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Tuesday, August 23, 2005

Volume 101 • No. 1347

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County tax rate hearing faces silence from public

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

No county residents attended a public hearing this morning which was held for the purpose of allowing county property owners a chance to voice their opinion on the proposed Gray County tax rate for 2006.

County commissioners approved the minutes of their Aug. 15 meeting and discussed portions of the proposed 2006 county budget. The meeting began at 9 a.m. in the second-floor courtroom of the county

courthouse.

The public hearing portion of the meeting opened at 9:06 a.m. and was closed about 10 minutes later, after no residents arrived. The meeting was adjourned at about 9:25 a.m.

Commissioners discussed some areas of concern in setting the 2006 budget, including fuel cost increases, rising fees for court-appointed public defenders, and higher prices related to equipment.

The contract with the city concerning jail services was also dis-

cussed, with no action taken.

County Auditor Elaine Morris said that commissioners could reduce the tax rate of the road and bridge fund, and increase the tax rate for the general fund a proportionate amount, in order to increase the amount of the general fund without affecting the total amount of taxes paid to the county by property owners.

One possible reason for doing this, she said, would be to fund the remainder of the courthouse restoration project. The county must pay for

its share of the project by 2010, she said.

County Judge Richard Peet said in an interview after the meeting that the budget for court-appointed attorneys' fees for 2006 was being increased for each court in the county, including 31st District, 223rd District, Gray County, and the court which hears child abuse and neglect cases.

The proposed 2006 budget for
See HEARING, Page 2

Reflection



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Heavy rains recently have caused minor flooding in low areas at Recreation Park. The pumpjack next to the Top of Texas Rodeo Arena is a case in point.

School board has long list on agenda

Pampa Independent School District will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday. Among items to be discussed are:

- sale of delinquent tax properties;
- approval of financial reports;
- consideration and approval of a final budget amendment;
- discussion of proposed budget for 2005-2006;
- discussion of a proposed tax rate for 2004-2005;
- consideration to adopt a budget for 2005-2006;
- adopt an ordinance to set the 2005-2006 tax rate;
- approval of reimbursement to Plano ISD for prior sale of WADA;
- discussion of seating at McNeely Field House;
- consideration and approval of goals and objectives for 2005-2006;
- discussion of appointment of members to the Gray County Appraisal District Board of Directors;
- consideration of a Student Code of Conduct for 2005-2006;
- authorize an agreement with the City of Pampa to supply dogs to search desks,

See PISD, Page 2

ACT 1 auditions for comedy set Aug. 29 and 30

ACT 1 will have auditions for "Murder at Cafe Noir" at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 29 and 30 at the theater on the west side of Pampa Mall. The comedy murder mystery will be presented as a dinner theater Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29 at Pampa Country Club.

The play is a '40's private detective story come to life. Rick Archer, a private investigator, is hired

'Murder at Cafe Noir is a 40s private investigator story.'

find was the last person seen alive with the cafe owner.

Now Archer must use his hard-boiled detective talents to find the real killer. Was it the French madame and manager of the club, the voodoo priestess, the shyster attorney, the black marketer, or the femme fatale herself?

to find a runaway - "a gal who has more curves than the west coast highway."

His search leads him to the Cafe Noir, the only club on the forgotten island of Mustique, a place stuck in the black-and-white 1940s.

The cafe's owner has washed up murdered and the girl Archer came to

audience is asked on two occasions to vote on what they want Rick to do next.

Cast requirements are for three males and three females.

For more information contact the director, Rochelle Lacy, at 669-2009.

Border ranch turned over to illegal immigrants

DOUGLAS, Arizona (AP) — A border-area ranch that once served as the headquarters for a civilian group watching for illegal immigrants has been turned over to two Salvadorans caught trying to enter the United States illegally.

The land transfer is being done to satisfy a judgment against the ranch's owner, Casey Nethercott, a member of a self-styled border-watch group that seeks to protect private property from illegal immigrants entering the southern U.S. border.

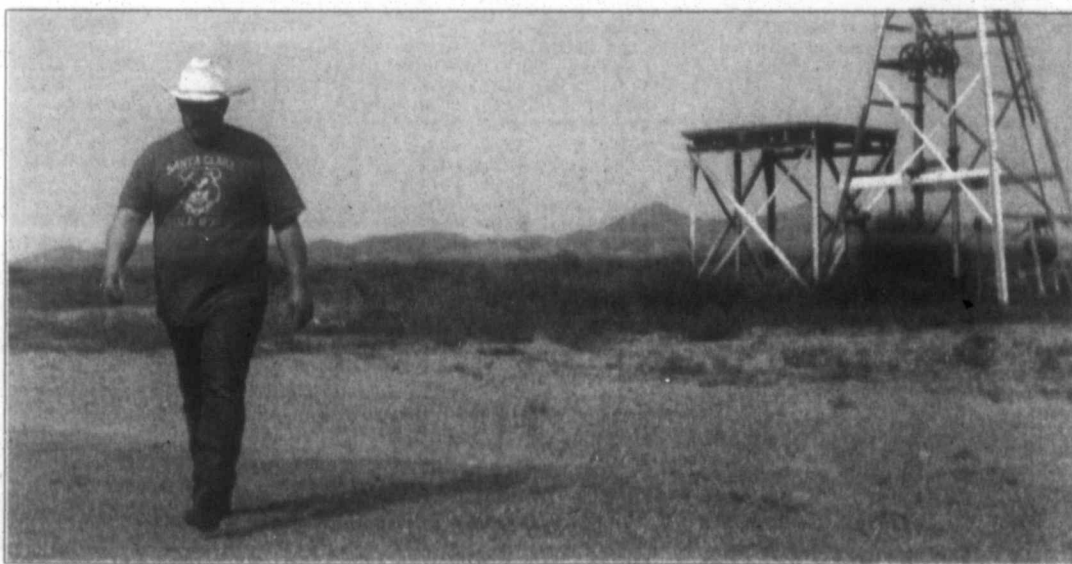
Nethercott was accused of pistol whipping one of the immigrants and threatening the other when Nethercott and other members of his

militia group caught them on a ranch in Texas.

Morris Dees Jr., co-founder and chief trial counsel of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., which represented the immigrants, said he hoped the ruling would serve as a cautionary tale to land owners or civilian patrols considering hostile measures against border crossers.

"When we got into this case, ranchers all along the border were allowing these types to come on their property," Dees said. "Now, they're very leery of it, especially when they see someone loosing their ranch because of it."

See RANCH, Page 2



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Ranch foreman Charles Jones walks back to a house from an abandoned windmill once used as a lookout tower on ranch formerly owned by border vigilante Casey Nethercott.

Pampa City Wide Garage Sale • Saturday, August 27 MORE THAN 80 SALES

Check the Friday Edition of the Pampa News for a list of addresses "OR" pickup a map at Brown's Shoe Fit, Trash & Treasure, Hamburger Station, Heard-Jones Healthmart, Raggedy Andy, Black Gold Motel, Sadie Hawkins Store, The Red Barn or Rev. Bob's Appliances on Friday or Saturday. Maps will also be available at the Chamber Office at 200 N. Ballard until 5:00 pm on Friday.



Obituaries

Bob Dedmon, 76

Bob Dedmon, 76, of Pampa, Texas, died Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2005, at his home in Pampa after a lengthy battle with cancer. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Dedmon was born Nov. 11, 1928, in Elk City, Okla. He married Nita Ray of Pampa on Sept. 3, 1949, and celebrated 54 years of marriage. They lived 32 years in Miami, Texas.

Bob was a 32nd Degree Mason and was past worthy patron of the Order of the Eastern Star in Miami.

Bob retired after more than 30 years as a pumper with Creslenn Oil Company. He was an accomplished mechanic, locksmith and carpenter, an avid fisherman and hunter, and

enjoyed flying airplanes, riding motorcycles, water-skiing and was a ham radio enthusiast.

Bob enjoyed reading, dancing and had a beautiful singing voice. He was also a devout Bible student and enjoyed being surrounded by his family and loved ones.

Survivors include two daughters, Sharon Holland of Denton and Sandra Gilbert and husband Mickey of Livingston; and one son, Michael Dedmon of Pampa. Grandchildren include Gary Holland and wife Kari and Brad Holland and wife Kelly, all of Denton, and Amanda Gilbert and Sarah Gilbert, both of Livingston. He was also "PaPa" to Kayla Christina, Alex, Melissa, BreAnna and Addison, all of Denton.

He was preceded in death by his wife Nita; his parents, Stirling and Irene Dedmon; and a brother, Erdus Dedmon.

The family requests memorials be to BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

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



Dedmon



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Gray County commissioners discussed the 2006 county budget this morning during a public hearing on the proposed county tax rate. From left are Joe Wheeley, Precinct 1; Gary Willoughby, Precinct 2; Judge Richard Peet; Gerald Wright, Precinct 3; and County Clerk Susan Winborne.

Hearing

Continued from Page 1

court-appointed attorneys is \$187,000, more than \$65,000 higher than the 2005 amount, according to figures provided by Peet.

"We don't have any choice for 99 percent of these cases but to appoint them. We can't cut court-appointed attorney services. They are mandated by the state," Peet said.

The state reimburses the county for a portion of the attorneys' costs, but the county pays the majority of the fees, he said.

Another court-related budget increase is due to an increase in the amount paid to jurors.

Beginning Sept. 1, persons summoned for jury duty will receive \$16 for attending the first day of jury selection. Another \$40 per day will be paid on the second and subsequent days for those selected for jury duty, Peet said.

The state has pledged to

reimburse counties for some portion of the state-mandated jury duty fees, but "we'll wait and see," Peet said.

Other possible increases in county expenses for 2006 may be utility costs and costs associated with the new voting machines. Grant money is paying the majority of the costs of the new machines, but associated costs will include the likelihood that extra election workers will be needed for the revised election methods.

This morning's public hearing was held because although the 2006 proposed rate is the same as the 2005 proposed rate, it will result in more tax revenues collected.

In 2005, \$5,486,273 in property taxes was collected. For 2006, \$5,750,990 will be collected, which is an increase of \$264,717.

"An effective rate creates the same amount of revenue that was collected last year using new appraisals. If we go above that effective rate, it is considered a tax increase even though the rate

stays the same," Peet said in a previous interview.

The proposed 2006 county budget is \$8,164,534, according to County Auditor Elaine Morris. The budget, which has not yet been finalized or approved by county commissioners, currently consists of \$6,490,265 for the county's general fund, \$1,553,840 for the road and bridge fund, and \$120,429 for debt service.

Last year's expenditures by the county were about \$7 million, Peet said. More will be needed to maintain services and required items for 2006, he said.

Under the proposed rate of .488926 cents per \$100 valuation, a house valued at \$31,206, the median value of a home in Gray County, would have taxes totaling \$156.51 levied against it. If the effective rate were to be used, the taxes would be \$149.09 for the same home, a difference of \$7.42.

A second public hearing on the proposed 2006 tax rate will be at 9 a.m. Friday, Aug. 26 in the second-floor courtroom at the courthouse.

Gray County Weather

Today: Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high around 93. South-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high around 95. South-southwest wind

between 10 and 15 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low near 71. South wind around 10 mph.

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

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 69. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 93. South wind around 10 mph.

Friday Night: Partly

cloudy, with a low around 71. South wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 94. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 71.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 92.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 69.

Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 93.

Ranch

Continued from Page 1

The ruling comes as the governors of Arizona and New Mexico declare states of emergency in their border counties, moves designed to free up money for enforcement while drawing more national attention to the problems of illegal immigration.

The transfer of the Douglas, Ariz., ranch outaged border-watch groups.

"If the federal government was doing its job, ranchers would not be living in fear," said Chris Simcox, president of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corp., a group that watches for illegal immigrant crossings and reports them to the U.S. Border Patrol. "And they can't even protect their own property for fear of these frivolous lawsuits when people are trespassing on property."

"Ranchers are held captive by the federal government who tells them, 'Well, we can't protect you but you can't do anything to protect yourself.'"

Simcox disputed the

notion, however, that the ruling would deter other land owners from welcoming civilian watch groups. He said that the Minutemen have a policy against touching the migrants and use video to document their patrols.

Still ranchers in Southern New Mexico have turned away the Minutemen, citing liability issues.

Nethercott was part of another group called Ranch Rescue and had founded a group called the Arizona Militia, which he based at his 70-acre ranch in Douglas, Ariz.

In March 2003, Nethercott, who had previously been convicted of assault in California, was accused of pistol-whipping an illegal immigrant as he and other people from Ranch Rescue patrolled a ranch in Hebronville, Texas. A jury deadlocked on the charge but convicted him of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Edwin Alfredo Mancía Gonzáles, the man who accused Nethercott of hitting him, and another immigrant traveling with him from El Salvador, Fátima del Socorro Leiva Medina, filed

a civil lawsuit last year saying they were harmed while being held by Ranch Rescue members.

Named in the suit were Nethercott; Jack Foote, the founder of Ranch Rescue; and the owners of the Hebronville ranch, Joe and Betty Sutton.

The Suttons settled for \$100,000, Dees said. Nethercott and Foote did not defend themselves, he said. In April of this year, a Texas judge issued default judgments of \$850,000 against Nethercott and \$500,000 against Foote.

Nethercott, serving a five-year prison term for the firearm conviction, transferred ownership of his Douglas ranch to his sister. But the sister gave up ownership of the ranch to settle the judgment when challenged by the immigrants' lawyers.

Charlie Jones, whom Nethercott hired to manage the ranch about a month before going to jail, was notified by Dees that his services are no longer needed. Jones said he and his family, who live at the ranch, once dubbed Camp Thunderbird, are trying to find another place to live.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Antebury Grain of Pampa.		
Wheat	3.06	
Milo	2.97	
Corn	3.74	
Soybeans	5.12	
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.		
OXY	79.44	-0.12
BP PLC ADR	67.44	-0.26
Cabot Corp	33.58	+0.27
Celanese	19.77	+0.31
Cabot Oil Gas	41.58	+0.14
Coca Cola	44.13	-0.14
VLO	88.07	-0.05
HAL	57.11	+0.14
TRJ	47.50	-0.08
KMI	93.89	+0.29
XCEL	19.24	+0.08
Kerr McGee	86.79	+0.07
XOM	58.98	-0.09
Limited	22.04	-0.03
Williams	21.26	+0.06
MCD	33.10	-0.19
Atmos	28.48	-0.27
Pioneer Nat	44.81	-0.34
JCP	50.39	+0.03
COP	62.70	-0.51
SLB	82.53	+0.65
Tenneco	18.40	-0.13
CVX	60.26	-0.08
Wal-Mart	46.42	-0.25
OKE	33.29	+0.05
NS Grp	40.05	+1.10
New York Gold	437.00	
Silver	7.00	
West Texas Crude	65.35	

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

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WEEKEND GETAWAY Cabin (sleeps 10) w/ boat dock, (Greenbelt Lake). Reservations 664-3095, 874-1742.

Hacker taps into Air Force information

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A suspected hacker tapped into a military database containing Social Security numbers and other personal information for 33,000 Air

Force officers and some enlisted personnel, an Air Force spokesman said today.

That figure represents about half of the officers in

the Air Force, but no identity theft had been reported as of early today, said Tech. Sgt. James Brabenec.

The case is under investigation.

Emergency Services

Sheriff

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

Monday, Aug. 22

Hoyt Eugene Larue, 39, Tulsa, Okla., was arrested on a charge of theft of property.

Corita Angelique Hopper, 34, Amarillo, was arrested on a charge of capias pro fine, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Alexander Emanuel Price, 54, Pampa, was arrested on a charge of DWI.

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents today.

Monday, Aug. 22

Four traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received in the 700 block of Finley Street (two incidents), the 200 block of West Kingsmill, and the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1000 block of Barnes, the 2800 block of Charles, and the intersection of Kentucky and Duncan.

Suspicious vehicles were reported at Harvester and Williston, and the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 200 block of North Frost and the 600 block of North Hobart.

Three alarm calls were answered.

Violations of city ordinance were reported in the 400 block of North Sumner, and the 400 block of North Christy.

A sexual assault was reported in the 200 block of West Kingsmill.

An assault was reported in the 200 block of West Kingsmill.

Criminal mischief was

reported in the 1800 block of Wells where a city street sweeper reportedly threw rocks that hit a windshield, and the 700 block of North Cuyler, where a tail light was broken and two tires slashed for \$250 in damages.

Thefts were reported in the 700 block of North 14th where a trailer valued at \$1,200 was stolen and the 1300 block of Coffee where a television valued at \$250 was stolen.

Two gas drive offs were reported in the 1900 block of North Hobart, one for \$20 and one for \$19.50.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 500 block of West Brown where a gas cap, unleaded gas and 10 gallons of diesel fuel worth \$39 were taken.

Family disturbances were reported in the 100 block of North Nelson and the 800 block of North Dwight.

A disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie, and the 1500 block of Hamilton.

A welfare check was made in the 300 block of North Starkweather.

a runaway report was made in the 400 block of North Gray. Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Ambulance

Monday, Aug. 22

7:16 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1000 block of South Barnes and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

8:13 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC.

8:45 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200

block of North Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:37 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo.

10:18 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Christy and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

12:26 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Parkview and transported a patient to BSAW.

Fire

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

Monday, Aug. 22

7:18 a.m. — One unit and four firefighters responded to a vehicle accident in the 1000 block of South Barnes.

Accidents

Monday, Aug. 22

7:18 a.m. — A 2000 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Brenda Morris Wade, 51, 1201 Finley, collided with a light pole, street sign and building in the 1000 block of South Barnes. Wade was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center by Guardian EMS ambulance with possible injuries. Wade was cited for failure to control speed.

7:15 p.m. — A 1999 Ford Taurus, driven by Connie Dick Brown, 44, 601 E. Browning, and a 2002 Volvo S60, driven by Sonya Teague Everson, 44, 1607 Mary Ellen, collided in the intersection of Kentucky and Duncan streets. No injuries were reported. Brown was cited for failure to yield right of way during a left turn.

Business Review

Construction firm has its eye on the details

Pete Ward was a talented Building Trades student, and at 17 years old he made a decision to compete in a district contest with his peers. His confidence was boosted when he won first place. With his new-found interest in competing, he went on to win at the regional level as well. This only fueled his confidence for the State level competition, and Pete knew with his desire to build things with his hands and his attention to detail he could do whatever he set his mind to.

Pete won the State competition in 1975 as a Senior at Caprock High School, and he hasn't stopped building things since.

Pete started his career in the building business working part-time as a framer and going to school. He was fortunate enough to be able to build Pizza Huts and Taco Villas in the Amarillo area and to start out learning commercial construction as well.

Ward Builders & Design, Inc., has built gymnasiums and portables for school districts in Amarillo. The firm has built other commercial businesses and showrooms in Amarillo. Commercial building is interesting, and with all the State regulations you must be on your best game. The firm's commercial building experiences have made house building a breeze.

"It's always best if a builder has had hands-on experience, actually strapping on a tool belt and doing the work yourself," Pete said. "I started out as a framer, and I figure I had framed over 200 homes before I became a Builder. I was job supervisor for several builders



Pete Ward, of Ward Builders & Design, Inc., has built gymnasiums and portables for school districts in Amarillo. The firm has built other commercial businesses and showrooms in Amarillo.

and learned the 'ends and outs' of the business before I decided I was seasoned enough to be a builder."

Pete found himself back at Caprock High School, except this time he was the Building Trades instructor, teaching students how to build houses. Pete took a group of kids each year for 16 years and taught them each phase of construction from the ground up all the way to "Open House."

"Teaching Building Trades allowed

me the freedom of having the summer season off to build custom homes with my own company. We are very proud of the reputation that we have in the building business. Today, there are so many new builders out there that don't have 'hands-on' experience, and I believe the customer deserves more than that. Building your home is one of your largest investments, and hands-on experience from your builder should be a prerequisite," Pete said.

As a builder, you absolutely need to know every phase of construction. Details are so important, from the very beginning of picking out house plans and bidding the job to installing the homeowner's new door locks and handing them the keys to their new home.

Pete said, "We enjoy building custom homes, and interaction with the homeowner is a detail that most builders overlook. In these fast-paced times, most builders find it easier to build spec homes as opposed to custom homes because they don't have to bother with details or the homeowner. We have formed many great friendships with our customers and have ongoing relationships with them still."

"My wife Tammi," Pete continued, "has a wonderful gift of design and decorating. She works with our customers, helping them with paint colors, wall finishes and other decorating tips as well."

"Honesty and Integrity are top priorities with us at Ward Builders & Design, Inc. We offer 'old-fashioned' customer service with attention to detail. We only build what you want and what you can afford, whether it be your home or your commercial building. We are licensed and registered in good standing with The State of Texas and the Texas Residential Construction Commission," Pete concluded.

Call Pete today and visit with him about your new home or business. The number(s) is (806) 683-2098, (806) 683-2099 or (806) 359-3965.

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Home Sweet Home

Viewpoints

9/11: The day we lost something we can never get back

Last week I wrote about the death of Elvis Presley, and how some people could remember exactly where they were and what they were doing when they heard the news.

Many people can still remember the same type of details when they heard the news of JFK's assassination.

Today, I am going to write about another event which is forever burned in our memories, an event so horrific that "we will never forget."

I remember Sept. 11 with the crystal clarity of something that happened a few days ago. I was not one of those who lost a family member or friend in the attacks, but in a sense I did lose friends and family members — I lost almost 3,000 of my countrymen.

I was still at home that morning, finishing up some

odds and ends before going to our shop, where I was self-employed. I had the morning news on.

I missed the first images to be broadcast, but saw the second World Trade Center tower get hit, followed by the Pentagon and, later, the fourth plane and its heroic passengers who saved our Capitol.

My first reaction was horror and grief. I thought of the people on those planes and in those buildings, and the hell they must have suffered.

I saw burning buildings, with people, some injured, fleeing for their lives. I saw people jump from the towers, choosing the option they must have believed would be the lesser of two evils because they could not get out any other way.

My mother called about then and said someone had

come into the shop and said something about terrorist attacks. By then I was crying. I had already done some praying.

"The Pentagon is on fire," I told her as I gulped back sobs. I told her what I knew and said I was going to keep watching the news a little longer to see if anything else happened.

I worried about our proximity to Pantex, a potential target. I worried that the attacks weren't over. I grieved for the loss of those two magnificent towers and the horrendous damage in Washington.

Most of all, I worried about our country and our people. And I grieved.

I went to the shop after a little time passed and no more attacks occurred. I was on edge all day. No one knew if it was over yet.

That evening and for a few days afterward, the terrorist attacks dominated all the media. I saw the planes hit the towers and the resulting carnage over and over, until I could bear to watch no more.

One thing that made an impression in the hours and days immediately following the attacks was the eerie silence. There were no planes in the sky. No contrails of white across the blue heavens.

The planes were grounded, but flags flew. The Stars

and Stripes began appearing everywhere, attached to vehicles, waving from front yards and porches, framed in windows, even echoed on clothing.

We are now coming up on the fourth anniversary of that day, and the man behind it is still at-large.

The single most devastating act of terrorism on U.S. soil had its roots many years earlier in the fanatical, hate-filled mind of Osama bin Laden.

This wealthy native of Saudi Arabia had conceived a deep, abiding hatred of the United States. His main goal in life was to strike out at America.

We swore to get him and bring him to justice. We set out to fight back, in Afghanistan and later in Iraq.

We were able to find

Saddam Hussein in a matter of months. Bin Laden is still beyond our grasp.

Sept. 11 resulted in the deaths of 2,973 people, including the 19 terrorists aboard the four planes.

No matter how well we think we have recovered from that day, the United States is forever changed.

We have lost something that we can never get back. I do not have the space in this column to express all my thoughts and knowledge about Sept. 11. Suffice it to say, I hope that, indeed, "we will never forget."

Bin Laden told a reporter who interviewed him some years ago in Afghanistan, "We love death. The United States loves life. That is the big difference between us."

May we all be granted our heart's desire.

Marilyn Powers

Staff Writer



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 23, the 235th day of 2005. There are 130 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 23, 1927, Italian-born anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were executed in Boston for the murders of two men during a 1920 robbery. (Sacco and Vanzetti were vindicated in 1977 by Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis.)

On this date:

In 1754, France's King Louis XVI was born at Versailles. In 1914, Japan declared war against Germany in World War I.

In 1926, silent film star Rudolph Valentino died in New York at age 31.

In 1939, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a non-aggression treaty.

In 1944, Romanian prime minister Ion Antonescu was dismissed by King Michael, paving the way for Romania to abandon the Axis in favor of the Allies.

In 1960, Broadway librettist Oscar Hammerstein II died in Doylestown, Pa.

In 1972, the Republican national convention, meeting in Miami Beach, Fla., nominated President Nixon and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew for a second term.

In 1979, Soviet dancer Alexander Godunov defected while the Bolshoi Ballet was on tour in New York.

In 1982, Lebanon's parliament elected Christian militia leader Bashir Gemayel president. (However, Gemayel was assassinated some three weeks later.)

In 1989, in a case that inflamed racial tensions in New York City, Yusuf Hawkins, a 16-year-old black youth, was shot dead after he and his friends were confronted by white youths in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn.

Ten years ago: During a memorial service at Fort Myer, Va., President Clinton eulogized three U.S. diplomats killed in a road accident near Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and vowed to carry on the struggle for peace in the Balkans. Life magazine photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt died on Martha's Vineyard at age 96.

Five years ago: A Gulf Air Airbus crashed into the Persian Gulf near Bahrain, killing all 143 people aboard. Negotiators for Verizon and more than 35,000 telephone workers reached tentative agreement on a new contract, ending 18-day strike. An estimated 51 million viewers tuned in for the finale of CBS' reality series "Survivor," in which contestant Richard Hatch won the \$1 million prize.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Civil rights leaders need new agenda

When I think of the behavior of today's civil rights organizations, I often think of the March of Dimes. In 1938, President Roosevelt helped found the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis to fight polio, an epidemic that crippled thousands of Americans. The name March of Dimes was coined by Eddie Cantor in his fundraising effort asking every American to contribute a dime.

Since 1970, polio has been eradicated in the U.S., but the March of Dimes lives on, and they're asking for more than dimes. When they accomplish their mission, most organizations don't fold the tent; they simply change their agenda. The March of Dimes now raises money to fight against birth defects, premature birth and other infant health problems. We'd probably deem them

stupid if they continued their battle against polio in America. Why? Because polio has been eradicated.

What about civil rights organizations? Recently, Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, the National Urban League and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference organized a march in Atlanta to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. The Bush administration and House Judiciary Chairman James Sensenbrenner have already said they intend to support full reauthorization of its provisions set to expire in 2007.

Speakers at the march

used some of the most vile rhetoric in their criticism of black conservatives and the Bush administration. Harry Belafonte explained, "Reporter Marc Morano, of Cybercast News Service, in obvious reference to



Walter Williams
Columnist

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and former Secretary of State Colin Powell, "[I]f a black is a tyrant, he is first and foremost a tyrant, then he incidentally is black. Bush is a tyrant and if he gathers around him black tyrants, they all have to be treated as they are being treated," adding, "Hitler had a lot of Jews high up in the hierarchy of the Third Reich. Color does not necessarily denote quality, content or

value."

Comedian Dick Gregory opined, "They [black conservatives] have a right to exist, but why would I want to walk around with a swastika on my shirt after the way Hitler done messed it [the swastika symbol] up?" Moreover, Gregory explained, "So why would I want to call myself a conservative after the way them white racists thugs have used that word to hide behind? They call themselves new Republicans." Complementing Gregory's remarks, Jesse Jackson rhymed, "Race baiters and discriminators may go underground, but they never move out of town."

There were less temperate speakers at the march, such as House of Representatives members

See CIVIL, Page 5

Time to quit and go home to the real world

Watch it, or the mention of education will conjure thoughts of tax swaps and accountability and other such concepts that lawmakers wrestle with in the state Capitol.

Focus now on the real world — the world of kids and parents where education means excitement and adventure. It's time for new teachers, new classmates, new schools. With the beginning of classes after a summer off, the issues are many: Kids ask: Who do you

have this year? Who did you get for math? Isn't he the mean one? Did you see that cute English teacher? Who's the new coach? Who's in your class? Who else? When do you eat lunch? See you there? Where did you get that shirt? Are those new? What did they cost? Where's your car? Who do you ride with? Who

else is on the bus? Who do you sit next to? Where's your locker? Could you get it open? What's your name? Where did you go to school last year? Where do you live? Parents ask: Where's your backpack? Do you have your supplies? Did you set your alarm clock? What are you wearing? What was

your teacher like? Who's in your class? Who else? Anyone new? Where does she live? Who was on the bus? Do you have homework? Where are your books? Can I see your take-home folder? In Austin, lawmakers ask: Can the House pass a tax bill? Did you see the speaker's statement? What did the governor say? Will the Senate give on recapture? Should the Legislature just quit and go home ... to the real world?

Texas Thoughts

The Dallas Morning News

Events calendar

• **A Saturday Night Jamboree** will be staged from 6-10 p.m. Saturday at the Armstrong County Activity Center in Claude. The jamboree will include food, music and will benefit a good cause. Proceeds will go to Methodist Church Community Outreach Program. Fish fry plates will cost \$10 for adults, \$5 for children or \$12 for all you can eat. Dale Burson & Family, Dustin Sanders, Terry Brewer and The Country Gentlemen Band will be performing. All are invited to bring an instrument and play along. Musicians will eat for free. For more information, call (806) 226-2061.

• **The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center** has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinic: Aug. 30, Shephard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, both in Pampa. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

• **Ten free Colorado blue spruce trees** will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation throughout August. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The trees will be shipped post-

paid at the right time for planting between Oct. 15 and Dec. 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge. Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, "Arbor Day" and "The Tree Book" with information about tree planting and care. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to Ten Blue Spruces, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Aug. 31. For more information, check out the foundation's web site at www.arborday.org on the Internet.

• **An HSE Orientation workshop** is set for Sept. 1 at Clarendon College-Pampa Center, 1601 W. Kentucky. The orientation will educate and update oilfield maintenance and service employees of general safety rules, regulations, practices and principals associated with the industry. The workshop will qualify as an OSHA-mandated orientation and will follow Energy Training Council guidelines. The instructor will be Dennis Thomas, Panhandle Safety Training Center. The eight hour class will be conducted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For more information, contact Judy Green at 665-8801 or via e-mail at judy.green@clarendon-college.edu. Cost of the workshop will be \$50. Seating is limited and will be allotted on a first-come first-serve basis.

Televangelist Pat Robertson calling for assassination of Venezuelan leader

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Religious broadcaster Pat Robertson suggested on-air that American operatives assassinate Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez to stop his country from becoming "a launching pad for communist infiltration and Muslim extremism."

"We have the ability to take him out, and I think the time has come that we exercise that ability," Robertson said Monday on the Christian Broadcast Network's "The 700 Club."

"We don't need another \$200 billion war to get rid of one, you know, strong-arm dictator," he continued. "It's a whole lot easier to have some of the covert operatives do the job and then get it over with."

Chavez has emerged as one of the most outspoken critics of President Bush, accusing the United States of conspiring to topple his

government and possibly backing plots to assassinate him. U.S. officials have called the accusations ridiculous.

"You know, I don't know about this doctrine of assassination, but if he thinks we're trying to assassinate him, I think that we really ought to go ahead and do it," Robertson said. "It's a whole lot cheaper than starting a war ... and I don't think any oil shipments will stop."

Robertson, 75, founder of the Christian Coalition of America and a former presidential candidate, accused the United States of failing to act when Chavez was briefly overthrown in 2002.

Electronic pages and a message to a Robertson spokeswoman were not immediately returned Monday evening.

Venezuela is the fifth largest oil exporter and a major supplier of oil to the United States.

Civil

Continued from Page 4

dent, accusing them of stealing the 2000 and 2004 elections, wrongly invading Iraq and a poor civil rights record.

Like the March of Dimes' victory against polio in the United States, civil rights organizations can claim victory as well. At one time, black Americans did not enjoy the same constitutional guarantees as other Americans. Now we do. Because the civil rights struggle is over and won doesn't mean that all problems have vanished within the black community. A 70 percent illegitimacy rate, 65 percent of black children raised in female-headed households, high crime rates and fraudulent education are devastating problems, but they're not civil rights problems. Furthermore, their solutions do not lie in civil rights strategies.

Civil rights organizations' expenditure of resources and continued focus on racial discrimination is just as intelligent as it would be for the March of Dimes to continue to expend resources fighting polio in the U.S. Like the March of Dimes, civil rights organizations should revise their agenda and take on the big, non-civil rights problems that make socioeconomic progress impossible for a large segment of the black community.

Nancy Pelosi, Charles Rangel, John Conyers, Barbara Lee and Maxine Waters. Their remarks consisted of attacks on the president and vice president.

Experts: Rising gas prices spur crime

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — The case of an Alabama gas station owner run down and killed by a driver who police believe was escaping with \$52 worth of fuel comes as no shock to industry experts.

"As the price of gas climbs, people's values decline," said Jeff Lenard, spokesman for the National Association of Convenience Stores.

Lenard said the death of Husain "Tony" Caddi, 54, has captured national media attention for two reasons: It shows that soaring gas prices make people angry enough to steal, and gas retailers are tired of putting up with it.

Caddi, owner of the Fort Payne Texaco, died Friday after he grabbed onto the vehicle and the driver dragged him across the parking lot and onto a highway, police said. Caddi fell from the vehicle and was run over by the vehicle's rear wheel. A search for the driver and a gold or tan Jeep-style SUV

'But I can understand why someone would want to fight for their property. Fifty-two dollars doesn't sound like that much, but with the little they're making these days that's a lot.'

— Arleen Alexander
Petroleum & Convenience Marketers of Alabama

continued Monday.

The Petroleum & Convenience Marketers of Alabama tells gas retailers to "never try to take action themselves" during robberies and drive-offs, said Arleen Alexander, the group's executive director.

"But I can understand why someone would want to fight for their property," Alexander said. "Fifty-two dollars doesn't sound like that much, but with the little they're making these days that's a lot."

Gasoline theft cost retailers nationwide \$237 million in 2004 — more than twice the \$112 million loss in 2003, according to NACS.

On average, one in every 1,100 fill-ups was a gas theft last year, the group said. With about a penny per gallon as profit, a retailer would have to sell an extra 3,000 gallons to offset each \$30 stolen, Lenard said.

Van barges through home as woman tends baby

INDIAN HEIGHTS, Ind. (AP) — Terry Johnson didn't expect her house to become a drive-thru as she changed her daughter's diaper in one of her bedrooms.

Johnson said she was shocked Monday when a van came crashing through the front brick wall of her home, ran over a couch and tore

through the bedroom wall where she was changing 2-year-old Alana.

"I hadn't even gotten her diaper on when the dresser came tumbling down," she said.

"I started screaming and I picked up Alana and got into the bed where my other daughter was. All I could see

was the smoke and the turn signal of the van."

Johnson was treated at a hospital for an injured right arm. Her three children weren't hurt.

"Thank God my babies are OK," she said. "We can replace our things, but you can't replace a child."

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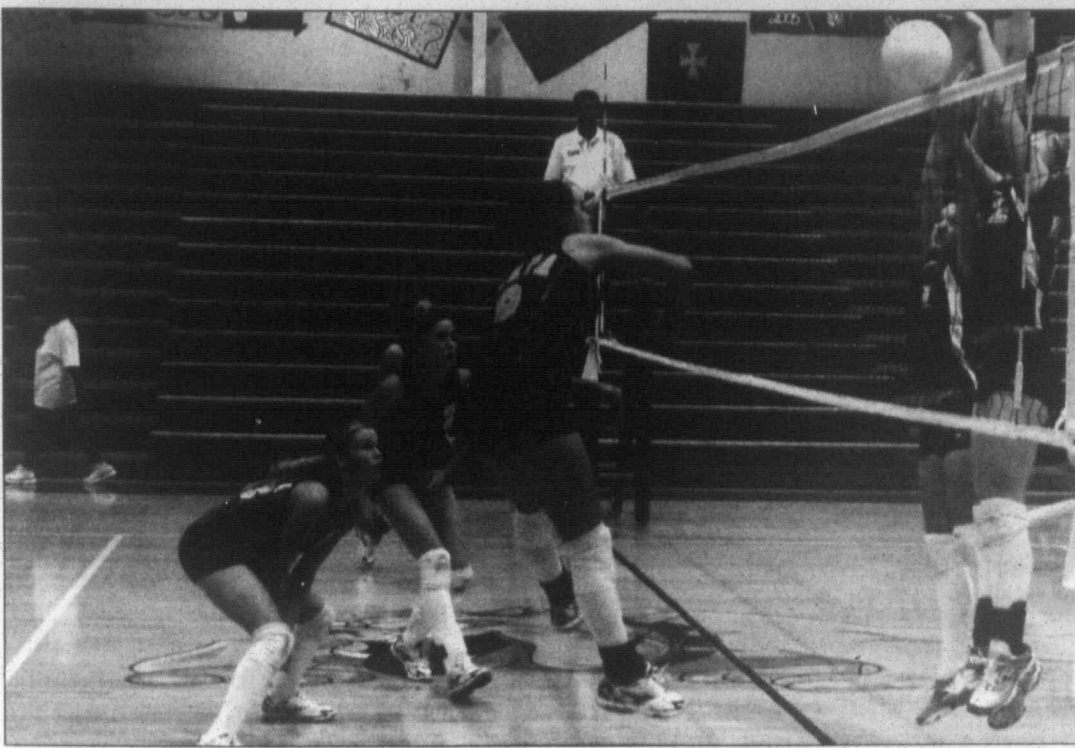
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Sports Day



McVay provides plethora of Pampa assists in Borger

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Borger Tournament
Borger, Texas
Aug. 19-20, 2005

Friday, Aug. 19
Pampa def. Amarillo Rockets
25-19, 25-21

Kills: Jackie Gerber 6, McKinsie East 5, Britteni Rice 2, Krishna Henderson 2, Jackye Barber 2, Nicole Clark 1, Stephanie McVay 1, **Assists:** McVay 10, Henderson 4, Barber 4, Clark 3, Rice 1, East 1, **Digs:** Clark 2, Tice 2, Rice 1, Henderson 1, **Ace:** Tice 1, Clark 1.

Pampa def. Bushland
25-17, 25-18

Kills: Jackye Barber 7, McKinsie East 6, Hackie Gerber 6, Krishna Henderson 2, Logan Winkelman 2, Britteni Rice 1, Nicole Clark 1, Stephanie McVay 1, **Assists:** McVay 15, **Solo Blocks:** Rice 1, East 1, **Digs:** McVay 14 Gerber 6, Rice 4, East 2, Clark 2, Cassy Tice 1, Henderson 1, Barber 1, **Ace:** Rice 1, Gerber 1, McVay 1

Saturday Aug. 20
Pampa def. Palo Duro
25-23, 25-13

Kills: Britteni Rice 6, Jackye Barber 5, Nicole Clark 4, McKinsie East 4, Stephanie McVay 3, Krishna Henderson 3, Jackie Gerber 3, **Assists:** McVay 12, **Solo Blocks:** Rice 2, Barber 2, East 1, **Digs:** Cassy Tice 6, Henderson 2, Clark 1, **Ace:** Logan Winkelman 1.

Amarillo Rockets def. Pampa
15-25, 25-18, 26-24

Kills: Jackye Barber 7, McKinsie East 5, Jackie Gerber 4, Nicole Clark 4, Britteni Rice 3, Krishna Henderson 3, **Assists:** Stephanie McVay 20, Gerber 3, Barber 1, Rice 1, Clark 1, **Solo Blocks:** Gerber 4, Barber 1, Rice 1, **Digs:** Winkelman 4 Henderson 1, **Ace:** 0

Up Next:
Aug. 26-27, Graham Tournament (varsity)
Aug. 26-27, Borger Tournament (junior varsity)
Aug. 29, Plainview (away/freshmen)

← Logan Winkelman fires a ball over the net during the Borger Tournament held over the weekend in Borger. Pampa won 3 of 4 games while improving to 5-3 on the season. Also pictured are (left to right) Stephanie McVay, Jackie Gerber and Britteni Rice.

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*SATURDAY 18 HOLES *SUNDAY 18 HOLES *MONDAY 36 HOLES

PRESIDENT'S FLIGHT...
*54 HOLES STROKE PLAY
*FLIGHT CUT TO LOW 16 AFTER 36 HOLES
*SATURDAY 18 HOLES *SUNDAY 18 HOLES *MONDAY 18 HOLES

ALL OTHER FLIGHTS...
*2 ROUNDS OF MATCH PLAY *LAST DAY 18 HOLE STROKE PLAY

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Coach Wood likes the progress his Harvesters are making

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

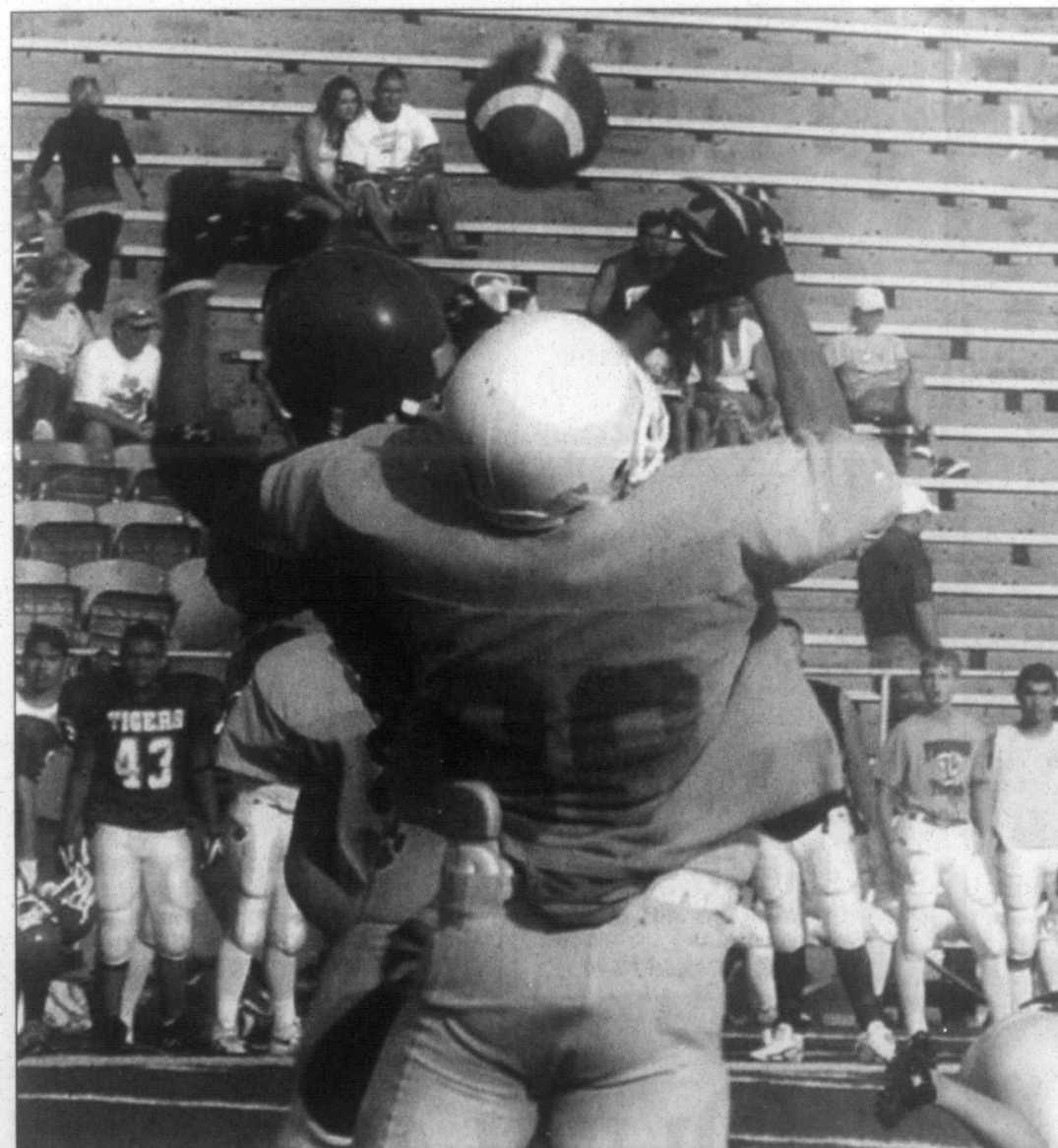
With the Frenship under their belts, what did Coach Bryan Wood and his staff take away from Canyon Friday? "We feel like the scrimmage went pretty well," said Wood. "The most important thing that we got out of it was some confidence in the new schemes we are implementing."

Wood went on to compliment his team,

noting their hard play and good execution. He added, "It was nice to mix it up with someone other than ourselves."

Wood says he and his staff are excited about the progress this year's Harvester squad is making.

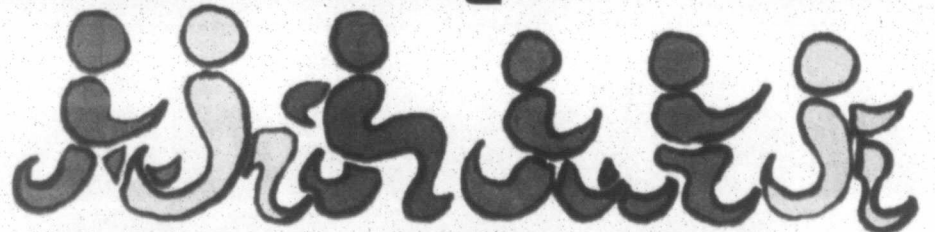
Pampa opens the 2005 varsity season at home Friday against Perryton. Coach Dennis Doughty and the JV squad will visit the Rangers in Perryton Thursday, as will the freshmen.



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Sophomore Jeremy Martinez breaks-up a Frenship pass attempt during Friday's JV scrimmage in Canyon. The pass was deflected and picked-off by one of Martinez's Harvester teammates.

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Where: Central Park • Pampa, Texas
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When: September 5, 2005

- Registration Day of Race beginning at 7:00 am
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Entry Fees: Register By Mail Before August 29th

- Fun Run/Walk \$4.00 & 5K \$9.00
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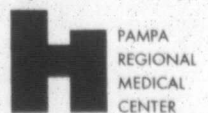
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20-29	20-29	9-11 20-29	9-11 20-29
30-39	30-39	12-15 30-39	12-15 30-39
40-49	40-49	16-19 40-49	16-19 40-49
50+	50+	50+	50+

Day/Night tournament shortened by weather

Eighteen teams participated in the annual Pampa Lion's Club Day/Night Tournament held Friday at Hidden Hills Golf Course.

The event was shortened due to lightning, though all managed to play nine holes after dark.

Team Results:

1st Place (30)
Charles Byrum

Gene Hurst
Jim Batton
Pat Montoya

2nd Place (31)
Kelly Hickman
Clint Miller
Shane Stokes
Mike Killgo

3rd Place* (32)
Nathan Bailey
Leslie Jones
Monty Joiner

Chuck Morgan

3rd Place* (32)
Daniel Williams
Greg Vanderlinde
Donny Nail
Bob Shelton

5th Place (34)
Rusty Tapp
Brad Pingle
Lance Defever
Gregory Reeves
*tie



Back at ya

McKinsie East rifles a return over the net during the Berger Tournament held Friday and Saturday. The Lady Harvester junior played a key role in Pampa's 3-1 performance providing 20 kills and plenty of blocks overall.

Armstrong denies doping report

PARIS (AP) — A French newspaper says Lance Armstrong used the performance-enhancing drug EPO to help win his first Tour de France in 1999, a report the seven-time Tour winner vehemently denied.

L'Equipe devoted four pages to its allegations, with a Tuesday front-page headline "The Armstrong Lie." The paper said that signs of EPO use showed up in Armstrong's urine six times during the '99 race.

"Unfortunately, the witch hunt continues and tomorrow's article is nothing short of tabloid journalism," Armstrong wrote on his Web site. "I will simply restate what I have said many times: I have never taken performance-enhancing drugs."

However, the Tour de France's director said Tuesday that L'Equipe's report seemed "very complete, very professional, very meticulous" and that it "appears credible."

"We are very shocked, very troubled by the revelations we read this morning," Jean-Marie Leblanc told RTL radio. However, he cautioned that Armstrong, his doctors and his aides should be heard out before people make any final judgment.

Leblanc also said any disciplinary action appeared unlikely, based on the L'Equipe account. The paper's investigation was based solely on B samples — the second of two samples used in doping tests. The A samples were used up in 1999 for analysis at the time.

The governing body of world cycling did not begin using a urine test for EPO until 2001. For years, it had been impossible to detect the drug, called erythropoietin, which builds endurance by boosting the production of oxygen-rich red blood cells.

EPO tests on the 1999 B urine samples were not carried out until last year, when

scientists performed research on them to fine-tune EPO testing methods, the paper said.

The national anti-doping laboratory in Chatenay-Malabry, which developed the EPO test and analyzed the urine samples in question, said it could not confirm that the positive EPO results were Armstrong's.

It noted that the samples were anonymous, bearing only a six-digit number to identify the rider, and could not be matched with the name of any one cyclist.

However, L'Equipe said it was able to make the match. It printed photos of what it said were official doping documents. On one side of the page, it showed what it said were the results of EPO tests from anonymous riders used for lab research. On the other, it showed Armstrong's medical certificates, signed by doctors and riders after doping tests — and bearing the same identifying number printed on the results.

The lab statement said it had promised to turn over its results to the World Anti-Doping Agency "on condition that they could not be used in any disciplinary proceeding."

"It will be very interesting to see what UCI does and what the U.S. Cycling Federation does and what Lance Armstrong has to say," WADA chairman Dick Pound said. "If the evidence is seen as credible than yes, he has an obligation to come forward and specifically give his comments, especially after his previous comments that he has never used drugs."

"If anything were found, we couldn't do anything because we didn't even exist in 1999. But it's important that the truth must always be made clear," Pound added.

Cowboys clip Seahawks, 18-10

SEATTLE (AP) — Neither the starters nor the reserves on the Seattle Seahawks offensive line could keep their quarterback protected.

Seattle's pass protection struggled under constant pressure by Dallas' defense in the Cowboys' 18-10 preseason win Monday night. The Seahawks gave up four sacks, but none was more notable than the one allowed by Pro Bowl guard Steve Hutchinson.

Two minutes in, Hutchinson was beat by rookie linebacker Demarcus Ware, who stripped the ball from quarterback Matt Hasselbeck and fell on the fumble at the Seattle 33.

The turnover led to the first points of the game, a 44-yard field goal by Dallas' Jose Cortez.

"I just think we've got to get a little better at picking stuff up," Hutchinson said. "We work on the blitz every day. When you get into a game situation, you've got to be able to see it coming and pick that up."

It was a sloppy game in many areas for the Seahawks (1-1), and a complete turn from last week's impressive 34-15 win over New Orleans.

Seattle had two turnovers and was penalized 12 times for 105 yards — including a fumble return for a touchdown called back on an illegal block.

"We're not a highly penalized team and we had way too many," coach Mike Holmgren said. "We had a couple of turnovers, and we dropped a couple of interceptions that could not have been easier. We were careless with the football."

Dallas (1-1) scored on a safety with 5:40 left, after Seattle quarterback David Greene was pressured by safety Justin Beriault and linebacker Eric Ogbogu, and ran past the end line at the back of the end zone.

Seattle also had a fumble return for a touchdown by cornerback Jordan Babineaux called back on a penalty, with the Seahawks trailing 18-10.

"I think it's good to have mistakes during preseason games," said running back Shaun Alexander, who finished with 26 yards rushing on six carries. "I think it's good to get all those things in now, so you can see it on film."

Ware forced two fumbles, had his first interception, a sack and three tackles in one half of play. He was the 11th pick in the draft and played defensive end at Troy, but is making the switch to outside linebacker with the Cowboys, who are moving from a 4-3 to a 3-4 defense.

"I was a little more comfortable with the defense and what the guys are doing," Ware said. "On a scale of 1 to 10, I'd say it was an eight."

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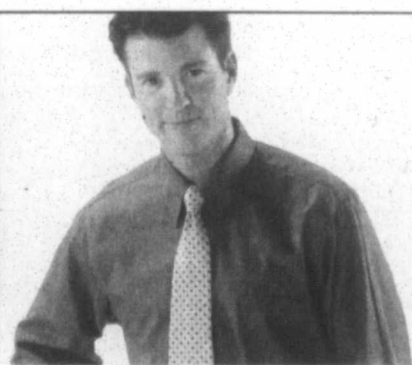
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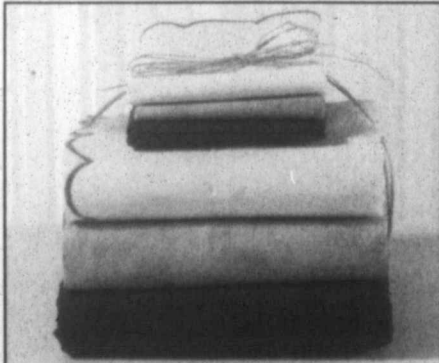
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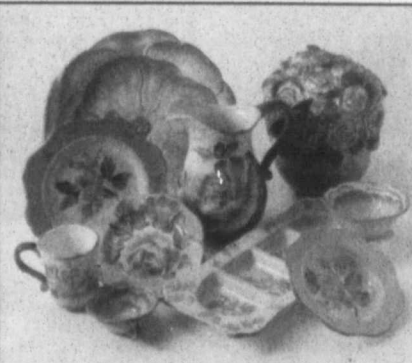
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CLARENDON COLLEGE Vocational Nursing Instructor Fall 2005 HS diploma and current RN licensed in TX. AS Degree in Nursing or / diploma RN required. BS in Nursing preferred. Min. 3 yrs nursing exp. required.

Contact Darlene Spier, Asst. to the President, Clarendon College, Box 968, Clarendon, TX 79226. EOE.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-23 CRYPTOQUOTE QSK UWSAAC NU MAQ QSK K MV ZOQ AMCD QSK Z K T N M M N M T A L G M K V O W G Q N A M . — W G C E N M W A A C N V T K

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NEW Listing. "

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Most of your responses I agree with, but the one you gave to "Hurt and Offended," who was with her fiance in a restaurant when a man she works with approached and asked, "What's your bra size?" was somewhat "off." You told her to report it at work. Abby, it happened in a public place -- not at work. I agree, the question was rude and out of line. (Maybe the guy is a jerk and thought he was being funny.) But it can't be sexual harassment if it happened outside the workplace. Rather than report him, I think she should drop it unless it happens again. -- JAMES S. IN WISCONSIN

DEAR JAMES S.: You didn't read the woman's letter closely enough. In the second paragraph she went on to say, "I have seen these men every day and had work-related discussions with them. Two of them have made reference to the incident, but neither has apologized." By referring to the incident at work, the men HAVE "brought it into the workplace." Read on:

DEAR ABBY: "Hurt and Offended" has done all that she needed to do. She said she had talked to her co-worker, who is the men's supervisor. As a supervisor myself, even if I'm told something in confidence and asked to take no action, I MUST take action -- even if I don't supervise the offenders. Their actions were intolerable.

The supervisor she spoke to had better learn the law and take appropriate action immediately, or the company could be held responsible. -- MALE SUPERVISOR, SEBASTOPOL, CALIF.

DEAR MALE SUPERVISOR: Thank you for pointing it out. She should also make a point of documenting any further references made by those co-workers.

DEAR ABBY: If "Hurt" allows those

co-workers of hers to get away with what they said to her, she can be sure they'll do it again to some other woman. Although the writer feels she would have "nothing to gain" by confronting them, I do not agree. I was raped at 15, and finally -- at age 50 -- I was able to say to the person what I needed to say. I have felt a whole lot better ever since that day.

In my opinion, she should go to her supervisor and tell him or her that she would like to have a meeting with everyone who was involved. She should ask that the supervisor be present. The following issues should be presented:

- (1) The question she was asked was rude, and embarrassed both her and her fiance that night.
- (2) How would they have felt if she had made a comment concerning their anatomy in public and in such a manner?
- (3) If they were in her situation, how would they have felt if their wives, mothers or sisters were treated in the same way?

They need to be told that what was said was not cute or clever, not a joke, and above all, will not be tolerated by her again. In reality it was sexual harassment, and will be handled as such if it recurs.

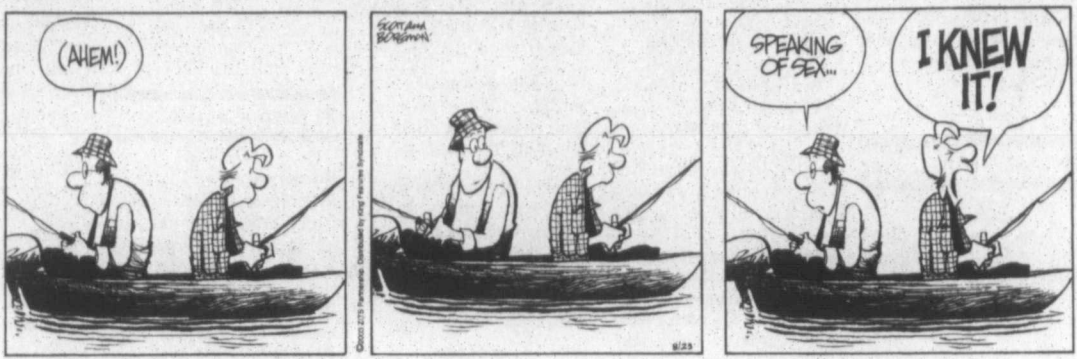
There are courts of law that take care of such situations. And those clowns need to know that she will go to one if they pull that stunt again. -- FREE AT LAST, AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR FREE AT LAST: I applaud you for having the courage to confront the person who raped you. I hope that "Hurt and Offended" will understand the parallel between your experience and hers, and have the courage to stand up for herself as you did.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 47 Go under-

1 Swiftiness cover?

6 Roof

11 Dazzling effect

12 Concur

13 Breakfast favorite

15 Rocker

16 Skirt edge

17 Scrooge cry

18 Oklahoma neighbor

20 Flies alone

23 Micro-waves, slangily

27 Freshly

28 Painter

29 "Understand?"

31 Africa's largest nation

32 Vagabond

34 USN VIP

37 "Born in the --"

38 Towel word

41 Popular coffee choice

44 "Tomorrow" show

45 Boxer's dream

46 One-sided wins



Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50

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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Flo & Friends

