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WEATHER WEATHER

HIGH **LOW**
85 **62**

LOCAL
PFAA plans 37th arts, crafts festival
 Pampa Fine Arts Association will hold its annual Arts and Crafts Festival from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Oct. 11, and from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Oct. 12, in M.K. Brown Auditorium. All types of arts and crafts will be shown and refreshments served. Free admission.

API to meet Oct. 16
 The October regular meeting of Panhandle Chapter of American Petroleum Institute will get under way at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 16, at Pampa Country Club.

The guest speaker will be Randy Davis of Rodeo-Tuboscope. His topic will be Sucker Rod and Tubing Reclamation and Internal Plastic Coatings.

A barbecue buffet will be served at a cost of \$15 per person. API memberships will be available at the door. Door prizes are being donated by Black Gold Supply and King Well Service. Cash drawings will be held.

INSIDE...
Classified9
Comics6
Religion5
Sports7

Beautiful Paving Stones...
 You Can Install Yourself

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 (Formerly Diamond G Pest Control)
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Haz mat crew called back to Lefors

Sheriff's deputies find more possibly dangerous chemicals near residence

By MARILYN POWERS
 STAFF WRITER

For the second time in as many days, a hazardous materials crew was called to Lefors to remove a chemical considered dangerous to the public.

A four-block area between 6th and 8th Streets and west of the school was closed off from 3 p.m., when the mate-

rial was discovered and a hazardous materials crew from Amarillo was called, until the crew arrived and removed the chemical at about 9:35 p.m., said Lt. Heath Cates of Gray County Sheriff's Department.

The chemical was found inside containers at an older residence by law enforcement officers during the course of an investigation, Cates said.

"Nothing else was found" inside the residence, he said.

"We feel like it's safe now. There are no chemicals left at the site," said Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing.

The sheriff's department declined to comment on the nature of the investigation being conducted at the Lefors residence, the type of chemical found, or whether there was any connection

between yesterday's discovery and the incident which occurred on Wednesday, in which a chemical spill was discovered on Farm to Market Road 2375, one and one-half miles east of its intersection with Texas Highway 273 at Lefors.

The spill sent Gray County Deputy Bruce Burrell and four members of

(See LEFORS, Page 3)

8 indicted for money laundering

AUSTIN - Indictments were obtained yesterday by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's money laundering enforcement team against eight persons arrested for transporting large amounts of cash, allegedly linked to drug transactions, in Gray and Wheeler counties.

All eight were stopped for traffic violations along Interstate 40. In every stop, trained K-9 drug-sniffing dogs alerted arresting officers to the presence of drug residue on the money.

All are charged under the state's money laundering statutes. The eight defendants, along with the amounts and location of money found by arresting officers and the K-9 teams, are as follows:

Gray County

- Eduardo Fernandez, 49, with addresses in Nevada and Florida, was stopped on May 8. Found hidden in a large plastic bag under the rear seat of his rental car was \$220,941. He is charged with a first-degree felony because the amount seized exceeds \$100,000. The offense can carry a punishment of up to life in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

- Felix Rupert III, 39, of El Paso, had three outstanding warrants for his arrest when he was stopped on Feb. 19. Officers found a backpack containing \$49,960 in cash in his possession.

- Kenneth Vernon Reynolds, 32, of Lakemoor, Ill., was stopped July 11. Officers found almost \$49,000 in cash in a bag in the car's trunk.

Wheeler County

- Felicia Camille Kemper, 46, and Donald Owens, 32, both of Indianapolis, Ind., were arrested when \$110,464 was found in the spare tire compartment of their vehicle. A year earlier, they were stopped in Kansas under similar circumstances with more than \$61,000. The two are charged with first-degree felonies.

- Osbaldo Garcia, 23, of Hammond, Ind., accompanied by his pregnant wife, who was not arrested, reportedly had \$62,000 in his vehicle when he was stopped on Oct. 30, 2002. Garcia gave an officer consent to search his vehicle after he initially told the officer he had only \$9,000 in cash.

- Carlos Reyes and Homero Carmona, both 26, both of Juarez,

(See INDICTED, Page 3)

Can you hear me now?



(Pampa News photo by Dee Dee Laramore)

Pampa Fire Department's Assistant Chief Randy Dunham, left; and local firefighters Tim Gable, foreground, and Jim Sirmans, background, make sure a telephone system inside the "Smoke House" is working prior to a fire safety demonstration for the youth groups at First Christian Church Wednesday evening.



(Courtesy photo)

Lamar Elementary student, Sierra Williams, makes a mock 9-1-1 call to let firefighters know that the "house" was on fire. Pampa firefighters have been taking the "Smoke House" to local schools, day care centers, and youth programs this week to teach young people about fire safety. Each year, during National Fire Prevention Week, the Fire Chiefs and Fire Marshal Association's "Smoke House" is brought from Canyon, said Fire Marshal Gary Stevens.

Amarillo store defies order to stop selling Canadian drugs

AMARILLO (AP)

Operators of an Amarillo drug store that fills prescriptions with drugs imported from Canada vow to continue the practice despite a state demand for them to stop.

The Texas State Board of Pharmacy sent a cease-and-desist letter Sept. 26 to Canada Drug Services of West Texas,

the Amarillo Globe-News reported in Friday's editions. The board demanded that the store cease operations because it lacks a state pharmacy license.

The letter cited violations of the Texas Pharmacy Act and board rules barring companies from acting as drop-off sites for prescriptions, the newspaper reported. The letter also alleged

that the store was violating federal laws.

Store officials have not responded formally to the letter, as they have 30 days to do, said board general counsel Kerstin Arnold.

However, the head of the company that operates the store said it will not recognize the board's authority to order

it to close.

"We're not a pharmacy," said James Battaglioli, president of the Naples, Fla.-based Canada Drug Services. "We'll just ignore it, just like every other storefront in the state of Texas has done. That's why there's 25 of them still operating."

Battaglioli told the Globe-News that the state board has

failed so far to persuade the state Attorney General's office that the stores are acting like a pharmacy and should be closed.

Attorney General's spokesman Tom Kelley said Thursday that the office is still "looking into whether any of these types of operations might have harmed Texas consumers, or potentially could."

Another vote on Friday would push back the Texas primary election to

(See DEBATE, Page 3)

OCT 10 2003

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ON RECORD

POLICE

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.

Monday, Oct. 6

Theft and burglary of a habitation were reported in the 500 block of North Starkweather. A red and brown puppy was taken from outside the residence, and two dog toys and a three-way cable splitter were taken from inside the residence. Estimated loss was \$56.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

Criminal mischief was reported by Hoagie's Deli, 1201 N. Hobart. A door was damaged. Estimated damage was \$30.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

Abusive calls to 911 were reported by the City of Pampa. The incident occurred in the 500 block of North Ward.

Thursday, Oct. 9

A report of obstructing a roadway was made by Pampa Middle School, 2401 N. Charles.

Theft of services was reported by the City of Pampa. Water valued at less than \$50 was taken in the 400 block of North Christy.

Assault causing bodily injury was reported in the 800 block of Scott. A juvenile was arrested in connection with the assault. A severe laceration and other minor injuries were reported. The victim refused treatment.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 1000 block of Sierra. A battery charger was taken. Estimated loss was \$200.

Bonnie Gutierrez, 44, of 120 S. Faulkner, was arrested for motion to revoke probation and driving while intoxicated.

Friday, Oct. 10

Debra Hill, 40, of 1400 W. Somerville, was arrested for driving while intoxicated/second offense, no driver's license and no insurance.

Carl Wayne Dunn, 48, of 1108 Prairie Dr., was arrested for assault causing bodily injury on a family member.

AMBULANCE

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

Thursday, Oct. 9

7:57 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to 23rd and Duncan streets and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:25 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Alcock and Price Road on a motor vehicle collision. No transport.

12:49 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South Faulkner and transported a patient to PRMC.

Friday, Oct. 10

12:35 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of North Nelson and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of East Browning and transported a patient to PRMC.

ACCIDENTS

Pampa Police Department today reported the following motor vehicle accidents.

Monday, Oct. 6

A 1997 Pontiac Bonneville driven by Regina Michelle Hopson, 25, of 1518 Williston, was involved in a hit and run accident at an unknown time in a private parking lot at 1201 N. Hobart. The other vehicle reportedly fled the scene.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

8:30 p.m. — A 2001 Pontiac Firebird owned by Janice Hawkins of 2118 N. Faulkner was involved in a hit and run accident while properly parked in a private parking lot at 2225 N. Hobart. The other vehicle reportedly fled the scene.

SHERIFF

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

Thursday, Oct. 9

Jeffery Dewayne Hunt, 41, of 605 Deane Drive, was arrested by Carson County law enforcement officers and transferred to Gray County Jail on two bond surrenders for assault causing bodily injury; bond surrenders for one count each of evading arrest and criminal mischief; warrants for operating an unregistered motor vehicle, public intoxication, two counts of failure to display driver's license and two counts of failure to appear; and a capias pro fine for theft under \$50.

STOCKS

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa:

Wheat	2.92	NOI	19.10	+0.11
Milo	3.69	KMI	55.16	-0.09
Corn	4.17	XCEL	15.37	+0.06
Soybeans	6.28	Kerr McGee	45.14	+0.13
		Limited	17.01	NC
		Williams	10.15	+0.15
		MCD	24.36	+0.15
		XOM	38.20	+0.25
		Atmos	24.67	+0.14
		Pioneer Nat	26.62	+0.31

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

OXY	36.25	+0.15	Tenneco	6.99	-0.04
BP	44.12	+0.40	CVX	73.95	+0.42
Celanese	32.80	+0.29	Wal-Mart	58.85	-0.11
Cabot Corp.	29.63	+0.17	OKE	20.86	+0.03
Cabot Oil Gas	27.30	+0.20	NS Grp	7.07	+0.07
Coca Cola	44.04	+0.11	New York Gold	370.05	
VLO	39.58	+0.11	Silver	4.83	
HAL	24.77	+0.01	West Texas Crude	31.01	
Triad	32.50	+0.37			

FIRE

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

Thursday, Oct. 9

9:33 a.m. — Three firefighters in one unit presented a fire prevention program at Travis Elementary School, 2300 Primrose.

11:26 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a motor vehicle collision at Price and Alcock streets.

1:11 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters presented a fire prevention program at First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson.

1:38 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a fire drill at Lamar Elementary School, 1234 S. Nelson.

3:47 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters assisted Lefors Fire Department and Gray County Sheriff's Department with hazardous materials.

3:57 p.m. — Three firefighters in two units provided public relations in the 100 block of North Cuyler.

5:23 p.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to a smoke alarm in the 2500 block of North Charles. A low battery caused the smoke detector to activate.

7:41 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters extinguished a rubbish fire at Horse Alley, east of Price Road.

OBITUARIES

LARRY C. LEDFORD

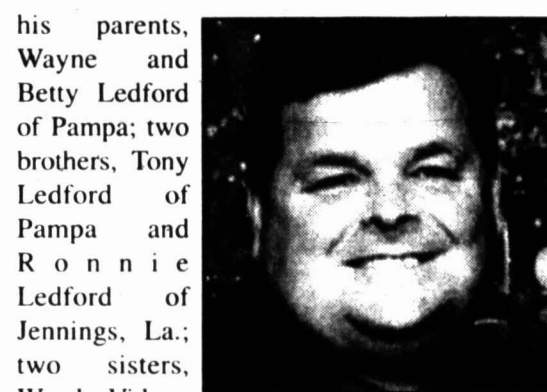
1957-2003

DEWEYVILLE — Larry C. Ledford, 46, his parents, died Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2003. Services are pending with Dorman Funeral Home in Orange, Texas.

Mr. Ledford was born Aug. 17, 1957, at Topeka, Kan. He had been a resident of Pampa from 1967 until 2000. He attended Pampa schools. He married Mashelle Shattuck on May 23, 1998. He was a longtime OTR truck driver.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during peace time, and was a member of United Pentecostal Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mashelle Ledford, of the home; a son, Spc. Sam Ledford, serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq; a daughter, Rachel Ledford of Bethany, Okla.;



two brothers, Tony Ledford of Pampa and Ronnie Ledford of Jennings, La.; two sisters, Wanda Videon and Eva Nolan, both of Pampa; and two grand-

children. The family requests memorials be to Faith Tabernacle in memory of Larry Ledford, 610 Naida, Pampa TX, 79065.

WEATHER FOCUS

PAMPA

The forecast today is calling for partly cloudy skies, highs in the mid 80s and south winds 5 to 10 mph. Night should fall on partly cloudy skies with lows in the lower 60s and south winds 5 to 15 mph. Saturday should see mostly cloudy skies along with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunder-

storms. Breezy. Highs in the mid 70s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph shifting to the north 15 to 25 mph in the afternoon. Gusts up to 35 mph. Saturday night, mostly cloudy in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Cooler. Lows in the mid 40s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. Sunday, mostly cloudy.

Trade deficit improves slightly to \$39.21 billion in August

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP ECONOMICS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. trade deficit declined to \$39.21 billion in August, the smallest gap in six months, reflecting a big drop in imports of cars and foreign oil.

America's trade deficit with China surged to an all-time high, a development certain to add to the pressure in Congress to punish China for what critics contend are the country's unfair trade practices.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that the August deficit was 2.1 percent lower than a revised July imbalance of \$40.03 billion. That caught analysts by surprise because they had been forecasting the deficit would widen in August.

The improvement reflected big declines in imports of cars, auto parts and oil which helped to offset a smaller drop in U.S. exports. That was the result of a big plunge in ship-

The improvement reflected big declines in imports of cars, auto parts and oil which helped to offset a smaller drop in U.S. exports. That was the result of a big plunge in shipments of civilian aircraft.

ments of civilian aircraft. The decline in August represented the fifth straight month that the country's trade deficit has improved after hitting a record monthly high of \$42.98 billion in March. However, even with the string of declining deficits, the overall imbalance through the first eight months of this year is running at an annual rate of \$433 billion, far above last year's record high of \$418.04 billion.

In a second report Friday, the Labor Department reported that inflation at the wholesale level rose by a higher than expected 0.3 percent in September. Outside of the

volatile energy and food sectors, the underlying inflation rate at the wholesale level was better behaved, showing no change in September.

The Bush administration is seeking to demonstrate that it has a plan to lift the fortunes of America's manufacturing companies, which have been forced to cut 2.7 million manufacturing jobs over the past three years in response to sluggish global demand and increased competition from imports.

President Bush sent Treasury Secretary John Snow to Beijing last month to lobby the Chinese government to cut its current rigid link between its currency, the yuan, and the U.S. dollar. American manufacturing companies contend that the yuan is undervalued by as much as 40 percent, giving Chinese products a huge price advantage. The Chinese rejected the request to allow the yuan to rise in value against the dollar, arguing that now was not the proper time for such a dramatic change. However, the administration has promised to keep pushing the idea and Bush is expected to raise the issue during meetings he will hold with Chinese leaders later this month in Bangkok, Thailand on the sidelines of the annual summit of leaders in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

One of the administration's arguments is that China needs to voluntarily allow its currency to rise in value in order to ward off protectionist pressures in Congress. Bills have

been introduced in both the House and Senate that would impose across-the-board penalty tariffs on Chinese products unless China stops what critics contend is a blatant manipulation of its currency to gain trade advantages in violation of global trade rules.

For August, America's trade deficit with China rose 3.2 percent to a monthly record of \$11.7 billion. For the year, the deficit with China is running 22

percent higher than last year's record imbalance of \$103 billion. Since 2000, the United States has recorded its biggest deficits with China, a spot that for decades was held by Japan.

The imbalance with Japan actually shrank by 18.2 percent in August to \$4.84 billion and is 2.7 percent lower through the first eight months of this year compared to the same period in 2002.

The \$824 million decline in the overall deficit reflected a 2.7 percent drop in U.S. exports, which have been weak for much of this year, reflecting economic weakness in many of America's major export markets.

The August decline in exports was driven by a \$609 million fall in shipments of

commercial aircraft, a category that can be extremely volatile from month to month. Demand for U.S. cars and auto parts was also down by \$697 million while shipments of U.S. farm products fell by \$298 million, led by declines in sales of soybeans and corn.

Imports, which had hit a monthly record in July, retreated 2.5 percent in August to \$122.9 billion.

The biggest decline was a drop of \$2.35 billion in shipments of foreign cars and auto parts. America's foreign oil bill also fell by 5.3 percent to \$10.96 billion, reflecting a lower volume of crude oil which offset a rise in price. The average price of crude oil by 85 cents to \$27.55 per barrel in August.

City Briefs

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

ARTS & Crafts Festival, MK Brown, Sat. Oct. 11, 9-5, Sun. Oct. 12, 11-5. Free adm.

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27TH ANNIVERSARY Sale, petite, missy, plus szs. VJ's Fashions & Gifts, 118 N. Cuyler, Pampa.

GOSPEL SINGING Sunday 2-4 p.m., Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock.

HICKORY HUT Open Saturdays 11-3 p.m. Come See Us!!

MCLEAN COUNTRY Club Oktober Fest Dance, Sat., Oct. 11th, "Polka Kings", from Lawton Ok. 8-12:00. Public Welcome., \$10 a person, BYOB.

PAMPA COUNTRY Club Buffet, Sun., Oct. 12, open to public. Entrees are Prime Rib & Bone In Ham.

GAR. SALE, Sat. Only, 8-5 p.m. 700 E. Francis.

REVIVAL WITH Rev. Lyle Sharp, Oct. 12-Oct. 15, Calvary, Assembly of God, 1030 Love, 7 pm nightly.

THE END Zone, 2401 W. Alcock, Special Olympic Poker Run, Sat. 11-4 p.m. Live Band "Da Boogie Men," 5-close. No Cover.

TOMATOES, VINE ripened at Pumpkin Patch, 717 N. Hobart. Sat. 11 a.m.

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COCA OR 6-12 0Z \$ SH Isra on C RAFAH, — Israeli demolish s fought gu Friday in t six month refugee can tlefield in Seven Pa killed and 5 and an Israe hurt. In the W vival of F Minister Ah posed Cabir after the leg a vote of intense po Thursday. Qureia told no longer v stopped sh resigning. Arafat prayers at a in his comp Bank town appeared t from what stomach fl pale but loo As requ prayers, A knelt on the again, with "He is r DEBA March 9, new congress be incorpora The primary March 2, or during the r enhance Tex dental politi Under th mostly min U.S. Rep. M Arlington ar bly be c Republicans seats were Houston and es from the Austin. Travis Co ways in the popular De bent Lloyd E ly Republica Webb C split in half lawmakers opposed. Gov. Riel map "achiev goal of givin that are fair tive, and it re ophy and vo Texas." After mon from Democ mise had be Republican the majority agree on a Texas congre Craddock adamant abo his home dis have a cong represent the oil and gas in — in a dist San Angelo bly anchor seat under the But, vete Charlie Stenh and newcom



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SATURDAY DOOR BUSTERS

Prices Good Friday, October 10th and Saturday, October 11th

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SHOP OUR LARGE SELECTION OF HALLOWEEN MERCHANDISE

Israeli forces battle gunmen in refugee camp on Gaza-Egypt border; 7 Palestinians killed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RAFAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli forces trying to demolish smuggling tunnels fought gunmen for hours Friday in the largest raid in six months in the Rafah refugee camp, a frequent battlefield in the Gaza Strip. Seven Palestinians were killed and 55 were wounded, and an Israeli soldier was also hurt.

In the West Bank, the survival of Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia's proposed Cabinet was in question after the legislature postponed a vote of approval amid intense political wrangling Thursday. An exasperated Qureia told Yasser Arafat he no longer wants the job, but stopped short of formally resigning.

Arafat attended Friday prayers at a makeshift mosque in his compound in the West Bank town of Ramallah and appeared to be recovering from what aides said was a stomach flu. Arafat was still pale but looked stronger.

As required in Muslim prayers, Arafat repeatedly knelt on the carpet and got up again, without assistance.

"He is not suffering any

serious illness," Arafat's personal physician, neurosurgeon Ashraf al-Kurdi, told The Associated Press in Amman, Jordan, on Friday. "Those allegations are only rumors."

Israel's raid of the Rafah refugee camp began around midnight Thursday and could last several days, military sources said. It was part of stepped-up military activity in response to last weekend's suicide bombing that killed 20 Israelis in a restaurant in the port city of Haifa.

Military officials said on condition of anonymity that Israel had intelligence warnings that Palestinians planned to use tunnels to smuggle in anti-aircraft missiles.

Earlier this week, Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz ordered two more battalions into the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and decided to call up four battalions of reserve soldiers, or about 1,000 troops, after the Sukkot holiday, which ends in a week.

Government spokesman Dore Gold said Israel was pursuing militant groups and their infrastructure because the Palestinian leadership was not

"In uncovering the vast network of arms smuggling tunnels in the area of Rafah, Israel is compelled again to do the work that the Palestinian Authority is supposed to do," Gold said.

Gunfights between soldiers and Palestinian gunmen continued Friday.

Seven Palestinians were killed and 55 people were wounded by Israeli fire, Palestinians said. Most of the casualties occurred when a helicopter fired a missile at crowd, they said. The military said the missile targeted a group of gunmen.

An Israeli soldier was slightly wounded.

Dr. Ali Mousa, director of Rafah's small Najjar Hospital, said two of the dead were identified as belonging to militant groups and at least two others were civilians.

Najjar Hospital did not have enough medicine and other supplies for the victims, and seriously wounded patients could not be transferred to other hospitals because of Israeli travel restrictions, Mousa said.

The Israeli army bulldozed three houses it said gunmen

were firing from near the border. Thunderous explosions were heard, and the military said Palestinians hurled hand grenades and fired anti-tank missiles at the forces.

The army positioned snipers on rooftops, witnesses said, and fired a tank shell at an electricity transformer, plunging the camp into darkness.

Armored vehicles and attack helicopters swept into the Rafah camp on Gaza's border with Egypt, joined by special forces, including engineering units with dogs trained to find tunnels.

INDICTED

Mexico, were stopped on June 26. After giving consent to search, an officer found \$27,940 hidden inside the passenger door and in a compartment between the driver's and passenger's seats. Following their arrests, both men gave written confessions that they were transporting the money for another person.

Vehicles and cash seized in the course of the arrests are forfeited by their owners. The possessors give up any rights to the vehicles and cash after they have pled guilty or are found guilty in a court of law. State and local jurisdictions share in the allocation of vehicles and cash according to a specified formula, said Tom Kelly of the attorney general's press office.

The exact formula for determining how the vehicles and cash are distributed, and the limits on how the proceeds can be spent, was not available as of press time Friday.

Neither representatives of the attorney general's office nor 31st District Attorney Rick Roach were available for comment on how the seized property is divided up and allocated.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

LEFORS

Lefors Volunteer Fire Department to Pampa Regional Medical Center's emergency room after they were overcome by fumes rising from the chemical on the roadway.

Burrell had gone to the scene in response to a call reporting a possible methamphetamine lab there. When he arrived, a vapor was rising from the roadway, and he called the fire department for

assistance. Seven firefighters responded. Burrell and the four who were overcome were transported by Lefors Volunteer Ambulance Service to Pampa, where they were admitted for observation and later treated and released.

The Texas Department of Transportation closed the farm to market road for a time Wednesday night until a hazardous materials crew could clean up and remove the substance, which was

taken for analysis, according to a DOT spokesperson from the Pampa office.

The substance on the road may have been dumped out of a vehicle, Cates said. No information on the nature of the substance had been received by the sheriff's department as of press time today, he said.

Identity of the four Lefors firefighters who were taken to the hospital Wednesday was still not available as of press time today.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DEBATE

March 9, to allow time for new congressional districts to be incorporated on the ballot. The primary was pushed up to March 2, or "Super Tuesday," during the regular session to enhance Texas' role in presidential politics.

Under the new map, the mostly minority district of U.S. Rep. Martin Frost, in the Arlington area, would probably be decimated. But Republicans say two minority seats were created, one in Houston and one that stretches from the Mexico border to Austin.

Travis County is split three ways in the new map, putting popular Democratic incumbent Lloyd Doggett in a mostly Republican district.

Webb County also was split in half, a move Valley lawmakers have vigorously opposed.

Gov. Rick Perry said the map "achieves our principal goal of giving voters districts that are fair and representative, and it reflects the philosophy and voting patterns of Texas."

After months of opposition from Democrats, a compromise had been thwarted by Republican infighting when the majority party couldn't agree on a shape of West Texas congressional districts.

Craddick has been adamant about ensuring that his home district in Midland — in a district paired with San Angelo — would probably anchor a congressional seat under the plan.

But, veteran U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm, D-Abilene, and newcomer Rep. Randy

Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, could be forced into a face-off and have to run against each other. Both represent agricultural areas, but Stenholm could choose to run in another district.

Lubbock Republican Sen. Robert Duncan, noticeably absent from Thursday's announcement, opposed pairing the two because farming interests of the region would lose representation. The two chambers had rallied their respective stances, taking shots at each other and refusing to budge until Wednesday.

"My primary goal was to preserve agriculture's representation in Congress for the future," Duncan said. "Despite the reservations many of us had about changing the Congressional lines in any way, I believe the Senate plan would have achieved our goal for agriculture and met the requirements of the Voting Rights Act."

Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston, argued the map was unfair.

"Rural and minority Texas has been trampled on and the rights of Texans of all walks of life, of all parties, have been taken away by this crime that has been committed here today," Coleman said.

Democrat Rep. Pete Gallego, D-Alpine, said the plan "clearly violates the Voting Rights Act."

But Perry, maintained that the plan reflects Texas' voting trends.

"For too long millions of Texans have lived in gerrymandered districts that were drawn to protect incumbents rather than the public interest," Perry said.

On the Net:
<http://www.tlc.state.tx.us>

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SEC to consider curbs on mutual fund trading

WASHINGTON (AP) — As they investigate a widening scandal in mutual funds, long considered a safe-haven investment, federal securities regulators also will consider new curbs on fund trading to prevent future abuses.

Evidence that has surfaced in the Securities and Exchange Commission's investigation has convinced officials they should consider new rules and restrictions on late trading and market timing of mutual fund shares, Chairman William Donaldson said in statement Thursday.

The move follows recent pledges by three investment

companies — including Janus Capital Group and Bank of America Corp. — to make restitution to mutual-fund investors who lost money because of alleged improper trading.

Donaldson said the SEC is "aggressively" investigating the recent allegations of abuse and "is committed to holding those responsible for violating the federal securities laws accountable and seeking restitution for mutual fund investors (who) have been harmed by these abuses."

The chairman said last month that the agency was investigating alleged abuses in

the mutual fund industry, after New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer charged that illegal trading arrangements between mutual funds and hedge funds could be widespread and costing investors billions of dollars.

By writing new rules for mutual fund trading, the SEC would go beyond punishing violators to changing the laws governing the system. Investor confidence was shaken by last year's wave of corporate scandals, but mutual funds traditionally have been viewed as a safe, conservative investment. Some '90 million people have money in U.S. stock mutual

funds, and investors plowed \$5.4 billion into stock-based funds during the week that ended Wednesday, according to market analysts.

By contrast, investors pulled \$4.4 billion out of Janus funds in September, most of it after questions were raised about the company's trading practices.

Donaldson said he and the four other SEC commissioners would consider new rules no later than next month.

Among the changes the SEC is considering is a requirement that mutual funds themselves, rather than third parties such as brokers, receive trading orders before the funds price their shares for the day. That would mean that most mutual funds would have to get the orders by around 4 p.m. in order for the investor to receive that day's price.

In the Bank of America case, for example, a trader at the bank had an agreement with hedge fund Canary Capital Management to trade funds at the 4 p.m. prices hours after the market closed. That allowed Canary to cash in on after-hours news ahead of other investors, who at that hour would be forced to chance buying at the next day's closing price.

Market timing, which aims to take advantage of short-term movements in stock prices with quick "in and out" trading of shares, violates the rules of

most mutual fund companies. It can have a detrimental effect on the long-term shareholders for whom mutual funds are designed.

New rules being weighed also include requiring mutual funds to clearly disclose their market-timing policies and procedures in sales material.

The Investment Company Institute, the mutual fund industry's lobbying group, expressed support for Donaldson's plan. However, the group said laws alone "cannot ensure that fund shareholders are protected."

Last month, Canary and its managers agreed to pay \$30 million in restitution for profits generated from improper trading, plus a \$10 million penalty to settle Spitzer's allegations. The hedge fund neither admitted to nor denied wrongdoing in the settlement.

Several dozen mutual fund companies, including giants Fidelity Investments and Franklin Resources, and a smaller number of hedge funds have been subpoenaed in Spitzer's investigation. As the investigations expand, a growing list of mutual fund companies have fired or suspended employees following internal investigations of trading activities. Merrill Lynch, Alliance Capital Management Holding and Prudential Securities have suspended or fired at least 17 employees.

Pol's wife takes heat

By JULIE HALENAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BALTIMORE (AP) — The wife of Gov. Robert Ehrlich apologized for saying she would shoot pop singer Britney Spears, but reiterated her message about the difficulty of raising girls in a society saturated with sexually provocative images.

Kendel Ehrlich uttered the statement Oct. 3 while speaking in Frederick at a conference on domestic violence.

Ehrlich, 42, talked about the need for "educating our women to get as much schooling as possible, to not become dependent on anyone else."

"It is incredibly important to get that message to young women. You know, really, if I had an opportunity to shoot Britney Spears, I think I would," Ehrlich said, laughing. "I hate to say that, but you know, like I said, I'm raising a boy ... and I think, 'Oh my goodness, what would I do if I had a daughter who is seeing these images and having peer pressure?'"

After the story broke this week, a spokeswoman for Ehrlich said she "inadvertently used a figure of speech." A day later, Ehrlich apologized to Spears.

"It was off-the-cuff and in jest, and that's stupid when you're in public life, and I should know better," she said Wednesday.

Ehrlich said that while she regrets her remarks, she stands by her message that sensational images in popular culture make it difficult to raise confident young women who will stand up against domestic violence.

Parenting is on Ehrlich's mind. While hosting a fashion show Thursday night in Baltimore to raise money for her husband's campaign, the couple announced they're expecting their second child. Ehrlich and the governor have a 4-year-old son, Drew.

Spears, 21, has gone from singing songs such as the relatively tame "... Baby, One More Time" and saying sex should be saved for marriage to recording "I'm a Slave 4 U," kissing Madonna during the MTV Video Music Awards and posing nearly nude for magazine covers.

Ehrlich said she'd like to apologize personally to Spears and suggested the singer give a concert in Maryland to raise money for domestic violence awareness.

"As of yet we have not heard from Britney Spears or her publicists," a spokeswoman for Ehrlich said Thursday.

Jive Records, the New York-based label that represents Spears, issued a statement earlier in the week saying Ehrlich "shot her own self in the foot." A spokeswoman for the company, asked Thursday for comment on Ehrlich's latest remarks, declined to comment.

On the Net:
Kendel Ehrlich:
<http://www.gov.state.md.us/Kendel/Kendelhome.asp>

Japan PM dissolves legislature, sets elections for next month

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's prime minister dissolved the lower house of Parliament on Friday and set a Nov. 9 date for national elections seen as a test for his painful economic reforms.

The national elections are the first since Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi rose to power in April 2001 on a wave of voter discontent. They offer a chance for him to solidify his ruling Liberal Democratic Party's dominance in the lower house — the more powerful of the legislature's two chambers.

"The time has come to test whether people support my policy of reform," Koizumi told reporters. "I believe we will win."

After the lower house was dissolved, lawmakers stood and yelled "Banzai!" — an expression of congratulation that means "long life."

The chamber's dissolution means all 480 seats, including Koizumi's, will be up for grabs.

Koizumi's LDP will face a rejuvenated opposition following the Democratic Party's merger with a smaller opposition party.

Analysts say it's unlikely that the opposition will dethrone the LDP for the first time in a decade. But they predict some voters will defect to the opposition.

"The Democratic Party has a lot of talented

young lawmakers. And urban voters don't like the LDP's brand of 'boss politics,' or the way the LDP fields the sons of powerful politicians as candidates," said Taro Yamama, a political analyst.

The LDP's ruling alliance — which includes the Buddhist-backed New Komeito and New Conservative parties — controls a majority in the chamber, with 285 seats. Ensuring that majority in the chamber would keep Koizumi in power for the remainder of his three-year term as LDP president.

The Democratic Party — the largest opposition bloc — has 137 seats.

Since rising to power 2 1/2 years ago, Koizumi has vowed to do away with pork-barrel politics and wasteful public works spending, and to deliver economic reforms.

Although he has capped government spending, pushed through laws to deregulate industry and begun steps to privatize government institutions like the post office, those policies have yet to restore prosperity.

Signs of a recovery have emerged. But joblessness remains near a record high, and economists say the yen's sharp appreciation against the dollar in recent weeks could put the brakes on Japan's export-driven economy. A weaker yen hurts Japanese exporters by diminishing the value of their overseas earnings.

Crop report reveals Brazil leading soybean exporter

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brazil is expected to surpass the United States in soybean trade this month, becoming the world's largest soybean exporter, the Agriculture Department said Friday.

Department economists project Brazil will export 26 million metric tons — up 2.83 million tons from last month and 2.42 million tons higher than U.S. exports. Brazil is forecast to produce a record-high 60 million tons.

The shift comes just a month after the department announced that U.S. farmers would produce the smallest soybean crop since 1996. It estimates domestic production at 2.64 billion bushels, or down 8 percent from August. The economists said drought in the northern Great Plains and parts of the South prompted them to lower their forecast.

Because of the smaller soybean crop, prices for U.S. soybeans are on the rise. The economists expect them to sell for as much as \$6.95 per bushel — up from last month's high of \$6.15.

With its higher prices and a smaller crop, the United States will have trouble competing

with Brazil for sales to China.

China has been a leading importer of soybeans as it tries to expand in the livestock market. The Agriculture Department estimates China will import 20.5 million tons of soybeans this month — up 500,000 tons from last month's projection.

The U.S. corn production is forecast to be 9.94 billion bushels. It will be the second largest corn crop on record. U.S. corn is expected to sell for as much as \$2.30 per bushel, down 20 cents from last month's high price.

U.S. exports are steady at 45.7 million tons. The department projects that Japan will be a leading importer this month with demand set for 16 million tons. South Korea is expected to import 9.5 million tons.

Smaller wheat imports worldwide were offset by an increase in demand, prompting the department to lower its estimates for U.S. stockpiles to 17.2 million tons from 17.5 million.

U.S. wheat production is forecast at 63.6 million tons, or 2.3 billion bushels. That's up from last month's projection of 62.3 million tons.

Veteran lawmaker gives self up

NEW YORK (AP) — A veteran state lawmaker and Democratic party leader is accused of accepting state money for expenses already covered by his political party and faces charges including grand larceny, a law enforcement source said.

Clarence Norman, an assemblyman from Brooklyn, confirmed his indictment Thursday and surrendered to authorities. "I shall return," he said before hugging supporters and walking into the district attorney's office. He was scheduled for arraignment Friday.

Norman, who has been an assemblyman since 1982, became the first black to be

elected chairman of the Brooklyn Democratic Party in 1990. He met with Brooklyn Democratic leaders Thursday and said he would keep his position.

Norman's indictment remained sealed. But according to a law enforcement source speaking on condition of anonymity, Norman, 52, is accused of accepting state funds for expenses already covered by his political party — grounds for grand larceny and other charges.

The source said prosecutors claim to have evidence that a \$5,000 check written to a campaign committee allegedly wound up in Norman's personal bank account.

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Iran peace

OSLO, N. Human rights judge in Iran jailed on charging government was praised Norwegian Committee peaceful, dehuman in the human rights

"This p belong to n belongs to a work for hu democracy it told The Ass an interview she was visiti

She said pletely surpr she had won was very hap she added.

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China for ma

BEIJING (Chinese gove fired Friday attempt its first launch next we mission would Wednesday and proper time."

The spac Shenzhou 5, Earth 14 times at a "pre-selec official Xinhua reported.

"China plans first manned sp proper time be and 17, said charge of t manned spac on Friday," Xi statement.

A successful make China the in-the-world-to being into spac Soviet Union p into space in 19 States sent Ala less than a mon

"Now all pre for the launch smoothly," Xini unnamed space cial as saying.

The govern announced the space traveler, a dispatches did n many astronau nauts," the crai tain.

The govern Shenzhou 5 wo elliptical orbit w inclination an degrees. It will circular orbit at 1213 miles.

All would-be

Iranian activist Ebadi peace prize recipient

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Human rights activist Shirin Ebadi won the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for her work fighting for democracy and the rights of women and children, the first Muslim woman and the first Iranian to receive the accolade.

Ebadi, 56, the first female judge in Iran who also was jailed on charges of slandering government officials, was praised by the Norwegian Nobel Committee for promoting peaceful, democratic solutions in the struggle for human rights.

"This prize doesn't belong to me only — it belongs to all people who work for human rights and democracy in Iran," Ebadi told The Associated Press in an interview in Paris, where she was visiting.

She said she was completely surprised when told she had won. "And then I was very happy and glad," she added.

At a later news conference, where she appeared without a head scarf, Ebadi said that in her view, "there is no difference between Islam and human rights."

"Therefore, the religious ones should also welcome this award," she said. "The prize means you can be a Muslim and at the same time have human rights."

She also said she hoped the award would send a message to the Iranian government, which has been accused of pursuing a nuclear weapons program. The International Atomic Energy Agency has given Iran until the end of the month to prove it has no plans to produce such weapons. Iran says its nuclear program is strictly

for generating electricity.

"I hope it will have an effect in Iran. As a person who has actively been involved in human rights, I am against war and conflict, and countries and nations do not need war," she said.

The news made headlines around the world but was not reported immediately by Iran's state-run media. Government spokesman Abdollah Ramezanzadeh said there was no immediate official comment on Ebadi's prize.

The Nobel committee said Ebadi is well-known and admired by Iranians for her defense in court of victims of attacks by hard-liners on freedom of speech and political freedom.

"As a lawyer, judge, lecturer, writer and activist, she has spoken out clearly and strongly in her country, Iran, far beyond its borders," the awards committee said in its citation.

It said she has stood up as a "sound professional, a courageous person, and has never heeded the threat to her own safety."

"I am extremely happy. This is a great day for reformers in Iran. It's great for her and great for the country," her husband, Javad Tavassolian, said from Tehran, where she was expected to return from Paris next week.

Ebadi, who is often sharply criticized by hard-liners and conservative clerics, was arrested in 2000, spent about three weeks in jail after a closed trial, and given a suspended sentence. Ebadi "was banned" from working as lawyer for five years. It was unclear whether the ban was still in effect.

Red Cross concerned about Cuba detainees

GENEVA (AP) — The International Red Cross said Friday many detainees held by the U.S. military in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, were suffering "a worrying deterioration" in mental health because Washington had ignored appeals to give them legal rights.

"They have no idea about their fate and they have no means of recourse at their disposal through any legal mechanism," said Florian Westphal, spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Westphal said the ICRC said it had yet to see "any significant movement" from U.S. officials to its long-standing request that the United States give the detainees due legal process in accordance with humanitarian law.

"We have observed what we consider to be a worrying deterioration in the psychological health of a large number of the internees" because of the uncertainty of their situation, Westphal told The Associated Press.

Some of the detainees have been at Guantanamo for more than 18 months.

The ICRC has been appealing in private to the Bush administration for due process since soon after the detention center was opened in early 2002, he noted.

The neutral, Swiss-run ICRC took the unusual step of going public with the request in May when its president, Jakob Kellenberger, met with top officials of the Bush administration during a visit to Washington.

In a statement posted on their Web site in August the ICRC noted its concern "about the impact the seemingly open-ended detention is having on the internees."

"As the internees spend more time in Guantanamo and continue to have no idea what is going to happen to them, we are concerned that the impact on them will get more serious," Westphal said.

Already, he added, "what we are seeing during our repeated visits is that this uncertainty has definitely had an impact on the internees."

During the current visit, Red Cross representatives have carried out private interviews with many of the detainees, he said.

They also have been giving the detainees Red Cross messages from their families and have collected their return messages. For many, the letters are their main way of staying in touch with their relatives. At last count there had been more than 5,800 such messages, the ICRC said.

The ICRC says the detainees at Guantanamo come from more than 40 countries and speak around 17 languages.

The agency noted that the U.S. has refused to grant the detainees prisoner of war status but promised to treat them humanely.



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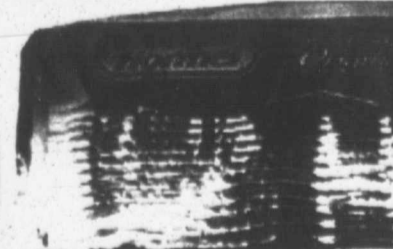
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China confirms launch date for manned space mission

BEIJING (AP) — The Chinese government confirmed Friday that it would attempt its first manned space launch next week, saying the mission would begin between Wednesday and Friday "at a proper time."

The spacecraft, the Shenzhou-5, will orbit the Earth 14 times before landing at a "pre-selected area," the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

"China plans to launch its first manned spaceflight at a proper time between Oct. 15 and 17, said an official in charge of the country's manned spaceflight program on Friday," Xinhua said in a statement.

A successful launch would make China the third country in the world to put a human being into space. The former Soviet Union put Yuri Gagarin into space in 1961; the United States sent Alan Shepard up less than a month later.

"Now all preparatory work for the launch is progressing smoothly," Xinhua quoted an unnamed space-program official as saying.

The government has not announced the identity of the space traveler, and the Xinhua dispatches did not specify how many astronauts, or "taikonauts," the craft would contain.

The government said the Shenzhou 5 would fly on an elliptical orbit with the orbital inclination angle of 42.4 degrees. It will then shift to a circular orbit at an altitude of 213 miles.

All would-be taikonauts —

an English nickname based on the Chinese word for "space" — have passed "a comprehensive drill," Xinhua said.

The launch is scheduled to take place shortly after a major Communist Party meeting, suggesting an attempt to link the party's leadership with one of the most patriotism-drenched events in recent Chinese history.

The first Chinese in orbit is certain to become a hero at home; China's space program has long been a closely guarded secret but also a vehicle for patriotism.

The English-language China Daily newspaper said a field of 14 trainees has been narrowed. While the three candidates have been ranked in order of preference, outside factors could still affect the final choice.

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Rev. Randy White.....203 N. West
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Rev. Robert Meller.....Mobeetie Tx.
First Baptist Church (Lefors)
Chris Webb, Pastor.....315 E. 4th

First Baptist Church (Skellytown)
Fines Marchman.....306 Roosevelt
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Byron Williamson.....407 E. 1St.

First Baptist Church (Wheeler)
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First Baptist Church (McLean)
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.....731 Sloan St.

Grace Baptist Church
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Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel
Bilingual.....1021 S. Barnes
Macedonia Baptist Church
Rev. I.L. Patrick.....441 Elm. St.
New Hope Baptist Church
Rev. Thomas J. Patterson.....912 S. Gray
Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana
Rev. Heliodoro Silva.....1541 Hamilton
Progressive Baptist Church
Rev. Bob Davis.....836 S. Gray
Trinity Baptist Church (McLean)
Pastor: Larry Perkins.....603 Commerce St.

Catholic

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St. Mary's (Groom)
Father Neal Dee.....400 Ware
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Father John Valdez.....810 W. 23rd

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'Er

By JA ASSOCIAT

BOSTON

friends as Sunday trip Episcopal girl, but R ally looking liturgy.

Bennett, senior in L heard the Episcopal s but they see him. The prayers in before God munion from

Bennett f faith's roots at the litur Baptist servi

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AMARIL parents at S 1200 S. Was up for their 7 Saturday, Oc until 8 p.m.

At 8 a.m., kick off the fun run incl

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RELIGION

'Emergent church' grabs young with return to past

By JAY LINDSAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BOSTON (AP) — His friends assumed his covert Sunday trips to a cross-town Episcopal church were about a girl, but Rick Bennett was actually looking for some inspiring liturgy.

Bennett, then a high school senior in Live Oak, Fla., had heard the rituals in the Episcopal service were lifeless, but they seemed the opposite to him. The parish priest sang prayers in Latin, people knelt before God and shared communion from a common cup.

Bennett felt connected to his faith's roots in a way he missed at the liturgy-free evangelical Baptist service he was ditching. "Something clicked," said Bennett, 35, now pastor of a church that meets in his Boston home. "You realize people have been on the (Christian) journey a long time."

Almost 20 years later, Bennett's desire to connect to the past has found a home in what's known as the "emergent church," a small but growing

movement nationwide. Consisting largely of younger Christians, emergent churches cut across denominational lines in an effort to reclaim the sense of mystery found in the ritual and symbols of the faith's ancient past.

But they're also dedicated to engaging modern culture, often in small communities that draw from various traditions to seek an experience of God in many ways — from painting during services to meditating on a forgotten Celtic prayer.

Leaders cite the apostle Paul as their guide, noting he used the culture of his time to spread Christianity. Some call emergent churches the "ancient future faith."

"We're trying to be authentic," Bennett said. "We're not trying to be cool, but be real."

The movement's growth has been fueled largely by Christians meeting on the Internet, or word of mouth. Some emergent communities are growing within existing churches, but others have started from scratch.

Their members hold to

orthodox Christianity, but reject what they feel is a corporate, overly simplified presentation of the faith in today's evangelical churches, said Robert Webber, a professor emeritus at Wheaton College in Illinois who wrote a book about the emergent church, "The Younger Evangelicals."

Jennifer McKinney, a professor of the sociology of religion at Seattle Pacific University, said the emergent church is similar to other trends — such as the Jesus People Movement, which embraced the hippie culture in the late 1960s and 1970s — in which young people defied the worshipping traditions of their parents' generation.

In this case, they're rejecting the so-called "seeker" churches that drew baby boomers by reducing religious imagery and offering simplified messages to make church more accessible to people wary of traditional worship, she said. The boomers' children are now in their 20s and 30s and known for largely ignoring church because it seems irrelevant and phony,

McKinney said. The emergent churches, she said, "feel that the way churches are set up today, they're missing an entire generation of people."

The movement traces its roots to the mid- to late-1990s, among a group of pastors concerned about drawing younger people to church.

Dan Kimball, a Santa Cruz, Calif., pastor and founder of one of the first emergent churches in the country, gathered Christian and non-Christian friends to sample a variety of church services, and find out what was missing.

The consensus: Services were often too scripted and musically showy — like a performance — and the sense of the supernatural presence of God wasn't evident, he said.

Kimball, 42, began services geared toward younger people, with changes such as the reintroduction of ancient liturgy, abundant use of candles and a less formal structure that removed the pastor from an elevated pulpit. He also tried to emulate the first-century

church, which wasn't centered on a weekly service, but a part of the local community every day.

Kimball thought he was alone until he met others in 1996 at conference in Colorado Springs, Colo., for pastors concerned about reaching younger people. The scattered leaders became a loose network that expanded through the Internet and word of mouth.

The movement's early success was seen this spring, when "The Emergent Convention" in San Diego drew 1,200 participants, more than twice what organizers anticipated.

At Solomon's Porch in Minneapolis, the mix of old, new and varied traditions in the emergent church is clearly evident.

For instance, Solomon's Porch features an art lounge, photo gallery and poetry readings. Members pray in different postures — for instance, covering the heart in prayers for protection — similar to religious traditions such as Judaism, in which adherents are physically

engaged in prayer, Pagitt said. At Kimball's church, people can paint or write in a journal to express what they feel during the service. Music comes from both an organ and a disc jockey with a turntable.

Bennett's church group meets weekly at his home in Boston's Jamaica Plain neighborhood, then gathers once a month with other home groups. The service on a recent summer Sunday featured readings from St. Francis of Assisi and Bennett led a discussion on devoting daily time to God. As Bennett spoke in the living room, his dog sat at his feet and his wife, Kristi, baked a quiche and tossed a salad in the kitchen for a community meal.

The worship styles may differ, but a substantive Christian faith remains at the center of the emergent church, Bennett said, unlike some modern churches that rely so much on presentation that people miss the depth and mystery of the message.

"It's the difference between an art flick and a Jerry Bruckheimer movie," he joked.

When all seems bad, count blessings

This is a true account of a girl born with more birth defects than you might think possible: Only one lung, one kidney, misshapen nose and ears, a cleft palate so deep that speech was incredibly difficult, almost totally deaf, and destined to become blind.

Cruelly teased by other children, depressed by parental neglect, Helen became so desperate about her situation that a friend took her to church, where she learned to pray, to have faith in a God whose loving arms would hold her safe in spite of everything.

Her church friends found doctors to perform surgery on her eyes and ears. But the operations failed. So she went to a school for the blind to prepare for a life of total darkness.



Minister's Musings

LELAND LEWIS
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Years passed and communication steadily became more difficult for Helen. One Christmas Eve at the midnight service back in Helen's friendly home church, the pastor was offering Communion. A young woman approached the table. There was a pause as she did not seem to hear the invitation to accept the bread and wine.

Then, with a gasp of astonishment, the minister recognized Helen, noticed her white cane, and understood why she

did not see the Communion emblems presented to her and why she had not heard his voice in offering them. Deeply moved, he leaned forward to kiss her and a tear fell on her cheek. But it wasn't Helen's tear. You see, she was also born without tear ducts. Even the comfort of having a good cry had been denied her because of her physical problems.

The pastor indicated to Helen that she should stay behind after the rest of the

Christmas crowd had left, to visit with him in his office. Later, in the office, struggling to express her emotions through her cleft palate, Helen's words tumbled out. She told her pastor that although what little vision she'd had was now gone, her faith was stronger than ever. She expressed her love for God at this Christmas season. She told about her schooling and about the struggles in life that she faced and hopefully a bit about her future.

She said that she was the luckiest one in her class for the blind. In her halting words, she said, "I'm so blessed to have had what I had, because I'm the only one in the class who remembers what it was like to be able to see."

Baptist groups plan religious liberty rallies

On Sunday, Oct. 19, Texas Baptists Committed, joined by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C., and the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas are sponsoring two "Keep America, America" educational events in

Amarillo and Lubbock. From 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Oct. 19, Second Baptist Church at Loop 289 and Chicago will host speakers Brent Walker of the Baptist Joint Committee, Phil Strickland of the Christian Life Commission, and David R. Currie of Texas Baptists Committed.

The three men plan to share the biblical basis for soul competency and the history of Baptist support for religious liberty. They also plan to discuss current threats to religious freedom.

At 6:30 p.m., Oct. 19, Walker will speak at First Baptist Church, 1208 S. Tyler, in Amarillo at the evening

worship service. Afterwards, Walker, Strickland, Currie and First Baptist lay member Bill Brian will take part in an hour of sharing in the church's fellowship hall.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meeting is scheduled for Nov. 11-12, at the Lubbock Convention Center.

St. Mary's School Carnival celebrates 77th year

AMARILLO - Students and parents at St. Mary's School, 1200 S. Washington, are gearing up for their 77th annual carnival Saturday, Oct. 18, from 12 noon until 8 p.m.

At 8 a.m., a fun run/walk will kick off the day's events. The fun run includes a 1-mile and

5K event and costs \$10 in advance or \$15 on the day of the race.

New additions to this year's event include a 24-foot rock climbing wall. Other features of the carnival include game booths with prizes, horse rides, barrel train ride, toy walk, sweet

shop, and giant slide. A Mexican Cafe will serve beef enchiladas, beef or bean burritos, gorditas, chicken fajitas, tortilla soup, rice and refried beans.

Highlight of the evening is the announcement of raffle winners with cash prizes up to \$20,000, silent auction winners,

and the live auction of class projects.

St. Mary's, a non-profit organization, raises funds through the annual carnival to pay for student needs. All events take place at the school campus on South Washington Street.

CHURCH BRIEFS

Craft show supports prison Bible ministry

AMARILLO - Sharing Hope Ministry is sponsoring the "Christmas in October" craft and trade show, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, in the civic Center North Exhibit Hall.

Vendors from all over the Panhandle will host booths featuring a variety of arts and crafts, fine artwork, jewelry, gifts, activities for kids, and a large holiday bake sale.

Proceeds go to Sharing Hope Ministry to purchase Bibles, 12-step recovery materials and Bible studies for women in Texas prisons and almost 100 county jails. The program works with more than 300 volunteers in the Panhandle area and has provided services to more than 16,000 inmates.

For more information about Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc., call (806) 358-7803.

Rushing Wind Emmaus to meet in Follett

Rushing Wind Emmaus Community will meet at Grace thru Faith Fellowship, 505 E. Ivanhoe, Follett, on Saturday, Oct. 11. A pot luck supper starts at 6 p.m., followed by communion and worship at 7 p.m. A nursery will be provided. Anyone interested in the Walk to Emmaus is welcome to attend.

Westside Church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Westside Church of Christ, 1612 W. Kentucky, invites the public to a Gospel Meeting on the Fundamentals of Christianity at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 12, and each evening at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 13, through Friday, Oct. 17. For more information, call 665-2572.

Fellowship Baptist to host speaker on Islam

On Sunday, Oct. 12, Fellowship Baptist Church, 622 E. Francis Ave., will host Dr. Randy Carroll, who will speak on "The Dangers of Islam."

An expert on the Islamic religion, Dr. Carroll plans to answer many questions Americans have concerning the fastest growing religion in the world.

Dr. Carroll will be speaking during three sessions on Sunday at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 6 p.m.

Former Pampa pastor to lead revival Oct. 12

Calvary Assembly of God, 1030 Love St., is hosting a revival with the Rev. Lyle Sharp and praise and worship led by Joyce Moran, Oct. 12-15. Revival services are set for 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 12, and 7 p.m., nightly, Oct. 13-15.

The Rev. Sharp pastored at Kingsmill Community Church from 1967 through 1969.

Calvary Assembly Pastor Philip and Phyllis Elsheimer invite the public to attend.

REVIVAL with Rev. Lyle Sharp
OCTOBER 12th through OCTOBER 15th
CALVARY ASSEMBLY of GOD • 1030 LOVE
 Joyce Moran: Praise and Worship
OCTOBER 12th SERVICES AT 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM
OCTOBER 13th - 15th SERVICES AT 7:00 PM NIGHTLY
 Rev. Sharp has been in this area as Pastor at Kingsmill Community Church from 1967 through 1969. Come and see that *The Lord is Good. Christ is the answer for your life.*
 Pastor Philip and Phyllis Elsheimer invites all to come.

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6:00-6:45 Dinner
 7:00-7:35 "Planning For Retirement - More Than Savings" Mike Ruff
 7:40-8:15 Bible Study - "The Role Of Jesus In The Book Of Revelations" Lynn Hancock
 7:00 Re Born Youth Ministry (Boys & Girls 6-12 Grade)
 Missionettes (Girls 3-5th Grade)
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OCTOBER 10 2003

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 10, 2003

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Teen Misses Her Friends After Leaving Drunk Dad

DEAR ABBY: I am a 16-year-old girl. My parents have been divorced for many years. Just before starting high school, I moved in with my father and my older brother an hour away, because I was not getting along with Mom's new husband.

It didn't take long to realize how bad my father's drinking had become since the divorce. He had a gun and shot holes in the walls, took a shot at my brother's car, and cursed my brother and me almost daily. Just weeks after I moved in, my brother went off to college, leaving me alone with Dad. Two days ago, I was driving him somewhere, and he got mad and yanked the keys out of the ignition while we were going down the highway at 65 miles an hour. The steering wheel and brakes locked and we almost crashed.

I was so upset that I yelled obscenities at him before retrieving the keys to drive back home. Once we were on our way, Dad began throwing things at me — then he hit me. He yelled, "Go live with your mother!" When we got home, he called her and she came right away to pick me up.

Now I'm back with Mom and my stepfather, and she wants me to stay. I am torn. As disgusted as I am with my father, I am heartbroken at the thought of moving away from all the new friends I made there. They provided the only stability in my life and kept me going. I feel lost at the prospect of once again starting a new school with strangers. And I miss my dad's black Lab, whom I have grown to love. Dad would never let me take him. I don't know what to do. Please help.

SOUR AT 16

DEAR SOUR AT 16: As much as you love your father's dog, you were living in an abusive and potentially fatal situation when you were with your dad. For your own safety, you must remain with your mother.

You do not have to lose touch with your new friends. You can remain in contact with them via phone and e-mail. And since you miss having a canine companion to love, ask your mother and stepfather if you can have a family dog. Pets can be a bonding experience.

DEAR ABBY: I became engaged a week ago to "Max," who happens to be a millionaire. I come from an average working-class background and have worked since I was 18. I am now 49. Max is a wonderful and loving man. We live in a beautiful home with a housekeeper and gardener. Max wants me to be a stay-at-home spouse and take care of our social and travel arrangements, etc.

Most of my friends are envious, and yes, it is wonderful not having to work. However, I feel like I have become a kept woman. This is all so new to me. I have been independent most of my life and I am having difficulty adjusting to this new lifestyle. I feel scared that my life is in someone else's hands, not my own.

What can I do to maintain a sense of independence and still feel that my new "wifely duties" are important — and that I will be valued as an equal partner with my husband?

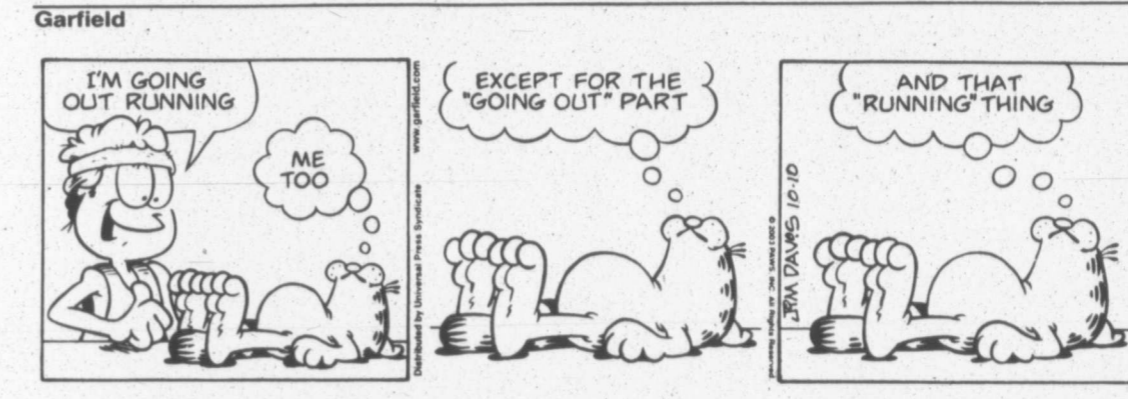
MARRYING A MILLIONAIRE

DEAR M.A.M.: Feeling nervous about losing your independence is understandable. Lifestyle change, even if it is positive, can be stressful.

Since your husband would prefer that you not work, please consider becoming a part-time volunteer instead. That way you can still contribute, but you will be free to accompany your husband on trips. Volunteerism is a richly rewarding experience and can lead to new contacts in your community. However, you would be wise to discuss this before your marriage so there are no surprises for you or your fiancé once the knot is tied.

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.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby — Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)



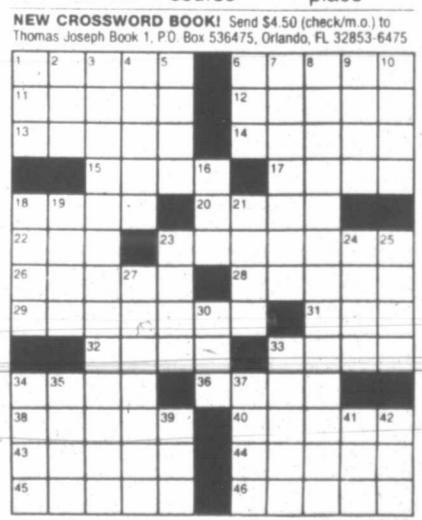
Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
1 Russian country
6 Computer home
11 Pale
12 Different
13 Bit
14 Smoothing
15 Online event
17 Pub
18 Pig's place
20 Pig's plant
22 Swelled head
23 Got a read
26 Resort island
28 Rob's wife
29 Gives a make-up exam
31 The Cratchit boy
32 Jared of film
33 Different
34 Root spot
36 Long skirt
38 "Tomorrow" singer
40 Has a banquet
43 Davis of "Louise"
44 Wil's awake
- DOWN**
1 "Law & Order" group
2 Egyptian serpent
3 Super-market sights
4 Anne of movies
5 Singer base
6 Swabbing need
7 Home of the Braves
8 "CSI" markings
9 Philosopher
10 Mine finds
16 Low digit
18 Brandy
19 Monster base
21 Miseries
23 "Exodus" author
25 Broken areas
27 Straight course
30 Male turkey
33 Banish
34 It's a long story
35 Binary digits
37 First person
39 Erode
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Yesterday's answer

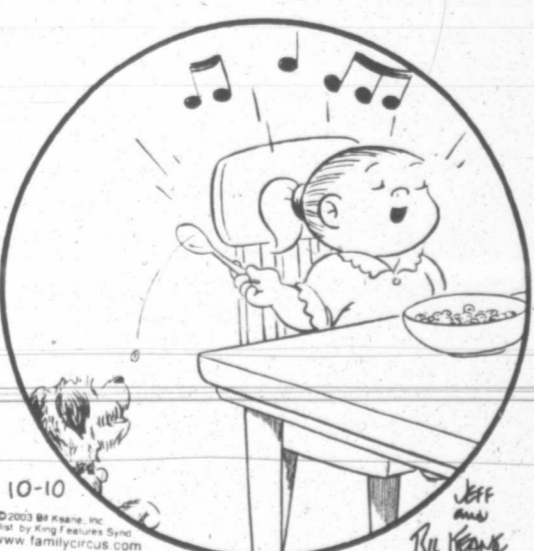


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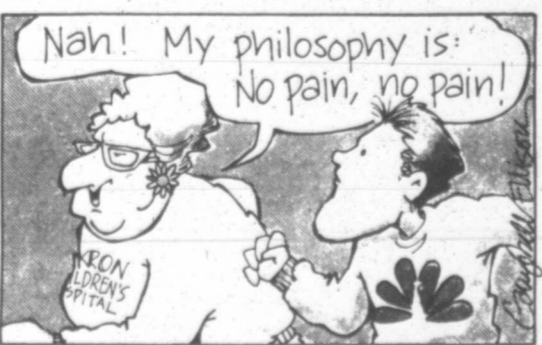
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VOLLEY

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For more please contact 669-5740 be and 5 p.m. M Friday.

BASKETBALL

EAGLE

A preliminary determine w Bryant will s expected to afternoon — v after more th Eagle Coun Detective D testified, de graphic detail ing to the w accusing the I rape, a chance to a nightma Judge Freder said the hearin

GOLF

THE WC

Texas (AP) Sorenstam ha going her way. She was a h Colonial. The c career Grand starred in the before a hom Sweden.

THE WC

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And then it ra The LPGA T big celebration i the first round in Championship, Sorenstam never hit a tee shot. T suspended until ing.

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The Hall of have to wait one "I guess the posed to shine w Sorenstam said v "Maybe tomorr

The Hall of have to wait one "I guess the posed to shine w Sorenstam said v "Maybe tomorr

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SPORTS

Cyclones look to stop nation's top offense

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Iowa State coach Dan McCarney is taking a few cues from North Carolina State as he readies his Cyclones for Texas Tech on Saturday night.

Since a 49-21 loss to the Wolfpack, Tech (4-1 Big 12, 1-0) has been on an offensive tear marshaled by quarterback B.J. Symons, who leads the nation in passing.

McCarney said North Carolina State was able to pressure Symons without blitzing a lot of players.

"That's one of the keys with a guy like Symons," McCarney said. "You have to be great from your underneath coverage. You've got

to be great from a pursuit standpoint when the ball is dinked and dunked like it will be, and screen. They do a lot of that. And you just have to be great from a secondary standpoint. We've got to be outstanding."

So will the Cyclones blitz?

"Once in a while you have to. If that quarterback knows there's not going to be any extra guys coming at him, it makes it even tougher (to defend)," McCarney said.

The Cyclones have lost three straight and will be up against Tech's buzz saw offense. Symons leads the nation in passing yards

(2,467) and touchdowns (24). Tech's offense also leads the nation, averaging 591.2 yards per game with almost all it (516.8) coming through the air.

Tech has won its last two, beating Mississippi 49-45 and Texas A&M 59-28.

Last year, the Red Raiders lost 31-17 to Iowa State after having beaten the Aggies 48-47 in overtime in College Station.

Tech coach Mike Leach expects the Cyclones (2-3, 0-1) to show a variety of defenses to try to stymie the offense. The key for Symons will be recognition.

"They're going to try to cover things up and we have

to recognize it and just be focused with regard to that and not let them slip something in," Leach said.

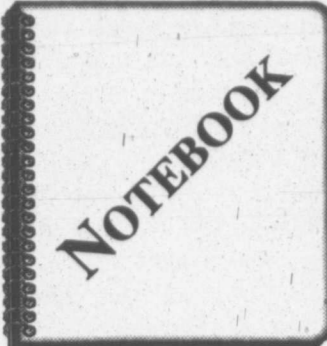
Last week, the Aggies rarely blitzed. They rushed three linemen and dropped eight defenders into pass coverage. And they got eaten alive because of it. Symons threw for eight touchdowns and 505 yards — his third straight game of 500-plus yards. Carlos Francis, Wes Welker, Mickey Peters and Nehemiah Glover each caught six passes each and Taurean Henderson pulled in seven.

Symons said the receivers are the team's playmakers, not him.

"They all have speed and can catch the ball in traffic, and they all can turn up field and make plays," he said. "I think easily, as a unit, there is not a better group of receivers than this one in the country."

McCarney, whose team is ranked eighth in the Big 12 in pass defense, said he doesn't expect his team to stop Symons from hitting those receivers.

"No one else has," he said. "But we've got to control it, slow it down, hopefully do better from the turnover standpoint, and offensively stay on the field better than we have, score more points."



VOLLEYBALL

PAMPA — The City of Pampa Recreation Department is sponsoring a mixed adult volleyball league. Mixed Competitive and Recreational divisions will be offered. Players must be 14 years old to participate.

Entry deadline is Oct. 29 at 5 p.m., and the season will begin the week of Nov. 4, 2003.

Entry fee (sponsor's fee) is \$150 and player's fee is \$10 per player with a minimum of eight players.

Roster forms, fact sheets and league by-laws are available at the Recreation Office at City Hall, Room 204.

For more information, please contact the Office at 669-5740 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BASKETBALL

EAGLE, Colo. (AP) — A preliminary hearing to determine whether Kobe Bryant will stand trial — expected to last only an afternoon — was adjourned after more than six hours. Eagle County Sheriff's Detective Doug Winters testified, describing in graphic detail how, according to the woman who is accusing the Lakers star of rape, a chance meeting led to a nightmarish assault. Judge Frederick Gannett said the hearing would continue next Wednesday, and the district attorney's office said Bryant had to appear.

NEW YORK (AP) — Dikembe Mutombo signed a multiyear contract with the New York Knicks, two days after he accepted a buyout and was waived by the New Jersey Nets.

GOLF

THE WOODLANDS, Texas (AP) — Annika Sorenstam had everything going her way.

She was a huge hit at the Colonial. She completed the career Grand Slam. She starred in the Solheim Cup before a home crowd in Sweden.

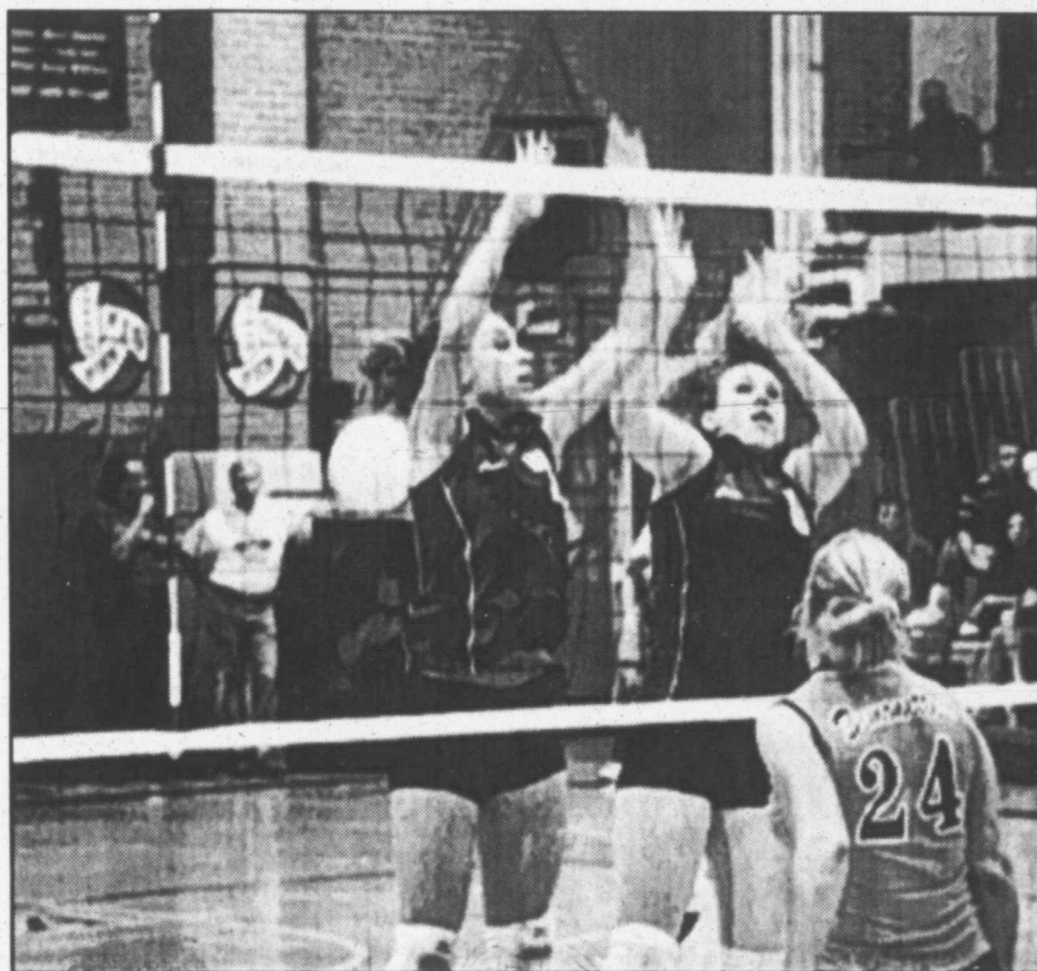
And the round that would mark her 10th year on the LPGA Tour to get her into the World Golf Hall of Fame just happened to fall on her 33rd birthday.

And then it rained. The LPGA Tour planned a big celebration at the end of the first round in the Samsung Championship, and Sorenstam never even got to hit a tee shot. The round was suspended until Friday morning.

The Hall of Fame will have to wait one more day.

"I guess the sun is supposed to shine when I get in," Sorenstam said with a laugh. "Maybe tomorrow."

At the net



Pampa's Abbi Covalt (left) and McKensie East block the net in a recent volleyball match in McNeely Fiedlhouse. The Lady Harvesters, tied for second in District 3-4A, travel to Hereford for a 2 p.m. match Saturday.

Texas trying to end losing streak to OU

DALLAS (AP) — Frankly, it's embarrassing.

A three-game losing streak to No. 1 Oklahoma would be hard enough for No. 11 Texas to swallow under any circumstances. Throw in the Sooners' national title, the annual second-guessing of coach Mack Brown's game planning, the 63-14 rout in 2000, last season's fourth-quarter Texas meltdown — whew! — and this border rivalry is downright nauseating for Texas.

Don't forget that the current crop of Longhorns seniors have never beaten Oklahoma on the field.

"Anytime you've lost a game three years in a row, it really bothers you," Brown said. "It's not something we're proud of."

Texas junior center Jason Glynn even hears about it at home. His grandmother lives in Oklahoma and razzes him about the losing streak.

"This game means a little

more to everyone," Glynn said. "Some of us have grandmas trash talking if we don't win."

Texas has been particularly low key this week, carefully avoiding comments that might get posted on a Sooner bulletin board.

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops is as confident as ever.

Stoops said this week this year's team might be the best he's had at Oklahoma. And he sent an ominous warning when he said, "We're probably peaking at the right moment."

Brown pretty much agrees: "They just have no weaknesses."

Oklahoma (5-0, 1-0 Big 12) has swamped its last three opponents by an average score of 55-20. Quarterback Jason White has passed for 16 touchdowns and emerged as one of the top Heisman Trophy contenders.

Can Carolina defense hold down Colts' Manning?

By **DAVE GOLDBERG**
AP Football Writer

Now that he's handled Tampa Bay's defense, Peyton Manning takes on another elite unit when he faces Carolina.

The Panthers go to Indianapolis on Sunday for a game between two of the NFL's four remaining unbeaten teams, another classic offense vs. defense confrontation.

Coming off their historic comeback in Tampa on Monday night, the Colts are favored by five points.

That's largely because of Manning, who is playing as well as he ever has in six pro seasons. He threw six TD passes in New Orleans two weeks ago, then brought the Colts back from 21 down with less than four minutes left to beat the Bucs 38-35 in overtime.

The Panthers are upset about last week's game, a 19-13 win over New Orleans, because they allowed the Saints 155 yards on the ground, 124 by Deuce McAllister.

"From my standpoint, in how your team reacts and the pride they build in their unit, I think that's a good thing," coach John Fox said. "We did enough good things to win, that is what you look for. But

Pro Picks

you strive for perfection and sometimes that is hard to obtain."

The Colts present a different challenge in Manning, who threw for 386 yards against a banged-up Bucs secondary.

The major question is whether the Colts will let down emotionally (and physically) after all that happened Monday night. The guess here is they won't.

COLTS, 22-12

Kansas City (plus 2) at Green Bay

The Packers already knocked Seattle off the unbeaten list. The Chiefs are due to lose, but Green Bay has to kick away from Dante Hall.

PACKERS, 24-16

Philadelphia (minus 1) at Dallas

The Eagles could have Bobby Taylor and Troy Vincent back at cornerback. Donovan McNabb's still not in form, but ...

EAGLES, 20-16

Tampa Bay (off) at Washington

The Bucs are battered and down after blowing a 21-point lead Monday night, another piece of good luck for the Skins, who keep playing teams with major

injuries. The injuries are why this game is off the board.

All five of Washington's games have been decided by three points or fewer.

BUCS, 16-13

Pittsburgh (plus 7) at Denver

Mike Shanahan is so cocky about his Broncos that he shrugged at what might have been a clip on Dante Hall's return that beat Denver last week in Kansas City.

BRONCOS, 30-13

New York Giants (plus 3) at New England

How much will Bill Belichick's blitzes confuse Kerry Collins?

GIANTS, 24-23

San Francisco (plus 3 1/2) at Seattle

Mike Holmgren promises the Seahawks will bounce back.

SEAHAWKS, 20-10

Miami (minus 3) at Jacksonville

The AFC East is the Dolphins' for the taking.

DOLPHINS, 20-10

Chicago (plus 5 1/2) at New Orleans

Back to normal for the Bears.

SAINTS, 34-16

Atlanta (plus 11) at St. Louis (Monday night)

By the time Vick returns, the Falcons will be dead.

RAMS, 36-19

Houston (plus 10) at Tennessee

Houston at ex-Houston.

EX-HOUSTON, 29-11

Oakland (plus 3) at Cleveland

All Tim Couch needed was a benching.

BROWNS, 27-12

Buffalo (minus 3) at New York Jets

Upset time.

JETS, 16-13

Baltimore (minus 5 1/2) at Arizona

Unless it's 106 degrees ...

RAVENS, 20-3

LAST WEEK: 7-6-1

(spread); 5-9 (straight up)

OVERALL: 40-32-2

(spread); 45-29 (straight up)

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Yankees even AL championship series at one game apiece

NEW YORK (AP) — Giddy after Andy Pettitte helped them even the AL championship series, Yankees fans serenaded Boston with a chorus of "1918" during the ninth inning. Then they chanted, "We want Pedro!"

They won't have to wait very long.

Following New York's 6-2 win in Game 2 Thursday night, the best-of-seven series resumes Saturday in Fenway Park, where former Red Sox great Roger Clemens pitches in Boston for the final time, opposed by Martinez, the current Red Sox ace.

"That's the ultimate right there," Boston's Kevin Millar said.

The fight for the AL pennant will slide to the back-

ground Saturday, when Clemens returns to the ballpark where he became famous for one final start. On Aug. 31, when he made his final regular-season outing there, fans gave him a standing ovation when he walked off the mound.

Saturday's meeting will be a rematch of Game 3 of the 1999 ALCS, when Martinez defeated Clemens 13-1, Boston's only victory in a series the Yankees won in five games. This time, Martinez can put the Red Sox ahead.

The Yankees' Jason Giambi already is looking forward to the game as a fan.

"Two of the most dominating pitchers this league has ever seen," he said.

After laboring through his

first two innings Thursday, Pettitte commanded the Red Sox. Nick Johnson gave him a lead when he fought through his big slump with a go-ahead, two-run homer.

"It was a struggle for me all night," Pettitte said. "I had to make a lot of big pitches tonight. I was very fortunate tonight to get through the first two innings."

Seven of Boston's first nine batters reached base, but the Red Sox failed to score after loading the bases in the first and got only one run in the opening two innings despite six hits.

New York, coming off a 5-2 loss in the opener, went ahead on Johnson's homer in the second off loser Derek Lowe and opened a 4-1 lead

by the fifth. Pettitte made it stand up, tying Tom Glavine for second on the all-time list with his 12th postseason win, one behind John Smoltz.

"He really came up big when they were on the bases and made some tough pitches when he was behind in the count," said Yankees catcher Jorge Posada, who added a two-run double in the seventh off Scott Sauerbeck.

Jose Contreras followed Pettitte with four straight outs, and Mariano Rivera pitched the ninth. The three combined to hold the Red Sox to four hits over the final seven innings.

"The game was determined there in the first two innings," Boston manager Grady Little said. "He got into a rhythm

after that, and the rest is history."

Yankees owner George Steinbrenner was understandably pleased.

"It was all right. That game was good," he said. "We've got a very good team."

After New York lost the first-round opener to Minnesota last week, Pettitte pitched the Yankees to victory in Game 2, starting a run of three straight wins that put them back in the ALCS after a one-year absence. Against Boston, he fell behind in the count to five of his first six batters, but worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the first when Millar popped out.

"He was really wound up," Torre said. "He was over-throwing the ball."

Jason Varitek doubled leading off the second and scored on singles by Trot Nixon and Damian Jackson. Then, after pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre visited the mound, Gabe Kapler bounced into a double play and Bill Mueller grounded out. That started a run in which Pettitte retired 10 of 11 batters.

Contreras relieved with a runner on first and two outs in the seventh and got Garciaparra to pop out on his first pitch. When Boston lost out to the Yankees in the bidding for Contreras in December, Red Sox president Larry Lucchino called New York the "Evil Empire," causing a new round of Northeast sniping between the rivals.



The Lefors junior high cross country team participated in the Shamrock meet. Team members, their placings and times were (from left) Amanda Lawrence, 27th; Emily Jackson, 11th, 13:38; Valerie Willis, second, 12:54, and Misty Pairsh, 10th, 13:37.

Bears have momentum against Aggies

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — There may have been times Texas A&M could have taken Baylor lightly. This isn't one of them.

In a surprising role reversal, Baylor (3-2, 1-0 Big 12) takes a three-game winning streak into Saturday's game at Kyle Field. And the Aggies (2-3, 0-1) have lost three in a row for the first time in 23 years.

"It's in a fragile state in the fact that ... if the leaders don't step up and lead this team in the right direction, things could get worse," Aggies offensive tackle Alan Reuber said. "You can't just give them (Baylor) a loss."

Still, the Aggies are three-touchdown favorites for the 100th meeting between the former Southwest Conference rivals. Even after their 59-28 loss at Texas Tech in their Big 12 opener last week, on the same day Baylor upset Colorado 42-30.

Texas A&M leads the series 61-29-9, with 12 straight wins and a 17-game unbeaten streak.

Baylor will try to avoid a repeat of last season, when it lost 41-0 against the Aggies the week after winning its Big 12 opener. That started a season-ending seven-game losing streak in which the Bears were outscored 334-58.

"The process now is can we get them to believe they can go to A&M and beat A&M," said first-year Baylor coach Guy Morriss. "(Beating Colorado) was just one little step. It would be a shame to have such a nice win and then go lay an egg in College Station."

A key for Baylor will be Big 12 rushing leader Rashad Armstrong, who is also ninth nationally with his 118 yards per game.

Not only did the Aggies give up a Big 12-record eight touchdown passes and 505 yards to Tech quar-

terback B.J. Symons last week, they are 87th nationally against the run (170.2 yards per game). They are uncharacteristically 96th in total defense, allowing 421 yards per game.

Last week, Armstrong's 55-yard TD run capped a 97-yard drive that was an indication to the Bears of how much they have improved since last season.

"I think now they understand they can do it against a quality opponent," Morriss said. "I'm not sure they really thought they could. We've been telling them every day, 'You can do this, boys.' But if they don't believe it, it doesn't really matter what I think."

The Bears have lost 15 straight road games. And they are just 1-34 against South Division opponents — and 5-52 overall in conference games — in the Big 12's eighth season.

Hornish one race away from fulfilling dream

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Sam Hornish's racing heroes while he was growing up had two similarities. They won the Indianapolis 500, and they drove for Roger Penske.

The two-time defending IRL champion, who with a late-season surge got back in contention for a third title, is one race away from fulfilling part of his childhood dream.

The IndyCar Series' season finale Sunday in Texas will be his last race in the yellow Pennzoil Panther car before moving into the cockpit of one of Penske's red-and-white Marlboro cars.

Hornish announced in August, the day after his first win of the season, that he wasn't returning to the Panther team in 2004, not even listening to a new contract offer. The next week, Penske announced a multiyear deal for Hornish to replace retiring driver and Indy 500 champ Gil de Ferran.

"The guys you look up to and you want to be like ... when your heroes are Rick Mears, Danny Sullivan, Al Unser, Jr., and they all won Indy 500s, I want to be a part of that," Hornish said. "I may

never win that. I may never have everything fall together the right way to do it, so the next thing is to be part of that (team)."

While Hornish has won consecutive IRL titles, his best finish in three Indy 500 starts is 14th. Penske drivers have won at the Brickyard 13 times, including the last three, Helio Castroneves — Hornish's new teammate — winning two before de Ferran's victory this year.

"If your boyhood dream was to play for the New York Yankees and one day the Yankees called and said we'd like you to come play for us, what are you going to do?" Panther Racing co-owner Mike Griffin said. "I totally understand where he's at."

The loss of Hornish will be a big one for the team that had just three wins its first three seasons — including Scott Goodyear's final race in 2000 at Texas — before hiring the kid from Defiance, Ohio.

Hornish won his first two races and had the 2001 season title wrapped up when he got to Texas, becoming the youngest champion of a major

open-wheel series at age 22. He set an IRL record with five wins last year, including the finale again to become the series' first two-time champion.

This season got off to a frustrating start, with the new Honda and Toyota engines superior to the Chevrolet that Hornish was stuck with. He managed to stay within range of the points lead until Chevy introduced a new Indy V-8 engine six races ago.

Hornish finished second at Michigan in his first race with the new engine. He was sixth the next race, and has three wins and another runner-up finish since. He's earned 262 of his 448 season points (58 percent) in that span.

"I wish we would have had the new engine a race or two sooner," he said. "Everybody else got about a 10-race head start."

Hornish is fourth in points, just 19 behind co-leaders Castroneves and Scott Dixon, the IRL rookie for owner Chip Ganassi. Tony Kanaan, another IRL rookie for Andretti Green, is third with 460 points.

Wood, Prior put emphasis on young pitching in NL playoffs

MIAMI (AP) — All those balls flying out of Wrigley Field this week made it tough to tell that there really are plenty of good young pitchers in this NL championship series.

Next up on the mound, Kerry Wood. Already 2-0 in this postseason, he'll start for the Chicago Cubs in Game 3 tonight at Pro Player Stadium against Florida's Mark Redman.

"I think you'll probably have some lower scoring

games here than you would at Wrigley," Marlins manager Jack McKeon said. "You've got a bigger ballpark, No. 1. But the wind blows out at Wrigley."

While waiting for his chance to pitch, Wood has been hearing a lot of compliments. Especially the one about how he and Mark Prior are going to pitch their way to a World Series championship, the way Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling did.

Only one problem, Wood said. It's not properly respectful — to Arizona's dynamic duo.

"In the past three or four weeks, I've heard enough of it," Wood said Thursday.

"I think it's a little unfair for those guys for people to be comparing us to them," he said. "Obviously, we haven't done what those guys have done throughout their careers for this game, so we have a long ways to go."

Maybe, but they've done a pretty good impression lately, posting all of the Cubs' wins in this postseason. They've also put the emphasis on the live arms still left in the NLCS.

Consider this: the eight pitchers scheduled to start for Chicago and Florida are all in their 20s. Average age for Wood, Prior, Carlos Zambrano and Matt Clement of the Cubs and Redman, Josh Beckett, Brad Penny and Dontrelle Willis of the Marlins: 25.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

Postseason Baseball At A Glance	Thursday, Oct. 16
By The Associated Press	Boston at New York, 8:18 p.m., if necessary
All Times EDT	National League (FOX)
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Best-of-7)	Tuesday, Oct. 7
American League (FOX)	Florida 9, Chicago 8, 11 innings
Wednesday, Oct. 8	Wednesday, Oct. 8
Boston 5, New York 2	Chicago 12, Florida 3, series tied 1-1
Thursday, Oct. 9	Friday, Oct. 10
New York 6, Boston 2, series tied 1-1	Chicago (Wood 14-11) at Florida (Redman 14-9), 8:18 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 11	Saturday, Oct. 11
New York (Clemens 17-9) at Boston (Martinez 14-4), 4:18 p.m.	Chicago (Clement 14-12) at Florida (Willis 14-6), 8 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 12	Sunday, Oct. 12
New York (Wells 15-7) at Boston (Burkett 12-9), 8:05 p.m.	Chicago (Zambrano 13-11) at Florida (Beckett 9-8), 4:35 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 13	Tuesday, Oct. 14
New York at Boston, 8:18 p.m.	Florida at Chicago, 8:18 p.m., if necessary
Wednesday, Oct. 15	Wednesday, Oct. 15
Boston at New York, 4:18 p.m., if necessary	Florida at Chicago, 8:18 p.m., if necessary

THE Pampa NEWS

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This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Days by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: L.W. McCall
 Editor: Dee Dee Laramore
 Circulation Manager: Dean Lynch
 Advertising Manager: RedDon Woods
 Composition Supervisor: Brenda Cook

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 NOTICE TO CREDITOR
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the estate of BILLY G. CLEMENTS, Deceased, were issued on 6, 2003, in Doc. 9026, pending County Court of County, Texas at ERT THOMAS ENT'S.
 The residence of the dependent Executor Eddy County, Texas. The post office address is: 921 Rex Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220. All persons having claims against the estate which are required to present within the time and manner prescribed by law.
 DATED the 6th of August, 2003.
 By: Harold L. S. Card No. 04 P.O. Box Pampa, TX 7906 (806)669-2520 FAX (806)669-2520 Attorney Independent E D-41 Oct. 10, 2003

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Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **BILLY GEORGE CLEMENTS**, Deceased, were issued on October 6, 2003, in Docket No. 9026, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: **ROBERT THOMAS CLEMENTS**.
The residence of the Independent Executor is in Eddy County, New Mexico. The post office address is: 921 Rex Street, Carlsbad, New Mexico, 88220. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 6th day of August, 2003.
By: Harold L. Comer
State Bar
Card No. 04641000
P.O. Box 1058
Pampa, TX 79066-1058
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NEED 2 part time Cashier/Deli Workers. 2 p.m.-6 p.m., 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Apply in person 1020 E. Frederic.

CNA Training Course Registration now thru Oct. 13. Clarendon College-Pampa Center; 1601 W. Kentucky. Class begins Oct. 13th-24th, 8-4:30 p.m. Room 201.

ATTENTION Work From Home. \$1500-\$10,000 mo. 1-800-571-0837. www.securehealthfromhome.com

FARM Help Needed. Full and Part Time. Competitive Salary. White Deer, Tx. (806)883-6751.

CNAs needed for 2-10 shift & 10-6 shift. Apply in person at Coronado Healthcare Center.

MR PAYROLL is seeking a part time person for the night shift. 30-35 hours a week. Drug test required. Apply in person at 309 N. Hobart.

COME work with the 1st team. Wanted welders, laborers, concrete men, grain millwright & steel bldg erectors. Work starts in Iowa, Maine & Puerto Rico. Mogensen Steel Erectors 740-360-1907.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber
101 S. Ballard
669-3291

HOUSTON LUMBER

420 W. Foster
669-6881

60 Household

\$202 QN mattress set, brand new never used with warranty, QN Pillow top double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr, list \$550, sell \$236, Full Pillow top Double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr, List \$400, sell \$208, Full size mattress set new, never used \$180, \$230 King mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, warranty, \$268 King Pillow top mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, Queen Cherry sleigh bed, new, still boxed, List \$750 sell \$399, 806-517-1050.

LOFT bed and oak crib to toddler's bed. Call 665-6855

69 Misc.

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

HAVE Broom Weeds/will mow. Call 663-0506

2 ext. mausoleum crypts. Memory Gardens, Pampa. Sell \$4500, would cost \$5099 665-4980.

69a Garage Sales

DEBBIE'S Used Furniture, 507 W. 10th, Borger. We buy & sell used furniture. 274-2505, 273-9767.

CARPENTER'S Church, 713 S. Barnes, Sat. 7:30-9:00. All the clothes you can put in a sack for \$3, Duncan Phylle table/chairs. Lots of misc.

SAT. Oct. 11th, 8-2 p.m. 1400 N. Christy. Washer, dryer, comm. printer, nice men's clothes, baby cl.

2 Family. Lots of good stuff, ladies clothing, 1/2 ft. slim Christmas tree. Many must-haves. Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-noon. 1912 Lea.

FRI-SAT. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. CAD, excellent cond., you name it, we've got it. New stuff added as space permits. 422 E. 18th.

SAT. 8 am. Antiques, Beanie Babies, Pokemon, winter coats, Avon, lots of Xmas gift stuff. 1819 Chestnut.

SAT. 8 a.m. 1916 Evergreen. Recliners, lawn-mower, basketball goal, girls clothes.

GARAGE Sale, 1524 N. Christy, Sat. Oct. 11, 7-9. Lots of infant girls clothing, toys, home decor, women's clothing & more

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

EXTRA clean 1 bd. with appliances. Quiet neighborhood. Mature Renters Only! 665-8525

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

96 Unfurn. Apts.

2 bdr. Deposit & references required. Tenant pays electric. Dogwood Apts. 669-9817, 669-2981.

69a Garage Sales

1705 Dogwood, Fri. & Sat. 8-7. Name brand clothes & shoes, boys, girls sz. newborn, toddler, mens, womens, refrig., washer, dryer, table / 2 chairs, high chair, stroller, playpen, misc.

4 Family Garage Sale. New stove, new tires, lots of etc. Sat. 9 a.m. - 7:00 N. Russell.

LARGE Yard Sale. Fri & Sat 9-7. 1308 E. Francis. Clothes, dishes & misc.

HUGE Backyard Sale! 1017 E. Foster, Sat. 9-7. Everything priced to sell. Most items \$1 or less.

ESTATE Sale. 947 Murphy, Sat. 9-7. Books, furniture, tires 8-19.5, misc.

80 Pets & Suppl.

SEEKING boyfriend for a Chihuahua. Needs love ASAP. Please call 665-9267.

POMERANIAN PUPPIES for sale. Call 669-7251.

POODLE-LAB puppy, looks like black labs, free to good home. Call 665-4901.

95 Furn. Apts.

ALL real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

2126 Charles, Sat. Only 8-7. Refrig., w/d, stoves, shelves, clothes, decor, golf clubs, too much to list. Great prices.

FRI-SAT. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. CAD, excellent cond., you name it, we've got it. New stuff added as space permits. 422 E. 18th.

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96 Unfurn. Apts.

CAPROCK Apartments has incredible specials on all floor plans. Starting at only \$290. 3-12 mo. lease available. * Pool * Laundry * Washer / dryer hook-ups * Club room * On-site management * SOFTENED WATER M-F 8:30-5:30, Sat. 10-4
1601 W. Somerville Pampa 806-665-7149

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

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

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

PICK UP rental list from Gray Box on front porch of Lakeview Apartments. Update each Fri.

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

96 Solitaire Double Wide for rent or sale. 3/2/2, FP, CH&A. 669-1206 after 5.

NEW Mgmt! N&L Investments, 1, 2 & 3 brm., apts., duplexes, homes & comm. prop. 665-4274.

LARGE 1 bdr., garage, appliances, corner lot 421 Magnolia. \$275. 665-8925, 886-0146 cell.

2 bdr. stove & icebox. 407 E. Browning, 669-2139

404 LOWRY 3 bedroom, 1 bath \$375 / \$200 665-8880

3BDR, 2b, 2 Living areas, cellar \$500 mo. + 1 mo. dep. 2117 Coffee 665-0398 or 662-7296.

NEAT & Clean 2 bedroom house, 725 Deane Dr. \$325 mo. + deposit. Call 665-7331.

2126 Banks. \$400 month + dep. 2-1-1 CH. fenced. 307-734-4007 Jan or 806-665-2866 Dr.

99 Stor. Bldgs. TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

LOWEST Rents in City! Downtown locations-stores, warehouses, rec. facilities Call 665-4274!!

102 Bus. Rent. Prop. WEST RENTS in City! Downtown locations-stores, warehouses, rec. facilities Call 665-4274!!

105 Acreage 5 acre tracts on paved road, 2 miles from Pampa. \$2500 per acre, financing available. Call 665-4842.

114 Recre. Veh. 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home, on corner lot. \$5000 or best offer. Call 662-1677 or 440-1018.

115 Trailer Parks TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

117 Grass/Pasture NEED pasture for 350 head of mother cows year round. Call 806-423-1008.

120 Autos Quality Sales 1300 N. Hobart 669-0433 Make your next car a Quality Car

Doug Boyd Motor Co. "On The Spot Financing" 821 W. Wilks 669-6062

CULBERSON-STOWERS Chevrolet-Pontiac-Buick GMC-Olds-Cadillac 805 N. Hobart 665-1665

2002 Mercury Sable LS, loaded, leather, cd & cassette, 28,000 miles. \$11,900. 662-6873.

1984 4x4. GMC Suburban, \$1,200 OBO, 665-7792, 207-0040.

121 Trucks 1997 Ford F150 Super Cab with Lariat Pkg. Call 665-6291

Reduced Realtor Fee FSBO- Double Wide Mobile Home, quiet neighborhood, new 28x27 workshop large carport large corner lot 208 Kirkman (Groom) Call 669-7039 683-0041

Reduced Realtor Fee FSBO- 3 bd, 2 bath sunroom quiet neighborhood Austin School Private Backyard 2134 sq. ft. 1809 Holly Call 669-7039 683-0041

Reduced Realtor Fee FSBO- Double Wide Mobile Home, quiet neighborhood, new 28x27 workshop large carport large corner lot 208 Kirkman (Groom) Call 669-7039 683-0041

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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.

10-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

Y VXFUMIYJ FVXCJP YJFX

VYTW Y KWHXTWKO KXXL

YPDXMAMAN IVW HYFVMWK'F

XZZMHW — ZKYAHMF X'GYJFV

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE ONLY WOMEN WHO DRESS TO PLEASE THEIR HUSBANDS ARE WEARING LAST YEAR'S CLOTHES. — UNKNOWN SOURCE

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Horoscope BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Oct. 11, 2003:

You might find that partnerships in general develop in importance, especially this year. You relate well individually with others, though you might not be as comfortable in groups. You make money through an unusual gift or talent that you decide to use this year. You also might want to indulge yourself more than you have in many years. Be careful with spending. Clear out what doesn't work in your life, as you are about to enter a new phase or life cycle next year. If single, you will meet many people, and even choose to relate to one or two. However, check out your amours before you become involved. If attached, your relationship benefits from plenty of downtime together. Do what you did when you first started dating. TAURUS serves as 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)

**** Play Ralph Nader. Check out an investment or new purchase with care. Everyone seems to let go and enjoy himself, or herself, you included. Prepare to spend some, but make it your pleasure. A child or loved one might let you know what he or she wants. Tonight: Your treat.

TAURUS (April 20-May-20)

**** With the Moon in your sign, you become extremely happy and magnetic, if that is your natural personality. You might find it difficult to slow down once you get started. Use today as one of your power days of the month. Go for what you want. Tonight: Keep on smiling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

** Know when to vanish. Make today one of those special days when you want to put up your feet and enjoy yourself, perhaps with one special person, or maybe do things that you like. Your prime job is to cater to you. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** An invitation from a friend might mean a lot. Don't say "no." Take off, whether you learn to enjoy a new sport or pastime. Wherever you are, a party naturally seems to erupt. Focus on what you want. You'll get just that. Tonight: The more the merrier.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** You just might want to let go and enjoy yourself. Yet a responsibility calls that might demand attention, be it an older relative or something else. Handle what you must graciously, even if it means working this Saturday. Tonight: A must appearance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Yesterday's Full Moon launched you in directions you never really anticipated going. Laugh and lighten up, as you are suddenly exposed to a whole new universe. You might be surprised by what comes down. Return calls. Tonight: Be especially gentle with someone you care about.

LIBRA

Gun industry close to winning national exemption from lawsuits

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawsuits blaming firearm makers for gun crimes may soon become a thing of the past, as the Senate nears approval of a legal exemption for the industry.

Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, has 44 Republican co-sponsors for his bill to immunize gun manufacturers and distributors from lawsuits arising from crimes in which guns were used.

Despite a threatened filibuster by some Democrats, the bill also has the support of 10 Democrats, among them Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota.

Ending a filibuster requires the votes of 60 senators. Craig said that with 10 Democrats now on his side, he is confident that five of the six Republican senators who are not co-sponsors of the bill will supply the votes he needs to break any filibuster.

"I think I have my 60 votes to proceed when necessary," Craig said.

Gun control advocates — including some representing vic-

tims of last year's sniper spree in the Washington area — say they still plan to lobby the issue heavily in hopes of changing a few minds in the Senate.

"Why does the gun industry deserve special protection?" said Dennis Henigan, legal director of the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

Henigan is working on lawsuits filed by nine families of sniper victims against Bulls Eye Shooter Supply of Tacoma, Wash., which said it lost track of the .223-caliber Bushmaster AR-15 carbine found with sniper defendants John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo.

They have sued the store and the weapon manufacturer, Bushmaster Firearms Inc. of Windham, Maine, for damages.

"We're asking for a chance to go in front of other Americans and ask, 'Is the behavior of these manufacturers appropriate?'" former Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose said at a news conference held this summer by opponents of Craig's bill.

Gun advocates say firearm makers shouldn't be forced to spend millions of dollars fighting off lawsuits designed to win

large rewards and bankrupt them for making a legal product.

"We have no problem with people going after those who knowingly violate the law," said Andrew Arulanandam, a spokesman for the National Rifle Association.

However, "in recent years, we've seen the gun ban groups and the trial lawyers try to litigate this industry out of existence," Arulanandam said.

Daschle agreed to get behind the legislation after gun supporters agreed to specify that firearms manufacturers and distributors would not be protected from lawsuits involving defective products or illegal sales.

"It is a misuse of the civil justice system to try to punish honest, law-abiding people for illegal acts committed by others without their knowledge or involvement," Daschle said two weeks ago.

Since 1998, at least 33 municipalities, counties and states have sued gun makers, many claiming that manufacturers, through irresponsible marketing, allowed weapons to reach criminals. None of the suits so far has resulted in a manufacturer or distributor paying any damages.

Philadelphia mayor saying FBI confiscated computer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Mayor John F. Street said FBI agents confiscated his BlackBerry handheld computer shortly after police discovered hidden listening devices in his City Hall offices earlier this week.

The revelation Thursday came as the Democrat tried to get his re-election campaign back on track two days after the bugs were found, insisting that he has done nothing wrong and has been assured by prosecutors that he is not the target of a federal probe.

The BlackBerry, the mayor said, was taken by an FBI agent just hours after the devices were found by city police during a routine security sweep Tuesday morning.

Street, who is in a tight race for re-election with the vote less than four weeks away, said he gave the BlackBerry, which sends wireless e-mails, to Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson, who turned it over to the FBI.

The mayor said he asked Johnson about the device some 15 hours later.

"I said, 'What happened to the BlackBerry?' He said, 'I gave it to them. You'll get it back in a couple days.' I said, 'No problem,'" Street said at a news conference following a Thursday night debate with Republican challenger Sam Katz. "I still don't know why anybody is interested in it."

Federal law enforcement sources speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity have confirmed that the devices found in Street's office were planted by the FBI, but have declined to say why.

Since the bugging was discovered, Street has denied any knowledge of an investigation and called on the FBI to explain its actions, but he has also drawn criticism from Katz, who said after the debate that he believed "there is substantially more than the mayor has disclosed to the public."

Asked why he had not previously disclosed that agents asked for the BlackBerry, Street said, "Because nobody asked ... I just didn't think about it."

Reports have been swirling for months about investigations into the city's dealings with private companies.

The FBI subpoenaed records from the Philadelphia school district this summer related to the Liberty Academy Charter School, a privately run public school that is scheduled to open next year and was founded by Faridah Ali, the wife of one of Philadelphia's more influential Muslim leaders, Shamsud-din Ali.

A day after the bugs were found in Street's office Tuesday, FBI agents raided the Philadelphia headquarters of a tax-collection business affiliated with Shamsud-din Ali, Keystone Information and Financial Services.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCK/CHANGE YOUR BATTERY CAMPAIGN

• Home Fires

—Somewhere in the nation, a home fire death occurs approximately every three hours.

—The peak time for home fire fatalities is between 10 p.m.-6 a.m. — when most people are asleep.

—Only 25 percent of families in the United States have developed and practiced a home fire escape plan to ensure they could escape quickly and safely. Developing a family emergency escape plan can be crucial to everyone's safety.

—Households with non-working smoke alarms now outnumber those with no smoke alarms.

—Smoke alarms most often fail because of missing, dead or disconnected batteries.

—Fire deaths peak in the winter months — December through February. Smoking materials (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, etc.) and poorly installed, poorly maintained or misused portable or area heating equipment are leading causes of fatal home fires.

—Tragically, many people mistakenly believe they'd be awakened by the smell of smoke in time to escape. Clinical experiments have found that the sense of smell actually lessens when people are asleep. Therefore, when smoke enters a bedroom it does not always awaken the individual. In addition, smoke disorients people and dulls their senses, making it less likely that other cues, such as cries for help, will awaken them. This is why working home smoke alarms are so important.

—Home fires caused almost \$5.5 billion in direct property damage during 2000.

• Children and Home Fires

—Children are particularly vulnerable during home fires. Children ages five and under are twice as likely as the population as a whole to die in home fires.

—Three out of five child fatalities from home fires are a result of children playing with fire, igniting mattresses, bedding, upholstered furniture or clothing.

—An average of nearly three children under the age of 20 die each day in home fires — roughly 1,000 children each year. In addition, about 4,200 children under age 20 are injured in home fires each year.

—Eighty percent of the fatal home fire victims who were children were killed by fires in homes without working smoke alarms.



Shoe Warehouse



Thur., Oct 9th, 9am sharp! - Don't Miss Our...

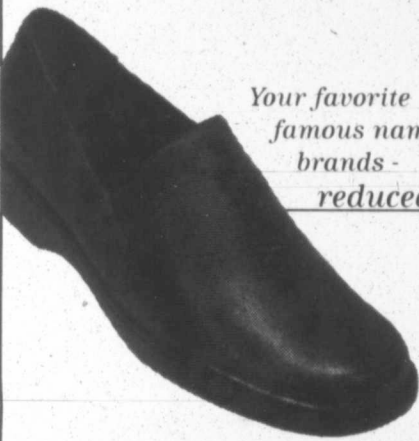
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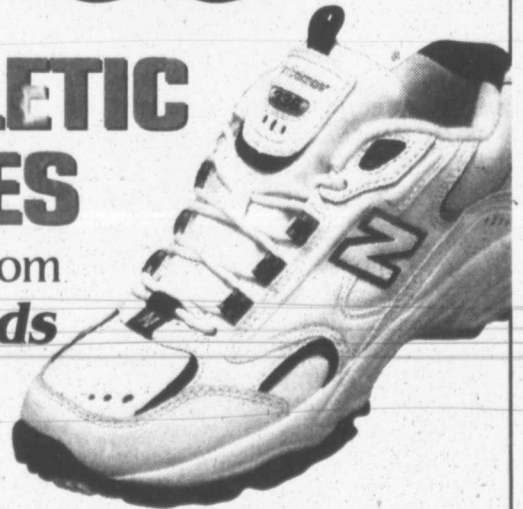


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