do. Work on a resolution. Tonight: Start the weekend right. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\*\* Your family and home life become even higher priorities. Don't undermine yourself with a loved one. If you're not sure, that might be the best thing to say. Unexpected developments force you to re-evaluate recent purchases or thoughts about a new car or computer. Reveal your thoughts. Tonight: Cozy at home.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\*\*\* Keep talking. You might not be as sure as you would like to be about a money matter. Seek out answers and look for common ground. You make a special effort toward another. Allow good feelings to flourish. Getting enough work done becomes difficult. Screen calls, if need be. Tonight: Out with favorite people.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\*\* Your mood swings. Think carefully about any gains you've had since July. You can count on another, but make sure you are clear about a money agreement. What someone says and what you hear could be two different things. Buy a gift or a card for a loved one. Tonight: Scorpio.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\*\* The moon beams you into the limelight. Your perspective changes considerably because of a partner. This person could be a bit sour. Initiate conversations in your unique style. Clearing the air paves the way back to better understanding. Indulge a family member. Tonight: Play the night away.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\* Someone changes his tune from

**DEAR FEELING USED:** Write the wardens at both prisons, giving the names of the women who have contacted you. Prison officials should be aware that some inmates are committing still more crimes via the U.S. mail. As for the money you lost, you have learned an expensive lesson; consider it tuition in the school of experience.

**DEAR ABBY:** Three years ago I had an affair with a handsome, intelligent man who turned out to be too good to be true. I discovered he had fabricated most of the information he gave me about himself, including his marital status and name.

I gave birth to his son out of wedlock. This man supports our child financially, but does not see him. This is his choice, not mine.

Abby, my question is this: Does my precious little boy deserve to go through life as a secret to his father's entire family, or do his grandparents on his father's side deserve to know of their grandchild?

My feeling is that if I were a grandparent in the autumn of my life, I would want to know this child, see him and love him. Please ask your readers to respond. Thank you for any insights.

**PROUD MOM**

**DEAR PROUD MOM:** Instinct tells me I will get strong opinions on both sides of this important question. Readers?

out of the blue. You might not be sure what to do, but keep exploring possibilities. You might have many ideas. Open up discussions and make it OK to be vulnerable. Confusion and misunderstandings surround feelings. You could be overreacting. Tonight: Do your thing. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\*\*\* Focus on your goals, even if you experience an upset professionally. Associates have a lot of suggestions. You might not exactly be sure about the best answer. Use special care with funds. Don't do anything spontaneously, other than maybe buying a can of pet food! Tonight: Celebrate the weekend.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\*\* Take charge as others flounder. A reversal involving a child or loved one can be cleared. You just might not see the path. Carefully observe what is happening with a boss or higher-up. Suggestions don't have to be taken, only listened to. Others look to you. Tonight: Clean up your desk.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\*\*\* Your words spread, but another might also misrepresent them. Make calls and correct an error. Think about what you want, especially with a domestic arrangement. If you're not sure, slow down. Brainstorm with the experts. Don't settle. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

**BORN TODAY**

TV host Bryant Gumbel (1948), musician Jerry Lee Lewis (1935), former Sen. John Towers (1925)

\*\*\*

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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## For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



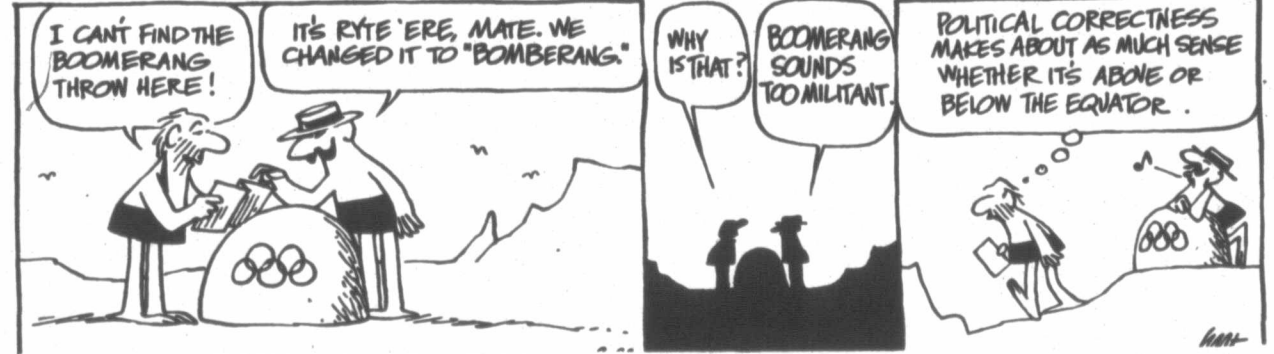
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



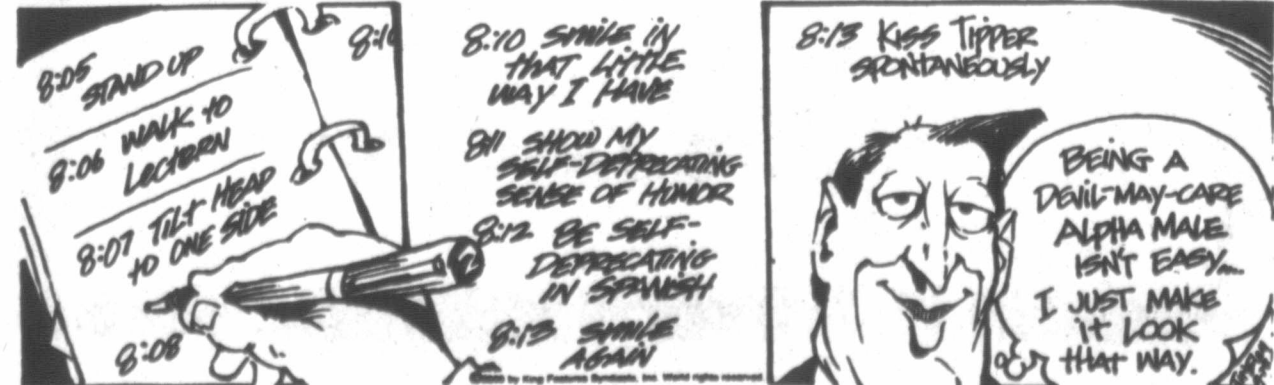
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



## Crossword Puzzle

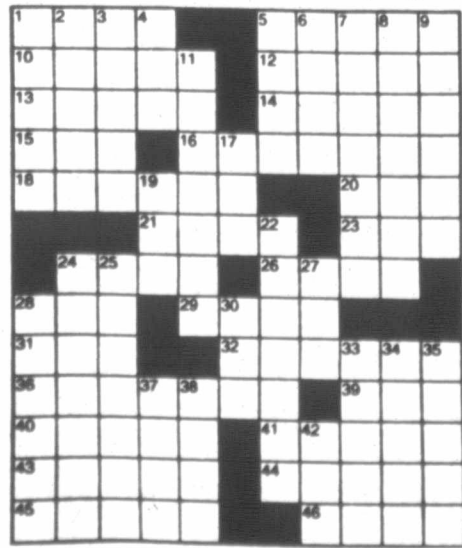
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 43 Build
- 1 Bellow of books
- 5 Imitates a beaver
- 10 Make up lines
- 12 Turning tool
- 13 State game
- 14 Colorado resort
- 15 Stray poet
- 16 Jefferson, for one
- 18 Paltry
- 20 Had lunch
- 21 First name
- 23 — anglais (English horn)
- 24 Rover's kin
- 26 Field team
- 28 Spasm
- 29 Lion's pride
- 31 Count start
- 32 Drops in on
- 36 Arnold film
- 39 Cambridge sch.
- 40 Spud "Butterfield 8" writer

DOWN

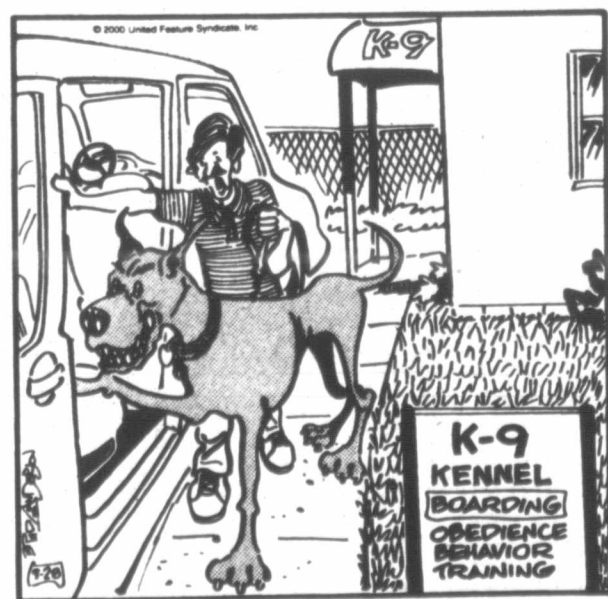
- 1 Oregon city
- 2 Idolize
- 3 Extreme
- 4 Ignited
- 5 Pleased
- 6 Humorous
- 7 Serene
- 8 Actor Wil
- 9 Return address
- 11 Ennui
- 17 Historic time
- 19 Wander
- 22 Union ship
- 24 Museum topic
- 25 Summer cooler
- 27 Crosses out
- 28 Rich desserts
- 30 Actress Gardner
- 33 View
- 34 Car quartet
- 35 Maze word
- 37 "Darn!"
- 38 Deco artist
- 42 Spring



### STUMPED?

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

## Marmaduke



"Making a trainer cry is nothing to be proud of."

## The Family Circus

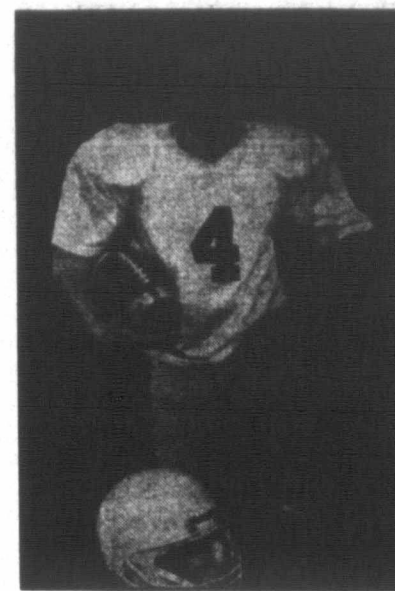
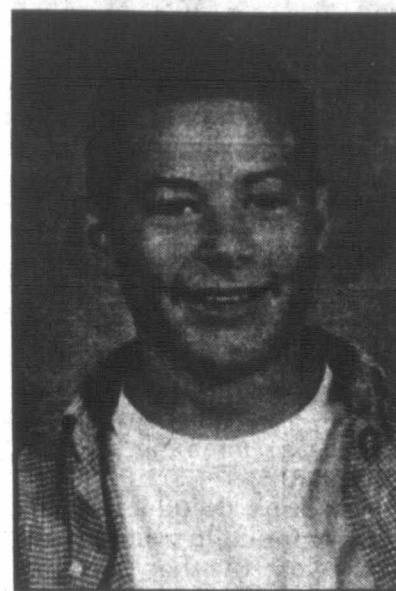
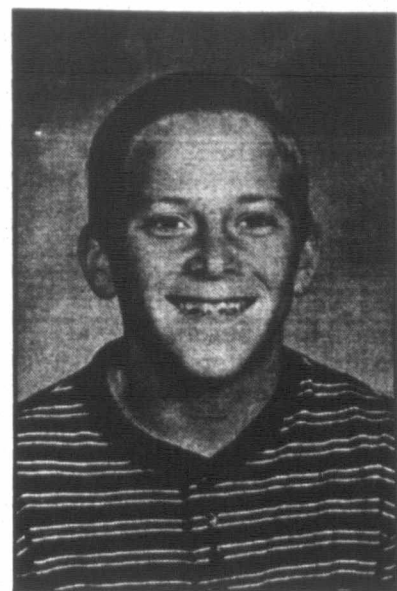
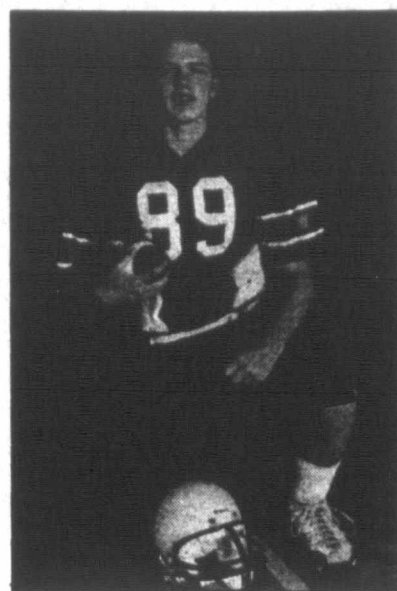
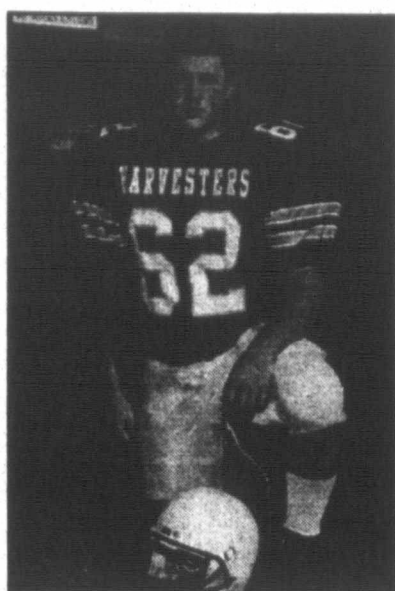
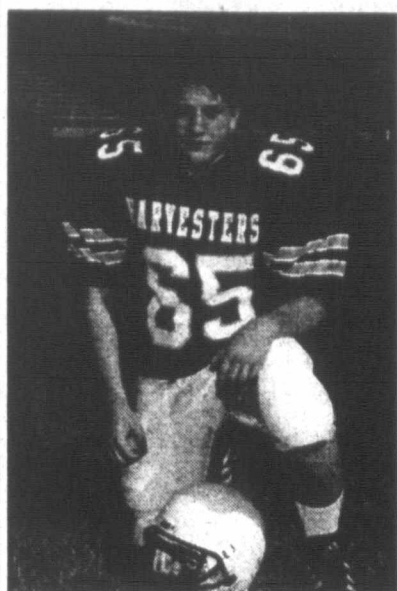


"No, PJ — cover your MOUTH when you cough!"



# SPORTS

## Players of the Week....



Selected by the Pampa coaching staff as Players of the Week are (l-r) Alex Couch (parents, Al and Mary Couch), freshman A team; Michael Shaw (parents, Tommy and Kelly Shaw), freshman B team; tight end-defensive end Brittinn East (parents, Jon and Sabrina East), 8th grade A team; quarterback-cornerback Dusty Lenderman (parents, Larry and Janet Lenderman), 8th grade B team; tailback Grant Stucki (parents, Jerry and Susan Stucki), 7th grade A team, and tailback Trevor Day (parents, Greg and Cathy Day), 7th grade B team.

## Harvesters host Palo Duro for homecoming

PAMPA — Pampa's football homecoming Friday night against Palo Duro will also be like the start of a new season for both teams. It marks the beginning of District 3-4A action.

"Coming off an open date, it does feel like a new season for us," said Pampa coach Dennis Cavalier. "It seems like a month since we've played."

Pampa (3-0) capped off a successful non-district season by shocking Amarillo High 21-10 two weeks ago. Palo Duro is still seeking its first win after three setbacks.

The Harvesters had an open date last week to savor the long-awaited win over historic rival Amarillo High. Pampa hadn't beaten AHS since 1993.

"My face was just about to kill me because I was smiling so big. We were all smiling after that

one," Cavalier added.

Fullback Thomas Long rushed for two touchdowns and quarterback J.J. Roark ran for the other one in the win over the Sandies. Another key figure in the victory was receiver Armando Tarango, who caught 5 passes for 102 yards and rushed for 31 more. Long led Pampa's ground attack with 80 yards on 18 carries.

Pampa's offensive line did an outstanding job of blocking, Cavalier said.

"We've got six players, counting the tight end, on the line, and they did great on run blocking and pass protection," Cavalier said.

Senior end Andy Schroeder led Pampa's defense, which held AHS to 166 total yards. Schroeder had five solo tackles and 13 assists in addition to a sack, five quarterback hurries, a

### High School Football

fumble recovery and two tackles for losses.

Now the Harvesters turn their attention to Palo Duro, which has lost to Amarillo High 28-6, Lubbock Estacado 34-10, and Levelland 20-12.

PD's main source of offense has been the Posey brothers, Dominic and Terrance, both backfield starters. Terrance, a sophomore, rushed for 82 yards in the PD-AHS game. Dominic, a junior, added 51 yards.

"The Poseys are both excellent backs," Cavalier said. "Palo Duro runs a pretty conservative offense, a wing-t."

DALLAS (AP)—Austin Westlake coach Ron Schroeder doesn't like early season open

dates, but if it means a chance to play in San Antonio's Alamodome, he'll take it.

After sitting out last week, the perennially tough Chaparrals will resume their schedule against Round Rock Westwood after zipping to a 3-0 record and the No. 2 ranking in The Associated Press High School Football Poll.

"We ended up with the open date early because we were invited to play in the Texas Classic in the Alamodome," Schroeder said. "I'm not that fired up about the open date now but the positives of playing in the Classic override the negatives. I'd do it every year."

No. 1 Class 5A ranked Garland, also returning from an

open date, plays Garland Naaman Forest. Third ranked Katy hosts South Houston; No. 4 Aldine Eisenhower plays Aldine Nimitz.

Midland Lee dropped from No. 2 to a tie for No. 5 following last week's loss to West Monroe, La., the top ranked Class 5A team in Louisiana. The Rebels host El Paso Franklin and Converse Judson, sharing the No. 5 spot, plays San Antonio Reagan.

In other games involving No. 1 ranked teams, Class 4A No. 1 Wichita Falls hosts Iowa Park; Class 3A leader Crockett plays at Palestine; Mart will defend its Class 2A ranking against Rosebud-Lott; and Shiner, ranked No. 1 in Class A for the first time this year, will host Marion.

The Chaparrals were the sec-

ond winningest high school team of the 1990s, and they are off to a strong start again. They beat San Antonio MacArthur 17-10 in their season opener in the Alamodome and have remained unbeaten despite adversity.

Schroeder had to revamp his inexperienced defense and replace starting quarterback Chad Schroeder, the coach's son, who suffered a broken collarbone in the first game of the season.

Duke Hasson has stepped in at quarterback and has been helped by Brendan Dewan and Scott Ballew, both 1,000-yard rushers from last season.

Class 4A No. 2 ranked Stephenville will play Cleburne; No. 3 San Marcos will play Cedar Park; No. 4 Hereford is at Borger and No. 5 Brownwood is at Joshua.

## Mets follow Braves into playoffs

By JOSH DUBOW  
AP Sports Writer

For the second straight night, there was a clinching party at Shea Stadium.

Rick Reed limited Atlanta to four hits in eight innings and pinch-hitter Darryl Hamilton singled in the go-ahead run in the fifth as the New York Mets beat the Atlanta Braves 6-2 Wednesday to clinch the NL wild card berth.

"It's good just to get it over with," Mike Piazza said.

After the final out, the Mets walked out of their dugout and celebrated on the field in low-key fashion, with hugs and handshakes, much like the Braves did the previous day when they clinched their ninth straight division title at Shea Stadium.

There was champagne in the clubhouse, but the Mets have their eyes on a bigger prize than

the wild card.

"We've been at this step before," said Reed (11-5), who struck out seven and walked one. "We've been to the next step. We have to get to the step after that."

In other NL games, it was St. Louis 3, San Diego 0; San Francisco 4, Los Angeles 0; Houston 10, Pittsburgh 1; Milwaukee 10, Cincinnati 6; Florida 6, Montreal 3; Chicago 1, Philadelphia 0; and Colorado 6, Arizona 4.

After Andruw Jones put the Braves ahead with a first-inning homer, Derek Bell may have saved another home run in the fifth, leaping and catching Jones' drive to the top of the right-field wall in the fifth.

Bell left the game with a bruised left knee and a bloody gash on his left shin. His replacement, Hamilton, got a key hit in the bottom half of the inning.

With the score 1-all against Kevin Millwood (10-13), rookie Timo Perez lined a two-out pitch into the right-field corner and stretched it into a triple. Hamilton blooped a pitch into short center for the go-ahead run, and Alfonzo sent the next pitch into the left-field bleachers for a 4-1 lead, his seventh homer in 14 games.

After opening September with 13 losses in 20 games, the Mets rebounded and will open the playoffs Oct. 4 at San Francisco or St. Louis. The NL East champion Braves start a day earlier against the Giants or Cardinals.

## Junior varsity players play in Amarillo tennis tourney

AMARILLO — The Pampa JV tennis team was entered in the Amarillo Junior Varsity Singles Tournament last weekend.

There were three divisions (A,B,C) and nine (4A and 5A) JV teams entering players. Pampa JV placed the majority of the players who entered.

The best finishes came from sophomores Liz West and Josh Nachtigall. West won the A Division in girls' singles and Nachtigall advanced to the A Division quarterfinals.

West defeated Tascosa's Jennifer Taylor 6-3, 6-4, in the finals. Nachtigall lost to Canyon's Reeves in the quarterfi-

nals, 6-7, 6-4, 6-4, after battling leg cramps in the second half of the third set.

Other Pampa players who placed in the A Division (32 Draw) were Stephen Nelson, first place, consolation; Zack Hucks, second place, consolation; Kevin Turner, ninth place, and Tyler Howard, tenth place. For the girls in the A division, Julie Thompson and Bonnie Holmes were first and second in the consolation with the match to be played later.

In the girls' B division, Shelly Smith and Erin Norris were first and second with the match to be played later.

### 8th graders beat Canyon, 30-0

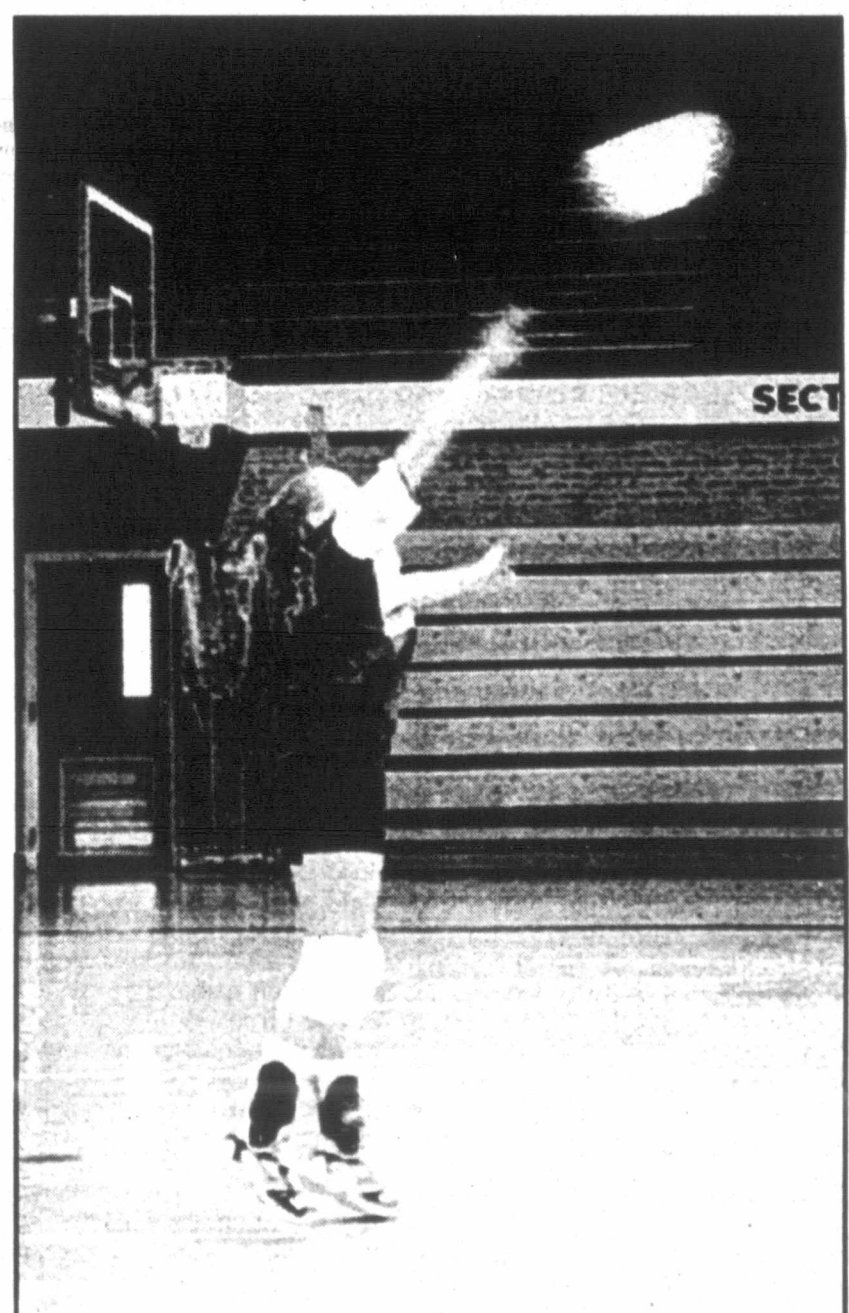
PAMPA — Pampa blanked Canyon 30-0 in 8th grade football action earlier this week.

For Pampa, Mateo Campos threw two touchdown passes to Brittinn East (28 yards) and Shea Brown (18 yards).

Seth Foster scored two touchdowns for Pampa. He caught a 53-yard touchdown pass from Tyler Doughty and scored on a 45-yard run. Doughty threw to East for a 2-point conversion and Clayton Hall had a conversion run.

Pampa lost the B team game 10-6. Pampa's lone touchdown came on a 42-yard intercept on return by Dusty Lenderman.

Pampa middle school teams play Monday instead of Tuesday next week. The 8th grade hosts Valleyview with the B game starting at 5 p.m. and the A game starting at 6:30 p.m. The 7th grade is at Westover with the starting times the same as the 8th grade.



(Pampa News photo by Lance Burton)

Pampa's Morgan White serves one up in a recent volleyball match. The Lady Harvesters defeated Borger 15-11, 15-9, Tuesday night in District 3-4A action. The Lady Harvesters are now 3-4 in district and 5-17 for the season. They play Saturday afternoon at Palo Duro with the junior varsity playing first at 2, followed by the varsity match.

## Short-handed gymnasts take second in district qualifying meet

PAMPA — Team Pampa Level 5 gymnastics team recently competed in Big Spring at a qualifying meet for District One.

Competing one team member short, Team Pampa still finished second in the standings behind San Angelo.

This was their first team championship loss in more than a year and a half. Also entered in the meet were teams from Amarillo, Big Spring, El Paso,

Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, Abilene, Pecos and the Pampa M.C. Flyers).

Leading Pampa's Level 5s, Brittinn Warminski earned the gold medal for her floor routine, 9.25. She received silver medal on balance beam, 9.05, and in the All-Around, narrowly missing her personal best score.

She finished fourth on bars, 8.75, and fifth on vault, 8.45. All of Brittinn's event scores count-

ed toward the team total.

Lacie Thompson also helped Team Pampa by posting four solid scores.

Lacie earned a silver medalist for her bar routine, an 8.85, also a personal best. She won a bronze on vault with an 8.65; fourth in the All-Around, 34.50, another personal best by more than a point. She was sixth on balance beam, 8.5, and seventh on floor exercise, 8.5.

Both Brittinn and Lacie com-

peted in the 11-year-old age group.

Competing for Pampa in the 9-year-olds were Kelby Doughty and Brittinn Klein. Kelby had a personal best Level 5 beam score of 8.2 to take first place. She also finished 10th on vault, 8.3, and 10th in All-Around, 31.45. Brittinn earned ninth on balance beam, 7.6; 11th on bars, 7.5, and 12th on floor exercise, 8.4, a personal best. She also finished 11th in the All-

Around, 31.35, another personal best by more than one point.

Keisha Crowell competed for Pampa in the 10-year-old group.

She won the bronze on bars, 7.8, and finished seventh on beam, 8.15, and floor, 8.05. Keisha also finished seventh in the All-Around with a 31.15, and had personal bests on bars, beam, floor and All-Around.

Team Pampa also had two Level 4 gymnasts competing in

Big Spring.

Diana Mechelay had improved scores in all four events and All-Around. She received blue ribbons on uneven bars, 8.5; beam, 8.25, and floor, 8.05; and red ribbons on vault, 7.0; and All-Around 31.8.

Kelli Willson received a blue ribbon on floor exercise, 8.5, and earned red ribbons on bars, 7.95; beam, 7.85; vault, 7.15, and All-Around, 31.45.





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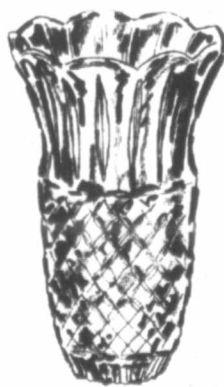
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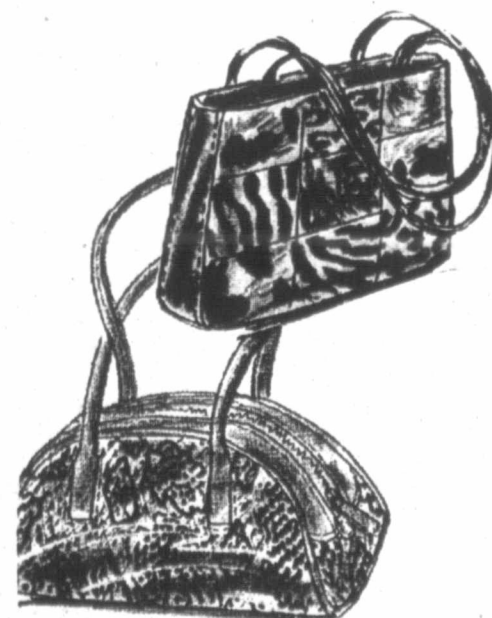


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