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# THE PAMPA NEWS

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## Guardian to be new EMS for area

Gray County gives unanimous approval

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Gray County commissioners Thursday unanimously approved a contract between the city and county and Guardian Emergency Medical Services of Bryan College Station to provide ambulance service to Pampa area residents.

A contract between the city and county to create and operate a city-run ambulance service was also approved, so that the required state license may be applied for in order for the city and county to be ready to take over ambulance service in future if necessary.

"We felt that regardless of what we do, we should go ahead and approve the contract, if it is to our liking, so they can go ahead and send it in for a license in case any contract with other agencies falls apart," Gray County Judge Richard Peet said during the 4 p.m. emergency meeting of county commissioners Thursday in the second-floor courtroom of Gray County Courthouse.

See COUNTY, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Gray County Judge Richard Peet, left, and Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins sign a joint city/county contract Thursday concerning local ambulance service. City and county commissioners had approved a joint ambulance service to be operated by the city.

City commissioners vote 4-1 for contract

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

After a number of weeks spent interviewing emergency service companies and then deciding to establish its own ambulance service, the Pampa City Commission voted Thursday to Gray County to provide emergency medical services through Guardian EMS, a Bryan College Station provider.

Rural Metro ambulance service announced earlier this year that they were pulling out of Pampa when their contract with the city expires in mid-July. The city and Gray County formed a task force to find replacement services and sent out a request for proposals in the spring.

Gray County and the City of Pampa had taken steps to form a joint ambulance service when, last Friday, Ricky Powell, head of Guardian EMS called and asked to meet with the task force.

"We had a good, long meeting with him," Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins said. Following Powell's presentation Wednesday afternoon to the task force.

See CITY, Page 3

## Pampa residents remember Reagan

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer



From left, Bob Price of Pampa, then-California Governor Ronald Reagan, and Jim Campbell of Pampa at a reception Sept. 29, 1974, in Amarillo during Price's campaign to win a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

As President Ronald Reagan is laid to rest at sunset today in California, several Pampans remember the man they feel fortunate to have met.

Before his presidency, Reagan was governor of California and campaigned for other Republican candidates in the 1970s. One of those candidates was Bob Price of Pampa, who ran for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

On Sept. 29, 1974, Reagan came to Pampa to aid in Price's campaign. He attended a barbecue at the Price Ranch, as well as a reception for Price that night at an Amarillo hotel.

"He was a wonderful guy. It was just instinctive with him and he just knew what to do about everything he was confronted with," Price said in a telephone interview this morning.

"He did a wonderful job, and rose to the occasion on about everything he tried to do. I guess one of the biggest things he did was getting the Russians to agree to reduce the number of nuclear weapons. Also, his call to tear down the Berlin wall," Price said.

*'He did a wonderful job, and rose to the occasion on about everything ...'*

Bob Price  
Former U.S. Congressman

Price served as a United States Congressman from Texas for eight years in the 1960s and 1970s, and also won a run-off election to complete an unexpired term in the Texas senate in the late 1970s. He was a delegate to the Florida Republican Convention in 1968 when Reagan and Nixon were competing for the Republican nomination to the Presidency, and was asked by Lyn Notzinger, who later was on Reagan's Presidential staff, to make a speech for Reagan, seconding him as the party's Presidential candidate.

"I had 16 votes pledged to him," Price said.

See MEMORIES, Page 3

This Weekend in Pampa

## Sock Hop to kick off 'Burnin' the Bricks' event

A part of Pampa's main street will be blocked off tonight for a Sock Hop, the kick-off "Burnin' the Bricks" a weekend of family fun including a police-sanctioned BurnOut Contest, "Cruisin' the Bricks" cruise event, car show, Mud Bog competition, craft show and lawnmower races.

The Sock Hop begins at 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. and will take place in front of the VFW Post, 106 S. Cuyler. Admission will be \$5 per person or \$8 per couple. This event is being sponsored by the local Veterans of

Foreign Wars. Prizes will be awarded for the best costume and dance, and music will be provided by Clarendon's Golden Oldies station, 99.3 KEFH.

"This won't be your typical boring car show," said Denver Bruner, a member of the High Plains Cruisers Car Club which is sponsoring the three-day event. "It is growing every day. There'll be a two-day craft show, lawn mower drag races, mud bogs, car show, car corral, and some swapping going on, plus 'Elvis' will be performing from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

"And we cannot forget Saturday's burn-out contest," Bruner said. "Kingsmill Street will be smokin'! The police will be putting it on and the justices of the peace are the judges.

"There'll be something for everybody," he said.

Spectators are welcome to watch any or all of the events, car club members said. There's no charge to watch, they said, and added that spectators can bring their lawn chairs to sit in.


On Saturday evening, vehicles of all kinds - classic, unusual, beautiful, strange - will be lining up for the "Cruisin' the Bricks" along the Cuyler Street Drags from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

"What we are wanting to get out is for the spectators to set up lawn chairs (along the cruise route) and watch the cars go by during the cruise," Bruner said. "Also we want (the public) to come out to Recreation Park and see all that is

See HOP, Page 3


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JUN 11 2004



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2133 Williston ... \$28,000	820 N. Gray ... \$49,500	1301 Starkweather ... \$26,000

## Obituaries

### Woodville Keith Lawrence, 67

BAY CITY — Woodville Keith Lawrence, 67, died Wednesday, June 9, 2004, at Bay City.

Services were to be at 3 p.m. today at Taylor Brothers Funeral Chapel with Joe Wrape officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Taylor Brothers Funeral Home of Bay City.

Mr. Lawrence was born May 8, 1937, at Wheeler, to Walter Dempsey Lawrence and Eva Fern Myers Lawrence.

He was preceded in death by his father; a daughter, Pamela Corrine Lawrence; and a brother, Ernest Lynn Lawrence.

Survivors include his mother, Eva Trott of Bay City; two daughters, Jennifer Lynn Lawrence and Kimberly Kay Lawrence;

both of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; a sister, Felba McCloskey of Bay City; two brothers, Franklin Dempsey Lawrence of Houston and Dean Ruff of Amarillo; and six grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be to Hospice of El Campo, 1102 N. Mechanic, El Campo, TX 77437.

## Emergency Services

### GCSO

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

**Friday, June 11**

Sergio Adrian Silva, 18, 712 N. Gray, was arrested by a Gray County constable for minor in possession and failure to appear.

### Fire

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

**Thursday, June 10**

1:34 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a hazardous materials spill

in the 1800 block of North Hobart. The spill was a small diesel fuel spill.

4:35 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass fire in a front yard in the 1200 block of South Hobart. The fire, which was out on arrival, may have been caused by fireworks, according to a fire department spokesperson.

## Houston ex-DNA chief in spotlight

HOUSTON (AP) — A California forensic DNA expert and one-time head of the Harris County medical examiner's office DNA laboratory who helped reveal problems that led to the police lab's shutdown is in the spotlight after being hired by Kobe Bryant's defense team to monitor the prosecution's retesting of evidence in the basketball star's sexual assault trial.

Elizabeth Johnson worked for the Harris County Medical Examiner's DNA lab from 1992 until 1996 and was a vocal critic of the facility's operations.

Plans for the retests in the Bryant case were announced recently after reports that Johnson's DNA tests for the defense indicated that some of the evidence was from someone other than Bryant.

The judge has ordered prosecutors to find a lab that will allow Johnson to sit in on the retests. The order came in response to a court filing last week by Bryant's attorneys, who claimed that Johnson had so far been barred from witnessing the retests.

Bryant, a Los Angeles Lakers star, has pleaded innocent to raping a 19-year-old woman in his Colorado hotel room last year, although he acknowledges having consensual sex with her.

His attorneys have suggested that the woman had other sexual partners in the week during which she alleges that Bryant assaulted her.

Johnson has said only that she always attempts to do quality work.

"And not because anybody in particular has some money," she told the Houston Chronicle for its Friday editions. "I try to do the best job possible on every case. Most of my clients are represented by public defenders, and I don't think I got to where I am by giving them a slipshod job."

Johnson, in addition to warning about problems at the Houston police DNA lab in 2002, frequently made news during her tenure as head of the Harris County medical examiner's office DNA lab, which she helped establish in 1992.

## SEC probes bribery allegations involving Halliburton subsidiary

HOUSTON (AP) — The Securities and Exchange Commission is formally investigating allegations that a Halliburton Co. subsidiary was involved in paying \$180 million in bribes to get a natural gas project contract in Nigeria. Vice President Dick Cheney was head of the oil services conglomerate at the time.

Halliburton on Friday announced that the SEC has started a formal probe. The SEC's informal investigation of the contract was disclosed in February.

The SEC isn't alone in examining the contract, in which Halliburton subsidiary KBR, formerly known as Kellogg, Brown & Root, is a 25 percent owner. Nigeria in February ordered an investigation, and a French magistrate has been probing the payments for months.

scrutiny were Technip SA of France, ENI SpA of Italy and Japan Gasoline Corp. Halliburton refers to the consortium as TSKJ.

Halliburton said the SEC and the Justice Department have asked the company to cooperate and provide information in reviewing matters related to the project in light of requirements of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Halliburton spokeswoman Wendy Hall said Friday that the company will continue cooperating with the agencies, and noted an internal investigation into the matter is continuing.

Company representatives also recently met with the French magistrate to express willingness to cooperate with that investigation, Halliburton said.

*"It is important to our company that our clients, suppliers and host countries know that Halliburton's code of business conduct is expected to be followed in every country in which we operate."*

—Wendy Hall  
Halliburton spokesman

The allegations center on a \$4 billion Nigerian liquefied natural gas plant built in the 1990s by the four partners. The payments for the gas plant contract were allegedly made to Nigerian officials.

Cheney was Halliburton's CEO from 1995 to 2000 — five of the seven years in which the clandestine payments were allegedly made.

He resigned in 2000 to be President Bush's running mate.

"It is important to our company that our clients, suppliers and host countries know that Halliburton's code of business conduct is expected to be followed in every country in which we operate," Hall said. That code sets standards that, at a minimum, comply with U.S. laws.

Halliburton officials don't believe the company has violated the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, but the company said "there can be no assurance that government authorities would not conclude otherwise."

## CITY BRIEFS

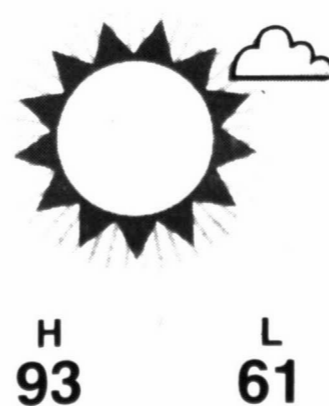
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- SAND &** Sage Play-Day, June 13th, 1:30 p.m., Sam Condo's Arena, (1.7 mi. west on Hwy 152) Coy Henry 835-2702, Judy Morriss 835-2934.
- GOSPEL SINGING**, Sun. 2-4pm., First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock.
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- MCLEAN COUNTRY** Club Dance, Saturday, June 12th, 8-11:30 p.m. Band is "Plain Country" Public welcome.
- THE LONESTAR-** Friday Country Western, Saturday Tejano, Frozen Margaritas & Daiquiri's.
- HUGE ESTATE** Sale Saturday & Sunday 1405 S. Barnes 9:00 A.M. No Early Birds!!
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## Gray County Weather



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE



H  
93

L  
61

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high around 93. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 61. South southwest wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 95. West southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 64.

South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 93. Southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. West wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east southeast.

Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. Southeast wind around 15 mph.

## City

City official Thursday afternoon agreement emergency response party provided. In a 4-1 Commission having Guarantee service contract are city and court. City Commission lone dissenting proposal because fast. He said ambulance service. "We can't City Manager city was capable the service time he thought subsidy paid but he acknowledges headaches in "A lot of you're trying Under the will each suit year and split new ambulance Pampa's South Guardian. The city will renewable each own billing remain about

## Cou

Continued "We may have an advisory even if we provider. (Gu so that they license proposal said. The court planned to create board made county officials nity members proposed city license service. Precinct Commission asked whether was permanent renewable at vals of time. P of Rural/Met Service, who county meeting Wheeley's question she was not su the license was for two years. County c unanimously ing a joint contract previously a city/county service. They t cussion of G before voting contract with ( Peet said called by a re Guardian EM who said the "very interesting into cities with less than lation. The

## Reag

Christine C bers the Price met then-Gov. "Bill Tuke day and we d where we were "We were and Gov. Reagan ing two beautiful dressed in cow "I had always for what he photographed his eternal optimism.

## Hop

Cont going on out Goodie bags entrants in the 350 long block off in the county Winners must be A full schedule Bricks in June" Sock Hop. downtown at 10

# City

Continued from Page 1

city officials met in an emergency session Thursday afternoon to approve an interlocal agreement with Gray County to provide emergency medical services through a third party provider, Guardian EMS.

In a 4-to-1 vote, the Pampa City Commission agreed to join Gray County in having Guardian EMS take over local ambulance service on July 15. The details of the contract are to be worked out between the city and county attorneys.

City Commissioner Jeff McCormick, the lone dissenter, said he voted against the proposal because the process was moving too fast. He said the city could manage the ambulance service.

"We can run it," McCormick said.

City Manager Mitch Grant, too, said the city was capable and had taken steps to manage the service. He said that over a period of time he thought the city could reduce the subsidy paid to a private ambulance service, but he acknowledged that there would be headaches involved.

"A lot of things come into play when you're trying to save money," Grant said.

Under the agreement, the city and county will each subsidize the service at \$80,400 a year and split the company's utility bill. The new ambulance service will be housed in the Pampa's South Fire Station.

Guardian will report monthly and quarterly to an ambulance review commission.

The city voted for a 5-year contract that is renewable each year. Guardian will do their own billing and collecting. Rates should remain about the same as Rural/Metro.

"I see a lot of positives," Commissioner Ray Boring said.

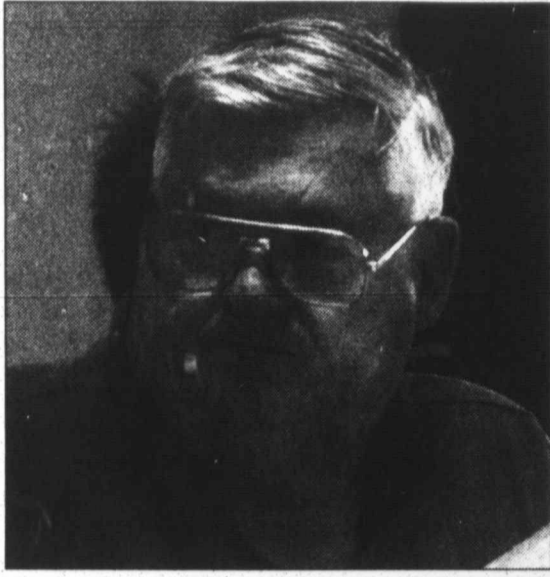
Grant said that the city would continue to work toward getting a license for an ambulance service in case the situation changes.

Rural/Metro offered to sell the city their equipment, including two ambulances, but Grant said that negotiations are now on hold. Guardian had expressed an interest in the equipment, he said.

Robbins said they may buy the equipment through the city.

Commissioner Faustina Curry commended the work that the city staff has put in on the project through all the changes over the past few weeks.

"It's been very difficult, I know," Curry said.



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER  
Pampa City Commissioner Robert Dixon listens during a special meeting Thursday.

# County

Continued from Page 1

"We may want to still put an advisory board together, even if we go with that provider (Guardian EMS), so that they can pursue the license procedure," Peet said. The county and city had planned to create an advisory board made up of city and county officials and community members to oversee the proposed city/county ambulance service.

Precinct 1 County Commissioner Joe Wheeley asked whether the license was permanent or was renewable at regular intervals of time. Peggy Coleman of Rural/Metro Ambulance Service, who attended the county meeting, was asked Wheeley's question and said she was not sure but thought the license would be good for two years.

County commissioners unanimously approved signing a joint city/county contract previously prepared for a city/county ambulance service. They then began discussion of Guardian EMS before voting to approve the contract with Guardian.

Peet said he had been called by a representative of Guardian EMS on June 4, who said the company was "very interested" in expanding into cities and counties with less than 50,000 population. The representative

also came to Pampa on June 9 to visit with members of the ambulance task force, which had been created by city and county commissioners earlier this year to seek ambulance service for the area.

Rural/Metro Ambulance, Pampa's current ambulance service, had announced in March that its last day of operation in Pampa would be July 14.

"The consensus of the task force was to go back to our respective governing boards and recommend we go with Guardian," Peet said.

Pampa and Gray County had been faced with \$240,000 each in startup and operating costs, plus liability issues, if a city/county ambulance service were created. Guardian EMS' proposed fees are \$80,400 each per year, or \$6,700 each per month. Total proposed annual subsidy is \$160,800.

The first payment would be due July 15 and would be prorated to \$3,350 each to reflect the half month of service. The subsidy will be subject to annual increases in accordance with the Medical Consumer Price Index, not to exceed five percent in any given year.

Guardian's proposed patient fees are \$500 plus supplies used for the emergency base rate, \$450 plus supplies used for the non-emergency base rate, and \$8.50 per mile. If no transport is performed on a call,

the fee is \$65 plus supplies used.

"They do their own collections and are willing to use local staff. They would like to use the current staff (of Pampa Rural/Metro)," Peet said.

Guardian EMS is asking to be provided with a building, he said, and the ambulance task force has suggested offering the south fire station, which is currently closed. County commissioners agreed to share evenly the cost of utilities for the building with the city.

"Guardian agrees to indemnify and hold harmless and defend the county, city and their agents from all damages and liability," Peet said.

"I believe the county and city would be better off with private service for a variety of reasons," said Gerald Wright, Precinct 3 county commissioner.

"I visited with Madison County and they were very please, nothing but complimentary about Guardian. Also, a judge in another county had nothing but accolades for their services and prices," Peet said. Guardian currently operates an ambulance service in Madison County.

"A lot of people are pleased about the way the city and county have been able to work together on this," said Gary Willoughby, Precinct 2 county commissioner.

," said Mrs. Campaigne.

Maxine Howell, a long-time secretary for the Campbell Ranch, was Jim Campbell's secretary when the Pampa rancher posed for a photograph with Reagan and Price in Amarillo. Campbell was an active member of the Republican party and worked in several campaigns at various levels of government throughout his life, she said.

"I do know that Jim Campbell was a great friend of Ronald Reagan. He was responsible for bringing Reagan in to Pampa for the Bob Price campaign at the Tom Price Ranch," Howell said.

"In my opinion, Reagan was truly a man of integrity and believed in America and the American people. He said what he believed and was very down-to-earth. He brought something back to the American people that we needed," she said.

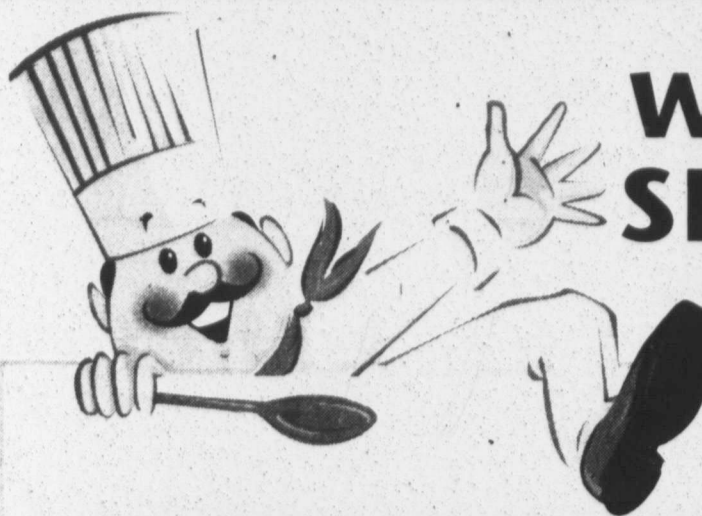
**Craft Show.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, June 12, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, June 13, at Clyde Carruth Pavilion at Recreation Park.

**Cruisin' the Bricks.** 7-10 p.m., Saturday, June 12, Cuyler Street.

**Burn-Out Contest.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, June 12.

**Car Show.** The car show will kick-off with registration from 9-11 a.m., Sunday, June 13, at Recreation Park.

**Mud Bog.** 1 p.m., Sunday, June 13, Recreation Park. Registration for the Mud Bog, sponsored by High Plains Off Road, is set for 9 a.m., Sunday. The mud bog itself will get under way at 1 p.m. at the park.



## WEEKEND SPECIALS

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QT JAR

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**14.75 OZ. CAN 99¢**



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15 OZ. CANS • MIX OR MATCH

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**4 ROLL PKG. 89¢**



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# Reagan

Continued from Page 1

Christine Campaigne of Pampa remembers the Price Ranch barbecue where she met then-Governor Reagan.

"Bill Tuke picked me up that hot summer day and we drove out to the Price Ranch, where we were to meet Governor Reagan.

"We were gathered in a grassy pasture, and Gov. Reagan and Bob Price arrived riding two beautiful horses. Both men were dressed in cowboy hats and boots.

"I had always admired Governor Reagan for what he stood up for. He graciously autographed my card. His signature shows his eternal optimism, hopefulness and buoyant

# Hop

Continued from Page 1

going on out there."

Goodie bags will be given the first 100 entrants in the car show and cruise, and a new 350 long block Chevy engine will be raffled off in the course of the three-day event. Winners must be present to win.

A full schedule of events for "Burning the Bricks in June" is as follows:

**Sock Hop.** 7-10 p.m., Friday, June 11, downtown at 106 S. Cuyler.

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# Viewpoints

## Does present generation have what it takes?

This week Americans said their goodbyes to an American legend, President Ronald Reagan. Like all Americans, I was saddened to learn of his passing, but even in a moment of great loss, the memories of his good humor, contagious optimism and historic accomplishment comforted me.

At a time of great despair in our nation, Ronald Reagan came into office and restored hope. He was an unequalled champion of freedom, smaller government and market-oriented principles. His philosophies guided our nation to become the economic and military superpower it is today.

But beyond his optimism, his confidence and his graceful charm, was a man of action who implemented great change in the United States of America. Under his leadership, our nation sowed seeds of prosperity and reduced regulatory burdens on business. He lowered taxes for all Americans, including reducing the top marginal rate from an oppressive 70 percent to a low of 28 percent, offering new incentives to create wealth and jobs, and to rebuild America.

He encouraged Americans to embrace their own destiny and realize that government was not the answer to social ills — people

were. Good people working in concert to better their communities and their fellow man could accomplish far more than bureaucracy.

Perhaps most importantly, President Reagan took the steps to ultimately win the Cold War. He pursued peace

**Kay Bailey Hutchison**  
U.S. Senator



through strength and achieved an overwhelming victory that was inconceivable to a generation raised with fallout drills and backyard bunkers. Who can forget the famous challenge he laid down when he cried,

"Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" They were indeed dramatic words but more importantly, words of action. Two and a half years later, what once seemed a permanent divider through the heart of Berlin was torn down piece by piece, section by section until it was reduced to a pile of rubble.

Visitors to the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C., can view a section of the wall, donated by the people of Berlin in

honor of the president and in recognition of his leadership. It stands as a stark reminder of the great shift in global politics that spread freedom in Europe, and encouraged new generations to pursue democracy.

Today, we again find ourselves in a fight for freedom. This generation, like their World War II grandparents and Cold War parents, has been called to stand and fight for freedom. Today we're grappling with a new threat: global terrorism. An enemy with no borders, no uniforms, no respect for the traditional rules of war, and more importantly, no respect for human life.

World War II took years

of bitter fighting and sacrifice. The Cold War took decades of dedication and patience. This battle against terrorism requires all that and more. The question is: Will our generation meet the test — will we have what it takes to win? I believe we do. And I believe the strength, perseverance and patriotism that President Reagan embodied will help us see this through.

In 1987, he addressed a joint session of Congress saying, "Let it never be said of this generation of Americans that we became so obsessed with failure that we refused to take risks that

See **REAGAN**, Page 5

## Texas Thoughts

The Victoria Advocate on plan to make sales taxes deductible:

U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay's efforts to make sales tax payments again deductible when paying the federal income tax will, if he succeeds, be used as another argument against considering a state income tax in Texas.

Yet, given the unlikelihood that the Texas Legislature will propose an income tax to voters anytime soon, we have to hope that DeLay succeeds in restoring deductions for sales taxes in states that do not collect personal income taxes.

Texans and residents of other states without income taxes once could deduct sales taxes if they itemized their deductions. That ended, however, in 1986, when Congress rewrote the federal tax code.

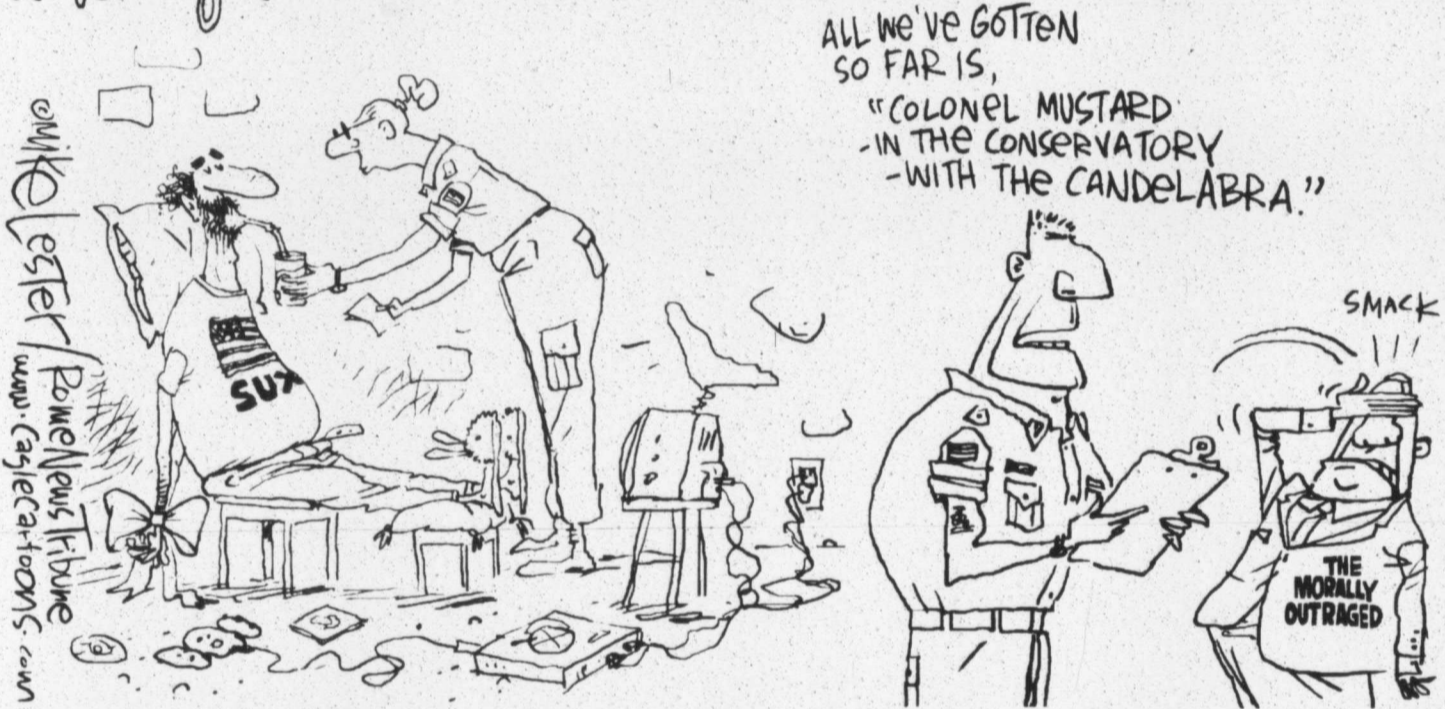
Restoring sales tax deductibility is "a matter of fairness," DeLay told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "It's pretty assured it's going to happen."

The proposal is part of a federal corporate tax reform bill the majority leader is steering through Congress. While it does not exactly belong there and would be better as a stand-alone measure, it might not be as likely to pass that way.

The only real concern about restoring sales tax deductibility is that the U.S. Treasury estimates it would remove up to \$21.6 billion from the federal revenue stream over the next decade.

If Congress followed the "pay as you go" guidelines in place during the first Bush and Clinton administrations, that would have to be offset by new revenue or spending cuts. That provision is not, however, in place, although Congress certainly should follow it in acting on sales tax deductibility.

## MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE \*Newly Remodeled INTERROGATION ROOM...



## Today in history

Today is Friday, June 11, the 163rd day of 2004. There are 203 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 11, 1776, the Continental Congress formed a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence from Britain.

On this date: In 1509, England's King Henry VIII married Catherine of Aragon.

In 1919, Sir Barton won the Belmont Stakes, becoming horse racing's first Triple Crown winner.

In 1942, the United States and the Soviet Union signed

a lend-lease agreement to aid the Soviet war effort in World War II.

In 1947, the government announced the end of household and institutional sugar rationing, to take effect the next day.

In 1963, Buddhist monk Quang Duc immolated himself on a Saigon street to protest the government of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem.

In 1970, the United States presence in Libya came to an end as the last detachment left Wheelus Air Base.

In 1977, Seattle Slew won the Belmont Stakes, capturing the Triple Crown.

## America must improve world image

With America's image torn internationally and literally ripped apart in the Arab world, we've now got to decide where we go from here. To do that, however, we have to understand what got us here in the first place. Where and why did the tear begin? I believe the first small tear occurred early in the Bush administration, with the abandonment of the Kyoto negotiations on climate change and U.S. withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

Those events announced the beginning of a new, unilateralist foreign policy —

one long advocated by conservatives who distrusted international cooperation and agreements as limitations on America's pursuit of its own interests. The American colossus, the greatest power on Earth, was throwing its weight around, and it made people in other countries nervous.

Then came 9/11, and the one curious thing was that the events of that horrific

day seemed instantly to knit up the tear. In cities around the world, people gathered in throngs to express not just sympathy but a genuine affection for America and Americans.

I was in Italy at the time, and perfect strangers, learning that I was an American, came up and shook my hand with tears in their eyes. NATO voted, for the first time in its history, to invoke Article V of its char-

ter calling for collective defense of any member attacked. Ironically, 9/11 was a high point of international regard for this country. When we attacked al-Qaida and the Taliban in Afghanistan, we insisted on fighting that war by ourselves. But NATO members, including Germany and France, offered both money and troops to help with the reconstruction.

But some other things were happening, as well. President Bush soon would announce America's right

See **IMAGE**, Page 5

**Walter Cronkite**  
Columnist



## Send out the 9/11 commission clowns

It took a junket to the Big Apple for the members of the commission allegedly investigating 9/11 to get themselves back on TV cameras and into the headlines they appear to crave. They did it by tearing into Rudolph Giuliani, fondly known as "America's Mayor" since his heroic handling of the nation's worst crisis since Pearl Harbor.

Along the way this sorry collection of has-beens also attacked the police and fire departments on that terrible day, men who earned the nation's undying gratitude for their heroic behavior and that of

their men and women as they went about the perilous work saving the lives of thousands trapped in the infernos and in which 346 of their own number died.

As Giuliani told the commission, "Maybe 8,000 more, maybe 9,000 more than anyone could rightfully expect" were taken safely out of the two towers before they collapsed, he recalled, noting that about 25,000 people were evacuated from

the World Trade Center. How did the commission members memorialize them during their televised New York extravaganza?

Commission member John Lehman said the failure of city agencies to communicate effectively on 9/11 was a scandal "not worthy of the Boy Scouts, let alone this great city."

Former fire commissioner Thomas Von Essen shot back that Lehman's com-

ments were "despicable," which they were.

As Von Essen, former police commissioner Bernard Kerik and Giuliani were testifying, commission chairman Thomas Keen allowed disorderly members of the audience to jeer and attack and shout and drown out the witnesses, when he should have cleared the room and ejected the protesters.

Democrat Commissioner Jamie Gorelick, who should be a witness explaining how as Attorney General Janet Reno's deputy she had

See **CLOWNS**, Page 5

**Michael Reagan**  
Columnist



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## Student recognition



Timbra Overstreet was recently congratulated by Coach Andy Glass for receiving the Most Valuable Player Award at Lefors Junior High School. Overstreet also received the school's Most Beautiful Award.



Amanda Ponce is congratulated by Mr. Czubinski for achieving the eighth grade history and science awards at Lefors Junior High.

## Jurors still deliberating in OKC bomb trial

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — Three years to the day that Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh was executed, jurors continued deliberating Friday whether his conspirator should die or spend his life in prison.

It took the 12-member panel only five hours on May 26 to convict Terry Nichols of 161 counts of first-degree murder for deaths in the April 19, 1995, blast at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

On Friday, jurors resumed sentencing deliberations, which have already covered 12 hours over two days.

McVeigh was executed

on June 11, 2001, at a federal prison in Terre Haute, Ind.

Victims' family members who believe Nichols should get the death penalty said they are concerned the jury is taking longer to decide Nichols' sentence than it did to find him guilty.

"You might say we're disappointed. It's been a day and a half," said Joyce Cleveland, 64, whose daughter, Pamela Argo, died in the federal building's Social Security Administration office.

Survivor Priscilla Salyers is concerned the lengthy deliberations could mean jurors will not reach a decision.

"I think there's some kind of a problem," Salyers said. "I can't imagine being on this jury. It's got to be hard to do."

Judge Steven Taylor has said the jurors will take as much time as they need.

"The length of your deliberations and your deliberation schedule is up to you," Taylor told the panel as the sequestered panel resumed deliberations Thursday morning.

If jurors can't reach a decision, Taylor will be required to sentence Nichols to life in prison.

Members of Nichols' family, including mother Joyce Wilt, sister Suzanne McDonnell and ex-wife

Lana PadiHa waited at the courthouse. Victims' relatives were at a nearby church.

Nichols was convicted in a federal trial in 1997 of conspiracy and the involuntary manslaughter of eight federal agents killed in the blast. A federal jury in Denver deliberated for 13 1/2 hours over two days before deadlocking over whether Nichols should be given a death sentence or a life term.

The state trial is for the others who were killed, including one victim's fetus. Prosecutors brought the state case specifically to seek the death sentence.

## Only woman on death row in Virginia says her sentence unfair in interview

TROY, Va. (AP) — The only woman on Virginia's death row doesn't deny that she deserves punishment for having her husband and stepson killed so she could collect insurance money.

But paying the ultimate penalty, says Teresa Lewis, is too much — especially considering the men who actually did the deed will live out their lives behind bars.

"I don't think it's fair for the triggermen to get life, and I got the death penalty," she said, speaking by phone through a glass partition at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women.

Lewis pleaded guilty last year to arranging the slayings of her husband and stepson to collect a \$250,000 insurance policy.

At her sentencing, Circuit Judge Charles Strauss said Lewis had no motive but greed in the Oct. 30, 2002, slayings and was even more culpable than the two young men she hired to kill 51-year-old Julian Lewis and

his 25-year-old son, C.J. Lewis.

Lewis maintains she hired the hitmen to escape an abusive relationship.

Strauss said he was particularly bothered by the slaying of C.J., who was home on leave from Army National Guard duty and "by all accounts was a fine young man," said defense attorney Thomas Blaylock.

Teresa Lewis kissed him goodnight in the family's Pittsylvania County home, knowing the hit men were coming, Blaylock said.

Prosecutor David Grimes said he sought the death penalty because "her actions in planning and getting the other two to actually do the shooting was extraordinarily cold."

Blaylock said he was surprised by Teresa Lewis' sentence because she was the first to confess and led police to the triggermen.

Teresa Lewis said she's confident she can avoid execution, and smiled and laughed through much of a

recent hourlong interview with The Associated Press.

"I just feel like I have something to live for. I've got a daughter here," she said.

Christie Lynn Bean, 17, is serving five years at the Fluvanna prison because she knew about the murder plot but remained silent.

A jury convicted Bean of conspiring with her mother and of two counts of first-degree murder as an accessory before the fact.

Teresa Lewis said she met would-be triggermen Matthew Shallenberger and Rodney Fuller, both in their 20s, while waiting in the customer service line at a Wal-Mart store.

She and Shallenberger became lovers and concocted the scheme to murder Julian Lewis, who she said was an abusive alcoholic.

"My motive was to get rid of Julian because I was a prisoner in my own home," she said. "I didn't care about the money."

## Reagan

Continued from Page 4

could further the cause of peace and freedom in the world."

Ronald Reagan's lasting place in the hearts of all Americans has been evidenced by the outpouring of love and admiration we have seen across the nation and around the world. Ronald Reagan was a leader who touched people with his words, inspired them with his actions and led by his example.

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## Image

Continued from Page 4

and intention to launch "pre-emptive" war against "imminent" threats to the United States. Sept. 11 had "changed the world," and the administration decided that the rules of warfare had to be changed — unilaterally.

The secretary of defense claimed that the Geneva Convention did not apply to the prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. We began writing our own rules for the treatment of terrorist suspects and prisoners of war — rules that included the now-

infamous elements of "stress and duress." We began "rendering" suspects to other countries so they could be tortured. The Uniform Code of Military Justice still forbade the use of torture by American forces. But practices that, at the very least, bordered on torture were authorized. In Iraq, chronic troop shortages meant that soldiers untrained for the role were assigned as prison guards. The new rules created a disaster just waiting to happen.

It seems to me that, in the appalling abuses at Abu Ghraib prison and the international outrage it has caused, we are reaping what we have so carelessly sown.

In this and so many other ways, our unilateralism and the arrogance that accompanies it have cost us dearly.

So where do we go from here? Well, we might already have made a small start. In the backwash of this scandal, the new rules have been at least partly rescinded in Iraq, and the Geneva Convention seems to have a new respectability in Washington. But more importantly, we need to go back to a foreign policy that genuinely embraces international cooperation. Right now, we are eating humble pie, welcoming U.N. participation in Iraq after having scornfully denied the United Nations any meaningful role

before we bogged down going it alone.

It still is immediately important for this nation that its invasion of Iraq should result in a free and functioning Iraqi democracy. It also is clear now that we cannot accomplish that by ourselves. We have, so to speak, run (or fallen) to the end of our unilateral rope.

Beyond Iraq, we need to restore America's image as a preserver and defender of the peace and prove to the world that the change is more than cosmetic. But here one has to ask, as others have, whether we can convince the world of our sincerity without regime change here at home.

## Clowns

Continued from Page 4

helped cripple the intelligence community instead of a being a commission member, whined that she was "disappointed in us in a way that I haven't been in the past," because her colleagues weren't tough enough in questioning Giuliani, a man with whom she isn't fit to be in the same room.

This whole charade is sickening. Don't these grandstanding has-beens know that on 9/11 between 30,000 and 50,000 body bags were ordered because

that's what they thought the death toll would be? They needed fewer than 3,000, thanks to Von Essen and Kerik's courageous men and women. And 346 of the body bags were for their people who died saving others.

Not only did the terrorists fail that day to kill as many as 50,000 innocent people, but the fire and police departments did such a fine job that fewer than 3,000 people lost their lives. For the commission members to sit there and blabber about problems with radio communications and use this side issue to attack the witnesses is typical of their behavior. President Bush made a mistake in agreeing to the establishment of a posse the

Democrats wanted so they could find a way to pin the blame on Mr. Bush for what 19 crazed hijackers did on 9/11.

From the very beginning the commission has pandered to a handful of relatives of some of the 9/11 victims who have been allowed to rudely disrupt the hearings in New York as well as in Washington, and are less interested in the facts than they are in assigning blame to such certified American heroes as Rudy Giuliani, Bernard Kerik, and Thomas Von Essen.

When you look back at that horrific day, with a disaster unimaginable and of a magnitude never before seen in New York or any other

American city — with mass confusion and utter chaos, with 911 and other communications overloaded, scant knowledge of what was happening in the towers or that they could come crashing down, with the appalling vision of people leaping to their deaths to avoid being burned alive — the fact that anybody survived borders on the miraculous. And it is largely due to those men who sat before the commission and were forced to tolerate their abuse and that of their jeering peanut gallery in the audience.

It's time to shut this farce down and send its members back into their well-earned obscurity.

## New Mexico fire blamed on metal work; flames prompt evacuation

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A fire that destroyed two buildings and jumped the Rio Grande was sparked by metal work, and three men were arrested on charges of negligence, officials said.

The burned area was estimated to be at least 20 acres, and the area east of the river was not yet contained early

Friday, County Fire Chief Bett Clark said.

The fire began Thursday in a warehouse or workshop where someone was welding or grinding, Clark said.

The flames spread rapidly in wind gusts of up to 35 mph, burning a two-car garage while moving into the heavily wooded area along the river.

More than 100 homes were evacuated, most voluntarily. Many residents fled the rural area with horses and other animals in tow.

Edgar Gallaro, 18, stood at a roadblock Thursday frantically trying to reach his uncle by cell phone to coordinate an evacuation of horses.

"I'm frustrated, man," Gallaro said.

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**JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME  
YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER  
HEBREWS 13:8**

# Religion

## St. Vincent's youth to join in worldwide project



Gloria Jara and Aida Hernandez pose with a poster advertising St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church's upcoming "Lava Lava Island" Vacation Bible School.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church is participating in "Operation Kid-to-Kid," a worldwide mission project. As part of the project, children attending St. Vincent's Lava Lava Island Vacation Bible School will help provide Spanish Bible books for needy children in the Caribbean and in Latin America.

"This year our parish is overflowing with excitement as we explore Lava Lava Island," said VBS director Kara Flathouse. "Our Lava Lava Island program will provide fun, memorable Scripture-learning activities for kids of all ages. Each day kids will sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, nibble tropical treats, take on a daily challenge to let Jesus' love flow home, and participate in the making of Bible books for our mission project."

The parish reports receiving tremendous community support, allowing the children to attend VBS for free. "Flocks of flamingos" have traveled about town, raising money, and the parish sold breakfast burritos as another fund-raiser. Albertson's, United, Wal-Mart and Hastings kicked in donations as well.

"The overflow of love and support from our parish family and local merchants has been uplifting," said directors of fund-raising Lori Hukil and Maria Riveria.

Lava Lava Island VBS will get under way June 14 and conclude June 18. The fun begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. nightly. Registration is ongoing at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. For more information, call 665-8933.

"Our treasure verse for day three tells us that 'I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me' (Philippians 4:13). We are hoping that our children will attend VBS and leave with an understanding of how much Christ loves us and protects us," said Juanita Brower, religion education director at St. Vincent's.

## We have it better than we deserve

### Church happenings

Most people who know me very well can attest to what my most common answer is when someone asks, "Hey, Mike, how are you doing?" Not every time, but most of the time my reply is, "Way better than I deserve." That isn't ever meant to be a flippant and smart-alecky answer. It is the plain truth. Not only for me, but for you.

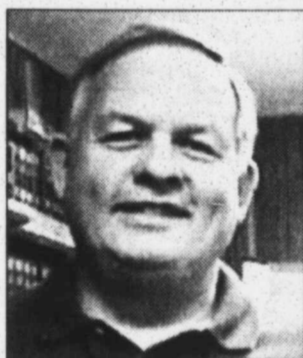
So you may be thinking, "How could you speak for me? You don't know what I have gone through in my life. How dare you presume to speak for me."

Well, I do dare to presume to speak for you and to you that you are doing better than you deserve. How can I be so presumptuous? Well, there are a lot of Bible verses that not only give me that right, but that actually order me to remind you of this fact. But that isn't what has prompted this article.

I just got off of the phone with my dad, Bill Sublett. He is a 77-year-old retired, full-time volunteer benevolent minister on the Navajo Reservation in northern Arizona. He just called to tell me that they were building a house on the Reservation. I asked him about who they were building the house for. His reply was, "Oh, its for Bessie's grandson and his

family. He and his wife and their three children have been living in an 8-foot X 10-foot storage crate."

So what would you like to complain about now? What would you like to moan about? Got something to belly-ache over? Want to whine about how tough you have it in life?



Mike Sublett

Hi-Land Christian Church

Shame on you. Shame on me. Shame on all of us. We have so much and yet we still gripe and complain.

The scriptures are very, very clear about how the Lord feels about complaining and griping.

1 Corinthians 10:10: "And do not grumble, as some of them did — and were killed by the destroying angel."

Philippians 2:14: "Do everything without com-

plaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing."

James 5:9: "Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!"

And these are just a few of the many verses that warn us not to be grippers.

So the next time you are tempted to moan and whine about how tough your life is, try thinking of Bessie's grandson and his family. Or just focus on the 300-plus Christians that were killed in just one section of Nigeria back in February and March. Or the hundreds of Christian women and children who have come up missing in that same region — more than likely sold into slavery.

Then after the realities of life have humbled you and me, maybe we can have the kind of thankful hearts that the Lord desires of us. Maybe then we can thank Him for the tiniest of things that we have taken for granted for so long.

How about all of us going

for our Ph.D. in thanksgiving. It will be good for our soul, our body, our heart and our mind. And it will make this world a better place. And our heavenly Father will smile from ear to ear. Then and only then can we be the lights in a world of darkness that the Lord wants us to be. God bless.

**Church of the Nazarene**, 500 N. West, will hold its Vacation Bible School from 6-8:30 p.m., June 14-18. The VBS will include Bible stories, games, snacks and crafts. For more information, call 669-0176 or 669-3144.  
**Rushing Wind Emmaus Community** will meet Saturday, June 12 at Central Christian Church, 5th and Lincoln, in Liberal, Kan. A potluck meal will be served at 6 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m. A nursery will be provided. Anyone interested in Walk to Emmaus is invited to attend.

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### Religion News in Brief

**WETHERSFIELD, Conn. (AP) —** Citing differences over homosexuality and other issues, the largest United Church of Christ congregation in New England has voted to break away from its denomination.

Members of the First Church of Christ in Wethersfield voted 510-59 Sunday to leave the national church and return to the independent status the congregation had for most of its 369-year history.

The liberal, 1.3 million-member United Church of

Christ began ordaining openly gay clergy in 1972. Leaders of the Wethersfield church said this stand and others affirming homosexuality do not conform to their views of the Bible. Conservatives believe Scripture bans gay sex.

A similar vote at First Church last year failed by a slim margin.

Pastor J. Jey Deifell Jr., who voted to remain in the UCC last year, voted to leave this time, saying he saw "no hope" that he and other conservative pastors could effect change.

# Leukemia (AML)

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm 15 and had always attended the same school until last year, when my parents moved to another state.

After we got here, I met this cool guy, "Ted." We had a relationship until last December, when he and his family moved to another neighborhood and he had to change schools.

I never had a chance to tell Ted that I love him until three months ago. We met at a ballgame and I confessed. He said he loved me, too. I asked if we could be a couple again. He told me he couldn't deal with that right now because he has to concentrate on school before he deals with having a girlfriend. After he said it, I realized my grades should be my highest priority, too.

Two weeks ago, he called and asked me when we could have sex. I told him in six years, when I'm 21 and out of school. I think I'll be ready by then for that kind of a relationship.

Should he have asked me that question? And should I have agreed so quickly?

—CONFUSED IN GEORGIA

DEAR CONFUSED: Considering that Ted isn't ready for a serious relationship, I'd say his question was extremely presumptuous. And you didn't "agree quickly." You handled the question intelligently, letting him know that as much as you care for him, you're not a pushover and your own priorities must come first. Although you said you'd consider it at 21, I have a hunch he was more interested in what he could expect on Saturday night.

DEAR ABBY: "John" and I started dating two years ago, when he was a college freshman and I was a junior in high school. He was my knight in shining armor.

A year into our relationship, we lost our virginity to each other. I have no excuse other than I was in love and believed that someday we would be married.

Six months ago, John suddenly broke up with me. He said he needed his "space." After three months, he changed his mind and wanted to get

back together. He swore he wanted only me and nobody else. I believed him and forgave him.

Last week, I learned that while John and I were apart, he'd had sex with another girl -- an especially wild one who's had numerous lovers. I broke up with him immediately, but now I have a problem. I am experiencing some symptoms that could be an STD.

In my small town, everyone knows everyone. If I go to a local doctor, it'll be all over town before dark. It would shame my parents. I'm leaving soon to attend college several hundred miles from here. Would it be harmful to wait until I get there to see a doctor about what I'm afraid I have?

—BURNED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR BURNED: If there is a Planned Parenthood office within driving distance of your community, contact it now. It is listed in the telephone book, and the people there will be glad to help you.

If there isn't one, call the Centers for Disease Control's national STD/AIDS hotline: (800) 227-8922. They may be able to refer you to a public clinic for a confidential evaluation. It's important that you not put this off because some STDs can lead to infertility and other problems if treatment is postponed.

DEAR ABBY: I am 51 and still single. Recently I learned that I have a heart condition, and the doctors predict I have only five to 10 more years to live. I am in a turmoil trying to decide if it's fair to continue dating. My friends give me conflicting advice. What do you think is fair?

—TO DATE OR NOT TO DATE IN OREGON

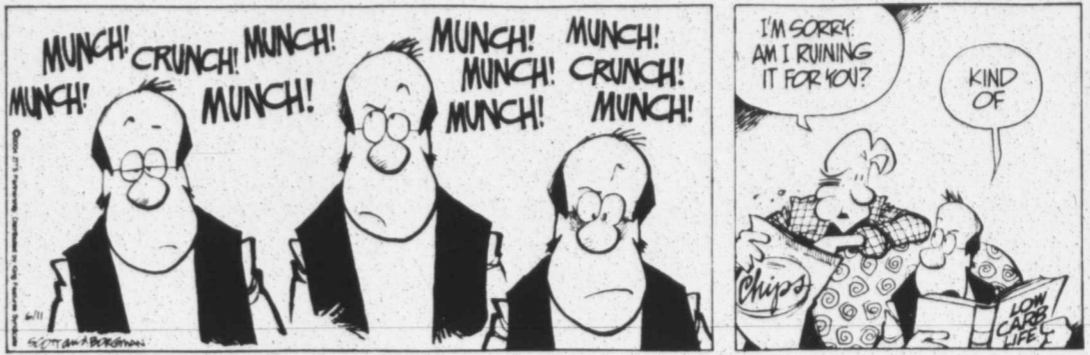
DEAR TO DATE: If you haven't already done so, get a second medical opinion about the prognosis. If it is valid, then I think you should live to the fullest the time the good Lord allows you. If you get serious with someone, be honest about your condition and make that decision together.

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## For Better Or Worse



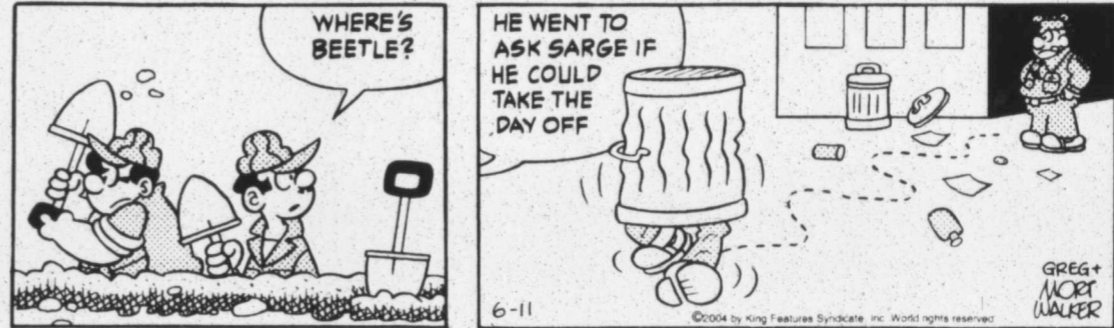
## Zits



## Garfield



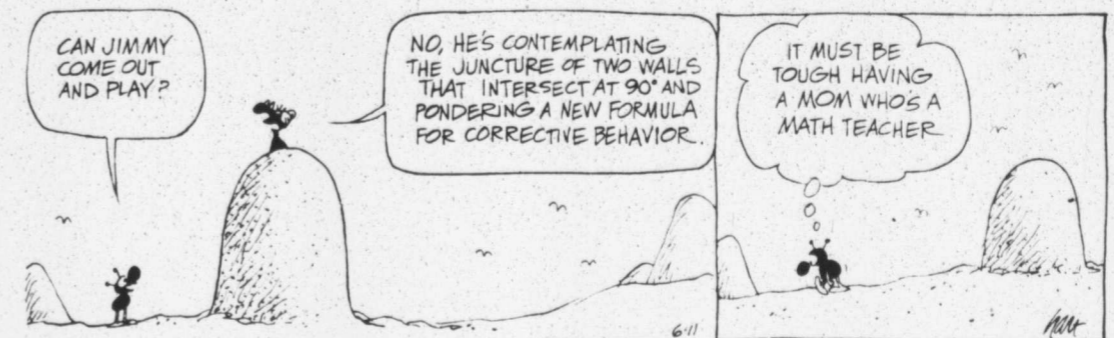
## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

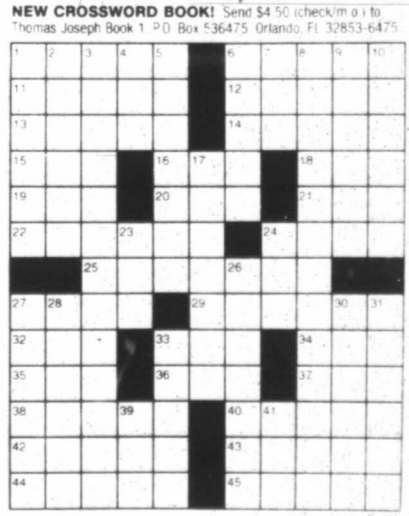
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Easel
  - 6 Like Superman
  - 11 Use crayons
  - 12 Kitchen come-on
  - 13 — there yet?
  - 14 More fit for picking
  - 15 Writer Stout
  - 16 That lady
  - 18 Screw up no.
  - 19 Pitching no.
  - 20 Pop
  - 21 Before today
  - 22 Dressed in
  - 24 Murdered
  - 25 Phil of talk
  - 27 Storage site
  - 29 Sartre work
  - 32 General assembly?
  - 33 Cone source
  - 34 Candle count
  - 35 Little rascal
  - 36 B & B
  - 37 Sister
  - 38 Taken wing
- DOWN**
- 40 Parlor drinks
  - 42 Conical abodes
  - 43 Peace goddess
  - 44 Herd member
  - 45 Cheyenne Mountain org.
  - 7 Tycoon
  - 8 Holy water
  - 9 Come
  - 10 Scopes
  - 17 Was connected
  - 18 Right away
  - 19 German city
  - 23 Auction hoot
  - 24 Take to court
  - 26 Intrudes
  - 27 Swallows' cousins
  - 28 Ophelia's love
  - 30 Scaly pet
  - 31 Stiffened figure
  - 33 More exquisite
  - 39 Small
  - 41 Spanish

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## The Family Circus



## Flo & Friends



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# Sports Day

## CAL RIPKEN LEAGUE

### Tournament begins

Glo-Valve Service pounded out 13 hits to outscore Celanese Corporation 11-5 Thursday in the 11-12 Cal Ripken League City Tournament.

Evan Meschke pulled off a hat trick, leading Glo-Valve in hitting for the third time this season.

He had two doubles, three runs scored and two RBI. Anthony Allen made three hits, including a double, scored twice and had one RBI. Alex Clendening and Tyler Malone each contributed two hits and two runs scored. Clendening had a double and two RBI. Malone had one RBI. Cody Davis knocked in three runs with two hits.

Glo-Valve wasted no time getting on the scoreboard by tallying four times in the first inning. Clendening was safe on an error. Allen and Malone singled which scored Clendening. Meschke hammered his first double bringing in Allen. Malone scored on a wild pitch, and Davis knocked in Meschke with a single.

A triple down the first base line by Jessie Jimenez and an infield out by Rylan Clark produced a run for Celanese in the second inning.

Glo-Valve got the run back with interest. Brennan Dickinson laid down a bunt and wound up at third on an overthrow. He came home on a double by Clendening, who took third when the relay throw got by the pitcher. He scored on an infield out by Allen.

Malone singled and was forced at second by Meschke. Meschke stole second and came roaring home when the catcher's throw went into centerfield. Glo-Valve led 7-1.

In the bottom of the fourth Glo-Valve padded its lead. Singles by Clendening and Allen followed by a walk to Malone and a double by Meschke brought home one run and set the table for a two-run single by Davis making the score 10-1.

Mitchell Killgo, the lead-

ing hitter for Celanese with three hits, led off the top of the fifth inning with a triple. Three consecutive walks brought him in.

After a strikeout, Clark delivered a three-run triple making him have four RBI in the game. Glo-Valve's lead shrunk to 10-5.

In the bottom of the fifth Freddie Ramirez singled, went to second and third on a passed ball and a wild pitch and scored the 11th run for Glo-Valve on an ground out by Clendening.

Malone, who pitched three innings for Glo-Valve, was the winning pitcher. He gave up one run on three hits.

He struck out seven and did not walk a batter. Allen pitched two scoreless innings. He permitted two hits and two walks. He struck out three.

Clendening was rocked for four runs on only one hit in the fifth inning, but he struck out three of four batters he faced in the sixth.

Keenan Lott started for Celanese. He gave up eight earned runs and 10 hits. He struck out five and walked one. Brent Green pitched an inning giving up one run and two hits. He struck out one and walked one.

Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency, a 5-3 winner over Cabot Corporation in the late game Thursday, and Glo-Valve are the only undefeated teams in the City Tournament. They clash at 5:45 p.m. Monday.

Friday's games feature D. E. Chase, Inc. and Cabot at 5:45 p.m. and Rotary Club and Celanese at 7:45 p.m.

The City Tournament is scheduled to conclude Wednesday. Practice for all star competition is expected to begin Thursday. Pampa will compete in the West Texas 11-12 Cal Ripken District Tournament in Hereford the week of June 26 and will host the West Texas 11-12 Cal Ripken State Tournament here beginning July 7.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

## Lakers jeered off floor after loss

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Magic Johnson left the building with a few minutes remaining in the fourth quarter, unwilling to watch the Los Angeles Lakers being jeered off the floor after a blowout loss.

And whatever magic these Lakers still possessed left The Palace much earlier in the Detroit Pistons' 88-68 victory Thursday night in Game 3 of the NBA Finals.

Two days after he seemed immortal, Kobe Bryant was mediocre. Shaquille O'Neal cried for calls and touches he didn't get. Their teammates seemed out of shape and out of their element — and the Lakers got run over in the loudest suburb of the Motor City.

"They're human," Detroit's Rasheed Wallace said. "They bleed, just like us."

Though they're only halfway there with a 2-1 series lead, the Pistons seemed ready to shock the league and claim the franchise's third title. No Eastern Conference team without Michael Jordan on its roster has beaten the West since 1990, the second of Detroit's consecutive championship seasons.

"You've got a chance, you look down the road like that, but we can't look down the road," guard Chauncey Billups said. "We've just got a great unit. We can hurt you in so many different ways. I think we are just a very, very good basketball team."

Richard Hamilton scored 31 points for the Pistons, adding another impressive performance to his star-making postseason run. Billups had 19 points, and the Pistons held the Lakers to their lowest point total in the franchise's celebrated playoff history.

From the Pistons' game-opening 8-0 run to their celebratory fourth quarter, everything in Game 3 seemed designed for the maximum enjoyment of the deafening sellout crowd in this basket-

ball-crazy city. But that dominance was no surprise, because Detroit clearly has been the superior team for all but a few minutes of this series.

"Well, I don't think we can defend better than we did tonight," coach Larry Brown said. "Hey, we held them to 68 points (while we shot) 40 percent. For us, that's an incredible accomplishment. ... I'm shocked, but I'm really proud of the way we played."

*'They're human.  
They bleed,  
just like us.'*

— Rasheed Wallace  
Detroit Pistons

As the Pistons flew home from Los Angeles two nights earlier, Brown looked around the plane, wondering how his team would respond to blowing a six-point lead in the final 40 seconds of regulation when Bryant hit his improbable 3-pointer. Brown decided his team had been in enough similar situations and they always responded splendidly.

They did it with a defensive performance for the record books, holding the Lakers to 36.5 percent shooting and forcing 16 turnovers. The Pistons outrebounded the Lakers 51-39 and outscored them in the paint, on the break and on second-chance baskets.

"At halftime, I told the team, 'I don't think we can play any worse than we played.'" Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "But as I told the team, this is only one game. We have a couple days to get our feet on the ground and get ready for Game 4."

Game 4 is Sunday night, and the Lakers will feel the pressure of their

## Arkansas' Cragg caps stellar career

AUSTIN (AP) — Heading into the last 600 meters of his stellar college career, Arkansas' Alistair Cragg kicked into high gear for one last dash to finish line.

Rounding into the final lap, Cragg pulled away from Arizona's Robert Cheseret in the 10,000 meters, cruising to his seventh career title Thursday night at the NCAA track and field championships at the University of Texas.

Yet given all he's accomplished, Cragg wrapped up his college days with a simple assessment of his titles: "It's been a good career."

Better than that, really. Cragg has dominated his events, winning five titles indoors and two outdoors. And it could have been more.

The native of South Africa, who will compete for Ireland in the Olympics, would have been the favorite to win the 5,000, as well.

He had by far the best time of any college runner in the event, but was disqualified from the NCAA meet after skipping the race at the Mideast Regional with a sore calf.

Cragg had been told by a meet official he would be allowed in the NCAA championships despite the injury, but the NCAA ruled otherwise. So the 10,000 was his farewell.

He didn't want it to be a letdown. "I was a little afraid I would wash it away," he said.

Cragg won the NCAA 5,000 outdoors last year, and probably could have won the 10,000, too.

But as he and teammate Dan Lincoln were about to cross the finish line together, arm in arm, Cragg slowed slightly, allowing senior Lincoln to finish first.

Cragg was all alone at the end this time.

Holding the lead for the final 12 of 25 laps, he ignored coach John McDonnell's wishes to pull away with about four to go, saving a strong burst for the end. Cheseret couldn't match him when he did.

Cragg clocked the final lap in 60.7 seconds to finish in 29 minutes, 22.43 seconds. Cheseret was second at 29:26.51.

*'He never put intense  
pressure on me. It's a  
nice way to finish it off.'*

— Alistair Cragg

"He never put intense pressure on me," Cragg said. "It's a nice way to finish it off."

Looking back on his career, the only thing he regrets is not winning a cross country title.

"That will always hang over my head," he said.

In other events Thursday, John Moffitt of LSU won the long jump on his final attempt, with a leap of 27 feet, 6 3/4 inches.

Tony Allmond of South Carolina had taken the lead in his final jump, but finished second at 27-4 3/4. Moffitt's mark was the best at the NCAA meet since Erick Walter of Arkansas jumped 28 feet in 1993.

Defending champion Leevan Sands of Auburn fouled twice and failed to make the finals with a jump of 25 feet.

sticky situation for the ensuing two days. Game 5 is Tuesday night, also in Auburn Hills.

O'Neal had 14 points and eight rebounds, taking just 14 shots and battling foul trouble while shooting just two free throws of his own. Bryant scored just one of his 11 points in the first half, finishing 4-for-13.

Asked why the Lakers didn't get him the ball more, O'Neal replied: "That's the story of my life, buddy."

The rest of the Lakers offered little on either end of the court. Karl Malone played valiantly with a probable torn ligament in his right knee, but managed just five points. Nobody else on the roster scored more than nine points or made more than half of his shots.

"Most of it was effort-related," O'Neal said. "This is a tough challenge, but we are making it a lot tougher on ourselves."

The Pistons have endured horrific scoring slumps during the playoffs, struggling for mere competence. But those stretches occurred against New Jersey and Indiana, two teams with better defenses and more athletic rosters than the Lakers, who rely on star power and mystique.

Against the Lakers, Hamilton and Billups are allowed to roam unimpeded on the perimeter, where they can get open outside shots or penetrate the lane. They hit two 3-pointers apiece in Game 3, and both went 7-for-7 from the free throw line.

The Pistons' lead never dipped below 12 points in the final 20 minutes. The crowd gave countless standing ovations in the fourth quarter, cheering wildly when all five starters checked out simultaneously with 1:48 to play.

"We really fed off our fans," Hamilton said. "We shared the ball. Everybody had each other's back on defense. I think guys did a great job of really playing together."

"I knew I could do it and had it in me to win," Moffitt said. "I wanted to keep myself calm and not overdo it, so I took a deep breath and gave it my all."

Moffitt shrugged off problems with a sore groin and ankle.

"I didn't really feel it because I was too amped up," he said.

Jacquelyn Johnson of Arizona State pulled away down the stretch of the 800 meters to become the first freshman to win the heptathlon since Sheila Tarr of UNLV in 1984.

She edged defending champion Hyleas Fountain, who held a slim lead going into the 800, the last of the heptathlon's seven events.

"She's awesome," Fountain said. "She's going to be doing some great things. People are going to have to watch out for her."

Johnson finished with 5,807 points, 204 more than her previous best. She had personal bests in the 100-meter hurdles, javelin and 800. Fountain, bothered by a sore right hamstring, was second with 5,785.

The freshman's winning surge began as she completed her final turn.

"To tell you the truth, I didn't know how far she was behind me," Johnson said. "But I just knew I had to go, so I just went. I got that last bit of energy. I was like 'I'm almost done. Let's just get out there. You're going to hurt, so just hurt.'"

Fountain came back to win the long jump with a wind-aided 21-8 1/4.

"I didn't want to leave without winning a national championship," Fountain said. "My coach told me to have faith in myself."

Alicia Craig of Stanford defended her title in the women's 10,000, winning in 33:58.27.

## Night of firsts for Franchitti

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Dario Franchitti accomplished a series of firsts at Texas Motor Speedway.

He drove his first IRL laps on the 1 1/2-mile, high-banked track during practice Thursday, then ran at night for the first time in his racing career during qualifying.

The day ended with his first IndyCar Series pole.

"It's weird getting in the car and not being able to see where your feet go," Franchitti said. "It took a couple of corners to get used to the shadows."

Franchitti adjusted just fine.

With a lap of 209.609 mph, he took the pole position for Saturday night's Bombardier 500 from Buddy Rice.

The Indianapolis 500 champion set the early pace at 208.755 mph, and it held until Franchitti was the 20th of 22nd drivers to qualify.

Franchitti is in just his ninth race for Andretti Green, for which teammates Dan Wheldon and Tony Kanaan are 1-2 in points.

The former CART driver

missed most of last year, and both Texas races, because of a broken back sustained in a motorcycle accident.

The top five qualifying spots were Hondas, including Kanaan third at 208.511 mph and Bryan Herta, the other Andretti Green driver, fifth. Rookie Kosuke Matsuura was fourth at 208.360 mph. Wheldon was 12th.

Franchitti's pole speed was the slowest at Texas, 13 mph slower than Gil de Ferran's top spot (222.864) for last season's IRL finale at the track.

Not counting the inaugural IRL race at Texas in 1997, when a pit stop was part of the qualifying run, the slowest previous pole was Mark Dismore's 215.272 mph in June 1999.

Rice is driving the No. 15 Rahal-Letterman car in place of Kenny Brack, who sustained multiple fractures in a horrific crash near the end of last season's finale.

Two weeks after Brack's accident, Tony Renna was killed in an eerily similar crash during a private test at Indianapolis.

## Report: Feds met with Marion Jones' former husband

By ROB GLOSTER  
AP Sports Writer

Federal investigators met this week with the former husband of Olympic champion Marion Jones, the San Jose Mercury News reported Friday on its Web site.

The newspaper, quoting two anonymous sources familiar with the situation, said the investigators met with C.J. Hunter, a former shot putter who tested positive for steroids four times in 2000 — when he was married to Jones.

Representatives for Jones, who won an unprecedented five track medals at the 2000 Sydney Olympics and has hinted she may try to match that this summer at the Athens Games, declined to comment early Friday morning.

Jones met with U.S. Anti-Doping Agency officials last month to discuss possible drug evidence against her, and received a letter from the agency Tuesday asking follow-up questions.

She has repeatedly denied drug use and has vowed to

fight any USADA charges.

It was unclear whether Hunter told the federal investigators anything about Jones.

Hunter's drug tests showed the 1999 world champion had 1,000 times the allowable amount of the steroid nandrolone in his system.

His nutritionist, Victor Conte, claimed at a news conference at the 2000 Olympics that the positive tests were the result of contaminated iron supplements. Conte, who also has

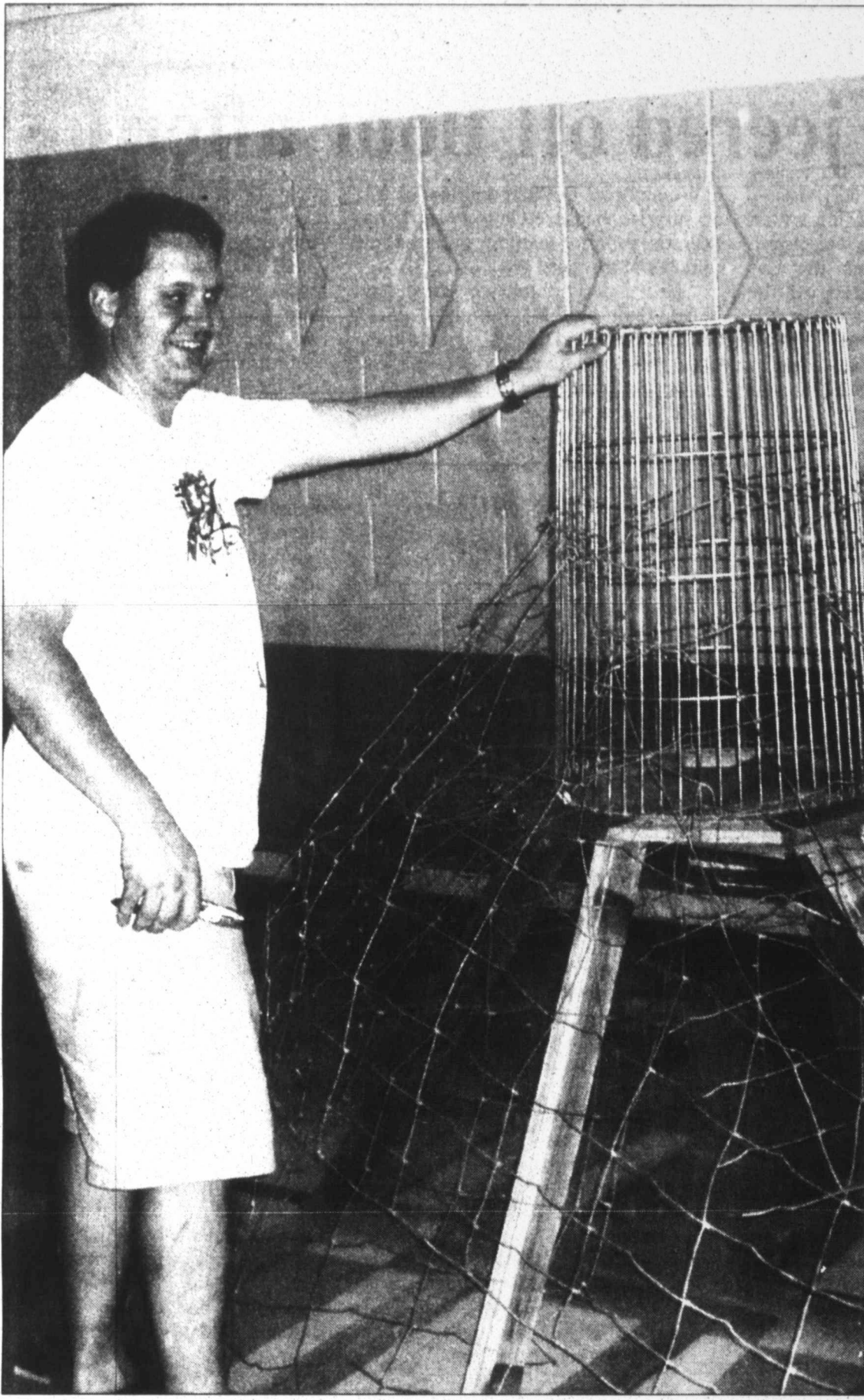
worked with Jones, is the founder of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, allegedly at the heart of a ring that distributed steroids to top athletes.

Conte and three other men have pleaded innocent to charges including drug distribution.

Hunter, now a strength coach at North Carolina State, could help investigators clear up questions about a \$7,350 check written from Jones' bank account to Conte in September 2000.

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Volcano builder



Scott Flathouse works on the base of a volcano for Lava Lava Island Vacation Bible School at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church recently.

# Gunfire sounds in Congo's capital amid coup attempt

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) — Congolese troops put down a coup attempt by a small band of dissidents within the presidential guard on Friday, the government said, after heavy gunfire and tank shelling echoed across the central African nation's capital for several hours.

The clashes had centered around a military base, state media stations and the presidential mansion.

President Joseph Kabila later went on television and said his power-sharing government, assembled after a devastating 1998-2002 war, was in control.

"Stay calm, prepare yourself to resist — because I will allow nobody to try a coup d'etat or to throw off course our peace process," Kabila said. "As for me, I'm fine."

The crisis was only the latest to shake Kabila's transition government, formed in 2003 from loyalists, ex-rebels and opposition figures.

Friday's coup attempt started after midnight local time, when an officer identified as Maj. Eric Lengue abruptly appeared on state radio to declare his forces had "neutralized" the transition government.

Power went off in the city, in a blackout suspected caused by the rebels. Foreign Minister Antoine Ghonda blamed an "isolated movement" within the security forces, and said dissidents included officers of Kabila's guard.

Government ministers said dissidents quickly yielded the state broadcast stations to loyalists, and retreated to a military base within the capital.

"The situation is completely under control," Information Minister Vital Kamerhe declared before dawn.

State TV and radio, retaken, repeated that message and urged Kinshasa's crowded capital to go about its day as normal.

Most of Kinshasa's millions appeared to have slept through the first hours of the coup attempt. At daybreak, however, the capital

awoke to bursts of gunfire in the city center. Residents and diplomats reported shooting and tank fire at the base where dissident forces had holed up.

Western diplomatic officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said loyalist security forces were battling coup forces at the military base.

As shooting eased, British Ambassador Jim Atkinson told AP that Lengue, the alleged coup leader, had broken out of the base and was "possibly looking to give himself up."

Army Chief of Staff Adm. Mata Liwanga said only about 20 soldiers had accompanied Lengue to the camp. Twelve had been arrested, and the rest, including Lengue, were on the run, he said.

Tanks, armored personnel carriers loaded with troops, and troops on foot deployed in the heart of Kinshasa, sending residents running.

Simultaneously with the shooting around the base, residents and diplomats reported heavy gunfire around Kabila's private residence. There was no immediate explanation of the circumstances.

Friday's coup attempt was the second security-force uprising against the transition government led by Kabila, who took power in 2001 after his father, rebel-leader-turned-president Laurent Kabila, was killed by one of his own bodyguards.

In March, a few hundred soldiers attacked several military installations in the capital. That attempt was defeated, and it was unclear whether it was a coup attempt or a more limited mutiny.

On Wednesday, government forces recaptured the eastern town of Bukavu from renegade ex-rebel forces, ending a seven-day takeover that had posed the greatest military and diplomatic challenge to the government.

Kabila's government came under heavy criticism for allowing fall of the town June 2.

## New data shows fraction of jobs lost to offshoring

WASHINGTON (AP) — While many American workers fear the prospect of seeing their jobs shipped overseas, a new government report indicates that few layoffs can be blamed directly on work being sent abroad.

In the first three months of the year, the jobs of 4,633 U.S. workers were sent to foreign workers, according to a Labor Department report released Thursday.

Those displaced workers were about 2 percent of the 239,361 private-sector, non-farm workers who lost their jobs for at least 31 days from January through March.

The Labor Department figures aren't comprehensive.

They include only layoffs

at companies employing 50 workers or more, where at least 50 people filed for unemployment benefits during a five-week period and were out of work for more than 30 days. About a third of all mass layoffs extend for more than 30 days, the report said.

Offshoring has affected blue-collar workers in America's factories for years. The issue has been magnified in a presidential election year with an exodus of white-collar service jobs, particularly in call centers and technical support.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com, said the offshoring figures are consistent with other estimates based on broader eco-

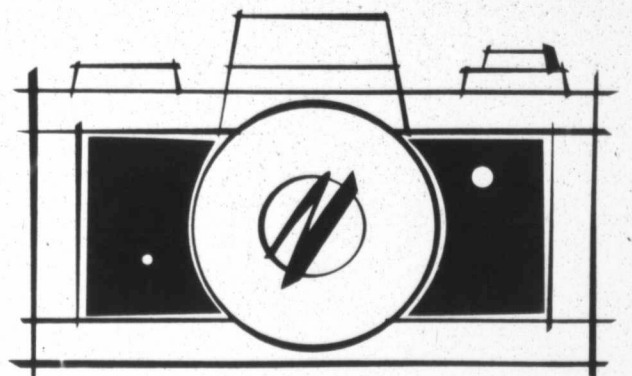
nomics data. That data, he said, suggests an overall first-quarter loss of about 350,000 jobs at an annualized rate.

The report shows the outsourcing of jobs to other countries "is a significant force in our job market," he said.

Now that the economy is creating jobs, adding 1.2 million since May, "it's not an overwhelming force," Zandi said.

The Bush administration is sensitive to the issue — it was criticized for an economic report in February stating that offshoring jobs "makes sense," followed by comments from President Bush's economics team supporting that view.

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## Fund-raising car wash



Salvation Army youth will be accepting donations during its free car wash slated for Saturday, June 12 beginning at 10 a.m. in the south parking lot of NBC Bank. The youth will offer food and drinks to participants also. Pictured above are Tina Henson, Shane Stephenson, Jeremy Howe, Aaron Howe, Jessica Howe and Charles Benvediz. Funds will help send youth to camp.

## Community happenings

- **Pampa Masonic Lodge #966** meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 420 W. Kingsmill, stated meeting is the third Thursday of each month at the same time.
- **Pampa Area Ministerial Alliance** meets the first Monday of every month. Location changes monthly.
- **The Pampa Prison Ministry** meets the first Tuesday of every month at Central Baptist Church located at Francis and Starkweather at 7 p.m. sharp. For further information call or J.B Walker at 669-2266.
- **St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church** hosts Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) beginning at 7:15 p.m., Wednesdays at 2004 Williston. For more information, call Aloise Martin at 883-4901 or Peggy Rodriguez at 669-2683.
- **Gray County Chapter of the American Red Cross** is seeking volunteers from the community to respond during times of crisis in Pampa and other parts of the county. As well as personal satisfaction, volunteers learn how to protect themselves and cope with disaster by planning ahead, particularly essential during tornado season. In addition, ARC is willing to deliver informational discussions on disaster preparedness to area church or community organizations. For more information, call (806) 669-7121.
- **St. Mark will host a monthly breakfast** the first Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Donations will be accepted.
- **Texas Department of Human Services** is seeking volunteers for its Texas Works Services Program. Tasks are varied and placement is based upon the volunteer's interest, capability and availability of openings. Hours are flexible. For more information, contact Beth Miller at 665-1863.
- **Llano Estacado's Seventh Annual Wine & Clay Festival** will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13 at Llano Estacado Winery, 3.2 miles east of US87 on FM 1585. Demonstrations are planned throughout the day. Admission is free. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, and 12 noon-5 p.m., Sunday.
- **First United Methodist Church** will hold a free community-wide cookout from 6-8:30 p.m., Sunday, June 13, at Central Park.
- **A Beef Bull Seminar** entitled "Getting an Edge — Bull Selection for Today's Market" will be conducted Tuesday, June 15, at R.A. Brown Ranch near Throckmorton. Registration for the free seminar, worth three CEUs, will be from 8-8:30 a.m. on the 15th. Participants must RSVP for the event by June 11. For more information or to sign-up call, (940) 864-3496.

## Legendary singer Ray Charles dead at 73

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — As Ray Charles played and sang, his stiffly swaying shoulders suggested some invisible tug of war between a devil and an angel.

Charles, who died Thursday at age 73, was a musical innovator who combined the rollicking "bad boy" free-spiritedness of rock 'n' roll with the pious aching of gospel and soul to create a new style in such hits as "What'd I Say," "Hit the Road Jack," "Georgia on My Mind" and "I Can't Stop Loving You."

"There will never be another musician who did as

much to break down the perceived walls of musical genres as much as Ray Charles did," said music producer Quincy Jones, who described Charles as a "brother in every sense of the word."

Charles died of acute liver disease at his Beverly Hills home at 11:35 a.m., surrounded by family and friends, said spokesman Jerry Digney.

Blind by age 7 and an orphan at 15, the gifted pianist and saxophonist spent his life shattering any notion of musical categories and defying easy definition.

One of the first artists to

record the "blasphemous idea of taking gospel songs and putting the devil's words to them," as legendary producer Jerry Wexler once said, Charles' music spanned soul, rock 'n' roll, R&B, country, jazz, big band and blues.

Over the course of a 58-year career, he put his stamp on it all with a deep, warm voice roughened by heart-break from a hardscrabble childhood in the segregated South. Smiling and swaying behind the piano, grunts and moans peppering his songs, Charles' appeal spanned generations.

Aretha Franklin called

Charles "the voice of a lifetime."

"He was a fabulous man, full of humor and wit," she said in a statement. "A giant of an artist, and of course, he introduced the world to secular soul singing."

James Brown recalled, "He was just a sweet and gorgeous and wonderful person ... He was a role model for all people that got to know him and his music. I respected the genius ... What set him apart? He was Ray Charles — just that!"

Billy Joel, a fellow piano man, said he and others started out by imitating Charles.

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