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WEATHER & WEATHER

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LOCAL

A dark, stormy night

SHAMROCK - Weather officials confirmed today that 16 tornadoes touched the ground across the area during a dark and stormy Thursday night.

Shamrock Police Department reported damages to several homes and barns following the heavy wind and thunderstorms which struck the area Thursday evening.

A double-wide mobile home was blown away southwest of Shamrock as well as a barn being destroyed, said officials at Shamrock PD.

A residence in the Kelton area was also reported destroyed in the storms which struck the Panhandle.

Two 18-wheelers were reported to be overturned by the high winds in the Lelia Lake area, said Shamrock officials. She said there were no injuries.

DEATHS

Myrtle Crocker, 93, homemaker.

INSIDE...

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WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

It's Tree Planting Season ...

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(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Rep. Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, speaks at rally on Capitol steps Friday morning after he led 51 Democrats on road trip to Oklahoma in a successful effort to kill a redistricting proposal pushed by Republicans.

Runaways return

By DAVID BOWSER
STAFF WRITER

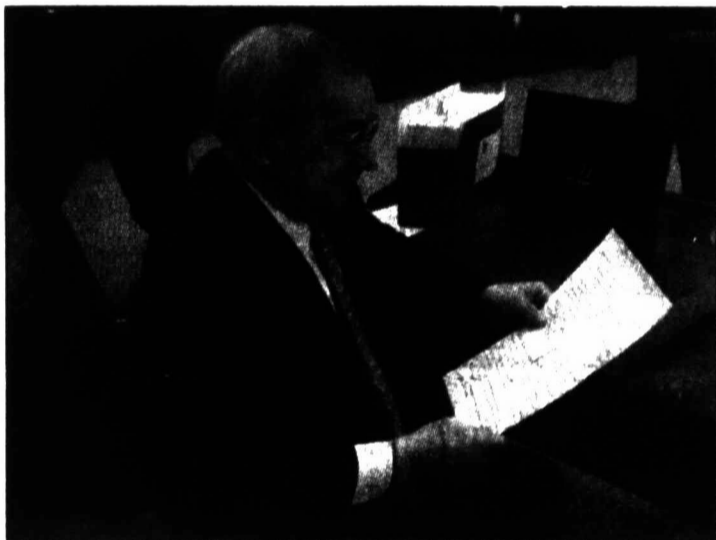
AUSTIN - Sitting in his office in the west wing basement of the Capitol Building late Thursday afternoon, Pampa State Representative Warren Chisum flips through nine pages of bills that the Texas House of Representatives normally would be working on.

"They all died today," Rep. Chisum said. "You're looking at a couple of hundred bills that didn't make it."

He admitted, however, that some of them may be added on to other legislation later.

"The bottom line is there's just 140 days," Chisum said, "and missing three days at this time of year is really critical to us. It causes some pain."

The Texas Legislature meets for 140 days on odd



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Rep. Warren Chisum at his desk on the House floor Friday morning.

numbered years. They are due to adjourn June 2, but Thursday was the last day for the second and final reading of bills in the House.

Bills like the redistricting bill that the Texas Democrats

objected to consequently died because 51 Democrats left the state last weekend, denying House Speaker Tom Craddick, R-Midland, a quorum. No

(See RUNAWAYS, Page 3)

Last meeting

Co. commissioners hold last session in temporary offices

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

ness on May 27.

It was probably the last Gray County Commissioners Court meeting to be held in the temporary offices at 315 N. Ballard.

Approximately 60-70 boxes containing county records were stacked against all available wall space in what has been the temporary county courtroom since July 1, 2001. County officials moved out of the courthouse for a renovation of the historic structure.

Today, county offices began the move back into the courthouse to complete process.

County business was highlighted by the move back into the building as commissioners appear to have finalized the locations of offices when the courthouse re-opens for busi-

County Judge Richard Peet said he and the commissioners will be making a final walk-through sometime next week before final payment is issued on the project.

During the meeting the commissioners made it official that the designated meeting place of commissioners court meetings will be once again the county courtroom in the Gray County Courthouse. Also, the official location to post county legal notices will be changed back to the marquee on the south wall of the east foyer in the courthouse. The location will be across the hall from the County Tax Assessor-Collector's office on the first floor. During the past two years the designated location for legal notices has been at

(See COUNTY, Page 3)

City Hall opens for early voters 9-1 on Saturday

Voters wanting to cast ballots early in the May 31 Pampa mayoral run-off election may vote from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at Pampa City Hall.

The race is between current Mayor Lonny Robbins, who failed to gain a majority of votes in the May 3 municipal election which had five

candidates, and Jeff Andrews, a current commissioner, who came in second.

City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers said her office in Room 205 of Pampa City Hall will be open for people to vote on Saturday. She said the early voting will continue in her office during normal office hours through May 27.

Emotional assembly



(Photo by Tess Kingcade)

Derrel Seahorn tells PHS students in an eloquent, touching speech about how his daughter, Staci, was killed in a drunk driving accident the weekend after her graduation from Pampa High School and the effects the tragedy has had on their family.



(Photo by Tess Kingcade)

PHS senior Adrian Alva, a "Shattered Dreams" participant, reads a letter he wrote to his family as if he had died and could never talk to them again. Alva wrote the letter while he waited with other "victims" at M.K. Brown Boy Scout Camp.



(Photo by Tess Kingcade)

At an emotional assembly Thursday at Pampa High School, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Shank of Pampa, parents of Kaylee Shank, a student who was portrayed as killed in the "Shattered Dreams" staged accident Wednesday read a letter to their daughter ... as if they could have never talked to her again. The coffin set up in front of them symbolizes deaths related to drinking and driving. The assembly was part of the two-day multi-agency event, headed by PHS Counselor Lesley Gershmel, intended to help students understand the consequences of drinking and driving.

Chamber Luncheon • Tuesday, May 20, 2003 • 11:45 a.m. in the M.K. Brown Room of the Pampa Community Building
Speaker: Lee Carter, Pampa Independent School District discussing the Community Network Project
Sponsor: Sears, Caterer: Clint & Sons
Call 669-3244 for reservations by 5:00 p.m. Monday

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ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following arrests and incidents.

Thursday, May 15

Victor Lynn Jones, 34, 1710 Mary Ellen, was arrested on a Dallas County warrant for indecent exposure. He was also arrested on two Department of Public Safety warrants. They were for speeding and failure to appear.

Billy Hardy, 31, 216 N. Wells, was arrested on municipal warrants for no motor vehicle insurance and expired inspection stickers.

Christian Paul Higgins, 20, Amarillo, was arrested for driving under the influence—a minor, running a stop sign and failure to change address on driver's license.

Johny Paul Cearley, 31, 1111 Finley, was arrested for failure to display drivers license, defective equipment, failure to change address on driver's license and failing to identify.

Andrew Jacob Campos, 21, Amarillo, was arrested for theft under \$50.

Cecil Ward Dowty, 37, 1113 Campenella, was arrested on a Potter County warrant for violation of probation.

Assault by threat was reported at Central Park.

Found property was turned in to the Pampa Police Station.

Theft of three solar yard lights was reported in the 2300 block of Evergreen.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1800 block of Christine. Vehicle damage was estimated to be \$250.

Theft of two rings was reported in the 700 block of North Dwight. Loss was estimated to be \$350.

Burglary was reported in the 300 block of Anne. A door frame and door were damaged with loss estimate of \$200.

Aggravated assault was reported in the 1100 block of Varnon. Minor injuries were reported.

Simple assault was reported to PPD.

Criminal mischief over \$50 and under \$500 was reported in the 2500 block of Aspen. A window valued at \$100 was reported broken out.

A gas drive-off was reported in the 2100 block of North Hobart. Estimate of loss was \$10.

Theft under \$50 was reported in the 1800 block of West Alcock.

FIRE

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

Friday, May 16

6:03 a.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a report of an arcing power line in the 1900 block of North Dwight. Firefighters stood by until Xcel Energy workers arrived.

AMBULANCE

Rural/Metro Ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday, May 15

9:07 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1800 block of Evergreen on a lifting assistance call.

9:37 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block Doucette on a lifting assistance call.

3:19 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Evergreen on lifting assistance call.

9:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of South Barnes; one patient was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:37 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of South Faulkner; one patient was transported to PRMC.

STOCKS

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

Wheat	3.26	XCEL	14.50	+0.01
Milo	4.23	Kerr McGee	44.44	-0.36
Corn	4.71	Limited	13.60	-0.20
Soybeans	5.69	Williams	8.00	-0.19
		McDonalds	18.47	-0.13
		Exxon Mobil	35.35	+0.06
		Atmos	23.74	+0.20
		Pioneer Nat	24.98	+0.02
		Penney's	16.94	-0.19
		COP	51.71	-0.29
		Schlumberger	46.65	-0.23
		Tenneco	3.62	-0.08
		CVX	67.14	+0.01
		Wal-Mart	53.05	-0.72
		OKE	20.03	-0.15
		NS Group	7.99	+0.06

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

BP	40.83	+0.09	New York Gold	351.95
Celanese	22.73	+0.34	Silver	4.78
Cabot Corp	29.47	-0.03	West Texas Crude	28.74
Cabot Oil Gas	25.05	-0.07		
Coca Cola	44.40	-0.24		
VLO	38.89	+0.42		
Halliburton	24.15	-0.22		

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies and breezy conditions with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon, highs in the mid 70s and north winds 15 to 25 mph. Caution is advised on area lakes. A 30 percent chance of rain is predicted. Tonight should see mostly cloudy skies, lows in the lower 50s and north winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday should be partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s. North winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 50s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph becoming light and variable. Sunday, partly cloudy. Breezy. Highs in the mid 80s. Light and variable winds becoming southeast 15 to 25 mph.

Sunday night, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 60s. Monday, partly cloudy. Windy. Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 80s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Monday night, partly cloudy. Windy. Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Breezy. Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s. Chance of rain 20 percent. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid-70s. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s.

STATEWIDE

The weekend is expected to get a damp and cloudy start throughout much of the state Friday evening with thunderstorms expected to roll through North and South Texas.

Cloud cover is expected throughout South Texas Friday night, with thunderstorms in much of the region. Those conditions are expected to continue into Saturday. Temperatures will fall to the

lower 60s in South Central Texas Friday evening and rise to 104 in the Deep South Saturday.

Thunderstorms are likely in central and eastern parts of North Texas Friday night, when lows are expected in the upper 50s. Saturday should be dry, but skies will remain partly cloudy, with highs reaching the lower 80s.

A partly cloudy night is expected in the Texas

Panhandle and the South and Rolling Plains. Those skies are expected to clear in the plains Saturday, but the Panhandle shouldn't expect much sun.

The rest of West Texas will have clear skies Friday evening and mostly sunny or sunny skies Saturday. Temperatures in the region will dip to the mid 40s Friday night and will cross the 100 mark in areas Saturday.

OBITUARIES

MYRTLE CROCKER
1910-2003

Myrtle Crocker, 93, of Pampa, Texas, died Thursday, May 15, 2003, at Amarillo, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Crocker was born Jan. 6, 1910, in Selmer, Tenn. She had been a resident of Pampa most of her life. She married Max Crocker on July 26, 1936, in Jackson, Tenn. He preceded her in death in 1997.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church and she will be missed by all.

Survivors include a son, Dwight E. Crocker and wife Linda of Amarillo; two grandchild-

dren, Stephanie Parks of Pampa and Steven Crocker of Amarillo; three great-grandchildren, Mackenzie Ashton Parks, Karl Kameron Parks and Madison Grace Parks; and a niece, Evelyn Crocker of the home. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Cecilia Crocker, and a great-granddaughter, Meredith Parks.

The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101; or Bell Avenue Baptist Church, 5211 Bell St., Amarillo, TX 79109.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whately.com.

SERVICES TOMORROW

POMERHN, Bob — Memorial services, 11 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, Pampa.

EOTT Energy in trouble over New Mexico dig

HOBBS, N.M. (AP) — The state land commissioner stopped an unauthorized dig on state trust land and is demanding answers from the Houston-based oil shipping company that ordered the dig.

A spokeswoman for EOTT Energy LLC said the company, a former Enron subsidiary, was looking for pipeline-related documents that were buried on the land where it has pipeline and grazing leases.

A lone white pipe apparently marked the spot in the middle of the oilfields west of Hobbs where workers employed by the company were digging.

The state ordered the company to stop the excavation Wednesday, but New Mexico Land Commissioner Patrick Lyons said it would continue under supervision of the state Land Office and police.

"We want full cooperation from the company and we want to know what they're looking for," Lyons said. "And what is found here is found on state land and belongs to the New Mexico taxpayers and New Mexico citizens, and we want to know what it is."

On Thursday he walked around the excavation site, which spanned about 2 acres and included a 40- to 50-foot deep hole. Mounds of dirt enclosed the site, making it difficult to see from surrounding areas.

"Looks like they moved a lot of dirt, illegally," Lyons said. "Man, look at this hole. Look at the excavation process. There's something here that has got to be pretty valuable."

Seven pieces of heavy construction equipment, including bulldozers, front-end loaders and an excavator, were on the site.

Economy: Consumer prices decline in April

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer prices fell by 0.3 percent in April, the biggest decline in 18 months, led by a retreat in energy prices as the Iraq war wound down. Prices for cars, clothes and food also went down.

While Friday's report from the Labor Department made clear that inflation isn't a problem for the struggling economic recovery, it could raise more concerns over whether the United States is heading down a path of a destabilizing fall in prices.

April's decline in the Consumer Price Index, the government's most closely watched inflation gauge, came after prices rose by 0.3 percent in March.

The number of new housing projects builders began work on in April dropped by 6.8 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.63 million, the Commerce Department reported. The latest housing construction report could be a sign that this key sector of the economy may be losing some steam.

In the CPI report, the drop in April's prices was the biggest since October 2001 and was deeper than the 0.1 percent dip economists were forecasting.

Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan and his colleagues are on guard for any signs of deflation in the U.S. economy. Though they say the chances of deflation cropping up are remote, Fed policy-makers last week signaled that they were prepared to lower short-term interest rates to ward off

even the threat of that happening.

Private economists said the Fed's concerns over deflation raised the odds of a cut in the federal funds rate, now at a 41-year low of 1.25 percent, at the central bank's next meeting June 24-25.

The drop in the CPI came one day after the government reported the wholesale prices fell by a record 1.9 percent in April, which touched off deflation fears.

Much of the weakness of consumer prices in April stemmed from a 4.6 percent drop in energy prices as the war in Iraq came to an end. Gasoline prices fell by 8.3 percent, fuel oil prices were down 14.9 percent and natural gas prices decreased 3.8 percent.

In March, energy prices, stoked by war tensions, rose by 4.6 percent, putting a squeeze on businesses and consumers spending.

Food prices in April dipped by 0.1 percent, reflecting falling prices for fruits, vegetable and dairy products. Prices for poultry, beef and pork went up. Food prices in March rose 0.2 percent.

Excluding energy and food prices, which can swing widely from month to month, the "core" rate of inflation was flat in April for the second straight month.

Prices for cars dropped by 0.4 percent in April, reflecting heavy generous incentives to discounts to move cars off lots amid lackluster consumer demand. Clothing prices went down 0.6 percent in April as merchants discounted merchandise to attract shoppers.

City Briefs

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

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DANCE, MOOSE Lodge, Sat., May 17th, 9 p.m. "Indian Summer" Dance Band.

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GARAGE SALE, 2135 Dogwood, Sat. 8-7 New Jewelry, gift items & caps, misc.

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NOW AT The Hickory Hut, New Sandwiches & Hot Italian Sub.

THE PAMPA Country Club Sunday May 18th Buffet, entrees are Prime Rib & Fried Catfish.

EXCEPTIONAL NEW Trotter Treadmill. This treadmill is used by many Olympic athletes. Must have 220 wiring. Selling for 1/2 price. 665-4534 aft. 5:30 p.m.

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Traces of pesticides found in air blown from fires

HOUSTON (AP) — Agricultural fires set in Mexico and Central America are blowing more than smoke north of the border into Texas each spring.

The gray haze hanging over parts of the state includes traces of pesticides that could cause human health and environmental problems at high levels, according to studies conducted five years ago by the state and federal government.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality analyzed 19 air samples from five Texas cities in May 1998 — during one of the worst outbreaks of smoke — and found small amounts of nine pesticides released from the burning fields.

The pesticides were not considered a concern because they were measured below federal and state health-base standards, but some experts said the levels were elevated.

Of the handful of pesticides identified, four were banned in the United States nearly a decade ago, while many others are still in use

in Mexico and other Third World countries.

"We are pretty much at the mercy of Mother Nature on this," Adria Dawidczik, a TCEQ spokeswoman, told the Houston Chronicle for Friday's online edition. "We can't tell another government how to take care of its agriculture. It's just part of global air pollution. This is the same thing as us getting dust from the Sahara Desert."

TCEQ took 11 air samples from May 13 to 18, 1998, in Edinburg, Brownsville, Mission and Austin. The EPA collected eight samples in Galveston, Mission and Brownsville.

The Houston Chronicle asked scientists to review the federal and state data, and they said it's likely the smoke this year would harbor the same pesticides.

"Some of these could be coming from local sources, but there is some indication ... that you are burning this stuff and these particles are transported," said Terry Wade, deputy director for environmental sciences at Texas A&M University's Geochemical and Environmental Research Group.

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(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

As boxes stand ready to be moved to the Gray County Courthouse, County Commissioners Gary Willoughby, left, and Joe Wheeley, right, discuss final details of the return to the restored structure. Christie Brown and Gaye Whitehead, center back, of the Gray County Tax Assessor-Collectors office observe during the meeting.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

COUNTY

the sheriff's office. Commissioners approved County Clerk Susan Winborne making expenditures from her Records Management Fund for expenses to establish the filing system in the restored courthouse. The funds can only be utilized for management of records management in the county clerk's office. Consideration of a maintenance agreement with Scotco was tabled. The five-man

commission will discuss it at a June meeting when Scotco representatives can attend. The Amarillo company installed the new heating and cooling system in the courthouse. Commissioners decided not to place any of the exclusions of the county medical insurance in procedures which would be covered by the policy. Peet told the commission there was interest in having a weight reduction exclusion placed in the allowable covered medical expenses.

Commissioner Gary Willoughby expressed concern about the county's future expenses if weight loss was not achieved. Commissioners decided not to change any of the exclusions, emphasizing that the county is partially self-funded. In other action the commission declared some items from the Sheriff's Office as surplus property and recognized Christie Brown's designation as a registered Texas Assessor-Collector. She is the Chief Deputy in the Tax Assessor-Collector's office.

Congress knew FBI terror fighting woes as early as 1995, memos show

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly six years before the Sept. 11 attacks, the Senate Judiciary Committee chairman was told by his senior staff that the FBI and other government agencies had missed warning signs about the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and were ill-prepared to prevent future domestic terrorist attacks, memos show. Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, whose committee oversees federal law enforcement, approved holding investigative hearings about the information, but they never took place, the memos show. "The sharing of intelligence is lacking among federal law enforcement agencies," the December 1995 memo to Hatch stated, citing intelligence failures eerily similar to those exposed after the Sept. 11, 2001, suicide hijackings by al-Qaida terrorists. The memo, obtained by The Associated Press, also told Hatch that committee investigators had uncovered evidence that federal law enforcement had prior hints about the 1993 World Trade Center terrorist attack in New York City but failed to piece them together. "We have information that some instances, like the World Trade Center, could have been prevented if the relevant agencies had worked in concert with each other," the investigators wrote. "Simply stated, several different agencies had a small piece of the puzzle. "If they had shared with

each other, there is at least a strong possibility that they would have identified the World Trade Center as a target before the bombing." The memo described the need for a congressional investigation as "appropriate and imperative." Hatch approved the plan for hearings recommended by his chief investigator and senior investigative counsel, signing the memo "OK" and initialing it with his trademark "O". Hatch's office said while the memo's plan for hearings never materialized, the chairman did hold about a dozen hearings in 1995 and 1996 dealing with terrorism issues and sponsored legislation to give the FBI more powers to catch terrorists, some of which passed in 1996 within months of the memo. "The legislation was the most significant piece of anti-terrorism legislation passed in two decades and Senator Hatch constantly fought to give the FBI and the Department of Justice more tools to share information and prevent terrorist attacks," said Makan Delrahim, Hatch's staff director on the Judiciary Committee. The investigators wrote at least two other memos to Hatch's chief of staff recommending continued investigation of the FBI's anti-terrorism efforts. "We need to continue our oversight in these areas," a memo urged one month before the 1996 presidential election.

Senators and Senate Judiciary Committee aides in both parties said Thursday they were unaware of the 1995 memo's information and said it shows that Congress, which heaped criticism on the executive branch over the Sept. 11 failures, must share in the blame. Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, a fellow Republican on the Judiciary Committee, said he had never seen the memo before and wanted to discuss it with Hatch. Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., said the memo's contents mirrored the problems unearthed by House and Senate intelligence committee investigators who reviewed the Sept. 11 attacks. "There were egregious errors, in hindsight," Roberts said. Asked if those errors included Congress' failure to provide oversight and follow information like that in the 1995 memo, Roberts added: "Big time in Congress." Hatch's office said he was recognized on Capitol Hill long before Sept. 11 as a leading voice on terrorism who led hearings on issues like his legislation to increase FBI power, the dangers of explosives information on the Internet and preventing terror attacks at the Olympics. The office also said Hatch led efforts in the mid-1990s to improve the FBI's ability to share and receive intelligence. Some of those measures were stripped by Congress before his legislation became law in 1996.

RUNAWAYS

business could be conducted. The Democrats' travel plans was the result of a national political agenda. U.S. Congressman Tom Delay, R-Sugarland, Texas, the House Majority Leader in Washington, wanted the state legislature to redraw the legislative districts in Texas. Last year's redistricting was done by the federal courts after the state legislature's redistricting plan was rejected. Since Republicans now control the Texas Legislature, Delay wanted the Texas Legislature to redistrict the Lone Star State, Chisum said, to favor Republican candidates running for U.S. Congress. "In order to do that, you have to change Democratic seats where they can't win," Chisum said, "and still be within federal law." For example, Chisum said, veteran Democrat Lloyd Doggett, who represents Austin in Washington, would be difficult to beat in his Austin district, but if that district was divided, Republicans would have a better chance of defeating him in an election. "Their thought was to divide that into four different districts," Chisum said. "Probably none of which he could win." At the end of the day, Chisum said, there would have been seven Democrats under Delay's redistricting plan that would have had difficulty winning another election to the

U.S. Congress. "Probably four of them would not win," Chisum said, "so that would increase the Republican count in the Texas delegation in Washington. It would give them a little more of a majority." The Pampa state representative said, too, that would increase the power of Southern Republicans, who are more conservative than Northeastern Republicans. "There's a real push to kind of purify the race," Chisum said. "Sometimes those Northern Republicans wouldn't make good Liberal Democrats

down here." Chisum said that because of Delay's push to redistrict, the National Democratic Party worked with the Texas Democrats to organize the walkout. "Everybody would end up in a state that was friendly to Democrats," Chisum said. In this case, it was Oklahoma or New Mexico, both of which have governors that are Democrats. "They bused them all up to Ardmore, Okla.," Chisum said. "They'll come back as soon as this redistricting bill dies." The redistricting bill, H.B.

3398, died at midnight Thursday. "Our rules clearly hold out that you cannot pass a House Bill on second reading after today (Thursday)," Chisum said. "It's toast." There was a bill introduced in the Senate concerning redistricting in an effort to keep the issue alive, but Chisum said the bill wouldn't go through the Senate because it takes a four-fifths vote to get it out of committee, and the Republicans don't have that strong a majority there. There was some question that even if the redistricting bill

passed the House, it wouldn't pass the Senate. Gov. Rick Perry could declare an emergency and have the bill introduced in the House again, but Chisum thinks that's unlikely. "It's not outside the realm of possibility," Chisum said, "but I'd say it was slim on probability." Chisum said if the governor took such action, it would be extremely disruptive. The Democrats could walk out and not come back. "In the meantime," Chisum said, "we're here maintaining the fort."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PAMPA CINEMA 4
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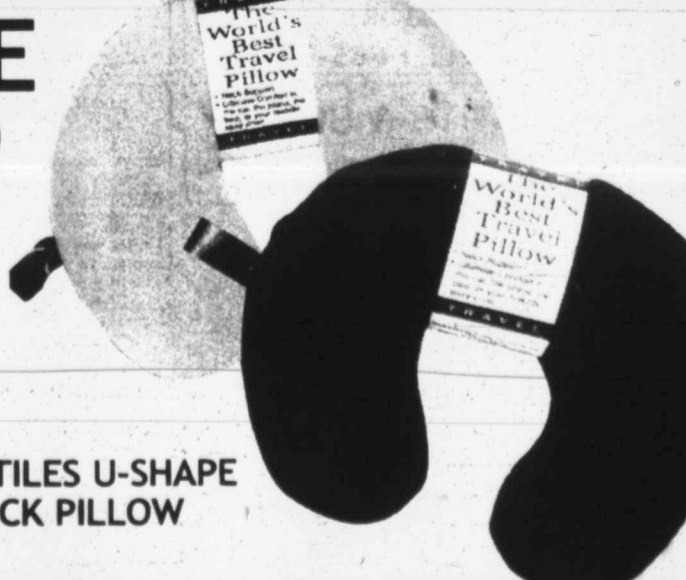
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Editor's Note
third in a series
the evolution of
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BY ELO
SPECIAL TO T
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RELIGION

McLean home of first denominational church

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of articles about the evolution of religion in Gray County by local historian Eloise Lane.

By ELOISE LANE
SPECIAL TO THE PAMPA NEWS

In 1902 a group of settlers in the McLean area met to organize the First Methodist church, the first denominational church in Gray County.

Originally the group met in a small one-room building located south of the tracks. Alfred Rowe, owner of the RO Ranch, donated a city block of land for the construction of a church building which was completed in 1904.

That fall, the men of the Back community north of McLean built a new schoolhouse on land donated by J.D. Back. The schoolhouse was also the place of worship on Sundays.

The First Baptist Church of

McLean was organized on Dec. 15, 1904.

The first meeting was held in the small schoolhouse in the south part of McLean. The following year a lot located south of the Rock Island Railroad was obtained and a small white building was dedicated in April 1908. The new building contained no baptistry; so early-day baptisms were on Skillet Creek or in a wooden tank on a farm which belonged to Oscar Tibbets' family.

First Presbyterian Church of McLean was organized on April 6, 1906 with 19 charter members. The meeting to organize was held in the old Methodist Church and meetings were held there once each month until a new building was dedicated in 1907.

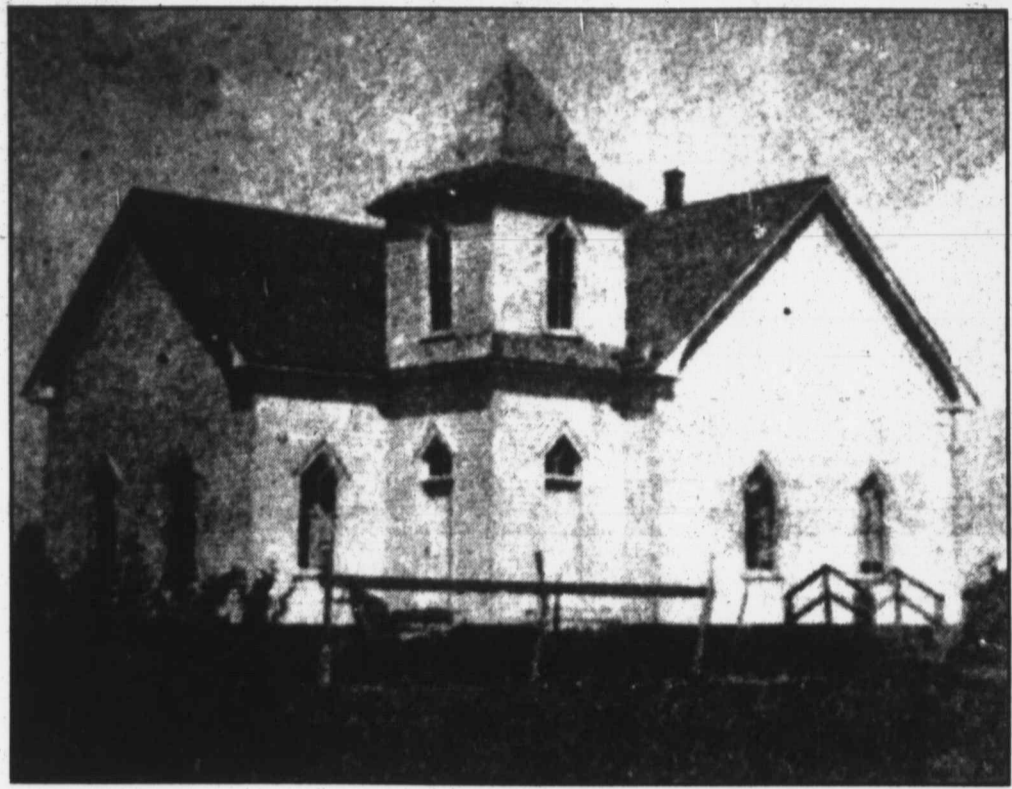
The first meetings of the McLean Church of Christ were held in the homes of James Burrows, J.H. Chambers and the

Easterwoods. By 1908 other members of this denomination had come to McLean and a small frame building was constructed on East Fifth Street.

The site of the Assembly of God in McLean was chosen on Sept. 13, 1920 when D.A. Davis and his wife, Minnie, sold lots to three trustees: Ed Swafford, G.W. Stratton and R.C. Petty. The building, erected later on land donated by Mrs. Swafford, is located on 4th and Main in McLean.

Mrs. Laura Stratton, who had held church services in her home on Waldron Street for several years, was licensed to preach in 1924. Soon A.T. Kersey came to McLean to organize the Pentecostal Holiness church of McLean and a building was constructed on lots donated by Vester Smith.

Next: Alanreed, one-time metropolis of Gray County.



(Photo courtesy White Deer Land Museum)

The Methodist Church at McLean, organized in 1902, was the first denominational church in Gray County. This building was completed in 1904.

Going away reception



(Courtesy photo)

Members of Central Baptist Church plan a going-away reception to express appreciation of the ministry of Dr. and Mrs. Derrell Monday at 7 p.m., Sunday, May 18, in the church's fellowship hall. Dr. Monday has served as pastor of Central Baptist for the past six and a half years and will be moving to serve as pastor of First Baptist Church of Vernon. The public is invited to attend the reception.

Bible Baptist celebrates anniversary

Church to observe 56-year ministry with missions conference

Bible Baptist Church, Starkweather and Kingsmill, plans to celebrate 56 years of ministry by hosting a missions conference.

Organized on May 18, 1947 as a mission church out of Central Baptist Church of Amarillo, the church has continued to increase its missionary outreach throughout its history. Bible Baptist presently is involved in approximately 40 world-wide projects.

The missions outreach conference begins with Sunday morning services through Wednesday with services beginning each evening at 7 p.m.

Veteran missionary Philip Hudson will be guest speaker for the services. Brother Hudson has started and helped four churches in Uganda, Africa, for the past four years.

He is home on furlough for one year and plans to return to Uganda in January 2004.

He will show slides and photographs of the country, the people, and the ministries into which he has been called and will issue a challenge for more involvement in Christian missions while it is still possible. Some parts of Africa have been closed recently to American missionaries. Countries such as the Ivory Coast have had civil unrest and missionaries have been advised by the U.S. Embassy to evacuate.

Special music and testi-

monies are also planned. The church will provide a nursery for each service. Transportation is available by calling 669-7830.

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m., Sundays, and the morning preaching service begins at 11 a.m. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening services start at 7 p.m.

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Perseverance where it counts

Mel Fisher was apparently so fascinated with looking for treasure that he left his poultry farm in Hobart, Indiana, to follow his dream of being an underwater fortune hunter. Forming Treasure Salvors, Inc., he set up shop in Key West, Fla. And there he began his underwater search for fortune.

His big discovery came on July 30, 1985, about 40 miles west of Key West. He and his crew discovered the sunken Spanish galleon Nuestra Señora de Atochoa, which had been sunk during a hurricane in 1622. It was carrying gold and other treasures back to Spain. This was a major historical find and it is estimated that the booty is worth upwards of \$400 million.

We tend to think that such things simply happen. But on reading further in the Time magazine account, we learn that Mel Fisher spent 17 years search for the sunken Atochoa. For 10 of those years, he carried on a running battle with the state of Florida and the federal government about who would have ownership of the sunken wreck if he did find it. In 1982, he won a favorable Supreme Court ruling.

But tragedy also marked those 17 long years. Ten years earlier, almost to the very day of his discovery, his oldest son, his son's wife and another company diver had been drowned when their salvage ship capsized in a raging storm. It was a severe loss and setback to his plans.



Minister's Musings

LELAND LEWIS
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

This is the kind of success story that gives us an opportunity to pause and think. We don't need to read between the lines to recognize the sacrifice in going for 17 fruitless years. Here's a man who by his single-minded determination kept a crew and company going when all looked bleak.

Does a man like Fisher, a man of determination, optimism, vision and perseverance in the face of disappoint-

ment and defeat, challenge you? Perhaps not for treasure in this life, you say. But there are rewards in the next life for persistence in this one. As followers of Jesus Christ, we will have times when it is only our determination that keeps us living for Him. We may feel like giving it all up; keeping the final treasure in mind helps. One of these days we will experience victory and reward that's certain!

How can going to church help you?



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ABWA awards



(Courtesy photo)

Magic Plains Chapter of American Business Women Association recently held its Annual Boss Appreciation Banquet and announced Duncan, Fraser and Bridges Insurance Agency as "Boss of the Year." Above, left to right: Ray Duncan, Gail Woodington, Mike Fraser, Brian Duncan, Lyndon Field and Lee Fraser. Not pictured: Bill Bridges.



(Courtesy photo)

Magic Plains Chapter of American Business Women Association recently held its Annual Boss Appreciation Banquet. During the banquet, Ellen Malone, right, recognized Donna Swindle as "Woman of the Year."

Improved access to witnesses, evidence key in FBI probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI investigators need far better access to witnesses and evidence in the Saudi Arabia terror bombings than they got after the 1996 attack on the Khobar Towers dormitory, law enforcement officials say.

Weldon Kennedy, who retired as FBI deputy director in 1997, said the Saudis refused to let FBI agents interview suspects arrested in the Khobar truck bombing that killed 19 U.S. soldiers. Those suspects were summarily beheaded, ending a U.S. chance at gaining valuable intelligence or even proving they were actually guilty.

"They don't have a particularly good track record to really cooperating," Kennedy said. "They don't really follow through. They give lip service to cooperation."

Authorities in both countries insist it will be different this time as a six-member FBI team begins assessing how many agents and forensic experts will be needed for a full-scale investigation. It may be next week before additional FBI teams are summoned to Riyadh, as U.S. authorities seek to tread lightly on Saudi soil.

"Saudi Arabia and the United States have worked together and need to work together on a continuing basis and an improving basis," Attorney General John Ashcroft told reporters Thursday.

The pace of the bombing investigation could be affected by a diplomatic dispute over precisely what security enhancements the United States sought for the housing compounds that were bombed when it became apparent a terrorist attack was imminent.

The State Department says it asked for better security at all compounds housing Westerners. The Saudis insist the request was made for only a single compound.

At a news conference in Berlin Friday with German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, Secretary of State Colin Powell said U.S. officials had been in touch with the Saudis a week or two before the attacks, warning them about an increased level of terror threats.

He said he did not know if the Saudis had information about the sites where terrorists carried out the attacks.

"Whether we gave them specific information about those three facilities, I don't know," Powell said. "The difficulty that the Saudis would have, or that we would have, is that there are so many facilities in Saudi Arabia that could have been a target of an attack, and no matter how much security you put out and how diligent you are ... you always run the risk of a terrorist organization determined to do so able to pull off an attack that will take innocent life."

Whatever the case, law enforcement officials are growing increasingly concerned about lost opportunities to gather evidence and interview witnesses as the days go by.

"On any major investigation, the best time for a breakthrough on any kind of information is the first week to 10 days," said Dale Watson, who retired as FBI counterterrorism chief in October 2002. "You often get a break up front."

WHO blaming leaky pipes, fans for Hong Kong outbreak

HONG KONG (AP) — Leaky sewage pipes and bathroom ventilation fans carried contaminated droplets through a Hong Kong apartment complex, causing one of the world's worst outbreaks of SARS, World Health Organization investigators said Friday.

Also, Taiwan's health chief resigned to take responsibility for the worsening SARS crisis that has shut two hospitals in the capital Taipei. The government appointed a highly respected epidemiologist to replace him.

Twu Shing-Jer's resignation came as 10 new cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome were reported in Taiwan, along with three deaths. The disease has now sickened 274 people and killed 37 in Taiwan.

At least 613 have died and 7,700 been infected since SARS emerged in southern China in November.

In Hong Kong alone, SARS has infected 1,706 people and killed 238. More than 300 people contracted the illness at the Amoy Gardens apartment complex in late March, and 35 people died. The speed of the infection amazed health experts, who at the time believed the disease was spread mainly by person-to-person contact.

A report by WHO investigators blamed an "unlucky" combination of circumstances — a patient with diarrhea, seeping pipes and drafty air shafts.

"It's just an accumulation of events," team leader Dr. Heinz Feldmann told a news conference. Feldmann said there was no way to guarantee against a repeat but that another such outbreak seems "unlikely."

When investigators went to Amoy Gardens to collect samples, they found no live coronaviruses — the family of virus believed to cause severe acute respiratory syndrome — and no remaining genetic material from the virus, Feldmann said. The WHO's findings largely confirm an earlier report by Hong Kong officials.

The WHO team is still testing samples collected from another housing development, the Tung Tau Estate, that suffered a minor outbreak. Feldmann said preliminary findings showed the sewage system did not appear to be the cause.

The disease was brought to the Block E building of Amoy Gardens by a sick man visiting his brother, the Hong Kong government said earlier. The man had diarrhea and others who caught SARS in the building also developed diarrhea, spreading the virus through the sewage system.

Droplets containing the virus apparently got into some apartment units through dried-out drain traps — the U-shaped pipes that are supposed to keep gases and waste from coming up back up. Bathroom exhaust fans sucked droplets into apartments, the WHO report said.

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Plaza bricks

(Community Camera photo)

John Kendall, principal at Pampa High School, with Dick Dunham, class of 1956 Plaza representative, and Floyd Sackett, assistant principal, review plaza bricks recently laid by volunteer craftsman Ricardo Lopez. Graduates of 2003 may be interested in adding their names to the memorial. Proceeds from the sale of the bricks benefits the Harvester Scholarship fund.

Thank you to all who voted for me. I appreciate your support. I believe the best choice now for the future of Pampa is to

vote Jeff Andrews for Mayor

Sincerely,
Mike Rummerfield

Pol ad pd. for by Mike Rummerfield, 1912 Charles, Pampa, Tx.

DRILLING INTENTIONS

Intentions to Drill

GRAY (WILDCAT & N.E. HOOVER - Ellenburger) Newfield Explor. Mid-Con, Inc., #8 Spearman '23', 2616' from North & 788' from West line, Sec. 23.3,I&GN, PD 9200'. Rule 37

GRAY (WILDCAT & N.E. HOOVER Granite Wash) Newfield Explor. Mid-Con, Inc., #7 Spearman '23', 2278' from South & -1681' from West line, Sec. 23.3,I&GN, PD 7525'. Rule 37

HEMPHILL (NORTH BUFFALO WALLOW Lower Morrow) Chevron U.S.A., Inc., #1 Puryear, 2640' from North & 1620' from West line, Sec. 22,M-1,H&GN, PD 15981'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Patina Oil & Gas Corp., #14-07P Carr '14', 1650' from North & 2310' from East line, Sec. 14.4,AB&M, PD 12000'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPILL Granite Wash) Bracken Operating, L.L.C., #4-76 Thorne, 1200' from South & 467' from East line, Sec. 76,A-1,H&GN, PD 10800'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & HEMPILL Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #1 Thorne '75', 1980' from South & 467' from West line, Sec. 75,A-2,H&GN, PD 11275'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT) J.M. Huber Corp., #1072 Smith, 870' from North & 1110' from East line, Sec. 72,M-2,H&GN, PD 14000'.

Gas Well Completions

HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) BP America Production Co., #2085 Hoover, Sec. 85.41,H&T.C., spud 2-2-03, drlg. compl 2 17-03, tested 4 7 03, 119 8069'. PBTD 7979'

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SOFTBA

PAMPA won its sixth Carmichael 12-5 in in softball league. Carlyn T... the winning ing three in ing up two while strik Holly Win the fourth out the ga Hills.

Brooklyn lone hit for single in the in two runs.

OLYMPI

LONDO what is sh big-city b Olympics. New-York the race to Summer Ga Paris is announce n Havana Germany, committed. the Brazilia de Janeiro are also sho

BASKET

UNCAS (AP) — S scored 24 po shooting to l Comets to a win over t Sun on Thur Swoopes the second Comets built their biggest Swoopes' ju remaining.

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Nykesha three former on the floor, 20 points or ing. Adrien ished with 11 UConn star finished wi Shannon-Jc Sun with se seven board.

Janeth Au with 12:25 half gave t lead for g Houston led 10 points in took a 42 break.

The gan homecomin UConn play now a reser Comets. She almost imme a charge wi coming off finished wi and two stea

SPORTS

Spurs end Lakers' championship reign

Duncan, Parker combine for 64 points to lead San Antonio

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant and Derek Fisher left the court in tears.

Shaquille O'Neal apologized.

Robert Horry blamed himself.

It was a somber scene at Staples Center, where the Los Angeles Lakers' three-year championship reign came to a resounding end Thursday night.

"It hurts. I haven't had this feeling in a long time," O'Neal said after the San Antonio Spurs beat the Lakers 110-82 to win the Western Conference semifinal series 4-2. "But it's reality, it's life, so you have to suck it up and move on."

"The good thing about sports is there's always next year. We apologize to our fans for a so-so year, but we'll be back next year for a whole new run."

Two-time MVP Tim Duncan and Tony Parker were a much more effective 1-2 punch than O'Neal and Bryant. Duncan had 37 points and 16 rebounds and Parker scored 27 points, while O'Neal had 31 points and 10 rebounds and Bryant added 20 points.

"I don't like this feeling, I hate this feeling, I really do," Bryant said. "I don't ever want to feel it again. It's just tough to lose, man. We haven't experi-

enced this feeling in three years."

The Spurs advanced to the Western Conference finals, where they'll face Dallas or Sacramento, beginning Monday night in San Antonio. The Kings beat the Mavericks 115-109 Thursday night to force a seventh game Saturday night in Dallas.

Play resumes Friday night in the Eastern Conference, with Detroit taking a 3-2 lead into its game at Philadelphia. The series winner will play New Jersey in the conference finals.

The Lakers went 45-13 in the playoffs en route to winning their three straight championships. They were 15-1 in 2001 when they swept the Spurs in the conference finals, winning the last two games by

39 and 29 points. The Lakers eliminated the Spurs again last year, winning the conference semifinals in five games.

"For three years now, they've just dominated everybody," said San Antonio's David Robinson, playing his final season. "It feels good to break through that and go on to the next level."

The Lakers were trying to join the Boston Celtics as the only NBA teams to win more than three straight titles. The Celtics won eight in a row from 1959-66.

The Lakers had won 13 straight playoff series under Jackson and were 4-0 when facing elimination since he became their coach.

They entered this game tired and banged up, and that was

evident as the Spurs scored 44 of the game's final 62 points to turn a tenuous two-point lead into a 28-point blowout.

Parker, who turns 21 Saturday, drove the length of the court to make an uncontested layup with 1.2 seconds left in the third quarter for a 78-69 lead.

That was a sign of things to come. By the time the fourth quarter was half over, the Spurs led by 20 points.

The Lakers rallied from a 25-point deficit late in the third quarter of Game 5 and trailed by only two when Horry's 3-pointer rattled in-and-out with three seconds left, enabling the Spurs to escape with a 96-94 decision.

The Spurs weren't going to let a lead slip away again — even on the Lakers' court.

NOTEBOOK

SOFTBALL

PAMPA — Hidden Hill won its sixth game, defeating Carmichael Whatley 12-5 in a girls 10-12 softball league game.

Carlyn Teichmann was the winning pitcher, pitching three innings and giving up two runs on no hits while striking out two. Holly Winegeart pitched the fourth inning, closing out the game for Hidden Hills.

Brooklyn Barker had the lone hit for Hidden Hills, a single in the first that drove in two runs.

OLYMPICS

LONDON (AP) — In what is shaping up as a big-city battle for the Olympics, London joined New York and Madrid in the race to host the 2012 Summer Games.

Paris is expected to announce next week, while Havana and Leipzig, Germany, have already committed. Moscow and the Brazilian cities of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo are also showing interest.

BASKETBALL

UNCASVILLE, Conn. (AP) — Sheryl Swoopes scored 24 points on 11-of-18 shooting to lead the Houston Comets to a 79-72 preseason win over the Connecticut Sun on Thursday.

Swoopes had 17 points in the second half as the Comets built a 16-point lead, their biggest of the night, on Swoopes' jumper with 12:40 remaining.

With Swoopes out for a breather, the Sun battled back over the next five minutes to pull within eight on Adrienne Johnson's jumper at 68-60. But Swoopes got to work immediately on her return and hit a bucket to kick off an 8-3 Houston run and the Comets held on for the win.

Tiffani Johnson scored 13 and had 10 boards for Houston as the Comets outscored the Sun 38-30 in the paint. Houston also finished 10-of-10 from the free throw line.

Nykesha Sales, one of three former UConn players on the floor, led the Sun with 20 points on 7 of 14 shooting. Adrienne Johnson finished with 18 points. Former UConn star Rebecca Lobo finished with two points. Shannon Johnson led the Sun with seven assists and seven boards.

Janeth Arcain's 3-pointer with 12:25 left in the first half gave the Comets the lead for good at 14-13. Houston led by as many as 10 points in the period and took a 42-37 lead at the break.

The game provided a homecoming for former UConn player Rita Williams, now a reserve guard for the Comets. She had an impact almost immediately, drawing a charge within seconds of coming off the bench. She finished with seven points and two steals.

Pampa boxers compete in Kansas

Three members of the Pampa Boxing Club competed in a tournament in Garden City, Kan. last weekend.

Enrique Marquez of Pampa participated in the 110-pound

division and defeated Jose Mendoza of Garden City. Marquez went three rounds and had two outstanding eight counts to come away the winner.

Marquez is one of Pampa's new club boxers who now has two straight victories.

"Enrique's showing that he can be a true Pampa boxer with determination," said club owner Jose Larrazolo.

Chris Larrazolo, also of Pampa, went against Jose Rodriguez of Scott's Bluff, N.M. in the 105-pound division.

Larrazolo won a decision in three rounds.

Celia Moira of Pampa was defeated by Carla Garcia of Scott Bluff.

"With determination, Celia could defeat future boxers," said Larrazolo.

The Pampa Boxing Club is a new organization and is certified by US Boxing Commission No. 202.

"We are proud to represent our community. That is why we are called Pampa Boxing Club," Larrazolo said.

The boxing club is sponsored by Rick's Body Shop.



Enrique Marquez has two straight victories.

Martinez, Zito cruise to easy wins in American League

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Sports Writer

Pedro Martinez and Barry Zito made winning look easy against last-place teams.

Martinez struck out eight in six shutout innings, and the Boston Red Sox beat the visiting Texas Rangers 12-3 on Thursday night to complete a three-game sweep.

"Giving Pedro that many runs, it can demoralize a team," Boston catcher Jason Varitek said.

Zito coasted through six solid innings to pitch the Oakland Athletics to an 11-2 road victory over the lowly Detroit Tigers.

Eric Byrnes hit a bases-loaded triple in Oakland's six-run first inning.

"It was nice to get a good cushion for Barry," said Byrnes, who had a career-high four RBIs. "We obviously felt like we had it locked up after the top of the first because we had a guy like Barry on the mound."

In other AL games, it was: New York 10, Anaheim 4; Kansas City 9, Minnesota 5 in 14 innings; Chicago 8, Baltimore 2; Seattle 9, Cleveland 1; and Tampa Bay 9, Toronto 5.

The A's won their eighth straight series and 11th in their last 13. Oakland (25-15) has its best record after 40 games since 1990.

Zito (6-3) gave up two runs — one earned — on four hits and two walks. Last year's AL Cy Young Award winner struck out five and retired his last nine batters.

Teammate Tim Hudson, among the league leaders with a 2.88 ERA but only 3-1 thanks to a lack of run support, gave Zito a hard time about all the offense he got.

"He was razzing me in the first inning, like I took all his runs," Zito said. "He was yelling at me and I was just trying to stay focused."

Adam Bernero (0-6) gave up eight runs, eight hits and three walks in 3 1-3 innings. Detroit, a major league-worst 9-29, had won six of nine.

Martinez (4-2), a three-time Cy Young winner, allowed five hits and bounced back from a loss at Minnesota last Friday. He felt a pain in his groin during that outing, but Red Sox manager Grady Little said his ace threw on the side Tuesday and had no trouble.

"If we thought he was going to favor his groin, we would not have put him out there," Little said. "We have a tendency to overreact because this guy is a special pitcher. He means so much to this ballclub ... and he has earned the right to have some overreaction to anything that concerns him."

Nomar Garciaparra drove in three runs for Boston. David Ortiz had three hits and two RBIs.

Alan Benes (0-2) allowed six runs and seven hits in three-plus innings. The Rangers, last in the AL West, have lost eight of 10.

Yankees 10, Angels 4

At New York, Todd Zeile, playing first base for the first time this year, homered, singled on a pitchout and made a tumbling catch on a foul pop.

Arturo Moreno, whose \$184 million purchase of the Angels was approved earlier in the day, had barely settled into his box seat next to the Anaheim dugout when Alfonso Soriano, in a 1-for-20 skid, hit a lead-off homer against Aaron Sele (1-1). The World Series champions allowed 10 runs for the first time this season.

Derek Jeter doubled twice and

Bernie Williams hit a pair of RBI singles as the Yankees took a 10-1 lead after four innings.

Jeff Weaver (3-2) allowed two earned runs in 6 2-3 innings.

Royals 9, Twins 5, 14 innings

At Minneapolis, slumping Joe Randa keyed Kansas City's four-run 14th inning with a leadoff double.

Carlos Beltran hit a two-run homer in the first for the Royals, who split the four-game series and lead Minnesota by 2 1/2 games in the AL Central.

Cristian Guzman went 4-for-7 for the Twins, who stranded 13 runners.

Randa, in a 2-for-43 skid, doubled off Johan Santana (2-1) to start the 14th. Raul Ibanez hit a looper over a drawn-in Guzman at shortstop to make it 6-5. Ken Harvey added a sacrifice fly against Tony Fiore, and Desi Relaford and Angel Berroa followed with bloop RBI singles.

White Sox 8, Orioles 2

At Chicago, Bartolo Colon allowed five hits before he was ejected in the ninth inning, and Magglio Ordonez keyed a six-run seventh with a bases-loaded triple.

The victory gave the White Sox a three-game sweep and got them back to .500 for the first time in 12 days. The Orioles have lost five straight.

Frank Thomas homered, singled and drew a key bases-loaded walk to force in the go-ahead run in the seventh.

Colon (4-3) was on his way to a complete game before he was tossed for hitting Jerry Hairston with a pitch to start the ninth.

The benches emptied but there were no punches. White Sox manager Jerry Manuel also was ejected.

Plate umpire Terry Craft had

Operating Co. sneaks past Moose Lodge in Optimist 9-10 action

PAMPA - Operating Co. edged Moose Lodge 2-1 in an Optimist 9-10 League baseball game earlier this week.

Steven Botello had a triple to knock in Zach Ruth for Operating's first run. Ruth had reached base on a walk.

Cody Cole had a double and scored the winning run on an overthrow at second base in the last inning.

Tyler Hooper had a single for Moose's only hit. Garrett Sewell walked and scored Moose's only run on throwing errors.

Cody Cole started and pitched three innings, allowing one run. Steven Botello came on in relief and pitched two innings and didn't allow a run. Cole struck out seven and walked three, while

Botello struck out two and walked three.

Tyler Hooper and Tyler Malone pitched for Moose. Hooper struck out five and walked five while Malone struck out six and walked one.

The fourth inning was a pivotal one when Moose had a runner on third base with two outs.

Tyler Malone hit a short flyball between shortstop and left field which Hunter Hucks caught for the third out.

"It was a good hard-fought game," said Operating coach Kevin Hucks. "Both teams showed good sportsmanship and character. Both teams got together at home plate and prayed at the end of the game."

Operating Co. improved its record to 6-0-1.

warned both dugouts in the eighth after Baltimore reliever Jorge Julio hit Ordonez in the back with a pitch.

Mariners 9, Indians 1

At Cleveland, Edgar Martinez hit a three-run homer and three Seattle pitchers took a shutout into the seventh inning in a game delayed 2 hours, 28 minutes by rain in the fourth.

Devil Rays 9, Blue Jays 5

At Toronto, Toby Hall's two-run double and Rocco Baldelli's two-run single highlighted a six-run second inning for Tampa Bay. Doug Davis (1-2) was roughed up for seven runs on seven hits in 1 2-3 innings.

Batting Leaders

NATIONAL LEAGUE
BATTING—Renteria, St. Louis, .367; Sheffield, Atlanta, .348; MGiles, Atlanta, .336; Lieberthal, Philadelphia, .336; PrWilson, Colorado, .335; Furcal, Atlanta, .331; LCastillo, Florida, .331.
RBI—PrWilson, Colorado, 41; AJones, Atlanta, 40; Kearns, Cincinnati, 35; Lowell, Florida, 35; CPatterson, Chicago, 33; Helton, Colorado, 32; Sheffield, Atlanta, 32.
HOME RUNS—Dunn, Cincinnati, 14; Sexson, Milwaukee, 14; Kearns, Cincinnati, 13; Lowell, Florida, 13; PrWilson, Colorado, 11; Bagwell, Houston, 11; Bonds, San Francisco, 11.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
BATTING—Blalock, Texas, .371; Baldelli, Tampa Bay, .352; GAnderson, Anaheim, .344; EMartinez, Seattle, .342; JJones, Minnesota, .338; Catalanotto, Toronto, .333; MRamirez, Boston, .331.
RUNS—CEverett, Texas, 37; ASoriano, New York, 33; Garciaparra, Boston, 32; Damon, Boston, 32; CDelgado, Toronto, 32; BBoone, Seattle, 30; BWilliams, New York, 30.

RBI—Wells, Toronto, 39; CDelgado, Toronto, 38; CEverett, Texas, 36; GAnderson, Anaheim, 35; ASoriano, New York, 32; JGonzalez, Texas, 32; Posada, New York, 31; EMartinez, Seattle, 31.
HOME RUNS—CEverett, Texas, 13; JGonzalez, Texas, 13; ASoriano, New York, 12; CDelgado, Toronto, 12; Huff, Tampa Bay, 11; ARodriguez, Texas, 11; Wells, Toronto, 10; Posada, New York, 10; RPalmeiro, Texas, 10.

MAY 16

2003

Kings, Mavericks all deadlocked going into Game 7

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Doug Christie didn't need to be told that the Sacramento Kings missed just one free throw in 32 tries.

He knew perfectly well. "It was me," Christie said, chuckling.

Christie's only flaw was that missed free throw in the first quarter.

He had 20 points, nine rebounds, six assists, two blocks and a steal to lead the Kings to a 115-109 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Thursday night, evening the Western Conference semifinal series 3-3. Game 7 is Saturday night in Dallas.

"I was blessed with some ability and my job is to make this team go, whatever way," Christie said. "I was just very

focused and tried to do anything and everything I could."

Nick Van Exel nearly single-handedly put Dallas into the conference finals for only the second time, scoring 35 points on 15-for-23 shooting in 37 minutes.

He leapt high for a rebound and scored on a putback with 8:16 left for a 95-94 lead, but the Mavs then didn't make another basket for 5:05.

"We had a great advantage up 3-2," Van Exel said. "We needed to take care of this tonight. We let it slip away."

Peja Stojakovic had 24 points and 10 rebounds for the Kings, who played their fourth game in the series without injured star Chris Webber. Sacramento overcame a sluggish first quarter and converted

31 of 32 free throws, including 31 straight after Christie's miss.

The Mavs remain one win away from advancing to the conference finals, while the Kings' quest for the franchise's first title in 52 years is still alive.

Dirk Nowitzki added 21 points and 12 rebounds for Dallas, while Michael Finley had 21 points, seven boards and four assists.

Reserves Bobby Jackson and Jim Jackson had 21 and 16 points, respectively, for the Kings.

Dallas, eliminated in five games by Sacramento last season, did not want to go the distance in this series after being pushed to the limit by Portland in the first round.

Webber limped helplessly

around the sidelines in his designer duds and watched nervously from the edge of his seat, popping his bubble gum anxiously.

"I'm always nervous when I'm not playing," he said. "It was hard, but I knew we were going to win."

His supporting cast came through just fine, with Christie again setting the tone early — hustling for loose balls, going hard to the glass and making big baskets. At one point in the third period, Christie gathered his crew together for a pep talk, then scored six straight points and six of his team's eight during a 10-3 run spanning two minutes.

He'd scored a combined 34 points in his previous two games.

The deafening crowd of 17,317 became more raucous in the second half. The Kings sold out for the 178th consecutive game, the longest active streak in the league.

Walt Williams missed a go-ahead 3-pointer with 12 seconds left, and Bobby Jackson made two free throws on the other end to ice the victory.

Adelman was desperate to see his Kings play well for all 48 minutes after they blew an early lead in Game 5 with an atrocious third quarter, shooting 3-for-25. Their 10 points were the fewest ever by a Dallas opponent in a postseason quarter.

Mavs coach Don Nelson was able to block out the noise — his best friend and golfing buddy in Maui, Jim Sanders,

mailed him a fancy, \$13 pair of earplugs, an upgrade from the "cheapies" he used in the first two games at Arco.

"They're the ones the entertainers wear," Nelson pointed out.

One fan held a sign reading, "Never? the heart of a King." Another group each held up a letter to spell "B-E-L-L-I-E-V-E." And the clanging cowbells were out in force, too.

Webber, the Kings' leader in scoring, rebounding and assists, tore cartilage in his left knee in Game 2 and the injury will require arthroscopic surgery that will keep him out at least four-to-six weeks.

But Webber put off the procedure, hoping to possibly play again this season if the Kings reach the NBA Finals.



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MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS				
National League				
By The Associated Press				
All Times EDT				
East Division				
Atlanta	W	L	Pct	GB
28	13	683	—	
Montreal	25	16	610	3
Philadelphia	23	18	561	5
Florida	19	23	452	9 1/2
New York	17	24	415	11
Central Division				
Chicago	W	L	Pct	GB
24	16	600	—	
Houston	22	19	537	2 1/2
Cincinnati	21	20	512	3 1/2
St. Louis	19	19	500	4
Pittsburgh	16	25	390	8 1/2
Milwaukee	13	28	317	11 1/2
West Division				
San Francisco	W	L	Pct	GB
26	14	650	—	
Los Angeles	21	20	512	5 1/2
Colorado	20	21	488	6 1/2
Arizona	19	22	463	7 1/2
San Diego	13	28	317	11 1/2
Atlanta at San Diego, 4:05 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.				
Florida at Los Angeles, 4:10 p.m.				
Pittsburgh at Arizona, 4:35 p.m.				
Philadelphia at Houston, 8:05 p.m.				
American League				
All Times EDT				
East Division				
New York	W	L	Pct	GB
27	13	675	—	
Boston	26	14	650	1
Toronto	19	22	463	8 1/2
Baltimore	18	22	450	9
Tampa Bay	16	24	400	11
Central Division				
Kansas City	W	L	Pct	GB
24	15	615	—	
Minnesota	22	18	550	2 1/2
Chicago	20	20	500	4 1/2
Cleveland	12	27	308	12
Detroit	9	29	237	14 1/2
West Division				
Oakland	W	L	Pct	GB
25	15	625	—	
Seattle	25	15	625	—
Anaheim	19	20	487	5 1/2
Texas	16	24	400	9
Wednesday's Games				
Colorado 6, N.Y. Mets 5				
Montreal 6, San Francisco 3				
Pittsburgh 3, Houston 2				
Arizona 2, Philadelphia 0				
Chicago Cubs 6, Milwaukee 1				
Cincinnati 4, St. Louis 0				
Florida 10, San Diego 3				
Los Angeles 5, Atlanta 1				
Thursday's Games				
Houston 6, Pittsburgh 2				
Chicago Cubs 4, Milwaukee 2, 17 innings				
St. Louis 6, Cincinnati 3				
Philadelphia 6, Arizona 4				
Atlanta 15, San Diego 6				
Colorado 4, Montreal 2				
San Francisco 11, N.Y. Mets 3				
Friday's Games				
Cincinnati (Dempster 1-2) at Milwaukee (Franklin 1-4), 8:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Padilla 3-5) at Houston (Robertson 1-3), 8:05 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs (Clement 2-4) at St. Louis (Williams 4-0), 8:10 p.m.				
Montreal (Hernandez 3-2) at Colorado (Cook 1-3), 9:05 p.m.				
Atlanta (Hampton 2-1) at San Diego (Peavy 4-3), 10:05 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Wells 1-2) at Arizona (Batista 3-2), 10:05 p.m.				
Florida (Pavano 3-4) at Los Angeles (Dreifort 2-3), 10:10 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets (Astacio 2-1) at San Francisco (Schmidt 3-1), 10:15 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Chicago Cubs (Prior 5-1) at St. Louis (Tomko 2-2), 1:20 p.m.				
Cincinnati (Austin 2-1) at Milwaukee (Rusch 1-7), 2:05 p.m.				
Montreal (Vazquez 3-2) at Colorado (Jennings 3-3), 3:05 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 1-2) at San Francisco (Moss 5-1), 4:05 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Duckworth 2-1) at Houston (Lincecum 0-1), 4:05 p.m.				
Atlanta (Reynolds 2-1) at San Diego (Condrey 1-2), 10:05 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (S.Torres 2-1) at Arizona (Capuano 0-1), 10:05 p.m.				
Florida (Tejera 0-1) at Los Angeles (Od.Perez 2-2), 10:10 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
Cincinnati at Milwaukee, 2:05 p.m.				
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 2:10 p.m.				
Montreal at Colorado, 3:05 p.m.				
Anaheim (Ra.Ortiz 4-4) at Boston (Wakefield 4-1), 7:05 p.m.				
Texas (Lewie 3-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 5-2), 7:05 p.m.				
Seattle (Meche 4-2) at Detroit (Bonderman 2-5), 7:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Mulder 6-1) at Cleveland (Sabathia 2-2), 7:05 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (McClung 3-1) at Baltimore (Johnson 4-1), 7:05 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 2-6) at Minnesota (Radke 4-3), 8:05 p.m.				
Toronto (Hendrickson 3-4) at Kansas City (George 4-2), 8:05 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Seattle (Moyer 5-2) at Detroit (Cornojo 3-2), 1:05 p.m.				
Texas (Valdes 2-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Petitte 4-3), 1:05 p.m.				
Anaheim (Washburn 3-4) at Boston (Lowe 3-3), 1:20 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (Gonzalez 0-0) at Baltimore (Hentgen 0-0), 7:05 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox (Garland 2-3) at Minnesota (Mays 3-3), 7:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Halama 2-2) at Cleveland (Ric.Rodriguez 2-4), 7:05 p.m.				
Toronto (Halladay 3-2) at Kansas City (Affeldt 3-1), 7:05 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
Seattle at Detroit, 1:05 p.m.				
Texas at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.				
Oakland at Cleveland, 1:05 p.m.				
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 1:35 p.m.				
Anaheim at Boston, 2:05 p.m.				
Toronto at Kansas City, 2:05 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota, 2:05 p.m.				

Glo-Valve overpowers Celanese

PAMPA — Lane Douglass and Heath Skinner combined for a no-hitter as Glo-Valve Service overpowered Celanese Corporation 9-1 Tuesday in Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken League play.

Douglass struck out nine, walked six and surrendered one run in 3 2/3rds innings. Heath Skinner struck out seven and walked three in 2 1/3 innings.

Glo-Valve took a one-run lead in the top of the first inning on a lead-off double by Heath Skinner, who went to third on a ground out and scored on a fielder's choice hit by Hayden Skinner.

In the third inning, the winners eeked out another run. Kade Wilson singled and was forced at second by Hayden Skinner. Lane Douglass laid down a bunt

and kept going to second on a poor throw to first. Hayden Skinner scored on the play.

With one out in the third inning, Glo-Valve's Nick Riley beat out an infield roller for a single. Anthony Allen walked. Both came home on an inside-the-park home run by Heath Skinner, upping Glo-Valve's lead to 5-0.

Celanese's lone run came in the fifth inning when walks to Brodie Peters, Casey Trimble, John Luke Covatt, Madison Fatheree and Jeremy Busse were sandwiched around a caught stealing from Hayden Skinner to Freddie Ramirez.

Glo-Valve put the game away in the top of the sixth inning, scoring four times. Luke Watson walked and both runners moved up on a passed ball, and scored on a single up the middle by Kade

Wilson. Hayden Skinner socked a run-scoring triple and came home on a ground out by Douglass.

Trimble had a caught stealing for the defensive play of the game for Celanese. Hayden Skinner had a caught stealing and picked a runner off base for the outstanding defensive plays for Glo-Valve.

Heath Skinner, with a home run, double, two runs scored and three RBI, was the leading hitter for Glo-Valve. Kade Wilson made one run on two hits and had two RBI. Hayden Skinner scored twice and had a triple and two RBI.

Glo-Valve improved its first place standing to 7-0-2. Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency is second at 4-3. Celanese is next at 4-3-1 followed by Rotary Club at 3-4-1.

Astros closing in on NL Central lead

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Houston Astros are closing in on the NL Central lead despite only four wins in the first quarter of the season from top starters Roy Oswalt and Wade Miller.

If their 6-2 victory over Pittsburgh on Thursday is any indication, that's about to change.

The Pirates, on the other hand, are going nowhere, partly because the inconsistent Kris Benson has yet to establish himself as the staff ace. Manager Lloyd McClendon said that must change, too.

As the Astros returned home for the weekend and the Pirates went back on the road, they seemed to be headed in opposite directions. The Astros, after a slow start, are back in the division race after taking seven of eight from Pittsburgh in an 11-day stretch.

But the Pirates are nine games under .500 despite a fast start, a situation that seems to be

causing more tension and pressure each day.

McClendon, for example, said Wednesday that he's unhappy with the constant criticism his club gets, then turned around and sharply rebuked Benson (4-5) on Thursday for his latest failed start.

Unhappy that Benson immediately gave back two runs after being given a 2-0 lead, McClendon was strongly critical of the right-hander. He has rarely been on any player in his three seasons on the job.

"This game isn't based on potential, it's based on results," the manager said. "There comes a time when you've got to go out and get it done."

McClendon all but said Benson's inability to hold the lead was the turning point. The Astros took a 3-2 lead on Richard Hidalgo's homer off Benson in the sixth, then added three runs against reliever Brian Meadows in the final three

innings.

"When you get a couple of runs, you've got to go back out and go 1-2-3 in the next inning," McClendon said. "You've just gotten two runs off one of the best pitchers in the league (Oswalt). You can't give those runs back."

"You've got your No. 1 starter against their No. 1 starter. Sometimes you've got to step up, execute, make your pitches. Sometimes you've got to win a game 2-0."

Even if the Astros rarely do that themselves. Lately, they've been falling behind, then catching up and going ahead as their bullpen shuts down the opposition.

Houston outscored Pittsburgh 13-2 in the eighth and ninth innings while taking three of four games in the series. The Astros have a 59-17 edge in those innings this season, including a 32-8 advantage in the ninth.

Nine Georgia players ineligible for selling championship rings

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Fred Gibson needed some quick cash. He didn't want to wear jewelry on his fingers. So, he saw nothing wrong with selling his Southeastern Conference championship ring for \$2,000.

"It's my ring," the Georgia receiver said. "I should be able to do with it what I want."

Instead, Gibson and eight teammates from the Bulldogs' first SEC championship team in 20 years were declared ineligible for violating NCAA rules by selling their 10-karat gold rings just a couple of months after getting them.

To be reinstated, the players will have to reimburse the school for the cost to recover the rings, which were sold to a single broker and wound up being peddled on eBay.

"They'll definitely pay a price," athletic director Vince Dooley said Thursday.

Among those selling their

rings: expected starters Gibson, receiver Michael Johnson, line-backer Tony Taylor, and defensive linemen Kedric Golston and Darrius Swain. Reserve cornerbacks Tim Jennings and Kenny Bailey, along with walk-on Trey Young, also were involved.

Golston went a step further, also selling his Sugar Bowl ring and the jersey he wore in the bowl. Those items were auctioned off together on eBay, drawing a winning bid of \$3,500. Two of the SEC championship rings sold for \$1,700 and \$1,625.

The situation cast a pall over Georgia's dream season. The Bulldogs won a school record 13 games, capturing their first SEC title since 1982 and then beating Florida State in the Sugar Bowl to finish No. 3 nationally.

"Yeah, it bothers me," coach Mark Richt said. "It cheapens

what we did. I apologize to everyone who cares about Georgia football to have feeling, but that's exactly how I feel."

School president Michael Adams delivered a stern warning to an athletic program still reeling from scandalous reports of payoffs and academic fraud on the men's basketball team. The Bulldogs withdrew from both the SEC and NCAA tournaments, and coach Jim Harrick was forced to retire.

"My patience, the patience of the faculty, and the patience of most of our supporters is exhausted over this continuing improper behavior by athletes," Adams said. "I am disappointed and I expect corrective actions to be taken."

The football team has endured a tumultuous offseason, as well. Five players, including Jennings, were sus-

pended for at least the first two games after being charged with marijuana possession in a campus dorm. On Wednesday, four more players were suspended for unspecified violations.

Now, the school is working to restore the eligibility of the nine players who violated NCAA rules governing amateurism by selling the rings. Officials are arranging to repurchase the rings from an eBay seller who goes by moniker "yankeescoll45," though it may be impossible to get back all the items.

"It's a privilege to participate in intercollegiate athletics and receive these items," NCAA spokesman Jeff Howard said. "The athletes should cherish those and not profit from them."

Georgia isn't the only school going through a version of "Ring-gate." Florida State is investigating whether

players were paid for rings, autographs and other football-related merchandise.

The SEC championship ring, valued by Georgia at around \$350, has the school's "G" logo in the middle, surrounded by the words "SEC Champions — 2002."

Gibson said the players were never told they couldn't sell the rings. He also said it's not fair that the school earned millions of dollars from the championship season but the players aren't allowed to collect any outside income.

"I go to the store and see my No. 82 jersey on the shelves. What do I get paid from that? Nothing," he said. "If I can't make any money, then they shouldn't make any money, either."

Gibson said he sold his ring because his car was vandalized, causing around \$1,000 in damage. Besides, he wasn't

all that excited about getting a couple of championship rings.

"I'm glad we won and all that stuff, but to tell you the truth, I don't like rings," he said. "Those two rings were just sitting in my drawer."

The school is hopeful that the players' eligibility will be restored in time for the Aug. 30 opener at Clemson.

Richt is sure to impose his own punishment, but hasn't decided if that will include suspensions.

In the meantime, Georgia officials are trying to make sure that no one else tries to sell memorabilia while still in school.

"We'll probably have a procedure where they sign something saying they can't sell their rings," Richt said. "There's going to be some point blank consequences laid out for them if anything happens in the future."



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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **GARY FORD O'NEAL**, Deceased, were issued on May 12, 2003, in Docket No. 8989, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas to **JULIE KRISTINE O'NEAL**. Julie Kristine O'Neal is a resident of Gray County, Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate, addressed as follows:
Julie Kristine O'Neal
Independent Executrix
Estate of
Gary Ford O'Neal,
Deceased
c/o Don R. Lane
Attorney at Law
P. O. Box 1781
Pampa, TX 79066-1781
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 12th day of May, 2003.
Julie Kristine O'Neal
C-49 May 9, 2003

3 Personal

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4 Not Respon.

AS of this date, 5-13-03 I, Gerald W. Gregory, will no longer be responsible for any debts other than those incurred by me. Signed Gerald W. Gregory.

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69a Garage Sales

GARAGE Sale, Sat. 7-7 1811 N. Nelson, Baby stuff, clothes, etc. Sat. May 17th, 8-5.

MULTI-FAMILY Garage Sale. Kitchen items, lawn items, kids items, etc. Sat. May 17th, 8-5.

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DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

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.

5-16 CRYPTOQUOTE

B K V U V W U V S L

C S F S B V U V A B F S Y B K F S Y A

L S R X C S F S B V U V A B F S Y

Z V L Z R V — Y . I . D K V A B V U B L S

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF YOU REALLY WANT TO LOSE WEIGHT, THERE ARE ONLY THREE THINGS TO GIVE UP: BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER. — BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

69a Garage Sales

SAT. 8 a.m. 1624 N. Zimmers. Baby clothes and other baby items, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE 1028 Sierra Fri. & Sat. 8 a.m.-??

MULTI-FAMILY Garage Sale, Sat. 8-2 p.m. 401 S. Dickerson st., Mobeetie.

GARAGE Sale: 2125 N. Wells. House appliances, baby furniture, girls & boys clothes and much more. Sat. 8 a.m.-?

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YARD Sale, 413 N. Zimmers, Fri. & Sat. May 16 & 17, 9-5, Furniture, etc.

3 Family sale 2610 Semino. Sat. 8:00-?. Crafts, cute kids clothes, speakers, entertainment center, household items.

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Gymnastics of Pampa recital



(Courtesy photo)

Gymnastics of Pampa will stage its spring recital in two parts beginning at 6 p.m., and 8 p.m., respectively, today at Gymnastics of Pampa located on Loop 171. Above: (back row, left-right) Kenzie Griffin, Lacey Dodson, Allison Noble, Brynn Brown, Jaycee Hamlin, Allison Leigh; (middle row, l-r) Mackenzie Dull, Marlee Richardson, Taylor Eubank, Erika DeWitt, Shelly Langley; (front row, l-r) Tori Robles, Chris Smith, Zachery Sanderfur, Greg Smith and Gabby True.

Weather unkind to eclipse viewing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — As the moon moved through the shadow of the Earth, 6-year-old Parker Sydnam peered up at the phenomenon through a 6-inch telescope.

"It didn't look really like the moon, just a pink cloud," Parker said.

Skygazers across the nation were treated to the first lunar eclipse visible from North America in three years — if they were lucky enough to have the weather cooperate.

Initially, it was difficult to make out the darkened moon as it rose through haze hanging over Los Angeles.

"It's over there — it's the schmutz in the sky," said Kara Knack, 58, a member of Friends of the Observatory, a Griffith Observatory support group.

The view was sharper through the more than dozen telescopes that amateur astronomers set up on the Griffith Park lawn.

The moon remained totally eclipsed for 53 minutes as seen from North America, appearing darkest around 9 p.m. PDT or midnight on the East Coast.

"We've got clouds. We're clouded out," Kelly Beatty, executive editor of Sky & Telescope magazine in Boston, said sadly.

In El Paso, Texas, about 50 people gathered in front of the Gene Roddenberry Planetarium, despite a seasonal dust storm that sent gusting winds through the area.

Annette Campos dragged a few friends to the planetarium named for the creator of "Star Trek" after reading about the eclipse in her local paper.

"It gives you perspective," Campos said. "It's the one time you get to see how big the Earth is."

A total lunar eclipse occurs when the full moon passes into the shadow of the Earth and is blocked from the direct sunlight that normally illuminates it. During an eclipse, the sun, Earth and moon line up, leaving a darkened moon visible to everyone on the night side of the planet.

The moon does not go totally black, however. Some indirect sunlight still reaches

Senate OKs tax cut, Bush dividend plan in balance

WASHINGTON (AP) — A plan to temporarily erase taxes on corporate dividends cleared the Senate by the slimmest of margins, buoying President Bush's hopes for the keystone of his proposal to juice the economy despite its white-knuckle trip through Congress.

By a 51-49 vote late Thursday, the Senate approved a bill cutting individual income taxes and some business levies by \$350 billion through 2013. Before passage, senators voted to slice the dividend tax in half this year, then suspend it completely for three years. That roll call was 51-50, with Vice President Dick Cheney arriving to cast the tie-breaking vote.

Overall, the measure would cut taxes by nearly \$420 billion — and provide \$20 billion in spending for Medicaid and other programs for financially ailing states, while raising other levies and fees by almost \$90 billion.

The bulk of the bill moves up cuts in income tax rates passed by Congress two years ago, increases the child tax credit to \$1,000 and gives married couples a tax break. It also lets small businesses expense more of their equipment investments.

President Bush praised the Senate "for its bipartisan passage of a jobs and growth package that includes all of the components of my original plan."

"Jobs are on the line, and I look forward to working with the full Congress to pass a robust economic growth plan," Bush said in a statement after the Senate vote. "I call on Congress to resolve their differences quickly so I can sign a bill that will help create jobs, boost take home pay and spur economic growth."

Bush sought the complete elimination of the levies stockholders pay on dividends, a \$396 billion plan that was the heart of his \$726 billion tax-cutting proposal. But GOP moderates nervous about burgeoning federal deficits forced Republican leaders in both chambers to shrink the overall tax cut, and the fate of the dividend reduction was often in doubt.

Sens. Ben Nelson of Nebraska and Zell Miller of Georgia were the only Democrats to vote for the dividend plan, which was authored by Senate Budget Committee Chairman Don Nickles, R-Okla. Sens. John McCain of Arizona, Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island and Olympia Snowe of Maine were the only Republicans opposed.

Democrats said the proposal would help mostly the rich and swell budget deficits, and said the tax bill's price tag was artificially low because Republicans would never really let the dividend tax come back.

Ice cream social



(Courtesy photo)

Altrusa International, Inc., of Pampa hosted an ice cream social for the residents at Schneider House recently. Above: (Left to right) Altrusans Jeanne Mitchell and Kadda Schale serve Marguerite Hyatt.

WEEKEND SAVINGS

SALE GOOD MAY 16-19

ASST. BLUE BELL ICE CREAM
HALF GALLON

3/\$9⁰⁰



ASST. RED BARON PIZZA
12 INCH

2/\$6⁰⁰



FAT TONY'S SALSA 16 OZ.
MADE IN PANHANDLE TEXAS

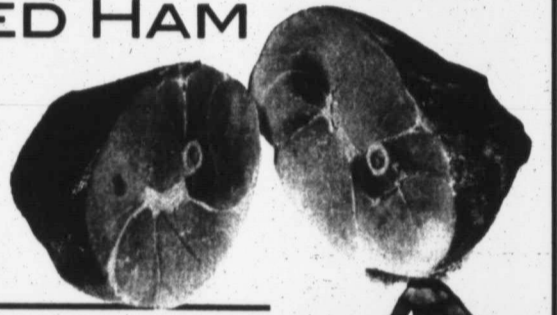
2/\$4⁰⁰



COOKS SMOKED HAM

SHANK 89¢ LB.

BUTT \$1⁰⁹ LB.



GOLDEN RIPE BANANAS

4 LBS. \$1⁰⁰



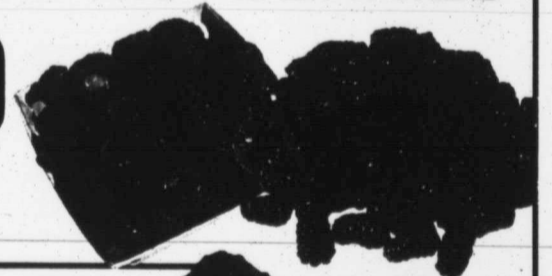
RED RIPE STRAWBERRIES
1 LB. PKG.

2/\$3⁰⁰



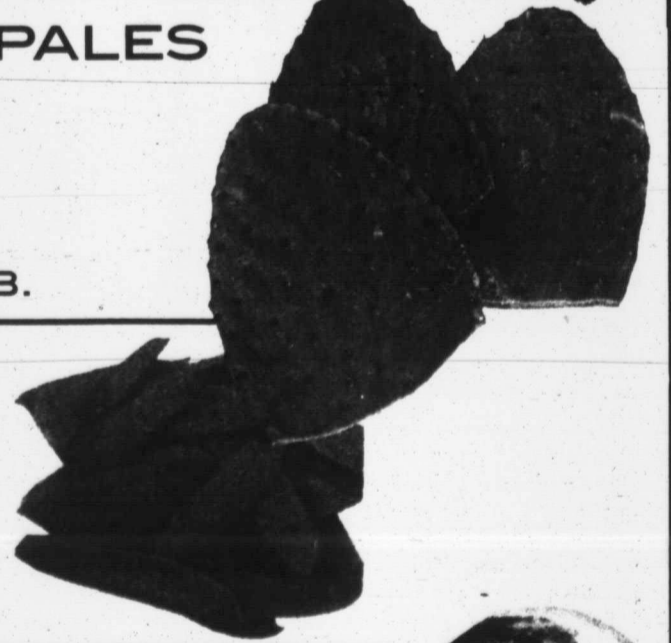
BLACK BERRIES OR RASPBERRIES

2/\$3⁰⁰



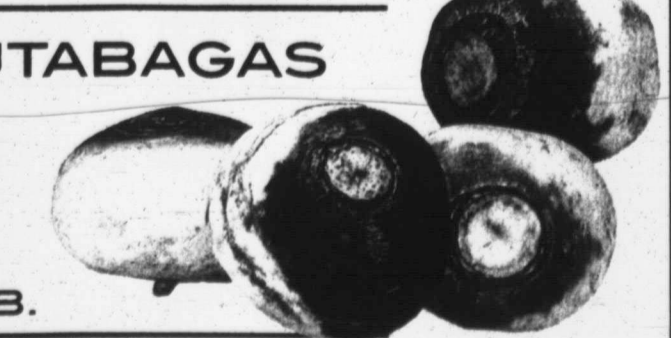
WHOLE NOPALES

99¢ LB.



SNO PEAS

\$1⁸⁹ LB.



RUTABAGAS

99¢ LB.



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