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LOCAL

Sheriff's Dept. warns of telephone scam

Gray County Sheriff's Office warns local residents to be careful of someone calling them and asking for money to buy medicine for a baby.

Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing said the sheriff's office has received several complaints in connection with this type of call. The caller, a woman, also referred to a local merchant as her employer. The person is no longer employed there, deputies were told.

"Be careful," Rushing said. "I want people to know they're not obligated to give any money. They can call the merchant if they have a question or if they feel they need to, they can call the sheriff's office and report it to us."

Persons asking for money can be referred to local public assistance organizations.

DEATHS

Gertrude "Trudy" Kelley, 74, of Pampa.

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Amendments: Early voting is now

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER

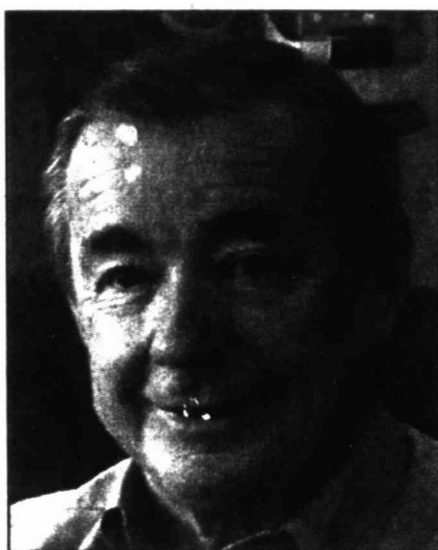
Early voting is already under way for the constitutional amendments that the Texas Legislature put on the ballot that will go before voters Saturday, Sept. 13.

To date, 218 persons have voted in early voting at Gray County Court House, reported County Clerk Susan Winborne. Early voting will continue until 5 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 9, Winborne said.

Pampa's State Rep. Warren Chisum told members of the Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce at their monthly luncheon recently that the most important to him of the 22 amendments on the ballot was Proposition Five which essentially repeals a previous amendment that voters passed.

Chisum says that during the last session the legislature passed a constitutional amendment to correct the travel trailer tax exemption.

"If you own a travel trailer,"



Rep. Warren Chisum

Chisum said, "you got pretty involved in that because we'd passed a constitutional amendment that said that we were going to tax travel trailers, but we didn't tax things like motor homes. People that owned travel trailers thought they were kind of discriminated against, and they really were, but then come to find out they voted for that constitutional amendment."

Still, travel trailer advocates claimed the amendment wasn't written properly.

Chisum said that a person might misinterpret what the amendment said.

"I contacted the Attorney General's office and the lawyers down there," Chisum said. "They said it didn't make any difference what it said, they were going to charge the tax anyway."

Therefore, Chisum said they passed another constitutional amendment to get back to where they were before all that happened.

"It's going to be Proposition Number Five," Chisum said. "That's the one that corrects the misinterpretation of the constitutional amendment that we passed in the last legislative session. We're getting back to ground zero."

Chisum is urging his constituents to vote "yes" on Proposition Five.

In reviewing the other 21 amendments, Chisum said some of them might have a direct bearing on citizens in the Texas Panhandle, but oth-

ers would not.

"Number 12 would put a cap on non-economic damages in medical malpractice lawsuits," Chisum said. "That cap is going to be \$250,000. It doesn't have anything to do with the actual damages. It's just the pain and suffering part of the lawsuit."

Chisum said getting that amendment on the ballot was a hard fought battle.

"It requires a constitutional amendment for the legislature to put that cap on it," Chisum said.

If the constitutional amendment passes, the legislature has mandated a 15 percent reduction on malpractice insurance premiums.

"It will be up to the Insurance Committee to mandate lower rates," Chisum said. "Insurance companies have indicated that they would charge a lower rate."

Proposition One allows the state to borrow money from the Veteran's Land Board for veterans homes for the aged or infirm.

(See VOTING, Page 3)

Busy night Officers fill jail with arrests

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

If Gray County Jail possessed a "no vacancy" sign, it'd be flashing today.

It's filled to the brim with persons arrested following a busier-than-usual night for local law enforcement officers.

Pampa Police Department arrested seven people on aggravated assault with a deadly weapon charges in connection with two separate incidents Wednesday evening.

While searching for an individual with warrants early today at a South Nelson Street residence, Gray County Sheriff's deputies instead discovered a suspected methamphetamine lab, resulting in more arrests.

With approximately 14 arrests Wednesday and early today, Gray County Jail contained 76 prisoners this morning, said Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing. As a result of all the activity, jail officials were kept busy with the booking process and settling prisoners in. Police officers and deputies still had paper work to do and Justice of the Peace Curt Kurfman continued to conduct bond hearings for the variety of charges at press time today.

Pampa police charged three persons with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after being called to a domestic dispute in the 300 block of Miami. Police had not completed the full report on the incident, so the circumstances of the assault and the names of the alleged victims were not available at press time.

However, records show that police stopped a vehicle reportedly involved in the incident on Loop 171, a half-mile south of U.S. Highway 60. Officers confiscated a tire iron and wooden club from the vehicle, as well as beer and drug paraphernalia.

One of the persons in the vehicle, Carl Aragon, 21, of Amarillo, was taken by ambulance to Pampa Regional Medical Center for treatment of a fractured ankle and a minor head wound. Officers said the man had suffered the

(See ARRESTS, Page 3)

Organizers say Chautauqua attracted more than 3,000

By DARLENE BIRKES
 FOR THE NEWS

Children creating with wood scraps, tissue paper, art stamps, beads, paint on tiles. An elderly gentleman keeping time with the music. Exchange students looking in awe at a "live" Native American in a teepee. Toddlers hugging a balloon "animal." Boys swinging from a climbing wall, and girls challenging each other in climbing a hunter's blind. Warming up for the 5K, watching corn popping in the huge kettle, downing pancakes, funnel cakes and mustard-decorated, foot-long corndogs. That's Chautauqua.

Food sales rose, beverage sales slid in the cooler weather, organizers said.

"Judging from the food sales, we estimate over 3,000 attended," said Roy Morriss, Pampa Fine Arts treasurer. "The cooler weather decreased attendance in the morning but actually increased attendance late in the day."

Several Pampa Fine Art Association artists furnished materials for adults and children in the art tent, in keeping with the Chautauqua purpose. Mimi Gross introduced sculpey "sculpting." Janice Sackett offered painting on tiles. Ruth Barrett worked with art stamp creations, and Salvation Army volunteers helped with paper flowers and beaded items.

"We made an effort to have more children's activities this year," said Lilith Brainard.

Several who contributed activities included Cornerstone Baptist Church with free bottled water and bouncer for children; Seth Davidson and Linda Daniels with their calf-roping booth; Plains Dairy with its 200 bottles of chocolate milk that went to Pokey the Clown for the train (cattle herd) riders; and Pampa Firefighters with water polo for those



(Courtesy photo)

Cole Buck "advertised" the Gifted and Talented face-painting booth at this year's Chautauqua.

braving the cool wind.

Most of the stage participants contributed their time and talent to round out what organizers say was a most successful community event for 2003.

Kicking off the event was the 5K and fun run sponsored by Pampa Regional Medical Center. Over 120 people participated, and most of the winners were from out of town with several out of state.

City begins seal coating streets this week

As City of Pampa begins its annual seal coating this week, residents of the streets to be resurfaced are asked to move their vehicles from the right of ways until the work is completed.

Seal coating is expected to begin on Wednesday and weather permitting will take approximately two weeks to complete, said Donny Hooper, city engineering technician.

Areas to be sealed are as follows:

- 25th from Duncan to Perryton Parkway;
- Hamilton from 20th to 23rd;
- Coffee from Randy Matson to Worrell;
- Williston from 18th to 23rd;
- 22nd from Charles to Hamilton;
- 17th from Hamilton to Coffee;
- Hobart from 23rd to Crane;
- Nelson from 19th to 21st;
- Hazel from Kentucky to Jordan;
- Starkweather from Francis to Kingsmill;
- Russell from Tyng to Brown;
- Ballard from Tyng to Brown;
- Craven from Finley to Houston;
- Barnes from Frederic to Scott;
- Tignor from Frederic to Campbell;
- Crawford from Gray to Octavius;
- Crawford from Hobart to Nelson;
- Crawford from Dwight to Wells;
- Barrett from Wilks to Crawford;
- Varnon from Crawford to Huff;
- Varnon from Crawford to McCullough;
- Wilks from Huff to Love;
- Banks from 21st to 22nd;
- Sumner from 22nd to 23rd;
- Wells from Buckler to Lincoln;
- Dwight from Montagu to Lincoln;
- Roberta from Lincoln to Gwendolyn; and
- Nadia from Rham to Alcock.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

VOTING

proposition," Chisum said. "They say it's too ripe for abuse."

Proposition Four would allow Municipal Utility Districts to issue debt to develop parks and recreational facilities.

"I didn't particularly like it because it allows these counties that are listed to go into debt to build parks," Chisum said. "Generally, when you build parks, it cost more to maintain them than it does to build them."

Proposition Six allows refinancing of a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage.

Proposition Seven permits six-member juries in misdemeanor cases.

"Right now," Chisum said, "you have to have a 12-member jury. In misdemeanor cases that's sometimes a problem, and it costs counties money to do that."

Proposition Eight authorizes the legislature to permit someone to take office without an election if the person is the only one qualified for that office.

"That is very similar to Proposition 18," Chisum said.

Proposition 18 just applies to political subdivisions such as cities and counties.

"It would allow them to do that also," Chisum said. "In some places, you might have only one person running."

If only one person is qualified, there wouldn't be an election.

Proposition Nine would change the formula in figuring income and appreciation of the Permanent School Fund.

"I put on my notes not to vote for that," Chisum said, "because what that does it allows them to spend the

money out of the Permanent School Fund, which is the fund that we have for schools from oil and gas royalties in the State of Texas."

Chisum said that if the amendment passes, it would allow the state to spend more than the income of the fund.

"It would have a tendency to dilute the fund," he said. "I thought that might not be a good idea."

Proposition 10 lets municipalities donate surplus firefighting equipment or supplies to volunteer fire departments.

Proposition 11 would allow the legislature to govern wineries.

"We have a huge wine industry in the State of Texas, but our liquor laws, that are constitutional laws, top us from allowing the wineries to sell their wines to people who come to visit their wineries," Chisum said. "This would allow them to do that."

While this would not directly impact Pampa, it is of interest in the area.

"We don't have any wineries around here, but there are some around Lubbock," Chisum said. "They're the big push behind that."

Proposition 13 would allow counties, cities and junior college districts to freeze the ad valorem taxes on homesteads of the disabled, the elderly and their spouses.

"It's similar to what we do with school taxes now," Chisum said.

Proposition 14 would allow borrowing money on a short-term basis for transportation infrastructure.

"There's a big push now to do a lot of transportation funding in the State of Texas," Chisum said. "It requires a constitutional amendment for that to happen."

Chisum said none of the

money will be spent anywhere near Pampa.

"It will be spent in places like Dallas and Houston where they have a lot of transportation problems," Chisum said.

Proposition 15 says certain benefits under specific local public retirement systems may not be reduced.

"This is a proposition that would require that you not reduce retirement benefits to anyone who retired from the public retirement system, like teachers or public employees," Chisum said. "The problem is if you can't reduce benefits, like medical services if the cost of medications go really high then you've guaranteed those benefits. You can't reduce that. Somebody has to make that up. The current workers would have to make that up. It's a tough question to address."

Proposition 16 would authorize a home equity line of credit.

"You could put your house up to guarantee a line of credit," Chisum said.

Proposition 17 would prohibit an increase in the total amount of school district ad valorem taxes that may be imposed on a resident homestead of a disabled person.

"It would create a situation where a school district could freeze the taxes of a disabled person," Chisum said. "In some cases, that might be very proper to do."

Proposition 19 would

repeal the authority of the legislature to create rural fire prevention districts.

"We don't have any of those around here," Chisum said, "but some places they do have them in the state."

Proposition 20 would authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes of less than \$250 million with regard to the closing of military bases in the state.

"I don't know if we have any military bases around here," Chisum said, "but they are closing some military bases along the Gulf Coast, and they're closing some of the bases around San Antonio."

The money would be used for economic development, including projects that would enhance the military value of military installations.

Proposition 21 would allow university professors to serve on local water districts and receive compensation for their service.

"This is the third time this has been on the constitutional ballot," Chisum said. "The other two times, it was turned down."

Proposition 22 would allow the appointment of a volunteer to fill a public office if the person holding the office was called to active duty in the armed services.

"Vote for number five," Chisum said. "I need that. Some of these travel trailer people are really, really upset."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ARRESTS

injuries prior to police stopping the vehicle. He was treated and released for transport to jail, according to police reports.

Aragon was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was awaiting a bond hearing at press time.

Also arrested were Erasmo Gonzales, 31, and Laura Selvedge, 34, both of 217 S. Miami. Bond for Gonzales was set at \$10,000 for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, \$5,000 for fraudulent identification, \$1,000 for failure to identify, and \$500 for possession of drug paraphernalia. Selvedge's bond was set at \$10,000 for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, \$500 for possession of drug paraphernalia, and \$500 for violation of open container law.

All three remained in jail in lieu of bond at press time.

While police investigated the Miami Street incident, an emergency call sent officers to the 500 block of Lefors on another domestic disturbance.

Tobias J. Rich, 23, 520 N. Lefors, told police that a former girlfriend and three men had come to the residence to talk with him but he refused to go outside to talk to them.

Rich told police, according to the report, that the four persons were carrying weapons. He said he was standing behind a glass door and they reportedly shot at him, shat-

tering the glass.

Officers searched the area and stopped a vehicle matching the description given by the victim at Short and Yeager streets. Police arrested four people in connection with the incident on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Bond for Shannon Smith, 22, 1111 S. Farley, was set at \$5,000 for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and \$255 capias pro fine for assault.

Arturo Ruiz, 18, 425 N. Russell, was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, assault by threat, no Texas driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear. Bond was set at \$10,000 on the aggravated assault charge and \$500 for each of the other charges.

Also arrested were brothers Jeremy Blake Jones, 18, 425 N. Russell, and Jefferey Blain Jones, 19, 1111 S. Farley. Each were charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Judge Curfman set bond at \$10,000 for each of them.

None of the four had made bond by press time.

Then at 1:30 a.m., today,

(See ARRESTS, Page 10)

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Abbas tells parliament to support him or send him home

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas, weakened by his power struggle with Yasser Arafat, told parliament Thursday it must either support him or send him home.

Abbas suggested the Palestinians can only hope to make progress on the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan if he is given the full power to implement it, but he stopped short of seeking a vote of confidence.

Parliament scheduled a closed-door session for Saturday to discuss his speech, after which legislators were to decide whether to hold a vote.

The U.S.-backed Abbas could be toppled in a confidence vote, dealing a heavy blow to efforts to end three years of violence and move toward Palestinian statehood.

Earlier Thursday, Palestinian gunmen killed an Israeli soldier in a shooting ambush near the West Bank town

of Jenin. The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, an armed group linked to the Fatah movement claimed responsibility.

In his speech to parliament, Abbas only hinted at his conflict with Arafat, saying there were "problems" between his government and the Palestinian leadership. Abbas is demanding that Arafat relinquish control over security forces. For now, each leader commands four of the armed services, and

Arafat has balked at giving up one of his last vestiges of power.

Abbas told parliament that "without a legitimate force in the hands of one authority ... we will not advance one step on the political track," a reference to the road map. The United States and Israel demand that the Palestinians begin dismantling armed groups, as required by the road map.

Abbas also told parliament he had no intention of ordering a clamp-

down. "This government does not deal with the opposition groups with a policing mentality, but with a mentality of dialogue," he said.

Abbas portrayed a unilateral cease-fire, declared by the armed groups June 29, as the main achievement of his first 100 days in office. He accused Israel of having sabotaged the truce with deadly arrest raids to try to evade its obligations under the peace plan.

PPHM receives \$100,000 donation; acquires major piece by Santa Fe art colony founder Carlos Vierra

CANYON — Joseph W. and Nancy Foran of Dallas have donated \$100,000 to Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon in honor of Mr. Foran's parents, William J. and Roberne Foran, his uncle and aunt, Don and Mozelle Foran, all of Amarillo, and the rest of the Foran family.

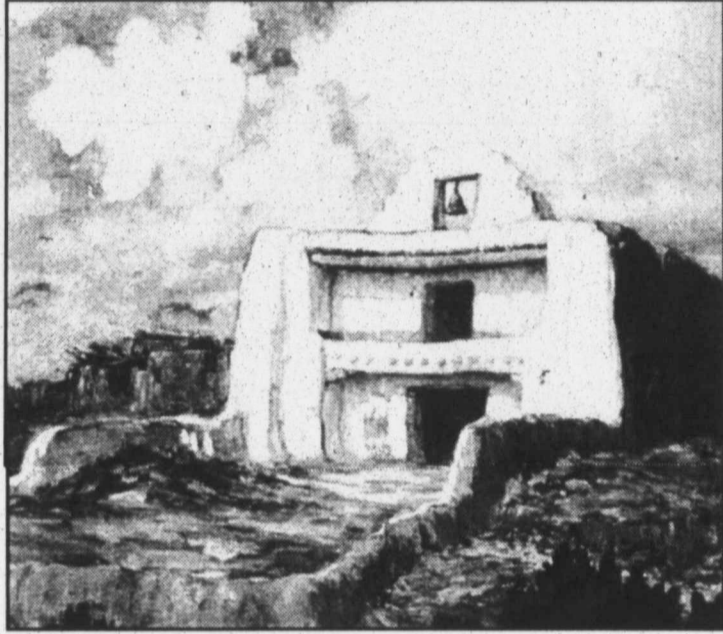
The Forans asked that part of the gift be used to acquire a major work of art for the museum society's art collection, and a painting by Santa Fe art colony founder Carlos Vierra was chosen.

The museum will name its changing exhibitions galleries after the Foran family in recognition of this monetary gift.

"It's a pleasure to have a chance to give back a little to the community," Joseph Foran said, "and to recognize my parents and aunt and uncle who have made such a difference in my life."

An Amarillo High alumnus, Joseph attended the University of Kentucky and Southern Methodist University before founding Matador Petroleum in Dallas. Nancy, a Dallas native, majored in art history at the University of Texas.

The Forans have been supporters of the museum's art department for the past several years, contributing personally and helping raise funds for the acquisition of Taos artist Victor Higgins' major painting "Evening Sky (Solitude)" in 2001. William J. Foran was society president in 1994 while Roberne currently volunteers in the Research Center. Both have been active supporters of the society's activities for many years. Don has volunteered in the Archaeology



(Courtesy photo)

The Vierra painting, entitled "Zia Pueblo Mission," is considered by some as Vierra's masterpiece, according to museum curator of art, Michael R. Grauer.

Department and Mozelle has demonstrated weaving for the museum. All are society members.

The Vierra painting, entitled "Zia Pueblo Mission," is considered by some as Vierra's masterpiece, according to museum curator of art, Michael R. Grauer. The society has two field sketches by Vierra from the James D. Hamlin Collection, but neither is of exhibition quality. Consequently, in an effort to upgrade its Santa Fe art colony collection, the society needed a more representative example of Vierra's work.

A native of Moss Landing, Calif., a small fishing town on Monterey Bay, Vierra (1876-1937) studied at Mark Hopkins School in San Francisco and in New York. Due to tuberculosis, he moved to Santa Fe in 1904 and became its first resident artist.

Vierra opened a photography studio on Santa Fe Plaza and made paintings and pho-

tos of traditional Indian and Spanish architecture. He became a proponent of the preservation of the architectural heritage of New Mexico and was actively involved in the restoration of the Palace of

the Governors and the design of the Museum of Fine Arts.

Following the untimely death of Donald Beauregard, who had been hired to paint murals for the Museum of Fine Arts, Vierra completed the murals, even painting himself as Christopher Columbus in one of them. He also sent murals to the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Diego in 1916.

About 1918, Vierra began a project to make paintings of all the Spanish mission churches at all the pueblos in New Mexico. This project may have been sponsored by New Mexico pioneer Frank Springer who traveled with Vierra while he painted the missions. "Zia Mission" was part of that series.

Vierra and Springer eventually donated 14 paintings in the series to the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe.

PPHM will first house "Zia Mission" in the Recent Acquisitions area on the second floor.

Many protest rebuilding at ground zero

NEW YORK (AP) — About 15 people who lost loved ones in the World Trade Center attack tried to block a gate into ground zero in a protest against rebuilding on the footprints.

Police thwarted the demonstration Wednesday by locking the large steel gate about 30 minutes before the protesters arrived.

The protesters wore yellow clothing and held signs with messages like "3,000 people consecrated this ground with their blood." They accused Gov. George Pataki of going back on a promise to never build on the footprints.

"An irreplaceable part of our American heritage is being

systematically destroyed," said protester Beverly Eckert, who lost her husband in the 2001 attacks.

"My heart goes out to the families," Pataki said when asked about the protest. "We're doing everything we can to be as respectful and supportive and understanding of the families' desires as possible."

Reconstruction plans call for a memorial to preserve the approximate area the towers stood on. Infrastructure and other development would encroach on the footprints at bedrock level, an area viewed by some families as a sacred cemetery for the nearly 2,800 people who died there.

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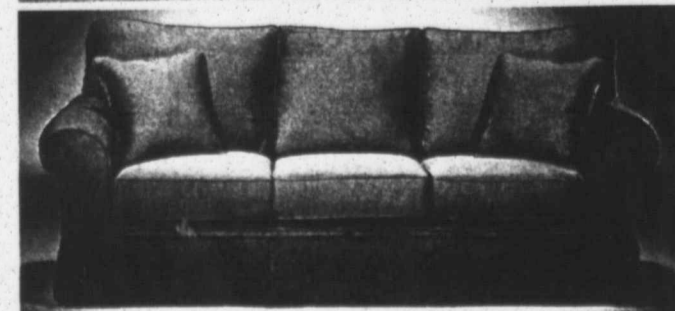
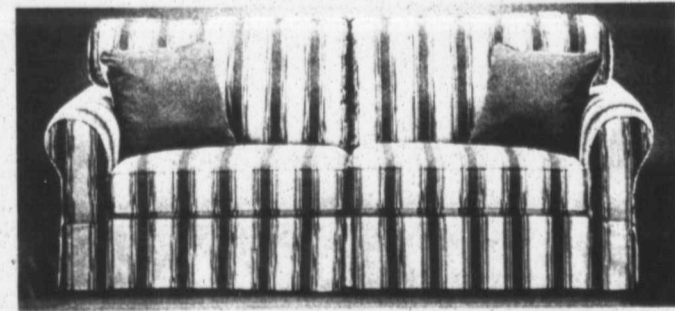
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The Pampa News Comics

THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Unwary College Kids Can Be Buried Under Credit Card Debt

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing to raise awareness about a serious and widespread problem — student credit card debt. Young adults, who are often "credit card illiterate," are inundated with credit card offers once they set foot on college campuses.

Parents need to understand that their college-bound teens will be able to obtain multiple credit cards even if they have no prior credit history, no employment and no co-signer. Many students then face life-altering consequences because of excessive credit card debt, such as dropping out of school, defaulting on school loans, or graduating with a poor credit rating or looming bankruptcy. Credit card debt can also cause psychological depression and contribute to lower GPAs and increased substance abuse.

It is vital that parents educate their children about responsible credit card use before they leave for college. Financial literacy should also be taught in high schools so that young adults fully understand the costs of credit and the consequences of irresponsible credit card use. Students who graduate with poor credit ratings are likely to have difficulty renting apartments and receiving competitive-rate loans. They may even have limited employment opportunities.

Thank you for sharing this important information with your readers.

CAROL A. CAROLAN, Ph.D., CENTER FOR STUDENT CREDIT CARD EDUCATION INC.

DEAR DR. CAROLAN: I hope both parents and students will heed your message. An important lesson learned last year by a college senior bears repeating. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: In my freshman year, I was bombarded with credit card applications promising great rates and free merchandise for

signing up. I couldn't resist accepting, but promised myself I would use credit cards only for emergencies.

I am now about to graduate and owe several thousand dollars on my credit cards and have nothing to show for it. If I pay only the minimum each month, it will take me 12 years to pay off what I owe. I wish I had been given the following tips:

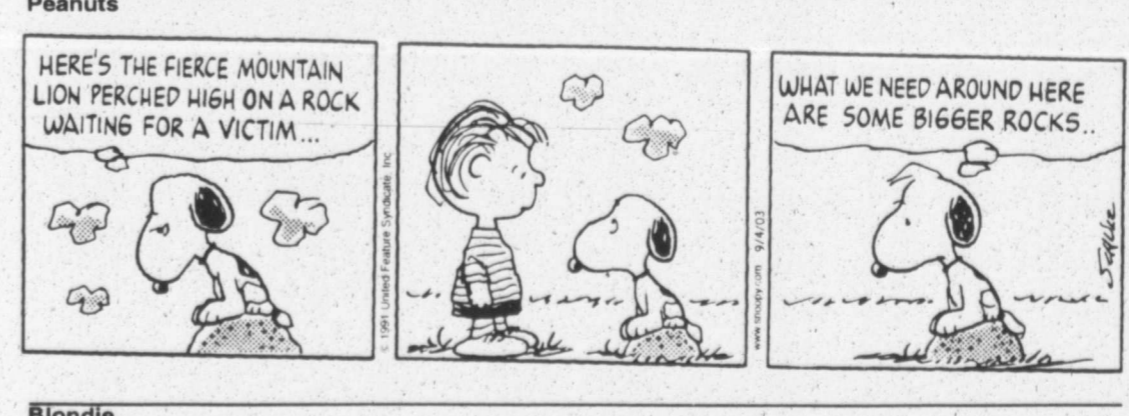
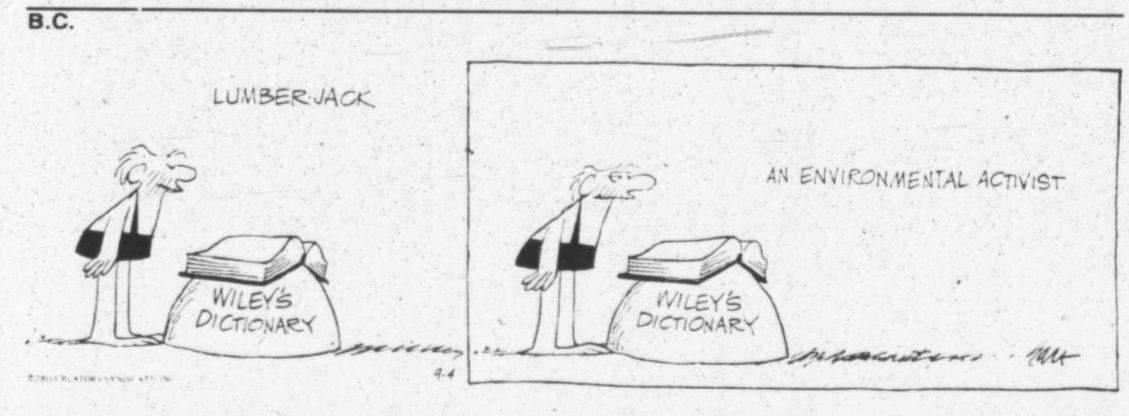
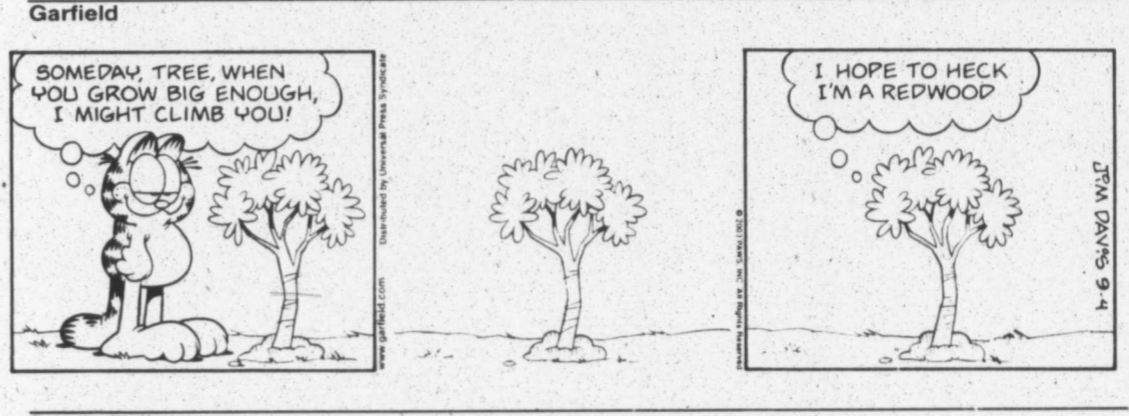
- (1) Live within your means.
- (2) If you cannot pay cash for a meal at a restaurant, do not eat out. Eat at the school cafeteria or make a sandwich.
- (3) The new CD or DVD you want will still be around when you can afford it. Listen to the radio or rent a movie.
- (4) Rather than going to a club or movie with a group of friends, find inexpensive activities (like playing cards or board games) and spend your evening enjoying them. You'll be amazed at what you can save.
- (5) If your college offers a class on managing credit and credit cards — take it! If you have already resolved never to rely on credit, it will reinforce that intelligent decision.

I hope you deem this letter important enough to print, Abby. Credit card debt is a huge problem for many college students. I should know, I'm one of them.

COLLEGE SENIOR WHO LEARNED THE HARD WAY

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.

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Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
 43 Mideast nation
 44 Ocean areas
 6 Bulls and Bears
 11 Visibly stunned
 12 Kick out
 13 Game piece
 14 Day-dreamer
 15 Absolved
 17 Ethan's "Gattaca" co-star
 19 Understood
 20 Call on
 23 Reply to "How are you?"
 25 Renown
 26 Surprised reactions
 28 Goes astray
 29 Hidden
 30 Stumpy's pal
 31 Cub's home
 32 Plugs
 33 Steered clear of
 35 Yellow gem
 38 Green color
 41 Give an address
 42 "Hound Dog" singer
- DOWN**
 1 Betty resident
 2 Big head
 3 Participate
 4 Pinnacle
 5 African nation
 6 Entice
 7 Way to go
 8 Fitting
 9 Got together
 10 Like a fox
 16 Worked the runway
 17 Beneath
 18 Sculptor
 20 Throw the fight
 21 Improve
 22 Annoying ones
 24 Some ammo
 25 Corpulent
 27 Did a sensual dance
 31 Egg buy
 33 Postmark feature
 34 Fashion mag
 35 Stocking stuffer
 36 Metal source
 37 Tennis star
 39 Big shot
 40 Twisty turn



Yesterday's answer

- 18 Sculptor Henry feature
 20 Throw the fight
 21 Improve
 22 Annoying ones
 24 Some ammo
 25 Corpulent
 27 Did a sensual dance
 31 Egg buy
 33 Postmark feature
 34 Fashion mag
 35 Stocking stuffer
 36 Metal source
 37 Tennis star
 39 Big shot
 40 Twisty turn

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Flo & Friends



NOTES

BOXING
 SYDNEY (AP) — For rugby leader Anthony Murray, a vacant World Boxing Superweight title is a dream. Antwon Edwards, United States...

VOLLEYBALL
 CANYON (AP) — Texas A&M Morgan was Division II National American Coaches Association Morgan player to receive since Shannon in 2000 Colorado Challenge. the Pampa coach. Morgan triple-double decade where assists, 20 in the Lady game victory. 7-ranked State on Saturday

BASEBALL
 ARLING (AP) — The Royals have lately, but Pena says it take to over down the str Rookie pitched seven as Kansas four-game lo a 3-1 victory Rangers on Mike Sw and Carlos RBIs in a inning to l move with both Chicago for the AL. "We'd lo were tough. "But happy when only one ou close all the We took se we're not k Gobble start, giving homer to M regained his the last sev in order. "I had t mind quic "They had coming up through it. aggressive team in the Gobble run and fo six and y being calle Omaha on expanded starts for August, w He str two starts. a total of over 10 I to the New Anaheim. "After homer, he and pitch them dov "He show Gobbl Rangers f he was against v Rodrigue Palmeiro bined 0-

SPORTS

Harvesters hope to end Lowrey Field hex

By L.D. STRATE
Sports Editor

PAMPA — The Harris Ratings believe Pampa is going to have it easy against Lubbock Estacado this Friday night, predicting a win by four touchdowns. Apparently, Harris isn't aware of the Lowrey Field hex on the Harvesters.

Pampa head coach Heath Parker knows all about the problems the Harvesters have had at Lowrey Field in Lubbock.

"Playing there has always been difficult for us," coach Parker said. "We've only beaten Estacado one time in school history in that stadium and that was in 1998."

In fact, it wasn't until 1996 when Pampa was able to beat Estacado for the very first time. "They had skunked us pretty good up until '96. Estacado has a lot of tradition," Parker said. Estacado's been down on their luck in recent years, but I know their coaching staff is working hard to get them back to the point where they're winning again."

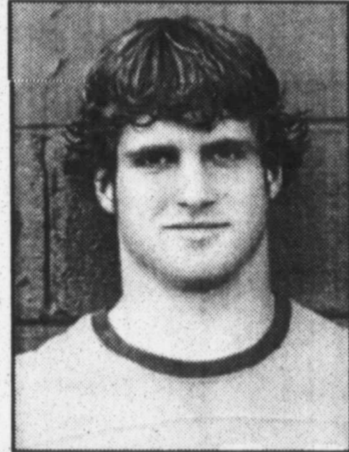
The Matadors dropped their

opener 14-7 in overtime to Hereford last weekend.

"Estacado had Hereford beat," Parker added. "They got inside the 10-yard-line twice in the fourth quarter, but a fumble and penalty kept them from scoring."

The Matadors will have experience on their side against the Harvesters, something that was lacking in their 1-9 season a year ago. They return seven starters on offense and eight on defense.

"They're a senior-laden team," Parker said. "This is the third year with coach (David) Moody at Estacado, so he's getting his system in place. They're working hard to get things going there."



With the exception of senior receiver Dannie Meza, the Harvesters go into tomorrow's contest with an injury-free roster.

"We're as healthy as we've ever been," Parker said. "The thing with us, with only 30 players on the roster, one guy getting hurt can change the complexion of our entire team. If we lose one player, we lose one spot on every unit."

Meza is sidelined for the season with an ankle injury.

The Harvesters have won four of the last five meetings with Estacado.

"We haven't been able to slow Pampa down lately. They've got another good team," said Estacado coach

David Moody.

Moody is still shaking his head over the Mats' overtime loss to Hereford.

"We just didn't make plays when we needed to. That was the difference in the game," coach Moody said.

Moody said the Matadors have a blend of experience and youth this season.

"We're got a young offensive line, but our skill kids like at quarterback and running back have played a lot. I feel like we should do pretty good on the defensive side of the ball," he said.

Players of the Week were recognized at the Harvester Booster Club meeting Monday

night. They were Mac Smith (defense), Andrew Curtis (offense), Seth Foster (special teams) and Alan Curry (scout team). Pampa coaches picked the players based on their performances against Perryton.

PHS Schedule

Pampa 37, Perryton 0
Sept.

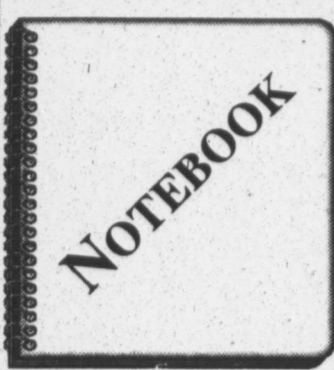
5-Lubbock Estacado, 7:30 away; 12-Amarillo High, 7:30 home; 19-Borger, 7:30 away; 26-Randall, 7:30 home.

Oct.

3-Plainview, away; 10-Hereford, homecoming; 16-Palo Duro, away (Thursday); 24-Dumas, home; 31-open date.

Nov.

7-Caprock, away.



BOXING

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Former Australian rugby league player Anthony Mundine won the vacant WBA super middleweight title with a unanimous decision over Antwon Echols of the United States.

VOLLEYBALL

CANYON — West Texas A&M senior Kendra Morgan was named the Division II National Player of the Week by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

Morgan is the first WT player to receive the award since Shannon Stroud won it in 2001 after the Colorado Premier Challenge. Stroud is now the Pampa High head coach.

Morgan had WT's first triple-double in more than a decade when she ring up 56 assists, 20 digs and 11 kills in the Lady Buffs' five-game victory over then No. 7-ranked Grand Valley State on Saturday night.

BASEBALL

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Kansas City Royals have been struggling lately, but manager Tony Pena says it would be a mistake to overlook his team down the stretch.

Rookie Jimmy Gobble pitched seven strong innings as Kansas City snapped a four-game losing streak with a 3-1 victory over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday night.

Mike Sweeney, Joe Randa and Carlos Beltran each had RBIs in a three-run fourth inning to help the Royals move within one game of both Chicago and Minnesota for the AL Central lead.

"We'd lost four and they were tough losses," Pena said. "But you have to be happy where we are. We're only one out. It's going to be close all the way to the end. We took some punches but we're not knocked down yet."

Gobble got off to a shaky start, giving up a leadoff homer to Michael Young, but regained his focus and retired the last seven hitters he faced in order.

"I had to get it out of my mind quick," Gobble said. "They had some tough hitters coming up. I had to work through it. I knew I had to be aggressive and just keep my team in the game."

Gobble (3-3) allowed one run and four hits, struck out six and walked two after being called up from Triple-A Omaha on Tuesday to join the expanded roster. He had five starts for the Royals in August, winning his first two.

He struggled in his last two starts, however, allowing a total of 13 runs and 17 hits over 10 1-3 innings in losses to the New York Yankees and Anaheim Angels.

"After giving up the homer, he collected himself and pitched well and shut them down," Sweeney said. "He showed a lot of poise."

Gobble was facing the Rangers for the first time, and he was especially effective against veteran sluggers Alex Rodriguez and Rafael Palmeiro, who were a combined 0-for-7.

Rivals Ennis and Waxahachie meet Friday

ENNIS, Texas (AP) — If football is a religion in Texas, the people in Ellis County are some of its most devout followers.

When Class 4A No. 1 Ennis travels to face No. 9 Waxahachie on Friday, more than one-third of the about 40,000 people in the two cities are expected to attend. Dubbed The Battle of 287 for the stretch of highway in Ellis county both are located on, this will be the teams' 53rd consecutive meeting.

"It's our biggest rivalry," Ennis quarterback Graham Harrell said. "Some people in town don't care if you win another game all year. They say if you beat Waxahachie, you've had a successful season."

Although the two schools met as early as 1933, the game didn't become a yearly event until 1950. Since then, Ennis leads the series 32-20.

"It is talked about all year," said Waxahachie Mayor Joe Jenkins. "There will be more people there than the stands can hold. It is a big night for both towns."

Ennis, which won state titles in 2000-01 and lost in the semifinal round last season, has won the past five

meetings between the two. Harrell, reigning 4A offensive player of the year, threw for 3,411 yards and reached 100 career touchdowns last season.

Waxahachie returns 16 lettermen from last season's Division I regional final team that had a perfect 5-0 district record.

The Indians have made the playoffs the past 13 seasons.

Linebacker Arthur McKenzie had six sacks last season and was named the district defensive player of the year.

The game is this week's only meeting of ranked teams. Ennis also faces a ranked team next week when it plays No. 3 Denton Ryan. Ryan won the Class 4A Division II title last season.

"Playing good teams early on gives you a good idea of what areas you need to get better at," Ennis coach Sam Harrell said. "It will get us prepared for big games down the road."

Other games involving ranked teams include:

—In 5A, No. 1 Lufkin at Nacogdoches, No. 2 Converse Judson at Waco, No. 3 DeSoto plays Lancaster, No. 4 The

Woodlands at Kingwood, No. 5 Austin Westlake at Round Rock Westwood, Thursday, No. 6 Longview plays Neville, La, No. 7 Southlake Carroll at Irving, No. 8 Aldine Eisenhower at Sugar Land Willowridge, No. 9 Houston Washington plays Houston Worthing Thursday at the Astrodome.

—In 4A, No. 2 Texarkana Texas High at Texarkana Arkansas High, No. 3 Denton Ryan plays Fort Worth Dunbar, No. 4 La Marque will play Galveston Ball, No. 5 Brownwood at San Angelo Central, No. 6 Bay City plays West Orange Start Saturday at the Astrodome, No. 7 Corpus Christi Calallen at Beeville Jones, No. 8 New Braunfels at San Antonio Roosevelt, No. 10 Stephenville plays Burleson.

—In 3A, No. 1 Burnet at Gatesville, No. 2 Everman plays Eastern Hills, No. 3 Marlin will play Waco University, No. 4 Bellville at Cameron, No. 5 Midland Greenwood plays

Shallowater, No. 6 Forney plays Mesquite Horn, No. 7 Decatur at Pottsboro, No. 8 Fairfield will play Lorena, No. 9 Daingerfield plays Gladewater, No. 10 Atlanta at Hallsville.

Rookie Robertson pitches Astros past Dodgers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sometimes baseball isn't fair.

For example, Jerome Robertson of the Houston Astros is 13-7 with a 5.10 ERA and Kevin Brown of the Los Angeles Dodgers is 13-8 with a 2.37 ERA.

"You can't win games without run support," Robertson said after setting a franchise record for wins by a rookie left-hander in Houston's 8-2 victory over the Dodgers on Wednesday night.

Brown retired the game's

first two batters, but the Astros then touched him up for four runs in the first inning on a two-run single by Richard Hidalgo and a two-run double by Geoff Blum.

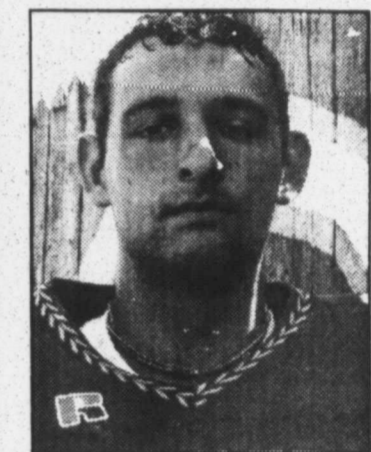
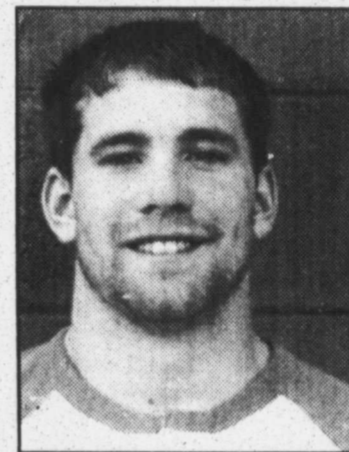
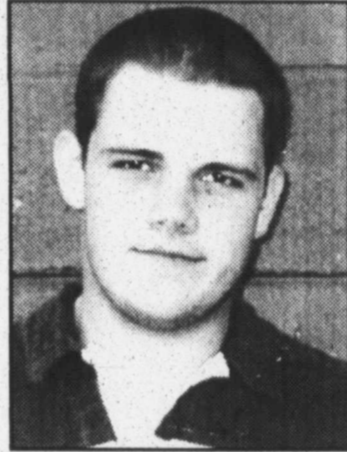
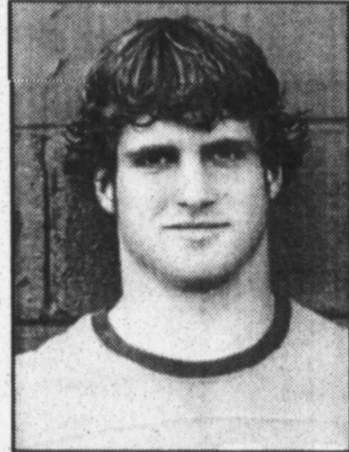
That would be enough for Robertson and the Astros against the punchless Dodgers, who are averaging less than 3 1/2 runs per game and have scored exactly 200 fewer runs than Houston this season.

"For us to jump on him like that was really big," Robertson

said. "Kevin Brown's a dominating pitcher — one of the best."

Brown was dominating after the first inning, blanking the Astros and retiring the last 14 batters he faced before being lifted for a pinch-hitter in the seventh.

"When we dig holes like that for ourselves in the early part of the game, there's not been too many times I've sat here and talked about comebacks," Dodgers manager Jim Tracy said.



Players of the Week: The Pampa coaching staff has selected (from left) Andrew Curtis, Alan Curry, Mac Smith and Seth Foster as players of the week based on their performances against Perryton in the season opener.

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FTC: Almost 10 million victims of identity theft last year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Identity theft cost consumers and businesses \$53 billion last year, the Federal Trade Commission says in the most comprehensive government study of the increasing problem.

A survey in March and April of 4,057 randomly selected adults suggests that during that 27.3 million people were victimized during the past five years when someone made unauthorized charges on their credit cards, took money from their bank accounts, or obtained a credit card or official document in their name.

Last year, based on the survey, 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft, costing them \$5 billion and businesses and financial institutions \$48 billion.

The FTC has set up a Web

site with tips on how to avoid identity theft, www.consumer.gov/idtheft, and urges consumers to carefully review their credit card statements each month, destroy charge slips rather than simply throw them in the trash, and check their accounts annually with the three credit reporting bureaus.

"The best thing to do is be careful about who you give your credit card to," Howard Beales, the FTC's consumer protection director, said Wednesday. "Keep up with your receipts."

Beales said the number of victims was higher than he expected. In 2002, for example, the FTC received 161,819 complaints about identity theft. The margin of error for the telephone survey was plus or minus 1.5 percentage points, the agency said.

Bush administration officials used the new FTC study to push for legislation to create a national fraud alert system and improve the accuracy of credit reports.

"The problem is so great and its impact on consumers so terrible that we should not delay giving consumers and law enforcers these important new tools to fight identity theft," said Wayne Abernathy, the Treasury Department's assistant secretary for financial institutions.

But consumer groups said the administration-backed legislation — the Fair Credit Reporting Act — would make things worse because it

would pre-empt tougher state laws against identity theft.

"Despite the fact that millions of Americans are victimized by identity theft each year, Congress is getting ready to pass a bill that provides only weak protection for consumers and blocks states from enacting tougher reforms," said Rob Schneider of Consumers Union, which publishes Consumer Reports magazine.

One consumer organization, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, said banks need to do a better job verifying the identities of the people they give credit cards to, and Congress needs to make

it easier to sue banks who let people open accounts in someone else's name.

"The profits from issuing credit cards fraudulently outweigh the costs to the companies, so they ignore the real plight of the victims," said Ed Mierzewski, consumer program director for the group. "They just don't care. It's a cost of doing business."

John Hall, a spokesman for the American Bankers Association, said banks have taken new steps to verify the identities of those requesting credit cards.

"Banks work diligently to reduce their fraud losses," he said.

In addition, the USA Patriot Act requires financial institutions beginning Oct. 1 to follow more stringent procedures to check the identities of anyone opening a new account, Hall said.

Beales said financial institutions should pay more attention to whom they are extending credit.

"Consumers, business, legislators, law enforcement all have vital roles and responsibilities for combating identity theft," said John Ford, chief privacy officer for Equifax, a credit reporting bureau. "It's going to take all of those working together to solve it."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE

ARRESTS

Gray County deputies went to a residence at 123 S. Nelson in search of a person for whom they had warrants.

They didn't find the person they sought, but they found two persons who had outstanding traffic warrants, so they arrested them, Rushing said.

"There were several people in the house, so (the deputies) were checking the premises for their own safety," he explained.

Top O' Texas CattleWomen gearing up for style show

Preparations for the Top O' Texas CattleWomen Style Show and Brunch are currently underway. The event is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 6, at Pampa Country Club. Quiche, beef crepes, assorted muffins, fruit, tea and coffee will be served.

Seven area merchants will be participating in the show, providing a wide variety of fall and winter clothes. Those attending will get a preview of the latest and hottest trends in fashion for the coming season. The models will visit each table, affording patrons a better view of the clothes and accessories.

In addition, a grand prize drawing for a travel certificate

As a result, officers discovered another person in the back yard and a strong odor of chemicals coming from a shed.

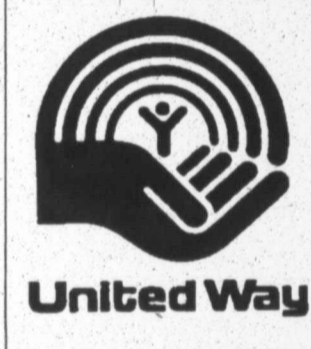
Inside the shed was a suspected methamphetamine lab, Rushing said.

Marland Miller, 40, of Pampa, was arrested and was in the process of being booked into jail, Rushing said.

The chief deputy said he expected Miller to be charged with possession of a controlled substance over four grams.

This article is one in a series of articles of profiles on the agencies and organizations supported by Pampa United Way. This information is being provided by Pampa United Way as part of its 2003 "50 Years of Caring and Still Going Strong" fund-raising campaign.

The Salvation Army, a United Way agency, helps people through multiple



services and is there to provide assistance in many situations. Salvation Army also provides specialized programs throughout the year.

Seasonal events include its Spring Community Fling with crafts, an egg hunt and care baskets for shut-ins. In the summer, weekly camps are offered at Midlothian along with a day camp at 701 S. Cuyler and "Beat the Heat" for seniors.

A back-to-school clothing program is offered at the beginning of the school year and a "Fall into Fall" festival in the autumn. At Thanksgiving, The Salvation Army serves a meal with all the trimmings to shut-ins and to other individuals who have no other resource during the holiday. At Christmas, the organization sponsors the Angel Tree program and again offers a special holiday meal.

The Salvation Army has a social service department with service to the homebound, nursing home and hospital patients, serving many people in need.

According to Patricia M.

Steward, local captain, on one occasion, a woman came to its social service office in need of a prescription medication. She had spent the night in an emergency room waiting for her ear to be found and reattached. It has been bitten off during a domestic quarrel.

The Salvation Army was there to provide much-needed assistance until the woman was on the road to recovery and could begin supporting herself.

On another occasion, Capt. Steward said, a call came in at 4 p.m. on a winter day from an agency in Amarillo. It was certain that a young father and his small children were going to be forced to leave a hotel room in the city. The family was destitute and had no more funds to pay for another night. The weather was icy and cold.

Since the family was from Gray County, no Amarillo agencies would agree to help them. The mother of the family had delivered a baby and developed an infection soon after that eventually took her life. The newborn was placed in intensive care. The father wanted to stay near the infant.

Capt. Steward and her husband personally traveled to Amarillo and presented a check to the hotel in question. The Salvation Army continued to assist the father, providing a suit to wear to his wife's funeral and more.

The newborn died within a couple of months of being released from the hospital, Steward said, adding that the father "did have a steady job and was able to take care of his family until this devastating time in his life shattered that that meant anything to him. ... This is one of the cases that we have continued to serve due to the extenuating circumstances. No all



(Courtesy photo)

Mary and Margie are volunteers with The Salvation Army's Senior Program.

cases need such a demand from us."

In other cases, The Salvation Army is there with clothing, food, rent, prescriptions or monies to pay an odd utility bill or two. The Salvation Army also has its own national disaster team and a fully-equipped mobile Canteen vehicle. Yearly and monthly training is provided for immediate service to victims of disasters of various sorts.

The Salvation Army has even extended financial support to immediate family members of men and women serving in the Iraqi war effort. This service is funded from its Dallas office and is available to all branches of the military service.

The Salvation Army offers a live video-interview service to veterans which they can then keep and share with generations to come, and Capt. Steward is a representative with Texas Division for Volunteers in Veterans Affairs.

The summer camping programs, Steward said, are designed to foster improved self-esteem and to develop skills to help better the lives of the campers, many of whom are impoverished.

Steward described a situation involving a troubled teen:

"He had been in and out of juvenile delinquent situations for a couple of years. The strain of several years to come in payments to the probation office is evident on the family's financial situation. He attended one of the camps offered at our camp in Midlothian, Texas. We had to get special permission from his probation officer for him to go to the camp. The staff at our camp is equipped to manage all youth so as to give all campers the right and liberty to enjoy being a kid. You see, with this boy, it had been his awareness of his family's poverty that had seemed to drive him ..."

Steward concluded that in the end this young camper "soared in his self-esteem and it is evident in his family that he has made a definite impression on them."

She said in conclusion, "On behalf of the true life situations of the few persons I have shared with you and hundreds more, I thank God for The Salvation Army and the privilege of being a part of such a wonderful caring organization!"



(Courtesy photo)

Youngsters in full costume at The Salvation Army's pre-school costume party.



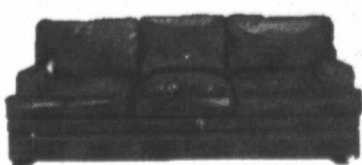
(Courtesy photo)

The Salvation Army's youth groups show off the garden they planted.

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