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Douthit case sees plea of guilty

Vargas pleads guilty to felony manslaughter charges

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 EDITOR

Cecilio Vargas today pleaded guilty to felony manslaughter charges in connection with the death last summer of Bob Douthit, a local wrecker service owner. Speaking with the help of a

Spanish interpreter in 223rd District Court this morning, Vargas, 37, admitted to driving the vehicle that rammed into a disabled bus and Douthit's wrecker, crushing Douthit between them. The bus and wrecker were parked on the side of Texas Highway 152 between

Laketon and Mobeetie shortly before 11 p.m., June 25, when the wreck occurred. Vargas fled the scene prompting a manhunt using tracking dogs from the Jordan Prison Unit near Pampa. He was found hiding in some canyons about 5 1/2 miles away from the collision.

In an agreement with the district attorney's office here, Vargas agreed to plead guilty in exchange for a 12-year sentence in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice prison system and to pay a fine of \$10,000. He also agreed to waive appeal.

get high. You made a choice to drive," she said. She spoke of the effect of the accident on her grandson Casey who stood a foot away from his grandfather. She spoke of how Vargas ran from the scene.

"You were more concerned about what would happen to you than about helping him," she said. "I hope you never have the opportunity to destroy another family."

Mrs. Douthit's emotional words were followed by those of her daughters, Rene Garrison and Carmen Knutsun, several of the Douthits' grandchildren, and finally two of Douthit's brothers and a sister.

They all spoke of how central "Papa" Douthit, who died a month short of his 65th birthday, was to their family. They spoke of his devotion to his wife, his children, and his grandchildren and the opportunities that will be missed. They told of their shock and grief. They told of their struggle with their Christian belief in forgiveness and their anger.

The courtroom was filled with family and friends of both the Vargas and Douthit families. Many on both sides of the courtroom cried as the victim impact statements were read.

"To me it was no accident," his brother Doil Douthit said. "You chose to drink and drive."

"I was going around telling everyone good-bye before I went to college," said one of the granddaughters. "I wanted more than anything else to be able to give Papa a hug ..."

"All the cousins - we all wanted to be just like Papa. He was always there. He was always picking up the pieces."

WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH 95
LOW 68

LOCAL

Parks advisory board announces meeting

Pampa's Parks, Recreation and Auditorium advisory board plans to meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 28, in the second floor conference room at City Hall.

Items to be considered include a review of water bill donation fund, trail grant project and Pioneer Cottage relocation updates, and recreation park benches.

Miami school board to convene Thursday

MIAMI — The Miami school board will meet at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, at the school administration office.

The board is expected to adopt a tax rate for the new fiscal year and to vote on several budget amendments.

Bonuses, transfer students and a school picnic are also on the agenda for Thursday's meeting.

DEATHS

Jim Ayres, 92, longtime Cabot employee.

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Beautiful Paving Stones...
 You Can Install Yourself

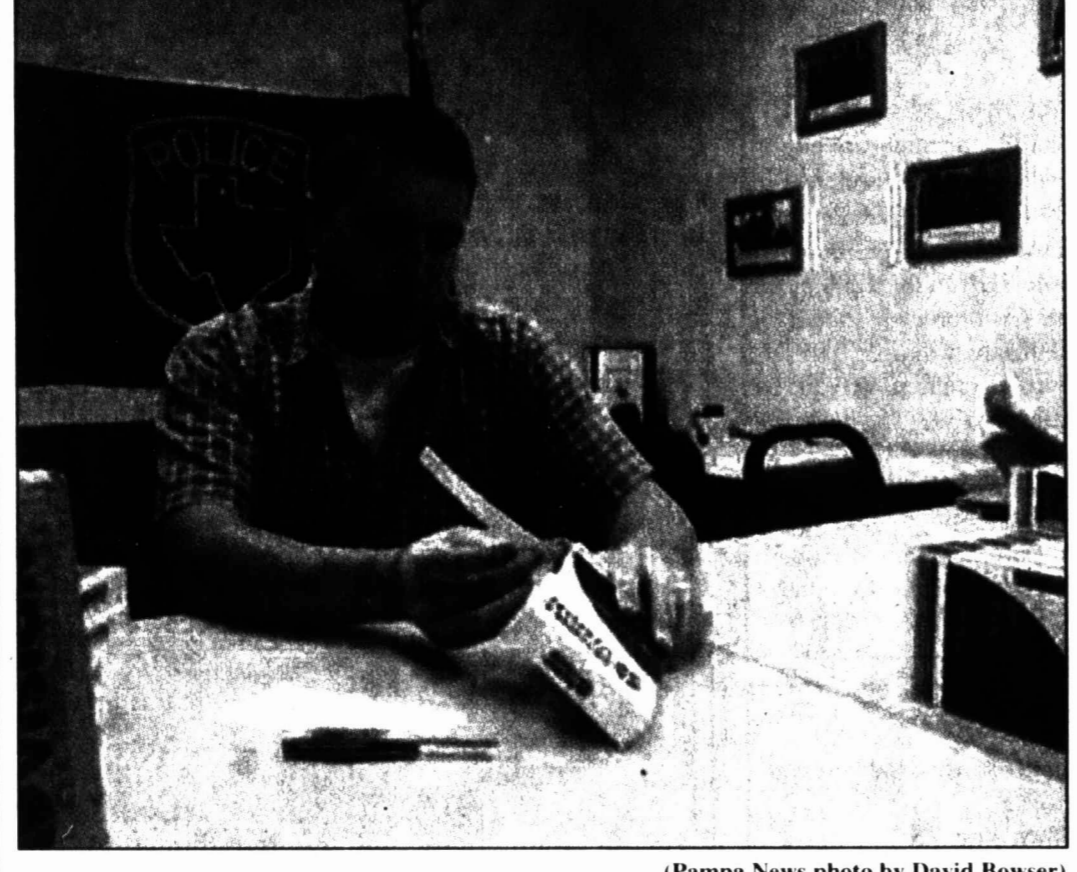
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Police video system



(Pampa News photo by David Bowser)

Pampa Police Officer Cade Logue was working his way through a 1,000 video tapes today, putting labels on each one. The tapes will be used in the new in-car video systems the department is installing thanks to a federal grant. Each patrol car will be equipped with a video system, officials said, and all stops will be taped. Cade said today that he likes the idea of having a visual record of what happens as he does his job.

Local Internet providers wage battle on 'Sobig'

The past week has seen Internet service providers across the nation and in the area on heightened alert for a computer virus called "Sobig." Sobig, according to an AP report, comes on the heels of another mega virus known as "Blaster."

Doug Locke, of Pampa Cyber Net, said that company's Internet filters are capturing about 1,000 infected e-mails a day. Jim Sealy, network operations manager at Centramedia Online Services, said Centramedia is detecting anywhere between 5,000 and 10,000 viruses daily.

Both men say it is important that Internet users check each

day for updates from both Microsoft Windows and their anti-virus programs such as Norton.

Sealy said Internet users need to "employ a strong firewall security system especially if using broad band." Anti-virus programs, he added, are geared to identify viruses and do not necessarily protect against computer worms which are different and can go after computers and computer networks without being opened.

If users aren't checking daily for Windows updates, Sealy said, they may be at-risk of being exposed to a nasty, or even, dev-

astating worm. In essence, said the Centramedia network operations manager, you need "two-fold protection" to stay safe.

Most PC users are familiar with popular anti-virus programs, but are not as aware of the Windows update service. Locke said this update can be accessed simply by opening Windows and clicking on "Windows Update" under tools.

It is Locke's opinion that Blaster was much worse than Sobig in that it did not have to be opened to attack a computer system. He said he is beginning to see a decline in the flux of infected e-mails, and Sealy agreed.

PWPG to discuss area water issues

AMARILLO — The future of water in the Texas Panhandle will be the topic of discussion at the Panhandle Water Planning Group's regular meeting at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, at the offices of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, 415 W. 8th, in Amarillo.

The group's Municipal Committee will meet at 10 a.m., Wednesday at the PRPC offices.

Jarrett Atkinson with the PRPC said the group will review revised irrigation water demand projections and livestock water projections. They will also review municipal, mining, steam electric and manufacturing demand projections.

They will also hear reports on neighboring Water Planning Groups and from the Texas Water Development Board.

Dean bashing Bush before Texas crowds

By T.A. BADGER
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — If Howard Dean has anything good to say about the job George W. Bush is doing as president, he's not sharing it with Texans.

The former Vermont governor and Democratic presidential hopeful spent much of Monday lashing the president in his home state, first in Austin and later before a crowd topping 1,000 in San Antonio.

He criticized Bush for starting what he called an ill-advised war in Iraq, for not doing enough to fuel up a sputtering economy, for ignoring the basic health-care needs of millions of people and for enacting a deficit-bloating tax cut that mostly helps the wealthy.

"This president has forgotten ordinary Americans,"

Dean told hundreds of cheering supporters packed into a sweltering Austin coffee house. "We're going to take this country back. This is our country, not his country."

He reserved particular ire for the Iraq war, saying the administration used a series of lies to pump up the threat posed by Saddam Hussein in order to persuade Americans of the need to invade.

"I will never send your brothers and sisters, sons and daughters to die in a foreign country without telling the American people the truth about why they're going there," said Dean, who backed sending U.S. troops to Afghanistan after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

He also said U.N. troops should be deployed to Iraq to spread the peacekeeping burden, and that U.S.

(See DEAN, Page 2)

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AUG 26 2003

ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Sunday, Aug. 24

A battery was reported stolen out of a vehicle in the 200 block of West Craven.

A television set, an air conditioning window unit and several video tapes were reported stolen from a home in the 500 block of North Ward.

Monday, Aug. 25

Drug paraphernalia was reported found in a yard in the 500 block of North Christy.

Three rifles, a game cube and a cell phone were reported stolen in the 500 block of North Russell.

Almost \$1,000 was reported stolen at First American Bank.

A domestic dispute was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Wednesday, Aug. 20

A 1999 White Freightliner truck, driven by Ferrando Gonzales, 49, Plainview, struck two power poles and tore an electrical box from a home as he tried to go through an alley in the 1100 block of West 22nd, behind Wal-Mart.

Thursday, Aug. 21

A parked 2001 Ford Explorer owned by E.W. Osby, 817 N. Dwight, was struck by an unidentified vehicle that left the scene of the accident in the 700 block of East Foster.

A parked 2001 Oldsmobile sedan owned by Frances Hankins Conner, 409 Hazel, was hit by a vehicle that left the scene in a parking lot in the 2200 N. Hobart.

Friday, Aug. 22

A 2000 Ford Excursion driven by Tena Kotara Dennis, 41, 2406 Navajo, was in collision with a 1983 GMC pickup driven by Barbara Sue Perry, 49, 612 Doucette, about 3:15 p.m. Friday in the 100 block of North Frost.

Sunday, Aug. 24

A parked 2000 Pontiac Grand Prix, owned by Joel Flores of Perryton, was hit about 6 a.m. by another vehicle that left the scene of the accident in the 2200 block of North Hobart.

Monday, Aug. 25

A 1990 Lincoln Continental driven by Charles Cauthorn, 77, 1209 Williston, was in collision with a 1996 Oldsmobile sedan driven by Ann Perry Peters, 77, 112 S. Sumner, about 10:30 a.m. Monday, in the 1200 block of North Williston. Cauthorn was cited for unsafe passing and unsafe turning.

A 1988 Chevrolet pickup driven by Donald Dane Johnson, 39, 1631, North Sumner #221, was in collision with a 2001 Dodge pickup driven by Patricia Rose Stone, 41, 532 N. Christy, about 12:30 p.m., Monday, in the 100 block of South Hobart. Johnson was cited for failure to control speed.

SHERIFF

Gray County Sheriff's office today reported the following arrests.

Monday, Aug. 25

Erick T. Crain, 29, 1005 Huff, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of failure to pay child support.

Billy Don Williams, 46, 429 N. Christy, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of theft of a firearm.

Tuesday, Aug. 26

Zachariah Gerken, 24, Amarillo, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of assaulting a public servant.

FIRE

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

Monday, Aug. 25

9:21 a.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a small grass fire 14-miles south on Highway 70. Fire officials said the fire involved approximately one to two acres.

9:44 a.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to Highway 70 and Farm-to-Market Road 749 on a grass fire that turned

out to be a false alarm. Dirt from a tractor plowing in a field was mistaken for smoke, fire officials said.

4:30 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 1500 block of North Duncan on a call for medical assistance; however, when the unit arrived, no patient was found.

7:56 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 1600 block of West Somerville on a call for medical assistance.

OBITUARIES

SERVICES TOMORROW

AYRES, Jim — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.
FLYNN, Annie Bula — 10 a.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Pampa.

JIM AYRES
1910-2003

Jim Ayres, 92, of Pampa, died Saturday, Aug. 23, 2003, at Amarillo. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, in Fairview Cemetery with Paul Carruth, youth minister of First Christian Church, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Ayres was born Nov. 22, 1910, at Sterling City and came to Pampa in 1912, graduating from Pampa High School in 1927. He worked in the gas department of Cabot Corporation from 1928 until retiring in 1965. He and his brother

accumulated 109 years of service at Cabot.

He served in the Navy Seabees in the South Pacific.

He was preceded in death by a brother, John Baer Ayres, in 1987.

Survivors include a brother, Henry S. Ayres of San Antonio; and a sister-in-law, Lacy Ayres, of Amarillo.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

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

AMBULANCE

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

Monday, Aug. 25

10:26 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of Yeager and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:56 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:36 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Duncan. No transport.

4:37 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2700 block of West Hobart and transported a patient to PRMC.

7:42 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Jordan prison unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

7:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1600 block of West Somerville and transported a patient to PRMC.

STOCKS

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

Wheat	3.28	KMI	53.12	-0.51
Milo	3.79	XCEL	14.46	NC
Corn	4.27	Limited	42.50	-0.52
Soybeans	5.17	Kerr McGee	15.94	0.31
		Williams	8.66	+0.02
		MCD	21.96	-0.24
		XOM	36.46	-0.31
		Atmos	24.22	-0.28
		Pioneer Nat	24.83	-0.67
		JCP	20.00	-0.35
		COP	53.94	-0.42
		SLB	47.25	-0.40
		Tenneco	5.64	+0.12
		CVX	71.70	-0.65
		Wal-Mart	58.51	-0.59
		OKE	20.45	-0.10
		NS Grp	7.75	-0.13

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

QXY	33.26	-0.35	CVX	71.70	-0.65
BP	41.21	-0.80	Wal-Mart	58.51	-0.59
Celanese	29.14	-0.95	OKE	20.45	-0.10
Cabot Corp	26.72	-0.08	NS Grp	7.75	-0.13
Cabot Oil Gas	26.41	-0.29			
Coca Cola	43.82	-0.25			
VLO	38.35	-0.73			
HAL	22.61	-0.54	New York Gold	361.25	
Trud	30.71	-0.28	Silver	4.98	
NOI	19.12	-0.07	West Texas Crude	31.48	

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, highs in the mid 90s and south winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight should see partly cloudy skies with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, lows in the upper 60s and south winds 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday should be partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs

in the mid 90s. South winds 5 to 15 mph. Wednesday night, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 90s. South winds 5 to 15 mph. Thursday night, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

STATEWIDE

Temperatures will decrease a little this week in west and north Texas. Those areas will continue to see isolated chances of rain this week and better chances of rain this weekend as a weak cold front moves in.

On Saturday, high temperatures should only be in the 80s in most of West Texas. By Saturday or Sunday, some areas of North Texas will only see highs in the 80s.

The South Texas heat will continue this week, highs mostly in the mid 90s.

Monday's high was 101, recorded in Denton, Terrell, and Waco. Abilene recorded a half

inch of rain to lead the state. West Texas today will be hot in the north with highs in the low to mid 90s. The west and south will see highs in the upper 80s to low 90s today, warming some tomorrow. Scattered showers and storms are possible over the region this week. Some heavier storms are possible in the south this week, with brief heavy rain and lightning. On Saturday, high temperatures should dip into the 80s over West Texas, with some northern areas only seeing the low 80s. This weekend, better chances of rain and cloudy skies are forecast as the front

moves in. Other skies will be partly cloudy this week. Far West Texas will be the exception to the above, with highs in the 80s all week and chances of afternoon rain.

The South Texas forecast calls for hot days all week: inland highs mostly in the mid 90s. Isolated afternoon rain will move in from the coast today and Wednesday. Storms that do develop shouldn't be severe but may be strong, with gusty winds, frequent lightning and locally heavy rain. Rain chances will increase this weekend over the region. Skies will be mostly cloudy.

Carnival to benefit Kiwanis



(Courtesy photo)

Lynn Allison hangs a poster up for the upcoming Moore's Greater Shows Carnival that will be in Pampa Wednesday through Saturday this week. The carnival is sponsored by Pampa Kiwanis Club as a fund-raiser for its many children's projects. The midway will open at 6 p.m., each night in the parking lot at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

Local UW preparing for first check-in lunch

Katrina Bigham, executive administrator with Pampa United Way, announced that United Supermarket put its fund-raising campaign to bed recently at UW's big Kick-off Breakfast. The kick-off was hosted by Tralee Crisis Center and presided over by Duane Harp, campaign chair. United Supermarket saw an increase in monies collected over last year, Bigham said, adding that so far \$3,619 has been collected in the current fund drive.

Bigham said that \$307,981 is still left to be raised. Brochures, pledge cards and posters, she said, are available at the local

CONT. FROM PG ONE

DEAN

reservists and National Guard forces should be sent home promptly.

Dean flew to Austin from Spokane, Wash., on the third day of his eight-city Sleepless Summer tour, which wraps up Tuesday with stops in Chicago and New York.

Afterward, he and three busloads of supporters and reporters rode an hour south to San Antonio for another rally. Austin and San Antonio are a pair of Democratic strongholds in an increasingly Republican state.

Among those waiting in San Antonio was Matt Glazer, a Trinity University senior whose rental house is Dean country.

Glazer is the Bexar County coordinator for the Howard Dean for President campaign. He's already won others over to the Democratic hopeful's cause, among them his mother in Houston and the three fraternity brothers he shares the house with. "We've kind of adopted him," said Glazer.

Through his savvy use of the Internet, Dean has established footholds around Texas and taken in tens of thousands of dollars from small donors.

"I wake up every day and ask, 'What can I do today to make sure George W. Bush is a one-term president,'" said Sue Wenninger, a retired secretary in Lubbock.

Two days a week, Wenninger and some friends give away Dean literature and bumper stickers from a booth at Lubbock's airport.

"Everybody who goes through that airport, if they're going on a plane, they have to walk within 20 feet of it," she said.

A former Bush spokesman said a number of Dean's positions — against the Iraq war and in favor of civil unions between gay couples — run counter to the Texas mainstream.

"He's worked hard to stake out the most liberal positions and the angriest rhetoric of any of the candidates," said Ray Sullivan, now a Republican consultant in Austin.

"He would be the one that I would like to see as the Democratic nominee because he comes from the Dukakis-McGovern wing of the party, which is certainly shrinking in Texas."

Joe Roth, a lawyer in Livingston in East Texas, put a Dean campaign sign up in his office window — "It's the busiest intersection in town" — after becoming the candidate's coordinator in Polk County.

City Briefs

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

ATTENTION SENIOR Citizens, Oil Painting classes on Weds. 1-4 p.m., knitting & other handcrafts on Thurs. Call Pampa Senior Citizens or Janice Sackett 665-3390.

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Impr score on e

By STEVE C AP EDUCAT

The nation class of 2003 a score on the ma SAT exam in a while students hit a 16-year hi

The College owns the nation college entr Tuesday that school graduat age cumulative points on the S from 2002. B math (519) a scores were 1 from last year.

The math tions of the SA ed on 200-80 total of 897 United States cumulative sc year.

Overall, sc students in th took the SAT school career College Board of those takin minority stud from a decade

"Higher record num and more div brighter pictu cation." C President Gas in a prepared

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College Board under the cu tem. The ea from 1967. 1 given in 192

Law remo

By KYLE ASSOCIATE

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Improved 2003 SAT scores good news on education front

BY STEVE GIEGERICH
AP EDUCATION WRITER

The nation's high school class of 2003 achieved the best score on the math section of the SAT exam in at least 36 years, while students' verbal scores hit a 16-year high.

The College Board, which owns the nation's most popular college entrance exam, said Tuesday that this year's high school graduates had an average cumulative score of 1,026 points on the SAT, up six points from 2002. Both the average math (519) and verbal (507) scores were up three points from last year.

The math and verbal sections of the SAT are each graded on 200-800 point scale. A total of 897 students in the United States had a perfect cumulative score of 1,600 this year.

Overall, some 1.4 million students in the class of 2003 took the SAT during their high school career. The nonprofit College Board said 36 percent of those taking the test were minority students, up 6 percent from a decade ago.

"Higher SAT scores, a record number of test-takers, and more diversity add up to a brighter picture for higher education," College Board President Gaston Caperton said in a prepared statement.

"While we certainly need to make more progress, the fact remains that we are clearly headed in the right direction."

This year's average math scores are the highest the College Board could document under the current scoring system. The earliest figures date from 1967. The SAT was first given in 1926.

The College Board said the higher scores were due to increased enrollment in advanced math and science courses such as physics, pre-calculus, calculus and chemistry.

The president of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics credited teaching methods that make math meaningful.

"(Students are) looking at problems that don't just involve pure calculation and computation-type of mathematics," said Johnny Lott. "They're looking at real-world problem solving."

Female test-takers also have improved notably in math over the last decade, with their average scores increasing 19 points to 503. Male math scores have gone up 13 points over the same period of time to 537.

Females also averaged 503 on the 2003 verbal exam (up a point from last year), while males averaged 512 — a jump of 5 points from 2002.

The board said 54 percent of the test-takers were female and 46 percent were male.

SAT scores play a role in the admissions process at 80 percent of the nation's colleges and universities.

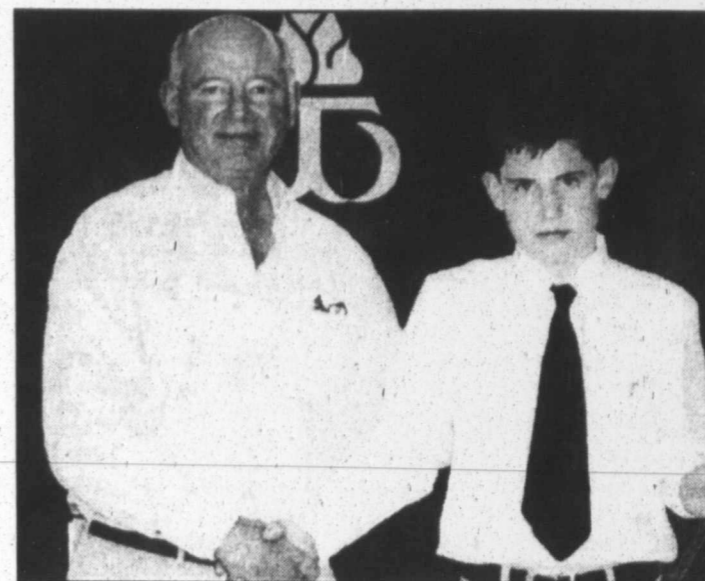
Along with the ACT, the country's second-largest test-maker, the SAT has come under fire from critics who maintain high schools and colleges place too much emphasis on standardized entrance exams. Others contend the tests are unfair to students coming from poorer school districts. Results from both tests this year showed the gap between the scores of white students and non-Asian minorities continues to persist.

TCFA Challenge winners



(Courtesy photo)

Kutter Anderson, right, of McLean, captured first place in senior division record book competition at the conclusion of Texas Cattle Feeders Association's Junior Fed Beef Challenge held recently at West Texas A&M University in Canyon. Presenting the award is Mel Steffensmeier, chair of Junior Fed Beef Committee. The TCFA-sponsored program allows 4-H and FFA students to gain practical experience in commercial cattle feeding. Students feed a pen of three steers then compete on carcass merit, live animal evaluation, written test, oral interview and record keeping.



(Courtesy photo)

Chase Bohlar, right, of McLean, won first place in junior division record book competition at the conclusion of Texas Cattle Feeders Association's Junior Fed Beef Challenge held recently at West Texas A&M University in Canyon. Presenting the award is Mel Steffensmeier, chair of Junior Fed Beef Committee. The TCFA-sponsored program allows 4-H and FFA students to gain practical experience in commercial cattle feeding. Students feed a pen of three steers then compete on carcass merit, live animal evaluation, written test, oral interview and record keeping.

Montana firefighters make progress but fear warmer weather

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Firefighters aided by cooler, damper weather strengthened their defenses and beat back some of Montana's major wildfires ahead of expected drier days later this week.

In the past seven days, about a dozen blazes have been contained in the Northern Rockies region, including a nearly 40,000-acre fire near Big Timber. But more than a dozen blazes were still burning early Tuesday.

"Our containment numbers are up, all of the containment lines held and we had hardly any new (fire) starts throughout the region," said Julena Campbell, of the Northern Rockies Interagency Information Center in Missoula.

"But of course that doesn't mean we can sit around and rest, either," she said. "There's a lot of work left."

Weather forecasts predicted more warm, dry and possibly windy weather later in the week — all bad news for firefighters.

A complex of eight fires about 35 miles from Missoula had grown to about 30,900 acres by Monday night, but containment was estimated at 22 percent and some of the 195 evacuated families were allowed back into their homes.

"We had our third real productive day. The weather is cooperating, but the future may not," said fire information officer D.L. Wilkerson. "Unfortunately, our weatherman is usually right when it

comes to this."

Two large wildfires were still burning, including one a few miles south of the Canadian border that has burned 36 buildings and has charred about 44,440 acres.

Another blaze burning along the western side of Glacier National Park was estimated at 45,581 acres.

In all, fires have burned more than 350,000 acres in Montana this summer.

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H&R BLOCK

Lawsuit filed to block removal of monument

BY KYLE WINGFIELD
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Supporters of a Ten Commandments monument have filed a last-ditch lawsuit to prevent its apparently imminent removal from the Alabama Judicial Building.

While the judge who put the monument there said he's up against those who "are offended at looking at God's words," his supporters asked a federal court Monday to block the removal of the 5,300-pound granite marker.

The lawsuit to block the monument's removal was filed in federal court in Mobile on behalf of a Christian radio talk show host and a pastor. It says a forced removal would violate the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion.

U.S. District Judge William Steele set a hearing for Wednesday.

Chief Justice Roy Moore installed the monument in the building's rotunda two years ago, and was suspended by a state judicial ethics

panel last week for disobeying a federal court order to remove it.

In a brief speech Monday, Moore told a cheering crowd he would fight to return to his elected position and said the case against him is based not on something he did wrong but because "I've kept my oath."

At least 300 protesters were there to hear Moore speak publicly for the first time since his suspension. The crowd grew even larger Monday evening as supporters rallied for the seventh straight night, though the monument was still expected to be removed at any moment.

The federal courts have held that the monument violates the Constitution's ban on government promotion of a religious doctrine.

Patrick Mahoney, director of the Christian Defense Coalition, disputed that.

"We see the First Amendment to protect religious liberty, not crush religious liberty," he told protesters.

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Where: Central Park • Pampa, Texas (corner of Georgia & Mary Ellen)

When: September 1, 2003
•Registration Day of Race beginning at 7:00 am
•Fun Run/Walk (one mile) begins at 8:00 am
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Entry Fees: Register Day Of Race
•Fun Run/Walk \$5.00 & 5K \$10.00

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30-39	30-39	12-15	12-15
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Beyond fight-or-flight

Say what you will about Roy Moore of the Alabama Supreme Court, he does know how to restart a vital national debate that had been stalled. Facing head-on the problems inherent in removing reverence from public spaces, two years ago he dropped into the rotunda of the Alabama Judicial Building in downtown Montgomery a two-and-a-half ton block of granite topped by an etched copy of the Ten Commandments.



MARVIN OLASKY
COLUMNIST

Alabama citizens who elected him chief justice in 2000 knew what they were getting. He kicked off his campaign in the local courtroom where he had hung a plaque of the Ten Commandments. He ran on the publicity he had gained by successfully defying a judicial order to remove the plaque (which he had carved himself) from his courtroom.

In an age of bland politicians, Moore is willing to stand firm and speak out. If other officials were also willing to be bold, voters who value courage would not be so excited by movie actors who display special effects heroism. So it's no surprise that many national talk show guests are hyperventilating about Moore and many editorial pages are ablaze.

Meanwhile, some evangelicals are siding with Moore out of appreciation for his guts, and others are fleeing from him, less they be seen by secular neighbors as fundamentalists trying to drop heavy-handed religious beliefs on others like cartoon characters drop anvils on their pursuers. Frequently lost amid the fight-or-flight reactions are the specific arguments.

Here are matters to keep in mind: The American founders and their successors clearly felt free to depart from the particular civic statutes of ancient Israel, but they largely based our legal system on biblical moral law, so there's nothing heinous with showcasing the most famous statement of that moral law.

Almost all Alabama citizens recognize the Ten Commandments as something special, and displaying them (as opposed to a cross or a passage from the book of Romans) is largely inclusive, since Jews and Muslims — as well as Christians — revere the words from chapter 20 of Exodus.

Furthermore, the First Amendment was designed not to keep state rotundas Bible-free but to keep the federal government from establishing a denomination (like the Episcopalians) as the preferred group to which state-required taxes and tithes had to flow. Even with that amendment now applied to states through the 14th amendment, no one is alleging that Moore in his court decisions has replaced Alabama state law with Leviticus, or that those who do not honor the Ten Commandments are silenced in his courtroom.

And yet, questions abound about the wisdom of setting up an in-your-face monument. Christianity is sometimes mistakenly seen as a religion of legalism rather than one centered on warm-hearted but tough-minded compassion — so Christians often must think through how best to communicate, in the words of Psalm 19, that the rules of the Lord are sweeter than honey. Questions should ask include: How does a particular action further the gospel? What does it teach non-believers about God? Is it likely to draw them in or alienate them?

If Moore is criticized for waving a red cloak at federal judges, U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson should also be faulted for acting like a bull and ordering the \$5,000-per-day fines. Must a federal court automatically boss around a state Supreme Court? Shouldn't there be mutual respect and patience, until issues that cannot be resolved are eventually settled by the U.S. Supreme Court? But now that the feds have been aggressive, should Christians respond with belligerence?

Daniel in the Bible had no choice but to continue praying to God in his home when Babylon's king outlawed such prayer. Daniel, however, did not pray in front of the king's palace. Are the feds telling Moore that he cannot speak of his faith, in which case he has no choice but to stand firm? Or are they offering harassment but not persecution? In that case, a gentle response might better serve the cause of Christ.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kobe's contributions ...

To the editor,
 Kobe Bryant... His contributions versus his expectations.
 Mr. Bryant's contributions to society consist of a better than average ability to cast a round ball through a mesh net that hangs above a hardwood floor.
 Mr. Bryant's expectations include an almost vulgar salary in addition to negotiating permission to have his image on all sorts of merchandise. The thought being that anyone who can put a round ball through a mesh net that hangs above a hardwood floor knows quality merchandise. This area of expertise is supposed to drive consumers to the marketplace.
 Mr. Bryant's other expectations from society include the subjugation of other inferior beings (those who cannot put a round ball through a mesh net that hangs above a hardwood floor) to his will and wishes, and against their will. Whether guilty or innocent of the charges in his present case, if weighed on his contributions to society alone, his salary would be in the \$10 per hour range and consumers would have to think for themselves.
Bill Reeves,
McLean

TODAY IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press
 Today's Highlight in History:
 On Aug. 26, 1920, the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing American women the right to vote, was declared in effect.
 On this date:
 In 55 B.C., Roman forces under Julius Caesar invaded Britain.
 In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa began erupting with increasingly large explosions.
 In 1939, the first televised major league baseball games were shown on experimental station W2XBS — a double-header between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field. The Reds won the first game, 5-2, the Dodgers the second, 6-1.
 In 1957, the Soviet Union announced it had successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile.
 In 1961, the official International Hockey Hall of Fame opened in Toronto.
 In 1964, President Johnson was nominated for a term of office in his own right at the Democratic national convention in Atlantic City, N.J.
 In 1972, the Summer Olympics opened in Munich, West Germany.
 In 1974, Charles Lindbergh — the first man to fly solo, non-stop across the Atlantic — died at his home in Hawaii at age 72.
 In 1978, 25 years ago, Cardinal Albino Luciani of Venice was elected the 264th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church following the death of Paul VI. The new pontiff took the name Pope John Paul I.
 In 1985, 13-year-old AIDS patient Ryan White began "attending" classes at Western Middle School in Kokomo, Ind., via a telephone hook-up at his home — school officials had barred Ryan from attending classes in person.

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Remember to keep the lights on

Two things all of us should learn from the big blackout: (1) We are addicted to electricity and cannot function without it. (2) Politicians have neglected America's infrastructure, which — like everything else — ages, wears out or gets outgrown.
 When Thomas Alva Edison invented the electric light bulb, the primary use of electricity was to provide illumination. My mother remembered the first time she ever saw an electric light bulb. She looked at it with awe and wonder. If illumination were still the only use we made of electricity, then power losses would be a mere inconvenience.
 Illumination can be handled with battery-powered lights or even oil lamps or candles. It is the heavy work that stops dead without electric power: subways, elevators, escalators, computer systems, heating and cooling systems for gigantic buildings, water pumps, gasoline pumps, assembly lines, refrigeration units, traffic lights and air-traffic control towers. Imagine if New York City had been without power not for a few hours, but for a week or more. The economic losses would have been enormous. The people of the Big Apple would have found themselves in the 19th century and unable to cope.
 Old buildings had windows that would open. Modern buildings have been sealed to save money on heating and cooling costs. When those big air conditioners stop, the interiors of the buildings quickly heat up to dangerous



CHARLEY REESE
COLUMNIST

levels. If your apartment or hotel room is on the 60th floor and you're at ground level, without elevators, you can either give up or try mountain climbing. Even if you get there, you will have no water to drink or to flush your toilet, no refrigeration to keep your food cold, no lights and in many cases no fresh air, unless you want to break a window. If you've ever been to a store that lost its computer system, you know what a mess that is. Prices are in codes that only computers can read.
 It's ironic, but we have engineered ourselves into a state of total dependency on electric power. We have no choice but to build more transmission capacity. And since electric energy can be generated only by the expenditure of other sources of energy, the future in the long run can be very iffy if we don't make the right decisions.
 When the oil runs out — and it will eventually — it won't be just cars and trucks and airplanes that will come to a halt, it will be the electric generators, too. Hydroelectricity and wind generate only a small fraction of the power we use. The majority is generated by fossil

fuels — oil, gas or coal — with atomic energy next. An agrarian society can at least survive without fossil-fuel energy. An industrial, high-tech society cannot. Cut the power to a big city like New York or London and you effectively kill it. Cut the power to the whole country and we'll join the Third World poverty class.
 I've always thought the Industrial Revolution was misnamed. It was really the Energy Revolution. It was when men devised machines powered by fossil fuels to do work that material prosperity began to spread. Prior to that, the main source of energy to do work was human and animal muscle, with a little assist from wind and water.
 We are not at the end of the fossil-fuel revolution, but we are definitely at the beginning of the end of it. Some petroleum engineers believe that 2010 will mark the high point of oil production, and after that it's all downhill. In the meantime, of course, world population grows and grows.
 Probably not since the American Revolution have we had a greater need for really smart and wise political leadership than right now. I suggest we abandon the habit of accepting the status quo of both major political parties, which seem only to produce handsome faces indebted to special-interest money. I believe that from here on into the future, the price of political mediocrity is going to be higher than we can afford to pay.

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AUGUST 26, 2003

TUESDAY • AUGUST 26, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Right Questions Help Ensure Couple's Chances For Happiness

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest your suggestions to "Young Lady Who Needs to Know in Memphis," who asked what important questions should be asked before marriage to ensure a happy union. You listed such subjects as monogamy, emotional and financial independence, child-rearing and discipline, compatible career goals, sex, religion and politics.

I agree with those recommendations, but I think someone should ask: Have you had previous sexual experience?

If the answer is no, this is important information. If the answer is yes, further discussion regarding safe sex, HIV testing, birth control, etc., should ensue, which may also prompt another important question: "Have you?"
M.D. IN HILLSBOROUGH, CALIF.

DEAR DOCTOR: If the couple does not already know that information, I agree, that is another important question. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: As a pastor who regularly provides premarital counseling to couples who are considering marriage, I would like to say that the "questions" you ask each other are not so important. It's how you listen to each other and the ways in which you communicate your opinions, philosophies and feelings for each other that are most important.

Most often it's not the subject that causes disagreements in marriages, although the issues are always blamed as the cause for the disagreements. Rather, it is the lack of ability to openly and honestly communicate about a variety of subjects, and the inability or unwillingness to really listen and hear each other that causes marital discord.

May God continue to bless your ministry, Abby.
REV. ANN T. FEW, NEW HOLLAND, PA.

DEAR ANN: Thank you for your kind words. Readers, listen up! There is much wisdom in the reverend's letter.

DEAR ABBY: Having been through one divorce and, fortunately,

a much happier second marriage, I would like to share some thoughts on another topic that should be addressed before marriage.

It is: How does he or she and his or her family spend each and every holiday and birthday? This is something that will affect you for the rest of your life.

HAPPILY REMARRIED IN OREGON

DEAR REMARRIED: That's another good one.

DEAR ABBY: You omitted some important questions from your list. May I add a few?

Have you or anyone in your family suffered from mental illness? Borderline personality disorder? Addictions? Trouble with the law? And most important — do you get along with his or her mother?
BEEN THERE, DONE THAT IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR B.T., D.T. IN S.D.: I agree. Asking about skeletons in the closet would be wise. At that point, both parties should be prepared to "shake the family tree."

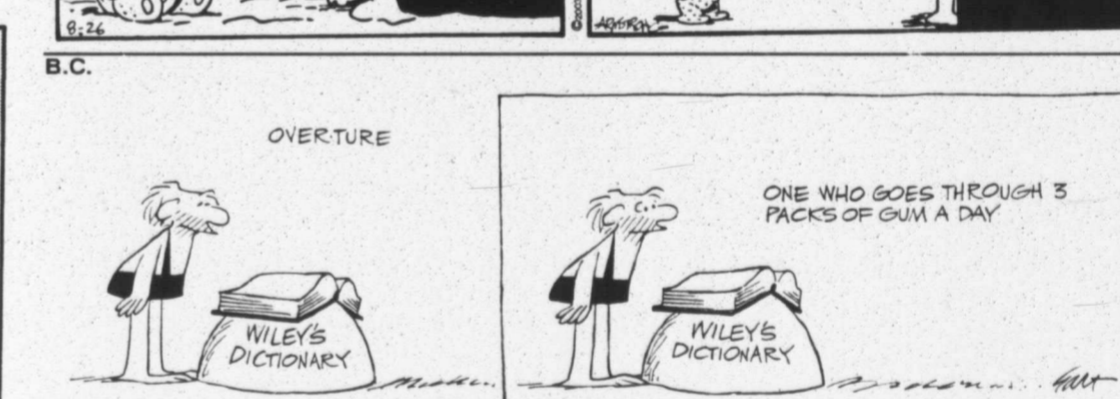
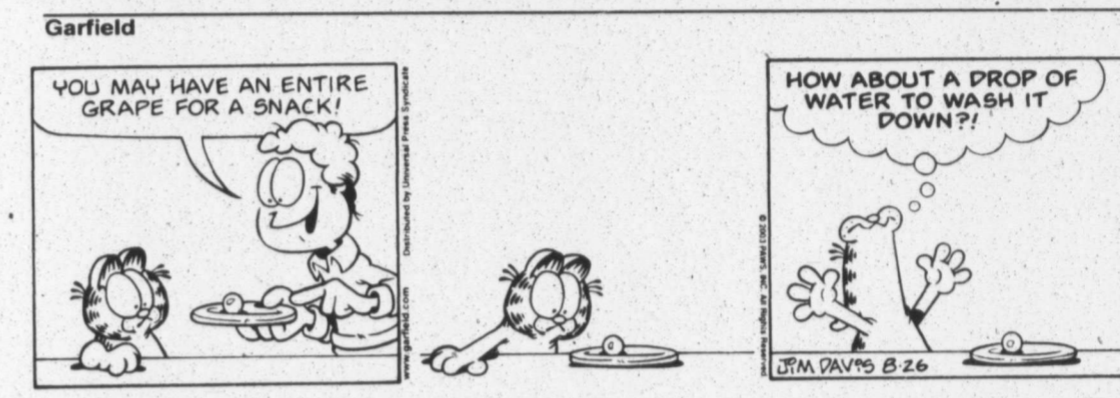
DEAR ABBY: I have been a family mediator for more than 20 years. The one topic I would rank near the top of the list of questions that should be discussed is financial compatibility.

Disagreements over financial matters rank as one of the most frequent causes of divorce. If more couples had a mutual understanding of how they plan to earn, save and spend money, it would go a long way in reducing the divorce rate.

SHIRLEY P. SEYMOUR, ESQ., POTOMAC, MD.

DEAR SHIRLEY: Right. Mutual goals go a long way toward keeping a couple together.

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.



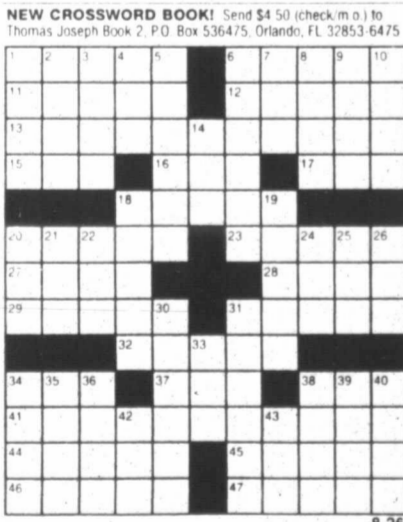
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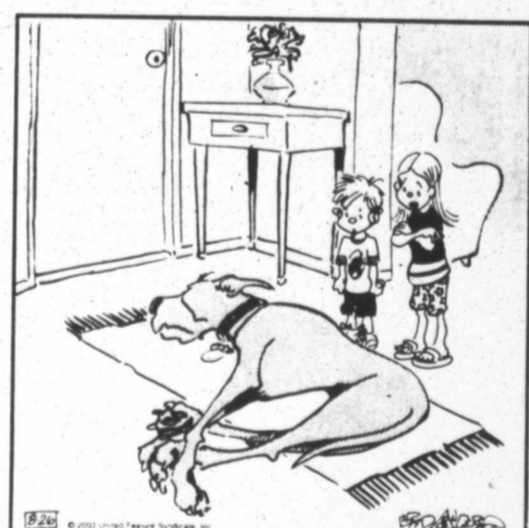
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- 47 Principle



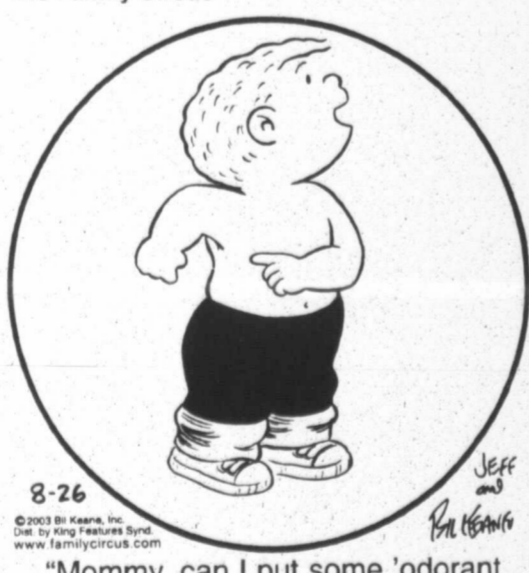
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SPORTS

Baylor basketball team loses more players

NOTEBOOK

FOOTBALL

HOUSTON (AP) — Running back James Allen, who retired two weeks ago to concentrate on his rap career, has decided he would like to rejoin the Houston Texans or another team interested in his services.

"Given the right set of circumstances, James will come back and play. And if they don't appear to be the right set of circumstances, apparently he won't," his agent, Steve Mandell, said Monday.

TENNIS

NEW YORK (AP) — Pete Sampras carried his 9-month-old son instead of a racket bag as he took one last walk off center court to one last standing ovation.

No more titles to win.
No more matches to play.
Sampras delivered a formal farewell to tennis Monday night at an on-court ceremony and earlier news conference at the U.S. Open, not quite one year since he won the tournament in what turned out to be his final match.

"The process is now over. I'm 100 percent retired," Sampras said, his voice cracking.

WACO, Texas (AP) — Strictly business.

That's how junior guard John Lucas III describes his decision to transfer from beleaguered Baylor to Oklahoma State.

Lucas visited Oklahoma State over the weekend and said he liked the atmosphere in the college town of Stillwater, as well as the fans and the school.

"It was the first time it ever felt like it was the right thing to do," Lucas told The Associated Press on Monday night from the Stillwater, Okla., campus. "This was a business move."

All three of the Bears' top scorers from last season have decided to transfer in the wake of the university's self-imposed probation following revelations of major NCAA violations in the

Big 12 Conference program.

Junior post player Lawrence Roberts transferred to Mississippi State, while Lucas and Kenny Taylor are staying in the Big 12, Lucas at Oklahoma State and Taylor at Texas.

The Big 12 announced Monday that Baylor players transferring to other league schools wouldn't lose a season of eligibility. That means Lucas and Taylor could play against their old team this season.

"The council was careful to clarify in its vote that the action was based upon the unique circumstances presented in the Baylor situation," Big 12 commissioner Kevin Weiberg said of the decision by the league's Council of Faculty Athletics Representatives.

Baylor President Robert Sloan Jr. offered all players a release from their scholarships Aug. 8 when he announced major violations had been found in the basketball program. Coach Dave Bliss and athletic director Tom Stanton resigned.

The school placed itself on a two-year probation and won't participate in any postseason tournaments next season, including the Big 12 tournament.

Sloan asked the NCAA to waive its rule that players transferring within Division I schools sit out one year before being eligible. The NCAA granted that waiver last week, but said conference rules would still apply.

Lucas, who said he would start classes at Oklahoma State

on Tuesday, said he liked Baylor as a school. But he wanted the opportunity to play in the NCAA tournament.

Taylor said last week that he was transferring to Texas, which has a scholarship available.

Roberts signed a letter of intent last week with Mississippi State and started classes at the SEC school.

Baylor launched an internal inquiry into possible NCAA violations in July, after allegations surfaced of improper payments to players following the disappearance of junior Patrick Dennehy. Dennehy's body was found July 25, and former Baylor player Carlton Dotson is charged with murder.

Baylor has seven scholarship players committed to remaining

on the basketball team for the upcoming season.

Junior forward Harvey Thomas, sophomore forward Tommy Swanson and freshman guard Carl Marshall all started classes Monday at Baylor. They join four other players who had already committed to staying.

"We have seven scholarship players on campus right now," Baylor sports information director Heath Nielsen confirmed Monday night. "That includes Harvey, Marshall and Swanson."

Seniors R.T. Guinn, Matt Sayman and Terrance Thomas were all present Friday when the school introduced new coach Scott Drew. Junior Ellis Kidd Jr. also committed to staying after Drew's hiring.



(Photo by Christy Pritchett)

He's not heavy, he's my coach! Pampa's defensive secondary of (front, l-r) Shea Brown and Jesse Tarango; (back, l-r) Jarron Long, Dusty Lenderman, Seth foster, Tyler Doughty, Cam Seger and Dannie Meza use assistant coach Del Smith as the centerpiece of their group picture at this year's Photo Day at Harvester Stadium. Pampa's opener is Friday night at 7:30 against Perryton in Harvester Stadium.

Signups continue for Tiger League

PAMPA — The draft for all divisions of Optimist Tiger League Football will be held tonight at 8 p.m. at the Optimist Club.

Players may still register from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today at the Optimist building. All players will be assigned to a team in either the third and fourth grade league or the fifth and sixth grade league.

Registration now stands at 119, according to Leah Pearson, a volunteer in charge of registration.

Five teams have announced sponsors. Clifton Supply will sponsor the Cowboys and B&K Carpentry, the Dolphins. Both are fifth- sixth grade teams.

The Lazy's Feed & Garden Broncos and the Southwest Collision Packers will compete in the third-fourth grade league with the Lefors Youth Club Buccaneers.

Late registrations are being accepted. Parents should contact David Hutto at 665-5800 or 665-3017 or John Warner at 669-9817 or 669-3397.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The LEFORS ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, September 8, 2003 in the HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY, 209 E. 5TH STREET, LEFORS TEXAS 79054. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate this is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.170000	\$ 1.670000	\$ 7,250	\$ 2,238
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.140000	\$ 1.640000	\$ 7,451	\$ 922
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.140000	\$ 1.640000	\$ 7,451	\$ 922

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 13,930	\$ 15,718
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$(1,070)	\$ 718
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.670000	\$ 1.640000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$(17.87)	\$ 11.78
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 29.65

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$2.298095. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$2.298095.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$144,123
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$0



LABOR DAY

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CLASSIFIED LINE ADS & CITY BRIEFS

Day of Insertion	Deadline
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29	THURSDAY NOON
SUNDAY, AUGUST 31	THURSDAY 4 P.M.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1	FRIDAY NOON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2	FRIDAY 4 P.M.

REGULAR AND CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

Day of Insertion	Deadline
SUNDAY, AUGUST 31	THURSDAY NOON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1	THURSDAY 2 P.M.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2	THURSDAY 4 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	FRIDAY NOON

PAMPA NEWS

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MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

AUG 26 2003

Top-ranked Clijsters easily wins first match at Open

Ex-champs Agassi, Hewitt play today

NEW YORK (AP) — Kim Clijsters tossed her towel to a young boy, smiled, then eagerly began signing autographs as she slowly made her way off center court at the U.S. Open with a victory in hand.

The Belgian tennis star certainly felt some relief after she won her first match in a major since becoming the world's No. 1 player earlier this month.

The top-seeded Clijsters defeated wild-card Amber Liu of the United States 6-2, 6-3 in 1 hour, 2 minutes to reach the second round.

"It was hard in the beginning," Clijsters said. "I didn't play a match since I lost in Toronto. Playing another night

match is always a little bit different."

Especially when your match is the prelude to an emotional retirement tribute for one of the game's greatest: Pete Sampras.

After Clijsters and Liu cleared out of Arthur Ashe Stadium, Sampras formally bid farewell to tennis, crying for several minutes during a long standing ovation from fans who held signs and screamed, "We love you, Pete!" Former stars John McEnroe, Boris Becker and Jim Courier made speeches.

Sampras, now 32 and a father, leaves with 64 singles titles. He was the world's top-ranked player a record 286 weeks and finished six years at No. 1, another

mark. Sampras won the Open in 1990 to become the youngest champion at age 19, and he won his final Slam here last year.

"I'm not retiring because I'm married and have a son, I'm retiring because I have nothing to prove to myself," he said. "I know in my heart it's time."

After the ceremony, sixth-seeded Lleyton Hewitt, Clijsters' boyfriend, hit 26 winners in beating Victor Hanescu 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

"That's a good one to get under my belt," Hewitt said. "After the ceremonies, I wanted to get out there and get off to a good start and put pressure on him early, and I was able to do that."

Hewitt, the 2001 champion, and top-ranked Andre Agassi are the only former Open champions in the draw. Agassi plays his first match Tuesday against Alex Corretja.

Michael Chang, set to retire

after the Open, plays No. 15-seeded Fernando Gonzalez on Tuesday.

Clijsters and French Open champion Justine Henin-Hardenne are the top seeds in the tournament, and the 20-year-old Clijsters is looking for her first career Grand Slam title. Serena and Venus Williams, who have split the last four Opens, both are sidelined with injuries.

Clijsters won 79 percent of her first-serve points, converted four of six break-point opportunities and won 10 points at the net. She hit 20 winners to seven for the 19-year-old Liu, the reigning NCAA singles champion from Stanford who's ranked 290th in the world.

"I felt like I served well. I think that's always important," Clijsters said.

Third-seeded Lindsay Davenport also advanced to the second round, playing through

pain in her ailing left foot to beat Els Callens 6-1, 6-0 in just 46 minutes.

Davenport is battling a nerve disorder in her foot that required a cortisone shot Saturday night after she retired during the final of the Pilot Pen against Jennifer Capriati.

"I was really relieved when the match was over and was extremely nervous beforehand just trying to figure out how my foot was going to be," said Davenport, the 1998 champion. "To be able to get through and get through pretty quickly hopefully will help me in the long run."

She fared better than another seeded American woman.

Eighth-seeded Chanda Rubin was erratic in losing to Maria Vento-Kabchi, a Venezuelan ranked 84th, 6-4, 6-4. It was Vento-Kabchi's first Grand Slam

victory since she reached the second round of the Australian Open in 2002.

No. 9 Sebastien Grosjean was another upset victim on the first day.

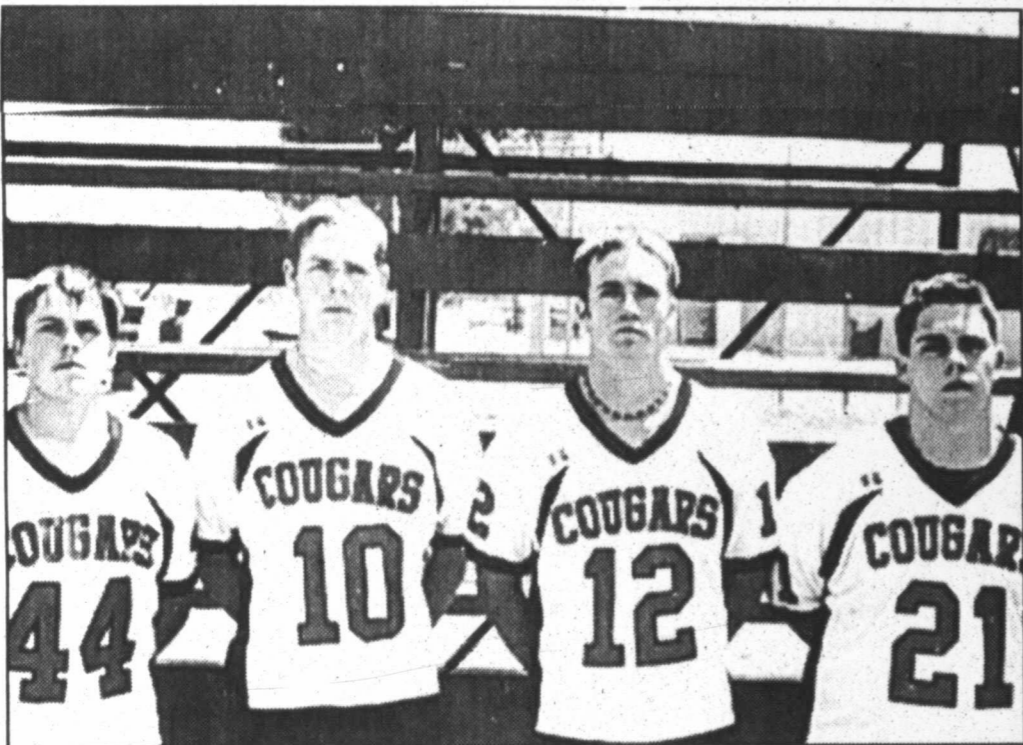
He lost to Ramon Delgado of Paraguay 6-4, 6-7 (3), 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-4. Grosjean, bothered recently by elbow problems, had two match points in the fourth set, double-faulting on the second one.

French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero defeated Jan Vacek 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

American wild-card entry Alex Bogomolov Jr., was taken away on a stretcher after cramping severely during a 3 1/2-hour match against Martin Verkerk.

The 22-year-old Bogomolov, from Miami, retired one game into the fifth set after blowing two match points in an 11-9 fourth-set tiebreaker.

Fort Elliott seniors



Fort Elliott has four seniors (l-r), Calvin Helton, Junior Newman, Dusty White and George Helton, on the Cougars football team this season. Fort Elliott hosts Helton on Sept. 5 to open the season.

Jets rally around Testaverde

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — Vinny Testaverde took the blame when the New York Jets started so poorly last season.

Instead of pouting, he handed the quarterback reins to Chad Pennington and kept his head up, hoping for another chance. That opportunity is here, and Testaverde wants to make the most of it.

"If you stick around long enough you will have opportunities," Testaverde said.

And boy, has he stuck around. The 39-year-old Testaverde enters his 17th season feeling rejuvenated and ready to guide the Jets back to the playoffs. Perhaps he wants to make up for what happened in 2002.

The Jets started 1-3, and Testaverde went to the bench.

"The quarterback takes the good shots, he takes the bad

shots," offensive coordinator Paul Hackett said. "Vinny stood up and said, 'OK, we need to change.' How he handled himself is what this team learned about him. It's time for us now to do it like he did it."

He took the demotion with class, endearing himself to coach Herman Edwards and the rest of the team.

"He took the bullet for everyone last year," Edwards said. "And he came back the next day and helped Chad. It was a great guy to have around here for our players to see that when things happen like that, you have to continue to be a pro."

"I just feel we owe it to Vinny now."

Yet questions still surround Testaverde, especially with Pennington out for 12

weeks. Pennington broke and dislocated his left wrist against the Giants and was released from the hospital Sunday.

But he's not expected to rejoin the team until next week following the death of his father-in-law, who passed away Sunday following a long battle with cancer.

As for Testaverde, he hasn't played much in the preseason, seeing his most extensive action after Pennington got hurt Saturday. He turns 40 in November and hasn't had much time to work with Curtis Conway, who signed in March.

"People talk about my age, but everybody believed the world was flat at one time," Testaverde said. "If people believe a 40-year-old quarterback can't get it done — time will tell."

Yankees' Contreras dominates in return from disabled list

By The Associated Press

Jose Contreras got a taste of what it's like to pitch in pinstripes with an early lead.

More importantly, the New York Yankees finally got to see just how dominating the Cuban defector can be.

Contreras limited Baltimore to just three hits over seven innings in his return from the disabled list, and the Yankees beat the Orioles 7-0 Sunday.

"I'm happy because I was able to help the team achieve victory and also demonstrate what kind of pitcher I am," Contreras said through a translator. "I was able to pitch comfortably with the great lead that my teammates gave me."

Out since June 7 with a strained right shoulder, Contreras won for the first time as a starter in Yankee Stadium. After struggling as a reliever early in the season, he's 3-0 with an 0.86 ERA as a starter — with 17 strikeouts in 21 innings — in three starts.

Contreras, who signed a \$27 million, three-year contract after defecting from Cuba last year, most likely has locked up the No. 5 spot in the rotation, taking over for struggling Jeff Weaver.

"When you get around him he just has a feel and a lot more self confidence than he had before," pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre said.

Certainly this game should give him a big, emotional lift as far as what he can do for us. You have to be excited about what this guy can do not just down the stretch in the regular season but maybe more than

that. I don't think this is a guy that's going to melt under pressure."

In other AL games, it was: Boston 6, Seattle 1; Oakland 17, Toronto 2; Detroit 10, Anaheim 9; Cleveland 7, Tampa Bay 5; Minnesota 8, Kansas City 1; Texas 5, Chicago 0.

Contreras struck out four of his first seven batters and retired his last nine before Antonio Osuna and Chris Hammond finished the four-hitter and the Yankees' 10th shutout.

"He was locating his fastball and he had a pretty good split going," Jay Gibbons said of Contreras. "The first time around is kind of tough when you haven't seen a guy. But regardless, he had pretty good stuff."

Jorge Posada hit a three-run homer off rookie Eric DuBose (1-4), in the first and Derek Jeter added a two-run single in the second to make it 5-0.

Red Sox 6, Mariners 1
At Fenway Park, Derek Lowe pitched 7 1-3 strong innings and David Ortiz hit a three-run homer to lead Boston over Seattle, the fifth consecutive loss for the AL West-leading Mariners.

The Red Sox have won three in a row against Seattle and four straight overall. Boston is five games behind New York in the AL East and tied with Oakland in the wild-card race. Seattle's lead fell to one game over the Athletics in the AL West.

Lowe (13-6) allowed one run on five hits and five walks, and struck out four.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL					NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
American League					East						
All Times EDT	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
East Division					West						
New York	80	49	.620	—	Baltimore	1	2	0	.333	35	54
Boston	76	55	.580	5	Cincinnati	1	2	0	.333	51	61
Toronto	64	67	.489	17	Pittsburgh	1	2	0	.333	44	61
Baltimore	61	69	.469	19 1/2	Cleveland	0	3	0	.000	54	86
Tampa Bay	51	78	.395	29	West						
Central Division					Denver	2	1	0	.667	58	50
Chicago	69	62	.527	—	Kansas City	2	2	0	.500	72	82
Kansas City	67	62	.519	1	Oakland	1	2	0	.333	23	41
Minnesota	67	63	.515	1 1/2	San Diego	1	2	0	.333	36	53
Cleveland	58	73	.443	11	NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
Detroit	32	97	.248	36	East						
West Division					Philadelphia	2	1	0	.667	60	57
Oakland	76	55	.580	—	Dallas	1	2	0	.333	48	34
Seattle	76	55	.580	—	Washington	1	2	0	.333	37	43
Anaheim	63	68	.481	13	N.Y. Giants	0	3	0	.000	30	61
Texas	61	70	.466	15	South						
Sunday's Games					Carolina	3	0	0	1.000	60	17
Oakland 17, Toronto 2					Tampa Bay	3	1	0	.750	76	65
Detroit 10, Anaheim 9					New Orleans	1	2	0	.333	51	71
N.Y. Yankees 9, Baltimore 0					Atlanta	0	3	0	.000	52	70
Cleveland 7, Tampa Bay 5					North						
Minnesota 8, Kansas City 1					Detroit	2	1	0	.667	74	53
Texas 5, Chicago White Sox 0					Green Bay	2	2	0	.500	72	81
Boston 6, Seattle 1					Chicago	1	2	0	.333	47	60
Monday's Games					Minnesota	1	2	0	.333	51	48
Boston 8, Seattle 1					West						
Oakland 8, Toronto 6					Arizona	3	0	0	1.000	56	27
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2					San Francisco	3	0	0	1.000	65	28
Tuesday's Games					Seattle	2	1	0	.667	69	59
Chicago (Hendrickson 8-9) at Boston (Wakefield 9-5), 7:05 p.m.					St. Louis	1	2	0	.333	56	51
Detroit (Corno 5-13) at Cleveland (Traber 6-6), 7:05 p.m.					Thursday's Game						
Chicago White Sox (Loaiza 16-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 12-7), 7:05 p.m.					Pittsburgh 15, Dallas 14						
Texas (Dickey 8-5) at Kansas City (B. Anderson 9-10), 8:05 p.m.					Friday's Games						
Minnesota (Radke 9-10) at Anaheim (Lackey 8-12), 10:05 p.m.					New England 24, Philadelphia 12						
Tampa Bay (Zambrano 9-7) at Seattle (Moyer 15-6), 10:05 p.m.					Miami 30, Atlanta 21						
Baltimore (Johnson 10-5) at Oakland (Harden 3-3), 10:05 p.m.					Minnesota 21, Oakland 6						
Wednesday's Games					Arizona 27, Chicago 17						
Toronto (Halladay 17-5) at Boston (Burkert 9-7), 7:05 p.m.					Saturday's Games						
Detroit (Loax 0-0) at Cleveland (Ja. Davis 7-10), 7:05 p.m.					Buffalo 28, St. Louis 24						
Chicago White Sox (Colon 11-11) at N.Y. Yankees (Wells 12-4), 7:05 p.m.					Detroit 38, Cleveland 17						
Texas (Lewis 6-8) at Kansas City (Abbott 0-0), 8:05 p.m.					Tennessee 23, Cincinnati 15						
Minnesota (Rogers 11-6) at Anaheim (Sele 7-9), 10:05 p.m.					N.Y. Jets 15, N.Y. Giants 14						
Tampa Bay (Gaudin 1-0) at Seattle (Pineiro 13-9), 10:05 p.m.					Carolina 20, Green Bay 7						
Baltimore (Hentgen 5-6) at Oakland (Zito 10-11), 10:05 p.m.					Washington 24, Baltimore 3						
National League					Tampa Bay 10, Jacksonville 6						
All Times EDT	W	L	Pct	GB	San Diego 19, Houston 17						
East Division					San Francisco 27, New Orleans 12						
Atlanta	84	46	.646	—	Seattle 42, Kansas City 31						
Florida	70	60	.538	14	Monday's Game						
Philadelphia	70	60	.538	14	Indianapolis 28, Denver 23						
Montreal	68	64	.515	17	Chicago at New England, 8 p.m.						
New York	57	72	.442	26 1/2	Wednesday's Game						
Central Division					Chicago at New England, 8 p.m.						
Houston	68	62	.523	—	Thursday, Aug. 28						
West Division					Detroit at Buffalo, 7 p.m.						
San Diego	78	51	.605	—	N.Y. Jets at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.						
San Francisco	69	62	.527	10	Oakland at Dallas, 8 p.m.						
Arizona	69	62	.527	10	Tennessee at Green Bay, 8 p.m.						
Los Angeles	67	62	.519	11	N.Y. Giants at Baltimore, 8 p.m.						
Colorado	64	69	.481	16	Miami at New Orleans, 8 p.m.						
San Diego	51	81	.386	28 1/2	Kansas City at St. Louis, 8 p.m.						
Sunday's Games					Atlanta at Cleveland, 8 p.m.						
Houston 6, Cincinnati 3					Houston at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.						
Milwaukee 10, Pittsburgh 9					Washington at Jacksonville, 8 p.m.						
St. Louis 3, Philadelphia 0					Arizona at Minnesota, 8 p.m.						
Atlanta 12, Colorado 6					Friday, Aug. 29						
Florida 7, San Francisco 4					Cincinnati at Indianapolis, 8 p.m.						
Chicago Cubs 5, Arizona 3					Pittsburgh at Carolina, 8 p.m.						
Montreal 8, San Diego 4					Seattle at Denver, 10 p.m.						
N.Y. Mets 2, Los Angeles 1					San Francisco at San Diego, 10 p.m.						
Monday's Games					End Preseason Schedule						
Montreal 12, Philadelphia 1											
Milwaukee 10, Cincinnati 6											
Arizona 11, San Diego 8											
Tuesday's Games											
Florida (Redman 10-7) at Pittsburgh (D'Amico 8-12), 7:05 p.m.											
Philadelphia (Padilla 11-9) at Montreal (Day 7-5), 7:05 p.m.											
Milwaukee (D. Davis 0-0) at Cincinnati (Serafini 0-0), 7:10 p.m.											
N.Y. Mets (Seo 7-8) at Atlanta (Reynolds 10-6), 7:35 p.m.											
Los Angeles (Od. Perez 10-9) at Houston (Fernandez 1-3), 8:05 p.m.											
Chicago Cubs (Prior 12-5) at St. Louis (Stephenson 7-12), 8:10 p.m.											
San Francisco (Schmidt 12-5) at Colorado (Oliver 10-8), 9:05 p.m.											
San Diego (Ol. Perez 4-7) at Arizona (Dessens 7-7), 9:35 p.m.											
Wednesday's Games											
N.Y. Mets (Heilman 2-5) at Atlanta (Maddux 12-10), 7:05 p.m.											
Florida (Penny 11-9) at Pittsburgh (Figueroa 2-0), 7:05 p.m.											
Philadelphia (Myers 12-7) at Montreal (Ohka 8-10), 7:05 p.m.											
Milwaukee (W. Franklin 9-10) at Cincinnati (Etherton 1-1), 7:10 p.m.											
Los Angeles (Nomo 15-9) at Houston (Villone 5-2), 8:05 p.m.											
Chicago Cubs (Wood 11-10) at St. Louis (W. Williams 14-6), 8:10 p.m.											
San Francisco (Fonson 1-3) at Colorado (Jimenez 1-6), 9:05 p.m.											
San Diego (Lawrence 6-14) at Arizona (Schilling 7-7), 9:35 p.m.											
FOOTBALL											
National Football League											
Preseason Game											
AMERICAN CONFERENCE											
East											
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA						
New England	3	0	0	1.000	70	31					
Buffalo	2	1	0	.667	72	80					
N.Y. Jets	2	2	0	.500	74	79					
Miami	4	2	0	.333	72	68					
South											
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA						
Tennessee	3	0	0	1.000	70	45					
Indianapolis	2	1	0	.667	67	50					
Jacksonville	2	1	0	.667	49	47					
Houston	0	3	0	.000	35	73					

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OFFICE DIRECTOR Needed in hospital setting for Medicaid elig. / Financial asst. office in Pampa. Strong organizational skills for fast paced, detail & deadline oriented office. Medicaid eligibility exp. SSI / Disability exp. plus. Must have reliable transportation, valid license and insurance. Bilingual (Spanish) a definite plus. Salary DOE. EOE. Fax salary history and resume to corp. office @ 972-606-1492 or e-mail to hr@mtrp.com

KITCHEN Help & Catering Person needed. Must have driver's license. Apply in person Dyer's BBQ

NEED mature experienced evening help at Pak-a-Burger, 1608 N. Hobart.

EXPERIENCED cook & waitress needed. Black God Restaurant, 1100 E. Frederic. No Phone Calls.

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CROW HOLLOW has the following position open: Yard Maintenance/Equipment Operator/Welder. Please fax resume to 806-856-5374, or apply in person at 3900 County Road 23, Hedley, TX. (2.5 miles west of Hedley) or contact Yard Manager, Keith Christopher, at 806-856-5984. Crow Hollow offers great pay & good benefits.

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 FOR sale 2 bd, 2 bath mobile home with lot in Pampa, 416 N. Perry. Call 376-1173 ask for Anna.

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1990 dark blue Cadillac Sedan Deville. Call 665-1760

121 Trucks
 1989 Chev. pickup, V8, 5 speed. 665-2667.



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CNA'S needed. Great benefits. Apply in person. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle 537-3194.

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 One Full time: M/F 2p-9:30p One Part Time: Sat/Sun 6a-9:30p Salary based on Experience, Great Benefits EOE Coronado Healthcare Center 1504 W. Kentucky Ave. Pampa, Tx 79065

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 CAPROCK Apts. has fantastic specials on all 1, 2 & 3 bdr. apts. starting at \$290. 3, 6, 9 & 12 mo. leases avail. Pool, laundry, washer / dryer hook-ups, club room, on-site management and **SOFTENED WATER** to all units. 1601 W. Somerville, 665-7149 Mon-Fri. 8:30-5:30, Sat. 10-4.

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Horoscope BY JAQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2003:
 A New Moon on your birthday implies new beginnings. Decide what would make you happy, and start making a wish list, even as soon as today! In the next few months, you could see many of your desires come true, and in surprising ways. You begin a new life/luck cycle tomorrow, which could impact the quality of your life. You have unusual appeal to others... Allow your imagination to guide you. If you are single and you would like to have a relationship, it becomes a distinct possibility this fall. You will have another opportunity in spring 2004. If you are attached, your relationship will flourish if you're willing to adjust and adapt to your sweetie's requests. VIRGO proves to be an anchor.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ***** Get it together before you get to work, as much will be going on at the office. A dream could bring on an unusual insight, which you might pull over for a while. Start fresh with a work project or health resolution. Tonight: Easy does it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ***** Just when you thought it was impossible, you get a new beginning, creatively or emotionally. You might question what is happening behind the scenes with a friend or associate who seems a bit unreasonable. Be understanding. Tonight: Dig into your bag of creativity and make plans.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ***** Your family and personal life become your highest priorities right now, which could be extremely upsetting on some level to you. Work demands your

attention. Though you are the Twin, you haven't exactly managed to split yourself into two people yet. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ***** Reach out for someone at a distance. Of course, he or she might find you first. Politically speaking, making the first move might be best. Research and sleuth through a problem. In the interim, use all the diplomacy available. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ***** Make a decision about finances, and stick to it. You might be a bit uncomfortable with what comes up, but financial matters, especially those involving a demanding or touchy partner, need to be handled. Protect your investment by putting together a "play" budget. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ***** Your personality blossoms, but at the same time, it could trigger someone close. You might want to rethink a project or evaluate what is going on. Ultimately, make decisions for yourself. A resolution made with today's New Moon sticks. Tonight: As you like it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ***** Knowing when to beat a path to the nearest hiding place could be important, considering an associate's or co-worker's mood! You might need to simply focus or consider making a major change in your life. Happiness surrounds those who are willing to grow and change. Tonight: Be nice to an ailing pal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ***** Whereas everyone else might be in some stage of uproar, you're hanging in there. Assume that more might be going on than meets the eye. A child's and/or a new friend's reaction could be over the top. Keep in mind your long-

term goals. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ***** Handle a work-related matter more directly. Others, especially a boss or superior, admire and praise the quality of your product. Think about what you want professionally, and start getting your ducks in a row. Tonight: Work as late as need be.


CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ***** Seek out advisers if you have any questions. You will find that the answers are readily available. A new beginning becomes possible if you relax. Take strong actions once you're sure of what you want. Tonight: Work with spontaneity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ***** A new beginning becomes possible with a partner who frequently tests his or her limits. Be understanding, yet know when to say it is enough, especially if your finances are impacted. Work with others individually. Tonight: Make nice.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ***** Coming on gangbusters might not be your normal self, but it might be behavior you exhibit right now. A partner or associate might be indulgent today, but don't count on this attitude being long term. Know when to say "enough" to yourself. Tonight: Go along with a partner's request.

BORN TODAY
 Actress Alexa Vega (1988), actress Barbara Bach (1947), President Lyndon B. Johnson (1908) *****

Jaqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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Shepard's Crook Nursing

Shepard's is in need of a part-time Physical Therapy Assistant. Hours are flexible.

If you are interested come by 916 N. Crest Road and fill out an application.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it:
 AXYDLBAAXR
 is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-26 CRYPTOQUOTE

RFSDJCQLNEL : DX DSSFRJS

SW JYWUF SCF NXEYFMNAHF

AQ DX DJJFDH SW SCF

TXNXSFHHNZNAHF — C.H.

RFXEGFX

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MAN SURVIVES WHERE SWINE PERISH, AND LAUGHS WHERE GODS GO MAD. — DOSTOYEVSKY
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1999 Oldsmobile Alero for sale, for payoff. Leather, 95,000 miles. Call 662-3925.

1990 dark blue Cadillac Sedan Deville. Call 665-1760

121 Trucks
 1989 Chev. pickup, V8, 5 speed. 665-2667.

AUGUST 26 2003

Blackout prompts effort to identify weak areas

By **DEVLIN BARRETT**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mike Brown, the new head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is taking a hard look at his own outfit's emergency capabilities in light of the nation's worst power blackout.

Brown said he was surprised to see some large-city water supplies taken down by the outage two weeks ago, and has ordered a nationwide review to identify similar infrastructure weaknesses around the country.

At the same time, Brown ordered an internal survey of how many FEMA offices do not have their own backup power source.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Brown said the blackout exposed vulnera-

Insurance less likely in single father homes, census finds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Children in single-father households are more likely to not have health insurance than those in homes headed by a single mother or a married couple, according to a Census Bureau finding that has some researchers puzzled.

Most socio-economic data shows single-mother homes are among the most impoverished in the country. Census Bureau data for 2001 shows the median income for a single-mother home is about \$22,000, roughly \$10,000 less than for single-father households.

But another bureau report found that kids were uninsured for all of 2001 in just over 20 percent of the 1.5 million families where a single father raised one child. That compared with 17 percent of 4.5 million single-mother, single-child homes and 10 percent of the 10.3 million comparable married couple homes.

"I have not seen that before," said Leah Oliver, a policy specialist with the National Conference of State Legislatures who did not speculate why the trend may have occurred.

Genevieve Kenney, a researcher at the Urban Institute, a Washington think tank, suggested that many poor single fathers may be unaware of public assistance programs or unwilling to apply for help.

"I'm wondering if single-dad households are just less plugged into public programs," Kenney said.

In the 1 million homes where a single father raised two or more children, 17 percent had all children uninsured, compared with 11 percent of the 5 million single-mother homes with two or more kids, and 7 percent of the 17.4 million comparable married couple homes.

The 2000 Census found the number of families led by a man living with one of more of his children, but without a wife, increased 62 percent from 1990, to nearly 2.2 million.

John R. Sims Jr., president of the Pittsburgh-based Single and Custodial Fathers Network, said some single fathers may feel stigmatized to apply for public assistance.

Too few programs are targeted to those households, he added. "There is no support for single fathers, absolutely none," he said.

The data was part of a Census Bureau report that offered more detailed characteristics of children with and without health insurance in 2001. Findings were based on a national survey of 78,000 households conducted in March 2002.

bilities at water and sewage treatment plants.

Cascading power failures darkened parts of eight states, from Ohio to New York. Water systems in Detroit and Cleveland were unable to handle the drop in power, and residents were asked to boil water while engineers made sure the system was free of contamination.

Brown called the failures "unacceptable."

"While I don't want to give

a road map to terrorists of how to disrupt our economy and how to disrupt our lifestyle, I think we saw in Detroit and other places that that is a vulnerability we need to address," he said.

Brown, who was sworn in as head of FEMA and an undersecretary of the Department of Homeland Security in April, did not say how long it would take to complete the fact-finding effort, which will also look at other

possible weaknesses besides water treatment.

The "silver lining in the blackout," Brown said, was watching so many citizens rush to buy flashlights, batteries, and emergency supplies.

For months, the agency has been encouraging people to do that in preparation for terrorism or disaster.

Over the weekend, President Bush authorized up to \$5 million in FEMA aid for New York state in the wake of the blackout.

On Monday, Brown left the door open to more federal aid to New York and other states with economic losses from the blackout.

And Brown expects other blackout-affected states to apply for FEMA aid.

The agency, which traditionally has responded to floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes, has tried to adapt to anti-terrorism roles since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. It was folded into the new

Department of Homeland Security in March.

The director also said: — The security plans for the nation's nuclear power plants are in excellent shape, and his agency quickly helped those shut down in the blackout resume running safely.

— The federal government should limit aid to flood victims who continually rebuild in areas prone to flooding. "I want to do anything I can to narrow repetitive losses."

— The agency is seeking more money from Congress for its disaster relief fund, historically around \$3 billion. Last year, Congress allocated far less to FEMA, which left it dangerously low this summer, forcing Congress to provide more than \$900 million in additional funds.

A native of Oklahoma, Brown worked as a FEMA deputy director before succeeding Joseph Allbaugh, who oversaw the agency's \$8.8 billion response to the Sept. 11 attacks.

To prepare for terrorism, Brown said, the agency's goal is to help state and local governments.

Two accused of rape resign from academy

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Two Naval Academy midshipmen accused of raping two female classmates last year have submitted their resignations, their lawyer said.

Todd Thurston, 20, and Eric Bailey, 23, were to have entered their third year at the academy when classes resumed Wednesday.

Their attorney, William Ferris, said they received word Monday that Naval Academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Rodney P. Rempt recommended their resignations be accepted.

Ferris said he expects the resignations will end the cases against his clients.

An academy spokesman said the school would not comment further until the secretary of the Navy, who must approve Rempt's recommendation, acts on it.

The allegations against Thurston and Bailey came to light at a hearing in June, when two women testified they were raped and sexually assaulted at a Commissioning Week party that the men, who were roommates, held in their dorm room last year.

Crisis center born of one man's struggle to stop abuse, to give battered women other options

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.

Tralee Crisis Center began as a vision of one man in our community who saw the need for a domestic violence shelter. That man was named Travis Plumlee, thus the name Tra(TRAvis)lee(PlumLEE) Crisis Center.

Plumlee worked as social services director for Coronado Community Hospital. On more than one occasion, he saw the need for a shelter because so many battered women would come to the hospital, and, upon their release, had no place to go except back home to their abuser.

In one case in particular, a woman was brought to the hospital with horrible injuries sustained from her husband. He had beaten her with a guitar and had broken a kitchen chair over her back. After treatment and counseling with Plumlee, the woman was released back to her abuser.

That night, Plumlee vowed to do something to make sure that any woman or child who had suffered from domestic violence or rape would have a safe refuge to temporarily get some help until decisions could be made about the future for them.

At this time, Plumlee tried to carry a pager and handle the domestic violence and sexual assault calls himself, but soon discovered it was more than a one-man job.

In 1980, he recruited his first six volunteers to help him take the calls. They were six women who agreed to travel to Amarillo for training as volunteer counselors. They had no shelter, so any women who needed a place to stay, would stay in safe houses arranged by Plumlee and his volunteers.

Plumlee began researching ways to start a domestic violence program and after much prayer and many presentations throughout the community,

Altrusa Club agreed to help him. Altrusa created the 24-hour hotline and began recruiting volunteers to staff it.

In the spring of 1984, Tralee Crisis Center for women was incorporated as a non-profit agency and a board of directors was formed. At that time, Tralee was the only shelter program in existence in the entire Panhandle, except for Amarillo; therefore, it served eight surrounding counties.

In 1995, Hutchinson County separated from Tralee and became an entity of its own. Today, Tralee continues to serve Carson, Donley, Collingsworth, Hemphill, Gray, Roberts and Wheeler counties.

The shelter used now, for the safety of Tralee clients, has 10 bedrooms, three baths, a common living area, a dining area and a kitchen. The transitional house, a duplex purchased in 1990 and renovated for client use, is for single-parent families who are ready to leave the shelter, but still need assistance to live independently.

Tralee's safe housing has come a long way from the motel rooms and small apartment used in the beginning to house victims of domestic violence



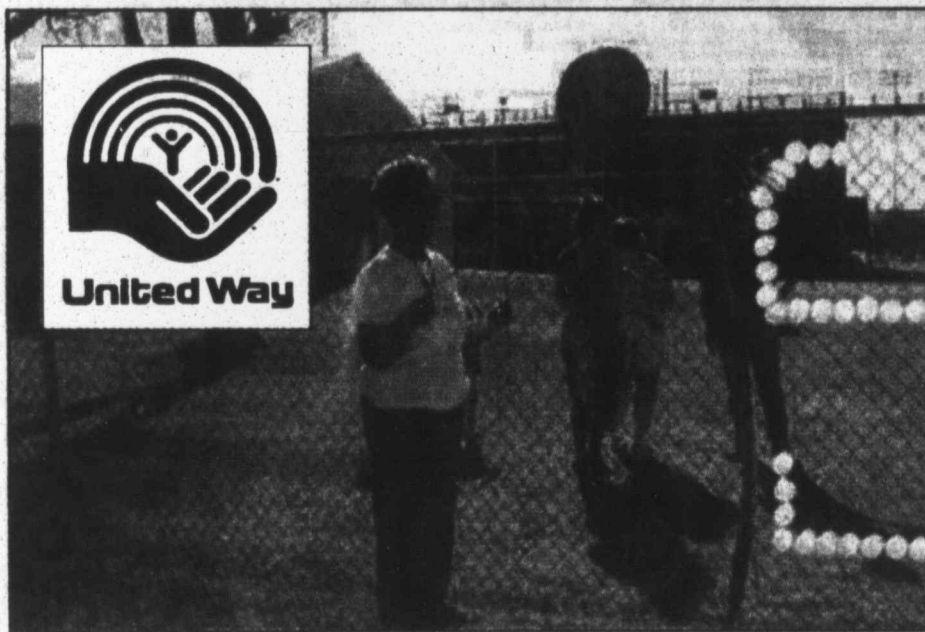
(Courtesy photo)

A picture of the kitchen at Tralee's shelter which houses women in need of a safe place to recover from abuse.

and sexual assault.

Today, Tralee has an office staffed with eight full-time employees, a full-time resale store with one full-time employee and two part-time employees, and five paid staff at the shelter.

Tralee Crisis Center continues to thrive and expand its services to assist those people who have been victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. It receives help through United Way funding.



(Courtesy photo)

Tralee Crisis Center board member, Judy Warner, prepares to release a balloon to kick-off Sexual Assault Awareness Month this past April. A balloon was released every two-minutes for one hour to represent an assault taking place during that time somewhere in the United States.

Report: EPA lacked data to support claims for relaxing air regs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional investigators say the Environmental Protection Agency relied on anecdotes from industries it regulates, not comprehensive data, when it claimed that relaxing air pollution rules for industrial plants would cut emissions and reduce health risks.

The General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, said in a report Monday that EPA lacked scientific evidence for its claims that the Clean Air Act's "new source review" program needed revising because it discourages energy-efficiency improvements at plants.

EPA eased pollution-control requirements for utilities, oil companies and manufacturers in December but is reconsidering parts of those final rules now.

"Because it lacked comprehensive data, EPA relied on anecdotes from the four industries it believes are most affected," the GAO said. "Because the information is anecdotal, EPA's findings do not necessarily represent the program's

effects across the industries subject to the program."

EPA planned to announce more changes to the program Wednesday to allow many of the nation's dirtiest coal-burning power plants and other industrial facilities to claim more upgrades as "routine maintenance" that do not require more emissions-cutting devices.

Agency officials agreed with the report's recommendation that they should find appropriate data to track results of rule changes as federal and state authorities implement them. Agency spokeswoman Lisa Harrison said EPA intends "to establish and strengthen mechanisms" for judging the program's success.

"The bottom line is that EPA remains committed to improving the NSR program, and our improvements will make the Clean Air Act work better to protect public health," she said.


Jeffrey Marks, director of air quality policy for the National Association of Manufacturers, said better data generally leads to better regula-

tion, but his group believes EPA was correct to conclude its rule changes provided economic, environmental and energy efficiency benefits despite the lack of data.

Sen. James Jeffords, I-Vt.,

the No. 2 senator on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, said the report was another indication that the Bush administration's weakening of the Clean Air Act was unwarranted.

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