



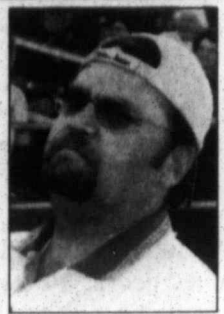
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3

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McLean gets grant to improve water delivery system

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer The city of McLean has been awarded a \$250,000 state grant from the Office of Rural Community Affairs to bring its water delivery system into compliance with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality standards. McLean's is one of 156 grants

totaling \$41,706,589 to rural cities and counties across the state for infrastructure and public facility improvements, it was announced Tuesday. The grants are awarded every two years, and are financed by the Community Development Fund and Community Development Supplemental Fund, administered

under ORCA's Texas Community Development Block Grant Program. McLean will use the funds to install booster pumps, piping, electrical items and controls, and make building modifications, to update the booster pump station for the city's water system, said Mayor Bob Martin. The improvements will update the

city's system to pump water to its water towers for distribution to customers, Martin said. "We're not sure when we will start work," he said. "The next step is to go out for bids. The engineer will write up the specs." "Hopefully, it will keep our water See McLEAN, Page 3

Preliminary autopsy points to asphyxiation

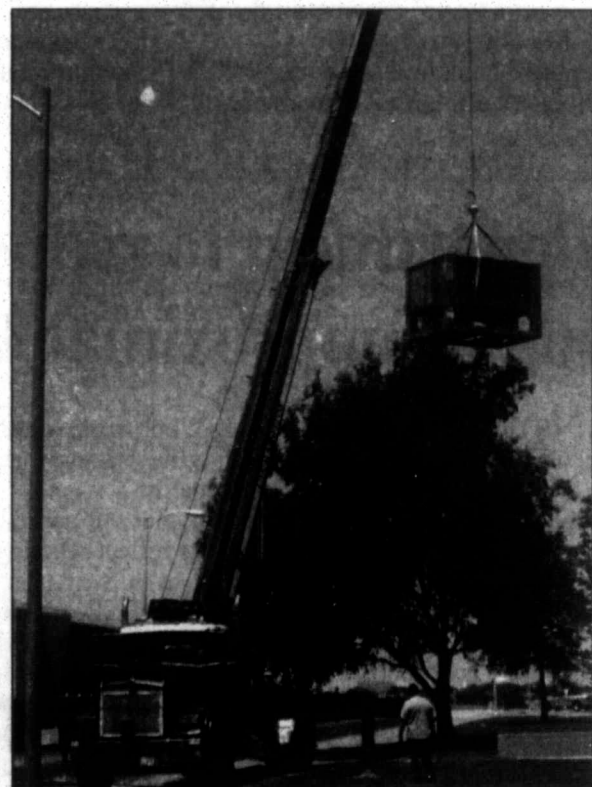
By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer Preliminary autopsy results on a 4-year-old Pampa boy who was an apparent drowning victim Sunday evening indicate that the boy died of asphyxiation. "There was no foul play, no injuries, and no trauma of any kind," said Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman, who had pronounced Randall Robert Alexander Jones dead at Pampa Regional Medical Center

and ordered the autopsy. "An emergency 911 call was made at 7:23 p.m. Sunday to report that the child had been found in an above-ground swimming pool in the 400 block of South Barnes, where the boy lived. He was transported to the emergency room at PRMC by Guardian EMS ambulance. Pampa Police Department and Gray County Sheriff's Office also responded to the scene. See AUTOPSY, Page 3

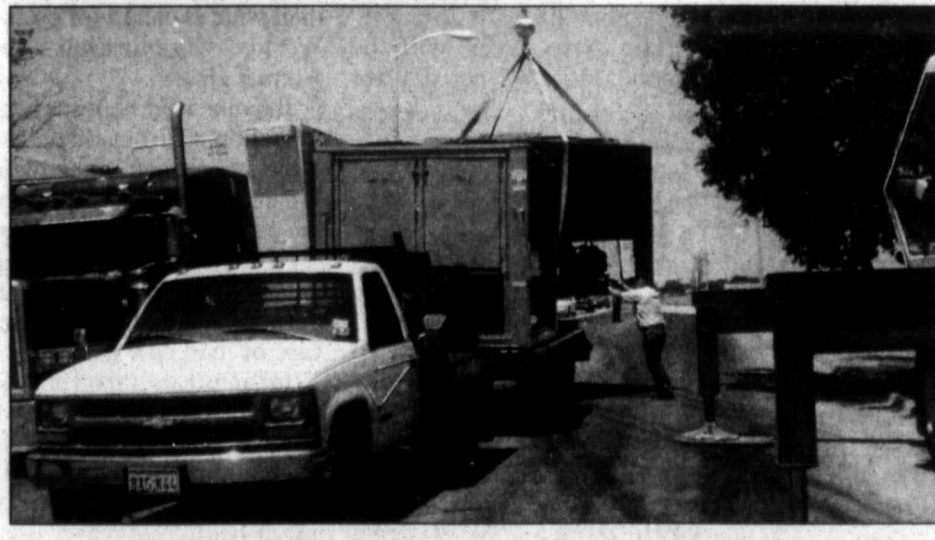
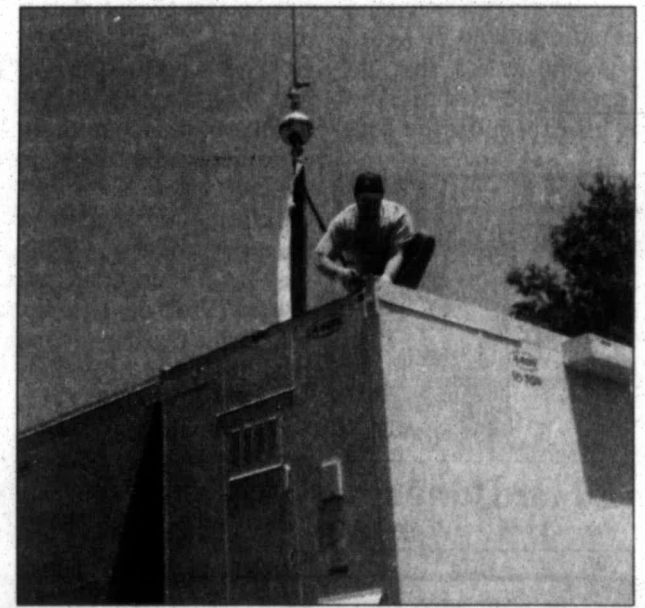


Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS Blooms in a variety of bright colors fill a flower bed at the home of Wesley and Kathryn Green. The Greens' garden is among the stops on this year's annual koi pond tour, which will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday. The tour is sponsored by Las Pampas Koi and Water Garden Society. Tickets are available from West Texas Landscape, the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, and Pollie's Country Garden, or by calling 665-6466 or 665-2878.

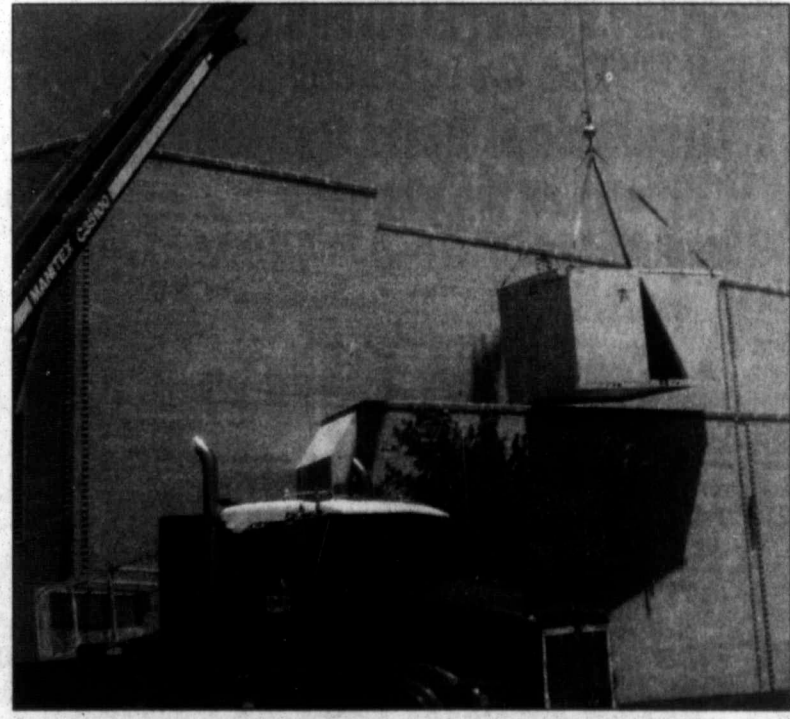
M.K. Brown Auditorium gets new A/C units



Two old air conditioning units that were installed when the M.K. Brown building was built in 1970 were replaced Wednesday. The new 95-ton units were installed by Larry Baker Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning. At left, an old unit is lowered onto a truck, bottom, where Baker helps slide it in place. At right, Kyle Parnell, general manager of Baker Plumbing, ties on straps to the new unit. Bottom right, a crane lowers a new unit into place. Shane Stokes, community services coordinator, said the new units are part of a \$500,000 heating, ventilation and air conditioning project. The new units weighed 6,500 pounds each, Baker said.



Photos and text by Dennis Spies



Obituaries

**Abbie F. Archer, 82**

Abbie F. Archer, 82, of Lefors, died July 19, 2006, at Amarillo. Services are scheduled at 10 a.m. Saturday in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa with the Rev. Lewis Ellis, retired Baptist minister, officiating.



Burial will be in Memorial Heights Cemetery in Lefors under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Archer was born Oct. 18, 1923, in Ranger. She married John J. Archer on May 27, 1946, in Pampa; he died June 10, 1998.

Mrs. Archer, a homemaker and a Baptist,

was a member and was a college of regent of Women Moose Lodge in Pampa. She was preceded in death by a brother, Floyd A. Turner, Jr.

Survivors include two daughters, Barbara Ince of Alvord and Sherry A. Roberts of Lefors; 11 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, P.O. Box 950, Amarillo, TX 79176; or to Lefors Volunteer Fire Department, 107 N. Main, Lefors, TX 79054.

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

**M.L. Hall, 82**

M.L. Hall, 82, of Amarillo, Texas, died July 19, 2006, at Amarillo. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Hall was born April 15, 1924, in Lyman, Okla. He married Routhie Eades in March 1951 in Kilgore. She preceded him in death on Aug. 5, 2002.

He had been a resident of Pampa since 1954, moving to Amarillo in 2000. He was the owner and operator of General Supply Co. for over 20 years, retiring in 1982. He was a member of the First Baptist Church. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving

during World War II.

Survivors include two sons, Jim Hall and wife Karen of Pampa and Gary Alan Hall of Amarillo; one brother, Jim J. Hall and wife June of Phoenix, Ariz.; one sister, Margaret Hall of Ada, Okla.; and two grandchildren, Price Hall of Canyon and Allison Hall of Pampa.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, TX 79066-0621.

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

**Gray County Weather**

Today: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 100. South-southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 74. South wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 96. West-southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low near 66. Northeast wind around 15 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent

chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 87. North-northeast wind around 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 66. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 89. West-southwest wind around 5 mph becoming south-south-east.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. South-southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 90. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Partly cloudy, with a low near 70.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 90.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 70.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 92.

**Stocks**

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of White Deer.		
Wheat	4.33	
Milo	3.33	
Corn	4.23	
Soybeans	4.70	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
OXY	100.32	-0.57
BP PLC ADR	69.33	-0.35
Cabot Corp	32.73	-0.12
Celanese	19.61	+0.12
Cabot Oil Gas	46.00	-0.29
Coca Cola	43.79	-0.03
VLO	64.21	-0.08
HAL	33.43	-0.72
TRV	39.76	+0.37
KMI	99.95	-0.05
XCEL	19.63	+0.10
Kerr McGee	69.80	+0.06
XOM	64.33	-0.33
Nat'l Oilwell	59.95	-1.04
Limited	24.50	-0.15
Williams	22.92	-0.26
MCD	34.82	-0.27
Atmos	28.79	+0.20
Pioneer Nat	43.38	-0.26
JCP	63.78	-0.41
COP	65.24	-0.65
SLB	63.27	-0.97
Tenneco	21.84	-0.31
CVX	65.64	-0.35
Wal-Mart	44.26	+0.06
OKE	36.68	+0.02
NS Grp	51.74	-1.05
New York Gold	643.05	
Silver	11.15	
West Texas Crude	72.66	

**Killer of 5-year-old in Amarillo volunteering to die this evening**

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Child sex offender Robert Anderson voluntarily headed to the Texas death chamber this evening for abducting and killing a 5-year-old girl in Amarillo 14 years ago.

Anderson acknowledged the horrific slaying of Audra Reeves and asked that no new appeals be filed to try to block his execution, the 16th

this year in Texas and the second in as many days.

"The only way I want this stopped is if they give a moratorium to the death penalty," Anderson, 40, said in a recent death row interview where he took sole responsibility for the girl's murder.

"There was nobody else, just me," he said. "She was totally an innocent victim."

Anderson had a history of sexual offenses involving children that began as a teenager in Tulsa, Okla., and said he'd been in and out of centers "for deviant behavior," as he described them, to deal with his obsession for young girls.

"My whole life is a regret," he said, adding that he looked forward to dying. "I should have been in

prison when I was 15."

Audra lived with her mother in Florida and had just arrived in Amarillo days earlier to spend the summer with her father. She was playing outside on June 9, 1992, when Anderson snatched her as she walked by his Amarillo home.

"It was a messed-up day," Anderson said. "A lot of things went wrong."

An argument earlier that day with his wife of about eight months set him off, he said.

"The whole day revolved around the fight," he said. "She stormed out of the house and said when she returned she didn't want to find me."

According to court records and Anderson's confession, he forced the girl to accompany him into the house and tried to rape her, then choked her and beat her with a footstool.

When he discovered she still was alive, he drowned her in a bathtub. He stuffed her body into a large foam cooler, pushed the cooler cart the street in a grocery cart and dumped it in a trash bin.

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**Emergency Services**

**Pampa PD**

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Seventeen traffic stops were made. Motorist assistance was rendered at the intersection of Highways 60 and 70.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1600 block of West Browning.

A traffic complaint was received from the 100 block of West 30th.

Animal complaints were received from the 1900 block of Grape, the 1200 block of North Russell and the 1100 block of Prairie Drive.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1100 block of West Coronado Drive and the intersection of Price Road and Highway 152.

Welfare checks were made in the 400 block of South Houston and the 400 block of Lowry.

A runaway was reported in the 1000 block of North Dwight.

A missing person was reported in the 700 block of South Somerville.

A civil matter was reported in the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 700 block of North Zimmers and the 400 block of North Banks.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 300 block of North Nelson, the 800 block of South Cuyler, and the 600 block of North Naida, where an arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of West Brown and the 1100 block of Cinderella.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of Lefors and the 200 block of North Starkweather.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of North West. A driver's side window of a 1994 Chevrolet Suburban was broken. Estimated cost of damage is \$100.

A domestic disturbance and resisting arrest/detention were reported in the 200 block of South Tignor.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 600 block of North Zimmers.

Two burglar alarms were reported. Fraud was reported in the police department lobby.

Forgery was reported in the police department lobby by Pamcel Federal Credit Union, West Highway 60.

Burglary was reported in the 2400 block of Navajo.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2800 block of Charles.

**Accidents**

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.

**Wednesday, July 19**

5:04 p.m. — A 1985 Honda Accord LX, driven by Luz Elvia Huerta-Castillo, 29, of 409 N. Zimmers, collided with a properly parked 1999 Chevrolet Suburban, owned by Lloyd Wolfe of 1618 W. Browning, in the 1600 block of West Browning. No injuries were reported. Huerta-Castillo was cited for failure to drive in a single lane and no valid driver's license.

**Sheriff**

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

**Wednesday, July 19**

David Young Sinches, 51, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of South Tignor by Pampa Police Department for resisting arrest/search/transport, disorderly conduct/language, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

**Fires**

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

**Wednesday, July 19**

4:55 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 100 block of West Foster on an odor investigation.

**Thursday, July 20**

2:36 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1600 block of North Dwight on a medical assist.

**Ag department to reduce mad cow testing by approximately 90 percent**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department is scaling back its testing program for mad cow disease to one-tenth of what it has been since the discovery of an infected cow in the U.S.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said there is little justification for the current level, which rose to about 1,000 tests a day after the first U.S. case of mad cow disease in December 2003.

The new level will be around 110 tests per day for

the disease, known medically as bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

"It's time that our surveillance efforts reflect what we now know is a very, very low level of BSE in the United States," Johanns said.

Testing will be scaled back around late August, he said. Johanns said the reduced surveillance remains significantly higher than what is called for by the World Organization for Animal Health.

Johanns said he hopes the reduction will not affect the effort to reopen trade with Japan, which has pushed for the current level, or a higher level, of testing. Japan was a huge consumer of U.S. beef before the first American case of mad cow disease.

Johanns said Japan should "recognize that what we've done here exceeds all the international standards, and the markets should be open to our beef."

Johanns said testing has nothing to do with the safety of U.S. beef for consumers here and abroad. From a food safety standpoint, the real key is the removal at slaughter of cattle parts known to carry mad cow disease, Johanns said.

"Those who are trying to convince their consumers

that universal testing or 100 percent testing somehow solves the problem really are misleading you," he said.

A consumer advocate said Johanns is the one misleading consumers.

"If you do testing of 100 percent of your animals, any ones that test positive never go into the food chain," said Michael Hansen of Consumers Union. "That's in part why they do it in Europe, because they've seen animals that look perfectly fine, and they catch them just before they go to slaughter."

On an annual basis, the current level of 1,000 tests a day represents about 1 percent of the 35 million cattle slaughtered last year in the United States.

The United States has had three confirmed cases of mad cow disease: in December 2003, in a Washington state cow imported from Canada; last June, in a Texas-born cow; and in March, in an Alabama cow. Texas is the nation's leading cattle producer.

In April, Johanns released a department analysis of testing data, saying the prevalence of mad cow disease "is extraordinarily low."

# Bush to NAACP: 'I understand that racism still lingers'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush acknowledged persistent racism in America and lamented the Republican Party's bumpy relations with black voters as he addressed the NAACP's annual convention Thursday for the first time in his presidency.

"I understand that racism still lingers in America," Bush told the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "It's a lot easier to change a law than to change a human heart. And I understand that many African-Americans distrust my political party."

That line generated boisterous applause and cheers from the thousands in the audience, which generally gave the president a polite, reserved reception.

"I consider it a tragedy that the party of Abraham Lincoln let go of its historical ties with the African-American community," Bush said. "For too long, my party

wrote off the African-American vote, and many African-Americans wrote off the Republican Party."

Black support for Republicans in elections has hovered around 10 percent for more than a decade. In 2004, Bush drew 11 percent of the black vote against Democrat John Kerry.

Most of the president's remarks were greeted with smatterings of applause, but many in the convention center stood up to clap when he urged the Senate to renew a landmark civil rights law passed in the 1960s to stop racist voting practices in the South.

"President Johnson called the right to vote the lifeblood of our democracy. That was true then and it remains true today," Bush said.

Bush, joined by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and chief political adviser Karl Rove, spoke as the Senate debated a bill to approve a 25-year extension of expiring provisions of the

Voting Rights Act of 1965. The House has passed the bill, and the Senate was expected to pass it quickly, propelled by a Republican push to increase the party's credibility with minorities.

For five years in a row, Bush has declined invitations to address the NAACP convention. This year, he said yes. He was introduced by NAACP head Bruce Gordon.

"Bruce was a polite guy," Bush said. "I thought what he was going to say, 'It's about time you showed up.' And I'm glad I did."

He knew it would be a tough audience. According to AP-Ipsos polling conducted in June and July, 86 percent of blacks disapprove of the way Bush is handling his job as president, compared with 56 percent of whites who disapprove.

Bush said he saw his attendance at the convention as a moment of opportunity to celebrate the civil rights movement and the accomplishments of the NAACP.

"I come from a family committed to civil rights," Bush said. "My faith tells me that we are all children of God — equally loved, equally cherished, equally entitled

to the rights He grants us all. "For nearly 200 years, our nation failed the test of extending the blessings of liberty to African-Americans. Slavery was

legal for nearly 100 years, and discrimination legal in many places for nearly 100 years more."

## 25 percent say they would defy hurricane evacuation orders

ATLANTA (AP) — One in four people in Southern coastal states said they would ignore government hurricane evacuation orders, according to a Harvard University survey done earlier this month.

The most common reasons respondents gave for not evacuating were confidence that their home is well-built, belief that roads would be too crowded and concern that evacuating would be dangerous.

"Public officials have to realize a substantial group of people are going to remain and be very dependent on rescue efforts after a storm hits," said Robert Blendon, the Harvard health policy professor who directed the survey.

The telephone survey, of 2,029 people, was conducted from July 5 to July 11.

All participants were 18 and older and lived in counties within 50 miles of the coastline in the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

Nearly 50 percent said they had evacuated because of a hurricane before. "These are people with a lot of experience with storms," Blendon said.

When asked if they would evacuate if government officials said a major hurricane was going to hit in the next few days, 67 percent said they would, 24 percent said they would not and the rest said they didn't know or it would depend on the circumstances.

If it turned out they later needed rescuing, 75 percent of those who would or might stay voiced confidence they would be saved.

The rescue findings were surprising, especially in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Blendon said.

Katrina hit the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, devastating southern Mississippi and flooding much of New Orleans. The storm killed

more than 1,500 people in one of the largest natural disasters in modern American history.

It's noteworthy that 25 percent of the respondents who would not evacuate would not count on a rescue, said Dr. Irwin Redlener, director of Columbia University's National Center for Disaster Preparedness.

"There are many people who have an extremely low level of confidence in the government," Redlener said. Images of stranded cars and filthy hurricane shelters

awarded to any one applicant is \$250,000.

"Once we review and prioritize applications, we send them to the state committee, who makes the final decision," Peet said.

Other area cities receiving the grants include Wellington, \$250,000 for water system improvements; Spearman, \$250,000 for sewer line improvements; and Wheeler, \$250,000 for sewer line improvements.

## Autopsy

Continued from Page 1

"We don't want to speculate on anything at this point," PPD Chief Trevlyn Pitner said Monday concerning the death.

Final autopsy results may be available at the end of August, Curfman said.

The autopsy is being performed by Lubbock County Medical Examiner/Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Division of Forensic Pathology in Lubbock.

Graveside services were to be at 2 p.m. today at Fairview Cemetery, with arrangements under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Survivors include his mother, Judy Blackshear of Pampa; his father, Richard Jones of Pampa; three sisters, Brooklyn, Ashley and Jo Jones, all of Pampa; his grandparents, Shirley and Don Hoskins, Vic and Sue Jones and Judy Gates, all of Pampa; and his great-grandparents, Francis Musgrave of Amarillo and Clara Jones of Pampa.

## McLean

Continued from Page 1

system flowing freely for the next 50 years," Martin said.

The improvements will be located on Main Street between Third and Second Streets.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is the funding

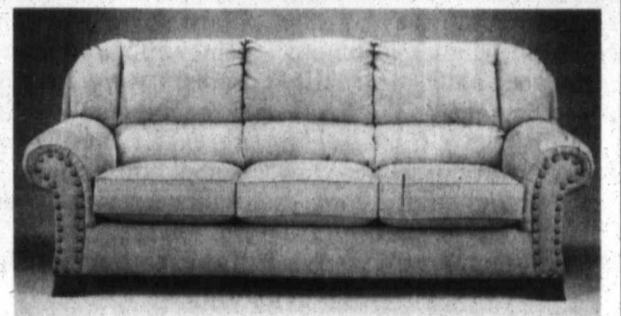
source for ORCA's Texas CDBG program.

"These funds provide for the basic necessities that many of us take for granted," said Charles S. Stone, ORCA's executive director. "The monies are vital to rural Texas communities with limited funding options for infrastructure."

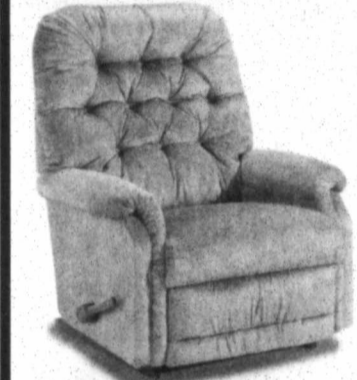
Gray County Judge Richard Peet, chairman of the regional committee for ORCA's community block grants, said that the most

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# Viewpoints

## Adventures in dating hitting the highways and byways

OK, all you adventurous singles. Time to get serious, now. Do you find your commitment to flirting taking a back seat to the humdrum demands of everyday life? Is work, grocery shopping, housekeeping, paying the bills and laundry infringing upon your ability to qualify in the first heat?

Well, take a front seat in today's dating game with [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com).

According to its own PR, [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com) is a "Web site devoted to 'helping people formally meet as they're driving down the street.'"

Hooray! Now, you can get in at least 30-minutes of

quality flirting each and every day. (It kinda brings new meaning to managing one's time wisely, doesn't it?)

Ever dedicated to helping lonely hearts in Fords, Chevys or sport utilities achieve their romantic destinies, [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com) recently added flirting expert Jennifer Litz to its panoply of services.

Litz provides "ongoing" tips and advice to serious flirter. Her credentials? Well, she's a Texan, and she won "the illustrious title of 'Flirting Expert' after an exhaustive national search" — presumably conducted by [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com).

"Litz's [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com) blog, titled 'Pass Left, Flirt Right,'" a press release from [Mediamuse1@comcast.net](mailto:Mediamuse1@comcast.net) said, "will offer sensible guidance on sustaining relationships beyond the steering wheel, including dating advice, a vibrant Q+A section, live chat sessions, and video from the author's own dating escapades."

OK, and this is probably just a me thing, but "escapades" and "sensible"

doth not project a persona of trust and authority. I mean, these two words are a definite conflict in terminology. Think about it, have you ever heard of a sensible escapade?



**Skyla Bryant**  
Staff Writer

Um, did that quote say that Litz *videod* her escapades? Wow.

Litz's goal is to update the blog thrice a week. (So for those of you who are easily bored, take heart.)

Litz is not [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com)'s only draw card. The site also offers these

services and/or activities copied verbatim from an e-mail and listed below:

1. Shoutouts: a fun, interactive way to talk to other members
2. Featured Flirter: an approach to increase members' visibility by adding their photo to the homepage
3. Send a Smile: an easy way to say "hi" to other members
4. Flirt Friends: communicate with chat room members in real time
5. Personalized Photo Galleries: display a variety of personal photos
6. Newest Flirters: a great introduction to new members.

Mediamuse1 says [www.flirtingintrajiffic.com](http://www.flirtingintrajiffic.com) is a free service that currently receives in the neighborhood of 35,000 page views a day.

Each flirt is issued a "flirting ID" upon registering with the site.

I wonder ... how in the world do these traffic daters manage to exchange telephone numbers?

*Disclaimer:* This column is not meant as an advertisement. Flirting in traffic sounds a bit dangerous to me. Perhaps you could get a chauffeur and flirt while someone else drives? Be safe, drive friendly and don't litter!

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 20, the 201st day of 2006. There are 164 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon as they stepped out of their lunar module.

On this date:

In 1810, Colombia declared independence from Spain.

In 1861, the Congress of the Confederate States began holding sessions in Richmond, Va.

In 1871, British Columbia entered Confederation as a Canadian province.

In 1881, Sioux Indian leader Sitting Bull, a fugitive since the Battle of the Little Big Horn, surrendered to federal troops.

In 1942, the first detachment of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps — later known as WACs — began basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

In 1944, an attempt by a group of German officials to assassinate Adolf Hitler with a bomb failed as the explosion at Hitler's Rastenburg headquarters only wounded the Nazi leader.

In 1944, President Roosevelt was nominated for an unprecedented fourth term of office at the Democratic convention in Chicago.

In 1976, America's Viking 1 robot spacecraft made a successful, first-ever landing on Mars.

In 1977, a flash flood hit Johnstown, Pa., killing 80 people and causing \$350 million worth of damage.

In 1999, after 38 years at the bottom of the Atlantic, astronaut Gus Grissom's Liberty Bell 7 Mercury capsule was lifted to the surface.

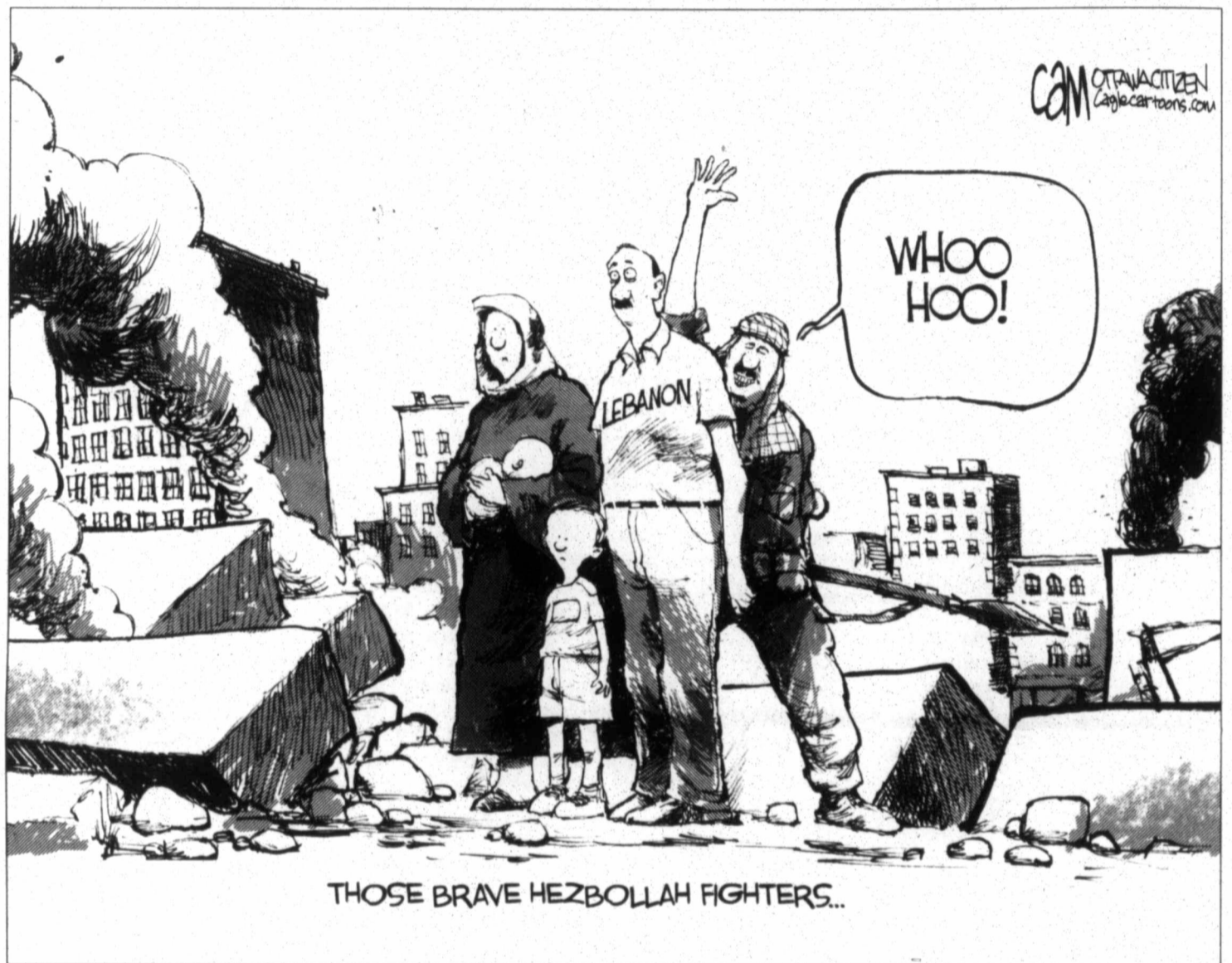
Ten years ago: In his weekly radio address, President Clinton paid tribute to America's Olympic athletes at the just-opened Atlanta games — as well as 16 high school students from Montoursville, Pa., who died in the crash of TWA Flight 800. At the Atlanta Olympics, Renata Mauer of Poland won the games' first gold, in the 10-meter air rifle.

Five years ago: The G-8 economic summit opened in Genoa, Italy, with raging street battles between police and demonstrators; one protester was fatally shot by officers. Ira Einhorn, convicted in absentia of killing his girlfriend, was flown from France and handed over to Philadelphia police.

One year ago: A day after being tapped by President Bush, Supreme Court nominee John Roberts paid courtesy calls on senators while a conservative group purchased TV ad time in support of his nomination and abortion rights groups staged protests.

*'Courage without conscience is a wild beast.'*

— Robert G. Ingersoll  
American lawyer and politician  
(1833-1899)



## A slow Internet connection can be painful

When it comes to surfing the Web, "speed is everything." A slow Internet connection can be painful, especially to those who've experienced high-speed connections. As more and more people move to broadband (high-speed) solutions, this frustration is starting to ebb. However, that hasn't stopped many software companies from offering products promising to "speed up your Internet."

Basically, two types of utilities exist: Internet Accelerators and Download Accelerators.

**Internet Accelerators**  
Waiting for a Web page to load can be frustrating. Watching the pictures slowly develop is akin to watching grass grow. To that end, some companies have created software solutions. However, before you download any of those programs, read on. Internet accelerators have two methods of operation. First, they tweak some of the internal settings of Windows. Most of the time, these adjustments result in

no noticeable speed increases, but they don't hurt anything.

The second function offered by these programs is more interesting, though — predictive-downloading. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me start at the beginning. In a typical Web surfing experience, your modem is only active about 10 percent of the time. That's right. Ninety percent of your surfing time is taken up by "you reading Web pages." Your modem is only active when delivering or sending information to/from your computer.

Internet Accelerator programs have a clever method of "tricking you" into thinking your speeds have increased. While you are reading a Web page, these programs are secretly downloading all of the pages linked from that page. That way, if you click on one of

these links, the resulting page appears instantaneously because it was downloaded while you were reading the first page!

I'm not going to list any of these programs, because I don't like them. Most, if not all, install spyware on your system, throwing up (and I use that phrase literally) banners and advertising at every turn. These programs also seem to be very unstable, causing mysterious system crashes when you least expect or can afford them.

**Download Accelerators**  
You've found the coolest program on the planet and it's yours free. All you have to do is "download it." Well, you click your mouse and a little meter appears. However, it doesn't seem to be moving. Eight days later, you think it might have edged up a bit ... A download accelerator can speed

things up through a variety of means.

My favorite program in this genre is Download Accelerator (<http://www.speedbit.com>). With it, you can schedule downloads for any time you wish, resume broken downloads, and download from multiple sites simultaneously. The best part, though, about this program, is its cost: \$0, nada, zippo.

Another good program is GetRight (<http://www.getright.com>). Similar to Download Accelerator, it can resume broken links, and schedule downloads. However, it also allows you to limit the bandwidth you use on a particular download.

This capability is very useful if you are downloading multiple files simultaneously. It prohibits one "session" from monopolizing your system's bandwidth. GetRight is shareware. By paying the one-time \$25 registration fee, you get a code

See SPEED, Page 5

**Eric Spellmann**  
Columnist



## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **July 10**  
San Antonio Express-News on corporate ethics:

With corporate scandals becoming as common as the daily stock listings, cynics might think the term "business ethics" is an oxymoron.

Those naysayers may want to rethink their positions.

Three people were arrested recently

in Atlanta, charged with stealing confidential information about beverage recipes from the Coca-Cola Co., part of a conspiracy to sell the secrets to PepsiCo., according to news reports.

You may think the plot merely reinforces the cynical notion of business in America, but the only reason the three were arrested was because of high-minded officials with Pepsi.

The Pepsi employees, aware of the plot, contacted authorities, which led to an undercover investigation of the nefarious scheme.

One of those charged is an executive administrative assistant, Joya Williams, who is accused of rifling through corporate files and stuffing documents and a new Coca-Cola product into a personal bag.

Pepsi spokesman Dave DeCecco told reporters his company did what any responsible company would do in cooperating with Coke and the investigation.

We hope he is right, but if not, at least one company knows "business ethics" is not an oxymoron.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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**Publisher: Sean Smith**

Editor: Dennis Spies

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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# Speed

Continued from Page 4

that removes the "nag screens" and increases some of the download limits.

## The Culprit of Most Speed Problems

Believe it or not, your Internet connection rarely reaches its maximum rated speed. In fact, most of the time, you are surfing at about half that rate. What's going on? Well, in most cases, "your computer" is not where the bottleneck lies.

Internet information travels through a host of computers, routers, hubs, and firewalls before it gets to your system. Any one of these machines could be causing a slowdown. Or as Confucious would say: "Just as a chain is only as strong as it's weakest link, your Internet connection is only as fast as the slowest machine between you and your requested information."

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

# House on track to voice support for Israel

By ANNE PLUMMER FLAHERTY  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Little of the political divisiveness in Congress over Iraq war policy is evident as lawmakers rush to embrace the Bush administration's staunch support of Israel in the latest flare-up of violence in the Middle East.

House Republican leader John Boehner cited Israel's "unique relationship" with the United States as a reason for his colleagues to swiftly go on record supporting Israel in its confrontation with Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon.

So strong was the momentum that it was steamrolling efforts by a small group of House members who argued that Congress's pro-Israel stance goes too far.

The nonbinding resolution, expected to pass the House by a large margin Thursday, is similar to one the Senate passed Tuesday. It harshly condemns Israel's enemies and says Syria and Iran should be held accountable for providing Hezbollah with money and missile

technology used to attack Israel.

"I certainly sympathize with the Lebanese people and the Lebanese government," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., told CBS' "The Early Show" on Thursday. But, he said, if Hezbollah is "going to launch attacks from the Lebanese territory, then tragically the

Lebanese government and people pay a price for that."

Yet as Republican and Democratic leaders rally behind the measure in rare bipartisan fashion, a handful of lawmakers have quietly expressed reservations that the resolution was too much the result of a powerful lobbying force and attempts to court Jewish voters.

"I'm just sick in the stomach, to put it mildly," said Rep. Nick J. Rahall II, D-W.Va., who is of Lebanese descent.

Rahall joined other Arab-American lawmakers in drafting an alternative resolution that would have omitted language holding Lebanon responsible for Hezbollah's actions and called for restraint from all sides. Rahall said that proposal was "politely swept under the rug," a political reality he and others say reflects the influence Israel has in Congress.

"There's a lot (of lawmakers) that don't feel it's right ... but vote yes, and get it the heck out of here," Rahall said.

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., who co-sponsored the alternative resolution and also is of Lebanese descent, agreed.

*Yet as Republican and Democratic leaders rally behind the measure in rare bipartisan fashion, a handful of lawmakers have quietly expressed reservations that the resolution was too much the result of a powerful lobbying force and attempts to court Jewish voters.*

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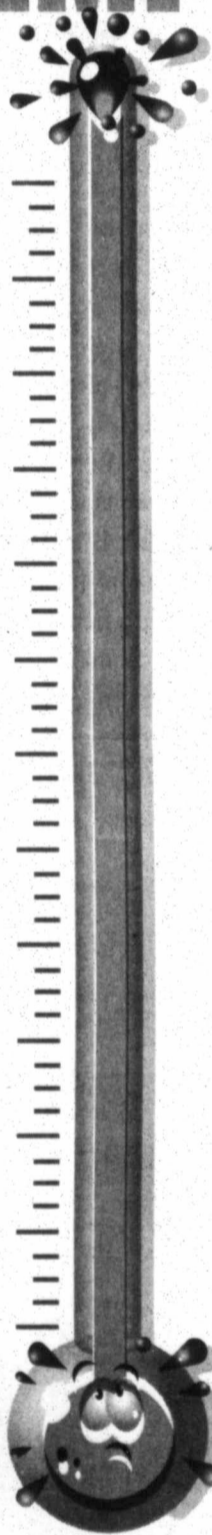
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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** A few weeks ago, my partner and I received an invitation to a friend's 50th birthday party. The invitation stated, "No gag gifts." A few hours before the party, my partner came home with a bag full of gag gifts, including Preparation H, Depends, etc. That's when the argument started. I told him I would not go to the party if he brought those gifts. I feel they are insulting, and those kinds of gifts are not funny anymore -- especially when the invitation specifies no gag gifts. I have seen those kinds of gifts a hundred times. As a result, we did not attend the party. How do you feel about gag gifts? Who's right and who's wrong? — **TOO SENSITIVE IN RENO**

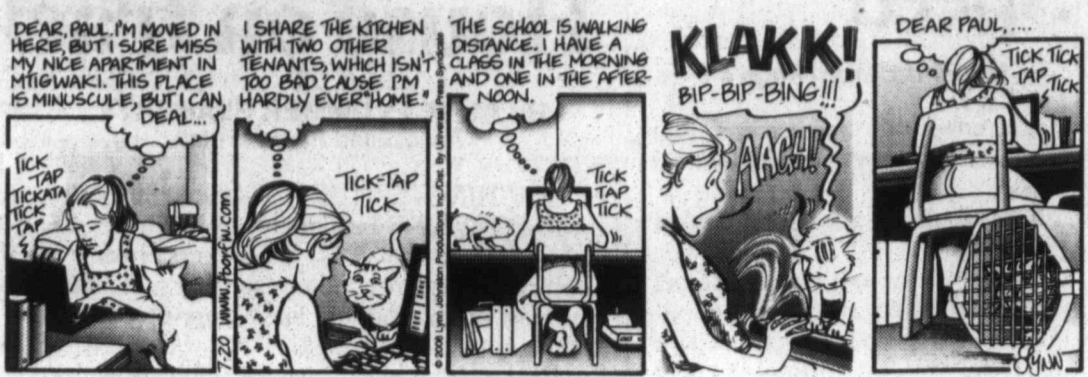
**DEAR TOO SENSITIVE:** While I do not condone mentioning gifts -- gag gifts or otherwise -- on an invitation, the host, and presumably the honoree, had made their wishes known. You are not "too sensitive"; you were socially appropriate. For your partner to have ignored the invitation would have been rude and insensitive. I have nothing against gag gifts if they are original, funny and tasteful. Frankly, I think in this case, by not attending, you spared yourself embarrassment and did the honoree a favor.

**DEAR ABBY:** My grandmother is 88 and in good health. She has lived with my dad's sister ("Aunt Joy") and her family since Grandpa died nine years ago. Grandma doesn't have a mother-in-law suite or anything like that -- just her own bedroom and bath -- but she pays them between \$600 and \$700 in rent every month. Furthermore, Aunt Joy charges Grandma a percentage of everything they do to

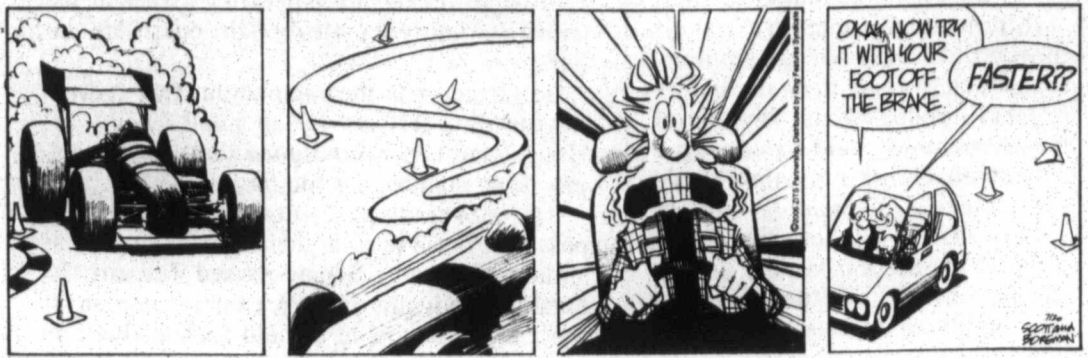
improve the house. Aunt Joy had granite countertops put in; Grandma paid \$1,200 for the use of them. They also had a fence installed and charged Grandma 25 percent of the cost. I think my aunt is very materialistic. She uses Grandma and her money to get what she wants. Grandma isn't rich, but she has enough to live on her own if she wanted to. It's also interesting that their daughter, who is 27, lives with them and pays no rent at all. Why should my grandma have to pay so much and my cousin nothing? My parents would love for Grandma to come and live here in our guestroom for free, but we live 1,200 miles away. Dad doesn't want to create a rift in the family, but shouldn't he draw the line somewhere? My aunt and uncle call themselves Christians, but taking advantage of an elderly woman doesn't seem very Christian to me. How should something like this be dealt with? How should Dad handle it? — **PERTURBED IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**DEAR PERTURBED:** I don't know what kind of conversations are going on in your house about Grandma, but they are not something you should be involved with. If your father feels his mother is being taken advantage of, he should talk to her about it and tell her -- if he hasn't already -- that he and your mother would love to have her live with you rent-free. After that, the decision about where she wants to live and how she wants to conduct her life should be up to her. As it stands, Grandma seems to have chosen to live with her daughter and agreed to the terms. Some mothers feel closer to their daughters than to their sons. It's a girl thing.

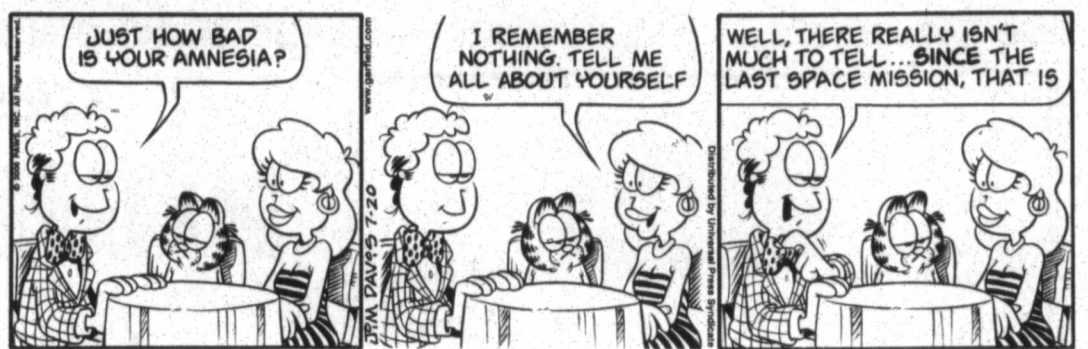
## For Better Or For Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin

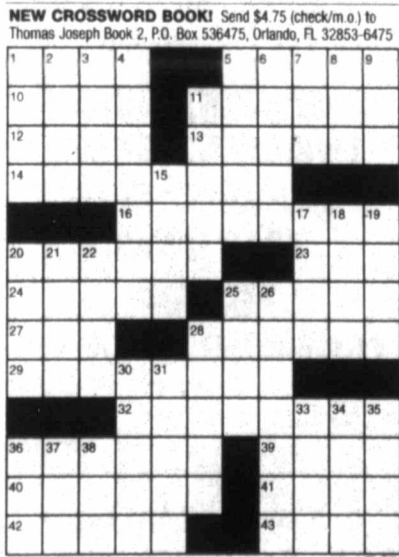


## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Quick curd
  - 3 Singer Jackson
  - 4 Heist
  - 5 Pancake pile
  - 6 Loquacious
  - 7 Wholly
  - 8 Carnival spot
  - 9 Salon offering
  - 11 Clickable pictures
  - 15 Jamaican products
  - 17 Battery fill
  - 18 Trick
  - 19 Bucks, e.g.
  - 20 Ran, as color
  - 21 Stead
  - 22 Sign of the future
  - 25 Bible part
  - 28 — Penh
  - 30 "Sophie's Choice" costar
  - 31 More confident
  - 33 First name in jazz
  - 34 Touch on makers
  - 35 Reservoir
  - 36 German article
  - 37 Outback bird
  - 38 Goose egg
- DOWN**
- 1 Spill over
  - 2 Bean
  - 4 Heist
  - 5 Pancake pile
  - 6 Loquacious
  - 7 Wholly
  - 8 Carnival spot
  - 9 Salon offering
  - 11 Clickable pictures
  - 15 Jamaican products
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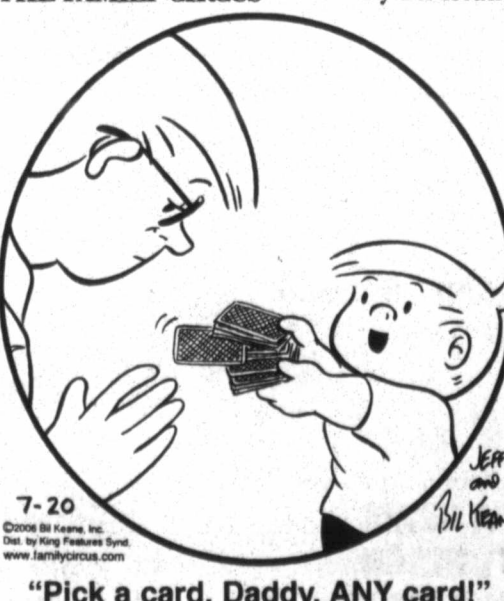


## Marmaduke



## The Family Circus

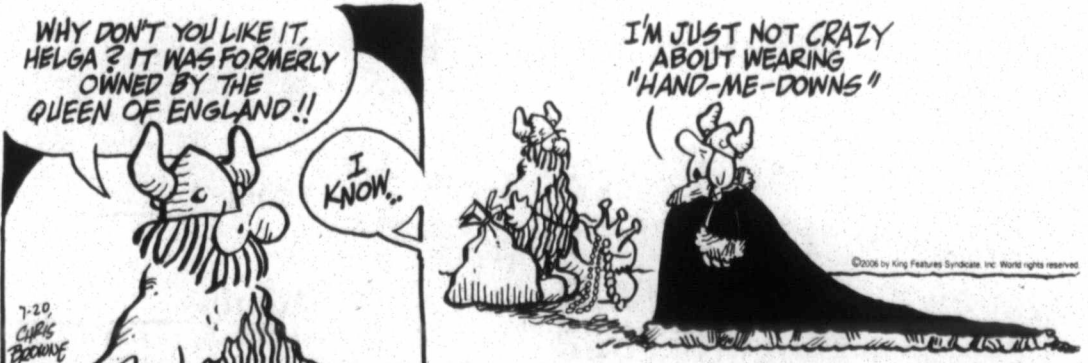
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



ROCKY MOUNTAIN SIGH

# Smog woes choke Denver, Front Range

DENVER (AP) — For all its outdoor splendor and fit residents, Colorado is suffering through a summer of smog.

With temperatures topping 100 degrees this month in Denver and elsewhere along the populous Front Range, routine activities like filling up at the gas station or mowing the lawn are releasing fumes into a perfect cauldron for creating ozone, a major component of smog.

Activists are sounding the alarm. Government officials are keeping watch. Nobody's breathing easy.

Denver is on a pace to eclipse the ozone-choked summer of 2003, the worst in 20 years, when the state issued 42 ozone alerts warning of unhealthy air. As of Wednesday, this summer has had 34.

Christopher Dann, a spokesman for the Colorado health department, said it's hard to point to one factor causing this summer's increase.

"There's no magic bullet out there that anyone can see," Dann said. "We're not out there generating ozone in great amounts, we're emitting precursor pollutants that are chemically changed in the atmosphere into ozone.... As long as human beings burn stuff, we're going to have pollution problems."

Ozone is created when the sun bakes common pollutants such as engine exhaust, wildfire smoke and vapors from everything from paint cans to oil and gas wells.

It's a particularly vexing problem for Denver, which vanquished its "brown cloud" in 2002 only to get tagged by the federal government two years later for missing new ozone standards.

While rebounding with acceptable ozone levels in 2004 and last year, this year's spike puts the region in jeopardy of coming under federal restrictions if it can't rein in the prob-

lem. For most people, heavy ozone is only irritating, but for people with respiratory difficulties — such as the more than 250,000 Coloradans with asthma — it can lead to intense breathing problems, said Arthur McFarlane, who works with the state health department's asthma program. The federal Environmental Protection Agency measures ozone at monitoring stations across the Front

Range, using a complicated formula that allows for the effects of unusually hot weather.

If all-day smog ratings at any monitoring station, averaged over a three-year period, exceed the federal limit, the EPA can impose restrictions on the state, including limits on federal highway spending. This summer, some Denver-area monitoring stations are hovering around the maximum. One near Boulder is at the limit; one south of Littleton and another north of Denver are slightly above. Those high numbers may still come down, averaged with last year's ratings, but it leaves the state on shaky footing if next

summer's numbers continue the trend.

A station installed this summer west of Fort Collins has far exceeded the standard. Those readings should "set off alarm bells" about human risk and the need for policy makers to take action, said Vickie Patton, an attorney with Environmental Defense.

"The big picture for the Colorado Front Range is a paradox where you have millions of people who are raising families here because they value clean air," she said.

Denver has until the end of 2007 to show ozone levels are in compliance. Other regions around the country, including Roanoke, Va., Greenville-Spartanburg S.C., Johnson City-Bristol, Tenn., Nashville, Tenn., and Frederick County, Md. are also facing the deadline.

In Denver's case, it is a big job, but achievable, experts say.

State health officials ask people to do little things, such as not spilling gasoline at the pump, waiting to refuel until after dusk, when the vapors have less time to cook into ozone, and trading in old gasoline-powered mowers for newer models.

Clean air advocates say there should also be changes in the growing oil and gas fields north of Denver. "Oil and gas is kind of the last virtually unregulated source of air pollution in the state," said Jeremy Nichols, a volunteer for Rocky Mountain Clear Air Action.

Greg Schnacke, executive vice president of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association, said the industry spent \$20 million in Colorado over the past few years to curb escaped gases. Old clunkers on the road are a bigger problem, he said, and forcing any industry to spend millions more on questionable solutions doesn't make sense.

*"The big picture for the Colorado Front Range is a paradox where you have millions of people who are raising families here because they value clean air."*

— Vicki Patton  
Environmental  
Defense attorney

Range, using a complicated formula that allows for the effects of unusually hot weather.

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## Groups want to bar power shut-offs for elderly, poor

DALLAS (AP) — Advocates for the poor and elderly have asked the Texas Public Utility Commission to restrict electric providers from cutting power to needy customers who fall behind on payments this summer.

The commission's in-house consumer advocate and 26 lawmakers support the petition, which the commission is expected to consider Thursday.

Supporters argue that some Texans are endangered by rising electricity rates, hot weather and the Legislature's decision to redirect funds that had been set aside to help poor customers pay their bills.

Electricity retailers have been working with the PUC's Office of Public Utility Counsel to find a compromise to the request.

The industry argues that customers are protected by federal and private programs that help people who are behind on their bills.

Advocates say those programs aren't enough. They want the PUC to assure that seniors, the medically needy and people who pay at least part of their bills have service until Oct. 1.

"The only issue is whether or not we're going to wait until emergency vehicles are called to the homes of people

across this state to bail people out or whether we're going to be prudent here and do something," said Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston.

The commission barred electricity shut-offs in 1998 and 2000 for most or all of August and all of September.

The industry argues that restricting shut-offs "fosters irresponsible bill payment behavior."

John Fainter, president and chief executive officer

of the Association of Electric Companies of Texas, said the proposal would allow anyone older than 65 to stop paying for a few months with no fear of disconnection.

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### Events calendar

- **Pampa Community Concert Association** Presents "Live On Stage" has released its current concert schedule. The schedule is as follows: "The Centurymen" 7 p.m., Sept. 20, First Baptist Church in Pampa; pianist Alpin Hong, 2:30 p.m., Oct. 1, M.K. Brown Auditorium; "Puttin' on the Hitz, A Salute to Irving Berlin," 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15, Borger High School Auditorium; Bronn and Katherine Journey, harpist and vocalist, 7:30 p.m., March 19, M.K. Brown Auditorium. Membership fees are \$30 for adults, \$70 for families; and \$15 for students. For more information, call 665-0343 or 665-2631.
- **Habitat For Horses, Inc.**, is in the area distributing horse feed, hay, medical and barn supplies. The volunteer organization will continue to organize feed and hay drives to the fire damaged area and coordinate distribution centers as needed. For more information, call (866) 434-5737 or (806) 681-5858.
- **The Volunteer Services Council** for Texas Panhandle Mental Health Mental Retardation will sponsor the 11th Annual Culinary Bash at 7 p.m. Saturday in the courtyard of Las Tiendas in Amarillo. The fund-raiser will include a wine tasting, classical guitarist Moses Morin, a gourmet meal, dessert, silent auction, raffle, mystery boxes, "Never Cook Again" drawing and dancing to the sounds of Easy Street. Tickets are \$35 per person. Reservations are required. For more information, call (806) 351-3288.

- **The Texas Railroad Commission** will offer five free seminars in July and August on how to use the agency's Web site for filing permits and more. A workshop is scheduled from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Tuesday at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo. To register, call (512) 463-6838 or e-mail rachel.rodriquez@rrc.state.tx.us.
- **The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center** has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinic(s): Tuesday, Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, in Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.
- **The Pampa High School Class of 1986** reunion will be held July 28 and 29. For more information, call 665-8685 or 669-4800.
- **The 22nd Annual Greg Black Memorial 10-K and 5-K Run** will be held July 29 in Hereford. The event will kick-off at 8 a.m. at the Hereford YMCA. Registration will be from 7-7:45 a.m. Entry fees are \$12 in advance or \$15 the day of the race. For more information, call (806) 364-6990.

## BENZENE ALERT

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## A Gold Mine in Bedroom Drawers

Newsweek: People are selling their old scrap gold that is gathering dust for its cash value because gold prices are so high. With the price of gold at a 25 year high (over \$650.00 per ounce), it makes sense. ScrapGold.com, a gold recycler, offers free insured recycle kits so people may cash in their scrap with 24 hour service and guarantee satisfaction. They accept broken and outdated items like chains, charms, rings and more. "Everyone has bits of gold just lying around which can be turned into cash" says Richard Zakroff, VP of marketing. "Even old dental gold has value." ScrapGold.com processes over 10,000 recycle Kits per month. People can get a free GoldKit at 1-800-283-4700 or ScrapGold.com.

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# Sports Day

## THAT POSITIVE FEELING

### Can white paint lead to victory?

**Funny what a little paint will do**

I visited the Pampa High School athletic office one day last week during coach Andy Cavalier's football camp. As soon as I stepped inside I was struck by how bright it was. The primary factor in the new brilliance of the facility is the newly painted walls, now featuring a white hue. This may not sound like much, and I may be reading more into it than is really there, but I was overcome by a positive feeling.

**Michael J. Stevens**  
Sports Editor



A sense triggered by little more than some white paint on some walls.

I'm not a psychiatrist and I didn't sleep in a Holiday Inn Express last night, but I have long believed that bright, well lit areas wake the senses and breed alertness.

Gone too are most of the images once painted on the walls of the Ready Room. It is now white. Fear not, the memories of games and accomplishments past have been preserved. Coach Cavalier has transferred them to framed posters that will be hung in the room. Again, a simple white paint job and posters in frames may not sound like much, but the desired effect could be great.

I cannot tell you how many people have asked my opinion on the upcoming Pampa Harvester football season and what fans should expect. Honestly, I have no idea. Like other sports writers, I could try to dazzle those asking my thoughts with amazing verbiage supported by little more than well intended guess work. What I can tell you is there is a positive vibe within the walls of the PHS athletic office. And right or wrong, it seems to me that is where the season will truly begin.

#### What were you thinking?

It was brought to my attention during a passing conversation with a friend earlier this week that someone drove a car onto the Pampa Harvester football field. The very field school officials have been laboring for almost two seasons to bring back to a respectable playing condition. I confirmed the story with Coach Cavalier this morning. "Yeah, I walked out onto the field to check it, make sure the sprinklers were working properly," Coach Cavalier said. "Then we went to church. Later that day, I walked back out and noticed the tire marks." He said the damage was minimal, save for where the cluprit(s) hung a hard left, leaving deep ruts in the ground.

Why?

Look, I did some silly things as a younger man. Some might say I still do. But in a town that has but one high school that, in turn, only has one football field, one baseball field, one tennis court and other such facilities, why would you go out of your way to vandalize them? It isn't funny. It isn't a feat worth bragging about. "Hey, see those ruts? I did that" is almost like bragging that you beat up a clown.

Please, take more pride in what you have. It is far better to boast about your ability to care for what you have than your ability to trash it. If you are the guilty party, please keep reading.

#### Congrats Zach Thomas

A little bird whispered in my ear that former Pampa Harvester and current Miami Dolphins linebacker Zach Thomas was at the Pampa Youth & Community Center this morning. It's one of those tips you're not sure what to do with. I am too old and too long in this media thing to trophy hunt. Still, I thought it would be nice to meet the man.

It was.

Not for all he has accomplished, but for his down-to-earth attitude. I purposely went out of my way not to talk football. Actually, we didn't really talk about much of anything. He introduced me to his wife Maritza (hope I got that right) who was working out with him. The two were married only recently. Congratulations to both. Not just on the wedding, but the ability to keep it on the down low.

During our conversation, I was struck by one simple line Zach offered. Again, not being a trophy hunter, I asked his permission to take a few photos of him and his wife as they worked out. His quick and simple answer was, "Not at all. Anything for Pampa."

### Landis back in Tour title hunt

MORZINE, France (AP) — In a stunning turnaround a day after he was all but written off, American rider Floyd Landis moved back into contention at the Tour de France on Thursday, winning the final Alpine stage in a solo finish to jump from 11th to third.

Landis, who lost the leader's yellow jersey Wednesday after struggling at the uphill finish, bounced back by bursting ahead of the main pack in the first of three tough ascents in the 17th stage.

"After yesterday's stage I had to do something, because that was a disaster," Landis told Outdoor Life Network immediately after Thursday's stage. "The race isn't over yet. I came here to win the race, and it's not over yet."

With the tough Alpine climbs over, Saturday's individual time trial shapes up as a crucial test in this year's topsy-turvy Tour. Seven different riders have worn the yellow jersey since the three-week race, which ends Sunday, began July 1.

"I think I can do it," Landis told OLN. "It's a long time trial. It's the only thing left that matters. ... I'm telling you, I want to win the whole race, not just a stage."

## Astros take Cubs; Rangers nip Blue Jays

**Astros 4, Cubs 2**

CHICAGO (AP) — As Roger Clemens went into his motion to deliver his first pitch on a hot and humid night, flashbulbs popped from every angle and corner of Wrigley Field.

Clemens draws attention everywhere he goes, but this night featured more history than usual — a rare matchup of 300-game winners with Greg Maddux providing the opposition.

"I hope the fans enjoyed it. It's pretty special," Clemens said after out-pitching Maddux in the Houston Astros' 4-2 victory over the Chicago Cubs on Wednesday.

"I think it's why we do it. So that the fans, especially in this stadium that is so rich in history, can come out and enjoy it."

Clemens (2-3) threw six shutout innings to earn his 343rd career victory and move into sole possession of eighth place on the career list. He allowed three hits, walked one and struck out five.

"I know when I'm going up against Greg it's going to be a battle of wills," Clemens said. "That's for sure on a hot sticky night like it was tonight. It was going to come down to who made the mistake first."

Maddux did, surrendering a leadoff

homer to Craig Biggio.

Maddux (7-11) allowed seven hits and three runs in seven innings with no walks and three strikeouts. He lost his sixth straight decision and hasn't won since June 9. Maddux, who turned 40 in April, threw 102 pitches and remained at 325 wins.

"I love watching Greg work," Clemens said. "He's definitely one of the guys I admire in how he goes about his work. I'd definitely pay to see him pitch."

Biggio's 49th career leadoff homer — already an NL record — on Maddux's second pitch of the game got Houston off quickly. And the Astros went up 3-0 in the sixth on a two-run double by Preston Wilson.

**Rangers 5, Blue Jays 4**

TORONTO (AP) — A tumultuous night for the Toronto Blue Jays began with Shea Hillenbrand criticizing the club and ended with his dismissal.

Hillenbrand was cut by Toronto during a 5-4 loss to the Texas Rangers on Wednesday night, when the designated hitter and corner infielder refused to sit in the dugout after he was chastised in a team meeting.

Hours before, Hillenbrand criticized the organization and said he expected to be traded. He was upset because he

wasn't in the starting lineup for the second consecutive game and nobody in Toronto's front office congratulated him on adopting a baby girl last weekend.

Blue Jays pitcher Casey Janssen called the whole saga "crazy." Second-string catcher Gregg Zaun said he didn't see it coming. And team leader Vernon Wells said Hillenbrand took the news hard.

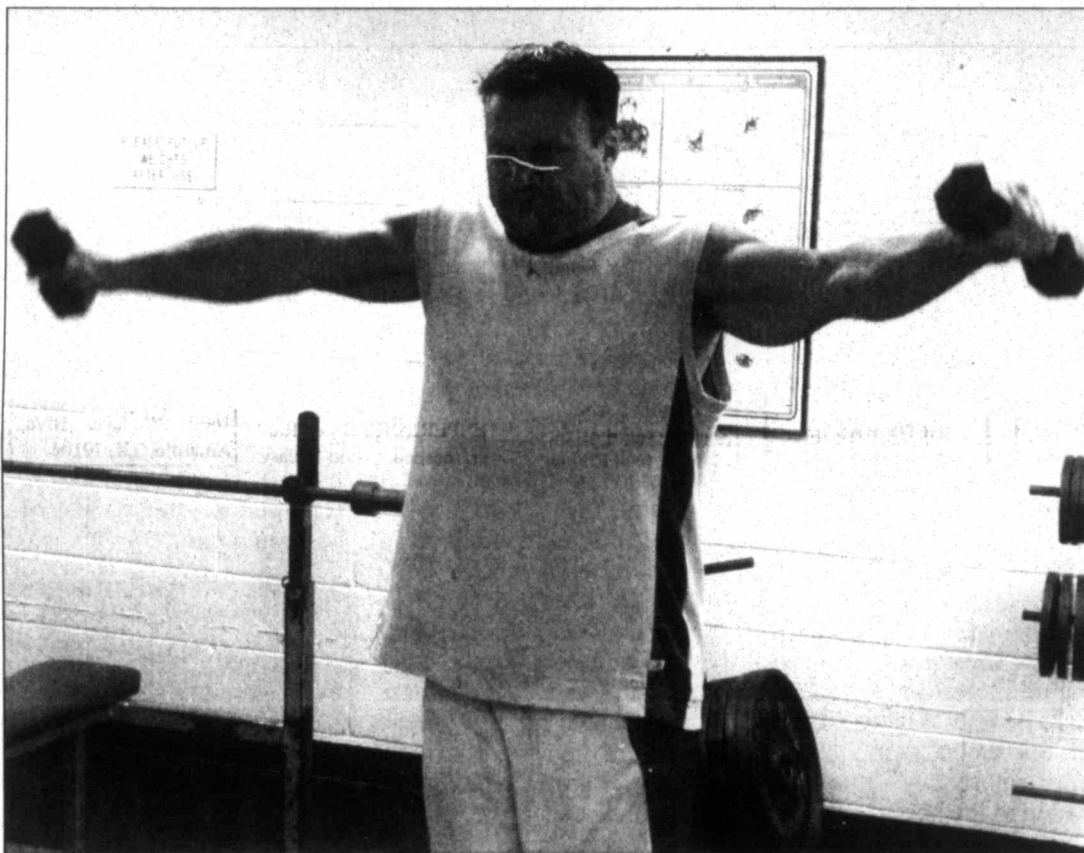
"Normally, you see Shea with a smile on his face and joking around," said Wells, who talked to Hillenbrand before he left the clubhouse. "It was hard for a lot of us to take. It's just something you don't see that often. I know it hit me hard."

Kevin Millwood earned his 10th win and Gary Matthews Jr. hit a go-ahead double in a four-run seventh inning for Texas.

The Blue Jays held a meeting before the game. Hillenbrand, reached by The Toronto Star during the game, said manager John Gibbons admonished him in front of the team.

"Gibby called a team meeting and then he stood up and reamed me out in front of my teammates," Hillenbrand told the newspaper. "I'm very disappointed about what he did and I find it very unprofessional."

### Quiet workout



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

**Former Pampa Harvester and current Miami Dolphins linebacker Zach Thomas spent some time working out this morning at the Pampa Youth & Community Center. Thomas was joined by wife Maritza. The Pampa graduate, entering his 11th season with the Dolphins, was getting in some light tune up reps before camp opens next week.**

### All-Stars season over

CANYON — Littlefield ended the season for the Pampa Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken All Star team Tuesday in Canyon 6-5. Littlefield and North Randall County were to play Wednesday for the right to play Seminole for the West Texas 11-12 Cal Ripken state championship tonight.

Pampa spotted Littlefield four runs in the first two innings on two hits, two errors and four walks. Pampa's offense came alive in the bottom of the second to tie the score. Collin Killgo started things off with a single to left field. Zach Graves reached base on a throwing error. Shane Smith was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Zach Murray drove in Killgo with a single to left. James Thompson was safe on an error with Graves scoring on the play. After an infield fly and a strikeout, Cole Engle brought in Smith and Murray with a single to center.

In the fourth inning two hits and a Pampa error handed Littlefield two unearned runs and a 6-4 lead. Pampa got one back in the fifth when Engle was safe on an error. He went all the way to third when Killgo reached base on an error. Engle came sliding head first home on a wild pitch to end Pampa's scoring.

Engle had two of

Pampa's five hits and a run to lead Pampa's offense.

Pampa made several outstanding defensive plays. A relay from Thompson in right field to Graves at second to Engle blocking the plate saved a run in the first inning. Reid Miller dived to his left at shortstop to snag a line drive then completed a double play by throwing to Smith at first base. Murray went back to the fence in left field to make an over the shoulder catch of a fly ball.

Trevor Morgan started the game for Pampa and allowed four runs on one hit. He walked four and struck out one. Two of the runs were unearned. He was relieved by Killgo in the second inning. Killgo gave up two unearned runs and three hits. He struck out one, hit a batter but did not permit any walks. Cody Davis had just another day at the office. He allowed no runs and one hit. He walked one and struck out five in two innings of work. Davis did not allow an earned run during 19 innings pitched in post season play.

Pampa finished fourth in the State Tournament with a record of 3-2.

Frank Graves was the manager of the team. Dustin Miller and Guy Green were the coaches.

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

### Bonds grand jury reports for final day

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Members of the grand jury investigating baseball's Barry Bonds for perjury and tax evasion arrived at the federal courthouse Thursday for what could be their final day of work.

Mark Geragos, attorney for Bonds' personal trainer, told The Associated Press his client would be released later in the day from federal prison, where Greg Anderson was sent more than two weeks ago after he refused to testify to the grand jury.

The judge said Anderson was to be held until he agreed to testify against Bonds or the grand jury's term expired, and the panel's term was set to expire Thursday. It was unclear if Anderson's expected release would have any bearing on whether indictments were handed up against Bonds.

Prosecutors could seek to extend the grand jury's term to put more pressure on Anderson to cooperate, or convene a new panel and put him back in jail.

The trainer likely holds the key to whether perjury charges could stick against Bonds, who testified in 2003 that he thought substances given to him by the trainer were arthritis balm and flaxseed oil.

Authorities suspected the

San Francisco Giants' slugger was lying and that those items were "the clear" and "the cream" — two performance-enhancing drugs tied to the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, the lab exposed as a steroids supplier to top athletes in baseball, track and other sports.

"Obviously, they think they need Greg to prove perjury," Geragos said.

Allegations of steroid use long have plagued Bonds, who passed Babe Ruth in May to become second only to Hank Aaron on the career home run list. They intensified in late 2003, when he testified before the original BALCO grand jury, which took testimony from about two dozen athletes.

Without the trainer's help, prosecutors still could indict Bonds on charges alleging he failed to pay taxes on money made through sales of autographs and other memorabilia. There is also the chance Bonds might be indicted on perjury charges without Anderson's testimony.

"I don't think Barry has violated any laws. Under our system, if the government is going to point a finger at him, the government better be well prepared to," Bonds' attorney, Michael Rains, said.

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## Woodchipper



Pampa News photo by SEAN SMITH

Employees at the city landfill recently processed wood through this woodchipper rented specially for the task by the city. The yearly task will free up more space at the landfill.

## American evacuees beginning to arrive back in United States

LINTHICUM, Md. (AP) — Weary Americans who had been caught in the bombing of Lebanon began arriving back in the United States early today as the first plane from a massive evacuation effort landed at an airport outside Washington.

Cindy Awajane said she was relieved as she stepped into the airport terminal. She had been in the town of Batroun when Israel began firing missiles at Hezbollah targets across its northern border.

The evacuation was "very smooth and not scary at all," she said.

The scene she and the other left behind was anything but that.

Martha Khayat, arriving with her children from Beirut, described the terror of hearing and feeling the explosions so close and seeing the flames from bombs.

"I had to open all the windows because I thought the windows were going to blow," she said.

"It was pretty terrifying," said her 11-year-old daughter, Amani.

The Omni Air International flight was the first of several carrying evacuees from Lebanon expected today at Baltimore-Washington International/Thurgood Marshall Airport. Between 140 and 150 passengers arrived about 6:30 a.m., said BWI spokeswoman Tracy Newman. They were sent through customs and then had assistance sorting out the rest of their journeys, from make travel arrangements to contact relatives.

The mass U.S. evacuation from

Lebanon following the start more than a week ago of Israeli airstrikes.

Officials said an estimated 8,000 of the 25,000 U.S. citizens in the country wanted out. The Orient Queen cruise ship arrived in Cyprus earlier Thursday carrying about 1,000 Americans.

U.S. Ambassador Jeffrey D. Feltman said the evacuation to Cyprus would swell to up to 2,000 Americans a day, both by sea and by helicopter.

The Department of Homeland Security will help expedite their repatriation, a spokesman said late Wednesday. Medical care was available for the evacuees, but Jeff Welsh, a spokesman for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, said Wednesday that he did not know of any evacuees who would need it.

*'It was pretty terrifying'*

— Amani Khayat  
11-year-old evacuee

Family members waited anxiously at the airport for the evacuees to disembark.

When Sandie Chouair, of Abingdon, Md., last spoke to her husband as he visited his mother in Beirut, she said she could hear explosions in the background.

"I just thought I was going to die a 100 times," she said. "It was an awful, awful experience to have to go through it."

Gov. Robert Ehrlich said he has directed the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Human Resources and other state agencies to help the evacuees.

He said some could be children traveling alone. Others include students, government employees and people on vacation.

## Heat wave death toll hits 16

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Officials in several states urged residents, especially the elderly, to stay cool as forecasters predicted high temperatures would continue in parts of the South and the Southern Plains for another two days.

Meanwhile, the death toll from the heat wave that has baked much of the nation for nearly a week has increased, with four more deaths in the Chicago area bringing the total number there to seven, officials said.

So far, the heat has contributed to the deaths of at least 16 people in seven states, including two in the Philadelphia area, two in Oklahoma City, two in Arkansas and one each in Indiana, South Dakota and Tennessee.

A football player at a western Kentucky high school collapsed and died after practice Wednesday, but school officials could not say whether heat played a role in his death.

Chicago officials have asked residents to check on elderly or sick neighbors in an effort to avoid duplicating a 1995 heat wave that killed 700 people.

Three deaths in Oklahoma and Arkansas involved elderly residents and either malfunctioning or unused air conditioners.

In Oklahoma County, Okla., the heat has been blamed for the deaths of two people, including a 76-year-old man who died in a home with a broken air conditioner and a 62-year-old woman who died in a home where

the air conditioner was turned off.

In Arkansas, a friend of a 76-year-old North Little Rock woman who was found dead in her apartment Tuesday said the woman had refused to turn on her air conditioner.

The elderly frequently refuse to run the air conditioning because of the cost, said Ann Leek, vice president of central Arkansas CareLink, which provides services for nearly 1,000 elderly people.

"Because so many of them are on fixed-income or low-income because they live alone they have that juggling act of paying rent, buying prescription drugs and running the air conditioner," Leek said.

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