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MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2002

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WEATHER WEATHER

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LOCAL
Ground Water Dist.
has Tuesday meet

WHITE DEER — The Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District will consider its new budget and set its tax rate Tuesday morning.

During the regular meeting, beginning at 9 a.m. Tuesday, the PGWCD board of directors will also consider equipment loan requests, consider drilling permits, review district rules and its management plan.

They are scheduled to go into executive session to consider an ag loan request and pending litigation.

Jay O'Brien of Amarillo is on public comment portion of the agenda.

DEATHS

Kenneth Ray Banks, 66, landscape contractor.
LeRoi Ogden, 73, owner-operator Ogden & Son for 51 years.
Edith O. Reno, 90, former Pampa resident.
Jeremiah Ray Villegas, 2 months old.
Donna Maxine Watkins, 49, Pampa native.

INSIDE...

Classified 7
Comics 4
Sports 5

West Texas LANDSCAPE
Free Estimates
Landscaping
and Irrigation
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NPD taking aim at protesters

Company files motion reply with TNRCC

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

(Editor's Note: National Pig Development's response to the motion to reconsider and the motions to overturn is presented. Tomorrow, Office of Public Interest Counsel and Executive Director, both within the TNRCC, will be detailed.)

Controversy has surrounded the location of a 50,000 head genetic research hog facility since the

announcement in June, 2001, that National Pig Development, USA, planned to build near Pampa.

Pampa and area residents who sent comments to the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission regarding the construction have received copies of three legal filings regarding the hog facility.

According to the procedures of the TNRCC, responses were required from: TNRCC Executive Director Jeff Saitas, National Pig Development, and the Office of Public Interest Counsel of the TNRCC.

Saitas recommended in late May that the pig facility be built.

In June, 2002, over 1,000 letters of protest for the facility were received in the Austin TNRCC office.

The matter is now in the hands of

According to the procedures of the TNRCC, responses were required from: TNRCC Executive Director Jeff Saitas, National Pig Development, and the Office of Public Interest Counsel of the TNRCC.

the General Counsel of the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission, according to Adria Dawidzik, media representative of the TNRCC.

"The General Counsel of TNRCC is looking to see if the legal decision should go before the three TNRCC Commissioners at one of their agenda meetings," she said. That decision should come by Aug. 23."

In a phone interview Friday afternoon, she said the General Counsel, which is the legal division of the

TNRCC, has received a request from NPD urging them to affirm the decision made in late May, 2002, by Saitas to allow the construction of the pig facility.

Following the May decision, TNRCC media representatives told *The Pampa News* that approximately 1,000 protest letters flooded the TNRCC offices in Austin. The writers were protesting the registration application which gave NPD the go-ahead to build the facility east of Pampa.

(See NPD, Page 3)

Drug dog pays his way with bust

\$156,840 found in rented SUV

By KATE B. DICKSON
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Drug dog Carlos more than paid for himself this past weekend when his nose put officers onto \$156,820 that was hidden inside a rear quarter panel of a rented sports utility vehicle.

Carlos, bought and trained for \$5,300 from the district attorney's drug money forfeiture account, is handled by Wheeler County Deputy Sheriff Julian Torez.

Seventy percent of the seized money will go to the DA's fund and 30 percent of it will go to the state.

Torez and Carlos assisted Department of Public Safety troopers after a traffic stop at 2:14 p.m. Saturday on Interstate 40 near McLean, a DPS spokesman said.

The 2002 Dodge Durango, with Arizona license plates, was stopped for following too closely as it traveled in the westbound lane, the DPS said. The two occupants of the vehicle denied any knowledge of the money.

Carlos "alerted" to the vehicle, the spokesman said, and a subsequent search turned up the cash that was believed to be headed from Chicago to Phoenix.

The men, Mark Ryan Seid, 25, of Portland, Ore., and Ben Rivera, 22, Phoenix, Ariz., are both charged with money laundering over \$100,000.

At press time today they remained in the Gray County Jail in (See DRUG, Page 3)



(Pampa News photo by Dave Bowser)

Season Putman and Jimmy Stone with the First State Bank of Miami, Pampa branch, count what is suspected of being drug money. The \$156,840 was found alongside Interstate 40 Saturday after a Department of Public Safety trooper pulled over a rented 2002 Dodge Durango near McLean on a routine traffic stop.

Judges approve pay raises for auditors, court reporters

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

In a meeting this morning, 31st District Judge Steven R. Emert and 223rd District Judge Lee Waters raised the salaries of the county auditor, assistant county auditor, and the court reporters in the 31st District Court as well as the 223rd District Court.

Waters said following the meeting this morning the action was unanimous. He said

County Auditor Elaine Morris' annual salary currently is \$41,878 and was raised to \$43,762. He said she received an approximate 4.5 percent raise.

Assistant Carla Carter's salary was raised from \$31,234 to \$33,108 annually, he said. The increase was approximately six percent.

Waters cited the reason for the increase is due to the fact the employees are acting as the fiscal officers of the coun-

ty, and their workload has increased. He also said that they have undertaken more responsibility, including extra work on the courthouse move and restoration.

He said the auditor's office has been given additional grant responsibilities. The Indigent Defense, Juvenile Probation (Title 4) and Crime Victims Compensation grants are being handled by the auditor's office staff.

(See JUDGES, Page 3)

Economic activity drops during June

NEW YORK (AP) — A key gauge of U.S. economic activity fell in July, another sign of a shaky economic recovery as stock market gyrations affected consumer and business spending.

The New York-based Conference Board reported Monday that its Index of Leading Economic Indicators fell 0.4 percent to 111.7, after falling a revised 0.2 percent in June. Analysts had expected a July decline of 0.5 percent.

"The economy has hit a soft spot, and some people are calling it an air pocket," said Mark Vitner, senior economist with Wachovia Securities.

The index measures where the overall U.S. economy is headed in the next three to six months. It stood at 100 in 1996, its base year. July's decline was the third time in the last four months that the indicators index failed to increase.

Contributing most to last month's decline were stock prices, the Conference Board said.

"Volatile financial markets, corporate scandals and sagging consumer expectations are trouble spots," said conference (See ECONOMIC, Page 3)

Autopsy ordered in crash

An autopsy has been ordered in the death of a 35-year-old North Carolina truck driver who died when his 18-wheeler crashed into a concrete pillar on Interstate 40 near McLean, a Department of Public Safety spokesman said today.

The accident that killed David Skipper Gerald of Morganton, N.C., happened about 7:42 p.m. Saturday when the rig went off the highway to the right and traveled 600 yards before striking the pillar and bursting into flames, the DPS said. The rig was hauling cigarettes.

Troopers Jerome Ingle and Kevin King investigated the crash.

AUGUST CHAMBER LUNCHEON... TUESDAY, AUGUST 20TH • 11:45 AM
SPEAKER: RON EBEL OF EBELREE'S INC. CATERER: DYERS BBQ SPONSOR: HARVESTER LANES
CALL PAMPA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR RESERVATIONS 669-3241

AUGUST 19 2002

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

BANKS, Kenneth Ray — Graveside services, 1 p.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.

VILLEGAS, Jeremiah Ray — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

DONNA MAXINE WATKINS
1952-2002

PLANO — Donna Maxine Watkins, age 49, passed away in Plano, Texas, on Aug. 15, 2002. She was born in Pampa, Texas, on Sept. 4, 1952.

She is survived by her loving husband, Fred H. Watkins of Plano; children, Eric L. Trollinger of Irving, Amber Nicole Trollinger of Longview, and Michael H. Watkins of Plano; one brother, Ed Matheny of Farmington, N.M.

Donna was in management with Dr. Pepper for two years, and she was also in management with Electronic Data Systems for 16 years.

She will be dearly missed by her loving family and friends.

Services were to be held today, Aug. 19, 2002, at 10 a.m., in the Ted Dickey Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow in Winnsboro, Texas, at Lee Cemetery at 3 p.m.



Memorials may be made to the National Ovarian Cancer Society.

LeROI OGDEN
1929-2002

LeRoi Ogden, 73, of Pampa, died Sunday, Aug. 18, 2002, at Pampa, Texas. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Ogden was born April 7, 1929, in Duncan, Okla. He received a BBA and an MBA from Texas Tech University. He moved to Pampa in 1947 and married Frances Allman on April 4, 1951, in Amarillo. She preceded him in death on July 5, 1998.

He owned and operated Ogden & Son for 51 years. He co-produced country music albums in Nashville, Tenn., and Los Angeles, Calif., for his daughter and Owen Bradley, a local Pampa artist.

He was an elder and session member at the

First Presbyterian Church. He was a member of the Pampa Rotary Club where he had just received the Paul Harris Fellowship.

He was a board member of the American Red Cross, and a lifetime member of both the American Bowling Congress and Bass Anglers Society. He was a member of the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Korean Conflict.

Survivors include a daughter, Vicki Ogden Merrick and husband William Merrick of Pampa; three nephews, Sam Kent Ogden of Houston, Kelly Ogden and Shane Ogden, both of Denver, Colo.; and two cousins, Mary McElroy of Lubbock and Nancy Chamberlain of Garden Grove, Calif.

www.carmichael-whatley.com

JEREMIAH RAY VILLEGAS

Jeremiah Ray Villegas, 2-month-old son of Jesus and Jennifer Villegas of Pampa, died Friday, Aug. 16, 2002, at Dallas. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m., Tuesday in Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. Harold Eggert, pastor of New Life Assembly of God Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Jeremiah was born June 17, 2002, in Borger.

Survivors include his parents, Jesus and

Jennifer of the home; two brothers, Jesus Villegas, Jr. and Javier Villegas, both of the home; his maternal grandparents, Bill and Cristy Shouse of Pampa; his paternal grandparents, Jesus and Eulogia Villegas of Pampa; and great-grandparents, Flo Lockett of Pampa and Howard and Sandy Shouse of Graham.

The family requests memorials be to Ronald McDonald House, 5641 Medical Center Dr., Dallas, TX 75235.

www.carmichael-whatley.com

KENNETH RAY BANKS

Kenneth Ray Banks, 66, of Pampa, died Saturday, Aug. 17, 2002. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m., Tuesday at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa. Services are under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors of Amarillo.

Mr. Banks was born in Wilson, Okla. He began working as a dirt contractor in Pampa, and this later evolved into a landscape business. He was retired.

Mr. Banks served in the U.S. Navy from 1954 until 1958 then served in the Reserves until 1962.

He married Phyllis Rose in 1968. He later married Marie Woodruff in 1991; she preceded him in death in 1998.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Olen Banks, in 1983.

Survivors include a son, Kenneth Ray Banks Jr. of Tulsa, Okla.; two daughters, Carla Thomas of Kiefer, Okla., and Debra Banks-Parson of Amarillo; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family will be at 4100 N.E. 32nd in Amarillo today and at 739 E. Albert in Pampa Tuesday.

EDITH O. RENO
1911-2002

Edith O. Reno, 90, died Saturday, Aug. 17, 2002, at Houston. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Reno was born Oct. 7, 1911, at Broken Arrow, Okla. She came to Pampa in 1939 from Jenks, Okla. She married Jess William Reno on Dec. 23, 1939, at Pampa; he died March 16, 1977.

After her husband's death, she returned to Jenks and lived there until relocating to Houston in 2000.

She was formerly a member of First Baptist Church of Pampa.

Survivors include three daughters, Peggy Hulse and Shirley Holm, both of Houston, and Sandra Gillespie of Hedley; a son, Dwain Reno of Jacksonville; a brother, Donald Taber of Jenks; a sister, Marie Keathley of Jenks; eight grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to American Cancer Society or to American Arthritis Foundation.

www.carmichael-whatley.com

ON RECORD

POLICE

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Sunday, July 28
Evading arrest was reported in the 600 block of North Sumner.

Wednesday, August 7
Theft/fraud was reported in which someone used another person's name to acquire a cell phone. The loss is valued at \$500.

Saturday, August 10
Simple assault with no injury was reported in the 1800 block of North Faulkner.

Monday, August 12
Three bottles of nitrous oxide were stolen from Pampa Regional Medical Center. A chain link fence was pried up from the bottom in order to gain entry.

Thursday, August 15
A forgery was reported in the 300 block of East Brown. The loss is valued at \$175.

Three bicycles were stolen from a carport in the 1300 block of North Garland. The chains securing the bikes were cut. The loss is valued at \$461.

A simple assault with no injuries was reported in the 1000 block of South Love.

Friday, August 16
Unlawful restraint was reported in the 400 block of Doucette.

Two boys, ages 13 and 16, were reported to have run away from the 300 block of South Tignor.

A stolen license plate was reported.

Possession of marijuana was reported in the 100 block of West McCullough.

Criminal mischief was reported in which two empty beer cans were thrown at a car in the 1100 block of North Terrace.

Hindering apprehension was reported at the intersection of 22nd and Nelson.

An information report was taken in the 400 block of North Faulkner.

Albertsons, 1233 N. Hobart, reported the theft of two pair of sunglasses.

Saturday, August 17
A domestic disturbance was reported in the 200 block of North Faulkner. The victim was a 14-year-old girl.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 500 block of Naida where \$800 in stereo equipment was stolen. Entry was through a window.

A bicycle was found in the 400 block of East Foster.

Wal-Mart, 2225 N. Hobart, reported speakers valued at \$73 stolen. They were later returned.

Family Dollar, 421 E. Frederic, reported two shirts stolen.

Criminal trespass of a habitation was reported in the 1400 block of East Browning.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2100 block of West Alcock in which \$50 in vehicle parts were stolen and a side window received \$200 damage. Unknown if vehicle was locked or not.

Sunday, August 18
Allsup's, 1900 N. Hobart, reported a \$30 gas drive off.

Taylor Mart, 600 E. Frederic, reported at \$19.82 gas drive off.

Assault by contact was reported in the 1100 block of North Starkweather. No injuries.

Timothy Jackson, 28, 504 Harlem, arrested on warrants for no driver's license, failure to appear, failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Jeffrey Dewayne Hunt, 40, homeless, no driver's license.

FIRE

The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, August 17
7:14 p.m. — Three units and seven firefighters responded to a fire call of unknown origin in the 600 block of Davis. Upon arriving, they found that two dead goats had been set on fire by a neighbor in order to get rid of the stench and flies.

Sunday, August 18
8:17 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 1900 block of North Nelson where an air conditioner was smoking.

5:08 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to the 700 block of Frost where a dumpster was on fire.

5:20 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to Pampa Cinema 4, 1201 N. Hobart, where an electric meter was overheated and smoking.

AMBULANCE

Rural/Metro Ambulance Service made the following calls during the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, August 17
8:42 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported one to Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC).

1:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Mary Ellen; no transport.

4:03 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported one to PRMC.

Sunday, August 18
11:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2400 block of North Christine; no transport.

7:12 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported one to PRMC.

9:32 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Doucette; no transport.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.

Wheat	3.61
Milo	4.26
Corn	4.83
Soybeans	5.03
Sunflowers	9.25

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

Occidental	28.94	+0.07
Fidelity Mageln	NA	
Puritan	NA	

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

BP	48.38	+0.72
Celanese	19.50	NC
Cabot Corp.	24.60	+0.06
Cabot Oil Gas	22.90	NC
Coca Cola	51.57	-0.62
VLO	34.75	-0.21
Halliburton	14.45	-0.40
Trad Hospitals	37.81	+0.37
NOI	19.03	+0.07
KMI	42.93	-0.13
XCEL	9.84	-0.07
Kerr McGee	48.36	+0.40
Limited	15.85	+0.03
Williams	2.57	+0.04
McDonalds	23.75	-0.05
Exxon Mobil	36.94	+0.09
Atmos	22.02	+0.02
Pioneer Nat.	25.80	+0.05
Penney's	17.25	+0.52
Phillips	52.07	+0.24
Schlumberger	42.00	-1.00
Tenneco	7.13	+0.21
CVX	76.88	-0.04
Wal-Mart	54.19	+0.40
OKE	20.10	-0.20
NS Group	7.85	+0.14
New York Gold	313.95	
Silver	4.50	
West Texas Crude	29.33	

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests.

Saturday, August 17
Jerimey Ray Howard, 24, Panhandle, arrested on a warrant charging him with aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury.

Mark Ryan Seid, 25, Portland, Ore., arrested by the DPS for money laundering over \$100,000.

Ben Rivera, 22, Phoenix, Ariz., arrested by the DPS for money laundering over \$100,000.

Sunday, August 18
Wynona Ann Neal, 31, Lefors, theft of property by check.

Reynaldo Wilson, 26, Pampa, arrested by the DPS for driving while intoxicated/first offense.

Centennial exhibit



PANHANDLE WEATHER

(Courtesy photo)
A Centennial display commemorating Gray County's 100th birthday is currently on view at White Deer Land Museum in Pampa. Above is a display entitled "Panhandle Weather." Featured in the display is a photo of the April 14, 1935, dust storm in Pampa and another of the Lefors tornado of 1975 plus many more.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA
Today's forecast is mostly sunny with highs in the upper 90s, and southwest winds 10 to 15 mph. Tonight should be partly cloudy with lows around 70, and south winds 10 to 15 mph. Tuesday, partly cloudy, highs in the middle 90s. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

STATEWIDE
Skies were mostly clear across Texas early Monday, although a few high clouds drifted over portions of North Texas and some thunderstorms rumbled across West Texas, the National Weather Service said.

The clouds in North Texas mainly stretched from south of Waco to near Tyler. Pre-dawn temperatures mostly were in the upper 70s to the lower 80s, ranging from 75 degrees at Lufkin to 81 at Dallas Love Field. Winds were from the southeast, blowing from 5 to 15 mph.

In South Texas and along the Gulf Coast, skies were partly cloudy, while showers and storms were reported in the Panhandle and West Texas. Temperatures in the regions were mainly in the 70s, ranging from 69 at Galveston to 84 at Lufkin. A breeze from 5 to 15 mph was blowing from the south and southeast.

Partly cloudy conditions will continue Monday night in North Texas. Lows will dip into the 70s.

City Briefs

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

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SOCCER SIGN Ups, 2003 Season, Aug. 17-24 @ T-Shirts & More; info. 665-3036.

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NPD

"There has to be an error in the permitting process for the motion to be overturned," said TNRCC media representative Jean Pieper-Voshell several weeks ago.

The Office of Public Interest Counsel, which Dawidezik said is to represent the public's interest, has recommended that the three TNRCC commissioners hear the appeals.

This recommendation will be detailed in tomorrow's issue of *The Pampa News*.

The decision should be released by Aug. 23, said Dawidezik.

"The General Counsel will make the decision to recommend to the commission whether to say yes or no," she said. "The General Counsel decides whether to place the matter on the agenda."

TNRCC Executive Director Saitas requests his decision be upheld without a hearing by the three commissioners.

Today, the request of NPD is presented.

National Pig Development

NPD, the applicant for a registration to authorize the construction and operation of a concentrated animal feeding facility in Gray and Roberts counties, filed a response to the request of nearly 1,000 residents asking for the motion to be overturned.

The North Carolina-based facility states in its response: "Instead of substance, those opposing the NPD application relied 'upon the number and volume of motions to urge the Commission to overturn the Registration.'"

NPD also claims the vast majority of persons signing the motions failed to file written comments on the application during the public comment period and failed to make oral comments at a public meeting held by the TNRCC public meeting held in Pampa on Jan. 8, 2002.

It states, "the motions do not explain, or seek to excuse, these failures to participate earlier in the process and the commission should not allow this type of last-minute mass 'letter writing campaign' to change the rules applicable to this, or any other, proposed CAFO."

NPD cited various motions filed by the public that are urging the TNRCC to impose new requirements which go beyond the technical standards.

The company also said suggested improvements are unnecessary to protect the environment and are not required by the TNRCC rules. NPD stated it believes the existing CAFO rules do not need revision.

NPD states only 110 or 20 percent of those

signing motions to overturn had previously made any oral or written comments on the NPD Application.

According to NPD, the TNRCC rules applicable to CAFOs require that a person who timely submitted comments in response to the public notice of the registration may file a motion to overturn.

Additionally, they claim, none of the persons who failed to comment during the public notice period made any attempt to explain why they failed to formally comment on the application during the public comment period.

Also claimed by NPD was, "Given this overwhelming lack of participation earlier in the process, the Commission should not now be persuaded by the extent of this mass 'letter writing campaign.'"

NPD also said the people who wrote protests principally live in Pampa, stating that adjacent landowners "overwhelmingly did seek to overturn the registration."

According to NPD, 23 people live on land adjacent to or within one mile of the NPD property, but only three made formal comments during the public comment period.

The NPD reply further asserts people who have been involved in the mass 'letter writing campaign' opposing the facility mostly live in Pampa. The reply states those who are neighboring landowners "overwhelmingly appear unconcerned about the proposed facility. The development issues associated with raising livestock appear to be less of a concern to those already involved in farming and other agricultural operations."

The TNRCC rules require Director Saitas to only consider "significant comments," according to NPD in reference to local resident Dale Roth's comments. Roth was identified as opposed to the issuance of the registration for reasons including concern for water quality, the environment and human health.

NPD additionally recommends the decision should be decided based on rules currently in place, and not rules established afterwards.

Also, NPD cited ACCORD Agriculture, Inc.'s for referring to ACCORD members who live near the proposed swine facility site, but not including their names.

It further stated that the organization's motion "is in substance more of an attack on the agency's process for registering CAFOs than a challenge to the NPD registration in particular."

NPD cited ACCORD for failing to attach any affidavits, exhibits, diagrams or other factual information in support of its allegations.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DRUG

lieu of \$150,000 bond each. One local officer told *The Pampa News* that it varies from case to case but said drug dogs

can pick up on the scent of drugs if any have been carried in a vehicle previously and also money sometimes carries that scent as well. He said sometimes couriers place the money in the same compartments that have previously hauled drugs.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

JUDGES

Cost of living raises were approved for the court reporters under the judges.

223rd District Court Reporter Richard Mackie received a 3.5 percent raise. His salary is currently \$52,225 will be increased to \$54,053.

31st District Court Reporter Larry Parton will have his salary increased by \$1,842 annually (3.2 percent) by Gray County following the district judge's action. Parton is paid by five counties: Gray, Roberts, Lipscomb, Wheeler

and Hemphill.

Judge Emmert serves as judge in those counties and may issue a district judge's order to have Parton's raise increased in the other four counties.

Gray County will be required to pay the salary increases. The commissioners court does not have raises for county employees figured into the preliminary county budget for next year.

The commission plans to finalize the budget and tax rate at the Sept. 3 meeting of the commissioners court.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ECONOMIC

ence board economist Ken Goldstein. "But latest evidence shows no significant weakening in the consumer markets, with home and car buying continuing to be strong."

The coincident index, which measures current economic activity, rose 0.1 percent in July to 115.0. The index of lagging indicators, which reflects changes that have already occurred, rose 0.1 percent last month to 100.7.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrials

rose 129.80, or 1.48 percent, to 8,907.86 late Monday morning. The Nasdaq composite index rose 16.59, or 1.22 percent, to 1,377.60.

Citing uncertainties about the strength of the economic recovery, the Federal Reserve has left short-term interest rates at 40-year lows this year. Fed policy-makers decided last week to hold rates steady but opened the door to future reductions if economic conditions warrant.

On the Net: <http://www.conference-board.org>

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DEGREE

diploma unnecessary to steer the agency.

"There are lots of ways to gain background and experience," Huston said. "That is clearly one — and not the only one."

Huston said he, Marquez and Commissioner Kathleen White plan to review applications this weekend and conduct job interviews next week in hopes of filling the position quickly.

Jeff Saitas, the agency's executive director since 1998,

plans to step down in October. Shackle has no college degree, but said he has 25 years in state government, including two decades in managerial positions.

Shackle said he doesn't think he is the lead candidate for the job because commissioners had the option of filling it without a posting.

Jeff Saitas, the agency's executive director since 1998,

plans to step down in October. Shackle has no college degree, but said he has 25 years in state government, including two decades in managerial positions.

Shackle said he doesn't think he is the lead candidate for the job because commissioners had the option of filling it without a posting.

Jeff Saitas, the agency's executive director since 1998,

People in the news ...

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal failed to show up at a youth basketball camp and charity game bearing his name because of an illness, the Los Angeles Times reported.

The Los Angeles Lakers star was resting at home Sunday after he was hospitalized Thursday with a 103-degree fever, the newspaper reported in Monday's editions. O'Neal was released Friday and told by doctors to rest and drink fluids, according to his agent, Perry Rogers.

"We're awaiting the results of the tests," Lakers GM Mitch Kupchak told the newspaper. "Right now, that's where it stands. It is our assumption he would not have been released had there not been some improvement. That being said, we still don't know what caused the fever."

People paid up to \$250 each for tickets to the two-day clinic and a celebrity game Sunday night, which was supposed to feature O'Neal and other NBA players. The organizers of the event — the Shaquille O'Neal Tampa Celebrity Basketball Weekend — were at a loss to explain O'Neal's absence, unaware of the NBA star's illness.

"Everyone's disappointed: the kids, the parents, the community," said promoter Darryl Madison of Paramount Celebrity Management Co.

O'Neal had a contract with the event paying him more than \$50,000, M Calls by The Associated Press to O'Neal's agents and a Lakers spokesman were not returned.

TORONTO (AP) — The Rolling Stones played a surprise show in Toronto in preparation for their fall tour.

The Thursday show at the Palais Royale included such hits as "Wild Horses," "Jumpin' Jack Flash" and "Hot Stuff."

The Stones kick off their tour on Sept. 3 in Boston.

The band is releasing "40 Licks" — a double-compact disc retrospective that includes four new tracks on Oct. 1. The CD will include

40 songs, including classic hits such as "Brown Sugar," "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" and "Miss You."

NEW YORK (AP) — Matthew Perry says he was driven to success by primarily one thing: A craving to be famous.

"There was steam coming out of my ears. I wanted to be famous so badly," Perry told *The New York Times* in Sunday's editions. "You want the attention, you want the bucks, and you want the best seat in the restaurant. I didn't think what the repercussions would be."

Perry has a history of drug and alcohol abuse, but he does not blame his troubles on fame. He went into rehab in early 2001 while on the set of "Serving Sara," which his theaters this week.

Perry says he hasn't had a drink since his 2001 rehab stint.

"I didn't get sober because I felt like it," the "Friends" actor said. "I got sober because I was worried I was going to die next year."

Besides the long-running "Friends" series, Perry has starred in "The Whole Nine Yards," "Three to Tango" and "Fools Rush In."

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Andrew Niccol has made a name for himself with films that explore the line between what's true and not so true.

His first two films, "Gattaca" and "Truman Show" played on that theme, as does his newest movie, "Simone," which stars Al Pacino as a struggling filmmaker who brings to life an all-too-human virtual actress.

"We live vicariously through celebrities. People used to say that celebrities are America's royalty; now I think celebrities are the world's royalty," Niccol told the Los Angeles Times in Sunday's editions.

"We're entering an interesting time where we don't know what's fake and what's real anymore. And for me, that's an interesting area to explore," he said.

"Simone" is being released this week.

Retiring U.S. Sen. Fred Thompson in talks to join TV's 'Law & Order'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Retiring U.S. Sen. Fred Thompson is expected to return to his acting and legal roots as the new chief prosecutor on NBC's "Law & Order."

His Senate term ends in January, but he is in talks with Universal Television to appear regularly during the show's 13th season beginning Oct. 2, according to a source close to the negotiations. The source, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said a contract had not yet been finalized.

The Tennessee Republican would replace Dianne Wiest, who played a district attorney during the past two seasons. He also could appear on two "Law & Order" spin-offs, "Special Victims Unit" and "Criminal Intent."

Thompson spokesman Harvey Valentine would not comment on the talks and said the senator was in Romania Friday on a congressional trip and could not be reached for comment. Valentine said Thompson would finish his term regardless of any outside projects he undertook.

Filming for the series already is under way, according to NBC. Neither NBC nor Universal would comment on the talks. "When someone is signed to a final deal, we'll make that known," NBC spokeswoman Caroline Perez said.

Thompson was chief minority counsel on the committee investigating Watergate in 1973. He later represented the head of the Tennessee Parole Board, who was fired after exposing a pardon-selling scheme. The story became a movie titled "Marie," and the producers asked Thompson to play himself.

It was the first of nearly 20 film roles for the 6-foot-6 actor with a booming voice. Some of his other credits include "In the Line of Fire" and "The Hunt for Red October." His small screen roles have included appearances on "Wiseguy," "Matlock" and "Roseanne."

Thompson, who turns 60 Monday, was elected to former Vice President Al Gore's old Senate seat in a 1994 special election. He won a full term two years later.

Thompson unexpectedly announced in March that he was retiring, citing personal reasons. That decision came shortly after his daughter, 38-year-old Elizabeth Thompson Panici, died.

Thompson married political and media specialist Jeri Kehn in June.

"Law & Order" site: <http://www.uni-television.com/svu/>
Thompson's office: <http://thompson.senate.gov/>

Kmart to cut 700 more jobs

ROYAL OAK, Mich. (AP) — Kmart Corp. said Monday it will eliminate nearly 700 more jobs in another round of cost-cutting as the troubled retailer tries to climb its way out of bankruptcy.

The cuts include 400 employees at Kmart's Troy headquarters and 50 jobs that provide corporate support, Kmart chairman and CEO James Adamson said. Kmart will also eliminate 100 open positions and phase out 130 contract positions, he said.

"These decisions were not made lightly, and we are committed to treating our associates with dignity and respect through this difficult process," Adamson said. "We had no alternative."

The cuts will save \$66 million for the 2002 fiscal year and \$130 million annually.

Adamson said the company expects to pay out about \$15 million in severance. The affected employees will be notified this week.

About 3,000 employees work at Kmart headquarters. Monday's announcement follows 23 job cuts made last week there and 35 last month from the discount retailer's accounting division.

Kmart already has closed 283 stores, resulting in 22,000 job losses, since it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Jan. 22 after disappointing holiday sales and a stock dive. Adamson said that no other stores will close this year. Last week, Kmart asked the bankruptcy court for permission to increase its line of credit by up to \$500 million. The motion also sought permission to increase the size of a loss the company could report — before interest, taxes and depreciation — from \$100 million to about \$400 million.

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MONDAY, AUGUST 19

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Best Way To Fight Terrorism Is To Strengthen Our Health

DEAR ABBY: After a breakfast discussion about the obesity crisis in our nation, I saw the letter from "Worried in Rhode Island," the 14-year-old girl who is concerned about her friends who use alcohol and drugs. I've been thinking a lot lately about health and self-destructive behavior. I see this as one of the major problems in our nation today.

All over the country, flags are hanging in front of thousands of homes signifying that we are united against the common enemy of terrorism. But I can't help remembering that profound line from the comic strip, "Pogo": "We have met the enemy, and it is us."

As we descend further and further down the slippery slope of addictions (which include not only alcohol, drugs and cigarettes, but shopping, gambling, overeating, sexual obsessions, and more); we are becoming a nation so harmful to itself that terrorists need only sit back and watch us self-destruct. How can we be truly strong and healthy as a nation when we are comprised of individuals who are not strong and healthy?

What can be done to institute a national campaign to strengthen ourselves as individuals with physical and emotional health? Of course, for younger people, we must use the public schools, but factual drug education and testimonials about harmful consequences have never been enough. We must discover why we hurt ourselves in these ways.

Seeking health and strength should be not only our personal goals, but would enable us to unify

and defend against terrorists in a way that would do more good than simply waving the flag.

AGREEING WITH 'POGO'

DEAR AGREEING: You're asking intelligent questions about very important issues. People usually engage in self-destructive behaviors because they are trying to avoid dealing with unpleasant emotions or situations — so they comfort themselves with substances or behaviors that when used to excess can be damaging.

The first step in conquering

any addiction is to admit you have one. The next step is to seek professional help. Confronting our weaknesses is a sign of strength, and admitting you have them is nothing to be ashamed of — it's human.

DEAR ABBY: Help! My daughter is being married in three months and there's a major problem. She refuses to invite one of my sisters and her family, all because of a ridiculous feud between them.

My sister has attempted to apologize more than once. Each time my daughter has refused to accept an apology. She and her fiancé are paying for their own wedding, so I don't have much to say about the situation. However, it will be very awkward at future family functions if this isn't patched up.

How do I tell my sister she's not invited to the wedding — and

what's more, explain to other family members who may refuse to attend because my sister's family is being banned?

Thanks for any guidance you can give me through this mess.

FRUSTRATED MOTHER OF THE BRIDE

DEAR FRUSTRATED: Do not assume responsibility for your daughter's actions. Since she is (presumably) an adult, try once more to reason with her. Explain that excluding your sister from the wedding could cause a rift in the family that could have repercussions that she — and future generations — may regret. If your daughter is smart, she'll take that into consideration.

If your effort fails, don't worry about telling your sister. She'll know as soon as the other invitations arrive that she has been excluded. You have my sympathy.

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.

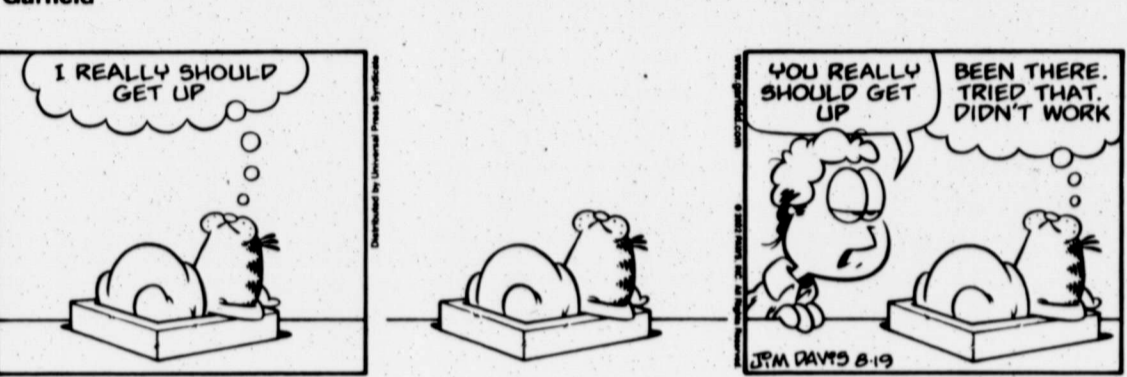
For Better or For Worse



Zits



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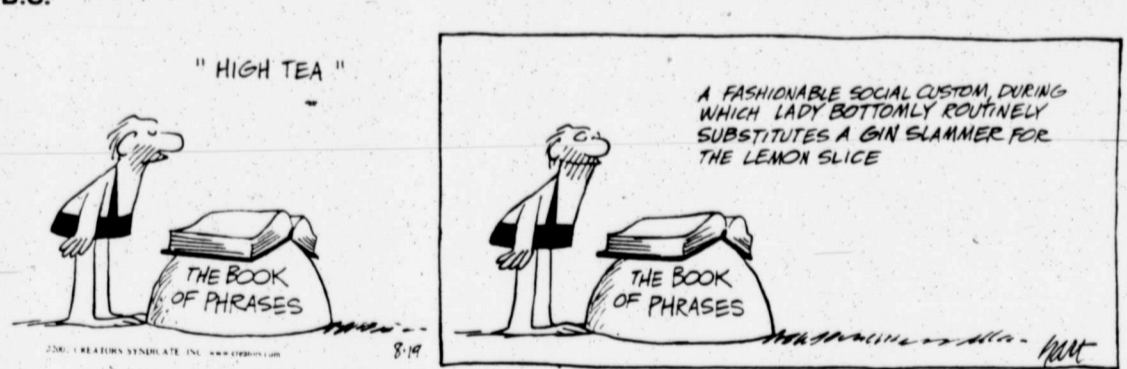
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Album tracks
- 6 Ways to go
- 11 Underway
- 12 German sub
- 13 Western resort lake
- 14 Start a tennis match
- 15 Morse symbol
- 17 Fresh
- 18 Old computer game
- 22 Speaking problem
- 23 Some silverware
- 27 Make suitable
- 29 Binge
- 30 Bondi of film and TV
- 32 Uncovered
- 33 Green stones
- 35 Highway stop purchase
- 38 Hymn finish
- 39 Push out
- 41 Range
- 45 Dress shape
- 46 Licorice-like herb
- 47 Tatters
- 48 Paint type

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Saturday's answer
19 Take the bus
20 Jacob's twin
21 Kingpin
24 Vaccine type
25 Bookish sort
26 Spots
28 Mexican snacks
31 Skirt edge
34 Fit for a king
35 Equipment
36 Wheel connector
37 Revolve
40 Finish sch.
43 Avail
44 Singer Ritter

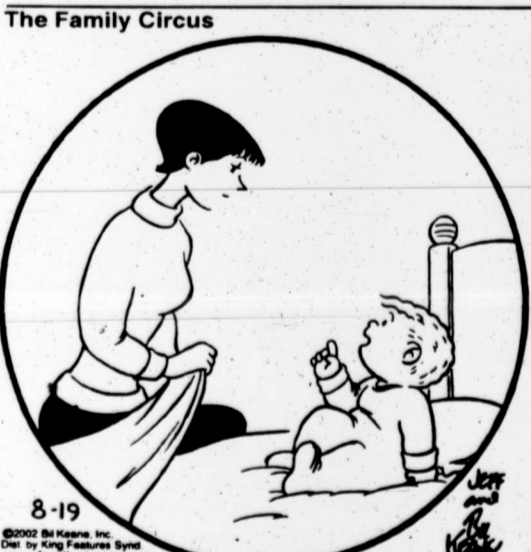


STUMPED?

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"I'm sure to remember what you told me, Mommy. It went in one ear and stayed there."

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SPORTS

Pampa line play was x-factor going into scrimmage

By L.D. STRATE
Sports Editor

PAMPA — Going into Pampa's scrimmage Saturday with Wichita Falls Hirschi, both the offensive and defensive lines could be considered the x-factor for the Pampa High coaching staff.

That's not the case any longer. "Our skill positions, like quarterback, receivers and even our defensive backs, were know quantities. However, the line up front on offense and defense were unknown quantities. We just weren't sure about what we had, but Saturday I felt like they held their own against an opponent similar to the ones we're going to be playing," head coach Dennis Cavalier

said. Coach Cavalier said Greg Wiley, Zach Cobb and Jerrod Carruth stepped in and did a good job on the offensive line. Brian Watts, who has been penciled in as the starting left tackle, was held out of the scrimmage due to a bruised collarbone. He returns to practice today.

Tommy Abernathy, a senior, led the defensive line while Landon Baker, Brittin East, Carruth and Wiley were impressive.

Cavalier cited Zach Cobb's unselfish attitude in accepting a position change.

Cobb, normally a fullback, was moved to the offensive line to give the Harvesters more depth.

"Zach willingly accepted the move to the offensive line. One of the

biggest things he had to do was make a number change," Cavalier said. "A player likes to stay with the same number he started with, that's the way I was, and that's the way most players are. There's something sentimental about it."

Cobb, a senior, also plays line-backer.

"Overall, I was pleased with the scrimmage," Cavalier noted. "There were a lot of things we did well, but we found things we need to work on."

The Harvesters will be working especially hard on tackling in general and making yardage after a catch is made, according to Cavalier.

"Those are two goals we're going to be working on this week. We did not tackle well as a team. We're going to be a pass-first team this year. That's

a change in our offense. It's absolutely crucial to that type of offense that good yardage is made by the receiver after making the catch," Cavalier said.

Pampa has a second scrimmage set for Saturday in Tulia against Frenship.

"Scrimmaging Frenship is a tradition that has been going on now for five or six years," Cavalier said. "Frenship has always been a good opponent to scrimmage and this year is no exception. They're third-ranked and have a lot of returning starters."

A week later, Pampa opens the 2002 season against Perryton.

"The only problem with the Frenship scrimmage is the quick turnaround," Cavalier said. "We get right into preparing for that first game."

NOTEBOOK

SOFTBALL

PAMPA — City of Pampa Recreation Department is offering men's open and mixed open leagues for the fall softball season.

The entry fee or sponsor's fee for teams is \$200 per team, or \$185 if the team is already sanctioned. The player's fee is \$15 per player with a minimum of 11 persons for men's open and 12 persons for mixed open.

The entry deadline is Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 5 p.m. There will be no teams added after this date.

Schedules will be available after 1 p.m. on Sept. 3 at the Recreation Office.

Play begins the week of Sept. 3.

Roster Forms, fact sheets and by-laws are available at the Recreation Office at 816 S. Hobart between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you have any questions or would like more information on the fall softball leagues, please contact the Recreation Office at 669-5770 during business hours.

WRESTLING

PAMPA — The Harvester Wrestling Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Ready Room at the high school athletic building.

FOOTBALL

PAMPA — Coaches are needed for third-fourth and fifth-sixth grade teams in the Tiger League this fall.

There will be a meeting at 7 tonight at the Optimist Club for persons interested in coaching.

GOLF

PAMPA — Lions Club held a day-nite scramble last Friday at Hidden Hills.

Results are as follows:

1. Ray Boring, Danny Cagle, Kirk Rice and Bob Eskridge, 57.
2. Gregor Reeves, Sam White, Clint Miller and Rick Perez, 62.
3. Frank Graves, Brad Ubertowski, Clay Gill and Zach Graves, 62.
4. Brad Pingel, Doug Carmichael, Rusty Tapp and Chuck Morgan, 63.
5. Jim Fletcher, Donny Nail, Steve Williams and Greg Vanderlinden, 63.

AUTO RACING

BROOKLYN, Mich. (AP) — Dale Jarrett rebounded from a spin on the 12th lap and passed Jeff Burton with five laps to go to win the Pepsi 400 at Michigan International Speedway.

Jarrett's 30th career victory — and fourth at Michigan — came on the 11th anniversary of his first Winston Cup win.

Beem outlasts Tiger in PGA showdown

CHASKA, Minn. (AP) — Of all the remarkable things Tiger Woods has accomplished on a golf course, this was the first time he charged from behind, Arnold Palmer-style, on the final day of a major.

He's also never done this before in a major: He blinked. And lost to Rich Beem, of all people.

Despite a dramatic four-birdies-in-four holes rally Sunday in the PGA Championship, one that might have been remembered as one of the greatest finishes ever in a major, Woods went toe-toe, shot-for-shot — and lost.

Not to Sergio Garcia. Or Phil Mickelson. Or Ernie Els. To Beem — yes, the fun-loving, fast-talking, invisible-to-most Rich Beem — a man who seven years ago wasn't playing golf professionally, a man who less than 24 hours before openly questioned if he had the stuff to win.

Remarkably, he did. It wasn't because Woods wasn't good enough; Woods shot a 5-under 67 that tied Tom Watson for the low round of the day. It's because, believe it or not, Beem was better.

Better than the world's best golfer, better than Beem was in winning The International a couple of weeks ago, better than even Beem knew he could be.

"I had no expectations of playing this good," Beem said after holding off Woods' frantic rally to win by one shot, becoming the most improbable PGA winner since John Daly in 1991. "I know I could, but not under the pressure and the scrutiny. I was nervous, but I found a way to control my nerves."

More importantly, the former cell phone salesman found a way to control Woods, who was trying to go 3-for-4 in majors this year and win his ninth major overall, all while leading on the final day.

This time, Woods was in the unaccustomed role of trailing by five shots going into the final round. But that big margin didn't last long and neither did third-round leader Justin Leonard, whose double bogey on No. 8 led to a 77 that dropped him into the fourth-place tie.

After playing conservatively on a wind-swept Saturday and settling for an even-par 72, Woods came out charging, holing a pitch shot to save par on No. 1. Birdies followed on No. 4, 6 and 7 on a Hazeltine National Golf Club course that played much easier without Saturday's wicked winds.

Then came a remarkable

flop shot on 8 from along the grandstand, with Woods deftly dropping the ball onto the edge of the green so it could roll within a foot of the cup.

But every time Woods threw up a birdie, and his fist in celebration, Beem answered.

Playing in the final two-some just behind Woods, Beem birdied No. 3 and 7. Contending in a major for the first time and uncertain how he would respond to it — he takes a swig of stomach medicine before every round to calm himself — Beem didn't get distracted.

"Honestly, I was too concerned with myself than I was about Tiger," Beem said.

For good reason. Beem was only 73rd in the world rankings, the lowest of any major winner in the last five years except 1999 British Open champion Paul Lawrie.

"I don't want to sound pompous, but I was trying to control what I was doing and not control what he was doing," said Beem, who led Woods by two shots as the round started and never trailed. "I didn't know if I had what it took to win it. Obviously, I found out today that I do."

He may have found out on No. 11.

Beem hit a 5-wood to within 6 feet on the par-5 and sank the putt for an eagle, moving him from 8 under to 10 under and pushing his lead over Woods from one shot to three.

Coincidence or not, Woods promptly bogeyed No. 13 and 14 in succession, as many bogeys as he had in his previous 48 holes. Suddenly, he was down by five, as Beem also birdied 13.

Still, Woods knew he wasn't out of it.

"I was on 15 and, walking down the fairway, I told Steve (Williams, his caddy). 'If we birdie in, we'll win the tournament,'" Woods said.

From then on, Tiger was Tiger — birdies on 15, 16, 17 and 18.

"I didn't miss a shot coming in," he said.

Beem bogeyed No. 14 but got the shot back with a birdie on 16. He knew on 18 that he could three-putt and still win, and that's exactly what he did.

The man who once floundered on the small-time Dakotas Tour had won a big one, the 12th time in 15 years the winner has made the PGA his first major victory.

"Sometimes it might be a benefit to be a little naive in a situation because you've never been there before in a major championship," Woods said.

700 series bowler



Ashleigh Burns of Pampa recently bowled a 706 series at Harvester Lanes and was awarded a 700 series ring. Eric Nord, president of the Pampa Youth Bowling Association, presents the ring to Ashleigh while Harvester Lanes owner JoAnn West (far right) looks on. Ashleigh is currently a sophomore at West Texas A&M University where she bowls on the college team. She carried a 190 average throughout the fall league at Harvester Lanes.

Sunday Silence, former Derby, Preakness winner, dies

TOKYO (AP) — Sunday Silence, the winner of the first two legs of the 1989 Triple Crown, died Monday in Japan from complications of a disease in his left foreleg, his stable spokesman said.

"For the last three days, his condition has been getting worse, and we used a lot of strong medicines," said Eisuke Tokutake, spokesman for the Shadai Stallion Station. "But today, he lay down and couldn't get up."

The 16-year-old horse died of heart failure around 11 a.m. local time (9 p.m. EDT) on Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan.

The stable said last week it was pondering whether to put the horse down. Sunday Silence had developed laminitis — a debilitating disease of the hoof — a little over two weeks ago. The stallion's condition gradually worsened, requiring veterinarians to administer pain killers.

Sunday Silence was the son of Halo, by Wishing Well. He was taken to auction both as a yearling and as a 2-year-old, and both times, he was bought back by principal owner Arthur Hancock after bidders didn't meet his minimum price.

"He was the perfect exam-

ple of an ugly duckling that turns into a swan with age," Hancock said. "Like the skinny teenager that develops into a big strong athlete, some horses are just a little late in maturing."

In 1989, Sunday Silence

became the fourth horse since Affirmed won the Triple Crown in 1978 to win the first two legs, only to fall short in the 1 1/2-mile Belmont Stakes. Four horses have done it since, including War Emblem this summer.

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AUGUST 19 2002

Casey's homer wins the game for Reds

CINCINNATI (AP) — Every time a Cincinnati Reds teammate hits a game-ending homer, Sean Casey makes sure he joins the helmet-slapping celebration at home plate.

The gregarious first baseman loves dramatic moments, but regretted that he'd never been in the middle of one. In 4 1/2 major league seasons, Casey had hit 70 homers, none of them a game-winner.

Once he stopped trying, he finally hit one. Casey's solo shot in the 10th inning gave the Reds a 2-1 victory Sunday over the Houston Astros and allowed Casey to finally find out what it's like to be in the eye of a home-plate huddle.

"You talk about all of the memories you make in major league baseball and how you take them home and bottle them up," Casey said. "This is one I'm definitely going to bottle up."

Rookie Ricky Stone won't forget it, either. Stone (3-3) grew up in nearby Hamilton, Ohio, and had 16 relatives and friends in the stands for one of his biggest moments. When he walked up the mound to warm up for the 10th inning, he set an Astros rookie record with his 62nd appearance.

He struck out Austin Kearns to start the inning and keep with the game's theme — not much hitting. Kearns hit a solo homer in the second, shortly before a long rain delay, and Jeff Bagwell matched it with his 23rd homer in the seventh.

Through nine innings, the teams had three hits apiece and not one rally between them. Gabe White (6-1) got Craig Biggio to fly out to the warning track during a perfect top of the 10th.

With one out in the bottom of the inning, Casey dug in against Stone, thinking it would be a great spot for a homer.

Stone threw a changeup. Casey squeezed and swung so hard and early that he hit a harmless foul.

Strike one. Stone threw another changeup, and Casey took another mighty swing. It didn't even come close.

Strike two. What should Stone throw now?

"He looked pretty bad on the first couple of changeups," Stone said.

Might as well throw another, he thought.

It came in around 80 mph and dropped, just like the first two. There was one difference this time: Casey had stopped trying to hit it into the seats.

"On the first pitch that I pulled foul, I think I was trying to win the game," Casey said. "The second pitch was a changeup, and I was trying to win it there, too. I said to myself, 'You can't think that way.' I calmed myself down."

He tried to keep himself calm after his drive landed in the second deck in right field. As he finally reached the plate, Casey was enveloped by giddy teammates.

He finally knew how it felt. "It's an amazing game, baseball," manager Bob Boone said.

Stone also knew how it felt to set a record and lose a game close to home, all within the span of two batters. He was downcast afterward, second-guessing his choice for the final pitch.

"All three were the same pitch," Stone said. "The third one he got. I thought I threw a pretty good pitch; he went down and got it. If you throw one three times in a row, usually you'll get hurt."

The loss severely hurt the Astros, who trailed St. Louis by only one game in the NL Central as recently as Aug. 7. They've gone 4-5 since then, falling five games back — their biggest deficit since Aug. 4.

Scoreboard

BASEBALL

National League
At A Glance

By The Associated Press				
All Times EDT				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	79	43	.648	—
Montreal	61	62	.496	18 1/2
Florida	60	63	.488	19 1/2
Philadelphia	59	64	.480	20 1/2
New York	58	65	.472	21 1/2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	68	53	.562	—
Houston	64	59	.520	5
Cincinnati	63	59	.516	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	54	70	.435	15 1/2
Chicago	52	70	.426	16 1/2
Milwaukee	43	80	.350	26
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	78	46	.629	—
Los Angeles	71	53	.573	7
San Francisco	66	56	.541	11
Colorado	58	65	.472	19 1/2
San Diego	52	71	.423	25 1/2

Saturday's Games

Arizona 6, Chicago Cubs 2
St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 1
Colorado 10, Atlanta 3
San Diego 6, Montreal 5
Pittsburgh 5, Milwaukee 0
Florida 7, San Francisco 3
Los Angeles 10, N.Y. Mets 4
Houston 6, Cincinnati 1

Sunday's Games

Colorado 6, Atlanta 3
Los Angeles 2, N.Y. Mets 1
Cincinnati 2, Houston 1, 10 innings
Montreal 9, San Diego 2
Pittsburgh 3, Milwaukee 2
St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 1
Chicago Cubs 3, Arizona 2
Florida 3, San Francisco 0

Monday's Games

Houston (Miller 10-3) at Cincinnati (Fernandez 1-2), 12:35 p.m.
Colorado (Hampton 7-13) at Atlanta (Glavin 16-6), 1:05 p.m.
San Francisco (L. Hernandez 7-13) at Florida (Tavarez 8-9), 1:05 p.m.
San Diego (Lawrence 11-6) at Montreal (Colon 5-2), 1:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (K. Wells 11-10) at St. Louis (Benes 2-3), 8:10 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Chicago Cubs (C. Zambrano 2-4) at Houston (Saarloos 5-3), 8:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (B. Myers 2-2) at Milwaukee (J. Wright 4-12), 8:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Benson 4-6) at St. Louis (Hackman 3-3), 8:10 p.m.
Montreal (Vazquez 8-9) at Colorado (Seagle 6-7), 9:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dempsler 7-12) at Arizona (Johnson 18-4), 9:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Moss 7-4) at San Diego (Torre 6-8), 10:05 p.m.
Florida (Penny 5-4) at Los Angeles (Ibhi 13-7), 10:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Leiter 10-9) at San Francisco (Schnidt 7-6), 10:15 p.m.

Cleveland 9, Anaheim 4

Sunday's Games

Tampa Bay 8, Kansas City 6
Detroit 7, Baltimore 4
Seattle 5, N.Y. Yankees 2
Oakland 7, Chicago White Sox 4
Anaheim 4, Cleveland 1
Minnesota 6, Boston 2
Texas 10, Toronto 7

Monday's Games

Seattle (Moyer 12-5) at Detroit (Lima 3-5), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Byrd 14-8) at Toronto (Walker 5-3), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 9-9) at Cleveland (Baez 9-9), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (P. Wilson 5-8) at Baltimore (Driskill 8-5), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Radke 4-3) at Chicago White Sox (Glover 5-5), 8:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Texas (Benoit 2-2) at Boston (Lowe 17-5), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 13-8) at Detroit (Maroth 4-5), 7:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Sele 8-8) at N.Y. Yankees (Petitte 7-4), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Asencio 2-4) at Toronto (Miller 4-4), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Harang 4-3) at Cleveland (Westbrook 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Kennedy 7-8) at Baltimore (Johnson 4-9), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Lohse 10-7) at Chicago White Sox (Parque 1-2), 8:05 p.m.

Texas League

Second Half

At A Glance

By The Associated Press

Eastern Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Wichita (Royals)	36	21	.632	—
x-Tulsa (Rangers)	30	27	.526	6
Shreveport (Giants)	21	36	.368	15
Arkansas (Angels)	16	42	.276	20 1/2

Western Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio (Mariners)	33	24	.579	—
El Paso (Diamondbacks)	32	26	.552	1 1/2
Midland (Athletics)	31	26	.544	2
x-Round Rock (Astros)	30	27	.526	3

x-won first half

Sunday's Games

El Paso 3, Arkansas 2, 1st game
Arkansas 4, El Paso 2, 2nd game
Wichita 6, Round Rock 1
Tulsa 8, San Antonio 2
Midland 8, Shreveport 3

Monday's Games

Round Rock at Wichita
San Antonio at Tulsa
Shreveport at Midland

Tuesday's Games

No games scheduled

TRANSACTIONS

Weekend Sports Transactions

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL

BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Activated SS Mike Bordick from the 15-day disabled list. Optioned INF Jose Leon to Rochester of the IL.

MINNESOTA TWINS—Recalled IB Matthew LeCroy from Edmonton of the PCL. Optioned OF Michael Cuddyer to Edmonton.

NEW YORK YANKEES—Purchased the contract of INF Alex Arias from Columbus of the IL. Optioned RHP Mike Thurman to Columbus.

SEATTLE MARINERS—Acquired RHP Ismael Valdes from Texas for INF Jermaine Clark and LHP Derrick Van Dusen. Optioned LHP John Halama to Tacoma of the PCL.

TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Recalled RHP Lee Gardner from Durham of the IL. Optioned RHP Jesus Colome to Durham. Transferred RHP Ryan Rupe from the 15- to the 60-day disabled list.

TEXAS RANGERS—Placed INF-OF Frank Catalanotto on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled IB-OF Jason Hart from Oklahoma of the PCL.

National League

HOUSTON ASTROS—Activated LHP Carlos Hernandez from the 15-day disabled list. Optioned RHP Jim Mann to New Orleans of the PCL.

MONTREAL EXPOS—Placed RHP T.J. Tucker on the 15-day disabled list.

NEW YORK METS—Activated RHP Jason Middlebrook from the 15-day disabled list and optioned him to Norfolk of the IL.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Signed RHP Rick White and assigned him to Memphis of the PCL.

SAN DIEGO PADRES—Placed LHP Bobby M. Jones and LHP Kevin Walker on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled RHP Dennis Tankersley from Portland of the PCL. Purchased the contract of RHP Jonathan Johnson from Portland.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES—Signed G Ricky Davis to an offer sheet. Named Sam Mitchell assistant coach.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

CLEVELAND BROWNS—Agreed to terms with WR Kevin Johnson on a four-year contract extension. Released WR Chris Sanders.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Signed G Yusuf Scott to a one-year contract. Released G Marcus Jenkins and G Kendall Mack.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

MINNESOTA WILD—Signed F Antti Laaksonen to a one-year contract.

Osborne strikes out 14 to lead Louisville past Harlem in LLWS

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — Zachary Osborne struck out 14 — the last two with the bases loaded in the sixth inning — as Louisville, Ky., beat Harlem 2-0 on Sunday night in pool play in the Little League World Series.

Osborne struck out Fernando Frias and Spencer White to end the game after the New York City team loaded the bases on hits by Javier Lopez, Alibay Barkley and Jorge Lopez.

"I was really nervous in the last inning," Osborne said. "Bases loaded, two outs, with their No. 5 hitter. I just

took a deep breath, calmed down and struck the guy out."

Jeremy Lopez struck out eight for Harlem (1-1).

Harlem manager Morris McWilliams described Kentucky as just an "all right" team with a good pitcher on the mound, saying the game turned on his team's errors.

"We committed three errors, and that's how they scored," McWilliams said. "They didn't score any earned runs."

Osborne scored both runs for

Louisville (2-0).

He tripped down the right-field line in the third, and scored on a fielder's choice to give Louisville a 2-0 lead. Louisville loaded the bases with just one out, but Lopez struck out two.

"This is a huge win for us," said Louisville manager J. Troy Osborne, the pitcher's father. "Harlem is very aggressive, very big kids, very strong kids. When they hit, they hit the ball hard. We feel lucky to come out with a 2-0 record."

In other games, Aptos, Calif., beat Clemmons, N.C., 11-8; Fort Worth,

Texas, routed Waipahu, Hawaii, 8-0; Agana, Guam, beat Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, 9-6; and Monterrey, Mexico, rallied to beat Moscow 4-3.

Texas 8, Hawaii 0

Michael "Mikey" Valdez's threw a one-hitter, and Walker Kelly doubled twice and drove in three runs to help Fort Worth improve to 2-0. Waipahu dropped to 1-1.

California 11, North Carolina 8

Brian Godoy hit a grand slam and Andrew Biancardi added a two-run homer in a six-run fourth for Aptos (1-1).

Alex Robertson hit a two-run homer and Christopher Sanders followed with a solo blast in the fourth for Clemmons (0-2).

Guam 9, Saudi Arabia 6

Taylor Taitague, John M. Dazo and Hosea L.C. Ware hit home runs in the top of the sixth for Agana (1-1). Ware also homered in the fifth inning. Dhahran also is 1-1.

Mexico 4, Russia 3

Rodolfo Garcia and Diego Segura hit back-to-back solo home runs in the bottom of the fourth inning as Mexico (1-1) rallied for the win.

A-Rod at top of his game while team is at bottom

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Alex Rodriguez just might make AL MVP voters forget he's on a team headed for its third straight last-place finish.

Despite all that has gone wrong around him, Rodriguez is at the top of his game. He had six homers in nine at-bats over three games in the Texas Rangers' weekend series against Toronto, and became just the sixth player in major league history with five straight 40-homer seasons.

"I'm taking extreme pride in finishing the season with a lot of energy and a lot of pride," he said.

Rodriguez hit two homers against Toronto on Sunday night, a two-run shot in the second and a solo homer in the seventh, giving him 44 to overtake Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs for the major league lead.

Rodriguez hit three home runs in Texas' 9-5 victory on Saturday, a night after his ninth-inning shot capped his 4-for-4 effort in a 6-5 win over Toronto.

"I don't know if it's greater to kick it in when you're in a playoff stretch or kick it in when your team is in last place at this point in the season," Texas manager Jerry Narron said. "He's the best player in the game."

Rodriguez's first-inning homer Saturday was his 40th of the season. He added Nos. 41 and 42 later in the game.

Babe Ruth holds the major league record of seven straight 40-homer seasons, from 1926-32. This is Sosa's fifth straight 40-homer season, and the feat also has been accomplished by Ralph Kiner, Duke Snider and Ken Griffey Jr.

Rodriguez's three RBIs Sunday pushed his total to 110, best in the majors. It's his fifth straight season with at least 100.

"We're playing baseball and he's playing video games, up there pushing buttons and doing whatever he wants," Rangers second baseman Michael Young said.

Rodriguez is the first Texas player with six homers in a three-game stretch. None had even five homers in three consecutive games before Sunday.

He also has an 11-game hitting streak, with 10 hits in 13 at-bats to raise his average from .311 to .326 — fourth in the AL. Seattle's Ichiro Suzuki leads the league at .343.

Rodriguez led all AL shortstops with a .991 fielding average, making just five errors in his first 562 chances. He had gone 44 straight games without an error.

The pitching-poor Rangers, though, entered Sunday at 53-68, a whopping 20 1/2 games behind the first-place Mariners in the four-team AL West. In fact, Texas is 18 1/2 games back of third-place Oakland.

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2002:

You're unusually lucky this year, being in the right place at the right time. Frequently, you can be found smiling to yourself, as life offers you so many possibilities. Others find you intriguing, if not attractive. Your magnetism bolstered by happiness seems to pave the way for you. If single, you might not be sure if you desire a commitment. You might want to play the field. At the same time, you could lose out on a special relationship. If attached, you often find giving and taking are issues. You're generous in your unique way. Sometimes a partner might want something different. Be a good listener. Observe what your sweetie does for you. You will get a hint as a result. **AQUARIUS** can push your buttons.

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)
***** Your friends toss a lot into your lap. Work associates also follow your pals' examples. Your hands are filled. Tap into your wealth of intelligence and creativity. You find answers. Your resourcefulness saves the day. Tonight: Add fun to your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** You're in the limelight at work. Many turn to you for answers. What lands on your plate could overwhelm you. Your family also doesn't hesitate to seek you out. Establish your boundaries. Help friends and family understand your limits. Tonight: In the limelight.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Those at a distance express unusual caring and high energy. Your

plate remains full, and you need to think twice about adding to your workload. Clear out messages, return key business calls and maintain your routine. Others distract you. Close the door if need be. Tonight: Escape into your mind.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** You feel as if an opportunity might be too good to say no to. Listen to another carefully, getting feedback on an investment that might involve money, but also your time and talent. Consider your options carefully. Don't make a decision quickly. Tonight: Togetherness works.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** You always try to be organized. Right now, with all that whirls around you, you might find this goal close to impossible. You appear to cover all bases simultaneously, so dropping a piece of paper or forgetting a call seems likely. Tonight: Allow someone to make you purr.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
** Take your time making key decisions. Someone might not agree with you, and that might be OK. Slow down and do some hard thinking. Discussions need to be only with trusted associates. You might be delighted by information. Tonight: Reflect over a walk.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Listen carefully to another's sharing. Friends and associates cannot help themselves in their jubilant moods. Suddenly, they spill the beans. Use the fundamentals of teamwork mixed with ingenuity, and all of you will win. Tonight: Add spice to your love life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Everyone wants something from you. You excel at work. Emphasize what is good and where you do make a difference right now. Your people skills

come into play. Schedule time with family late in the day or in the near future. Tonight: Put your feet up.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** So much might be tossed on your plate that you're clearly on overload. Information could overwhelm you. Absorb facts before you network or start making decisions. You go in so many directions that you easily could scatter. Tonight: Gather with your pals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** Someone attempts to pitch in and be of help. You know that this person's intentions are the best. However, you might want to verify any information. If you are signing an agreement, make sure it is clear. Read all fine print. Tonight: Pay bills.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** Your energy magnetizes many who surround you. Know what you want. You might need to make a fast decision. Stalling will not work. An offer presented now might not appear later. A loved one reveals more of his or her thoughts. Tonight: You decide.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
*** Invest yourself in your work and day-to-day life. Others really value what you offer. You accomplish a lot as long as you cut the socializing and focus on what is at hand. Schedule a restful break soon. Tonight: Take some time for yourself.

BORN TODAY
Boxing promoter Don King (1931).
Singer Robert Plant (1948), 23rd U.S. President Benjamin Harrison (1833)

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

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8-19 CRYPTOQUOTE

NOQDNHFE WVJO DRSQOADOW

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GHI DF DRSDFNDEQ NV TGHPG

GQ HA FVN QFNHNKQR

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The Pampa Chamber of Commerce hopes to have a series of floats for the 100th anniversary celebration parade similar to this Gulf Oil float from the Gray County 50th Anniversary parade on Oct. 13, 1952.



Top O' Texas Goldcoats welcome new chamber member Z.W. BodyWorks Massage Therapy. Left to right are John Warner, Ken Rheams, Darville Orr, Kerrick Horton, Richard Stowers, Loyd Waters, Pat Montoya, Mark Taylor, Paulette Kirksey and Linda Daniels with owner Zane Walters.



Top O' Texas Goldcoats welcome chamber member West Texas Landscape and Irrigation. Front row kneeling are Brandon Voss, Brenda Geisen and Gwyn Kayler. Second row, Larry Baker, Darville Orr, Rusty Stevens, Brenda Stevens, Chris Phillips and Bob Marx. Back row, Chris Leal, Sam Wyant, Dion Martinez, Joe Thomas, Roxy Spencer and Carlos Hernandez.

Tuesday chamber of commerce lunch to honor long time Pampa businesses

Ron Ebel will headline the Pampa Chamber of Commerce August luncheon Tuesday. Scheduled for 11:45 a.m. Tuesday in the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Community Building, the luncheon is sponsored by Harvester Lanes Family Bowling Center. It is being

catered by Dyer's Bar-B-Que. The cost of the luncheon is \$7.00. Call the chamber office at 669-3241 for reservations. The chamber is honoring Rheams Diamond Shop for 25 years in business in Pampa and Texas Furniture for 70 years in business.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2002 COUNTRY FAIR

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19, 2002

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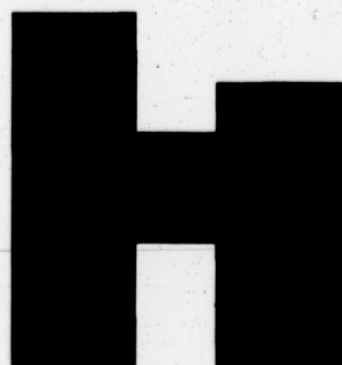
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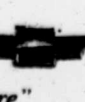
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