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LOCAL

Miami school board to meet on Monday

MIAMI Financial reports will be given at a meeting of the Miami Independent School District Board of Education at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 9, in the school administration office. Board members will hear reports regarding fund balances as well as cafeteria transportation and tax. The board will also pay bills. School board training and a Texas Education Agency visit will be discussed. Also, the board is expected to approve Texas Association of School Board Update Number 68.

Deputy's memorial planned for Sept. 11

CANADIAN A short dedication service for the memorial to Hemphill County Deputy Jim Graham who died in the line of duty is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11. For further information contact the Hemphill County Sheriff's office, (806) 323-5324.

DEATHS

Gerrel Watson Bigham, 81, house mover.

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Karzai: Attacks isolated acts

Afghan leader says incidents won't threaten his government

BY TODD PITMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — President Hamid Karzai said Friday the attempt on his life and the deadly car bombing in his capital a day earlier were the acts of individual terrorists, not a threat to his government.

Afghan police and intelligence questioned suspects in the assassina-

tion attempt Thursday in the southern city of Kandahar and the car bombing in Kabul a few hours earlier that killed 26 people and wounded 150 — the worst day of violence since the Taliban was driven from power.

Fourteen people were detained in Kandahar Friday for questioning in connection with the attempt to kill Karzai, in which a bullet fired by a security guard hired to protect a local governor's mansion missed the Afghan leader by inches.

The attacks were seen by many as a serious challenge to Karzai's struggle to establish stability in a country divided among feuding warlords, harried by remnants of the Taliban regime and its al-Qaida terrorist allies, and left in financial ruins by decades of bloodshed.

But Karzai minimized the impor-

Importance of the two attacks. "These incidents do not indicate any problems," Karzai told reporters in his first public comments since they occurred.

"These are incidents done by terrorists in an isolated manner. This means they are no longer capable of mobilizing as groups so they act as individuals."

Nevertheless, Karzai said Afghanistan must improve its security.

"We have a long way to go to bring total technical security to the country," he said. "So it is a job that we have to do in cooperation with the rest of the world."

Asked about the attempt on his life, Karzai said, "I don't take it seriously at all. I'm more concerned about the loss of life yesterday in Kabul."

The would-be assassin, dressed in a

security uniform, emerged from the crowd greeting Karzai as he left the governor's palace and fired on the president's car.

Karzai's American bodyguards killed the gunman and two other men, both carrying weapons. One was an Afghan bodyguard for Karzai and the second was a bystander, officials said Friday.

The governor of Kandahar, Gul Agha Sherzai, was grazed in the neck by the gunman's bullet. He was treated and released Thursday from the medical unit of the U.S. air base south of the city.

It was not immediately clear if the two incidents were coordinated or who was behind either attack. Afghan officials speculated it could have been Taliban or al-Qaida affiliates or former (See ATTACKS, Page 3)

Ready to wash



(Community Camera Photo)

Pampa High School choir members Cassie Gibson, Stephen Nelson, and Lauryn Langford discuss the game plan for Saturday's annual Free Car Wash, Saturday, Sept. 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the National Bank of Commerce parking lot. PHS Choir students wash the cars for free. The more vehicles they wash, the more they'll make in pledges and donations toward their spring choir trip to London, England, where they will be performing at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Pampan indicted for stabbing wife

BY NANCY YOUNG
MEXICO EDITOR

Travis Don Robinson, 36, 71 S. Barnes, was indicted Thursday by the Gray County Grand Jury for the attempted murder of his wife, Veronica Gray, in Pampan, Ariz., 26.

Robinson was arrested shortly before midnight on the night of the incident at his father's home in Allison in Wheeler County. Shortly after 9 p.m. Aug. 26, police dispatcher reportedly received a phone call from a woman stating she was stabbed.

Pampa Police, Gray County Sheriff's Department and Rural Metro responded to the couple's residence on South Barnes, where they found Veronica Robinson suffering from multiple stab wounds.

She was airlifted by LifeStar helicopter to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo immediately following the Aug. 26 incident. She has since been released from the hospital, officials said.

Travis Don Robinson remains in Gray County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bond. The charge is a second-degree felony.

Also indicted by the grand jury on Thursday were:

• Mark Anthony Jones, 31, Newport News, Va., was indicted for money laundering, a third-degree felony. He is alleged to have transported the proceeds of criminal activity on April 21. Listed in the indictment was sale of marijuana and/or controlled substances with a value of between \$3,000 and \$20,000, according to the indictment.

• Michael Eugene Smith, 36, Columbus, Ohio, was indicted on money laundering, a second-degree felony. He is alleged to have transported the proceeds of criminal activity on May 5. Listed in the indictment was sale of marijuana and/or controlled substances with a value between \$20,000 and \$100,000.

• Antawn McLone Gross, 37, Lexington, Kan., was indicted for possession of

TASA: Texas school system in peril

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas' public school system is "perilously close" to collapse because school districts are bumping into the ceiling on funding while costs and standards keep rising, school board and administrator groups say.

If the next Legislature doesn't act, nearly half of the 1,040 school districts will be forced to scale back or eliminate essential programs including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten beginning in 2004, the Texas Association of School Boards and Texas Association of School Administrators said Thursday in their "Report Card on Texas Education."

Legislative leaders facing a budget shortfall, projected by the comptroller to be \$5 billion, acknowledged the challenges facing school districts, but they didn't necessarily buy the argument that the end is near.

"I'm not going to say they don't have some pretty serious problems. I've been saying that for a long time. I don't know that collapse is imminent,"

If the next Legislature doesn't act, nearly half of the 1,040 school districts will be forced to scale back or eliminate essential programs including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten beginning in 2004.

— Texas Association of School Administrators in their 'Report Card on Education'

said acting Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant.

He has headed the Senate Education and Finance committees and has proposed replacing local property taxes with a statewide property tax in an overhaul of school funding.

"The only way you can truly restructure public school finance is to have some significant injection of new money. They're asking for new money, but this is the worst time in my political career to be asking for money," said Ratliff, who sees no major tax

increase on the horizon when the Legislature convenes in January.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, said it's irresponsible for the groups to suggest the school system is in danger of collapse. "There are challenges. I don't think the sky is falling," he said.

The administrator and school board groups said without legislative help, most if not all school districts beginning in 2004 "will be unable to offer critical courses such as second languages in elementary grades, fine arts,

vocational, sports and technology."

"Without a substantial injection of cash, the very near future of the Texas education system will be characterized by plummeting test scores, an increasing number of dropouts, severe cuts in essential curricula and massive teacher layoffs. By 2005, the public school system as we know it will not exist," the report card said.

The groups didn't specify the amount of new funding they are seeking, and they didn't say where lawmakers should get it.

The report card, including a video and written version, was created for superintendents and school board members to show lawmakers and others interested in legislative issues. They will ask local lawmakers to sign a pledge to support an unspecified amount of additional state revenue for public education.

Ellis said he refused to sign the pledge although education is a top priority. With looming budget problems (See SCHOOLS, Page 3)

PRAYER BREAKFAST • SEPTEMBER 11TH • SERVING BEGINS AT 6:45 AM
MK BROWN ROOM AT THE PAMPA COMMUNITY BUILDING
(PAMPA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 200 N. BALLARD)
IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE TRAGEDY OF Sept. 11. PLEASE RSVP 669-3241

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ON RECORD

SHERIFF

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

Thursday, Sept. 5

Beryle Brister, 28, 536 Magnolia, was arrested on a warrant for a grand jury indictment. The offense was injury to a child.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Anebury Grain of Pampa

Wheat	4.13	VLO	31.78	+0.40
Milo	4.47	Halliburton	13.81	+0.13
Corn	5.19	Truist Hospitals	36.28	+0.80
Soybeans	4.77	NOI	18.05	+0.45
Sunflowers	9.50	KMI	40.02	+0.22
		XCEL	8.73	-0.31
		Kerr McGee	45.16	+0.41
		Limited	15.63	+0.54
		Williams	3.17	-0.06
		McDonalds	21.35	-0.62
		Exxon Mobil	34.00	+0.23
		Atmos	21.68	+0.23
		Pioneer Nat	25.39	+0.56
		Penney's	17.57	+0.54
		Phillips	51.90	+0.30
		Schlumberger	41.69	+1.06
		Tenneco	6.00	+0.05
		CVX	73.62	+0.43
		Wal Mart	51.78	+1.06
		OKE	18.74	+0.35
		NS Group	7.05	-0.03

The following show prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation

Occidental	29.06	+0.20
Fidelity Magell	NA	
Puritan	NA	

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa

BP	43.75	+0.65
Celanese	19.85	+0.43
Cabot Corp	24.02	+0.17
Cabot Oil Gas	22.17	+0.07
Coca Cola	49.39	+0.04
New York Gold	319.25	
Silver	4.53	
West Texas Crude	28.98	

POLICE

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

Monday, Sept. 2

A theft of a mountain bike was reported in the 700 block of East Browning. Estimate of value was \$450.

A theft of a Play Station, VHS movie and watch with a silver chain was reported in the 2200 block of North Hobart. Estimate of loss was \$48.83.

Wednesday, Sept. 4

An information report was taken by officers in the 300 block of South Dwight.

A criminal mischief of vandalism to a car was reported in the 3000 block of Perryton Parkway. Estimate of damage was \$250.

A back pack was reported lost in the 100 block of South Russell. Contents of the bag were reported to be books and photos with a total value of \$25.

Thursday, Sept. 5

A counterfeit check in the amount of \$440 was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A theft by check in the amount of \$300 was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A report of a minor in possession of alcohol was investigated in the 100 block of East Harvester.

A burglary in the 1000 block of South Christy was investigated. A VCR valued at \$65 was reported taken.

An assault by contact was reported in the 700 block of North West.

A 14-year-old female runaway was reported in the 800 block of South Gray.

A theft of beer at a convenience store in the 600 block of East Frederic was reported. Estimate of loss was \$15.

A forgery was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Friday, Sept. 6

Danny Boyd, 54, 320 Anne, was arrested in the 800 block of E. Frederic for criminal trespass. He was also arrested on warrants for possession of paraphernalia, failure to appear and two charges for issuance of a bad check.

FIRE

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, Sept. 5

7:29 a.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to Rham and Faulkner to wash down

the street after a animal had been struck by a vehicle.

11:50 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents.

Tuesday, Sept. 3

A 1999 Ford F-150 pickup driven by Kristi Dawn Smithson, 37, LaVerne, Okla., collided with a 1994 Chrysler New Yorker driven by Marke Alan Shook, 16, Amarillo, at the intersection of 100 S. Cuyler and 100 E. Foster. A citation for disregarding a red light was issued to Smithson.

Thursday, Sept. 5

A 1996 Ford Ranger pickup driven by Joe Luis Ortega, 16, Miami, collided with a 1989 Mercury Grand Marquis parked in the 1100 block of Prairie Drive. Citations were

issued to Ortega for no drivers license, driving under the influence, failure to exchange accident information, and minor in possession by consumption. Anthony Adkins Taylor of Frisco was cited for minor in possession by consumption and allowing an unlicensed driver to drive.

A 1998 Chevrolet Malibu driven by Lee Alvin Williams, 51, 1721 W. 19th, collided with a 1993 Ford Tempo GL driven by Earl Gene Jewett, 94, 1112 S. Wells, in the 1100 block of South Wells. Both were backing out of driveways. Williams was cited for failure to display a drivers license.

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

BIGHAM, Gerrel Watson — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Snyder.

GERREL WATSON BIGHAM

1921-2002

SNYDER — Gerrel Watson Bigham, 81, died Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2002, at Luman-Lusk Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home in Big Spring after a lengthy illness. Services will be at 2 p.m., Saturday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. David Miller of Borger officiating. Burial will be in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Scale Funeral Home of Snyder.

Mr. Bigham was born Feb. 23, 1921, at Hastings, Okla. He married Rosa Miller on Dec. 24, 1945, at Pampa; she died May 24, 2002.

He was in the house moving business, owning and operating W.K. Bigham House Moving. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Snyder as well as Snyder Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite Bodies, Suez Temple Shrine, serving as Past Patron OES Chapter 450. He also volunteered with Snyder Volunteer Fire Department.

He was a U.S. Marine Corp veteran, serving

during World War II from 1942-1946.

Survivors include three daughters, Gloria (Bigham) Cato of Snyder and husband Gary, Marcella Thomas of Lubbock, and Teresa Bigham of Pecos; a son, Danny Bigham of Lubbock; five sisters, Willa Mae McElroy, Peggy Winegeart, and Yvonne Smith, all of Pampa, Melba Holland of Conroe, and Faye Wilson of Grove, Okla.; a brother, Melvin Bigham of Lubbock; a granddaughter, Kimberly Lane of Snyder and husband David; two great-grandchildren, Colton and Cenna Lane of Snyder; a step-granddaughter, Jonni Hart of Brenham and husband Andy; a step-grandson, Dean Cato of San Angelo and wife Jessica; and four step-great-grandchildren, Hannah and Benjamin Hart of Brenham and Joseph and Clayton Laws of San Angelo.

He was preceded in death by four brothers. The family requests memorials be to Home Hospice, 600 S. Gregg St., Big Spring, TX 79720.

City Briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

FRI & Sat Specials, Reconditioned Drivers \$60, Washers \$95. Rev. Bob's Appl., 2000 W. Alcock, 1-6 pm.

FULL TIME Cook needed. No Phone Calls. Apply in person, Hoagies Deli.

GAR. SALE: 622 N. Banks, Sat., 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

JACK RUSSELL Puppies for sale. Parents on site. 665-6404 after 8 p.m.

JOB INTERVIEW, career change, a special occasion? We have quality Fall fashions for less. Twice Is Nice.

JUST RECEIVED 2 new shipments of turquoise & coral. Our cases are full with unique designs. Twice Is Nice

LAYAWAY NOW school Fall fashions for those crisp mornings. Twice Is Nice.

MOTHERS DAY Out, First Methodist Church, 3 months through Pre-School, Wed. and Fri. Call 669-9371.

RUG RATS Prof. Carpet Cleaning. Free est.-665-1976

SOUTHSIDE SENIOR Citizens Fund Raising Gumbo Dinner. All donations appreciated. Sept. 7th, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. 438 W. Crawford, 806-665-4765. A United Way Organization.

CLASSIC LUBE & Wash at 2801 Perryton Parkway is now accepting local competitors coupons! For more information call 665-0950.

SPECIAL HOMECOMING Mums and Garters for Lefors, Miami, White Deer, McLean and Pampa! Drawing for PHS Mums Sept. 28th GT Mart 304 E. 17th

SWEET CORN is ready, also tomatoes, canning tomatoes & gr. tomatoes, Foster Str, Farmer's Mkt. 7 a.m.-?

TWO TANNING beds for sale. Call 669-7131 / 669-1088

USED 20 inch remote control tvs for sale, \$60. No Checks! Best Western Northgate Inn.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with highs in the lower 90s, south winds 15 to 20 mph, and areal coverage of rain 30 percent. Tonight should be partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers, lows in the middle 60s, south winds 10 to 20 mph, and a 20 percent chance of precipitation. Saturday should be mostly sunny. Highs around 90. South winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night, clear. Lows in the middle 60s. Southeast winds 15 to 25 mph. Sunday, cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Highs around 90. East winds 10 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Sunday night, cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Lows in the middle 60s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Monday, cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain

showers. Highs in the middle 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Monday night, cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Lows in the middle 60s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Tuesday, cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Highs in the middle 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Lows in the lower 60s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms and rain showers. Lows in the middle 60s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs around 90.

STATEWIDE

Most of Texas today will be partly cloudy with highs in the low 90s. A slight chance of rain is forecast over most regions, but the gulf will be under the influence of Tropical Storm Fay, nearly stationary early Friday about 125 miles south/southeast of Galveston.

A tropical storm warning is in effect from Matagorda County eastward along the Texas Gulf today, and also for some inland counties. Though the path is uncertain, scattered afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms are possible today through Sunday. Conditions will be breezy to windy, with winds increasing later today to 30-40 mph, with gusts higher. Some locally moderate to brief heavy rainfall is likely with the strongest storms. Average rainfall should be between 1-3 inches today; total rainfall from the storm should average from 4-6 inches with more in isolated areas. Inland areas should see the most rain overall.

Otherwise in South Texas, highs will range from around 90 east and north to the upper 90s in the south, with skies partly to mostly cloudy. These conditions will continue through early next week, with a good chance of rain remaining in the forecast.

West Texas will be partly cloudy today, highs mostly in the low 90s, and a chance of rain today and tonight in all areas except the Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos and in far West Texas. Beginning Sunday temperatures will cool slightly in most areas, with cloudier skies, and a chance of rain will continue.

In North Texas today it will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms east today and tonight, with highs from the lower 90s west to upper 90s in the east. A chance of rain is extended to all of North Texas on Saturday, with slightly cooler temperatures. On Sunday, showers and storms are likely central and west. Partly cloudy skies will continue through Tuesday.

Many urged to evacuate ahead of tropical storm

HOUSTON (AP) — Residents of Bolivar Peninsula and the west end of Galveston Island were urged to evacuate as Tropical Storm Fay slowly churned Friday toward the Texas coast, where it was expected to make landfall by the weekend.

Galveston Mayor Roger "Bo" Quiroga asked warned residents that by dawn Friday, tides of 4 to 6 feet would begin lapping over Farm Road 3005, making difficult on the highway that traverses the length of the island.

The low-pressure system in the Gulf officially became a tropical depression at 4 p.m. Thursday and was upgraded to Tropical Storm Fay about six hours later as winds pushed above 35 mph.

It's the first tropical storm to threaten Texas since June of last year, when remnants of Allison dumped up to three feet of rain on the Houston area, killing 22 and causing an estimated \$5 billion in damage.

Quiroga and City Manager Steve LeBlanc kept watch from the city's emergency headquarters.

"The problem is that it continues to stay out there and meander," Quiroga said.

"It's too close for comfort," LeBlanc said.

Galveston's emergency management director, Eliot Jennings, sat in on conference calls at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Thursday. He communicated with federal, state and regional officials in an effort to learn as much as possible about

Galveston's only major threat this year, according to The Galveston County Daily News' editors Friday.

"We're trying to be careful so there's not another situation like Tropical Storm Frances, where the tides rolled in and, 'boom,' people were trapped," Jennings said. "The warning's lukewarm right now, but it'll probably get a lot fiercer. If anyone has any concerns, they should get out now. You really can't go wrong with that advice."

National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Read agreed.

"Between the seasonal high tides and the winds from this system making them even higher, you don't want people to get into a position where they can't get out of there if the storm does intensify," Read said.

Corruption still rampant across border

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A year after she was gunned down, a Mexican city councilwoman has become a symbol of the country's fight against corruption — while the man accused of shooting her remains at large.

Maria de los Angeles Tames, of President Vicente Fox's conservative National Action Party, was elected in July 2000 as part of a new regime that pledged to stamp out corruption in Atzapán de Zaragoza, a well-heeled bedroom community of 500,000 a few miles outside Mexico City.

Tames soon began investigating allegations that local officials were selling zoning permits and city contracts to companies offering hefty bribes.

She was also looking into charges that the police force was paid to turn a blind eye to drug trafficking in the area, reputedly a stronghold of the Tijuana-based Arellano Felix organization.

On Sept. 5, 2001, the 27-year-old was shot and died on the doorstep of a Atzapán home she shared with her parents.

National Action officials immediately championed her case, saying she was cut down in a struggle against corruption and that she was fol-

lowing the lead of Fox, who had promised to clean up all levels of Mexican government after ending 71-years of rule by the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, on the same day Tames was elected.

But the party was embarrassed when Mexico State officials arrested the city's mayor, National Action member Juan Antonio Dominguez, and charged him with ordering Tames' killing and embezzling public funds. Police say Dominguez's office used a government building to spy on his enemies, including Tames.

Officials in the PRI-governed state also issued an arrest warrant for Jaime Ortega Gonzalez, the man accused of pulling the trigger. A year later he remains a fugitive.

The state prosecutor's office says that the investigation into Tames' death is in its final stages. Investigators are trying to prove that Dominguez embezzled more than \$1 million in public funds.

Lawyers for Dominguez and his former advisers have presented appeals asking that their clients be released from prison unless investigators can provide more evidence.

Bush courts U.N. Security Council, opens international lobbying on Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush telephoned leaders of China, Russia and France on Friday in hopes of softening their opposition to ousting Saddam Hussein, but he made little noticeable progress.

In a series of cursory calls from the Oval Office, Bush talked for a total of 30 minutes with Presidents Jacques Chirac of France, Jiang Zemin of China and Vladimir Putin of Russia. Each could use their votes on the United Nations Security Council to veto resolutions aimed at Saddam.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Bush "told the foreign leaders that he values their opinion and he stressed that Saddam Hussein was a threat and that we need to work together to make the world peaceful." He said Bush has not decided how to oust Saddam, thus did not share any plans with the leaders.

Chirac wasn't convinced by Bush's call, repeating his long-standing position that any military action against Baghdad should be decided by the U.N. Security Council, said Catherine Colonna, a Chirac spokeswoman.

Putin talked to Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has emerged as Bush's closest ally on Iraq. The Russian president told Blair there was "a real potential" for a political solution to the crisis around Baghdad's alleged stockpiling of weapons of mass destruction, a Kremlin press service statement said.

Putin spokesman Alexei Gromov did not say what Bush and Putin talked about.

In Beijing, China's official Xinhua News Agency said Jiang and Bush discussed world affairs but didn't say whether they brought up Saddam.

Bush promised to send diplomats to each of the three nations to continue consultations after he addresses the United Nations on Sept. 12.

The telephone conversations could lay the groundwork for the administration requesting the Security Council adopt a resolution setting a deadline for Iraq to admit weapons inspectors or risk punitive action.

Fleischer said Bush did not discuss the inspectors issue with the leaders.

Also Friday, Bush met with his foreign policy team on Iraq and was meeting with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld at the White House.

Rumsfeld, Vice President Dick Cheney, and CIA Director George Tenet met at the Pentagon on Thursday with the bipartisan group of senators in hopes of building support for a congressional resolution giving Bush authority to act against Saddam. Cheney and Tenet met separately with congressional leadership on Capitol Hill.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle indicated Friday he will not be rushed to judgment on Iraq.

"I'm not going to categorize the information we were provided," Daschle said

on NBC "Today" program.

"All I would say is that some of our questions were answered but there are a lot more out there that need to be addressed," the South Dakota Democrat said.

Also on NBC, Iraqi ambassador Mohammed Aldouri insisted Saddam does not belong to the "club of mass destruction." He added, "We have no such weapons at all, no chemical weapons, no biological weapons."

Shown a tape of the interview with the ambassador, Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott fired back: "If there were a question of truth or consequences, he just failed. If this is not true, let inspectors in unfettered."

Blair meets with Bush at his Camp David presidential retreat on Saturday. The president meets Monday with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who said Thursday he has yet to see evidence to justify Canadian support for a military campaign against Iraq.

France and China have said any military action against Iraq should be decided by the United Nations. Russia opposes war with Iraq, but its stand is clouded by growing economic and diplomatic ties to the country.

In his speech to the U.N. next week, Bush plans to restate the argument he made in public Wednesday, that the Security Council was obligated to hold Iraq accountable for not complying with the U.N. resolutions, U.S. officials said.

Bloody ambush claims four lives

DONNA, Texas (AP) — Police on Friday were questioning a suspect in a bloody midnight ambush in which four women were shot to death and one was wounded in their car as they returned from a border-area nightclub.

Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department spokesman Capt. Roy Quintanilha said investigators detained a 21-year-old man who, according to witnesses, threatened the women after they refused to leave Garcia's Place with him early Thursday morning.

The man, who was picked up by officers at another bar, has not been charged, Quintanilha said.

Investigators continued to search for other suspects, including two men who were seen with the detained suspect before the 12:30 a.m. Thursday shooting.

Two of the dead women were identified Friday as Maria De La Luz Balzadua and Lourdes Yesenia Torres, both Mexican nationals. Authorities were unable to confirm their ages and hometowns.

Police were waiting for confirmation from the Mexican Consulate before releasing the identities of the other two women. They said they would not release the identities of the survivors.

Meanwhile, a pile of pulverized windshield glass and a few blotches of dried blood were all that remained at the scene of the attack, a gravel lot surrounded by four trailer homes in a colonia tucked behind a newer neighborhood of brick houses.

Six women were driving home from a bar and had pulled up in front of their trailer when the shooting occurred. Police said a light-colored sport utility vehicle pulled up near and someone opened fire, leaving behind more than 50 bullet casings.

Quintanilha said the women apparently were shot with one or more semiautomatic pistols or assault-type rifles.

Three women died at the scene and a fourth died en route to a hospital. A fifth woman was in stable condition at a Harlingen hospital.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ATTACKS

Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who is purportedly trying to forge a new alliance with both groups.

Officials said the gunman was from the Pashtun heartland of southern Afghanistan, where resentment has been growing against U.S. operations in the region against remaining Taliban fighters and the al-Qaida terrorist network.

Kandahar provincial spokesman Khalid Pashtoon said an initial investigation showed the suspect was from Helmand province. Kandahar police chief Gen. Mohammed Akram identified the assailant as Abdul Rahman from Helmand.

Pashtoon said the man had been hired four days ago as a security guard for the governor's mansion, which is under renovation. Akram said he had worked as a security guard for 15 days. His 14 co-workers were picked up for questioning early Friday to try to determine whether he was linked to any dissident group.

"The people guarding this place were hired to protect the palace, not us. Maybe it's our

big mistake," he said.

Preliminary investigations indicate that Taliban leaders may be behind the incident, Pashtoon said without disclosing specifics. U.S. authorities will likely be asked to join the investigation, he said.

In Kabul, police said Friday that two suspects were detained for questioning after they were linked to the taxi concealing the massive explosive that detonated in a congested market area around the Information Ministry.

"Everybody is angry with al-Qaida," said 29-year-old Mul Tan, who was driving a truck at the site which workers were filling with debris. "This is not a military site. Look at all these shops. They wanted to kill all these people."

High on a hill overlooking Kabul, a father helped bury his dead son — a money-changer who died of wounds overnight at Wazir Akbar Khan hospital.

"I had two sons before, now I only have one," Shah Mohammad said, weeping quietly as a dozen men removed their turbans, stretching them under the still-bloody body to lower it into a fresh, rocky grave.

On Friday, international

peacekeepers wearing flak jackets moved through the city in small convoys of armored personnel carriers and jeeps, stopping at intersections to inspect passing cars.

Afghan police and soldiers armed with assault rifles erected roadblocks all across Kabul. They stopped cars and taxis, peering into back seats and trunks to look for explosives or anything deemed suspicious. Many streets were blocked off altogether with troops waving back lines of traffic.

Karzai flew back to Kabul Friday to keep an appointment with Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov, who was in Afghanistan to discuss helping the fledgling Afghan army with weapons, supplies and training, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

The trip to Kabul is the first post-Soviet visit by a Russian defense minister to Afghanistan, a country the Soviet Union occupied for 10 years. The Soviets withdrew their troops in 1989.

On Friday, Kandahar residents expressed anger and dismay over the assassination attempt.

"We condemn this action. If we lose Karzai or the governor, this would be a terrible thing for Afghanistan. We would go back to war," said Abdul Wali Wafa, 28, who runs a fabric shop on the same street as the governor's palace.

Others said they continue to fear attacks by anti-government forces.

"If (the president) had died, our nation would face a huge loss," said 42-year-old teacher Ali Ahmed Fazali. "We have no one who unites this country except Karzai."

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

SCHOOLS

and health care also a priority, he said. "I could not do it in good conscience."

Schools are funded by a combination of local property taxes and state funding, along with some federal money. It is a \$27 billion system annually, said Texas Education Agency spokeswoman Debbie Graves Ratcliffe.

Ratcliffe said education funding will be an important issue in the upcoming legislative session but said, "We don't think that a collapse is imminent."

The state share of funding has declined to its lowest point since World War II, at

41 percent, the administrator and school board groups said.

Regarding local property taxes, as many as 400 school districts by fall 2003 will reach the cap of \$1.50 tax per \$100 property valuation for maintenance and operations, they said.

The groups said Texas' public education system is at 97 percent of its "fiscal capacity," which they defined as the maximum amount of state and local funds available to local districts under current school finance formulas.

"If the needle hits 100 percent, Texas' entire public school system as we know it today will collapse. We are perilously close to that point," the groups said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PAMPAN

marijuana, a second degree felony. He is alleged to have been in possession of marijuana on May 21, 2000, with the amount being between 50 pounds and 2,000 pounds.

• Lamont Ladale Nickleberry, 27, 1100 Prairie Drive, was indicted on possession of controlled substance, a second degree felony, on July 12, 2001. He was indicted for possession of cocaine, over four grams and under 200 grams.

• Tariq Sahir Carter, 20, 544 Oklahoma, was indicted for having a prohibited substance in correctional facility, a third degree felony. He is alleged to have been in possession of a controlled substance, marijuana, while in Gray County Jail on Feb. 17.

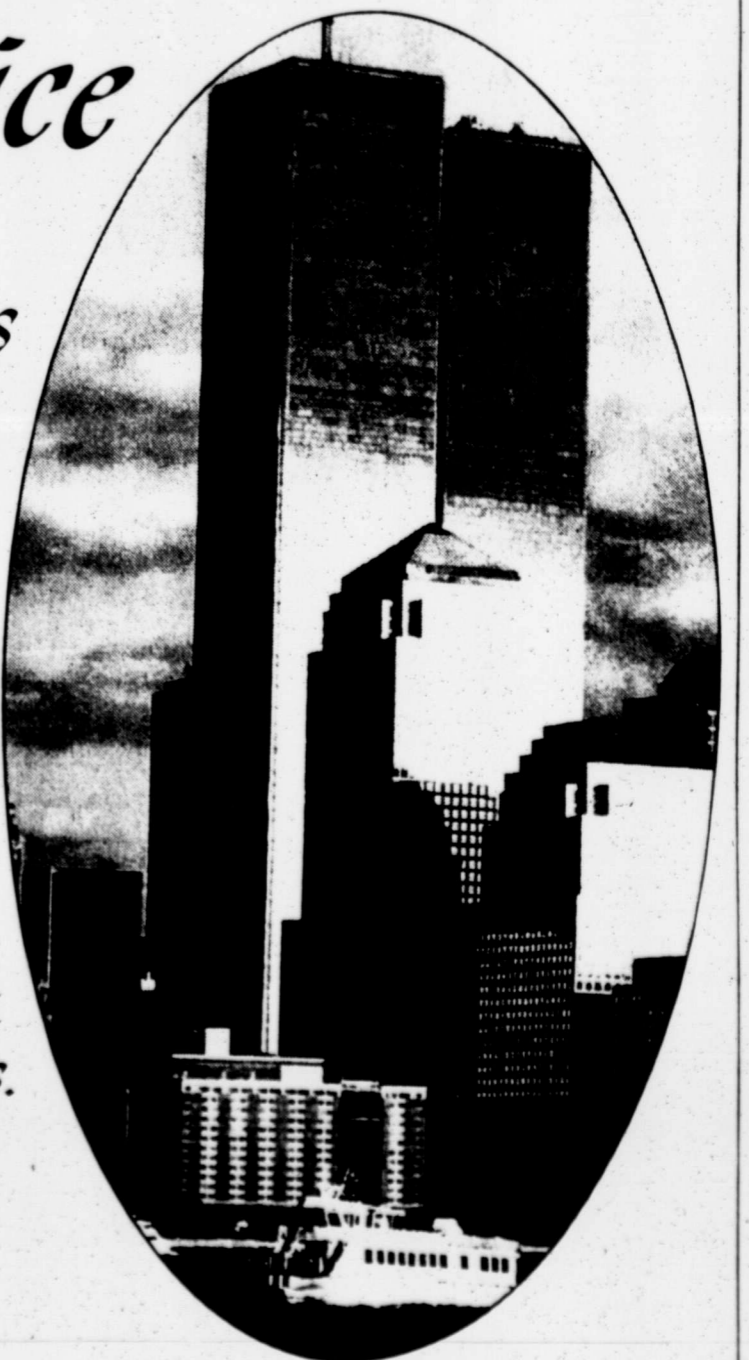
• Beryle Brister, 28, 536 Magnolia, was indicted for injury to a child. Date of alleged offense was not listed in the indictment.

911 Remembrance Service

Honoring Pampa's Public Servants Sunday, September 8 10:00 A.M.

You're invited to join us in remembering the life changing events of September 11, 2001 with special music, slide & video presentations and dramas.

Calvary Baptist Church 900 E. 23rd
(1 Mile East Of Walmart)



Hatfill's lawyer pressuring attorney general

WASHINGTON (AP) — A lawyer for Dr. Steven J. Hatfill, called a "person of interest" in the anthrax attacks, demanded Thursday that Attorney General John Ashcroft find the fired researcher a new job.

Attorney Victor Glasberg wrote in the letter that Hatfill was fired from his job as a researcher and probably won't be able to find employment because of the Justice Department's "inappropriate actions" in naming him a person of interest.

"With all due respect, it is proper for you to take the lead in setting this right immediately," Glasberg wrote.

Glasberg added that Hatfill is entitled to an apology. "I would encourage you to see that one is provided to him," he wrote.

The letter also asked why Hatfill has been targeted by the Justice Department and FBI.

The department had no immediate comment.

Louisiana State University fired Hatfill on Wednesday from his job with the university's National Center for

Biomedical Research and Training after an e-mail from the Justice Department surfaced, ordering the university to stop him from working on federally funded projects. LSU spokesman Gene Sands said Hatfill's firing was not related to the e-mail.

In addition to the letter, Glasberg has filed a complaint with the department's Office of Professional Responsibility, saying the Justice Department leaked information to the media and allowed FBI agents to harass Hatfill's girlfriend. He also complained that the department intentionally blacklisted Hatfill.

Glasberg also asked the agency to define what a "person of interest" is, saying the intention in using the phrase appears to be to defame his client.

"This functional equivalent of blacklisting is reprehensible and sanctionable," Glasberg wrote.

Also in the complaint, Glasberg quoted Hatfill's girlfriend, who was not identified, as saying FBI agents ransacked her apartment and told her Hatfill was a murder suspect.

University officials confirmed Thursday that they also fired Stephen L. Guillot, director of the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training and the Academy for Counter-Terrorist Education.

Sands declined to discuss why Guillot was fired, saying it was a personnel matter.

Guillot was not at home and could not immediately be reached for comment.

Law enforcement officials have said Hatfill, 48, is not a suspect in the deaths of five people killed by anthrax-tainted letters. They also have said no evidence links him to the letters.

Hatfill worked until 1999 for Fort Detrick's Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases in Maryland — the primary custodian of the virulent Ames strain of anthrax found in the anthrax letters.

Hatfill, who recently moved to Baton Rouge, La., taught classes for the LSU center on the East Coast before getting the \$150,000-a-year associate director's job on July 1.

Officials probe blood supply for West Nile

WASHINGTON (AP) — Health officials were tracing blood donated to a pair of West Nile victims, trying to determine if the virus can be transmitted through blood, as the number of confirmed cases topped 850 and continued to climb.

With no blood screening test available for West Nile, experts worry the virus could travel through the blood supply undetected. Still, they say, any risk is minimal and is far outweighed by the medical need for blood.

Nationally, the number of confirmed West Nile cases this year hit 854 on Thursday, with 43 dead, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. Many others are infected but may never show symptoms, so there could be 110,000 to 150,000 people who have been infected in the United States, most of whom will never suffer its effects or know they have the virus, CDC epidemiologist Dr. Anthony A. Marfin said.

These numbers are likely to keep growing in the coming weeks as West Nile season peaks, but cases should drop off as the weather gets colder and disease-carrying mosquitoes disappear, officials said. In the

past few years, West Nile has disappeared by December, but the disease has spread much farther this year and cases could appear well into 2003.

CDC investigators were focusing on two West Nile victims who may have contracted the disease through blood transfusions: a Georgia woman who received blood from 63 people as doctors unsuccessfully tried to save her from a car accident, and a Mississippi woman who received blood from 18 people during an obstetrical procedure.

The Georgia woman died, and her organs were donated to four people, all of whom were infected with the disease. That convinced health authorities that the virus can be spread through transplants, but they remained uncertain whether it also could be transmitted through blood donations.

The Mississippi woman became sick with West Nile encephalitis soon after her surgery, and is now recuperating at home.

The investigation into her case was launched Thursday after it was discovered by state epidemiologists. They were reviewing a sample of infected patients to see what they may have in common and looking for patients who might have received a significant amount of blood before becoming infected.

Health officials cautioned that both women may have been infected by mosquito bites, as other West Nile victims were. The Mississippi woman, in particular, lives in an area with many cases of the disease and she reported having been bitten by mosquitoes many times.

Even if one of the people who gave her blood turns out to have West Nile, the woman still could have been infected by a mosquito, officials said. "It's very hard to sort that out," Marfin said.

As a precaution, remaining blood from donors who gave to either woman was pulled from the shelves. CDC investigators were collecting samples from each donor to check for traces of the virus. Other patients who received blood products, including red cells, plasma and platelets, from these donors were also being checked for West Nile.

CDC officials cautioned that many people are infected with West Nile, so some of them are likely to have received blood as well. That alone does not prove that the virus is carried by blood, said Dr. Lyle Petersen, deputy director of the CDC's vector-borne disease division.

Food court grand opening in offing

CANYON — West Texas A&M University's newly renovated Food Court and Java City Convenience Store in the Jack B. Kelley (JBK) Student Center has scheduled its grand opening for Tuesday, Sept. 17. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony is set for 11 a.m.

Highlights of the event include:

- WTAMU President Russell Long will take the "first bite" at the grand opening;
- Special food promotions;
- Stuffed Chick-fil-A cows will be given away; and
- Appearances by the chicken and cow mascots from Chick-fil-A.

Representatives from ARAMARK and Chick-fil-A's administrative offices also will be on hand.

The new Chick-fil-A restaurant is joined in the Food Court by Bene's Pasta, Tortilla Fresca, Montague's Deli and the Grill Works.

The Java City Convenience Store, adjacent to the JBK Food Court, offers ice cream, coffee, smoothies and pizza along with many items that can be found at most convenience stores.

For more information, call (806) 651-2707.

City sues lead paint companies for clean up, medical costs

CHICAGO (AP) — The city sued lead paint makers for hundreds of millions of dollars to pay for removing the paint from homes and caring for poisoned children.

The public nuisance lawsuit was filed Thursday in the Circuit Court of Cook County. City attorney Mara Georges called on the companies to con-

tribute to cleanup and treatment.

"All we're saying here is that it's time that the taxpayers don't bear the burden of having to abate this nuisance," Georges said. "Instead, the people that are responsible for having created the nuisance should come in and fund the abatement program."

Defendants include Sherwin-Williams Co., E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. and The Glidden Company.

Chicago is demanding the money for treatment and cleanup, as well as compensatory damages, punitive damages and reimbursement for legal expenses. No exact figure was given.

Bonnie Campbell, an attorney representing many of the defendants, said the lawsuit is a waste of the city's time and resources. She said the paint is safe and only becomes dangerous when not properly maintained.

"Litigation won't help a single child," Campbell said.

"Litigation will not solve the problems that come from poorly maintained housing."

Chicago's lawsuit was filed a day after a trial against eight former lead paint manufacturers began in Rhode Island, the first state to sue lead paint companies.

Cities such as San Francisco, Milwaukee, New York and Newark, N.J., also have filed lawsuits. The paint companies have won dozens of similar lawsuits filed by individuals, cities and counties.

Anne Evans, director of childhood lead poisoning for Chicago's health department, said the city has the nation's highest incidence of lead poisoning among children.

More than 12,000 Chicago children were diagnosed with lead poisoning last year, she said. She said the department spends \$4 million a year to diagnose and treat lead poisoning and to test for lead in homes.

Lead paint has been banned in Chicago since 1972 and nationwide since 1978. But as many as 1 million houses in the city were built before the ban, Evans said.

The other named defendants in

the lawsuit are N.L. Industries, Inc., American Cyanamid Co., Atlantic Richfield Co., BP Corporation North America Inc., BP America Inc., Millennium Chemicals Inc., Millennium Inorganic Chemicals, The O'Brien Corp. and the Chicago Paint and Coatings Association.

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CattleWomen Style Show

(Community Camera photo by Lilith Brainard)

Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo Queen Mandy Poole and Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo Teen Queen Jamie Schroeder show off some of the fashions they will model at the upcoming CattleWomen Style Show and Brunch slated at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 7, at Pampa Country Club. Tickets are available for purchase at V.J.'s, Dunlap's, Kids Stuff, Images, Wayne's Western Wear, or from Top O' Texas CattleWomen members.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Sept. 14, 2002 - 9:00 A.M. To 3:00 P.M.

Community Recycling Center

Free To All Residents

What To Bring: paint • solvents • varnish • tires • pesticides • herbicides • drain opener • oven cleaner • stain removers • polish • hobby supplies • pool chemicals • transmission & brake fluids • motor oil • antifreeze • acids • batteries • photographic chemicals • products labeled CAUTION, WARNING or POISON • recyclables: plastics 1&2, glass • aluminum • paper.

(No Commercial Dealers)

We will be recycling tires, car batteries, motor oil & used filters, antifreeze, and latex paints, as well as plastic, glass, aluminum & paper. (Limit 3 tires per vehicle No commercial or retail Shops.)

Do Not Bring: explosives • radioactive materials • dioxins or waste generated by businesses or farms • container larger than 1 gallon, except for motor oil & paint • compressed gas cylinders and waste reactives.

Please transport all products in their original containers, do not consolidate them. Make sure the containers are properly sealed & will not leak. Put containers in the trunk or back of your vehicle, away from passengers.

For More Information Contact:
Rachel Overhuel 663-4464

This Event Is Sponsored By The City of Pampa, Celanese, Clean Pampa, TOT Hazardous Waste Committee.

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Attorney at Law
120 South Madison Suite 22 Elk City, Oklahoma http://mcknight-law.com e-mail: glm@mcknight-law.com

Adult stem cells study

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adult blood unable to types of tissue University doubts about of the cells disease.

The fine view that en not adult st most prom tions such as injury, diab disease, som

But many President B human emb medical res involves the

The Sta attempted to of blood sten them singly bone man destroyed. Th study would blood-making into millions perhaps, cells the body.

Instead, sa first author of ing this we Science, the g blood stem c bone marrow no other type

Wagers sai ly suggests th make only of Making skin, liver cells, as have reportec cells, "is ar event" that pr be useful in th ease, she said.

"We only l of millions Wagers. "Wit quency was o It can happe robust."

The study field of study regenerative would cure or replacing flav cells with new stem cells. Ex cells eventuall into new tiss used to replac diseased organ

Researcher studying two b cells. Somatic cells come fr Embryonic s from embryos allowed to gr point and ther the cells.

The Bush has put in pl lines controlli eral dollars for cell research such restrictio studies. Some argued that cell studies because of gr that adult st properly cult into other tiss ical treatment.

But the wor others suggest cells offer on promise of eve useful.

"What our that the m ducible produc tissues from a from the embri and not from cells, Wagers sa

Other stem however, say from settled.

Dr. Dennis stem cell res University of I "jury is still ou of stem cell w medically usefu

"There is sti learn about the adult stem cell tics," he said. regenerative m beginning. We experiments we figure out the wa can be used to cases."

Adult stem cells lack versatility, study finds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adult blood stem cells were unable to transform into other types of tissue cells in a Stanford University study, raising new doubts about the eventual value of the cells in the treatment of disease.

The finding supports the view that embryonic stem cells, not adult stem cells, offer the most promise for treating conditions such as heart disease, spinal injury, diabetes and Parkinson's disease, some researchers say.

But many people, including President Bush, oppose using human embryonic stem cells in medical research because it involves the death of an embryo.

The Stanford researchers attempted to trace the evolution of blood stem cells after placing them singly into mice whose bone marrow had been destroyed. The hope was that the study would show how a single blood-making cell could grow into millions of cells, including, perhaps, cells in other tissues of the body.

Instead, said Amy J. Wagers, first author of the study appearing this week in the journal *Science*, the group found that the blood stem cells replenished the bone marrow but made almost no other types of tissue cells.

Wagers said the study strongly suggests that blood stem cells make only one thing — blood. Making skin, neurons, muscle or liver cells, as some researchers have reported from such stem cells, "is an extremely rare event" that probably would not be useful in the treatment of disease, she said.

"We only had one neuron out of millions of cells," said Wagers. "With the liver, the frequency was only one in 70,000. It can happen, but it is not robust."

The study is part of a new field of study directed toward regenerative medicine, which would cure or control disease by replacing flawed or worn-out cells with new cells grown from stem cells. Experts believe stem cells eventually may be cultured into new tissue that would be used to replace or repair ailing or diseased organs.

Researchers in many labs are studying two basic types of stem cells. Somatic, or adult, stem cells come from mature tissue. Embryonic stem cells come from embryos that have been allowed to grow to a certain point and then killed to extract the cells.

The Bush administration has put in place strict guidelines controlling the use of federal dollars for embryonic stem cell research, while putting no such restrictions on adult stem studies. Some officials have argued that embryonic stem cell studies are not needed because of growing evidence that adult stem cells, when properly cultured, can grow into other tissue cells for medical treatment.

But the work of Wagers and others suggest that adult stem cells offer only an uncertain promise of ever being medically useful.

"What our study shows is that the most robust and reproducible production of multiple tissues from a single cell comes from the embryonic stem cells" and not from adult blood stem cells, Wagers said.

Other stem cell researchers, however, say the issue is far from settled.

Dr. Dennis A. Steindler, a stem cell researcher at the University of Florida, said the "jury is still out" on which type of stem cell will be the most medically useful.

"There is still a great deal to learn about the possible use of adult stem cells for therapeutics," he said. "The field of regenerative medicine is just beginning. We have a lot of experiments we need to do to figure out the way that stem cells can be used to cure human diseases."

Plan to arm pilots facing opposition

WASHINGTON (AP) — A plan to allow all commercial pilots to carry weapons in the cockpit may be scaled back as the airline industry and the Bush administration raise concerns about safety and training.

The Senate voted overwhelmingly on Thursday to arm pilots after the Bush administration dropped its opposition to the idea.

In a letter to two senators, the White House said only pilots who volunteer to carry weapons and receive extensive training should be armed. It also recommended giving pilots lockboxes for the weapons so they won't be left in the cockpit.

The heads of 21 airlines sent a letter to each senator saying a number of questions must be answered before arming pilots is considered.

"We believe that the public must know what studies or testing have been conducted to determine the effects of an accidental weapon discharge in a pressurized aircraft at altitude," the letter said. The airline executives also questioned where the firearms would be stowed between flights and whether training the pilots would disrupt airline schedules.

The 14,500-member union representing American Airlines pilots supports arming them. Al Aitken, a pilot speaking for the union, said the 87-6 vote meant the Senate recognized that all the security layers the administration is putting into place are still inadequate.

"The people who need the

weapons as a last line of defense are the pilots," Aitken said. "They're the only ones they're trying to keep the gun from," he said, adding that thousands of state and federal law enforcement officers travel on planes while armed.

The Senate attached the measure to the bill that would create a new Cabinet agency dedicated to combating terrorism within U.S. borders.

The House passed a bill 310-113 in July to create a program that would train and provide weapons to some pilots who volunteer as special deputies.

To address some of the airlines' concerns, the administration suggested that a "detailed, effective" training program be designed from scratch and tested.

The administration also warned the cost would be significant — \$900 million to start and \$250 million annually thereafter — and said there is no money now in the Transportation Security Administration budget to cover the expenses.

The letter from TSA chief James Loy was delivered to Sens. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., and John McCain, R-Ariz. Hollings is chairman of the Senate Commerce and Transportation Committee; McCain is the committee's ranking Republican.

Sen. Bob Smith, R-N.H., offered the amendment, which would prohibit airlines and the federal government from arming pilots.

North Carolina Democrats filing complaint against Elizabeth Dole

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Four Democrats accused Republican Senate candidate Elizabeth Dole of violating campaign finance law by being the subject of a cover story in a Wal-Mart newsletter sent to 200,000 North Carolina homes.

The four, describing themselves as North Carolina voters and Wal-Mart customers, said they want Dole to repay Wal-Mart Stores Inc. for the cost of mailing 7 million copies of a customer newsletter. They pinned the cost at between \$2 million and \$2.5 million.

They also said they had complained to the Federal Elections Commission.

Wal-Mart officials have said there were no political overtones in the article on Dole in the annual literacy issue of "Source," the magazine of Sam's Club, a division of Wal-Mart. The magazine, which marks back-to-school season and National Literacy Month, was mailed two weeks before Tuesday's primary.

The Democrats contend the publication is an expression of corporate advocacy of Dole's candidacy, in part because it included a photo of Dole with a child wearing a Dole campaign lapel sticker.

Dole spokeswoman Mary Brown Brewer said the campaign provided the publication with photos, but the article fell

within exceptions in election laws that allow membership clubs to communicate with their members on political topics.

"Basically what they're saying is that a group like the NRA, the Sierra Club or even the AFL-CIO could not communicate with its members," Brewer said. "Under FEC law, they could have issued an endorsement and asked their membership to vote for Mrs. Dole. This was not an endorsement, it doesn't mention her Senate candidacy and it's on a non-political topic."

The article, in which Dole stresses the need to encourage greater literacy, does not mention the primary in which she faces six other candidates seeking to replace Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C.

"It was clearly a blatant attempt by Elizabeth Dole and the nation's largest corporation to illegally influence North Carolina's election," said Pat Hawkins, who filed the complaint along with Linda Gunter, Larry Owen and Betty Owen.

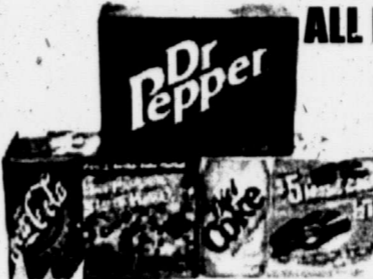
Hawkins is a local Democratic Party official, and Gunter is a former state senator.

One of Dole's primary opponents, lawyer Jim Snyder, has hired an attorney to explore whether the article violated campaign finance laws. He declined comment.

Elementary Bargains

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RELIGION

You can run, but you can't hide

Sometimes, it seems that no one really cares, when people literally get away with murder. Sometimes everyone does walk away, except in this case investigated by two detectives named John Hennessy and Gerard Dunn. Their precinct is the self-proclaimed home of the world's busiest cops.

In the tough, mean, materialistic world of the 44th Precinct in New York City, next to the Harlem River, Tireak Ghandy was stabbed to death at age 12 over his \$200 bicycle. We pick up the story nine years later.

Hennessy and Dunn received the Cop of the Month commendations on June 1, 1988, for their determined work that finally led to an arrest for the 1979 killing of a 12-year-old, Tireak Ghandy.

In New York State, the statute of limitations never runs out for homicide; murder cases never die. The 44th Precinct has cases still open after half a century. Time heals some old wounds, but this case still lay open and bleeding when the detectives inherited it about two and a half years before.

The kid was doing what every kid who ever grew up in the Bronx did, said Hennessy, who grew up in the Bronx and used to do the same when he was Tireak's age: He rode his bike to Yankee Stadium.

On a warm night at the end of July 1979, Tireak pedaled his new \$200 10-speed to the stadium, to a place in the back where kids play basketball. He was on his way home when a teenager demanded his bike.

People heard Tireak yell,



Minister's Musings

LELAND LEWIS
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

"Don't take my bike!" He started screaming. A teenager was trying to pull the bike away from him and when Tireak wouldn't give up the bike, the older boy stabbed him. People saw the killer's face. But no one said anything. The police had no leads.

About seven years later, the detectives received some information off the street. Not much, just a fairly common nickname: Flaco, the thin man. The detectives persisted. They

came up with a name and then a picture. They spent a year tracking down witnesses. With witnesses in line, Hennessy and Dunn arrested Pedro Lozada, 26, as he visited his parole officer on April 20, 1988. Lozada, released from prison for possession of stolen property, never said a word. But the detectives could see the shock on his face.

You may be sure that your sin will find you out. Numbers 32:23

CHURCH BRIEFS

Calvary Baptist sets Sept. 11 event to honor all emergency personnel

All law enforcement, firefighters, and medical personnel will be the honored guests at a special 9-11 Remembrance Service Sunday, Sept. 8, at Calvary Baptist Church, 900 E. 23rd.

The 10 a.m. service will feature music, slides, videos, dramas, and testimonies of how this country is more united because of the tragic events of last September. The service will be both a time of remembering the losses of last September and celebrating this great nation, which is one nation under God.

Calvary Baptist's congregation invites every resident of Pampa, if they aren't attending another church, to come to this special service honoring Pampa's public servants and the memories of Sept. 11. A nursery will be provided for children under age 4.

'Little Bear' Wheeler to speak at Bible Church conference here

Evangelist and historian Richard "Little Bear" Wheeler will be speaking at the Bible Church of Pampa, 300 W. Browning, Sept. 6-8 for their Fall Bible Conference.

The conference schedule is as follows:

Friday, Sept. 6 - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. - The William Wallace Story;

Saturday, Sept. 7 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - God prepares the Bible, the Land, the People and the Nation; an

Sunday, Sept. 8 - 9:45 a.m. to 12 noon - The Bible's Pole in Shaping America.

For more details or to pre-register, call Bible Church at 669-2923. For \$10 per family, lunch will be provided at the church on Saturday, Sept. 7.

Church Bowling League now forming

The Harvester Lanes Church Bowling League is now forming four-member teams on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 6:30 p.m. Call 665-3422 for details.

Noted speaker coming to First Assembly

Arhelene Rippy, national speaker and Christian television personality will be singing and speaking at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 8, at the First Assembly of God, 500 S. Cuyler.

Rippy's career in gospel music includes producing as well as performing. Her sacred concerts have drawn thousands to civic auditoriums and churches for many years in the Tampa Bay area. She was one of the original singers on the international television program, "Day of Discovery." Her ministry in television now extends to talk show hostess and religious news reporting. She was the executive producer and host of "Solo Act," a television ministry

Arhelene Rippy to sing and speak at morning and evening services on Sunday, Sept. 8

to the single adult for 15 years. "Solo Act" has won three Silver Angel Awards from "Religion in Media" in Hollywood. Her story has been featured in "Guideposts" magazine.

She has written for the "Single Parent Family Magazine," a division of "Focus on the Family" and in 1994 she was featured speaker for Dr. Billy Graham's

Conference for the Itinerant Evangelist. She now hosts a daily program for women titled "Home Keepers" which is carried by the Sky Angel Network and on many local cable stations.

Rippy frequently speaks at ministers' retreats, women's seminars, single's ministries and Bible colleges, as well as church services for all denominations.

She was the wife of the late Don Rippy, pastor of Suncoast Cathedral and founder of St. Petersburg Christian School in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Her story is one of victorious triumph over tears, sorrow, tragedy, loneliness and loss. Her personal testimony has had a powerful impact on thousands.

Richard Wheeler "Little Bear"

Evangelist/Historian Richard "Little Bear" Wheeler will be speaking at the Bible Church of Pampa (300 W. Browning) September 6-8 for their Fall Bible Conference

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Synagogue, target of post 9-11 hate crimes, readies for High Holy Days

By PEGGY ANDERSEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — The first hate-crime at Temple Beth El happened right after Sept. 11 and just before the Jewish High Holy Days. Someone spray-painted "Zionism plus U.S. equals 5,000 dead" on the parking lot.

The second occurred the following weekend. Two flaming, fire-starting logs were placed at the back of the synagogue — one beneath a natural-gas line. No one was hurt.

The timing was especially painful for the congregation, coming during the most solemn period of the Jewish year.

As this year's holidays begin at sundown Friday, the congregation will reflect on the challenges of the last 12 months and pray for better times in the year ahead. No arrests have been made in either hate crime.

"Despite all the scary and

horrible things that have happened, it's a good time to be alive," said Rabbi Mark Glickman, who leads the Reform synagogue — the only Jewish congregation in Tacoma.

The 10-day period of self-examination starts with the Jewish New Year, called Rosh Hashana. It ends Sept. 16 with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, when Jews communally admit their sins and reconcile with God.

Jews believe that during the holidays, God determines who will live and die in the coming year. Despite the gravity of the period, rabbis urge congregants to observe the holidays optimistically, assuming God will accept their repentance. Jews dip apples in honey at Rosh Hashana meals as they wish for a sweet year.

Temple Beth El congregants will follow that tradition.

"We can't let these people

frighten us," said Wendy Stricherz, vice president of the board of the synagogue, which counts about 350 families as members.

The parking lot vandals hit at midnight last Sept. 16, the day before Rosh Hashana began, with a message suggesting a link between U.S. support for Israel and the terrorist attacks that left more than 3,000 dead.

The second assault on the synagogue came before dawn last Sept. 23, three days before Yom Kippur. Flames flickered up the walls toward the roof before an alert neighbor summoned fire crews. The damage was minor.

Glickman was awakened at about 1:30 a.m. with news of the blaze.

"At the time, it was kind of scary right between our two big holidays," he said. "Some people were very frightened. We had to do a lot of reassuring."

The congregation added security and got support from a Tacoma interfaith group called the Associated Ministries, which held a candlelight vigil at the synagogue that drew 500 people.

Glickman spoke at the rally, addressing his remarks to the unknown person who started the fire. "You may have thought that fire could destroy, but tonight we here are going to light flames of love and care," he said.

The outpouring at the vigil and from area Christians was "so heartwarming and beautiful," Glickman said recently. "It's inspirational."

But the attacks weren't the first on the synagogue. In previous years, Glickman's car was damaged and Nazi swastikas were burned into the

synagogue lawn.

Jim Friedman, the board's personnel chairman, said that when such incidents occur, congregants debate how to respond. They do not want to draw so much attention to the crime that it inspires copycat attacks, but "we're not going to go quietly, either," he said.

Before Glickman delivered his Yom Kippur sermon last year, the rabbi discussed the fire and how the non-Jewish community rallied around the congregation. He urged members of the synagogue not to let the attacks on their building distract them from observing the holiday.

"I said, 'Look, we're going to go on and do this, not because of what they did — not to spite them, but despite them. We're going to do this anyway. To do otherwise would be to give them a victory,'" he said.

Jewish leaders said they expect rabbis nationwide will devote at least one sermon to terrorism and the Reform branch is distributing a special package of Sept. 11 materials that includes everything from modern poems to excerpts from President Franklin Roosevelt's 1941 "Four Freedoms" speech to a Muslim prayer for peace.

Glickman said his sermons this year will "address living in a post-Sept. 11 world" and how to move beyond hate crimes like the ones committed at the synagogue.

"We remember it, it was a frightening experience — and we go on," Glickman said. "If we can survive pogroms and the Spanish Inquisition, and, and, and — the whole litany of persecutions we've survived over the years — we can certainly survive this, too."

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Does it matter whether America is "under God"?

By RICHARD N. OSTLING
AP RELIGION WRITER

Since Sept. 11, its citizens are saying 'yes'

"One nation under God."
That phrase isn't part of the Constitution, and may not be constitutional in the Pledge of Allegiance, but Americans have made it clear those four words embody their feelings toward the nation — no matter what the courts say.

In this post-Sept. 11 year, when people from coast to coast have prayed together at innumerable memorial events and have sung "God Bless America" in classrooms and baseball stadiums, this summer's federal court ruling on the pledge could hardly have caused more outrage.

It was the most dramatic example of a phenomenon that's been going on for years: The courts try to restrict public expressions of non-denominational religion, but on the streets, people don't accept the ruling.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals banned the use of "under God" in public school recitations of the pledge because the U.S. Constitution forbids "an establishment of religion" by government.

That decision has been labeled "absurd," "asinine," "heinous," "mindless," "outrageous," "very dangerous" and "just nuts" by an assortment of Democrats, Republicans and religious commentators. The day of the ruling, June 26, the U.S. Senate passed an instant denunciation, 99-0, and House members gathered en masse on the Capitol steps to defiantly recite the pledge.

Even the Anti-Defamation League, which ardently advocates church-state separation, declared the ruling "goes against the culture and traditions of this country."

Roman Catholic philosopher Michael Novak says that part of the reason for the reaction is that in times of crisis — like the war on terrorism — Americans tap a "reservoir of national understanding" that includes "public religiosity" alongside private faith.

Boston College sociologist Alan Wolfe likewise thinks it's natural that "people turn to religious values to express themselves." He considers this no threat to America's "remarkably tolerant religious environment."

Of course, Michael Newdow, the plaintiff in the pledge case, doesn't think that recitations of "under God" are tolerant toward fellow atheists, and last week he filed a similar suit to eliminate chaplains for the U.S. Congress.

But Newdow is fighting a losing battle in the court of public opinion.

There are ongoing efforts to impeach the 9th Circuit judges and overturn their handiwork, and 356,000 Americans have signed a petition backing proposals in Congress to amend the Constitution and make the pledge inviolable.

Wolfe considers the pledge phrase a "trivial" compromise with public sentiment. "I don't believe in God, but it doesn't bother me," he said. "You have to live in society with those who do."

The pledge debate is occurring in the midst of a broad rethinking of the "establishment of religion" clause.

The day after the 9th Circuit decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in favor of tuition

voucher plans that include religious schools. Justice David Souter's dissent protested that this obliterated doctrine dating back to the 1947 Everson decision.

Everson was the first ruling to say the "establishment" clause requires separation of church and state, which the court interpreted to mean that federal, state or local governments cannot "pass laws which aid one religion, aid all religions, or prefer one religion over another."

That led to bans on graduation prayers, football prayers, moments of silence and Ten Commandments displays in public schools, precedents that undergirded the 9th Circuit's pledge decision.

But popular dissent is unending.

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention and TV preacher Jerry Falwell have called for mass civil disobedience in the form of ongoing classroom pledge recitations. A November federal trial will decide whether a Nebraska school board member should have led the Lord's Prayer at graduation. And hardly a week passes without legal footwork over the country's 4,000 municipal Ten Commandments displays.

The same week as the pledge and voucher rulings, Harvard University Press issued a remarkable book, "Separation of Church and State," by Philip Hamburger of the University of Chicago Law School. Hamburger contends that "the constitutional authority for separation

is without historical foundation."
In Hamburger's view, the Constitution's framers merely meant to bar public funding of churches and discrimination against particular faiths. Novak's latest book, "On Two Wings," underscores the devoutly religious intent of the framers.

However, some conservative Christians still prefer not to utter the G-word in the pledge. Among them is Mark Noll of Wheaton (Ill.) College, an evangelical thinker who says "a slogan like 'under God' doesn't help to clarify helpful ways of bringing God into public life."

Douglas Laycock of the University of Texas School of Law thinks the private religious preferences of Americans should be protected. On that basis he defended both June rulings — for vouchers and against "under God."

In his view, the Constitution is "about protecting both believers and nonbelievers, and all kinds of both, and enabling us to live together in relative peace in the same society." In principle, he thinks God in the pledge is mistaken because "either it's a real prayer," which is an illegal government establishment of religion, "or we're taking the Lord's name in vain. We shouldn't do either."

Nonetheless, Laycock says rulings such as the pledge ban are "a stupid thing to do" in light of public sentiments. "The harm done by such practices is extraordinarily modest," he says, yet they weaken citizens' faith in the courts as they handle more troublesome aspects of public religion.

On the Net:
Pledge (Newdow) and voucher (Zelman) rulings posted at <http://www.law.cornell.edu>

RELIGION IN BRIEF

Maryland congregation and bishop settle long-running Episcopal Church dispute

ACCOKEEK, Md. (AP) — Leaders of a suburban Washington Episcopal church have reached an accord that ends an acrimonious dispute with the diocese over its appointment of a conservative priest.

Christ Church has agreed not to appeal a federal court decision that removed the Rev. Samuel Edwards as their priest last year. In return, Washington Episcopal Bishop John Chane has appointed the priest the congregation wanted as Edwards' successor, the Rev. Stephen Arpree.

The diocese and congregation fought the past year over Edwards, who once called the Episcopal Church "hell-bound" because it ordains women and tacitly accepts homosexual activity.

Then Bishop Jane Holmes Dixon rejected Edwards' appointment in January 2001, fearing Christ Church might join traditionalist parishes that have quit the 2.4 million-member Episcopal Church. Christ Church was split between supporters of Edwards and Dixon.

Dixon filed suit in federal court, and U.S. District Court Judge Peter J. Messitte ruled last October that Edwards had to leave. In May a federal appeals court rejected Christ Church's appeal. Edwards then left the Episcopal ministry.

Court action leaves Alabama-based denomination split over leadership

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Court rulings fixing the leadership of an Alabama-based denomination haven't stopped members of the fractured group from accusing each other of stealing and making threats.

The Alabama Supreme Court upheld a ruling that ousted Senior Bishop Jasper Roby, 90, as head of the 30,000-member Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God, a "oneness" Pentecostal body that rejects the Trinity.

The high court supported a county judge who put Bishop George W. Ayers, 74, of Mobile in charge. Since then Roby's backers have been dismissed, locks on church buildings have been changed and accusations of theft have been leveled.

Ayers' attorney says Roby loyalists are refusing to abide by the court ruling and have threatened violence.

The denomination originated in 1916. Roby succeeded the founder in 1973. Partly due to Roby's failing health, the church board voted two years ago to make Ayers acting president, and Roby's faction filed suit.

Police declare Wisconsin church a public nuisance because of homeless

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The police have declared St. James Episcopal Church a public nuisance because it allows the homeless to sit outside during the day and sleep on the lawn overnight.

Police say some of the homeless harass passers-by and commit crimes. The action means the church must pay up to \$275 each time police respond to a complaint.

Police officials met with the Rev. Debra Trakel but decided the church had no plan to solve problems. "I am utterly outraged," Trakel said.

City Alderman Paul Henningsen said the church deserves praise for helping the poor but needs to provide services to the homeless if it continues to allow them on its property.

Campus ministries: Students take faith along to class

EL PASO — Jacob Magdaleno totes around an extra text inside his book bag while shuffling from class to class at the University of Texas at El Paso.

You may call it the Holy Bible, but the Northeast resident figures that additional weight as the ultimate reference material for his studies as a business major as well as an invaluable guide for living.

"I know I can accomplish a lot with my classes and my work through God," Magdaleno said. "That relationship with him keeps my stress level down and helps me focus on what is important."

As the first day of the fall semester approaches, campus ministries at UTEP and at New

Mexico State University are giving students an avenue to exercise their faith, meet new friends and find support in fellow students.

That support may come in handy as college students face decisions as independent young adults living away from home, said Tricia DeJulia, an associate campus director at UTEP for Destino, a national Christian ministry for minorities.

"People come to college to learn and to make a better living for themselves and we're here to help them with that," DeJulia said. "With our ministry, students grow through

character and leadership development and make a lot of friends along the way."

But that chance to grow spiritually might have shrunk.

Marisa Olague, organization and leadership adviser for UTEP's student development

center, said the five ministries listed on the center's Web site are the only groups officially recognized by the school. That's a drop-off from one year ago, when eight campus ministries were registered at UTEP.

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Let's Talk Real Estate



by **Jim Davidson**
Realtor
APPEALING TO BUYERS

"Curb appeal" is a term that real estate agents use to describe how a house looks to potential buyers, who start forming their opinions while standing on the sidewalk or driving by. With this in mind, sellers are increasingly adding style and character to their homes' exteriors by focusing on details. Currently, exterior decorating espouses the philosophy of using natural products and colors, assorted textures, distinctive details, and bold accents. The front of the house is the part that takes center stage in the home-selling process, so it warrants the use of brick and stone, as well as cedar shakes and deep, earth-tone colors. Similarly, natural accents, such as stone pillars and columns, are gaining popularity.

When it comes to buying a home, first impression is everything! Tips like these can help you put your best foot forward while reaching the largest number of buyers. For more helpful information, trust you real estate professional for guidance and impartiality. If you are in need of our services, call CENTURY 21 - PAMPA REALTY INC., 669-0007. Located at 312 N. Gray Street, we are available to our customers 24 hours a day.

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Israeli helicopters attack Gaza factory

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israel attacked a factory in the Gaza Strip with missiles fired from helicopters early Friday after Palestinians destroyed a tank and killed two soldiers.

Reflecting a rapidly deteriorating situation, Israel's defense minister said Israeli would not complete a promised handover of security duties in Gaza because of repeated Palestinian attacks.

In Jerusalem, police said they would destroy the homes of four Jerusalem Palestinians suspected in deadly bombings, a measure the Israelis say can deter other Palestinians from carrying out attacks. Palestinians denounce the measure as collective punishment.

The helicopter strike at the metal workshop in the central Gaza city of Khan Younis just after midnight Friday was the first of its kind since Israel and the Palestinians agreed on Aug. 18 to start returning the West Bank town of Bethlehem and the Gaza Strip to Palestinian security control.

The handovers were to be a test case for the rest of the West Bank. Israeli forces withdrew from Bethlehem on Aug. 20, but there has been no movement in Gaza, and each side blames the other.

Israel said the factory was used to produce weapons. There were no casualties in the airstrike, hospital officials said.

Before daybreak, Israeli forces moved deeper into Gaza and cut the main road

connecting parts of the densely populated strip of coastal land, reimposing travel restrictions lifted just a few days earlier. A military statement said troops moved in "to prevent the transfer of weapons for terrorism through the Gaza Strip."

Addressing a meeting of his Labor Party, Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said Israel would not carry out the handover of Gaza to Palestinian security, said his spokesman, Yarden Vatikay.

This followed two attacks Thursday in Gaza in which two soldiers were killed and an Israeli tank blown up with a huge bomb. Vatikay said the Palestinians have taken no steps to stop terror attacks.

"Israel will take action to withdraw only if the Palestinians will take action," he said.

Palestinians charge that Israel is stalling instead of implementing the accord, the first security understanding between the two sides in several months.

In the West Bank town of Jenin, Israeli soldiers killed two Palestinian militants on Friday, residents said. One belonged to the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a militia affiliated with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah, and the other was a Hamas member, they said. The Israeli military had no immediate comment.

Israeli police and soldiers were stepping up security for the beginning of the two-day Jewish New Year holiday,

beginning Friday at sundown. Israeli soldiers clamped curfews on five Palestinian cities and towns they reoccupied in mid-June, and the Israeli military spokesman said internal West Bank travel restrictions would be tightened for the holiday.

On Thursday, police and volunteers foiled an attempt to plant a car bomb with 1,300 pounds of explosives in an

Israeli city, an attack so potentially deadly that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said would have changed the Middle East equation in an instant.

In Jerusalem, police posted notices on the four houses, giving the families 48 hours to appeal to an Israeli court to stop their destruction, said Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby. He said the

Israeli military approved the orders.

The arrest of the four Jerusalem Arabs last month shocked Israelis. It was the first time Palestinians who lived in Jerusalem were accused of involvement in deadly attacks.

Since Israel annexed the Arab section of Jerusalem shortly after capturing it during the 1967 Mideast war,

Powell, meets Gabon leader

LIBREVILLE, Gabon (AP) — After trekking along an elephant trail in the Congo Basin, Secretary of State Colin Powell talked into the night with the president of Gabon about the country's commitment to preserve its lush forests.

A Thursday dinner meeting between Powell and President Omar Bongo continued until nearly midnight, as the two leaders and other Gabonese ministers chatted about forest conservation, peace efforts in Central Africa and Gabon's concerns with the International Monetary Fund.

"It was a long discussion but not long enough. My trip here was all too short, but I promised I would return," Powell said. He said he is the first U.S. secretary of state to visit Gabon.

The session was Powell's last bit of official business on his four-day visit to Africa. He was returning to Washington on Friday.

Upon arriving in Libreville, Powell took a helicopter ride along the coast to see a swath of equatorial forests around which Gabon is building a tourism industry. Their hope is to attract vacationing nature lovers interested in the region's wildlife and fauna.

Environmentalist Michael Fay led Powell on a walking tour along the beach to an elephant trail that angled down toward the sea. Fay said there was an elephant herd spotted about 15 minutes away; buffalo, monkeys, pigs and ducks — a breed of small antelope — roam the area too.

Powell, a Vietnam veteran, said the lush green coast reminded him of the central highlands along Vietnam's border with Laos. Fay said the Gabonese had been taking the land's beauty for granted until they sensed its economic potential.

CattleWomen Style Show



(Community Camera photo by Lilith Brainard)

Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo Queen Mandy Poole and Miss Top O' Texas Rodeo Teen Queen Jamie Schroeder show off some of the fashions they will model at the upcoming CattleWomen Style Show and Brunch slated at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 7, at Pampa Country Club. Tickets are available for purchase at V.J.'s, Dunlap's, Kids Stuff, Images, Wayne's Western Wear, or from Top O' Texas CattleWomen members.

Blair declares Britain will stand behind U.S.

LONDON (AP) — Britain is prepared to shed blood to support its friend and ally the United States, Prime Minister Tony Blair said in comments broadcast Friday.

In a British Broadcasting Corp. documentary, to be screened in full on Sunday, Blair said the two countries' "special relationship" had to be backed up with action.

Asked whether Britain was prepared to pay a "blood price" to support the United States, Blair answered affirmatively.

"What is important ... is that at moments of crisis they don't need to know simply that you are giving general expressions of support and sympathy," Blair said.

"That is easy, frankly. They need to know: Are you prepared to commit, are you prepared to be there when the shooting starts?"

Blair has been President Bush's staunchest ally in the war on terrorism and has backed in principle a military attack to topple Iraq's Saddam Hussein, despite strong reservations at home.

Religious leaders, ordinary Britons and members of Blair's own Labor Party have expressed opposition to war. In a survey of 100 non-Cabinet Labor lawmakers by the BBC, 88 said there were currently insufficient grounds

to declare war on Iraq.

Many lawmakers feel they should be allowed to vote on military action. Labor legislator Glenda Jackson said Friday that she had written to Blair asking for Parliament to be recalled from its summer break for a debate on Iraq.

"I think it would be extremely serious if we slid into some kind of all-out military action against Iraq," Jackson — an Oscar-winning actress turned politician — told the BBC.

"Let's see the evidence," she said. "To exclude the concerns of the British people, which is best voiced in Parliament, seems to me to be a grievous, grievous error on the part of the government."

Asked about Iraq in the documentary, "Hotline to the President," Blair said he would "never back America if I thought they were doing something wrong."

"If I thought that by committing military action in a way that was wrong, I would not support it," he said. "But I have never found that and I don't expect to find it in the future."

Blair, who will meet Bush at the president's Camp David retreat on Saturday, said no decision had yet been taken on how to ensure Saddam did not maintain chemical, biological and

OPEC, IEA vow to keep oil market stable

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — OPEC and an organization of oil-consuming nations steered clear of historic antagonisms and pledged cooperation to keep oil prices stable amid worries about tensions with Iraq.

OPEC Secretary-General Alvaro Silva Calderon, a Venezuelan among the founders of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, and Robert Priddle, executive director of the International Energy Agency, agreed that "oil is not a weapon."

They vowed to work together to keep oil markets steady at a time of volatility over the Bush administration's public relations offensive against Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Bush has said repeatedly that Saddam is a menace to world security and must be removed. Iraq was a major oil exporter before its 1990 invasion of Kuwait; it now exports under a U.N.-controlled program.

"Fair and equitable prices will guarantee a prosperous future for all concerned — producers, companies, investors and consumers alike," Silva told the closing session of the 17th World Petroleum Congress. "But for the desired conditions to be put in place,

we have to ... expand our dialogue with all the parties."

Joining Silva in addressing the elite oil industry executives at their biggest world gathering, Priddle also was upbeat.

"We both want market stability ... with prices not so high that they choke off demand," said Priddle.

The four-day summit, which ended Thursday, was attended by 3,100 delegates from 59 countries.

OPEC and the IEA were at odds in the late 1960s and early 1970s, when the Arab oil producers cut supplies to the West to punish the United States and other nations for their support of Israel.

Silva and Priddle said both institutions will meet during an OPEC assembly in two weeks in Osaka in their first face-to-face meeting ever. Both want a role in setting oil prices.

Silva said crude oil prices are still within the band of \$22 to \$28 per barrel set by the OPEC cartel, and that the average for the year should be about \$23.

But Priddle said consumer nations need to have a voice, adding: "No market will follow guidelines by a cartel driven by the needs of oil producers."

On the question of Iraq, Silva insisted his organization

would do what it could to stabilize prices in volatile times.

"Concrete cooperation and coordination of policies will hopefully result in all interested parties pulling together," he said. But he warned that "there will always be unforeseen events affecting the market."

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Woman Finds the Dating Pool Is Fished Out in Small Town

DEAR ABBY: I am an attractive 33-year-old, unattached woman who is extremely shy and lonely. Please don't tell me to look for companionship in church (done that) or clubs, which don't exist in my small town.

The nearest singles group is a 30-mile drive, and the "pickings" there are slim. Most of my friends are married and preoccupied with husbands and busy households. We might meet for coffee or an occasional meal, but not often.

The few single girlfriends I have are romantically involved and do not want to leave their boyfriends even for an hour, so I am stuck every weekend at home by myself. I tried an Internet dating service. All the responses I got were from men 50 and older - even though I requested no one over 37.

I am beginning to doubt myself as a person - fearing that no one will ever want to get close to me. My attitude is starting to affect my job performance.

Abby, am I asking too much to want someone to cuddle up with at night, someone to be there when I've had a rough day, someone to go bike riding with or for a day at the beach?

Can you help me? Please tell me what I can do. My birthday is coming up. All I want in the whole world is to spend it with someone who cares about me.

**LONELY IN A SMALL TOWN
 SOMEWHERE IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR LONELY: Any experienced fisherman knows that in order to be successful, you have to row your boat to where the fish are biting.

Take a look at a map and find a medium-to-large city that you think might offer you a chance for employment and the opportunities to mix with interesting people your age. Once there, get involved in activities where "nice people" meet. (Volunteer work is a good choice.)

Sitting around in a small town brooding about feeling isolated is a waste of precious time.

P.S. If you feel your shyness

is limiting your opportunities, I urge you to get counseling. It would be the most valuable birthday present you could give yourself.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-mother-in-law, Thelma Barcal, lived in Sioux City, Iowa, and took delight in telling this true story from the 1920s about a pair of young twin girls who lived next door to her on - I believe - Jackson Street.

Thelma took great pride in the flowers she grew in her backyard. Evidently the twins liked them, too. In fact, they liked them so much that one day they picked most of them.

The next thing Thelma knew, her doorbell rang - and there stood the twins at her front door wanting to sell her own flowers back to her!

Those precocious twin girls grew up to be "Dear Abby" and "Ann Landers." Thought you might enjoy this little trip down memory lane.

ALICE MOSES,
 HUNTSVILLE, ALA.

DEAR ALICE: I did, indeed. I'm not surprised that my mother and my aunt were so enterprising at such a tender age. However, I'm relieved the two "hot petal pushers" decided to devote their talents to something legitimate before they were "busted" for their entrepreneurship. (Both were too short to look good in horizontal stripes!)

 Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

 For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby - Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

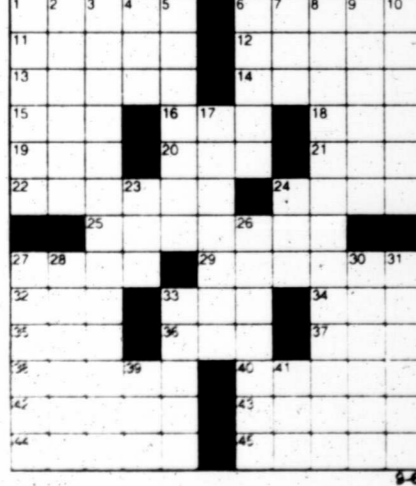
Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Doesn't own
 - 6 Pole boss
 - 11 "Oliver's Story" star
 - 12 Words to live by
 - 13 Diving gear
 - 14 Piano piece
 - 15 Young fellow
 - 16 Cousin of beige
 - 18 Reward for service
 - 19 Stray
 - 20 Crude home
 - 21 Boring life
 - 22 Bookstore patron
 - 24 Joins a jazz session
 - 25 Melodic
 - 27 Track event
 - 29 Be of one mind
 - 32 Swelled head
 - 33 Traffic warning
 - 34 Count start
 - 35 Crony
 - 36 Sargasso Sea swimmer
 - 37 Tear
 - 38 Make amends
- DOWN**
- 1 List of players
 - 2 Cry from the audience
 - 3 Gray shades
 - 4 Computer key
 - 5 Spread thickly
 - 6 Perfume
 - 7 Cunning
 - 8 Where a boxer may be sent
 - 9 Dullesville
 - 10 Skilled folks
 - 17 Heart part
 - 23 Color
 - 24 Painter
 - 26 Jazz fan
 - 27 First name in whodunits
 - 30 Football's Johnny
 - 31 Rest
 - 33 Run-down
 - 39 Volleyball need
 - 41 Exist

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Marmaduke



"I wasn't quite done reading the paper."

The Family Circus



"Never ever put peanut butter in your pocket to eat later!"

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends

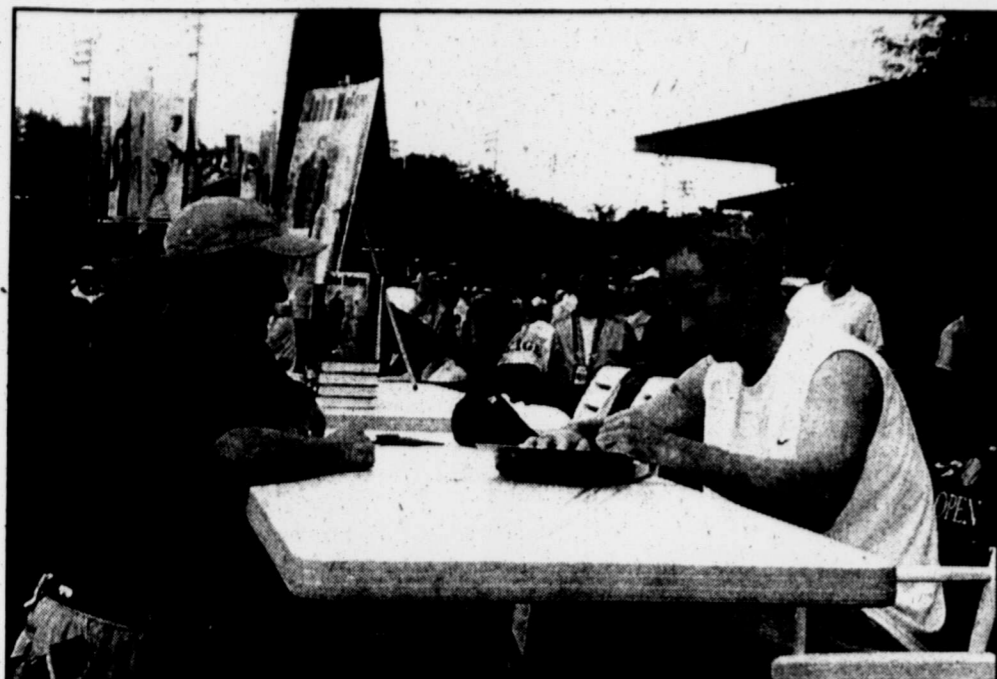


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Pampa resident Ken Rheams (left) gets an autograph from former tennis great John McEnroe during a visit to the U.S. Open.

No Williams in U.S. Open final? That's not likely

NEW YORK (AP) — The possibility is almost too remote to consider — Amelie Mauresmo and Lindsay Davenport strolling onto the court for the start of the women's final under the lights at the U.S. Open.

Grand Slam championship matches are the domain of the Williams sisters. They've faced each other in three of the last four.

Still, there's this little technicality of Friday's semifinals. Serena must beat Davenport and Venus must beat Mauresmo for the sisters on Saturday night to stage a rematch of last year's Open final, won by Venus.

"I have good chances and I'm going to go out there thinking that," said the 23-year-old Frenchwoman, seeded 10th.

Davenport appears to have a better chance of winning. She's seeded fourth and beat defending champion Serena in the 2000 Open final. But Serena is much better now.

"These are the moments where, as a player, you live for," Davenport said, "and you need to play your best."

You sure do. Serena is seeded first and is the world's top-ranked woman after following her French Open win with a Wimbledon championship. Venus, runner-up at those tournaments, is No. 2 at the Open and in the world. She won the last two U.S. Opens and reached the semifinals at all six she's played.

Serena has won 60 of her 74 games here and averaged just 51 minutes per match. Venus has won 65 of 89 and averaged 63 minutes per match.

Davenport actually has played two fewer minutes than Venus and has won 63 of 88. But she had knee surgery in January and admits the obvious: No woman is in the Williams sisters' class.

"I've said it and I haven't hesitated.

They are definitely at a level above everyone else," Davenport said.

The 6-foot-2 1/2 Davenport has the power to rally with Venus and Serena but can't cover the court as well. Mauresmo played a solid all-around game in beating third-seeded Jennifer Capriati on Wednesday but is winless in four matches against Venus.

So what will it take for either underdog to stop the Williams express?

Against the 5-foot-8 1/2 Capriati, Mauresmo put topspin on balls that propelled them higher than Capriati would have liked. That will be tougher against the 6-foot-2 Venus.

"I'll give it a try," Mauresmo said.

Serena is at the top of her game, darting all over the court, hitting powerful serves and playing with supreme confidence. Davenport came into the Open having played just 14 matches in four tournaments this year.

"We play the same style of game," Serena said. "I actually like playing Lindsay. I can't wait. Win, lose or draw, I'm going to have fun."

Last month, Davenport lost to Venus in the semifinals at San Diego and in the finals to Chanda Rubin at Los Angeles. Against Serena, her record is 2-7.

But the player seeded first has won just two of the last 19 Grand Slams starting with the 1998 opener, the Australian Open. And Davenport has an opportunity she didn't expect.

"I really could have never said this would happen, especially after January and February," she said. "It was just impossible, in my mind. It's an amazing feeling. I really think this is one of my better achievements, just to be able to come back from everything this year and get to the semis of a Slam."

Pete Sampras could say the same thing.

A&M's Mark Farris will be playing football, not baseball in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mark Farris finally gets to play in Pittsburgh on Saturday, only the setting — and the sport — won't be what he might have expected eight years ago.

Instead of playing nine innings, he'll be playing four quarters. Or at least he hopes he'll be playing four quarters, because Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum might have a different idea.

Farris is expected to start for the No. 20 Aggies against unranked Pittsburgh in a game in which both schools already have quarterback debates only one game into their seasons.

The question in Aggieland, though, is whether he will finish.

Farris was a highly recruited quarterback at Angleton (Tex.) High School who originally signed with Texas A&M, only to be persuaded to play baseball when the Pittsburgh Pirates made him the 11th overall pick in the June 1994 draft.

After five seasons in which he never advanced above Double-A, Farris gave up baseball and decided to return to football. His decision was partly influenced by watching Chris Weinke, another former minor leaguer who returned to football in his mid-20s, play for Florida State against A&M.

Think the Pirates aren't second guessing their decision to draft Farris? With the very next pick after Pittsburgh's in that 1994 draft, the Boston Red Sox drafted another shortstop who turned out to have a much better career — a guy named Nomar Garciaparra.

Now, the second guessing is going on at A&M, where the debate is whether Slocum should keep playing the 27-year-old Farris, a three-year starter, or turn to 18-year-old freshman Reggie McNeal.

Despite needing only 131 yards to reach the 5,000-yard passing mark in his career, Farris has as many career interceptions (18) as he does touchdown passes, and the

Aggies have lost four of seven games since their 5-0 start last season. Farris also heard boos during A&M's 31-7 victory over Louisiana-Lafayette on Saturday as he threw eight straight incompletions during a 13-for-32 night.

During that game, Slocum made a surprise move by playing McNeal, who was expected to redshirt this season because A&M already had two sophomore backups, Dustin Long and Jason Carter.

Since then, Slocum hasn't exactly guaranteed Farris will start the rest of the season, nor has he downplayed talk that McNeal's future might arrive a lot sooner than was anticipated.

"My intention has always been to play the player who gives us the best chance to win and we will continue to do that," Slocum said. "Competition brings out the best in people and there is certainly nothing wrong with bringing the best out in your quarterback position."

49ers slip by Giants, 16-13

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — About the only thing that lived up to the billing in the NFL's rare weeknight season opener was the final score:

The San Francisco 49ers came into the game as 3-point favorites and won 16-13, beating the New York Giants on Thursday on Jose Cortez' 36-yard field goal with 6 seconds left.

"We made enough plays to win tonight but we can't afford to play like that every single week because we won't be coming out with wins," 49ers quarterback Jeff Garcia said.

Garcia was shackled most of the night before launching the winning drive, throwing a 33-yard pass to Terrell Owens on the first play after New York scored the tying TD.

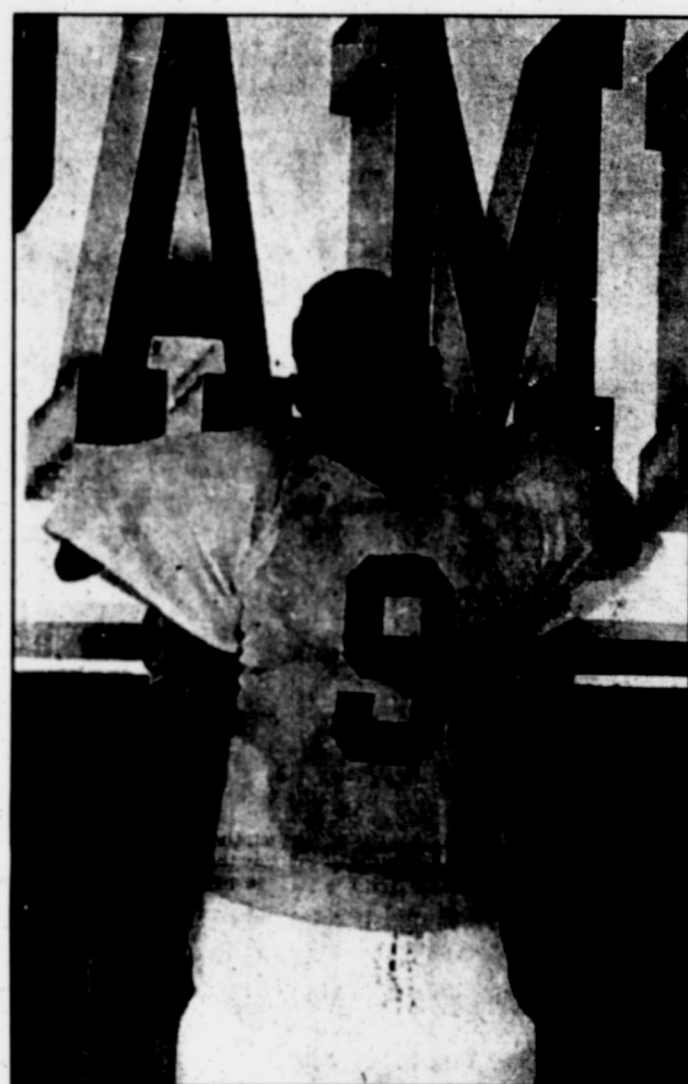
The Giants joined San Francisco in a game that for most of the night looked like an episode of "Football Follies."

Owens, one of the NFL's top receivers, had just three catches for 8 yards before the big catch, and dropped a couple in the first half.

New York quarterback Kerry Collins threw for 342 yards but also had three passes intercepted and couldn't get the Giants into the end zone until 1:55 was left. Garcia threw one interception and had only 160 yards passing — 115 before the final drive.

"We just made critical mistakes," Collins said. "If you make them against a good football team, they come back to bite you."

JV's top player



The Pampa coaching staff named running back Mark Williams (above) as the junior varsity player of the week after his performance against Perryton.

Groesbeck High linebacker loses foot after injury during game

WACO, Texas (AP) — Lying in his hospital room crowded with flowers, balloons and sympathetic visitors, William Barton is philosophical about the freak injury that cost him his left foot.

"Football is a contact sport, and this is just one of those things," Barton said Thursday, the day after his foot was amputated. "I'm not going to let it get me down. You have to take what life gives you and look to the future."

Barton, a 170-pound running back and linebacker at Groesbeck High School, was off to a good start in his very short football career when the injury hit Aug. 30.

The 16-year-old junior was playing in his first varsity game and scored a touchdown on a 17-yard catch in a 30-13 victory over Lorena. Moments later, on defense, he was closing in for a tackle when he was blindsided by a block.

"I knew something was wrong," Barton told The Dallas Morning News in Friday's editions. "But I thought it might be a ligament or something."

He said he remembered shifting all his weight to his left leg and preparing to lunge at a running back when the hit came. The blocker's shoulder pads hit his knee squarely, bending his leg into a crescent shape.

"It was a clean hit. It's just one of those unfortunate things," said Groesbeck coach Richey Cutrer.

"I figured it was just a leg injury," Barton's mother, Leya Hoover, told the Waco Tribune-Herald. "I didn't figure it was any big deal. It hurt him, but he wasn't crying or nothing. When we left the game, I figured torn ligament. I figured it was knee surgery. I never figured it would be his foot."

He was taken to a hospital in nearby Mexia, where the knee was drained, X-

rays were taken, and MRI was scheduled and he was released.

But the leg became discolored and more painful, and during a follow-up Monday doctors found clotting and infection, and rushed him by ambulance to a hospital in Waco.

Wednesday, a Waco surgeon had to amputate Barton's left foot just above the ankle because of a 2-inch arterial tear. A doctor told the family that how Barton's body responds will determine if more has to be removed.

"He wants to save as much of the leg as he can," said Jeannie Thompson, Barton's grandmother.

While Barton recovers, his teammates are trying to prepare for Friday's game against Robinson. They have dedicated their season to Barton and will wear his No. 4 on their helmets this year and next, Barton's senior year.

"You can't do enough to keep things normal, because we have had such a traumatic situation take place," Cutrer said. "We give the players updates. We are telling them how he is responding, his reactions, and we are also telling them how strong he is. The strength he has is absolutely amazing."

About two dozen teammates and friends visited Barton after his surgery Wednesday.

Among other visitors are the coach and players from Lorena, including the player who delivered the block. Barton says he holds no grudges against the blocker.

Four coaches from Baylor University in Waco visited, bringing Barton a football signed by the team.

Baylor assistant Dave Baldwin offered to put Barton in touch with Neil Parry, the San Jose State University special teams player who is returning with a prosthetic leg this year after an amputation 18 months ago.

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

National League At A Glance					By The Associated Press All Times EDT				
East Division					East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB		
Atlanta	88	50	638	—	New York	87	52	626	
Philadelphia	70	69	504	18 1/2	Boston	77	61	558	
Montreal	69	71	493	20	Baltimore	64	74	464	
Florida	68	71	489	20 1/2	Toronto	62	78	443	
New York	64	74	464	24	Tampa Bay	47	92	338	
Central Division					Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB		
St. Louis	78	61	561	—	Minnesota	81	59	579	
Houston	74	66	529	4 1/2	Chicago	68	72	486	
Cincinnati	67	72	482	11	Cleveland	62	77	446	
Pittsburgh	61	79	436	17 1/2	Kansas City	55	84	396	
Chicago	60	80	429	18 1/2	Detroit	51	89	364	
Milwaukee	50	90	357	28 1/2	West Division				
West Division					W	L	Pct	GB	
Arizona	87	53	621	—	Oakland	88	51	633	
Los Angeles	81	58	583	8 1/2	Anaheim	85	54	612	
San Francisco	78	61	561	8 1/2	Seattle	81	58	583	
Colorado	63	77	450	24	Texas	63	76	453	
San Diego	60	80	429	27					

By The Associated Press All Times EDT				
Wednesday's Games				
Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Time
Minnesota	5	Seattle	2	8:05 p.m.
Baltimore	8	Texas	3	8:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees	3	Boston	1	8:05 p.m.
Cleveland	9	Detroit	3	8:05 p.m.
Toronto	6	Chicago White Sox	2	8:05 p.m.
Anaheim	4	Tampa Bay	2	8:05 p.m.
Oakland	12	Kansas City	11	8:05 p.m.
Thursday's Games				
Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Time
Toronto	5	Boston	4	8:05 p.m.
Texas	11	Baltimore	2	8:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees	9	Detroit	3	8:05 p.m.
Anaheim	10	Tampa Bay	1	8:05 p.m.
Cleveland	11	Chicago White Sox	6	8:05 p.m.
Friday's Games				
Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Time
Toronto	10	Halladay	5	8:05 p.m.
Anaheim	10	Los Angeles	8	8:05 p.m.
Detroit	8	Redman	3	8:05 p.m.
Texas	2	Reses	2	8:05 p.m.
Oakland	11	Liddle	8	8:05 p.m.
Seattle	14	Garza	10	8:05 p.m.
Cleveland	4	Burba	4	8:05 p.m.
Saturday's Games				
Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Time
Cleveland	10	Sabathia	10	1:05 p.m.
Detroit	10	Powell	1	1:05 p.m.
Toronto	10	Hendrickson	0	1:05 p.m.
Texas	7	Par	7	1:05 p.m.
Oakland	10	Mulder	10	1:05 p.m.
Anaheim	10	Wallace	10	1:05 p.m.
Seattle	14	Franklin	3	1:05 p.m.
San Diego	10	Asencio	4	1:05 p.m.
Sunday's Games				
Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Time
Toronto	10	Boston	1	1:05 p.m.
Detroit	10	N.Y. Yankees	1	1:05 p.m.
Texas	10	Lampa Bay	1	1:05 p.m.
Anaheim	10	Baltimore	1	1:05 p.m.
Seattle	14	Kansas City	1	1:05 p.m.
Cleveland	10	Chicago White Sox	2	1:05 p.m.
Oakland	10	Minnesota	8	1:05 p.m.

American League At A Glance				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Montreal	81	58	583	
Florida	81	58	583	
N.Y. Mets	78	61	561	
San Diego	78	61	561	
Arizona	78	61	561	
Chicago Cubs	78	61	561	
San Diego	78	61	561	
Arizona	78	61	561	
Houston	78	61	561	
Montreal	78	61	561	
Florida	78	61	561	
Cincinnati	78	61	561	
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	81	59	579	
Chicago	68	72	486	
Cleveland	62	77	446	
Kansas City	55	84	396	
Detroit	51	89	364	
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Oakland	88	51	633	
Anaheim	85	54	612	
Seattle	81	58	583	
Texas	63	76	453	

SEP 06 2002

SPORTS

Harvesters test speedy, big Estacado in home opener

PAMPA — Pampa and Lubbock Estacado have something in common after last weekend's opening night of football. Both teams lost games they had a chance to win.

Pampa was nipped by Perryton 9-7 while Estacado dropped a close decision to Hereford 7-6. The Harvesters and Matadors square off at 7:30 tonight in Harvester Stadium.

"We had our opportunities (against Perryton). In my opinion, we didn't play fundamentally sound enough football to take advantage of those opportunities," said Pampa head coach Dennis Cavalier. "We're working hard on our fundamentals."

After watching film on the Estacado-Hereford clash, coach Cavalier said the Whitefaces did a good job of defending a speedy Estacado squad.

"Hereford was remarkable in not allowing

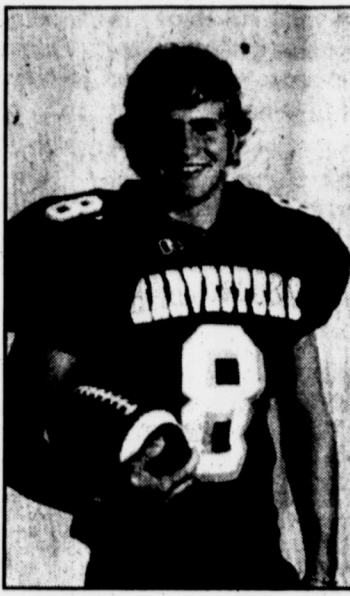
Estacado to break off a long play. Estacado's defense did stop Hereford twice inside the 4-yard line and Hereford stopped Estacado once inside the 5," Cavalier said.

Estacado had more total yardage (237-155), but the Matadors fumbled eight times and lost two. A costly penalty may have cost Estacado a touchdown when the Matadors were deep in Hereford territory in the closing seconds.

Cavalier, however, feels the Harvesters will have to make a drastic improvement since the opener to have a chance against Estacado.

"Estacado has better speed than Perryton, so we're not only going to have to improve, but we're going to have to take a quantum leap forward. However, our boys, the coaching staff and I are determined to do it," Cavalier said.

Estacado not only has its traditional speed, but the Matadors are fundamentally



The Pampa coaching staff selected Andrew Curtis (above) as the defensive player of the week in the season opener against Perryton, but the 180-pound junior will be out of action tonight due to a knee injury.

strong up front, according to Cavalier.

"Estacado has an excellent offensive line. I'm very impressed with their technique," Cavalier said. "In

my experience against Estacado they haven't been very strong fundamentally. This team is dramatically better than any Estacado team I've seen as far as fundamentals go."

The Estacado offense is led by junior quarterback Melvin Irving, who completed 17 of 15 pass attempts for 92 yards and a touchdown against Hereford.

"Irving is very similar to Cody Campbell at Perryton in terms of athleticism.

He can run and throw, and does a good job of directing the offense," Cavalier said. "They use a bunch of different receivers."

Ivras Lateff at 215 pounds is the leader on the offensive line.

Tailbacks Quintin Lewis (210-pound senior) and Dante Boyd (210-pound junior) are among the backs coach David Moody depends on.

Defensively, Estacado will outweigh the Harvesters almost 100

pounds per man. The Harvesters will have 6-foot-3, 305-pound Kellen Wilson to deal with.

"Wilson is going to be lined up against Aaron Burrows, who is 5-foot-8 and weighs 180 pounds," Cavalier said. "Estacado could overwhelm us with their physical size and at the same time they have good techniques on both offense and defense. That's a scary thought."

The Harvesters will be without strong safety Andrew Curtis (180-pound junior), who had a knee injury against Perryton.

Cavalier said no surgery would be required, but Curtis could be out two to three weeks.

Joe Meraz (155-pound junior) will replace Curtis.

Pampa's junior varsity football team recorded lopsided victories in their first two games of the 2002 season.

The Shockers shut out Lubbock Estacado 36-0 Thursday night.

Pampa quarterback Tyler Doughty hooked up with Q.B. Cobb for touchdown passes of 7 and 65 yards. Mark Williams scored twice on a 7-yard run and a 35-yard pass interception.

Shea Brown kicked 4 of 5 extra point attempts. Brown and Jarren Long also had pass interceptions.

Defensively, Kevin Parks, Dusty Langley and Cobb tackled a Perryton player in end zone for a safety.

Last week, Pampa JV opened with a 26-6 win over Perryton JV.

Doughty tossed three TD passes to Cam Seger, Cobb and Brown, and scored on a 15-yard keeper.

Some outstanding blocks thrown by Michael Pergeson, Daniel Resendiz, Jaime Resendiz, Jacob Potter and Chris Veal led to Pampa touchdowns and long gains.

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| <p>1 Public Notice</p> <p>NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS</p> <p>Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)</p> <p>District Amarillo Contract 0041-03-019 for SEAL COAT in HARTLEY County, etc will be opened on October 9, 2002 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.</p> <p>Contract 669-269-791 for METAL BEAM GUARD FENCE REPAIR in CANYON County will be opened on October 30, 2002 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$2,100,000.</p> <p>Plans and specifications are available for inspection along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO 7414</p> <p>State Office
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Phone: 512-416-2540</p> | <p>1 Public Notice</p> <p>District Offices
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5715 Canyon Dr
Amarillo, Texas 79110
Phone 806-356-3283</p> <p>Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. B-2 Sept. 6, 13, 2002</p> | <p>14d Carpentry</p> <p>ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs Mike Albus, 665-4774</p> <p>ADDITIONS, remodeling, home repairs. Over 30 years local exp. Jerry Reagan, 669-3943</p> <p>SCOTT'S Constr. Commercial & Residential Construction & Concrete. Call 669-0863</p> <p>14e Carpet Serv.</p> <p>NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost. It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341</p> | <p>14n Painting</p> <p>PAINTING Inside and Out. Top-quality workmanship. 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Come by in person or call 537-3194, ask for Linda Miller or Phyllis Westbrook</p> | <p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>ST Ann's Nursing Hm in Panhandle, is looking for part-time & PRN LVN's. Apply in person or call Wanda 537-3194</p> <p>POSITIONS available for Heavy Equipment Operators. Call Personnel Director at 806-274-7187</p> <p>FULL-TIME Wait Staff needed. Apply in person at Texas Rose. No Phone Calls</p> <p>PART-TIME Chairside Dental Assistant (2-3 days) Experience a plus, but not necessary. Friendly, people-oriented. Send resumes to Box 56, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx 79066</p> <p>SONIC DRIVE-IN is now accepting applications for dependable, mature, enthusiastic, friendly crewmembers for all positions. Apply in person at 1404 N. Hobart EOE</p> <p>MEREDITH House is taking appl. for full-time, part-time Nurses Aides. Pick up application at front desk or Fax resume to 665-2599</p> | <p>21 Help Wanted</p> <p>ENGINE Lathe Machinist, Threading Exp. Total Wellhead & Rental Tools, L.L.C. Perryton, TX, 888-834-3800.</p> <p>Full Time Teller / Bookkeeper Position Available The State National Bank Must be multi-task oriented with pleasant personality & professional appearance. Some computer skills & proficiency in 10-key and typing required. 99 Broadway Groom, Tx. (806)248-7531</p> <p>NOW hiring drivers. Must be 18, have own car & insurance. Apply in person, Pizza Hut Delivery, 1500 N. Banks.</p> <p>POSITION for part-time & PRN LVN's. Apply in person St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle or call Wanda 537-3194.</p> <p>IMM openings in sports surfacing & shop mechanic. Earn benefits + bonuses. Travel req. 94 Main, Panhandle, Tx. 537-3526</p> <p>OILFIELD Truck Driver Needed Class A CDL and Drug Test required. Medical, Dental, Vision Insurance, 401K, and Uniforms. Apply at Landmark Fishing & Rental Tools, 1865 W. McCullough St.</p> <p>WAITRESS needed at local bar. Person must be honest and dependable. Call after 4:30 pm for appointment 665-8889 Ask for Schanda</p> | <p>60 Household</p> <p>JOHNSON HOME FURNISHINGS Rent 1 piece or house full Washer-Dryer-Ranges Bedroom-Dining Room Livingroom 801 W. Francis 665-3361</p> <p>69 Misc.</p> <p>ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.</p> <p>HIGH Definition Big Screen TV for sale. Take on small payments 1-800-398-3970</p> <p>DISNEY area 6 nights at Ramada. Good for 1 year. Paid \$599, sell for \$199. Call 806-767-4602.</p> <p>COWBOY & Indian Artifacts Show, Sept. 28, 29th, Amarillo Civic Center, Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dealer tables \$40. Keith Ferguson 806-353-7666</p> <p>NEW Garage Door 9 ft wide, 7 ft high. Never installed. Paid \$244, asking \$175 firm. 665-5359.</p> <p>ADORABLE like new red / cream sofa \$350, sm. camper shell \$40, Igloo doghouse \$40. 665-9586</p> | <p>69a Garage Sales</p> <p>2111 Lea, Fri. & Sat. 8-5. Tents, camping equip., Avon bottle collection, tools, clothes, lots misc.</p> <p>GIGANTIC Yard Sale 1033 Charles Sat. 8-4 No Early Birds</p> <p>GARAGE Sale: Sat. 8-3 p.m. 507 N. Wells. Books, clothes, furniture, lots of misc.</p> <p>FURN., bike, men's, kids & lg ladies clothes, lots of misc. Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-12 1530 N. Coffee</p> <p>GARAGE Sale Fri. & Sat. 8-7 1321 E. Foster</p> <p>2520 Fir, Fri. 8-7, Sat. 8-12. Clothes-adult & children, bicycle, some Xmas / new crafts, misc.</p> <p>FRI 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Lrg. women's, childrens clothing, lots of craft supplies, sm. paintable wood pieces, sea shells, misc. 1132 Sandwood.</p> <p>3. Fam. 403 N. Somerville, Fri. 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-7 West-mower books, microw., lawn-mower, entertainment ctr., collectibles, lots of misc.</p> <p>1121 Willow Rd. Furn., dishes, sleeping bags, camping equip., lawnmowers, mens, woemans clothes, lots of misc. Sat. only 9-2. Cash Only</p> | |
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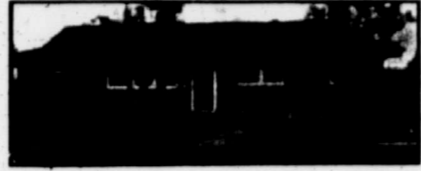
The Stars Have: 3-Average

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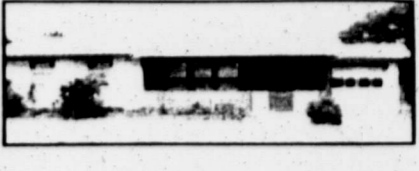
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69a Garage Sales

5 Family, Sat. only, 7 a.m.-? 1999 Suzuki Intruder motorc., sm. deep freeze, dryer, loveseat, exerc. equip., baby & kids items, lots of misc. Stor. bldg. - 1 blk. south of Peggy's Place, on S. Naida st.

YARD sale, Sat. 8 am-2 pm, 1715 Hamilton, aquarium & misc.

1000 Farley, Sat. 8-?, moped, 100 gal. gas tank w/pump, coronet, some furniture, lots of good junk. No Early Birds.

BOLIN Sale Barn, 415 W. Browning, Sat. 10 a.m. Tools, furn., tons misc., books, glassware, brass candleholders, aluminum ladder, wheel barrel, barbed wire.

YARD Sale, some lawn mower, ac and much more, 329 Roberta, Sat. & Sun. No Early Birds!!!

LARGE Garage Sale Sat. 9-? 2120 Coffee

331 N. Faulkner, Sat. Sept. 7th, 8am-2pm, lots of clothes all sizes, toys, household misc & more.

SALE 801 N. West & 1104 S. Hobart, Sat. lots of items added. Other items reduced.

SAT. 9-2 p.m. 118 S. Western st. (Last street on Borger Hwy.)

69a Garage Sales

1037 N. Wells St. Open Sat. 10.00. \$0.25 sale, material, T.V., mirror, misc. Cash.

CHILDREN'S books, toys & clothes, microw., organ, changing table, bar stools, furn. & more! Sat. 8-2 p.m., 2530 Fir

TV, VCR, jewelry, clothes, etc. 200 block of N. Houston, 9-? Sat. only.

YARD Sale: 403 N. Russell, Sat., Sept. 7th, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Furn., clothes, toys.

GARAGE SALE 1319 E. Francis Fri. & Sat. 8:30-??

2750 ASPEN SAT. 8-4 p.m. EVERYTHING MUST GO!

3 Fam. Inside Sale: 2 twin beds, 845 E. Denver, 8-4 p.m. Sat. Want to buy kingsize headboard.

75 Feeds/Seeds

CUSTOM Hay Baling-Round & Square Bales. Call 665-8525.

CANE or grass hay square or round bales, call 806-779-2877.

77 Livest./Equip.

COWS & CALVES FOR SALE CALL 665-4980

GELDING Shetland Pony 5 yrs old, great with kids. \$450. Call 898-6492, 665-6346.

80 Pets & Suppl.

CANINE and Feline grooming. Boarding. Science diets. Roysse Animal Hospital, 665-2223.

PET Patch, 866 W. Foster, 665-5504. Grooming by Mona, fresh, salt fish, sm. animals, supplies. Innova dog & cat food.

ABOUT Town Dog Grooming. Pick up & Delivery Service. Kelly Culver, 665-5959.

WANTED: Extended Boarding Home (preferably rural) for very friendly, well behaved 7 yr. old, 65 lb. MIX LAB. Retired couple travel extensively. 669-1175

KITTENS to give away to good homes. Call 665-0776.

ADORABLE Husky pups for sale Black / Brown. Born July 16th. Call 669-1188.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES - Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-6 CRYPTOQUOTE

S M C K O X Q Y M C K O S O

D X F F D K Q M C C O Z C H Z G X J Y

S Z C ' Q B M N K X Q Z D A Z O Q

P W C C O - Z W F Y M G W C N C M A C

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: NO BIRD SOARS TOO HIGH IF HE SOARS WITH HIS OWN WINGS. - WILLIAM BLAKE

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Sept. 8, 2002.

You have an unusual sense of direction, which helps you financially and creatively. Your instincts direct you, as well. If you follow this intuitive gift, you could succeed beyond your wildest dreams. Decide to do something that inspires, even if it means going back to school or training in a new area. Don't get into power plays with those who carry responsibility. Know when to challenge others. If you are single, you offer much more than you realize. You easily meet other people. Later in 2003, many romantic options become available. If you are attached, you will work much better with your sweetie. You help each other with more caring and loving. LIBRA helps you make money.

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)
***** Schedule plans that suit you. Happiness surrounds a particular friendship that often enriches your life. Your quickness and sense of direction help you make a fast decision. If you're wondering, try a new experience rather than the tried and true. Tonight: Follow another's suggestion.
This Week: Don't hesitate to point your finger in an attempt to challenge someone to have a greater perspective. You might suddenly find too many opportunities in your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
*** Pace yourself, not taking on more than your fair share of work. You easily might be inspired to treat a parent or relative to a happening. Deal with someone directly. Don't hesitate to get to the point with a touchy friend. Tonight: Think work.
This Week: Others present a myriad of ideas. Absorb them before actually testing them out, or you'll be overloaded. If you need help, ask.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Be playful when attempting a different activity or approach. Your flirty ways always draw a response, if you use them appropriately. Invite someone who's close to you to a movie or a day away from the grind. Both of you recycle. Tonight: Happiness becomes contagious.

This Week: Carefully pace yourself. You have a lot on your plate. Schedule meetings for Thursday. You will need to work nearly every second.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Of all signs, yours honestly understands the meaning of the phrase: Your home is your castle. Laughter surrounds you, once you clear out a discussion. Reorganize your time with an eye to opening up some more free time. Tonight: You don't have to go far.
This Week: Playfulness runs rampant, even if you're at work. Eventually, like on Thursday, you will have to buckle down. Ouch!
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Don't make promises you cannot fulfill. You could get a partner or loved one so excited that he or she cannot contain him- or herself. Carefully listen to another. You have a lot to share with each other. Start with a beloved hobby or pastime. Tonight: Find a favorite friend.
This Week: Work from home if you can. You certainly have your hands full on both fronts. Trust your abilities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
*** You might amaze others with your precision. Use some of it to help a friend with finances. You loosen up once you feel valued. Your family adjusts plans and flows with your needs. You often don't realize how much you have to offer. Tonight: Your treat.
This Week: Others will dump their work into your lap if you don't watch it. Work on the word "no." Don't worry so much about others' reactions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** You speak your mind with precision, logic and direction. Others listen as a result. If someone close expresses ambivalence, you will help him or her decide. Your persuasive charm makes inroads. A relationship heats up. Tonight: Add that touch of spice.
This Week: Your lively ways could cost you. Play it conservatively until Thursday, when you get the planetary green light.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
*** Take a step backward. Perhaps you want or need some time to think and talk. Relax at home, making this an all-around lazy day. Put on a favorite piece of music. Stay in your pj's. Order pizza. Just don't do anything that doesn't feel

comfortable. Tonight: Keep it simple.
This Week: The moon beams on you most of the week. Don't let anyone or anything stop you from achieving your most-desired goals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** Everyone can change his or her mind - you included! If you feel as if you might be unusually right, follow through and do it. You have an uncanny sixth sense right now. Listen to it. Friends delight you with news. Tonight: Where the gang is.
This Week: Step back and let others reveal their agendas. As a result, you will know exactly what to do on Thursday, when the moon cheers you on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** You might be absolutely sure what is the best way to tackle a challenging authority figure. Honestly, you'll discover that the problem is simple. Treat this person to a special meal or a favorite activity. Tonight: A must appearance.
This Week: Aim high Monday through Wednesday. Network, schedule meetings and interact with those who count. On Thursday, slow down, please.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** Let others understand and know what you're thinking. Laughter takes you in a new direction. Lighten up about possibilities here. Your ideas encourage others to change their plans. Take off for a day trip. Be open to letting others join in. Tonight: Try a new spot for dinner.
This Week: Take a hint from Virgo. You easily might be overloaded. Assume responsibilities that are yours. Success heads your way Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Your intuition helps you decide how to help someone through a problem. Take your time when dealing with a parent or older relative. You get the kind of results you need and want. Lighten up about a talk. Tonight: Be a duo.
This Week: Do needed research. Find experts. Ask all the questions you might come up with. By Thursday, express your ideas.

BORN TODAY King of England, Richard I (1157), actor Peter Sellers (1925), actor Jonathan Taylor Thomas (1981)

80 Pets & Suppl.

TO give away 5 month old German Shepard. Call 669-9513.

95 Furn. Apts.

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EFFICIENCY apt. \$225 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$20 day, \$80 wk & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

EXTRA clean 1 bd w/appliances. Quiet neighborhood. 665-8525.

FURN. Unfurn. 1-2 bdr apts. All bills paid. Starting \$250. Courtyard Apts., 1031 N. Sumner. 669-9712.

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 6 mo-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-8575.

SCHNEIDER HOUSE APARTMENTS
SENIORS OR DISABLED
RENT BASED ON INCOME
UTILITIES INCLUDED
120 S. RUSSELL
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PAM APARTMENTS
SENIORS OR DISABLED
RENT BASED ON INCOME
ALL ELECTRIC
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98 Unfurn. Houses
LOWEST Rents in City 1 bdrms., duplexes, & homes- Remodeled, Great Neighborhoods. 665-4274

PICK UP rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.

2 br c h/a, f.p., new paint & carpet, storm cellar, 1116 Garland. Will carry w/low dn pmt. 665-0524.

3-1-3 plus carport on 3 large lots, 101 East 10th St. Lettors, Tx. Call 835-2871

3-2-1 on corner lot, oversized garage, 401 Jupiter Street. Call 665-6428

329 N. Nelson Priced Reduced \$16,500 Call for apt. 669-1215

4 Bdrm., 2 1/2 bath, CH & A, large living room w/fireplace. Travis School District. 665-3936

A HOUSE for sale to be moved 669-0470 or 662-5939 ask for JR Keeton

BY Owner, 1713 Fir, 3 1/2 bdr, 1581 SF (GC AD), 2 liv. areas, fpl, 17 ft x 30 ft. stor. bldg., lg. trees \$75,000. Shown by apt. 669-2168.

99 Chevy Astro minivan All wheel drive. White. 63,000 mi. One owner. Nice. Complete service record. New brakes & tires. \$13,900. 665-0122

FOR Sale 1986 Chevy Suburban 3/4 ton, 454, 2wd, 3 seats, good tires, trailer package, high mileage. 669-6278

1996 Cadillac Sedan DeVille, Northstar V8, like new, lady's car, has every option, beige leather, brown phaeton roof. \$15,500. 669-7555. 1114 N. Russell

1995 Geo Metro \$1200 Call 1-806-433-0293 or 665-3321 Miss Martinez

1979 Olds Stationwagon First 5300 drives it off!! 779-2136, McLean

95 Suburban, 150K miles Runs great!! Can be seen at Trollinger's Phillips 66 Station on N. Hobart. \$10,500. 323-8518 or 662-9901

97 Chrysler Concordo, one owner, exc. condition, Candy Apple Red with gray interior. 665-0309

97 Chevy Suburban, 2 wd. tinted, loaded, 80K mi., \$13,800. Also Grandparents 1964 Plymouth Belvedere 318, all orig., runs great. \$12,000. 669-9719

121 Trucks
BLACK FORD F150
Need to sell Badly!
665-3428

126 Boats & Access.
2002 Lowe 170W, 90 hp Johnson, less than 15 hrs., custom cover, shade cover. \$14,000. Also 662-0305

14 ft. fish & ski boat with 85 hp motor, depth finder, good cond., \$1575. Call 665-8270

79, 17 ft. Caravelle, 165 hp, in/out board, st. steel prop. 409 hr. use, 1 owner, \$3100. 665-1193

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CLEAN one bdrm small apt, stove & refrig; pay elec, one person, ref req. 669-6007.

DOGWOOD Apts., 1 bdr furn and 2 bdr unf. avail. Dep & ref. required. 669-9817, 669-2981.

FREE RENT! Pampa Lakeview Apts. 1, 2 & 3 bdr apts. 2600 N. Hobart 669-7682

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 6 mo-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-8575.

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Fate of detainees in Cuba yet to be decided year after attacks

QUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — When the men accused of links to terrorism arrived in Cuba, some were forced to kneel, their hands and feet in shackles and their eyes covered with blackened goggles.

Photographs of their arrival prompted U.S. allies to demand explanations — and British newspapers to speak of torture. A year after the Sept. 11 attacks, criticism of the detainees' treatment has lessened, but questions are increasingly being asked about what will happen to them.

In a report released Thursday, Amnesty International complained the prisoners are in "legal limbo" and are routinely denied the right to see lawyers, both serious breaches of their human rights.

At least four have attempted suicide at the prison camp in eastern Cuba. The U.S. military says one

tried to slash his wrists with a plastic razor and three tried to hang themselves.

Others, among the 598 prisoners mark time chatting through diamond-shaped holes in their cell walls, praying in unison and sometimes joking with their American guards.

They have no calendars or clocks to keep track of time. The United States has not announced plans for trials of the detainees and is building more cells, making room for more captives as it considers waging war in Iraq.

"This is a new kind of war," said Lt. Col. Dennis Fink, spokesman for a task force in charge of interrogations. He said investigations of the detainees — which are shrouded in secrecy — will be conducted "for as long as it takes."

The U.S. military refuses to identify the captives, saying only that they come from 38 countries and are

linked to the al-Qaida terrorist network or the fallen Taliban regime that ruled Afghanistan.

The men haven't been charged and aren't allowed lawyers. The families of some have mounted legal challenges, but to no avail.

The detainees' letters to and from home — censored by the military and delivered by the International Committee of the Red Cross — are their only link to the outside world.

"He writes that he is comfortable, but he feels he has been wronged," said Khaled al-Oda in Kuwait, describing letters from his son, 24-year-old Fawzi al-Oda.

The Americans' silence is aggravating, he said. "They don't say how much longer they will be detained — two months, three, a year."

The U.S. government says the men could be tried by tribunals, returned home for trial, released or remain in detention.

Most American politicians back the indefinite detention. But U.S. Representative Alcee Hastings, a Florida Democrat, is critical.

"It's too Kafkaesque to have people living in limbo," said Hastings, who in February toured Camp X-ray where the detainees were initially held. "Nobody has any sympathy for terrorists. But all of us have a responsibility to exercise ourselves in a way that gives America the high moral ground."

The prisoners have been moved from Camp X-ray's chain-link cells to a permanent prison, Camp Delta, where solid walls obscure journalists' view. Weeds are rising in the deserted camp, which some human rights activists said resembled rows of animal cages.

After the military flew one detainee, Yaser Esam Hamdi, to a Virginia jail in April upon confirming he was a U.S. citizen born in

Louisiana, some critics complained the United States had a double standard — to the disadvantage of the foreign-born detainees.

Soldiers who guard detainees say desperation and loneliness are common. Thirty-seven prisoners are being treated or monitored for psychiatric problems. Some are on antidepressants or anti-psychotic drugs.

Kuwaiti detainee Abdulaziz Sayer Owain al-Shammari said in a letter in March that he was refusing food and water to demand freedom, a court hearing, or "to die as I cannot stand life in this place."

Each man is led to an enclosure twice a week for 15 minutes of exercise. Some run in circles. The military says inmates have gained 14 pounds on average.

The Muslim call to prayer wafts from loudspeakers five times a day. Meanwhile, five Muslim inmates have converted to Christianity.

Lamar Elementary



(Courtesy photo)

First grade teacher Kim West of Lamar Elementary School recently welcomed a new group of children to her class. The children are learning to read, work with numbers, make scientific inquiries, and much more. Above: West with Justin Velasquez, Tracie Jennings, Jonathan Fogle, Michelle Rivera, and Kayla Perry.

Deliberations set for teenage brothers' case

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — The case against 13- and 14-year-old brothers accused of a deadly baseball bat attack on their father is headed for the jury.

Deliberations were set to begin Friday in the first-degree murder trial of Alex and Derek King, who face mandatory life in prison without parole if convicted.

In an unusual twist, it is the second trial in the same killing. Convicted child molester Ricky Chavis, 40, was also tried under a completely different theory of the crime — that he wielded the aluminum bat that killed Terry King. The verdict reached last week in his trial was sealed until the King brothers' trial ends. He faces the same sentence.

On Thursday, prosecutor David Rimmer asked jurors not to be swayed by anger with Chavis.

"You don't like Chavis?" Rimmer said. "Nobody likes Chavis. Chavis is the kind of guy everybody wants to hate. What's lower than a child molester?"

Firefighters found the body of Terry King, also 40, on a recliner inside his burning home, and the brothers confessed to police a day after the slaying. The pair now say Chavis is the real killer.

But Rimmer said the boys were telling the truth the first time, and that their confessions are filled with the kind of detail only someone who was there would have known.

Defense lawyers contended the boys confessed to protect Chavis and parroted what he had coached them to say. That included such gory details as being able to see the victim's brain through a hole in his head and the raspy sound of his last gasps.

"Everyone in this courtroom can repeat those details," said James Stokes, Alex's lawyer. "The boys' stories line up because the boys' stories are rehearsed."

The boys changed their stories more than four months after the murder, telling a grand jury Chavis killed Terry King while the brothers hid in the trunk of Chavis' car. The grand jury then indicted Chavis.

Rimmer argued Derek swung the bat while Alex urged him to commit the killing, just as the brothers had originally confessed.

Earlier Thursday, Derek King took the witness stand only to tell Circuit Judge Frank Bell he would not testify in his own defense.

"Yes sir, it was my decision," he said in a clear, strong voice.

His soft-spoken brother testified Wednesday that the boys took the blame because they wanted to live with Chavis, and that he had told them they would be exonerated by claiming self-defense because they are juveniles. Both boys testified against Chavis last week.

Ordeal renews duo's passion for climbing

ESTES PARK, Colo. (AP) — Two years after their desperate escape from Islamic militants, two mountaineers are still climbing, but say they have gained balance and perspective from the ordeal.

Beth Rodden and Tommy Caldwell were among four climbers taken hostage in the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan. They escaped by pushing a guard off a cliff and dodging bullets as they fled.

Rodden, 23, and Caldwell, 24, say the experience fostered an even stronger passion for climbing, profound gratitude for their friends, and new priorities.

"Climbing's not life," Rodden said recently in the small, sunny cabin she and Caldwell share in this mountain town. "I think Tommy and I totally value time with friends and family now. We realize there's way more important things than climbing."

In August 2000, Rodden and Caldwell went with climbers Jason Smith and John Dickey to scale the towering rock walls of Kyrgyzstan's southern mountains.

Climbing new routes through the mountains would be another impressive achievement for Rodden and Caldwell, professional climbers who were already stars in the sport.

Seventeen days into the expedition, the four Americans were captured by the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, whose fighters were trying to establish an Islamic state by force. Many had trained with al-Qaida and later fought with the Taliban, U.S. officials say.

The hostages were marched away at gunpoint, with scant protection against the cold and

little to eat but energy bars and slabs of butter. Their captors executed a fifth hostage, a government sergeant.

The climbers decided their only hope might be to kill a guard and escape. On the sixth night, Caldwell shoved a guard over a cliff. The climbers bolted and eventually stumbled into a Kyrgyz army outpost.

They returned home emotionally drained, longing for time with friends and family, but were surprised by constant requests for interviews. "They'd say, 'Oh, you're such heroes, we love you — give us your story!'" Rodden said.

The attention subsided when they talked to author Greg Childs, who recounted their ordeal in the book, "Over the Edge."

Smith and Dickey went their separate ways. Caldwell plunged into climbing as a kind of therapy.

He was racked by guilt, convinced he had killed the guard, though friends told him he had probably saved his companions' lives.

Hounded by nightmares, Rodden quit climbing. Mountains brought only fear.

After 14 months, climbing prodigy Scott Cory, 11, asked her to scale California's El Capitan with him as a fundraiser for the victims of Sept. 11. She agreed, and Cory's excitement rekindled her own.

"That kind of showed me that I can do good stuff with climbing," she said.

While Rodden was struggling, questions surfaced about the climbers' story. The man Caldwell pushed off the cliff, Ravshan Sharipov, turned up alive, a prisoner of the Kyrgyz army.

Tiara tussle heading to court

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Two perfectly coiffed heads and just one crown.

That's the dilemma facing a federal judge. He's being asked to decide quickly whether the original Miss North Carolina, Rebekah Chantay Revels, or the runner-up, Misty Dawn Clymer, will represent the state in the Miss America pageant.

Revels was dumped by the Miss North Carolina pageant after officials learned topless photos had been taken of her by a former boyfriend. She sued, and a state judge Wednesday ordered the pageant to restore her crown and contract. But the national pageant still recognizes Clymer as Miss North Carolina.

It was left to the federal judge in Wilmington to decide what happens next.

Both women were packing to leave Friday for the pageant's preliminary events in Atlantic City, which begin Sunday for the contestants.

"I'm Miss North Carolina," Revels, 24, pronounced after Wednesday's court hearing, her tiara sparkling on her head.

"I'm the only one that's been accepted by Miss America," Clymer, 24, said Thursday.

Revels' lawyer, Barry Nakell,

has suggested that a judge could order the Miss America pageant to allow two North Carolina contestants. The pageant broadcast is Sept. 21.

"This is not a democracy," Clymer attorney Janet Ward Black, a former Miss North Carolina, said Thursday. "If you want to compete in this, you have to do what they require."

Miss America owns the Miss North Carolina title and its contract gives it the right to select the contestant "to protect the title," she said.

In the hearing on the lawsuit Revels filed against the state competition, a pageant official testified this week that Revels lost her title because she violated morals requirements in her contract. But Superior Court Judge Narley Cashwell ruled that two snapshots of a topless Revels didn't constitute a contract violation. Revels has said the photos, which haven't surfaced, were taken while she was changing clothes.

Miss North Carolina officials allowed Revels to give interviews Wednesday, but that permission was rescinded Thursday, Nakell said. Clymer, who wouldn't speak to reporters a day earlier, stood patiently for interviews Thursday.

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