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Pampa, Texas
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WEATHER WEATHER
Sun icon
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LOCAL
Panhandle museum presents art show

PANHANDLE — Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle will feature the art of Barbara Lines and Darrold Smith throughout the month of July.

Both artists are art instructors at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

Seeing life as a continuous journey, Lines has chosen "Journey" as the title of her exhibit and takes the viewer on several journeys into the spiritual, visual and textual realms.

Smith's work will feature blown glass. He has learned to incorporate metals into the glass, enhancing and complementing the vivid colors of the materials.

STATE
Legislators debate making papers public

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas House plunged into heated debate Thursday over a bill that would keep the governor's budget working papers secret, but the legislators pushing the measure later set it aside without a vote.

After several minutes of arguments, Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, decided to stop consideration of the bill. He suggested it might not come up again during the special legislative session.

"The only thing this bill would protect is the intricate working papers of the budget people," Swinford said. "That is a very, very tiny specific thing."

Other documents, in which state agencies make their formal requests for the coming budget cycle, would remain open, he said.

But Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon, D-San Antonio, said she opposed keeping the working documents from public scrutiny.

INSIDE...
Classified9
Comics4
Religion7
Sports8

Beautiful Paving Stones...
You Can Install Yourself
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Ride 'em, cowpokes! Let's rodeo

Thursday's barbecue for ticketholders and the Celebrity Pick Up Race marked the opening night of the 2003 Top O' Texas Rodeo.

Tonight is Family Night with discounted ticket prices. In addition to professional rodeo events which begin at 7 p.m., the Rodeo Queen horse-manship competition will be held at 8 p.m. Tonight's rodeo dance at the Top O' Texas Norris Pavilion next to the rodeo grounds will feature cozy and the River Valley Band.

The 2003 Rodeo Parade begins at 10 a.m., tomorrow, starting at M.K. Brown Auditorium parking lot and the final rodeo action starts up again Saturday evening at 7 p.m. The Top O' Texas Rodeo

Queen and Teen Rodeo Queen are to be crowned during the Saturday night performance, as well.

This year's pickup race Thursday night featured a challenge between Gray County Sheriff's Department, Jordan Prison Unit employees and the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association directors.

After three heats, the field was narrowed to Chad Brooks and Chris Didway of Gray County Sheriff's Department, Al Almonza and Don Brown of the Jordan Unit, and rodeo directors Greg Greenhouse and Kelly Miller.

In the final race, Brooks and Didway left the other contestants in the dust to emerge as the winners.

Next came the professional

rodeo events. Results from Thursday's competition are as follows:

Bareback Riding - 1st, Dustin Murray, Midwest City, Okla., 74 points; 2nd, Cord McCoy, Weatherford, Okla., 72; 3rd, Eric Strick, Hydro, Okla., 64.

Saddle Bronc - 1st, Travis Nevius, Lamar, Colo., 66.

Steer Wrestling - 1st, Mickey Gee, Wichita Falls, 6.0 seconds; 2nd (tie), Daniel Adams, Weatherford, Okla., 6.6, and Jeff Babek, Granite, Okla., 6.6; 4th, Shawn Smith, Cheyenne, Okla., 6.8; 5th, Monty Eakin, Amarillo, 7.8; 6th, Paul Peterson, Southland, 19.

Mutton Busting - 1st, Mackenzie Parks, Pampa; 2nd, Paden Watson, Pampa; 3rd, Cade Woods, Pampa.

Calf Roping - 1st, Drew Parker, Yukon, Okla., 10.4 seconds; 2nd, Guy Miller, O'Donnell, 11.0; 3rd, Ty Billings, Turpley, 13.0; 4th, Monty Eakin, Amarillo, 13.9; 5th, Craig Morsolf, Amorita, Okla., 14.2; 6th, Jarred Tyree, Alva, Okla., 14.3; 7th, Cliff Kirkpatrick, Post, 16.5.

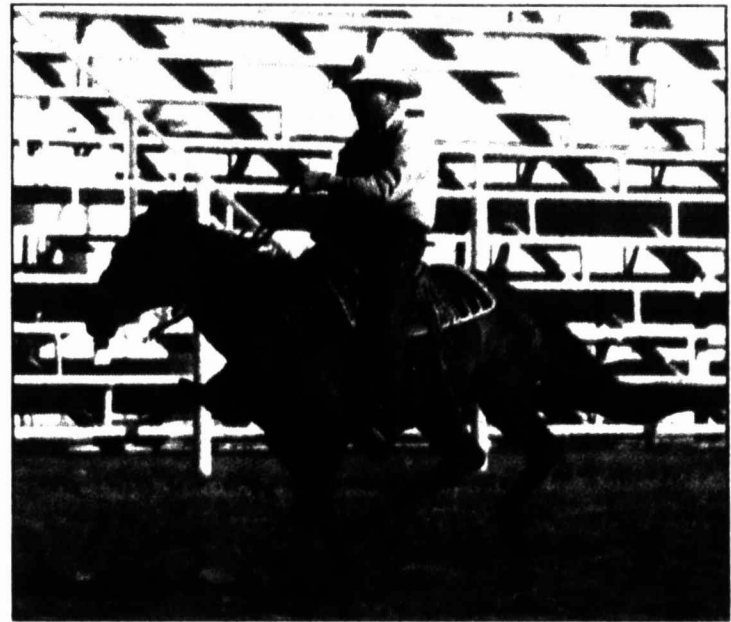
Double Muggin - 1st, Bill Horn, Justin Taylor, Michael Craig - 61.61 seconds; 2nd, John Ruhl, Steve Martin, Jimmy Light - 73.39.

Barrel Race - 1st, Karen Unterseher, Norman, Okla., 17.20 seconds; 2nd, Schelli Creacy, Stephenville, 17.23; 3rd, Karen Renshaw, Guthrie, Okla., 17.34; 4th, Kimberly Travis, Elk City, Okla., 17.60; 5th, Lynette Helm, Guymond, Okla., 17.67; 6th, Sandy



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

100 Wizard takes to the air with rider Dustin Murray in the Top O' Texas Rodeo first-night action Thursday. Murray, of Midwest City, Okla., won the first round of bareback bronc riding Thursday night.



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Chris Didway of the Gray County Sheriff's Office rides in the Celebrity Pick Up race Thursday. Didway and his partner Chad Brooks won the challenge race against riders from Jordan Prison Unit and rodeo directors.



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Texas Ranger Gary Henderson sings "The Star Spangled Banner" as the 2003 Top O' Texas Rodeo opens.

(See RODEO, Page 3)

CRMWA, Mesa: Water (rights) wars?

By DAVID BOWSER
STAFF WRITER

Mesa Water's bid for water rights in Roberts County should not have come as a surprise to the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, according to a spokesman for Quixx Corporation.

Bill Crenshaw of Xcel Energy, a spokesman for Quixx Corp., said Thursday that Quixx has been a part of the Mesa group since Mesa Water, Inc., formed three years ago.

Wednesday, during the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority's board of directors meeting at Lake Meredith.

Kent Satterwhite, CRMWA's general manager, said he had talked with Quixx about buying additional water rights from them.

Quixx Corp., a subsidiary of Utility

Engineering which is owned by Xcel Energy of Minneapolis, Minn., holds water rights to some 63,000 acres in Roberts County. Those water rights are the remnants of water rights that were intended for use at a proposed nuclear Southwestern Public Service power plant in the 1970s. That project has since been abandoned, and Southwestern Public Service has morphed into Xcel Energy.

Satterwhite said Wednesday that CRMWA had submitted a bid on the Quixx acreage in June, but he said that Mesa found out about the bid and raised it.

Crenshaw said that Mesa was an agent through which Quixx could sell its water rights, but Quixx was not obligated to accept or reject any bid that Mesa might bring to Quixx. Quixx

was required, however, to inform Mesa officials of any other bid Quixx might be offered.

"There was a contractual obligation between Quixx and Mesa that Mesa be apprised of any offer that Quixx might know about," Crenshaw said. "CRMWA knows this."

Crenshaw confirmed Satterwhite's statement that CRMWA and Quixx had discussed what it might take to buy the Quixx water rights.

"Those two parties, although they knew that Mesa could be present at the meeting, felt the meeting would go better if Mesa was not at the negotiation," Crenshaw said. "Quixx invited Mesa to stay away, which Mesa did."

Crenshaw said that Quixx apprised Mesa of the negotiations, as they were obligated to do contractually with any

offer for the water rights.

"Mesa Water responded with a very aggressive offer for the water rights," Crenshaw said. "They made that offer on June 3."

Quixx consulted their attorney, Crenshaw said, then had their attorney notify CRMWA that the context in which they had been discussing the sale of the water rights had changed dramatically. Through their attorney, Crenshaw said, Quixx informed CRMWA that a higher offer had been made for those water rights.

On June 10 Crenshaw said, CRMWA returned with its offer which apparently reflected the earlier discussions and ignored the warning of the higher offer.

"They were told at that meeting,"

(See WATER, Page 3)

Troopers discover 350 lbs. marijuana in car on interstate

An El Paso man remained in Gray County jail today in lieu of more than a quarter million dollar bond after being arrested on drug charges near McLean.

Michael Lee Stolp, 37, of El Paso, was arrested Thursday night after being stopped for speeding on Interstate 40 near McLean.

Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper Jesse Cerda said he stopped an eastbound 1999 Cadillac four-door sedan about 9:30 p.m. Thursday for speeding and failure to properly

change lanes. After obtaining consent to search the sedan, Cerda said he found about 350 pounds of what he believed to be marijuana in the Cadillac.

Authorities said today that they believe Stolp was on his way from El Paso to Oklahoma City.

Gray County Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman set bond for Stolp at \$350,000 on charges of possession of marijuana, more than 50 pounds, but less than 2,000 pounds.

Pampa police investigate rash of vehicle burglaries

Pampa police today continued to investigate a rash of burglaries, most of which involved unlocked cars, some with the windows rolled down.

Officials reported at least 14 cars burglarized Wednesday night and early Thursday morning. Most of the incidents were in the Northeast Addition. Authorities said they had also received two new reports this morning.

Change was reported taken from a vehicle at 1112 Cinderella.

A car was reported broken into at 1125 Sirocco but nothing was reported taken.

Keys and a jacket were reported taken from a vehicle at 1120 Juniper. They were found in the yard next door, officers said.

A wallet was reported taken from a vehicle in the 2500 block of Rosewood. A wallet was later reported found nearby.

Keys and CDs were reported taken from a vehicle at 2604 Rosewood.

Change was reported stolen from a vehicle at 1117 Juniper.

A CD player was reported taken from a vehicle at 1112 Sandlewood.

CDs were stolen from an unlocked vehicle at 1048

Cinderella, police reported.

A vehicle was reported broken into at 1925 N. Zimmers.

Change was reported stolen from a vehicle with the windows down in the 2600 block of Rosewood.

A cell phone charger and CDs were reported stolen from a vehicle at 1905 Lea. Sixteen CDs were later found in the 1900 block of Lea.

A house was also broken into at 1908 N. Zimmers. CDs, a cassette tape player and prescription sunglasses were reported taken.

Prescription sunglasses were later found along with a ski mask in the 1900 block of Lea.

JULY 11 2003

ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Thursday, July 10

Timothy Darl Pritchard, 32, 1021 S. Christy, was arrested on charges of evading arrest, driving while intoxicated and driving without a valid driver's license.

Change was reported taken from a vehicle at 1132 Cinderella.

A car was reported broken into at 1125 Sirocco.

Keys and a jacket were reported taken from a vehicle at 1120 Juniper. They were found in the yard next door, officers said.

A wallet was reported taken from a vehicle in the 2500 block of Rosewood. A wallet was reported found in the 2600 block of Rosewood.

Keys and CDs were reported taken from a vehicle at 2604 Rosewood.

Change was reported stolen from a vehicle at 1117 Juniper.

A CD player was reported taken from a vehicle at 1112 Sandlewood.

CDs were stolen from a vehicle at 1048 Cinderella.

A vehicle was reported broken into at 1925 N. Zimmers.

Change was reported stolen from a vehicle with the windows down in the 2600 block of Rosewood.

A vehicle was broken into at 1125 Sirocco. A cell phone charger and CDs were reported stolen from a vehicle at 1905 Lea.

Sixteen CDs were found in the 1900 block of Lea.

An illegal cable hookup was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A gas trimmer was reported stolen in the 1800 block of Lea.

A house was also broken into in the 1900 block of North Zimmers. CDs, a cassette tape player and prescription sunglasses were reported taken.

Prescription sunglasses and a ski mask were found in the 1900 block of Lea.

AMBULANCE

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

Thursday, July 10

9:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of Anne and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:45 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of West Francis and transported one to PRMC.

12:12 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Highway 60 and Price Road. No patient was transported.

1:22 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Malone. No transport.

2:31 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded one mile west of Laketon on Highway 152 and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of Zimmers. No transport.

6 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the rodeo grounds on a standby.

Friday, July 11

3:43 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

FIRE

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

Thursday, July 10

11:32 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to Perry Lefors Airport on a medivac standby. The firemen stood by while a patient was loaded aboard the aircraft.

11:49 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 500 block of West Francis on a call for medical assistance.

1:22 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 800 block of Malone on a call for medical assistance.

3:41 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to the 700 block of Henry on a grass fire. The firefighters put the fire out.

STOCKS

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|------------|------------------|--------|-------|
| The following grain quotations are provided by Amey Grain of Pampa. | | | | | |
| Wheat | 2.72 | XCEL | 14.40 | +0.02 | |
| Milo | 3.57 | Kerr McGee | 44.55 | +0.27 | |
| Corn | 4.05 | Limited | 16.65 | +0.46 | |
| Soybeans | 4.93 | Williams | 7.85 | +0.13 | |
| The following show prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation. | | | | | |
| OXY | 33.29 | +0.39 | Pioneer Nat | 25.06 | NC |
| | | | JCP | 16.58 | +0.13 |
| The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa. | | | | | |
| BP | 40.23 | -0.03 | Wal-Mart | 55.90 | +0.27 |
| Celanese | 25.10 | NC | ORKE | 19.81 | +0.14 |
| Cabot Corp. | 28.77 | +0.19 | NS Grp | 8.83 | +0.03 |
| Cabot Oil Gas | 27.09 | -0.07 | | | |
| Coca Cola | 43.99 | -0.02 | New York Gold | 345.45 | |
| VLO | 37.54 | +0.27 | Silver | 4.81 | |
| HAL | 22.67 | -0.08 | West Texas Crude | 31.06 | |

SHERIFF

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

Thursday, July 10

Timothy Pritchard, 32, 1021 S. Christy, was arrested on charges of evading arrest, driving while intoxicated and driving without a valid driver's license.

Michael Lee Stolp, 37, El Paso, was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana, over 50 pounds but less than 2,000 pounds.

John Fitzgerald Cook, 37, 706 Somerville, was arrested on warrants charging him with theft by check, failure to appear, speeding and driving with expired registration.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

The forecast today is calling for mostly sunny skies, highs in the upper 90s and south winds 10 to 20 mph. Tonight should see partly cloudy skies with a 20 percent chance of rain and a slight chance of thunderstorms, lows in the upper 60s and south winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday should be partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. South winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night, partly cloudy. Slight chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent.

Sunday, partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Sunday night, mostly clear. Lows in the upper 60s. Monday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s. Monday night, mostly clear. Lows in the upper 60s. Tuesday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 90s.

Economy: Wholesale prices up in June, but 'core' prices down

WASHINGTON (AP) — After dropping for two months in a row, wholesale prices went up by 0.5 percent in June, largely reflecting sharply higher costs for gasoline and other energy products.

The increase in the Labor Department's report Friday on the Producer Price Index, which measures prices before they reach consumers, came after wholesale costs plunged by a record 1.9 percent in April and dipped by 0.3 percent in May. It marked the largest increase in wholesale prices since March.

America's trade deficit edged up slightly to \$41.84 billion in May as imports of foreign cars, televisions and business equipment all showed big gains, the Commerce Department said.

The rise in the PPI in June was larger than the 0.3 percent advance economists were predicting. Higher energy prices could put a strain on the budgets of businesses and consumers and could make them more cautious spenders, something that would slow the economy's recovery.

Excluding energy and food prices "core" wholesale prices edged down by 0.1 percent in June, after inching up by that amount in May. Economists were predicting core prices to rise last month.

On Wall Street, stocks moved higher on the mixed economic news. The Dow Jones industrials gained 63 points and the Nasdaq was up 13 in morning trading.

Given that prices for some other products are retreating, Friday's report probably won't erase the Federal Reserve's worries that the country could be headed for deflation, an economically dangerous long-term slide in prices.

To help the economy, the Federal Reserve on June 25 reduced a key interest rate by one-

quarter point to 1 percent, a 45-year low. The rate cut was aimed at bolstering economic growth and thus helping to prevent an outbreak of deflation.

Although Fed policy-makers say the chance of deflation is remote, the central bank still must be alert because of deflation's potential to wreck the economy, economists said.

The United States' last serious deflation occurred during the Great Depression. A bad case of deflation can lead not only to widespread price declines but also to job losses and pay cuts.

The 0.1 percent drop in core wholesale prices in June marked the first decline since a 0.9 percent drop in April. The decline in core prices last month reflected falling prices for cars, light trucks and communications equipment.

Those and other price declines were swamped by a 3.4 percent increase in energy prices in June, which fell sharply in the previous two months.

In June, gasoline prices jumped by 7.6 percent, the largest increase since February. Home heating oil soared by 9 percent. Residential natural gas rose 3.6 percent and liquefied petroleum gas, such as propane, jumped 6.6 percent.

Energy prices are rising in part on fears that the oil-producing nations might cut production levels for crude oil. For natural gas, shortages are the problem, something that is worrisome to Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, who doesn't see much relief in sight.

Prices for food rose by 0.4 percent in June, compared with a 0.1 percent advance in May. In June, higher prices for beef, veal and pork outweighed lower prices for dairy products, vegetables and fruit.

Four sentenced in migrant smuggling operation

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Four Mexican nationals have received up to nearly four years in federal prison for aiding in a smuggling operation that ushered undocumented immigrants into South Texas and left a Honduran to die in the brush.

In addition to Thursday's sentencing, at least three others are expected to receive stiffer prison terms in September because government prosecutors contend they're the ones who collected money, branched pellet rifles and essentially led the group. They're believed to be partly responsible for the Honduran's death, authorities say, even though none was present when Victor Nunez collapsed.

Nunez fell in Zavala County on Aug. 17 and was left behind. His badly decomposed body was found later.

A mother and her son from Piedras Negras, testifying in court Thursday, described how they became the group's clients and then captives until federal authorities found 31 undocumented immigrants in a Campbellton mobile home on Aug. 20.

The four Mexican nationals were described as driving carloads of immigrants, fetching groceries and playing relatively

minor roles in the operation. All four had pleaded guilty.

Jose Luis Mejia Fuentes, 21, received three years and ten months in prison. Augustin Espinoza Cepeda, 22, got three years, five months; Juan Manuel Perez Gonzalez, 19, two years, six months; and Fredy Diaz Oliva, 20, received two years behind bars.

"I want to tell you I have recognized that (this) is not the way to make money," Mejia Fuentes told U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia. "Believe me, I am remorseful for having taken the wrong path in this life."

Esmerilda Enriquez Garcia and Armando Herver Garcia started their trip by walking more than 13 hours across the Rio Grande and into Zavala County with 11 others.

Staying away from the highway, Herver Garcia, 22, became feverish, and his 53-year-old mother struggled to keep up.

Outside La Pryor, the group crammed into a pickup, which delivered them to a mobile home in Campbellton, where other immigrants waited.

Most slept on the floor as stale body odor filled the rooms and a single air conditioner strained to cool the stash house.

There, the smugglers, or coyotes, threatened to hold the immigrants until each paid the previously agreed-upon fee of \$1,300.

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PIRATE OF THE CARIBBEAN PG13
Starring Johnny Depp

TERMINATOR 3 R
Rise Of The Machines
Starring Arnold Schwarzenegger

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All Movies Start At 7:00 & 9:30
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Saturday & Sunday 2:00 & 4:30

It's about time...to save some money on good used computer parts, to see the new store location and to meet the whole team at CompuTech. It's about time for the first community computer swap meet. Bring your good used computer parts to swap.

We look forward to meeting you!
JW, Randal, Briz (the dog), and Gary

It's About Time

Saturday, July 12, 2003
10:00—3:00 p.m.

West side of CompuTech Computers
1712 N Hobart

Tel: 806-665-3266

Community Computer Swap Meet

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

1964 FORD Galaxie, 390 auto., 2 dr., turquoise. Runs, needs work, for sale. \$1000, obo. 669-1868.

BRICK REPAIR, Harley Knutson 665-4237 or 664-0543

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LOST SM. white fluffy dog on Pitts St. no collar, needs medication. Reward. 665-8016.

MCLEAN COUNTRY Club Dance, Sat., July 12th, to "Plain Country," 8-11:30 p.m. Public Welcome.

DANCE, MOOSE Lodge, Sat. July 12th, 9 p.m. "Rebel Texas Band."

NEARLY NEW 50% Off Summer Clothing Clearance Sale, 2216 N. Hobart.

NEW BEDDING Plants! Tree & Shrub Sale. Lazy S Feed & Garden, 516 S. Russell

PAMPA COUNTRY Club Buffet, Sun., July 13th, open to public. Entrees are Prime Rib & Deluxe Chicken.

RODEO SPECIAL Fri. & Sat. Calf Fries, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Pinto Beans, While They Last! \$7.95, Black Gold Rest. 669-6237.

SILK FLOWER Sale. Lazy S Feed & Garden, 516 S. Russell.

Growin

St. Vincent County Fair for the week of July 11-15. Brower, Ed. Sara Marti. SonHarvest. -Grow Love. The week's snacks. Son. tional exper. continue th. to join in on. tion.

Under credit

HOUSTON Corp.'s thousand will get a fraction are owed when ridden energy emerges from two newly named international p. nies.

Enron's plan, filed early five deadline e. most creditors 14.4 cents to every dollar owned. rupty, one of the sive in history creditors owed \$67 billion.

The plan approval by t. court.

"This is a go. has been a ver. process." Step restructuring Enron's interir. tive, said in a st.

Enron, No. 7 500 in 2000. bankruptcy D. amid revelation hidden debt, and complicat. entries designe. facade of ro. health. Thousa. ees lost their. that once trade. per share shar.

The expect. lenders to the falls well shor.

WATER

Crenshaw market price of the offer was about to asked if they reconsider w. about to offer. Mesa's offer. under consid.

Bobby spokesman f. said Wednes. for the water. closed, but. would be cor.

"We're a. internally, th. we shopp. offer." Cren. you look at.

RODEO

McElreath Kan., 17.68 Reinhardt, C. 8th, Cindy N.M., 17.7 Grissom, S.

Growing 'fruits of the Spirit'



(Courtesy photo)

St. Vincent's Catholic Church members are excited about SonHarvest County Fair, the church's Vacation Bible School, set for July 14-18. Preparing for the week of fun on the farm are, back row, Pamela Martin, Juanita Brower, Edie Mechelay, Martha Ontiveros, Bobbie Thomas; and front row, Sara Martin, Diana Mechelay, Candace Cole and Michael Mechelay. In SonHarvest County, children will discover how to grow the fruit of the Spirit - Grow Love, Sprout Joy, Plant Peace, Produce Patience and Pick Kindness. The week's activities include songs, skits, crafts, games, Bible stories and snacks. SonHarvest County Fair is meant to be an inspirational and educational experience for the entire family. Classes for children begin Monday and continue through Friday, July 14-18, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Parents are invited to join in on Friday's family activities. Call 665-8933 for registration information.

Bush, Rice: CIA cleared State of the Union speech

ENTEBBE, Uganda (AP) — President Bush said Friday that intelligence services cleared his State of the Union speech, which included a now-discredited allegation that Iraq was seeking to buy nuclear material from Africa.

Bush's national security adviser specifically said the CIA had vetted the speech. If CIA Director George Tenet had any misgivings about that sentence in the president's speech, "he did not make them known" to Bush or his staff, said Condoleezza Rice.

The issue arose a day after other senior U.S. officials said that before and after Bush's Jan. 28 speech, American intelligence officials expressed doubts about a British intelligence report the president cited to back up his allegations.

Those doubts were relayed to British officials before they made them public, and were passed to people at several agencies of the U.S. government before Bush gave his nationally broadcast speech. The White House this week admitted the charge about Iraq seeking uranium should not have appeared in his speech.

Bush, asked during a meeting with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni here how erroneous material had ended up in the address, said, "I gave a speech to the nation that was cleared by the intelligence services." He did not answer when pressed again on how it wound up in his speech.

But he reiterated his belief that he made the right decision in invading Iraq and asserted that the world is a more peaceful place for it.

Rice said "the CIA cleared the speech in its entirety."

The agency raised only one objection to the sentence involving an allegation that Iraq was trying to obtain "yellow cake" uranium, she said. Yellow cake is a slightly processed form of uranium ore the color and consistency of yellow corn meal.

"Some specifics about amount and place were taken out," Rice added.

"With the changes in that sentence, the speech was cleared," she said. "The agency did not say they wanted that sentence (on uranium) out."

Rice made the defense of the White House in a rare 50-minute meeting with reporters aboard the president's plane as Bush flew from South Africa to Uganda. Questions about the allegations in Bush's January speech have shadowed him on his five-day trip through Africa.

Also Friday, Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., said the inclusion of a false statement in the president's State of the Union address — however it happened — needs "full and thorough investigation." He called on an independent commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks to look at the matter, as well as the larger question of the quality of the nation's intelligence.

"We cannot and should not play fast and loose with our intelligence information," said Lieberman, who is seeking the Democratic nomination to run for president against Bush. "Quite simply, we need to know what people in the administration knew about the weakness of our uranium intelligence reports and when they knew it."

The administration is facing rising criticism on another front in postwar Iraq: increasing attacks against American soldiers there. Two were killed on Thursday.

Critics have attacked the administration's characterizations of the current outlook in Iraq, where the war's former commander, Gen. Tommy Franks, told a House panel Thursday that U.S. troops may have to remain in Iraq for four years.

The Senate on Thursday, in a 97-0 vote, called on Bush to work harder to get other countries to share the military burden in Iraq. Bush said Thursday that U.S. forces would have to "remain tough" in the face of attacks that Franks said were coming at the rate of 10 to 25 a day.

Under Enron reorganization plan, creditors to get pennies for dollars

HOUSTON (AP) — Enron Corp.'s thousands of creditors will get a fraction of what they are owed when the scandal-ridden energy conglomerate emerges from bankruptcy as two newly named pipeline and international power companies.

Enron's reorganization plan, filed early Friday after five deadline extensions, said most creditors will receive 14.4 cents to 18.3 cents on every dollar owed. The bankruptcy, one of the most expensive in history, has 20,000 creditors owed an estimated \$67 billion.

The plan is subject to approval by the bankruptcy court.

"This is a good day in what has been a very complicated process," Stephen Cooper, a restructuring expert and Enron's interim chief executive, said in a statement Friday.

Enron, No. 7 on the Fortune 500 in 2000, collapsed into bankruptcy December 2001 amid revelations of billions in hidden debt, inflated profits and complicated accounting entries designed to support its facade of robust financial health. Thousands of employees lost their jobs and stock that once traded as high as \$90 per share shrank to pennies.

The expected recovery by lenders to the once high flyer falls well short of other bank-

ruptcies. By comparison, bondholders in WorldCom's bankruptcy are to receive 36 cents on the dollar in the only Chapter 11 case larger than Enron's.

Bondholders normally rank behind creditors that made collateralized loans — such as large banks — when it comes to grabbing what's left in a bankruptcy. But in Enron's case, financial institutions such as J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. and Citigroup Inc. are unsecured creditors like bondholders, so they will receive the same slim payback.

The plan shows anticipated recovery estimates for more than 350 classes of creditors, ranging from 100 percent payment of administrative fees to nothing for common stockholders. The plan covers 174 debtor entities, from Enron to multitudes of subsidiaries.

Enron's plan, already approved by major creditors, says creditors will divvy up proceeds from asset sales and auctions and receive equity in the two new companies — one domestic, the other international. Enron reported Friday it has collected \$3.2 billion from asset sales and \$2.5 billion from settling its vast array of energy-trading contracts. Auctions have raised about \$6 million, the company said.

The domestic business, CrossCountry Energy Corp.,

will have Enron's full or partial interest in three North American natural gas pipelines.

The second company, to be called Prisma Energy International Inc., includes 19 international power and pipeline holdings.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

WATER

Crenshaw said, "that the market price was well north of the offer that CRMWA was about to lay down and asked if they didn't want to reconsider what they were about to offer. They didn't, so Mesa's offer is the one that's under consideration."

Bobby Stillwell, a spokesman for Mesa Water, said Wednesday that the deal for the water rights had not closed, but he thought it would be completed soon.

"We're a little distressed internally, that it sounds like we shopped CRMWA's offer," Crenshaw said. "If you look at the chronology,

actually we shopped Mesa Water's offer, almost. We told CRMWA it was there, that it was aggressive and when they came in said, 'Now, look, it's well north of where you are. If you want the water, you're going to have to meet the market price.'"

CRMWA already has more than 40,000 acres of water rights in Roberts County, which they bought from Quixx in the 1990s. The water authority, which provides water for 11 cities in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains, including Pampa, began pumping from their Roberts County well field in December.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RODEO

McElreath, Cimmaron, Kan., 17.68; 7th, Tamara Reinhardt, Canadian, 17.74; 8th, Cindy Smith, Hobbs, N.M., 17.75; 9th, Rena Grissom, Sulpher, Okla.,

18.36. **Bull Riding** - 1st, Kenny Hickman Jr., Stark City, Mo., 73 points; 2nd, Jeremy Youree, Caldwell, 71; 3rd, Cord McCoy, Weatherford, Okla., 67; 4th, Robbie McBryde, Agua Dulce, 66.

JULY 11 2003

FRIDAY • JULY 11, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Supporting Our Troops Reaps Romantic Rewards For Some

DEAR ABBY: I met a guy in the Army through OperationDearAbby.net. We wrote e-mails back and forth and fell in love. You really changed my life, Abby. I just want to say thank you. God bless.

WALKING ON AIR IN LIMA, PERU

DEAR WALKING: Congratulations — that's wonderful news. Since the program began in 1967, there have been many romances and marriages between couples who met through Operation Dear Abby.

My partnership with the Department of Defense is now year-round, and I'm pleased to say that since December 2001, more than 2 million messages of support have been sent to our troops stationed around the world. And it's all due to my caring readership.

P.S. The Web address is www.OperationDearAbby.net. Let's keep those messages of support coming!

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are professionals in our 50s. We dress well and are average looking. Our problem is, no matter which restaurant we frequent, we are often seated next to the kitchen or work station. It happens whether we are together or alone, with or without reservations, in the United States or Canada. It doesn't seem to matter.

At one restaurant, I requested "a seat away from the kitchen," but wondered why this was necessary. If my husband and I looked and acted like slobbs, I would understand. Your thoughts, please.

MINDING OUR MANNERS IN SASKATCHEWAN

DEAR MINDING OUR MANNERS: The tables you have mentioned are usually the least desirable in a restaurant. If you are shown to a table you don't like, speak up and say the table is not acceptable and you would like to be seated elsewhere. When you make your reservations, request a table in the area you prefer. I'm sure you'll be accommodated.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 30-something single woman dating "Chuck," who is kind and thoughtful. We have been seeing each other nearly four months.

Chuck is a great guy, but there is one big problem. He is very hairy. His chest and back are covered with long, dark, thick body hair. It is a real turn-off, and it prevents me from being physically attracted to him.

In all other ways, Chuck is a wonderful man — sweet, generous and compassionate. He has been hinting recently that he would like a long-term relationship. I don't want to hurt his feelings or his self-esteem. Do I have the right to bring up hair removal?

NOT WILD ABOUT HAIRY

DEAR NOT: If you like everything about Chuck except the fact that he has a fur coat, it's time to level with him. Semi-permanent hair removal can be accomplished with a laser these days — and many people avail themselves of it. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain by speaking up.

DEAR ABBY: I'm being married soon, and one of my good friends suggested that a friend of hers do my makeup for the wedding. Her friend volunteered to help, and it's a wonderful gesture.

If I have her do my makeup, should I thank her to the wedding? Or should I thank her and give her a nice gift? I need advice. Abby.

CONFUSED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR CONFUSED: Before making any commitment, have the friend do a "practice makeup" on you. It would be a disaster, if, just before the ceremony, you realized her artistry wasn't up to your standards. That said, if you take her up on her generous offer, why not do all three — thank her, invite her, and mark the occasion with a token gift.

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 89440, Los Angeles, CA 90069, other, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 89440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



The Pampa News Comics

Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

by THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 43 "Do..."
 - 1 Canary homes
 - 6 Seasonal song
 - 11 Dizzying posters
 - 12 Let up
 - 13 Masked hero
 - 14 Offshoots
 - 15 Ailing
 - 16 Auction buy
 - 18 Crazy —
 - 19 Yale grad
 - 20 CD fore-runners
 - 21 Lamb's mom
 - 22 Shuttle fore-runner
 - 24 Headliner
 - 25 Pitch cousin
 - 27 Hair line
 - 29 Grad's reward
 - 32 Regret
 - 33 Brooch
 - 34 Wing
 - 35 Tax org.
 - 36 Wallet item
 - 37 Gal of song
 - 38 Private reply?
 - 40 Social group
 - 42 Minos' kingdom
- DOWN
- 1 More cushy
 - 2 Twin of
 - 3 Artemis
 - 4 Cook's tools
 - 5 Stray
 - 6 Sweet, yeasty bread
 - 7 Flings
 - 8 Burrows of
 - 9 Broadway
 - 10 Tennis gear
 - 11 Capital north of Syracuse
 - 12 Guitarist
 - 13 Stray
 - 14 Sweet, yeasty bread
 - 15 Flings
 - 16 Burrows of
 - 17 Hang down
 - 18 Tennis gear
 - 19 Young fox
 - 20 Hang down
 - 21 Iroquois tribe
 - 22 Charles, e.g.
 - 23 Dawn goddess
 - 24 Excites
 - 25 Queen of mystery
 - 26 Skin holes
 - 27 Mineral
 - 28 Nabokov book

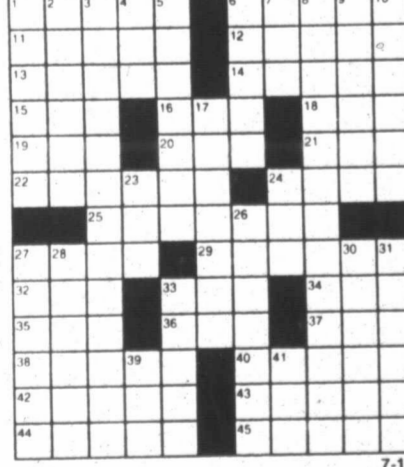


Yesterday's answer

- 9 Capital north of Syracuse
- 10 Guitarist
- 11 Dizzying posters
- 12 Let up
- 13 Masked hero
- 14 Offshoots
- 15 Ailing
- 16 Auction buy
- 18 Crazy —
- 19 Yale grad
- 20 CD fore-runners
- 21 Lamb's mom
- 22 Shuttle fore-runner
- 24 Headliner
- 25 Pitch cousin
- 27 Hair line
- 29 Grad's reward
- 32 Regret
- 33 Brooch
- 34 Wing
- 35 Tax org.
- 36 Wallet item
- 37 Gal of song
- 38 Private reply?
- 40 Social group
- 42 Minos' kingdom

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK!

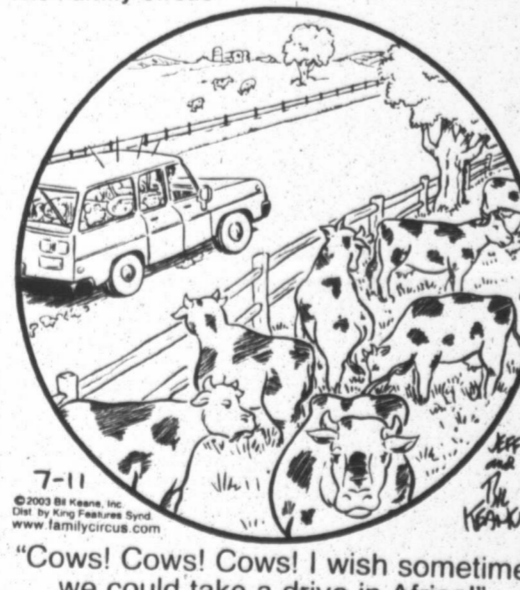
Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



Marmaduke



The Family Circus



Flo & Friends



Dem back

WASHINGTON — Union leaders are backing a proposal that would determine whether the Republican proposal to overhaul the way for the ad overtime rules.

Though Democrats to and through the proposal — unless a law Bush, the GOP upper hand.

The proposal overtime for income working more Labor Department oppose that of "The House a clear mess rules need to low-wage work Chao, chief a written statement.

The narrow lobbying by a threat by the spending bill attaching the measure would year's health.

Dog v



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BUILDINGS FROM \$25

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Factory NO INTER WAC



Democrats blast GOP as House backs White House's overtime regs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats and union leaders are lambasting President Bush for a proposal they say would cost at least 8 million workers their overtime pay after the House backed his drive to overhaul decades-old rules determining who qualifies for the extra money.

The Republican-led chamber voted 213-210 on Thursday to defeat a Democratic effort to derail the proposed regulations, clearing the way for the administration to impose changes in overtime rules as early as the end of this year.

Though further attempts by Senate Democrats to block the rules are possible — and though the administration can still alter its proposal — new regulations will take effect unless a law is enacted preventing it, giving Bush, the GOP and their business supporters the upper hand.

The proposed rules also would require overtime for as many as 1.3 million low-income workers who now do not receive it for working more than 40 hours a week, the Labor Department said. Democrats did not oppose that change.

"The House of Representatives today sent a clear message that the nation's overtime rules need to be updated to protect millions of low-wage workers," Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, chief author of the regulations, said in a written statement after the vote.

The narrow vote was preceded by all-out lobbying by unions and business groups, and a threat by the White House to veto a popular spending bill to which Democrats tried attaching their provision. The underlying measure would provide \$138 billion for next year's health, labor and education programs,

and was approved by 215-208.

The new regulations could take effect as early as the end of this year. Yet with Democrats hoping to use the flat economy and rising unemployment figures as ammunition in next year's presidential and congressional elections, they and their allies continued to talk tough.

"We call on the administration to stop its assault on working families," AFL-CIO President John Sweeney said in a written statement. "Congress will have a chance to revisit this issue and we urge workers to tell members to protect their overtime rights."

Three Democrats joined 210 Republicans in opposing the provision. Voting for it were 195 Democrats, 14 Republicans and one independent.

While Democrats and labor say at least 8 million salaried white-collar workers now getting overtime would lose it, the Labor Department said the figure was at least 644,000.

Republicans said the new Labor Department rules would clarify confusing regulations and reduce the growing number of lawsuits by workers seeking overtime. Democrats said the changes were designed to help employers take overtime away.

Both sides sent lobbyists to the Capitol and bargained lawmakers with phone calls, e-mails and letters. Both sides promised to include the vote among those they tally at election time to rate whether legislators are sympathetic to their causes. Among the groups working the issue were the AFL-CIO, the National Federation of Independent Business, the National Restaurant Association and the International Union of Police Associations.

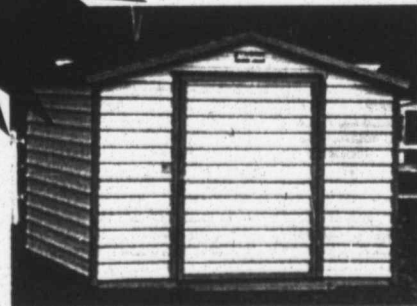
Dog wash fund-raiser



(Pampa News photo)

"Honey" the dog is gently shampooed at the "Dog Wash" by Rick Pearson and Todd Chumbley with Trevor Collins in the background, ready to lend a helping hand. The fund-raiser was held recently at Calvary Baptist Church to raise money for the church's youth.

BUILDINGS FROM \$25 MO. **PARKING LOT SALE IN PAMPA TEXAS**



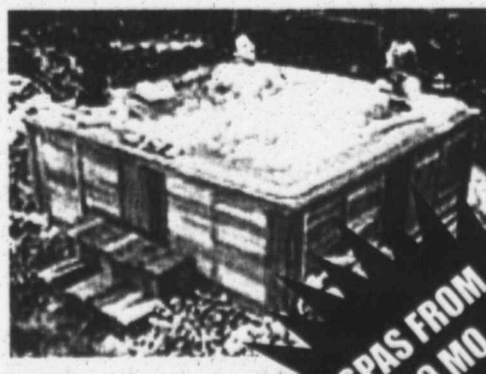
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Rev. Ron Noble.....711 E. Harvester

Assembly of God

Calvary Assembly of God
Rev. Philip Elsheimer.....Crawford & Love
Carpenter's Church Assemblies of God
Independent
Fred C. Palmer, Minister.....639 S. Barnes
Cornerstone Christian Center (White Deer)
Bob Epperson, Pastor.....201 S. Swift St.
First Assembly of God
Leland & Darlene Lewis.....500 S. Cuyler
New Life Assembly of God
Harold & Wendy Eggert.....1435 N. Sumner
Skellytown Assembly of God Church
Rev. Danny Trussell.....411 Chamberlain
First Assembly of God (McLean)
Pastor Dean Williamson.....420 Main St.

Baptist

Alanreed Baptist Church
Jim Bible.....3rd Street
Barrett Baptist Church
Rev. J.C. Burt.....903 Beryl
Bible Baptist Church
Bob Hudson, Pastor.....500 E. Kingsmill
Calvary Baptist Church
Rev. Richard Bartel.....900 E. 23rd St.
Central Baptist Church
.....Starkweather & Browning
Hobart Baptist Church
Rev. Jim Powell.....1100 W. Crawford
Fellowship Baptist Church
Charles Lowry, Pastor.....217 N. Warren
First Baptist Church
Rev. Randy White.....203 N. West
First Baptist Church (Mobeetie)
Rev. Robert Meller.....Mobeetie Tx.
First Baptist Church (Lefors)
Chris Webb, Pastor.....315 E. 4th

First Baptist Church (Skellytown)

Fines Marchman.....306 Roosevelt
First Baptist Church (Groom)
Byron Williamson.....407 E. 1st.

First Baptist Church (Wheeler)

Rev. Toby Henson.....601 S. Main
First Baptist Church (White Deer)
John Collis, Minister.....411 Omohundro St.
First Baptist Church (McLean)
Pastor Carl Cox.....206 E. 1st St.
First Free Will Baptist
.....731 Sloan St.

Grace Baptist Church

Bro. Kyle Ohnsfeldt.....824 S. Barnes

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Paul Nachtigall, Pastor.....1301 N. Banks

Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel

Bilingual.....1021 S. Barnes

Macedonia Baptist Church

Rev. I.L. Patrick.....441 Elm. St.

New Hope Baptist Church

Rev. Thomas J. Patterson.....912 S. Gray

Primera Idlesia Bautista Mexicana

Rev. Heliodoro Silva.....1541 Hamilton

Progressive Baptist Church

Rev. Bob Davis.....836 S. Gray

Trinity Baptist Church (McLean)

Pastor: Larry Perkins.....603 Commerce St.

Catholic

Sacred Heart (White Deer)
Monsignor Kevin Hand.....500 N. Main
St. Mary's (Groom)
Father Neal Dee.....400 Ware

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Father John Valdez.....810 W. 23rd

Christian

Church of the Brethren
Cole Goldsmith, Minister.....600 N. Frost
First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)
Senior Pastor Barry Loving ..1633 N. Nelson
Hi-Land Christian Church
Mike Sublett, Minister.....1615 N. Banks
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Central Church of Christ
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Church of Christ (Lefors)

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Church of Christ

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.....Mary Ellen & Harvester

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Church of God
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First United Methodist Church (McLean)
Rev. Thacker Haynes.....219 N. Gray
First United Methodist Church (White Deer)
Toni Bailey.....101 W. 8th

Groom United Methodist Church

Rev. Tom Moore.....303 E. 2nd

Lefors United Methodist Church

Rev. Jim Teeter.....311 E. 5th. Lefors

St. Marks Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Rev. Raymond McKeever.....406 Elm

St. Paul United Methodist Church
Rev. John Westman.....511 N. Hobart

Mormon

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Bishop Steven Smith.....29th & Aspen

Nazarene

Church of The Nazarene
Rev. Doug Yates.....500 N. West

Non-Denominational

Bible Church of Pampa
Bob Banks.....300 W. Browning

Body of Christ at Pampa
.....210 N. Ward

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Pastor Agustin Vasquez.....500 N. Duncan

Iglesia Nueva Vida - New Life Church -
Bilingual
Pastor Pedro Hernandez..801 E. Campbell

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Rev. Lynn Hancock.....1800 W. Harvester

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First Pentecostal Holiness Church
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Presbyterian
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Dr. Edwin M. Cooley.....525 N. Gray

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RELIGION

Churches use creativity to share the 'good news'

By WENDY GRAGG
KILLEEN DAILY HERALD

KILLEEN — From the depths of the ocean, to the foggy streets of London or smack dab in the middle of a county fair there's no place vacation Bible schools won't go to spread the word.

But beyond all the decor and themes, the summer programs boil down to two things — character education and fun.

God in baby goats

Baby goats may not be something often seen at church, but they were an essential part of vacation Bible school at Robertson Avenue Baptist Church in Copperas Cove this summer. As part of the Son Harvest County Fair theme, the

goats helped illustrate some of the curriculums lessons and more importantly, they were a big hit with the children.

Bleats from the soft and docile goats mixed with "awwww's" from the children as several third-grade girls got acquainted with the barnyard babies.

"I just have to have this one. he's so precious," third-grader Katie Ocheltree said.

Monika Wheelless, director of Robertson Avenue's Bible school, said the goats bring home the message of being gentle and nurturing all of Gods creatures. The Son Harvest County Fair program revolves around teaching the 4 through 13-year-olds the fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, good-

ness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Wheelless said its important to wrap the Bible school lessons in over-the-top themes like the county fair.

"It's an attraction for the kids and it brings them in here so we can give them the gospel," she said.

Song, dance, crafts, Bible study and special treats such as a visit from horses and goats combined to bring the morality lessons to life for the children.

Vacation Bible school isn't just a healthy activity for children in the summer, Wheelless said. It's also an outreach ministry for the church.

"It's important for the kids in the neighborhood who never come to church. We get them in,

and videos kept the 44 5- through 11-year-olds busy for a week and taught them a little about having God in their lives.

"A lot of times parents are looking for a place to send them in the summer and Bible school is a good safe place," said Bible school director Beth Bodkin. "It's a chance to tell the kids about Jesus."

Adult guides took the "dive teams" or groups through the activities, and emphasized lessons like "love God," "trust God," "share Gods love" and "obey God." Bodkin said the dive teams consisted of mixed ages, so the older children could help the younger ones.

Bodkin said the SCUBA program helped bring the lessons of the Bible home for the kids, in a way they could understand. "Everything is geared toward making it real to them, making them know it's about them and not just something that goes on Sunday," she said. JaCee Bowling, 9, gave SCUBA a big thumbs-up. "It's really fun, you get to do a lot of crafts and learn about God," Bowling said.

Games, crafts, skits, stories and lessons from the deep sea. Schools of fish swam the walls, jellyfish dropped from the ceiling and dive gear decorated the doors of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church this summer, as the church's vacation Bible school took a Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure.

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Longing for the way things were

This column is submitted with permission from American Family Associates (AFA) of Tupelo, Miss., 38803. I was a contemporary with Gramps. Preachers, part of the failing hs been ours. We must get forgiveness and help change some hearts today.



Minister's Musings

REV. ARCHIE COOPER, RET.
PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS CHURCH

By DON WILDMON,
AFA FOUNDER/CHAIRMAN

The young man was just becoming an adult. One day he sat down to visit with his grandfather.

"Gramps," the young man said, "I wish I lived in a country where we didn't have to lock our doors and windows all the time. Where we did not have to be fearful of someone breaking into our house and harming us. Wouldn't that be nice?"

"Yep," replied Gramps, "that would be nice. I know it would be nice because I lived in a country like that one time. In fact, in the house I grew up in we didn't even have a lock on any door or window."

"And, Gramps, I notice you always lock your car when you park it. You even have a security alarm so if anyone tries to get into your car, it goes off. Wouldn't it be nice to live in a country where you could leave your keys in your car if you desired and no one would bother it?" the young man asked.

"Yep," replied Gramps, "that would be nice. I know it would be nice because I lived in a country like that one time. I used to leave my car unlocked with the keys in the ignition."

"There's something else I would like, Gramps," the young man said. "Wouldn't it be nice if my friends and I weren't always tempted with so much sex in movies and TV? Why can't they encourage us to live a clean life like you and Grandma? Wouldn't that be nice?"

"Yep," replied Gramps, I know it would be nice because I lived in a country like that one time. Entertainment was good and clean and wholesome."

"Gramps, wouldn't it be nice to live in a country where little babies were gifts from God and not simply a mass of tissue inside the womb — to live in a country where we didn't take the life of the most innocent, helpless members of our society? Wouldn't that be nice?"

"Yep," replied Gramps, "that would be nice. I know because I lived in a country like that one time. Society encouraged the mother-to-be to watch what she did and ate and drank to make sure that the baby was born healthy,"

Gramps responded. "Gramps, why can't we live in a country where couples stay married forever, like you and Grandma? Wouldn't it be nice to live in a country where everyone knew that marriage was between a man and a woman?"

"It sure would be," Gramps replied. "I lived in a country like that at one time."

"And what about being able to go to school where you were not afraid? Where students said 'Yes, sir' and 'No, sir' to their teachers. Where you said the Pledge of

Allegiance each morning and you could pray and thank God for the food. Nowadays, Gramps, discipline is a real problem. At my school half the students did drugs, and teachers were afraid to do anything because of the fear of being sued."

"That would be nice, Son. It would be real nice. I know, because I lived in a country like that at one time," Gramps said.

"Gramps, I didn't know you ever lived anywhere but America."

"Son," Gramps said, "it was America. All these things, and many more good things were a part of our life."

"But Gramps," the grandson said, "we live in America."

"I know, son. But America isn't America anymore," Gramps said.

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SPORTS

Tulia emerges as Cal Ripken champs

By JOHN W. WARNER
FOR THE PAMPA NEWS

It's no fluke. Tulia is the 11-12 Cal Ripken District I Champion after a 3-1 win over North Randall County here Thursday. Tulia had beaten North Randall 8-7 earlier this week, overcoming a five-run deficit with a six-run rally in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Outstanding defense aided pitchers D-Ray Macias and Louie Macias. Louie Macias made several outstanding plays at third base including starting a 5-4 double play to end a scoring threat by North Randall in the first inning. A throw from left-fielder Zach Maestas to shortstop Levi Sanders and on the D-Ray at first caught a runner rounding first too far in the fourth. Sanders also began a 6-3-2 double play, throwing to

D-Ray who fired a strike to catcher Paul Flores for a twin killing, choking off North Randall's rally in the fifth.

D-Ray was credited with the win. Louie Macias earned a save. D-Ray allowed no runs and one hit. He walked one and struck out three in three innings. Louie pitched the last three innings. He allowed one unearned run on three hits. He struck out three and did not walk a batter.

Tulia did all its damage in the third inning.

Frankie Trevino led off with a single to right field. After a strikeout, he was forced at second by Luis Martinez. Henry Cruz singled to right. When the ball got by the outfielder, both runners circled the bases and scored. D-Ray followed with a massive line drive home run to center field for a 3-0 Tulia lead.

The new District I champions threatened at other times. Cruz and D-Ray singled in the first inning but were stranded. Cruz was hit by a pitch and D-Ray was walked intentionally in the fifth but did not score. Flores had the only other hit for Tulia.

North Randall had two base runners in the first inning on an error and a walk, but the double play from Louie Macias to second baseman Luis Martinez ended the inning.

In the fifth inning, Brandon Scoggin led off with a single for North Randall. After a strikeout, throwing error allowed him to score. The Sanders to D-Ray to Flores double play ended North Randall's last scoring threat.

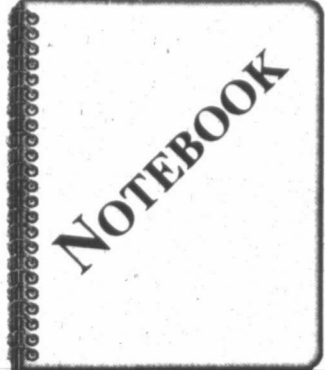
D-Ray with a single and a solo home run and Cruz with two singles and a run

scored were the leading hitters for Tulia. Kameron Hooker, Jacob Burton, Dalton Randal and Scoggin had hits for North Randall.

Cody Cross started for North Randall. He allowed no runs and two hits. He struck out five in two innings without walking a batter. Randal pitched the last three innings. He surrendered three runs on four hits. He struck out two, hit a batter and had no unintentional walks.

Both teams will advance to the 11-12 Cal Ripken North Texas State Tournament to be held at North Randall's field next week.

The District I Tournament officially ended home games for Optimist Baseball/Softball 2003, which was made possible in part by a grant from the Pampa United Way.



Football Boosters plan work night

Pampa Football Boosters will meet at 6:30 p.m., Monday, July 14, at the athletic building for a work night. All parents of this year's football team are invited to come and help work on projects. Wear work clothes.

BASKETBALL

EAGLE, Colo. (AP) — A decision on whether to charge Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant with sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman will not be announced until next week, a prosecutor's spokeswoman said.

Eagle County District Attorney Mark Hurlbert did not return a phone call, but a statement from his office said he was awaiting more information before making his decision.

Bryant is accused of attacking the woman at a resort on June 30. Bryant's attorney has said his client, who was in Colorado for knee surgery at a Vail clinic, is innocent.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Free agent Karl Malone, the NBA's second-leading all-time scorer, committed to joining the Los Angeles Lakers.

Malone joins Gary Payton, a nine-time All-Star who agreed earlier this week to play for the Lakers. Even though Payton and Malone have reached agreements with the team, the first day free agents can sign contracts is Wednesday.

NEW YORK (AP) — Draft pick Maciej Lampe practiced with the New York Knicks after receiving clearance from his European basketball team.

The 6-foot-11 Lampe was taken with the first pick of the second round, but remained under contract to Real Madrid.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Former NBA coach Chris Ford joined the Philadelphia 76ers as an assistant to new coach Randy Ayers.

BASEBALL

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Pirates first baseman Randall Simon was cited by the sheriff's department for disorderly conduct and fined \$432 for hitting one of the Brewers' sausage mascots with his bat on Wednesday.

Simon said he didn't mean to knock down the woman, who tumbled to the ground and got a few scrapes but wasn't seriously hurt during the popular costume race at Milwaukee Brewers games.

CYCLING

NEVERS, France (AP) — Lance Armstrong finished 53rd in the fifth stage of the Tour de France and remained second overall behind U.S. Postal Service teammate Victor Hugo Pena.

Alessandro Petacchi won for the third time in five stages, completing the 121.8-mile leg from Troyes in 4 hours, 9 minutes and 47 seconds.

Woman hit by player gets his bat ... with autograph

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The young woman inside the Italian sausage costume says she'll accept an apology from Pittsburgh first baseman Randall Simon, but all she really wants is the bat he swatted her with as she ran past the Pirates' dugout.

With one swing Wednesday night, Simon sent 19-year-old Mandy Block tumbling to the ground in the heavy costume. A fellow racer dressed as a hot dog also fell.

Simon, cited for disorderly conduct and fined \$432, issued a public apology before leaving town after the Pirates' 5-4 victory over the Brewers on Thursday. Block said a team representative told her Simon would call her Friday to apologize.

"One of the public relations ladies called me and she talked to me and she was really nice and offered a lot and said, 'Anytime you're in Pittsburgh ... the best seat in the house is yours,'" Block said at her South Milwaukee home Thursday night.

"But all I wanted was the bat."

She and the other racer, Veronica Piech, had the day off Thursday from their jobs with the Brewers, but they planned to return Friday. Block said she was told that bats autographed by Simon would be waiting at Miller Park, and hers would be the same bat Simon swung at her Wednesday night.

The sausage race, a fan favorite since 1995, features team employees dressed as an oversized

bratwurst, hot dog, Italian sausage and Polish sausage.

Simon said he was just playing around.

"I thought at the moment they were trying to play with us. They were running right next to the players," he said. "I'm a fun player, and I've never hurt anyone in my life."

Simon appeared in the district attorney's office Thursday. Deputy District Attorney Jon Reddin said after reviewing the tape and interviewing the women he would not file criminal charges.

"It's such a silly little thing, you know," Block said. "I can see both points of views. ... From my point of view, it's crazy because I am not used to like being interviewed or anything. I'm like, 'I'm just a sausage, guys. It's not a big deal. I'm fine.'"

Block, who has worked for two summers as a member of the Brewers' on-field promotional team, said it's normal for opposing teams to throw peanuts or squeeze water bottles at them.

"I saw the bat before I got to him. I thought he was just going to fake me out," said Block, who stands 5-foot-3. "I am real little and I didn't take the blow very well."

Block said the blow didn't hurt because it hit the head section of the costume, which is above her head.

The Pirates apologized and said the team does not condone Simon's behavior and will address the issue internally.

Rangers top Twins

ARLINGTON (AP) — Minnesota Twins manager Ron Gardenhire prides himself on having his team ready to play.

That's why he was so upset about a first-inning play by shortstop Cristian Guzman that opened the door for the Texas Rangers' three-run inning Thursday night.

Juan Gonzalez homered twice, including a three-run shot in the first, and the Rangers hit four home runs to beat the reeling Twins 9-4 and complete a three-game sweep.

Michael Young and Hank Blalock opened the games with singles of Rick Reed. Two outs later, after Alex Rodriguez avoided a double play by beating Guzman's throw to first, Gonzalez homered into the left-field seats.

Gardenhire said he'll bench Guzman and start either Denny Hocking or Chris Gomez at shortstop in the three-game series at Anaheim that begins Friday night.

"We expect him to be ready to play and he wasn't so we're going to sit him down," Gardenhire said. "We expect certain things out of him. We can use him if we have to, but we're going to give him a chance to watch a few games."

Minnesota has lost five in a row and 12 of 17 to fall to 44-46. After 90 games last season the Twins were 51-39 and had a 7 1/2-game lead in the AL Central.

The Rangers have won four straight and 11 of 16.

"Juan, my gosh, and he didn't get all if it," said Rangers manager Buck Showalter of Gonzalez's first-inning homer. "He hit it down on the barrel of the bat. But he's such a strong man."

Rangers starter John Thomson (6-9) allowed two runs and eight hits over seven innings. He struck out four and walked two.

Gonzalez also had a solo homer in the

fourth, his 23rd.

Late last month the Rangers tried to send Gonzalez to Montreal, but he exercised the no-trade clause in his contract. The Rangers are still trying to deal Gonzalez to open up playing time for their young outfielders, and he's making himself attractive to contenders with five homers in his last six games.

Gonzalez refused interview requests following his 47th career multihomer game, and fourth this season. He has 428 homers, moving past Billy Williams for 31st place on the career list.

Teixeira went 2-for-4 and made several outstanding defensive plays at first base. Laynce Nix singled and scored in his major league debut and also played strong defense in center field.

"I like having the young guys in the lineup," said Texas' Michael Young, who had a three-run homer. "They're contributing to us winning games."

Reed (4-9) gave up three homers, seven runs and eight hits over 4 1-3 innings.

Minnesota took advantage of Blalock's throwing error at third base for a third-inning run on Doug Mientkiewicz's single.

The Twins made it 4-2 in the fifth on Torii Hunter's RBI groundout.

Einar Diaz hit an RBI single and Young hit his ninth homer in the fifth to make it 7-2.

In the sixth, Teixeira's leadoff homer and Diaz's sacrifice fly made it 9-2.

Notes: Nix, called up from Double-A Frisco on Wednesday, made a leaping catch on the warning track in the first. ... Hunter will miss Friday night's game to attend the funeral of his high school baseball coach, Billy Bock, in Pine Bluff, Ark. ... The Rangers reacquired utility man Jermaine Clark from San Diego for future considerations and assigned him to Triple-A Oklahoma.

Astros 11, Reds 2

HOUSTON (AP) — As Houston pounded out run after run in a record-setting first inning, no one was happier than Astros starter Ron Villone.

Villone got his first win after four no-decisions with Houston when the Astros put together the biggest first inning in team history in an 11-2 victory over Cincinnati on Thursday night.

"It comes in waves a lot of times," Villone said. "Last night, the guys were kidding me saying they weren't going to save any runs for me tonight."

The Astros scored 12 runs against the slumping Reds the night before, and outscored them 36-8 during a four game sweep. Cincinnati has lost eight in a row.

Geoff Blum had two hits in the big inning, including a two-run single. Jeff Bagwell, Brad Ausmus and Adam Everett added RBI singles as the Astros chased Paul Wilson before he got an out.

Craig Biggio hit his 500th career double in the fourth inning, becoming the first Astros player to reach the milestone.

"When you play 15 years you are going to have some good things happen," Biggio said. "It was special to have it happen at home in front of the fans of the only organization I have ever played for. I still enjoy the game as much as I did when I started playing."

Biggio is the 40th major leaguer to reach the mark.

"That is quite an achievement for anyone — especially to do it in one uniform," Houston manager Jimmy Williams said. "He's been a special player here and still is."

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, July 12, 2003:

Frequently, you need to defer to others. You will learn to juggle your needs with that of others, but the key will be understanding others. You learn to walk in others' shoes. You could be unusually tired at times. Make sure you get enough sleep and take good care of yourself. At the same time, you will have unusual charisma and magnetism, which draw many to you. You will be unusually successful if you manifest your innate people skills. If you are attached, sometimes your mate plays devil's advocate. Be grateful for his or her ability to reflect others' views, rather than becoming defensive. If you are single, you will meet many people this year, especially after August. Your social life will expand, as well as the likelihood of meeting that special someone. CAPRICORN can be challenging.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** A last-minute snafu could change your plans. Bring others together, even if someone doesn't want to participate. You have a very nurturing way of lightening up a situation. Understand where someone is coming from. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** You might feel stressed out

financially, but you can count on a loved one or dear friend to come through. Use your imagination with this person.

Together you come up with unusual plans and solutions. Once you relax, you'll have a great time. Tonight: Emphasize what is good in a relationship.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** You might be more down than you realize. Carefully consider your options that surround your plans. Detach from your problems, and you'll feel much better. Relax with others and make less judgments. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Examine what you need to get done. If you don't feel up to snuff, say so. You will get a lot done if you allow others to pitch in. Someone knows how to lure you out of the doldrums. Don't fight his or her efforts too hard. Tonight: Put your feet up. Take it easy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Express your playfulness, but understand that others might have a strong reaction. In fact, a friend could be nothing less than a downer. Ouch! Find those close to you who seem more in the mood to play away. Tonight: Let your desires speak.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Stay close to your home and family. You might need to rethink a question involving an older relative or associate. Know when to pull back and say "no."

You might feel more playful than you have felt in a long time. Play. Tonight: Don't wander too far from home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Surround yourself with friends right now. News from a distance might have you growling and fussing. Know your limits with a loved one or child. You might need to take a stance.

Extremes mark affectional ties. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Don't worry if someone seems distant or remote right now. You might be more fiery or challenging than you realize. If you decide to treat someone, stay within your budget. Problems ensue later when you might least expect them. Tonight: Enjoy who and where.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Others seek you out. Someone in your immediate circle could feel rather negatively. Take that extra step to make this person feel at ease. Listen to a loved one; he or she could happily lure you into a fun project or two. Tonight: A big smile.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Take your time with others, but also be just as patient with yourself. If you need some time off from the here and now, do just that. Follow your instincts with spending. Extremes mark your energy levels right now. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Groups seem to be your thing right now. You have the best time out and about with others; somehow, you are energized and feel wonderful. A child or favorite loved one indulges you. Express your feelings. Tonight: Could be a late night.

BORN TODAY Exercise expert Richard Simmons (1948), actress Cheryl Ladd (1951), actor Bill Cosby (1937)

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By: Harold L. St. Card No. 04 P.O. Box Pampa, TX 7906 (806)666-6666 FAX (806)666-6666 Attorney Independent E C-79 July 11, 2003

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PAMPA NEWS

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 FAX 806-669-2520

1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of VELDA L. ARCHER, Deceased, were issued on July 7, 2003, in Docket No. 9001, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: QUENTIN R. ARCHER. The residence of the Independent Executrix is in Gray County, Texas. The post office address is: P.O. Box 1540, Pampa, Texas 79066-1540. All persons having claims against this Estate which are currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 7th day of July, 2003.
 By: Harold L. Comer
 State Bar Card No. 04641000
 P.O. Box 1058
 Pampa, TX 79066-1058
 (806)665-8495
 FAX (806)669-0553
 Attorney for Independent Executor
 C-79 July 11, 2003

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
 Bids are being taken for painting the exterior of a 250,000 Groundwater Public Drinking Water Storage Tank. Bids will be for pressure water wash, one (1) coat primer, two (2) coats paint. For details and copies of preferred bids contact Jim Adams at 806-779-2482 or 806-334-3289. All bids will be opened and read at the regular council meeting July 14th, 2003, at the City Hall, 220 N. Main, McLean, Texas. Sealed bids should be addressed to Bob Martin, Mayor, City of McLean, P.O. Box 9, McLean, Texas, 79057. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all formalities.
 Bob Martin, Mayor
 City of McLean, Texas
 C-70 June 27, 2003
 July 3, 11, 2003

3 Personal
BEAUTICONTROL Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848
5 Special Notices
ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found

LOST in 1200 block Duncan, white Shih-Tzu dog, blue collar w/tags, male. Child's pet. 662-9252
 \$50 Reward plus money inside wallet for return of lost brown wallet. Call or mail to Jean Autry, PO Box 439 Pampa Tx 79066 665-8518.
 LOST set of keys to Lincoln Towncar, with keyless entry remote, the week of July 4th. Reward. Bring to Pampa News.
 FOUND Dachshund near Frederic St. Call 669-6223 to identify.

13 Bus. Opp.

AAA VENDING ROUTE 80 Selling Units. Prime locs. \$9550 Invest. 25% down w/ac. 800-396-9311

14b Appli. Repair

CALL William's Appliance Service, 665-8894.

14d Carpentry

CUSTOM homes, additions, remodeling, residential / comm. Deaver Construction, 665-0447.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

ADDITIONS, Remodeling decks, fences, patios, home repairs. Jerry Reagan, 669-3943

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

CUSTOM cabinets, counter tops, custom furniture (chinas-curtains-entertainment centers-antique replicas-etc) patio furniture, decks, gazebos, general carpentry, ref. available Bill Schroeder 669-6917.

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

14h Gen. Serv.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.
 IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, Tx.

14n Painting

50 yr. exp. We paint, dry-wall, texture, comm/ residential. Free Estimates. Happy Painters 665-3214
 CERAMIC Tile Works. Floor, kitchen and shower repair or remodeling. Jesus Barraza, 665-3453 lv. msg.
 PAINTING, wallpaper, faux finishes. Reasonable rates. Call 669-1846.

14s Plumbing/Heat

CHIEF Plastic Pipe & Supply, carriers a wide array of RAINBIRD Sprinkler parts. Come by and let us help you plan your new system or repair your existing. 1237 S. Barnes, Pampa, 665-6716.
 JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115- faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC
 Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/ Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

21 Help Wanted

AN Amarillo Co. has recently expanded in the Pampa area, creating 8 FT positions. Starting pay is \$2000 a mo. if qualified. To book a personal interview. Call 356-6850.
 TEXAS ROSE is taking applications for kitchen, and experienced cooks. Apply in person.
 WELDERS needed. Please send resume to Fluid Compressor Corp., Po Box 562, Pampa, Tx.

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NOTICE
 Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

IMMEDIATE opening for Director of Nurses position at McLean Care Center. Contact: Billy Ray Johnston at 779-2469

ATTENTION Work From Home. \$1500-\$10,000 mo. 1-800-413-4918. www.securewealthfromhome.com

DEPENDABLE part-time bar help needed. Call 665-8968 or 665-4661.
ATTENDANTS needed to provide personal care & housekeeping task in clients home. Chartwell Community Services at 1-800-456-0285 ext. 240.
PART TIME merchandiser needed to service acct. in Albertsons. Call Scott toll free 1-866-331-5270.

69 Misc.

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59 Guns

FOR SALE
 Browning Citori .410 shotgun, Smith & Wesson .44 mag Marlin .22, Hawkins .50 cal, Ducks Unlimited Prints. Call 665-6361 or 662-3730

60 Household

ULTRA soft leather Lazy Boy recliner-retail \$1095, sell \$600. Elec. Corning-gas 36 in. 4 burner cook-top-all burners & controls-good cond. \$100. Call after 6 p.m., 669-6100 for appl. to see.

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69a Garage Sales

5 FAMILIES, Sat. 9-12 only, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 821 W. Brown.
 4 Family, Fri. 8-7, Sat. 8-1 p.m. Bicycle, musical horns, futon couch, lots of misc. 1608 N. Sumner.
 3 Family Garage Sale, 2322 Fir. Sat. 9-7 No early birds. No checks.
 SAT. 8 a.m. 2300 Christine & 2401 Christine. Dining table & hutch, couch & loveseat, antiques, tools, qn. headboards & much more.
 2325 Mary Ellen, Sat. only, July 12th, 8 a.m.-noon. Lots of furniture.
 MOVING Sale: 2329 Dogwood, Fri. & Sat. 7:30 a.m. Furniture, silver service set, gas grill, weight workout center, brass lamps, bedding, clothes, shoes & more.
 DOWNSIZING: antiques, tables, lamps, collectibles, blue / wh. dishes, gas stove, 200 amp box, P245 / 75R16 tires. 320 S. Gray, Fri. & Sat. 8:30-?

69a Garage Sales

GARAGE Sale, Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. 2101 N. Dwight. Lots of good junk!!
 SAT 8-7. 1612 Summer. Lots to buy. By 12:00 everything will be negotiable. Household & clothing.
 1814 Chestnut St. Sat. 8-3, Back Yard Sale little bit of everything One Day Only 7-12-03.
 GARAGE Sale 1523 N. Faulkner Sat. July 12, at 8:00 A Lot of Stuff
 GARAGE Sale, Fri. evening only 3-7pm, 1539 Summer, toys, TV, ent. center, computer, lots of goodies.
 SAT. 11th, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 1801 Lynn st. Lots of misc., jr., ladies, mens clothes, cheap!
 FRI afternoon & Sat. after the parade. 833 E. Denver. Kids, adults clothes, shoes, toys, etc.
 SAT. only 8:00-5:00 1332 & 1334 Charles Riding mower & more. A little a bit of everything.
 2715 Aspen Sat. 7:30. Elec. wt. bench, exercise equip, trampoline frame, furn, Little Tykes, baby stuff, vacuum cleaner, bicycles, clothes, etc.
 SAT. 8am-1pm, 2232 N. Wells, daybed, table & chairs, coffee and end tables, bar stools, little tikes kitchen & doll house, toys, beanie babies, clothes, lots of misc.
 621 Yeager-Inside. Qu. bed, din. set, Home Int., lots & lots of pretties, practicals, collectibles & more. Sat 8 a.m.
 GARAGE Sale, 2421 Fir, Sat. 8am-1, baby stuff, clothes and linens.
77 Livest/Equip.
 PUREBRED Angus & Brangus 3 yr. old bulls, \$1200 ea. or \$1000 multiple purchase. 835-2792
 REGISTERED short horn Bull and 5 registered cows for sale. 665-4842.
80 Pets & Suppl.
 3 Free dogs to good loving homes. Call 665-2357.
 SNOWDOGS Registered Siberian Husky puppies. 806-878-3064
95 Furn. Apts.
 Rent-to-Own 3 bdr., 1.5 ba., cent. heat, garage \$300 mo & \$150 deposit. 1417 E. Francis 663-0860

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 REGISTER

Trade deficit climbs in May

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's trade deficit, on track to set an all-time high this year, edged up slightly to \$41.84 billion in May as imports of foreign cars, televisions and business equipment all showed big gains.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that the May imbalance rose by 0.5 percent from the April deficit of \$41.65 billion even though U.S. exports posted their best gain since January with shipments of American-made autos and auto parts, computer chips and industrial machinery all showing gains.

For the first five months of this year, the U.S. trade deficit is running at an annual rate of \$492 billion, well above last year's record high of \$418 billion.

Critics point to the soaring deficit as evidence that the Bush administration is pursuing a failed trade strategy that has furthered the loss of millions of American manufacturing jobs as U.S. companies have closed their American factories and moved production overseas to take advantage of cheaper labor.

The administration, however, insists that the rising trade deficit reflects bigger economic forces, namely the fact that the U.S. economy, while mired in an anemic economic recovery, is still growing faster than the rest of the world.

Administration officials have been urging Japanese and European authorities to do more to boost their growth rates and provide stronger markets for American goods.

Also this spring, the administration made a subtle shift in its policy regarding the dollar, signaling that it did not plan to intervene in currency markets to stem the greenback's slide, a position American manufacturers had been urging the administration to take for years.

U.S. companies have complained that an overvalued dollar was pricing their products out of overseas markets and making imported goods cheaper and more attractive for U.S. companies.

The dollar's decline this year did appear to be boosting demand for American exports, which rose to \$82.05 billion in May, a 0.9 percent rise which was the strongest monthly increase in percentage terms since January.

The increase reflected gains of \$117 million in sales of autos and auto parts, which rose to \$6.76 billion in May. Other products showing increases in May were exports of industrial machinery, up \$101 million; computer accessories, up \$96 million, and computer chips, up \$50 million.

These gains offset declines of \$9 million in exports of farm products, which fell to \$4.29 billion, reflecting a big drop of \$177 million in shipments of soybeans, which offset gains in exports of corn, meat and poultry and fruit.

Imports were also up in May, rising by 0.7 percent to \$123.89 billion. That increase reflected a 4.7 percent rise in imports of foreign autos and auto parts, which increased to \$17.67 billion during the month. Imports of business equipment were up by \$75 million while shipments of televisions and video recorders climbed by \$69 million.

Lawsuit puts Princess Diana fund in financial crisis

LONDON (AP) — A Princess Diana memorial fund has stopped giving grants to charities because of financial problems linked to its bitter legal feud with the American collectibles maker, the Franklin Mint, the fund's top administrator said Friday.

Until the court battle is resolved, the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund is asking other trusts to pay the \$16 million in grants it pledged to beneficiaries — including charities working with land mine victims and AIDS sufferers, said chief executive Andrew Purkis.

The legal fight began when the fund and executors of Diana's estate

sued the Franklin Mint in 1998 over the sale of a Diana "Limited Edition Commemorative Plate," saying it violated their "exclusive rights" to the princess' name and image.

The lawsuit was thrown out as "groundless" and "unreasonable," court documents said. So in November, the Franklin Mint launched a \$25 million lawsuit accusing the fund and estate of acting maliciously in filing the original suit.

Fund trustees decided to freeze the fund's \$89.6 million in assets to ensure it could pay any legal costs.

Purkis told the British Broadcasting Corp. radio that some 500 jobs within

the fund and its beneficiaries were under threat because of the lawsuit.

He said that once the funds are unfrozen, the trust will pay back, with interest, those who covered its promises to the charities. "If this doesn't work, it means unfortunately and terribly wastefully, a lot of wonderful projects may have to close while the fund remains in a frozen state," he said.

Purkis insisted the body was not in danger of closure. Asked whether the fund now regretted suing the Franklin Mint, Purkis replied: "At the time, the trustees were doing what they thought was right for the memory of the princess, and they followed

legal advice very carefully. So I think it is only with hindsight that it is clear that it was such a mistake."

In the current action, the Franklin Mint claims the fund and executors of Diana's estate — including her mother, Frances Shand Kydd, and sister, Lady Sarah McCorquodale — acted "maliciously, wantonly ... and with the intent to oppress" in their 1998 lawsuit.

Speaking on Sky News TV, Purkis said the new action was "a quite unnecessary malicious prosecution suit against a charity which is doing fantastic work amongst the most vulnerable people in the world."

Wal-Mart opens Beijing store

BEIJING (AP) — Wal-Mart, the world's biggest retailer, opened its first outlet in China's capital Friday, making its inaugural foray into a major Chinese city after setting up 22 stores elsewhere in the country.

Thousands of shoppers packed the cavernous Sam's Club store on the far western edge of Beijing, testing out electronics, puzzling over imported cheese and loading shopping carts full of beer, paper towels and fresh seafood.

"We'll try it out. The prices look cheap, but it's a little far to come," said Li Mei, a housewife pushing her 2-year old son in a shopping cart past tanks of live seafood in the food section.

The opening represents a new step in Wal-Mart's penetration of the Chinese retail market, seven years after it opened its first China outlet in the southern city of Shenzhen.

Wal-Mart operates about 3,200 Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores in the United States and more than 1,200 stores worldwide, including outlets in Germany, Great Britain, Brazil, Argentina and Korea. Wal-Mart racked up worldwide sales of \$217.2 billion in 2001, but won't say how much of that was in China.

Already the single largest buyer of Chinese products, the Bentonville, Ark.-based company is rapidly becoming one of the biggest sellers to Chinese too.

Customers snapped up meat and seafood at the Beijing store, while western breakfast cereal, cream cheese and dill pickles drew few buyers. By midday, the 1,000-spot parking lot was full — an indication both of the store's popularity and the growing taste for cars among the city's increasingly affluent middle-class.

Altrusa officers



(Courtesy photo)

Altrusa International Inc., of Pampa recently installed the following officers: (Left-right) Billie Dixon, vice president; Darlene Birkes, director; Terry Gamblin, treasurer; Chleo Worley, director; Billie Sue Evans, president; Sue Baker, director; and Terri Williams, corresponding secretary. Not pictured: Maxine Watson, recording secretary; Joan Gray, director; Anne Stobbe, immediate past president; Jeannie Mitchell, assistant treasurer; and Kadda Schale, parliamentarian.

DUNLAPS TGIS

Your New Favorite Store

Prices Good Saturday Only! Thank Goodness It's SATURDAY Sale

SAVE 50-60% THROUGHOUT THE STORE

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>SALE 16.99</p> <p>CARLIE'S COURT LINEN CAMP SHIRT Reg. 34.00</p>  | <p>SALE 14.99</p> <p>STUDIO EASE ONE-PIECE LINEN/RAYON DRESS Reg. 54.00</p>  | <p>SALE 24.99</p> <p>SPAGO CAPRI SET Reg. 50.00</p>  | <p>EXTRA 20% OFF</p> <p>ALL REGULAR PRICED PURCHASES</p> <p>Valid July 12, 2003 only.</p> <p>DUNLAPS</p> <p>Your New Favorite Store</p> <p><small>*Excludes fragrances and cosmetics. Excludes mens and ladies designer merchandise. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer and may not be used on prior purchases.</small></p> |
| <p>SALE 21.99</p> <p>RAFAEL SPORT FLORAL CAPRIS Reg. 44.00</p>  | <p>SALE 14.99</p> <p>TROPICAL SHIRTS Reg. 38.00 - 44.00</p>  | <p>SALE 15.99</p> <p>SAVE 60% CYPRESS TERRY LOUNGEWEAR Reg. 40.00</p>  | <p>SALE 24.99</p> <p>ROBBIE BEE FLORAL SUN DRESS Reg. 50.00</p>  |
| <p>19.99 LADIES SANDAL SALE IN PROGRESS</p> | | | |
| <p>SALE 6.99</p> <p>L&J WOOD BEADED BRACELETS Reg. 15.00</p>  | <p>SALE 11.99</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL SILVER GEM STONE HURRICANES Reg. 24.00</p>  | <p>SALE 19.99</p> <p>KEDS LEATHER CASUALS Reg. 40.00</p>  | <p>SALE 19.99</p> <p>TRAVELER'S CLUB RADIO COOL CARRY Reg. 40.00</p>  |
| <p>SALE 7.99</p> <p>HULA/ALOHA PRINT THONG Reg. 16.00</p>  | | | |

Monday - Saturday 10-6; Sunday 1-5 **Coronado Center**