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CALL 665-8801 FOR CLASS SCHEDULES**

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Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

This rose bush in the 1000 block of East Francis recently boasted several different colors of blossoms, including light and dark pink, yellow, orange and white.

Gray County Weather



H 95 L 65

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high around 95. Southwest wind around 15 mph.
Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Wednesday: Partly cloudy

and hot, with a high around 97. West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 63. Southwest wind around 15 mph.
Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 95. Southwest wind around 15 mph.
Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 66. South southwest wind around 15 mph.
Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 5 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 93. South wind around 15 mph.

Engine Parts & Supply
wants to "Thank" Merlie Moore for her 25 years of loyal service. We invite her friends to stop by on Thursday, August 26th, 8 am to 12 noon to help us wish her well!

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GYMNASTICS OF PAMPA
FALL REGISTRATION
Tuesday, August 24th - 4:00-7:00
•DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL CLASSES
•RECREATIONAL & COMPETITIVE GYMNASTICS
•CHEERLEADING & TUMBLING CLASSES
New This Fall
•MOM & TOT CLASSES
•TUMBLING & TRAMPOLINE COMPETITION
•CHEERLEADING COMPETITION
Loop 171 North of Pampa
669-2941 or 669-0510

Obituaries

Dolores Drake Moore, 69

Dolores Drake Moore, 69, of Pampa, Texas, died Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2004, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.
Mrs. Moore was born Nov. 7, 1934, in Pampa where she was a lifelong resident. She married Leo Moore on May 22, 1955, in Clovis, N.M. He preceded her in death in 1992.
She was a member of the First Baptist Church.
Survivors include one daughter, Kim and

Randy Hinds of Pampa; two sons, Terry Moore of Arlington and Rick and Kathy Moore of Las Vegas, Nev.; one sister, Marceline Rogers of Pampa; and three grandchildren, Jennifer Hinds, T.J. Moore and Leo Moore.
The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.
The family will be at 625 N. Wells in Pampa.
—Sign the on-line register book at: www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Sunday, Aug. 22

Two mixed breed puppies were reported stolen from the 900 block of Fisher. Estimated amount of loss was \$25.

A possible domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of South Dwight. No injuries were reported.

A female was committed to Northwest Texas Hospital's Pavilion in Amarillo for a psychiatric evaluation.

Monday, Aug. 23

Assault was reported in the 1200 block of Wells. The incident reportedly occurred on Aug. 20. No injuries were reported.

Disorderly conduct/language was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart. Theft was reported in the 600 block of South Barnes. An estimated \$2,500 in cash was taken.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

An unattended death was reported in the 600 block of North Wells. The death was due to natural causes, according to the police report.

Telephone harassment was reported at Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Sheriff

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

Monday, Aug. 23

Laura Stacy Selvidge, 35, 1232 E. Browning, was arrested on a fugitive warrant out of Oklahoma.

Fire

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

Monday, Aug. 23

10:53 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

1:08 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 500 block of Lefors. When they arrived, no one was at the residence.

10:13 p.m. — One unit and two firefighters responded to a reported vehicle fire in the 500 block of North Dwight. There was no vehicle fire, a barbecue grill was in use

next to the house.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

12:01 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 600 block of North Wells.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Monday, Aug. 23

10:52 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

6:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of North Wells and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.
9:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient(s) to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo.

11:59 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of North Wells. No transport.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

2:29 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 900 block of South Schneider and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Aulsebrook Grain of Pampa.

Wheat	3.02
Milo	3.47
Corn	4.24
Soybeans	5.42

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

QNY	49.00	-0.95
BPP/PC/ADR	52.04	-0.76
Cabot Corp.	38.86	+0.49
Cabot Oil Gas	38.66	-0.27
Coca Cola	44.19	-0.15
VEO	63.76	-0.64
HAL	27.92	-0.46
Trud	32.21	+0.01
NOI	28.05	-0.83
KMI	59.60	-0.04
XCEL	17.49	+0.03
Kerr McGee	51.65	-0.72
XOM	44.56	-0.43
Limited	20.01	+0.10
Williams	11.71	-0.07
MICD	26.94	+0.30
Amos	24.59	-0.02
Powert Nat	32.80	+1.05
JCP	39.80	-0.10
COP	72.42	-1.06
SLB	59.63	-0.82
Tenneco	13.35	+0.03
CVX	92.46	-0.66
Wal-Mart	53.86	+0.06
OKF	23.12	+0.02
NS Grp	15.30	-0.37
New York Gold	408.63	
Silver	6.69	
West Texas Crude	46.55	

Report: Rumsfeld, Pentagon officials share blame for prisoner abuse scandal

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon's most senior civilian and military officials share a portion of blame for creating conditions that led to the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal in Iraq, according to a new report.

The report, by a commission appointed by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, was briefing Rumsfeld on its findings and recommendations Tuesday in advance of a Pentagon news conference to release the details.

The commission was headed by James Schlesinger, a former secretary of defense.

A person familiar with the report said it implicitly faulted Rumsfeld and Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, by finding that those responsible for the military prison system in Iraq were operating under confusing policies on allowable interrogation techniques.

The person discussed some aspects of the report on condition of anonymity.

Also faulted is Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, who was the top field commander in Iraq at the time of the reported abuses last fall.

Sanchez also takes a portion of the blame in a separate Army investigation which looked specifically at the role of military intelligence soldiers. That probe has been completed and is expected to be publicly released as early as Wednesday.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan, with President Bush at the president's ranch in Crawford, Texas, had no immediate comment on the Schlesinger report.

"I think we'll wait until we see the full report," McClellan said. "I fully expect the president will be briefed on any and all reports from these investigations."

The Army report, initially headed by Maj. Gen. George Fay, says at least two dozen lower-ranking military intelligence soldiers, as well as civilian contractors, were responsible for the abuses, which were depicted in photographs and videos taken by U.S. soldiers.

The New York Times said in Tuesday editions the report also blames Brig. Gen. Janis Karpinski — commander of the 800th Military Police Brigade at Abu Ghraib — for faulty leadership.

She has been faulted in other investigation reports but has denied knowing about any abuses until they become public. The Schlesinger commission interviewed Rumsfeld twice during its investigation, which began in May.

The three other commission members are former defense secretary Harold Brown, former Republican Rep. Tillie Fowler of Florida, and retired Air Force Gen. Charles Horner.

When he chartered the commission, Rumsfeld told its members that he wanted independent advice on a wide range of issues related to the abuse allegations.

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SWEET CORN, Becky will be in Pampa, Wed. 7:30 a.m., MK Brown parking lot. 966-5221.

JULIE'S HALLMARK Needs Sales Associate. Flexible Hours. Apply in Person: 125 W. Kingsmill in Pampa.

TOMATOES, RED or green, last day for watermelons, at Schaffer Grown, Wed. 7 a.m.!

PAMPA CUSTOM Framing, 107 N. Cuyler. 665-2344

PEDC

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Kids

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Memorial L ans will read c ries and Pa Stoppers mem fingerprint c entertain with Crime Dog, all bottled salsa. Gray Count tion booth wi egg-to-chick

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Ch. 7

PEDC

Continued from Page 1

with a three year renewable option. The PEDC will rebate \$5,000 a year back to them for three years to pay for three miles of a five-wire barbed wire fence with T-posts and reinforced corners and gate posts. The PEDC will pay up to \$1,000 for weed control.

"It's pretty weedy," Sutherland said.

Board member Dalton Lewis objected to spending money on the land, saying that all of the money from the lease should go back to the taxpayers.

The PEDC board leased the land after rejecting an

offer by Frank Daugherty of Pampa to buy the land for \$150 an acre with 50 percent of the water rights or \$250 an acre with all water rights.

Board member Gary Sutherland said the offer to buy was below market value.

Still, board member Lewis voiced his opinion that the PEDC should sell the land with the proceeds going to pay off debt.

Pampa City Commission has expressed their view in the past that they would like to retain ownership of the section of land for the water rights.

"The city has no authority to prevent selling that property," Lewis said.

Pampa voters have dictated the PEDC be dissolved

and the PEDC board is trying to liquidate all assets before closing down their operation next spring.

Lewis said that a Texas Attorney General's opinion says the PEDC board can sell the property.

Bill Allison, PEDC board member, said the city had an Attorney General's opinion saying the PEDC couldn't sell the property.

"I'm not going to spend taxpayers' money suing someone in order to sell the property," Sutherland said,

noting that he did not disagree with Lewis.

The PEDC board had requested a meeting with the city commission concerning the matter, but Pampa City Manager John Horst said he had polled the commission and they had rejected the idea of a meeting and had repeated their desire to retain the

Linda De Vuyst said she and her husband had discussed buying the land, but leasing would better fit their operation at the moment.

"We'd rather lease it right now," she told the PEDC board.

Sutherland said that Rex McAnelly, who had leased the land and installed a well on it, had agreed to sell the well, pipe and electric lines for the well to the PEDC for \$2,500. Sutherland estimated that was about half of what McAnelly had spent installing it.

"I think that's probably fair," Sutherland said.

Again, Lewis objected spending money for improvements on the land.

"He spent his money improving our property," Sutherland said. "I think it's in our best interest."

"In a way," said PEDC President Doug Locke, "it's an obligation."

A motion to pay McAnelly passed with Locke, Sutherland, Steve Phillips and Bill Allison voting to pay McAnelly, and Lewis voting against.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be Sept. 9, in the Pampa City Commission Chambers in city hall.

'The city has no authority to prevent selling that property.'

— Dalton Lewis
PEDC board member

Lefors

Continued from Page 1

and the school board up to speed on where we sit.

"We're not where we need to be. We could go into a deficit fund balance. We've already gotten a letter from TEA, and I've been in contact with them," Henry said.

TEA, or the Texas Education Agency, recommends that Texas school districts maintain 20 percent of their fund balance, or approximately three months' worth of operating costs, in a reserve fund.

The recommendation has

become increasingly difficult for school districts to follow as money for school funding hasn't kept up with costs.

"There are a lot of school districts going through a lot of this. This is not something restricted to Lefors ISD," Henry said.

He said he has seen no indication that the school district's money crunch is the result of any wrongdoing, or that any funds are not accounted for. Mistakes have

been made, however, which affect the school district's financial footing, he said.

"Our auditor made a mistake, but it was corrected. There was approximately a \$300,000 overprojection for the 2003-04 school year. I don't know why the overprojection occurred," he said. The projected amount of funds available for 2003-04 was \$1.8 million, but actual income for the year was \$1.5 million.

those with a sweet tooth might find their way to the Girl Scout cotton candy booth.

Families can attend Chautauqua at a minimal cost by bringing a picnic lunch or feasting on some of the two dozen food items to be sold by non-profit organizations. The proceeds will find a multitude of service projects benefiting the area through the year until next year's Chautauqua.

'It's going to take time. It didn't happen yesterday, and it's not going to get fixed tomorrow.'

— Joel Henry
Lefors superintendent

Kids

Continued from Page 1

Memorial Library librarians will read children's stories and Pampa Crime Stoppers members hope to fingerprint children and entertain with McGruff, the Crime Dog, all while selling bottled salsa.

Gray County 4-H promotion booth will provide an egg-to-chick educational

display. Tralee Crisis Center has promised a coloring craft with their display. Children can step by the Woody Guthrie tent and listen to musicians playing Guthrie's songs, some of which they have learned in school.

Brave souls can join Trinity Church's climbing wall crew or the hawk-throwing Royal Rangers of New Life Assembly. After jumping on the Cornerstone Baptist Church bouncer,

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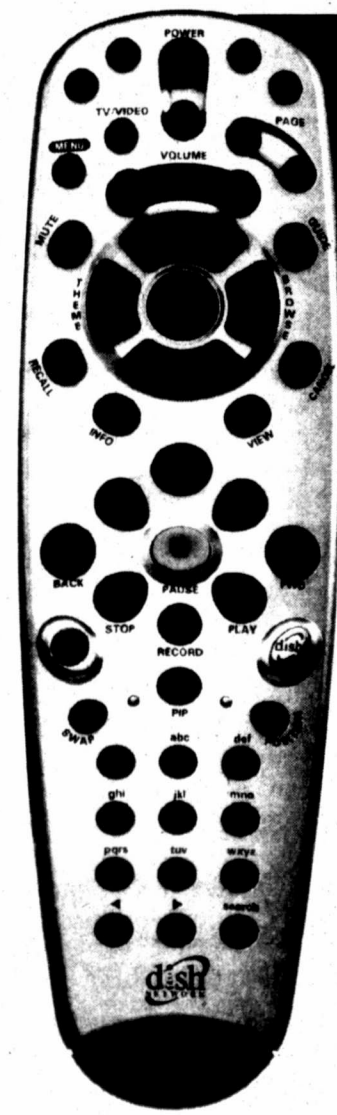
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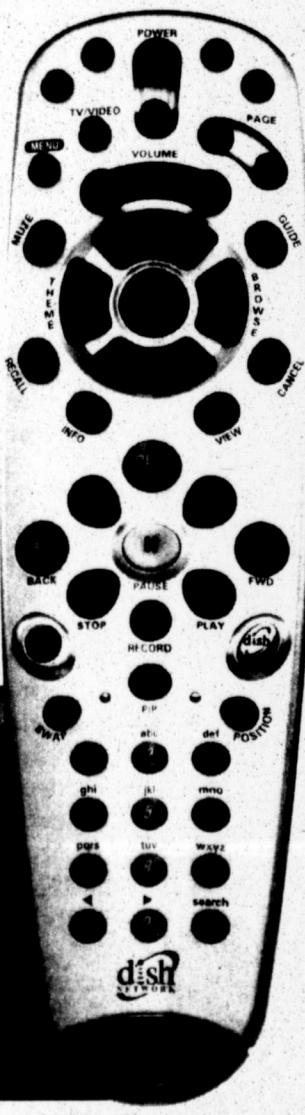
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AUG 24 2004

Viewpoints

Notes about noses and Michael Jackson

I was absent from last Tuesday's *Viewpoints* page thanks to a nasty sinus infection.

I started feeling blah over the weekend and by Monday was running a fever. So Tuesday I went to the doctor, and didn't even realize until late in the day that I had not submitted anything for the page.

Now some people may say I might have expected such a thing to happen, seeing as how I'd tempted fate the week before by writing about Friday the 13th. I think it's just the power of the nose.

Scientists say the most powerful human memories

are associated with smells, which we get through our noses.

The nose has the power to save our lives when it senses a poisonous odor such as leaking natural gas.

The sense of smell is also an enhancement to the sense of taste.

The nose is also a good indicator of illness. It can make us miserable when we have colds, allergies, the flu and sinus infections.

The nose is important to our physical appearance. Just ask Michael Jackson. He apparently hated his nose so much that he just about doesn't have one left, although the last I heard, he

still says he has had only one or maybe two plastic surgeries. If that's the true total, that one or maybe two must have been a doozie.

The nose is a popular plastic surgery site for others, too. You can get your nose shortened, straightened, upturned, narrowed, and otherwise reshaped. Just be careful to figure out when to stop.

The nose also figures prominently in our language. Figures of speech featuring

the nose can describe a wide range of situations.

If you are conceited, you are said to have your nose up in the air. A less elegant nasal description is to say you are "snotty."

If you are curious and trying to find out about something, you are said to be nosy. The act of being curious can be called nosing around. And if you're really curious and it involves another person, especially their private, personal world, you are said to be sticking

your nose into somebody else's business.

If you want to ingratiate yourself with the boss or some other authority figure, such as a teacher if you are a student, your attempts to curry favoritism are called brown nosing. I am not going to go into detail about how that name came about. You figure it out.

Someone who is inexperienced, untrained or inconsequential can be referred to as a snot-nosed kid. Actual kids with actual snotty noses are also called this. It's not what a person wants to hear, regardless of their age, if they want to be taken seriously.

A journalist who knows where to look for the interesting and important information that the public needs to know about is said to have a nose for news.

Last but not least, if you are determined to do something that will ultimately rebound on you and hurt you more than anyone else, you are said to be cutting off your nose to spite your face.

Sounds like we're talking about Michael again.

Marilyn Powers is a staff writer for *The Pampa News*. She can be reached by e-mail at reporter1@thepampanews.com.

Marilyn Powers

Staff Writer



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 24, the 237th day of 2004. There are 129 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Twelve years ago, Hurricane Andrew smashed into Florida, causing record damage; 55 deaths in Florida, Louisiana and the Bahamas were blamed on the storm.

On this date:

In **A.D. 79**, long-dormant Mount Vesuvius erupted, burying the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum in volcanic ash. An estimated 20,000 people died.

In **1572**, the slaughter of French Protestants at the hands of Catholics began in Paris.

In **1814**, British forces invaded Washington D.C., setting fire to the Capitol and the White House.

In **1932**, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly non-stop across the United States, traveling from Los Angeles to Newark, N.J., in just over 19 hours.

In **1949**, the North Atlantic Treaty went into effect.

In **1954**, 50 years ago, the Communist Control Act went into effect, virtually outlawing the Communist Party in the United States.

In **1968**, France became the world's fifth thermonuclear power as it exploded a hydrogen bomb in the South Pacific.

In **1970**, a bomb planted by anti-war extremists exploded at the University of Wisconsin's Army Math Research Center in Madison, killing 33-year-old researcher Robert Fassnacht.

In **1981**, Mark David Chapman was sentenced in New York to 20 years to life in prison for slaying rock star John Lennon.

In **1989**, Baseball Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti banned Pete Rose from the game for gambling.

Ten years ago: Israeli and PLO negotiators reached agreement on an accord to give the Palestinians control of health care, taxation, education and other services in West Bank areas still controlled by Israel.

Five years ago: The Federal Reserve raised borrowing costs for millions of Americans, increasing its target for the federal funds rate by a quarter point to 5.25 percent, and hiking the discount rate a quarter point to 4.75.

One year ago: The Justice Department reported the U.S. crime rate in 2002 was the lowest since studies began in 1973. Israeli missiles killed four Hamas fighters, including a fugitive commander. Hurricane Ignacio sideswiped the southern tip of the Baja California peninsula.

'Show me a man who cannot bother to do little things and I'll show you a man who cannot be trusted to do big things.'

— Lawrence D. Bell
Aircraft manufacturer



Riding out Hurricane Charley

Having sat through Hurricane Charley, I can tell you that there is nothing more inconvenient than losing your power in Florida in August — except, of course, losing your entire house, and losing your home is not an inconvenience. It is a tragedy. It is especially tragic if you are on the far side of youth and short of resources.

Thousands of people did lose their homes, nor were schools and businesses exempt from damage that ranged from slight to terrible. My own little condo shimmied and shook, but all

I lost in addition to the power was a tree in the backyard. So many people, especially the elderly, were not that lucky.

I don't consider nature cruel. It is simply indifferent to human life. This indifference can have cruel consequences. Once the waters rise, the winds roar or the earth shakes, all the advantages of modernity disappear, and we are like people in primitive times.

Our choice is to run or hunker down. Our fate is entirely out of our own hands.

The Interstate 4 corridor in Central Florida and the coasts of Southern Florida practically consist of condos, theme parks and trailer parks — or, as the public-relations people like to say, communities of manufactured homes with a little bit of grass and palm trees scattered here and there. The interior of the peninsula is

largely agricultural. Even a hundred years ago, a hurricane could cross the Florida peninsula, and the odds were good it wouldn't hit anything but trees, a shack now and then, and maybe some cows. No more. All powerful hurricanes that hit Florida are now multibillion-dollar disasters. The development is so intense that there is simply no place a hurricane can make landfall without causing a lot of economic losses. The early damage estimates for Charley are \$11 billion, and that's sure to

See **CHARLEY**, Page 5

Charley Reese

Columnist



What about ensuring patient safety?

Victoria Advocate on let's heal our hospitals:

If terrorists succeeded in destroying hundreds of jumbo jets filled with passengers every year, the U.S. government and the American people would spare no expense or effort in working to increase airline safety and security. The Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks involved only four airliners, and a massive restructuring of homeland security and the invasion of Afghanistan resulted.

Yet too little is being done to improve the safety of hospital patients, as many as 150,000 of whom die every year because of preventable errors.

There is not a direct comparison with local data, but both Victoria hospitals did well in the last report from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, which measures the processes that the two hospitals have in place to ensure the best of expected outcomes for patients.

In 1999, the Institute of Medicine counted 98,000 patient deaths across the country resulting from hospital errors. HealthGrades, which ranks hospitals and

doctors nationwide, estimates that the annual death toll from 2000 to 2002 was almost twice that. The difference is caused by how the studies define medical errors, but even the more conservative, narrower approach showed an unacceptable problem.

And if lives lost are not enough of a justification for working harder to reduce the frequency of fatal medical errors, the dollar cost should be. The HealthGrades study "estimated that Americans paid an extra \$19 billion in

medical care costs for the victims of mistakes." The Boston Globe reported. That at a time when runaway increases in medical costs are undermining the nation's system of delivering health care.

While the HealthGrades estimates are questionable because of the broader definition of medical errors and also because of its methodology — using billing data from Medicare patients nationwide — it is painfully obvious that the 1999 Institutes of Medicine report, which was bad enough, and other studies done in the past decade have

See **PATIENTS**, Page 5

Texas Thoughts

Victoria Advocate

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Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Teen Whitney Wichert expresses appreciation to Ken Rheams for his longtime sponsorship of the Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Pageant. Rheams' sponsorship began in 1997, when the pageant resumed, and has continued to the present.

Charley

Continued from Page 4

go higher. Insurance companies are like bookies. They lay off the big bets to other bookies, in this case the big reinsurance funds. Thus the economic impact of Hurricane Charley will be felt in Europe, where a lot of those big reinsurers are located.

When Hurricane Andrew hit Florida back in the 1990s, a number of insurance companies were bankrupted, others left the state never to return, and still others restricted the amount of insurance their agents could write. Naturally, the rates went up. Fortunately, so did the building standards, over the loud protests of most developers. The tougher building codes were vindicated, however, in this latest storm. The newer buildings conforming to the tougher codes weathered the storm with relatively light damage, while older structures close by were smashed to pieces.

Ours is a wonderful planet. It sustains life. It is nevertheless a hazardous environ-

ment. We are bombarded with radiation. Some parts of the Earth are radioactive. We have to play tag with hurricanes, tornadoes and tsunamis. We hope we're someplace else when earthquakes happen or volcanoes erupt, and there is the danger that sooner or later a comet or an asteroid will hit us and redefine the word "catastrophic."

And the rules haven't changed. We conform and adapt to nature, not the other way around, or we pay the penalty. It is marvelous that human beings are such persistent gamblers. As soon as the debris is cleared, people will build again in the same low, vulnerable places, betting that the odds are good that another storm will not hit that particular spot. And they are right. The odds are good. That's why people live on the sides of volcanoes, on the seashore, on barrier islands, at the feet of moun-

tains where they can be buried by avalanches, and, yes, why they dare to eat fast food in roadside restaurants. I'm certainly not going to move. I wasn't especially fond of the tree that blew down anyway, and even with sandy soil, it will be a good while before I have to water the grass again.

'... the rules haven't changed. We conform and adapt to nature, not the other way around ...'

— Charley Reese
Columnist

As for no power, I'm lucky to be a lone wolf, with no mate or cubs to care for. I just tossed some clothes and a good book in the car and drove through the debris until I found a place with electricity, air conditioning and still-functioning restaurants. That's the best way to deal with the aftermath of a hurricane, but you have to be lucky, and this time I was.

Charley Reese is a retired journalist and syndicated columnist for King Features. Write to him at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, Fla., 32802.

Patients

Continued from Page 4

not resulted in the kinds of changes needed to make hospitals safer.

"Study after study has shown that medical errors are widespread, harming up to one in 25 patients who are admitted to the hospital," according to The Globe.

Some of this results from the incompetence or inattentiveness of hospital medical personnel. State boards that certify doctors and nurses need to do their jobs better so they more effectively weed out those who should not be practicing medicine or treating patients. Insurance companies also need to do their part to shut down substandard health care providers.

'Study after study has shown that medical errors are widespread, harming up to one in 25 patients ...'

— Boston Globe

But more of the problem appears to come from how health care is delivered in the United States. Focusing too much on the bottom line, as both many insurers and many health care providers do, instead of on the quality of care has turned hospitals into little more than assembly lines for treatment. As doctors and hospitals have to treat more and more patients to remain solvent and hospitals have to reduce staffs for the same reason, it is surprising that more medical errors do not occur.

There is no easy answer to this problem because it is an integral part of a much larger crisis facing the nation's health care system. As we have noted before in this space, the growing number of uninsured Americans and prescription drug costs rising

much faster than the inflation rate are other important components of this impending breakdown.

None of these individual problems can be solved individually, isolated from the larger set of interrelated issues.

The only real way to bring about a solution to medical errors in hospitals, to the increased number of the uninsured, to ever-escalating drug prices and to the other problems facing the nation's health care delivery system is to address them together.

Doing that requires the active involvement of every group of stakeholders in the health care system — patients, health care providers, insurers, hospital administrators, the pharmaceutical industry, employers, government at all levels.

This would be a Herculean effort of unprecedented proportion. It would be even larger in scope than the post-9/11 efforts to bolster homeland security. Yet the cost of not doing so — and soon — is no less and ultimately could be far greater.

Preparations to cap natural gas well blaze continue

MOSS BLUFF, Texas (AP) — Experts were preparing to cap a blaze at a natural gas well that has been burning since last week.

The fire shooting up from the underground natural gas storage cavern east of Houston once soared as high

as 1,000 feet, but diminished to about 300 feet Monday, authorities said.

Authorities have revised the number of evacuees from one family to 30. All live within a mile of Duke Energy's Moss Bluff storage facility in Liberty County.

Duke Energy spokeswoman Frances Jeter said the exact count of evacuees housed at area hotels is still being calculated. She said residents who lived outside the one-mile radius and felt threatened by the fire were also provided lodging.

Expert: Texas school-funding system uses outdated methods

AUSTIN (AP) — State adjustments still used to account for uncontrollable cost differences between school districts were arbitrarily chosen by lawmakers 20 years ago based on money that the Legislature had to work with at the time, a school finance expert testified Monday.

For example, the percentages used to compensate for higher costs for bilingual students are a fraction of the recommended costs, said Paul Colbert, a school finance expert.

Colbert, testifying at a trial challenging the constitutionality of the state's school-funding system, said studies have been conducted repeatedly for the Legislature, but "the state ignored them and did not make changes."

In some cases, the Legislature adopted adjustments that were 75 percent of the recommendations, he said.

Hundreds of school districts are suing the state, calling the over-reliance on local property taxes unconstitutional. The districts argue that the

state is not providing enough money to guarantee all students an adequate education.

Monday marked the beginning of the third week of the trial, which is expected to last until mid-September. Any ruling by state District Judge John Dietz will likely be appealed.

Later, Colbert testified that 58 of the 62 school districts that have been rated exemplary for the past three years did not report having any bilingual students. Two of the

remaining four had only one student. Exemplary is the state's highest ranking.

Colberg called the statistic "startling."

"You either have to assume that nobody in the state cares about bilingual students or you have to assume ... that the districts don't have the resources to be able to provide levels of education, that if you have bilingual students, you can have consistent exemplary status," Colbert said.

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AUG 24 2004

THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for printing the letter from "Wants to Work in Milwaukee," who is HIV-positive, living on disability, and who asked how to explain the 10-year gap in her work history. Your response about her privacy was correct. However, as a person living with HIV, and an employment services director at Positive Resource Center (in San Francisco) for people with HIV, I can tell you that many interviewers would regard the "personal reasons" explanation as a red flag.

"Wants to Work" should contact both her local AIDS service organization and her local vocational rehabilitation service. She may need to update her job skills, and she may also need more information, preparation and support. She faces some big hurdles, but with guidance and support she can clear them.

The newly formed National Working Positive Coalition is bringing together the best information about effective services, education and research on HIV and employment. Your readers can find more general information at www.workingpositive.net. Individuals seeking specific advice may want to visit the Workplace forum of TheBody.com.

MARK MISROCK, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL WORKING POSITIVE COALITION

DEAR MARK: Bless you for reaching out and offering such helpful resources to other HIV-positive readers who are ready to re-enter the workforce. Yours is one of several I received. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please advise "Wants to Work" (and others with a gap in work history, regardless of the reason) that an excellent way to re-enter the job market is to first begin working at a temporary agency. There are many opportunities in temping -- secretarial work, project management, accounting, technical writing and engineering, to name a few.

After staying home with my children for seven years, I found

temping a great way to transition back into the job market. I also made wonderful business contacts who gave me excellent (and recent) references when I applied for my current job as an executive director of a nonprofit organization.

— WORKING WOMAN, NOBLESVILLE, IND.

DEAR WORKING WOMAN: Thank you for another practical suggestion.

DEAR ABBY: There are several ways that "Wants to Work" can include information in a resume without revealing that she has been out of the workforce for 10 years. She can find resume-writing books at most bookstores, and she should look for "functional" resumes. These documents focus on job skills, rather than the dates and types of positions held. This strategy allows writers to showcase their abilities, rather than their age or specific places of employment.

— ENGLISH TEACHER IN THE EAST

DEAR ENGLISH TEACHER: There are also businesses that help people create strong resumes.

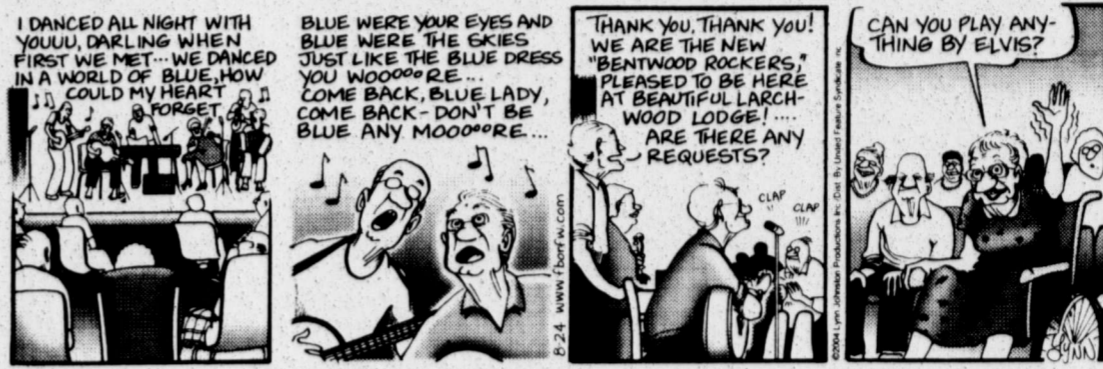
DEAR ABBY: The dilemma faced by "Wants to Work" is not unusual in this day and age. She should contact her local AIDS services organization. There are advocates available to help people make the transition from being disabled to returning to work, and to go over the benefits, medical coverage, and how to make the transition without unnecessarily jeopardizing their coverage or health.

— TERRI IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR TERRI: That's valuable information. The Social Security Administration also has booklets on returning to work after being disabled.

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For Better Or Worse



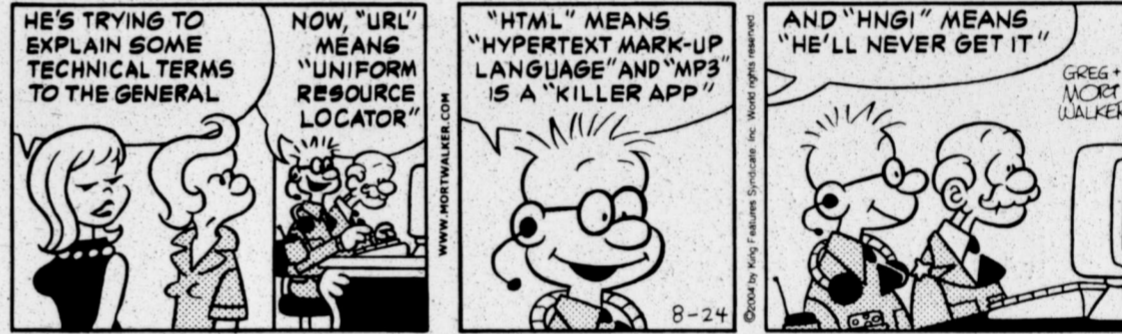
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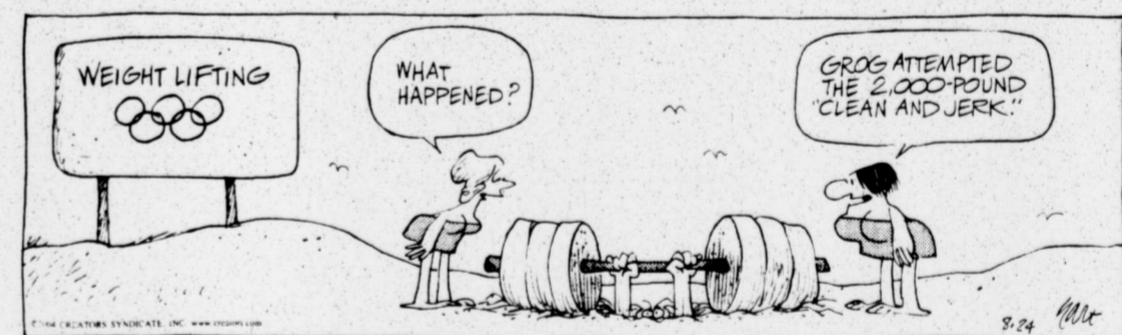
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Marvin



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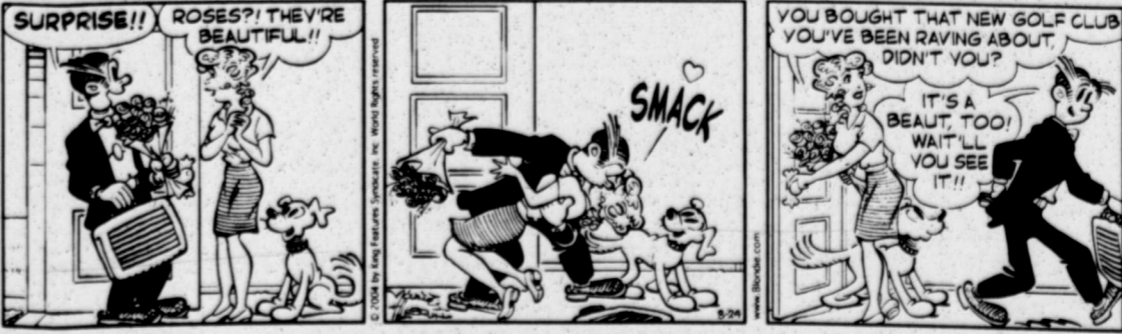
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Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 2 Shrek, for one
 - 1 The Montague boy
 - 6 Drainage trench
 - 11 Extreme pain
 - 12 Nebraska city
 - 13 Ant's pal
 - 15 Harden
 - 16 Poet Hughes
 - 17 Merino mom
 - 18 Oklahoma neighbor
 - 20 Poet's concern
 - 23 Yorkshire feature
 - 27 Region
 - 28 Prima donna
 - 29 Vagabond
 - 31 Tore down
 - 32 Try for a basket
 - 34 That lady
 - 37 Hold up
 - 38 Before now
 - 41 Legendary gossip columnist
 - 44 Yens
 - 45 Yonder
 - 46 "Let's hear it"
 - 47 Boxcars pair
- DOWN
- 1 Tatters



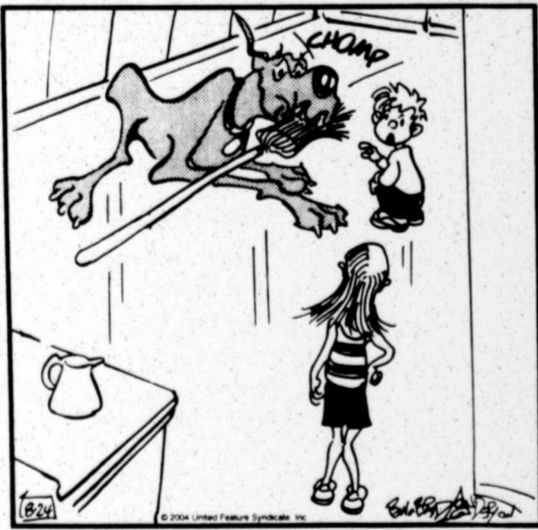
Yesterday's answer

- 20 Wrestling
- 21 Mess up
- 22 Brewed drink
- 24 Designer
- 25 Raiser of Cain
- 26 Down in the dumps
- 30 Sentence part
- 31 Metal men
- 33 "Isn't that need pretty!"
- 34 Close
- 35 Munich
- 36 Mister
- 38 High point
- 39 "Chicago" actor
- 40 Metal sources
- 42 Rep.'s rival
- 43 Frat letter.

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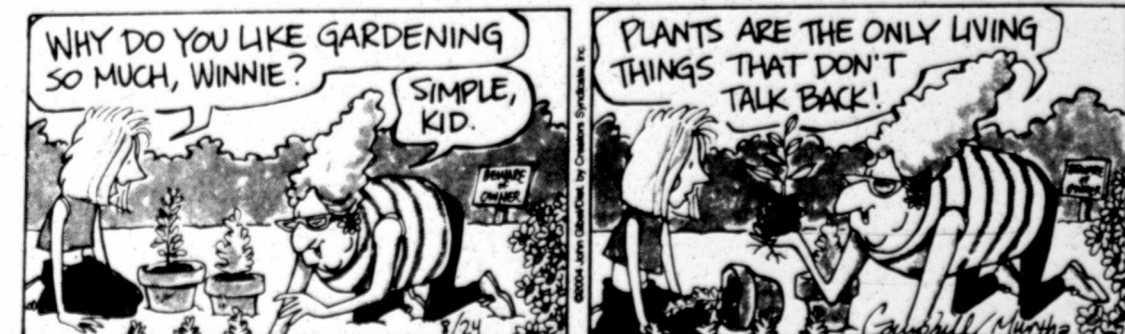
Marmaduke



The Family Circus



Flo & Friends

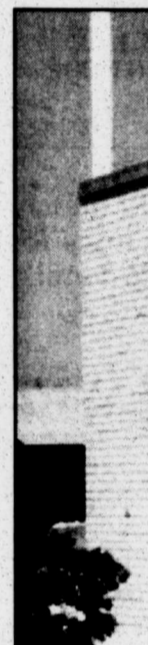


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Business Review

B&B Pharmacy offers personal service

A small town pharmacy offers services a larger pharmacy cannot provide.

Home-owned and operated, B&B Pharmacy is dedicated to providing personal service to all of its customers. Dennis Roark and his wife Donna have owned the local pharmacy since 1988.

The pharmacy offers a full line of medical needs, including ostomy supplies. Special orders can be obtained in one day. Crutches, canes, braces and wraps are always in stock. Medical needs for sports-related injuries can also be found.

Customers at B&B Pharmacy receive personal service from the Roarks. "We try to make our customers feel comfortable and

free to ask any questions they might have," said Roark.

The staff at B&B Pharmacy strive to provide the personal service a big chain cannot provide.

"We try to stay away from the personalities of a big chain where you are just a number," he said. "Drugs have some interactions that can cause serious medical problems. We welcome our customers to come to us with any concerns about interactions with their medications. It is important to us to know them and their needs."

"If any person has questions about the over-the-counter medications and possible reactions with their prescriptions, I would be more than happy to assist them."

Long time customers know that the staff at B&B Pharmacy will do all they can to meet the needs of their customers. New customers will find the personal service appealing to them.

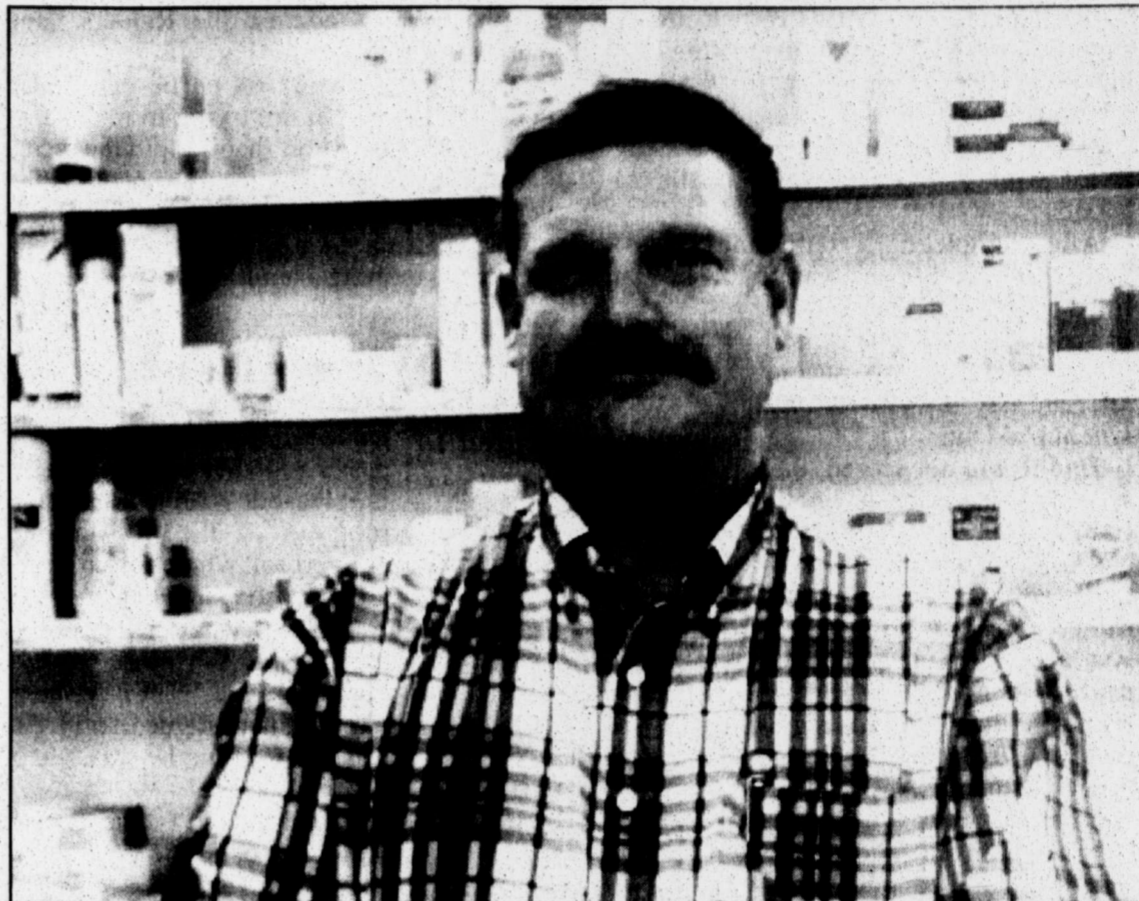
"We want to provide our customers with their needs," said Roark. "New customers are always welcome."

The store covers almost all insurance plans.

B&B also provides free prescription delivery service.

The pharmacy is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturdays. The business is closed on Sundays and holidays.

B&B Pharmacy is located at 300 N. Ballard, and their phone number is 665-5788.



▲ Pharmacist Dennis Roark provides friendly service to customers at the local B&B Pharmacy at 300 N. Ballard. Business phone for the pharmacy is 665-5788.



▲ Located at 300 N. Ballard, B&B Pharmacy has been owned by Roark and his wife Donna since 1988. Customers at B&B Pharmacy receive personal service from the couple and their staff that a large company cannot provide.

► B&B Pharmacy provides its customers a full line of medical needs and free prescription delivery service.

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Sports Day

Cowboys making progress

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Tony Romo was supposed to spike the ball to stop the clock, not dive into the end zone for the game-winning touchdown.

"He made a mistake there, but he got away with it," coach Bill Parcells said Monday.

After completing a fourth-and-9 pass to rookie tight end Sean Ryan to the 1, Romo lined up his team. But instead of spiking the ball, he scored on a keeper with six seconds left Saturday night in the 21-20 win at Oakland.

Had Romo not scored, there wouldn't have been enough time to reset for another play.

"Romo communicated to the team, so the team was on the same page. Unfortunately, it was the wrong page," Parcells said. "He got them up there right, but then ... It was a good learning experience. He got away with it. And we are laughing about it."

Those are the kind of mistakes to smile about, especially in the preseason.

The Cowboys resumed practice Monday at Valley Ranch after three weeks of camp in California and two exhibition games on the road. There are three weeks and two home games until the regular season opener Sept. 12 at Minnesota.

Parcells said he is looking for steady progress on offense and saw it in the second game. Then again, the Cowboys were shut out and had four turnovers in the exhibition opener.

The first-team offense with Vinny Testaverde still hasn't scored a touchdown, settling for field goals on all three of its

first-half drives against the Raiders. But that's not a concern for Parcells.

"It's not like we're on an all-out attack here," he said. "I'm not trying to make any excuses. We did better than we did the week before. I get the sense here from people that you expect us to turn from an average offensive team to a juggernaut after two weeks of training camp. We're not doing that."

'Romo communicated to the team, so the team was on the same page. Unfortunately, it was the wrong page.'

— Bill Parcells
Head Coach, Dallas Cowboys

Testaverde, who helped Parcells' New York Jets team get to the AFC championship game in 1998, was 13-of-17 passing for 124 yards. Parcells is pleased with the steady progress of the 40-year-old quarterback who hasn't played a full season since 2001.

"That's what encourages me to give him more work," Parcells said. "I think he's through that fatigue period. At least he told me he was. He's not really tired."

Parcells hasn't determined if Henson or Romo — neither of which has played in a regular-season game — will be

the backup.

Henson, away from football the past three years while pursuing a pro baseball career, was solid again by hitting 7 of 9 passes for 53 yards.

"Well, I'm giving him some more work. I think he is improving," Parcells said. "His execution is OK. His game management is still a little rough around the edges, just getting the plays, the formations."

Henson said he is confident about what he has done so far and hopes to have eased concerns about his time away from football.



Photo by STEPHEN ROGERS

I'm waiting

Sophomore Kenzi Nickell awaits a serve at a recent Lady Harvester JV match. The Lady Harvester JV team travels to Borger this Saturday and Sunday for tournament play. The varsity squad will be taking part in the Graham Varsity Tournament this weekend.

Clemens pitches through pain for win

HOUSTON (AP) — Though his leg was hurting and his heart was aching, Roger Clemens pitched through the pain.

The Rocket lasted long enough for his first win in almost a month — the 323rd victory of his career — and Carlos Beltran hit a three-run homer to lead the Houston Astros over the Philadelphia Phillies 8-4 Monday night.

Clemens, who left in the fourth inning of his start against the Phillies last week after injuring his right calf, hobbled around on the injured leg throughout much of his impressive seven-inning outing. He also revealed after the game that he has been mourning the death of his college roommate earlier this week.

"It was a little bit of a heavy heart for me out there," said Clemens, limping noticeably around the clubhouse. "The calf was in a state where it was giving me problems. At that point, it's all adrenaline."

Clemens (13-4) fought through the discomfort, allowing only two runs and five

hits in his first win in five starts since July 28 against Arizona. He also had eight strikeouts — his most since the win over the Diamondbacks — and two walks.

The 42-year-old right-hander trails Hall of Famers Nolan Ryan and Don Sutton by one win for 12th place on the career list.

Clemens even drew a standing ovation when he fielded a comebacker by Jason Michaels and scampered over to first base to tag Michaels for the inning's final out. The Rocket barreled over Michaels, knocking off the left fielder's hat and tumbling to the ground as he completed the play.

"Once I made eye contact, I knew had to get him," Clemens said. "I knew I couldn't afford to let him get to the base."

Michaels angrily popped up off the turf after the play, but Clemens quickly gave him a pat on the back to diffuse any trouble.

"I knew he didn't mean to do it that hard," Michaels said. "But I was (upset) anyway. He apologized afterward and I knew he just couldn't stop."

PLAYER PARALYZED

Levelland player hospitalized

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — A Levelland football player has been paralyzed from the neck down after suffering a neck injury in a scrimmage, his coach said.

Jeremy Green, a senior cornerback at Levelland, was injured Friday while making a tackle in a scrimmage in Hobbs, N.M. He's the 10th Texas high school football player in five years to suffer a spinal cord injury.

Levelland coach Brad Thiessen said Green made a tackle and it was hard to say how he got hurt.

"His head may have been too low and caught a helmet on the top of his head and that may have compressed his vertebra and cracked his neck," Thiessen said in a story for Tuesday's Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

Green remains hospitalized in Lubbock in critical condition in surgical intensive care and is on a respirator. His coach said he has been awake and alert since he was hurt.

Thiessen said counselors met with Levelland players Saturday to help them deal with Green's injury.

2004 Olympic Medal Table

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Through Aug. 23

184 completed medal events

Country	G	S	B	Tot
United States	23	26	17	66
China	23	15	12	50
Russia	6	16	19	41
Australia	13	9	13	35
Japan	5	8	9	32
Germany	8	10	11	29
France	9	7	9	25
Britain	7	8	7	22
Italy	8	6	7	21
South Korea	6	10	5	21
Netherlands	3	6	8	17
Romania	8	4	4	16
Ukraine	8	2	5	15
Belarus	2	3	6	11
Hungary	4	4	2	10
Spain	1	6	3	10

Santana, Twins rough up Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — With each stellar outing, Johan Santana is becoming a top contender for the AL Cy Young Award.

Santana allowed one run in eight innings to win his seventh straight decision, and the Minnesota Twins padded their lead in the AL Central with a 7-4 victory over the Texas Rangers on Monday night.

"If he keeps pitching like that, he's got a serious shot," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said.

Santana (14-6) gave up four hits, struck out 11 and walked one to help the Twins win for the seventh time in eight games, stretching their division lead over Cleveland to eight games.

Santana, who hasn't lost since July 11, struck out Brian Jordan in the second inning to give him 200 this season — the first Twins pitcher with that many since Bert Blyleven had 215 in 1986. Santana has 10 double-digit strikeout games this year, 13 for his career.

"He has three quality pitches — a good fastball, changeup and slider — and that makes for a very good pitcher," Gardenhire said.

Santana already has his most career victories and has gone at least six innings in his last 13 starts. He insists he's more concerned about team achievements than postseason awards.

"I'm just doing my job," he said. "If you're healthy and

perform, a lot of things will take care of themselves. Winning will take care of things at the end of the season."

Santana said his ability to throw his fastball for quality strikes makes his other pitches even more effective. The majority of Santana's strikeouts Monday night came on changeups set up by his fastball.

"That's the difference between this year and last year," Santana said. "If you locate your fastball, it helps all the other pitches. My changeup is very good. I'm getting ahead in the count and that gives me more pitches to work with. I'll throw any pitch at any time."

The Rangers started the night third in the majors in homers and extra-base hits, but Santana limited Texas to one homer.

"He had a great night," Texas' Alfonso Soriano said. "He was very awesome. He had a great fastball and a very good breaking ball. I think right now he's the toughest pitcher in the league."

Shannon Stewart and Henry Blanco homered for the Twins in their first matchup with the Rangers this season. The teams began a stretch of seven games in 11 days.

Kenny Rogers (15-6) allowed nine baserunners during the first three innings and remains two short of matching his career high for victories set in 1995. Rogers gave up six runs and 10 hits in 5 2-3 innings.

'I'm just doing my job. If you're healthy and perform, a lot of things will take care of themselves. Winning will take care of things at the end of the season.'

— Johan Santana
Pitcher, Minnesota Twins

United States draws Spain in quarterfinals

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — When a day of drama had ended and the quarterfinal pairings were set, the news was not great for the United States.

In order to get to the semifinals and possibly the gold medal game, first the Americans will have to defeat Spain — the team that left the widest wake of impressed and defeated opponents during the preliminary round.

"I don't know anything about them," Tim Duncan said of Spain after the Americans cruised past Angola 89-53 to finish the opening round with a

record of 3-2.

Here's the scoop, Timmy: The Spaniards have finesse yet are physical, they're led by an NBA player who's tougher than he looks, and they usually shoot 3-pointers the same way your teammates do — not all that well.

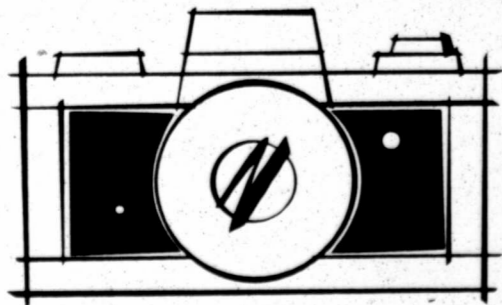
Spain's players had an opportunity Monday to take it easy against New Zealand, lose a game and thereby knock Serbia-Montenegro out of medal contention. Instead, they banged bodies as though it was a wrestling match, won by four points and let Serbia-Montenegro self-destruct later in the day.

"This is the Olympic stage, the setting for miracles," China guard Liu Wei said after his team stunned the defending world champions 67-66 to advance to the quarterfinals and relegate Serbia-Montenegro to Tuesday's 11th-place game against winless Angola.

In other games with medal-round ramifications, Greece defeated Puerto Rico 78-58 and Italy edged Argentina 76-75.

The matchups for Thursday's quarterfinals are Lithuania-China, Italy-Puerto Rico, Greece-Argentina and Spain-United States.

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