

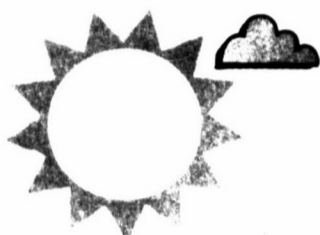
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Texas Today

AP lawsuit prompts release of records
WASHINGTON (AP) — Months after insisting it could find no more records of President Bush's Air National Guard service, the Defense Department has released more than two dozen pages of files, including Bush's report card for flight training and dates of his flights.

The records, released under pressure of a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit by The Associated Press, show Bush ranked in the middle of his 1969 flight training class and flew 336 hours for the Texas Air National Guard, mostly in the F-102A fighter.

The Pentagon and Bush's campaign have claimed for months that all records detailing his fighter pilot career have been made public, but defense officials acknowledged Tuesday they had found two dozen new records detailing his training and flight logs after the AP sued and submitted new requests under the public records law.

"Previous requests from other requesters for President Bush's Individual Flight Records did not lead to the discovery of these records because at the time President Bush left the service, flight records were subject to retention for only 24 months and we understood that neither the Air Force nor the Texas Air National Guard retained such records thereafter," the Pentagon told the AP.

Democrats seek tribute to fallen troops
WASHINGTON (AP) — Two House Democrats are urging Speaker Dennis Hastert to approve a temporary memorial in the Capitol to U.S. service men and women killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"This tribute would serve as an important show of respect to these American heroes and their families," said Rep. Jim Turner, D-Texas, who joined Rep. Rahm Emanuel, D-Ill.

The two lawmakers, in an August 30 letter to Hastert, R-Ill., suggested a display of placards in the Capitol Rotunda honoring those who lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Miami wreck victim remains critical

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Editor

A Miami man remains in critical condition in an Amarillo hospital today from injuries he suffered when his truck and the trailer it was pulling rolled near McLean on Sept. 2.

The condition of Timothy Parsley, 44, of Miami, is critical but unchanged at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo since the Thursday afternoon wreck, Texas

Tim Parsley fund

Donations may be mailed to The Tim Parsley Fund, c/o First State Bank of Miami, P.O. Box 8, Miami, TX 79059 or delivered to First State Bank in Pampa or Miami.

Department of Public Safety officials reported today.

A fund has been set up for him and his family at First State Bank of Miami, according to information from Sandy Carr of Miami.

According to the DPS report of the accident, at 1:22 p.m., Sept. 2, Parsley was driving a 2002 Dodge Ram 250 pickup pulling a fertilizer trailer north on Texas Highway 273, 4 mile north of McLean.

For some unknown reason, the report states, the trailer went to the right onto the improved shoulder of the roadway.

Parsley overcorrected to the left and lost control of the pickup, the report states.

He tried to correct back to the right and ran into the grass median, then back to the left sending the truck and trailer into a broadside

See WRECK, Page 3

Grand jury hands up 18 indictments

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Gray County Grand Jury Tuesday handed up 18 indictments, including five first-degree felony charges, one second-degree felony charge, four third-degree felony charges and eight state jail felony indictments.

Jessica Lizette Ayon, 20, was indicted for possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, a first-degree felony. Bond was set at \$50,000.

On Nov. 1, 2002, Ayon allegedly possessed, with intent to deliver, 400 grams or more of methamphetamine.

Michael David Gerik, 45, was indicted for aggravated assault, enhanced. Bond on the first-degree felony was set at \$15,000.

On June 12, 2003, Gerik allegedly stabbed Jerry Music with a knife. On April 28, 1978, Gerik was convicted in Gray County of unlawful possession of marijuana more than four ounces.

Cobbie Cardrell Harris, 32, was indicted for possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver. Bond on the first-degree felony was set at \$35,000.

On Nov. 11, 2002, Harris allegedly possessed, with intent to deliver, four grams or more of cocaine but less than 200 grams.

Rafael U. Martinez Jr., 30, was indicted on the first-degree felony charge of possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver. Bond was set at \$50,000.

On Nov. 1, 2002, Martinez allegedly possessed, with intent to deliver, 400 grams or more of methamphetamine.

William Anthony Sharp, 24, was indicted on the first-degree felony charge of burglary of a habitation. Bond was set at \$10,000.

On Sept. 28, 2003, Sharp allegedly entered a habitation without the consent of the owner, David Sharp, with intent to commit the felony offense of aggravated assault.

Robert Carlos Medeiros, 30, was indicted for possession of marijuana. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Oct. 13, 2003, Medeiros allegedly possessed 2,000 pounds or less but more than 50 pounds of marijuana.

Teddy Horace Coleman III, 32,

See COURT, Page 3



(Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS)

Jackie Pearson, left, and Betty Johnston loaded the last of the items from Images into a trailer Tuesday afternoon. Pearson is an owner of the store, and Johnston was manager.

Pampa fashion era ends

Downtown landmark business closes its doors Saturday

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

A downtown Pampa landmark building is once again vacant, after its latest occupant closed Saturday.

Images, a ladies' specialty store, closed Saturday after 17 years of business, and the building was vacated yesterday.

"We catered to our customers. We carried brands sold only to specialty stores, not department stores," said Betty Johnston, manager of the store for its entire 17 years in Pampa.

The store sold furs, fine clothing, shoes and other accessories. Brands carried by the store included Estee Lauder and Brighton.

"It's been a wonderful experience. Our cus-

tomers from Pampa and surrounding towns have been wonderful to support us," Johnston said.

"I have high hopes that somebody will come in and put in a ladies' shop there. It's a landmark, and a beautiful store," Johnston said.

Images was housed in a building at 123 N. Cuyler. Owners of the building are the J.N. Duncan estate.

Duncan and his family moved to Pampa in January 1907 and bought the Johnson Mercantile Store located in the 100 block of Cuyler, according to a news release written by Ray Duncan.

J.N. Duncan was Pampa's first mayor in 1912.

By 1926, he had built all of the brick buildings north of the present-day Dollar General store to the corner and west on Kingsmill Avenue to the alley. The present tenants are Pampa Custom Framing, 107 N. Cuyler; vacant, 109 N. Cuyler; Rheams Diamond Shop, 111 N. Cuyler; Carousel Expressions and On Eagles' Wings, 113 N.



(Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS)

Images, a ladies' specialty store at 123 N. Cuyler for the past 17 years, closed its doors Saturday.

See IMAGES, Page 3

U.S. jets pound suspected militant strongholds

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. warplanes hammered suspected militant strongholds in Fallujah on Wednesday after a suicide bombing there and a series of attacks in Baghdad pushed the number of U.S. military deaths in the Iraq campaign past 1,000.

Sporadic explosions lit the sky throughout the night and several buildings were razed to the ground. A thick plume

of smoke rose from the western city after American jets struck a suspected militant stronghold used to plan attacks on American forces, the military said.

Hospital officials said at least six people were killed and 11 wounded since the strikes began late Tuesday.

Residents huddled in their homes as planes repeatedly swooped over eastern and southern neighborhoods of

Fallujah, a hotbed of Sunni insurgents, witnesses said.

In eastern Baghdad, insurgents detonated a roadside bomb early Wednesday that killed one U.S. soldier and wounded two others, the military said. The wounded were evacuated to a combat hospital after the attack at 5:30 a.m. local time.

In other violence Wednesday, gunmen kidnapped the Anbar province's

deputy governor Wednesday in the latest assault on officials connected to Iraq's interim government, the Interior Ministry said.

Wednesday's airstrikes targeted a militant "command and control headquarters" that has recently been coordinating attacks against coalition forces, the military said.

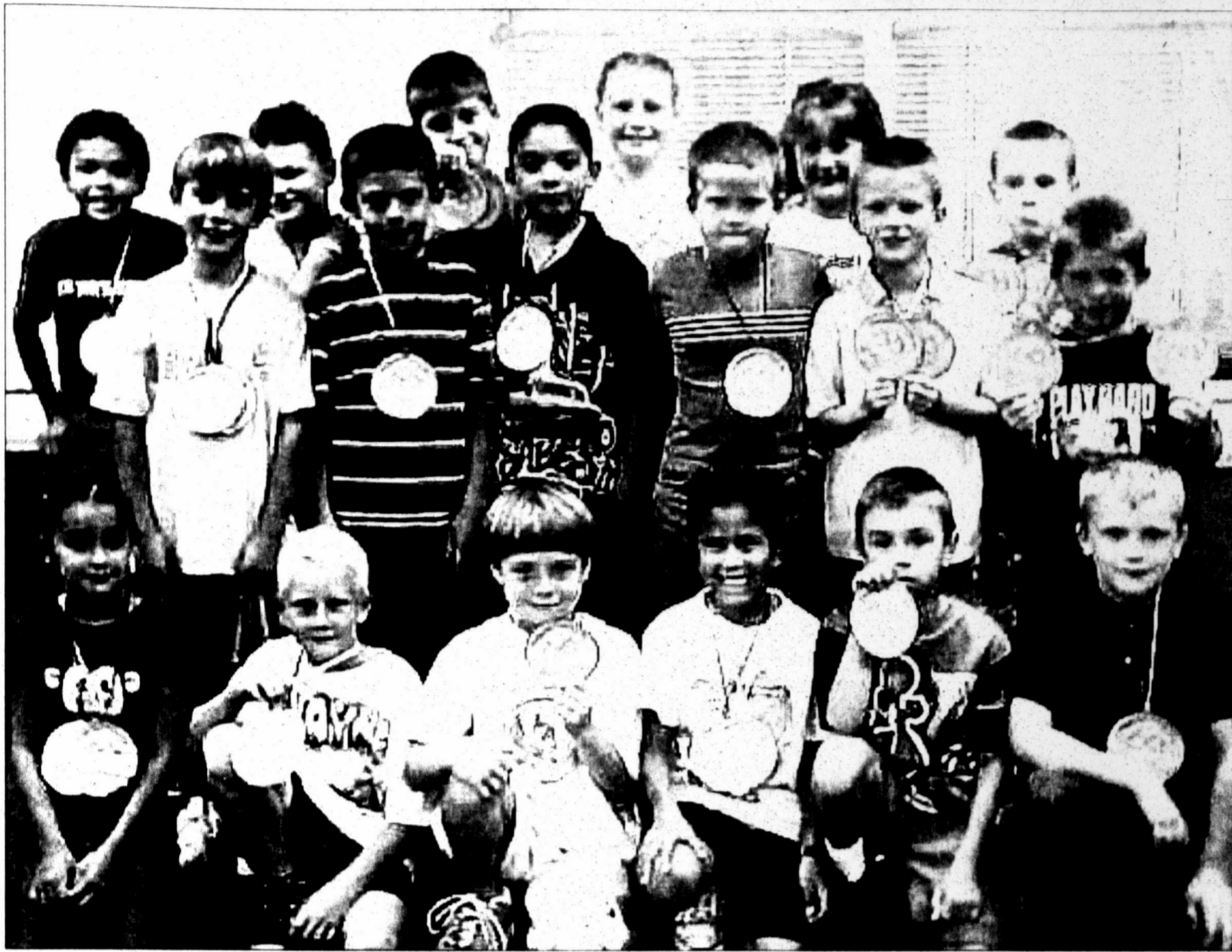
Late Tuesday, U.S. jets dropped several bombs and tank and artillery units fired

rounds into the city in retaliation for militant attacks on Marine positions outside the city, said Marine spokesman Lt. Col. T.V. Johnson.

Johnson said in a statement that "significant numbers of enemy fighters (up to 100) are estimated to have been killed" by Tuesday's shelling. The claim could not be verified, and Johnson acknowl-

See IRAQ, Page 3

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Little Olympians

Third, fourth and fifth grade physical education students at Austin Elementary recently conducted their own Olympics. Events included swimming, javelin throw, equestrian jumping, hammer throw and hurdles. Students represented assigned countries and learned facts about each country throughout the competition. The event culminated with Coach Kelly Porter presenting gold, silver and bronze medals to the winning athletes. Above: (front, left-right) Samantha Woodruff, Blayne Troxell, Chance Hoover, Josh Hernandez, Brandon Gage, Levi Britt; (middle) Caden Sander, Klay Miller, Freddy Mora, Logan McClelland, Trae Hannon, Austen Snapp; (back) Brassston Pulatie, Cager Osborne, Russell Harvey, Bailey Wichert, Alexa O'Brien and Hunter Hughes.

Hurricane Ivan devastates Grenada

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Hurricane Ivan made a direct hit on Grenada with ferocious winds, causing "incalculable damage" and killing at least three people as it turned concrete homes into rubble and hurled hundreds of the island's landmark red zinc roofs through the air, officials said Wednesday.

The most powerful storm to hit the Caribbean in 14

years reportedly devastated Grenada's capital, St. George's, and also damaged homes in Barbados, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Thousands were without water, electricity and telephone service just days after Hurricane Frances rampaged through.

Ivan strengthened even as it was over Grenada on Tuesday, becoming a

Category 4 storm. It got even

stronger as it headed across the Caribbean Sea, passing north of the Dutch Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao.

It is threatening to cross right over Jamaica by Friday morning or Saturday, and then Cuba, the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said.

"After Jamaica, it's probably going to hit somewhere

in the U.S., unfortunately," said meteorologist Jennifer Pralgo of the Hurricane Center. "We're hoping it's not Florida again, but it's taking a fairly similar track to Charley at the moment."

Hurricane Charley killed 27 people in southwest Florida last month and caused an estimated \$6.8 billion in insured damage.

Images

Continued from Page 1

Cuyler: Tarpley Music Co., 117 N. Cuyler; Images, 123 N. Cuyler; Herbs Etc., 109 W. Kingsmill; and T Shirts & More, 111 W. Kingsmill.

The Images building was constructed in 1926. The two-story structure had a stairway at the front of the

building with rentable space on each side and offices on the second floor.

The first tenant, according to Ferne Duncan in the release, was to be the White House Cafe, which was completed but never opened for business. J. Wade Duncan and his wife Ferne operated a variety store in the building in 1929 and 1930. The Brownbilt Shoe Store sold Buster Brown shoes from

the north side space from 1931 to 1934.

Bunny and Leah Behrman leased the north space and on Aug. 16, 1934 had the grand opening of their ladies' fashion store. They operated the store together until Aug. 9, 1965 when Bunny and two other Pampa businessmen, Demaris Hold and Clayton Husted, were killed in a private plane crash, according to the release.

Leah Behrman continued to operate the store until June 1969, when she sold it to Louis Saide. Saide's son-in-law and his wife, Doug and Georgia Coon, then operated the store.

On Oct. 1, 1987, Coon closed the store and the space was leased to Images, owned by Jaclyn Pearson, Ginger Pittman and Susan Pearson of Spearman, according to the release.

Court

Continued from Page 1

was indicted on the third-degree felony charge of possession of marijuana. Bond was set at \$25,000.

On March 27, 2003, Coleman allegedly possessed five pounds or more but less than 50 pounds of marijuana.

Michael Ray Hartzell, 35, was indicted for driving while intoxicated, third or more offense. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$1,500.

On March 4, Hartzell allegedly operated a motor vehicle while intoxicated. On Oct. 19, 1993, he was convicted of driving while intoxicated, and on Nov. 22, 1999, he was convicted of driving while intoxicated, second offense. Both convictions were in Gray County.

Danasty Dawn Mize, 19, was indicted on possession of a controlled substance. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$5,000.

On Jan. 2, Mize allegedly possessed one gram or more but less than four grams of cocaine.

Eric Leeroy Smith, 37, was indicted on the third-degree felony of assault on a public servant. Bond was set at \$2,500.

On Aug. 7, 2003, Smith allegedly struck Gray County Sheriff's Deputy

Vincent Marasco with his fists. Marasco was lawfully discharging an official duty at the time of the incident by attempting to arrest Smith.

Joseph Alan Barker, 22, was indicted on the state jail felony of theft under \$1,500 with two prior theft convictions. Bond was set at \$1,000.

On March 18, 2003, Barker allegedly unlawfully appropriated meat valued at \$50 or more but less than \$500 from Isaac Silva, with intent to deprive Silva of the property.

Smith was convicted of theft on March 1, 2000 and Dec. 5, 2001. Both convictions were in Hutchinson County.

Danny Ray Boyd, 56, was indicted for forgery by passing a state jail felony. Bond was set at \$4,000.

On March 7, 2003, Boyd allegedly passed to Delta Broadbent a forged writing, knowing such writing to be forged. The writing was a check for \$148.46 to be drawn on an account of James N. Brown, who did not authorize the act.

Barbara Gail Brown, 52, was indicted on the state jail felony of possession of a controlled substance. Bond was set at \$1,500.

On June 15, Brown allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine.

Steven Lance Brown, 39,

was indicted for credit card abuse. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$1,500.

On May 22, Brown allegedly presented a MasterCard to Ronnie Hadley of Utility Oil with knowledge that the card had not been issued to himself, and with knowledge that the card was not used with the consent of the cardholder, Vernon Gassen.

Steven Brown was also indicted for possession of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$1,500.

On June 15, Brown allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine.

Tommy Ray Carver Jr., 47, was indicted for evading arrest using a vehicle. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$4,000.

On April 21, 2003, Carver allegedly used a vehicle to intentionally flee from Gray County Sheriff's Deputy Scott LaRue, who was attempting lawfully to arrest or detain Carver.

Eric Leeroy Smith, 37, was indicted on the state jail felony of evading arrest with a vehicle. Bond was set at \$2,500.

On Aug. 7, 2003, Smith allegedly used a vehicle to intentionally flee from Gray County Sheriff's Deputy Vincent Marasco, who was attempting to lawfully arrest or detain Smith.

Iraq

Continued from Page 1

edged that U.S. forces have not entered the city of Fallujah itself.

The military said it had no information about casualties from Wednesday's strikes.

U.S. forces pulled out of Fallujah after ending a three-week siege in April following the killing of four American security contractors in the city. But still resistance and political backlash forced the Americans to abandon the siege, and the militants emerged stronger than ever.

Fighting with Sunni and Shiite insurgents killed eight Americans in the Baghdad area on Tuesday and Wednesday, pushing the American death count to 1,004. That number includes 1,000 U.S. troops and three civilians, two working for the U.S. Army and one for the Air Force. The tally was compiled by The Associated Press based on Pentagon records and AP reporting from Iraq.

Commenting on the death toll, President Bush said Wednesday "we mourn every

loss of life" and declared that the United States was making good progress in the war against terrorism.

"We're still at war," Bush said during a meeting with congressional leaders. "We've got to do everything we can to protect the homeland."

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry said the United States joined the friends and relatives of those who died in mourning their loss.

"Today marks a tragic milestone in the war in Iraq. More than one thousand of America's sons and daughters have made the ultimate sacrifice. Our nation honors their service and joins with their families and loved ones in mourning their loss," Kerry said.

"We must never forget the price they have paid. And we must meet our sacred obligation to all our troops to do all we can to make the right decisions in Iraq so that we can bring them home as soon as possible."

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld cited progress on several fronts in the Bush administration's global war on terrorism.

'We're still at war. We've got to do everything we can to protect the homeland.'

George W. Bush
U.S. President

Wreck

Continued from Page 1

skid.

The truck and trailer overturned two complete times, according to the report, before coming to rest on all

four wheels with the trailer still attached, facing southwest.

DPS officials say that Parsley was ejected from the pickup as it rolled.

DPS records indicate he was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the accident.

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Viewpoints

What constitutes healthy competition?

Yesterday I went to take pictures at the middle school football game against Borger. While I was following the ball through the viewfinder in the digital camera trying to figure out the key moment to snap the shot, I kept hearing strange phrases coming from one of the fans in the stands.

Through the crowd a women's high-pitched voice drifted to the sidelines. She was yelling at what seemed to be the top of her lungs, "Kill somebody, Green Team. I want to see blood. There is 20 bucks in it for you if you do."

After hearing this several times, I turned around to see who would make such a

request. To my astonishment it appeared to be one of the parents of a Pampa Junior High football player.

As I went back to taking pictures after my moment of shock, I got to thinking about how much importance is placed on competition in American society today. If requests for murder are being shouted to an eighth grader at a football game, than perhaps it is time to note that something is wrong here. Just maybe we have crossed, or at least stood, at the edge of the line of healthy competition.

As a competitive person, I am often a part of this phenomenon. I remember back to last year at several debate

tournaments when I often faced tough competition from the same group of people several meets in a row. It seemed like they would always end up in all of my rounds, and even more than that, it seemed like they would often take top prizes.

**Ben
Briscoe**

News Intern

evil guy who always wears ugly brown suits."

We would discuss how we wished their buses would break down so they could not be able to make it to the competition and how we hoped that they would lose their concentration in a round and appear



unpolished.

One time one of our fellow competitors told the judge he was feeling ill and my friends and I even had the audacity to whisper to each other how we thought that was good and that

maybe he would pass out while he was speaking.

Thinking back, it was not very nice, but we were caught up in the moment. Sure we joked around about the people we were competing with, but in the end my friends and I knew we always wanted them there. At one of the meets that I took first at, I remember thinking that it did not mean as much because all my normal competition, who had become my friends, such as "long-winded girl" and "evil guy who always wears ugly brown suits," were not there.

I think that the parent in the crowd felt the same way. Sure, she was caught up in the moment and said things

that provided me with a bit of laughter, but in truth, she was just a mom who was calling out to encourage her son to play his best in their first big game of the season.

Perhaps we might sometimes seem to take competition too far in our society; however, it appears that we are able to keep the inner drive to win in a healthy check by remembering that in the end, what makes us good is not winning, but competing against the best and doing well.

Ben Briscoe is an intern for The Pampa News. He is a senior at Pampa High School.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 8, the 252nd day of 2004. There are 114 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 8, 1900, Galveston, Texas, was struck by a hurricane that killed about 6,000 people.

On this date:

In 1664, the Dutch surrendered New Amsterdam to the British, who renamed it New York.

In 1921, Margaret Gorman of Washington, D.C., was crowned the first Miss America in Atlantic City, N.J.

In 1934, 134 people lost their lives in a fire aboard the liner Morro Castle off the New Jersey coast.

In 1935, Sen. Huey P. Long, "The Kingfish" of Louisiana politics, was shot and mortally wounded; he died two days later.

In 1944, Nazi Germany fired the first of its V2 rockets, which were faster and more powerful than the V1, into London during World War II.

In 1951, a peace treaty with Japan was signed by 48 other nations in San Francisco.

In 1952, the Ernest Hemingway novel "The Old Man and the Sea" was published.

In 1974, President Ford granted an unconditional pardon to former President Nixon.

Our readers write

Good Samaritans

To the editor,
Last Monday during the rain storm in Pampa, I left the post office and headed across the street to my car. I slipped on the curb and wet bricks, taking a pretty bad fall on the street.

My first thought was, "Oh, God, how do I get up from here?"

Before I finished that thought, there were two cars stopped and people coming to see how to help me. They ignored the rain and offered whatever assistance I needed.

I do not know who they were, but the genuine offer of help was deeply appreciated. It is nice to live where people show such a caring

attitude for a stranger. Thank you so much!

Monta Hinkle
Pampa

Pull my finger ...

To the editor,
Last night at the end of the Republican convention we heard once more from our President. George W. closed by asking the voters to stand with him for four more years.

I was in deep thought as I listened to each word and every promise, and Lincoln flashed back into my memory. Lincoln would say, "No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar," and "We should stand

Continued on Page 5



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Hard work and sacrifice count

Richard Weaver, a Southern writer, once said in describing the modern mindset that people "have lost a sense of the difficulty of things."

What he meant was that people seem unaware of how much labor and self-sacrifice was required of those who went before us to bring us to this point where, as he says, some people "begin to think that luxuries, though unearned, are rightfully theirs."

I think he is only partially right. In defense of the modern mind, how do you get people to realize the toil and

self-sacrifice that went before them? Certainly you cannot do it with our superficial, politically correct approach to history.

The best learning comes from the family. My parents had experienced very hard times, and all the family stories were centered in these hard times. They were reflected in my parents, in their outlook on life, in their modest expectations and in their hard work.

But, thanks to their sacrifice, by the time I started to grow my own family, I had no tales of hardship to share.

My life, though modest in material terms, had been pretty darn good and easy, and I found

that I was unwilling to be as tough and severe with my own children as my father had been with me. It seemed to me that since I had some money, there was no need to deny my children anything I

could afford, which admittedly was sometimes not that much. But unlike my father, I was never haunted by the memory of poverty that meant no shoes to wear and no food to eat. You can't fake that.

So there you are. It is unrealistic to expect people who have material means to deny their children out of principle. You can't simulate poverty. Nothing is gained by practicing suffering. I used to argue with the Army all the time that I could suffer quite competently the

See WORK, Page 5

**Charley
Reese**

Columnist



Bryant case didn't involve truth

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Bryant boondoggle:

Was justice done in the Kobe Bryant trial?

It depends. What type of justice? For whom?

In theory, justice in a criminal case is seeing that a perpetrator has to answer for the crime — that society's rules are upheld. The victim isn't made whole or given revenge but, if the system works properly, is assured that the wrongdoer is held accountable.

But in Eagle County, Colo., the district attorney pursued the sexual assault allegation of a star-struck hotel clerk against an NBA

superstar in an atmosphere that blurred the usual rules, obscured whom the victim was and threatened to leave lingering doubts in the public mind —

no matter what the jury's verdict was. The dismissal of the charge without a trial suggests that lawyers for the accuser and the accused agreed on a price to make the entire tragic, complicated mess go away. The abrupt ending must be little consolation to the taxpayers responsible for

more than \$400,000 in expenses to host all the pre-trial machinations and prepare for the real thing.

In an ideal sense, it's not justice if society hasn't been defended, if a perpetrator has gone free or if a reputation has been ruined by a false accusation.

It's not justice if a trial has been derailed by court staff ineptitude, a glaring disparity in resources or the sheer weight of media attention. If the truth be told, truth would

not have emerged in that courtroom — only ugliness and competing versions of what happened between a man and a woman in a hotel room.

In the apology released by his lawyers after the dismissal, Bryant said: "Although I truly believe this encounter between us was consensual, I recognize now that she did not and does not view this incident the same way I did."

That was carefully crafted lawyer-ese. But it may have been the most that could have been expected from this sordid episode.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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David R. drops school

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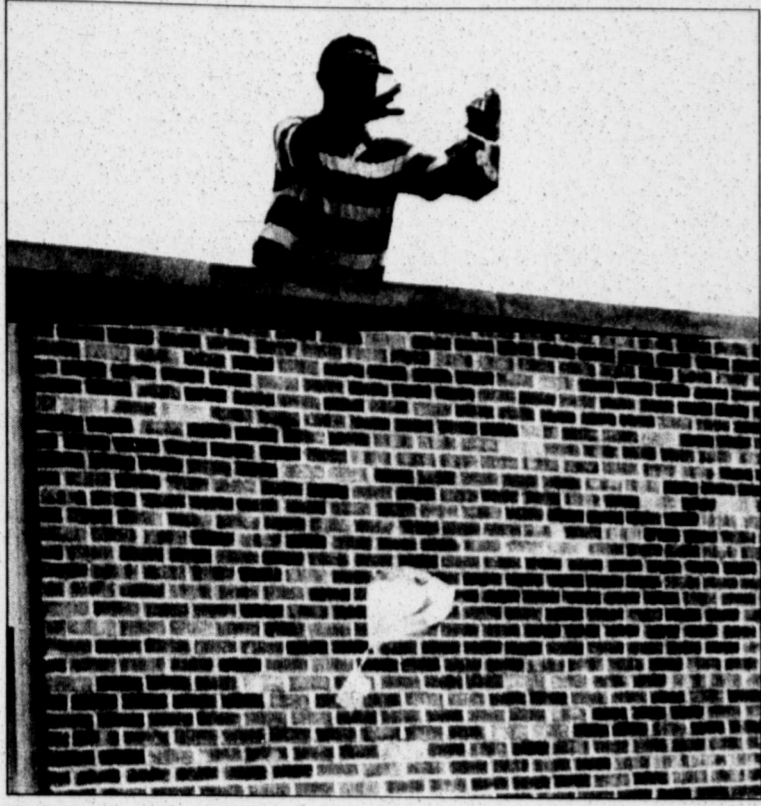
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Wilson fourth graders conduct own 'lunar landing' experiments



David Farrar, Wilson Elementary School custodian, drops the 4th graders' ships from the roof of the school building.

Fourth graders enrolled at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School recently studied about space in their reading and science classes, learning about the first lunar landing — a major historical event.

In order to commemorate this pivotal moment in space aviation, the students conducted a mock landing of their own, separating into groups and building a spacecraft with the help of a box or other container.

The students were then instructed to take a raw egg (meant to represent the "astronaut") and pack it into

their ship. The challenge for the students was to pack the egg in such a way that when the box was dropped from the top of the school building the egg wouldn't break upon landing.

Students used a variety of materials for this experiment. Some groups even attached "parachutes" to their experimental craft.

David Farrar, custodian, helped with the festivities by dropping the ships off the top of the building while both students and teachers awaited the results.

A cake was specially decorated to commemorate the



Students enjoy a cake decorated to celebrate their 'lunar landing' experiment.

The fourth graders are students of Angie Hoover and Angela Hicks.

Space capsule heads back to Earth for mid-air maneuver

DUGWAY PROVING GROUND, Utah (AP) — A space capsule holding atoms collected from solar wind was en route to a tricky rendezvous with Earth, offering scientists the first material NASA has brought back from space in nearly three decades.

A pair of helicopters helmed by stunt pilots were set to hover nearly a mile above the Utah desert, ready to help snatch the refrigerator-sized capsule's parachute with a hook as it floats down at 400 feet a minute, or more than 6 feet per second.

"All systems are go," Don Sevilla, Genesis payload recovery leader, said Tuesday when the capsule was 134,000 miles above the Earth's surface. If all goes as planned, the mid-air capture was to take place Wednesday.

The capsule's charged atoms — a "billion billion" of them — should reveal clues about the origin and evolution of our solar system, said Don Burnett, Genesis principal investigator and a nuclear geochemist at California Institute of Technology.

"We have for years wanted to know the composition of the sun. In some cases we will be analyzing it one atom at a time."

— Don Burnett
Nuclear geo-chemist

Genesis has been moving in tandem with Earth outside its magnetic shield on three orbits of the sun. It was to pick up speed rapidly as Earth's gravitational pull brings it closer before the atmosphere abruptly

slows the descent. That's when the helicopters take over.

Both Cliff Fleming, the lead helicopter pilot, and backup pilot Dan Rudert have replicated the retrieval in dozens of practice runs, and will have five chances to snag the capsule. If they fail, it will hit the ground and shatter the fragile disks holding the atoms. Once captured, the capsule will be tethered to a cable to cushion the impact.

Fleming and Rudert, stunt pilots by trade, were drafted for the \$260 million mission because of their expertise flying high and capturing objects. Fleming has swooped after sky surfers in the action movie "XXX" and towed actor Pierce Brosnan through the air in "Dante's Peak." He just worked on "Batman 4."

Fleming said the current job is tricky since he won't have any visual reference to judge the speed or distance of the 400-pound capsule as he closes in from behind it.

Among the risks are a sudden updraft that could entangle the capsule's parachute in his tail rotor.

"Because you're up nearly in space, you can't see the wind," Fleming said Tuesday at a U.S. Army hangar here. "There's no movement of trees or brush or dust, so that makes it difficult."

Once the sample container is safely brought down, it will be packed up and driven with a convoy of armed guards to Houston's Space Center in a truck outfitted with air suspension for a gentle ride.

From there, the solar particles — a storehouse of 99 percent of all the material in our solar system — will be parceled out for analysis to the

University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Chicago's Argonne National Lab.

The Genesis mission, launched in 2001, marks the first time NASA has collected and returned any objects from farther than the moon, said Roy Haggard, Genesis' flight operations chief and CEO of Vertigo Inc., which designed the capture system.

Together, the charged atoms captured over 884 days on the capsule's disks of gold, sapphire, diamond and silicone are no bigger than a few grains of salt, but scientists say that's enough to reconstruct the chemical origin of the sun and its family of planets.

On the Net: <http://www.genesismission.org>

How sweet it is: Scrumptious treats

EDITOR'S NOTE: On Page 1B of the Sunday edition, part of the recipes featured were inadvertently omitted. The complete recipes follow:

Ice Cream Sundae Pie

Prep: 15 minutes plus freezing
Ingredients:
16 Golden Oreo Original Sandwich Cookies, divided
3 tablespoons butter, melted
1 jar (10 ounces) maraschino cherries, drained, divided
1 quart vanilla ice cream, softened
1 cup thawed frozen whipped topping
1 medium banana, sliced
1/4 cup caramel-flavored dessert topping (optional)

Directions:
1. SPLIT 8 cookies in half by twisting and gently pulling apart. (Filling will remain on one side of cookie.) Set aside 8 cookie

halves without filling. Place cookie halves with filling and remaining 8 whole cookies in food processor container; cover. Process until finely crushed.
2. MIX crumbs and butter; press firmly onto bottom of 9-inch pie plate. Stand cookie halves without filling around side of plate, spacing evenly and pressing into crumbs. Freeze until ready to fill.

3. RESERVE 8 maraschino cherries for garnish; Chop remaining cherries; stir into softened ice cream. Spread into prepared crust. Freeze 4 hours or until firm.
4. GARNISH pie with whipped topping, reserved cherries and banana slices. Serve drizzled with caramel topping, if desired.
Makes 8 servings

Golden Ice Cream-wiches
Prep: 20 minutes plus freezing
Ingredients:
16 Golden Oreo Original

Sandwich Cookies

1 cup ice cream or frozen yogurt (any flavor), softened
3/4 cup rainbow sprinkles, chopped nuts or miniature chocolate chips (optional)

Directions:
1. SPLIT cookies in half by twisting and gently pulling apart. (Filling will remain on one side of cookie.)

2. PLACE 1 tablespoon ice cream on cream-filled half of each cookie; cover with plain cookie half. Roll edges in sprinkles. Wrap individually in plastic wrap.
3. FREEZE at least 4 hours or until ready to serve.
Makes 8 servings, 2 sandwiches each

Maraschino-Lemonade Pops

Prep: 10 minutes plus freezing
Ingredients:
1 jar (10 ounces) maraschino cherries, drained, juice reserved

8 (3-ounce) paper cups
1 container (12 ounces) frozen pink lemonade concentrate, partially thawed
1/4 cup water
8 wooden pop sticks

Directions:
1. PLACE 1 cherry in each cup. Coarsely chop remaining cherries.
2. PLACE chopped cherries, reserved cherry juice, lemonade concentrate and water in blender container; cover. Blend until smooth. Fill cups evenly with cherry mixture.
3. FREEZE 30 to 40 minutes or until very slushy. Place pop stick in center of each cup. Freeze 1 hour or until firm. Let pops stand at room temperature 10 to 15 minutes before serving. Peel off paper cups to eat.
Makes 8 servings, 1 pop each

— All materials courtesy of: National Sweet Cherry Foundation, Golden Oreo, Original Sandwich Cookies

Work

Continued from Page 4

first time the necessity arose. I didn't need to practice being cold and wet, for example.

Another point to keep in mind, while we consider ourselves spoiled, is that nobody ever worked like a dog and sacrificed just for the principle of it. People did so because they had no choice. And all the time they were working hard and sacrificing, their goal was to get to the point where they wouldn't have to do that, or, at the least, where their children would not have to endure the same hardships.

I think people adapt to the environment in which they are born. While it's fashionable among some geezers to damn the present generation as having gone soft, I don't believe it. I think today's kids would work just as hard, make just as many sacrifices, as previous genera-

tions — if they had to. Necessity dictates.

Should there ever be an all-out war, or should the economy collapse completely, I believe people would find that today's young people can be as tough as any other generation. They would then do what they had to do to survive.

You can see this every time there is a disaster. When the necessity arises, Americans of all ages step up to the plate and do what they have to do. Or look at American sports. I just finished watching the Little League World Series. Those 11-, 12- and a few 13-year-old kids play the caliber of baseball that is only achieved

with very hard work. You can say American kids are growing soft, but they are also growing bigger.

Look at the American kids in Iraq. It's true that there aren't many from Harvard and Yale. But the ones who are there are holding their own in about the toughest neighborhoods on the planet under the most miserable conditions.

The United States might be fouled up, but it's not the fault of the youngest generations. It's our fault. We're the ones who put up with sleazy politicians and fall for every sales pitch Madison Avenue can dream up. We're the generations that made greed a national goal. As for the kids, if fate starts throwing them curveballs, they'll hit them.

Charley Reese is a retired journalist living in Florida whose columns are syndicated by King Features. Write to him at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

Letter

Continued from Page 4

with a man when he is right and part with him when he's wrong."

In my mind, George W. stole the last election. He never deserved to be president. He has proven to be unfit a thousand times over! He's been a total disaster for our country. He deserves not one day more.

Come, let us reason and take a close look at this master fabricator of total fiction. He put before you at the convention a heavy serving of plain humbug.

He would have you believe he is a great leader. He would have you believe you are safe. After the first bombing of the World Trade Center, he clearly failed to see 9/11 coming.

Our borders are wide open. I think he wants to steal the country, so he can be King George. I stand in full opposition.

The "W" must stand for wretch, a vile contemptible person.

If he were the president I want, we

would have school prayer. We would abolish Roe vs. Wade. We would have a 28th Amendment to our Constitution, so that the majority would have the right to vote "yes" or "no" regarding gay marriage. He clearly doesn't care. And it's time we replace him and his party.

They came into office with a huge surplus. They have wasted it and looked the other way in regards to Enron, World Com, Halliburton, etc., etc. It has clearly been four years of Robin Hood in reverse. All they have done is vote to increase their pay.

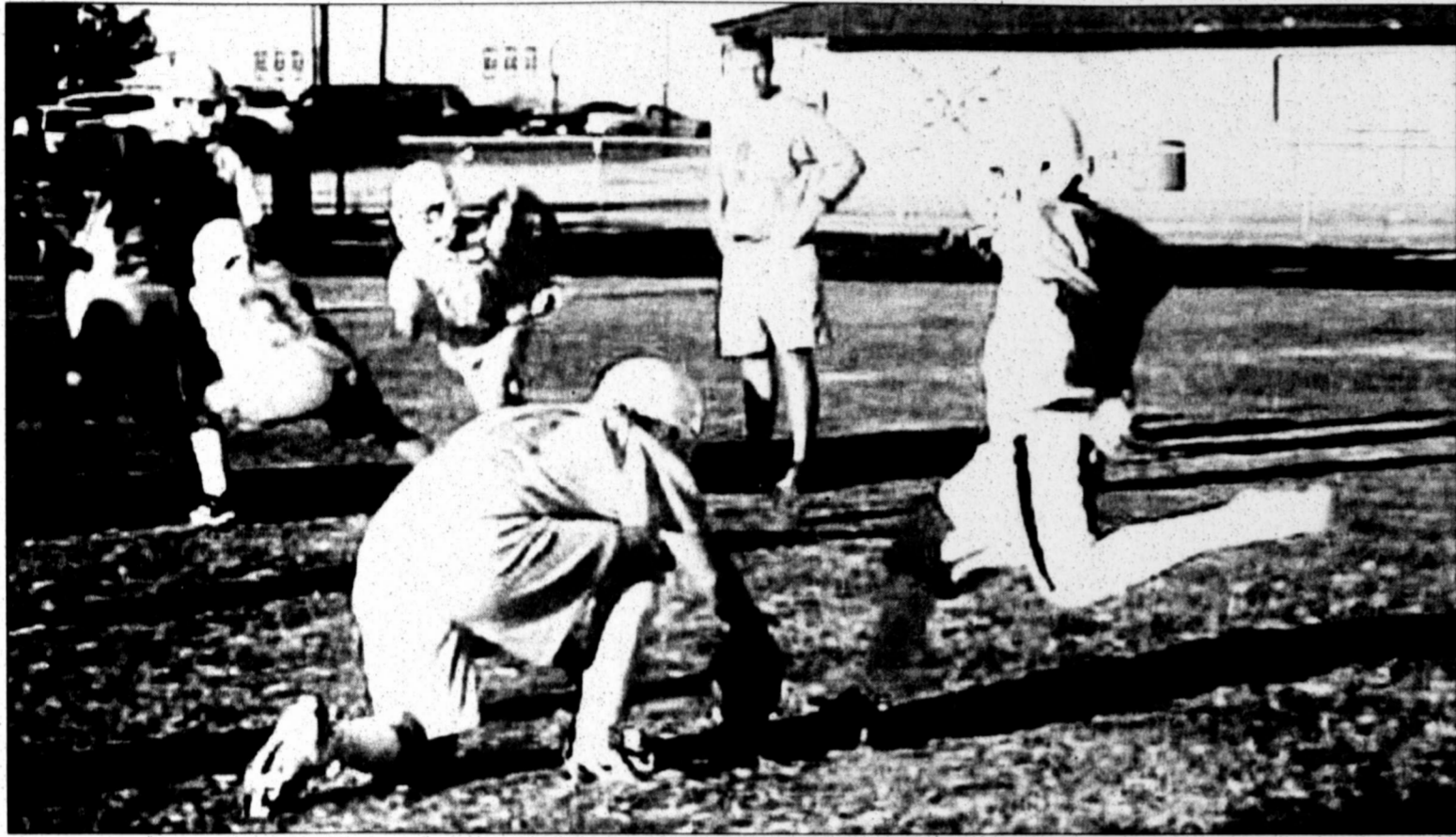
But, the most detestable, outrageous sin of George W. and his party has been the despicable treatment of war hero John Kerry, a man who served his country with great courage. Not the special, privileged, AWOL, no show, and his draft-dodging partner behind the Halliburton scam. Both are unfit for any office.

In summation, just pull my finger, and I'll let you know what I really think of all Republicans.

John D. Seaman Perryton

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Sports Day



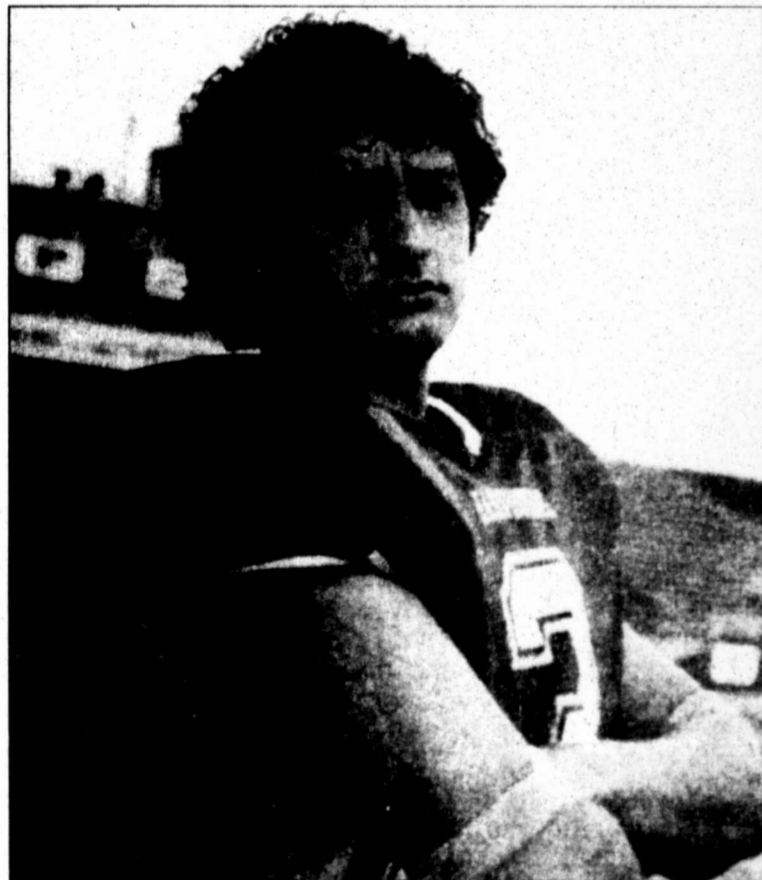
Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Pampa JV Coach Jeff Quisenberry looks on as Keenan Davis kicks a field goal during practice early this morning. The JV team, undefeated so far this season, will face Amarillo High School at home this Saturday. Kick off will be at 11 a.m.

Lady Harvesters come up short against Borger

The Lady Harvesters committed too many unforced errors, and struggled with their serves in a five game match defeat at the hands of the Lady Bulldogs. Borger took advantage of Pampa's miscues to take games one and two- 25-21, 25-17. Pampa came out in game three, took charge and never trailed to win 25-16. Better serving contributed to the 25-22 game four win for the Lady Harvesters. Tied at two games apiece and the momentum clearly in Pampa's favor, the Lady Bulldogs took over to win the match in the final game 15-10. Borger is coached by former Lady Harvester and Wayland Baptist grad Tandi (Morton) Laos, who is in her first year with the Lady Bulldogs. Pampa is now 6-14 for the season. Next up is Tascosa this Saturday in Amarillo.

Spotlight



Seth Foster's kicks helped tame Wildcats

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Sometimes it's not the long run, spectacular pass-and-catch or interception return that nets the attention of those of us in the sports industry. More often, it is the play of a special teams unit or individual that captures the attention of the media as well as the fan. Such was the case last Friday night when Pampa edged out Clovis at home, 20-18. A key player in that win was #3, Seth Foster. His strong leg kept the Wildcats pinned deep on their own side of the field most of the night. Foster's final numbers would reflect a solid performance on the gridiron. He carried the ball nine times for 55 yards, an average of 6.1 yards per carry. One of those carries was a 20-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. He caught three passes for 18 yards. But it was his kickoffs that were most impressive. They looked as though they were being shot out of a howitzer. Foster kicked off five times for a total of 303 yards. Quick work on an abacus will show that to be a healthy 60.6 yard average per kick. That will make the night long and frustrating for any offense. Foster was also 2 for 3 in point-after-touchdown attempts. When asked what Foster means to his team, Coach Heath Parker said, "Seth is a huge part of our team. He is one of those guys you can't replace."

Hall of fame class of 2004

WACO, Texas (AP) — Five athletes and two coaches have been named for induction into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2004 in February. Selected for induction are Houston Astros players Jeff Bagwell and Craig Biggio, Olympic gymnast May Lou Retton, Tampa Bay receiver Tim Brown, former Dallas Cowboys tackle Rayfield Wright, Rice baseball coach Wayne Graham and former Wayland Baptist coach Harley Redin. Brown won the Heisman Trophy in 1987 and is in his 17th NFL season. Redin coached Wayland Baptist's Flying Queens to a 431-66 record and six National AAU Championships. Wright won two Super Bowl titles, was named to six straight Pro Bowls and was All-Pro four times in his 12-year career with the Cowboys. The ceremony will be in February, but no date has been scheduled.



Photo by Donny Hooper

A little help from my friends

Pampa Green Team member, Corbin Clifton, hangs on to a Westover player while #68, Tyler Hooper and #37, Lionel Madrid rush in to help. Pampa scrimmaged Westover at Randall High School yesterday afternoon. They will open up the season next Tuesday afternoon at Harvester Field when they host Hereford. The B team game begins at 5 p.m., the A team takes the field at 7 p.m.

Astros streak at 11

HOUSTON (AP) — Roy Oswalt appreciates the run support Houston's offense has been giving him and the rest of the Astros' starting pitchers. Oswalt (17-9) became the National League's first 17-game winner and the Astros extended their winning streak to 11 games with a 9-7 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday night. "When you get a three- or four-run cushion, you can go right at them and make them hit the ball early in the count and keep your pitch count down," Oswalt said. Houston has been averaging nearly 10 runs per game during its streak. The Astros have also scored six or more runs in a franchise-record 11 straight games and have scored 104 runs in during that span. "We're going to be hard to catch if we keep this up," Oswalt said. Oswalt gave up four runs on six hits in 7 2-3 innings, improving to 9-1 in his last 11 starts and 11-0 in 15 career games against the Reds. He struck out nine and walked three. "I haven't really thought much about it, but since they don't have the same guys every year it's hard to explain," Oswalt said. "The big thing is that I always get good run support against them."

PROTECT THE TRADITION

Harvesters prepare for Amarillo Sandies

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Pampa Harvesters have had less than a week to enjoy the win over Clovis last Friday night, and to prepare for Amarillo High, who they will meet at Dick Bivins Stadium in Amarillo tomorrow night. Kick off will be at 7:30 p.m.

'Our special teams play has been solid so far. I am very pleased.'

— Heath Parker
Head Coach, Pampa High School Football

Pampa takes a 1-1 record into tomorrow night's game. More importantly, the team is only days removed from the win over the Wildcats. A game during which the defense seemed to solidify itself and the offensive line continued to mature, opening holes for running back Mark Williams up the middle. And blocking that allowed some big gains around the ends. Head Coach Heath Parker said of last week's performance, "Friday night was a great game for our team. We beat a good Clovis team." Special teams were also big in last week's win. Sharod Young returned a Clovis punt 51 yards for a touchdown. And Seth Foster's kick-offs and extra points factored in to the win as well. "Our special teams play has been solid so far," said Parker. "I am very pleased." Given the short practice week, made shorter by the Labor Day holiday, how are Coach Parker and his staff preparing the team for tomorrow night's game? "We are learning as much as we can, as fast as we can. Labor Day Monday isn't traditionally a good day for practice. But our guys showed up and had a great practice. The key will be getting as much in as we can this week," Parker said. Parker also notes there is something special building in this year's Harvester football team. "You can sense it. You can feel the intensity," he said. Amarillo High is 2-0 in non-district play so far. The Sandies, who roughed up Randall in week one, pulled out a 14-10 win over Palo Duro last week.

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Last year, my husband's pet rabbit, "Blossom," died. My husband -- I'll call him "Edwin" -- went into the backyard to feed Blossom one morning and found her lying dead in her cage. He gave Blossom a little funeral and buried her in our yard.

Later that day, our neighbor's dog dug up the rabbit. When the neighbor came home for lunch, he found the little body on his doorstep. Thinking his dog had killed Blossom, he panicked. He ran out, bought another rabbit that looked just like Blossom, and placed her in our cage.

When Edwin returned from work that night, he was stunned to find the rabbit sitting in its cage munching a carrot. He rushed over to Blossom's grave and, of course, found it empty. Edwin immediately concluded that a miracle had occurred -- Blossom had returned from the dead.

Ever since, my husband has treated the rabbit like a little deity. He built an altar for her and puts flowers on it every day. He sits in front of her cage in the lotus position and talks to her. When I come around, he stops talking until I leave.

The neighbors have since moved, but last week I ran into the wife and she told me the story I have related to you. Thinking it might help Edwin, I repeated the story to him. He became irate and accused me of trying to ruin the only miraculous thing that had ever happened to him. (His mother had a spider that danced to Chopin études, so wackiness runs in the family.)

Should I insist that Edwin seek counseling, or should I continue to live with this? I really don't know where it will end.

— AT MY WIT'S END

DEAR WIT'S END: You may not, but I do. It's going to end here and now. According to snopes.com, your rabbit tale is an urban legend, and so old it has whiskers. In January 1989, Johnny Carson (that

king of wit!) related it as an event that had happened to a neighbor. In June 2000, a guest told it to Jay Leno. In July 2000, William Shatner repeated the story, claiming it had happened to his co-author. It turned up again in 2001 on the Chris Isaak show. Thank you for sharing it with me. It's still a thigh-slapper.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I disagree about where to park when you visit someone. He says you park on the street, always. I say that if I am visiting someone, I should park in their driveway. He says that is rude. Who is correct?

— GINNY IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR GINNY: Since you and your husband can't agree, call the person you are about to visit and ask where it's most convenient for you to park. That way you will avoid an argument and inconvenience no one.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 3 1/2 years, and during that time I have begged him to stop playing "telephone games" with me when he calls me -- especially at work. He will either disguise his voice, or speak to me so low that I can't understand him. Every time I answer with the standard "Hello," he'll respond with "Hello," and this goes on for a few seconds back and forth. It drives me crazy.

How can I get through to him, loud and clear, once and for all, that this irritates me no end?

— TIRED OF PLAYING GAMES IN FORT WORTH

DEAR TIRED: One effective way to send a message is through silence. If the caller does not respond properly after the first "hello," hang up the phone.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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13 Pinnacle

14 Lined up

15 Casserole bit

16 Prom attendee

17 Close at hand

19 Member of the force

22 Penny pincher

24 Spirited attack

26 Object of adoration

27 Suds

28 Grinch-creating Dr.

30 Incline

31 Took a load off

32 Superior

34 Easter symbol

35 Relaxing place

38 Sioux person

41 Weaver's need

42 Light pioneer

43 Mark's replacement

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1 Memo letters

2 Lasso

3 Departs

4 Spell

5 Wept

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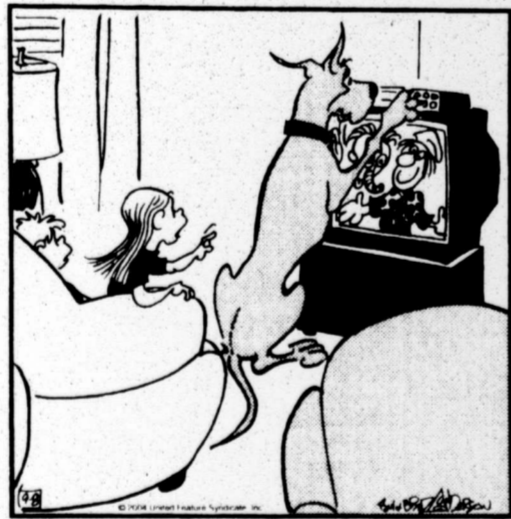
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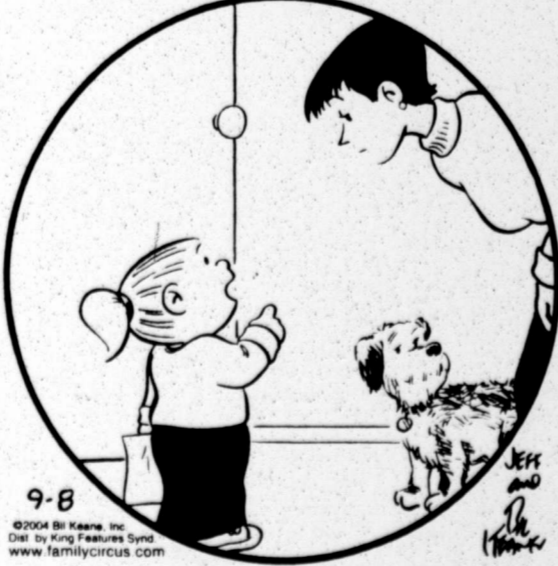
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus



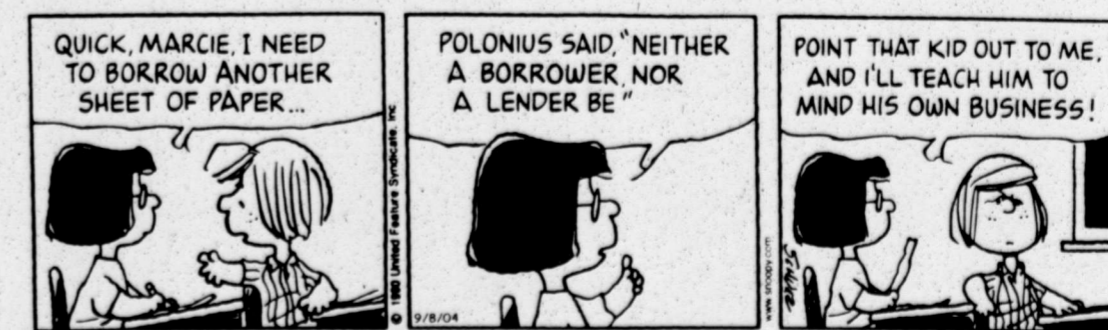
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Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie

