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City eliminates paper agendas

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

The City of Pampa will replace paper city commission meeting agendas and packets with compact discs viewed on laptops to be issued to commissioners.

The decision was made at commissioners' Tuesday afternoon meeting to go from paper to electronics as the means to provide commissioners and others with informa-

tion on meetings. "We would no

commissioner would have a laptop (computer). The agenda could be downloaded off the city web site

ings, we could project on a screen each agenda item. The agenda information would include all supporting documents," said City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers at the meeting.

"It would greatly enhance the city's web site. It would also include e-mail capability to commissioners so constituents could contact them directly," she said.

'It would greatly enhance the city's web site. It would also include e-mail capability to commissioners so constituents could contact them directly.'

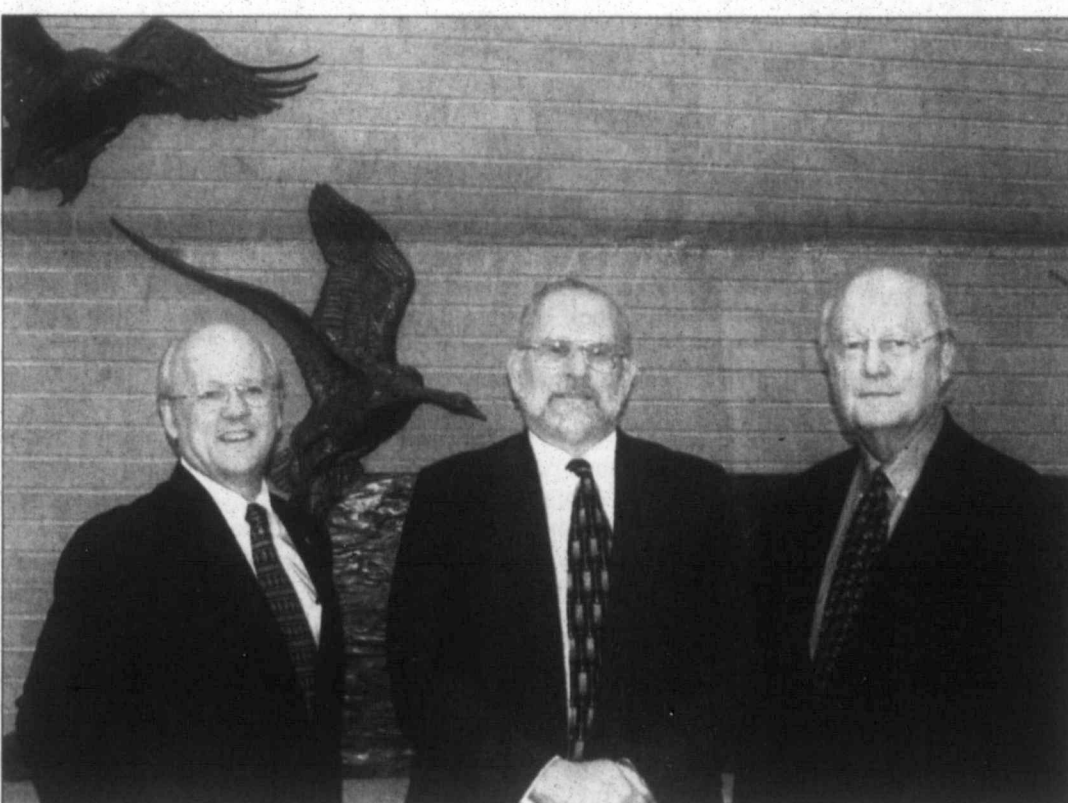
— Phyllis Jeffers
City secretary

longer be producing by anyone. At our paper agendas. Each commission meet-

See CITY, Page 2



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
City Commissioners Lana Miller and Ray Boring discuss a changeover to paperless agendas at Tuesday afternoon's Pampa City Commission meeting in City Hall.



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Welcoming David Bradford, center, as the new associate dean of CC-PC during a reception Tuesday afternoon are, left, Dr. Myles Shelton, president of Clarendon College; and, right, Don Lane of the Clarendon College-Pampa Center Foundation. Behind them is "Flight to Enrichment," the sculpture of geese landing on a reed-lined pond.

College assistant dean receives warm welcome

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

David Bradford, the new associate dean of Clarendon College-Pampa Center, is already on the job.

A reception welcoming Bradford was held from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the center, 1601 W. Kentucky.

"I liked Pampa the day I drove to it. I like the friendly people, everyone wanting to help, and bending over backward to help," he said during the reception.

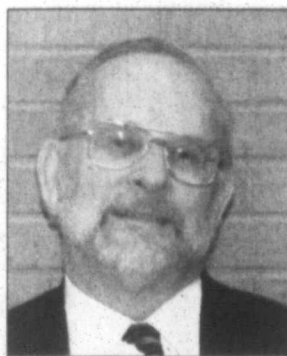
Bradford replaces Joe Kyle Reeve, whose contract as dean expires Aug. 31. Reeve had been dean of the

Pampa Center for the past 15 years.

Bradford is a native of eastern Oklahoma, near Sallisaw. He earned his master's in business administration from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., and has been teaching since 1978.

He has taught in Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Kansas, and Texas.

Bradford taught business courses before he became a division director at Mount



David Bradford

Aloysius College in Pennsylvania. He was associate dean of an international hospitality management school in Connecticut, which included participants from Switzerland, Egypt, Australia, and the United States.

He was division director for workforce education at

See BRADFORD, Page 2

Domestic Affairs

Homeland Security overhaul stresses stronger borders

WASHINGTON (AP) — The two-year-old Homeland Security Department is undergoing a massive overhaul to centralize its analyses of terrorism intelligence and place higher priority on bioterrorism.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff was resetting top priorities in a bid to spur a sluggish bureaucracy beset by turf wars and growing pains.

Creation of an intelligence director to centralize terrorism analyses and a chief medical officer to focus on bioterrorism are among top changes to be announced by Chertoff on Wednesday. These are two areas where experts believe the department has lagged.

Chertoff ordered a review in March, shortly after he took office, to ensure Homeland Security puts most of its resources into the nation's most vulnerable areas.

"Our department must drive improvement with a sense of urgency," Chertoff said in remarks prepared for Wednesday and provided to The Associated Press. "Our enemy constantly changes and adapts, so we as a

department must be nimble and decisive."

Transportation and border security are among Chertoff's top priorities and will get more personnel, detection and screening technology and other resources, according to department officials. They spoke Tuesday on condition of anonymity because

'Our department must drive improvement with a sense of urgency. Our enemy constantly changes and adapts, so we as a department must be nimble and decisive.'

— Michael Chertoff
Secretary of Homeland Security

the changes had not yet been announced.

Some lawmakers said the overhaul was headed in the right direction but remained skeptical that bureaucratic reorganization would make the country safer.

"We appreciated him

See SECURITY, Page 2

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Actor misses court hearing after checking into rehab

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Tom Sizemore missed a probation violation hearing Tuesday after checking into a live-in drug rehabilitation program.

If the court finds Sizemore violated probation, he could be sent to prison for up to three years. The actor was ordered into drug treatment after pleading guilty in October to possession of methamphetamine.

Sizemore, who played baseball player Pete Rose in last year's ESPN movie "Hustle" and had roles in films including "Natural Born Killers" and "Saving Private Ryan," has denied violating the terms of his probation.

Prosecutors allege Sizemore tried to falsify a urine test for drugs and later missed tests required once every three days, probation officials said Tuesday. They also said he failed to report to his probation officer and missed drug rehab counseling sessions.

Sizemore's attorney Gary Meastas declined comment and said the actor checked himself into a live-in rehab program on Monday in the Los Angeles area but declined to identify the facility.

Sizemore's hearing in Superior Court was rescheduled for July 22. A bench warrant will be issued for his arrest if he misses that court appearance, Deputy District Attorney Sean Carney said.



Summer tour

Several of the committee chairs for the KFDA Channel 10 "Summer Celebration Tour" go over some of the final details for the skateboard competition planned during the afternoon event. The skateboarding is slated to take place between 5 and 7 p.m. Friday, July 15 at Central Park in Pampa. Above: (front, left-right) Diana Bruner, Lesly Gershmel, and Vicky Goheen; and (back) Kathy Cota.

Ebbers faces sentencing in WorldCom fraud case

NEW YORK (AP) — Three years after WorldCom Inc. collapsed in an epic accounting fraud, former CEO Bernard Ebbers — convicted earlier this year of orchestrating the debacle — is finally learning his fate.

Ebbers was due to face a federal judge in Manhattan on Wednesday and receive an almost certain prison term, with federal prosecutors suggesting he should be sent away for the rest of his life.

In papers filed last month, prosecutors asked U.S. District Judge Barbara Jones to follow a probation report that suggested Ebbers receive a life sentence after calculating his crimes under federal sentencing guidelines.

The prosecutors also noted that Adelphia Communications Corp. founder John Rigas, 80 and in poor health, received a 15-year sentence last month — amounting to a life term — for his role in the fraud at that company.

"The enormity of the crimes that Ebbers committed cannot be overstated: The fraud at WorldCom was the largest securities fraud in history," prosecutors wrote, noting the name WorldCom is now "synonymous with fraud."

Still, a Supreme Court ruling earlier this year made the sentencing guidelines only advisory for federal judges, not mandatory, giving Jones far greater flexibility in determining Ebbers' penalty.

For his part, the 63-year-old former CEO has asked for a term "substantially below" life in prison, citing his

poor health and a history of charitable works. More than 100 people have also written to Jones on his behalf.

The judge ruled earlier that she would allow Ebbers to call witnesses

'The enormity of the crimes that Ebbers committed cannot be overstated: The fraud at WorldCom was the largest securities fraud in history.'

— Prosecutors

at sentencing — to discuss his character, his medical condition and the amount of money lost in the WorldCom scandal.

The sentencing was to come a day after the judge denied a bid by Ebbers for a new trial — a ruling in which she cited "strong" evidence supporting the conviction, including government witnesses who "outlined the fraud in painstaking detail."

Ebbers had argued the judge or prosecutors should have granted immunity to three witnesses that Ebbers contends could have helped clear him of charges related to the fraud.

His lawyers also said prosecutors unfairly prejudiced jurors by suggesting in their closing statement that there was evidence outside the trial

record that proved government witnesses were telling the truth.

The sentencing comes during a damaging week for Ebbers, once known as a swaggering and successful CEO as WorldCom grew ever larger in the late 1990s.

On Monday, another judge gave her blessing to a settlement under which Ebbers must forfeit almost all his personal assets, including \$5 million cash up front, to resolve a shareholder lawsuit.

That settlement will leave Ebbers' wife with about \$50,000 of Ebbers' assets and a modest home in Jackson, Miss. A far more lavish family home in Brookhaven, Miss., will be sold off as part of the settlement.

Ebbers resigned as CEO in 2002, shortly before the widespread fraud at the company became known. Investigators eventually uncovered \$11 billion in improper accounting.

That summer, WorldCom collapsed in the largest bankruptcy in U.S. history, wiping out billions of dollars of investors' money. It has since re-emerged under the name MCI, based in Ashburn, Va.

At trial, Ebbers argued he was completely unaware of the fraud, and that he simply did not look at some key WorldCom financial documents that showed glaring accounting irregularities.


Five other WorldCom executives and accountants, all of whom pleaded guilty in the fraud and cooperated against Ebbers, face sentencing later this summer.

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Charges dropped against mayor who married gay couples

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A prosecutor dropped all charges Tuesday against a small town mayor who could have faced up to a year in jail for marrying gay couples on the steps of the village hall.

New Paltz Mayor Jason West, then 26, was among the first public officials in the nation to marry same-sex couples, following San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom in February 2004.

He had been charged with 24 misdemeanor counts of violating the state's domestic relations law after marrying about two dozen gay couples in ceremonies that drew national attention to the village of about 13,000 residents 75 miles north of New York City.

Ulster County District

West has maintained he was upholding the gay couples' constitutional rights to equal protection — and thus his oath of office — by allowing them to wed.

Attorney Donald Williams said Tuesday he dropped the charges because he believed a trial would be unnecessary and divisive.

West called the decision a "complete vindication" and said the district attorney had been "wasting taxpayer money for 18 months."

Gay weddings swept the country starting in San Francisco in early 2004, when Newsom flung open the city's wedding registry to

gay couples. While officials in other locations were ordered to stop issuing marriage licenses to gay couples, Massachusetts' highest court ruled that same-sex couples were able to tie the knot in that state.

In California, the quest to legalize gay marriage was revived Tuesday by a Senate committee that approved the measure after it was slipped into a fisheries research bill. It had earlier been rejected

by the state Assembly.

West has maintained he was upholding the gay couples' constitutional rights to equal protection — and thus his oath of office — by allowing them to wed.

Top state officials, including Gov. George Pataki and Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, have said same-sex ceremonies violate state law. A number of cases filed on behalf of gay couples testing that interpretation of state law are winding their way through courts.

Williams had earlier dropped similar criminal charges against two Unitarian ministers who wed gay couples in New Paltz after West was sidelined by a civil suit.

Viewpoints

'War of the Worlds' ending doesn't match climax

This past weekend, I drove to Borger with friends to see the Tom Cruise blockbuster movie "War of the Worlds."

I had heard really good comments about the film from many of my friends and family members, so I was excited about seeing the motion picture; however, I left the theater feeling disappointed and disturbed.

Please do not get me wrong, "War of the Worlds" is not a bad film. In fact, I found it entertaining and sometimes enthralling. The plot, which as an H.G. Wells fan I can say is only lousy based on the classic novel, even managed to make me jump at a few parts in the film.

What I felt disappointed and disturbed about was the

ending of the work. The movie lacked a denouement, or tying up of loose ends. After a suspenseful buildup and nail-biting climax, the movie just ended. It was almost as if Steven Spielberg thought,

"This movie is about two hours long. Let's just end it here."

Since I have seen the film, the ending has been explained to me by a few others, and it does make a little more sense; however, I am still

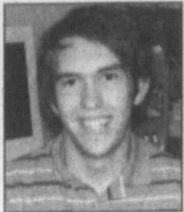
bothered by the abrupt ending.

What does a success or defeat, the climax, mean in life if we do not take the time to properly examine how it occurred? It is not just Hollywood that has been making poor practice of leaving out the denouement. I have even seen it in my own life. This is one habit that I am making a goal of

stopping.

You learn from your mistakes and successes, but only if you stop to examine what went wrong or right. If you do not do that, then you just become a troubled movie ticket buyer. Maybe Spielberg will examine his own flaws in this film after its climatic box office opening and make changes on his next production.

Ben Briscoe
Staff Intern



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, July 13, the 194th day of 2005. There are 171 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 13, 1793, French revolutionary writer Jean Paul Marat was stabbed to death in his bath by Charlotte Corday.

On this date:

In 1787, Congress enacted an ordinance governing the Northwest Territory.

In 1863, deadly rioting against the Civil War military draft erupted in New York City.

In 1878, the Treaty of Berlin amended the terms of the Treaty of San Stefano, which had ended the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78.

In 1886, Father Joseph Edward Flanagan, the founder of Boys Town, was born in Roscommon, Ireland.

In 1960, John F. Kennedy won the Democratic presidential nomination at his party's convention in Los Angeles.

In 1967, race-related rioting that claimed 27 lives broke out in Newark, N.J.

In 1977, a blackout lasting 25 hours hit the New York City area.

In 1978, Lee Iacocca was fired as president of Ford Motor Co. by chairman Henry Ford II.

In 1979, a 45-hour siege by Palestinian guerrillas began at the Egyptian Embassy in Ankara, Turkey.

In 1985, Live Aid, an international rock concert in London, Philadelphia, Moscow and Sydney, took place to raise money for Africa's starving people.

Ten years ago: President Clinton denounced a base-closing list for the damage it would do to California and Texas, but then approved the package while promising to save jobs in those states. Just six days after the space shuttle Atlantis returned, the shuttle Discovery blasted off on a nine-day mission. About 2,500 workers at Detroit's daily newspapers began a 19-month strike.

Five years ago: Fellow Democrat Bill Bradley endorsed Vice President Al Gore for president, four months after conceding their fight for the White House.

One year ago: A confidant of Osama bin Laden (Khaled bin Ouda bin Mohammed al-Harby) surrendered to Saudi diplomats in Iran and was flown to Saudi Arabia. The American League cruised past the National League 9-4 in the All-Star game.

Today's Birthdays: Former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp is 70. Actor Patrick Stewart is 65. Actor Robert Forster is 64. Actor Harrison Ford is 63. Singer-guitarist Roger McGuinn (The Byrds) is 63. Actor-comedian Cheech Marin is 59. Actress Didi Conn is 54. Singer Louise Mandrell is 51. Actor-director Cameron Crowe is 48. Tennis player Anders Jarryd is 44. Rock musician Gonzalo Martinez De La Cotera (Marcy Playground) is 43. Country singer-songwriter Victoria Shaw is 43. Bluegrass singer Rhonda Vincent is 43. Actor Michael Jace is 40. Country singer Neil Thrasher is 40. Singer Gerald Levert is 39. Singer Deborah Cox is 32. Rock musician Will Champion (Coldplay) is 27.



caglecartoons.com

So much to search, so little time ...

Never before have we had so many ways of searching the Net. Depending on what you are looking for, a myriad of tools exist to assist you ... if you only know where to look. In the next few columns, you will learn how to become an "Internet Search Guru!"

Keyword Searching

If you've ever gone to Google (http://www.google.com) and typed something into their search blank, you've performed keyword searching. However, as you've no doubt discovered, the amount of information returned can be torrential. How do you find your needle in that haystack?

To search these sites more efficiently, you need to understand how they work. Picture an incredibly powerful computer with a high speed connection to the Internet. This computer uses special pieces of software called "spiderbots" (short for

spider robots). These spiderbots are used to scour the Web and create a huge searchable database.

The process: A spiderbot starts at one web page. It indexes (or makes a list of) every word on that page. It then follows EVERY link on that page. Each link takes it to a new page or site, where it indexes every word and follows every link, and so on, and so on.

When you perform a keyword search, in a sense, you are searching through EVERY word on EVERY web page on EVERY web site. Of course, in reality, this is not exactly true, as the spiderbots cannot keep up with all of the new pages being added daily. However, they come awfully close to that goal.

In my opinion, Google is, by far, the best site for this type of search. In tests, their database has proven to be the largest and most up-to-date of any other

site. However, my primary reason for using Google lies in their relevancy algorithm.

Let me put that another way: When you type a word or words into Google and hit "search," chances are, it will return a few thousand (or million) hits. How are those pages ranked? Out of those thousands, how does Google decide who gets listed first? Well, they use a relevancy formula.

Years ago, this formula was very simplistic. Pages that had more instances of your search keywords were listed first. However, web

site owners figured this equation out and started abusing it by loading their pages with numerous, repetitive keywords, unfairly increasing their listing rank. So, the nerds at Google put their heads together and came up with a different strategy.

Relevancy would now be based primarily on "referring links." In other words, the more people that have links TO a particular site, the higher that site will appear in the listing. "Sites that people like" will appear higher in the list on a Google search. Therefore, Google's results tend to be more relevant than other search sites.

Tips

To increase the relevancy of your searches, type as many keywords as possible into the search blank. For instance, if you are tasked with writing a report on our solar system, typing "planet Pluto atmosphere" will

See SEARCH, Page 5

Eric Spellmann
Columnist



House clinging to tainted voting practices

Ghost voting noun. 1) A practice used in the Texas Legislature in which a lawmaker in the House uses the electronic voting machine to register a vote for an absent member.

During a razor-thin vote on a tax-swap bill last week, this term was the only explanation for the votes of two members who were obviously missing from the House floor.

One was in Madrid, Spain, to celebrate a wedding anniversary. The second was flying to Boston for a speech.

Yet each was officially a "nay" vote in the dramatic defeat of a Republican tax

plan. That bogus tally stood only as long as it took leaders to figure out that AWOL members helped beat them. A quick "verification" vote reversed the outcome.

Ironically, this same House leadership has fought reforms of voting practices in the Capitol. In this year's regular legislative session, the Senate passed a bill requiring an on-the-record vote for all nonceremonial measures, but it died in the House.

It's further irony that the House member vacationing

in Spain, Trey Martinez Fischer of San Antonio, has supported mandatory record votes.

The episode involving his votes is not a reflection on

Mr. Martinez Fischer. It's a reflection on loose voting practices tolerated in the Capitol. And it's a reflection on the person whose finger pressed his voting button. And let us count the times.

At opening roll call, Mr. Martinez Fischer was registered as "present." He then

"voted" during a requested on-the-record vote on a school-tax amendment, a tally officially registered as "Record Vote 25" in the 5-day-old special session.

Mr. Martinez Fischer went on to "vote" in Record Votes 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35.

The ruse was discovered on Record Vote 36. At that point, the House officially excused Mr. Martinez Fischer "for the remainder of 1/8th the day 3/8 because of illness."

It's a far harder thing to excuse the House's stubbornness in clinging to tainted voting practices.

Texas Thoughts

The Dallas Morning

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Researchers using 'remote sensing' to achieve better understanding of wheat streak mosaic

By KAY LEDBETTER
Texas A&M News

AMARILLO — Seeing a field of damage confirms a wheat streak mosaic problem exists. Seeing it in fields across multiple counties at one time puts the problem into perspective.

Regionwide perspective is needed to determine how much the disease costs producers and how important it is to begin breeding for resistance.

David Jones, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station research associate at Bushland, is using remote sensing to get the big picture.

Wheat streak mosaic, vectored by the wheat curl mite, is the predominant viral disease found in Texas Panhandle wheat, Jones said. Damage can be minimal, but the disease also can wipe out entire fields.

With the wet summer last year, Jones is predicting a high occurrence of wheat streak this year.

With the amount of wheat growing in the Panhandle, sampling every field is almost impossible. In past surveys, about 10 fields per county were sampled, but Jones said this doesn't provide an accurately picture.

He is pulling together a combination of satellite imagery, aerial photographs and "ground truth" data (actual information in the field), to more accurately estimate the extent of the disease.

"It's important for farmers to understand how much production loss occurs," Jones said. "It's an economic



(Texas Agricultural Experiment Station photo by KAY LEDBETTER)

David Jones uses GPS to plot fields of volunteer wheat, which host the wheat curl mite and can promote the spread of wheat streak mosaic into neighbors' wheat fields. Jones uses the GPS coordinates to pinpoint the field in satellite images.

factor no one has a grasp of yet."

To get that grasp, Jones inoculates wheat streak mosaic into plots of wheat and then takes spectral readings to determine how infected wheat reflects light.

"Once we understand that better, we can look at aerial and satellite imagery and be able to determine specific characteristics that diseased wheat has," Jones said.

With this data, he will be able to conduct a wheat disease survey of the Panhandle using Landsat imagery. Landsat is a satellite orbiting

the Earth that is capable of taking images along seven broad spectral bands ranging from visible to near infrared and one band of thermal infrared.

Because the satellite passes over the same area every 16 days, Jones can monitor changes throughout the growing season.

He also goes to the fields to collect ground truth data, allowing him to physically identify things in the Landsat images and use as check points.

"Once we get all the data, we hope to accurately assess

the amount of wheat streak disease in the Panhandle," he said.

This understanding is necessary, because one of the most extensive management practices in this region can cause wheat streak mosaic to spread.

"Because wheat grown for grazing in this area is planted early, it leads to the spread of the disease," he said. "And wheat producers who plant for both grazing and grain can take a hit on both ends."

In wet years, volunteer wheat grows through the summer and into the fall, providing a host for the wheat curl mite. The mites migrate from the volunteer wheat to the early wheat planted for grazing, he said.

"That's where we have a problem," Jones said. "Later planted wheat would break the cycle between summer hosts and winter wheat emerging in the fall."

No chemical application is available to treat the disease and miticides haven't proven effective, he said. The best control method is to destroy volunteer wheat, so the curl mite can't survive.

The information Jones hopes to get will help justify necessary management practices, such as destroying volunteer wheat. It also can be used to justify research dollars requested to develop wheat streak-resistant varieties.

"This is the best way to look at the whole Panhandle at one time in one season," he said. "We know the problem is out there, we just don't know how big it is."

9/11 booth opens at WTC

NEW YORK (AP) — In the nearly four years since terrorists killed her brother and nearly 3,000 others in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, Norene Schneider says she has experienced a spectrum of unimaginable emotions as she worked through her grief.

On Tuesday, she joined relatives of other Sept. 11 victims to record some of her memories at a newly opened oral history booth at the World Trade Center site.

"Sept. 11 is how he died, it's not who he was," she said of her brother, Tommy Sullivan, who was attending a business meeting in the Windows on the World restaurant when terrorists flew airliners into the twin towers.

"He was a wonderful father and a husband, a son that every mother wishes she had, an overly attentive nephew and a big brother whose shoes I can never fill."

The booth, run by an oral history project called StoryCorps, allows survivors of the attacks and victim's family members to record 40-minute tapes describing their experiences. The participants are then given a CD copy of the recording and a second copy is sent to the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

Although the booth is making special accommodations to elicit the memories of Sept. 11 victims and survivors, it is part of a national StoryCorps effort aimed at capturing the memories of average Americans, said Dave Isay, the project's creator.

One day
you have urine loss.
The next day you don't.
End of story.



One treatment and it's done.

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Evidence indicates four suicide attackers carried out London bombings

LEEDS, England (AP) — Surveillance cameras captured the images of four men, including at least three Britons of Pakistani descent, who may have carried out suicide attacks in London, officials said after uncovering new evidence.

Police raided six homes in Leeds Tuesday searching for explosives and computer files that would shed more light on what were believed to be the first suicide bomb-

ings in Western Europe. They arrested a man, identified by the British news agency Press Association as a relative of one of the suspected bombers.

Britain's Home Secretary Charles Clarke said Wednesday that help from European police and intelligence agencies had made "material differences" to the investigation into the bombings.

"The support that we had

from international, and particular European, intelligence agencies and police has been first class," Clarke told a European Parliament committee in Brussels, Belgium. "It has made a difference."

A town councillor told The Associated Press that at least three of the presumed suicide bombers were British citizens of Pakistani ancestry.

One was thought to be

Shahzad Tanweer, a 22-year-old cricket-loving sports science graduate, and another was a teenager, Press Association reported.

On its Web site, The Times newspaper named Tanweer, as well as Leeds residents Hasib Hussain, 49, and Mohammed Sidique Khan, the 30-year-old father of an 8-month-old baby. The newspaper said police were still trying to identify the fourth bomber.

Search

Continued from Page 4

result in a much better hit-list than just typing "Pluto." The latter will require you to sift through numerous Disney canine pages to find your target information.

Speaking of "Pluto," don't get dis-

tracted by sites off the beaten track. Most newbie Internet researchers have been lured off the path of their initial search by "interesting" sites they discovered during the search. Focus on the task at hand, or you'll suddenly look up at the clock and realize you've lost a couple of hours!

One more thing: Have you noticed the "I'm Feeling Lucky" button? If you type in a search phrase and hit that button, Google will transport you

DIRECTLY to the first site that would have come up in the hit-list. Nine times out of 10, it works for me. Give it a try!

Most people use Google's basic search window for all of their queries. However, if you TRULY want to speed up your searches, you must delve into Google's advanced options. We'll explore that treasure trove next week. Until then ... I'll see you in Cyberspace!

Community happenings

• Pampa Community Concert Association Presents "Live on Stage" 2004-05 concert series includes the following programs: Edgar Cruz, guitarist, Oct. 23; Susan Egan, Broadway vocalist, Feb. 18, 2006; St. Petersburg Classic Ballet, March 4, 2006; and The Coats, vocal harmonic band, April 30, 2006. Additional concerts, featuring with other performers, have been scheduled in area towns. For more information on any of these events or a complete area concert schedule, contact Ronnie Holmes, PCCA president, at 665-2631. PCCA memberships are available.

• The Texas Department of State Health Services will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., July 6 and 20, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

• The next Pampa Area Singles Dance is scheduled between 7 and 11 p.m.

Saturday, July 16, at the Sportsman's Club on South Barnes with Mike Porter. No smoking or alcohol allowed. Please bring a covered dish. Admission is \$6 per person. For more information, call 665-7059.

• The 13th Annual Dallam 4-H Arts & Crafts Bazaar will be held Friday and Saturday, Aug. 5 and 6 at Ranch Market Building in Dalhart during the 69th Annual XIT Rodeo and Reunion Celebration. Hours will be 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Forty-six booth spaces are available. Registration deadline is Monday, July 25. For more information, call (806) 244-4434.

• The USS Long Beach CGN-9 Association, Inc., is organizing its 2005 reunion Sept. 11-19 at San Francisco, Calif. For more information, contact Don Shade, 299 Kiantone Rd., Jamestown, NY 14701-9370, (866) 352-2469 or LBCGN9@aol.com. Further details are also available at www.usslongbeach-assoc.org on the World Wide Web.

• USS Maddox Destroyer Association Reunion is planned Sept. 15-18, 2005, in Mobile, Ala. For more information, contact Cliff Gillespie, 215 Wichita Ave., #605, Huntington Beach, CA 92648, call (714) 960-5283 or e-mail cwgilles45@aol.com.

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Tink, a medium sized, tan & white kitten available for adoption at the Pampa Animal Shelter.



Tink and many other cats and dogs are waiting for you to take them to their new, loving homes!

If You Would Like To Help The Animals - Donations Can Be Sent To... City of Pampa Fund 12 • PO Box 2499 • Pampa, Texas 79066 sponsored by... The Pampa News

For information about this pet or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park.

NEW HOURS Monday - Saturday 9-6, Office Open to the Public 5-6 pm Closed Sundays & Holidays.

FOUND A PET? Let us know...we might be able to help them find their home. LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My name is "Johnny." I am 18 and currently incarcerated. I was locked up last March and won't be out for another five months. I'm facing a terrible problem when I get out and I need your help.

I have a girlfriend, "Brianna," who I love with all my heart and will do anything for. We have been together since I was 14. She has been with me through everything. She's now pregnant with my baby. Her cousin and her best friend are also pregnant. They all know each other is pregnant, but the cousin and friend haven't told Brianna that I'm the father. She has been asking questions, but they tell her they're "not sure." They insist that it's my place to tell her.

My mother secretly pays for each of the girls' doctor visits and everything they need, but she says she can't keep sneaking around doing this.

It's killing me knowing I'll have to hurt my girlfriend. I don't want her to leave me because I love her, and she has both of my cars, my motorcycle and the house I bought. I'm afraid she will destroy them when she finds out. I'm so worried I can't sleep. Please tell me what to do. -- JOHNNY-IN-A-SPOT

DEAR JOHNNY: As I see it, you have three choices: ask to join a witness protection program, beg for an extended sentence -- or start acting like a man and take responsibility for your actions. Count on your girlfriend being upset when you tell her. That's a normal reaction to finding out the person she loved and trusted cheated on her with two other women -- her best friend and her cousin.

While you're talking, suggest that she do nothing rash, because you may have to sell the cars, the motorcycle and the house to live up to your financial obligations to all three of your children.

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of three children. I'm having a problem with my 4-year-old child, "Josh," who has an attitude problem.

Josh beats up on his two siblings. When his little sister plays with him, he often hits and kicks her. When she gets up and walks away, he starts screaming her name -- then walks over and hits and kicks her some more. When his big brother comes home from school, Josh starts beating on him, too. He's just a mean kid.

I have tried everything I know to steer him away from this kind of bullying. I have put him in time-out, during which he screams at the top of his lungs and then proceeds to get up and start trying to hit ME. I have spanked him, for which he has also hit me. (He was spanked again.) I have taken away things he likes to play with, his allowance, his TV time, and I have grounded him. None of it seems to work.

I have told his father when he comes home from work, but he doesn't believe me. Any advice you can offer would be appreciated because I've reached the end of my rope. -- MOTHER AT THE END IN GEORGIA

DEAR MOTHER: Because you have done everything you can do to discourage your son's violent behavior, it's time to take him to his pediatrician for a medical evaluation. If everything checks out, ask for a referral to a child psychologist. Do it now, before he's big enough to seriously hurt someone.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

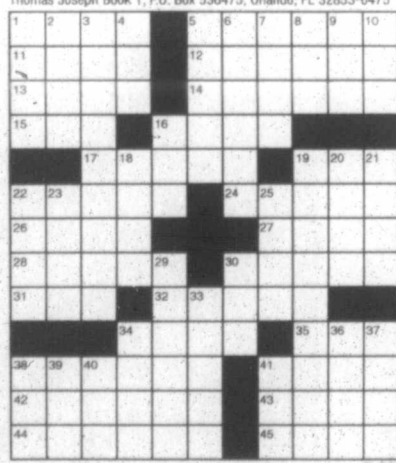
ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Backside
- 5 Julia of "State and Main"
- 11 Vaccine type
- 12 Trng function
- 13 Hideous
- 14 Online program
- 15 Hair goop
- 16 Mayberry sheriff
- 17 Low singer
- 19 Cornfield cry
- 22 Shell setting
- 24 Effortless charm
- 26 St. Louis sight
- 27 Avenue liners
- 28 Tour de France vehicles
- 30 Car parker
- 31 "You betcha!"
- 32 Scale
- 34 Embedded spy
- 35 Penguin's cousin
- 38 Better place.
- 41 Farm unit
- 42 Bureau
- 43 Body cover
- 44 Like some dice
- 45 Sibilliant summons

DOWN
 1 Footbal's
 2 Flutie
 3 Goad
 4 Reserves
 5 Jeans
 6 feature
 7 Digitizes
 8 a page
 9 Head
 10 honcho
 11 Culp/
 12 Cosby
 13 series
 14 Like Abner
 15 Chemical
 16 Cornfield
 17 cry
 18 Shell
 19 Volcanic
 20 dust
 21 Massage
 22 target
 23 Second
 24 auditions
 25 High point
 26 Oater
 27 setting
 28 Coddie
 29 Great
 30 Lakes
 31 port
 32 Paper
 33 purchase
 34 Candle's
 35 place
 36 Compete
 37 Harold of
 38 comedy
 39 African
 40 serpent
 41 "Trinity"
 42 author
 43 English
 44 county
 45 "East
 46 of
 47 "Eden"
 48 brother
 49 Before
 50 today
 51 Mermmaid's
 52 home
 53 African
 54 serpent

Yesterday's answer

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Marmaduke



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The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS, By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day



Flashing championship form, the Texas Ballers basketball team is (left to right)- Andrew Horton, Anthony Fernandez, Nathan Purswell, Coach Jimmy Barker, Braydon Barker, Jaron Kerr, Jarett Kotara, Sharod Young, Tyler Fernandez, Coach Frank Fernandez, D.J. Dixon and Shade Haddox.

Young MVP of Florida tournament won by Texas Ballers; MAYB in Pampa this weekend

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Seems hurricane Dennis wasn't the only storm to blow through the sunshine state recently.

The Texas Ballers, comprised of players from Pampa and Borger, blew into Florida for the Cocoa Beach Vacation Getaway Tournament July 2-10 in Orlando, and came away with a 5-1 record and the championship.

The team did manage to squeeze in some sight seeing in addition to playing basketball, getting the opportunity to visit Disney World.

But when it came to basketball, the good guys from the Texas panhandle proved early the road to the championship went through them.

The Ballers defeated the Tennessee Sabers 54-47 to advance to the championship game where they faced the

Georgia Deceptions.

This would turn out to be a close, hard-fought meeting between two very good basketball teams.

But in the end, the Ballers would edge their opponent by only a bucket, 65-63.

Jarett Kotara's efforts earned him All Tournament Team status, while Sharod Young was honored as tournament MVP.

The Pampa Basketball Booster Club will host a M.A.Y.B. tournament this Friday and Saturday.

26 teams are expected to compete with games taking place at both the junior high and high school campuses.

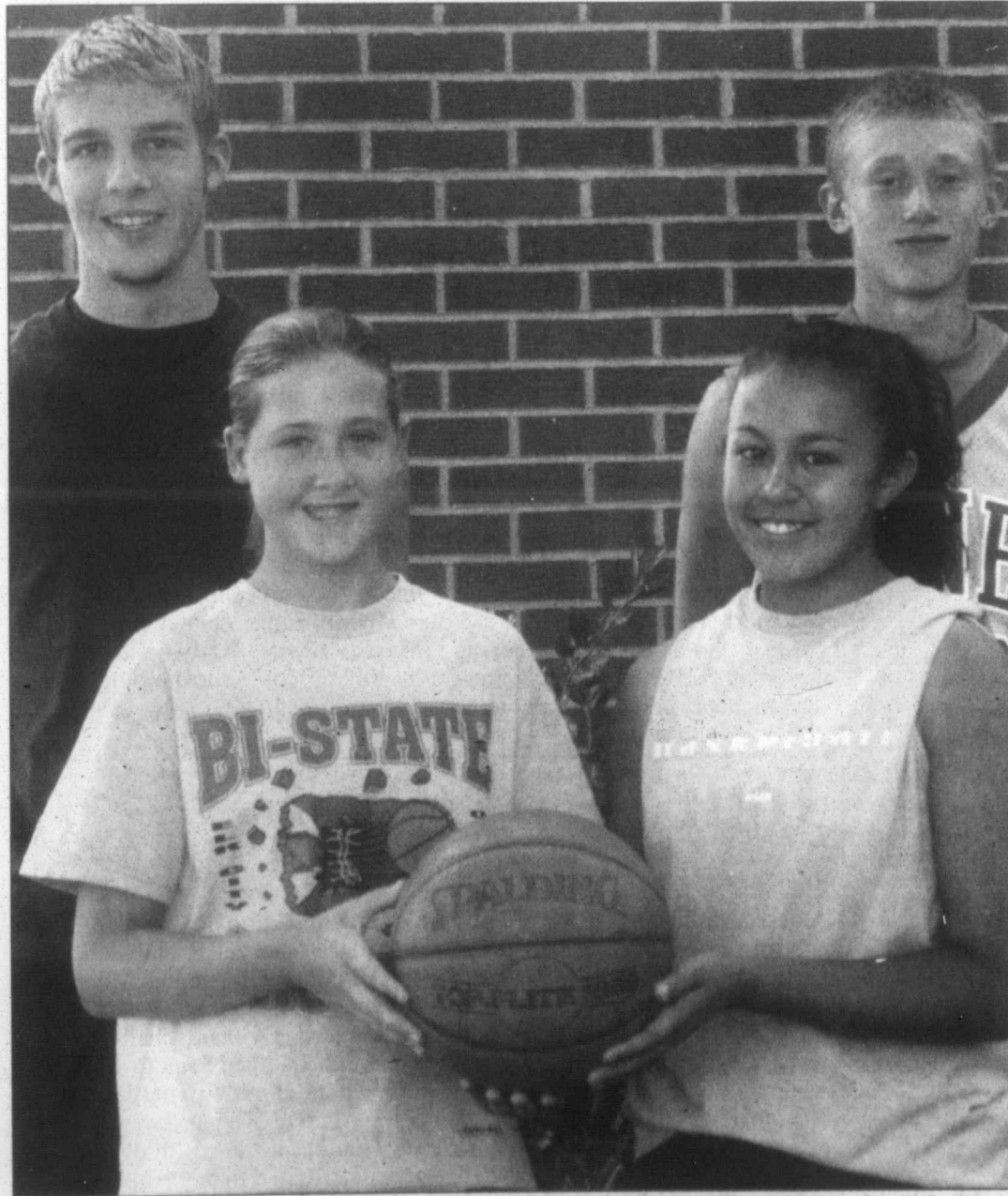
Friday's games will begin at 5 p.m. with the final games tipping off around 10 p.m.

Saturday's games will begin at 9 a.m. Seven different Pampa teams are registered to compete.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the PHS Basketball Booster Club.



Sharod Young



Matt Smith and Tyler Hall (back row) along with Carlyn Teichmann and Ashley Facio will be competing in this weekend's PHS Basketball Booster Club MAYB Tournament. 71 games will be played at both the junior high and high school between Friday and Saturday.

Tejada, Teixeira lead AL to 7-5 win

DETROIT (AP) — An All-Star game with the same old winner had a most odd ending: A Boston Red Sox manager called on the New York Yankees' closer to get the final out.

After the National League closed with two runs in the ninth inning, American League manager Terry Francona brought in baseball's best reliever, Mariano Rivera, who ended the AL's 7-5 victory Tuesday night by striking out Morgan Ensberg for his second All-Star save.

"I heard Johnny Damon say something like, 'Come on Mo,'" Francona said, referring to the Red Sox center fielder. "I looked at him and I said, 'I bet I never would have heard you say that.' It was OK. You know what, for one night, it was pretty cool."

The AL made it 3-0 since the change in 2003 that gave the All-Star-winning league homefield advantage in the World Series.

"We hope we make it this year," said Baltimore's Miguel Tejada, who was selected the game's MVP after homering and driving in two runs.

Rivera would prefer the Yankees, who wasted a 3-0 lead against Boston in last year's AL championship series, host the World Series opener on Oct. 22.

"Everything's possible," he said.

Old stars, young studs, it doesn't make a difference. When it comes to All-Star games these days, the AL always wins.

Tejada homered off John Smoltz to start the scoring in the second inning, Mark Teixeira added a two-run drive off Dontrelle Willis in the sixth and the AL overcame Kenny Rogers' bumpy inning to gain its eighth straight win, a streak that wraps around the 7-7, 11-inning tie at Milwaukee in 2002.

See ALL-STAR, Page 8

BABE RUTH TOURNAMENT

What a difference a day makes as Pampa protest is successfully appealed and game continued

SNYDER — The Pampa Optimist 14-15 Babe Ruth All-Star team scored seven runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to tie Plainview, but fell 14-10 in 10 innings here Tuesday in a game continued from Monday.

Monday Pampa had scored three runs and had runners on second and third with one out and Heath Skinner at bat when the game was declared a forfeit because Plainview had allegedly used an illegal pitcher. Plainview appealed the forfeit successfully. The game was continued yesterday.

The Pampa team went back to work. Skinner walked to load the bases. After a strikeout, John Luke Covalt's single to left field by the fielder scoring Colten Fortenberry, who had singled, Dakota Gowin, who had doubled, and Skinner to make the score 10-9.

Covalt moved to third when Casey Trimble was safe on an error. Jonathan Anguiano had started the rally with a single and had scored the first run of the inning. He came through again with a single to left

field to bring in Covalt and tie the score at 10-10.

Pampa had made only seven hits in the first two games but made nine hits in the sixth and seventh inning and added another in the extra innings. Fortenberry, with two singles, a double, a run scored and one RBI, and Gowin, with two doubles and four RBI, led Pampa's hitting. Anguiano had two hits, a run scored and one RBI.

Pampa had chances to win leaving two runners on in the seventh and eighth innings, the bases loaded in the ninth and two stranded in the 10th.

With the loss the all stars were eliminated from the State Tournament and ended their season.

"I feel good about this team and the experience we have gained in the District Tournament and State Tournament this season," concluded Manager Dr. Kevin Sieck. "We will lose two 15-year-olds off the team and will have another move. The rest will be back next year."

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

Lance loses stage, still leads

BRIANCON, France (AP) — Alexandre Vinokourov won Wednesday's second Alpine stage of the Tour de France with a solo ascent over the race's highest climb, and Lance Armstrong's overall lead remained unchanged.

The win in the 11th stage was Vinokourov's second in five Tours. His first was in 2003.

The T-Mobile rider rebounded from a disastrous ride Tuesday on the first Alpine stage, when Armstrong surged ahead of the Kazakh rider and other main rivals to retake the overall lead.

Vinokourov took the lead on the famed Col du Galibier, the last of three ascents on the 107.5-mile route from the ski station of Courchevel. The Galibier is the highest climb on this year's Tour at 8,677 feet.

Santiago Botero of Colombia was second over the pass, 40 seconds slower than Vinokourov. But the Phonak rider caught Vinokourov on the descent toward Briancon, and they

raced to the finish, where Vinokourov beat Botero in a sprint.

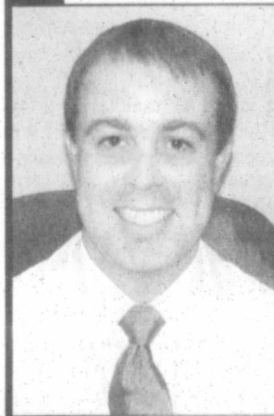
Armstrong sealed the Galibier more than two minutes behind Vinokourov in a group of about 20 riders. But he recled in some of the deficit with a speedy

See TOUR, Page 8

ANNOUNCEMENT:
REOPENING OF
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PUBLIC AUCTION OF FORFEITED PROPERTY

Pursuant to authority granted in Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, and in compliance therewith, the 31st Judicial District Attorney, acting as agent for the State of Texas and in accordance with local agreements between said agent and law enforcement agencies, shall offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder the following horses seized and forfeited to the State of Texas by judgment of the 223rd Judicial District Court of Gray County, Texas upon the following terms and conditions.

PLACE: 735 W. MCCOLLOUGH ST., PAMPA, TEXAS Betty Wilson's Quarter Horse Farm
DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2005
TIME: 10:00 AM

All persons are invited to attend and bid. All HORSES will be sold to the highest bidder FOR CASH. All HORSES will be sold "AS IS". The horses may be inspected at 9:30 a.m. on the day of the sale, they will not be available to ride. ALL SALES ARE FINAL. Seller reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

HORSES:
1-TAN & WHITE APHA - NEEDS MEDICAL CARE
1-SORREL GELDING - 6 YRS OR OLDER
1-BAY GELDING 5 TO 7 YRS OLD
1-BLACK STALLION 3 TO 4 YRS OLD
1-HAND MADE SADDLE AND TACK



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

Hang on lil' pard

Ethan Price competes in the calf riding event at the Junior Rodeo Cowboys Association event, which took place at the Top o' Texas rodeo grounds this past Saturday.

NHL and player's association reach new collective bargaining agreement

NEW YORK (AP) — The NHL and the players' association reached an agreement in principle Wednesday on a new labor deal, ending a lockout that wiped out last season.

The sides met for 24 hours starting Tuesday afternoon to hammer out the collective bargaining agreement that will return the NHL to the ice. In February, commissioner Gary Bettman canceled the season, making the NHL the first North American sports league to lose a year because of a labor dispute.

Both sides still need to ratify the deal, which is expected to contain a salary cap. That process is expected to be completed next week, the league and the union said in a joint news release.

It took all night and then some

for the final round of negotiations to produce an agreement.

The sides met for 10 straight days in New York, and it became clear Wednesday morning — the 301st day of the lockout — that they weren't going to leave the room without an agreement in hand.

The expected salary cap will likely have a ceiling approaching \$40 million and a minimum somewhere between \$20 million and \$25 million.

Player salaries will not exceed 54 percent of league-wide revenues.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman warned in February when he canceled the season that the offers the union passed up were better than any it would see once a year of hockey was lost.

All-Star

Continued from Page 7

"Tejada got us off to a great start and we were able to just go with it from there," said AL catcher Jason Varitek, one of four players in the starting lineup from the Red Sox, coming off their first World Series title since 1918.

Mark Buehrle of the Chicago White Sox got the victory, striking out three during two scoreless innings. The AL had a shutout

going into the seventh, when Rogers gave up a two-run homer to Andruw Jones, prompting more boos for the Texas lefty, who's playing while appealing a 20-game suspension.

Tejada, Teixeira and Buehrle were among 13 players getting their first All-Star starts in a game nothing like the famous 1971 classic about 2 miles away at Tiger Stadium. Eighteen future Hall of Famers played in that one, and six of them homered — including Reggie Jackson, who hit the stunning shot off the light tower on top of the roof.

The most famous player in this one was Houston's Roger Clemens, who a month shy of his 43rd birthday pitched a perfect fifth inning, retiring David Ortiz, Garret Anderson and Tejada. The Rocket entered and exited to hundreds — if not thousands — of flash-

ing camera bulbs aimed at him by the crowd of 41,617 in the wide, cavernous ballpark, which opened in 2000.

"To see the guys here for the first time was great," said Clemens, an 11-time All-Star first selected in 1986.

The most infamous player was the 40-year-old Rogers, who was booed loudly when introduced and tipped his cap to the crowd as he looked ahead stone-faced. "I don't hold anything against anyone," he said.

Rogers was penalized by baseball commissioner Bud Selig for an outburst last month that sent a television cameraman to the hospital and prompted a police investigation.

"I wanted to pitch," Rogers said. "I didn't pitch last year in the game, and I think at this stage in my career it's something that's not expected from me."

Francona didn't hesitate to use him.

"Kenny made a mistake," Francona said. "I'm not supposed to sit in judgment."

Smoltz dropped to 1-2 in All-Star play, tying the record for defeats — he lost in '89 and got the NL's last victory in '96. Overall, the NL leads 40-34-2.

"This was certainly a fun one that I'll remember forever — to go out there in front of friends and family, in my hometown," Smoltz said. "I wanted to have fun — I wasn't going to get caught up in results."

"They made the pitches, made the plays. To me, that's the difference in the game."

— Tony La Russa
Manager, NL All-Stars

RODEO ROUNDUP

International Finals Youth Rodeo results

SHAWNEE, Okla. (AP) — Results from competition Tuesday morning at the International Finals Youth Rodeo, which runs through Saturday:

- BARREL RACING**
1. Jayme Starr, Colorado Springs, Co., 16.223 seconds; 2. Kylie Ward, Addington, Okla., 16.537; 3. Shelby Smith, Stephenville, Texas, 16.544; 4. Lexie Ann Brorsen, Perry, Okla., 16.569.
- BREAKAWAY ROPING**
1. Kelsey Deal, Elk City, Okla., 2.370; 2. Riki Seelke, Cleo Springs, Okla., 2.800; 3. Julie Fite, Willow, Okla., 2.960; Randi Newman, Sparta, Mo., 3.01 seconds.
- STEER WRESTLING**
1. tie: Casey Jon McGuire, Vinita, Okla., and Clint Thomas, Ranger, Ga., 4.79 seconds; 3. Chance Honey, Rocky Ford, Colo., 4.9; 4. Taylor Roach, Stonewall, La., 5.59.
- BULL RIDING**
1. Tyler Smith, Fruita, Colo., 80 points; 2. (tie) Corey Atwell, Moravian Falls, N.C., and L.J. Jenkins, Texico, N.M., 77 points; 3. Kolt Donaldson, Idabel, Okla., 76.
- TEAM ROPING**
1. Jason Calkins, Glen Rose, Texas and Blake Stocker, Decatur, Texas, 7.6 seconds; 2. Tyler Bryd, Branford, Fla., and Rance Brown, Branford, Fla., 7.730; 3. Charles Day

and Cody Gipson, 7.770; 4. Pake Stamper, Mounds, Okla., and Mollie Stamper, Mounds, Okla., 8.31.

- POLE BENDING**
1. Lindsey Holland, Emporia, Kan., 19.990 seconds; 2. Rashell Hays, Bristow, Okla., 20.098 seconds; 3. Lindsey Ewing, Midland, Texas, 20.289; 3. Elyse Busby, Fort Worth, Texas, 20.305.
- CALF ROPING**
1. Michael Carson Yates, Pike Road, Ala., 8.600; 2. Jesse Alex Tatum, Rock Spring, Ga., 9.05 seconds; 3. Trevor Beebe, Yukon, Okla., 9.48; 4. Jake North, Ponder, Texas, 9.5.
- SADDLE BRONC**
1. Isaac Diaz, Davie, Fla., 82 points; 2. Trey Broussard, Estherwood, La., 78; 3. Dean Wadsworth, Ozona, Texas, 76; 4. Blaze Hamaker, Centennial, Wyo, 72.00.
- GOAT TYING**
1. Ami Outhier, Weatherford, Okla. 7.7 seconds; 2. Cynda Norell, Meeker, Colo., 7.8 seconds; 3. Toya Vogt, Corn, Okla., 8.1; 4. Steph Lindsay, Brookville, Kan., 8.4.
- BAREBACK RIDING**
1. tie: Wacey Cody, Keller, Texas and Trey Broussard, Estherwood, La., 70 points; 2. tie: Justin Anderson, Sperry, Okla. and Casey Rogers, Dodd City, Texas, 68.00.

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, July 14, 2005:
This year, you might often find yourself juggling your personal life with your professional life. You will put in extra hours to gain what you want in the public arena. Your home life proves to be a source of pleasure and happiness. If you can, you might want to work from home as much as possible. Sometimes self-imposed pressure makes you feel like pulled taffy. Take time to center yourself, or learn ways to let off steam. If you are single, you want someone to share your life with. From winter on, a very special person could enter your life. If you are attached, your need for nesting plus an increased libido could stoke the fires of love. LIBRA understands you.

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)
★★★ Though you like to keep your cool, you still could lose it when dealing with others. You want everything done yesterday. Also, plans or a project might be debunked out of the blue. The only person you have control over is you. Tonight: Just go along with others.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Your frustration comes out when dealing with those in your daily life. What you hear might not be the way to handle a problem. A partner pitches in and helps. Use care when expressing your feelings, especially negative ones. Tonight: Get some exercise.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might have to handle many different people with sometimes conflict-

ing views. Fortunately, you are the sign of the Twin and can deal with multiple demands. Use your ingenuity to prevent hassles. Tonight: You deserve to enjoy yourself.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ If you can stay home and work or take a personal day, do so. A higher-up or someone you have to answer to makes demands and loses his or her temper. If you can avoid a fight by closing your door or staying home, do so. Tonight: You don't have to go out every night.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Although someone has good intentions, you have to deal with this person's fussing. In fact, this person's anger is profound. Your understanding and willingness to work through an issue breed new confidence. Return calls. Tonight: Happily hang out.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You will gain financially if you listen to your own instincts rather than the advice of others. People can be very strong about their opinions. Seek advice only from those who have an understanding of your security. Tonight: Make sure your budget is on target.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You are clearly on a roll and quite unstoppable. If someone flares up right now, especially with criticism, just listen. He or she might be jealous or is talking about him- or herself. Others expect a lot from you right now. Tonight: Ask for what you want.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Someone in your daily environment could be very touchy and difficult. So keeping your nose out of others' issues might be a very smart action or attitude. Keep your opinions to yourself,

and you will be better off. Tonight: Play ostrich.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might have your hands full with a rebellious and difficult child. Remember what you want in your relationship with him or her, and you will make strong decisions. Meetings add to your feeling of success. Tonight: Discuss a problem with a trusted friend.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might have trouble on the home front or with a family member. Focus on what you can be successful in. Dive into work or a public commitment. You know what you are doing here. Relax and do what you do well. Tonight: Work late.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might be much more harsh than you realize when making a request. Detach from your emotional issues, and you'll get better results. A friend makes a suggestion that you need to listen to. Ask for advice. Tonight: Take the high road.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ A partner wants to help you see other ways of handling your money. You could be a lot tougher than you realize with your spending habits. A second job or overtime might not be the answer. Tonight: Listen rather than speak.
BORN TODAY
Actor Matthew Fox (1966), actor Jerry Houser (1952), actress Polly Bergen (1930) ***
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Ex-Colorado recruiting aid pleads guilty

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — A former Colorado recruiting aide pleaded guilty Wednesday to charges of soliciting a prostitute and official misconduct. Nathan Maxcey of Houston, who was the only person charged in the school's football scandal, was sentenced to a year of probation and 40 hours of community service. He was ordered to pay about \$1,000 in restitution, fines and court costs. Maxcey was accused of paying a woman \$250 for sex and using his university-issued cell phone to

make 90 calls to a dating chat line. He was indicted by a grand jury that investigated allegations that Colorado's football program used sex and alcohol to lure top recruits. He read a brief statement Wednesday, apologizing and accepting responsibility for what happened. "I never intended to harm anyone or the university," he said. District Judge Daniel Hale told Maxcey he was "only a sideshow in this circus" surrounding the Colorado scandal.

Tour

Continued from Page 7

descent, finishing 1:15 behind Vinokourov in sixth place. Armstrong's overall lead over second-place Mickael Rasmussen of Denmark remained at 38 seconds. French rider Christophe Moreau moved to third overall, 2:34 behind the six-time champion. Vinokourov was considered one of Armstrong's main challengers when the three-week Tour started July 2. But he slipped back to 16th, a whopping 6:32 behind Armstrong, with his poor climbing Tuesday. Vinokourov picked up a time bonus for winning Wednesday's stage, and cut his deficit to Armstrong to 4:47. That places him 12th overall. Vinokourov said he set out Wednesday determined to make his mark. "I kept my spirits. I said to myself 'I am still going to attack,'" he said. "I said 'I have nothing to lose.'" He said Monday's rest day may have contributed to his difficulties the next day on the first Alpine stage. "I think the rest day broke my rhythm a little bit," he said.

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Farm Scene

Amid MC scare, court considers cattle imports

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Whether it's protecting profits or consumer health, the U.S. meat industry has a lot riding on the government's effort to reopen the border to Canadian cattle.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture insists it's safe to resume the imports, despite a ruling by a Montana federal judge who sided with ranchers warning about dire economic and health consequences from a mad cow outbreak in the United States. Feedlots and packers maintain that ranchers are only concerned about their profits.

A panel from the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals travels to Seattle on Wednesday to hear the Bush administration's challenge to the judge's ruling.

The dispute between ranchers — whose profits have improved slightly without Canadian competition — and feedlots and packers — which have fewer cows to slaughter without Canadian supplies — became more complicated two weeks ago, when the government revealed that a 12-year-old cow born in Texas tested positive for mad cow disease.

Ranchers, who back the ban put in place after a Canadian-born cow tested positive for mad cow disease in Washington state in 2003, said the infected Texas cow shows the continued need for a closed border, to prevent an epidemic.

But Philip Olsson of the National Meat Association, a trade group representing packers, processors, equipment manufacturers and suppliers, said the Texas cow deflates the ranchers' argument that consumers would lose their appetite for U.S. meat if Canadian cattle were allowed in.

"They're not telling anybody not to eat their meat now, are they?" Olsson asked.

Some industry watchdogs say the argument is really all about profits, not consumer health. After all, Canadian and American cattle had been crossbreeding for so many years before the borders were closed that they are equally at risk, according to The Center for Media and Democracy in Madison, Wis., an advocacy group that has closely followed the issue.

Jon Wooster, who operates a family owned cattle ranch in central California, said he now sells his cattle for more than 80 cents a pound, and had been getting more than \$1 — up from about

70 cents right before Canadian cows were banned.

On the other side, profits have declined at packers and feedlots, which have fewer cows to feed and process. They say Canada's cattle is safe, and that the ranchers' are more interested in monopolizing supplies than protecting the meat-eating public.

Cody Easterday, who runs a feedlot in Washington state that has been in his family for three generations, said he may go out of business rather than purchase cows 1,500 miles away in the Midwest — compared to about 550 miles in Alberta.

"It's pretty bleak," he said. "The local processor here is only running about 24 hours a week, compared to 40 to 48 hours a week before. We all know that the cattle from Canada is safe. This is protectionism."

The National Meat Association says its members have lost \$1.7 billion in revenue because of fewer cows being processed in the U.S., idling some packing houses and prompting layoffs. In 2002, Canada shipped 1.6 million cattle to the United States, its largest foreign market.

'It's pretty bleak. The local processor here is only running about 24 hours a week, compared to 40 to 48 hours a week before.'

— Cody Easterday
Feedlot operator

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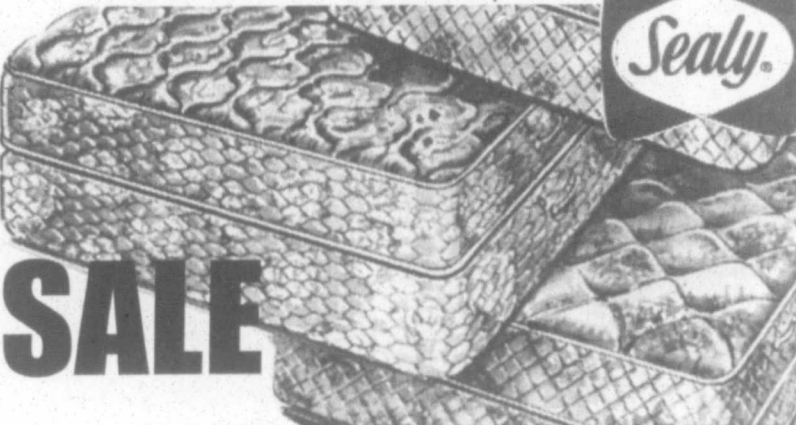
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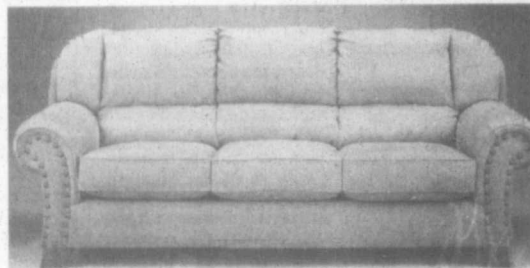


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Georgia executes man who killed lawyer in 1984

JACKSON, Ga. (AP) — A parolee who fatally stabbed his lover with a screwdriver, then dismembered the man's body, was executed Tuesday at the state prison in Jackson.

Robert Conklin, 44, said a prayer but made no final statement before he was given an injection of deadly chemicals for the 1984 murder of George Crooks.

Conklin had said he invited Crooks, a 28-year-old lawyer, to his Atlanta apartment to tell him that he wanted to end their relationship. Prosecutors said Conklin's intent was to kill Crooks.

Conklin's bid for clemency was denied earlier Tuesday by the state parole board, and the state Supreme Court and U.S. Supreme Court denied his requests for a stay.

The Georgia Supreme Court ruling was 5-2, and Chief Justice Leah Sears said in a dissenting opinion

that Conklin's trial was unfair and his conviction and sentence were "manifestly unjust."

Conklin said he was fending off an attempted rape at the time of the attack.

Prosecutors said he acted with malice, and after stabbing Crooks, cut up the body and disposed of the pieces in trash bags and a garbage disposal.

In the clemency petition, defense lawyers presented an affidavit from the former medical examiner who performed the autopsy on Crooks' body. The doctor, Saleh Zaki, wrote of Crooks' death, that he did not "believe that this was necessarily an intentional murder case."

But Crooks' brother said before the execution that Conklin was after money.

"It's been 21 years of appeals. Enough is enough," said Jim Crooks, 56.

It was Georgia's third execution this year.



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