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THE PAMPA NEWS

Friday, May 6, 2005

Volume 101 • No. 1254

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City/school Election Day tomorrow

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Election Day is Saturday, May 7. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium, 1000 N. Summer.

Eligible voters may vote for both city and school board candidates at the auditorium tomorrow.

Voters should bring their blue voter registration cards

in order to vote. A photo ID such as a current driver's license may be used if the voter cannot find their card.

Three city offices, mayor and two city commissioners, and three P a m p a Independent School District school board positions will be elected.

Both city and school board elections are "at-large" elections. Voters may

vote for one candidate in each city race as long as the voter is a resident inside the city limits and is currently registered to vote. It does not

matter which ward the voter lives in. Each voter in this election may vote for one city candidate for Ward 1 commission-

er, one candidate for Ward 3 commissioner, and one candidate for mayor.

Voters may vote for one candidate in each of the school board races, as long as the voter is registered to vote and lives within the school district. It does not matter where the voter lives in the school district for voting purposes.

Each voter in this election

may vote for one candidate each for Place 1, Place 2, and Place 3.

Candidates for mayor of the City of Pampa are Lonny Robbins, incumbent; Paulette Hinkle; and Monty Danner.

Ward 1 Commissioner candidates are Jeff McCormick, incumbent, and Brad Pingel.

Ward 3 Commissioner See ELECTION, Page 6

Reward rises with costs of vandal spree

Seven businesses and one church have been vandalized since Monday, May 2, bringing the total number of vandalism incidents involving windows being broken out to around four dozen since March, according to Lt. Fred Courtney of Pampa Police Department.

The latest eight incidents appear to have involved a BB or pellet gun, except for one, in which an object was found and will be processed for latent evidence, Courtney said in a news release.

Estimated cost to repair this week's damage is close to \$6,000, Courtney said.

"When you add all the repair costs and the cost to the police to investigate 45 or so crimes, the costs rise to well over \$21,000," he said.

Damage in the vandalism incidents has been to glass doors and windows of businesses, churches, homes, vehicles and offices. A BB gun or pellet gun is suspected as the method used for breaking much of the glass.

A \$600 reward is being offered by Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers for anyone who can identify the vandal or vandals.

"A call to Crime Stoppers at 669-2222 See REWARD, Page 6



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Prayer for our nation

Members of Pampa Fire Department who attended Thursday's National Day of Prayer ceremony at noon in front of City Hall included, from left, in blue jackets, Fire Chief Kim Powell, Randy Dunham, Justin Williams, Keith Fisher, Claude Scifres and Rich Littlefield. Also shown is Lt. Fred Courtney of the Pampa Police Department, far right. Local church leaders took turns reading verses from the Holy Bible and leading attendees in prayer for federal, state, county and city leaders, and for emergency and safety personnel, the military, and families, among other groups.



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Five of Pampa school district's Teachers of the Year don feather boas for a group photo Thursday evening at the Pampa Classroom Teachers Association banquet. They are, from left, Shannon Loter, Mary Lou Lane, Kristi Smith, Beverly Morse, and Rebecca Lewis. Not shown is Rod Wichert who was at a UIL competition in Austin.

PCTA banquet: Begin, end, excel

By DEE DEE LARAMORE Editor

Teachers of the Year from all six campuses, a scholarship winner, and a retiring principal were among those honored at the Pampa Classroom Teachers Association's spring banquet Thursday at the Pampa Country Club.

"For the Pampa Independent School District, I want to thank you for recognizing an ending career, a beginning career and those who excel in their career as teachers," said Superintendent Barry Haenisch in his welcome.

PCTA members also heard a legislative update from Jeanna Miller, Miller one of their own who is about to take over the reins of the Texas Classroom Teachers Association in June.

Pampa High School senior, Whitney Parker, was present. See PCTA, Page 6



Pampa Partnership Golf Tournament

May 14th & May 15th

Sign Ups At Hidden Hills & Pampa Country Club

For More Information Call The Pampa Chamber Of Commerce At 669-3241

Obituaries

Georgia L. McCain, 77

Georgia L. McCain, 77, of Pampa, went to Park Church of God, be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, May 4, 2005, at Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m., Monday, May 9, 2005, in Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Pastor Eric Horton, of Priest Park Church of God, officiating.



McCain

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. McCain was born Dec. 12, 1927, at Wade, Okla. She had been a Pampa resident since 1950 and belonged to Priest

Survivors include two brothers, Roy Cook and John F. Cook, both of Pampa; one halfbrother, Jim Cook of Hanna, Okla.; three half-sisters, Mary Ann, Evelyn and Betty Sue, all of Tulsa, Okla.; and many nieces and nephews who loved their "Aunt Wessie" dearly.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Henry, Bill, and Jack "Cookie" Cook; and by a sister, Ruth Downs.

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

Jesus Gerardo Soto, 42

Jesus Gerardo Soto, 42, of Pampa, Texas, died Wednesday, May 4, 2005, at Amarillo, Texas.

Rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, May 6, 2005, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, and funeral mass will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 7, 2005, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with the Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Soto was born June 12, 1962, in Juan Aldama, Zacatecas, Mexico. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1978. He married Rose Mary Gonzales in April of 1985 in Pampa.

He worked for Furr's Cafeteria for three years, Pat Helton Well Service for 13 years,

Copan Corporation for three years, and W.O. Operating for the past seven years.

He was a Catholic. He raised game chickens.

Survivors include his wife, Rose Mary Soto of Lefors; three sons, Eddie Soto of Amarillo, Erasmo Jesus Soto and Icidro Soto, both of Pampa; his father, Lazaro Soto of Juan Aldama, Zacatecas, Mexico; two brothers, Luciro Soto of Dalton, Ga., and Manuel Soto of Pampa; five sisters, Maria Eva Soto of Juan Aldama, Zacatecas, Mexico, Maria Angeles Soto of Dalton, Ga., Gloria Soto of Gomez Palacio, Durango, Mexico, Leticia Soto and Martha Soto, both of Mesquite; two grandchildren; 14 nephews; and 10 nieces.

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

Rosemary Vise, 74

WHEELER, Texas — Rosemary Vise, 74, of Wheeler, died Thursday, May 5, 2005, at Wheeler.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 7, 2005, at First Baptist Church of Wheeler with the Rev. Dennis Williams, pastor of the church, officiating.

Burial will be in Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Rosemary was born Sept. 26, 1930, to W.A. and Mary Bessie Finsterwald. She married John C. Vise on Dec. 26, 1948, in Wheeler. She attended Briscoe schools.

Rosemary had lived in Wheeler County all her life. She was a member of First Baptist Church, a former member of Thursday

Review Club and a Cub Scout Den Mother.

Rosemary was baptized when she was 13. She used to play the piano at First Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Jack Finsterwald; and two sons, Gary and Johnny Lynn Vise.

Survivors include her husband, John C. Vise of Wheeler; two sons, James Vise and Kent Vise, both of Wheeler; and seven grandchildren, Will Vise, Kelby Imel, Madison Vise, Jamie Vise, Michael Rhodes, Christian Simon and Charles Simon.

The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church of Wheeler or to a favorite charity.

Services tomorrow

HARPER, Charles Edward — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors, Pampa.
IMEL, Jack E. — Memorial services, 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors, Pampa.
SOTO, Jesus Gerardo — Funeral mass, 2 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Pampa.
WISE, Rosemary — 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Wheeler.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents today.

Thursday, May 5

Seventeen traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were made in the 1000 block of Alcock, the 1100 block of Seneca, and the 1900 block of Coffee.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 900 block of South Gray and the 100 block of East Randy Matson.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 700 block of West Wilks, the 1600 block of West Somerville, the 1100 block of South Christy, the 300 block of Miami, the 1600 block of North Hobart, and the 800 block of West Wilks.

Two business alarms were reported. One open door was reported.

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported in the 1000 block of Varon Drive and the 600 block of East Frederic.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported in the 600 block of Sloan, One Medical Plaza, and at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles.

An incident concerning a jail disturbance was reported in the 300 block of East Brown.

Two silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 900 block of Gordon. One silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 2100 block of Hamilton.

Three reports of narcotic drug law violations were made in the police department lobby. One report of narcotic drug law violations was made at the intersection of Somerville and Wells streets.

An animal complaint was received from the 800 block of Campbell.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby. A credit card was found.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of East Frederic.

Theft was reported at Cellular One, 1329 N. Hobart. A cell phone valued at \$320 was taken.

A suicide attempt was reported, involving a drug overdose. The victim was taken by Guardian EMS ambulance to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

Offenses against family was reported in the 700 block of Scott.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of South Cuyler. A large window was shot out.

Criminal mischief was reported at Taylor Food Mart, 1340 N. Hobart. The incident involved shooting at windows.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the

following accident today.

Thursday, May 5

4:10 p.m. — A 1996 Peterbilt sleeper tractor, pulling a 1992 trailer, driven by Donald James Cummings, 44, Panhandle, and an 1997 Chevrolet C-1500, driven by Robbie Davis Barnes, 44, 400 N. Somerville, collided in the 900 block of North Somerville. No injuries were reported. Cummings was cited for disregarding a red light and turning when unsafe.

Sheriff

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

Thursday, May 5

Monica E. Combs, 29, 1905 Coffee, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for theft.

Ira Lee Smith, 45, 1145 Prairie Drive, was arrested for failure to display registration, no insurance, failure to appear, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fire

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

Thursday, May 5

5:28 p.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to a report of smoke at Julie's Hallmark, 125 W. Kingsmill. Smoke was caused by a hot light ballast.

Ambulance

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

Thursday, May 5

10:01 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Bivins Rehab in Amarillo and transported a patient to the 2500 block of Aspen.

4:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of East Frederic and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

4:58 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of Coffee and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:48 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and helped transfer a patient to LifeStar helicopter for transport.

7:33 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of Randy Matson. No transport.

Friday, May 6

3:19 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2800 block of Charles and transported a patient to PRMC.

Stocks

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

Wheat 2.87
 Milo 3.07
 Corn 3.84
 Soybeans 5.41

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

Oxy 70.85 +0.83
 BP PLC ADR 62.02 -0.08

Cabot Corp 29.68 -0.18
 Cabot Oil Gas 30.21 +0.03
 Coca Cola 44.39 +0.24
 VLO 68.25 +1.13
 HAL 43.12 +0.55
 TRJ 49.37 -0.24
 KMI 76.80 +0.50
 XCEL 17.21 +0.10
 Kerr McGee 78.69 +0.30
 XOM 58.24 +0.49
 Limited 21.51 -0.20
 Williams 17.86 +0.15
 MCD 29.61 -0.33
 Atmos 26.90 +0.10

Pioneer Nat. 38.46 +0.01
 JCP 48.80 +0.68
 COP 106.05 +1.04
 SLB 70.02 +0.72
 Tenneco 13.02 -0.28
 CVX 53.75 +0.45
 Wal-Mart 48.93 +0.36
 OKE 29.91 +0.18
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Gray County Weather

Today: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 76. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 80. Southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly

cloudy, with a low near 51. West southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high around 78. Northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. North northwest wind around 15 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 3 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high around 77. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

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

low around 52. East wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high around 82. Southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy and windy, with a low near 57.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy and windy, with a high near 80.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy and windy, with a low around 55.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m.

Rep. Joe Moreno killed in truck crash

LA GRANGE, Texas (AP) — State Rep. Joseph Moreno of Houston was killed early Friday when a pickup truck he was driving overturned on a highway.

State Rep. Rafael Anchia of Dallas and a legislative staffer were injured. Police said Moreno, 40, apparently overcorrected after the truck slipped off the shoulder of State Highway 71 outside of La Grange.

The truck veered into the median and flipped several times, said Lawrence

Roome, communications officer for the Texas Department of Public Safety in Pierce. All three occupants were wearing seatbelts.

Anchia and Monica Lisa Pinon, chief of staff to state Rep. Joseph Pickett of El Paso, were taken to Brackenridge Hospital in Austin, where Anchia was treated for minor injuries and released, according to a statement issued by House Speaker Tom Craddick.

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Viewpoints

Is it time for a public education tea party?

I have a dream, Lord. I have a dream to see Pampa Independent School District back in the control of the school district and parents.

I have a dream, Lord. I have a dream that Pampa's teachers will once again be able to teach the basics, grade the students on the basics, and pass the students to the next level on the merit of those basics. Yes, Lord, included in my dream is the extinction of TAKS.

I have a dream, Lord. I have a dream that classroom discipline will once again help guide our students as they learn. Oh yes, Lord, a dress and hair code would once again be established in our schools.

I have a dream, Lord. I have a dream that our teach-

ers can teach and discipline without fear of reprisal, for our teachers, Lord, are the third most influential person our children will have in their lives behind You and their parents.

My dream, Lord, could become reality if the parents of school children in Pampa and across our great state shout out in unison, "We've had enough!"

There could be another "Red Storm Rising," Lord. I'm talking about the red state storm that rose over our great country last November and told the liberal secularists and politicians that we've had it with their ruinous directions and we don't want them in office.

Pampa's children deserve a future — the benefits of a

family-valued education will bring — not to be the pawns in a political tug of war between Washington and Austin.

The time has come, Lord, to end Washington's and Austin's influence in education, and, second, reduce the ranks of ultra liberal and secularist professors controlling our students' philosophical direction while in college.

The three, Lord, quite frankly represent the type of education we don't want our children and grandchildren garnering. Washington and Austin are solely responsible

for the destruction of our once-great school systems.

Furthermore, Lord, influential college professors have brain-washed our students away from Your values this great country was founded upon.

The three have tainted education to the point that our children are being led down a path-way of ignorance and deception.

I have a dream, Lord, that the Ten Commandments will once again adorn the walls of every school in our great state and the foundation upon which this great coun-

try was erected will guide our youth into their future, thereby bestowing their children's future.

I know, some of you are saying/thinking, "Dream on, Closet Writer, what have you been smoking?" Listen up, readers, for it doesn't have to be a dream that's gone down the drain with your morning shower.

Didn't our Forefathers possess a dream that became reality? Didn't our Forefathers have a little tea party to garner attention to their dream? Didn't our Forefathers pen some words on something called the Declaration of Independence to initiate their dream coming true? Didn't our Forefathers fight and die to make their dream — our

future — a reality? Why can't we? Aren't we Americans?

When I study our present-day education policies, I feel our Forefathers' dream has become so nightmarish that an educational "tea party" is a necessity.

What could be a more befitting gift for our children and grandchildren, Lord — and this great state and country — than to take control of their destiny by exclaiming/voting — enough is enough!

Thank you, Martin Luther King, for the "dream" inspiration.

Dennis Palmitier is a Pampa native, a Pampa High School graduate, and a pharmaceutical sales representative.

Dennis Palmitier
Columnist



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 6, the 126th day of 2005. There are 239 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 6, 1937, the hydrogen-filled German dirigible "Hindenburg" burned and crashed in Lakehurst, N.J., killing 35 of the 97 people on board and a Navy crewman on the ground.

On this date:

- In 1861, Arkansas seceded from the Union.
- In 1889, the Paris Exposition formally opened, featuring the just-completed Eiffel Tower.
- In 1910, Britain's King Edward the VII died.
- In 1935, the Works Progress Administration began operating.
- In 1942, during World War II, some 15,000 Americans and Filipinos on Corregidor surrendered to the Japanese.
- In 1954, medical student Roger Bannister broke the 4-minute mile during a track meet in Oxford, England, in 3 minutes and 59.4 seconds.
- In 1981, Yale architecture student Maya Ying Lin was named winner of a competition to design the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Our readers write

News after two jets collide

My sister and I have a cousin that is a Hornet pilot on the Carl Vinson. This week we spent some anxious moments wondering about his well-being. We received this email following the incident involving the loss of two F-18 Hornets over Iraq. We thought it worthy to share with others

Judy Cambern

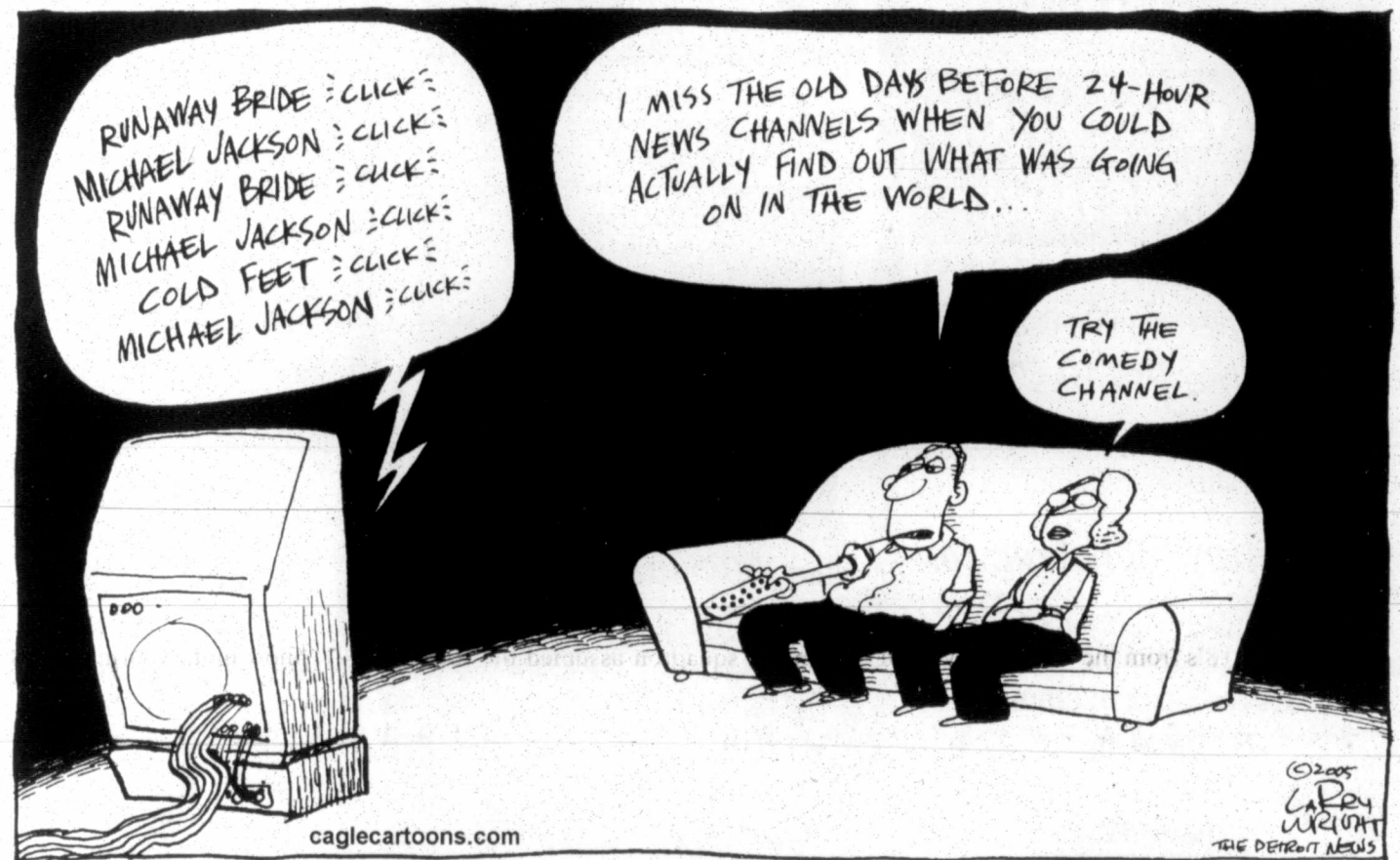
Pampa
From: "Phillips, Edwin L. LT (VFA-147)" <edwin.phillips@cvw9.navy.mil>
To: "Joy Rice" <joyr@floc2.com>
Subject: RE: Important News from the Gulf!
Date: Thursday, May 05, 2005 10:35 AM
Thanks for your thoughtful message. Things are as normal as they can be around here and everyone is still working hard. I have flown twice since the accident and it felt good to get back in the jet. The first flight after something like that is always tough. I have lost seven friends in jet crashes over the last six years. It never gets any easier to cope with. Thanks for thinking of me. I had no problem whatsoever if you share my message with the local newspaper. Love you lots!

Les

-----Original Message-----

From: Joy Rice [mailto:joyr@floc2.com]

Continued on Page 5



It's about character, not filibuster

What we are watching as the U. S. Senate goes about the business of considering the president's judicial nominations is not a debate over shutting down filibusters, but scenes from the theater of the absurd scripted by Democrats frantic to prevent the confirmation of judges faithful to the letter of the law as spelled out in the Constitution.

That's what it is all about. In the long run it has nothing to do with preserving the ability of the minority to use the filibuster to prevent up-or-down votes on judicial nominees, and everything to do with the character of the nominees themselves.

I give you the case of Janice Rogers Brown, a

highly qualified black member of the California Supreme Court, nominated by the president to serve on U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia.

The Democrats have singled out Judge Brown and Judge Priscilla

Owen, a Texas jurist as two of the judges they want to keep off the federal bench. They are the current targets of the liberals because their confirmations have been recommended by the Senate Judiciary Committee and now await action on the

Senate floor.

There are eight other nominees yet to clear the Judiciary Committee who the Democrats had blocked in the past and plan to block

again if they can preserve the filibuster on judicial nominations, but judges Brown and

Owen are the immediate targets. Get them and they'll get the rest.

Judge Owen infuriated Democrats because as a Texas judge she dared to interpret the state law to mean that a 14-year-old girl needed parental consent to

have an abortion. Abortion, of course, is a holy sacrament to the Democrats whose obeisance to the abortion industry and its billions outweighs any devotion to the preservation of human life at any stage.

So Owen must be blocked.

In the case of Judge Brown, in addition to the Democrats, there is a whole array of leftist groups opposed to Judge Brown, the badly misnamed People for the American Way (PAW), the National Women's Law Center, NARAL-Pro-Choice America, the Feminist Majority, the Aryan Nation etc.

See JUDGES, Page 5

Michael Reagan
Columnist



THE PAMPA NEWS
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Equalize state grants for needy students

The Legislature must start treating Texas public university students as well as it does private college students when it comes to financial aid.

Students who receive financial aid grants from state programs must jump higher academic hurdles if they attend public universities than if they attend private ones. The state's main grant programs are the TEXAS grants for public colleges and the Tuition Equalization Grant program for students attending private schools.

State Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, is rightly push-

ing to level that playing field. The Legislature needs to address the inequities in the programs and, at the very least, maintain the current level of financing for the TEXAS grant programs even if that means cutting the grants for private colleges.

The equalization grant program serves an important purpose. Private colleges and universities, ranging from the academically elite to religious and specialty schools, are vital to the state's mix of higher educa-

tion institutions. But Texas' public institutions educate 10 times the number of students. State grants for needy students should reflect that reality.

Since 2000, the state has awarded nearly as much money in need-based tuition grants to students attending private colleges (\$513.3 million) as it has to TEXAS grant students attending public schools (\$558.6 million). In these tight budget times, the Legislature is consider-

ing cutting the TEXAS grant program. It could avoid that by diverting a portion of the Tuition Equalization Grant funding to TEXAS grants. That makes economic sense, considering enrollment figures.

There are other inequities, too. To receive TEXAS grants, public school students must take nine credit hours per semester; private school students who get equalization grants are required to take only six credit hours. State law requires TEXAS grant students to maintain a 2.5 grade

See GRANTS, Page 5

Judges

Continued from Page 4

As Ann Coulter has reported, PAW'S website contains a lengthy diatribe about Brown's nightmarish extremism "while managing never, ever to give one specific example. This is what we get by way of explanation on the horror show that is Janice Rogers Brown."

Coulter added that Brown is accused of "ideological extremism," "aggressive judicial activism," of being "even further to the right than the most far-right justices."

She is alleged, Ann wrote, to be "prone to inserting conservative political views into her appellate opinions,"

"a disturbing tendency to try to remake the law," "extreme state's rights and anti-federal government positions," "working to push the law far to the right."

About the only thing they left out was what I am sure these people are thinking - "doesn't hate America and all that America stands for."

All of the above is mere rhetoric. No details are provided to back up these charges.

The plain fact of the matter is that if liberals could win in the court of public opinion they wouldn't need to have activist judges who usurp the functions of the legislative branch to legislate from the bench and give them what they want. But they can't win that battle.

The reason why the

Democrats and their allies refuse to elaborate on what they mean when they say "extreme rightwing ideology" is that they need liberal judges to give them gay marriage, godless pledges of allegiance, abortion on demand, nude dancing and every other liberal outrage they want to foist on the American people.

In their view, "right-wing extremism" is opposition to such decadence, which is why they can't be specific as to what they really object to.

It's time to go nuclear, Senator Frist.

Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally.



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Grants

Continued from Page 4

point average, but there is no similar requirement for equalization grant recipients.

There shouldn't be lower

standards for private than public college students. Also, students who chose private schools can, and in some cases do, get both types of need-based grants. But TEXAS grant recipients are not eligible for Tuition Equalization Grants.

It's very short-sighted to

cut the state's most successful tool for helping needy students pay for college.

Those students are the potential scientists, teachers, computer engineers, nurses, entrepreneurs and inventors the state will need to keep its economy vital.

School board

Pampa Independent School District Board of Education members and their wives, from left, Joe and Charlene Martinez and Janice and Lee Porter, got in the spirit of the "Hollywood Nights" theme by wearing sunglasses and brightly-colored feather boas to the Pampa Classroom Teachers Association's spring banquet Thursday at the Pampa Country Club.

Letter

Continued from Page 4

Sent: Monday 5:40
To: Phillips, Edwin L LT (VFA-147)
Subject: Re: Important News from the Gulf!

Lots of prayers have sure been answered. Thanks for this beautifully written e-mail. I wish I could have your permission to share it with our local newspaper...it is such a beautiful testimony to two great Americans as well as yourself. ...will continue to keep those men's families as well as you in my prayers. Thanks and I love you.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Phillips, Edwin L LT (VFA-147)" <edwin.phillips@cvw9.navy.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2005 3:33 PM
Subject: Important News from the Gulf!
If you have been watching the news over the last few days, you have probably heard that two F/A-18's from the USS Carl Vinson

were missing over Iraq. Sorry that I could not make contact with you any earlier than now but the Battle Group Command disconnected email services in order to control the outward flow of sensitive information. I am placing this message in my outbox but it will not be delivered until the email connection is reestablished. No one really knows what happened at this point but of course, the media is beginning to speculate. The weather was very bad over the entire country as it has been for the last few days.

There was a report of a bright explosion at altitude and then the dreaded airborne roll call followed. The roll call came up two short - two Marine Hornets from our boat. It is not believed to be a result of hostile fire but more likely a midair collision. The incident happened at about 22:00 (10 p.m.) last night and two of the pilots from my squadron assumed the role of On-

Scene-Commander.

They remained over the area until about 02:00 in the morning looking for them and attempting to raise them on radio with no luck. As it turns out Search and Rescue teams found one of the bodies this morning at about 09:00 or so.

The other is presumed to be dead but his body has not been located.

The mood on the boat is very somber as you can imagine. There are about 60 Hornet pilots onboard and we are all very close.

One of the pilots killed was a good friend of mine and to add insult to injury, his dad was killed while flying a vintage WWII plane at an air show last year and his wife just gave birth to a baby girl about six months ago. The other pilot was very senior. He had been a Top Gun instructor and was widely known to be one of the best pilots in the Marine Corps.

'Like it or not, the wheels don't stop turning around here. I am flying into northern Iraq today ...'

— Lt. Edwin Phillips
U.S. Navy pilot

It's so hard to believe that this has actually happened. I saw these guys almost everyday, ate meals with them, drank beer with them in port, and cracked jokes with them all the time. They were both great Americans in every sense of the word.

Like it or not, the wheels don't stop turning around here. I am flying into northern Iraq today with my buddy Carbomb. I think it's good to be getting back in the cockpit so soon after the incident. It's cathartic in a way I suppose. The skipper came into the ready room while we were flight planning and asked us if we were up for this - if our minds were right? We both said, "Yes sir." He then told us to focus on the basics and try to put this out of our minds. Then he left.

This all makes for quite an eerie feeling, especially when I'm able to receive e-mails from concerned friends and family but am not able to respond. Sorry if this has caused you any heartache but please know that I am doing well and expect to return home in mid-July.

Take care.
Les



Vote for DERRELL DELOACH School Board

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On May 7th, for the first time in 18 years you will have a choice when you vote for Place 1 on the PISD Board.

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- ☆ Proven leader within the community.
- ☆ Effective listener, capable of making sound decisions.
- ☆ Optimistic concerning the future of PISD.



Pd. Pol. Ad by Dan Powell, Treas. 1101 Christine, Pampa. Tx. 79065

Departing CC-PC dean honored



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

An appreciation reception to honor Joe Kyle Reeve, second from left above, was held Thursday at Clarendon College - Pampa Center, 1601 W. Kentucky. Reeve's contract with the college ends Aug. 31. He has been dean of the college for the past 15 years. Visiting with Reeve at the reception are, from left, Judy Green, office administrator; Lindsey Been, academic advisor; and Cathy Thomas, student and part-time office worker.

PISD contracts for survey

Pampa Independent School District officials have contracted a company to conduct a survey of families affected by the proposed elementary school boundary changes.

Superintendent Barry Haenisch said Innovative Staffing has been hired to conduct the survey requested by the school board at the April meeting.

The survey is scheduled to begin May 9 and continue through May 18, and will "probably" be made by telephone, Haenisch said. Bilingual persons will be helping with the survey, he said.

"I want people to know (the survey) is legitimate and it is sponsored by the school district," Haenisch said.

Pampa ISD's Board of Education postponed action on a proposal to change the

boundaries of Pampa elementary schools, which would cause students in a zone between Hobart Street and Price Road, from Buckler to Gwendolyn, to shift from Travis Elementary School to Lamar and a second zone outlined on the south and east by Red Deer Creek, on the west by

Duncan and on the north by Harvester to be shifted from Austin to Wilson elementary schools.

School officials estimate 200 to 250 families are affected by the proposed changes. The board is also considering changes in the policy concerning student transfers.

Reward

Continued from Page 1

will remain confidential and the caller will remain anonymous. Just leave a four-digit number if you want a reward," Courtney said.

The reward was originally for \$500, but was increased "because of a citizen's generosity and concern," Courtney said.

"Young people may often commit this type of crime, but we are not ruling out the possibility that there are some adults involved," Courtney said.

—Marilyn Powers, staff writer

PCTA

Continued from Page 1

ed with the Kenneth P. and Essie Mae Walters Scholarship. Janet Abbe, chairman of the Scholarship Committee, made the presentation to Parker, who was one of her first pre-AP students in the 7th grade. Parker plans to attend West Texas A&M University in the fall, majoring in education. She is graduating with a GPA of 3.25.

Teachers of the Year for 2004-2005 were introduced as Rebecca Lewis, Austin; Beverly Morse, Lamar; Mary Lou Lane, Travis; Kristi Smith, Wilson; Shannon Loter, Pampa Junior High; and Rod Wichert, Pampa High School. Wichert was unable to attend the banquet. He was in Austin with a group

of students participating in state UIL competitions.

Miller, who has taught 22 years with Pampa Independent School District, will assume her duties of president of the TCTA on June 1.

She assured the local association that they are being "well represented at the state capitol."

TCTA representatives are well regarded in Austin, she said, and have met with the governor, lieutenant governor and state comptroller on issues presently before the state legislature.

Miller emphasized the need for teachers, school administrators and school board members to join forces to oppose detrimental legislation and encourage the passing of laws that will help public education.

"We need to be one team working together to support each other," she said.

Prospects of teacher pay raises are good, she said, and restoration of the \$1,000 for health insurance is "possible."

Several of TCTA-initiated bills have a good chance of making it through both the House and Senate, she said.

Unfortunately, many other bills that could adversely affect teachers and public education in the TCTA's view are also before the legislature.

"You all know they're playing politics with us right now, and it's our lives," she confided.


Jane Adams and Monta Hinkle, wearing sparkly glasses and purple boas in keeping with the banquet's "Hollywood Nights" theme, presented a humorous story of retiring Wilson Elementary principal Tommy Lindsey's four-decade career with Pampa ISD.



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

PHS senior Whitney Parker, left, accepts this year's Kenneth P. and Essie Mae Walters Scholarship from her former teacher, Janet Abbe, right, chairman of the PCTA Scholarship Committee.

Vote
PAULETTE HINKLE
for Mayor



Lifelong resident
of Gray County.
Pampa resident
over 58 years.

Occupation
President/Owner — M & H Leasing Co., Inc.
and Top of Texas Ice Co.

Civic Positions Held
Currently
Pampa Meals on Wheels Board Member
Pampa Chamber Of Commerce Board Member
Pampa Country Club Board Member
Pampa Chamber of Commerce Top O' Texan Gold Coats
White Deer Land Museum Foundation Board

• • •

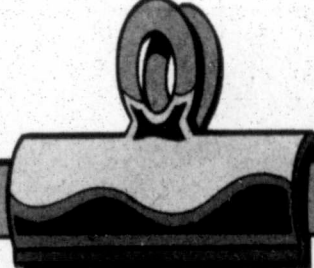
2001 — Citizen of the Year
2000 — Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce
1999 — Assistant District Governor of Rotary District 5730
1998 — President of Pampa Country Club
Board of Directors
1997-98 — President of Rotary Club of Pampa

• • •

Other Civic Positions Held
Past Board President of St. Matthew's Day School
Past Member of the Salvation Army Board

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PAULETTE HINKLE
PROVEN LEADERSHIP FOR MAYOR OF PAMPA
I would appreciate your vote.

GENERAL ELECTION May 7 at MK Brown Auditorium
Supported By Pampa Fire Fighters Association Local 3293
Pat Ad Pd For By Paulette Hinkle For Mayor, Paulette Hinkle Treasurer 916 N. Somerville, Pampa, Texas 79065 - 665-5009



Cop Corner



Lt. Courtney

Surfing the web is a great pastime. I use it all the time. The benefits of the Internet are obvious, however there are some pitfalls and outright dangers, especially for children. I got online just to see what I could find to help parents guide their children through their journey of discovery with the World Wide Web. What I found was most interesting. At www.safekids.com, I found a great article by Lawrence J. Magid, appropriately titled "Child Safety on the Information Highway." Mr. Magid made four very good points: "Teenagers are particularly at risk because ... they are more likely ... to participate in online discussions regarding companionship; "While children need a certain amount of privacy, they also need parental involvement;" "the best way to assure that your children are having positive online experiences is to stay in touch with what they are doing;" and "set ground rules governing the amount of time online." I urge all parents to visit this site and read the entire article. Your time will be spent wisely.

Provided by the
Pampa Police Department.

Election

Continued from Page 1

John Curry, incumbent, and Derrell DeLoach. Incumbent Lance DeFever is the only candidate for Place 2 on the board. Place 3 candidates are Kenneth Cargill and Dana Terry.

Candidates for Place 1 on the PISD school board are candidates are Robert Dixon, incumbent, and Lana Miller.

Flag-raising



Coronado Healthcare Center recently held a flag-raising ceremony in honor of the nation's veterans. Gray County Veterans Service Office assisted with the flag-raising. Photo at left: Helping with the flag-raising were (left-right) Robert Dixon, Ray Fisher, Raymond Bridwell and James Stone. Photo at right: B.B. Bearden Ray Fisher, Raymond Bridwell, James Cottom, Chester Andrews, Richard Owen, James Stone, Sharon Wadley, Calvin Cargill, Robert Dixon, Donald Cole, Bill Huddleston and Misty Murrack. Cole served in the 24th Army Anti Tank Division for three years, mostly in New Guinea, during World War II. Bearden also served in WWII with the Navy Seabees where he was a deep sea diver on underwater demolitions. During his service, he was in New Guinea, Melody Bay, the Philippines and elsewhere. Bridwell was an engineer who worked on bridges. Fisher was in the Navy for two years and the Army and Air Force for five years. He flew B29s and earned an Air Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart and other awards. Huddleston was a member of the Seabees for six years. Bowers served in the Army in WWII and Korea. Cottom saw action in Germany while serving in the Army. He received the American Campaign Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and the Bronze Star.

Blair wins historic third term but with reduced majority

LONDON (AP) — Tony Blair weathered a backlash over the Iraq war to win a historic third term as Britain's prime minister, but his Labour Party suffered a sharply reduced parliamentary majority that could weaken his mandate and force him to step aside before his term ends.

Labour's majority in the House of Commons decreased from 161 seats before the election to about 60, according to the latest results.

With the count still incomplete, but Labour's majority assured, Queen Elizabeth II confirmed Blair as the winner Friday morning. On his return from Buckingham Palace, he acknowledged Iraq had been a setback.

'I know that Iraq has been a deeply divisive issue in this country. But I also know and believe that after this election people want to move on, they want to focus on the future in Iraq, and here.'

— Tony Blair
British prime minister

"I know that Iraq has been a deeply divisive issue in this country," he said afterward, speaking outside his Downing Street office. "But I also know and believe that after this election people want to move on, they want to focus on the future in Iraq, and here."

Later Friday, Conservative Party leader Michael Howard said he planned to step down because "I did not achieve what I set out to achieve." He said he would stay on until the party considers whether to change the rules governing the choice of his successor.

Under Howard, the Tories added more than 30 seats to their total of 160 in the last Parliament.

Labour needed at least 324 seats to form a majority in the 646-seat House of Commons. With 622 seats reporting, Labour had 353 seats, the main opposition Conservatives 196, Liberal Democrats 61, and independents and smaller parties 12.

The slip in Labour's lead could loosen Blair's grip on power and prompt calls for him to step down before serving out a full five-year term. His Cabinet colleague and rival, powerful Treasury chief Gordon Brown, is widely regarded as his likely successor.

Never before has the Labour

Party won three straight elections. Margaret Thatcher was the only other prime minister in modern British history to do so, accomplishing the feat for the Conservatives.

"I think we can be really proud of what we've achieved," Blair, who turned 52 Friday, told supporters on his return from Sedgefield to London. "We've got a mandate to govern this country again."

Blair on Friday promised "radical" legislation on health, education and law and order.

The British Broadcasting Corp. projected Labour would win 66 more seats than all the other parties combined.

Japanese officials for relaxing mad cow testing standards

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's food safety panel on Friday recommended waiving mad cow disease tests for cattle younger than 21 months, a step that could lead to the resumption of U.S. beef imports.

Tokyo has tested all cattle since discovering its first case of the fatal bovine illness in 2001. After the United States discovered its first mad cow case in December 2003, Japan shut its market to U.S. beef and demanded that Washington also adopt blanket testing for its herds.

The food safety panel endorsed an assessment by

the panel's scientific experts about the safety of a U.S. proposal exempting cows younger than 21 months from tests. The experts found that the risk of young animals becoming infected with the brain-wasting disease was infinitesimally small.

"This is an extremely satisfactory conclusion," said Yasuhiko Nakamura, a panel member.

The ruling allows the government to approve the resumption of American beef imports. Japan's agriculture and health ministries will now review the panel's recommendations, he said,

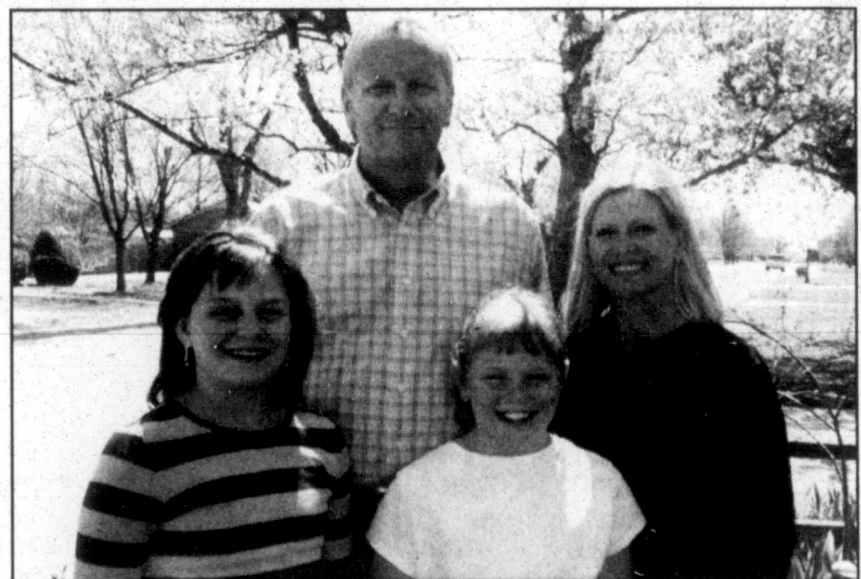
without offering a timetable for a final decision.

The issue has caused discord between the allies and led to U.S. threats of economic sanctions. Before the ban, Japan was the most lucrative market for American beef, estimated at about \$1.5 billion a year.

Consumer groups in Japan have demanded that the government continue to ban U.S. beef to ensure food safety.

Japan has found 17 cows infected with mad cow since it began testing all cattle bound for the slaughterhouse.

it's about kids



VOTE DANA TERRY

SCHOOL BOARD

As a PHS graduate and parent of two young daughters, I have a vested interest in the education and successes of your children and mine.

It's about kids

I Would Appreciate Your Vote On May 7th

Pol Ad Pd For By Dana Terry, PO Box 1045, Pampa, Texas 79066



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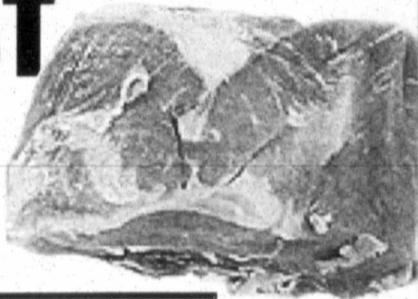
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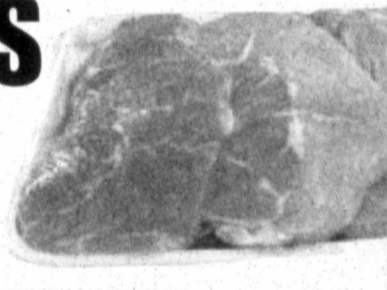
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BONELESS

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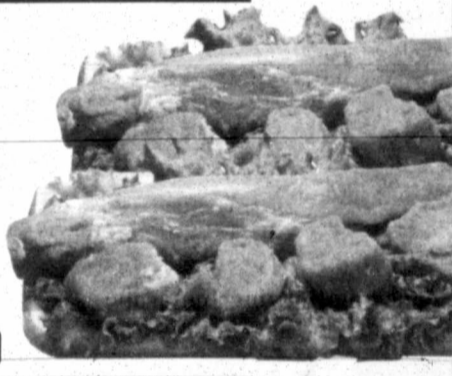
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PORK BONELESS

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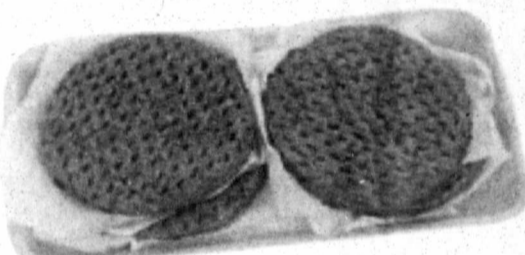
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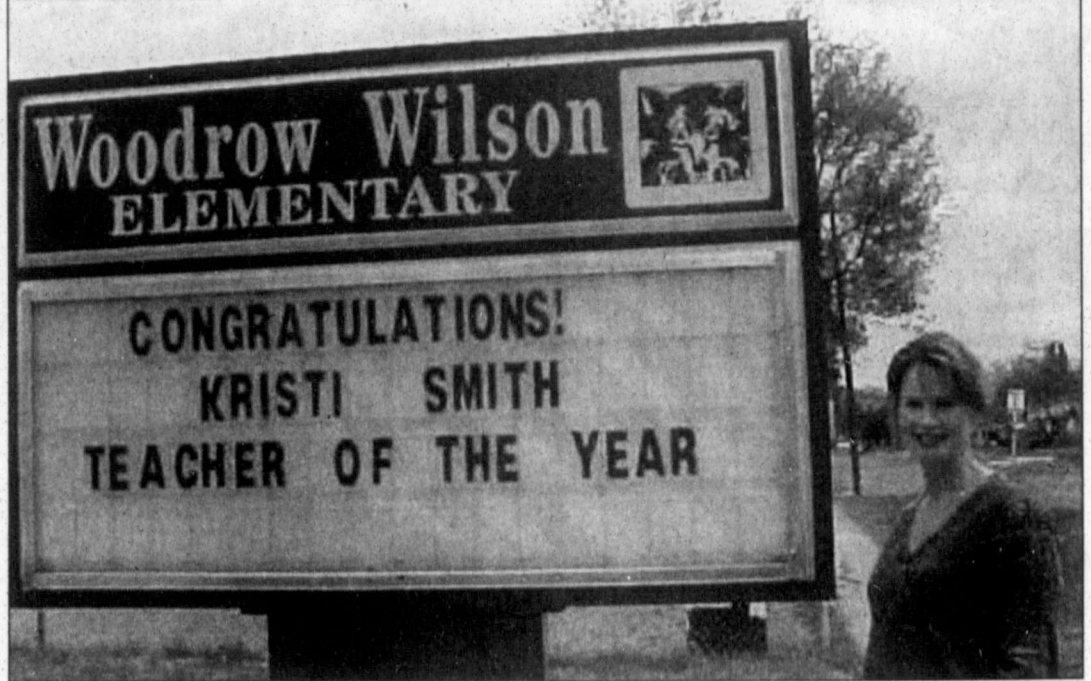
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Teacher of the year



Courtesy photo
Kristi Smith, literacy coordinator at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, has been named teacher of the year for the school.

At the altar

Pastor: Runaway bride said escapade not about cold feet

GAINESVILLE, Ga. (AP) — Runaway bride Jennifer Wilbanks said she was "truly sorry for the troubles I caused," but insisted her flight was prompted by issues that went beyond simple cold feet.

Her family pastor cautioned Friday that she still needed time to heal.

In a statement read Thursday by the Rev. Tom Smiley, Wilbanks said she her flight by bus to Las Vegas and eventually to Albuquerque was not in response to her pending wedding, which had been scheduled four days after she vanished.

"Those who know me know how excited I've been, and how excited I was about the spectacular wedding we planned, and how I could not wait to be Mrs. John Mason," the statement said.

She said her flight was the result of "a host of compelling issues, which seemed out of control."

Wilbanks, whose three-day disappearance led to a nationwide search and a media sensation, initially told investigators she had been abducted by a Hispanic male and white woman with a handgun, a story that quickly unraveled.

Albuquerque, N.M., police said Thursday that Wilbanks also claimed she had been sexually assaulted, but recanted with the rest of her story.

Wilbanks said she has asked for the forgiveness of Mason, her fiance; their families, friends, churches and communities; "and any others I may have offended unintentionally," adding that she was "deeply grateful and appreciative to everyone who responded on my behalf."

Many in the community expressed disgust

when they learned that she had run off without telling anyone.

Smiley said Friday on ABC's "Good Morning America" he has received hundreds of e-mails about Wilbanks and they have been "99 percent positive."

Wilbanks has not said publicly whether she still plans to marry Mason, but Smiley, who has been counseling Wilbanks, said Mason has been supportive.

'The number one concern is for her to get a handle on what's going on in her life. We live in such an instant society today, and everyone wants everything right now, and that's just not possible.'

— Rev. Tom Smiley

"The number one concern is for her to get a handle on what's going on in her life," he said. Asked about her progress, he said, "We live in such an instant society today, and everyone wants everything right now, and that's just not possible."

Wilbanks' attorney, Lydia Sartain, has said her client is seeking professional help and is in no condition to publicly answer questions.

Her statement did not address Duluth Mayor Shirley Lasseter's request that she repay the city for the costs of the search and perform community serv-

ice. Gwinnett County District Attorney Danny Porter is investigating possible criminal charges against Wilbanks for falsely reporting a crime.

Porter said Thursday night he was awaiting an FBI report on Wilbanks' statements to authorities in Albuquerque.

Her statement also did not specifically address her false claim that a Hispanic man had abducted her. Fernando Mateo, the president of the group Hispanics Across America, backed down from his threat to protest outside her home, saying members were satisfied with her general apology.

Emily, Jacob most popular baby names

WASHINGTON (AP) — The biblical name Jacob, the most popular choice for baby boys for the sixth straight year, also tops the first official ranking of names given to twins. Parents like to pair it with Joshua.

Even more durable is the name Emily, which for the ninth year in a row claims the top spot among newborn girls, according to the Social Security Administration's tally for 2004, released Friday.

What's the staying power of Jacob and Emily? Hard to say, according to experts, but it has something to do with appealing to multiple ethnic or religious groups and having no widespread negative cultural connotations.

Jacob is the name of the biblical figure who fathered the founders of the twelve tribes of Israel.

"Jacob is number one because it has a long tradition," said Cleveland Evans, associate professor at Bellevue University in Nebraska and president of the American Name Society. "Old Testament names are popular with both Christians and Jews."

Emily, No. 1 on the girls' list since 1996, is harder to pin down. Meaning industrious or striving, the name has strong literary associations including authors Emily Dickinson and Emily Bronte.

"The images of Emily are such that you can think easily of a woman who is both beautiful and smart,"

Evans said.

Neither name has a negative association that could topple it, the way Jason became unpopular after the widely seen "Friday the 13th" movies featured a maniacal killer by that name, Evans said.

This year for the first time, the agency also compiled a list of most-popular twin names. On the coed list, the top-ranking feminine pairing is Hope and Faith, ranked fifth. Taylor and Tyler, who could be either sex, came in second after Jacob and Joshua.

New to the single-baby top 10 are Isabella and William, both rising from 11th on their respective lists in 2003. Anthony and Alexis each dropped out of the top 10.

Texas gas prices level off after two weeks of decline

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Texas gasoline prices have begun to dip, according to a new AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch survey released Friday.

The survey showed that regular unleaded self-serve averaged about \$2.12 a gallon in Texas, down nearly 2 cents from last week but still almost 40 cents higher than last year's average.

Gas prices fell in all eight Texas markets in the weekly survey, said AAA Texas spokeswoman Rose Rougeau.

"Increasing inventories of crude oil and gasoline in the U.S. have helped drive the

price of crude to \$50 a barrel this week," she said in a statement. "If the price of crude continues to fall, consumers should see retail gasoline prices drop below \$2 a gallon in most Texas cities."

The cheapest prices were in the Corpus Christi area, where they averaged about \$2.03 a gallon, down 3 cents from last week.

The costliest pump prices remained in the Dallas area, where they averaged \$2.15 a gallon, down about 1 cent from a week ago.

The national prices are also at record levels, averaging about \$2.21 a gallon, down about 2 cents from last week.

Higher input costs favor no-till wheat production, analysis says

By **TIM W. McALAVY**
Texas A&M News/Public Affairs

VERNON — Some wheat and cattle producers may want to take a second look at no-till wheat production. A recently updated economic analysis says there is now a definite financial advantage in no-till production, said a Texas Cooperative Extension economist.

"When you factor in today's higher input prices, conventional till wheat costs more than no-till," said Stan Bevers, who is based at the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Vernon. Bevers was one of several featured speakers at the center's recent wheat and stocker cattle field day.

Bevers began the economic analysis of conventional and no-till wheat production in 2002, when several Rolling Plains producers asked him to compare actual costs of both systems.

"With their help, we created enterprise budgets on a hypothetical 3,200-acre wheat operation," Bevers said. "We adjusted each budget for tillage, chemical, labor and equipment costs needed to make each system work on a large acreage."

"At that time, conventional till had a slight economic edge. Total cost per acre for conventional till was \$121.71, about \$1.38 per acre less than the \$123.09 per acre cost for no-till. With 35-bushel wheat, the conventional till operation had to have a market price of \$2.62 per bushel to break even. The break even price for no-till in 2002 was \$2.66 per bushel."

When Bevers ran the same analysis



(Texas Cooperative Extension photo by TIM W. McALAVY)

Texas Cooperative Extension economist Stan Bevers discusses conventional and no till wheat production with producers. Bevers presented an economic analysis of input costs at a recent wheat and stocker cattle field day sponsored by Extension and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Bevers is based in Vernon.

this year, the calculator showed a \$133.47 per acre total cost for conventional tillage — about 9.7 percent higher than in 2002. The total cost per acre for no-till wheat rose by about 3.7 percent, to \$127.69 per acre.

"The cost difference between the two systems today is \$5.80 per acre, in favor of no-till," Bevers said. "If you apply that difference to 3,200 acres, the total cost savings adds up to \$18,560."

"Higher fuel, labor, fertilizer and equipment costs, and lower prices for some herbicides, swung the advantage to no-till. Our total costs for conventional till rose \$12 per acre from

2002 to 2005, whereas total costs for no-till rose by only \$4.60 per acre."

Producers have reached a higher cost plateau that simply doesn't favor conventional tillage. And the odds are good that input prices will keep rising, Bevers said.

"When we first ran this analysis, some producers were going to no-till because they wanted to try long-term soil improvement. There was no real economic advantage in making the switch," Bevers said. "It's just the opposite today. There is now a very real economic incentive for considering a switch to no-till wheat production."

Probe continuing into consulate blast

NEW YORK (AP) — Police were calling on possible witnesses to come forward after two small makeshift grenades exploded outside a building that houses the British Consulate, just as Britons went to the polls in a national election.

The blast early Thursday caused minor damage and no injuries. Authorities said they had no clear indication the consulate, which shares the building with other tenants, was a target.

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said a female jogger, a bicyclist and a taxi were shown on tape around the time of the explosions.

"This is New York," he said. "It's 3:30 in the morning, yet there were people out on the street."

Police were reviewing images shot by 17 security cameras at the building and other locations to try to identify possible suspects. One of the videos raised suspicions that one of the devices may have been thrown from across the street, Kelly said.

The blasts blew out a glass panel at the building's entrance.

The devices were described as replica grenades, normally sold as novelty items, that were stuffed with gunpowder and lit with a fuse.

"We don't know who the particular target was at this time," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said. "There were no threats or phone calls."

Kelly noted Jewish activists demonstrated last month against another building tenant — a board member of Caterpillar Inc. — over the bulldozing of Palestinian homes. A sponsor of the rally, Jewish Voice for Peace, "only engages in nonviolent activities — period," spokeswoman Liat Weingart said.

The FBI and police questioned and released a Dutch analyst for the United Nations who was lingering near the midtown Manhattan office building after the blasts.

In London, a Foreign Office spokeswoman, asked whether British authorities believed the blast was terrorism-related, said only: "Investigations are ongoing."

Witnesses for defense deny Jackson molested them

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — Michael Jackson's attorneys opened their defense in his molestation trial by calling two men who testified that they repeatedly slept in the singer's bed when they were children but were never touched inappropriately.

The testimony from the friends of Jackson came after Judge Rodney S. Melville denied a defense motion requesting acquittal.

Jackson's attorneys argued that the state failed to prove its case, and that prosecution witnesses had "a tendency to self-destruct"

on the stand.

The defense was expected to call more witnesses Friday to rebut a portion of the prosecution case intended to show that Jackson has a pattern of inappropriate behavior with boys.

The defense did not say who will testify first, but actor Macaulay Culkin was among those expected to take the stand.

The first witness Thursday, dancer and film director Wade J. Robson, said he has known Jackson since age 5 and stayed at his friend's Neverland ranch more than 20 times.

He slept in Jackson's bedroom on all but three or four of those visits, he said.

Robson, 22, said his overnight visits involved talking, watching movies, playing video games and pillow fights. But he said Jackson never touched him in a sexual way.

Asked if something might have happened while he was asleep, Robson said, "I think something like that would wake me up."

In cross-examination, prosecutor Ron Zonen suggested that when Robson said Jackson never molested him, "What you're really

telling us is that nothing happened when you were awake."

Zonen then sought to suggest that Robson was often so exhausted by practicing dance and having fun at the ranch that he might have slept heavily.

A former Jackson maid, the mother of a boy who got a multimillion-dollar settlement from Jackson in the 1990s after accusing the star of molestation, testified previously that she once saw Jackson showering with Robson. Robson said he had never showered with the singer.

Customer refuses to give severed finger back

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — To a dessert shop customer, the severed fingertip found in a pint of frozen custard could be worth big dollars in a potential lawsuit.

To the shop worker who lost it, the value is far more than monetary.

But Clarence Stowers still has the digit, refusing to return the evidence so it could be reattached. And now it's too late for doctors to do anything for 23-year-old Brandon Fizer.

"I'm not saying who has it, but somebody has it," Stowers said this week in a telephone interview, refusing to let on where the fingertip is now.

Soon after Stowers found the finger in a mouthful of

chocolate soft-serve he bought Sunday at Kohl's Frozen Custard in Wilmington, he put it in his freezer at home, taking it out only occasionally to show to television cameras.

He refused to give it to the shop's owner, and refused to give it to a doctor who was treating Fizer, who accidentally stuck his hand in a mixing machine and had his right index finger lopped off at the first knuckle.

Medical experts say an attempt to reattach a severed finger can generally be made within six hours.

But according to the shop's management, Stowers wouldn't give it back when he was in the store 30 minutes after the

accident.

"The general manager attempted to retrieve it and rush it to the hospital," reads a statement posted Thursday on Kohl's Web site. "Unfortunately, the customer refused to give it to her and declared that he would be calling the TV stations and an attorney as he exited the store."

Officials at Cape Fear Hospital said their efforts to retrieve the finger also failed.

Dr. James Larson, director of emergency medicine for UNC Hospitals, who was not involved in the case, said once Stowers took the finger home and froze it, it was too late to even try for reattachment.



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First Baptist Church (Groom)
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Religion

'Kirkin' of the Tartan' returning to First Presbyterian

The annual "Kirkin' O' the Tartan" service will be celebrated Sunday, May 8, at First Presbyterian Church of Pampa during their morning worship service.

Services begin at 10:45 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray.

Featured will be the piper Thomas Campbell of Canyon who will play such selections as "Scotland the Brave," "Amazing Grace," and "Immortal, Invisible."

Banners of tartans representing the clans of various members of the congregation will be carried in procession at the beginning of the service and placed in front of the sanctuary. Additional banners will be displayed from the beams in the sanctuary.

There will not be a luncheon this year, as has been traditional in the past.

The custom of "Kirkin'" is an American one, and is not practiced

in Scotland.

It does represent, however, the custom of bringing the tartan — or at least a scrap of one — to church in defiance of the English ruler. After the ill-fated attempt by Bonnie Prince Charlie to regain the Scottish throne for the Royal Stuart clan in the 1700s, the English king outlawed the wearing of the distinctive "plaid" or "tartan" designs, which represented each Scottish clan. Punishment for being caught with a

tartan fabric could be severe.

The Scots, ever stubborn and independent-minded, took to carrying small pieces of their tartans to church by hiding them in their pockets. The word for "church" in Olde Scots is "kirk," so the idea of the "Kirkin' O' the Tartan" was adapted by many American churches from this tradition.

The service is quite colorful, with the banners entering the church behind the piper as he plays

"Scotland the Brave." Hymns and musical selections will be of Scottish origin.

Everyone is invited to attend this unique Presbyterian service, and enjoy the unmatched skirl of the bagpipe, as the sound of Scotland reverberates through the church.

For more information, call the church at 665-1031 or the home of the pastor, Dr. Ed Cooley, at 665-7321.



Local National Day of Prayer leaders

Those who prayed and read at the National Day of Prayer observance between the Gray County Courthouse and Pampa City Hall Thursday included, from left, Barry Loving and son Alex, Richard Bartel, Ed Cooley, Francisco Perez, Chad Imani, Ricky Martin and Justin Eason.

Academics and media employ 'theocracy' label

NEW YORK (AP) — A video screen showed President Bush boarding a plane for Washington. His purpose: To get to the White House and sign Congress' bill asking federal courts to review the removal of Terri Schiavo's feeding tube.

Joan Bokaer of TheocracyWatch.org offered her take on the action. "There's something strange about the folks running our country," she quipped. The audience of 500 people responded with some appreciative chuckles.

Bokaer, from a social action center affiliated with Cornell University, was speaking at a conference last weekend that denounced conservative Republicans on matters like mercy-killing, abortion, gay marriage, research using human embryos, broadcast indecency, Israel, Iraq, faith-based charity funding, judicial nominations and church-state relations. The book

'There's something strange about the folks running our country.'

— Joan Bokaer
TheocracyWatch.org

table sold assorted Bush-bashing titles.

But the gathering wasn't a Democratic Party caucus.

It was an academic conference at the City University of New York on "the real agenda of the religious far right" — and it offered a fresh example of just how venomous America's conservative-liberal religious split has become and how entangled faith is with politics.

The meeting came as debate about religion's role

See LABEL, Page 16

Quest for a church home

I recently had the opportunity to sit and visit with a close friend about how she came to join the Episcopal Church. She is not a "cradle Episcopalian" as we call someone who is born in the Episcopal Church. She had come from a different denominational background.

I was curious as to how she found our way to our doors. I found her story interesting and one I thought worth sharing. Her story might be your story.

Growing up in a congregational church had provided her with a strong Christian background. However, when she left home and went off to college she found she was looking for a different worship experience.

She was full of doubt and confusion about her beliefs. All she was capable of giving God at this time was an open mind and an open heart. It would be 10 years before she found a church that she would call home.

During these years, she took a job teaching in a parochial school. It was here she fell in love with the mass and the liturgical worship service.

Promising herself that she would raise her child to be loved into heaven, not scared into heaven, she set out to find a church home.

To her surprise, she discovered that many of the people she worked with and whose paths crossed hers belonged to St. Matthew's. Through this series of "divine interventions," as she refers to them, my friend arrived at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

She states that it was here she found the loving environment she was searching for and a church that allowed and even encouraged her to ask questions and explore the Bible as she interpreted it.

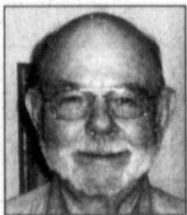
She also discovered a worship experience rich with tradition and beauty.

She now refers to St. Matthew's as the "best kept secret" in Pampa. Why had she not discovered it sooner?

We here at St. Matthew's would love to share that secret with as many people as possible. St. Matthew's is a loving community with a great deal to offer. It is not our goal to be the largest church in town. We are not out to steal members from other denominations.

Simply put, we want to share our journey in Christ with you if you are looking for a church home. We don't have all the answers. I worry about denominations that claim they do. If we are not what you are looking for in a church home, we will help you in your quest to find what you are seeking.

Ernie Wilkinson
St. Matthew's Episcopal



Religion News in Brief

Canadian Anglican bishop: Same-sex blessings will continue

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Despite pleas from many of the world's top Anglican leaders, Bishop Michael Ingham said that the blessing of same-sex unions continues within his New Westminster Diocese.

Ingham endorsed an April 27 statement from a meeting in Windsor, Ontario, where Canada's Anglican bishops unanimously committed themselves "neither to encourage nor to initiate the use of such rites" until a nationwide synod settles the issue. The next synod session is in 2007.

As Ingham sees it, the bishops agreed to take "no further actions beyond those already started" and left his diocese free to continue its practice of same-sex blessings.

"No bishop was in any doubt that I did not commit myself to a moratorium on same-sex blessings," Ingham said.

A same-sex blessings moratorium was part of a unity plea from a February meeting of 35 top world Anglican leaders.

The same request was made of the Episcopal Church in the United States, where there's been similar confusion.

The U.S. bishops vowed in March that they would not authorize "public rites" to bless same-sex couples for at least a year, but that wording left open the possibility that individual priests and parishes could continue such services.

Like the U.S. bishops, the Canadian bishops expressed "regret" that other Anglicans are pained by their liberal steps on gay issues, but not regret for the actions themselves.

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Andrew" for four years. It's my second marriage and his third. Two months after our wedding, Andrew was diagnosed with colon cancer. I stood by his side and supported him even though his family did not help me.

Andrew was in remission for three years, during which he was abusive physically, mentally and emotionally. I wanted to take my children and leave -- but six months ago he was diagnosed with liver cancer. I couldn't leave him alone at a time like that, so I decided to stay.

Since then, Andrew has twice threatened to kill himself and take me with him. I'm scared, but I'm afraid to leave him alone because he is my husband. He wants nothing to do with counseling.

During one of his appointments, I learned that he had hepatitis and didn't tell me. (I have since had myself and the children checked, and we are fine.) I no longer trust Andrew, and I'm afraid to sleep at night. My children now live with my mother, who is not far away. He has done many other things to make me not trust him any longer. His family is no help. Should I stay and continue to be supportive? Please help me. -- EXHAUSTED AND SLEEPLESS IN LA

DEAR EXHAUSTED: Schedule an appointment with your husband's doctor and tell him or her what you have told me. Other arrangements should be made for his care. He appears to be mentally unbalanced, and he could attempt to carry out his threat. Unless you are willing to risk your children being left with no mother, you will do this for their sakes, not to mention your own.

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a new clerical job for only a few weeks. I type a lot of handwritten drafts for my computer-illiterate boss. While typing, I have noticed

that the grammar he uses for in-house correspondence is less than stellar. I correct small mistakes where necessary, but I'm uncomfortable with changing sentence structure or reshaping paragraphs, although my boss's writing could benefit from it. If I could edit as I please, his correspondence would be more concise and easier to read.

Should I bother to correct his mistakes, aside from spelling and verb tense? The public doesn't see any of this, and everyone here is already aware of his writing style. What will make him look worse -- poor grammar, or a sudden, inexplicable improvement that seemed to arrive with his new secretary? What will make me look worse -- letting this slide, or appearing uppity?

Also, if I should be reworking his drafts, how should I broach the subject of asking permission to do so? He's very casual as far as bosses go, but I don't want to cause embarrassment by pointing out that I have stronger writing skills. -- GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT: I see nothing uppity or embarrassing in saying to an employer that English grammar is your strong suit and asking if he would mind if you rework his correspondence -- as long as he reviews any draft before it is sent out. Bosses usually value employees who make them look better than they actually are.

DEAR ABBY: Would you please give me your definition of maturity? Thank you in advance. -- WONDERING IN WOODBURY

DEAR WONDERING: Maturity is the ability to control our impulses, to think beyond the moment, and consider how our words and our actions will affect ourselves and others before we act.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 Prom

1 Ibutrofen attendee target

5 Perp pursuers

9 Buckets parts

11 Red as --

13 Sleeping girl in a 1950s hit

14 For whom the bell tolls poet

15 Easter find

16 Chewy

18 Temple of film

20 "Tastes great!"

21 Corners

22 African reptiles

23 Went ahead

24 Golf's Trevino

25 Shirt part

27 Elevator parts

29 Screw up

30 Sun hats

32 To reiterate

34 Anything but

35 Kenya neighbor

36 Adult

38 Gladden

39 Low point

40 Some voters

DOWN

1 Church

2 Collared

3 Cary

4 Inventor

5 He may have a handful of clubs

6 Clannet's kin

7 Cary

8 Lampooned

10 Like some rulings

12 Swarms

17 Guitar pioneer

19 Sailing hazard

22 Long, long time

24 Tate

25 End

26 "The Little Mermaid" villain

27 -- Hear a Waltz?

28 Smelly smoke

30 Curses

31 Barge back

33 Fill

37 Diet no-no

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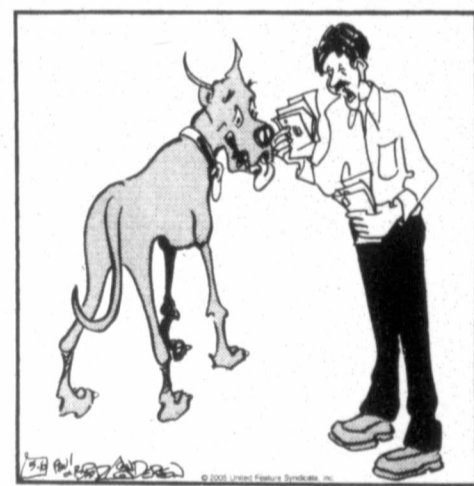
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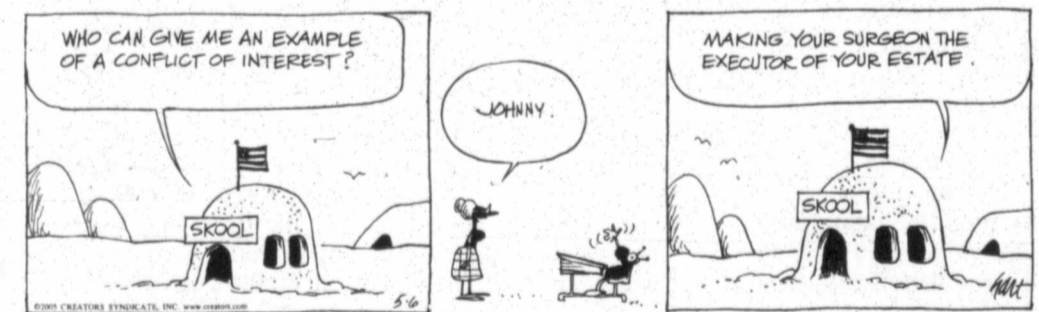
Marmaduke



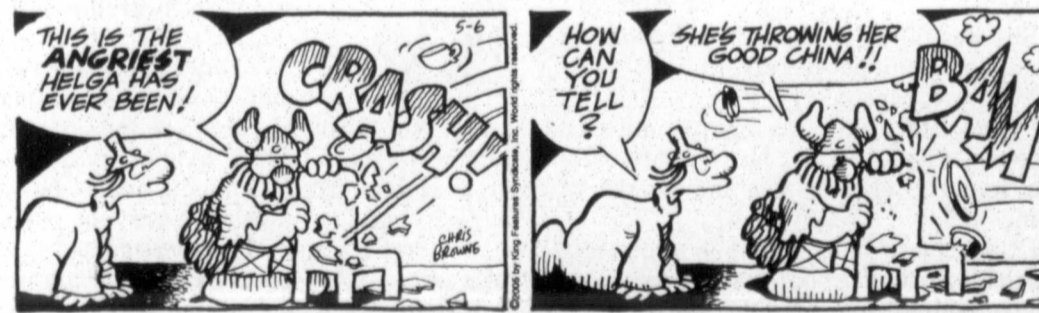
The Family Circus



B.C.



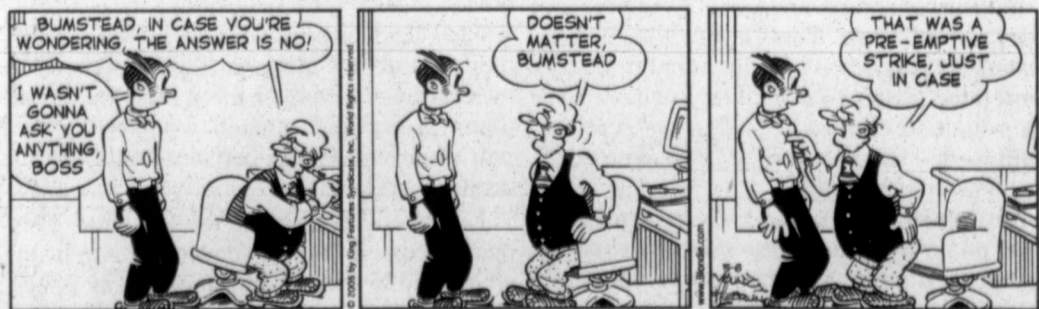
Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

Malone pitches no-hitter as Optimist ball resumes

Tyler Malone pitched a no-hitter and Conor Wilson supplied the batting power as Glo-Valve slipped past Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency Thursday 4-1 in Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken action at Optimist Park.

Malone struck out the first seven batters and finished with 12 strikeouts. A walk, a hit batter and an unearned run spoiled his bid for a perfect game. He threw only 70 pitches.

Garrett Erickson answered for DFB. He pitched four innings and allowed three hits and three earned runs. He struck out six, walked two and hit two batters. Hudson Bentley pitched an inning for DFB allowing no runs, one hit, no walks and had two strikeouts.

Glo-Valve played small ball in the first inning to push a run across. Malone walked and stole second. He advanced to third on a ground out by Brennan Dickinson and scored on another ground out by Reid Miller.

DFB tied the score in the fourth inning. Jose Cabrales led off the inning with a walk. He was forced at second by Erickson. Erickson stole second and went to third on a Glo-Valve error. He scored DFB's only run on a passed ball.

Evan Meschke started a rally for Glo-Valve in the bottom of the fourth with an

infield single. Michael Fisher was hit by a pitch. After a strikeout, Cody Davis walked to load the bases. Another strikeout brought Wilson to the plate. On a count of no balls and two strikes, he hammered a pitch into center for a two-run double, the only extra-base hit of the game.

Glo-Valve added an insurance run in the fifth inning. Miller beat out an infield hit, went to second on a passed ball, to third on a ground out hit by Meschke and scored on a passed ball.

Miller, Meschke, Davis and Wilson collected hits for Glo-Valve. Wilson had two RBI while Miller had one. Each side committed only one error. Glo-Valve remains in first place with a 4-0 record.

Monday will see DFB challenge Cabot Corporation in the 5:45 p.m. game. D. E. Chase, Inc., a game behind Glo-Valve, will seek to vault into first place against Glo-Valve in the 7:45 p.m. game. Both games are make-up games for games snowed out on May 2. Games originally scheduled for May 3 were rained out and will be rescheduled.

Rotary Club, a 15-4 winner Thursday over Cabot Corporation, will play DFB on Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. Celanese and Glo-Valve clash at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday.

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



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

PHS cheerleader Alyssa Bromwell pictured during a recent school pep rally.

Cavalier: 'I just try to use my own good judgment'

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

In a follow-up to yesterday's column on high school cheerleaders, Sports Day wanted to gauge local reaction to HB 1476 and its possible effect on schools and those in charge of how cheerleaders look, dress and the routines they perform.

In short, the bill currently being reviewed by the Senate in Austin, would allow the education commissioner to monitor and decide whether routines and uniforms are too provocative or sexually suggestive. If determined to be so, schools and those in charge of the cheerleader's dress and routines could be penalized.

Head of Harvester cheerleading, Kathy Cavalier says, when it comes to what is right and what is wrong, she simply relies on common sense. "As for where I draw the line, I just try to use my own good judgment."

Cavalier says the dances and routines her girls use are learned at cheerleading camp, and she has never felt the need to make any changes to them. She says her Pampa High School cheerleaders will make up a routine now and then, but she has never felt it was out of line.

It's not clear what high schools or cheerleading squads precipitated the authoring of HB 1476. What is clear is how the authors of the bill feel about some of them. One went to far as to compare it to something that might be seen in an adult entertainment club. Cavalier says her

squads have always projected nothing more than school spirit. And they have done so with a great measure of morality. "I think if you talked to any of my cheerleaders, past or present, they would tell you that I bring a pretty conservative approach to all we do. We talk all the time about image, not just in uniforms and dances, but in the halls, in the classroom, in public, on a Saturday night at Sonic, etc.," Cavalier said. Such is the benchmark of a community like Pampa, whose students and student athletes seem to be steeped in Harvester Pride.

Cavalier added, "We talk about what a visible representation they are of the city of Pampa whenever we travel. How their behavior in a restaurant or another school gives people an impression of Pampa." She noted, "We really are ambassadors for our community and want to represent it well."

Does Cavalier feel there is any measure of immorality in cheerleading today? Yes she does. But it has nothing to do with your local high school. "In my opinion, the image professional cheerleaders project is ridiculous and is not representative of cheerleaders, but of show girls, whose performance should be limited to Las Vegas and not the sideline of a ball game," said Cavalier.

When it comes to her PHS squad, Cavalier says, "I try to emphasize that their job is NOT to entertain, their job is to lead a crowd for the team on the field or on the court and to promote school spirit."

BASEBALL, SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS

Pampa is back in Odessa, Demonettes face Chapin; Raiders, Dumas both in bi-district openers tonight

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The Lady Harvester softball team left Pampa shortly after 8 a.m. this morning en route to a Region 1, District 4A, area playoff series against El Paso Ysleta.

Game one of that best-of-three meeting is set to start at 7 p.m. tonight at the Ratliff Complex in Odessa. Cassy Tice (13-3) is the projected starter for Pampa.

Nicole Clark (11-6) is expected to start tomorrow's game two.

Tonight's game can be heard on AM 1230 KGRO.

Also on tap tonight is 3-4A champion

Dumas in a rematch against El Paso Chapin, who knocked the Demonettes out in the same round last year.

That game will precede the Pampa - Ysleta match.

On the boys' side, 3-4A champion Pampa is off this weekend, a bye earned by winning the district title.

The Harvesters will face either El Paso Andress or Clint Mountain View in the area round of the playoffs next week.

3-4A runner-up Randall faces 4-4A No. 3 seed El Paso Andrews tonight in game one in a best-of-three series.

3-4A No. 3 seed Dumas will open against Frenship tonight as well.



J. David Fatheree Double Eagle Award winners Taylor Fatheree (left) and Carissa Snelgrooes with former Harvester golf coach, Frank McCullough.

Fatheree, Snelgrooes Double Eagle winners

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The May 2, PHS golf banquet was made extra special when this year's J. David Fatheree Double Eagle Award winners were announced.

They were sophomore Taylor Fatheree (grandson) and Senior Carissa Snelgrooes. The Double Eagle award was established in 1997 by former Harvester golf coach Frank McCullough, who presented the 2004-2005 winners during awards portion of the banquet.

McCullough says the Double Eagle is rarer than the much ballyhooed Hole-in-One. "J. David Fatheree was also rare," he said. "This is why we decided to name the award after him." McCullough says the elder Fatheree always had an encouraging word for Harvester golfers. "He was always there to pick us up. He always had something positive to say or share."

The former PHS golf coach noted it isn't always the best golfer who wins the award. "Often it is the golfer who best exemplifies the spirit of J. David Fatheree," he said.

Rockets avoid playoff exit, 101-83

HOUSTON (AP) — Tracy McGrady no longer has to do it all himself. Mike James, Jon Barry and the rest of the Houston Rockets made sure of it.

That might be the difference in McGrady's latest attempt to get out of the first round.

Playing with the desperation of a man on the brink of elimination, McGrady had 37 points, eight rebounds and seven assists to help the Rockets avoid an early playoff exit with a 101-83 victory over Dallas on Thursday night.

"I've been in this situation before," McGrady said. "I'm going to lay everything out on the

line, leave everything out there on that basketball court, and I'm going to bring my teammates with me."

The series is tied 3-3, with Game 7 in Dallas on Saturday. The winner will face top-seeded Phoenix in the Western Conference semifinals.

James came off the bench for 22 points, Barry scored 12 of his 14 points in the fourth quarter and aging center Dikembe Mutombo provided some stout interior defense for the Rockets, who have lost in the opening round of their last three playoff appearances.

See ROCKETS, Page 14

Sorenstam's quest for record on hold

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) — Annika Sorenstam will definitely play this weekend. So will the rest of the field at the Michelob Ultra Open.

Sorenstam's quest for a record sixth straight win, in jeopardy after a rough opening round, was put on hold Friday when rain washed out play. PGA officials said all second-round scores would be erased, and the round will start anew Saturday.

"Some of the worst I've ever played in," said Mhairi McKay of Scotland, who made it through nine holes. "It was not the most pleasant conditions."

Sorenstam's 5-over-par 76 in Thursday's first round left her with a lot of work to do just to make the cut, let alone keep her winning streak going. But it looked as if she might get some help from the miserable conditions Friday. A steady, blowing rain wreaked havoc with the morning groups' scores, moving Sorenstam nearer to the cut line before she even played a stroke.

Most players were above par for the day; first-round leaders Silvia Cavalleri and Catrin Nilsmark were both at 3 over.

But the round begins anew Saturday. Still, the

course will probably still be heavy and wet for the early groups, and that could be the break Sorenstam needs.

She's been winning at will in recent months, tying Nancy Lopez's long-standing record with five consecutive victories. But she got off to an uncharacteristically bad start Thursday.

"I just want to move forward," she said. "I've got to go low the next three days, and I know I can do it."

Her score was her highest in relation to par since a 5-over 77 in the second round of the 2002 British Open. That, by the way, also was the last time she missed a cut. She shot a 76 in the second round of the Kraft Nabisco Championship last year.

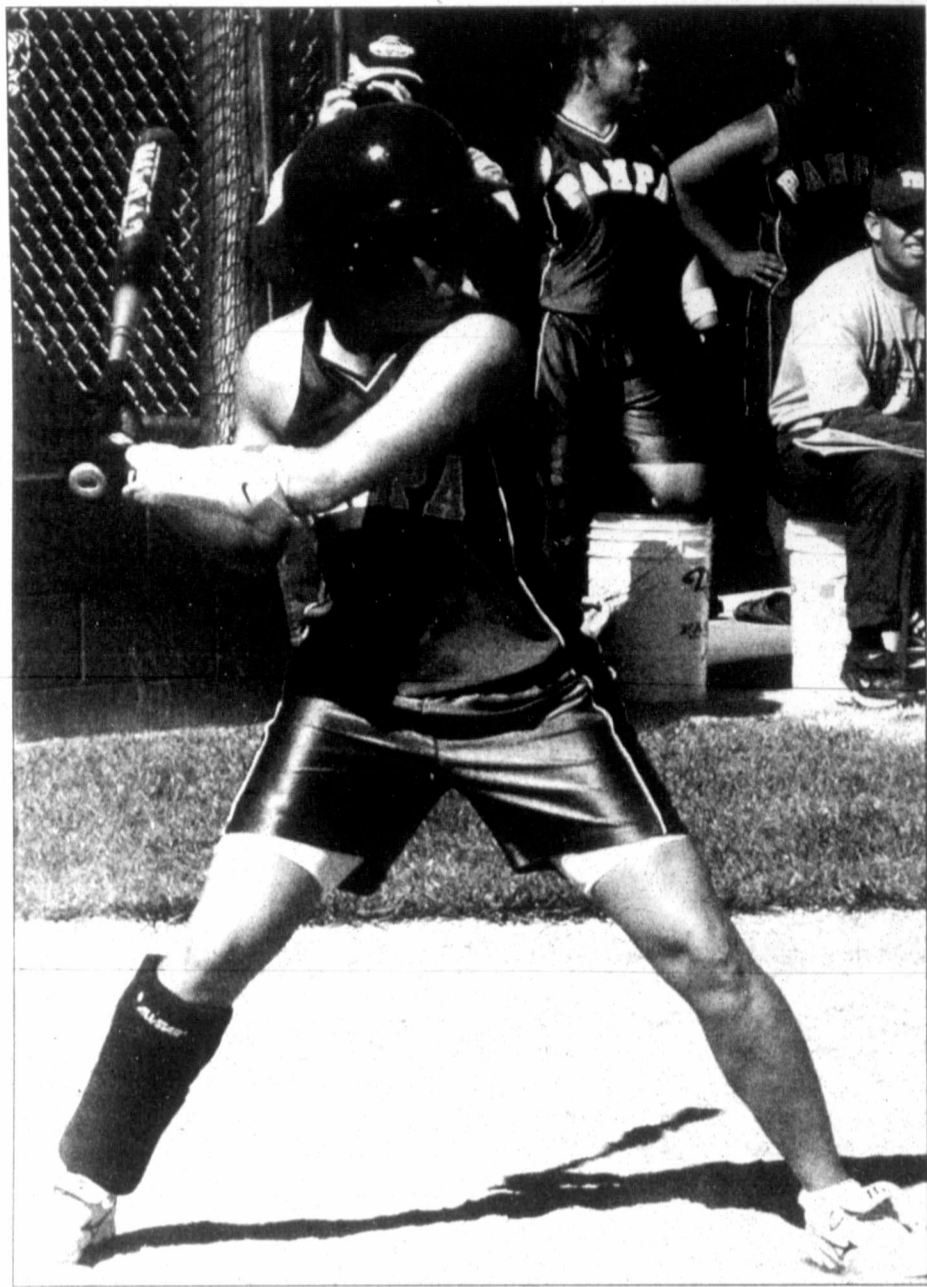
It also was her highest score in an opening round since a 76 in the 2000 Rochester International, and it ended a stretch of 43 rounds at par or better.

"I don't know what to say about this round," she said. "I thought I played pretty good today. It just didn't go my way at all."

Sorenstam hasn't played since winning the Kraft Nabisco and had a five-week layoff. But she said she felt good going into the round.

See RECORD, Page 14

Bat girl



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Lady Harvester Callie Cobb waits on a pitch during Pampa's April 22 home game against Dumas. The Lady Harvesters are in Odessa today and tomorrow to meet El Paso Ysleta in a District 4A area playoff series.

Record

Continued from Page 13

She wasn't feeling pressure about the streak, either, forgetting all about it after making a bogey on her second hole.

She just had a bad day, something most golfers know all too well.

"She is human," Nilmark said, smiling. "Thank God."

Her drives were solid, but the rest of Sorenstam's game was devoid of its usual finesse. Shots that normally would have landed a few inches from the hole were several feet off the mark. Putts

that normally would go in stopped short or raced past the hole.

And on the par-5 No. 7, pretty much everything went wrong.

After pushing her second shot into a thicket of trees off the green, Sorenstam hit a rock and chunked her first attempt to get out. The next shot flew over the green, landing in the rough. She chipped within 8 feet, but her putt rolled 6 inches past the hole and she finished with a double bogey.

"I felt good about my game, I really do," she said. "I think I am hitting good putts. It's got to turn around for me to have a chance."

And Sorenstam has rallied

before. She shares the LPGA record for biggest comeback victory, rallying from 10 shots back on the final day to win The Office Depot in 2001.

She also made up four strokes in the final three holes, then won in a playoff, at the Safeway International, her fourth victory in her current streak.

"I wouldn't be surprised if she shot a low number tomorrow, even in bad weather," said Leta Lindley, one of five players at 3 under on Thursday.

"It's only one round. A lot can happen in three more rounds. I would not count her out, by any means."

Thomson, Braves drop Astros

ATLANTA (AP) — After watching a teammate botch a grounder leading off the ninth, John Thomson turned around to pitch out of the stretch. And that's when it hit him.

"I realized it was the first time I had been in the stretch since the fourth batter of the first inning," Thomson said, as if he really didn't believe it himself.

Thomson pitched a three-hitter and retired 27 of the last 29 batters for his first complete game since 2003, leading the Atlanta Braves past the slumping Houston Astros 9-3 on Thursday night.

Adam LaRoche homered and had a career-high four RBIs for the Braves, who pulled a half-game ahead of idle Florida for the top spot in the NL East with their 10th win in 13 games.

Thomson (3-2) gave up two runs in the first but dominated the rest of the way. He also had an RBI single in the sixth, when the Braves blew open the game with their second four-run inning.

"My job is to go out there and put zeros up," Thomson said. "You're a little bit relieved when your team scores a lot of runs. On the other hand, you can't relax. I go out there with the same intensity that I would in a 0-0 game."

Thomson was ahead in the count most of the

night, throwing first-pitch strikes to all but eight of the 31 hitters in his first complete game since Aug. 24, 2003, while with the Texas Rangers.

"When they know they're not going to get ball one, ball two, they've got to put the ball in play," he said. "That works to my advantage. When they're getting aggressive early in the count, I can throw more balls out of the strike zone."

The Astros have lost eight straight road games, dropping to 1-11 outside of Houston. This is their worst stretch away from home since they lost 10 straight road games from May 16-June 8, 2000.

"We got two in the first and nothing else the rest of the way," manager Phil Garner said. "Nothing else. Just nothing. No hits at all. Two hits in the first and that was it."

LaRoche has seven RBIs over the past two games. Coming off a three-double performance the day before, he hit a three-run homer over the center-field wall in the first inning.

LaRoche drove in his fourth run with a bases-loaded groundout in the sixth. That eclipsed his previous career high of three RBIs in a game, accomplished most recently in Wednesday's victory over Florida.

Rockets

Continued from Page 13

Houston last won a series in 1997, when the lineup featured Hakeem Olajuwon, Clyde Drexler and Charles Barkley.

Jerry Stackhouse led Dallas with 21 points, and Dirk Nowitzki scored 19 on only 5-of-22 shooting as he continued his series-long struggles against McGraw's defense.

"I've got to figure a way to shoot the ball better if we want to win Game 7," Nowitzki said.

Rockets fans who were disappointed by blown fourth-quarter leads in the last two home games, including a 20-0 run by Dallas in Game 3, were treated to an improbably dominant finish in this one.

McGrady scored eight straight points, including

two 3s, during a 19-0 spurt that turned a close game into a rout and gave Houston a 101-80 lead. Dallas could not stop McGrady with double teams, rough play or simply allowing him to fire away from outside.

"When I feel like I can make 3s from anywhere on the floor," said McGrady, who went 6-of-10 from behind the arc, "my defender is at my mercy."

The Mavericks, for once, couldn't come up with a response. Dallas missed its last 17 shots, going 4-for-27 in the final period as the imposing 7-foot-2 Mutombo forced the Mavericks to settle for jumpers.

Mutombo, who earlier in the day promised that he would be "wagging his finger" in Phoenix next week, offset a disappointing effort from Yao Ming.

"I just believe in my teammates and I believe we're capable of doing

that," said Mutombo, who had 10 rebounds and four blocks. "All we have to do is get our minds right ... I'm not ready to go home."

McGrady, who has never advanced past the first round in his eight-year career, also came through in the clutch to avoid having his team blow a two-game lead for the second straight time. It also happened when he played for Orlando against Detroit in 2003.

Back then, of course, he never had this kind of help: an All-Star big man in Yao, a bench teeming with driven veterans, and a coach who once led an eighth-seeded team to the NBA Finals.

After drawing a \$100,000 fine, the largest ever assessed against a coach, for accusing officials of targeting Yao this postseason, Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy was greeted by loud cheers during pregame introductions.

That didn't stop Van

Gundy from giving officials a mouthful after a hard foul on Yao midway through the second quarter that sent the 7-foot-6 center tumbling to the floor. Yao scrambled to his feet and stared down at Dallas' Josh Howard — a rare show of anger from the gentle giant — but was quickly escorted away by teammates.

That foul seemed to wake up the Rockets, who soon took their first lead of the game on a three-point play by Ryan Bowen.

The Mavericks responded with their own complaints about the officiating after this one, including rookie coach Avery Johnson, who clearly didn't appreciate all the attention focused on Van Gundy's remarks.

"Maybe I need to go crazy. Maybe I should go crazy. Maybe that will help," Johnson said in a rambling postgame tirade. "We lost the game. We don't make excuses."

Take two



Due to the poor quality of yesterday's picture of PJHS student Travis Hagerman, we are repeating his story with a new photograph. Hagerman recently set a new record in the 400 m Dash with a time of 57.79. The 7th-grader beat the old record of 58.06 set in 1986 by Edric Kelley.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, May 7, 2005:

You need to focus on others more often this year. You express unusual creativity and energy. The only negative here is a tendency to be a bit self-involved. You need to be aware of others. Though you are a source of brilliant ideas, others also might have suggestions. Bosses and those in charge could be overly idealistic. Be open to new ideas and different solutions, but add in Taurean practicality. You have unusually high magnetism this year, bringing many people toward you. If you are single, you could meet Mr. or Ms. Right, especially toward the end of your birthday year. If you are attached, remember that the relationship needs attention, as does your significant other. Watch out for another TAUREAN'S willfulness.

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)

★★★ Your expenses demand your attention. You might have made an error that could jeopardize a major purchase. Your innovative style helps you come up with unusual answers. Friends could mean well but only confuse the issue. Try to understand their real message. Tonight: Your treat.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Friends surprise you with some unusual plans or ideas. Why don't you go along for the ride? Fun surrounds you if you are willing to let go and relax. Your perception of someone who is important in your life could be distorted. Try being more realistic, for both of you. Tonight: As you like it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Realize when you need to van-

ish. Sometimes others mean well but only confuse the issue. Learn to gather facts on your own. Plans involving an authority figure could radically change.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Focus on the majority rather than on individuals. Recognize when someone is yanking your chain. This behavior might not be intentional. Give him or her the benefit of the doubt as you handle an upcoming issue. Tonight: Throw or go to a party.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Others make demands that you might not be up to meeting. Explain, but don't expect everyone to be happy. Your perspective and personality are more in demand than you realize. You might need to go along with a loved one's desires. Tonight: In the limelight, whether you want to be or not.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Learning to take an overview could be important. Visualize and create more of what you want in a key relationship. Significant others have a way of acting in a most unanticipated manner. Don't react, if possible. Tonight: Take in a movie, concert or some other form of mind escape.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Extremes mark your interactions with others. You cannot always anticipate what will happen next — even you are prone to unexpected spontaneity. Realize that others need a greater sense of control. Tonight: Go along with another's request.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You cannot always dictate your terms. In fact, quite clearly, others are in control right now. Recognize your limitations. Right now, let someone close reveal his or her inner

desires. Lying back will allow you to get to know this person better. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Celebrate the warmer days and spend some time outside. You might want to garden, plan a barbecue or get into a fun game of ball. Think in terms of new possibilities, following the natural theme of spring. Tonight: What you thought was predictable might no longer be.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You might have a sudden case of spring fever. Recognize what is happening with a neighbor or with someone you communicate with on a regular basis. The unexpected comes forward. Tonight: Be playful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Your sense of direction could be very important when dealing with those you really care about. Confusion marks the next few days. You only see what you want to see right now. A family member might not be deceptive. Tonight: Entertain quietly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You could easily sabotage yourself. Stop and think before giving in to impulsiveness. You need a different perspective. Others often feed you information you want to hear. Be discerning rather than naive. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

BORN TODAY

Journalist Tim Russert (1950), Argentina's first lady Eva Peron (1919), actor Mike Myers (1963)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>. (c) 2005 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Fields to miss 2005 season

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Carolina Panthers linebacker Mark Fields will miss the 2005 season after a recurrence of Hodgkin's disease, his agent said.

Fields, 32, sat out the 2003 season while he battled the disease but came back last year to earn a trip to the Pro Bowl. He declined to sign

Carolina's offer of a contract extension in March, saying he wanted to wait until after an annual medical checkup that was part of the cancer treatment.

Doctors discovered during tests this week that the Hodgkin's disease has returned and is in its early stages, agent Jim Steiner said.

Mullins brings another long shot to derby

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Jeff Mullins would like to forget his winter of discontent, and not just because record rainfall in Southern California made for countless dreary, soggy days at the racetrack.

He was punished when one of his horses had a positive drug test in January and he ticked off bettors by calling them idiots in March.

Now he's back at his fourth consecutive Kentucky Derby with long shot Buzzards Bay.

The 42-year-old trainer wasn't talking Thursday, except to say his attorney had advised silence because of pending legal issues.

"He's had a rough winter," said Bob Baffert, a three-time Derby winner who has been supportive of Mullins. "He asked me for advice and I told him, 'You just need to shut the hell up. Your only defense is you got to keep winning.'" Mullins has done just that.

He finished second in the trainers' standings at Santa Anita's winter meeting, where Buzzards Bay

gave him a third consecutive victory in the Santa Anita Derby. That punched the colt's ticket to Kentucky, where he jogged a mile over the Churchill Downs track for the first time Thursday.

Mullins didn't lose clients because of the positive drug test; in fact, Buzzards Bay's co-owner Bill Bianco is a member of the California Horse Racing Board.

The board filed a complaint against Mullins for conduct detrimental to racing after he insulted the wagering public while talking to a newspaper columnist, but it was later dismissed.

"He didn't shoot himself in the foot. He blew his foot plum off," trainer D. Wayne Lukas said. "He'd like to take that month out of his life, I know. He learned a lot from that."

Even after Mullins apologized in a television interview, bad feelings lingered among taunting fans, angry industry officials and some of his fellow trainers.

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1 Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF RUTH HERR

Notice is hereby given that original letters testamentary upon the Estate of Ruth Herr, Deceased, were granted to me, the undersigned, on May 3, 2005, in Cause Number 9183, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas. All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to me within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated: May 3, 2005

Gary Gene Herr
Independent Executor of the Estate of Ruth Herr,
Deceased
c/o Vanessa G. Buzzard
Peterson Farris Pruitt & Parker, P.C.
208 N. Russell
Pampa, Texas 79065
806/665-9764
806/669-9756 FAX
Attorneys for
Gary Gene Herr
C-18 May 6, 2005

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ABWA Woman of the Year

Jowannah Shackelford, left, president of Magic Plains Chapter of American Business Women's Association, was named ABWA Woman of the Year recently. Shackelford was presented a plaque in recognition of the honor by Estelle Malone, right.

Label

Continued from Page 11

in politics and government has reached incendiary heights with the Schiavo case, followed by the dispute over Republican judicial nominees and Democratic Senate filibusters.

At the CUNY conference, the central threat speakers raised was "theocracy" — a label often heard from politicians and liberal pundits in recent days that conservatives consider extremely insulting. The word's dictionary meaning is a regime where clergy monopolize power and impose divine dictates.

Though one speaker lamented Roman Catholicism's new "fundamentalist pope," the weekend's chief targets were evangelical Protestants — whose tactics were compared with those of Machiavelli, Hitler, Stalin and Jim Jones of mass suicide fame.

One speaker described even the Rev. Billy Graham as a theocratic fellow traveler because he wants more Christians involved in public life.

While conservatives would certainly take offense to some of the comments, evangelicals have shown in recent weeks that they also have a touch for remarks guaranteed to irritate or frighten fellow Americans.

Talking about candidates for federal judgeships, Southern Baptist seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. said, "We are not asking

for persons merely to be moral. We want them to be believers in the Lord Jesus Christ."

And on ABC's "This Week," Pat Robertson reaffirmed his beliefs that liberal judges are more dangerous to America than anything for centuries, al-Qaida included, that he's dubious about Muslims as judges and that if he were president he'd allow only Christians and Jews in his cabinet.

The speakers at CUNY offered fierce language, too. Historian Hugh Urban of Ohio State University charged Christian hard-liners with exploiting the "otherwise vacuous figure of George W. Bush" as they plot against democracy.

Charles Strozier, director of a CUNY terrorism center, said the religious right, "emboldened in ways never seen before in American history," is promoting the "basically neo-Fascist schemes of the new Republicans."

No speaker representing religious conservatives was invited to offer a rebuttal. Nor did conferees clarify what religious lobbying is proper or improper.

The Rev. Bob Edgar, a former Democratic congressman and general secretary of the National Council of Churches, strongly favors religious politicking but said in an interview that he draws the line when groups say "we are right and everyone else is evil" or claim that "another point of view is illegitimate."

Edgar accuses the religious right of such attitudes. "This may be the darkest

time in our history," he told the CUNY conference. "Our very liberties are at stake."

His church council supported the CUNY meeting along with Americans

'(The left) is vaporizing in a hysteria of ignorance and vindictiveness. We've never seen anything like it.'

— Tom Minnery
Focus on the Family

United for Separation of Church and State, People For the American Way and others. The New York Open Center and CUNY were the co-sponsors.

Responding to the meeting, conservatives said their political activism merely expresses their rights as citizens to advocate, vote and participate in government — the same rights liberals and secularists exercise.

Theocracy labeling is "a very subtle attempt to smear evangelical Christians with what we see happening in the Mideast," said Tony Perkins of the Family Research Council.

Tom Minnery, public poli-

cy vice president with Focus on the Family, called the charge "ludicrous." He said the conference indicates the left "is vaporizing in a hysteria of ignorance and vindictiveness. We've never seen anything like it."

Mostly, CUNY conferees backed the theocracy charge by associating the religious right with an extremist movement known as "reconstructionism," "theonomy" or "dominionism."

Proponents such as Rousas J. Rushdoony of California's Chaldean Foundation, who died in 2001, advocated imposition of Old Testament laws.

Evangelical activists deny that this small group influences their thinking.

One nonpartisan expert who wasn't present at CUNY, Rice University sociologist William Martin, agrees that reconstructionists are a tiny fringe, though he does worry that some activists are being tempted toward theocratic thinking.

"Of course religious people have a right to be involved in politics, and we can't expect them to leave their values behind," he said. "The proper response from those who disagree is not to proclaim them as un-American but to try to oppose them in the political arena."

Dozen corpses found buried at Baghdad dump

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — At least a dozen bodies were found buried at a garbage dump on the outskirts of Baghdad on Friday, some of them blindfolded and shot in the head, Iraqi officials said.

Insurgents detonated two suicide car bombs — one at a market south of Baghdad that killed 14 people and another in Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit that targeted security forces and killed eight police officers on board a minibus.

The attacks were part of a surge of violence that has killed at least 269 people since Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari announced his new government April 28 with seven Cabinet positions still undecided.

Iraq's new Cabinet held its first meeting Thursday to decide a plan of action. Al-Jaafari aide Laith Kuba said the seven vacancies, including the key oil and defense ministries, would be filled by Saturday and parliament would be asked to vote on them Sunday.

Scavengers sifting through garbage for scrap metal and other items to sell stumbled across the bodies at the dump in Kasra Waatash, on the northeastern edge of Baghdad, police and soldiers said.

There were conflicting accounts of how many bodies were found. Bassim al-Maslokhi, a soldier who was guarding the area during the recovery, counted 14; Kadhim al-Itabi, a local police chief, put the number at 12.

The victims were found in

shallow graves and seemed to have been killed recently, al-Maslokhi said. Some were blindfolded and had been shot in the head, he said.

At Baghdad's central morgue, an official said 12 bodies had been received. Families identified some of the victims as farmers who disappeared recently on their way to a market to sell their produce, said Rahoumi Jassim, a morgue official.

Victims were found in shallow graves and seemed to have been killed recently, an Iraqi official said.

Authorities kept journalists at a distance from the dump. But an Associated Press photographer saw U.S. military, Iraqi police and soldiers at the scene, along with three ambulances.

Al-Itabi confirmed the victims had been shot. Mazin Fadhid, a policeman at the same station, said most appeared to be young men. Some were dressed in traditional white robes, others in pants and shirts, and at least one was wearing a traffic officer's uniform, he said.

In the Tikrit attack, a silver Opel packed with explosives destroyed a police minibus, said U.S. Army 1st Sgt. Brian Thomas and Iraqi army Maj. Salman Abdul Wahid.



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— Rev. Bob Edgar
National Council of Churches

Montana school locks up for bears

CHOTEAU, Mont. (AP) — Two grizzly bear cubs wandered into a backyard in this Rocky Mountain Front community — prompting a bear lockdown at a nearby elementary school.

Chuck Gameon, principal of the Choteau Elementary School, said the bears didn't cause too much of a stir because many of the students are from ranches and, "They see lots of bears." But it did force the school to cancel recess Thursday.

In recent years, the school has had two or three bear-related lockdowns, he said.

A state bear specialist and deputies used rubber bullets to scare the bears. Sheriff George Anderson and Mike Madel of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks followed the bears into a creek bottom on foot and chased them west.

Madel said the yearling cubs probably were searching for birdseed.

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