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THE PAMPA NEWS

Friday, May 13, 2005

Volume 101 • No. 1260

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Dixon's re-count request accepted

Votes in election for Ward 3 seat to be counted again on May 20, officials say

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Ward 3 City Commissioner Robert Dixon's request for a re-count of votes in his race from the May 7 general election has been accepted, and the re-count will be held Friday, May 20 at City Hall,

according to Mayor Lonny Robbins. "I got a new cashier's check for \$350 and gave it to the mayor yesterday morning," Dixon said in a telephone interview this morning.

Robbins confirmed by telephone this morning that Dixon had submitted the proper payment.

Dixon had submitted a cashier's

check for \$50, payable to the City of Pampa, with his re-count request to Robbins on Wednesday morning, but that request was rejected because the amount of the check and the payee named on it were incorrect.

Texas Election Code rules state that the person requesting the re-count must pay for the labor and any

other costs associated with the re-count.

The payment must be in the form of a cashier's check, made out to the presiding officer of the canvassing authority for the election.

The city commission is the can-

See RE-COUNT, Page 3

Sheriff, police to give public free gun locks

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Free gun locks are available from Gray County Sheriff's Office and Pampa Police Department as part of the national Project ChildSafe initiative.

Gun locks are available "no questions asked" to any gun owners who request them, said Sheriff Don Copeland. Information on the persons asking for the locks, or any weapons on which they may plan to use the locks, will not be collected, Copeland said.

The cable-style gun locks are accompanied by information and instructions for use.

Randy Lamb of Project ChildSafe was in Pampa Wednesday to deliver the gun locks to GCSO and PPD. He said he planned to leave 1,200 gun locks at the

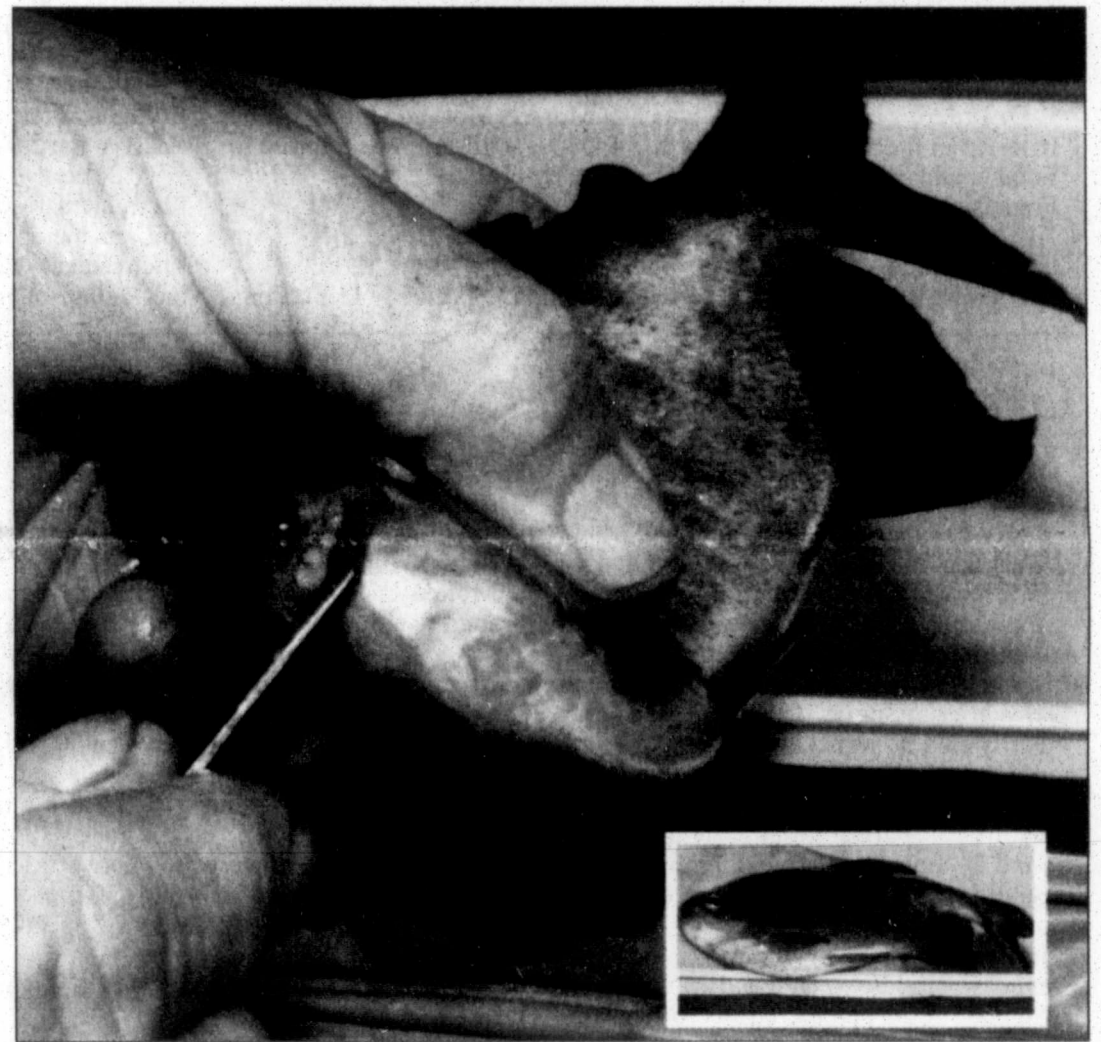
sheriff's office, and another 600 at the police department. "These locks will work on 97 percent of all guns. It would take bolt cutters to cut through the cable," Lamb said.

Pampa's 1,800 gun locks are part of the 865,000 being distributed by local law enforcement agencies in Texas, in cooperation with the National Shooting Sports Foundation. The Texas total is part of the 12 million being handed out nationwide.

Project ChildSafe is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, and is supporting the program from Sept. 1, 2004 through Aug. 31, 2005.

In 2004, Texas received 1,192,200 free gun locks as a result of a \$50 million grant from the U.S.

See LOCKS, Page 3



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Be careful what you fish for

This fish which may be a red-bellied piranha was caught in Pampa's City Lake about 6 p.m. Thursday. Bill Bridgeman of Pampa said the fish was given to his son by a "homeless person" who had been fishing in the lake. He and his wife Sandy compared the fish to a photograph of a red-bellied piranha they found on the Internet, he said. However, the fish has not been officially identified. Shane Stokes, of the city's recreation and parks department, said he didn't think a piranha could survive in the city lake for long because of the water temperature. He said someone probably had put the fish in the lake shortly before it was caught. This is the first time any such fish has been reported caught in the local lake, he said. No swimming is allowed there, so the piranha shouldn't present any danger to the public, he added.

Legislators propose tax-free weekend for Christmas time

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas sales taxes may take a Christmas holiday if lawmakers stick with a proposed state Senate plan.

The Senate voted earlier this week to create a tax-free weekend similar to the one before school starts in August. The new tax-free holiday would begin the first Friday in December and last through Sunday.

The House has not voted

for the measure, so a House-Senate conference committee will decide whether to make it part of the final version of House Bill 3. The bill raises sales and business taxes to pay for cuts in school property taxes.

During the tax-free weekend, shoppers would not pay sales tax on most clothes that cost less than \$100 apiece. The Senate proposal extends that tax break to backpacks

and some school supplies. Sen. Eliot Shapleigh, D-El Paso, said he proposed the new break because the sales tax is a regressive tax, meaning low-income families pay a higher share of their income to cover the tax on such basic items as clothes and food.

Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said the

See TAXES, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland, right, accepts delivery of 1,200 gun locks from Randy Lamb, left, of Project ChildSafe. The cable-style gun locks are available free of charge from the sheriff's office and from Pampa Police Department, which received 600 locks.

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Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests today.

Thursday, May 12

Four traffic stops were made. A traffic complaint was made in the 300 block of Perry.

A hit and run accident was reported in the 2000 block of Mary Ellen. Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart, the intersection of Harvester and Hobart streets, the intersection of Randy Matson and Hobart streets, the 1000 block of North Hobart, and the 1400 block of East Harvester.

Three business and two residential alarms were reported.

Warrant service was attempted on three occasions.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive, the intersection of Foster and Osage streets, the 900 block of South Faulkner, and the intersection of Oklahoma and Barrett streets.

A narcotic drug law violation was reported in the 500 block of Montagu.

Public intoxication was reported in the 500 block of Montagu.

A subject with a weapon was reported in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 900 block of Schneider.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported in the 400 block of North Sumner and the 1300 block of East Francis.

Welfare checks were made in the 2500 block of Comanche Trail and the 500 block of North

Starkweather.

Assault was reported in the police department lobby.

Assault by threat was reported in the 800 block of West Kingsmill.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway.

Burglary was reported in the 1900 block of North Wells.

Theft was reported in the 300 block of East Francis. A lawn mower valued at \$150 was reported taken.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 1900 N. Hobart. Taken was fuel valued at \$10.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of South Wells and the 1100 block of Sirroco.

Burglary of a habitation and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle were reported in the 1000 block of South Nelson. Taken were a PlayStation, cash, and a vehicle.

Fire department assistance was rendered in the 2800 block of Charles and at the intersection of 17th and Russell streets.

Animal complaints were made in the 1300 block of Garland and the 1000 block of Neel Road.

Criminal mischief was reported. A window was shot out at a restaurant, no name or address given, for estimated damage of \$400.

Alanzo Cecilio, 30, 1210 S. Finley, was arrested for domestic assault and no driver's license.

Morris Morgan Johnson, 57, 1433 N. Williston, was arrested for theft by check.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department

reported the following accident today.

Thursday, May 12

12 a.m. — A 1994 Chevrolet Camaro, driven by Richard Allen Robles, 34, 408 W. Harvester, and a 1997 Chrysler Town and Country, driven by Valerie Renae Turner, 31, 1921 N. Zimmers, collided in the 1100 block of North Hobart. No injuries were reported, and no citations were issued.

Sheriff

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

Thursday, May 12

Jackie Terrell Hembree, 22, McLean, was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and speeding.

Glen Edward Black, 47, 925 Brunow, was arrested to serve a 10-day sentence for driving while intoxicated, third offense.

Fire

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

Thursday, May 12

9:19 a.m. — Two units and six firefighters responded to a fire alarm at One Medical Plaza. An alarm had malfunctioned in the laundry room.

9:44 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 2500 block of Beech.

11:26 a.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a paint spill in the 1900 block of Lynn. The resident was washing about a half-gallon of paint spilled in the

driveway into the street.

12:36 p.m. — Three units and seven firefighters responded to a fire alarm at Wal-Mart, 2801 Charles. A small fire started in the heat tape on a freezer unit, causing minimal damage.

12:38 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a report of smoke in the 1600 block of North Russell. The smoke was coming from a wood-burning stove.

1:28 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

1:40 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to the 800 block of South Barnes.

3:45 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a motor vehicle collision at Randy Matson and Hobart streets.

4:08 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 2700 block of North Hobart.

4:40 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a medical assist in the 900 block of East Francis.

8:23 p.m. — One unit and three firefighters responded to a report of smoke in the 100 block of South Russell. Smoke was coming from burned food in one of the apartments.

Ambulance

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

Thursday, May 12

9:44 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2500 block of Beech and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:22 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded west of Pampa on Highway 60 and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2800 block of North Charles and transported a patient to PRMC.

1:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo.

1:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

1:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of South Barnes and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:24 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Hobart. No transport.

3:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Hobart and Randy Matson and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:09 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2700 block of North Hobart and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of East Francis and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to a local nursing facility.

6:26 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to NWTH.

Friday, May 13

2:29 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:21 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of West 25th. No transport.

Gray County Weather

Today: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, possibly severe, after noon.

Partly cloudy, with a high around 77.

West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Tonight: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, possibly severe, before midnight, then a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms after midnight.

Partly cloudy, with a low around 52. North northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph.

Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 74. East wind around 5 mph.

Saturday Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Increasing clouds, with a low near 51. Southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Cloudy, with a high around 66. South wind around 15 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of

showers and thunderstorms before midnight.

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

South wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 74. South wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 86.

Windy, with a southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low near 63.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Thursday: Mostly sunny and windy, with a high near 88.

Stocks

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

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

Wheat	2.80	Cabot Corp	28.41	-0.11	Pioneer Nat	37.09	-0.09
Milo	3.00	Cabot Oil Gas	28.38	-0.15	JCP	47.60	-0.11
Corn	3.77	Coca Cola	44.18	+0.01	COP	98.04	-2.28
Soybeans	5.32	VLO	62.95	+0.92	SLB	65.20	-0.33
		HAL	40.38	-0.28	Tenneco	12.98	-0.03
		TRI	48.49	-0.92	CVX	51.43	-0.62
		KMI	75.40	-0.49	Wal-Mart	47.30	-0.35
		XCEL	17.86	+0.11	OKE	29.70	-0.28
		Kerr McGee	75.74	-0.58	NS Grp	25.85	-0.28
		XOM	54.40	-0.42			
		Limited	20.18	-0.03			
		Williams	16.61	-0.35	New York Gold	422.40	
		MCD	29.65	-0.13	Silver	6.93	
		Atmos	26.93	NC	West Texas Crude	48.54	



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Hot freezer sparks fire

Pampa Fire Department and Guardian EMS ambulance service responded to a call at about 1 p.m. yesterday concerning a possible fire at Wal-Mart, 2801 Charles. Smoke was seen at the north end of the building, and fire was found inside one wall of an insulated freezer. Heat tape on the freezer unit was later determined by the fire department to be the cause of the fire. The ambulance was present as a precautionary measure. The store was not evacuated or closed during the incident. Damage was minimal, according to fire department reports.

CITY BRIEFS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

- \$12 WONDERLAND** GOSPEL SINGING, Sunday afternoon, 2-4 p.m., Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock. You are invited.
- OPEN HOUSE** 1533 Zimmers 3/2/2, 1610 sq. ft., \$85K. Fri. 5-7p., Sat. 8:30-1p.
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- PRICE REDUCED** Prom Dress, beautiful apple red, strapless, sz. 4, bought at David's Bridal, never worn. \$150. 665-0328 aft. 5 p.m.
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- MCLEAN COUNTRY** Club Dance, Sat., May 14th, "Deanna & The Western Swingsters" 8-11:30 p.m. Public welcome!
- REDNECK LAWNMOWER** Races, Sat. 2 p.m.

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Free Coke Products... Free Hot Dogs... Free Fun



Pampa News photo by DEE DEE LARAMORE

Pampa Public Works workers honored

Pampa's City Commission last week honored the city's Public Works Department employees as part of the local observance of National Public Works Week. Mayor Lonny Robbins signed and read a proclamation naming May 15-21 as National Public Works Week in Pampa. "I call upon all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing our public works and to recognize the contributions which public works officials make every day to our health, safety, comfort and quality of life," Robbins said in the proclamation.

Re-count

Continued from Page 1

vassing authority for city elections, and Robbins, as mayor, is the presiding officer of the commission.

A date and time to canvass the Ward 3 election results will be set after the recount is completed, Robbins said this morning. The winner of the election will be sworn in after the canvass.

The remaining city election votes, for Ward 1 commissioner and mayor, will be canvassed this Sunday by the city commission, followed by swearing-in of the winners of those two elections. Robbins was re-elected as mayor,

and challenger Brad Pingel defeated incumbent Jeff McCormick for the Ward 1 post.

Dixon said his decision to seek a recount was because of the discrepancy between the total number of votes cast in city elections and the total number of reported votes cast in the Ward-3 commissioner's race.

The total number of votes cast in the May 7 city elections was reported as 2,605. In the Ward 3 race, Dixon received 1,300 votes, and his opponent, Lana Miller, received 1,351 votes, for a total of 2,651 votes, or 46 more than the total number of reported votes for the city elections.

"I had to put on the re-count petition the cause of the request was the close-

ness in votes, within 10 percent," Dixon said. "But the only reason I'm doing it is because of that irregularity."

"I think it needs to be determined whether or not an election can be considered final if there is a discrepancy over and above the actual number of all votes cast in the election. We've got a call through to the Secretary of State concerning this, and have not yet gotten a clarification," Dixon said.

The re-count will be performed by two teams of three persons per team with a seventh person to supervise, Robbins said.

The persons doing the re-count will not be any of the workers who were involved in the May 7 election, Dixon said.

U.S. fighters remain in Iraqi border town, preparing for battle

QAIM, Iraq (AP) — American warplanes roared over desert villages and plumes of smoke rose into the sky near Syria on Friday as more than 1,000 U.S. forces hunted down followers of Iraq's most-wanted terrorist. But fighters controlled the rubble-strewn streets of this border town.

American forces have met little resistance since the first two days of Operation Matador, aimed at clearing a region believed to be a haven for foreign fighters slipping over the border from Syria, the military said. American intelligence indicates the insurgents are either in hiding or have fled the region, U.S. Capt. Jeffrey Pool said in the statement.

In the bomb-blasted streets of Qaim, where the offensive began Saturday, fighters armed with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades roamed the streets, checking vehicles as they entered and left the town.

"We are trying to protect our city's entrances, and we will prevent the U.S. forces from entering the city," declared one fighter, who covered his face with a scarf.

The U.S. offensive comes amid a surge of insurgent attacks that have killed at least 430 people in just over two weeks since Iraq's first democratically elected government was announced. Many of the attacks have been claimed by al-Qaida in Iran, run by the country's most wanted militant, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

The new interim prime minister, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, extended Iraq's state of emergency for another 30 days Friday, effective from May 3.

The emergency decree, which covers all of Iraq except the northern Kurdish-run areas, has been renewed monthly since it was first imposed Nov. 7. It includes a nighttime curfew and gives the government extra power to make arrests without warrants and launch police and military operations.

Violence continued Friday as snipers opened fired on the motorcade of the Interior Ministry's undersecretary, Maj. Gen. Hikmat Moussa Hussein, in western Baghdad, killing one of his guards and wounding three others, police Maj. Moussa Abdul Karim said. Hussein escaped unharmed.

In western Baghdad, a 30-minute gunbattle erupted when insurgents fired on an Iraqi police patrol, killing one officer and wounding three others, said police Lt. Firas Hamdan.

Three roadside bombs also exploded in Baghdad on Friday, all of them targeting American patrols, said U.S. military spokesman Master Sgt. Greg Kaufman. There were no immediate reports of casualties, but Associated Press Television News footage showed a U.S. Humvee, its hood open, consumed by flames at the scene of one blast on the highway.

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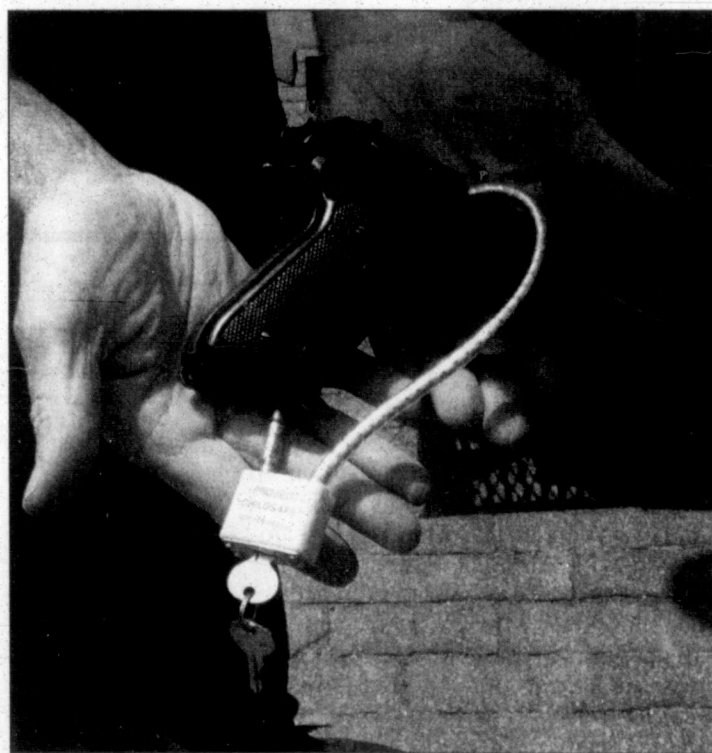
Locks

Continued from Page 1

Department of Justice for the Project ChildSafe program. This amount was part of the 20 million distributed nationwide.

"PCS reminds gun owners to take steps to prevent a loaded gun from falling into the hands of a child, thereby preventing tragic accidents," said Mary Tougher, media contact for Project ChildSafe, in a news release.

"We are continuing to remind gun owners that their most important responsibility is to know how to safely handle and properly store their firearms in the home," said Doug Painter, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, in the release.



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Randy Lamb of Project ChildSafe shows a gun with the cable-style gun lock installed.

Pope Benedict puts John Paul on fast track toward sainthood

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI put his predecessor on the fast track for sainthood Friday and appointed San Francisco Archbishop William Levada as his successor as guardian of church doctrine, the highest Vatican office ever held by an American.

The pope's decision to authorize the start of the process for sainthood for Pope John Paul II overrode the usual five-year waiting period following the death of

a candidate before beatification procedures can begin. The only other time the waiting period was waived was for Mother Teresa. The process was begun a year after her death.

Benedict made the announcement in Latin during a meeting at the Basilica of St. John Lateran with the Roman clergy. Friday is the anniversary of an 1981 assassination attempt on John Paul in St. Peter's Square at the hands of a

Turkish gunman.

Benedict tapped his old friend Levada, a 68-year-old conservative theologian, as prefect for the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, filling the job that he had held for nearly 24 years before being named pope last month.

The position is one of the most powerful at the Vatican, responsible for ensuring the faithful follow church doctrine and punishing those who don't.

but those entities should be able to recover with taxable expenditures over the holiday.

"We get that economic shot in the arm because while people are out, they buy other things," she said. Also, she said, the holiday draws shoppers from out of state who spend money at

hotels and restaurants.

Local governments, which charge up to 2 cents in sales tax, can decide to charge that tax during the holiday, but Strayhorn said that almost never happens.

Information from: Austin American-Statesman, <http://www.statesman.com>

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Taxes

Continued from Page 1

December holiday would save Texans \$126 million in sales tax over two years on the exempt items. The money would normally go to state and local governments,

Viewpoints

World peace or four first cars: My choice ...

Closet Writer would give anything to have every one of them back in my possession.

Anything? Does that mean, say — my first born, world peace — I would give up for them? Yes, for my first born has given me a granddaughter. Now you know why I would give him up. Heather just invites a spoiling grandfather's gloating. World peace? You should know how I feel about world peace. No, don't have a wife to ante up the pot — just two exes here in Texas. Perhaps there is some merit to your inquisition as to my being single.

There you have it. I will give up my first born, world

peace, and a willing ex-wife (two, if applicable) to possess the cars I drove while growing up in Pampa.

A bronze and white '57 Chevrolet Two-Ten station wagon was my first drive. The Chevy wagon was the family car until my parents relegated it to the kids car after replacing it with a shiny red 1964 Mustang V-8 coupe. I was forced to share the wagon with my older brother and that fact brought about mucho aggravation for me. My parents had this silly idea that the first born is always first in line. Tell that to the second born.

When I did get to drive the Chevy, I would mainly be seen with male friends, for

once a girlfriend's father saw what I was picking his daughter up in — had a lot of first dates back then that didn't make it to the second. What an engine the Chevy wagon had under the hood. A 283 c.i. V-8 with four-barrel carb and power p a c k e d h e a d s .

Dennis Palmitier
Columnist



Man, would it scoot. Don't forget, I'm the second born. Older Brother drove the Chevy off to college and I never saw it again. Family issues, folks — why my therapist is on call.

A '49 Studebaker pickup was my second ride after the Chevy drove off. At that time in my life I would rather have walked than drive a '49 Studebaker pickup. You know, the teenage image thing. However, walking was bad for the image as well. My parents did relent and let me drive the Mustang when I dated. Seeing the Mustang pull up to fetch their daughters enabled yours truly to make it past many first dates.

Where the Studebaker excelled was the fact that, being a teenager, I couldn't

tear it up. It just motored on without any difficulties. It was great for my outdoor activities that included nature and ranch work. It would go anywhere you pointed it. The Studebaker was great when water balloons and firecracker wars took place. It could hold many water balloons and firecrackers plus mucho friends to deploy the weapons. Why no, I never personally threw water balloons or firecrackers, for I was driving. Ahem.

Mustang Sally. What a song. "All I want to do is ride around Sally." What a car the '64 red coupe was — a 289 c.i. V-8 powering a super light chassis — you

know, power to weight ratio — speed. The Mustang did enjoy a few drag races, Dad, but we always won.

Ford sold a boatload of Mustangs and is still doing so this very day — a testament to the car. It was a car to be seen driving with a date or friends. My parents never had a problem with the Mustang being dirty. Thinking back, the '64 coupe probably got a bath twice a week — to my one. Just kidding, but that red paint always shined. Not a bad life as a teenager — drive a Studebaker pick-up for horsing around and have the use of a Mustang coupe for

See CARS, Page 4

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 13, the 133rd day of 2005. There are 232 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 13, 1981, Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded in St. Peter's Square by Turkish assailant Mehmet Ali Agca.

On this date:

In 1607, the English colony at Jamestown, Va., was settled.

In 1842, composer Sir Arthur Sullivan, who collaborated with Sir William Gilbert in writing 14 comic operas, was born in London.

In 1846, the United States declared that a state of war already existed against Mexico.

In 1917, three peasant children near Fatima, Portugal, reported seeing a vision of the Virgin Mary.

In 1918, the first U.S. air-mail stamps, featuring a picture of an airplane, were introduced. On some of the stamps, the airplane was printed upside-down, making them collector's items.

In 1940, in his first speech as prime minister of Britain, Winston Churchill told the House of Commons, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."

In 1954, President Eisenhower signed into law the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Act.

In 1954, the musical play "The Pajama Game" opened on Broadway.

In 1958, Vice President Nixon's limousine was battered by rocks thrown by anti-U.S. demonstrators in Caracas, Venezuela.

In 1985, a confrontation between Philadelphia authorities and the radical group MOVE ended as police dropped an explosive onto the group's headquarters; 11 people died in the resulting fire.

Ten years ago: Army Capt. Lawrence Rockwood was convicted at his court-martial in Fort Drum, N.Y., of conducting an unauthorized investigation of reported human rights abuses at a Haitian prison (the next day, Rockwood was dismissed from the military, but received no prison time).

Five years ago: Explosions at a fireworks warehouse in the Netherlands killed 22 people and injured nearly 1,000 others.

One year ago: Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld visited the Abu Ghraib prison camp in Iraq, where he insisted the Pentagon did not try to cover up abuses there.

'The worst-tempered people I've ever met were people who knew they were wrong.'

— Wilson Mizner
American playwright

caglecartoons.com



A word to the lonely single mom

This is not going to be pretty, but it's something that needs to be said, so say it I will: The doors to the butchery and rape of little children are being repeatedly opened by the victims' own mothers.

I spoke about this Monday night on my radio show, and mentioned the discovery of the mutilated bodies of little 8-year-old Laura Hobbs and her best friend, 9-year-old Krystal Tobias. At the time it had not yet been revealed that their killer was allegedly Laura's own father, a man recently released from prison who had a history of violent behavior. I did not have any idea then that his horrendous crime and his involvement in it would offer terrible proof of what I was about to tell my listeners.

Stop and think about the number of children we have buried in the last few months and ask yourself just what is wrong with America. There is news that a 16-month-old boy in New Mexico who along with his stepfather is missing after the child's mother was found dead just hours after police answered a domestic call.

There was an Amber Alert out for the boy, who was seen at the family's apartment about 1 p.m. last Sunday when police responded to a domestic dispute between his mother and her husband. She let this man come into her life, and

doing so may have cost her own life and probably her son's.

I am going to say this until I am absolutely blue in the face: God bless single mothers, but when you are asked to make a choice between a violent man and your child the best thing you can do is get a gun and shoot him before he rapes or mutilates your child.

Any woman who is asked to show allegiance to any man above her allegiance to her children, even if the man is the child's natural father, needs to run as fast as she can in the opposite direction. Get that man out

of the house.

If Laura Hobbs' mother had taken this advice, instead of opening her home to the husband who had been in prison for attacking her and chasing neighbors with a chain saw, Laura and Krystal would be alive today.

What could she have been thinking when she allowed this thuggish ex-con with a history of violence within 10 miles of her daughter, not to mention the peril she herself faced in living with this man who had already assaulted her?

Yet we find so many women today who in one way or another did not get the love they needed from their own or their child's father and are looking for

See LONELY, Page 5

Michael Reagan
Columnist



THE PAMPA NEWS

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Focus on finance, not cheerleaders

State Rep. John Smithee, R-Amarillo, put a recent vote in the Texas House of Representatives in its proper perspective.

A bill that would require the Texas Education Agency to intervene if school cheerleaders' performance is too sexually provocative is a "silly use of the Legislature's time," Smithee said.

Right on, John. Why, then, did he vote for the measure authored by state Rep. Al Edwards, D-

Houston? "I guess we just wanted to make a statement," Smithee said, adding that he doesn't believe the measure will get out of the Senate.

It's a cockamamie idea to have the TEA regulate such things. Whatever became of "local control" of our public education system, the control that virtually all 181

members of the full Legislature — plus the governor and lieutenant governor — say they favor?

Rep. Senfronia Thompson, D-Houston, called the bill "stupid and insulting." Yes, it is.

And while we're on the subject of goofy behavior, the Legislature can do without the pom pom-waving routine put on by several

House members during floor debate of this nonsensical bill.

Stick to the issues that really matter, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Legislature.

Last time anyone checked, (on May 9) we still don't have a school finance bill heading for the governor's desk.

If lawmakers truly are concerned about our children's future, that's where they ought to focus their energy.

Texas Thoughts

Amarillo Globe-News

Texas to lose, gain some

A Quick Look

(AP) — Here's a look at the Defense Department's recommendations Friday for base closures and realignment:

- CLOSING:**
 Army National Guard Reserve Center No. 2, Dallas
 Army National Guard Reserve Center (Hondo Pass), El Paso
 Army National Guard Reserve Center, California Crossing
 Army National Guard Reserve Center, Ellington
 Army National Guard Reserve Center, Lufkin
 Army National Guard Reserve Center, Marshall
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 Navy Reserve Center, Lubbock
 Navy Reserve Center, Orange
 Red River Army Depot, Texarkana
 U.S. Army Reserve Center No. 2, Houston
- GAINS:**
 Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene
 Fort Bliss, El Paso
 Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio
 Laughlin Air Force Base, Del Rio
 Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth
 Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon on Friday recommended closing Naval Station Ingleside, Brooks City Base, Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant, Red River Army Depot and several smaller military installations in Texas.

However, Texas would see a net gain of more than 9,000 military jobs under the plan, led by growth at Fort Bliss in El Paso and Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, according to the Pentagon. Six bases would be realigned, including Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi and Sheppard Air Force Base.

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission will review the Pentagon's list and send its recommendations to President Bush. He must issue a list to Congress by Sept. 23. Congress has 45 days to reject it before it becomes official.

Rep. Ralph Hall, R-Rockwall, whose district includes Red River Army Depot and the Lone Star ammunition plant, said he plans to fight the recommendations.

"We're at war and fighting a terrorist that hates us, and both those facilities have been the difference in wars in the past and will be the difference in wars of future," he said. "I think it's a mistake, and we are going to look into it, and we have to take them on."

Red River has been previously recommended for closure but survived. Although its work had slowed in peacetime, the Iraq war has sent numerous damaged Humvees and Bradleys its way for repair and reinforcement.

The closures would cost Danny Witt, owner of Shorty's Southern Maid Donut Shop & Diner in Texarkana, \$1,000 in monthly revenue. He'll also have to let one employee go. The shop sells doughnuts, rolls and other pastries to both plants.

"I hate it," said Whitt, 48. "It's devastating. I really thought we would miss the list."

Fort Bliss in El Paso is recommended for significant expansion with a net gain of about 11,500 military and civilian jobs. Fort Sam Houston would add about 9,000 jobs.



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Tigers can pray, too

Jodi Pingel hugs her stuffed tiger plush toy while praying during the local observance of the National Day of Prayer on May 5. The ceremony, held during the noon hour in front of City Hall, featured prayers and reading of Bible verses by local church representatives. Prayers were said for the nation; federal, state, county and city officials; emergency and safety personnel; families; and members of the military, among other groups.

Registration opens for local group to attend Women of Faith weekend

For the past two years, a group of Pampa women have traveled together to Oklahoma City for the Women of Faith Conference.

Speaker team for the Women of Faith include Thelma Wells, Marilyn Meberg, Sheila Walsh, Patsy Clairmont and Luci Swindoll and dramatist Nicole Johnson.

Each of these women are award-winning Christian authors, speakers and performers.

In addition to the regular team, three special guests are to be featured in Oklahoma City.

Kristin Chenoweth is an inspirational singer, actress and Tony Award winner.

Sandi Patty is the most awarded female vocalist in contemporary Christian music history.

Chonda Pierce is a Gold Record-selling comedienne known as the "queen of clean" whose comedy serves a larger purpose by bringing a life-changing message.

This year's trip is being organized by the women's ministry of Central Baptist Church, 513 E. France.

One chartered bus will leave on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 3.

This group will spend the night in a motel, then attend the preconference, "God at Your Wits' End," presented by Marilyn Meberg and vocalist Kathy Troccoli on

Friday morning, Nov. 4.

The Pampa group will take a trip to a mall after the conference, then go back to the center for the beginning of the main conference that evening.

Another chartered bus will leave Pampa at noon on Friday, Nov. 4, arriving in Oklahoma City in time for the main conference that evening.

Deadline for registration for the trip is June 5. Information regarding costs and reservations may be obtained from group leaders at most Pampa churches.

A brochure is available at Central Baptist Church or by calling Connie Molitor at 665-6721.

Cars

Continued from Page 4

racing (remember, Dad, just a few races) and social duties.

It was David Burns, an English and drama teacher at Pampa High School in 1968, who played the most significant role in my first car purchase. Mr. Burns drove a 1964 Triumph TR-4 IRS (Independent Rear Suspension) roadster. My love for English and European imports had begun and after earning enough money courtesy of Jake Osborne letting me labor (mucho) sun up to sundown six days a week on his farm and ranch, I was able to purchase a '63 MGB roadster.

The MGB personified me. It became me. The MGB was

the only one of its kind in Pampa and I truly enjoyed the recognition; that is, until I would do something stupid to irk Officer Bailey, like drive the hike and bike trail.

Standing a raised-on-jerky 6'5", I was always amused to notice people watching me enter/exit the MGB. Let me tell you, I fit the MGB nicely, particularly when the top was down. Listen up, young men. There is an attraction to convertibles that young women cannot resist. If I have to explain more;

why, go buy that pickup. Just four cars, Lord — a '57 Chevy wagon, a '49 Studebaker pickup, a '64 Mustang coupe and a '63 MGB roadster. Those four

and my desires and collection would be sated. Vic Laramore knows how I feel, so does Mike McComas and many others, for they are experiencing the real thing. It's time to go. I'm calling an ex-wife about some volunteer work.

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

'It was David Burns, an English and drama teacher at Pampa High School in 1968, who played the most significant role in my first car purchase.'

Lonely

Continued from Page 4

what they didn't get at home — looking for that hug and that squeeze and a whispered "I love you," and who are willing to expose their children to the danger of having a strange man living in the house in order to have a relationship.

If you have a child, that is your responsibility 100 percent and I don't care if that means you have to be celibate and do without an active social life until your child is old enough to take care of himself or herself.

I realize that there are a stepfathers out there who are fine men, but there is a preponderance of men who are anything but. If you think that the child is coming

between you and a man, you are apt to think you have two choices: Get rid of the child or allow the new man to live with you and thus have an opportunity to have sex with the child.

I am tired of reading stories of women who brought a step-father into the home who ends up raping or killing the child.

If celibacy is the only answer, it's better than burying your child. I know you want hugs and love, but why not try getting them from your child? And when your child is old enough to care for himself or herself you can start a new relationship. But right now, that child that

you brought into this world is your primary responsibility. He or she comes first, above you, and above any love interest you might develop.

If you are going to have a child, love it, and if you can't love and cherish and protect it, don't have it.

The common denominator in the great number of cases of child rape and murder is the presence in the home of live-in boyfriends and stepfathers. Recognize that.

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

'If you are going to have a child, love it, and if you can't ... don't have it.'

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**JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME
YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER
HEBREWS 13:8**

Religion

Seven graduate from 'Free for Sure' Book of John study

Joy mixed with sadness was evident in the Chapel Room at the Jordan Unit Thursday, May 5, as seven inmates received certificates for completing a 52-week study of the Book of John called, "Free for Sure."

Joy came from pride in the accomplishment of completing the class. Sadness was in their hearts because they would be separated from men who were brothers in Christ and now were good friends and confidants.



Seven recent graduates of the "Free for Sure" Bible study pose with their certificates.

The Thursday evening study mixes prayer and praise with the Bible study during the two-hour meeting each week. Pampa Prison Ministry began the study 7 1/2 years ago and have had more than 110 graduate. It is always an exciting time when the volunteers receive a letter from an alumni of the class that has no identification number beside the name, organizers say.

Special musing for the evening was brought by vocalist and volunteer Joyce Field, special poems were read by volunteers Margie Moore and Kathy Farrar and there

were speeches by the graduates themselves.

Each graduate was asked to share what the Book of John meant to him. In addition, many expressed a closer walk with Jesus and one added the realization that he had greater self esteem. The evening concluded with store-bought refreshments.

Graduates are Danny Beatley, Fred White, James Dodd, Martin Reyes, Raymond Smith, Earl Currie, and Joe Hernandez.

Course volunteers are Kathy Farrar, Dillon Ferguson, Joyce Field, Margie Moore, Bethel Walker and J.B. Walker.



Bible Baptist Church, located at the corner of Starkweather and Kingsmill streets, will observe its 58th anniversary with special services on Sunday.

Bible Baptist Church plans 58th anniversary on Sunday

Bible Baptist Church, Starkweather and Kingsmill streets, will host special services this Sunday in celebration of the church's 58th anniversary.

The church began as a mission church out of Central Baptist Church of Amarillo on May 17, 1947.

Anniversary services will surround the theme, "Faithfulness." Special music, testimonies, Sunday School lessons, and preach-

ing will all be to recognize, reward, instruct, encourage, and challenge believers in the area of "faithfulness."

A pot-faith dinner in the fellowship hall will follow the morning church service.

The church always provides a nursery and transportation for those who need it.

For more information, call the church office, 669-7830.

Rev. Ed Barker installed as new Lighthouse pastor

Rev. Ed Barker was installed as the senior pastor of Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship on Sunday, May 1.



Barker

Rev. Barker and his wife, Jennie, come to Pampa as pastors after serving seven years as senior pastors at New Life Foursquare Church in Amarillo.

The Barkers have pastored churches in Indiana, Colorado, California and Texas. They originally

moved to Pampa in 1980 from southern California to pastor the First Church of the Nazarene. After pastoring the Nazarene Church, Rev. Barker served as the Gray County Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for 10 years, from 1984 to 1994, while serving as pastor of a local Independent Church.

Rev. Barker earned his bachelor's degree at Colorado Christian University in Denver, his master's degree at California Graduate School and his Ph.D. at Trinity in Indiana.

Mrs. Barker studied music at Nazarene Bible college in Colorado Springs.

The Barkers follow Nathan and Janey Hopson at Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship. The Hopsons have entered the field of evangelism after serving 17 years as senior pastors at the church.

Pastor and Mrs. Barker say that they love Pampa and have a vision for both the church and the city.

The Barkers have maintained residency in Pampa, commuting to Amarillo while pastoring New Life Foursquare.

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THE PAMPA NEWS COMICS

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a bed-and-breakfast owner. I have a strict two-week cancellation policy for reservations. I have just had a terrible experience with a guest who canceled five days before he was scheduled to arrive. Abby, I have only four guest rooms. When someone cancels on short notice, I am unable to resell the room in time, and I'm out one-quarter of my revenue for that night.

This particular guest had reserved a room for two nights. I told him he was responsible and tried to run the credit card he held the reservation with. It didn't work. (Big surprise!)

I am not out to make people's lives difficult, but if they don't want a reservation at an independent B&B, they shouldn't make one. Please spread the word about how this affects small-business people like me and many others. -- STIFFED IN ST. PAUL

DEAR STIFFED: I'll spread the word as requested, but perhaps you should count your blessings. If the card was no good, how would you have felt after feeding and lodging this boor for two days? In the future, you'd be wise to verify the credit-card number as soon as a reservation is made. It will save you a lot of grief.

DEAR ABBY: I am legally blind and wear sunglasses all the time. I completely understand children asking me why I'm wearing sunglasses, but I feel adults should know better. When a woman walks into a store with sunglasses and a white-tipped cane, isn't that obvious enough? But I am frequently asked smart questions like, "Are you famous or something?" or "Who are you hiding from?"

Please inform your readers that blind people are just like everyone else. We want to go to the store without being asked a thousand questions. -- FED UP

IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS

DEAR FED UP: Most people understand that folks with dark glasses and white-tipped canes are blind. The individuals making those "cute" comments of their own -- ignorance or a poor sense of humor.

As I see it, you have several choices in handling the situation. You can ask, "Why do you ask?" You can inform them that you are blind, or ignore them. Just because someone asks you a question doesn't mean you have to respond.

DEAR ABBY: A longtime friend, "Bernice," and I attend plays, concerts and book review meetings together. We live in a smallish city. Bernice never left this city and, therefore, she has many old friends, business associates, church colleagues, etc.

I lived in a large city and only recently moved back here. Whenever Bernice and I go to a function of any kind, she knows many people. She will stop and talk to these people, sometimes for as long as 15 minutes, while I stand and wait for her on the sidelines. Sometimes she will introduce me, but then they talk about their churches or business that I know nothing about.

This is the first time in my life I have been treated this way. Lately I have avoided going places with her. How should I handle this? -- LEFT OUT IN LAS CRUCES

DEAR LEFT OUT: If no one has informed Bernice that good manners dictate she introduce you when you go places together, it's time to tell her how uncomfortable you feel when you are excluded from the conversations. And if it continues, ask someone with more social sensitivity to accompany you to these functions.

For Better Or Worse



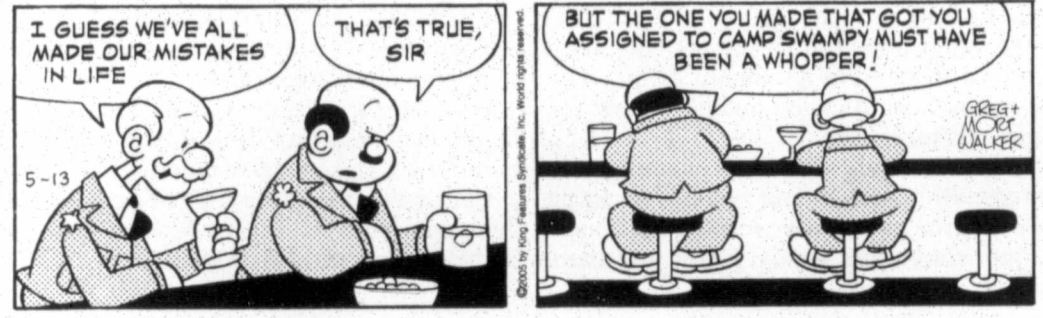
Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

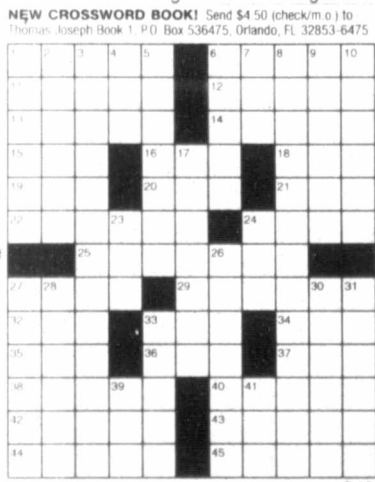
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 1 Hex-sign hangers
 - 6 Poet Neruda
 - 11 Lover of drama
 - 12 Poe's middle name
 - 13 Farewell
 - 14 San Antonio team
 - 15 Most senators
 - 16 Fast flier
 - 18 Garden resident
 - 19 Badly
 - 20 Caffeine source
 - 21 Club
 - 22 Under-ground stem
 - 24 Dick Tracy's love
 - 25 Chutney ingredient
 - 27 Singer Billy
 - 29 Squash cousins
 - 32 Stretch of years
 - 33 Jotting spot
 - 34 Puppy sound
 - 35 Price place
 - 36 Hoary TV's
 - 37 Haw
- DOWN
- 1 Friend of Althos
 - 2 Historic car
 - 3 Fats Domino
 - 4 Take-in hit
 - 5 Home of the Rockets
 - 6 Trattoria meal
 - 7 Swiss peak
 - 8 Fats Domino
 - 9 Tadpoles, e.g.
 - 10 Starts
 - 17 Mali neighbor
 - 23 Like Abner
 - 24 Letter after sigma
 - 26 Rocket expert
 - 27 Rich travelers
 - 28 Answer source
 - 30 Engine type
 - 31 Goes 70
 - 33 Bed parts
 - 39 Decay sigma
 - 41 Regret

POSIT MOCHA
ELUDE ABOIL
PERON YENT
FLABBY
GAB BEE HAW
OTOOLE BETA
LEADERBOARD
DIRE KIDDIE
AND REV BAD
FIGARO
LOGON LEASH
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DENTS ENDED

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Marmaduke



"Now... what lesson have we learned here today?"

The Family Circus



"If he falls, that'll be his airbag."

B.C.



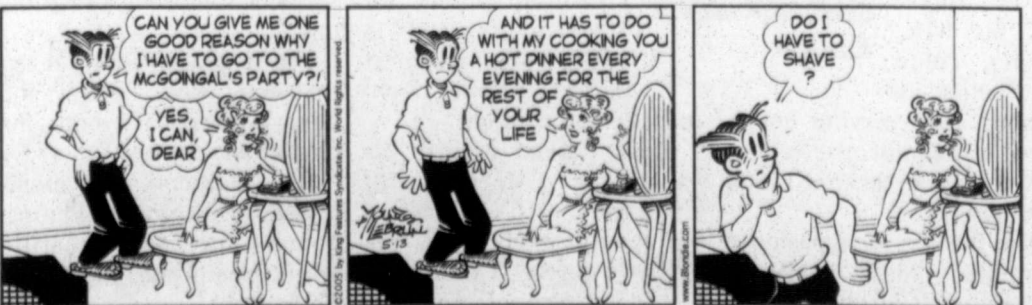
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

Hidden Hills reports results from Red Cross, 'Long and Short'

Hidden Hills public golf course hosted two tournaments this past weekend, the American Red Cross tournament and the 'Long and Short Scramble.'

Out of 21 teams entered, the first place team in the Michelson Flight was Chris Briley, Robbie Staggs, Paul Griffin and Dwayne Mariner with a score of 57.

The 2nd place team was Lynn Hancock, Bob Phillips, Bob Henderson and Keenan Henderson with a score of 62.

With a score of 64, the third place team was Gene Hurst, Blake Hurst, Charles Byrum and Marcus Glass.

In the Goosen Flight, the first place team, with a score of 59, was Marshall Haynes, Tyler Haynes, Bobby Richardson and Kerry Richardson.

In second place, with a score of 62, was SD Baize, Tom Atchley, Joe Lane and Tim Schroeder.

Taking third was the team of Bill Hammer, Bill King, Jerry Stephens and Ronny Loter with a score of 62.

In the Nickalas Flight Carlton Cates, Jeff McCormick, Bobby Schiffman and Kenny Williamson took first with a score of 65.

Second was Jerry Davis, ON Lee, Oscar Sargent and James Lee at 66.

Third place with to Lenny Petree, Debbie Petree, Jimmy Henson and Kelly Henson with a score of 67. The closest to the hole winners were Tyler Haynes, Marshal Haynes and Clint Miller.

The 'Long and Short' scramble was won by Doris Adams, Ray Covalt, Bob Lyle and Bill Brown with a total of 142.

Jerry Davis, Gerry McCabe, Jess Mathis and Billie Mac Millican took second with a score of 143.

Third place went to Elde Maxwell, Larry Neighbors, Buddy Briley and B.F. Dorman with a score of 144.

Howard Wells, Jerry South, Harvey Malone and Jack Mitchell won fourth place with a score of 145.

Closest to Pin was Oscar Sangert and Billie Mac Millican.

Pistons out paced 92-93

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — When the season began, the Indiana Pacers were considered by many to be a serious contender for the NBA title. That all changed when suspensions and a slew of injuries decimated the team.

Through the tough times, though, Jermaine O'Neal and his teammates remained confident they could get the job done.

"I don't think any pro team, in any sport, can handle what we've handled," O'Neal said.

O'Neal scored 22 points, Reggie Miller had 19 and Jeff Foster grabbed a career-high 20 rebounds Wednesday night to lead Indiana past the Detroit Pistons 92-83, tying the Eastern Conference semifinal series 1-1.

"The goals only changed outside our locker room," O'Neal said. "It's going to be hard to beat us in a seven-game series."

Many wrote Indiana off when the Nov. 19 brawl with the Pistons and their fans led to long suspensions to three starters, including a season-long ban of All-Star Ron Artest. Then, they lost O'Neal and guard Jamaal Tinsley, another starter, for most of the last two months. Still, the Pacers managed to earn the No. 6 seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

"Our goals haven't changed," O'Neal said. "Our goals are to get to the NBA Finals and win a championship. We still

believe." Indiana pulled off a rare road win in Game 7 of the first round at Boston to advance to play the defending NBA champions, who ended the Pacers' season in the conference finals last year.

"I admire the heck out of the season they've had," Detroit coach Larry Brown said.

After losing Game 1 by 15, the Pacers trailed by 15 after the first quarter and didn't take the lead until there was 4:10 left in the third when Miller's 3-point-er capped an 11-4 run.

There were five lead changes in the fourth before the score was tied at 77 midway through the quarter. Miller's 3-point-er put Indiana ahead 82-77 with just under 5 minutes left.

The Pacers outrebounded Detroit 52-43 and had nine more steals.

"They did all the effort things that we did in Game 1," Brown said. "That was the key. When the game really meant something, they made every single effort play."

The next two games in the best-of-seven series are in Indianapolis on Friday night and Sunday afternoon. "The sad part is that we are going home and we don't play well at home," said Miller, noting that Indiana lost twice at home to Boston.

The Pistons had won eight straight home playoff games before this loss.



Back Row: Brayden Burrell, Collin Burleson, Darcy Davis, Eddie Elsheimer, Salym Cook, Kamron Parks. Front Row: Presloe Alvey, Kelan Stowers, Cheyenne Blackwood, Kinley Beyer, Haven Doucette, Jodi Pingle.



Standing: Jacey Montgomery, Cecilia Vasquay, Samantha Clancy. Kneeling: Danikka Resendiz, Kinlee Aikin, Hallie Williams, Tori Robbas, Gabriella Rodriguez, Jaycee Derell, Avery Malone.



Back Row: Calli Brewer, Karmi Rice, Nakayla Hardmen, Natasha Goode, Payton Alvey, KaEra Busse, Kalene Wyant. Middle Row: McKinlee Stokes, MaKayla Hampton, Rebecca Taylor, Madison Fatheree, Amber Preston. Front Row: Robin Doan

Gymnastics of Pampa hosts recital tonight at 5:30, 7:30

Gymnastics of Pampa will be presenting its annual recital this Friday evening with two performances at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The early performance will include pre-school and regular gymnastics class students, along with the Green and Gold All Star Cheerleading Squads, the Junior High and High School Cheerleading and

Tumbling Classes and Gymnastics of Pampa's Competition Team.

The later recital performance will include regular and advanced gymnastics class students, Mighty Mite Team members, Preteam members, Junior Team members, the All Star Squads, the Junior High and High School Cheer Classes and the Competition Team.

At a glance: American League standings, games

W	L	Pct	GB	Cleveland	14	19	Texas at Minnesota, 6:10 p.m.
.667	—	22	11	.424	10 1/2	26	Baltimore at Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m.
.618	1 1/2	21	13	.235	17	—	Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 7:10 p.m.
.543	4	19	16	—	—	—	N.Y. Yankees at Oakland, 9:05 p.m.
.457	7	16	19	.559	—	—	Boston at Seattle, 10:05 p.m.
.371	10	13	22	.514	1 1/2	17	Sunday's Games
—	—	10	—	.412	5	20	Toronto at Cleveland, 1:05 p.m.
—	—	10	—	.382	6	21	L.A. Angels at Detroit, 1:05 p.m.
—	—	10	—	—	—	—	Texas at Minnesota, 2:10 p.m.
—	—	10	—	—	—	—	Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 2:10 p.m.
—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—

Baseball, softball head to playoff games

Pampa High School Harvesters baseball team, 22-5, is in Odessa today and tomorrow to take part in the Region 1, Class 4A area round of the playoffs.

They are facing Clint Mountain View.

The team won the district champion title earlier this month by edging Randall in a close game.

The Lady Harvesters softball team, 26-9, will face the Big Spring Lady Steers tonight at 7 p.m. tonight at Lubbock-Coronado High School Stadium.

This one-game District 4A, Region 1, Quarterfinal match was originally scheduled at Plainview, but was changed after severe thunderstorms Thursday night made the field too wet for play, said Dick Dunham, PHS athletic director, today.

The winner will advance to face either Aledo or Cleburne in next week's semi-final game.

Mavs set Suns 108, 106

PHOENIX (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki sank a 12-footer with 6.8 seconds remaining Wednesday night to give the Dallas Mavericks a rugged 108-106 victory over the Phoenix Suns, squaring their best-of-seven Western Conference semifinal series 1-1.

Quentin Richardson's 3-point attempt for Phoenix bounced off the back rim at the buzzer.

Michael Finley scored 31 points, shooting 5-of-6 on 3-pointers, and Nowitzki added 23 points and 12 rebounds for the Mavericks, who turned to rough defense and a slower tempo to bounce back from a 127-102 blowout loss in Game 1.

Erick Dampier, called out publicly by Nowitzki after being outscored by Amare Stoudemire 40-0 in Game 1, had 15 points, 10 in the first quarter, and grabbed 12 rebounds.

Stoudemire had 30 points and 16 rebounds for the Suns, who lost Joe Johnson to a mild concussion from a hard foul from Jerry Stackhouse with 19.7 seconds left in the first half. Steve Nash had 23 points and 13 assists and Shawn Marion added 23 points and 15 rebounds.

Nowitzki sank two free throws to put Dallas ahead 106-102 with 1:55 to play, then Stoudemire missed a dunk and a layup on consecutive possessions. But Marion blocked Nowitzki's shot, and Stoudemire dunked on a pick-and-roll feed from Nash to cut it to 106-104 with 50.9 seconds to play.

Jason Terry threw the ball away on the next possession, and Nash's 18-footer tied it at 106 with 27.4 seconds left.

After a timeout, the Mavs got the ball to Nowitzki, who worked his way inside and got the game-winning shot off over Richardson.

SuperSonics seize momentum

By **TIM KORTE**
AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — Antonio Daniels made his free throws and his former team didn't. Now the Seattle SuperSonics have seized the momentum in their series against the San Antonio Spurs.

Ray Allen scored 20 points despite shooting 0-for-6 in the final period and Vitaly Potapenko forced Tim Duncan into a missed 4-footer at the horn, lifting the Sonics to a 92-91 win over the San Antonio Spurs on Thursday night.

The Sonics pulled to 2-1 in the best-of-seven series. Game 4 is Sunday in Seattle.

Daniels, a reserve guard, scored 10 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter and added eight rebounds while going 12-of-12 from the foul line. He made all four of his free throws in the fourth, when San Antonio shot 8-of-16 from the line.

So what was on his mind each time he stepped to the line?

"Absolutely nothing," said Daniels, who played on San Antonio's 1999 NBA championship team. "Just knock it down. The more

you think, the harder the free throw becomes. I wasn't thinking about much."

Jerome James scored 15 points on 7-of-7 shooting and Rashard Lewis had 12 points and 10 rebounds for Seattle.

The Spurs, meanwhile, went without a field goal during the final 4:27, making just four of 10 free throws in that span. They shot 55.9 percent (19-of-34) from the line, including 8-for-16 in the fourth period.

"Our performance at the free-throw line was a single-handed great way to lose a game," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said.

The Sonics did everything they needed to win.

They had more defensive energy than they showed while losing the first two games of the series by double-digits in Texas. They had only 11 turnovers and kept speedy Spurs guards Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili from dismantling them.

"We didn't want to give up anything easy and they missed some free throws," Sonics coach Nate McMillan said. "I felt we got a break there. Defensively, this is the time of the season you don't

want to give up layups. We made them earn it."

Parker and Ginobili each scored 18, but the Sonics made sure they weren't able to penetrate as effectively as Game 1, when Parker had 29 points, and Game 2, when Ginobili scored 28.

"They were tougher. They were more physical. They were desperate," Ginobili said. "That made them play with more determination."

Duncan had 23 points with 11 rebounds, and his defense was as solid as ever — four blocked shots — on the day he was selected to the NBA's All-Defensive Team for the sixth straight year.

It wasn't enough to carry

the Spurs, whose six-game playoff winning streak was snapped. This win was huge for Seattle, because no team has ever won a seven-game playoff series after trailing 3-0.

"It would have been tough," Daniels said. "It would have been hard to win four straight against a very good team."

Ginobili made a free throw with 29.3 seconds on the clock, pulling San Antonio to 92-91. After a timeout, the Sonics got the ball to Allen, whose attempt over Duncan from the left baseline bounced off the rim.

That left the Spurs with 2.9 seconds for a final chance. Ginobili inbounded to Duncan, who drove to his left on Potapenko. Duncan usually makes that type of shot, but this time it bounced off the rim.

"Got where I wanted to get, and I had a great look at it," he said. "Unfortunately, it didn't drop for me."

Said Potapenko: "He didn't have that much time to fake. He just needed a couple of dribbles to shoot. I tried to maintain position between him and the basket. He missed it. I'm not going to say I played great defense."

'Defensively, this is the time of the season you don't want to give up layups. We made them earn it.'

— Nate McMillan
Sonics coach

Support bolsters Wade's performance

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
AP Sports Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dwyane Wade was in dire need of a pep talk.

Down on himself after two quarters in which he had six turnovers, missed seven of 12 shots and allowed his Miami Heat to fall behind the Washington Wizards, Wade was willing to listen to words of support from anyone during halftime.

And they came from all corners, including Shaquille O'Neal, who was reduced to the role of Big Spectator in the playoffs for the first time in his career.

"Shaq told me to be the best player on the court, to be the player that I am," Wade said. "My teammates gave me the confidence to come out in the second half and take over the game."

Did he ever.

A second-year player blossoming into a superstar, Wade had 31 points, nine rebounds, six assists and two blocked shots to lift Miami past Washington 102-95 on Thursday night for a 3-0 series lead.

In the other game Thursday night, it was Seattle over San Antonio 92-91. The Spurs lead the series 2-1.

On Friday night, it's Detroit at

Indiana and Phoenix at Dallas. Both series are 1-1.

Others contributed for Miami, of course, most notably Alonzo Mourning. The 35-year-old who had a kidney transplant in 2003 filled in capably for O'Neal with 14 points, 13 rebounds and four blocks, while Eddie Jones and Damon Jones each scored 16.

But Wade truly led the way at both ends of the court. There was the 6-foot-4 guard outmaneuvering 7-foot

Washington center Brendan Haywood for a rebound. There he was somehow staying inbounds to grab an offensive rebound and kick it out to Damon Jones for a 3-pointer. There he was tumbling onto his backside to draw Wizards forward Jared Jeffries' fifth foul.

Not surprisingly, all that effort left

Wade exhausted.

"Dwyane looked like he was going to die at our last timeout," Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said. "I assured our team that we would take the day off tomorrow for the funeral if he did, then I sent him back out there to finish the game."

'My teammates gave me the confidence to come out in the second half and take over the game.'

— Dwyane Wade
Miami Heat

Wade didn't start it particularly well, committing five turnovers in the first quarter alone (he ended up with eight). Backed by a boisterous home crowd enjoying the city's first trip to the post-season's second round since 1982, Washington led 24-21 after one quarter and 51-49 after two.

"I was upset because I was confused early on," said Wade, who had 31 points and 15 assists in Game 2. "I didn't play the way I am used to playing, and just me being indecisive was the thing that made me mad."

Everyone in the visiting locker room took note.

"He got a lot of encouragement from a lot of people — even me, and I'm not exactly Mr. Encouragement," Van Gundy said. "We knew we needed him, and he had a tremendous second half."

When Washington took its biggest lead of the night at 60-52 about three minutes after the break, Wade engineered a 22-5 Miami run during the next 6 1/2 minutes, including a 13-0 spurt.

Clearly in a groove, Wade hit two straight jumpers to open the fourth quarter, staking Miami to its largest lead at 83-70. Washington responded with six straight points — and Wade put a stop to that, breaking the Wizards' press by dribbling nearly the length of the court before feeding Udonis Haslem on an alley-oop.

Sports in Brief

BASKETBALL

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Jerry Sloan announced that he will return for an 18th season as Utah Jazz coach and agreed to a contract extension through the 2007-08 season.

Although Sloan had a year left on his contract, his future was unclear after Utah finished with a losing record for the first time since 1983.

Sloan has the sixth most wins in NBA coaching history and is 943-617 during his career with Chicago and Utah. He took the Jazz to the NBA Finals in 1997 and 1998, but has never won the league title or coach of the year honors.

SOCCER

LONDON (AP) — Tampa Bay Buccaneers owner Malcolm Glazer began a \$1.47 billion takeover bid of the world's richest soccer team, becoming Manchester United's majority shareholder. His ownership reached 56.9 percent after he bought a 28.7 percent share held by Irish racehorse owners J.P. McManus and John Magnier.

Manchester United dominated English soccer for more than a decade, winning eight Premier League titles in 11 seasons, four FA Cups in 10 and capturing the European championship in 1999.

But the Red Devils are now third in the Premier League for the third time in four years. With a game left, they are 20 points behind champion Chelsea and nine behind runner-up Arsenal. Glazer's move came just before Man United's May 21 FA Cup final against Arsenal, its only chance for a trophy this season.

HOCKEY

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The Czech Republic beat the United States 3-2 in a shootout in the quarterfinals at the world hockey championship.

Martin Rucinsky netted the lone shootout goal, sending the Czechs into Saturday's semifinals against Sweden, which beat Switzerland 2-1 in Innsbruck.

Canada beat Slovakia 5-4 in Innsbruck to advance to the semifinals. The two-time defending champions will face Russia, a 4-3 winner over Finland in another game decided by a shootout in Vienna.

GOLF

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Stuart Appleby birdied his first two holes and kept right on rolling to a 7-under 63 on the TPC at Las Colinas, taking a one-shot lead over John Daly, Ernie Els and Brett Wetterich in the Byron Nelson Championship.

Els, coming off a 13-stroke victory two weeks ago in Shanghai, and Wetterich also played the TPC course, while Daly opened on the easier Cottonwood Valley course.

STOCKBRIDGE, Ga. (AP) — Annika Sorenstam shot a bogey-free 67 in the first round of the Chick-fil-A Charity Championship that left her just a stroke behind leader Laura Davies.

Karrie Webb and Giulia Sergas joined Sorenstam at 67, and Cristie Kerr, coming off a victory at Kingsmill last weekend that snapped Sorenstam's record-tying run of five straight LPGA Tour wins, topped a group at 68.

MERIDEN, England (AP) — Scotland's Colin Montgomerie made a triple-bogey 7 on his final hole, costing himself a share of the lead in the British Masters.

Englishmen David Howell, Brian Davis, David Lynn and Ben Mason opened with 3-under 69s on the Forest of Arden course. Montgomerie ended up with a 72.

TENNIS

ROME (AP) — Top-seeded Maria Sharapova defeated Mary Pierce 7-6 (4), 6-4 in the third round of the Italian Open. Sharapova next faces ninth-seeded Elena Bovina, who edged Paola Suarez of Argentina 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

In other matches, defending champion Amelie Mauresmo beat Silvia Farina Elia 6-4, 6-3; sixth-seeded Vera Zvonareva of Russia defeated Catalina Castano of Colombia 6-1, 5-7, 6-2; and eighth-seeded Patty Schnyder of Switzerland eliminated Ana Ivanovic of Serbia-Montenegro 6-3, 6-2.

Francesca Schiavone of Italy upset 15th-seeded Ai Sugiyama of Japan 6-3, 7-5, and Evgenia Linetskaya of Russia eliminated Gisela Dulko of Argentina 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — Top-ranked Roger Federer moved closer to his sixth title of the year, beating Tommy Robredo 6-2, 6-3 to reach the quarterfinals of the Hamburg Masters.

Christophe Rochus upset fourth-seeded Gaston Gaudio, last year's French Open champion, 2-6, 7-5, 6-3.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, May 14, 2005:

You make a difference this year. Your family life becomes an even higher priority. Your focus could be on real estate and investments. You will make some very sound decisions. You might not care too much about your public image. Your love of your home life might encourage a home office. Certainly, you will want to spend more hours at home. You have very high energy, which serves you well. Rarely will you be overwhelmed. If you are single, you will want to nestle in. The right person could enter your life after this fall. If you are attached, work together to make your home more of a hideaway for the two of you. LEO can be difficult.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Sometimes you view your possessions as a direct reflection of who you are. Don't get into that competitive mode with others. What you do and what you choose needs to reflect the authentic you. Don't get caught up in keeping up with the Joneses. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You have what it takes, even if you hit an obstacle or someone disagrees with you. How dare someone challenge the Lion? Because of your charm and way with words, possibilities soar. Don't let a mini-problem grow into a major issue. Tonight: Where you want to be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Know when to let your mind wander and allow your body to stay put. You need to give in to your imagination and dynamic ideas. You just might want to work out the details on your own. How much you spend could be an issue. Tonight: Play ostrich.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You are heading in the right direction. You get strong feedback from a partner, which gives you a definite sense of what is workable. Allow more playfulness into your Saturday. Please give up being so serious. Tonight: You'll have a good time wherever your friends are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Fortunately, you don't have a difficult time taking charge. You might want to tune in to your sixth sense in order to figure out how to handle a wayward authority figure. This person could also be a parent. Tonight: Out

is so well known for. Breeze around and visit with others. Enjoy the moment. Tonight: Out with a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You might need and want to slow down in order to deal with your family and a domestic situation. Defer to a roommate. Ultimately, you want the same thing — more luxury in your life. Tonight: Entertain at home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You have a way of saying things that often floors others. Why would today be any different? You will add that touch of drama that your sign

late.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You, of all signs, are encouraged not to get wound up in a story or some other drama. Remember, you cannot control others, but you can learn to understand them. Tonight: Go to a concert or movie.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Realize that right now you are caught up in someone else's whirlwind. Enjoy this person's happiness and that he or she wants to share so much with you. Let this bond build. You could be quite delighted by what it offers you. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Take some much needed time to yourself, perhaps in the morning. Before you know it, others will be clamoring at your door, creating uproar, or at least wanting you to join in their plans. Feel free to be spontaneous. Tonight: Share a dream.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Know when to chill out. Understand that you don't need to entertain at every moment of the day. In fact, right now, getting into a project could prove far more rewarding. Not every second needs to be romantic. Tonight: Play it easy.

BORN TODAY
Film producer George Lucas (1944), actor Tom Rother (1961), actress Cate Blanchett (1969)

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

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Giants 6, Astros 3

HOUSTON (AP) — Brad Hennessey impressed San Francisco catcher Mike Matheny with his poise after giving up home runs to two of the first three hitters Thursday night.

"His composure is definitely something to be complimented," Matheny said. "It shows he's a gutsy pitcher. He has shown that a couple of times this year."

"He doesn't let situations bother him. A young guy usually starts second-guessing himself in those spots, but he doesn't."

Hennessey (2-0), recalled from Triple-A Fresno earlier in the day to make his second start of the year and ninth of his major league career, overcame the rough start to help the Giants beat the Houston Astros 6-3.

The right-hander allowed three runs on six hits in six innings, struck out seven and walked three.

"You can't let (the home runs) bother you," Hennessey said. "Otherwise, you'll self-destruct. After those two pitches, I concentrated more and trusted my sinker."

"It's great that my teammates and manager had confidence in me tonight. It helps me build confidence in myself."

Manager Felipe Alou also praised Hennessey.

"I like Hennessey," Alou said. "I

liked him last year but we didn't have room to give him a good shot in spring training. He did the same thing in Pittsburgh this year, giving up a couple of runs early then settling down. Tonight after the first inning, he dominated."

Matheny singled in the tying run in the sixth inning and Houston outfielder Lance Berkman's error on the play allowed the go-ahead run to score.

With the Giants trailing 3-2 in the sixth inning, Matheny, who was 2-for-4 with two RBIs, hit a bases-loaded single to left that Berkman misplayed for an error, allowing Edgardo Alfonzo to score to make it 4-3.

Tyler Walker pitched the ninth for his second save in three chances.

Craig Biggio hit two home runs, and Morgan Ensberg also connected for the Astros.

The Astros have lost three straight and nine of 10 to fall to 12-22, 10 games behind first-place St. Louis in the NL Central.

They held a 30-minute team meeting after the game.

"We had a team meeting tonight because we needed it," manager Phil Garner said. "I said a few things and several players said some things and it was good."

'You can't let (the home runs) bother you. Otherwise, you'll self-destruct.'

— Brad Hennessey
Astros pitcher

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1 Public Notice

NOTICE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
The City of Lefors will hold a final public hearing on Thursday, May 19, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lefors Civic Center, 103 North Court in Lefors, TX, in regard to the sewer system improvements project recently completed with a Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) grant. Topics to be discussed will include the specific program improvements completed and the costs associated with the TCDP and the City of Lefors. Handicapped citizens needing assistance to attend this hearing should contact Judy Williams, City Secretary, at (806)835-2200. C-21 May 13, 2005

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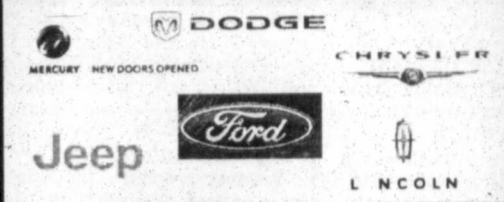
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