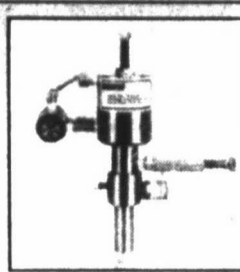


JOHN T. KING & SONS

OILFIELD SPECIALTY ... UNITS • PARTS • SERVICES
918 S. BARNES • 806-669-3711



INSIDE...
Classified7
Comics4
Sports5

THE Pampa

***** ALL FOR ADC 780
#01 BV04227 12/31/14
SOUTHWEST MICRO PUBLISHING
2627 E YANDELL DR
EL PASO TX 79903-3743

Daily • Sunday \$1
o. 909 • Pampa, Texas

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2004

DEATHS

Helen Dinsmore, 80,
homemaker.

**Tree Planting
Season Is Here**

**WEST TEXAS
LANDSCAPE**
120 S. HOBART 669-0158

CHILDERS BROTHERS INC
HOUSE LEVELING

Uneven Floors
Floor Bracing
Cracks In Bricks
Sticking Doors & Windows
Interior Wall Cracking
FREE ESTIMATES
1-800-299-9563
WWW.CHILDERSLEVELING.COM

**FRED BROWN
TREE AND TURF**

Tree & Yard Spraying
Insect & Weed Control
Deep Root Feeding

CELL 806-662-3141
PAMPA, TX.

**Business
Retirement Plan**

Duane Harp
1921 N. Hobart
Pampa, TX 79065
665-6753

Edward Jones
Serving Individual Investors Since 1871
Member SIPC

**LENTZ
CONOCO**

300 N. Hobart 665-3281

Complete Auto Service

PENNZOIL Stop. Go. Pennzoil.

**Weightloss
To
Wellness
Herbalife**

Independent Distributor
Jim & Shari Morrison
806-665-8014

806-669-7253

**Blue Ribbon
REALTY**

PERSONALIZED SERVICE
BUYING • SELLING • RELOCATING
BROKER/OWNER JOHN H. GODDARD
CELL 806-595-1234
We Will Work With You Step By Step
Until You Sell Or Buy The Home Of Your Dreams

Better nutrition - at a higher cost

By SKYLA BRYANT
NEWS EDITOR

A new state school nutrition policy will cost the Pampa Independent School District a minimum of \$150,000, says Debbie Middleton, director of child nutrition for Pampa public schools.

And, she said, that figure only covers equipment costs attached to recent Texas Public School Nutrition Policy mandates.

The new policy goes into effect Aug. 1, according to a press release provided by the Texas Department of Agriculture. Middleton said the TDA oversees the national program at the state level.

At first glance the new policy threw her, she said, but upon further investigation found that Pampa ISD is already

in compliance with most of the pivotal criteria.

Unfortunately, the PISD nutrition director explained, no funding is attached to the new mandates. School districts must provide the funds to cover costs out of their own pockets.

"It is not as bad as it looked at first," Middleton said, but added the new policy still "will cost (the local school district) money."

Middleton reported that \$150,000 was the figure arrived at to cover just the equipment involved in implementing the new regulations. More funds, she said, will be required to complete installation, such as power to the equipment, new drains, etc.

Middleton says she feels for larger school systems such as Amarillo, where the costs could be astronomical. The news release from the TDA

reports that the new policy calls for reduced or "limited" portion sizes "for food items such as chips, cookies, bakery items and frozen desserts at elementary, middle and high schools."

"The policy," the news release says, "limits the number of grams of fat and sugar Texas schoolchildren may have each week, and allows a phase-in period to eliminate deep-fat frying in food preparation for meals, a la carte and snack items."

Middleton said Pampa schools had mostly eliminated deep-frying prior to the mandates on all food stuffs except French fries.

Besides the impact on cafeteria procedure, the policy will eliminate all competitive food sales during school hours.

The TDA press release states: "The policy also limits the sale of foods that

compete with a school's operation of the breakfast, lunch or after school snack programs. A school can lose up to \$1.20 at breakfast and \$2.19 at lunch in federal reimbursements for each meal lost to a competitive food sale."

Middleton used DECA Mart at Pampa High School as an example of a program not allowed as policy currently stands. She said she is not hopeful of any softening of the regulations.

She said the school system will also "have to modify some snack food we already sell."

If a school is found in noncompliance, reports the nutrition director, the TDA, acting on behalf of the national program, can "reclaim all reimbursement" for that day or however many days the school(s) are in noncompliance.

(See NUTRITION, Page 3)

Police evacuate local eatery after bomb threat call

By MARILYN POWERS
STATE WRITER

Somebody must not be lovin' it at Mickey D's.

A bomb threat was phoned in to Pampa's 911 emergency call system at about 7 p.m. last Friday, according to a Pampa Police Department spokesperson. The caller, who was calling on a cell phone, said there was a bomb at the Pampa McDonald's.

Police, along with two units and six firefighters from Pampa Fire Department, responded to the call. They evacuated the restaurant, located at 1201 N. Hobart, and searched the entire building and immediate area for a bomb.

No bomb was found, however, and business was allowed to resume at the fast-food eatery.

The case has been turned over to the Criminal Investigation Division of the police department for further investigation, the spokesperson said.

GOP resolutions committee



(Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers)

Gary Willoughby, Doug Locke and John Triplehorn, seated from left, all members of the county Republican resolutions committee, discuss their recommendations at Saturday's county Republican meeting, held in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 318 N. Cuyler. GOP county delegates met at 10 a.m. to consider resolutions and rules to be forwarded to the state party convention, and to elect delegates and alternates to the state GOP convention, June 3-5 in San Antonio.

Sharon ally: Corruption probe won't derail Gaza plan

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is determined to withdraw Israeli troops and settlers from much of the Gaza Strip, despite a mounting corruption probe that could drive him out of office, a close ally of the prime minister said Monday.

Sharon suffered his latest setback Monday when the Supreme Court ordered his son to hand over potentially incriminating documents relat-

ed to a pair of corruption cases, including a bribery probe involving the prime minister.

The decision came a day after Israel's chief prosecutor, Edna Arbel, recommended that the elder Sharon and his son be indicted in the 1999 bribery case, in which a real estate developer allegedly paid the Sharon family hundreds of thousands of dollars in exchange for help in promot-

ing a tourism project.

The final decision on whether to indict Sharon is up to Israel's attorney general, who is expected to rule within weeks.

The mounting problems have prompted opposition calls for Sharon to step down. On Monday, opposition legislator Yossi Sarid said he asked the prime minister during a closed-door parliamentary hearing to suspend himself

while the investigation is pending. Sarid quoted Sharon as telling him: "I am functioning as I should."

Sarid initially said Sharon did not reply.

The investigations also have weakened Sharon's standing in his own Likud Party, throwing into doubt his plan to withdraw from most of the Gaza Strip and isolated West Bank settlements. Sharon has said he would go ahead if

peace making with the Palestinian remains stalled.

Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, a close ally of the prime minister, told Israel Radio on Monday that Sharon will not be deterred.

"I am convinced that disengagement plan will advance and in the end will be carried out. The prime minister is determined to do this," Olmert said.

(See GAZA, Page 3)

Rumsfeld discounts criticism that Bush ignored al-Qaida threat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld insisted Sunday that Iraq was not a distraction for the Bush administration in the days before and after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Rumsfeld sought to counter the contention of President Bush's former chief counterterrorism adviser, Richard Clarke, who testified last week that the administration was preoccupied with Iraq and ignored the threat posed by Osama bin Laden and his al-Qaida terrorist network.

"If one looks at what was done, we went to Afghanistan, we didn't go to

Iraq," Rumsfeld told ABC's "This Week."

"It was a highly successful effort and it did not destroy al-Qaida. But it certainly took away their training, their haven, and it certainly destroyed the Taliban and eliminated them from running that country. That's what the president's action was. It wasn't Iraq. It was Afghanistan."

Asked if Bush should apologize to the Sept. 11 families for the government's failure to prevent the attacks, Rumsfeld said the president has made clear his sorrow.

"I think the president has recognized the failure that existed and the concern he has for those people and the fact that the government, our government, was there and that attack took place. I don't know quite what else one would do," the defense secretary said on "Fox News Sunday."

In public hearings last week to an independent commission investigating the attacks, Clarke apologized to the families of Sept. 11 victims. He said their government failed them and he did, too.

Rumsfeld said the commission's

review should look forward and identify actions the administration should be taking to prevent future attacks.

"Now, the question is, what do you do about it, going forward? And it seems to me that the task now is to say, what ought we to be doing today so that the next attack does not happen," Rumsfeld said. "There's no question there will be attempts for additional attacks."

The reality, Rumsfeld said, "is that terrorists can attack any time at any minute, 24 hours a day, using a variety

(See RUMSFELD, Page 3)

Brown's Shoe Warehouse

Open 7 Days A Week
Monday-Saturday 9-7
Sunday 1-5
1500 North Hobart
Pampa • 665-5691

GET FIT WEEK...
Coupon Valid Thru April 30, 2004

Additional \$500 OFF
Any Athletic Shoe Up To \$99.97

Additional \$1000 OFF
Any Athletic Shoe Over \$99.97

M
A
R
2
9
2
0
0
4

Next space tourist will bring along his own experiments

By MICHAEL P. REGAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — The next civilian to be rocketed into orbit at his own expense won't just be enjoying the ride: Gregory Olsen, a scientist who made a fortune with optics inventions, plans to do some research during his \$20 million trip to the International Space Station.

Olsen, the founder of Sensors Unlimited Inc. in Princeton, N.J., has hired the company that brokered the first space tourist trip, millionaire Dennis Tito's flight aboard a Russian spacecraft in 2001.

The 58-year-old Olsen told The Associated Press he plans to bring along infrared sensors, which detect varying levels of heat, to analyze pollution in

the Earth's atmosphere and the health of agricultural systems on the ground.

At a news conference Monday, he also said he wants to take the camera and "turn it around to look at the heavens and do infrared astronomy."

"I kind of feel this is a way of paying back," he said. The remote sensing experiment is "really what the buzz is for me," he said, "as well as the kick of being in space for a week."

Olsen also hopes the weightlessness of space will help him grow better versions of special crystals used in infrared sensors and other high-tech applications, though he hasn't finalized these plans.

He plans to publish his findings in scientific journals.

Olsen also aims to inspire

young people with his mission, and hopes to arrange a video hookup with Trenton High School in Trenton, N.J., and another school at the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana.

The entrepreneur said he has no worries for his safety, even with memories of the 2003 space shuttle Columbia disaster fresh in his mind.

"Every day, you pick up the paper and read there's an auto accident, or an airplane accident. And still you use both of those things," he said. "I never even think about it when I get on a plane."

Olsen, who is divorced and single with a house in Princeton and a condo in the Time Warner Center in Manhattan, said his two grown daughters are supportive of

the mission.

He leaves for Star City, Russia, this week to begin six months of training for his flight aboard the Soyuz to the ISS. The eight-day voyage is scheduled for April 2005, but there's a chance he could go this October.

The trip's \$20 million price is what Tito paid in 2001 and South African Mark Shuttleworth paid in 2002 for strictly tourist trips.

Eric Anderson, chief executive of Space Adventures, of Arlington, Va., would not elaborate on his company's financial arrangement with the Russian government.

Space Adventures hopes to eventually send two tourist aboard a Soyuz flight flown by a Russian cosmonaut. That would mean there would be no room to bring a cosmonaut or astronaut home from the ISS on the return flight, so someone's ISS mission would be extended from six months to one year.

Unlike Lance Bass, the pop singer who wanted to ride a Russian rocket to space but

couldn't come up with the funds, Olsen says he has more than enough to cover the costs.

His research into crystals, part of which was funded by NASA, led to devices that help fiber-optic networks perform more efficiently. He sold his company, Sensors Unlimited, to optical-network parts-maker Finisar Corp. for \$700 million in 2000.

"You'll have to check with my Merrill Lynch advisers for an accurate number," he joked. "I was very fortunate in that deal."

In 2002, Olsen led a management buyback of the Sensors Unlimited name and licenses for some technologies from Finisar for \$6.1 million.

Since then, with the help of small defense contracts, the company has focused on developing infrared, range-finding cameras for guided missiles and other military applications. The sensors have been used by NASA to detect ice on space vehicles.

NASA is not complaining about its ISS partner's latest plan to collect a fare from a

private citizen in exchange for a ride.

"NASA has no problems with what the Russian space agency is doing because they're following procedures," spokesman Robert Jacobs said.

The United States slowly has been warming to the idea of space tourism.

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that would regulate commercial space flights, allow permits for experimental trips, and release the government of indemnity in case of a fatal disaster during an experimental flight.

Space Adventures hopes to cash in on the interest in space. It already offers trips aboard a Russian MiG-25 to "the edge of space," or 80,000 feet above the Earth, for about \$18,000.

Olsen took one of these flights last year, with the adventure whetting his appetite for space travel.

"When you get up and you can see the curvature of the Earth and you look up and it's dark, man that's just fabulous," he said. "It's a real thrill."

Free financial planning seminar for senior citizens set March 31

A free seminar on estate and financial planning protection is set for 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 31, at Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis.

To Amarillo professionals are to present information on the following topics:

- Protect assets from nursing home expenses;
- Avoid taxes on Social Security;
- Cut long-term care insurance premiums in half;
- Multi-generational planning;

- Avoid market losses with guaranteed investments;
- Using trusts to avoid legal problems and costs on death or disability; and
- How to transfer an ill person's assets.

Amarillo attorney Melissa Griggs specializes in estate planning issues and probate with 20 years of experience. Mark McKay, certified senior estate planner with Senior Financial Solutions, has 14 years of financial planning experience. His specialty is helping seniors manage, pro-

tect and transfer wealth.

"We'll show people how retirees can protect their assets and transfer them efficiently to their children and grandchildren," McKay said.

"It is crucial for seniors have their estate plans reviewed after the 2001 tax law changes. Wills or trusts that would've worked perfectly well in 2000 may have unintended consequences for families now," Griggs added.

Seating is limited. For reservations, call 1-877-373-8341.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

GAZA

Sharon's aides have declined to comment on the corruption probes. But privately, they say the prime minister has no plans to resign.

The prospect of an unprecedented indictment of an Israeli prime minister could have immediate political consequences — undermining Sharon's plan to pull out of Gaza, or conversely, pushing him to speed up the pullout to ward off legal action.

Under Israeli legal precedent, a Cabinet minister who is indicted must step aside. But Sharon advisers say that doesn't apply to prime ministers, promising a court fight over the issue if an indictment is handed down.

Even if Sharon survives an indictment, his government might not last. A coalition partner, the Shinui Party, has said it will leave the govern-

ment if he is charged.

A collapse of the government would put the withdrawal plan in doubt. Sharon's most likely successor, former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, has shown little enthusiasm for pulling out of Gaza or the West Bank, areas captured in the 1967 Mideast war, with or without a peace deal.

In the meantime, Sharon faces fierce opposition to a Gaza pullback in his Cabinet — where hardline ministers opposed to territorial concessions have considerable sway — and has failed to win U.S. guarantees that would make the plan more palatable to such critics. Sharon is scheduled to travel to Washington next month for talks on the withdrawal.

Sharon met with ministers of his Likud Party on Sunday night to discuss the disengagement plan. During the talks, Foreign Minister Silvan

Shalom, an influential party leader, said he opposes the one-sided withdrawal, participants said.

There has been some speculation that the opposition Labor Party would join Sharon's coalition if hard-liners bolt over a Gaza withdrawal.

However, Dalia Itzik, a senior Labor legislator, said Monday that her party would not make a decision until the attorney general has decided whether to hand down an indictment.

Sharon's legal troubles have also caused concerns on the Palestinian side.

"We view this as an internal Israeli matter, but we worry that the Israeli government may attempt to divert the attention of the Israeli public from this corruption scandal to more Palestinian assassinations, incursions and bloodshed," said Cabinet minister Saeb Erekat.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

RUMSFELD

of techniques, in any place at all."

The administration began a furious counterattack after Clarke's testimony, which came a day after his tell-all book critical of Bush went on sale.

Rumsfeld contended that he has been quoted by Clarke as saying things in a Sept. 4 meeting that the Pentagon chief did not attend.

"It's hard for me to explain

a person who would characterize a conversation in a meeting that I was not even in the room, or the building when it supposedly took place," Rumsfeld said.

National security adviser Condoleezza Rice, who has declined to appear publicly before the commission, has sharply criticized Clarke. She has said Clarke praised Bush's anti-terror efforts while working for the president, but then began telling a different story after leaving his post and writ-

ing his book.

Rice has met privately with the Sept. 11 commission to answer questions, and the White House has offered to let her meet with the panel for a second time behind closed doors to clear up "mischaracterizations" of her statements and positions.

Rice was to be interviewed on CBS' "60 Minutes" on Sunday night, a week after Clarke discussed his book on the program.

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

NUTRITION

"I sell 2,000 reimbursable meals a day," Middleton said.

At this point, she is uncertain of other measures against schools failing to meet the proper guidelines.

Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program and After School Snack Program are bound by the new regulations and have, Middleton said, one year to phase in the new changes.

Grand Opening
Saturday, April 3rd
1807 Alcock

Oil change, transmission change, state inspections, free pick up and delivery, call 688-8042

Not just oil. Pennzoil.™

ANNIVERSARY SAVINGS

MARCH 29TH - APRIL 3RD

Thank You

For A Wonderful First Year

SAVE 10% ON SPRING SILK ARRANGEMENTS & WREATHS

Register To Win...

Door Prizes Each Day At Noon

Bridal Bouquet Worth Up To \$100

A Free Arrangement Delivered To Your Work Or Home In Pampa Each Month For A Year ... Valued Up To \$25 Each

Brandon's

FLOWERS

IN A FLASH

Full Service Florist • Brandon Richards
2143 N. Hobart • 665-5546

M
A
R

2
9

2
0
0
4

The Pampa News Comics

DEAR ABBY

written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips

Mother of Sons Dreads Her Future as a Mother-in-Law

DEAR ABBY: I have three wonderful sons, ranging in age from 12 to 19. For the last 10 years, I have had bouts of depression when I think about losing them to girlfriends or wives. I keep remembering all the negative mother-in-law jokes and the derogatory commercials I have seen. How can anyone think that a mother can turn off her love for a son because another woman might get jealous or possessive? It is pounded into everyone's head that mothers-in-law are horrible and unworthy of communication and love from their son and his family.

I am sick of it! I'm a good person. I love my sons with every ounce of my being. I'll be there for them whenever I am needed. It is horrifying to me that the first time I might say something that doesn't suit my son's wife, she'll cut me out of their lives.

Men are such doormats for their girlfriends and wives! Why don't they stand up for their mothers the way we stood up for them? -- SICK OF THE BAD REP

DEAR SICK: Where did you get the idea that the majority of in-law relationships are dysfunctional? Women who welcome their daughters-in-law and don't treat them as rivals usually have warm and loving relationships. Have you ever heard of a self-fulfilling prophecy? I am concerned that your preconceptions will poison your future relationships. Please discuss them with a psychotherapist, and don't put it off.

DEAR ABBY: I live with a man I'll call Elmer who is, for the most part, a great guy. He accepted my son as his own and provided for him the same way he does for our daughter. We have a nice home, material com-

forts, and Elmer makes sure all our bills are covered if I can't afford to pay them myself.

Last year, I decided I wanted to go and swim with the dolphins -- literally. I told Elmer this is a spiritual thing, something I want to do for myself and by myself. Elmer tends to be sort of a control freak, but if I stand my ground, he usually backs down. With this dolphin thing, though, he's making my life miserable.

Elmer has 1,001 reasons for me not to take the trip, none of which are valid.

What can I do to make him see that there are plenty of couples who sometimes take separate trips? He says if I love him, I won't go without him. He didn't give me this hard a time when I changed religions. -- NEEDS ADVICE IN MARYLAND

DEAR NEEDS: Since I don't know Elmer, it's hard to say what you can do to reassure him. He may be afraid that you will get in over your head -- literally. Or he may feel insecure about the relationship he has with you since you are not married.

However, in life we must all follow our own spiritual paths. We must also prioritize our wishes in the order of their importance. If swimming with the dolphins is more important to you than Elmer, then you will have to dive in, even if it means swimming through the rest of your life without him.

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. COPYRIGHT 2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

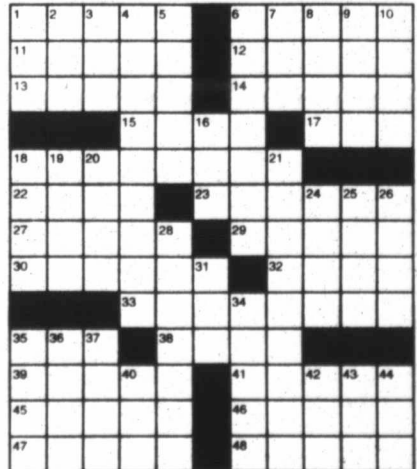
- 1 Two-masted boats
- 6 Pick up the bill
- 11 Poet T.S.
- 12 Blackjack phrase
- 13 Sluggo's pal
- 14 Wanders
- 15 Painter Paul
- 17 Parking place
- 18 1862 Civil War battle
- 22 Pride member
- 23 Beautiful boy
- 27 Cord ends
- 29 Play part
- 30 Frames
- 32 Hudson of "Almost Famous"
- 33 Go all out
- 35 Soup buy
- 38 Enthusiastic
- 39 Hawaiian greeting
- 41 Spy
- 45 Fifth element
- 46 Bleader button
- 47 Play place
- 48 Generate

CDROM GOOSE
HEAVY OWNER
ANTES DEFER
POINTS LIKE
ETO ENDURED
LEN REAPER
PIERS
BREEZY PAL
COUNSEL ACE
RON SHASTA
ABOMB ASTIN
SOFAR LEAVE
SOFIA LASER

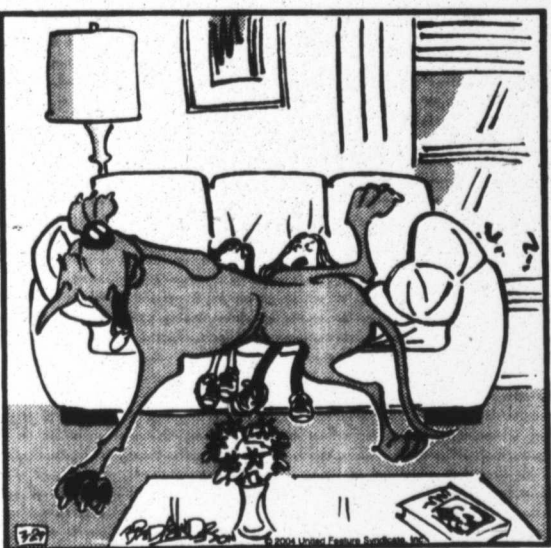
Saturday's answer

- 20 Extol
- 21 Making a model of
- 24 Tidy
- 25 Wild about
- 26 Spotted
- 28 Washing-ton city
- 31 Take to court
- 34 Harvests
- 35 Truck parts
- 36 Scads
- 37 Nick's wife
- 40 Glutton
- 42 Historic time
- 43 Fresh
- 44 Decimal base

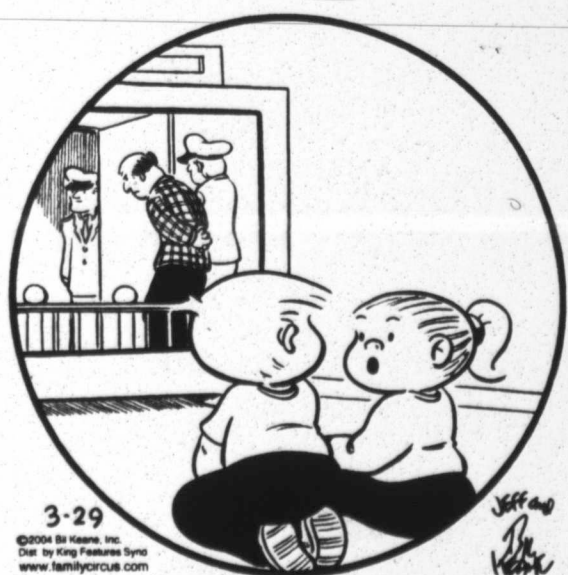
NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



Marmaduke



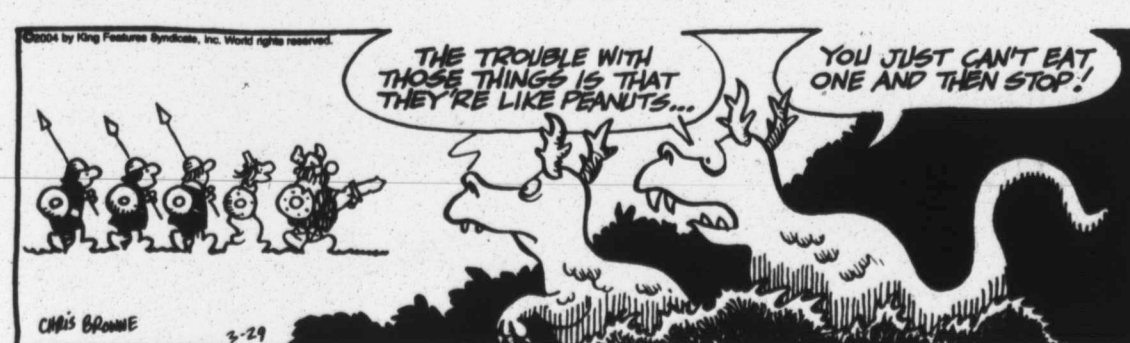
The Family Circus



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



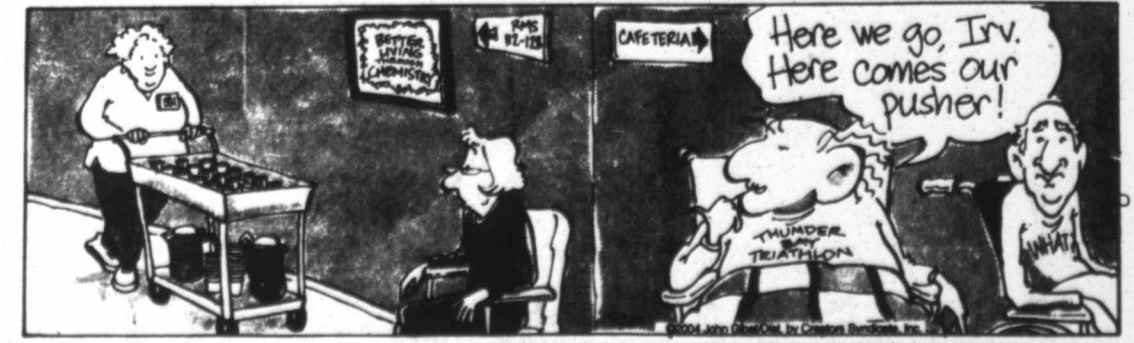
Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



No...
BASKE...
ORLAN...
— A blow...
Dallas Mav...
of the sting...
trip.
Dirk...
points and...
the Maveri...
victory ov...
Magic, w...
Tracy Mc...
lost eight s...
Nowitzk...
in double...
Mavs snap...
losing stre...
"We w...
these, and...
approach...
trip." Nov...
it's been a...
HORSE...
SUNLA...
N.M. (AP)...
wore dow...
the stretch...
tory in...
WinStar/S...
Derby, Ne...
est throug...
The li...
chestnut...
long shot...
his racing...
beat a fie...
that incl...
Baffert-tra...
Consecra...
Forest.
BASEBA...
BOSTO...
judge has...
25 pretrial...
ball play...
Karim G...
accused o...
tery in a b...
playoff ga...
Roxbu...
Judge E...
expecting...
at the Ma...
district...
spokesma...
said Mon...
Attorn...
ers, who...
in court f...
hearing, d...
return ca...
ment.
Nelson...
charged i...
a fight th...
New Yor...
on Oct...
Three o...
League...
Series bet...
and the S...
Garcia...
New Yo...
Nelson p...
Rangers.
Paul...
Derry, N...
Fenway I...
er and a...
teacher,
charges...
plaint of...
He is due...
a pretrial...
5.
Willia...
Nelson at...
than \$33...
bills and...
ing Nels...
because...
for the...
Yankee b...
But N...
was Wi...
voked th...
pitcher...
not to ch...

Court document details settlement in Tulia bust

AMARILLO (AP) — Details on the portion of a settlement in a lawsuit over a now-discredited drug bust that relates to defendants from this Panhandle city are reportedly detailed in a court document.

The city of Amarillo and three police officers, leaders of a multiagency task force that ran the allegedly racially motivated drug busts in Tulia, announced a settlement agreement had been reached with the plaintiffs earlier this month.

The Amarillo Globe-News said in Monday's online edition that it had obtained an unsigned copy of the settlement document draft from the city's legal department last week.

The Tulia plaintiffs, in the document, release the city, Chief Jerry Neal, Lt. Mike Amos and Sgt. Jerry Massengill of liability in the undercover investigation that led to their arrests. The wording avoids pinning responsibility for the investigation on Amarillo or the three officers.

The city of Amarillo settled with 45 of the defendants March 11, agreeing to pay \$5 million and effectively disband the task force to which Tom Coleman, the lone undercover agent in the busts, was assigned. One defendant died before going to trial.

Cities and counties that were not part of the settlement reached between Amarillo and plaintiffs in the drug bust had continued to negotiate toward an agreement.

A judge later found Coleman's investigation to be flawed. Charges were dropped against some of residents and the governor pardoned the others.

The settlement document stated that the Amarillo defendants hadn't admitted and don't admit "responsibility or liability to pay any amount of damages," but instead deny such blame. It states that the settlement represents the "compromise of disputes and controversies" between the parties.

City Attorney Marcus Norris, on the day the settlement was announced, acknowledged wrongdoing had occurred.

But Norris and City Manager John Ward focused their regrets on the task force system and the risk Amarillo was exposed to while being a part of it.

"It passed the scrutiny of a lot of attorneys and city councils when it was set up that way," Ward said. "I accept my share of the blame; I didn't stop it."

Iran says it has stopped building centrifuges to win trust for nuclear program

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran has stopped building centrifuges, which can be used for uranium enrichment, in an effort to win the world's trust over its nuclear program, the head of its Atomic Energy Organization said Monday.

The comments by Gholamreza Aghazadeh came with inspectors from the U.N. nuclear agency in Iran to check on its nuclear facilities.

Aghazadeh said the suspension of the construction of centrifuges had been ordered by the country's Supreme National Security Council, Iran's top decision-making body.

Iran suspended uranium enrichment last year under strong international pressure over the aims and dimensions of its nuclear program. But it continued to build centrifuges, which are used in enrichment, despite criticism that this violated the spirit of its pledge to cease enrichment.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has voluntarily expanded (the enrichment) suspension to include the production of components and assembly," state television quoted Aghazadeh as saying on its Web site.

An official of the Atomic Energy Organization explained that this referred to centrifuges and said it had been done to build greater trust with the U.N. agency, the International Atomic Energy Organization, and with Iran's European partners.

"So far, we had suspended injecting gas into centrifuges as part of a deal reached with the European countries," the official told The Associated Press, referring to the enrichment suspension. "Now, we have voluntarily suspended production and assembly of centrifuge machines."

"Let the world know that Iran is doing this voluntarily to win greater trust in the world," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"Iran is taking this unilateral decision in the expectation that Iran's nuclear dossier will be taken off the IAEA's agenda," he added.

The United States has been pushing the U.N. agency to declare that Iran has breached its duties as a signatory to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which allows nuclear development only for peaceful purposes.

America strongly suspects that Iran has a secret program to build nuclear weapons. Iran denies this, saying its nuclear program is strictly for generating electricity.

Earlier this month, the IAEA rebuked Iran for failing to disclose certain aspects of its nuclear development. Last year IAEA inspectors found radioactive particles that had been enriched to weapons-grade level — higher than what Iran requires for fuel for a nuclear reactor. Iran said the particles had been found on imported equipment.



C J Johnston



Margaret Hill

WE HAVE MOVED
 Gray County
 Insurance
 Services Inc.
 DBA
Johnston-Hill
 Agency
 graycoins@sbcglobal.net
 1712 N Hobart
 2 doors north of Rent A Center
 Pampa, TX 79065
 806-665-4133 or toll free
 866-665-2788

Is your auto or home insurance SKY HIGH? Come in or call for a quote
 We have Hartford, MetLife Auto, Safeco,
 Foremost, AIG,
 Dairyland and many other companies
 Auto, Home, Commercial, Mobile Homes, Motor Homes, Motorcycle, Life

Official: 19 die, 26 hurt in Uzbek attacks, explosion at bomb factory

By **BURT HERMAN**
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AP) — A series of bombings and attacks linked to Islamic militants, including the first known suicide missions in Uzbekistan, killed 19 people and injured 26, the prosecutor-general said Monday.

"A preliminary investigation shows all the events are interconnected and aimed at destabilization of the country," Prosecutor-General Rashid Kadyrov said after the attacks in the Central Asian country Sunday and Monday.

Female suicide bombers carried out the blasts at the Chorsu market, the biggest bazaar in Tashkent, near the "Children's World" store, and at a nearby bus stop, Kadyrov said.

Police and intelligence agents closed off the market in the capital's Old City.

A witness who did not give her name said she felt the ground shake when one of the

explosions went off. She said she saw a woman crying over the motionless body of a child.

President Islam Karimov said the attacks had been planned at least six months in advance and had been originally set to take place before the March 21 Central Asian new year holiday Navruz. The operation's planning and financing indicated it had outside support, he said.

"As the president, I promise all measures will be taken to stop such terrorist acts," Karimov said on state TV in a Russian translation of remarks in Uzbek.

Kadyrov said the events began Sunday night with a blast that killed 10 people at a house being used by an extremist in the central province of Bukhara.

There were also two attacks on police Sunday night and early Monday, killing three policemen. The two suicide bombings near the Chorsu bazaar, killed three policemen and a young

child, he said. Atonazar Arifov, leader of the opposition Erk party, also cited witnesses as saying that one of the suicide bombers had targeted a group of policemen.

Kadyrov said one person had been arrested and that authorities were searching for others.

Kadyrov said the attacks were carried out by Islamic extremists.

"The character and method of this act is not common to our people. It was probably exported from abroad," he said.

Foreign Minister Sadyk Safayev said the situation was stable.

"The terrorists aimed to create panic and chaos, but they didn't manage to do so," Safayev said. He also tied the attacks to ongoing terrorist violence in Iraq.

"Police are a soft target," he said. "We see a repeat of that which was tested abroad." Safayev declined to say

whether Monday's attack could have been linked to ongoing operations in Pakistan's border regions, in which a top leader of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, Tahir Yuldash, was wounded, according to Pakistani officials.

The U.S. Embassy in Tashkent warned that "other terrorists are believed still at large and may be attempting additional attacks." It cautioned Americans to be on "highest alert," and closed an embassy office in central Tashkent, although the main building remained open.

A resident of the city of Bukhara said on condition of anonymity that there were at least two explosions Monday in the Roshtan district, nine miles west of Bukhara. He said they were carried out by suicide bombers and killed several people.

One of the explosions, occurred near a mosque and another near a private house, he said.

New study suggests vitamin E in diet helps protect against bladder cancer

By **DANIEL Q. HANEY**
 AP MEDICAL EDITOR

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Getting plenty of vitamin E by eating foods like nuts and olive oil appears to cut in half people's risk of bladder cancer, the fourth leading cancer killer among men, a new study suggests.

The research, released at a cancer conference Sunday, is the latest blip in the ups and downs of perceptions about this nutrient's powers to ward off disease. Experts once had high hopes that vitamin E would prove to be an important safeguard against heart attacks. But that idea eventually faded as repeated studies failed to show any protective effect.

Whether vitamin E does anything to stop cancer is still far from proven, but some think the vitamin may be helpful, perhaps by warding off the damaging effects of oxygen. The strongest evidence of this so far has been against prostate cancer, and a large federally sponsored experiment is under way to help prove this.

The new study offers a strong hint that dietary vitamin E may also protect against bladder cancer, which kills about 12,500 Americans annually and is four times more common in men than women.

The study was based on questionnaires of the eating habits of about 1,000 Houston residents. Those whose vitamin E intake was in the top 25 percent had just half as much bladder cancer as those in the

lowest quarter. The actual difference in the amount of vitamin-rich food the two extremes ate was small, however, the equivalent of a single daily serving of spinach or a handful of almonds.

The research was funded largely by the state of Texas. It was presented by John Radcliffe, a nutrition researcher from Texas Woman's University, at a meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Orlando.

The reduction was roughly the same, regardless of whether people got their vitamin E from food alone or in combination with vitamin pills.

The team looked at the two most common forms of vitamin E, called alpha- and gamma-tocopherol, and found that only the alpha variety was linked with lower bladder cancer risk. Good sources of this include almonds, spinach, mustard greens, peppers, sunflower seeds and a variety of oils, including olive, cottonseed and canola.

Experts say it is too soon to make any firm recommendations about vitamin E intake for cancer prevention beyond the usual advice to eat plenty of vegetables and other plant-based foods.

"People need not be afraid to incorporate nuts and seeds into their diets," Radcliffe said. "For a long time, dietitians would not recommend them because they are high in fat. But half an ounce to an ounce of nuts and seeds daily would not shoot up someone's calorie levels appreciably."

Researchers would like to tease out which elements of the diet are especially healthful. Many studies have shown that people who eat lots of fruits and vegetables have lower risk of cancer. However, these foods contain more than 100 potentially helpful vitamins, minerals and other substances, and no one knows exactly which components do this.

Some wonder whether people who often eat fruits and vegetables have healthier living habits overall, so their diets might have little real importance. For now, the best scientists can do is recommend that people eat five or more servings daily of a variety of vegetables and fruits.

The strongest evidence of vitamin E's cancer effects comes from a study several years ago on nearly 30,000 Finnish smokers. It unexpectedly found those who took alpha-tocopherol pills lowered their prostate cancer risk by one-third. The same study shocked researchers by showing that another once high-flying nutrient, beta carotene, appeared to actually increase

their risk of lung cancer. A National Cancer Institute study now under way is testing the effects of 400 milligrams of vitamin E and 200 micrograms of selenium daily on more than 32,000 men for seven years to see if they reduce prostate cancer.

Dr. David Alberts, head of cancer prevention at the University of Arizona, said studies like Radcliffe's "are extremely helpful in raising a hypothesis. It is very difficult to make a recommendation" that people take vitamin supplements without a carefully conducted experiment, like the ongoing prostate cancer study.

The recommended U.S. intake of vitamin E is 15 milligrams daily, which is roughly the amount in a multivitamin.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Medical Editor Daniel Q. Haney is a special correspondent for The Associated Press.

On the Net:
 American Association for Cancer Research:
<http://www.aacr.org/2004AM/2004AM.asp>

PRICES UP TO 90% OFF
FLEXIBLE LAYAWAY PLANS
ON-LINE SHOPPING 24 HOURS A DAY AT
<http://www.topoftexasoutlet.com>

TOP O TEXAS OUTLET
 Wholesale Prices For The Public
 Coronado Center - Next To Hastings
 669-1995 • Mon.-Sat. 10-6

Brock's Weed Control
 Now Offering Residential and Commercial Lawn Care

- Fertilization
- Weed Control
- Insect Control
- One Time Applications
- Yearly Maintenance Programs

A Great Lawn this Summer Starts Now!

WINTER LAWN TIP: March is the time to get your pre-emergence down before any weeds like crabgrass, henbit, chickweed and dandelions sprout up. This is also a great time to add fertilizer to stimulate your grass roots. Our yearly program consists of this initial application plus 3 more applications throughout the year. Let us get started now so you'll have a beautiful lawn this summer!

Call Today to Set up Your Yearly Program
 (806) 665-4675
 2001 Milliron Rd. • Pampa, TX

PETE WATTS
Pumping Service
 Pampa, TX • (806) 669-2119

We're #1 in the #2 Business!

You Name It, We'll Pump It!

- Septic Tanks
- Wash Bay Pits
- Grease Traps
- Car Wash Sumps

For Local, Dependable Service
Call 669-2119