

THE PAMPA NEWS

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 *01 BV04227 12/31/14
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Thursday, September 10, 2004 50¢ Daily • Sunday 50¢

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ISDs wait for next step on funding

By **DAVID BOWSER**
 Staff Writer

Most area superintendents are happy with the decision of an Austin judge this week concerning state education funding.

State District Judge John Dietz took only moments Wednesday to rule that the state's system of funding education violates the Texas Constitution by failing to provide equal educational opportunities.

"Basically, Miami ISD is pleased with the ruling," Allan Dinsmore, Miami Independent School District superintendent, said today.

"We're pretty excited about that," Roy Baker, superintendent of

Wheeler Independent School District, said today. "We're thinking a little more equity and adequacy would certainly help us."

Judge Dietz ruled in a lawsuit brought against the state by 300 school districts, both rich and poor.

The judge threatened to cease state funding for education within a year if the Texas Legislature fails to find an equitable solution.

Nearly two-thirds of the state's education budget comes from property taxes. School districts

argued during the lawsuit that many districts have reached the legal limit on property tax and have no discretion how they spend their money.

The state's school funding system, known as Robin Hood because it takes money from the wealthy school districts and gives it to the poor districts, was adopted in 1993, after the Texas Supreme Court ordered the

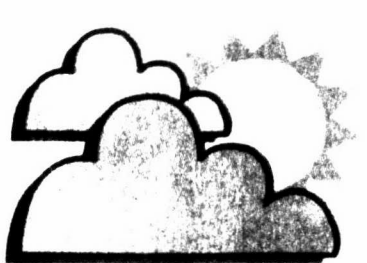
Legislature to devise a plan equalizing funding between rich and poor districts.

While Dietz ruled from the bench in Austin Wednesday that the state's education funding was unconstitutional, Dinsmore said today that until a judgment is entered into the record, there aren't any specifics as to what he expects the state to do.

"We really don't have a whole lot of idea of what he is asking for," Dinsmore said. "He did say the state is not spending enough money in public education. He thus far hasn't given any guidelines for what he thinks would be acceptable."

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 3

Today's weather



H 84 L 64

Deaths

Lora Lee Records, 47, financial specialist.

Texas Today

CBS softens defense of alleged documents

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anchor Dan Rather and other top figures at CBS News are softening their defense of the authenticity of challenged documents purporting to prove lapses in President Bush's National Guard service while standing by the thrust of their story.

In a series of newspaper interviews, a company statement and an updated story broadcast Wednesday evening, the network moved to counter a mounting wave of doubt about the documents.

"If the documents are not what we were led to believe, I'd like to break that story," Rather told The Washington Post. "Any time I'm wrong, I want to be right out front and say, 'Folks, this is what went wrong and how it went wrong.'"

He spoke with the Post after interviewing a typist for Bush's former squadron commander in which she said the memos attributed to her late boss are fake, even though she said they reflect his belief that Bush received preferential treatment in the Guard.

The former secretary, Marian Carr Knox, 86, was flown to New York by CBS for an interview, broadcast Wednesday evening, after telling other news organizations a day earlier that she believes the memos were fake.

Wrongfully convicted inmates face obstacle

HOUSTON (AP) — A law providing compensation for people who were wrongly imprisoned may be of no benefit to some of them because of a quiet change made this year.

The new provision, included without the knowledge of the law's author, requires people seeking state reparations to get a letter from the district attorney whose office prosecuted them, attesting to their "actual innocence."

City approves rate increases

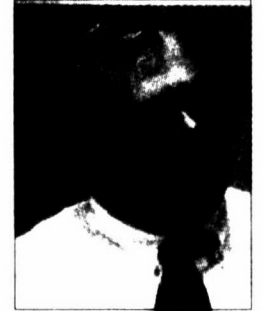
By **DEE DEE LARAMORE**
 Editor

City of Pampa Commissioners approved two ordinances on first reading Tuesday that will help fund the 2004-2005 budget.

One ordinance provides for a \$1.15 per month rate increase for sewer services.

"This will help balance the budget," explained John Horst, interim city manager. "As you know, we've had a disastrous three months in water sales. All that rainfall curtailed water sales."

On the bright side, however, Horst said the city has 68 new sewer connections in the last three months.



Horst

necessary, officials said. Commissioners also approved an ordinance raising the solid waste disposal rate by 75 cents per month. Horst said the extra revenue from this rate increase would fund the purchase of new side loading garbage trucks as they are needed.

The city commission will have to pass the ordinances on second reading before they become effective.

City officials are waiting for the Lubbock City Commission to meet this afternoon and decide whether to purchase a part of Pampa's water allotment from the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority.

Revenue from the water sales are not included in the budget, Horst said earlier. Sale of the surplus water could add as much as \$400,000 to the city's revenue for 2004-2005, he said.

Final approval was given on an ordinance deferring penalty charges for unpaid utilities for persons 60 years old or older upon request. The deferral period would be 25 days.

The commission gave the final okay to an ordinance

See **CITY**, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
 Gray County Commissioner Gerald Wright, right, and County Judge Richard Peet discuss county matters during the commission meeting Tuesday while County Clerk Susan Winborne, background, listens.

County sets tax rate

By **MARILYN POWERS**
 Staff Writer

The proposed county tax rate of .488926 cents per \$100 valuation was unanimously approved by Gray County Commissioners at their regular meeting yesterday morning in the second-floor courtroom of the courthouse.

Of the .488926 cents, .433335 will go to the county's general fund, .045525 will be used for road and bridge expenditures, and .010066 will go to debt service.

The county will advertise for requests for

proposals for the following types of insurance: Comprehensive general liability, property, public officials and employees liability, airports - general liability and lessor's interest, heavy equipment floater, business auto insurance, county law enforcement professional liability coverage, and worker's compensation.

The requests for proposals will be due by the commissioners' Nov. 15 meeting, at which they will review and vote on the proposals.

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

Agency directors relate how UW helps

By **MARILYN POWERS**
 Staff Writer



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
 Janet Watts, CASA executive director

A family of six children found a new home with a foster and adoptive father thanks to Pampa United Way funds, according to Janet Watts, executive director of CASA of the High Plains, at the annual United Way fund-raising kickoff luncheon Tuesday.

CASA, or Court Appointed Special Advocate, volunteers act as advocates for children in child abuse and neglect cases in which the child is removed from the home. United Way funds are used to recruit and train these volunteers, Watts said. The Pampa CASA office currently has 43 volunteers and three paid staff.

Watts addressed luncheon attendees Tuesday about the six children who were removed from their parents'

custody. The three boys and three girls ranged in age from 2 to 12 years.

"They went to three different foster care placements because no one could take them all. Some were placed with relatives, and the rest were in foster care," Watts said.

The CASA volunteer visited all the children while they were in temporary placement, and expressed concerns to a Child Protective Services worker about inadequate supervision in the relative's home where some of the children were staying.

A CPS investigation resulted from the volunteer's concerns, and the two girls staying with the relative were removed from that home.

Watts said. A single man who had worked as a coach and who had just been approved as a foster parent was taking care of the oldest boy in the family, and was approached about taking the two girls.

The oldest child and new foster father had "immediately bonded," Watts said.

"The two oldest boys had been burned in a fire. The parents had refused to go with them to the hospital, and didn't go to see them there for three days afterward. This foster father had started to deal with the effects of this trauma in the boy. He was asked if he'd take two more, and said he would," Watts said.

Meanwhile, CPS workers and the CASA volunteers urged the parents to complete

See **AGENCIES**, Page 3



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Time for a change: U.S. Mint unveils new nickel designs

WASHINGTON (AP) — There's change in store for Thomas Jefferson on the nickel that is. He's getting his first makeover since being put on the coin in 1938.

The makers of the nation's coins, the U.S. Mint, unveiled designs for two new nickels to be issued in 2005. The rollout Thursday was the latest in a series of design changes for the coins.

A new likeness of Jefferson, the third president, will be on the front of the two revamped coins. The "tails" side also gets different looks.

With the makeover, Jefferson's image appears bolder. He gazes in a close-up profile from the side of the coin. The word "liberty" now appears in script. The phrase "In God We Trust" remains on the front of the two coins as well as the year.

The back of one of the new nickels features an American bison on a grassy patch, a design that is reminiscent of the buffalo nickel first issued in 1913. The words "United States of America" wrap around the top of the coin, above the bison's image. The phrase "E Pluribus Unum" is below the

bison as is "Five Cents."

The tails side of the second new nickel features a view of the water from a rocky coastline dotted with trees. There's the phrase "Ocean in view! O! The joy!" That's a quote from explorer William Clark's journal, a reference to the Lewis and Clark expedition's quest to reach the Pacific Ocean.

That nickel will be issued in the late summer of next year. In a circle around the edge of the nickel are the phrases: "E Pluribus Unum," "United States of America," "Five Cents," and "Lewis & Clark 1805" — the year the expedition reached the Pacific Ocean.

The new nickels are part of the Mint's Westward Journey Nickel series, which was

kicked off earlier this year.

"The 2005 nickel designs follow Thomas Jefferson's vision to explore the Great West," said Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore. The designs, she said, "will place us at those spellbinding moments when Lewis and Clark first encountered a grazing American bison and later the vastness of the western waters."

"The 2005 nickel designs follow Thomas Jefferson's vision to explore the Great West. (The designs) will place us at those spellbinding moments when Lewis and Clark first encountered a grazing American bison and later the vastness of the western waters."

— Henrietta Holsman Fore
Mint Director

Jefferson was the force behind the Lewis and Clark expedition to the Pacific coast and back. He also was responsible for the Louisiana Purchase, which at the time dou-

bled the size of the United States.

A 2003 law authorized changes in the nickel's design to honor the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the Louisiana Purchase.

The first two nickels issued under the Mint's new series were: the Peace Medal nickel, which went into circulation in March, and the Keelboat five-cent piece, which came out in August.

Those nickels kept the current image of Jefferson on the front, while featuring new designs on the back.

The design of the old nickels — a profile of Jefferson on the front — and his Virginia home, Monticello, on the back — was introduced in 1938.

In 2006, an image of Monticello will return to the back of the five-cent piece and a likeness of Jefferson will be carried on the front.

On the Net:
The U.S. Mint: <http://www.usmint.gov/>

BEP: <http://www.moneyfactory.com/>

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department today reported the following incidents.

Tuesday, Sept. 14

Assault causing bodily injury was reported in the 1400 block of East Francis. The victim received a laceration to the back of the head.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred in the 2200 block of Dogwood. Checks were taken, with an unknown estimated value.

Wednesday, Sept. 15

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 1000 block of Charles. A metal safe was taken. Estimated

value of loss is unknown.

A domestic family dispute was reported in the 2400 block of Navajo. No injuries were reported.

Burglary of a building was reported in the 700 block of North West. Speakers and a tool box were taken, for an estimated loss of \$475.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department today reported the following accident.

Wednesday, Sept. 15

6:30 p.m. — A 2004 Pontiac Grand Am, driven by Eduardo Guerra, 66, 105 S. Faulkner, and a 1998

Pontiac Transport van, driven by Kandice Lea Cargal, 30, 705 N. Wells, collided in the 900 block of West Rham. Guerra left the scene in a private conveyance after reporting possible injury. Cargal was cited for failure to yield right of way, private drive, and no liability insurance.

Sheriff

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

Wednesday, Sept. 15

Russell Dale West, 37, 11836 U.S. Hwy. 60, was arrested on a warrant for theft over \$1,500 and under \$20,000.

Gerald Dale Chennault, 36, 1905 Coffee, was arrested for a Potter County charge of theft by check and a capias pro fine for unpaid court costs and fees on a charge of issuing a bad check.

Fire

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

Wednesday, Sept. 15

6:37 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a motor vehicle collision at Rham and Hobart streets. The call was canceled before

firefighters arrived.

Ambulance

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

Wednesday, Sept. 15

7:32 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2400 block of Navajo and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:01 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo.

12:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to

BSA, Amarillo.

A mobile ICU responded to a local doctor's office at an unknown time and transported a patient to BSAW.

4:36 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing home and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:37 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Scott and transported a patient to PRMC.

8:20 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Veteran's Administration Medical Center, Amarillo.

11:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Baten prison unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

Obituaries

Lora Lee Records, 47

Redondo Beach, Calif. — Lora Lee Records, 47, died Sunday, Sept. 12, 2004, at Ontario, Calif. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa, Texas.

Mrs. Records was born Feb. 13, 1957, in the Hutchinson County Hospital in Borger, Texas, to Francis A. and Margie E. Thompson Records. Her first three years were with her parents in Phillips, Texas.



Records

After that time, her father re-entered the U.S. Air Force as a captain in the development, production and deployment of new weapon systems.

The family lived in Ohio, Washington, California and Massachusetts during her childhood. After graduation from high school, she returned to California. She worked as a specialist in mortgage and real estate loans in the greater Los Angeles area.

She and her son lived in Redondo Beach, Calif., until she decided to return to Pampa, Texas, where her parents live. She became ill shortly before starting for Texas and died unexpectedly soon after she began the trip.

Lora married Yadav Veer Bhan in Los Angeles in 1984. She later married Andrew "Andy" Anderson in 1992. Their son, David Anderson, was born in 1994, and he will live with his father in Redondo Beach, Calif.

She is preceded in death by a brother, Franklin A. Records in 1988.

Survivors include one son, David Anderson of Redondo Beach, Calif.; her parents, F.A. and Margie Records of Pampa, Texas; one sister, Paula S. Records Hagerty of Anaheim, Calif.; two aunts, Sudie Reeder of Pampa, Texas, and Colleen Wheeler of Higgins, Texas; three uncles, Paul Records of Fischer, Texas, George Records and wife Joyce of Ottawa, Kan., and Leslie Talbert and wife Ruth of Abilene, Texas; and 15 cousins.

The family requests memorials be to Texas Lions Camp, P.O. Box 290247, Kerrville, TX 78029-0247.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Gray County Weather



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Two pairs of athletic shoes were noticed recently hanging from a power line over the junction of Georgia and Christine Streets at Central Park. Perhaps the owners decided the weather was warm enough for bare-footing around.

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high near 84. East northeast wind around 10 mph becoming south.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 92. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 68. South wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. South southwest wind around 15 mph.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Anthony Grant of Pampa:

Wheat	3.32
Milo	3.54
Corn	4.17
Soybeans	4.97

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

QVX	54.38	+0.20
BP PLC ADR	55.16	+0.12

Cabot Corp	36.74	+0.99
Cabot Oil Gas	43.02	+0.17
Coca Cola	41.20	+0.04
VLO	71.52	+0.54
HML	30.96	+0.05
Intrad	33.98	+0.08
NOI	31.76	+0.16
KMI	61.27	+0.16
XCEL	17.26	+0.09
Kerr McGee	54.15	+0.10
NOI	37.40	+0.03
Enbridge	21.61	+0.16
Williams	12.09	+0.05
MCD	27.54	+0.01

Atmos	25.46	+0.01
Pioneer Nat	31.72	+0.13
ICP	37.69	+0.39
COP	78.17	+0.03
SLB	64.09	+0.22
Temco	12.81	+0.06
CVX	51.00	+0.04
Wal-Mart	52.71	+0.20
OKI	24.58	+0.08
NS Grip	17.41	+0.17

New York Gold	405.15
Silver	6.25
West Texas Crude	43.58

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Dinsmore waiting for the "We're excited that he ruled them is because of property tax said.

The Miami said the judge with the so argument that not equitable.

"There are his interpret guidelines he to possibly Dinsmore say the air but it way."

The Wf superintende Wednesday's as only the fi

City

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A three-year cut, bale and land at Perry will be offered bidder. An ad bids will be newspaper, a may be returned to Judge Richard on the second courthouse.

Bids will be the winning the annual advance, with expected to next spring. Commission Willoughby.

"Five p inquired about land. An average bales per year property," Williams

The lessee hay bales from within 90 days and baled. The equipment m runway or o

Age

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the service by CPS to reclaim their

"The parents reluctant to do so.

The CASA volunteer began to push for termination of parental rights," Watts said. Other agencies involved in the situation eventually agreed that termination was in the best interests of the children. Rights were terminated.

"Our volunteers speak to the oldest boys girls to see if interested in He said he 'kids,' Watts said.

"United Volunteers what made the lives of the she said.

Jana Grey Gray County said United enable Red volunteers t

Schools

Continued from Page 1

Dinsmore said that he is waiting for those guidelines. "We're extremely pleased that he ruled the current system is unconstitutional because of the statewide property tax," Dinsmore said.

The Miami superintendent said the judge's ruling agreed with the school districts' argument that the system is not equitable enough.

"There again, until we get his interpretation what guidelines he's going to want to possibly set down," Dinsmore says, "it's all up in the air but it's bouncing our way."

The Wheeler school superintendent sees Wednesday's court decision as only the first step.

"I guess it's the beginning of the battle so to speak," Baker said today. "They'll be the appeal process and so on, but we're hopeful that the Legislature will react to this in their regular session and maybe rework the funding formula."

He says the fact that it's taking a court ruling to get them to act may offer a little incentive for lawmakers.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott told the Associated Press Wednesday that his office would expedite an appeal directly to the Texas Supreme Court.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said earlier this week during a stop in Canadian that she didn't think the Legislature would take action until the case had cleared the Supreme Court.

The Texas Legislature will begin its regular biennial ses-

sion in January. "I think everybody expected the ruling that came out," Perry Stevens, superintendent of the Groom Independent School District, said today. "I don't believe that was much of a surprise."

Stevens said he spent three days last week at a superintendent's academy and school finance dominated the session.

Having taught in both wealthy and poor school districts, Stevens said he knows the problems of both such districts. He was formerly a coach at Stinnett, considered one of the wealthy districts that,

under the Robin Hood system, had to send money to poorer districts.

"I coached up there for 20 years before I became an administrator," Steven said, "and now I'm the superintendent at Groom where we're having to scrimp and save for ever penny we have. I've seen both sides, and the one thing I can tell you is that probably the judge is right. The funding is not adequate. Something's going to have to change."

He said that in talks with other superintendents probably the only solution that could be equitable, fair and realistic would be a state income tax. "You could take your state

income tax, 100 percent of it, off your federal income tax," Stevens said. "That would be a state income tax supporting education. I don't know."

He said he thinks the Legislature will take a hard look at an income tax.

"It's going to have to be settled pretty quick," Stevens said.

Stevens said he doesn't expect court battles to end here.

"There's been a battle every year to see whether or not Robin Hood was legal," Stevens said. "It'll be the same with whatever they pass next time. I would imagine that it will have to be tested in court."

Pampa Independent School District Superintendent Barry Haenisch was on the road today with members of the

Pampa school board headed to Dallas for a Texas Association of School Boards Texas Association of School Administrators meeting and was not available for comment.

Pampa ISD is considered a "poor" district which had benefited from state dollars under the current funding system.

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City

Continued from Page 1

adopting the Texas Food Establishment Rules with regard to sanitation and food handling. The ordinance includes a new fee structure for food inspections. Commissioners amended the ordinance to correct a typographical error on the fee schedule from \$250 to \$150.

A zoning change from agriculture to retail for a

3.76 acre tract on Perryton Parkway in north Pampa, across from the Texas Department of Public Safety office, was finalized at the meeting, also. A strip mall is planned to be built on the site, officials say.

Commissioners authorized Mayor Lonny Robbins to contract with McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, Attorneys At Law, for collection of delinquent municipal court fines and fees and delinquent accounts receivable.

They also authorized a

resolution imposing an additional fee for collection costs on fines and fees that would include an increase of 30 percent after 60 days. The funds would defray collection costs, City Attorney Don Lane said.

In other action, the commission approved on first reading an ordinance providing for the storage and disposal of used or scrap tires. The ordinance prohibits disposing tires in any city-owned refuse container, transport to or disposal in the city landfill, or otherwise

dispose of the scrap or used tires unless the tires are first shredded, split or quartered.

It also prohibits storing scrap or used tires on any property in the city so that the tires are "exposed to the elements of nature" unless the premises are state licensed.

Penalty for breaking this law would be a fine of \$250 to \$2,000 for each day the offense occurs.

The ordinance requires approval on second reading before it becomes effective.

County

Continued from Page 1

A three-year contract to cut, bale and remove hay on land at Perry Lefors Airport will be offered to the highest bidder. An advertisement for bids will be placed in the newspaper, and bid packets may be picked up and returned to Gray County Judge Richard Peet's office, on the second floor of the courthouse.

Bids will be due Oct. 15. The winning bidder will pay the annual cash rental in advance, with the contract expected to go into effect next spring, said Precinct 2 Commissioner Gary Willoughby.

"Five people have inquired about leasing the land. An average 100 to 180 bales per year are cut on this property," Willoughby said.

The lessee must remove hay bales from the property within 90 days of being cut and baled. The bales and any equipment must not block a runway or otherwise inter-

fere with the workings of the airport, Willoughby said.

Commissioners will determine the amount of insurance the lessee must carry at a later date.

One budget amendment was approved in which vital statistics revenue will be applied to costs for the remote site birth certificates in the county clerk's office.

Intrabudget transfer requests for the tax assessor/collector's office and the road and bridge funds for Precincts 1 and 2 were approved.

The sheriff and constable fees for 2005 were approved without discussion, except for one fee which was raised from \$80 to \$100.

A report by County Treasurer Lee Cornelison was approved which showed total county funds at \$3,522,093.37 as of Aug. 31.

Commissioners approved a request by Celanese Chemical Co. to place a three- to six-inch water line above ground along County Road J and cross County Road 2. The line will be removed in two to three months, Willoughby said.

County commissioners' meeting dates for fiscal 2005 were approved. With the exception of January and May, 2005, meeting dates will be the 1st and 15th of each month. Commissioners will meet on the 3rd and 14th of January, and the 2nd and 16th of May.

Influenza vaccinations will be offered to county employees beginning about Oct. 1. The vaccine will cost nothing for employees covered by county insurance; all others will be charged \$20.

Action on the City of Pampa's request of \$139,831 was deferred until city and county commissioners could meet to discuss the issue. A special meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20 in the second-floor courtroom of the courthouse to discuss the fire contract with city representatives.

Immediately afterward, commissioners are scheduled to take action on county contracts with Pampa Fire Department and Hoover Volunteer Fire Department.

Agencies

Continued from Page 1

the service plan drawn up by CPS so that they could reclaim their children.

"The parents were very reluctant to do so. The CASA volunteer began to push for termination of parental rights," Watts said. Other agencies involved in the situation eventually agreed that termination

was in the best interests of the children, and the parents' rights were terminated. "Our volunteer began to speak to the foster father of the oldest boy and two of the girls to see if he would be interested in adopting them. He said he'd take all six kids," Watts said. "United Way money is what made a difference in the lives of these six kids," she said.

Jana Gregory, head of Gray County Red Cross, said United Way funds enable Red Cross staff and volunteers to respond to

emergencies such as recent hurricanes which have hit Florida.

"We work with people and help them if a disaster hits. We go out and serve basic needs to those who have lost their home in a fire, night or day. We also handle military calls concerning service personnel," Gregory said. "Mine is a one-person office, so if it wasn't for my volunteers, I probably couldn't do what I do," she said.

The Red Cross teaches health and safety classes such as first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR. Their aquatics classes include swimming and lifeguard training. Other classes are various topics to train volunteers in how to respond in case of emergencies.

"Without the United Way and volunteerism and the community helping me, it'd be hard to stay open," Gregory said.

Tuesday's luncheon is the kickoff of the 2005 fundraising campaign.

'I guess it's the beginning of the battle, so to speak.'

— Roy Baker
Wheeler superintendent

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<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">One Large Group Summer Merchandise</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">75% OFF Retail Price</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Cheer Laundry Detergent</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">80 Oz.</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$3.99</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Canon Powershot DIGITAL CAMERA</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">MODEL A60 • ONE ONLY</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$169.99</p>
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Viewpoints

Broccoli and gambling: They're good for you

Eat your broccoli. It's good for you.

According to an on-line article posted by Netscape Network Home News this week, it truly is. The on-line on-dit reported that broccoli and brussels sprouts are found to contain a cancer fighting agent known as sulforaphane that "hinders growth of human breast cancer cells in the laboratory."

"This magic bullet worked by disrupting the action of protein 'microtubules' within the cancer cells, which are vital for the success of cell division and growth," the article explains.

Researchers are optimistic

that sulforaphane may soon be used in conjunction with other cancer-fighting agents or medications to treat and even prevent cancer in humans.

According to the report, sulforaphane is hardly new to scientists.

"Previous research," the article states, "has also proven that the compound blocks the formation of breast tumors in rats, and it can even force colon cancer cells to commit cell suicide. It seems that sulforaphane works its magic on the detoxification enzymes that try to defend the cancer-promoting substances."

Though researchers are not yet ready to commit to a full-out endorsement of broccoli as a dietary means of significantly lowering cancer risk, some studies,

the Netscape article points out, lend credibility to such a conclusion.

Numerous studies," the article reports, "have linked a diet that is rich in vegetables and fruits to a lower risk of cancer, including breast cancer. What is still not known

is which specific vegetables work best for preventing cancer."

Mmm-hmm, stir-fry never looked so good, though I think I'd better stock up on that broccoli.



Skyla Bryant

News Editor

Broccoli aside, healthy living is not strictly confined, apparently,

to healthy eating and exercise. Geriatrics may find another source a surprising means of boosting physical well-being. In a study reported on this week by The

Associated Press, researchers found "recreational" gambling could promote good health in aging Americans.

"The findings," the AP said, "are not rock-solid. They're based only on telephone interviews, but the results are the opposite of what researchers expected. The survey showed that recreational gamblers 65 and older reported being in better health than their peers who don't gamble. The older gamblers also reported less alcoholism, depression, bankruptcy and imprisonment than younger recreational gamblers. Yale epi-

demiologist Rani Desai said."

"Desai cautioned that more study," the AP article continued, "is needed to conclude that gambling can be a healthy venture, and those who help gambling addicts are skeptical."

Well, since Lady Luck is always a Jezebel whenever I venture to purchase a Lotto ticket or attempt a wager on anything, I may have to confine myself to eating broccoli. I have a feeling it is just as well, as my pension will probably be far too paltry in my old age to make gaming a lucrative past-time anyway.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Sept. 16, the 260th day of 2004. There are 106 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 16, 1919, the American Legion was incorporated by an act of Congress.

On this date:

In 1638, France's King Louis IV was born.
In 1810, Mexico began its revolt against Spanish rule.
In 1893, hundreds of thousands of settlers swarmed onto a section of land in Oklahoma known as the "Cherokee Strip."

In 1940, President Roosevelt signed into law the Selective Training and Service Act, which set up the first peacetime military draft in U.S. history.

In 1940, Samuel T. Rayburn of Texas was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1953, "The Robe," the first movie presented in the widescreen process CinemaScope, had its world premiere at the Roxy Theater in New York.

In 1966, the Metropolitan Opera opened its new opera house at New York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

In 1974, President Ford announced a conditional amnesty program for Vietnam war deserters and draft-evaders.

In 1977, Maria Callas, the American-born prima donna famed for her lyric soprano and fiery temperament, died in Paris at age 53.

In 1982, the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian men, women and children by Lebanese Christian militiamen began in west Beirut's Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps.

Ten years ago: A federal jury ordered Exxon to pay \$5 billion in punitive damages to commercial fishermen, Alaska natives, property owners and others harmed in the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill. Two astronauts from the space shuttle Discovery went on the first untethered spacewalk in 10 years.

Five years ago: Hurricane Floyd hit the Carolinas and began making its way up the East Coast, damaging 12,000 homes and claiming more than 50 lives even after it weakened to a tropical storm. In southern Russia, an explosion described by authorities as the fourth massive terrorist attack in two weeks demolished an apartment building, killing at least 18 people.

One year ago: North Carolina Sen. John Edwards formally launched his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

"Stoicism is the wisdom of madness and cynicism the madness of wisdom."

—Bergen Evans
American lexicographer

CBS NEWS

WITH DAN RATHER

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No tax liability brings danger

In last week's column, I reported on the Washington, D.C.-based Tax

Foundation's study that estimated that 44 percent of income earners will legally have no 2004 federal income tax liability. The study concluded, "When all of the dependents of these income-producing households are counted, there are roughly 122 million Americans — 44 percent of the U.S. population — outside of the federal income tax system."

The Bush administration sees removing the income tax burden on Americans at the lower end of the earnings

spectrum — families earning less than \$50,000 a year — as desirable.

When President Reagan successfully got Congress to remove 6 million Americans from the tax rolls, he described his tax reform initiative as one of the proudest achievements of his administration. At the time, I argued that doing so was nothing to be proud about, and I extend that same criticism to

President Bush.

You might ask, "Why?" In general, I've always held that a tax cut for anybody, at any time, for any reason is a good thing because it keeps more of our earnings in our pockets and out of Washington.

But there's a problem. Removing so many Americans from federal income tax liability contributes to the political problem we're witnessing this election: class warfare and

the politics of envy.

When 122 million Americans are outside of the federal income tax system, it's like throwing chum to our political sharks. These Americans become a natural spending constituency for big-government politicians. After all, if you have no income tax liability, how much do you care about how much Congress spends and the level of taxation? Political calls for tax cuts fall upon deaf ears.

Survey polls reveal this. According to a Harris Poll

See **LIABILITY**, Page 5

Walter Williams
Columnist



National safety more important

With less than a month to go in this session of Congress, lawmakers face a critical decision whether to act on 41 recommendations of the 9-11 commission before breaking for the upcoming election.

This newspaper encourages them to put reforming the way the nation manages intelligence ahead of partisan politics and to act swiftly on the 9-11 commission's sweeping recommendations.

The 9-11 commission submitted its remarkable report on July 22. Since then, momentum has been building for action. The report, which reads more like a spy novel than a droll set of policy recommenda-

tions, is a national best seller.

Congress held hearings on the report over the summer, and bipartisan support for passage of all 41 recommendations has been building.

In the Senate, John McCain, R-Ariz., and Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., introduced a bill pushing all 41 recommendations. In the House, U.S. Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., and Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., introduced similar legislation.

Now is not the time to

stall. The recommendations include broad changes, such as reorganizing the nation's intelligence agencies and congressional oversight committees, as well as specific changes, such as introducing national standards for driver's licenses and improving the screening of airline passengers.

A significant obstacle to progress was removed last week when President Bush endorsed giving greater budget and hiring power to a national intelligence director, who would have overall

charge of the 15-agency U.S. intelligence community. Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry also supports the creation of a national intelligence director.

See **SAFETY**, Page 5

Congress must tackle the difficult job of deciding exactly what powers will go to the new post. In our view, the director should have the power to hire the heads of the intelligence agencies and to fire the same with the approval of the other 14 agency heads. Without such power, the national intelligence director will not be able to coordinate the best available responses from the

community. Without such power, the national intelligence director will not be able to coordinate the best available responses from the

THE PAMPA NEWS
403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065
806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348
Fax: 806-669-2520
email: editor@thepampanews.com
Publisher: L.W. McCall
Editor: Dee Dee Laramore
Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods
Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the Pampa News any payment that exceeds the current collection period. There are no mail subscriptions available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid three months in advance.

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Three construction workers kidnapped in Iraqi capital

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Gunmen abducted two Americans and a Briton in a brazen attack Thursday on a residence in an upscale Baghdad neighborhood housing many embassies and foreign companies.

The three, all employees of Gulf Services Company, a Middle East-based construction firm, were seized from a two-story house surrounded by a wall in the al-Mansour neighborhood, said Col. Adnan Abdul-Rahman, an Interior Ministry official.

U.S. troops fanned out across the neighborhood to investigate the latest in a wave of kidnappings in Iraq. Hundreds of foreigners have been abducted and many of them executed by insurgents seeking to drive out U.S.-allied troops and deter foreign companies from working in Iraq's reconstruction.

The abductions bring to eight the number

of Westerners currently held hostage in Iraq. In a statement, the U.S. Embassy identified the Americans as Jack Hensley and Eugene Armstrong but gave no ages or hometowns. Britain's foreign office did not identify the third hostage but said it was identifying the person's relatives.

At dawn, about 10 assailants pulled up on the tree-lined street in a minivan and snatched the three without firing a shot, said Abdul-Rahman. A car was also missing from their from the house, he added.

A neighbor who gave his name as Majid, 23, said he left his house around 6 a.m. during a power outage to switch on a generator.

"I noticed unusual movement in the garage. I heard voices that sounded like someone was trying to drag somebody else," he said.

Liability

Continued from Page 4

taken in June 2003, 51 percent of Democrats thought the tax cuts enacted by Congress were a bad thing, while 16 percent of Republicans thought so. Among Democrats, 67 percent thought the tax cuts were unfair, while 32 percent of Republicans thought so. When asked whether the \$350 billion tax-cut package will help your family finances, 59 percent of those surveyed said no and 35 percent said yes. Tax cuts to many Americans mean just one thing: They threaten the handouts they receive.

There might be a correction for the political problems caused by large numbers of

Americans with zero income-tax liability. But it might be politically incorrect to even mention it. I do not own stock, and hence have no financial stake, in Ford Motor Co. Do you think I should have voting rights, or any say-so, in the matters of the company? I'm guessing that your answer is no.

So here's my idea. Every American regardless of any other consideration should have one vote in any federal election. Then, every American should get one additional vote for every \$10,000 he pays in federal income tax. With such a system, there'd be a modicum of linkage between one's financial stake in our country and his decision-making capacity.

This is not a far-out idea. The founders of our country worried about it. James

Madison's concern about class warfare between the rich and the poor led him to favor the House of Representatives being elected by the people at large and the Senate elected by property owners. He said, "It is nevertheless certain, that there are various ways in which the rich may oppress the poor; in which property may oppress liberty; and that the world is filled with examples. It is necessary that the poor should have a defense against the danger. On the other hand, the danger to the holders of property cannot be disguised, if they be undefended against a majority without property."

Walter Williams, Ph.D., is the John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

Former State Department official charged with hiding an illegal trip to Taiwan

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — A former top-level State Department official illegally took a secret, unauthorized trip to Taiwan last year and met with Taiwanese intelligence officers, according to a criminal complaint.

Donald W. Keyser, a 30-year veteran at the State Department, was charged Wednesday with deliberately concealing from his superiors that he took a four-day trip to Taiwan last September. Federal law requires an individual with Keyser's security clearances to report all foreign travel.

Keyser would not have been permitted to travel to Taiwan on official business because the United States and Taiwan do not have formal diplomatic relations, according to court papers.

Keyser's attorney, Robert Litt, was unavailable for com-

ment Thursday, and a phone call to Keyser's home was not immediately returned. At a court appearance Wednesday, Keyser was released on a \$500,000 bond and a preliminary hearing was set for Oct. 13.

The State Department declined comment on the case Thursday because it involves an ongoing investigation.

According to a criminal complaint submitted by the FBI, Keyser admitted meeting with a Taiwanese intelligence officer on the trip last year, but said he had only flown to Taipei "for sight-seeing purposes."

FBI agents monitoring Keyser's activity in recent months found that he frequently met two Taiwanese intelligence officers, including the officer he met in Taiwan, at Washington-area restaurants.

charge of intelligence.

For that reason, the new director should not be a member of the Cabinet. The new director of intelligence should have a measure of freedom from political pressure from both the president and Congress.

The election is important. But reducing the risk of 9-11-style attacks is more important. The time for action is now.

Safety

Continued from Page 4

various agencies. The only thing worse than the current outdated system would be to create a position that gives the director no power and no independence. America can't afford to have a toothless tiger in

Calendar of events

- **West Texas A&M University** will conduct a seminar in stress management from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20 in the Small Business Development Center, 2300 N. Western, Amarillo. To register, call (806) 372-5151 or log onto www.smallbusiness-developmentcenter.com on the Internet.

- **Pampa Area Singles** next dance will feature Indian Summer and is scheduled from 8-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at M.K. Brown Auditorium. As always, snacks are welcome. No smoking and no alcohol allowed. For more information, call 665-7059.

- **"Wildlife Management Workshop for Absentee Landowners,"** sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension, is scheduled from 5:30-9:15 p.m., Sept. 28-29 at the R&E Center in Amarillo. The upcoming workshop will be worth two general CEU's. Discussion will include land management impacts on rangeland, white tailed and mule deer management and marketing of wildlife resources. Pre-registration, due before Sept. 21, is \$50. After the deadline, the fee will be \$75 per person. For more information, contact the local Extension office at 669-8033.

- **In cooperation with Texas Association of**

- **Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers,** Pampa High School will host "College Night" from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

- **Wednesday, Sept. 29,** in the Heritage Room at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Representatives from various colleges, universities, vocational and technical schools and recruiters with the U.S. Armed Services will be on hand at this come-and-go event open to high school juniors, seniors and their parents. For more information, contact Billie Lowrey, administrative assistant for PHS, at 669-4800, ext. 123.

- **West Texas A&M University,** in conjunction with Texas State Comptrollers Office, will conduct a free "New Taxpayer Seminar" from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 18, at the Small Business Development Center, 2300 N. Western, Amarillo. To register, call (806) 372-5151 or log onto www.smallbusiness-developmentcenter.com on the Internet.

- **College-bound high school students** planning to take the ACT Assessment on Oct. 23 need to register by Sept. 17. Cost of the test is \$28. Late registration will be accepted until Oct. 1 and will include an additional fee. For more information, log onto www.act.org on the Internet or contact your school counselor.

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N. Korea decries six-nation talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea said Thursday it will not join six-nation talks aimed at ending its nuclear weapons program until rival South Korea fully discloses the details of its secret atomic experiments.

The communist state relayed its position when British Foreign Office Minister Bill Rammell visited Pyongyang earlier this week, an unidentified spokesman of the North Korean Foreign Ministry told the North's official news agency, KCNA.

The comments further clouded U.S.-led international efforts to hold a new round of six-nation talks on the North's nuclear programs this month as planned. Also Thursday, China said that "many difficulties" stand in the way of resuming the six-party talks.

During Rammell's four-day visit that ended Tuesday, North Korea "clarified its stand that it can never sit at the table to negotiate its nuclear weapon program unless truth about the secret

nuclear experiments in South Korea is fully probed," KCNA quoted the North Korean spokesman as saying.

South Korea recently acknowledged that it conducted a plutonium-based nuclear experiment more than 20 years ago. That admission came shortly after it said it conducted a uranium-enrichment experiment four years ago.

Plutonium and enriched uranium are two key ingredients of nuclear weapons.

Although South Korea denied any ambition to possess nuclear arms, the controversy over its experiments has threatened to further disrupt troubled efforts to persuade North Korea to dismantle its nuclear weapons programs.

Three rounds of talks by China, the two Koreas, the United States, Japan and Russia haven't produced major progress toward settling the North Korean nuclear dispute.

The six nations had previously agreed to meet again by the end of this month, but no date has been set.

Reunion event



Sarah Frances Giddens McKee, Allene McKinney Shillings and Joyce Taylor Roberts, from left, catch up on old times recently during Pampa High's Class of 1944 reunion.

Afghan president escapes rocket attack

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — President Hamid Karzai escaped a rocket attack on the U.S. helicopter carrying him to a provincial capital in eastern Afghanistan on Thursday, officials said, in the second apparent attempt to assassinate the U.S.-backed interim leader since he took office in 2001.

Nobody was injured, but the attack renewed concern about Karzai's security amid militant threats to derail next month's landmark elections.

The American military said the rocket missed the chopper as it approached a landing zone near Gardez, where Karzai planned to open a school. The helicopter did not touch down and returned the president to Kabul.

"The rocket was fired at the helicopter as it was landing, and missed," U.S. military spokesman Maj. Mark McCann said. "The president was not in any imminent danger."

Presidential spokesman Jawed Ludin said the rocket came

down in a village about a mile from Gardez. However, McCann and the local governor said the impact site was nearer, 300-500 yards from the landing zone.

There was no indication of who fired the rocket.

Gov. Asadullah Wafa, one of hundreds of guests who left the school without seeing the guest of honor, said police had discovered the launch site at a ruined house in a village west of Gardez but had made no arrests.

Suspicion was sure to fall on militants who are waging a stubborn insurgency against Karzai's U.S.-backed administration.

Officials are bracing for a surge in violence ahead of the Oct. 9 presidential election, which Afghanistan's international sponsors hope will cement the shaky peace process begun after the United States drove out the Taliban in 2001 for harboring Osama bin Laden.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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Jeanne gathering fury, making full-scale hurricane

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Jeanne strengthened from a tropical storm into the sixth hurricane of the season and struck the evacuated eastern tip of the Dominican Republic on Thursday, a day after lashing Puerto Rico with damaging winds and rain that knocked out power, flooded roads and killed two people.

A hurricane warning was posted for the eastern and northern coasts of the Dominican Republic, as forecasters told the storm-weary Caribbean to monitor the progress of Jeanne, which had 80 mph winds with higher gusts.

The storm could potentially reach Florida, Georgia and South Carolina by the beginning of next week, according to the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

"It is over land as we speak ... right on Cabo Engano," said meteorologist Mike Tichacek of the hurricane center.

outlying island of Saona. At 8 a.m. EDT, Jeanne was hugging the northern coast of the Dominican Republic, moving west near 9 mph, with a gradual turn toward the west-northwest expected in the next 24 hours.

A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when its winds reach 74 mph. Even as a tropical storm, Jeanne was powerful enough to cause havoc in Puerto Rico, buffeting the island of 4 million with wind gusts near 80 mph. About 3,600 Puerto Ricans were evacuated to shelters, 38 roads were blocked, most residents were without electricity and some 600,000 were without running water, Gov. Sila Calderon said.

"A sudden storm hit us in an unexpected way and with a strength much greater than we had expected," she said at a news conference Thursday. "It left a wake of destruction that we now have to face."

Government offices would remain closed a second day, she said, urging people who did not need to go to work to stay home to aid clean-up efforts on debris-strewn roads. Police rescued one couple from a car stuck in rising floodwaters on a main highway in north-coast Rio Grande before the vehicle was swept away, authorities said.

"They got out through the window," emergency official Hector Rosa said.

Lashing winds tore the roof from Margarita Rivera's house, flung her from a hammock and smashed her into the wall of a neighbor's house, said Mayor Angel Garcia of Yabucoa, the southeastern town where the storm's eye hit land. Rivera, who died, was 49.

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Ivan blasts Alabama and Florida

GULF SHORES, Ala. (AP) — Hurricane Ivan slammed ashore early Thursday with winds of 130 mph, packing deadly tornadoes and a powerful punch of waves and rain that threatened to swamp communities from Louisiana to the Florida Panhandle. At least 12 deaths were blamed on the storm.

'Ivan was nowhere near as bad as Frederic — not even close. I think we were really spared and blessed.'

— Sam Cochran
Mobile Police Chief

Many of the millions of Gulf Coast residents who spent a frightening night in shelters and boarded-up homes were emerging Thursday morning to find that Ivan was not the catastrophe they had feared.

"Ivan was nowhere near as bad as Frederic — not even close," Mobile Police Chief Sam Cochran said, referring to the 1979 storm that devastated the Alabama coast. "I think we were really spared and blessed."

Forecasters said the worst could be yet to come, as up to 15 inches of rain were expected as the storm moved inland.

Downtown Mobile was deserted early Thursday. The historic oak-tree-lined Government Street was blocked with downed tree limbs, metal signs, roofing material and other storm debris.

"We were wondering at first if we made the right choice or not," said Marc Oliver, 38, who rode out the storm with his family in Mobile. "We had some trees down in our yard and roofing damage, other than that, we came out pretty good."

Oliver boarded up his windows of his brick home and spent the night with his wife, 7-year-old son and brother-in-law, Robert Driver, moving from room to room as the winds shifted.

"The good lord was looking out for us," Driver said.

The storm weakened as it moved

inland, but remained a Category 1 hurricane with winds of 80 mph more than four hours after landfall.

Ivan knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of people, toppled trees, ripped off roofs and sent street signs hurtling through the night. In the beach resort town of Gulf Shores, where the storm's eye blew ashore, the sky had a bright green glow as electrical transformers blew.

"We have never seen a hurricane of this size, come into Alabama," said Gov. Bob Riley, who earlier asked President Bush to declare much of the state a disaster area, a request that was granted.

Two people were killed and more than 200 homes were damaged when at least five tornadoes roared through Florida's Bay County. Five people were killed when another tornado struck homes in Blountstown, Fla., and an 8-year-old girl died after being crushed by a tree that fell onto her mobile home in Milton, Fla. Her parents were unharmed.

"You want to see the natural hand of God firsthand but you don't realize how strong it is," said Kevin Harless, 32, who was sightseeing in Panama City Beach, Fla., around the time of the tornadoes.

Four ailing evacuees reportedly died after being taken from their storm-threatened south Louisiana homes to safer parts of the state.

Max Mayfield, the director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami, warned that the misery would spread as Ivan moves across the Southeast in the hours and days ahead. "I hate to think about what's going to happen inland," he said.

At 8 a.m. EDT, Ivan was centered about 90 miles west-southwest of Montgomery, Ala., and was moving

north at 17 mph. Forecasters projected a path that could take Ivan on a north-eastern march across most of the South and parts of the Midwest.

A hurricane warning, for New Orleans was lifted early Thursday, but one remained in effect from the mouth of the Pearl River in eastern Louisiana to Apalachicola, Fla. As of 8 a.m., hurricane-force winds extended out 50 miles from the storm, which earlier killed at least 68 people across the Caribbean.

National Hurricane Center forecasters said land east of where Ivan's eye passed was experiencing storm surge of 10 to 16 feet, topped by large and dangerous battering waves.

"We've had calls from folks saying, 'The water is rising, can you come get me?' Unfortunately we can't send anybody out. The storm is at its worst point now," Sonya Smith, a spokeswoman for Florida's Escambia County emergency management agency, said early Thursday.

The storm's northward track spared New Orleans a direct hit. Parts of the city saw only sporadic, light rain overnight, though wind gusts reached tropical storm strength.

City officials had scrambled to get people out of harm's way, putting some 1,100 people in the cavernous Louisiana Superdome and urging others to move to higher floors in tall buildings.

At least 260,000 homes and businesses were without power in Alabama, 36,500 in Louisiana, 70,000 in Mississippi. More than 300,000 customers were without power in the four westernmost Florida Panhandle counties.

'We've had calls from folks saying, 'The water is rising, can you come get me?' Unfortunately we can't send anybody out. The storm is at its worst point now.'

— Sonya Smith
Spokeswoman for Florida's Escambia County emergency management agency

Four workers fired, one resigns at lab

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A security scandal at the birthplace of the atomic bomb has cost five Los Alamos National Laboratory workers their jobs, lab officials said.

Four workers were fired from the nuclear lab and one will resign under pressure for their roles in a security and safety scandal at the lab, the lab's director said Wednesday.

The fired workers were among 23 suspended this summer after two computer disks containing classified information went missing and an intern was injured in a laser accident. The discovery of the missing disks July 7 prompted a virtual shutdown of the lab, idling roughly 12,000 workers.

Of the remaining 18 suspended employees, seven were subject to other discipline such as demotion from management, salary reductions or written reprimands. One remains on investigatory leave. Ten will return to

their positions with a finding of "no wrongdoing."

"It's very important to get this behind us," Director Pete Nanos said in a phone interview. Nanos spoke by cell phone from an airplane after meetings in Washington, D.C.

Nanos declined to discuss specific cases of fired employees but said that some were dismissed for "not taking actions that you were supposed to take, or signing off on things that you hadn't done." Another employee had not taken appropriate precautions in a safety area.

Three of the workers will leave the lab in connection with the missing computer disks; the other two were involved in an accident in which a laser injured an intern, he said.

"These personnel actions touched all levels of employment, staff and management and varying levels of tenure," lab spokesman James Fallin said.

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Harvester spirit

Kelsey Henry, 7, was full of school spirit during a recent Harvester football game. She is seen here cheering at half-time for the home team.

Conjoined twin dies after surgery, second critical

BALTIMORE (AP) — One of the year-old conjoined twin girls who underwent surgery to separate their heads died shortly after the procedure was completed Thursday, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Lea and Tabea Block, from Lemgo, Germany, were successfully separated at 12:15 a.m. after more than 18 hours of surgery, but Tabea died later "after an exhaustive resuscitative effort," Johns Hopkins Children's Center spokeswoman Staci Vernick Goldberg said.

Lea was in critical but stable condition and "doing well" in the hospital's pediatric intensive care unit, Goldberg said.

The girls' parents — Nelly, 27, and Peter, 28 — have not made a public statement.

The surgery to separate the girls had resumed at 6 a.m. Wednesday, four days

after the operation was halted temporarily when the condition of one twin became unstable.

On Wednesday afternoon, nearly eight hours into the second operation, the hospital announced that doctors were halfway through a critical stage, separation of a web of blood vessels at the back of the head known as the dural venous complex.

Late Wednesday night, the hospital reported that the surgical team, led by Dr. Ben Carson, continued to "tease apart brain tissue, and separate the blood vessels that the twins still share."

Once the girls were separated, doctors had planned to reconstruct the dura, the tough fibrous covering of the brain, and close their scalps, the spokeswoman had said.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Sept. 18, 2004 - 9:00 A.M. To 3:00 P.M.
Community Recycling Center
Free To All Residents

What To Bring: paint • solvents • varnish • tires • pesticides • herbicides • drain opener • oven cleaner • stain removers • polish • hobby supplies • pool chemicals • transmission & brake fluids • motor oil • antifreeze • acids • batteries • photographic chemicals • products labeled CAUTION, WARNING or POISON • recyclables: plastics 1 & 2 • aluminum • paper.



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We will be recycling tires, car batteries, motor oil & used filters, antifreeze, and paints, as well as plastic, aluminum & paper. (Limit 10 tires per vehicle. No commercial or retail shops.)

Do Not Bring: explosives • radioactive materials • dioxins or waste generated by businesses or farms • container larger than 1 gallon, except for motor oil & paint • compressed gas cylinders and waste reactives.



Please transport all products in their original containers, do not consolidate them. Make sure the containers are properly sealed & will not leak. Put containers in the trunk or back of your vehicle, away from passengers.

For More Information Contact:
Christa Perry 806-663-4216

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: "Gary" and I were married two months ago. For our honeymoon, we took a cruise to the eastern Caribbean.

One week after our return, I came down with a yeast infection that I treated with an over-the-counter medication. A few days later, Gary got what we thought was a urinary tract infection, which we treated with lots of water and cranberry juice. When neither of our conditions improved, we went to the doctor, who diagnosed us both with chlamydia.

We were shocked! Gary and I had both tested negative for all STDs before we were married. The nurse asked if we had been in a hot tub recently, and we replied that we'd spent many hours in hot tubs on the cruise ship. The nurse then informed us that chlamydia is a bacteria, and bacteria love warm, moist environments -- like hot tubs. She said it was the most likely source of this disease in our case.

We contacted the cruise line and told them that their hot tubs were not clean and asked them to reimburse us for the cost of our prescriptions. The man I spoke to refused and accused me of lying.

I know you can't help me with the cruise line, Abby, but I want to warn your readers about public hot tubs. Perhaps it will save others from contracting a disease like we did.

— CONTAMINATED IN OHIO

DEAR OHIO: Thank you for wanting to spare others your unfortunate experience.

After reading your letter, I contacted the Centers for Disease Control National STD and AIDS Hotline (1-800-342-2437). I was told that chlamydia is NOT transmitted by sitting in or on the rim of a hot tub, nor by any other inanimate object. It is transmitted through genital contact.

Two diseases that "poten-

tially" can be spread in and around swimming pools and hot tubs -- although it has NOT been well-documented -- are trichomoniasis (a parasite) and molluscum contagiosum (a virus), which can also be transmitted from unclean towels or bathing suits.

The most important thing your letter illustrates to me is how important it is for people to be properly diagnosed, rather than treating themselves with over-the-counter remedies.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 24-year-old single mother of a 3-year-old daughter. I was physically and verbally abused by both of my parents. I no longer live with them. However, I try to have a good relationship with them. They are the only support system I have.

I have no one except my parents to watch my child, but I see them starting to yell at her. When I mention that yelling is not good for my daughter, they accuse me of being "overly protective." Can you tell me how to deal with this? I am still trying to overcome the temper I developed while living with them.

— IN A BIND IN BATON ROUGE

DEAR IN A BIND: Under no circumstances should your parents baby-sit your child. It's time for you to find another baby sitter and to build another support system. Start by reaching out to fellow church members, other single parents and contemporaries. You could also benefit by attending a parenting class with other young mothers. There you will learn about child development and meet other single parents who are struggling with issues similar to yours.

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For Better Or Worse



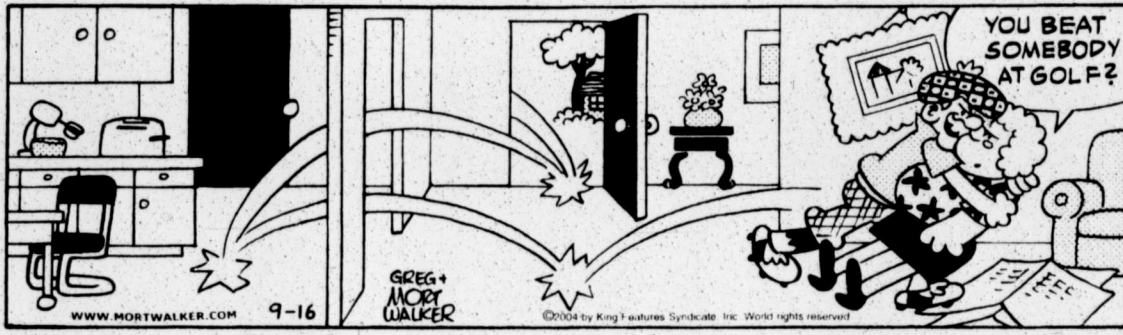
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Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

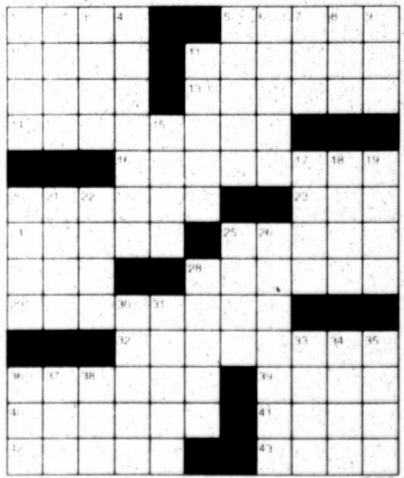
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- 2 Wander
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 - 5 Florida city
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 - 14 Band's sample
 - 16 Tear down
 - 20 Bounty event
 - 23 Feathery wrap
 - 24 Put up
 - 25 Boat back
 - 27 Period
 - 28 Laughed denisively
 - 29 Succubus
 - 32 Donkey follower
 - 36 Salad green
 - 39 First-rate
 - 40 Granola bit
 - 41 Behind schedule
 - 42 Incites
 - 43 First place
- DOWN**
- 1 Oaf



Yesterday's answer

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- 21 Incite
- 22 Be rife
- 25 Fair
- 26 Like blue-prints
- 28 Macho guys
- 19 Set of cards
- 31 West Indies island
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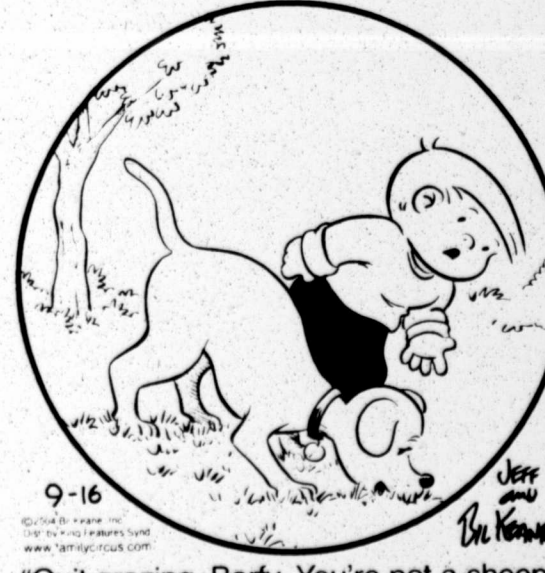


Marmaduke



"His favorite dish is four bone casserole."

The Family Circus



"Quit grazing, Barfy. You're not a sheep!"

B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



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Flo & Friends



TO PR

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Of the past few months researched than any other what you are. The interest is not too much to offer a t honestly, cl It is not t of this con allow you t or disagree While c Tuesday, I Leah Pears Football L pleasant b called to ir of the leag contact nu request an Mrs. Pea publishing coaches n kids would ing the we

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NHL

NEW The Na League le ers, threat sport off 2004-05 haps beyo managem sive econ After t decision unanimo owners, Gary Be belittled gaining about th confronta into the and said jeopardiz ticipator Winter O Bettm: "bleak da had coml than \$1.1 years and filings by Los Ang Pittsburg agement labor d include a ship betv salaries.

Sports Day

TO PRINT OR NOT TO PRINT

Can a decision to protect do more harm than good?

Of the columns I have written over the past few months, I have worried, wondered, researched and wrestled with this one more than any other. The risk I take in writing what you are about to read is great.

The intent of what you are about to read is not too ruffle feathers, though it will. It is to offer a topic for consideration and quite honestly, clear my conscience.

It is not to distance myself from members of this community, though it will. It is to allow you to formulate an opinion. To agree or disagree.

While checking voice mail this past Tuesday, I came across a message from Leah Pearson, Commissioner of the Pampa Football League. The message was very pleasant but surprising. Mrs. Pearson had called to instruct me not to print the scores of the league's football games. She left a contact number, so I called to confirm the request and, frankly, to question it.

Mrs. Pearson told me she did not want me publishing scores, adding she had instructed coaches not to provide them, for fear the kids would take undue ribbing at school during the week. More specifically, players on

teams that lose by a substantial margin. This apparently was something of a problem last year. In lieu of printing scores, I was told I could print, "The Dolphins defeated the Packers."

As Mrs. Pearson knows, I respectfully disagree with the decision. If you are going to keep score during the games, and they are, why not allow me to print them? Don't many of the players attend the same school? Is it not fair to assume then, the ribbing will still take place?

Organized sport, such as football, is entered into knowing there are winners and losers. Each determined by a final score. To win is the goal. No one endeavors to lose. However, it's the losses that will strengthen the player's and the team's resolve. It is up to the parent or coach to lift the spirit following a defeat. Frankly, I found it tougher to accept losing a close game than to get blown out.

Young players will learn and decide early on whether a particular sport or other organ-

ized activity is for them. The choice should be theirs. And it should be the parent or guardian that consoles the loss, no matter how big. "It's okay. You gave it your best. We'll get them next time." It is also up to the parent or guardian to humble victories.

My son got lapped, often more than once, in every race in his first year of racing go-carts (KART). Yet after each race, I explained how we were simply taking each lap, each race, to learn, improve and prepare for later success. As he got better and more competitive, we started working on humbling him.

We do not live in a world of Nerf. We must allow our children the opportunity to scrape their knees. It is part of the strengthening process. To instruct me not to print scores believing this will protect the children from undue ribbing interferes with both the maturation and parenting process.

If you do not want me printing scores, that's fine. I will abide by your request. However, put yourself in my place for a

moment and know that, for every Pampa High School and Middle School picture, story and/or result I print, I hear from at least one parent of a younger player wanting to know why I don't provide the same for their kid's team.

If the intent here is to protect the child from presumed verbal abuse, I would suggest that scores not be kept at the games. But then all you have is a scrimmage. And if you were to ask the players, I doubt that is what they signed up for.

I have a great respect for Mrs. Pearson and what she does. It should be noted that she, as well as her husband, are very involved with these kids, giving of their time to coach as well as to organize and guide the league. I know she believes this decision is best for her young players. I just do not agree with it.

I welcome your comments, pro or con. Should these scores be printed in The Pampa News? E-mail me at sports@thepampanews.com, or fax them to me at 669-2520. I will publish the results on Monday, Sept. 20.

Michael J. Stevens
Sports Editor



Pampa carries momentum to Borger

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

It's impossible to write about tomorrow night's meeting with the Borger Bulldogs without some brief reflection on last week's game against Amarillo High School. It was a well-fought battle that spotlighted in some way or another, the very essence of what this program is about. The most glaring example was the team's refusal to give up.

And that attitude spilled over into practice this week. Head Coach Heath Parker said, "Practice has been good this week. The guys are working hard to get better." The early part of the week was made tougher by high winds and hot temperatures. Other school events and preparation for 6-week tests heap even more on the player's shoulders.

Parker, in his letter to the team this week, noted that mistakes on all sides of the ball prevented the Harvesters from dominating Amarillo both on the field and on the scoreboard. But also made it clear the team was making a "great deal of progress." The next two weeks, Parker said, "Are

critical. All we need to worry about is ourselves."

In Borger, Parker sees cause for concern. He expects to win. His team enters every game expecting to win. However, Parker says, "The Pampa Borger game is like the Tascosa/Amarillo High game. You never know what to expect. Borger will show up big when Pampa comes to town tomorrow night."

"The Pampa/Borger game is like the Tascosa/Amarillo High game. You never know what to expect. Borger will show up big when Pampa comes to town tomorrow night."

— Heath Parker
Head Coach, Pampa High School Football

Both teams enter the game tomorrow night with identical 1-2 non-district records. Borger's losses coming against Tascosa in week one, and last week against Dimas. Their win came during week two in a low-scoring affair against Caprock, 7-6. In fact, Parker is quick to point out, "No one is scoring big against Borger. They are aggressive, hard-hitters who make things very difficult once

you're in the red zone."

Next week is an off week as Parker and his staff prepare the team for the start of district play. The challenge, Parker says, "Will be to keep the team focused. We cannot afford to take a step back. We must continue to build on the momentum we have established. We have to improve."

Kick off tomorrow night is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



Photo by Carolyn Thero

Pampa Head Coach Heath Parker charts a plan of action during last week's game against Amarillo High School. The Harvesters are on the road tomorrow to face the Borger Bulldogs. Kick off will be at 7:30 p.m.

Harvester 9th grade, JV in action tonight

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Grab a blanket and a thermos of coffee (or hot chocolate), fall is in the air and Harvester Field will be busy tonight with two football games on tap.

The 9th grade team, 2-1 on the season, hosts Borger starting at 5 p.m. That game will be followed by the 3-0 Harvester Junior Varsity squad taking on the Bulldogs with that kick off scheduled for 7 p.m.

Injured fan, husband defend heckling of Rangers

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The woman whose nose was broken when Texas reliever Frank Francisco threw a chair into the stands said Wednesday she will not decide whether to sue the Rangers until after prosecutors and baseball officials complete their investigation.

Jennifer Bueno, 41, with a large white bandage covering her nose and purple rings under her eyes, and her husband, Craig, appeared at a news conference with their attorney, who said they plan to seek compensation for her injuries.

"We definitely feel the Texas Rangers are responsible for this and that they should pay for this," personal injury lawyer Gary Gwilliam said.

Prosecutors said they need more time to investigate before formally charging Francisco, who was booked by police for felony aggravated assault.

An arraignment scheduled for Wednesday afternoon was postponed.

During Texas' 7-6, 10-inning loss to Oakland on Monday, Francisco threw a chair into the right-field box seats and hit two spectators in the head.

Craig Bueno acknowledged that, before the fracas, he was part of some "verbal bantering" with the Rangers.

"It's part of going to the baseball game," Jennifer Bueno said. "I don't think he did anything wrong."

She said "it would be a little while" before she attends A's games again.

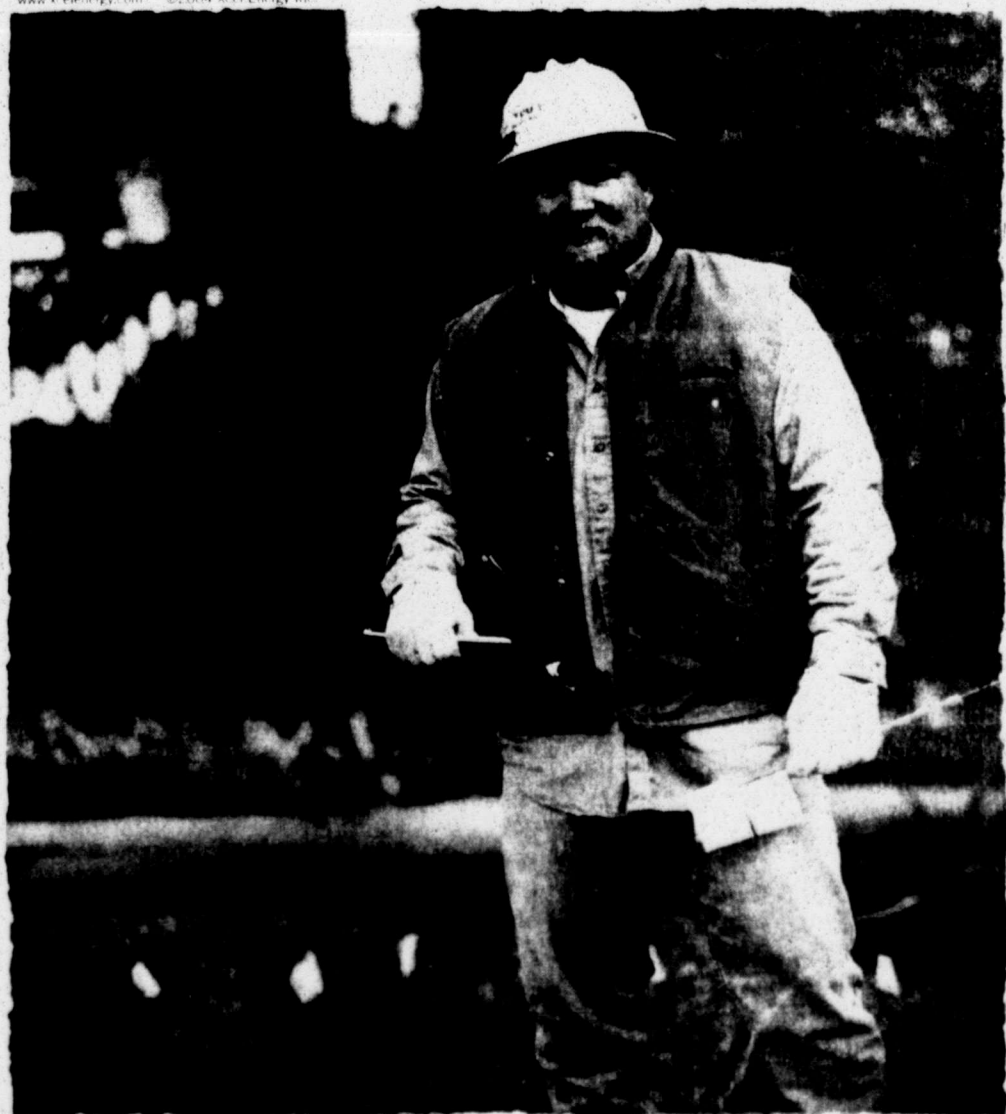
"It's an American tradition," the 42-year-old fire battalion chief said of his heckling, adding that he said he and his wife bought season tickets near the visitors' bullpen just "so we can get on them on a little bit."

NHL lockout

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Hockey League locked out its players, threatening to keep the sport off the ice for the 2004-05 season and perhaps beyond in an effort by management to gain massive economic change.

After the long-expected decision was approved unanimously by NHL owners, commissioner Gary Bettman repeatedly belittled the union's bargaining position, talked about the possibility the confrontation could extend into the 2005-06 season and said the conflict has jeopardized the NHL's participation in the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Bettman called it a "bleak day," claimed teams had combined to lose more than \$1.8 billion over 10 years and cited bankruptcy filings by teams in Buffalo, Los Angeles, Ottawa and Pittsburgh. He said management will not agree to a labor deal that doesn't include a defined relationship between revenue and salaries.



"DIGGING AROUND FOR SURPRISES? THAT'S FOR ARCHEOLOGISTS."

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Jack, Troublemaker

For more safety tips, visit our website at www.xcelenergy.com.

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The Pampa Swimming and Diving program recently held its annual Green and Gold Meet. Head Coach Greg Miller says there is reason to be excited about this year's program.

Coach Miller likes what he sees in his swimmers and divers

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Pampa Swimming & Diving Program hosted its opening event, the annual Green and Gold Meet, at the Youth and Community Center Sept. 11. The event is unique in that it combines all Middle School and High School swimmers into two teams.

The Gold Team was captured this year by senior Angela Henthorn, the Green Team by senior Kandice Maddox. The teams were very evenly matched but when the water settled, the Gold Team finished first, 1209 points to 1198 points in one of the closest meets ever.

49 swimmers took part in the meet. Coach Greg Miller noted each did a fantastic job. "It would be impossible to pick

anyone swimmer to single out on this day," said Miller.

Miller says the High School program is getting stronger and looks very promising for the girls and the boys this year. The Middle school also has some very talented swimmers this year. Miller points out many of the swimmers competed all summer in the US Swimming Program, and came back ready to swim ahead of where they were last year. "Pampa has really been blessed with good strong hard working kids and they will go far in this sport," Miller said.

Miller says the strength of this year's team is team unity and the leadership of seniors Angela Henthorn, Kandice Maddox, and Whitney Penrod.

Pampa Swimmers and Divers will next compete at the Lubbock Relays on Oct. 9.

Astros fall to Cardinals, 4-2

ST. LOUIS (AP) — More big offense from Jim Edmonds and a bounce-back game from Matt Morris helped the St. Louis Cardinals surface from their worst stretch of the season.

Edmonds' sacrifice fly snapped an eighth-inning tie and Morris rebounded from one of his worst starts of the season, bringing the Cardinals one step closer to the NL Central championship with a 4-2 victory over the Houston Astros on Wednesday night.

Edmonds also hit his 42nd homer, matching his career best set in 2000. The Cardinals have won only three of eight, but reduced their magic number for clinching the division to four.

"We knocked one off the number the hard way," manager Tony La Russa said. "That was a tough win."

Jeff Kent hit a two-run homer and Lance Berkman had two hits, giving him six in the last two games. Houston has lost only four of its last 19 games, but fell two games

behind the San Francisco Giants in the wild-card race.

"A two-run homer, and that was it," manager Phil Garner said. "We didn't get anybody to third, and that was the story tonight."

Albert Pujols started the eighth-inning rally with a one-out single off Russ Springer (0-1). Edgar Renteria followed with a single to snap an 0-for-24 slump, and Pujols went to third when center fielder Carlos Beltran bobbled the ball for an error.

"If Carlos makes the play there, I don't think he goes to third," Garner said. "Maybe we get out of it, maybe we don't."

"Sometimes you don't make the plays you like to make, but you've still got to get out of it."

Edmonds, whose 53 RBIs since the All-Star break trails only the Expos' Tony Batista (54) in the NL, followed with a liner to center for his 108th RBI. Renteria came around one batter later on a wild pitch.

Keyshawn providing Irvin-like presence

IRVING, Texas (AP) — There were plenty of passes caught and leaping, tumbling effort on one he missed. There were some solid downfield blocks and sharp self-criticism about one he missed.

Attitude? Keyshawn Johnson showed plenty of that, too, after losing his first game with the Dallas Cowboys.

But the player mockingly known as Me-shawn wasn't patting himself on the back for his own great game or pointing fingers at teammates for what went wrong. He was just upset about being 0-1.

"It's very difficult for me to swallow," he said. "I don't like losing. All I know is the playoffs. I've been in more than I haven't. That's where my concern is."

Whoa. In just one game, Johnson already has delivered the complete package — the one Cowboys fans last saw in Michael Irvin, and the one Bill Parcells, Vinny Testaverde and Richie Anderson knew and loved when they were with him on the New York Jets.

"He does everything you ever ask," Testaverde said Wednesday. "He's a great leader, a great worker. He's a team player. Sometimes he likes to talk. But when it comes to his team and trying to win games, you want 53 guys like him."

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers didn't want

one like him. Coach Jon Gruden essentially fired Johnson with six games left last season, primarily because he felt Johnson was too much of a burden and a distraction.

Parcells didn't care about any of that. He knew Johnson well enough that he wanted him in Dallas.

Johnson's debut was triumphant in every way except the most important one.

He caught nine passes for 111 yards. No receiver in the entire league had more catches and he was within a yard of the league's best. He also was an effective blocker, providing the hit that sprung running back ReShard Lee for a touchdown.

But because the Cowboys lost 35-17 to Minnesota, Johnson wanted to douse any talk about how sharp he looked despite the long lay-off.

"I'm not trying to show anybody anything," Johnson said. "I do what I do. I don't understand why people questioned me. I've been doing the same things since I got into the league. Why is it a big surprise? Do you really think this was some sort of miracle game?"

Still, Johnson's well-earned reputation as a loudmouth had many expecting him to be crowing about his performance.

'He's a great leader, a great worker. He's a team player. Sometimes he likes to talk. But when it comes to his team and trying to win games, you want 53 guys like him.'

— Vinny Testaverde
Quarterback, Dallas Cowboys



Photo by Donny Hooper

What a rush

Pampa 7th grade player Ty Powell, #16, plots his course during a run against Hereford Tuesday. The A-team won by a final of 34-22. The B-team fell to the Herd in a close one, 6-0.

Rangers 10, Athletics 3

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — For a club that hasn't tasted much meaningful September baseball in five years, the Texas Rangers are showing a big appetite for the playoff chase.

Mark Teixeira hit a three-run homer off Mark Mulder, and the Rangers kept creeping back into the playoff chase with a 10-3 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Wednesday night.

Hank Blalock homered and drove in his 100th run with a two-run double, and Alfonso Soriano also homered and drove in two runs for the Rangers, who have won two of three in their key four-game series against the struggling division leaders.

With extra security officers seated near the Texas bullpen after Monday's chair-throwing brouhaha, the Rangers won for the fifth time in six games. Not even reliever Frank Francisco's arrest and legal problems have derailed Texas' last-ditch push for the postseason.

"This club is doing some impressive things," manager Buck Showalter said. "We've got 17 games left, and we'll continue to play in a way so we can make every next game mean more."

The Rangers' playoff hopes seemed dead last week, but they moved within four games of the A's, who remained two games ahead of second-place Anaheim after Seattle's 1-0 victory over the Angels. Texas hasn't made the post-

season since 1999.

Teixeira's 36th homer in the sixth inning was the decisive blow against Mulder, who failed in his fourth attempt to get his 18th win.

"Now's not the time to feel sorry for yourself," Mulder said. "We just have to keep going out there."

Francisco did the same, hours after making his initial court appearance on a charge of felony aggravated assault. He was booed loudly by the Coliseum crowd when he walked alone to the bullpen midway through the seventh inning.

A few moments later, several policemen descended into the stands above the bullpen to speak to someone in the crowd. The Texas relievers all stood and watched, but no fans were escorted out.

Francisco was booed again when he warmed up while the Rangers batted in the ninth. Showalter never intended to put Francisco in the game.

"He had to get some work," the manager said. "He hadn't thrown in a couple of days. All things considered, I think he's handled himself well. He understands there's some things he's going to have to go through, and tonight was one of those things."

Francisco politely declined comment after the game.

The Oakland fans had better control than Mulder (17-5), who allowed 11 hits and a season-high eight runs to waste an early lead.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Sept. 17, 2004:

Your ability to lay out the cards and make others understand builds to an unprecedented level this year. You finally make waves. Try not to get too caught up in what you want or in your long-term desires; stay present in the here and now. The past is irrelevant, and no one can count on tomorrow. Allow more spontaneity into your life. Others seem remarkably unpredictable. Make that OK, because you will learn a lot about other styles. Relish the moment and those around you. Your finances peak in 2005. Be conservative, and you will increase your security. If you are single, many people would like to be close to you. Whomever you choose, don't count on the tie being long term until your next birthday. If you are attached, be more willing to experiment and do what your significant other suggests. You'll have much more fun. SCORPIO can chat your ear off.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Build on existing knowledge. You might be uncomfortable with another's dominance in the work arena. Perhaps you will learn a lot about your need to control. Learn to be an equal partner. Tonight: Decide with a loved one what would make you feel good.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Others know what is needed. You might have to say very little other than exhibit attitude or determination. A child, loved one or new friend will turn him- or herself upside down to please you. Look at the big picture.

Tonight: Party the weekend in, GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Push at work. After all, you have a lot to get done. Your family pitches in, or perhaps you will be happier working from home. Bosses make unusual demands. See the creativity in their ideas. Don't get stuck in black-and-white thinking. Tonight: Decide to relax your mind and body.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ You could be overly serious, and others attempt to shake you out of your mood. If you are able to see the big picture, you will understand more of what is going on with others. Your imagination and creativity soar. Tonight: Be a wild thing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Your intuition could put a bit of a downer on your mood. A partner could be touchy or unpredictable, but is that new? You need to learn to work with others and their need to be more free. Money and security play roles in your decisions. Tonight: Mosey on home and relax.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You have the right words, which draw reactions from others left and right. A long-term friend could be a bit stiff. Know that you aren't going to change this person. Accept this person as he or she is. Meanwhile, others let their hair down. Tonight: Enjoy each person for what he or she offers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Expenses need a second look. It could be difficult to convince a superior of what you feel must be done. You could find life and work unpredictable. The good news is that you cannot complain about boredom. Tonight: Treat yourself first.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You beam in many different

people. Your imagination and creativity take you in a novel direction. You might have a difficult time explaining to others where you are coming from. Plug in your ingenuity. Tonight: As you like it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Move back and allow others to express their ideas. You might be surprised by how serious an associate or partner is. You might have been bucking a very conservative trend. Open doors. A boss might have some off-the-wall feedback. Tonight: Vanish.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Others could be difficult, but if you know what you want, you will get exactly that. Don't buck the impossible, but head where you find others who are more positive. Work with the spontaneous. Tonight: Follow the gang.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Maintain a high profile. You will want to check in with others who have very good ideas and prove to be more supportive. By taking the lead, you discover the unexpected financially. You have pulled the wild card. Tonight: In the limelight.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Your unexpected behavior provokes another's attitude. He or she might close down or withdraw. Reach out for someone at a distance. Talk about a trip in the near future. Others reveal their opinions. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

BORN TODAY

Actor Roddy McDowall (1928), actress Anne Bancroft (1931), actor John Ritter (1948)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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FOUND 6-8 wk. Chow puppy. Bro legs, br. & bl. body bl. N. Sumner. 665-

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JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster. 665-7115. faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

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

G.P. Guinn, Inc. now hiring exp. Oil Field Truck Drivers w/ Current Class A CDL. Competitive pay, medical ins., retirement, uniforms, safety equip. Interview w/ Paul at Hwy. 60 & 83 South, Canadian, Tx. or Tommie at 101 Carolina, Borger, Tx. or call Tommie 806-273-2362.

FLATBED DRIVER. Local & OTR. 2 yrs. verifiable exp. Coyote Trucking. 665-0984.

21 Help Wanted

COOK / Waitress wanted. Apply in person Black Gold Restaurant, 1100 E. Frederic. No Phone Calls.

HOSTESSES and Waitresses needed. Apply in person @ Texas Rose. No phone calls please!

CONTROL Valve company taking applications for Warehouseman / Mechanic. 401k, paid holidays, paid vacation, oilfield background helpful. Send resume to Po. Box 1836, Pampa, Tx. 79066-1836.

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Operator wanted. Apply in person at Suoco Oil, 408 S. Price Rd., Pampa.

CALDWELL Prod. needs pulling unit operator. \$12 hr. for top operator. 6 pd. holidays & 1 week pd. vacation per yr. Steady work. Apply 2 mi. W. on Hwy. 60. 665-8888.

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DUNIGAN Operating Seeking Experienced Oil-Field Pumper For The Pampa / LeFors area. Send Resume / Pay Requirements to P.O. Box 52040, Amarillo Tx. 79159-2040.

PAMPA Nursing Center looking for RN for weekend Supervisor & other position would become avail. later. Day shift. Call Administrator, 669-2551.

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60 Household

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

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69 Misc.

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1909 Lea, 14 ft. boat, table saw & tools, furniture, dishes, clothing, smoker, skis, lawnmower, lots misc. Fri, 8-5, Sat, 8-? No checks. Cash only.

MIAMI City Wide Garage Sale: Sat, Sept 18th, 8-4. Approx. 25 sites. Maps will be provided.

LARGE Garage Sale 1821 Lea Fri&Sat 8-5 Lots of items Something for everyone.

SALE: 2306 Charles, Fri 8 a.m. Guns, lamps, Home Interior, chair, linens, pictures.

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Peterson jurors see graphic pictures

By BRIAN SKOLOFF
Associated Press Writer

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — A forensic pathologist testified at Scott Peterson's murder trial that he had little to work with when he performed the autopsy on Laci Peterson because her corpse was missing most of its organs when it was found.

Dr. Brian Peterson, who is not related to Laci or Scott Peterson, said Wednesday that two of Laci Peterson's ribs were fractured, but he could not say whether the injuries came before or after her death.

"The only internal organ that was present was the uterus," he said. Peterson was due back on the stand Thursday.

Jurors winced and glanced away as they looked at photos of Laci Peterson's badly decomposed body cast in larger-than-life images on a white wall screen.

Missing were the head, neck, forearms, and part of her left leg, and her innards were exposed showing a rib cage and other bones speckled with barnacles.

Peterson said Wednesday he examined the remains for any signs that her extremities had been cut off, but could find nothing conclusive.

"For example, if a joint were taken apart with a knife or a saw, that would often-times leave marks on the bone. There were no such marks," Peterson said.

He said the tides and currents in San Francisco Bay, or fish eating away at her flesh, could have caused the body to tear apart.

He said he could tell the woman had been pregnant by the size of her uterus, which had expanded to about 10 inches.

It normally is the size of a golf ball, he said.

Peterson said the top of the uterus was open and there were no signs of a Caesarean section.

"I determined the baby had exited through the top of the uterus," he said.

Prosecutors are trying to prove that Peterson killed his eight-months pregnant wife on or around Dec. 24, 2002, then dumped her weighted body into the bay.

Thornberry visit in offing at FPC

BORGER — From 3:30 to 4 p.m., Friday, Sept. 17, at the Access & Innovation Conference Center on the campus of Frank Phillips College, Congressman Mac Thornberry will be on hand to receive questions from constituents of the 13th U.S. Congressional District.

The reception is being co-sponsored by FPC and Borger Economic Development Corporation.

Dr. Herbert J. Swender, president of the college, said of the impending visit, "Congressman Thornberry's visit to Borger reinforces to the community his dedication and commitment to supporting our 13th Congressional District while leading our Country with critical committee assignments — he has made a positive difference for the citizens that he represents."

Thornberry currently serves on the Armed Services Committee, the Budget Committee and the newly created Select Committee on Homeland Security. The Congressman also chairs the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Science and Research & Development.

Martha Stewart expected at prison within weeks

NEW YORK (AP) — Martha Stewart said she would miss her many pets and hoped to be free in time for her cherished spring gardening.

Otherwise, she seemed determined to get her ordeal over with when she announced Wednesday she would surrender within weeks to begin serving her five-month prison sentence.

Speaking at a choreographed news conference before a brilliant array of color swatches, Stewart said she will continue to appeal her conviction — but will head for prison anyway to end what she called a personal nightmare.

"I must reclaim my good life," the 63-year-old millionaire businesswoman

declared. "I must return to my good works and allow those around me who work with me to do the same."

Stewart was convicted March 5 of lying about why she sold 3,928 shares of ImClone Systems Inc. stock on Dec. 27, 2001, the day before a negative announcement about the company that sent the price plunging.

She was sentenced in July to five months in prison and five months of house arrest.

The judge allowed her to remain free pending appeal — but defense lawyers have now asked the judge to lift that order.

"Her decision brings this matter much closer to the

time when she and all of us can truly get back to business as usual," said Thomas Siekman, chairman of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, who appeared with her at the news conference.

Seth Siegel, co-founder of The Beanstalk Group, a trademark licensing agency, said Stewart's decision to report to prison should help her company, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc.

"In the short term, it reminds everyone yet again that she did something wrong, but long term it is wise for the brand, and great for the company," he said. "I think there's an excellent chance of advertisers coming back."

The announcement Wednesday came in a light-bathed studio perfectly orchestrated for television.

People close to the domestic entrepreneur said they expected her to report to prison — most likely to a facility in Danbury, Conn.,

near her home, or possibly in Florida — in a matter of weeks.

After the five months in prison, Stewart still must serve five months of house arrest.

She has said she will spend that time — during which she will be allowed to work — at her 153-acre horse-country estate north of New York City.

Her lawyers said they were confident a federal appeals court would eventually overturn the verdict, delivered by a New York jury in March.

But a delay motion filed by Peter Bacanovic, the ex-

stockbroker convicted along with Stewart, means the case will not be argued until next year, and Stewart said she

was acting to bring "finality" to a personal nightmare.

Stewart spoke wistfully of how much she will miss holiday traditions and her pets — "my two beloved, fun-loving dogs, my seven lively cats, my canaries, my horses and even my chickens."

"It's odd what becomes of immense importance when one realizes when one's freedom is about to be curtailed," she said, "and it is frightening and difficult to have to grasp these realizations."

'I must reclaim my good life. I must return to my good works and allow those around me who work with me to do the same.'

— Martha Stewart
Businesswoman

'In the short term, it reminds everyone yet again that she did something wrong, but long term it is wise for the brand, and great for the company.'

— Seth Siegel
Co-founder of The Beanstalk Group



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