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WEATHER

HIGH **LOW**
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LOTTERY

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 5-29-30-37-39. Bonus Ball: 10.
 Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
 Number matching five of five: 0. Prize: \$0.
 Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 15. Prize: \$1,666.
 Number matching four of five: 437. Prize: \$123.
 Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 418. Prize: \$114.
 Number matching three of five: 18,615. Prize: \$5.
 Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$8 million.

DEATHS

Patricia Kathy Huffhines, 65, homemaker.
 Jack Lowell Shapley, 59, former Pampan.
 James Donald Stone, 66, oil field pumper.

INSIDE...

Classified9
 Comics5
 Editorial4
 Sports6

Beautiful Paving Stones...
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Jury deadlock creates mistrial

Defendant enters guilty plea to lesser charge of deadly conduct

By DAVID BOWSER
 STAFF WRITER

In a bizarre twist, Charles Robinson pleaded guilty of deadly conduct late Wednesday in 223rd District Court, implying that he discharged a weapon at Pampa Police Officer Keith Morris.

Charles Emil Robinson, 36, had been on trial for aggravated assault on a peace officer, a first-degree felony punishable by up to life in prison and a fine of \$10,000.

Three Pampa police officers, Alvin Johnson, Keith "Bart" Morris and Tom Pickering, were sent to Robinson's home the night of July 28, 2002, on an attempted suicide call.

The officers testified during the trial, which started Monday, that Robinson was barricaded in his house and that he came to the front door three times as police surrounded his home that summer night. Each time, they said, he carried a 20-gauge single-shot shotgun.

The first two times, the officers said, Robinson told them to go away and leave him alone. The third time, the officers testified that he raised the shotgun and pointed it at them.

The trio of officers and Robinson's brother, Jack, indicated from the witness stand that Robinson fired at the officers, although there was no physical evidence to support the charge that

he fired the weapon. Officer Morris testified that he then fired three shots at Robinson, hitting him in the legs. A few minutes later, Robinson surrendered, holding out his shotgun, broken open.

The case went to the jury shortly after 11 a.m. Wednesday. By early afternoon, the jury told Judge Lee Waters that they were deadlocked. Judge Waters asked them to try to reach a verdict. By 3:30 p.m., the jury told the judge that they were hopelessly deadlocked and a mistrial was declared.

Assistant District Attorney Lynn Switzer said that she and defense attorney David Holt conferred and that

rather than go through the expense of another trial, they reached a plea bargain agreement.

At 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Robinson pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of deadly conduct, a third-degree felony with a maximum punishment of 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

As part of the plea bargain agreement, Robinson was sentenced to five years in prison but was granted seven years probation. Robinson also waived his right to appeal and his right to any civil action stemming from the shooting.

As he took the stand to answer questions during his 30-minute sentencing (See TRIAL, Page 3).

Officials to seek AG's opinion on trailer tax return

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

Gray County residents hoping for a refund on taxes levied on travel trailers for 2002 will have to wait for an opinion to be received from the state attorney general's office.

Proposition 5 was passed in the state constitutional amendment election held Sept. 13. It exempts travel trailers from ad valorem taxes unless the trailer is part of a business' inventory and is used to produce income.

"The way the law was written just says that travel trailers used for recreational purposes are not taxed effective Jan. 1, 2002," said Gay Whitehead, Gray County tax assessor-collector.

At the time the tax was enacted, city and county governments could choose whether or not to levy the tax. School districts had no choice and were required to levy the tax, Whitehead said. Gray County and cities in the county voted not to levy travel trailer taxes. Travel trailer owners were required to sign a form in order to receive city and county exemption.

County and school district officials have contacted the state attorney general's office concerning possible reimbursement of the trailer tax.

Taxes collected from travel trailer owners were dispersed to the school district. School board members would like to have an opinion from the attorney general's office before voting to reimburse the funds, Whitehead said.

"I have no say-so. I'm just waiting for the local governing bodies to tell me what to do. There is no mention of a refund in the law," she said.

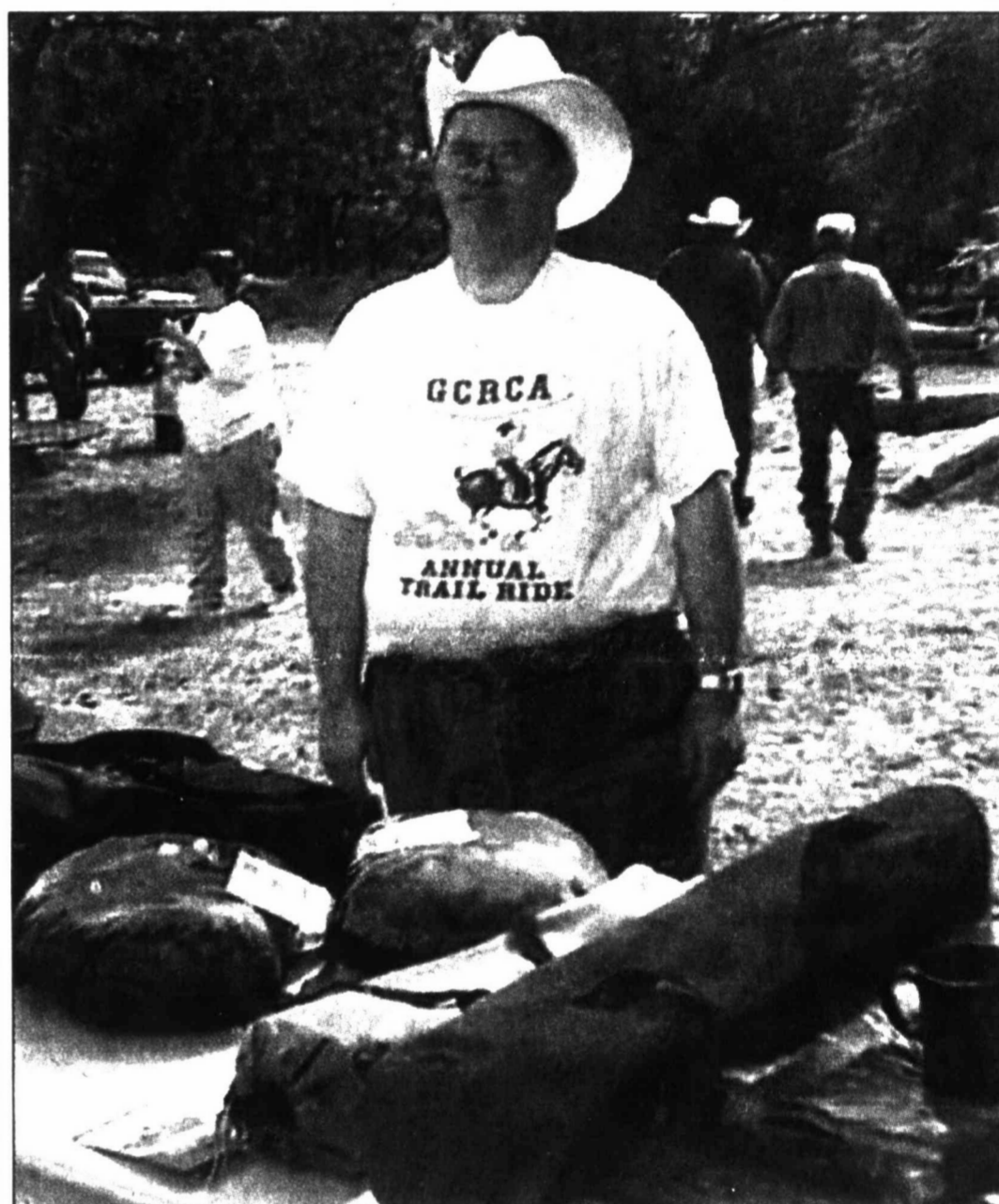
Whitehead warned that an answer from the attorney general may take time.

"It could take months for them to return an answer," she said.

The tax assessor collector's office has a list of those who were taxed for travel trailers, and the amounts each paid, in case refunds are to be made.

Travel trailers are not on the current appraisal rolls and will not be taxed for 2003, Whitehead said.

Trail ride prize patrol



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Mark McMinn of Pampa stands guard over a table filled with prizes donated by local merchants which were given away to the 41 participants in Gray County Association for Retarded Citizens annual trail ride Saturday. Approximately \$5,000 was raised for the association through the GCRC's biggest fundraiser, reported Sherry Carlson, GCRC board member. Despite strong winds, participants enjoyed a six-hour ride across the Reynolds Ranch north of Pampa and barbecue lunch under giant cottonwoods.

Senate approves redistricting map

By NATALIE GOTT
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

AUSTIN (AP) — The GOP won a victory when the Senate gave final approval to a redistricting plan, but now Republicans must settle a dispute among themselves over how West Texas districts are drawn.

"I'm kind of an optimistic," said Republican Sen. Robert Duncan of Lubbock, who is at the center of the clash with Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick over the districts. "I think some end game will be reached."

The bill emerged from the Texas

Senate on Wednesday after four turbulent months, two Democratic walkouts and three special sessions. It passed on a 18-12 vote mostly along party lines. One Democrat, Sen. Ken Armbrister, D-Victoria, voted for the plan, and Sen. Teel Bivins was the lone Republican against it.

Democrats fought the GOP push on redistricting at every step, arguing that the current lines shouldn't change. They repeatedly said the effort was nothing more than a partisan power grab led by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land.

"It's about power, the raw naked

grab for power," said Sen. Eliot Shapleigh, D-El Paso.

Republicans control the Texas House and Senate and occupy every statewide elected office. They say voting trends show the state should have more GOP representation in Washington and the changes were necessary.

Under the Senate map, Republicans say the GOP could win as many as five seats in Texas' congressional delegation, which is now controlled 17-15 by Democrats.

In a map approved last week by the House, Republicans could pick up as

many as six additional seats in the congressional delegation.

The differences between the two maps will be worked out in a conference committee before a final map is passed by both chambers. Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate, said Duncan and Sen. Todd Staples, a Republican from Palestine who sponsored the map, will sit on the committee, but Dewhurst has not named any other senators to the committee yet.

Rep. Phil King, a Weatherford Republican who authored the House

(See MAP, Page 3)

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OBITUARIES

PATRICIA KATHY HUFFHINES
1938-2003

Patricia Kathy Huffhines, 65, of Pampa, died Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2003. Services will be 10 a.m., Friday, at Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship Church (formerly Highland Pentecostal Holiness Church) with Pastor Nathan Hopson and Rick Massick, associate pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

A lifelong Pampa resident, Mrs. Huffhines was born July 23, 1938, at Wichita, Kan., and graduated from Pampa High School. She married Tom Huffhines on June 5, 1959, at Pampa.

She was a member of Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship Church, formerly Highland Pentecostal Holiness Church.

She was a wife and a mother.

Mrs. Huffhines was preceded in death by a son, Trent Huffhines, and a sister, Marlene Myles.

Survivors include her husband, Tom, of the home; three daughters, Vanessa Vick and Valorey Foreman, both of Pampa, and Valinda Adams of McDonough, Ga.; a brother, Billy Lee Martin of Houston; and eight grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship Church, 1733 N. Banks, Pampa, TX 79065.

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



SERVICES TOMORROW

HUFFHINES, Patricia Kathy — 10 a.m., Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship Church, Pampa.

ON RECORD

SHERIFF

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

Wednesday, Sept. 24

Rebecca Drinkard, 22, of 427 Hill St., was arrested on a motion to revoke concerning a criminal trespass charge.

Thursday, Sept. 25

Carlos Hernandez, 41, of El Paso, was arrested for failure to appear on a motion to enforce child support.

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.

Monday, Sept. 22

Pampa Police Department assisted Dawson County law enforcement in an investigation of sexual assault of a child.

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Assault by threat was reported in the 1900 block of North Dwight.

An individual in the 1000 block of South Love reported that someone took his telephone with his permission and would not return it. The incident is a civil matter.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 900 block of East Browning. A window was broken to gain entry. Taken were a television, ornamental eagle, videocassette recorder and satellite receiver. Estimated loss was \$350.

Found property was reported at Pampa Police Department. The item was a woman's wallet.

A runaway was reported in the 200 block of North Faulkner.

Fraud was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

A report of phone harassment was taken at the police department. The incident occurred in the 100 block of South Sumner.

A missing person was reported in the 700 block of Lefors.

Burglary of a building and theft under \$50 were reported in the 1600 block of North Faulkner. Four tires with rims and a bicycle were taken. The suspect was driving a brown van. Estimated loss was \$100.

Driving while intoxicated with a child in the vehicle was reported in the 100 block of West Foster. Vicki Ogden Merrick, 41, of 2133 Mary Ellen, was arrested for driving while intoxicated with a child in the vehicle.

Leo Samuel III, 46, of 415 W. Elm, was arrested on *capias pro fines* for disorderly conduct/language and assault, and warrants for disorderly conduct/obscene gesture and two charges of assault by threat.

AMBULANCE

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

Wednesday, Sept. 24

8:07 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Kentucky and Banks streets. No transport.

9:47 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of East Frederic. No transport.

10:24 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

12:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Foster and Cuyler streets and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

8:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Jordan Prison Unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:55 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of South Finley. No transport.

ACCIDENT

Pampa Police Department today reported the following accident.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

9:47 a.m. — A 2002 GMC Sierra pickup driven by Frances F. Winkleblack, 86, 605 N. Wells, and a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado pickup driven by Danielle R. Brown, 56, Amarillo, were in collision at Frederic and Tignor streets. Winkleblack was cited for failure to yield right of way at stop sign. Winkleblack reported non-incapacitating injuries and refused treatment at the scene.

JAMES DONALD STONE

1937-2003

James Donald Stone, 66, of Pampa, died Thursday, Sept. 25, 2003. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m., Saturday, in Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Carl Novian, associate pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.

Mr. Stone was born Feb. 13, 1937, at Seminole, Okla. He graduated from Plainville High School in Plainville, Kan., in 1955. He married Elsie Carlson on Nov. 29, 1958, at Kimball, Neb.

Mr. Stone came to Pampa in the 1960s and worked for Cabot Corporation and Cities Service before hiring on as a pumper with Occidental Petroleum where he worked from 1968 until 1993.

He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Elsie, of the home; three sons, James Stone of Pampa, John Stone of Lubbock and Charles Stone of San Antonio; his mother, Hallie Stone of White Deer; two brothers, Gaylord Stone of Amarillo and Owen Stone of Wyoming; a sister, Irene Poland of White Deer; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101.

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

JACK LOWELL SHAPLEY

1944-2003

LIVINGSTON — Jack Lowell Shapley, 59, died Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2003. Graveside services are scheduled this afternoon in Clute. Arrangements are under the direction of Tace Funeral Home.

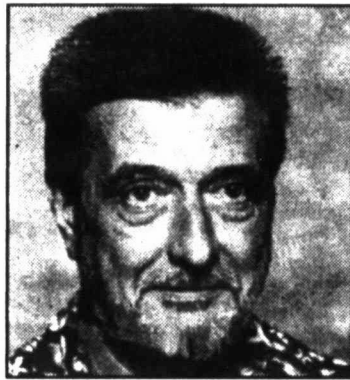
Mr. Shapley was born Jan. 23, 1944, at Shattuck, Okla. He worked for Western Auto in Pampa for five years prior to moving to Amarillo in 1965 to work for Morrison Supply Company. He was transferred to Houston in 1975 and later to New Caney.

He had been a resident of Livingston since 2001.

He was preceded in death by his father, Roger Shapley; a brother, Howard "Butch"

Shapley; and a son, Jeffery Lowell Shapley.

Survivors include a daughter, Marilyn Ball of Pampa; a son, Lowell Shapley of New Caney; his mother, Bernice Todd of Livingston; a brother, Gary Todd of Clute; and two grandchildren.



WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

Today's forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies, highs in the mid 70s and northeast winds 10 to 15 mph, shifting to the south 5 to 15 mph in the afternoon. Tonight should fall on partly cloudy skies with lows in the lower 50s and south winds 5 to 10 mph. Friday should see partly cloudy skies. Highs in the upper 80s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. South winds 5 to 15 mph shifting to the northeast 15 to 20 mph after midnight. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s.

Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night, partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s. Sunday, mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s. Sunday night, mostly cloudy in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Monday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Monday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Tuesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s. Tuesday night, partly cloudy. Lows around 50. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s.

STATEWIDE

By The Associated Press

Clouds were expected to hover most parts of Texas on Thursday with a chance of showers in some regions.

North Texas was to be mostly cloudy with light winds and a 20 percent chance of rain. High

temperatures were forecast in the upper 80s.

In the Texas Panhandle, it was to be cloudy in the morning then becoming partly cloudy. Temperatures were to drop to the mid 70s due to a cold front that moved in overnight. No rain was expected in the region.

Isolated showers and thunderstorms were forecast for the South Plains, with temperatures ranging from the upper 70s to mid 80s.

South Central Texas was to

have a 20 percent chance of rain with east winds at 5 mph.

Temperatures Thursday morning ranged from the mid 50s in the Panhandle to the upper 70s in far South Texas.

On Wednesday, West Texas saw in the 80s north, and highs in the low to mid 90s elsewhere.

South Texas was partly to mostly cloudy with temperatures in the mid to upper 80s and North Texas was in the upper 80s.

STOCKS

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

Wheat 3.08
Milo 3.61
Corn 4.22
Soybeans 5.88

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

OXY	35.00	-0.15
BP	42.99	+0.34
Celanese	34.30	+1.10
Cabot Corp	29.15	-0.20
Cabot Oil Gas	26.31	-0.19
Coca Cola	42.94	-0.05
VLO	37.37	-0.33
HAL	24.87	-0.14
Trud	29.54	0.04
NOI	18.65	-0.18
KMI	53.21	-0.42
XCEL	15.19	-0.12
Kerr McGee	44.25	-0.73
Limited	15.25	-0.12
Williams	9.07	-0.18
MCD	23.74	-0.19
XOM	37.03	+0.13
Atmos	24.10	NC
Pioneer Nat	25.19	-0.31
JCP	22.20	-0.75
COF	55.73	-0.02
SIB	50.28	-0.55
Tenneco	65.54	-0.29
CVX	72.24	-0.09
Wal Mart	56.98	+0.36
OKF	20.74	-0.06
NS Corp	6.88	+0.03

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West Texas Crude 28.05

City Briefs

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Hole-In-One Shoot Out

Preliminary - Pampa Middle School

Saturday - September 27, 2003

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

3 Golf Balls \$5.00 - Extra Balls \$1.00 ea.

Finals - Hidden Hills Golf Course

Top Ten Contestants

Sunday - September 28, 2003

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Top Ten Finalists - Cash Prizes!

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A new "fac Anderson, renovation Panhandle Anderson s customers.

House

WASHINGTON The House ap tion Thursday a ing the nationa list goes into e uled next week can block many marketing sales The House after less than Lawmakers fro uniformly blas

TRIAL

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MAP

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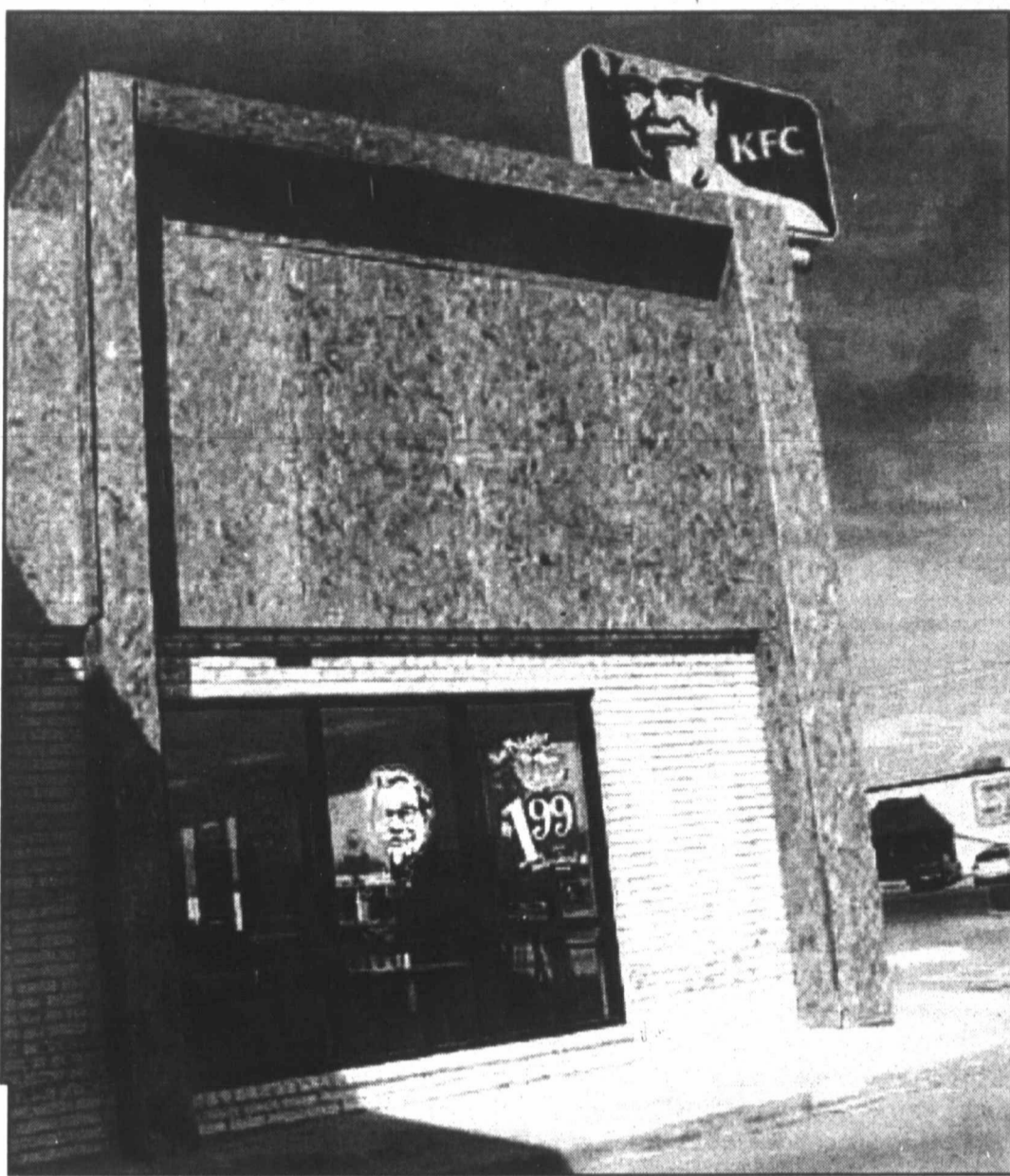
John Lay

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KFC getting face lift



(Pampa News photo)

A new "face" begins to take shape at Pampa's KFC, 2201 N. Hobart. Tom Anderson, area supervisor for KFC, said the restaurant's front is undergoing renovation as part of KFC's new 6000 Series. He said KFCs throughout the Panhandle are getting the new updated look. Despite the outside work, Anderson said, the restaurant is open for business and will continue to serve customers. The renovation is expected to be complete by Oct. 20, he said.

House OKs 'do-not-call' legislation

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House approved legislation Thursday aimed at ensuring the national "do-not-call" list goes into effect as scheduled next week so consumers can block many unwanted telemarketing sales pitches. The House voted 412-8 after less than hour of debate. Lawmakers from both parties uniformly blasted a decision

by U.S. District Judge Lee R. West, who ruled Tuesday that the Federal Trade Commission lacked authority to create and operate the registry.

"The judge in this case is dead wrong and I'm sure his decision will in turn be overturned," said Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. "We should proba-

bly call the bill 'This Time We Really Mean It Act' to cure any myopia in the judicial branch. The bill leaves no doubt as to the intent of Congress."

The bill says the FTC may operate the list, which was approved by Congress last year and is scheduled to take effect Wednesday. The Senate was expected to pass similar legislation Thursday.

waived Robinson's obligation to reimburse the county for his court-appointed attorney but ordered Robinson to pay the \$50 monthly probation fee. Switzer said that the deadly conduct charge included discharging a firearm. "The judge took judicial notice of the testimony of the officers and Jack Robinson," Switzer said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

TRIAL

hearing, Robinson told the court that he was involved in a motorcycle accident in February this year that broke his shoulder and six ribs. He also suffered a punctured lung, broken knees, ankles and feet.

He said he no longer has the use of his left arm below

the elbow and his doctors have told him the lower part of his left arm will have to be amputated.

Robinson told Judge Waters that he had no job, no insurance and no money. He said his injuries were not connected with the shooting incident at his home.

Because of his physical condition, Judge Water

waived Robinson's obligation to reimburse the county for his court-appointed attorney but ordered Robinson to pay the \$50 monthly probation fee.

Switzer said that the deadly conduct charge included discharging a firearm.

"The judge took judicial notice of the testimony of the officers and Jack Robinson," Switzer said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

MAP

map, and House Redistricting Committee chairman Joe Crabb, R-Atascocita, will be among the House conference committee members, Craddick has said.

The biggest hurdle the committee likely will face is settling the dispute between Senate and House Republicans over how to configure districts in rural West Texas.

Craddick wants a map that

would create a base for a congressional seat in his hometown of Midland, where President Bush lived as a child, and oil and gas are a crucial part of the economy.

The Senate map, pushed by Duncan, would pair Midland with the larger city of Lubbock, keeping that agriculture-oriented city the base for a congressional seat.

After battling for months

against Democrats, it's unlikely in the end that GOP legislators will let party infighting prevent passage of a bill. Republican Gov. Rick Perry is working to make sure that doesn't happen.

"If we can help to work through any hurdles that are out there — the West Texas issue was one of those — then we're happy to do that," said Perry, who offered a West Texas compromise this week.

Bomb damages hotel housing NBC staffers

Iraqi governing council member dies of wounds

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Aquila al-Hashimi, the first member of Iraq's American-picked Governing Council to be targeted for assassination, died Thursday, five days after she was shot in an ambush. In the latest attack on foreigners in Baghdad, a bomb exploded outside a hotel housing NBC staff, killing a Somali guard and injuring a Canadian sound engineer.

Seven American soldiers were wounded Thursday in the northern city of Mosul when two roadside bombs exploded as their convoy passed. U.S. officials said one Humvee was destroyed and another badly damaged in the attack, which took place about 9 a.m. on the western side of the city.

Also Thursday, two suspected Iraqi resistance leaders accused of organizing and financing attacks against U.S. soldiers near Saddam Hussein's birthplace were arrested in raids. Their identities were not released.

Al-Hashimi, slated to become Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, died about 11:30 a.m., said Gary Thatcher, coalition director of strategic communications. She was ambushed and critically wounded by gunshots to the abdomen by six men in a pick-

up truck while driving near her home in western Baghdad Saturday. She was to have attended the U.N. General Assembly, which opened in New York on Tuesday.

Al-Hashimi will be buried Friday. The Governing Council announced a three-day mourning period beginning Thursday.

In a statement, the council said al-Hashimi "fell as a martyr on the path of freedom and democracy to build this great nation. She died at the hands of a clique of infidels and cunning people who only know darkness."

The council said her death would not distract it from rebuilding Iraq.

In London, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said he was "shocked and saddened" by al-Hashimi's death and that her "lasting legacy" would be "a stable and free Iraq." Arab League spokesman Hisham Youssef said assassinations "will never improve the situation in Iraq or achieve any results. We're totally against this approach."

L. Paul Bremer, the U.S. administrator for Iraq who currently is in Washington, issued a statement of condolences.

"Today, the people of Iraq have lost a courageous champion and pioneer for the cause

of freedom and democracy. On behalf of the Coalition Provisional Authority and all its members, I offer my heartfelt condolences to her family, her colleagues at the Governing Council and the people of Iraq," Bremer said.

Earlier Thursday, a bomb exploded three feet from the outside wall of the al-Aike Hotel in south-central Baghdad, killing the Somali night watchman as he slept and injuring Canadian soundman, David Moodie. The U.S. NBC television network had offices in the hotel.

Iraqi police said the bomb was placed in a hut that housed the hotel generator.

Lt. Col. Salman Kareem said damage to the hotel was minimal.

NBC correspondent Jim Avila said there were no signs on the building indicating NBC had quarters there.

A dozen NBC staffers were inside the building when the explosion occurred.

"I was awake," Moodie, the injured soundman, said. "A chest of drawers in the room fell on me. I sleep in the room immediately above the generator, so I guess I was lucky."

Moodie said he suffered one deep cut from flying glass and would require stitches.



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- Pampa Office Supply, 669-3353

- Pertuison Radio Shack, 435-4812
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VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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TEXAS EDITORIAL

Strayhorn's ruffling feathers

From the Victoria Advocate:
Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn has ruffled the feathers of too many of her fellow Republican officeholders.

As the regular session of the 78th Texas Legislature was adjourning earlier this year, she initially refused to certify the state's biennial budget, contending that spending outstripped anticipated revenues. She urged Gov. Rick Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to apply \$700 million in money from federal grants and freed up by gubernatorial vetoes to restore cuts to the Children's Health Insurance Program and for services for the frail elderly. She criticized lawmakers and other state officials for imposing \$2.7 billion in new fees on Texans over the next two years, despite their repeated promises not to raise taxes.

All of that would be enough to annoy her fellow Republican officeholders. But more than that, her unabashed ambition unnerves them. They believe, probably correctly, that Strayhorn wants to move from the comptroller's office to a higher post, perhaps lieutenant governor or even governor. That could result in challenging Perry or Dewhurst if they run for re-election to their current positions in 2006. Neither of them looks forward to an expensive, bruising primary contest that might cost one or the other his job.

So what to do about Strayhorn? Well, the method Republican lawmakers allied with the governor and lieutenant governor have chosen is akin to death by a thousand paper cuts.

As part of a government reorganization bill, they want to remove responsibility for the high-profile Texas School and e-Texas Performance Reviews from the comptroller's office, shifting that to the Legislative Budget Board.

Dewhurst, who makes no secret of his view of Strayhorn, chairs the LBB. House Speaker Tom Craddick, also no friend of the comptroller, is the board's vice chair. Other members come from both chambers of the Legislature.

Transferring these reviews to the LBB would undercut the comptroller's office, stripping a source of good publicity from Strayhorn and moving it to Dewhurst and Craddick. That would help them and potentially hurt Strayhorn, but it would not serve Texas at all well.

The School Performance Reviews, which have saved Texas taxpayers billions of dollars over the years, were created by the late Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock and implemented by former Comptroller John Sharp in the 1990s. Bullock intended that they be independent of the legislative process, thus less dependent on petty politics. Since the beginning, the responsibility for this program has remained in the comptroller's office. That agency has the experience and personnel needed to do the job right.

Transferring it to the Legislative Budget Board provides no guarantee that the performance reviews would be conducted appropriately or effectively.

The Texas Classroom Teachers Association, Association of Texas Professional Educators and Texas Federation of Teachers believe the programs should remain in the comptroller's office. We concur, and we further agree with a comment Strayhorn made to the Texas Senate Finance Committee on Wednesday: "I am baffled by actions to fix what is not broken."

When so much else in state government is broken, especially the tax system, lawmakers have other things that need fixing. But as they are doing with unneeded, off-year congressional redistricting, legislators and other state officials too often find it easier to engage in petty politics than to focus on what is good for Texas.

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Freedom to pick & choose

Suppose you want to deal with me but I don't want to deal with you. Should I be forced to?

You might ask, "What are you talking about?"

Here's a short list. Suppose you want to marry me, but I don't want to marry you. Or, suppose you want to play tennis with me, but I don't want to play with you. Or, suppose you want to be in my club, but neither my fellow club members nor I want you. The question is, how much do we Americans value freedom of association? Keep in mind that freedom of association is a two-way street -- it also implies freedom not to associate.

Suppose a beautiful woman wants to date me, but I don't want to date her. It might be for a good reason, bad reason or no reason at all. Should I be free not to deal with her? Similarly, you might want to come to my party or enroll your children in my private school, but I don't want to deal with you. My refusal might be for any arbitrary reason, including your race, sex or religion, or because I don't like your looks. Should the government force us to associate with those we wish not to associate? Alternatively, should government forbid us from associating with those with whom we wanted to associate?

Let's look at a couple of historical examples. H. L. Mencken, writing in the Dec. 9, 1948, Baltimore Sun, tells



WALTER WILLIAMS
COLUMNIST

of a local ordinance that prohibited interracial tennis games on public courts. More recently, there was the Loving vs. Virginia (1967) case, where the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the conviction of a white man and a black woman who married in violation of Virginia's anti-miscegenation laws. Today, most Americans would be offended by any law that banned blacks and whites from playing tennis together or marrying one another. Wouldn't it be just as offensive were there a law requiring blacks and whites to play tennis together or marry one another?

Isn't there a general principle here? Namely, that if one cherishes freedom of association, is there a logically consistent argument for permitting it in some areas of our lives and not in others? Should employers be forced to hire those they prefer not, or landlords forced to rent to persons they prefer not, or Boy Scouts to admit homosexuals when they prefer not?

One might be tempted to answer by asserting that arbitrary discriminatory association choices in marriage don't have the important socioeconomic

effects that other discriminatory choices have. That's dead wrong. Race and income are highly correlated. Whites have higher income than blacks. Only about 5 percent of all marriages are interracial. That means whites marrying other whites makes the income and education distribution more skewed than it would be if there were more interracial marriages. I imagine that most of us would be horrified by the suggestion of mandated marriage diversity.

If an activity is publicly financed, then arbitrary discriminatory association should be prohibited. That would apply to, among other things, public libraries, schools and universities. Private libraries, schools and universities should have complete freedom of association, whether it's discrimination for or against a particular race, sex, religion or any other trait upon which it chooses to associate. Interestingly, Americans who support racial preferences should be the strongest supporters of privatization, but they're not.

The bottom line is that the true test of one's commitment to freedom of association doesn't come when he allows people to associate in ways he deems acceptable. The true test comes when he's willing to permit others to associate in ways he deems grossly offensive.

GOVERNMENT OSHA INSPECTORS REQUIRE MINIMUM SAFETY PRECAUTIONS BY GEN. WESLEY CLARK'S PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN:



Why Clark candidacy will fade

The shocking truth about the U.S. presidential race is that the sudden and headlong collapse of President Bush's popularity has created such a vacuum that a new candidate such as retired Gen. Wesley Clark has no difficulty soaring to the top of the polls based on one week's publicity.

The most recent Newsweek survey documents both Bush's crash and Clark's rise. Bush is now down to a job-approval rating of only 51 percent. More ominously for the Republicans, in a trial heat against any Democrat (except Howard Dean), he scores below the crucial 50 percent mark. Against Al Gore and John Kerry, he gets only 48 percent, and against Clark, drops to 47 percent. When an incumbent president is below 50 percent of the vote, he is in desperate trouble. (Bush still manages 52 percent against Dean.)

Asked if Bush should be re-elected, Americans vote no by 50-44.

Equally astonishing is the sudden rise of Gen. Clark. After only a week as the media's darling, he leads the Democratic pack with 14 percent of the vote to Dean's and Joseph Lieberman's 12 percent, with Kerry at 10 percent and Dick Gephardt at 8 percent.

The key to Bush's free-fall? Only 46 percent approve of his handling of postwar Iraq, down 5 points from his ratings last week. Not only do Americans mind losing soldiers, they also worry about the cost of the occupation, with 56 percent complaining



DICK MORRIS
COLUMNIST

that it is too high.

Clark's rise is clearly a media-inspired flavor of the week. When Dean graced the front pages of Time and Newsweek, he was similarly honored with a first-place rating. Clark's surge is not so much a testament to his strength as to the weakness of Bush on the one hand and the Democratic field on the other.

Clark will not wear well. His early gaffes show his inexperience. He would be a bit like a latter-day Dwight D. Eisenhower, except that nobody can quite recall what war it is that he won. The initial enthusiasm for his candidacy really came from Europe, where this general-who-opposes-war is the kind of guy only the elites of Paris can truly love. The only primary he has locked up is Democrats abroad.

But then Bill Clinton picked up the Clark banner and had his staff rally around his fellow Arkansan. Why? Hillary and Bill support confusion, chaos and consternation as their preferred strategy for Democrats in 2004. Determined that nobody but they capture the White House - or even the Democratic Party - the Clintons are opposed to anyone who

gains momentum.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, Britain pursued a policy of opposing any European nation that got too powerful, always amassing a coalition behind the weaker states to maintain the balance of power. This is precisely the Clinton posture in this election year.

In the long run, Dean's momentum will prove real and Clark's will be seen as bogus. Dean has amassed a base of grassroots (or cyber-roots) support by tapping into two groups - gays and peaceniks. His message spread among them not as a result of top-down advertising but by the new Internet style of viral, horizontal marketing. Gays and their supporters and anti-war zealots spread the word among themselves that Dean was their man.

The result was a genuine outpouring of backing from small donors and local activists.

The Dean candidacy is the first creation of the Internet age. By contrast, Clark's is perhaps the last of the media-created candidacies. Dean's support will carry him through the early primaries. He will likely score one-punch knockouts in Iowa of Gephardt, in New Hampshire of Kerry, and in South Carolina of Edwards. His three victims must win their respective primaries because they come from the state next door. Their failure to do so means the end of their candidacies.

Dean still can't beat Bush. But how far can Bush drop before we hear the splash at the bottom of the well?

Crossword

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS

- ACROSS
1 Snapshots
5 Abodes
10 Cove
12 Taxpayer, typically
13 Head of costume design
14 Private reply
15 Light metal
16 "View of Toledo" painter
18 Washington city
20 Performed
21 Fold member
23 Capri ending (native)
24 Front desk feature
26 Landers and Richards
28 Outlaw
29 Take it easy
31 Ellipse bit
32 Untie, perhaps
36 Fall sign
39 In the style of
40 Asian peninsula
41 River craft

Flo & Frie



THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Man's Tongue Will Never Trip Over Girlfriends' Same Names

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Wife No. 2 in Texas," who gets upset when her husband slips and calls her by his first wife's name, reminded me of an old boyfriend of mine.

After calling his girlfriend "Diane" by his previous girlfriend's name, he decided it would be easier to only date girls named "Diane." I was Diane No. 2. He is now married to Diane No. 3.

DIANE NO. 2, IN OHIO

DEAR DIANE THE SECOND: I told "Wife No. 2" to buy some "Hello, My Name Is ()" stickers and plaster one on her shoulder and one on her nightie, and that would get her message across without being heavy-handed.

Her husband's lapse is very common. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Brains are complicated organs and get "wired" after years of marriage. That old linkage doesn't just disappear, and on rare occasions when a neuron misfires, the old name may get inserted into a sentence. It's unintentional, almost impossible to avoid and doesn't mean a blessed thing. I hope the wife lets go of her resentment and forgives her husband before she damages the relationship.

BRUCE IN EVANSTON, ILL.

DEAR BRUCE: So do I.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has made these slips of the tongue for almost 35 years. His first wife died long before I met him. I have called him by my first husband's name, too. I think it's only natural.

One of our sons is divorced and remarried, and he has done the same thing. It's just force of habit. My advice to "Wife No. 2" is ... get over it! Don't sweat the small stuff.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT ... MANY TIMES!

DEAR BT, DT, MT: You're right. I have done it too — and so has my husband. We laugh about it when it happens.

DEAR ABBY: Until I was 8 years old, I shared a bed with my brother, Arthur. From then on, I slept alone until I was married. On a few occasions, usually when I was half-asleep, I called my beloved

young wife Arthur. I'm happy to say she took it with good humor.

You suggested a light-hearted solution, and that's the key. To become furious over such a trivial offense is bad both for her marriage and her health.

M.L., M.D. IN N.Y.

DEAR DOCTOR L: Laughter is the best medicine. And it's a prescription everyone can afford.

DEAR ABBY: I was raised by parents who often called our female dog by my name, and me by hers because we were always together. I adore my two daughters, but I sometimes draw a blank on their names. It has become a family joke. I am not old or senile, but name confusion is not all that uncommon. And it's certainly not meant to be a slight.

DERRY, N.H., READER

DEAR READER: It used to happen to me occasionally when I was dating. I know firsthand how embarrassing it can be. The only thing that's worse is to completely draw a blank.

DEAR ABBY: I am Wife No. 4. My husband's first wife and I have the same first name. His second and third also had the same first name. He calls me "Hon."

LINDA IN COVINGTON, IND.

DEAR LINDA: Now there's a sweet — and safe — solution.

DEAR ABBY: I was married for nearly 20 years. I know from experience that what happened to Wife No. 2 is simply the result of a deeply ingrained habit. After my wife and I divorced, I met a wonderful, kind man. We have been together nearly five years. As dearly as I love him, I have called him by my ex-wife's name.

GAY AND HAPPY IN N.C.

DEAR G AND H: Thank you for some straight talk on a sensitive subject.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

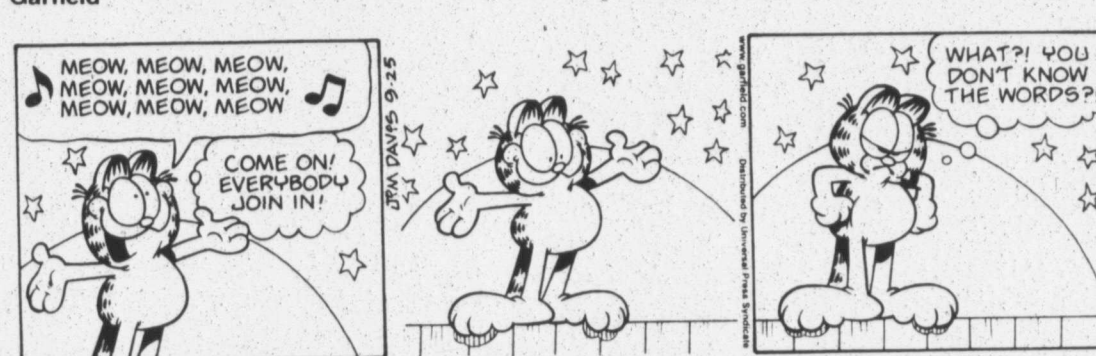
For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



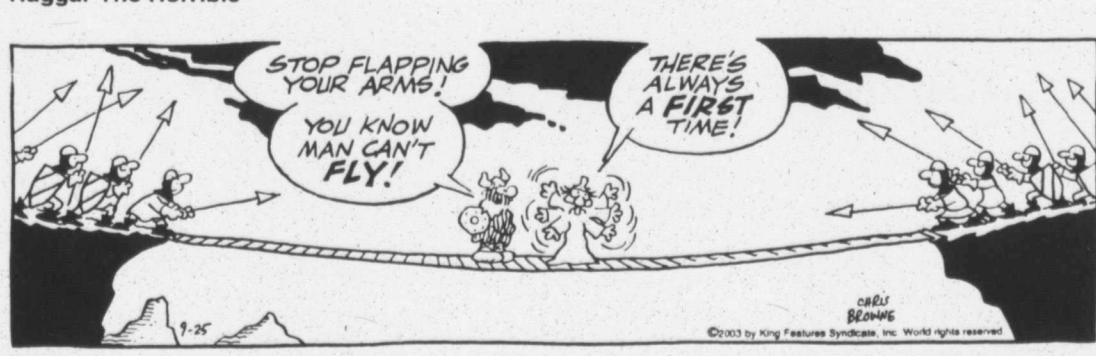
Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 43 Ideal
- 1 Snapshots
- 5 Abodes
- 10 Cove
- 12 Taxpayer

DOWN

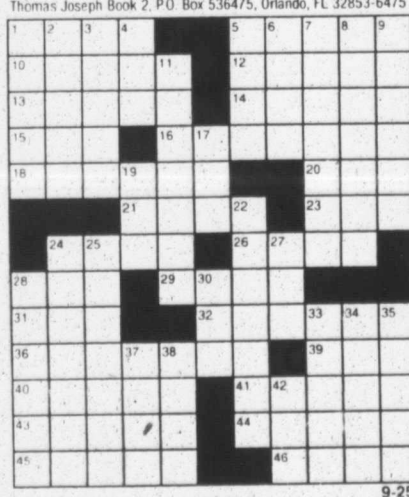
- 1 Devoutness
- 2 Nepal
- 14 Private reply
- 15 Light metal
- 16 "View of Toledo" painter
- 18 Washing-ton city
- 20 Performed
- 21 Fold member
- 23 Capri ending (native)
- 24 Front desk feature
- 26 Landers and Richards
- 28 Outlaw
- 29 Take it easy
- 31 Ellipse bit
- 32 Untie, perhaps
- 36 Fall sign
- 39 In the style of
- 40 Asian peninsula
- 41 River craft



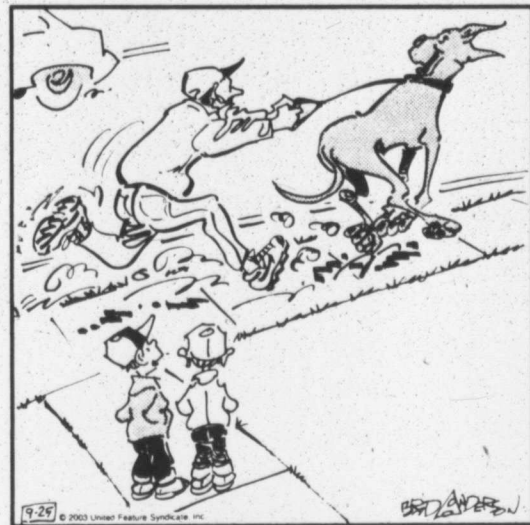
Yesterday's answer

- 17 Hightail
- 3 Hoosegow
- 4 Go down
- 5 Put up
- 6 Sneaker problem
- 7 Pondered
- 8 Calls
- 9 Walked boldly
- 11 Smithsonian area
- 28 Jazz score?
- 30 Will Smith film
- 33 Doc's request
- 34 Thrill lines?
- 35 In the raw
- 37 Monthly expense
- 38 Ticket
- 42 Sit-up targets

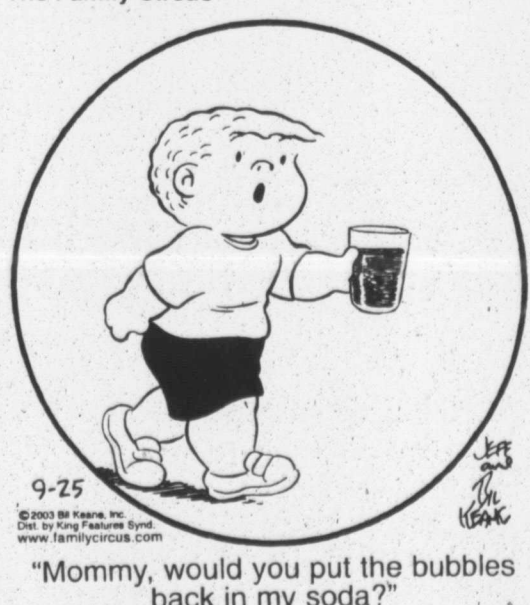
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus



Flo & Friends



SPORTS

Pampa favored by 1 over Randall

PAMPA — The Pampa-Randall showdown Friday night has reached the height of popularity with the Harris Ratings.

Harris has Pampa vs. Randall picked as one of its High Headliners for this weekend. And rightly so. Neither team has been challenged yet with both schools logging a 4-0 record in pre-district clashes.

Both teams can light up the scoreboard. Both teams can also play strong defense. Harris has Pampa favored by a mere point.

The Harvesters are averaging 33.7 points a game behind the quarterbacking of Johnny Moore and the pass-catching of Jesse Tarango.

Moore has rushed for 458 yards and scored 11 touchdowns while senior receiver Jesse Tarango finished the pre-district slate with 23 receptions for 301 yards and two TDs.

The only points Pampa's defense has allowed was the 17 in the 31-17 win over Amarillo High two weeks ago. Pampa's third shutout victim was Borger (32-0) last Friday night. Pampa forced four turnovers and held Borger to 160 total yards. Jarren Long had a pair of fumble recoveries and Mac Smith had one. Shea Brown had a pass interception.

Randall's offense is rolling up 38.7 points and

441.5 yards per outing. The Raiders' latest win was a 40-13 rout of Class 5A Tascosa.

"This is Randall's best team ever, I believe," said Pampa head coach Heath Parker. "They were good in 1994, but this is a more complete team."

Randall won the district title in 1994 and Pampa finished third. The two teams battled to a 3-3 tie that season.

Randall is the defending district champion, but lost to Pampa 32-21 a year ago.

"Last season, Randall was good at stopping the run, but their secondary was vulnerable to the pass. That doesn't seem to be the case this sea-

son," coach Parker said.

Senior safety Clay Britten is the defensive leader for the Raiders. Britten is a transfer from Groom.

"He almost came to Pampa," Parker said. "He's the quarterback on their defensive team and very vocal."

Randall's offense is built around senior running back Kiel Anderson, who has yet to play a complete season because of injuries.

"Anderson is the real deal. He was averaging 9 yards a carry as a sophomore when he broke his ankle. He threw a hip out of a socket as a junior. He's averaging over 10 yards a carry this season," Parker said.



Pampa Fire Fighters Association President Doug Pritchett presents a check to Football Booster Club President Cheryl Lewis for Cheerstix to be handed out at Friday's game against Randall.

Cowboys' offense is starting to highlight receiving trio

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Bill Parcells' favorite offensive system is an easy choice. It's the one that scores the most points.

He's not the kind of coach who takes one playbook from team to team, insisting that's how the game should be played. He won big with the New York Giants, New England Patriots and New York Jets by using schemes that best fit the players he had.

Two games into his tenure with the Dallas Cowboys, Parcells seems to have figured out this team's best plan of attack: Daring defenses to try and cover receivers Antonio Bryant, Joey Galloway and Terry Glenn at the same time.

Parcells loaded up on three-receiver formations in Dallas'

last game, a 35-32 overtime victory over the Giants, and has hinted since to expect more, starting Sunday against the Jets. His latest tease was saying that his biggest surprise so far is the Cowboys' offensive potential.

"We have more firepower than I thought we would have," he said.

Considering the way the running game is going, he's certainly referring to the passing game.

In the opener against Atlanta, Galloway had seven catches for 139 yards and Bryant had 71 yards on two catches. Glenn was shut out, then rebounded against the Giants with eight catches for 113 yards. Bryant had 98 yards on five catches, including the

pass that set up the field goal that forced overtime. Galloway also contributed three receptions for 43 yards as quarterback Quincy Carter threw for a career-high 321 yards.

"These three guys can go out and run routes and make big catches for you," Carter said. "All I've got to do is keep being consistent."

A lot of factors must fall into place for three-receiver formations to work.

The offensive line, which has been woeful in recent years, must hold off defenders long enough for Carter to pick a target. And the much-maligned Carter must make the right reads, then put the ball where he wants it, something he has-

n't always done.

Then, it's up to Bryant, Galloway and Glenn, all of whom are reliable targets with fleet feet.

"If we can get some time to throw the ball, these kids will give some people trouble," Parcells said.

The downside to this approach is giving up a blocker. That tempts defenses to blitz more, thus putting more onus on Carter.

Then again, defenses are forced to change, too, usually swapping a linebacker for a fifth defensive back — one who wasn't good enough to crack the top four. That creates a mismatch somewhere, a fact of football life that studious Cowboys fans know all

about because of the way Dallas has been exploited in its nickel defense this season.

"It spreads things out and makes defenses a little bit more predictable," Carter said. "It opens up the running game, too."

Dallas has 256 yards rushing through two games, but nearly one-fourth came on a 63-yard run. Tailback Troy Hambrick leads the team with just 113 yards, an average of 3.1 per carry.

Those numbers probably pushed Parcells to go to the three-wides package, but he probably didn't need to be pushed too hard.

After all, Parcells inherited Galloway and Bryant, then made Glenn his first acquisi-

tion. He's known all along they were his three most-skilled offensive players.

So expect the Cowboys to use all three whenever necessary — but never on an every-down basis.

For the receivers, they must understand that the share-the-ball philosophy doesn't provide instant gratification. As tough as that might be on their egos, they must remember their triple threat is far tougher on defenses.

"They can all make a good contribution if nobody is worried" about their own stats, Parcells said. "That's the way it will to unfold every week. You never know who it is going to be."

Pampa takes win from Dumas

PAMPA — The Pampa tennis team downed Dumas Tuesday with the final score of 17-2.

"We came out strong with a 6-1 lead after the doubles matches," said coach Travis Eggleton. "The team continued onto victory by winning 11 of the 12 singles matches."

Players of the week were senior Britton White and sophomore Lacie Long for playing tough competition and turning their matches around.

Pampa remains unbeaten in District 3-4A with a 5-0 record. The Harvesters have an open date this weekend. Their next match is Tuesday at Amarillo Caprock.

"We hope to have lots of fans to show their support," added coach Eggleton.

Pampa 17, Dumas 2

Boys Singles
Britton White (P) def. Justin Bonner, 7-5, 7-5.

Zach Hucks (P) def. Chase Casados, 6-1, 6-1.

Adam Etchison (P) def. Adam Gossley, 6-2, 6-4.

Austin Morton (P) def. Heath Cochran, 6-4, 6-3.

Mitchell Crow (P) def. Josh Hillmark, 6-0, 6-0.

Nick Robbins (P) def. Keegan Bain, 7-5, 6-4.

Steven Smith (P) def. Jake Green, 8-4.

Tennis

Girls Singles

Christa Cochran (D) def. Tara Jordan, 7-6 (7-5), 4-6, 6-3.

Lacie Long (P) def. Whitney Perez, 6-2, 7-6 (7-5).

Myca Vinson (P) def. Acel Rivera, 6-1, 6-1.

Erin Norris (P) def. Addyson Woodrum, 6-2, 6-2.

Ashlee Lucus (P) def. Maria Bernal, 6-2, 6-1.

Payton Baird (P) def. April Coon, 6-2, 6-1.

Lauren Denney (P) def. Jacklyn Allen, 8-2.

Boys Doubles

White-Hucks (P) def. Bonner-Cochran, 6-2, 6-2.

Etchison-Crow (P) def. Cassados-Gossley, 6-3, 6-2.

Robbins-Smith (P) def. Hallmark-Bain, 6-4, 6-2.

Girls Doubles

Cochran-Perez (D) def. Jordan-Lucus, 3-6, 3-6.

Long-Vinson (P) def. Rivera-Woodrum, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.

Baird-Denney (P) def. Bernal-Allen, 6-2, 6-1.

Mixed

Norris-Morton (P) def. Green-Coon, 6-1, 6-4.

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.

9-25

CRYPTOQUOTE

O V F C E E M D X D Q T D Q J O U

J R V D E B U Y V U Y Y T V Y

E Y N C V U Y F C U D C M R

J C M — A Y Y P D Q U

N C V F O M S U Y M

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MEN DO LESS THAN THEY OUGHT, UNLESS THEY DO ALL THAT THEY CAN. — THOMAS CARLYLE

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Local gymnasts post high scores at district meet

PAMPA — Gymnastics of Pampa team members recently hosted a District 1 Invitational gymnastics meet for Levels 4-6.

Athletes from Pampa, Amarillo, Lubbock, Abilene and Midland participated in the competition.

Team Pampa dominated the competition in all three levels with four All-Around winners, the highest Level 4 finisher, and the highest Level 5 team score.

All-Around winners in the highest level, Level 6, from Pampa were Madison Fatheree and Rebecca Taylor. Both girls swept the competition in their age groups by winning five gold medals each.

Madison won the 7-9 year-old age group with a 36.0 All-Around score. Her other gold medals came on vault 9.25, bars 8.15, beam 9.45 and floor 9.15.

Rebecca took the 12-year-old divi-

sion by winning beam 9.1, floor 8.85, vault 8.6 and bars 8.05. Her winning All-Around score was a 34.6.

The Level 5 team was led by MaKayla Hampton and Payton Alvey, who won their respective age groups.

MaKayla won the 9 year old division with a 35.8 score. She also won gold medals on beam 9.45, floor 9.35 and bars 8.65. Her 8.35 on vault earned a silver medal.

Payton was the 10 year old All-Around winner with a 33.95 score. Her gold medals came on vault 8.8 and bars 8.5. She won a silver on floor 8.65 and a bronze on beam 8.0.

Chelsea Whinery also competed in the 10 year old Level 5's where she won a silver medal on beam 8.3, tied for third on bars 7.35, was fourth on vault 8.45 and finished fifth on floor 8.3. Her 32.4 in the All-Around was good for fourth place.

Pampa's other Level 5, McKinlee

Stokes, finished fifth in the 9 year old division with a 31.3 score. She earned fourth place on all four events with an 8.3 on floor, an 8.0 on bars, a 7.8 on vault and a 7.2 on beam.

Leading Pampa's Level 4 Team was KeEra Busse, who had the highest All-Around score of any Level 4 athlete in the meet. KeEra received blue ribbons on all four events and in the All-Around. Her scores were 9.35 on vault, 8.6 on floor, 8.55 on beam, 8.3 on bars, and 34.8 in the All-Around.

Other Level 4 athletes from Pampa were Robin Doan and Karami Rice.

Robin received three blue ribbons on vault 8.8, beam 8.4, and floor 8.15. She earned a white on bars and had a 31.95 in the All-Around for a red ribbon.

Karami earned red ribbons on floor 7.6, vault 7.2 and bars 7.05. She received a yellow for beam and a white in the All-Around.

Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Oct. 3, 2003:

Your home life is paramount to your well-being. You might spend many more hours devoted to your family. Ultimately, this investment makes you and your family happy. You seem to gain greater control in your life. You will be ending an 11-year cycle at your next birthday. You will be preparing yourself for something better. No matter what goes down, you are protected. If you are single, you will enter a year with prospects, but settling on the right one might take some talent. Check out each person carefully. If you are attached, your relationship will grow because of a child or an especially romantic period. Travel and break new ground. CAPRICORN pushes your buttons.

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)

***** Recognize what heads down your path. Understand what you must deal with in order to get passage out of the office today. Then clearing your desk will be a piece of cake. Tonight, You don't want to disappoint your friends, do you?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Reach out for those at a distance, and your expectations will be more than met. If you feel the need to take off, do so. Others forgive your early exit out of the office. You will find that in a new environment, you'll recharge your close-to-dead batteries. Tonight: Do something totally different.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** Refer decisions to a key associate. You will not like carrying the bulk

of the weight right now. Others will demonstrate their capabilities if you just lie back a little. Follow an intellectual hunch, and you'll hit bingo. Tonight: Say "yes" to a loving associate.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Sometimes you might want to challenge someone close. Use your sixth sense in your dealings with others. You might find answers where you least expect them. Look at a partner as a resource. Follow your intuition. Tonight: Out on the town.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Pace yourself and look at what lies ahead, both this weekend and at work on the immediate front. Be imaginative with your ideas and share them with many. Take your time returning calls, as you might find some of them invigorating. Tonight: Easy does it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Your playful side emerges and takes you in a new direction, be it at work or at play. Be open to differences, and work with a new friend or loved one. A relationship could be budding in the office. Be very sure that this is what you want. Tonight: Go for introspection.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** You might want to try another approach with a close family member. How you see a situation could change radically because of information that pops up out of the blue. A relationship becomes even more romantic than you anticipated. Go with the flow and the moment. Tonight: Happy at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Reach out for those around you. Your feedback could make a big difference to a friend or an associate. Use your intuition well. Investigate new possibilities that revolve around a relationship or something you want to keep to yourself.

Tonight: Get together with friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec 21)

***** Increased financial gain will allow you to indulge a loved one more often. Share your imagination, and brainstorming will begin. Investigate new possibilities within the framework of a meeting. Invite others to celebrate the end of the workweek. Tonight: Treat a loved one to munchies and a drink.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Friends deliver suggestion after suggestion, many of which seem excellent. Sorting through which ones are viable might be challenging yet inspiring to a boss or associates. Even if you are excited about plans, try not to take them home. Tonight: Start the weekend in style.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Slow down. Take your time. You don't need to be a freight train all the time. You might be delighted and surprised by how others chip in out of the blue. You would like life to follow this pace more often. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep while you still can.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** Your friendships extend to many people, be it work or four personal life. How you mix the two could make all the difference in the outcome. You might opt to decide not to mix church and state. Use your instincts with a key personal relationship. Tonight: Where the gang is.

BORN TODAY

Musician Tommy Lee (1962), musician Chubby Checker (1941), writer Gore Vidal (1925)

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

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Notice

Radio Assist Ministry, Inc. has applied before the FCC on 08/26/03 for a new construction permit to rebroadcast KXLV, AMARILLO, TX channel 296 from NEAR CORNER OF HOBART & McCULLOUGH STREETS PAMPA, TX on channel 296 with 75 watts, serving PAMPA, TX.

1 Public Notice

NOTICE OF FEDERAL OPERATING PERMIT DRAFT PERM NO.: 0-0251

APPLICATION DRAFT PERMIT Energy Field S.L.P., 370 17th Suite 900, Denver, Colorado 80202, a Crude Oil & Natural Gas Production Facility has applied for a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Initial Permit (hereinafter referred to as Permit) Application No. 4235 to operate the facility. The facility is located approximately 1 mile south of the City of Ranch Road, Bowers City, Gray County, Texas. This application was received by TCEQ on February 20, 2002.

The purpose of a permit is to ensure that the proposed activity will not result in a net increase in air pollution control requirements, as defined in Title 30, Administrative Code, Chapter 122, Section 122.10. The permit is not a construction or other activity that would result in a net increase in air pollution control requirements. The TCEQ Director has completed the technical review of the application and made a preliminary decision to prepare a permit for public comment and review. The permit will be issued if approved by the TCEQ Director. The permit will be issued on or before the date of the public hearing. The permit will be issued on or before the date of the public hearing. The permit will be issued on or before the date of the public hearing.



TexSC Septem

BUSINESS ALL CASH CAN \$800.00 in a day? 30 guaranteed location Starlite USA, Inc.

AMERICA'S HOT Dollar Stores. 1-800-8 Turnkey from \$45,900

CAPPUCCINO IT, expanding. Distribute potential. Anyone call 1-800-813-6622

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DRIVER - COV Teams and Solos call Owner/Operators, 1-800-

DRIVERS - DRIVEN need you today. Tuition cents/mile. Guarantee USA Truck 1-800-23-

DRIVER - DO IT N. miles. Limited run CDJA, 1-888-829-9

DRIVERS - LOW C Lodging and transport reimbursement. Ask \$500 sign-on bonus. Freight, Swift Transp

DRIVERS - OTR, refrigerated carrier Canada. Students \$1500 sign on. 1-800-

DRIVERS - START need home time. P available. Owner/Truck 1-800-237-46

NOTICE: While on the Texas Attorney Co

Exten

Public Notice

Texas, and the Lovett Memorial Library, 111 North Houston Street, Pampa, Texas. At the central and regional office, you may also review and copy all relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ Central Office file room at (512)239-1540.

Public Notice

need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at www.tnrc.state.tx.us.

Public Notice

AVISO PARA UN PERMISO FEDERAL PARA OPERAR PRELIMINAR PERMISO PRELIMINAR NUMERO: 0-02513 SOLICITUD Y PERMISO PRELIMINAR. Duke Energy Field Services, L.P., 370 17th Street, Suite 900, Denver, CO 80202, una planta de Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas ha solicitado de la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) por sus siglas en inglés) la Licencia de Operación del Permiso Federal de Operar (aquí dentro aludido como Permiso) Solicitudo Numero 4235 para la operación de Rock Pam Booster ubicada en 1 Mile south Bowers City on Ranch Road 749, Condado de Gray, Texas. Esta solicitud fue entregada a la TNRCC el February 11 de 2002.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF DRAFT FEDERAL OPERATING PERMIT DRAFT PERMIT NO.: 0-02513 APPLICATION AND DRAFT PERMIT. Duke Energy Field Services, L.P., 370 17th Street, Suite 900, Denver, Colorado 80202, a Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas facility has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Initial Issuance of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) Application No. 4235 to authorize operation of the Rock Pam Booster. The site addressed by the application is located approximately 1 mile south of Bowers City on Ranch Road 749, Bowers City, Gray County, Texas. This application was received by the TCEQ on February 11, 2002.

Public Notice

purpose of the federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code, § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The permit will not authorize new construction or authorize the areas to increase emissions. The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the areas must operate. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis and draft permit is available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas, the TCEQ Amarillo Regional Office, 3918 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, INFORMATION. If you

Public Notice

preliminar. INFORMACION. Para mas informacion, usted puede llamar a la Oficina de Asistencia Publica (Office of Public Assistance), sin cargo, a el 1-800-687-4040. Informacion general concierne a la TNRCC puede encontrarse via internet en www.tnrc.state.tx.us. Mas informacion puede ser obtenida de Duke Energy Field Services, L.P. en la direccion en el primer parrafo o llamando a Dirk Wold a el telefono 720-944-9220. D-31 Sept. 25, 2003

Public Notice

COMENTARIOS / NOTIFICACION PUBLICA Y AUDIENCIA. Usted puede presentar comentarios publicos y/o solicitar una audiencia de notificacion y comentarios sobre esta solicitud. El proposito de la audiencia de notificacion y comentarios es el proveer la oportunidad de hacer comentarios de parte del publico y hacer preguntas sobre esta solicitud. Cualquier persona afectada por la emision de contaminantes atmosfericos de este sitio puede solicitar una audiencia de notificacion y comentarios. La TNRCC puede otorgar una audiencia de notificacion y comentarios con respecto a esta aplicacion si una presenatacion por escrito es presentada dentro de los treinta dias despues de la publicacion de este anuncio. El proposito de la audiencia de notificacion y comentarios es proveer la oportunidad para someter comentarios orales o por escrito acerca del permiso preliminar. Si se concede una audiencia de notificacion y comentarios, todas las personas que presentaron comentarios por escrito o peticiones para audiencia recibirán confirmación por escrito de la audiencia. Esta confirmación indicará la fecha, hora y lugar de la audiencia.

Public Notice

Una noticia de la accion final, incluyendo respuestas a los comentarios publicos y denotando cambios hechos al permiso preliminar, sera remitida a todas las personas que hayan presentado comentarios publicos, solicitudes para audiencia o que hayan solicitado ser incluidas en la lista de correo. Esta noticia proveerá instrucciones para hacer peticiones publicas a la Agencia Para la Proteccion del Medio Ambiente (EPA) solicitando la reconsideracion de la accion final propuesta por el director ejecutivo. Al recibir una peticion, la agencia EPA solamente podrá objetarse a la promulgacion de permisos que no se acaten a los requisitos de sus reglamentos o a los requisitos de 30 TAC Capitula 122. Comentarios publicos por escrito y peticiones para audiencia de notificacion y comentarios deben ser presentados a la Oficina del Secretario Principal (Office of Chief Clerk), MC105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 dentro de treinta dias despues de la publicacion en el periodico del anuncio del permiso

Personal

BEAUTICONTROL. Cosmetics sales, service, makeovers. Lynn Allison 1304 Christine, 669-3848

Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

Lost/Found

LOST around Perry Street Black & Gray Male Peekingness with short hair. 664-6926, 665-7830

Financial

FOUND 12 mi. South East of White Deer male Australian Malamute 662-0002, 665-2959 aft 5:30 p.m., 669-6000 8:30-5:30

Bus. Opp.

FOR Sale a + 50 yr. service based business in Shamrock, Tx. Shop, inventory, fixtures, incl. 2 lrg. fenced in stor. bldgs., lrg. existing customer base. For more info, 806-256-3291 or 256-2336

Appl. Repair

CALL William's Appliance Service, 665-8894.

Carpentry

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

DOOR REPAIR

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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

Gen. Serv.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

Gen. Serv.

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.

Gen. Serv.

Ceramic Tile Works Handicap Conversions Shower Installation Floor Tile & Regrouting Keith 665-0328 or lv. msg

Help Wanted

Truck Driver Semi-tractor trailer driver with at least five (5) years experience and current CDL. Home night and weekends. Please send application or inquiry to Box 74 c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa.

Furn. Apts.

Welder/Fabricators Welding / Drug test req. Pampa, Tx. 806-665-7111.

Painting

INT/EXT. painting, mud tape, 35 yr. exp. References. Call Gene Calder 665-4840.

Plowing/Yard

LAWNS Wintenzed Hedge Trimming Lawn Mowing & Edging Rototilling. Call 665-3039 or local cell # 440-1304

Plumbing/Heat

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

Help Wanted

FAST Food Manager wanted. Competitive pay & benefits. Manager experience a plus. Fax resume to 806-352-0430 or call 806-352-5468.

Help Wanted

FULL-TIME LVN for 3-11 shift and Part-Time LVN needed for 11-7 shift. Apply in person at St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle 537-3194.

Help Wanted

SUBWAY Sandwiches is now taking applications for day, night and management help. Apply in person. 2141 N. Hobart.

Help Wanted

FULL time employment, must be 18 yrs., ins., vacation, sick leave & retirement plan offered. Bartlett's Lumber & Hdwe., 500 W. Brown.

Help Wanted

EFFI apt. \$300 mo., bills pd. Rooms \$24.50 day, \$100 wk. & up, air, tv, cable, phone. 669-3221.

Help Wanted

LARGE 1 bedroom apartment. \$350, bills paid. Large efficiency \$250 bills paid. 665-4842.

Help Wanted

CLEAN 1 bedroom, stove, refrig., all bills paid. 669-3672, 665-5900

Help Wanted

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 brd. Gas / water pd. 3.6 mo.-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

Help Wanted

LAKEVIEW Apts. 1-2-3 bedrooms \$99-first month rent 669-7682

Help Wanted

NICE 2 bedr., 1 bath apartment. appliances furnished. Call 669-2553 or 662-9970

Help Wanted

NEW Management! Low rent 1 bdrms., duplexes, & homes -Remodeled. Nice, clean. call 665-4274

Help Wanted

3 bdr., c/h/a, woodburner, near Travis school, \$575. Call 665-4842.

Help Wanted

HOUSE for rent in Travis School Area 2-1-1. \$425 per month. \$250 deposit. Call 665-2866

Help Wanted

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Help Wanted

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103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-5660, 663-1442 669-0007

Help Wanted

1910 Grape. 3 bedroom, 2 remodeled baths, 2 car garage, newly painted, steel siding, quiet neighborhood, 10x20 shop. Call 665-0491.

Help Wanted

2211 Dogwood 3 bdr., 2 bath, living/den, dining, office, garage, shop, fireplace, cen h/a, big yard dishwasher \$60,000. Call 669-9590. Must See!

Help Wanted

3 bdr. Reduced price! Good cond., central h/a, gar., storage, C-21 Realtor. 665-5436, 665-4180.

Help Wanted

3 bdr., 1 1/2 ba., c/h/a, free standing woodburner, near Travis. Bank financing available. 665-4842.

Help Wanted

3 bdr., nice carpet, fence, corner lot. Owner will carry. 129 S. Faulkner. 665-4842.

Help Wanted

3-1 w/att. gar. Nice area near Travis School. Hardwood floors, 669-3749 or 665-1516 after 5pm

Help Wanted

FOR Sale: 2001 Ford F150 Extended cab, 5 speed, 669-3023 after 6 or 7:30 message

Help Wanted

103 Homes For Sale Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-5660, 663-1442 669-0007

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TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK TexSCAN

TexSCAN Week of September 21, 2003

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CAPPUCCINO ITALIAN COFFEE company expanding. Distributors wanted. High profit potential. Anyone can do this. Expresso Italia, call 1-800-813-6625. Investment required.

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NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop

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EVENTS

'32 FORD: GOODGUYS Lonestar Nationals. Texas Motor Speedway, Oct. 3&4&5. Over 2,000 rods, customs & classics, exhibits, swap meet, model car show & more. Info: 1-817-215-8500 or www.good-guys.com

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SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

OPEC cuts oil output ceiling by 3.5 percent

By BRUCE STANLEY
AP BUSINESS WRITER

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Crude oil futures surged more than \$1 a barrel after OPEC lowered its oil output ceiling by 3.5 percent, fearing a coming decrease in demand.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries defied expectations on Wednesday and lowered its output ceiling by 900,000 barrels a day to 24.5 million barrels starting in November.

The cut startled the market, where oil futures jumped more than \$1 a barrel.

OPEC defended its decision as an effort to keep prices from plunging when demand slackens early next year. Some analysts also said the cut would have little impact on the prices consumers pay for heating oil and gasoline.

OPEC reached the agreement at its Vienna headquarters in a meeting that included Iraq for the first time since the toppling of Saddam Hussein and despite earlier objections from Venezuela. Iraq is a founding member of OPEC, which pumps about a third of the world's crude.

Claude Mandil, head of the Paris-based International Energy Agency, a watchdog for major oil importing nations, expressed disappointment at the decision, which came ahead of the busy winter heating oil season in the northern hemisphere.

"Given the continued weakness in the world economy, OPEC's strategy to maintain prices at persistently high levels can't contribute to a sustained recovery and return to global economic growth," Mandil said in a statement.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan, with President Bush in New York, would not comment directly on OPEC's decision but said the economy depends on stable oil supplies and prices.

"OPEC was taking pre-emptive action to try to keep prices stable before an expected dip in seasonal demand in the first quarter of 2004, the group's spokesman Omar Ibrahim said

at a news conference.

At current output levels, OPEC predicts that the daily supply of crude will outstrip demand by 2.5 million barrels by next April. Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh called the cut a possible "first step" and did not rule out another reduction later in the year.

"It is better that we start before we witness a very bad situation in the market," he told reporters before the group's oil ministers met in private to approve the cut.

OPEC also wants independent, non-OPEC producers, like Russia and Norway, to take "concrete measures" to restrain their own output, Ibrahim said, although the cartel is not making its cut conditional on a their cooperation as it did in December 2001.

A 14 percent slide in crude prices this month and expectations of a build up in oil inventories compounded OPEC's fears of a further softening of the market.

Iraq's gradual return to the market was another factor. Zanganeh noted that a cut of 900,000 barrels would return OPEC's output target to what it was until April, when the war in Iraq removed that country temporarily from the market.

In a symbol of the growing acceptance of Iraq's U.S.-backed leadership, the newly installed Iraqi oil minister, Ibrahim Bahr al-Uloum, took his place between counterparts from Kuwait and Iran at the U-shaped table in the OPEC Secretariat.

Iraq did not seek a production quota of its own. It only produces about 1.8 million barrels of oil a day — 700,000 barrels less than before the U.S.-led war started on March 20. It exports some 900,000 barrels a day, al-Uloum said in a separate news conference.

"When Iraq returns to normal production, we will discuss with Iraq how to accommodate them... Give them time, and then we will discuss this," OPEC President Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah said.

Memorial planned for Cash

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A public memorial service for Johnny Cash is set for Nov. 12 at the Ryman Auditorium, where the country music legend hosted a prime-time network television show more than 30 years ago.

Details about who will take part in the service are expected to be announced in the next several weeks.

Setting a date for the memorial was delayed because the entire Cash family wanted to participate. The singer's son, John Carter Cash, is on a European tour

until the beginning of November.

Cash, 71, died Sept. 12 of respiratory failure caused by complications from diabetes.

A private funeral took place Sept. 15 near his home in Hendersonville just north of Nashville.

The memorial will be open to the public. Tickets will be free.

Jump Rope for Heart empowering students

Many Pampa elementary school students are jumping at the chance to help fight heart disease and stroke, the nation's No. 1 and No. 3 killers. The students will be jumping rope now through Oct. 3.

Students will jump rope to raise funds for the American Heart Association's cardiovascular research and educational programs. Jump Rope for Heart is co-sponsored by American Heart Association and

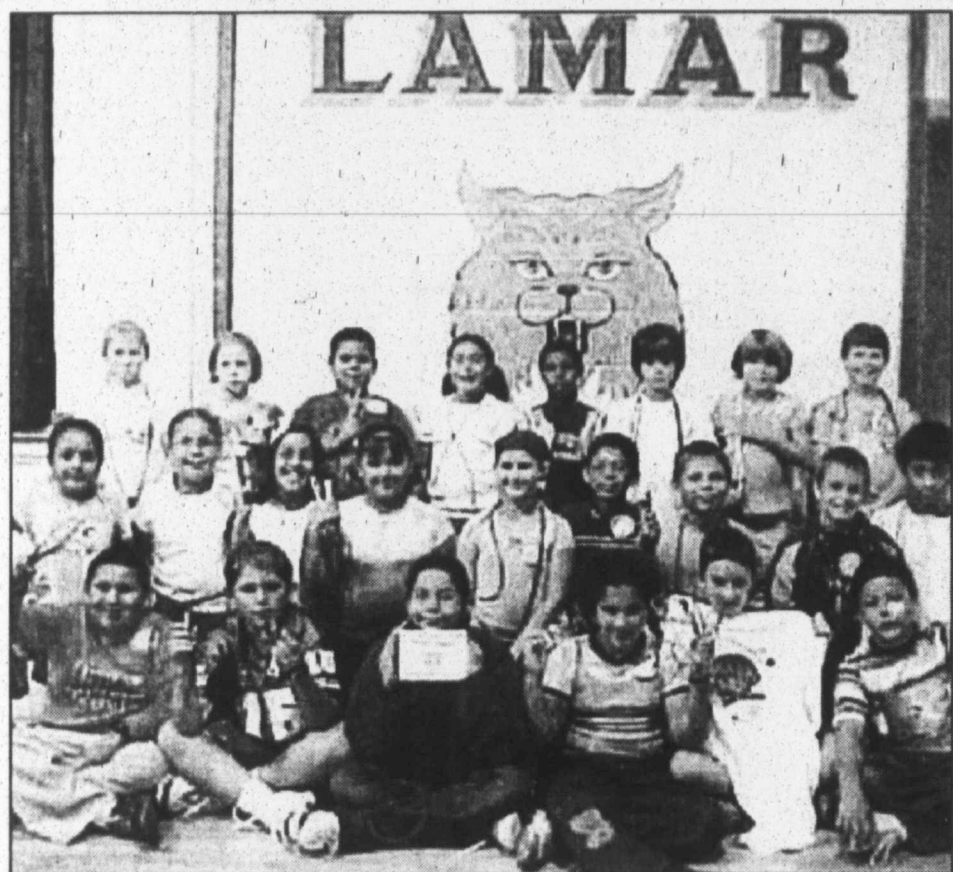
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Jump Rope for Heart teaches participants about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The event seeks to empower children as they provide vital community service and discover they can make a difference.

Participating students are now looking to the community for sponsors. All donations must be turned in by Friday, Oct. 3, to the students' PE teachers.

For more information, contact Kelly Porter at Austin Elementary School, Donna Turner at Travis Elementary, Josh Blackmon at Wilson Elementary or Rose Steel at Lamar Elementary.

Jump Rope for Heart is going on now through the first of October. Above: Eric Apodaca, Regina Applegate, Brandon Cox, Skylar Estes, Jose Grandos, Anna Holguin, Cheyanne Hoskins, Chanel Jimenez, Jolynn Jones, Aaron Lopez, Vianey Melendez, Jacqueline Mendez, Jade Pena, Michael Rossiter, Denzzail Smith, Elizabeth Willis-Fagg, Katie Davis, Marshall McGrath, Alex Mendoza, Victoria Saiz, Lindsey Saxour, Isaac Silva and Tiffany Megrum.



(Courtesy photo)

France: Death toll from heat wave exceeds 14,000

PARIS (AP) — The death toll in France from August's blistering heat wave was nearly 15,000, according to a government report released Thursday that exceeded prior official estimates by 3,000 victims.

A study by scientists at INSERM, the National Institute of Health and Medical Research, determined that 14,802 people had died in August. The prior government figure was 11,435, but that was based only on deaths in the first two weeks of the month.

The new estimate includes deaths from the second half of August, after the record-

breaking temperatures of the first half of the month had abated.

The bulk of the victims died during the height of the heat wave, which brought suffocating temperatures of up to 104 degrees in a country where air conditioning is rare.

Other victims apparently were weakened during the peak temperatures but died later.

The new estimate came a day after the French Parliament released a harshly worded report blaming the deaths on a complex health system, widespread failure among agencies and health services to coordinate efforts,

and chronically insufficient care for the elderly.

Researchers were to continue working to determine what the actual cause was for the spike in mortality, the Health Ministry said. They also were to recommend ways of improving France's warnings system to better manage heat-related crises in the future.

The heat wave swept across much of Europe, but the death toll was far higher in France than in any other country.

Health Minister Jean-Francois Mattei has ordered a

separate study this month to investigate a possible link with vacation schedules after doctors strongly denied allegations their absence put the elderly in danger.

The heat wave hit during the August vacation period, when doctors, hospital staff and many others take leave. The results of that study are expected in November.

The role of vacations is a touchy subject. The National General Practitioners Union says that only about 20 percent of general practitioners were away during the heat wave.

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