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LOCAL

Red Cross swimming lessons begin June 9

Swim lessons sponsored by the Gray County chapter of the American Red Cross will be held from June 9 through June 20. Classes are 30 minutes each morning at a cost of \$35 per student. All levels of swimming will be taught at the M.K. Brown Pool. Second session will be July 14 through July 25. Call the Red Cross office to register. 669-7121.

LOTTO

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-31-35-39-40. Bonus Ball: 16. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: none.

DEATHS

A. Jean Franklin, 57, homemaker.
H. Wayne Hogue, 62, rancher, oilfield worker.
Zenith Lang, 95, services pending.

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WEST TEXAS LANDSCAPE

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Cutting budget a 'bloody task'

By NANCY YOUNG
MANAGING EDITOR

"It was the hardest session I've ever been in," said Sen. Robert Duncan Wednesday evening as he described the 78th Legislature which ended Monday.

Duncan gave a synopsis of the legislative issues and activities to about 20 Pampa residents Wednesday in a town hall meeting at the Knights of Columbus Building.

A balanced state budget was achieved by the legislature, but it had its cost, he said.

The state senator described going through each line item of each state agency of the budget to evaluate what could be cut to compensate for the \$9.9 billion budget shortfall projected by State Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander.

"We were able to literally go through and identify the core and essential needs of the state, where we could make cuts - the things we could do without and the things we couldn't," he said.

"It was a bloody task," he said. Not everything was bad

though, he said.

"The bright spot was David Dewhurst," said Duncan. He said many people had been apprehensive about the newly-elected lieutenant governor's ability to preside over the Senate.

"He is highly competent," he said in praise of the role Dewhurst played in the 78th Legislature. "He allowed people to share power. He made our session."

He alluded to the May Democrat exodus to Oklahoma with humor.

"We didn't pass redistrict-

ing. The Democrats went to Ardmore," he said. "If it had been the Republicans, we'd have gone to Santa Fe."

Duncan said the money to be taken from Texas' Rainy Day Fund to help balance the budget should be replaced fairly quickly as it is funded according to natural gas prices. "The price of natural gas is high," he said.

Education was another issue of the legislature that wasn't completely solved, he said.

(See DUNCAN, Page 3)



(Pampa News photo) Sen. Duncan reviews the 78th Legislature session.

Reception set to honor local representative

Pampa and Gray County residents will show their appreciation to State Rep. Warren Chisum Friday night at an Appreciation Reception to be held in his honor from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

The public is invited to attend the event honoring the Pampa resident.

At 7 p.m., Mayor Lonny Robbins will present Chisum with a key to the city of Pampa.

Chisum was elected as state representative for District 88 in 1988. During the 78th Legislative session, he served on the county affairs committee and environmental regulation committee.

"It is a general appreciation for representing Pampa and the Panhandle," said Clara Sailor, one of the sponsors of the event. "We just want to

show Warren we appreciate him and are proud he is from Pampa."

Additional sponsors are WO Operating Company, Drs. Fred and Diane Simmons, Dr. Malouf and Therese Abraham, Jeff and Sharron Andrews, Bradley Operating Company, Inc., Curtis Well Service, Mon Corp, Myriad Resources Corporation and Bob and Sheila Neslage.

Chisum has been a consistent supporter of rural issues during the legislative sessions in which he has served as state representative.

In addition to Gray County, he also represents Parmer, Bailey, Lamb, Castro, Swisher, Armstrong, Briscoe, Hall, Donley, Collingsworth, Childress, Gray, Wheeler, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Ochiltree and Hansford counties.

HOME of the BRAVE

Sgt. Eric Wynn
Rank: Sergeant
Branch: U.S. Army Reserves
Job: 414th Military Police Co.
Stationed: Joplin, Mo.
Deployment: Pending
Family: Wife, Tawana Garrison-Wynn; son, Keegan; mother, Sandra Bauers, Colorado Springs, Colo.; father, Harold Wynn, Diamond, Mo.

YN3 Tawana Garrison-Wynn
Rank: Yeoman Third Class Petty Officer
Branch: U.S. Navy
Job: Migrant Operations
Stationed: Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
Length of service: 3 years
Family: Husband, Eric Wynn; son, Keegan; mother, Wanda Riggle, Skellytown.

New portal of opportunity opening

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
EDITOR

A new window of opportunity for this area has opened thanks to the Gray County Community Network, www.graycounty.net.

And to make opening this window easier, persons who may be less than Internet-savvy can take part in a series of free computer training classes being offered at Horace Mann Center, 400 N. Faulkner.

Lee Carter, project director for the Gray County Community Network, describes the web site as a "web portal to information concerning the community and its activities."

A \$250,000 Texas Infrastructure Fund Board (TIFB) grant has funded the program for the next three years, he said.

In addition to a web-based information hub for Gray County, the grant

provides high speed Internet access to persons who might not ordinarily have such access. To do this, new computer stations connected to high speed wireless Internet services are to be set up in locations around the city including three in City Hall, two at M.K. Brown Auditorium, six each at Pampa Senior Citizens Center and Southside Senior Citizens Center, four at Lovett Memorial Library, six at Gray County Courthouse and six at Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Carter, representing Pampa Independent School District, applied for the grant on behalf of Gray County. Pampa ISD will be the fiscal agent for the funds.

Part of the school district's matching contribution is Carter's time as the project director and the use of PISD's technology training lab at Horace

(See PORTAL, Page 3)



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Lee Carver and Janet Sanders prepare to enter student registration for free computer classes scheduled to begin next week. In the background are computers that will soon be set up for public use throughout Pampa.

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Bush: U.S. will 'reveal the truth' in Iraq weapons search

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — President Bush argued Thursday the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq was justified and pledged that "we'll reveal the truth" on Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction.

"We've made sure Iraq is not going to serve as an arsenal for terrorist groups," Bush said, his coat off and shirt sleeves rolled up as he spoke to a sea of tan camouflage-clad U.S. soldiers at the command center for the Iraq war.

Bush noted the recent discovery in northern Iraq of what U.S. intelligence agencies say are probably each part of a mobile biological weapons production facility.

No complete production system has been found. Neither trailer had any biological agent inside, nor showed any signs that they had been used to produce biological weapons.

"We're on the look. We'll reveal the truth," Bush said, without specifically promising weapons would be found. "But one thing is certain: no terrorist network will gain weapons of mass destruction from the Iraqi regime because the Iraqi regime is no more."

Bush's visit came as questions swirl around his primary justification for the conflict in Iraq — that Saddam had

weapons of mass destruction and was poised to use them.

U.S. and British forces have yet to find tangible evidence that Saddam had stocks of chemical and biological weapons ready to use. In a recent interview with Polish television, Bush pointed to the two trailers to say, "We found the weapons of mass destruction."

The president, fresh from a two-day mission aimed at bringing peace to the Middle East, emphasized the improvements the war brought to Iraq. He mentioned the word "freedom" repeatedly and spent little time on the weapons issue.

The troops are trying to thwart a wave of crime that Bush blamed on Saddam, who he said emptied jail cells of "common criminals" just before the war and left his people hungry and desperate.

"The world is now learning what many of you have seen," Bush told the more than 1,000 troops, who cheered every other sentence. "They're learning about the mass graves. They're learning about the torture chambers. Because of you, a great evil has been ended. Because of you, the dignity of a great nation is being restored."

Bush blamed Saddam for neglecting his country's infra-

structure, without mentioning damage from the war.

"A more just political system will develop when people have food in their stomachs, and their lights work, and they can turn on a faucet and they can find some clean water — things that Saddam Hussein did not do for them," Bush said.

Bush spoke to troops in a warehouse at Camp As Sayliyah, the temperatures climbing despite the air conditioning. After his remarks, the president paused to shake his hands with troops. Soldiers held cameras and video recorders above their heads to get pictures.

"I've been on the road for a while and I hope you didn't mind us stopping by," Bush said. "I'm happy to see you and so are the long-suffering people of Iraq."

Earlier Thursday, Bush met privately with Gen. Tommy Franks, the commander of all U.S.-led forces in the Persian Gulf and with L. Paul Bremer, the new head of the occupation authority in Iraq, to discuss the progress of Iraqi reconstruction.

He also paid a courtesy call to the emir of Qatar, a country that has been a longtime U.S. ally. Bush said he was the first U.S. president to visit the tiny

Persian Gulf nation, and left for Washington immediately afterward.

"You have been a steadfast friend of the United States, and for that we are very grateful," Bush told Emir Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani.

The president's major ally in the war, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, is embroiled in the biggest controversy of his six years in power, accused of exaggerating the dangers posed by Iraq.

But Bush's approval ratings remain high in U.S. polls. And his visit here, his first to the

region since combat ended, was akin to a victory lap after a seven-day trip to Europe and the Middle East.

Bush has blunted criticism of his role in the Iraq war by throwing his energy into drumming up support for an internationally drafted peace plan that would result in the creation of a Palestinian state by 2005.

He won support for the effort from Arab leaders on Tuesday, and was able to wring concessions on Wednesday from both the Israeli and Palestinian prime ministers.

"Great and hopeful change is coming to the Middle East," Bush said in Aqaba as he shared a platform with the prime ministers of Israel and the Palestinian Authority and the king of Jordan.

On the way from Aqaba to Qatar, Bush told reporters he was pleased with his initial successes on the Israeli-Palestinian front.

"It's progress," Bush said. "These first signs of peace happen when people make up their minds to work toward peace, and that's what you saw."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DUNCAN

Duncan said he expects a special session in October to deal with public school finance. When asked Wednesday evening what other issues would come up in special session, he said that decision would be up to Governor Rick Perry.

It was when the redistricting issue came before the legislature in May that more than 50 Democrats left the state, and the bill failed.

Deregulation of tuition at colleges and universities shouldn't cause the tuition prices to skyrocket, said Duncan.

Gov. Perry has said he has instructed the people he has appointed to boards of regents to not let it "get out of hand," the senator said.

Approximately \$1 billion in federal funds for the No Child Left Behind program will go to public schools.

It would be based on weighted average daily attendance and would amount to about \$112 per student in Texas, said Duncan.

Duncan said more restraints should be in place for doctors determined to have been found to exhibit unprofessional conduct. He said in the past Texas has been extremely lax in this area, but legislative action should correct it.

He also talked of the tort reforms and the \$250,000 cap on medical malpractice insurance.

Duncan said the legislature did not enact new taxes, but said there were some user fees which increased.

Kerry Knorpp, an area oil and gas attorney, told Duncan that he was pleased with his work in attempting to improve the oilfield clean-up.

Duncan said he is working to get more accomplished in that area.


He said the CHIP program will drop about 4,000 to 6,000 children, primarily because income which has been disregarded in figuring eligibility in the past will now be considered. He cited child support as a source of income to be considered.

Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins asked about the new financial disclosure requirements as a result of an ethics bill passed by the legislature that would affect school and city officials.

In House Bill 1606, officials in cities over 100,000 would have to file personal financial disclosure forms. Also, it would apply to school districts with 5,000 students or more. Failure to comply would result in a Class B misdemeanor charge. Gov. Perry has not signed the bill into law.

Duncan urged the people at the gathering to communicate to him their feelings on issues.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PORTAL

Mann for community training, he said. His administrative assistant Janet Sanders helps Carter maintain the web site, also.

The lab consists of 20 computer stations, all connected to high speed Internet, and a permanent overhead data projector connected to the instructor's computer.

"Students need an instructor to properly model what to do and they need hands on experience with the computer," Carter said.

Carter plans to teach the first class, Beginning Internet 1, which will meet from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday, June 9. Word Processing 1 will be taught by Krista Hughes from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, June 10. Suzie Jameson will teach Introduction to Windows from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursday, June 12 and Sherry Seaborn will teach an afternoon session of Beginning Internet 1 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., on Thursday, June 12.

Class sizes will be limited to 12 students each and meet for three hours at a time, Carter said.

"These teachers are Pampa ISD teachers that teach technology classes all the time," he explained. "They know how to explain things in a non-technical, non-threatening way. Many of them have taught courses at Clarendon College, too. They're people who know how to teach adults."

Class subjects planned for later this summer include Genealogy Research, Windows XP, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Word Processing, Print Shop, PowerPoint, Internet, E-Mail, Researching Using the Internet, and Researching the Internet for Middle Schoolers.

Prospective students can register online at the www.graycounty.net site or can call Pampa ISD administrative offices, 669-4700, to register.

Students who complete the class will be given a certificate of completion, Carter said.

"A lot of people are fearful of technology," he said, adding the classes are intended to make using computers

Upcoming classes

Computer classes for the week of June 9th - 13th are as follows:

- Beginning Internet 1 - June 9th from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., Lee Carter - Instructor
- Word Processing 1 - June 10th from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Krista Hughes
- Introduction To Windows June 12th from 9:00 a.m. - noon, Suzie Jameson - Instructor
- Beginning Internet 1 - June 12th from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Sherry Seaborn - Instructor

and the Internet less intimidating.

"(Clarendon College Dean) Joe Kyle (Reed) is excited about this," he said. "We hope that these classes raise people's awareness and they'll want to enroll in the local community college."

Carter said one goal of the Community Network is to raise the technical skill level of the local work force and encourage young people to stay in Pampa.

"This is what young people look for," he said of the web site. "It's a pipeline to the city."

He said he's also learned that senior citizens are now the fastest growing group of Internet users.

"The reasons are, they're retired and they have the time, they have the money to buy computers and they have grandkids," he said.

Schedules for the free computer classes will be updated on the web site on a regular basis. Class schedules will also be posted on the Channel 8 television channel.

Other features of the web site will include a help desk for community services, com-

munity events calendar, classifieds and job postings, E-commerce (on-line stores), and BillPay, a convenient way to pay city bills online.

Community Network also offers free web pages for faith-based and non-profit organizations, Carter said.

Pampa High School students taking Web Master II classes can set up the web page, he said.

"With a minimal amount of training, we can teach someone like the secretary of a church to maintain and update the page," he added.

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White guilt, black exploitation

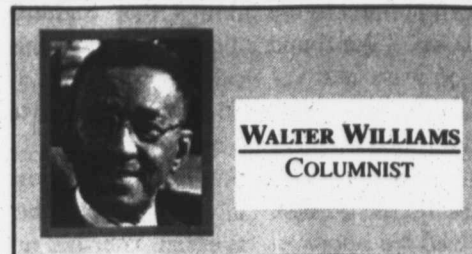
Few Americans have heard of the National Slave Memorial Act (HR 196) that proposes to erect a National Slave Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Last year, Sen. Trent Lott made this suggestion whilst groveling at the feet of black politicians and civil rights activists after his remarks supporting the 1948 presidency of then-segregationist Sen. Strom Thurmond. Since then, a few Republicans have joined with Democrats to co-sponsor the National Slave Memorial Act.

Supporters say the National Slave Memorial Act will begin the racial "reconciliation" and "healing" process. It's amazing how people can say this with straight faces and believe it.

We've heard this claim as justification for one government program or another, most recently being former President Clinton's "Race Initiative." How much healing and reconciliation did it produce? It simply produced a forum for charlatans, demagogues and race hustlers. If a slave memorial is built on the National Mall, it will simply become a media backdrop for the likes of race hustlers like Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson and Black Congressional Caucus to spew their anti-American venom and call for quotas and reparations for slavery.

There's no way the National Slave Memorial Act could become law without the assistance of useful idiots in the Republican Party. You'll recall that "useful idiots" was a term coined by Lenin to



WALTER WILLIAMS
COLUMNIST

describe mindless Western do-gooders who were helpful to communists but nonetheless detested. Republicans can't believe that their support for the National Slave Memorial Act will deliver them more black votes and greater acceptance by the Democrats; that's assuming Republicans have a modicum of good sense. The only other reason why they might support the act is to assuage their feelings of guilt for the injustices of slavery that made a mockery of the values expressed in our Declaration of Independence and Constitution.

Guilt is one of the worse human motivations. It promotes self-serving actions, while ignoring or discounting the effects of those actions on the object of the guilt. I recall my first year as an assistant professor of economics at Temple University in 1973. Black students had demanded that a course in "black economics" be taught. What's worse is that some of my colleagues were giving the demand serious thought.

Not being able to convince me that there was such a thing as black economics, I asked several of my colleagues what would be their response had some

Polish or Italian students demanded a course in Polish or Italian economics? I answered the question for them by telling them they'd probably kick the rascals out of their offices.

That was just the tip of the guilt iceberg. One Temple University colleague took me to lunch and confided to me that he was having numerous academic problems with his poorly prepared black students.

I asked him what his response to their poor preparation was. He replied that he tried to take into consideration racial discrimination and the poor education they received. I asked him how he assigned grades, to which he responded: If they come every day and look as if they're taking notes, I give them a "C".

After I recovered, I told him that's very much like having a dog in a English class and one day the dog sits on his hind legs and says, "You not po da dat." You'd give the dog an "A". Why? You don't expect the dog to speak at all, and no matter what he says you'd deem it laudable.

Motivated by these and other experiences, sometime ago I created a "Certificate of Amnesty and Pardon" for guilt-ridden Americans of European ancestry (available at: www.gmu.edu/departments/economics/wew) under "Gift" on my webpage. I now extend that gift to Congress and White House supporters of the National Slave Memorial Act.

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Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Pampa News*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Young people, stay strong

To the editor:
 Since when do we need demonic games to entertain our children? The devil has done everything in his power to destroy this generation just like when Moses was born and when Jesus was born. No I learn from an article the paper that the seniors' all-night party will be entertained by hypnotist games. The word of God says in Deuteronomy 18: 10-12, "There shall not be found among you any charmer. All that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord." Read also Isaiah 19:3,4. I believe God has some young people like Moses in this generation that are going to be the greatest and the most powerful Christians this world has ever known. Where ever you are, let it be known that you will not be defeated or destroyed.

Julia Willis
Pampa

TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, June 5, the 156th day of 2003. There are 209 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 5, 1968, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated after claiming victory in California's Democratic presidential primary. Gunman Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was immediately arrested.

On this date:

In 1783, Joseph and Jacques Montgolfier publicly demonstrated their hot-air balloon in a 10-minute flight over Annonay, France.

In 1794, Congress passed the Neutrality Act, which prohibited Americans from enlisting in the service of a foreign power.

In 1917, about 10 million American men began registering for the draft in World War I.

In 1933, the United States went off the gold standard.
 In 1940, the Battle of France began during World War II.

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Road map could cost U.S. our ally

"Israel must vanish, Muslims say" blared a headline in the June 3, edition of International Herald Tribune.

And if my fears are justified, that's where the so-called "Road Map," to peace could lead us.

What that road map ultimately does is weaken our only friend and real ally in the Middle East, and we have to understand that this friend is Israel.

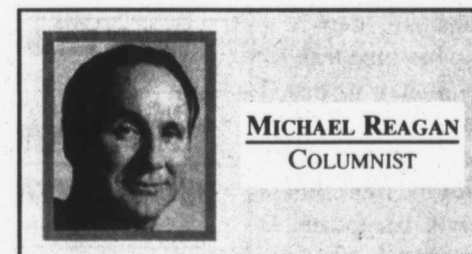
By putting together this road map and even talking about giving the Palestinians a state is telling the world that terrorism wins. The lesson this would teach is that if you terrorize long enough, hard enough and lie enough, then ultimately you'll get the big dog, the United States to give in and believe that if we give you your own state you'll be a peaceful country.

Well that's not what history shows. In 1948 the Palestinians had what amounted to a Palestinian state. What happened? They went to war trying to destroy Israel.

Most Palestinians live in Jordan, which is about 80 percent Palestinian. So they have a state, but they aren't welcome there.

The fact is that the people President Bush wants to give a state are not peaceful people — they are terrorists. We may call them Palestinians, but we have to remember that they are Arabs, and the attitude of Arabs toward Israel and the United States is one of sheer hostility, as the Pew Research poll reported in the Herald Tribune story reveals.

Reports the Tribune, "Animosity [to the U.S.] is so high that solid majorities in five populations surveyed expressed



MICHAEL REAGAN
COLUMNIST

confidence in Osama bin Laden to 'do the right thing' in world affairs." Incredibly, bin Laden was one of the three "leaders" most trusted by the nine Muslim populations surveyed, outranking even UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan. Bin Laden's confidence rating was matched only by Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.

According to the poll, at exactly the time the Israeli government, under intense U.S. pressure, has accepted the right of Palestinians to statehood, most Muslim populations surveyed believe by wide margins that the needs of Palestinians cannot be met so long as the state of Israel exists.

The poll, conducted by the Pew Global Attitudes Project, questioned more than 15,000 people in May. Muslims in Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Palestinian Authority and Turkey were included in the massive poll.

As for the future of the U.S.-sponsored "road map" to peace, the poll showed Muslims convinced that "the rights and needs of the Palestinian people" Palestinian state or no Palestinian state, "cannot be taken care of as long as the

state of Israel exists."

In other words, giving the Palestinians their own state carved out of part of Israel not only fails to insure Israel's security, it poses a serious threat to the continued existence of our sole friend and ally in the Middle East.

According to the poll, the conviction that no way can be found for Israel and the Palestinians to coexist is strongest in Morocco (90%), followed by Jordan (85%), in the Palestinian Authority itself (80%), Kuwait (72%), Lebanon (65%), Indonesia (58%) and Pakistan (57%). This is the reality of the situation, and the "road map" to peace flies in the face of it, accepting the naïve belief that satisfying Palestinian demands for a state of their own will somehow remove the ever present threat to the very existence of Israel.

Keep in mind the fact revealed in the poll — that fully 80% of the population included in the Palestinian Authority — the people who will be the citizens of the Palestinian state — want Israel to vanish. They insist that there can be no peace as long as the country that is ready to give them their own state continues to exist.

The only two men who could have brought real peace were Itzhak Rabin and Anwar Sadat. They're gone, murdered because the terrorists do not want peace.

Golda Mier put it this way: "When the Palestinians start loving their children more than they hate their enemies there will be peace."

Not before then.

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New Libe

MONRO (AP) — Ne crimes sus Charles Thursday his foiled an at rebel units al toward the L Speaking the Liberian said an atten his govern Wednesday cials" suppo fied foreign Taylor whether any made, but "accepted th Liberian Moses Blah coup attempt "The atte Taylor said, tacts were embassies a capital to se personnel th their propos Blah "wil the next few and the wor actions on sure he will for the Li Taylor said. He added

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Newly indicted for war crimes, Liberian leader smears critics

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — Newly indicted war crimes suspect President Charles Taylor claimed Thursday his government had foiled an attempted coup as rebel units allegedly advanced toward the Liberian capital.

Speaking to journalists in the Liberian capital, Taylor said an attempted takeover of his government was launched Wednesday by "certain officials" supported by unidentified foreign diplomats.

Taylor did not reveal whether any arrests had been made, but said he had "accepted the resignation" of Liberian Vice-President Moses Blah as a result of the coup attempt.

"The attempt was foiled," Taylor said, adding that "contacts were made by certain embassies accredited near this capital to senior armed forces personnel that did not accept their proposition."

Blah "will be explaining in the next few days to the nation and the world what prompted actions on his part and I'm sure he will have an apology for the Liberian people," Taylor said.

He added that "as I'm talk-

ing to you, there's massive fighting going on... with units trying to enter Monrovia."

There was no independent confirmation of the alleged coup attempt or the fighting. In the past, Taylor has been accused of rallying public support by inflating reported fighting with two rebel groups trying to oust him.

The Liberian leader, who said the coup attempt came while he was in Accra, Ghana on Wednesday to attend peace talks with rebel groups, added that he "will be asking my entire cabinet to resign that will leave open the road to a government of national unity."

"We are going to remain on course not for me, but for the Liberian people. We want to continue to ask for your prayers," he said.

A U.N.-sponsored war crimes court in neighboring Sierra Leone charged Taylor on Wednesday with crimes against humanity for a 10-year terror campaign in which tens of thousands of people were killed, raped, kidnapped or maimed in Sierra Leone.

Taylor, a warlord-turned-president, long had been accused of running guns and

keeping close ties to Sierra Leone's Revolutionary United Front, the rebels whose ruinous battle for control of Sierra Leone's diamond fields ended last year.

The indictment accuses Taylor of "bearing the greatest responsibility for war crimes, crimes against humanity and serious violations of international humanitarian law," said David Crane, the American prosecutor of the joint U.N.-Sierra Leone war-crimes court, which also issued an arrest warrant for Taylor.

On Thursday, Taylor dismissed the indictment.

"To call the president of Liberia a war criminal? God himself will not permit it," he said.

Ghana officials apparently made no attempt to arrest Taylor, who flew home with his entourage late Wednesday, a day earlier than planned.

Ghana's attorney general, Papa Owusu Ankomah, said authorities had not received the indictment and, once they did, would need time to review it. That gave Taylor plenty of time to return home, where arresting him would be extremely difficult.

Terrorists target bus in Russian

VLADIKAVKAZ, Russia (AP) — A bomber attacked a bus near a Russian military air base near Chechnya on Thursday, killing herself and at least 16 others in a new blow to the Kremlin's claims that peace is returning to the volatile region.

The bus was carrying military and civilian personnel from the city of Mozdok to a nearby airfield. The death toll and accounts of the bombing differed, with some saying the woman boarded the bus and others saying she crawled underneath it to set off her bomb.

An Interior Ministry official in the North Ossetia region where the attack happened said 19 people were killed, including the attacker, while Russian prosecutors said the death toll was at least 16.

Russian networks showed footage of bodies covered by white sheets near the badly damaged red-and-white bus, which was riddled with small holes and dents near the door and missing most of its windows. Citing regional prosecutor Alexander Begulov, Channel One television said the woman had detonated a bomb filled with metal balls.

The regional Interior Ministry official said the woman blew herself up after boarding the bus while it was waiting at a railroad crossing.

Russian Deputy Prosecutor General Sergei Fridinsky said the woman approached the bus at its final stop en route to the base and blew herself up next to it. North Ossetian Prime Minister Mikhail Shatalov said the woman thrust herself under the bus before detonating the explosives, the Interfax news agency reported.

There are rules barring military vehicles from picking up passengers for fear of terrorist attacks, the Interior Ministry official said.

Vietnam's 'godfather' receives death penalty

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (AP) — Vietnam's top organized crime boss was sentenced to death Thursday in a dramatic conclusion to a trial intended to showcase the communist government's resolve in fighting corruption.

Truong Van Cam, 56, known as Nam Cam, will face a firing squad after being convicted of murder, bribery and five other crimes in the country's largest-ever criminal trial.

The case, with a total of 155 defendants, has been viewed as a chance for the government publicly to clean house in a country ranked as one of the most corrupt in the world.

Nam Cam stood with his hands clasped behind him and showed no emotion as the sentence was read. A police officer placed his hand on the gangster's shoulder to comfort him.

Defense attorney Nguyen Dang Trung said he plans to appeal the verdict and sentence, which were widely expected.

At a news conference later Thursday, presiding Judge Bui Hoang Danh expressed hope the case would have served as a warning to others.

"Any person who commits crime must be brought to justice regardless of his position," he said.

Five other gang members also were sentenced to death for murdering Nam Cam's rival and two other people. Another five received life in prison.

Nam Cam, a former dock worker and veteran of the South Vietnamese army, was accused of heading a vast criminal empire whose influence extended into the ranks of the Communist Party.

Over his decade-long reign in Vietnam's largest city, he bribed dozens of law enforcement and government officials to protect his network of gambling dens, hotels and restaurants that fronted for brothels.

The highly publicized case, with its sordid exploits of murder, vice and bribery, has riveted the country since his arrest in December 2001 for ordering a hit on a rival gang member.

Several hundred people, including some openly weeping family members, congregated on the grounds in front of

the courtroom as the defendants were led outside after the trial. Some onlookers climbed nearby trees to catch a glimpse.

The silver-haired Nam Cam was convicted Wednesday of all the charges against him, which also included assault, gambling, running gambling dens, sheltering criminals, and helping others to flee the country.

The trial publicly exposed the close links between organized crime and the ruling Communist Party, embarrassing a leadership that has prided itself on its anti-corruption stance.

Dozens of others were sentenced to jail Thursday, including the trial's three highest-ranking Communist Party officials. Pham Sy Chien, a former deputy national chief prosecutor, was given six years in jail while Tran Mai Hanh, the former head of state radio, was given 10 years. Both were found guilty of taking bribes to help Nam Cam get an early release from a labor camp in the mid 1990s.

Bui Quoc Huy, former vice minister of public security, got four years behind bars for turning a blind eye to Nam Cam's dealings when Huy was the police chief of Ho Chi Minh City.

Wheeler resident to celebrate 90th birthday Saturday

Neta Standlee Evans will celebrate her 90th birthday at 2 p.m., Saturday, June 7, at First Methodist Church in Wheeler.

Born in Oklahoma, Mrs. Evans attended school at Zybach and married Doyle Standlee.

She raised three daughters at Gageby where she was a resident for 64 years prior to relocating to Wheeler after her second marriage to Forace Evans.

Mrs. Evans' daughters Betty Jo Zybach, Martha Ann Helton and Inez Erwin will host the birthday celebration.

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THURSDAY • JUNE 5, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

After Six Years Of 'Friendship', Woman Wants Something More

DEAR ABBY: I am in my late 20s. For six years I have been entangled in a strange and powerful relationship with "Bruce," a 38-year-old man who considers himself "only a friend." I am very much in love with him and he knows it. He has never said he loves me. In fact, whenever we get close, he steps back emotionally and reminds me that he's "just a friend."

Bruce was hurt badly by a cheating wife and has been divorced for many years. I know for a fact that there have been no other women in his life. Despite all this, Bruce treats me like a queen. Whatever I need — you name it — he is right there. He is the most generous, protective and responsive man I have ever met.

He calls me every morning to say hello and every night to wish me sweet dreams. We spend weekends together and we're sexually active. We enjoy each other more than any couple I know — married or unmarried. We're such a good match that people tell us we absolutely "glow" when we're together.

I have finally reached the end of my rope. I need some kind of recognition. At the very least, I would like to be considered his girlfriend. Please help me look at this relationship with clear eyes.

"ONLY A FRIEND" IN NEW YORK STATE

DEAR "ONLY A FRIEND": It's time to face the fact that for whatever reason, Bruce is commitment-phobic. Up to now, your relationship has been entirely on his terms, and he likes it the way it is. I'll give him marks for honesty. You must accept it — or move on. If it's marriage and a secure future you're after, I urge you to do the latter.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 15-year-old girl, and my parents split up a couple of weeks ago. I didn't see it coming because they always acted like they were happy together. My mom and dad have both talked to me about it, but I feel like they're trying to make me choose sides.

Mom is forever asking me if I'm OK, and I always say yes, but I'm not so sure. I can't talk to my father

because we aren't as close — we never were. Also, I don't see him as much anymore and he rarely calls.

My grades have dropped, and I've been falling asleep in some of my classes. Dad thinks I'm depressed, but I don't know how to explain what I'm going through. My parents don't understand. Abby, please help me because I don't know what to do.

LOST AND CONFUSED IN STAFFORD, VA.

DEAR LOST: Your father may have more insight than you give him credit for. The signs of depression can be subtle. Among them are sleep problems.

Please level with both of your parents about your feelings. Your reaction to the divorce is normal. You should also speak to a counselor at school. Help is available for you. Please don't try to go through this process alone. Trust me on this: You'll start to feel better as soon as you speak up and stop bottling up your feelings.

DEAR ABBY: Back in 1963, your mother printed a great definition of "maturity." I clipped and saved it, and have referred to it many times. It's still relevant, and my copy has become worn and tattered. Any chance you would print it again?
HELEN REZENDES, SAN JOSE, CALIF.

DEAR HELEN: I'm pleased to print it again. My mother is a wise woman.

"Maturity is:
— The ability to stick with a job until it's finished.
— The ability to do a job without being supervised.
— The ability to carry money without spending it.
— And the ability to bear an injustice without wanting to get even."

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



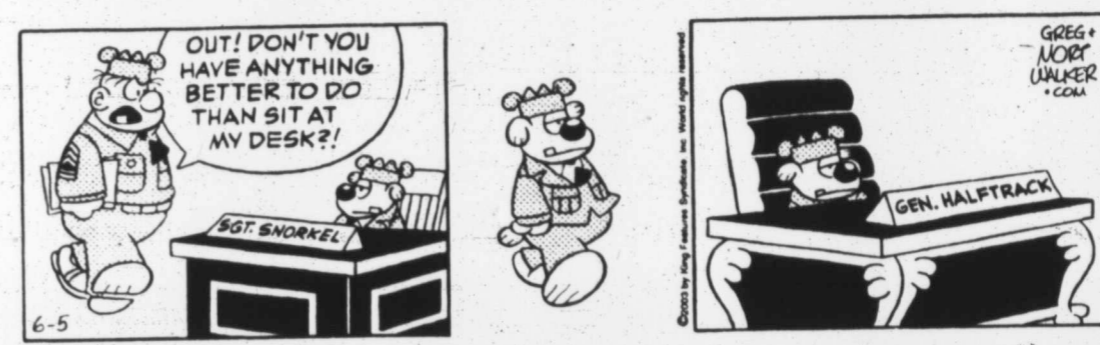
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Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blonde



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

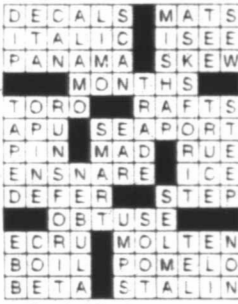
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Barbecue treat
- 5 Waited place
- 10 Having the advantage
- 12 Snaw, at change
- 13 Secretary of State Powell
- 15 Wrestling need
- 16 Tangled court
- 18 Avoid an accident perhaps
- 20 Fish eggs
- 21 Chow
- 23 Bungle
- 24 Pom at sea
- 26 Fling
- 28 Jitter limit

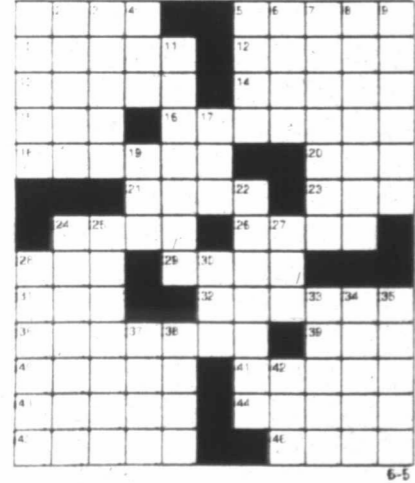
DOWN

- 1 Wanders
- 2 Acquired relative
- 3 Failed sitcom of 2000
- 4 Take to court
- 5 Call's partner
- 6 Press
- 7 Film's Del Rio
- 8 Paper workers
- 9 Not as quick
- 11 Platoon member
- 17 Catch
- 19 Game caller
- 22 Prison sentence
- 24 "Raging Bull"
- 25 Clarify subject
- 27 Archaic
- 28 Tousie part
- 30 Pendum path
- 33 Like old photos
- 34 Goofy
- 35 Showed again
- 37 Eyeball
- 38 Some votes
- 42 Needle part



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Marmaduke



"He keeps circling the block. We're bound to catch him."

The Family Circus



"I know Elmo lives on Sesame Street, but what's his house number?"

Fic & Friends



Non... FOOTBA... LAKE (AP) — backer Bri agreed to deal that with the through the Terms c not immed UrLache overall pic draft, has: les. He's 1 stops in e three seas 175 a year With 2 season, he record, sh vious mar Hall of Butkus in BASEB CHIC, No cork material v of the 76 from Sam er and X ball offic The b from the locker r game ag: Bay De Tuesday found in it shatt grounded inning of victory. Sandy tive vic baseball (commiss said sec took Sos: innings" was disc said he v of Sos: impounde There that Sosa of Fame ined, Ald Hall has bats, incl presenter more tha hit his 50 TENNIS PARIS Clijsters r Open fin time, ben luck Thur point and Nadia Pe Clijste from the final be Jennifer (The B Saturday of Thurs between on Seren 4-seeded Hardenne wins from utive Gra The Clijsters erratic fo lost the fi trail 5-4. Facing next gan backhan clipped t Petrova's Conse into the r Clijsters it 5-all, deflated

SPORTS

Spurs defeat Nets
in Finals opener

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Jason Kidd and the New Jersey Nets' better shake off the rust from their long lay-off, or their second trip to the NBA Finals is going to have a familiar ending.

Kidd was 4-of-17 from the field and scored 10 points, and the Nets saw their 10-game postseason winning streak end with a 101-89 loss to the San Antonio Spurs in Game 1 Wednesday night.

New Jersey is winless in its five games in the NBA Finals. It was swept by the Lakers last year.

"Ten days is too long," Nets coach Byron Scott said. "That's how we felt before the series started. Now we have a game under our belts. We'll go to work tomorrow, work on some things and be ready for Friday."

While losing to Tim Duncan and the Spurs is no embarrassment, the Nets were not competitive in the second half and lost for just the third time in the playoffs this season.

"This doesn't shake our confidence at all," Nets backup center Aaron Williams said. "We have all the confidence in the world in our abilities and hopefully we'll come back in Game 2 and play a lot better."

That won't be hard. The Nets never got their pressure defense going, they didn't run and they didn't show up for the third quarter, when the Spurs got 13 points, five rebounds and three assists from Duncan in taking a 74-59 lead.

New Jersey went 33-of-89 from the field (37.1 percent) while allowing the Spurs to shoot 49.4 percent (39-of-79).

"We lost, bottom line," said Kenyon Martin, who had 21 points and 12 rebounds before fouling out trying to guard Duncan. "He had a good game. So we have to bounce back from it."

Kidd had a horrible game in his first action since spraining his right ankle in Game 4 of the sweep of Detroit in the Eastern Conference finals.

After hitting two jumpers in a game-opening six-point

run that seemed to indicate the Nets were ready to continue their roll, very little fell for Kidd.

"We didn't do anything special," Spurs point guard Tony Parker said. "It was just a bad night for him. He missed a lot of wide-open shots. I know he is going to come back strong the next game and he's going to make a lot of shots."

Kidd's only other baskets were a fast-break layup in the third quarter and a late 3-pointer. He didn't look good on his other 13 misses, including a 3-point airball when the Spurs had an 11-3 spurt to close the third quarter.

"It was a tough night for him," said forward Richard Jefferson, who added 15 points in 36 minutes. "Jason is a competitor. Everyone has one of those kinds of nights."

Kidd added 10 assists and eight rebounds, but the Nets' offense never looked as crisp as it did in the first three rounds of the playoffs.

Kidd did not seem upset, noting the teams were tied at halftime.

"In the second half we couldn't put the ball in the basket," Kidd said. "You've got to give them a lot of credit. Their defense is extremely tough and so you have to make some adjustment. Hopefully, they are the right adjustments."

The 101 points tied the most the Nets have given up in a regulation loss, and was only the fifth time in 15 post-season games this year that an opponent has broken the century mark.

If the Nets were looking for some good news, Rodney Rogers and Dikembe Mutombo provided it.

Rogers and Mutombo, who didn't play in the conference finals, gave the Nets some excellent minutes in the first half when Martin, Jason Collins and Aaron Williams got in foul trouble early.

Rogers had nine of his 11 points in the half, and Mutombo provided energy and defense, blocking a dunk attempt by Duncan and then diving to the floor to grab the loose ball.



Barrel racing was one of four events Taylen Gregory qualified in to advance to the Oklahoma State Finals.

Gregory qualifies for finals

Taylen Gregory of Laketon, Tex. has qualified for the Oklahoma State Finals in all events. Gregory goes to Woodward, Okla. June 11-15 to compete in the Oklahoma High School Finals.

Gregory reached the finals in barrels, breakaway, goat tying and pole bending. She will be competing to be one of the top four to advance to Nationals at Farmington, N.M.

Currently, Gregory is fifth in barrels, sixth in breakaway, 12th in goat tying and 15th in pole bending in the year-end standings

Rodeo

going into the finals.

This is Gregory's first year on the Oklahoma High School rodeo circuit. She made the 2002-2003 Wrangler All-Star Team for the 2002-2003 high school year.

Gregory will be a junior at Miami High School this coming year. She is the daughter of Jana Gregory of Laketon and Tommy Gregory of Miami.

.....
CBS Sports will air final-round action from the

ProRodeo Tour Finale in Las Vegas at 1 p.m. June 22.

It will be the first of three ProRodeo Tour Finals shown on CBS Sports this year.

The CBS Sports schedule includes tape-delayed afternoon broadcasts of the final rounds of the Finals. High lights from the Summer ProRodeo Tour Finale on Sept. 25-27 at the Omaha (Neb.) Convention Center will be shown on Nov. 1. The ProRodeo Tour Championship Finale will be Nov. 7-9 at the American Airlines Arena in Dallas, and will air on Nov. 22.

NOTEBOOK

FOOTBALL

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) — All-Pro linebacker Brian Urlacher has agreed to a new nine-year deal that will keep him with the Chicago Bears through the 2011 season.

Terms of the deal were not immediately available. Urlacher, the ninth overall pick in the 2000 draft, has 527 career tackles. He's led the Bears in stops in each of his first three seasons, averaging 175 a year.

With 214 tackles last season, he set a franchise record, shattering the previous mark of 190 set by Hall of Famer Dick Butkus in 1972.

BASEBALL

CHICAGO (AP) — No cork or other foreign material was found in any of the 76 bats confiscated from Sammy Sosa's locker and X-rayed by baseball officials.

The bats were taken from the Chicago Cubs' locker room during the game against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Tuesday night. Cork was found in Sosa's bat when it shattered after he grounded out in the first inning of the Cubs' 3-2 victory.

Sandy Alderson, executive vice president of baseball operations in the commissioner's office said security personnel took Sosa's bats "several innings" after the cork was discovered. Alderson said he was confident all of Sosa's bats were impounded.

There is a possibility that Sosa's bats in the Hall of Fame could be examined, Alderson added. The Hall has five of Sosa's bats, including the one he presented in mid-April, more than a week after he hit his 500th home run.

TENNIS

PARIS (AP) — Kim Clijsters reached the French Open final for the second time, benefiting from a little luck Thursday to erase a set point and beating unseeded Nadia Petrova 7-5, 6-1.

Clijsters was two points from the title in the 2001 final before losing to Jennifer Capriati.

The Belgian's opponent Saturday will be the winner of Thursday's late match between defending champion Serena Williams and No. 4-seeded Justine Henin-Hardenne. Williams is two wins from her fifth consecutive Grand Slam title.

The No. 2-seeded Clijsters struggled with an erratic forehand early and lost the first service break to trail 5-4.

Facing set point in the next game, Clijsters hit a backhand drop shot that clipped the net, then fell on Petrova's side for a winner.

Consecutive backhands into the net by Petrova gave Clijsters the game to make it 5-all, and the turnabout deflated the Russian.

Canyon falls
in 3A semis

AUSTIN (AP) — Adrian Alaniz doubled to drive in the winning run in the 10th inning Wednesday night, sending Sinton to a 4-3 win over Canyon in the Class 3A semifinals.

Alaniz's blast to deep center drove in Tomas Ortiz and capped a night in which Alaniz also threw 160 pitches and struck out 11 in nine innings on the mound for the defending state champions.

Tied 1-1 going into the seventh, both teams scored twice to send it to extra innings.

Canyon loaded the bases in the top of the inning before Sinton allowed two runs on a fielding error and a wild pitch. Sinton matched the runs when Alaniz scored on Omar Gutierrez' single and Jason Adams scored on a wild pitch.

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Injured Griffey hits 475th homerun as Reds beat Yankees

By The Associated Press

One of baseball's top home-run hitters was forced to sit down after an ill-timed swing.

Naw, not Sammy Sosa and his corked bat. This was Ken Griffey Jr., who hit a home run just after hurting himself Wednesday night in the Cincinnati Reds' 6-2 win over the New York Yankees.

Griffey mildly strained his right biceps in the fifth inning. A trainer examined Junior, and the Reds star stayed around for one more pitch, which he hit for his 475th home run.

"It happens from time to time," Griffey said. "I feel all right. I just had a little tingling down my arm. After a few seconds, the numbness goes away. The doc said if I took a funky swing, to be ready for it."

Griffey tied Willie Stargell and Stan Musial for 22nd place on the career homer list. He held the right arm carefully at his side as he rounded the bases, then gave high-fives with his other arm before leaving.

Griffey probably will sit out the final game of the series at Great American Ball Park, but isn't expected to miss significant time.

The Yankees once again aren't doing too well in Cincinnati. They were 0-2 at Riverfront Stadium against the Big Red Machine in the 1976 World Series, and have lost the first two games of this series.

"People enjoy beating us up," Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter said. "Their fans enjoy it,

their players enjoy it, especially because of the success we've had the last few years. They use us as a measuring stick."

Said Yankees manager Joe Torre: "All of the talk has been about 'the big bad Yankees, the rich Yankees.' They went out and beat us last night, and they beat us up pretty good tonight."

Boston slipped a half-game ahead of the Yankees in the AL East by sweeping a doubleheader from Pittsburgh, 11-4 and 8-3.

In other interleague games, it was Tampa Bay 5, Chicago Cubs 2; San Francisco 4, Minnesota 3; Atlanta 5, Texas 2; Chicago White Sox 8, Arizona 6; Oakland 6, Florida 5; Anaheim 11, Montreal 2; Detroit 5, San Diego 3; Colorado 2, Cleveland 1; Houston 6, Baltimore 4; Seattle 7, Philadelphia 2; St. Louis 8, Toronto 5; and Kansas City 2, Los Angeles 1.

The only NL game, Milwaukee at New York, was rained out.

The Reds tagged Mike Mussina for four home runs. Aaron Boone, Sean Casey and Jason LaRue also connected — all the shots came in a span of only 11 batters.

"A couple of times tonight, they hit pitches that people usually don't hit for home runs," Mussina said. "In this ballpark, the ball flies out like Coors Field. It gets up in the air and you don't know what's going to happen."

Jason Giambi hit a two-run drive for the Yankees. Every run in the game scored on a

homer.

Devil Rays 5, Cubs 2
Awaiting word on his punishment from the commissioner's office for using a corked bat, Sosa went 1-for-4 and struck out three times at Wrigley Field.

Seventy-six of Sosa's bats confiscated Tuesday night were X-rayed and no cork was discovered. Many of the announced crowd of 33,317 gave him a standing ovation when he came to the plate in the first before striking out.

Victor Zambrano (2-3) allowed one run and three hits in seven innings and struck out eight. Shawn Estes (5-5) gave up five runs and eight hits in seven innings.

Giants 4, Twins 3
Barry Bonds hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting San Francisco over Minnesota at Pacific Bell Park.

Twins reliever Juan Rincon (1-2) walked three batters, bringing up Bonds with the bases loaded. He hit the first pitch to right field for the winner and emphatically stomped on first base.

Bonds earlier hit an RBI triple. Torii Hunter had a pair of doubles for the second straight day for Minnesota.

Tim Lincecum (2-2) worked the ninth for the win.

Braves 5, Rangers 2
Greg Maddux (5-5) allowed two runs and nine hits in eight innings at Turner Field, singled home a run and made a stellar diving stop and throw on a slow roller by lead-off hitter Michael Young. Gary Sheffield hit a two-run homer

off John Thomson (3-7) as Atlanta sent the Rangers to their fifth straight loss.

Red Sox 11, Pirates 4
Red Sox 8, Pirates 3

Trot Nixon homered in both games of the doubleheader as Boston swept behind Byung-Hyun Kim (1-0), making his first start for the Red Sox, and Derek Lowe (5-3). Boston, which had lost five straight, moved back into first place in the AL East for the first time since May 29, a half-game ahead of the Yankees. Kris Benson (5-6) and Jeff D'Amico (4-6) lost.

Diamondbacks 8, White Sox 6

Shea Hillenbrand hit his first NL homer and doubled twice in his fourth game since coming to Arizona from Boston. Visiting Chicago has lost five straight and eight of 11. Andrew Good (2-1), pitching because Curt Schilling has a broken hand, allowed three runs and five hits in six innings and Jose Valverde, who came up Sunday from Triple-A Tucson, entered and got three outs for his first career save. Jon Garland (3-5) allowed seven runs.

Athletics 6, Marlins 5

Scott Hatteberg hit tiebreaking RBI single in the eighth off Tim Lincecum (1-2) at Miami. Chad Bradford (4-3) escaped a jam in the seventh, and Keith Foulke pitched a perfect ninth for his 15th save.

Angels 11, Expos 2

Garret Anderson homered three times in San Juan. Puerto Rico, and Jeff DaVanon had his third straight multihomer

game. Troy Glaus and Brad Fullmer also homered for the World Series champion Angels, who set a club record with seven homers in the game and matched a record for AL teams with 13 homers in two games. Jarrod Washburn (6-5) beat Sun-Woo Kim (0-1) as Montreal lost its fifth straight.

Tigers 5, Padres 3

Pitcher Steve Avery had a pinch-hit single and scored the go-ahead run in the seventh inning to lead Detroit.

With its second win in a row at San Diego, the Tigers (16-40) left the Padres (17-43) with the worst record in the majors.

The score was tied at 3 when Avery batted for Wilfredo Ledezma (1-2) and singled off Luther Hackman (1-1) to start the seventh.

Rockies 2, Indians 1

Preston Wilson homered and hit an RBI single as Colorado beat Cleveland in the third-lowest scoring game in Coors Field history.

The only games with fewer runs were on June 16, 1995, when Atlanta beat the Rockies 2-0, and on Aug. 9 last year, when the Rockies beat the Cubs by the same score.

The teams waited out two rain delays totaling more than two hours. Darren Oliver (3-4) pitched the Rockies to their seventh straight home win and rookie reliever Billy Traber (2-3) took the loss.

Astros 6, Orioles 4

Wade Miller (4-6) allowed three runs and four hits over seven innings at Houston as the Astros rallied with three runs in the seventh on an RBI

double by Craig Biggio, a run-scoring single by pinch-hitter Gregg Zaun and a wild pitch by B.J. Ryan, who had replaced starter Pat Hentgen (1-3) after Biggio's double. Billy Wagner pitched 1 1-3 innings for his 16th save.

Mariners 7, Phillies 2

John Olerud doubled twice and drove in four runs to back Gil Meche (8-2), who allowed two runs, five hits and four walks in six innings at Philadelphia. Ichiro Suzuki went 4-for-5 and Bret Boone extended his hitting streak to 10 games for the Mariners (39-18), who have won eight straight. Vicente Padilla (4-7) gave up all seven runs.

Cardinals 8, Blue Jays 5

Miguel Cairo snapped an 0-for-18 slump with three hits as St. Louis won its third straight, improving to 5-4 on a 13-game homestand. Edgar Renteria had a two-run double and slow-footed Tino Martinez and Mike Matheny had back-to-back triples in the sixth to chase Cory Lidle (8-4). Jason Simontacchi (3-3) gave up five runs on 10 hits in five innings. Carlos Delgado hit his 17th homer, tying Juan Gonzalez and Alfonso Soriano for the AL lead.

Royals 2, Dodgers 1

Rookie Kyle Snyder (1-3) combined with Jason Grimsley and Mike MacDougal on a three-hitter for his first major league victory, and Carlos Beltran and Angel Berroa homered off Hideo Nomo (6-6). McDougal got his 13th save as the visiting Royals won for the fifth time in 20 games.

Funny Cide Is even-money favorite to win Belmont Stakes

NEW YORK (AP) — Funny Cide has no idea he'll be making a run at history in the Belmont Stakes. Yet the gelding is behaving as though something big is about to happen.

Instead of being tucked out after winning the Kentucky Derby and Preakness, Funny Cide put in a sizzling final workout and has been a voracious eater leading up to Saturday's race.

A victory would make him the first Triple Crown winner in 25 years.

"He's a good-feeling, big, strong horse. He's just improved all the time," trainer Barclay Tagg said at Wednesday's post position draw, where Funny Cide was

made the even-money favorite in a field of six.

"He was just bucking and squealing. We don't know whether it's a good sign or not."

Funny Cide enjoys a home-track advantage at Belmont Park. He lives in a stall not far from the paddock where he will parade before more than 100,000 fans Saturday. He is undefeated in three races here.

"It's a great position to be in — one race away from the Triple Crown — and I have a pretty good chance," jockey Jose Santos said. "This is the best 3-year-old I've ridden in my life. I think he's going to do it."

As the even-money

favorite, Funny Cide will only be a popular bet among those wanting souvenir \$2 win tickets. His low odds will be a turnoff to anyone seeking a big payoff.

The last Belmont favorite who was even money or better was Real Quiet in 1998. The Derby and Preakness winner went off at 4-5 and lost his Triple Crown bid by a nose to Victory Gallop.

Also running are Empire Maker (6-5), Dynever (5-1), Ten Most Wanted (10-1), Scrimshaw (20-1) and Supervisor (50-1). Best Minister was not entered after trainer Ken McPeck said the colt had developed a virus.

"Empire Maker has probably been the favorite most of

his life," jockey Jerry Bailey said. "So if he's the underdog it won't be by much and it won't matter once the gate opens."

Brooklyn-born Bobby Frankel, who trains Empire Maker, has gleefully embraced the spoiler's role.

"I like that," he said. "They love me here in New York. They bet on my horses all the time."

Despite several days of rain that affected training schedules, Frankel is satisfied with Empire Maker's condition. "I think he's dead-fit for this race," he said.

Ten Most Wanted prepared for the Belmont by training in sunny and warm California. He will break from the No. 6

post, making him the last horse to enter the starting gate.

"That should help him," trainer Wally Dollase said. "He'll walk right in, but he wants out of there. A lot of times we've had problems with him because he starts throwing his head around and he gets a little anxious."

Ten Most Wanted finished ninth in the Kentucky Derby, beaten 7 3/4 lengths by Funny Cide. He was bumped at the start, got checked early and ran a wide path all the way around the track.

"He had a bad break in the Derby. It was definitely the horses around him and not his fault," Dollase said.

Ten Most Wanted had bad

luck in an earlier race against Empire Maker in February. He got slammed by another horse at the start of the Sham Stakes at Santa Anita, and lost by 8 1/2 lengths.

"He ran scared he got hit so hard," Dollase said. "He went too fast because of the circumstances. He's more mature now."

Of course, Ten Most Wanted and the other four horses could be reduced to bit players in the coronation of a Triple Crown champion if Funny Cide wins.

"I hope we get a perfect ending to the perfect story," said Funny Cide's co-owner Jack Knowlton, "and if it doesn't happen, it's still a great story."

McLean horse is winner of Oklahoma Challenge race

AMARILLO — Not For Love, a four-year-old Bay Mare owned by Nix Cord of McLean, earned first place in the \$17,500 Professional's Choice Oklahoma Challenge at Fair Meadows in Tulsa.

Not For Love, ridden by Matt Casebolt and trained by Gregg Sanders, covered the 350-yard race in a time of 17:992.

The top finishers for this race were Not For Love, Smashed On Cash, Double D Pleasure, Mr. Beach Music and Six Hot Toddy's.

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Horse Racing Challenge is a \$4.8 million series of 58 regional races run in 10 regions throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. The winner of each regional race represents that region in the MBNA America Quarter Horse Racing Challenge Championships on Nov. 1 at Los Alamitos Race Course in Los Alamitos, Calif.

For more information on the Racing Challenge, contact the AQHA Racing Department, P.O. Box 200, Amarillo, Tex. 79168, 877-AAA-RACE, or see AQHA's homepage (www.aqharacing.com).

Nets Nieuwendyk expected to miss Game 5

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Joe Nieuwendyk got back on the ice to see if his achy hip felt good enough to allow him to play in Game 5 of the Stanley Cup finals.

By all accounts, it didn't.

It was the first time the New Jersey forward skated since he was limited to three shifts in the final game of the Eastern Conference finals nearly two weeks ago. But he was severely hampered by the injury during practice Wednesday and listed himself as doubtful for Thursday night's pivotal game against Anaheim.

"Even in the regular season, at some point you want to get a barometer of where you are. That's what today was all about," Nieuwendyk said Wednesday.

The best-of-seven series is tied 2-2 following the Mighty Ducks two overtime home victories.

Nieuwendyk was on the ice for 25 minutes Wednesday and took part in the opening skating drills of practice. By the time his teammates broke up into their line combinations, Nieuwendyk had skated off. Michael Rupp then assumed Nieuwendyk's spot alongside Jeff Friesen and Jamie Langenbrunner.

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, June 6, 2003:

You're up for an extraordinary year, especially if you're willing to take risks and opportunities. Sometimes you won't believe what heads your way if you are ready to walk off the beaten path. Go back to school, travel or take a seminar. Although you're a youthful sign, you need to allow your mind to continuously grow. You find that with greater understanding, the status of your relationships could change. If you are single, do not judge someone by how he or she appears; get to know this person, as he or she could be a lot different than you initially thought. If attached, you can transform your relationship, for better or for worse. SAGITTARIUS challenges you.

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)
***** Keep seeking out other sources, especially if you don't like the answers you're getting. Your creativity mixes with your intellect. Anything becomes possible. Start discussing an upcoming vacation. Meanwhile, think "weekend." Tonight: Take off ASAP, or try a new spot.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Others accommodate you as they never have before. You might be taken back by someone and how much he or she offers in a situation. Emphasize security, your relationship and long-term desires. A partner might want to update or revise your relationship. Tonight: Togetherness works.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Others come to you — and smiling, at that. You appreciate some-

one's efforts as you haven't before. Your fun approach plus dynamic ideas are a turn-on. Associates, friends and loved ones all want to hang with you. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** You must get into the trenches if you have any hope of clearing out your work before the day's end. A special partner could be most distracting, as he or she might already be in the mood for the weekend. Take time to balance your budget. Tonight: Whatever you do, don't stress out about it.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Though you're certainly not a clown, your happy ways can make all the difference. Keep smiling. A loved one loosens up. Use your resourcefulness and playfulness. You will go far. Tonight: Kick in the weekend in true Lionlike style.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
**** Your persistence in the workplace can and will make all the difference in what happens. A co-worker inspires you with his or her ideas. Follow your sixth sense, as it takes you in a new direction. Update or create a home office. Tonight: Happy at home.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Stay focused, knowing what your goal is. Whether it is getting out of the office early or getting a consensus on an issue, you will succeed if you don't lose your concentration. A child or new friend could be most distracting! Tonight: At a favorite spot. Expect an interesting twist in a conversation.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
*** Consider different ways of investing your funds or saving money. Brainstorm with family, and you'll come up with plenty of creative ideas. You are ready to take the bull by the horns and

devise greater security for yourself. Tonight: Go out of your way for someone you care about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** The Moon in your sign helps you lasso in whatever you like. You will transform yourself. Reach out for a loved one at a distance. You know what to do to get the results you want. Your imagination helps you fill in the gaps. Tonight: Go out and romp the night away.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
** Listen to your instincts. You might need to revise your thinking. Extremes mark feelings and events around work. A partner or friend comes through in a big way. This person sometimes goes over the top. Tonight: Vanish while you can.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** Your personality attracts friends as well as co-workers. Your imagination takes you in a new direction if you're willing to take a risk. Why not take someone's offer? You will gain in any case. Your popularity soars. Grab the moment. Tonight: Where your friends are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
*** Others respect your values and what you think. You have the clout you need at work. Your ability to get a lot done quickly impresses those who count. Take time out to take a walk or indulge in another stress-busting activity. Tonight: Take the lead.

BORN TODAY
Actresses Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen (1986), musician Rivers Cuomo (1970), actress Ally Sheedy (1962)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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JUN 05 2003

All Night Party supporters



(Community Camera photo)

Miles and Rita Cook of T-Shirts and More donated \$5 from each tux rental for the 2003 Pampa High School prom. A total of \$350 was donated to help underwrite the cost of the Class of 2003 All Night Party. Above: Renee Brown, Miles Cook, Rita Cook, Doretta Gerber and Pamp Zemanek.



(Community Camera photo)

Wal-Mart recently donated a check in the amount of \$500 towards Pampa High School Class of 2003 All Night Party. Above: Terri Davis, Jeanette Heuer, Cynthia Hazen, T'Andra Holmes, Wal-Mart Assistant Manager Doretta Gerber.

Choir banquet



(Courtesy photo)

Pampa High School Choir Banquet was held recently at M.K. Brown Auditorium. (Above) The following students were recognized: Denise Mackie, senior, ACDA director's award; Karissa Intemann, senior, Hugh Sanders Achievement Outstanding Senior Girl award and Nona S. Payne Scholarship; Kelly Triplehorn, senior, Outstanding Show Choir Member; Mike Eskridge, senior, Hugh Sanders Achievement Outstanding Senior Boy award; Monica Johnson, freshman, Outstanding Women's Choir Member; and Chris Smith, freshman, Outstanding Mixed Choir member. The choir is under the direction of Fred Mays and Wanetta Hill, also pictured.

Edwards submits plan in health care debate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Presidential hopeful John Edwards on Thursday entered the debate over health care that is dominating the Democratic primary contest with a proposal aimed at lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

The North Carolina senator said dealing with the high cost of prescription drugs "is an issue that will define our commitments as a country — whether we put consumers or corporate interests first." He said addressing drug costs will be difficult because the industry spends millions fighting to keep its profits high.

"We need the pharmaceutical industry," he said in remarks prepared for delivery Thursday. "They develop therapies that save people's lives and medicines that improve our quality-of-life, and they deserve a good profit for that important work. But they don't deserve to inflate that profit by stifling competition, gouging consumers and cutting secret deals — all at the expense of patients and taxpayers."

Several of the Democratic presidential candidates have proposed far-reaching plans to expand health care to the uninsured and to try to bring rising costs under control. Edwards said in coming weeks he will introduce proposals to help small businesses with health costs and make sure every child has insurance.

Edwards' aides have said his plans won't be nearly as large or as costly as those introduced by some of his opponents for the Democratic nomination.

"Senator Edwards believes that voters are wary of politicians over-promising on health care and what he will particularly focus on are relatively simple, cost effective policies that we can enact today," spokeswoman Jennifer Palmieri said.

Study: Higher speed limit raises risk of death for women, elderly

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Raising the speed limit to 70 mph or more increases the risk of driving-related deaths for women and the elderly, but not for younger men, a study has found.

Twenty-nine states have raised their speed limits to at least 70 mph since Congress abolished the national 55-mph limit in 1995, and several more states are debating whether to increase their speed limits.

While states that raised their speed limits experienced no increase in the overall number of traffic-related

deaths, fatalities per 100,000 people rose 10 percent for women and 13 percent for the elderly, researchers found. There was no increase for men under the age of 65, says the study, which appears in the June issue of the journal Economics Letters.

The study doesn't explain the reasons for the difference, but co-author Thomas Dee, an assistant economics professor at Swarthmore College, theorizes that a higher speed limit increases the disparity of driving speeds and thus the risk of accidents.

"The conventional view is

often that speed kills. But some people ... would argue that the variance of speed kills," Dee said Wednesday.

Eric Skrum, communications director for the National Motorists Association, a Wisconsin-based drivers organization that supports

higher speed limits called the study's findings "junk."

"When you set (the speed limit) at an appropriate level, you have a higher compliance with the speed limit, less weaving in and out of traffic ... a safer driving environment," Skrum said.

'Friendship Kids'



(Courtesy photo)

Austin Elementary School's "Friendship Kids" recently visited Meredith House, where they baked desserts and sang songs for the tenants. Friendship members include Paige Holt, Katie Dunham, Kelley Malone, Lacie Oxley, Sarah Simpson, Alicia Swanson, Stephanie West and Chelsea Whinery, all fourth graders, and Krystel Campbell, Megan Gragg, Suzanne Kane, Mary McKay, Vanessa Marquez, Brooke Noble, Diana Palmer, Rebecca Taylor, Emilie Troxell, Brittany Wehmeier and Hannah White, all fifth graders. The girls meet regularly at Austin School.

Come Join the Fun...



...be a hospital volunteer. The auxiliary at Pampa Regional Medical Center welcomes you to join us. Volunteers at Pampa Regional Medical Center add the personal touch and give a lift to people when they need it most. The volunteers personally greet patients and guests and guide them through the hospital, run the gift shop, deliver flowers, and do whatever it takes to help put the face of the community on our medical center. You can make a difference. For information call Nancy Paronto at 663-5577.

