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# THE PAMPA NEWS

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## Rule of capture Officials: System's not perfect, but better than anything else

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

AUSTIN — C.E. Williams says the system isn't perfect, but it's better than anything else anybody's come up with.

Speaking at a water symposium in the State Capitol Tuesday, Williams, the general manager of the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District, told his audience that June 13, 1904, was when the Texas Supreme Court handed down their ruling that made the rule of capture the law of the Lone Star State when it comes to ground water.

In the landmark case, Houston and Texas Central Railroad Co. vs. East, the railroad company dug a 66-

foot deep well on its property in Denison to supply water for their locomotives and machine shops. W.A. East, a citizen of Denison, sued the railroad company when his 30-foot deep well a block away dried up.

The court ruled that the railroad company owned the water beneath its property and could take as much of the water as it wanted.

Over the years, the state legislature and other court rulings have refined the rule of capture doctrine to say that a landowner can pump as much water as he wants so long as he does not do it maliciously, that is, to intentionally harm his neighbors.

See WATER, Page 3



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Kim Flowers of Miami, a Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District board member, and C.E. Williams, general manager of the water district, review material during a symposium on water law in the State Capitol Tuesday.

## Deputies nab suspects

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Gray County Sheriff's Department deputies apprehended two Amarillo residents within hours after they allegedly committed a residential burglary in Donley County Tuesday.

Steve Brown, 39, and Barbara Gail Brown, 52, were arrested at about 4 p.m. Tuesday on the east side of Pampa by Deputy Derek Peters after he located the truck they were driving. The two were taken into custody by Peters and Deputy Cary Rushing on Donley County warrants for burglary of a habitation.

The Browns allegedly

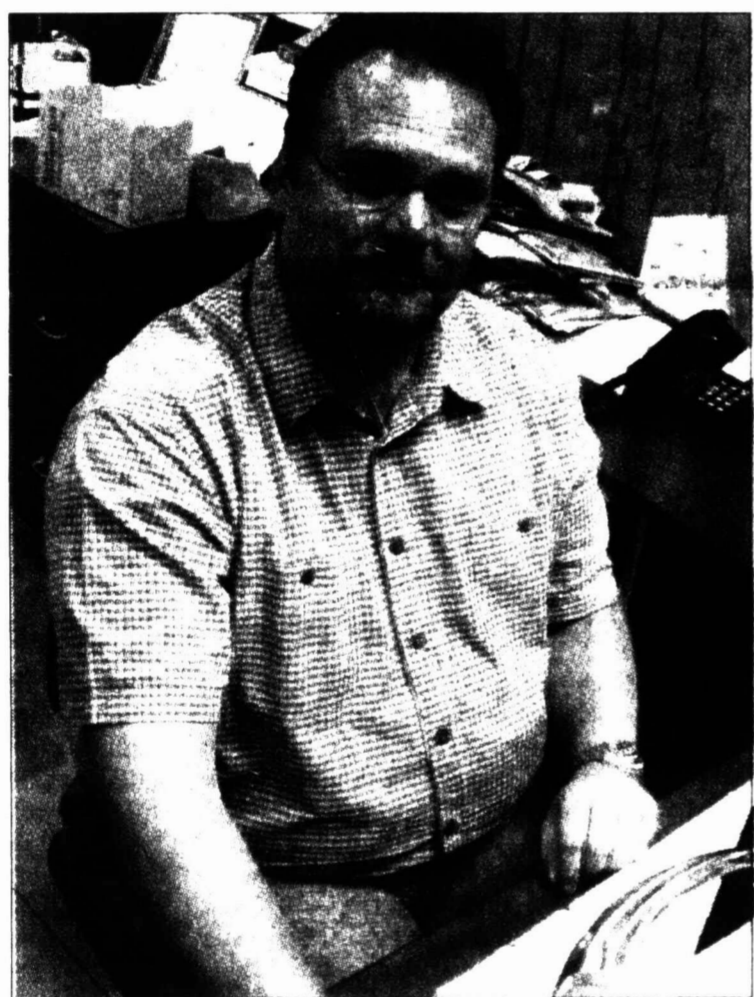
broke into a rural home Tuesday morning in Donley County. Donley County Sheriff's Department investigated the incident and determined who the suspects were. The department then issued warrants and notified Gray County authorities, said Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing.

Gray County deputies recovered some property from the Browns' vehicle which was identified as being stolen from the residence, Rushing said. Both suspects list an Amarillo address, but Gray County deputies believe they have been staying in the McLean area recently.

The burglary victims came to Gray County

Sheriff's Department last night and identified the property recovered from the truck as being theirs, Rushing said. Estimated value of property taken in the burglary is unknown, he said. Most were household items, he said.

Steve Brown was transferred to Donley County on the second-degree felony charge of burglary of a habitation. Barbara Gail Brown remains in Gray County Jail in lieu of \$5,000 bond on the burglary charge out of Donley County, and has also been charged with credit card abuse in Gray County. Further Gray County charges are possible against Barbara Brown, according to a jail spokesperson.



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

## Meet Michael J.

Michael J. Stevens of Amarillo is the newspaper's new sports editor. *The Pampa News* Editor Dee Dee Laramore announces. Stevens brings a long history of broadcast journalism and a love of community sports to the position. He can be reached at the news office by calling 669-2525 or by e-mail: sports@thepampanews.com.

## Three Detroiters in jail after marijuana found

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Three Detroit area residents remain in Gray County Jail as of press time today in lieu of \$10,000 bond each on a charge of possession of marijuana over five pounds and under 50 pounds, according to a jail spokesperson.

Michael Jerome Locke, 36, of Oak Park, Mich., and Aaron Lamar Maddox, 22,

and Sondra Akenyale Harris, 29, both of Detroit, Mich., were arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers after the marijuana was discovered during a routine traffic stop.

The three were stopped for allegedly speeding at 10:22 a.m. Tuesday, in the eastbound lanes near the 119 mile marker of Interstate 40

See ARRESTS, Page 3

## Fifth annual Rodeo Bible Camp begins June 20 at Pampa arena

The fifth annual Texas Rodeo Bible Camp will be June 20-23 at the Top O' Texas Rodeo arena, east of Pampa on U.S. Highway 60.

Texas Rodeo Bible Camp is for boys and girls ages 13-18. It is facilitated through Fellowship of Christian Cowboys, Top O' Texas Chapter. Jim and Kathleen Greene are the chapter directors.

Those who attend will be instructed in their chosen rodeo events by instructors who are accomplished competitors in the rodeo arena and live their lives Christ like.

Examples include Tamara Reinhart, professional barrel racer who has qualified for the National Finals Rodeo two times, and B.J. Kramps, a seeded Professional Bull Rider currently competing on the PBR circuit.

"B.J. is riding in Phoenix, Ariz., and will pay over to



Texas Rodeo Bible Campers gather around to admire the belt buckles they will have a chance to win at this year's camp. From top to bottom: Trindee Tally, Tasha Triplett, Brittney Taylor, Stephan McCarly, Skye Niccum, Carly Douglas, and Whitney Wichert.

instruct at our camp on his overall great guy. Last year the campers got on 52 an awesome instructor and See CAMP, Page 3

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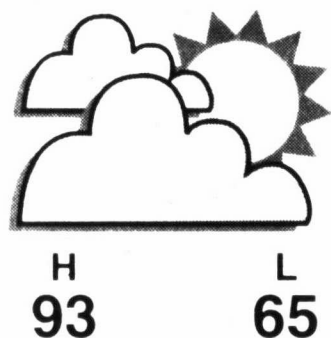
Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

Geese look for something to eat beside the city lake.

## Gray County Weather

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high around 93.  
Windy, with a south-southeast wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.  
Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly between 7pm and 5am.  
Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. South wind 15 to 20 mph becoming east-northeast.  
Thursday: A 20 percent

chance of showers and thunderstorms.  
cloudy, with a high near 88. East-northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.  
Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low near 65. East wind between 10 and 15 mph.  
Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 89. Southeast wind around 15 mph.  
Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and



thunderstorms after 1am. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. South wind between 15 and 20 mph.

## Emergency Services

### Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents and arrests.  
Monday, June 7  
An abandoned vehicle was reported parked on a public street in the 1100 block of South Dwight.  
Monday, June 14  
Found property was reported in the 800 block of East Frederic. A word processor was found. Estimated value was unknown.  
Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of Lowry Street. A car was keyed. Estimated value of damage was unknown.  
Tuesday, June 15  
Assault family violence was reported in the 700 block of Doucette. Minor injuries including cuts and bruises were reported.  
Simple assault was reported in the 700 block of Doucette. The victim was hit in the mouth.  
Burglary of a building was reported in the 1100 block of Lincoln. Taken were an air conditioner unit and a television. Estimated loss was \$150.  
Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 700 block of East Frederic.  
A wallet with \$100 and a driver's license in it was reported stolen from M.K.

Brown Swimming Pool in the 700 block of East Kentucky.  
Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Semmole. Estimated damage to the vehicle was \$1,700. Electronics valued at approximately \$390 were taken.  
Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Cherokee. A wallet and contents were taken. Estimated amount of damage and loss is unknown.  
Allsup's, 1900 N. Hobart, reported theft of beer valued at \$15.  
A missing person was reported in the 1100 block of Montague Street.  
Sarah Watkins, 21, 717 Doucette, was arrested in the 700 block of Doucette for simple assault.  
William Watkins, 27, 717 Doucette, was arrested in the 700 block of Doucette for assault causing bodily injury to a family member.  
Wednesday, June 16  
A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2600 block of North Hobart. Minor injuries were reported resulting from mutual combat.

Tuesday, June 15  
Michael J. Locke, 36, Oak Park, Mich., was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for possession of marijuana over five pounds and under 50 pounds.  
Aaron L. Maddox, 22, Detroit, Mich., was arrested by DPS for possession of marijuana over five pounds and under 50 pounds.  
Sondai Akensiele Harris, 29, Detroit, Mich., was arrested by DPS for possession of marijuana over five pounds and under 50 pounds.  
Steve Brown, 39, Amarillo, was arrested on a warrant out of Donley County for burglary of a habitation.  
Barbara Gail Brown, 52, Amarillo, was arrested on a warrant out of Donley County for burglary of a habitation.

### Fire

Pampa Fire Department responded to the following call during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.  
Tuesday, June 15  
11:24 a.m. One unit and two firefighters responded to smoldering hay in the 900 block of South Doyle. Firefighters extinguished a small spot still smoldering from a previous fire involving six hay bales.

### Sheriff

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

## Obituaries

### Clarence Glen Elmore, 88

ALLISON Clarence Glen Elmore, 88, died Monday, June 14, 2004, at Wheeler.  
Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Allison School with Truman Teel of Cordell, Okla., and Shawn Zybach of Briscoe officiating.  
Burial will be in Zybach Cemetery at Briscoe under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.  
Mr. Elmore was born Aug. 27, 1915, at Huntington, Ark., to Thomas Houston

and Mary Alice McBurnett Elmore. He married Nona Green on Oct. 5, 1933, at Erick, Okla. He moved to Allison in 1938 and was a rancher and a hog buyer.  
Mr. Elmore loved playing baseball.  
He had sat on Allison School board, was a member of the Church of Christ and was voted Farmer-Rancher of the Year by Wheeler Chamber of Commerce.  
Mr. Elmore was preceded in death by a daughter,

Beverly Ann Bowman in 1998; by six brothers; and by five sisters.  
Survivors include his wife, Nona, of Allison; two daughters, Sue Giddens of Wheeler and Phyllis Williams of Saginaw; a son, Larry Elmore of Allison; 12 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.  
The family requests memorials be to Ronald McDonald House of Amarillo.

### Kenneth Mumford, 75

Kenneth Mumford, 75, of Pampa, Texas, died Tuesday, June 15, 2004, at Amarillo, Texas.  
Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 17, 2004, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Scott Penrod, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Pampa, and the Rev. Don Harold, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Cheyenne, Okla., officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.  
Mr. Mumford was born July 15, 1928, in Toledo, Ill. He came to Pampa in 1952. He married Neva Jo Wolf on Nov. 27, 1954, in Childress



Mumford

County.  
He played semi-professional baseball at New Iberia, La., before moving to Pampa.  
He was a repairman and lineman for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, retiring after 37 years of service.  
He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Harrah Sunday School Class.  
He was a member of the Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM and was a longtime member of the Pampa Optimist Club where he coached baseball for several years.  
He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during World War II.  
Survivors include his

wife, Neva Jo Mumford, of the home; two sons, Carl Mumford and fiancée Deborah Gunther of Kalamazoo, Mich., and Tracy Mumford and wife Sherry of Roswell, N.M.; one daughter, Carolyn Ford and husband Scott of Cheyenne, Okla.; one brother, Wilson Mumford of Brooksville, Fla.; and five grandchildren, Joe Mumford of Tempe, Ariz., Cherice Mumford of Albuquerque, N.M., Jahanna Mumford of Roswell, N.M., Kristia Ford and Aaron Ford, both of Cheyenne, Okla.  
The family requests memorials be to Pampa Optimist Youth Club, P.O. Box 802, Pampa, TX 79066-0802.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

## Services tomorrow

ELMORE, Clarence Glen — 2 p.m., Allison School, Allison.  
MUMFORD, Kenneth — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.

## Man suspected in niece's death 19 years ago dies

MCKINNEY, Texas (AP) — A man suspected in the strangling death of his niece 19 years ago has died.  
Jose Leos Sosa's death, following AIDS-related pneumonia, comes just months after a Collin County grand jury indicted him in connection with the slaying of 8-year-old Mary "Angela" Camacho.  
Prosecutors said Sosa had long been a suspect in the case, but investigators didn't have enough evidence to secure an indictment

until they reopened the case this year.  
Investigators linked Sosa to the crime using DNA testing and an interview.  
Officials would not disclose details of the interview.  
"Based on our investigation and interview with him and evidence at the scene, we had enough information to convict him if we went to trial," District Attorney John Roach told The Dallas Morning News in Wednesday's editions.

## CITY BRIEFS

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- DOG BOARDING**, outdoor runs with indoor shelter. Call 669-7036, 440-1587.
- PAMPA CUSTOM Framing**, 107 N. Cuyler. 665-2344
- DR. KENNETH** Royse Retirement Party at Pampa Chamber of Commerce, Sun. June 20th, from 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
- GREAT FATHER'S Day** gifts "Thrill of the Grill" Joy's Unlimited - 110 N Cuyler
- REPAIR FENCES** or put up new. Residential. Joe Johnson, 665-5839.
- REPAIR FENCES** or put up new. Residential. Joe Johnson, 665-5839.
- TELKAMP WEDDING** at First Christian Church, 1633 N. Nelson, June 20th, 4 p.m. Receptions to follow.
- WILL DO Welding**. Please call 886-0164.
- WILLIAM & Sarah Meek** Reunion @ the Fort Elliot cafeteria (Briscoe Campus) 10 a.m., Sat. June 14th, 664-8144.

## Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Anderson Grain of Pampa

Wheat	4.15
Milo	4.36
Corn	5.06
Soybeans	8.08

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

QVX	46.33	+0.50
BP	53.80	+0.95
Celanese	44.70	NC
Cabot Corp.	37.64	0.08
Cabot Oil Gas	40.27	+0.36
Coca Cola	50.81	0.42
VLO	67.80	+0.55
HMI	29.81	+0.43
Trud	35.20	0.46
NOI	29.70	+0.92
KMI	58.98	+0.06
XCFI	16.69	+0.01
Kerr McGree	52.21	+0.25
NOM	44.80	+0.42
Limited	19.16	0.09
Wellbates	11.99	0.08
MCD	26.73	+0.05
Atmos	25.02	0.13
Pioneer Nat	33.46	+0.60
JCP	36.64	NC
COP	75.67	+1.07
SLB	61.41	+1.61
Jenneco	13.11	0.21
CVX	91.40	+0.80
Wal-Mart	56.61	0.10
OKI	21.46	+0.11
NS Corp.	15.21	+0.01
New York Gold	388.75	
Silver	5.72	
West Texas Crude	37.19	



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### Couple wins granite bench

Floyd and Mable Adams of Pampa recently won a personalized memorial granite bench at a drawing held by Memory Gardens Cemetery and Mausoleum of Pampa. The drawing was held during the Memorial Day weekend. Their bench will be installed next to their burial estate at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

## Camp

Continued from Page 1

bulls in two days because of his great leadership," Camp Director Jamie Greene said.

The camp begins Sunday night with the campers check-in, orientation, dinner and the first of a daily praise and worship time.

"Lights out is at 10 p.m. because for the next three days the campers will have a full day of activities," Greene said.

"Campers will begin each day at 6 a.m. They will eat breakfast and hit the arena for the first of three daily sessions of rodeo instruction. A noon lunch will be eaten; praise and worship session and then the campers go to their afternoon activity (bowling or swimming)," she said, adding, "It is funny to watch the campers come out of the bus with their cowboy hats, boots and their swim suits on! It always makes the city pool patrons stop swimming and look at the campers. I can't keep from laughing out!"

Greene said the support of

Pampa individuals and businesses amazes her.

"Pampans give of their money, time, and many donations," she said. "It cost \$150 per camper for instruction, food, and activities for three days. We have campers that want to come but are financially unable. We put their name on a list and as the donations come in, we distribute the scholarships to the needy campers. As of today we have four campers that are coming because of very generous donors."

Last year a different Pampa church brought in every meal for the camp.

"We usually feed about 50 people per meal," Greene said. "Due to circumstances, some of the churches were unable to fulfill their obligations this year. We still have two breakfasts and one dinner that is unfilled."

Any one who would like to donate money or a meal can contact Jim, Kathleen, or Jamie Greene at 665-8850.

Greene invites the public to watch the camp rodeo on Wednesday, June 23, at 8:30 a.m. Campers will be showing off their new learned skills and will be competing for Crumrine belt buckles.

## Heat cause of bridge buckle

LAWTON, Okla. (AP) — A metal expansion joint forced its way through the concrete on a bridge along Interstate 44 near the Oklahoma-Texas state line Tuesday, rupturing the fuel tank of a tractor trailer and puncturing the tires of several vehicles.

Oklahoma Highway Patrol Lt. Mike McClelland of Troop G in Lawton said no one was injured, but both northbound lanes of Interstate 44 over the Red River Bridge were closed briefly for cleanup of the leaking diesel fuel.

One lane was reopened Wednesday morning.

Water Authority, said he would like to see more supervision of water districts and their regulations.

Ken Kramer of the Sierra Club said he thinks if the Legislature is going to give water districts the authority to regulate ground water, they should also give them the funding.

Rep. Charlie Geren of the Texas House Natural Resources Committee said some of the state is still not covered by water districts. Landowners in those areas, he said, still run the risk of having all their water pumped from beneath their land by neighbors operating under a pure rule of capture environment.

Geren also expressed concern about smaller districts, many of them only one county. He said that in East Texas there might be a district that wants to make money and sell their water, but in the neighboring district, they wanted to horde their water.

While there have been problems in the many new smaller districts ranging from funding to policy, Williams said that the Panhandle Ground Water District, at 48 years old, is one of the oldest districts in the state. Williams said that even with that much experi-

ence, his district doesn't always get it right, but they have had their successes and are moving forward.

"When I got there in 1990," Williams said, "although it was a multi-county district, it was still very small. It consisted basically of Carson and Armstrong Counties and part of Gray.

In 1988, the rest of Gray County joined, he said. Since then the district has grown to include Carson, Armstrong, Potter, Gray, Wheeler, Roberts and Donley Counties.

"I think people in the area saw what we were doing and why we were doing it," Williams said. "We grew through time to include these other counties. I think you can see that given time and the will of the people, they will combine and move toward bigger districts that cover more area."

Geren said the state doesn't have 48 years for the new districts to mature. The state is facing water problems now.

If the legislature can work its way through the public school finance problems, Geren said, he expects to see some bill introduced in the next session dealing with ground water.

# Saboteurs blast Iraq oil pipeline

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Saboteurs blasted a key southern pipeline for the second time in as many days Wednesday, shutting down Iraq's oil exports, and gunmen killed a security chief for the state-run Northern Oil Co.

Later Wednesday, a rocket slammed into a U.S. logistics base near the city of Balad, killing two U.S. soldiers and wounding 21 people, the military said. Balad is 50 miles north of Baghdad.

The military statement did not specify whether the injured were U.S. soldiers or included civilians or others on the sprawling compound.

The latest attacks at Iraq's oil sector have slowed the process of reviving its economy after decades of war, international sanctions and Saddam Hussein's tyranny. Insurgents also are targeting the country's infrastructure apparently to undermine confidence in the new government, which takes power from the U.S.-led coalition June 30.

"What you are seeing here is effectively a terrorist war against Iraq's critical infrastructure, including the oil infrastructure," coalition spokesman Dan Senor told CNN. "It is an effort to basically, economically, impoverish the Iraqi people."

Radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr ordered members of his militia to leave the holy cities of Najaf and Kufa unless they live there.

Wednesday's attack north of the town of Faw crippled two already damaged pipelines, forcing authorities to stop the flow of crude oil southward to the Basra oil terminal on the Gulf, said

Southern Oil Co. spokesman Samir Jassim.

Exports were halted last month through the other export avenue — the northern pipeline from Kirkuk to Ceyhan, Turkey — after a May 25 bombing, Turkish officials said on condition of anonymity.

Two explosions on the southern pipeline occurred in the same area as a blast Tuesday. It could take up to a week to repair, Jassim said.

Northern Oil Co. security chief Ghazi Talabani was killed in an ambush while going to work in the city of Kirkuk, said Gen. Anwar Amin of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps. Three gunmen attacked Talabani's car after his bodyguard briefly left the vehicle in a crowded market. The bodyguard was wounded.

Talabani was the cousin of the head of one of the two main Kurdish political parties, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

Kirkuk sits on some of the world's largest oil reserves.

Saboteurs also blasted a northern oil pipeline about midnight Tuesday near the town of Dibis, some 20 miles west of Kirkuk, said Northern Oil official Mustafa Awad. The Dibis attack did not disrupt exports and the fire was extinguished, Iraqi oil officials said Wednesday.

Iraq's southern pipeline has been its main export artery ever since the U.S.-led invasion.

OPEC president Purnomo Yusgiantoro said Wednesday he would ask major oil producing countries who don't belong to the cartel to boost output to compensate for the loss of Iraqi exports.

## Water

Continued from Page 1

and he does not waste it.

The state has also overlaid the rule of capture with water conservation districts as a way to regulate ground water in the state at the local level.

"I don't think that ground water districts are perfect," Williams said.

Nor, according to other speakers at the symposium, is the rule of capture a perfect doctrine, but all seemed to agree that it would be difficult to come up with something to replace it.

Speakers here included lawyers, politicians, academics, environmentalists and ground water managers. While few spoke out in favor of eliminating the rule of capture, almost all wanted to modify it.

Williams and Michael Booth, an Austin lawyer who specializes in water law and represents the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District, said they would like to see the legislature clarify some of the authority they have given to water districts.

Doug Caroom, an Austin lawyer who represents the Canadian River Municipal

## Arrests

Continued from Page 1

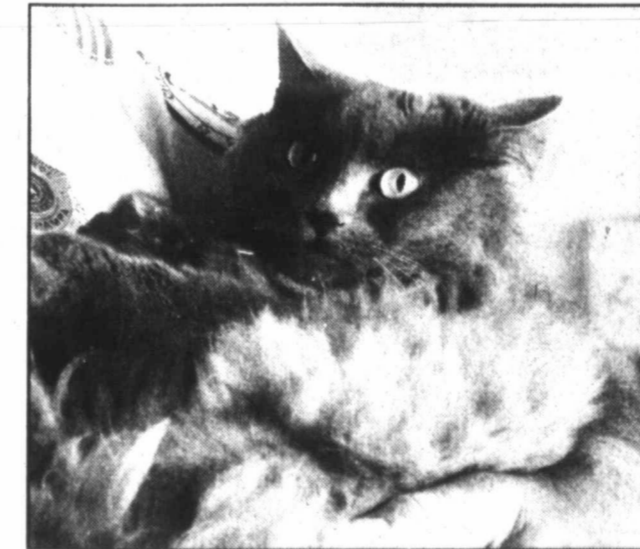
in Gray County. After the 2004 Mercury was stopped, the three gave verbal consent for troopers to search the car. Thirty pounds of marijuana was found in a piece of luggage in the trunk of the car.

The charge against each of the three is a third-degree felony. Bond was set by Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman.

*We want to thank the JCU staff, Dr. Kim, Dr. Smith, Dr. Sieck, and all those who sent flowers, brought food, or kept us in their prayers in our time of loss.*  
**The Bill Oler Family**

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# Viewpoints

## Words fall short when talking about Reagan

What can one say about a person who inspired more than a generation? What can one say about a man whose optimism and "can-do" spirit changed the course of the world? What can one say about a man who defeated the "evil empire?"

This is the first time in my life that a former president has passed away. In many ways, I feel that America has lost one of the greatest members of the greatest generation.

He was everyone's grandfather. A hero, a great American, a natural diplomat, one of the greatest presidents in our 228-year history. Ronald Reagan was admired by people from all walks of life and he was one of my childhood heroes.

President Reagan was the first president I remember as a boy. I always remember feeling proud to be an American when he spoke. He was known as the "Great Communicator", "The Gipper", and he had a famous saying that is still used in Washington, "Trust, but verify."

I hope and believe he will be remembered as a gentleman, a kind spirit, and a man of deep faith and respect. But the story behind his public life might even be more of an important story — his extraordinary love for his wife and the love affair they had for more than 50 years.

His critics called him the 9-to-5 President, the president who wasn't intellectual, the president who didn't pay

attention to details. It's ironic that we often hear similar criticisms about our current president.

Regardless, I think history will be much more kind to President Reagan than his critics were. He will be known as a man who made the world a safer place, a man who was not afraid to take a stand, a man who was a leader. Other critics say, "he tripled the federal debt" not taking into account, of course, that he led us out of a major recession with extremely high inflation rates, fought the Cold War, and restored hope in the

American people.

Over the past few days, I have heard from several people who worked in the Reagan administration, and they have shared some less commonly known facts about the late president.



**J.B. Horton**  
Columnist

In his youth, he saved over 77 lives as a lifeguard during one summer. A l i m o s t everyday of his presidency, he would keep a personal journal — it has never been published. He was never heard to utter a mean or hurtful comment nor did he ever gossip about anybody. He was Presbyterian. He was a great humanitarian. He did

not care who got the credit as long as the job got done.

I was fortunate enough to receive a ticket to go to the White House eclipse for President Reagan's professional to the Capitol Building during his State Funeral. As a group of us waited for President Reagan's casket to drive by, I was struck by the positive spirit in the crowd.

It dawned on me that this was a celebration of his life, not a sorrowful moment. As we witnessed the motorcade pulling up, a hush came over the crowd. Children sat on their fathers' shoulders, boys climbed up walls to get a better view. When the motorcade came to a stop, and the horses calmed, Nancy Reagan stood holding

the arm of Maj. Gen. Galen Jackman, commanding general of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, as he escorted her while her husband's coffin was moved onto the caisson that the horses would lead to the Capitol Building.

Suddenly, the crowd started applauding. At first, I thought applause was not appropriate and that it was odd to cheer at a moment like this, but as my hands hit each other in reaction to the crowd, the spirit of the moment got to me. We weren't just applauding, we were all saying "thank you" to the former First Lady.

We were saying "thank you" to her for all that her

See **REAGAN**, Page 5

## Texas Thoughts

Stephanie Frogge, president of TVSA, on the recent death of President Ronald Reagan:

As the country mourns the death of President Ronald Reagan, his legacies — some noble, some not — are being recalled by world leaders and everyday citizens who remember the Great Communicator. But nearly forgotten in the world's eulogy is the President's leadership on behalf of crime victims.

During his time in office, President Reagan formed the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime and more importantly, took seriously the Task Force's 1982 Final Report that called the neglect of crime victims in the United States a "national disgrace."

In response to the report's 64 recommendations, the far-reaching Victims of Crime Act was crafted and signed into law. The Reagan administration also produced the first ever national report on family violence, the first National Crime Victims' Rights Week was observed during his presidency, and the National Commission on Drunk Driving was formed.

We remember for a great many reasons, but Ronald Reagan's willingness to lend the power of the President's office to help those hurt by crime, and to give a voice to those unable to speak, caused the most dramatic shift in criminal justice policy ever.

For that we thank him.



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## Our readers write

### Vet Hall of Fame seeking nominees

To the editor,  
This is a reminder to all those wishing to nominate deserving veterans for induction into the Panhandle Veterans Hall of Fame.

The cut-off date (July 20) for submitting your nomination is fast approaching, and

I want to encourage everyone to get their information to me as soon as possible.

It would be very sad to let a deserving veteran go unrecognized for the lack of a little effort on our part.

Nominations are to be set to Panhandle Hall of Fame, 600 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX 79065.

**John L. Triplehorn,**  
Chairman

## U.K.'s declaration of independence

On Sunday, a small group of freedom-loving Brits, the United Kingdom in Dependence Party, scored amazing gains in the European Parliamentary elections, winning almost 20 percent of the vote.

The ranks of the once-tiny party were swelled by those who are getting increasingly disgusted with the anti-democratic, socialist and appeasement-oriented bureaucrats who run the European Union.

It has been my pleasure and joy to work with the UKIP during the past year, honing its message into a

single word: "NO" — which aptly states its members' desire to resist further homogenization by the largely socialist activists of the European Union.

The dictates of the European Union, headquartered in Brussels, have gradually eroded British independence. The EU has increasingly sought to control every aspect of economic life through regulations issued

by civil servants, accountable only to themselves. Socialist policies lose at the polls — but the EU bureaucrats seek to roll back the Thatcherite reforms in Britain and force high tax and strict labor laws on all the nations of Europe.

Recently, for example, the French and Germans who lead the European Union demanded that the Eastern European countries — who have just joined the union —

raise their corporate tax rates to match those legislated in Paris and Berlin so as to avert a drain of corporate resources to Eastern Europe.

The very weakness of the European Parliament is eloquent testimony to the scant value the EU places on democracy. For example, its members are not permitted to introduce legislation. They may only vote "yes" or "no" on the regulations proposed by the unelected EU bureaucracy. (The British people voted in the European Parliamentary

See **U.K.**, Page 5



**Dick Morris**  
Columnist

## Too soon for clear indication from polls

It's only May. This is just a cheerful reminder that you need not pay any attention to presidential polls, approval ratings and such stuff. It's way too early. Political junkies and television talkers pore over these polls like tea leaves, but springtime is too early for them to have any meaning for a fall election.

Traditionally, the majority of Americans don't start thinking about the presidential election in a serious way until October. What people are thinking in October will be a pretty good indicator of how they will vote on Nov. 4.

What they are thinking in October will this year be based on events largely uncontrollable by the president and certainly by his opponent. Will the economy be good or bad? Will the situation in Iraq have calmed down, or will there still be conflict and chaos? Will high gasoline prices be followed by high heating-oil prices? Will we take another hit from terrorists? Will a new scandal emerge?

**Charley Reese**  
Columnist

Every presidential election is a referendum on the incumbent. This year, the Bush team is spending millions of dollars in attack ads in an attempt to focus attention on his opponent, Sen. John Kerry.



In the long run, the strategy won't work, because if the people are dissatisfied with the Bush administration in November, they will vote against him even if they have to hold their nose to cast a ballot for Kerry. To be

a bit more precise, if the majority of the people are unhappy with the state of the union and the direction of the country, they will blame President Bush, whether he deserves to be blamed or not. That's the price of being the incumbent.

What's going to happen between now and Nov. 4 only the Lord knows, and he has not talked to me. I certainly don't know. My guess is that the Iraq situation will not be any better and could be worse. For a whole year, the Bush people have bungled the occupation, and I

See **POLLS**, Page 5

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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He's s

Billows of the Bricks

Rob sport

MIAMI — office and s ment of Rob co-host a fr training progr until 5 p.m., community c with Lyn W director Association Assault.

Topics to b ing the progr sex offender t tive court te viewing sexu

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husband d try. But mor were saying her for the made in shar with us for s

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Polls

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don't see them to sud dom.

Their ori handing ove eighty June start troop rec the America how long th really stay.

They did resistance ge was one of m hadn't counte are trying to



## He's smokin'

Billows of smoke roll from the tires of Casey Cunningham's 1963 Plymouth Fury recently at the Burnin' the Bricks in June Burn Out Contest. Cunningham of Dumas won first place.

## Roberts County sheriff, attorney offices sponsor training to combat child abuse

MIAMI — The attorney's office and sheriff's department of Roberts County will co-host a free child abuse training program from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., June 24 at the community center in Miami with Lyn Williams, training director for Texas Association Against Sexual Assault.

Topics to be covered during the program will include sex offender profiling, effective court testimony, interviewing sexual assault vic-

tims, indicators of child abuse, and criminal/civil penalties for failure to report.

Williams holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Nicholls State University and has over 16 years of criminal justice experience in both Texas and Louisiana. Most recently, he trained parole officers on safety related issues.

Williams is a certified instructor in defensive tactics, Oleoresin Capsicum, weapon retention and dis-

arming, sexual harassment, assault and rape prevention and has trained classes in survival mentality, AIDS/HIV and offenders, cultural diversity and gang awareness, sex offenders, date rape drugs, and Internet safety and stalking.

The facilitator for the upcoming program is also a member of Texas Association of Sex Crimes Investigators and American Society for Law Enforcement Training. He is

certified in Basic Critical Incident Stress Management and is a licensed TCLEOSE instructor.

The training will count towards continuing education units for TCLEOSE, LPC, social workers, teachers and other professionals. Currently 37 have signed up for the course.

For more information or to register, call Sandy at (806) 868-2089, or e-mail sandy.carr@co.roberts.tx.us or Candy at (806) 868-3121.

## Reagan

Continued from Page 4

husband did for our country. But more than that, we were saying "thank you" to her for the sacrifices she made in sharing her husband with us for so many years.

From the assassination attempt on his life in 1981, to his "Tear down this wall" speech to signal the beginning of the end of communism, she gave up so much personal freedom so that we

could all be freer. She was now giving him to us, again, so we could all say "good-bye."

After the processional continued down Constitution Avenue, and the folks standing around me started filtering away, I saw a dear mentor of mine who had worked for President Reagan in the White House for his eight years in office.

She also worked for President George H.W. Bush and now works for President George W. Bush.

She is tough, honest, and fair — in that order, and when

I saw this brave woman in tears, I hugged her to comfort her. It really touched my heart. That is what Ronald Reagan did — he touched hearts.

Let us not forget the lessons Ronald Reagan taught our country: Principles mean something, government can't solve all problems, optimism "the best is yet to come," and kindness to all people. He may have been the oldest president in our country's history, but he made our country young again.

So what can one say about

a man who has affected the lives of so many, a man with qualities of humility, strength, love and compassion in this day and age, a man who served as a role model to so many, a man who changed the course of our world forever?

The only words that come to mind are: "Thank you and God rest your soul."

J.B. Horton is a Pampa native appointed by President George W. Bush to serve in the White House Liaison office at the State Department.

## U.K.

Continued from Page 4

election on Thursday of last week, but Brussels declared that the U.K. could not count the votes until Sunday when the other members had their elections. Exit polls were similarly verboten.)

For years, Britain has grumbled about the economic diktats from Brussels. But when the European integrationists recently sought to adopt a new constitution,

creating a common foreign and defense policy for Europe, they went too far, arousing the ire of the man and woman in the street in the U.K.

At first, Prime Minister Tony Blair announced that he would accept the new constitution without a vote of the people. But weeks before the UKIP surge, he was obliged to back down and promise a vote.

This upheaval in Britain has important implications for the United States. Our most valued ally is facing a mortal threat to its freedom.

And while Blair stands tall in the battle against terrorism, he has been uncommonly willing to see future British foreign and defense policies sublimated to the European consensus. The Conservative Party, which one would expect to be the bastion of British independence, refuses to countenance U.K. withdrawal from the EU and, as a result, has lost all bargaining power with the Brussels bureaucrats.

Bismarck said that whenever somebody appealed to him to do something in the name of Europe, he noticed

that it was something they dared not ask in their own name. So it is today. The socialists and anti-democratic bureaucrats who predominate in the EU dare not squelch British independence directly, so they are seeking to coat it over with a binding Europe-wide nation committed to largely French and German policies of appeasement, high taxes and government regulation.

The voters of Britain have arrested their nation's journey down this slippery slope and freedom is the stronger for their efforts.

put more troops into Iraq rather than taking some out.

As for the economy, my guess is that a summer of high gasoline prices will be kick-starting inflation. Everything we consume is moved by internal-combustion machines.

The price increase of gasoline and diesel fuel will surely be passed along to the consumers. Summer travel and the energy consumed in trying to keep our homes and offices cool will surely keep the prices high. As for acts of terrorism and other unforeseen disasters, your guess is as good as mine.

As for polls, if they are

done correctly, they can offer a fairly accurate picture of what people think at the moment the poll is taken. Of course, the people might change their minds the next day.

Choosing the wrong sample or wording the question in a prejudicial way can skew the results. It's also a fact that some people lie to pollsters just for the fun of it. I think polls are practically useless, as far as ordinary people are concerned. The news media love them, because to the media every campaign is just a horse race, and it gives media members something shallow

to write and talk about.

I personally don't care what other people think, and never have. It's not a factor in my own thought process. I was reared to be an independent thinker and to listen to my own conscience, even if the whole world disagreed. That's not to say I don't listen and learn from other people. I do. But only facts and logic appeal to me, not the number of people holding an opinion.

After all, in 1491 a majority of Europeans would have told a pollster the world was flat. Good thing for us old Columbus was an independent thinker.

## Community happenings

• **White Deer Land Museum Advisory Board** meets at 4:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the museum, 116 S. Cuyler St., Pampa.

• **Pampa Area Singles Dance** will be from 8-11 p.m., Saturday, June 26 at M.K. Brown Auditorium with Mike Porter. No smoking or alcohol allowed. Snacks welcome. Cost is \$6 per person. For more information, call 669-7059.

• **The Texas Department of Health** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., June 2 and 16, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa; and from 12:30-4 p.m., June 14, City Hall, Canadian.

• **The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center** has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics: June 28, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination.

Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

## WTAMU police arrest offender

CANYON — Chad Dewayne White, 19, was arrested June 13 by the West Texas A&M University Police Department (UPD) and is being held at Randall County Jail.

UPD received a call from staff members at the Virgil Henson Activities Center (AC) at 7:38 p.m., June 13, according to a WTAMU news release.

Officers responded and arrested White, who was reported to have "inappropriately touched" several girls in the AC pool.

Handcuffed and placed in a patrol car, White escaped on foot and was later apprehended outside Jarrett Hall. He sustained minor injuries while trying to escape.

He was treated and released from an Amarillo hospital and booked in Randall Co. Jail. He is being held on felony escape charges and may face additional charges, pending the outcome of the investigation.

White, who is neither a student nor an employee of West Texas A&M, gained access to the Activities Center by purchasing a day pass. He lives west of Canyon and is a registered sex offender based on a 2003 felony conviction in Minnesota.

He is wanted on a probation violation related to the conviction in Dakota County, Minn.

• **Gray County American Red Cross** and the City of Pampa will be offering 30-minute swimming classes in two-week sessions throughout the summer. Class levels range from one all the way up to level five with one open to children between 3 and 5 years of age. The first two-week session will be offered between June 14 and 25. The second session is scheduled from July 12-23 and the third from Aug. 2-13. Classes are at different times for different levels. Each two-week session will be \$35. To register and pre-pay, stop by the local Red Cross office, 108 N. Russell. For more information, call 669-7121.

• **USS Long Beach CGN-9 Association, Inc.**, is planning a reunion Sept. 13-19 at Hilton San Antonio Airport, 611 NW Loop 410, San Antonio. For more information, contact Don Shade, 299 Kiantone Rd., Jamestown, NY 14701-9370, 1-866-352-2469, LBCGN9@aol.com or www.uslongbeach-assoc.org.

• **The USS Sperry (AS-12) Association** seeks former shipmates for a reunion celebration Sept. 30-Oct. 2 in Baltimore, Md. For more information, call (281) 534-2459; write, Arnold Ross, V-Pres, 2916 Colonial Dr., Dickinson, TX 77539; or e-mail ARoss14573@aol.com.

• **The OS Ranch Steer Roping and Art Exhibit** Reunion is planned for the first week in October at Post. A traditional Friday Night Party will kick-off the weekend at the OS Ranch House, 14-miles southeast of Post.

• **Working Ranch Cowboys Association** Ninth World Championship Ranch Rodeo will be staged Nov. 11-14 in Amarillo. Cowboys from working ranches across the Northern Hemisphere will compete for the title of "Best in the World."

## Father's Day Gifts

Check out our unique men's gifts for Dad & Grandfather

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• Football • Hunting • Fishing  
• Automotive

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40% Off Vegetable Plants  
50% Off Seeds

25% Off Tomato Plant Care  
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Green Light  
Miracle Gro - Espoma

Tomato Food & Insect Control  
Yield Booster - Tomato Bloom Spray  
Organic Fertilizer - Dipel Dust

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I live in a small town and attend a local high school that has about 1,400 students. In the last three years, there have been an outrageous number of student deaths. It has become so common that the student body is no longer shocked.

We have lost a student who was run down by a drunk driver, two were murdered in drive-by shootings, two drowned in boating accidents, one died in a car accident that was triggered by an aneurysm, another dropped dead during class due to an undisclosed medical condition, and three others died in car accidents. Three days ago two more students were in a car wreck that left both in critical condition.

Has our school fallen under a terrible curse? We have suffered enough. There is only so much grief one school can handle. Please, Abby, tell me what can be done to lift the spirits of the students.

— GRIEVING IN LOUISIANA

**DEAR GRIEVING:** The first thing to do is recognize that their feelings (and yours) are normal. To be confronted with the fact that life isn't infinite at your tender age can be shocking. It is normal to be sad, angry, confused and frightened when someone close to you dies.

Everyone must cope with the reality of death in his or her own way. A giant step in that direction would have been for the principal of your school to have brought counselors to the campus to help the students work through their grief. Writing letters to the parents of the students who died is another way to get your feelings out, and the parents would treasure them.

A memorial to your deceased classmates might help the rest of you to move on -- a mural, a garden, something tangible to ensure they will not be forgotten. Please consider it if you haven't already done so.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 36-year-old woman with AIDS. Before I was diagnosed, I worked — usually as a secretary — in various parts of the country. I had no problem finding work. Then my health deteriorated, and I wasn't able to work for a long time. Recently I was given new medications and I'm now healthier than I have been in a decade.

I am able to work and want to get off disability, but I now have a 10-year gap in my work history. If I mention the reason on a job application, I'm afraid no one will hire me. I could lie and say I was "staying home with the children," but I don't have any children.

Can you advise me on how to handle this?

— WANTS TO WORK IN MILWAUKEE

**DEAR WANTS TO WORK:** Certain questions are illegal in the job hiring process, including a person's general medical condition, state of health or illness, and/or physical or mental disabilities. You are not legally required to discuss your health. If you are asked, you are with-in your rights to say that you didn't work for personal reasons.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 16-year-old girl and haven't had my period for almost five months. What does that mean?

— NEEDS TO KNOW IN MIAMI

**DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW:** There could be several reasons for it. However, the person to determine the cause should be your doctor. Please do not wait to discuss the problem with him or her. Ask your mother to schedule an appointment and accompany you. It will put your concerns to rest.

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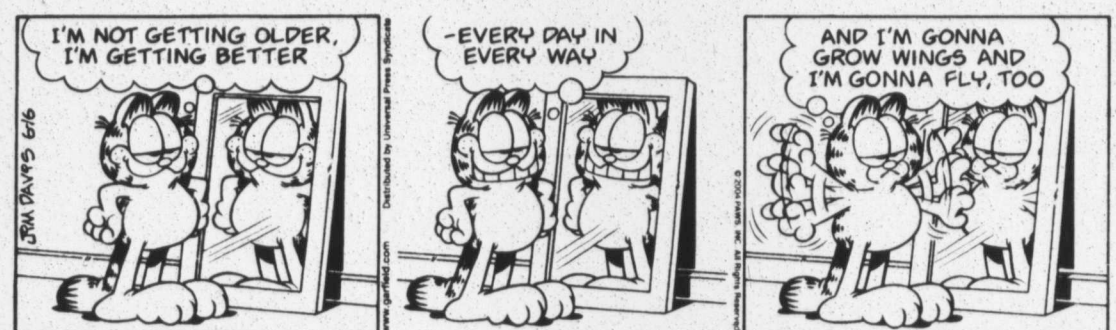
## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



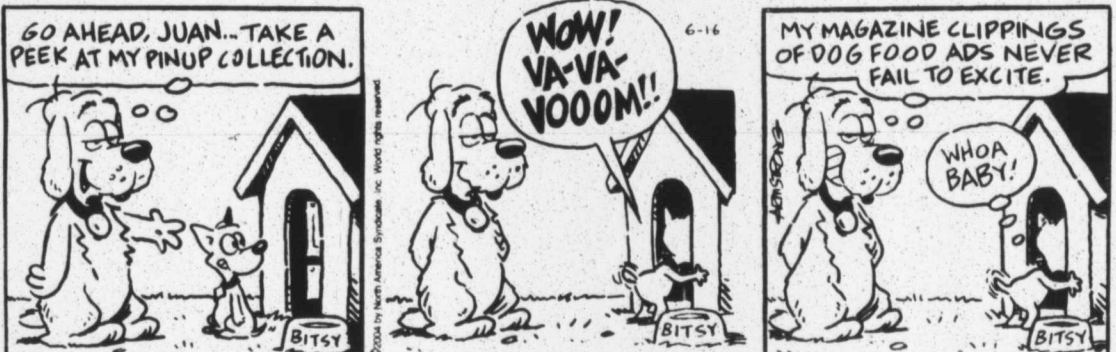
## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>        | <b>DOWN</b>                |
| 1 Largest continent  | 1 Tag sale warning         |
| 5 Boot a lawyer      | 2 Rational                 |
| 11 Joined the choir  | 3 Pro                      |
| 12 Jim Palmer, once  | 4 In the past              |
| 13 Data              | 5 Column type              |
| 14 Like Saturn       | 6 Van Gogh subject         |
| 15 Poseidon's domain | 7 Trig function            |
| 16 Shop holder       | 8 Marsh reminder           |
| 17 Tenor's pride     | 9 Heady drink              |
| 19 Bank offering     | 10 Wine choice             |
| 22 Kitchen sight     | 16 Compete                 |
| 24 Boom type         | 18 See 22-Across           |
| 26 Give a darn       | 19 Celebrating             |
| 27 Injection         | 20 Hilarious person        |
| 28 Beside            | 21 Play                    |
| 30 Casino attraction | 22 Battle                  |
| 31 Game caller       | 23 Yarn                    |
| 32 Stellar hunter    | 25 Capital on a fjord      |
| 34 Pleased           | 29 Switch to breaking news |
| 35 Mine yield        | 30 Rocker                  |
| 38 Cloth             | 33 Indy entrant            |
| 41 Unfettered        | 34 Hold onto               |
| 42 Get in            | 36 Nevada city             |
| 43 Protracted        | 37 Brain scans, for short  |
| 44 Death personified | 38 Remote                  |
| 45 Alien bearers     | 39 Live and breathe        |
|                      | 40 Two-piece piece         |
|                      | 41 Winter ailment          |



Yesterday's answer

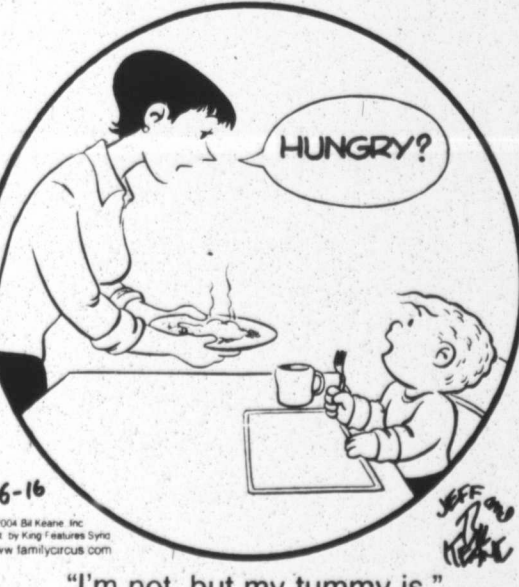
- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| 1 CARA    | 2 SPIEWS   |
| 3 AMESS   | 4 AURAL    |
| 5 FISHING | 6 POLE     |
| 7 EGO     | 8 MEA      |
| 9 SORROW  | 10 TICET   |
| 11 SIT    | 12 UNIS    |
| 13 DADS   | 14 SERGE   |
| 15 MELT   | 16 ARABS   |
| 17 ALAS   | 18 DESOTO  |
| 19 PAD    | 20 LITE    |
| 21 GAG    | 22 OPINION |
| 23 POLL   | 24 USEUP   |
| 25 SATTIE | 26 TESTIS  |
| 27 WAND   |            |



## Marmaduke



## The Family Circus



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Flo & Friends



## Blondie



Keep

(Above) WW 5 Chavez strike b WW-Un Park Le The fina 17 Units

Units grabs a first ba inning.

C

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# Sports Day

Keep your eye on the ball



Pampa News photos by BEN BRISCOE

(Above) WW Sports Bar team member Julio Chavez holds from swinging at a non strike ball during the 5 inning of the WW-United game in the Recreation Park League, sponsored by the city. The final score of the game was WW-17 United-4.

United's pitcher Larry Williams grabs a bunted ball to return in to the first base men it the top of the 3 inning.



## 100-87: Pistons demolish Lakers to take NBA title

(AP) — The Lakers left the court in pieces. Karl Malone kept his head down, Shaquille O'Neal absently slapped a few high-fives and Kobe Bryant jogged in late, encased in his own thoughts.

The Pistons celebrated in concert, pulling their wives and children and entourages onto an increasingly shaky stage at the center of The Palace. They crowded around coach Larry Brown, who stood next to the Larry O'Brien Trophy — a small, golden monument to the glories of teamwork.

"We did it the right way: working hard, working together," said president of basketball operations Joe Dumars, who built the first championship team in Detroit since his playing days. "This isn't a star system we've got here. I just think this is the ultimate team."

Detroit's 100-87 victory in Game 5 Tuesday night ended one of the most surprising NBA Finals in the last half-century — the triumph of togetherness over talent, collaboration over celebrity.

Richard Hamilton scored 21 points, Ben Wallace had 18 points and 22 rebounds and Chauncey Billups got six assists in the runaway clincher. The Pistons surged ahead together, maintained the lead together and held a long, sweet celebration together.

"Nobody gave us a chance, but we felt we had a great chance," said Billups, the finals MVP with 21

points and 5.2 assists per game. "They had Shaq and Kobe, but we just felt we were a better team."

The Pistons won three straight home games to finish off the franchise's first title in 14 seasons, the third in franchise history. These Pistons are more Good Guys than Bad Boys, much less iconic than the star-studded

The clincher was the most one-sided game of a lopsided series, essentially ending when the Pistons made a 17-4 run in the third quarter. Each player got a curtain call of sorts, with Hamilton removing his distinctive clear face mask and pointing at it triumphantly, no longer concerned for his oft-broken nose.

The team announced its Thursday parade schedule with 2:56 to play, drawing more cheers.

29-for-86 in the Lakers' four losses, reiterated his plan to opt out of his contract this summer.

"It's going to be a funny summer," O'Neal said. "Everyone's going to take care of their own business, and everyone's going to do what's best for them. I don't know what that entails."

When the Lakers retool, they might want to look at the latest model from Detroit.

"We've probably set a blueprint for how teams are going to start putting their pieces together now," Hunter said. "We're so deep and so good, up and down the roster. Nobody could compete."

Notes: Former Lakers C Elden Campbell won the first title of his 14 NBA seasons, third-longest successful wait in league history. Malone and John Stockton played 19 seasons without a title. ... Detroit's Mehmet Okur scored seven points while becoming the first Turkish player to win an NBA title.

*'This isn't a star system we've got here. I just think this is the ultimate team.'*

—Joe Dumars  
President, basketball operations

Lakers, but much better friends and teammates.

Detroit is the first champion from the Eastern Conference since Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls in 1998, ending the West's five-year reign over the league with a demonstration of the biggest difference between the conferences: consistent, hard-nosed defense.

"This team is built on defense, everybody knows that," said Wallace, who finished five incredible games of defense on O'Neal, held 10 points below his career NBA Finals average. "They've got a lot of offensive weapons, but we got up in them pretty good."

### Lost the battle but winning the prize war

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — For 4-year-old Nick O'Brien, losing a tussle with a grownup over a foul ball at a Texas Rangers game turned out to be a windfall of sorts.

O'Brien, who was knocked against the seats during a third-inning scramble for the ball Sunday at the Cardinals-Rangers game in Arlington, left the game with his family in the fifth inning after being given two big league bats and four baseballs, including one signed by ex-Ranger Nolan Ryan.

That was just the beginning of the attention that's continued through this week at the boy's suburban Plano home, including calls and visits from media representatives as far away as New York.

Meanwhile, the man who snagged the foul ball away from the boy has declined to come forward amid criticism of his action.

The Cardinals led 12-0 the third when a foul ball hit into the stands by Gary Matthews Jr. prompted a scramble, with the husky man pinning O'Brien against the seats with his legs while diving to get the ball. Fans started chanting "Give him the ball! Give him the ball!" But the older fan grabbed it, held it aloft and wouldn't give it up.

Both teams sent bats and balls to the boy in the next few minutes, including Cardinals outfielder Reggie Sanders, who came out between innings.

Back at the O'Brien household, the answering machine filled up with dozens of calls from reporters wanting to talk with the young fan.

But Nick just cared about going swimming.

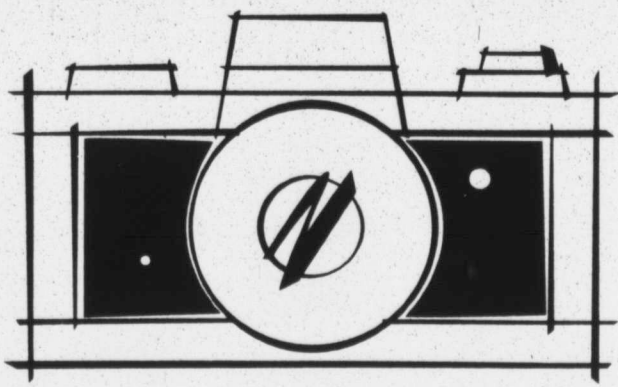
"We weren't going to let this affect what Nick wanted to do," his mother, Edie O'Brien of Plano, told The Dallas Morning News in Wednesday's editions. "And he wanted to go swimming."

Nick sat in his mother's lap as multiple TV reporters interviewed his parents, playing with a stuffed monkey from the Rangers and coloring a Rangers pennant. Wearing a white Rangers jersey and a blue team cap, he ducked beneath a camera tripod afterward and ran upstairs, saying he wanted to play hide-and-seek.

His father, Jeff O'Brien, heard callers to a local sports radio station discussing his son's experience as he drove home from his job as a radio frequency engineer.

"That was a little strange," he said.

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### Woods's top PGA ranking in jeopardy

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP) — Tiger Woods, the second-best player in the world?

The whole notion is rather farfetched. After all, Woods has held the No. 1 spot in the world rankings for an astonishing 253 consecutive weeks, seemingly transforming the honor into a birthright rather than some numbers-crunching exercise.

But going into the U.S. Open, Tiger has Ernie Els right on his tail. The Big Easy moved up to No. 2 with a win at the Memorial, and Vijay Singh isn't far behind, either.

There's a plausible scenario that would bump Woods from his leading role, which dates to the 1999 PGA Championship. If Els can win at Shinnecock Hills — he's already a two-time Open champion — and Woods finishes lower than sixth, there will be a new name atop the standings.

"The No. 1 position will hopefully take care of itself," Els said. "I don't want to think about that. That's not my total motivation. My motivation is to win golf tournaments."

Singh, the only three-time winner on the PGA Tour this year, might be playing better than anyone. The Fijian can move to No. 1 by winning the Open, but only if Woods

misses the cut. That isn't likely to happen, considering he's made it to the weekend in a record 124 straight events.

"I'm up to No. 2 now," Els said. "But we're all so close."

The dominant position Woods held while winning seven of 11 majors has certainly faded. No longer does most in the field assume they're playing for second when Woods is on hand. With every wayward tee shot and non-winning finish, the gap narrows.

"The way Vijay has played the last 2 1/2 years speaks for itself," Els said. "And I've played pretty well the last three years myself. Everything is right there, and it's kind of exciting."

Woods is going on two years since his last major win, the 2002 U.S. Open, held down the road at Bethpage Black. But rankings or no rankings, he's still The Man.

Just listen to Phil Mickelson, who's feeling pretty good about his game after winning his first major at the Masters.

"I don't know if we've caught him, if the gap has narrowed or not, but I think we all expect him to come out and light it up like he usually does," Lefty said.

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## A day at the lake



Pampa News photos by BEN BRISCOE

Jim Fleming fishes at the city lake. "I wish I could lie and say I caught something big, but I have not caught anything all day," Fleming said.

## Astros fall apart in ninth inning and sink further down the NL Central standings

HOUSTON (AP) — Ramon Martinez had been waiting anxiously in the dugout for an opportunity just like this: the game tied, bases loaded and the opposing crowd on its feet.

The Chicago Cubs shortstop baseman didn't miss his chance to send Octavio Dotel and the Houston Astros sinking a little further down the NL Central standings.

Martinez's two-run single capped a three-run ninth inning, helping the Chicago Cubs rally past the Astros 4-2 on Tuesday night.

"I like to be in those situations," said Martinez, who also hit his first homer of the season in the third. "When you want to be in those situations, it helps you come through."

The Astros helped things along by completely falling apart in the ninth for their fourth loss in five games.

They've now dropped into

a fourth-place tie with Milwaukee in the Central division, a remarkable disappointment for a team that was a preseason favorite to go to the World Series.

"It's just something we're going through," Houston's Craig Biggio said. "We've got to turn it around and get on a roll."

Tom Goodwin started off the ninth by reaching first base on an error by Astros left fielder Lance Berkman, who let the ball bounce off his glove as he dropped back to make the catch. Goodwin went to third after Moises Alou flied out to center.

Aramis Ramirez followed that by hitting the tying, RBI single off Dotel and Derrek Lee was intentionally walked to load the bases.

Martinez then sent a 3-2 pitch to left field, scoring Goodwin and Ramirez for the go-ahead runs.

Cubs closer LaTroy Hawkins got three outs for

his sixth save of the season.

"He is a clutch man," Cubs manager Dusty Baker said of Martinez. "That hit was big. We dodged a lot of bullets tonight."

Kyle Farnsworth (1-3) got the win, allowing only one hit in the eighth.

Dotel (0-4) blew his third save in 15 chances, and was mercilessly booed off the field by the crowd of 38,007.

"I feel 100 percent confident. This could happen to anybody," Dotel said defiantly after the game. "You can't keep bad things in your mind. I can't keep killing myself because of this."

The Astros nearly pulled off the win by scoring two runs in the sixth off strug-

## UT sprinter turns pro

AUSTIN (AP) — Sanya Richards, reigning U.S. champion in the women's 400 meters, said Wednesday she's leaving the University of Texas after her sophomore year to turn pro to concentrate on making this year's Olympic team.

"I feel it's the perfect time to take this to the next level," Richards said. "It's an Olympic year and I think I can be competitive if I stay extremely focused. Coming out and making this my career and something I can put all my energy into will lead to the best and greatest success for me."

Richards is one of America's rising young track stars and was already considered a safe bet to make the U.S. Olympic team for Athens later this summer.

By turning pro, she opens the door for lucrative endorsement contracts, appearance fees and prize money. She has not yet signed with an agent or with a shoe company.

At 19, Richards already has some top international experience. She anchored Team USA's gold medal-winning run in the 1,600 relay at the 2003 world championships.

"It gave me a glimpse as to what everyone was talking about," at the professional level, she said. "To go over and experience it and leave with a little bit of success gave me the confidence to know this is a good decision."

Richards will continue to train in Austin with Texas coach Bev Kearney before

the Olympic trials begin July 9 in Sacramento, Calif.

"I have no doubt she'll be successful," Kearney said. "Her dream is to be an Olympian, whether it's in a Texas uniform or in a shoe company's uniform."

Richards suffered a rare loss in her signature race last weekend at the NCAA championships, finishing third behind Tennessee's Dee Dee Trotter and UCLA's Monique Henderson. It was Richards' first collegiate loss in the 400 outdoors and it came on her home track.

She shrugged it off as a poorly run race with tactical mistakes.

"I don't like to lose," Richards said. "I'll go back to the drawing board and I'll come back better."

## Optimists prepare for All Stars

The Pampa Optimist Club 9 and 10 year olds wrapped up their regular season last week. Teams are currently in the latter stages of their end-of-season tournament.

Next up for these boys of summer is their All Star tournament scheduled for June 26th through the 30th which will feature 8 teams including Pampa.

Here's how they finished the regular season:

1. FirstBank Southwest, 9-5-1
2. Dean's Pharmacy, 8-6-1
3. Kiwanis Club, 8-7\*
4. Moose Lodge, 8-7
5. Celanese, 6-6-3
6. Operating Company, 3-11-1

## Devil Rays win sixth straight; Pirates drop ninth in a row

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.  
Associated Press

The Tampa Bay Devil Rays are getting used to winning ballgames, a feeling the struggling Pittsburgh Pirates long for.

"Every day we come to the yard, everybody's joking around, having a great time," Tampa Bay third baseman Aubrey Huff said. "Nobody's down, everybody's talking. It makes it a lot more fun."

Huff hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning. Mark Hendrickson pitched into the eighth and the Devil Rays tied their franchise record with their sixth straight victory, 5-2 over the San Diego Padres on Tuesday night.

The Devil Rays were 10-28 on May 19. They've gone 17-6 since May 20, and have baseball's longest current winning streak.

"We were walking zombies the first month and a half of the year," Huff said.

Meanwhile, the Pirates dropped their ninth straight, losing to the Anaheim Angels 4-2.

Pittsburgh has lost 14 of its last 15 games, and matched its longest losing streak since a nine-game slide from Sept. 9-17, 2000.

"To tell you the truth, I don't even know how many we've lost," Pirates third baseman Bobby Hill said.

In other interleague games, Carlos Lee extended his hitting streak to a franchise-record 28 games in the Chicago White Sox's 7-5 win over Florida in 10 innings; Ken Griffey Jr. stayed stuck at 499 home runs, but Cincinnati beat Texas 5-4 to end a seven-game losing streak; St. Louis stopped Oakland's eight-game winning streak with an 8-4 victory; and Colorado's eight-game losing skid ended with a 6-3 win over Boston.

Also, it was Minnesota 8, Montreal 2; Detroit 10, Philadelphia 3; the New York Mets 7, Cleveland 2; Atlanta 3,

Kansas City 2; Milwaukee 3, Seattle 0; the New York Yankees 4, Arizona 2; Los Angeles 5, Baltimore 1; and San Francisco 4, Toronto 3.

In the only National League game, the Chicago Cubs beat Houston 4-2.

At San Diego, Hendrickson (4-5) held the Padres scoreless into the sixth, and the Devil Rays beat up on Brian Lawrence (8-4), who allowed five runs and eight hits in five innings.

"He's been so solid this year," manager Bruce Bochy said. "He was just a little bit off tonight. He was close to getting us through the fifth there without his best stuff and Huff just got enough of that ball."

The Devil Rays have won six straight just four times in their seven-year existence. Their 27 wins are their most after 61 games.

"We're coming to the field every day knowing we have a good chance to win," Huff said.

At Pittsburgh, Chone Figgins' two-run double broke a tie in the ninth and made up for his earlier error, and Garret Anderson hit a two-run homer to lead the Angels past the Pirates.

With the score tied at 2 in the ninth, Darin Erstad — just off the disabled list — singled off Salomon Torres (4-2) for his second hit. After a sacrifice bunt and a walk, pinch-hitter Jeff DaVanon hit a potential double-play ball to second baseman Abraham Nunez, but Adam Kennedy's hard slide may have prevented shortstop Jack Wilson from making the throw to first.

DaVanon then stole second, putting him in position to score on Figgins' grounder down the third-base line past a diving Hill.

"I was just trying to put the ball in play, and that's all I did," Figgins said, whose two-base error on Craig Wilson's bad-hop grounder in the seventh led to Hill's tying single.

Scot Shields (5-0) pitched two innings for the victory despite allowing

gling starter Carlos Zambrano.

Zambrano led off the inning by walking Berkman and giving up a double to Jeff Kent. Morgan Ensberg followed with a single that

scored both players, putting the Astros up 2-1.

Zambrano found himself in another jam later that inning, giving up a single to Orlando Palmeiro and a double to Jason Lane.

An intentional walk of Brad Ausmus loaded the bases with only one out.

But Zambrano forced Wade Miller to pop up to second baseman Todd Walker, and Ramirez made a great play on Craig Biggio's hit to third base and threw him out to end the inning.

## Safe!

The Cubs replaced Zambrano with reliever Kent Mercker to start the seventh.

"Every time you leave the game tied and your team comes back to win," Zambrano said, "you feel good because you know you've done your job by keeping your team in there."

Miller, who tossed six shutout innings in his start last week against Seattle, was almost as good this time around. But it wasn't enough to overcome Houston's sputtering offense.

He gave up only the homer to Martinez and four hits in 6 1-3 innings, allowing the Astros to stay in the game despite Zambrano's strong effort.

The Astros seemed headed for their second shutout loss in the past eight games before Zambrano started to struggle in the sixth.

The Astros, forced to juggle their starting lineup because of recent injuries to

Jeff Bagwell, Adam Everett and Richard Hidalgo, finished with nine hits but left 12 men on base.

"We had an awful lot of opportunities to score runs," Houston manager Jimmy Williams said. "Unfortunately it came back to haunt us."

Miller gave up a solo homer to Martinez in the third on a 3-2 pitch. The ball landed deep in the left-field seats and bounced into the concourse, giving the Cubs a 1-0 lead.

Houston — the NL's top-hitting offense — has failed to score more than five runs in 14 consecutive games.

Notes: The Cubs improved to 19-19 all-time at Minute Maid Park. ... Astros LHP Andy Pettitte, who's been on the DL since May 27 with a strained left forearm, will make a rehab start Friday at Double-A Round Rock.



Pampa News photos by LEANNE DYSON

H.R. Thompson Parts player Hunter Hall, 7, sliding into first during Tuesday night's game against Clifton Supply.

## 2004 NASCAR schedule and winners

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Feb. 15 — Daytona 500, Daytona Beach, Fla. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.)          | Talladega, Ala. (Jeff Gordon)  |
| Feb. 22 — Subway 400, Rockingham, N.C. (Matt Kenseth)                    | May 2 — Auto Club 500, Fontana, Calif. (Jeff Gordon)                       |
| March 7 — UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400, Las Vegas (Matt Kenseth)              | May 15 — Chevy American Revolution 400, Richmond, Va. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.) |
| March 14 — Golden Corral 500, Hampton, Ga. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.)          | May 30 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, N.C. (Jimmie Johnson)                     |
| March 21 — Carolina Dodge Dealers 400, Darlington, S.C. (Jimmie Johnson) | June 6 — MBNA America 400, Dover, Del. (Mark Martin)                       |
| March 28 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn. (Kurt Busch)                    | June 13 — Pocono 500, Long Pond, Pa. (Jimmie Johnson)                      |
| April 4 — Samsung/RadioShack 500, Fort Worth, Texas (Elliott Sadler)     | June 20 — DHL 400, Brooklyn, Mich.   |
| April 18 — Advance Auto Parts 500, Martinsville, Va. (Rusty Wallace)     | June 27 — Dodge/Save Mart 350, Sonoma, Calif.                              |
| April 25 — Aaron's 499,  | July 3 — Pepsi 400, Daytona Beach, Fla.                                    |
|  | July 11 — Tropicana 400, Joliet, Ill.                                      |
|  | July 25 — New England 300, Loudon, N.H.                                    |

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

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

★★★★ You might be pressured by a change of plans or information that comes forward. A brainstorming session proves to be unusually successful, as you come up with solutions. A new beginning becomes possible if you decide to make it so. Verbalize resolutions. Tonight: Favorite place, favorite person.

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\$202 QN mattress set, brand new never used with warranty. QN Pillow top double sided mattress set new, still pkged, warr. list \$550, sell \$236. Full Pillow top Double sided mattress set new, still pkged, warr. List \$400, sell \$208. Full size mattress set new, never used \$180, \$230 King mattress set, brand new, still pkged, warranty. \$268 King Pillow top mattress set, brand new, still pkged, warranty. Queen Cherry sleigh bed, new, still boxed. List \$750 sell \$399, new 7 pc QN cherry wood bdrm set w/sleigh bed, still boxed, sell \$999, new 7 pc QN Pinewood bdrm set w/4 poster bed, still boxed. \$999. Call 806-517-1050.

**92 Furn. Apts.**

ANTIQUE O'Keefe & Merit Range Good shape (clean & pretty) \$500 806-669-7923.

**68 Antiques**

OPENS for mature, dependable person for Cashier. Must be drug free. Apply at 1020 E. Frederic

**21 Help Wanted**

NEEDED brick layers, stone layers, & helpers. Call (806) 584-0050

**21 Help Wanted**

COOK, wait staff & dishwasher needed. Full-time. No phone calls please. Apply in person at Texas Rose, the new location.

**21 Help Wanted**

College Students / H.S. Sr SUMMER WORK \$10.00 BASE / APPT Flex. sched., Sales / Service, no exp. nec. All ages 18+. Conditions apply. Work in Pampa, apply in Amarillo (806) 322-7501 www.workforstudents.com

**Try Something Different**

I'm looking for one or two highly motivated individuals to assist in the growth of our local office. You must be personable, have reliable transportation and enjoy a challenge. Call 669-7605 to attain your opportunity.

**PART time Apt. manager** needed. Fax resume to 903-852-5934.

**OIL field sales rep.** needed. Call on Texas Panhandle, exp. required. Fax resume to (620) 624-8594 ph. # (620) 624-4941 302 S. Clay, Liberal KS 67901

**CROW HOLLOW** has the following position open: Processing Crew. Please fax resume to 806-856-5374, or apply in person at 3900 County Rd. 23, Hedley, Tx. (2.5 miles west of Hedley), or contact Cattle Manager, Danny Glasgow, at 806-662-1529 for the processing crew position.

**NOW Hiring p/t housekeeper.** p/t personal assistant, please pick up application at Meredith House. 812 W. 25th

**H2S Safety Tech Trainee.** Good pay and benefits. Fax 580-622-4728. Email Safety@brightok.net or call 580-622-6132.

**ESTATE Sale, Old WT Ford Bldg., S. Side, 701 E. Brown, Thurs., 10 a.m.-??**

**YARD Sale, Thurs & Fri, all day. Cheap! 1138 S. Dwight. Sewing mach., chairs, dolls, lots misc.**

**70 Musical**

**Solo Concerto Wooden Upright Piano \$125, 665-9792 or 662-1985**

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

1 male puppy, to give away to a good home! Call 665-8123

COCKER Spaniel puppy, free to a good home! Call 595-0685

**DOGWOOD** Apts. 1 bdr., turn and 2 bdr unfurn. References & deposit req 669-9817, 669-2981

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts. 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd 3, 6 mo-1yr lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875. 1/2 Off Deposit Special.

**AXYDLBAAXR IS LONG FELLOW**

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

**6-16 CRYPTOQUOTE**

CFU MEAUZC MP DTRQNSURC

QN DBUOURCQMR PBMS

UOQG: QC RUOUB ZLR EU

SLKU QSDTGNQOU CM

VMMK. — FMBLZU SLRR

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: REMEMBER BABE RUTH AND THINK ABOUT JUST ONE THING — HITTING THE BALL. — MARSTON

**103 Homes For Sale**

1300 Mary Ellen 1-1/2 story, 3BDR, 2BA, CH&A, lrg. utility rm., & lots of storage. Newly painted, corner lot, 2 car gar. & 3 rm apt. 665-8396

**120 Autos**

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

ACCEPTING bids on a 1990 Chrysler New Yorker. Call 835-2773 for more info. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

'81 Chevy Malibu, runs good, cold air! Cost \$1000 Call 669-1241

2000 Monte Carlo, cloth seats, elec. windows, driver & passenger side air bags, 71K miles. Nice car! \$2000 down & take over note. 806-662-1985 of aft. 6 p.m. 665-9792

**126 Boats & Access.**

73 Arrowglass 85 HP Mercury lots of extras \$2500. Call 662-9487.

**19 Situations**

EXPERIENCED house keeper seeking employment. Very good references! Call (806) 336-7355

**21 Help Wanted**

Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**SIVALLS Inc.** is looking for welder-fabricators. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. Welding / drug tests req. 806-665-7111, Pampa, Tx.

**PETROLEUM** Bulk Drivers join our team driving for Eastex Crude Co. Eastex now taking applications for day driving position in Pampa, Tx. Applicants must Class A CDL w/ hazmat & tanker endorsement & petroleum delivery exp. \*Home Daily \*Benefit Pkg. 903-856-2401 Ext. 129, 800-443-8580 for Clint.

**HEAVY equip. oper. w/ exp.** excellent wages and benefits. Job in Pampa TX. Call C. Watts and Sons. 940-382-0576

**CROW HOLLOW, L.L.C.** has the following position open: Night Watchman. Please fax resume to 806-856-5374, or apply at 3900 County Road 23, Hedley, Tx. (2.5 miles west of Hedley), or contact the Maintenance Mgr., Keith Christopher, at 806-930-2567. Crow Hollow offers great pay and good benefits.

**MCLEAN Care Center** has immediate openings for: LVN for 2-10 p.m. shifts and CNA all shifts. Call Billy Ray Johnston 806-779-2469 or come by 605 W. 7th. McLean.

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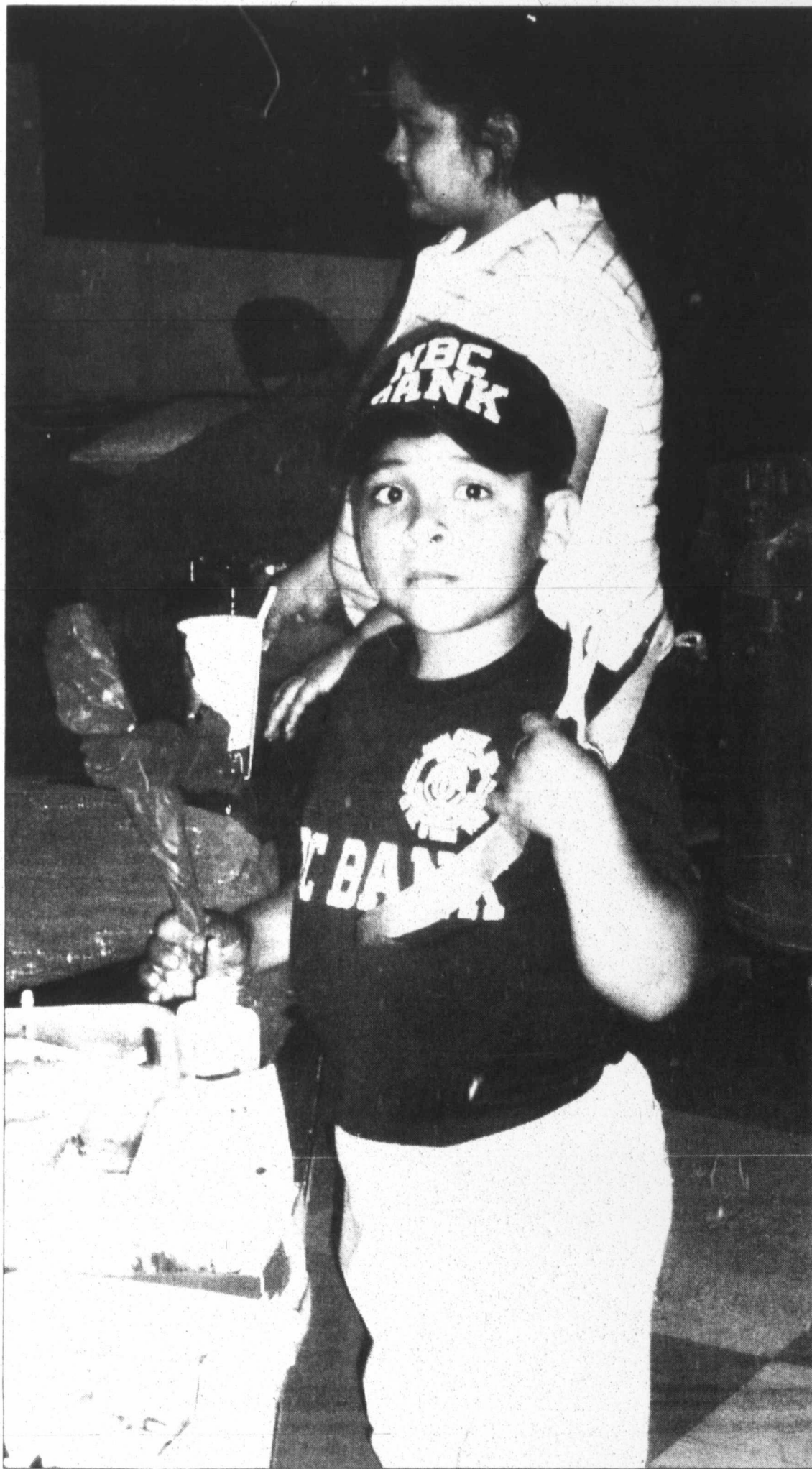
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## Volcano creation



Stephanie Ontiveros and Jose Hernandez make decorations for Lava Lava Island Vacation Bible School at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church recently.

## Serbs vote in presidential election

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro (AP) — Serbs voted Sunday in a presidential election to determine whether the Balkan republic will press on with pro-Western reforms or risk renewed isolation by backing an ally of ousted leader Slobodan Milosevic.

Less than four years after removing Milosevic, Serbia's 6.5 million voters were once again at a crossroads, split between those disenchanted with reforms and those willing to give a

Western-style politics another chance in hopes of joining the European Union.

Tomislav Nikolic of the pro-Milosevic Serbian Radical Party was topping pre-election polls.

But Vuk Draskovic, a leader of the ruling conservative coalition, said he expected Serbs "to vote for the road ahead to Europe not back to the past and isolation."

"A possible victory by Tomislav Nikolic would be dangerous for Serbia," he

said.

The Sunday balloting is Serbia's fourth attempt to elect the head of state since 2002. Previous elections failed because less than half those eligible cast ballots. That requirement has been dropped.

First results were expected late Sunday.

None of the candidates was expected to win more than 50 percent of votes, leaving the top two contenders to compete in a runoff in two weeks.

## Explosion near convoy kills Afghan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A remote-controlled bomb hit a convoy of German peacekeepers in northern Afghanistan Wednesday, killing an Afghan driver and three passing civilians, police said.

The attack came amid deteriorating security ahead of September elections, and just a week after 11 Chinese workers were shot in their beds in the same province.

Mutaleb Beg, the provincial police chief, said the roadside bomb exploded in Kunduz, 150 miles north of the capital, Kabul.

"The convoy was passing through the Gandum Bazaar market when a mine was detonated on the edge of the road by remote control," Beg told The Associated Press.

Beg said shrapnel cut through a sport utility vehicle belonging to the peacekeepers at the rear of the line of German military vehicles, killing the driver. He said two children and an elderly man also were killed and another student was wounded.

British Sqn. Ldr. Sean McFetrich, a spokesman for the peacekeepers, confirmed that a vehicle belonging to a contingent of German soldiers in Kunduz was hit.

McFetrich said only three Afghans died and one was injured. He declined to give further details.

Kunduz is the only place outside the Afghan capital where the 6,400-strong NATO-led security force has a presence, though it plans to set up at least five more bases across the north in time for

the elections.

Insurgents active mainly in the south and east of the country have vowed to sabotage the vote, and appear to be expanding into the relatively stable north.

The 11 Chinese workers and an Afghan guard were killed last Thursday in Kunduz province in the worst attack on foreign civilians since the fall of the Taliban regime in late 2001.

Five members of medical relief agency Medecins Sans Frontieres, including three Europeans, were fatally shot in the remote northwest on June 2.

Another explosion early Wednesday damaged the office of a British relief agency in northern Afghanistan and injured an Afghan guard, police said.

That blast occurred outside the office of the ActionAid group in Faizabad, the capital of Badakhshan province, 310 kilometers (190 miles) northeast of Kabul, said Fazel Ahmad Nazeri, a senior police investigator.

"We don't know yet if it was grenade or a mine," Nazeri said. "The gate was half-destroyed, the windows were shattered and one guard was injured."

Officials for ActionAid could not be reached.

The U.S. military reported a clash between American troops and militants in southeastern Khost province.

About 10 rockets were fired at the soldiers, causing no injuries or damage, spokesman Lt. Col. Tucker Mansager said.

# Iran says it does not have moral obligation to stop uranium enrichment plan

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Iran's president said his country had no "moral" obligation to stop enriching uranium even as support grew for a resolution reprimanding the country for blocking a U.N. probe of its nuclear activities.

President Mohammad Khatami stopped short of saying Iran will resume enrichment or stop all cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog.

He said Iran would reject any resolution from the agency's board of governors that strongly criticizes Iran.

"With the ongoing trend, we have no moral commitment anymore to suspend uranium enrichment," Khatami told reporters in Tehran. "Of course, we don't declare that we want to do something ... it also doesn't mean that we are withdrawing from (the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty)."

A toughly worded draft resolution under consideration at the IAEA 35-nation board of governors meeting lacked a direct threat of sanctions but did keep pressure on Iran to come clean on aspects of its 20-year covert nuclear program that was discovered two years ago.

The document was expected to be accepted by the meeting later this week, diplomats said on condition of anonymity.

In Vienna, Iranian chief delegate Hossain Mousavian said his country had "no option" but to continue working with the nuclear agency.

He suggested Iran could terminate talks with France, Germany and Britain on future sales of nuclear technology to his country in retaliation for the tone of the document, which he called "counterproductive for the continuation of cooperation."

The three European powers have held out the prospect of such sales if Iran agrees to scrap its uranium enrichment program. Iran has instead suspended enrichment but reserves the right to resume them — a threat implied by Mousavian on Wednesday.

Khatami addressed the same theme in Tehran.

"If the draft resolution proposed by the European countries is approved by the IAEA, Iran will reject it," Khatami said. "If Europe has no commitment toward Iran, then Iran will not have a commitment toward Europe."

Iran maintains that the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty gives it a legitimate right to pursue a peaceful nuclear program, including enrichment.

"A resolution that denies us of our definite

right (to keep a peaceful nuclear program) will not be valid. There will be no guarantee for its enforcement and we won't accept it," Khatami said.

Chief U.S. delegate Kenneth Brill accused Tehran of engaging in a "full-court press of intimidation" to sway the IAEA meeting to tone down the language of the draft.

The new draft toned down demands on Iran to abort plans to build a heavy water reactor and slightly modified language taking Tehran to task for hampering the IAEA probe. The overall wording remained tough, according to the envoys.

One key phrase in the planned resolution "deplored" Iran's spotty record on cooperating with the agency. Other omissions by Iran were noted with "concern" or "serious concern." All the phrases are tough language in the diplomatic context.

The draft contained no deadline or "trigger mechanism" as sought by the United States and its allies that could set into motion possible sanctions if Iran continued its foot-dragging past a certain date.

In an apparent nod to the United States, Canada, Australia and other nations calling for more action, the draft contrasted the "the passage of time" and the still blurry contours of Iran's nuclear program.

The draft appeared to echo the sentiments of IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei, who

said Monday in unusually blunt comments that his agency's probe "can't go on forever."

The United States wants the IAEA to declare Iran in breach of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and to refer Iran's case to the U.N. Security Council, which could impose sanctions.

A diplomat told The Associated Press that Washington recognized it could not get majority board support for a direct or implicit threat of U.N. sanctions.

Instead, he said, the Americans were looking ahead to the next board meeting in September with the expectation that new revelations about Iran's nuclear program would surface by then.

The results of analysis of enriched uranium traces found on military sites in Iran and now being evaluated by the agency could provide the trigger in September, said the diplomat, suggesting such a finding could support suspicions that Tehran enriched uranium domestically.

Iran denies working on enrichment beyond the experimental stage and says the traces found within the country were inadvertently imported.

*'With the ongoing trend, we have no moral commitment anymore to suspend uranium enrichment.'*

— Mohammad Khatami  
Iran's President

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