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Donations being taken to increase reward fund

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer
Donations and honorable pledges are now being accepted to go toward a reward for information concerning the Sept. 30 multiple homicide which occurred about 13 miles south of Pampa at a house on Highway 70. Team Amber Alert of Pampa is collecting funds for the reward. Honorable pledges are defined as relatively large amounts, usually pledged by businesses and organizations, which are not collected unless and until the reward is paid.

One hundred percent of all money donated to go toward the reward will be used as reward funds. If no reward is given in the Sept. 30 multiple homicide case, the funds will be used as rewards in other cases. "Donations are tax deductible," said Tonia Plemmons, founder and chairwoman of Team Amber Alert, in a news release. "Pledges are called only if the reward is paid for the arrest and conviction of all parties who participated in the murders." The current reward amount for information leading to arrest(s) and conviction(s) in the case is \$16,120, according to the Team Amber Alert Web site. The amount will increase as donations are received. Credit card donations and honorable pledges may be made by calling Team Amber Alert at 669-1935 or visiting the Web site at www.teamamberalert.net/news. Other donations may be deposited to a special account at First Convenience Bank inside the Pampa Wal-Mart. Persons making donations at the bank should specify that the amount is to be deposited in the

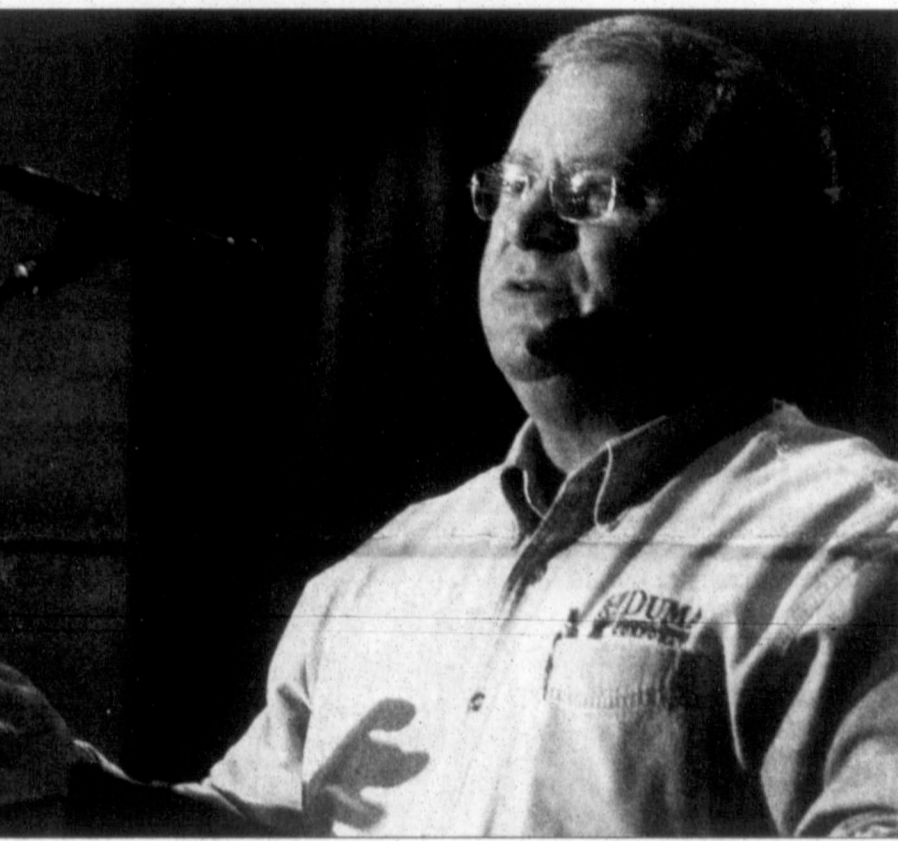
Team Amber Alert account for rewards. Checks for deposit to the account may be made out to Team Amber Alert. Donations may also be brought to Pampa Police Department or Gray County Sheriff's Office, or may be mailed to Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers at P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, TX 79066-2499, according to Lt. Fred Courtney of PPD. Brian Conrad, 31; Michell Conrad, 35; and Zach Doan, 14,

See REWARD, Page 5

Dumas EDC head cites success story

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer
Dumas, once a small town that now threatens to surpass Pampa as the second-largest city in the Texas Panhandle, has experienced quite a bit of success with its economic development corporation. Robert Worley, director of the Dumas Economic Development Corp., was at M.K. Brown Auditorium last week to speak at a town hall meeting hosted by supporters wanting to bring back an economic development corporation to Pampa. Pampa voters are being asked to approve a half-cent sales tax in the November general election that will fund an economic development corporation. Pampans

voted to dissolve the last PEDC in November 2001. The previous PEDC was formed under Section 4A of the state's economic development act. The proposed PEDC will be organized under Section 4B of the law. A 4B economic development corporation has more directors with less power and the capability of using funds for a wider array of projects than a 4A corporation. Dumas has had a 4B economic development corporation since 1999. Worley said the DEDC didn't meet with much success for the first three years of its existence.



Pampa News Photo by DAVID BOWSER
Robert Worley, director of the Dumas Economic Development Corp., talks to Pampa residents at a town hall meeting Thursday at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

Deadline to register to vote Nov. 8 is Tuesday

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer
Five p.m. Tuesday is the deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 8 general election if one is not yet registered, according to Gaye Whitehead, county tax assessor-collector. "If someone has moved, we need to correct the voter certificate to show the new address. If someone has lost their voter card, we need to replace it with a new one," Whitehead said.

Anyone needing to register, change their address or replace a lost card may go to the tax assessor-collector's office on the ground floor of Gray County Courthouse. Early voting will be Oct. 24 through Nov. 4. The early voting polls will also be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, said County Clerk Susan Winborne. The electronic voting machines recently ordered by the county to comply with new federal law will

not arrive in time for the November election, Winborne said. "The vendor is not going to have them ready," she told county commissioners at their Sept. 30 meeting. "We'll have them by January." The new federal law requires that the machines be available for use by January 2006. The nine state constitutional amendments which will be on the November ballot are:

relocation and improvement fund and authorizing grants of money and issuance of obligations for financing the relocation, rehabilitation, and expansion of rail facilities." No. 2: Provision that marriage in Texas "consists only of the union of one man and one woman and prohibiting this state or a political subdivision of this state from creating or recognizing any legal status identical to marriage." No. 1: Creation of a "Texas rail

Firefighters' grant, EDC to be discussed

Pampa City Commission will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday on the third floor of city hall in city commission chambers. Among items for discussion: • a grant for assistance to firefighters; • interest in establishing a Working for Progress Advisory Board; and • a 4B economic development corporation. Among items for consid-

eration: • setting the hourly rate for election workers; • the appointment of an alternate election judge for the Nov. 8 election; • award of a bid for fuel system, tank and pump replacement; • second and final reading of an ordinance amending the revenues, appropriations and transfers for the support

Water allocations on agenda

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer
Water allocations and real estate will be the main topics of conversation at the quarterly meeting of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority this week in Plainview. The CRMWA board of directors is expected to set water allocations for its 11 member cities, including Pampa, when they meet at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Plainview Country Club. They will also discuss the potential purchase of real estate and are expected to ratify ground water purchases. Kent Satterwhite, CRMWA general manager, said he is asking the board to allow him

to have lawyers draw contracts for the sale of bonds and set a sale date. The funds from the bonds are being used to buy more water rights and finance infrastructure. He is also asking the board of directors to authorize him to contract for a linear well-field along the authority's aqueduct right of way from Amarillo to Lubbock. The water authority plans to buy ground water from landowners along the right of way. The board will also consider setting a water use fee and consider participating in a brackish water treatment study. Jerry Carlson and Benny Kirksey are Pampa's representatives on the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority board of directors.

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Obituaries

Betty Florence Crouch, 74

Betty Florence Crouch, 74, died Saturday, October 9, 2005, in Miami, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors. Mrs. Crouch was born July 12, 1931, in Miami. She graduated as salutatorian from Miami High School and moved from Miami to Pampa in 1960. She married Bob Crouch on August 2, 1961, in Miami. He preceded her in death on October 9, 1989. She was a secretary for A.S.C.S. for many years. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include one brother, Guy Smith of Miami; one aunt, Avis Edwards of Pampa; three nephews, Danny Smith of Pampa, Randy Smith of Nashville, Tennessee, and Monty Smith of Miami; five great-nephews; two great-nieces; two great-great-nieces; and loyal dog, "Mickey." The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity. Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com

Jessie Lee "Buddy" Simmons, 81

LAFAYETTE, La. — Jessie Lee "Buddy" Simmons, 81, died Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2005 in Lafayette. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa with the Rev. Fines Marchman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Skellytown, officiating. Local arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors. Mr. Simmons was a native of Decatur,

Texas, and later resided in Lafayette. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was a drilling superintendent for Cabot Oil & Gas for more than 30 years. He was a member of the Beaver, Okla., VFW Post 7093, the A.P.I. POP (Pioneers of the Oil Patch), and the Westside Baptist Church. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Betty Holt Simmons; one son, Steve Simmons; and two grandchildren.

Services tomorrow

Simmons, Jessie Lee "Buddy" — Graveside services 2 p.m. Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Gray County Weather

Today: Occasional showers and possibly a thunderstorm. High around 59. East southeast wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible. Tonight: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. East northeast

wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Tuesday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. North northeast wind around 5 mph becoming southeast. Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 52. South wind around 5 mph.

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Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests today.

Saturday, Oct. 8

Four traffic stops were made, one of which resulted in an arrest in the 12000 block of East Frederic for driving while intoxicated.

A vehicle accident was reported in the intersection of Somerville and Hobart streets. A hit and run accident was reported in the 900 block of South Sumner.

Four business alarms were reported.

One open door was checked. Two business checks were made.

Welfare checks were made in the 300 block of North Wells and the 200 block of North Nelson.

Emergency medical services assistance was rendered in the 2700 block of Cherokee.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 100 block of North Cuyler.

A missing person was reported in the 1900 block of North Christy.

Public intoxication was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby. The report concerned a lost cell phone.

A prowler was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Somerville and Sumner streets, the 800 block of West Foster, and on Marie Street.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 2600 block of North Hobart, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the intersection of Browning and Russell streets, and twice in the 1300 block of Terrace.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported in the 400 block of Carr and on Highway 60 East, at Recreation Park.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1800 block of Fir.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of Pitts and at 801 E. Browning, where children were said to be on the roof of Woodrow Wilson Elementary School.

Criminal mischief was reported at two locations in the 1700 block of Chestnut. The rear tire on the driver's side of a vehicle at one location was punctured, resulting in an estimated \$65 damage. The front tire on the driver's side of a vehicle at a second location was punctured, resulting in an estimated \$55 damage.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1800 block of Chestnut, concerning a slashed tire.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of East 17th. A vehicle's door was scratched and a tire was slashed, resulting in an estimated \$655 damage.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 200

block of Tignor.

Burglary was reported in the 1200 block of Darby. Ricardo Hernandez, 34, 1531 N. Faulkner, was arrested in the 12000 block of East Frederic for driving while intoxicated.

Sergio Maurice Alva, 20, 1526 N. Faulkner, was arrested in the 800 block of South Faulkner for possession of under two ounces of marijuana, minor in possession of alcohol, assault causing bodily injury, and warrants for consumption of alcohol, disorderly conduct/language, and assault by threat.

Sunday, Oct. 9

Seven traffic stops were made. A vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Harvester and Duncan streets.

Fire department assistance was rendered in the 1100 block of Clark.

Emergency medical services assistance was rendered in the 1100 block of Alcock. One open door was reported.

Welfare checks were made in the 800 block of Campbell and the 300 block of North Hobart.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby. A purse and contents were found in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 100 block of East Foster.

A prowler was reported in the 300 block of Anne. A mental commitment was reported at One Medical Plaza.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 2600 block of North Hobart and the 400 block of Hughes.

Disorderly conduct/other was reported in the 700 block of East 16th.

Narcotic drug law violations were reported in the 1700 block of Coffee and the 800 block of North Nelson.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 1100 block of Terrace.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart and the 500 block of Oklahoma.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of Mary Ellen. Windows and doors were broken in a house, resulting in an estimated \$1,000 damage.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby and in the 1100 block of East Francis.

Assault was reported twice in the 1700 block of Coffee, resulting in an arrest in one incident.

Assault was reported in the 1100 block of Mary Ellen. Minor injuries were reported. The victim was treated at the emergency room and released.

Assault by threat was reported in the 2100 block of North Sumner.

Sexual assault was reported in the 1000 block of South Dwight.

Domestic violence was reported in the 1400 block of East Francis. No injuries were reported.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

Burglary was reported in the 400 block of Short.

Chance Henley, 19, Lenmore, Calif., was arrested in the 800 block of South Faulkner for public intoxication, assault causing bodily injury, and possession of marijuana.

Monday, Oct. 10

Michael Mojica, 28, 2136 Coffee, was arrested in the 400 block of West Kentucky for a terrorist threat.

Sheriff

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

Saturday, Oct. 8

Briana Joy Watson, 17, Amarillo, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and minor in possession of tobacco.

Alfredo Morris Gomez, 29, 105 N. Faulkner, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety on a warrant for theft over \$500 and under \$1,500.

Collin Thomas Ferguson, 17, Amarillo, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and minor in possession of tobacco.

Raymond Neil O'Dell, 17, Amarillo, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and minor in possession of tobacco.

Brent Lee Bryan, 29, Perryton, was arrested by DPS on Roberts County warrants for driving while intoxicated, second offense, and driving while license is suspended.

Fire

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

Saturday, Oct. 8

3:43 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2700 block of Cherokee on a medical assist.

9:48 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Hobart and Somerville on a vehicle accident.

1:05 a.m. — Three units and seven personnel responded to the 1100 block of Clark Street on a vacant house structure fire.

Sunday, Oct. 9

3:18 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to a Dumpster fire in the alley of the 2100 block of Chestnut and Dogwood.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.

Saturday, Oct. 8

Unknown time — An unknown vehicle and driver collided with a legally parked 1996 Dodge Ram 1500, owned by Terry Matthew Whiteley, 912 S. Sumner, in the 900 block of South Sumner and then fled the scene. No injuries were reported, and no citations were issued.

Stocks

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

Wheat 3.35
Milo 2.81
Corn 3.79
Soybeans 4.59

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

OXY 76.65 -0.94
BP PLC ADR 66.47 +0.60
Cabot Corp 32.58 +0.13
Celanese NA
Cabot Oil Gas 44.60 +0.80
Coca Cola 42.18 -0.02
VLO 105.45 -2.25
HAL 61.59 -1.12
TRI 43.67 +0.52
KMI 89.21 -0.73
XCEL 18.73 -0.32
Kerr McGee 86.33 -1.32
XOM 58.95 -0.65
Limited 19.75 -0.18
Williams 22.49 -0.46
MCD 32.36 +0.14
Atmos 27.77 -0.26
Pioneer Nat. 49.84 -0.88
JCP 46.68 +0.74
COP 62.93 -0.67
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Insurgents keep up attacks, kill more Iraqis before election

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Insurgents launched a new salvo of attacks five days ahead of a crucial constitutional referendum, killing at least 12 Iraqis and a U.S. soldier today with suicide car bombs, roadside explosives and drive-by shootings, police said.

Five mortar shells also were

fired at a hotel in the southern city of Hillah where a U.S. regional embassy office is based, with one round hitting the building and leaving a large hole in a wall, police said. No casualties were reported.

The latest attacks came as Shiite and Kurdish officials continued to negotiate with Sunni Arab leaders

over last-minute additions to the constitution, trying to win Sunni support ahead of Saturday's referendum. U.S. officials were acting as mediators.

The sides appeared to remain far apart over basic issues and copies of the draft constitution already are being distributed to the public

across the country.

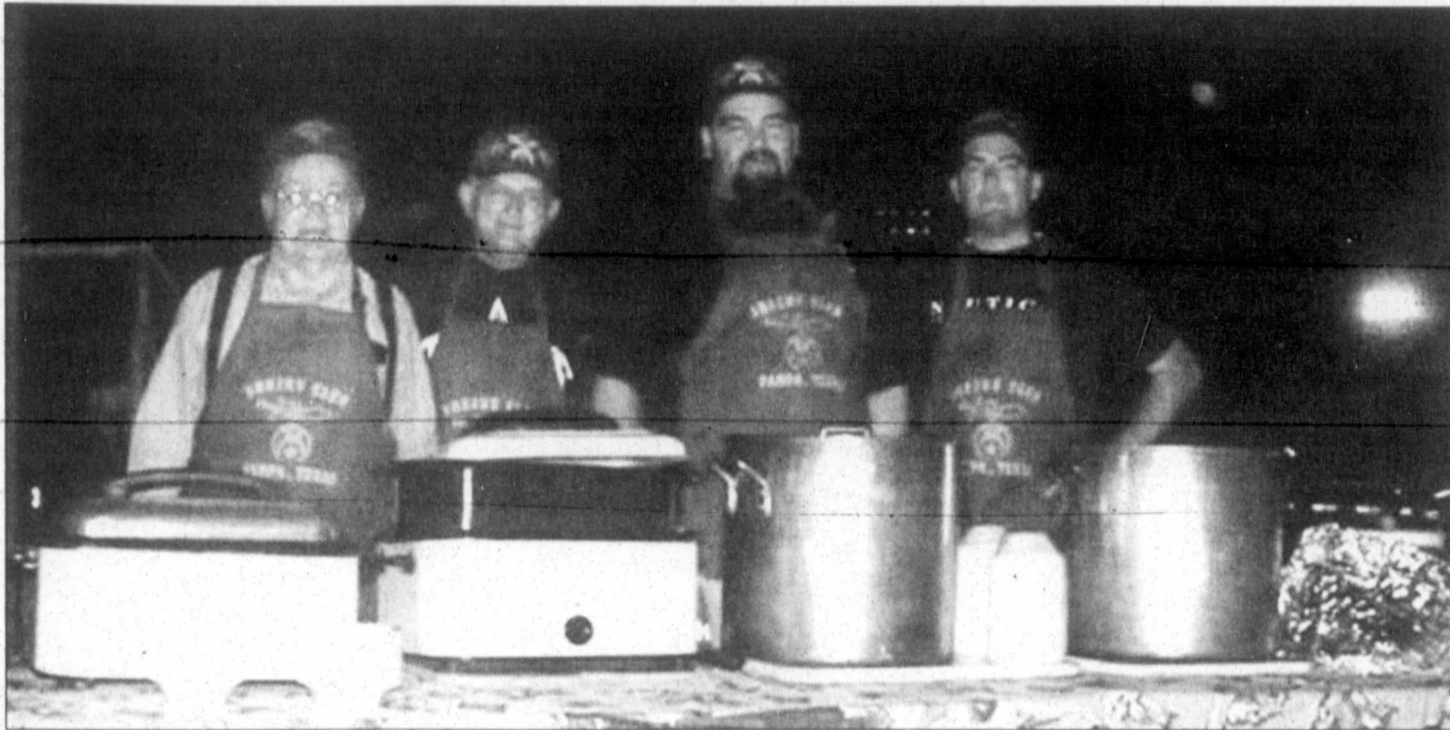
U.S. and Iraqi officials see the referendum as an important step in the country's democratic reforms and the eventual withdrawal of U.S.-led coalition forces.

Many minority Sunnis plan to vote "no," fearing the document would create two oil-rich and near-

ly autonomous regions and leave most Sunnis isolated in central and western Iraq.

That was clear in the northern city of Mosul today when about 600 Sunni politicians, tribal leaders and clerics met and urged Iraqis to reject the constitution.

Dishing up a hot meal



Pampa Shriners Owen Elliott, left, Don Denham, Dustin Larkin and Keith Woods serve cornbread and stew at the recent "Working Ranch Rodeo" in Pampa, sponsored by The Pampa News.

Dumas

Continued from Page 1

"We're about 14,000 people," Worley said. "We are a 4B city. We've been collecting the tax since 1999. I've been there two and a half years."

A lot of ground work was laid during the three years before he got to Dumas, Worley said.

"They were just collecting the tax," Worley said. "We've been reaping the harvest for the past three and a half years."

The philosophy that has worked so well for Dumas, Worley said, is to be ultra-conservative in how the money is spent.

"Always do an impact analysis on any project that you're thinking about doing," Worley said. "We always, always do an impact analysis or cost-benefit analysis."

Another ironclad rule, he says, is never write a check to an industrial prospect before they have proven that their project is going to work.

"This is probably the most ironclad rule in my opinion that there is in economic development," Worley said. "In our city, and it's state law now, you have to have a performance contract. In our performance contract, we put trigger mechanisms that are required for whatever the incentive is."

He said that about a month ago, they broke ground near Dumas for a \$15 million dairy project. The DEDC is giving the dairy \$1,000 per employee for up to 30 employees.

In order for the dairy to get the maximum of \$30,000, they have to have those people employed.

"Once they prove to us that they have an employee

on the ground," Worley said, "we write them a check for \$1,000, up to a maximum of \$30,000."

Worley said they use the same philosophy with tax breaks.

"You always do a performance agreement," he said. "You always do an impact analysis, and you never, never write an upfront check. You never write the check before the performance."

Worley said Dumas waits for the prospect to bring up the subject of incentives.

"We don't bring up incentives," he said. "The prospect has to bring it up. Once they do, we talk about it, and we tell them what our rules and regulations are."

He said they are very clear when dealing with their prospects concerning incentives.

"We're ultraconservative with all of our incentives, whether it's tax abatement or cash," Worley said.

The thing they're the most liberal with is land.

"We own a business park, so that's easy for us to do," he said.

They have provisions in their contracts, however, that say if a prospect doesn't meet certain requirements, they either have to give the land back or pay market value for it. If they don't, Dumas puts a lien on whatever the prospect has.

"All these things are done by our attorney," Worley said.

The only place where they're not conservative is in seeking new business, he said.

"We're ultra aggressive," Worley said, "but we're very aggressive in a very narrow range."

Under state law, a 4B economic development corporation can be used for a variety of projects.

"We don't do nearly all

that the law allows us to do with our money," Worley said. "The original law was written in 1989. This money was to be used for industrial development. Over the years it has gotten diluted."

Today, he said, 4B economic development funds in some cases can even be used for cash retail incentives.

"Big time bad idea," Worley said.

He said Dumas sticks to a mission of bringing in basic jobs.

"They don't have to be manufacturing," Worley said, "but in order for us to give incentives of any kind, the prospect has to be a basic business. The definition of a basic business is they have to get a majority, if not all, of their income from outside Moore County. They have little or no customers in Moore County."

To date, Worley said the DEDC has brought in \$69 million in capital investment with 85 jobs.

"We gave away \$120,000 in cash as incentives," Worley said.

Of that \$120,000, he said they've gotten \$36,000 back. One of the prospects said that if he succeeded, he would give the DEDC back all the money they spent marketing to him.

"I kept track of every lunch and every airplane trip," Worley said. "That amounted to \$36,000. As soon as he became a success, he gave us all that money back."

Worley said they are conservative with their land and tax abatements.

"We have given away 3.69 acres of land to one business in our business park," Worley said, "and we've given some free conservative limited tax abatements. We only offer tax abatements from two entities of the six or seven taxing entities that we have. That's

Moore County and the Palo Duro River Authority."

They don't ask for tax abatements from the hospital district and community college.

He said that they haven't done anything within the city limits of Dumas yet.

"When we do one," Worley said, "we'll ask for a tax abatement from the city."

Their conservative attitude, he said, has not appeared to hurt them in bringing in new businesses.

"We're currently working on \$300 million in capital investment projects," Worley said.

That means potentially about 600 employees spread across eight projects, he said.

Yet, he said, they are very selective in the businesses they target.

"We don't target projects with lots of employees," Worley said. "If you've been to Dumas, you know that there's not a plethora of available housing. The first three months I was there, I lived in a two-bedroom trailer house. That's all there was."

"We target projects that have a relatively low number of employees and very high capital investment. That's our idea."

That gives more bang for the buck, he said.

"What that does is give more net revenue, more facilities worth to your taxing entities," Worley said, "and there are less people you have to deal with."

Still, he said, Dumas doesn't target just large industries.

"We also target very small start-ups," Worley said.

Dumas was the first Panhandle community to establish a business incubator in cooperation with West Texas A&M University's Enterprise Network.

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Viewpoints

New Orleans and the failure of the 'Great Society'

No one needs to tell Star Parker about the moral and economic downsides of welfare dependency — or how to escape from it.

Before she became a conservative columnist and social activist, and before she became a college grad, a businesswoman and a good Christian, Parker was a single welfare mother living in Los Angeles.

Today Parker, who calls herself a conservative Christian, is a regular guest on TV talk shows. She can be counted on to rip into the failings of government social policy, black leadership and liberal media bias while praising the values she says offer the cure for black poverty — freedom, free markets, faith and personal responsibility.

Parker is president of CURE, the Coalition on Urban Renewal & Education (urbancure.org), which she formed specifically to interject her views on race and poverty into the mainstream media and public policy. I talked to her by phone recently from her home in Southern California.

Q: When you first saw those TV images of poor black people stuck in the Superdome, did you expect there'd be a debate about race and class?

A: I knew it would be a problem because of the race hustlers who have developed an industry over the last 40 years out of the perception of racism. Any time they see anyone black in any type of despair, they play racism. I was not surprised by what

we saw developing out of New Orleans. I worked the housing projects. I lived seven years in and out of welfare, three and a half years consistently, so I knew immediately what we're dealing with — the mind-set, the type of person who would not pre-prepare himself for any type of tragedy.

Q: What did you think of the media's immediate concerns about racism and class-ism?

A: The immediate reaction of the mainstream media was one of shock, because they bought the idea of the Great Society and they

are elite. They were shocked to see this picture in New Orleans ... I think there was a shock in media that their Great Society was unfolding right before their eyes.

Q: Does racism still exist in America?

A: I'm sure it does. My goodness, how are you ever going to get rid of this? This is not a question of something government can engineer away. All the government can do is exactly what it did do — change the rules, remove the barriers. And we did that in the Civil Rights Movement.

Q: Why were you disappointed by President Bush's

comments about race the other week — where he said black poverty in New Orleans was a reflection of racial discrimination?

A: It was troubling to me to hear the president say this because today's poverty has nothing to do with race. Today's poverty has everything to do with the Great Society and how one manages his personal life. Anyone from any background, any ethnicity, can in one generation break out from poverty in this society because of the way America works. But there are certain steps they have to take, and the first step is self-government. They have to understand that they have an obligation to be responsible with the choices that they make and that they have to be self-

sufficient financially.

Q: What are some encouraging statistics about black families and households in the United States?

A: Where we see marriage and raising children in black America, we see health. We see financial health, we see moral health. We do not see the social pathologies. Where you see a marital household — husband, wife, children — the poverty rate is 8 percent. In single-headed households raising children in black America, the poverty rate is at 65 percent.

The problem for black America today is that more households are single-headed than ever in the history of black America. Today we are looking at out-of-wedlock

See PARKER, Page 5



Bill Steigerwald
Columnist

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Oct. 10, the 283rd day of 2005. There are 82 days left in the year. This is Columbus Day in the U.S., as well as Thanksgiving Day in Canada.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 10, 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy opened in Annapolis, Md.

On this date:

In 1911, revolutionaries under Sun Yat-sen overthrew China's Manchu dynasty.

In 1935, George Gershwin's opera "Porgy and Bess" opened on Broadway.

In 1938, Germany completed its annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland.

In 1943, Chiang Kai-shek took the oath of office as president of China.

In 1964, the 18th Summer Olympic Games opened in Tokyo.

In 1970, Quebec Labor Minister Pierre Laporte was kidnapped by the Quebec Liberation Front, a militant separatist group. (Laporte's body was found about a week later.)

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, accused of accepting bribes, pleaded no contest to one count of federal income

'The imperceptible process of age has a point which, once passed, cannot be retraced. I knew I had passed that point and was getting old the day I noticed that all the cops looked so young.'

— Harry Lewis

Golden

American author, editor and publisher (1903-1981)

tax evasion, and resigned his office.

In 1978, President Carter signed a bill authorizing the Susan B. Anthony dollar.

In 1981, funeral services were held in Cairo for Egyptian leader Anwar Sadat, who had been assassinated by Muslim extremists.

In 1985, U.S. fighter jets forced an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro to land in Italy, where the gunmen were taken into custody.

Ten years ago: University of Chicago professor Robert E. Lucas won the Nobel Prize in economics for demonstrating how people's fears and expectations can frustrate policymakers' efforts to shape the economy. World chess champion Garry Kasparov won a month-long championship match against Viswanathan Anand.

Five years ago: Americans Alan J. Heeger, Alan G. MacDiarmid and Japan's Hideki Shirakawa won the Nobel Prize in chemistry; Russian Zhores I. Alferov and U.S.-based researchers Herbert Kroemer and Jack Kilby won the Nobel Prize in physics. Jo Myong Rok, the highest-level North Korean official to visit Washington to date, met with President Clinton at the White House.



President Bush king of bad ideas ...

There is one clear lesson we can all learn from the two storms that battered Louisiana, Mississippi and East Texas: If you expect to have water to drink and food to eat after a major catastrophe, you'd better stockpile them yourself.

The aftermath of the second storm shows that the Federal Emergency Management Agency learned nothing from its first fiasco. People in Louisiana and East Texas were, as of this writing, begging for assistance, and it wasn't there. Oh, it'll get there eventually. After all, FEMA has awarded a whole bunch of no-bid, noncompetitive contracts. And Michael Brown, the incompetent director who was removed from his duties and resigned, is still being paid as a consultant. Only the government would pay a man let go

for incompetence as a consultant.

Of course, after one of the Florida storms last year, FEMA paid out millions of dollars to people in Dade County who had suffered no losses. Just a minor accounting hitch, I suppose. They even paid to bury people who had died of natural causes. But who cares about that? It's taxpayers' money, and everybody in Washington treats taxpayer money as if it were play money.

Now, President Bush, who is the king of bad ideas, is contemplating asking Congress to change the laws so the U.S. military can step in and take charge after catastrophic events. Granted, the

military is more competent than FEMA, but putting the military in charge means declaring martial law. The military doesn't want that job, and it's not really trained to do it. It has trucks and backs and bulldozers, but its primary training is in fighting a war.

Besides, it's stretched thin as it is. A better idea would be to return the National Guard to state control and stop sending its members overseas.

The best performers in the second storm were the state and local officials. They got people evacuated — a great achievement despite the traffic jams. They secured the towns. Now, if FEMA would deliver food, water and fuel,

they could get on with cleanup and rebuilding.

Back in the 1960s and 1970s, when liberals failed to achieve their agenda through the democratic process in state legislatures, they went to the federal courts and asked them to legislate by decree. It was at that time that liberals created the myth that federal was somehow superior to state and local. They created the impression that state and local officials were a bunch of country bumpkins, while federal officials were enlightened philosopher kings.

That's total hokum. In the first place, nearly all federal politicians and officials come from the states. In the second place, a centralized government is unavoidably more inefficient than state

See KING, Page 5

Charley Reese

Columnist



No one wins when system gets 'rocked'

Democrat or Republican, no one wins when the political system gets rocked. And that's precisely what happened when a Travis County grand jury indicted GOP House Majority Leader Tom DeLay recently on a charge of conspiracy to launder campaign money.

The accusation against the House's second most important leader comes as the White House is struggling to get its game back and Senate GOP Majority Leader Bill Frist faces questions about his involvement with a blind trust.

For that reason, some may

see the indictment as partisan piling on by Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle, a longtime Democrat. It's tempting to hold that view since, like many Texans, this editorial board witnessed Mr. Earle up close. His record hasn't been perfect.

But Ronnie Earle is not the issue, nor is the standing of the Republican or Democratic parties. This indictment is about a serious

problem: the role of big money in politics, including here in Texas.

As it stands now, Mr. DeLay and two associates will stand trial to determine whether they shuffled corporate money from Austin to Washington and back to Austin. The indictment charges they did so to sneak around laws that ban corporate money in Texas legislative races.

Mr. DeLay's lawyers say

they want a speedy trial, and we agree. A drawn-out affair will only fill up the talk shows with 24/7 speculation. The sooner a jury can sort out the facts, the better it is for our system.

Meanwhile, thank goodness for the GOP rule that required Mr. DeLay to step down temporarily as majority leader. The business of any legislator is not as crucial as the business of the country.

It also was smart for Republicans to pick respected Missouri Republican Roy

See DeLAY, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Parker

Continued from Page 4

birthrates of 69 percent in black America — as opposed to in the 1960s, when out-of-wedlock birthrates were 22 percent. So we are diminishing our opportunities to be successful in this society.

But where blacks make sure that they are responsible with their choices, make sure that they aspire educationally, make sure that they marry before they have children, make sure that they take any job and work harder than the person above them, and make sure that they save and invest, we are seeing tremendous strides in black America. We are seeing tremendous growth.

Q: Where are the black leaders in solving this problem of black poverty?

A: They are left-wing socialists, so they believe that all answers to life's problems lie in government. So they are perpetuating the problem. Government can't be everywhere. It's not God. Any time you have an addiction to government, you are going to have problems ... The traditional black leadership that came up out of the Civil Rights Movement — every single one — are on the wrong side of history for black Americans. They want socialism. This is a capitalistic society. In order to be successful here, you better get into the capitalistic end of things.

Q: Is the problem with black churches that they have been ignored or that they've been misleading their flocks?

A: The problem with black churches, in general, is their financial infrastructure. They make their money off of the tithes and offerings of the people. Therefore, when you have 65 percent of your working class working for government giving you your tithes and offerings, you are not going to say much about limiting the role of government.

Q: What gives you hope that things will get better?

A: One of the things is that there is a lot of discussion about vouchers. If we can have even the kids of New Orleans get vouchers, to go to any school they want to — public, private or religious — then we can break this stronghold that this entitlement mentality has over young people. Number two, it will open up the door for vouchers for all poor communities so the children of that community can go to any school that they want to — not just the broken government school they have been assigned to.

The second thing that gives me hope is that there are discussions now about limiting the taxation and regulation over business, in particular for the redevelopment of New Orleans. If this idea takes hold across the nation, there is some hope that we could rescue ourselves from a dependence on government.

—Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

DeLay

Continued from Page 4

Blunt to temporarily succeed Mr. DeLay as majority leader. Mr. Blunt's style more closely resembles that of GOP House Speaker Dennis Hastert, who shies away from Mr. DeLay's confrontational brand of politics. With a more conciliatory approach, the pair may be able to move waiting bills on immigration and other issues.

Yesterday's indictment is certainly the biggest money-in-politics charge in Texas politics since John Connally was tried for taking a bribe. Of course, a jury exonerated the former treasury secretary, and perhaps that will happen to Mr. DeLay. That's for the legal system to sort out.

It's now all about facts, not Republicans and Democrats.

Computer classes to be offered again

The Gray County Community Network is again offering computer classes to the public.

These classes are offered for a nominal fee of \$20 per six-hour class to cover expenses. Each class is offered from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on two evenings for a total of six hours.

Interested persons are urged to register at www.graycounty.net. If you have questions, call Lee Carter, technology director of Pampa

Independent School District, at 669-4707.

Classes scheduled:
Microsoft Word — Oct. 25 and 27 — Basic Word Processing.

Microsoft Excel — Nov. 1 and 3 — Basic Spreadsheet.

Internet Basics — Nov. 8 and 10 — Basic use of Internet Explorer — good beginner class.

PhotoShop Elements — Nov. 15 and 17 — Basic editing of photographs from digital cameras.

Reception Tuesday for class of 1938

There will be a reception for the Pampa High School Class of 1938 at the Pampa Country Club at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2005, according to a press release from Clarence M. Cunningham of Stillwater, Okla.

All of the class of 1938 and their spouses are invited. Dinner will be served after the reception. There is no cost, just bring your pictures and memories.

King

Continued from Page 4

and local governments, which are closer to both the problems and the people.

The federal government, as it has grown to gargantuan proportions, has grabbed most of the revenue sources, more or less starving the state and local governments.

The answer to that problem is devolution. Give the authority and the tax sources back to the state and local governments.

If the federal government obeyed the Constitution and did only what it authorizes the federal government to do, it could get by on a com

Nothing in the Constitution authorizes the federal government to involve itself in education, welfare and health care.

That's usurpation by the federal government of state functions, and in every case, the federal government has screwed up.

Today, it can't even fight a war efficiently without massive amounts of graft and patronage favors.

We ought to call the Iraq War Halliburton's War. That outfit, and Israel, are the only beneficiaries of the war.

Check out the Web site of the Center for Public Integrity and read some of its reports.

That will shake your faith in the federal behemoth. What the federal government is about these days is lies, secrecy, money, propaganda and incompetence.

That's not to say you won't find some crooks and rascals in the state and local governments, too.

But the whole point is that the local scamps are easier to find and get rid of. Good luck trying to find out what's going on in Washington.

City

Continued from Page 1

of the city for the 2004-05 fiscal year, and;

• adoption of a resolution suspending the effective date of Atmos Energy Co. filing its gas reliability infrastructure.

Commissioners will meet in executive session for a performance review of the city manager.

Reward

Continued from Page 1

were found dead at the rural home after a 911 call was received at about 7:15 a.m. Sept. 30. Each had been shot with a firearm, according to Texas Department of Public Safety Public Information Officer Daniel Hawthorne of Clarendon.

Michell Conrad's unborn baby was listed as a fourth victim of the shootings, according to a DPS press release from Hawthorne.

Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers has provided \$1,000 of the current reward. Members of the Conrad family have pledged \$10,000, and Amber Alert has given \$5,000. The remaining \$120 was donated by residents, said Courtney in a press release.

Vote

Continued from Page 1

or similar to marriage."

No. 3: Clarification that "certain economic development programs do not constitute a debt."

No. 4: Authorizing the "denial of bail to a criminal defendant who violates a condition of the defendant's release pending trial."

No. 5: Allowing the Legislature to "define rates of interest for commercial loans."

No. 6: Inclusion of "one additional public member and a constitutional county court judge in the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct."

Anyone with information concerning the homicides may call Pampa/Gray County Crime Stoppers at 669-2222. Callers may remain anonymous and be identified instead by a code number. Callers are asked to leave a four-digit number code along with their information. The Crime Stoppers hotline is open 24 hours per day.

Persons wishing to provide information on the homicides may also call Gray County Sheriff's Office at any time.

"The most important thing is to make the call. Your information may seem like it is unimportant to you, but added into the big picture, it may be the glue that brings this investigation to closure," Courtney said.

No. 7: Authorizing "line-of-credit advances under a reverse mortgage."

No. 8: Provision for "the clearing of land titles by relinquishing and releasing any state claim to sovereign ownership or title to interest in certain land in Upshur County and in Smith County."

No. 9: Authorizing the Legislature to "provide for a six-year term for a board member of a regional mobility authority."

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My son, "Max," is 14. We have always been able to talk about everything. I have always told him he could trust me and his father. I am very proud of him. Yesterday I was shocked speechless because Max shaved his legs! Although I almost had a heart attack. I tried to remain calm. He says that all his friends are doing it, and that the girls like it. His father sat down with him and told him that men do not shave their legs. My son says it is the fashion, and hairy legs are not "in."

Max is a wonderful young man. People always tell me how lucky we are to have such a terrific son. Am I overreacting? I'm confused and beginning to feel the generation gap. -- **WORRIED MOM IN PUERTO RICO**

DEAR WORRIED: Calm down and stop worrying. You have asked your son to trust you; now it's time to trust your son. Many perfectly normal males shave their legs -- including athletes, bodybuilders, bicyclists, swimmers and people in the public eye. And I'm sure many girls do like it, because it shows muscle definition to better advantage. P.S. It's only hair. It will grow back.

DEAR ABBY: When I was 18, I married my best friend, "Tom." A year later, we had a baby girl, "China Lynn." When she was about a year old, Tom and I realized that although we loved each other, we were not in love. Tom moved next door so he could see our daughter every day. It has worked out great.

When China Lynn was 5, I met "Harry," the love of my life. Tom met a terrific gal, and the five of us get along like one big happy family. Harry and I just had a new baby boy. We want Tom and his new wife to be our son's godparents.

A lot of people are saying it's just not right, or that we should ask someone else. I feel fortunate that China Lynn has four parents who love her, and I want my son to have that, too. Tom and his wife already treat him like they do China Lynn. Is that wrong? -- **HAPPY NEW MOM IN TROY, N.Y.**

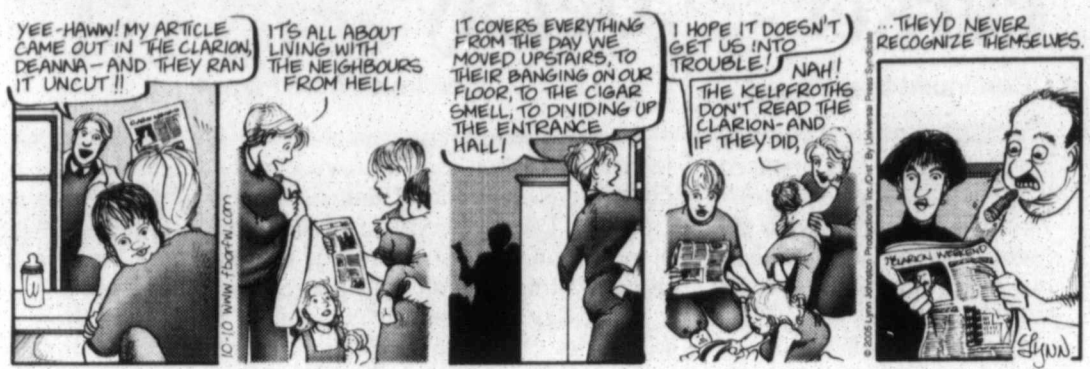
DEAR HAPPY NEW MOM: I see nothing "wrong" with it. It may be unusual, but it only underscores the healthy, positive relationship you have with your former husband and his new wife. I say, go for it.

DEAR ABBY: I am a single, 29-year-old male who has met a wonderful 20-year-old woman, "Robin." Would it be wrong for me to date Robin because of the age difference? I have never been married and have no kids. I have a great job and a home. I really like her.

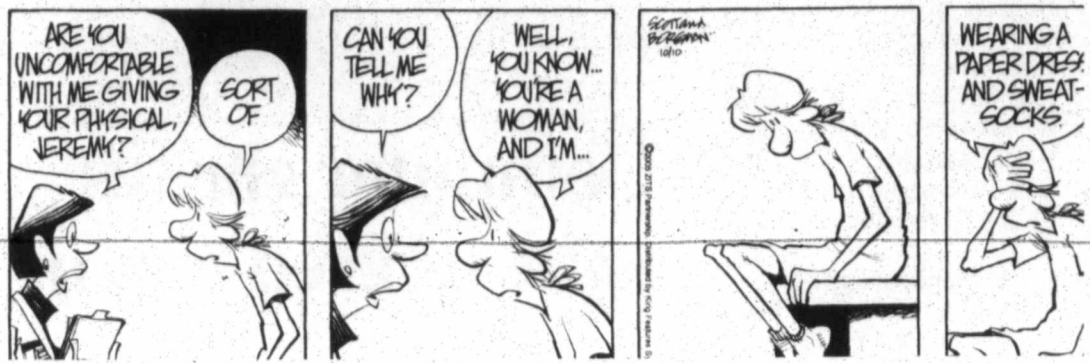
My 20s were wild. I loved them and did many amazing things. But now I am moving into my 30s, and Robin is barely starting her 20s. She hasn't experienced the bar scene or other things I have moved on from. I still love to hit a sports bar and grab a beer, but the late nights out and the all-nighters are over. Would it be wrong for me to deprive her of her chance to experience her 20s? -- **OLDER GUY BLUES IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR OLDER GUY: You're asking the wrong person. Ask Robin if the bar scene would be more attractive to her than a serious relationship -- and possibly marriage. If her answer is yes, then you're not too old for her; she is too immature for you.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

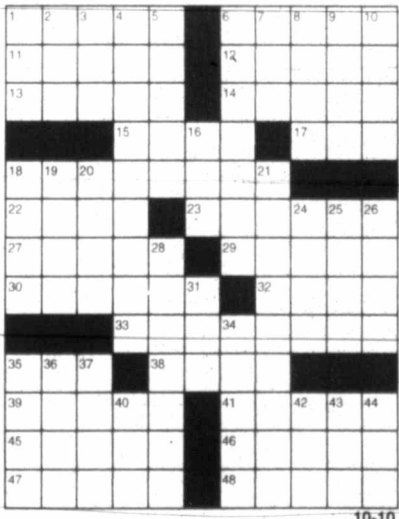
ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Accumulate
- 2 Farrow of film
- 3 Tiny worker
- 4 Increased
- 5 Singer Vaughan
- 6 Spa employee
- 7 Mischief maker
- 8 Go to sea
- 9 Poet Pound
- 10 Marsh grass
- 11 Ship of 1492
- 12 Flabbergast
- 13 Spud
- 14 Chapel top
- 15 Knee protectors
- 17 Young man
- 18 Prizes for champs
- 22 Prime
- 23 Rebellion on board
- 27 Acclaims
- 29 Cowboy contest
- 30 Followed
- 32 Stage show
- 33 The Tempest sorcerer
- 35 Drill part
- 38 Towns-hend of The Who
- 39 Wide open
- 41 Find darling
- 45 Waco native
- 46 Talk at length
- 47 High-stepping aid
- 48 Velocity



- 21 Clogged
- 24 Not busy
- 25 In the neighborhood
- 26 Up-and-down toy
- 28 Eden a meter
- 31 Buck's mate
- 34 Flag feature
- 35 Cave creatures
- 36 Beach Boys hit
- 37 Car with a meter
- 40 Chum
- 42 A single
- 43 Fish eggs
- 44 Finish

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Marmaduke



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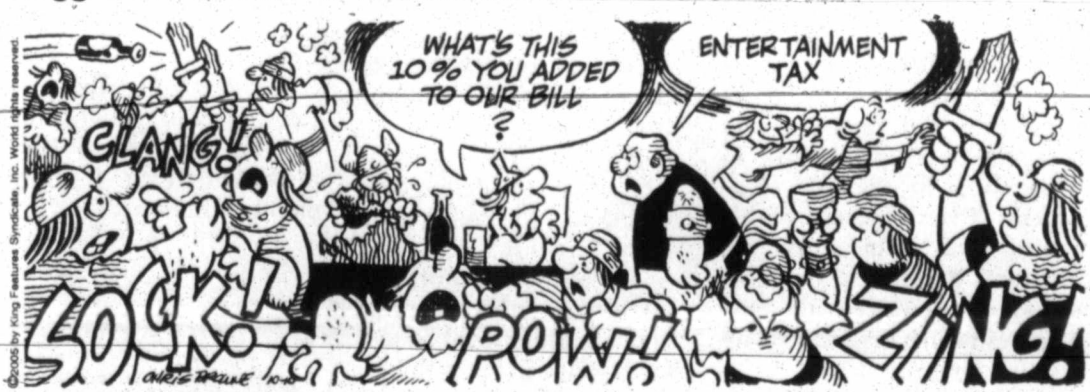
By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



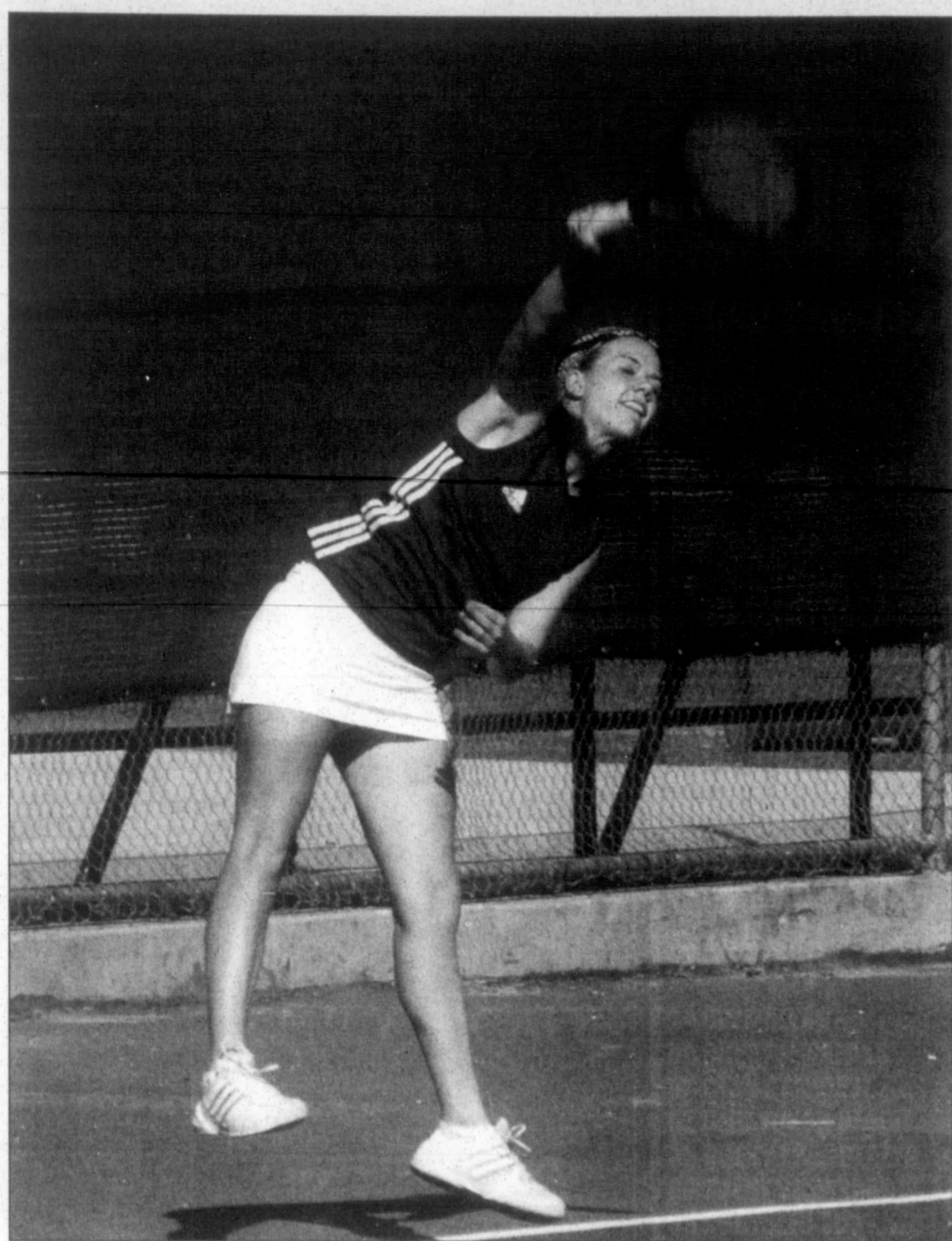
Flo & Friends



Blondie



Sports Day



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

◀ Pampa's Myca Vinson serves during a Sept. 27 match at Palo Duro High School. Vinson defeated Randall's Michelle Wright 6-1, 6-1 Saturday. She and doubles partner Lacie Long also claimed a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Wright and Amber Seibert.

PHS tennis team 5-1 in District 3-4A after ripping Randall, 13-8.

The Harvester tennis team started the second round of district play by defeating Randall Saturday, 13-8. Pampa improved to 5-1 in District 3-4A.

The Harvesters came out of doubles with a 6-1 lead which gave them some room going in to singles. "We came out ready to play and jumped on them from the start, which was a nice change since our last match at Randall (Sept. 20), said Coach Emily Laurence. She added, "It gave us the confidence that we needed for singles."

The win came quickly with four singles matches before Pampa relaxed and let them catch up before taking the 13-8 victory. "I was really proud of how our team played. I think they have realized what it will take for us to come out of district on top and we stepped it up a notch this week," said Laurence.

Pampa 13, Randall 8
Boys Singles
 Michael Foreman lost to Steven Davis 6-1, 6-2
 Jareth Fortenberry lost to

Brad McKenzie 6-1, 6-0
 Nick Julian lost to Mykey Warren 6-2, 6-1
 Steven Smith def. Isaac Olive 6-4, 6-1
 Kevin Frels lost to Eddie Saucedo 5-7, 6-1, (10-7)
 Tyler Morris def. Josh Weis 6-4, 6-1
 Landon McNeely def. Davis Hoover 9-7

Girls Singles
 Myca Vinson def. Michele Wright 6-1, 6-1
 Ashlee Lucas def. Emily Mountain 6-1, 6-2
 Lacie Long def. Brittany Pace 6-1, 6-1
 Haley Acker lost to Amber Seibert 7-5, 6-2
 Tanna Stowers def. Shayna Armijo 6-2, 6-3
 Kourtney Farmer lost to Haley Woods 7-6 (7-2), 6-1
 Maegan Patterson lost to Brittany Shea 8-2

Boys Doubles
 Foreman/Frels def. Davis/Warren 7-5, 7-5
 Fortenberry/Smith def. McKenzie/Olive 6-2, 6-0
 Morris/McNeely lost to Saucedo/Hoover 4-6, 7-5, (11-9)

Girls Doubles
 Vinson/Long def. Wright/Seibert 6-2, 6-3
 Lucas/Stowers def. Mountain/Pace 3-6, 6-3, (11-9)
 Acker/Farmer def. Woods/Shea 6-4, 6-1

Mixed Doubles
 Patterson/Julian def. Weis/Armijo 4-6, 6-1, (10-4)

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Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

4 Captains Brody Smith (#19), Eric Kingcade (cast), Chris Smith (#65) and A.J. Manzanares (#8) look on as the referee explains the coin toss at midfield Friday night prior to the Harvesters' meeting with district foe Randall at Kimbrough Memorial Stadium.

Coach Josh Cadenhead (left to right), Head Coach Bryan Wood and coach Kurt Haberthur watch as their team honors those Pampa fans in attendance following Pampa's exciting 21-17 come-from-behind win over Randall.

Wow, what a game at Kimbrough

I hope you were at Kimbrough Memorial Stadium for the game. It had everything you could want.

It was Homecoming. It was a meeting between two old rivals that is annually close and fun to watch.

The crowd on hand for this go-round was ready to witness an epic battle.

They weren't disappointed.

From the opening kickoff, it was sort of like watching a good boxing match. One would land a punch, but just could not knock out the other.

Their respective corners called time-outs, freshened up their troops and sent them back out for a few more rounds.

It was like this all night long.

What a game. It was the kind that wore out the fans and sent them home hoarse from all the yelling and cheering.

As the battle wore on, it became obvious

the outcome would read like a Hollywood script. The team with the ball at the end of the game would have the best chance of snatching victory from defeat, thus sending the other home, beaten and deflated.

In the waning moments of this battle, one team scored with but seconds left in the game.

The other then had a chance to march down field to cut the opponent's celebration short.

They lined up, ready for the march, but could not get out of its own way.

Miscues and mistakes allowed the clock to tick down - three...two...one...zero. Game over.

What a game. What a win.

Kimbrough Memorial Stadium was rocking.

I hear Saturday's game was pretty good, too.

Michael J. Stevens
Sports Editor



MARATHON MEETING

Astros 7, Braves 6, 18 innings

HOUSTON (AP) — Roger Clemens found himself alone in the bullpen.

"I don't really relish what those guys have to go through," Clemens said.

"Not a lot to do, flick seeds, chew gum, talk to the fans."

Until it was finally time to come to his team's rescue.

Clemens pitched a dominating three innings in his second career relief appearance before Chris Burke homered in the 18th inning to give the Astros a 7-6 victory over Atlanta on Sunday in the longest post-season game in baseball history.

"I love this, this is why you get off the couch to play this game," said Clemens, the 43-year-old ace who came out of retirement two years ago to pitch for his hometown club. "I've been fortunate to have played in a lot of big games, but it's still exciting."

Now, Clemens and Houston get another chance in the NL championship series against the St. Louis Cardinals — the same team the Rocket lost to in Game 7 last October to deny the Astros their first World Series appearance. It's the first NLCS rematch since Pittsburgh and Atlanta played in 1991-92.

Game 1 at Busch Stadium isn't until Wednesday night, giving the Astros time for some rest after the division series-ending game that lasted 5 hours, 50 minutes — and started only 14 hours after they won Game 3 on Saturday night.

"The game turned into a little bit of a three-ring circus," said Burke, a rookie who entered the game as a pinch-runner in the 10th. "Any time you play an 18-inning game, you want to win it."

The previous longest postseason game also was in Houston — the New York Mets won the 1986 NLCS with a 16-inning win at the Astrodome. Astros manager Phil Garner was a player in that game, and recalled a book written about it titled "The Greatest Game Ever Played."

"I think there's going to be a sequel," Garner said. "This is going to be the greatest game ever played. I can't imagine a better game with as much on the line as this game."

Maybe for Houston, but Atlanta made another early October exit, wasting Adam LaRoche's early grand slam and rookie catcher Brian McCann's homer.

The Braves were eliminated in the division series for the fourth straight year, and have just one World Series crown to show for their unprecedented 14 straight division titles.

"It never feels good, but I've had a cou-

ple of heartbreakers where I could have won the game, but instead ended the season," Chipper Jones said.

With the Braves up 6-1 in the eighth and poised to send the series back to Atlanta for a decisive Game 5 Monday night, Lance Berkman hit a grand slam in the eighth and Brad Ausmus tied Game 4 with a two-out homer in the ninth barely beyond Gold Glove center fielder Andrew Jones' outstretched glove.

It was about that same time that Clemens told Garner he was ready to pitch. By the 12th inning, the Rocket had his spikes and jersey on and was headed to the bullpen — waiting to be the Astros' eighth pitcher.

Clemens gave up one hit and struck out four of the 11 batters he faced in his first relief appearance since 1984, a measure of redemption for his poor start in Game 2.

"He did a remarkable job," Braves manager Bobby Cox said.

"He wasn't going to be denied," Garner said. "I've never seen anybody like him."

Clemens actually entered the game as a pinch-hitter in the bottom of the 15th, and had a sacrifice bunt before Morgan Ensberg grounded into an inning-ending double play.

Batting just before Burke in the 18th, Clemens — who has never hit a home run in the majors — took a swing at ending the game with his bat. He "about fell down" against rookie Joey Devine before striking out.

Burke, batting for the third time since running for Berkman, then hit a 2-0 pitch over the left-field wall for only the sixth series-ending home run in history.

"Big moments like that always go by too fast," Burke said.

About three hours earlier, Ausmus hit his unlikely homer off Kyle Farnsworth. In the eighth, Farnsworth — the latest in a long line of Atlanta relievers to fail in the post-season — gave up the grand slam to Berkman after replacing Tim Hudson.

Ausmus, with just three homers in 134 regular-season games, hit a ball that ricocheted off a column in left-center field 406 feet from home plate — just above the yellow line signifying a home run. Had it hit just to the left, the ball would have still been in play and Ausmus held to a double.

"Yeah, 6 inches or so," Cox said.

"I was surprised that it was able to creep up there and get out," Ausmus said.

The Astros thought they had another homer to win it in the 10th, but Luke Scott's drive down the left-field line curled just left of the pole.

"I love this, this is why you get off the couch to play this game."

— Roger Clemens
Pitcher, Houston Astros

Cowboys crush Eagles, 33-10

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Drew Bledsoe knew there was more than what everyone else was seeing.

And this had nothing to do with his sideline spat with Keyshawn Johnson.

Branded as a long-shot NFC East contender hamstrung by overly conservative playcalling, the Dallas Cowboys finally unleashed their offense and perhaps made a statement to their division rivals by routing the Philadelphia Eagles 33-10 on Sunday.

Bledsoe, who in the third quarter engaged in a heated sideline argument with Johnson, led Dallas to scores on six of its first seven drives and helped the Cowboys build a 17-0 lead before the Eagles made a first down.

Dallas (3-2) had dropped nine of its last 10 to Philadelphia (3-2), losing by an average of 22.1 points. The game was again lopsided, but this time the other way after the Cowboys held the NFL's top-rated offense to 129 total yards.

"A win like this shows what you can do," Bledsoe said. "Through the first four games we had a chance to do this, but we just had too many mistakes in close games."

The Cowboys' first four games were decided by a combined 14 points, and their combined margin of victory in their two wins was four points. The close games could largely be credited to ball-control offense coach Bill Parcells employed, which led his team to play conservative for most of the game and try to win it at the end.

That was not the case Sunday when Cowboys took chances from the start.

Bledsoe finished 24-of-35 for 289 yards and three touchdowns. His first two were to Terry Glenn in the game's first 8 minutes, including a 38-yard touchdown strike on the Cowboys' third possession.

Dallas drove the ball to the Philadelphia 1 on its second possession but failed to convert a fourth-and-goal. But that hardly seemed to deter the Cowboys again on fourth down in the second quarter, when Bledsoe found Lousaka Polite on fourth-and-1 for a 12-yard scoring play.

Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb was 13-of-26 for 131 yards. He was sacked four times and played with injuries to his abdomen, chest and groin.

AP Top 25 Poll

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 9, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Southern Cal (58)	5-0	1,618	1
2. Texas (7)	5-0	1,565	2
3. Virginia Tech	6-0	1,493	3
4. Florida St.	5-0	1,393	4
5. Georgia	5-0	1,389	5
6. Alabama	5-0	1,244	7
7. Miami	4-1	1,205	9
8. Penn St.	6-0	1,096	16
9. Notre Dame	4-1	1,058	12
10. LSU	3-1	1,057	11
11. Florida	5-1	935	13
12. UCLA	5-0	889	20
13. Texas Tech	5-0	794	15
14. Boston College	5-1	656	18
15. Ohio St.	3-2	641	6
16. Michigan St.	4-1	581	19
17. Tennessee	3-2	538	8
18. California	5-1	537	10
19. Louisville	4-1	461	23
20. Oregon	5-1	456	25
21. Auburn	4-1	441	22
22. Minnesota	5-1	321	—
23. Wisconsin	5-1	241	14
24. Colorado	4-1	222	—
25. TCU	5-1	81	—

Others receiving votes: West Virginia 68, Arizona St. 43, Fresno St. 42, Nebraska 18, Georgia Tech 15, Iowa 13, Virginia 6, Michigan 3, Northwestern 3, Baylor 1, Toledo 1.

Texas Tech's Filani named to Big 12 list

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS (AP) — Texas Tech's Joel Filani, Missouri's Brian Smith and Ryan Havens of Baylor were named Big 12 players of the week Monday.

Filani was offensive player of the week, with three touchdown receptions.

That included a pass from quarterback Cody Hodges with 12 seconds remaining that gave the Red Raiders a 34-31 win at Nebraska.

Filani ended the day with 11 catches for 163 yards.

Defensive player honors went to Smith, who had seven tackles — including two sacks, forced a fumble and broke up a pass in Missouri's 38-31 win at Oklahoma State.

Ryan Havens won for special teams, going 3-for-3 on a career-high-tying three field goals of 49, 21 and 36 yards in Baylor's 23-13 win at Iowa State.

His 49-yarder was the longest by a Bears kicker since 1999.

Miers to be grilled on issues, qualifications

WASHINGTON (AP) — Harriet Miers' qualifications to be a Supreme Court justice and her views on privacy rights will be a focus of her confirmation hearings, Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Arlen Specter says.

Miers must show she can handle complicated legal issues and has not cut deals with the White House to overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling that legalized abortion, Specter, R-Pa., said Sunday on ABC's "This Week."

President Bush's nomination of Miers, a longtime confidante and White House counsel but never a judge, has caused division among conservatives. A leader of the right said he will not be satisfied until it is clear whether she would vote to overturn the abortion ruling.

"You can be an evangelical and you can be self-described pro-life," Gary

Bauer, president of the American Values Coalition, said of Miers. "But it doesn't tell us what she will do about a decision like Roe that has been set in stone now for over 30 years. And that's the rub."

Specter, noting that a justice has lifetime tenure, said: "If there are back-room assurances and if there are back-room deals and if there is something which bears upon a precondition as to how a nominee is going to vote, I think that's a matter that ought to be known."

Specter and the Judiciary Committee's top Democrat, Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy, are considering having James Dobson, founder of the social conservative group Focus on the Family, testify to the panel.

Dobson has said he is confident that Miers opposes abortion, based on private assurances from the White House.

Disputing that, Leahy said Miers

assured him she had not made any promises on how she would vote on Roe.

"If assurances were given of how any nominee — whether this nominee or anybody else — and somebody gives assurances how they're going to vote in an upcoming case, I would vote against that person," said Leahy, who appeared with Specter on ABC.

In recent days, many conservatives have expressed outrage that Bush did not choose a nominee with a proven judicial track record. They said it was risky putting Miers on the court because she was a blank slate on issues such as abortion and the death penalty. Some activists say she should withdraw her nomination.

Bauer, appearing on "Fox News Sunday," suggested that conservatives will not support Miers unless they have assurances that she would oppose Roe.

GOP suffering from litany of discontent

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's hard to tell which is more irritating for conservatives less than a year after they savored Republican election triumphs of 2004: President Bush's latest pick for the Supreme Court or his high-dollar pledge for recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

Either way, the double dose of discontent might be easier for the administration and Republican-controlled Congress to manage if their list of problems stopped there.

It doesn't, though. Not with bad poll ratings for Bush, a war president with 39 percent approval in the latest AP-Ipsos poll, and enthusiasm waning among evangelical voters, Republican men and southerners.

Not with the indictments of Texas Rep. Tom DeLay that forced him to step aside as House majority leader, at least for the time being. And not with the insider trading investigation of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

"The Democrats say we should be worried. But I am not," Rep. Tom Reynolds, head of the House GOP campaign committee, wrote fellow Republicans as they left the Capitol for a weeklong break.

Thirteen months before the 2006 midterm elections, the New York lawmaker added that the same polling that shows poor support for Congress gives high marks to individual incumbents.

For the White House, "the work of our government goes on, and I'm looking forward to working with members of Congress to meet our obligations and responsibilities," Bush said as he campaigned doggedly for White House counsel Harriet Miers' confirmation to the high court and enactment of the rest of a retooled agenda.

Defiant in public, DeLay added a dose of contrition in a recent closed-door meeting of the rank and file. He went after Texas prosecutor Ronnie Earle, yet also apologized to fellow Republicans for any political difficulty his case was causing them, according to participants in the session.

Determined to preserve his claim on his leadership title, DeLay urged others to shelve their own ambitions and concentrate on a year-end agenda of tighter federal spending and immigration legislation. The Republicans who described his remarks did so on condition of anonymity, noting the private nature of the meeting.

Frist speaks as seldom as possible in

public about his own troubles, which shadow his presidential hopes as much as GOP congressional fortunes.

The Tennessee Republican says he is innocent of relying on insider information to sell stock in HCA Inc., a health care company founded by his father. He has pledged to cooperate with investigators.

Frist greeted Miers warmly as she began making courtesy calls on senators who will decide whether she joins newly confirmed Chief Justice John Roberts on the court.

But several Republicans withheld endorsements until hearing her answer questions at confirmation hearings.

"We're left gathering shreds of evidence in trying to determine how the candidate would vote on the key issues of the day," said Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas, an opponent of abortion and a potential 2008 presidential candidate.

Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, who praised Miers after meeting with her, said, "It's the Souter factor." He referred to Justice David Souter, whom Bush's father nominated and promoted as a conservative, but who has since helped preserve abortion rights.

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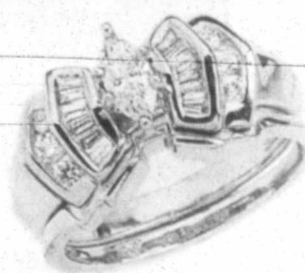
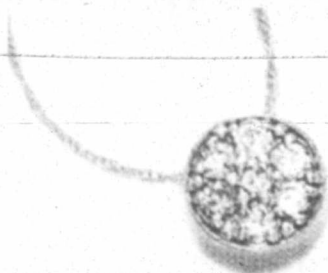


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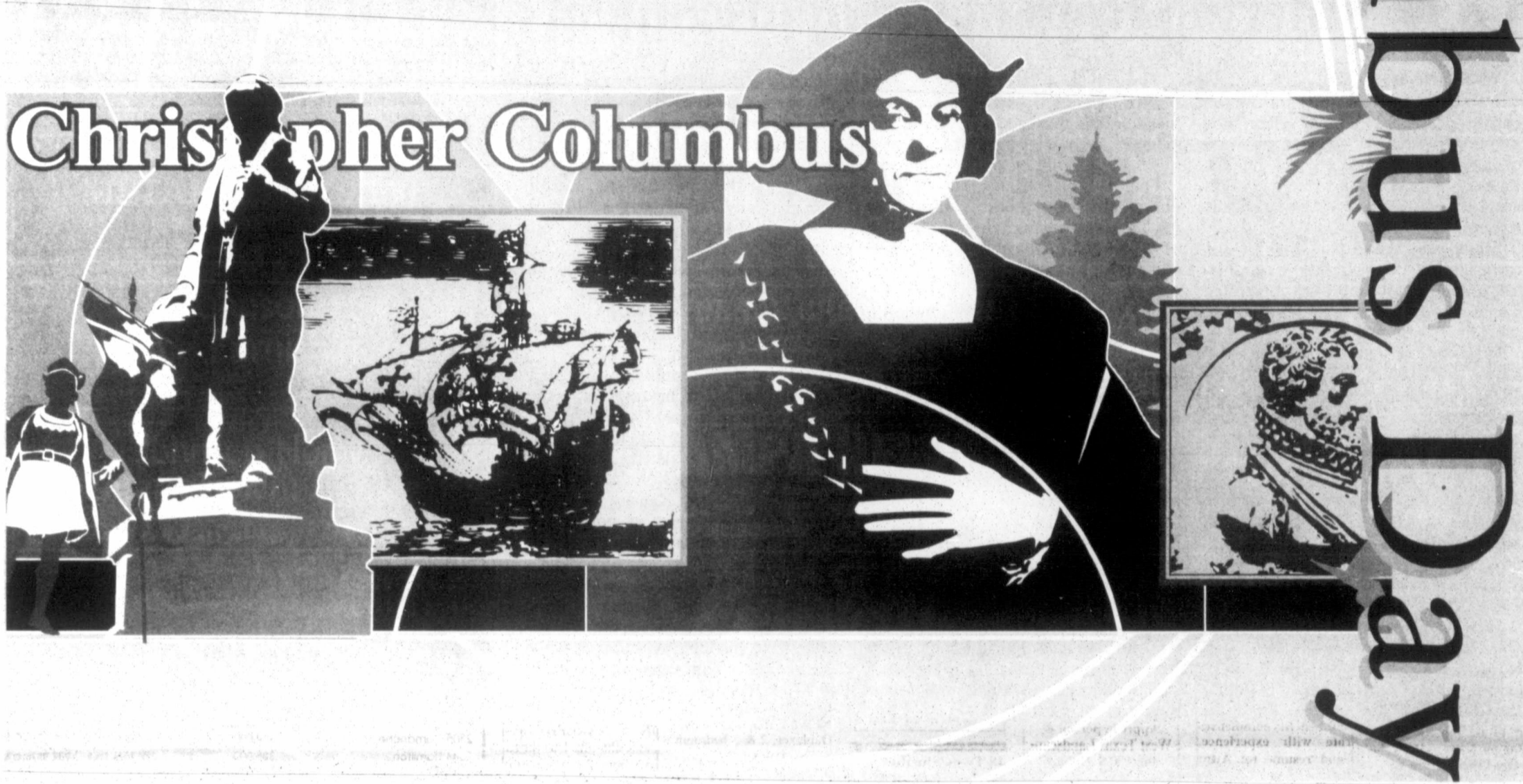
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Indians donate buffalo meat to hurricane evacuees in Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Two American Indian tribes in Montana have donated a 5,000-pound truckload of buffalo meat to hurricane

evacuees in Texas. Bison burgers and steaks were shipped from the tribally owned Little Rockies Meat Packing Co. last week,

scheduled to arrive in Terrell tonight to be distributed to about 400 evacuees.

The Assiniboine and Gros Ventre tribes said they want-

ed to help out somehow. "But we are a very poor reservation," Gros Ventre tribal member Janice Hawley said. "All we had to

share was our buffalo herd." The 10 sacred bison — worth about \$25,000 — were blessed in a pipe ceremony before slaughter to

provide spiritual and nutritional sustenance to the evacuees.

Faced with a big grin



Blessing of the Animals, an annual event at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Pampa, was held recently at the church. Participating were many of the church's kindergarten, 3-year-old, 4-year-old and Pre-K classes. Berkley Phillips is pictured above with her dog, held by C.J. Frazier and Sissy Curtis.

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South Texas population still answers call to military duty

SMITHSON VALLEY, Texas (AP) — While military recruiters across the country struggle to attract enlistees, South Texas recruiters continue to tap into a traditionally rich recruitment state.

The San Antonio Recruiting Battalion signed up 2,118 active-duty enlistees and 645 reservists in the 2005 fiscal year. At 86 percent of its goal, the battalion ranked No. 1 and No. 2 nationwide in those categories.

Nationally, the Army failed to reach its recruiting goal for the first time since 1999.

Its goal was to enlist 80,000 recruits this past year to meet its worldwide commitments.

But it fell short by about 7,000 as the United States entered its third year with the conflict in Iraq.

South Texas has typically contributed a high number of recruits for all branches of the military.

Army spokesman Col. Joe Curtin attributes the success to the area's four installations, the large base of military retirees promoting service and a culture that traditionally has produced more recruits than other parts of the nation.

"San Antonians are answering the call to duty despite the economy, despite the war and maybe despite pressure from peers to do something else," he said.

Despite the success in South Texas, Army recruiters have struggled, in part, because of the war.

The battalion's parent command, the 5th Recruiting Brigade at Fort

Sam Houston, was 14 percent under its goal for the 2005 fiscal year, but still did better than any other Army unit.

Houston's battalion got 70 percent of its target, making it fourth best in the nation. Other top recruiting cities included Dallas, Oklahoma City and Portland, Ore.

To try to boost recruitment numbers, the Army has increased its corps of active-duty and reserve recruiters from 6,074 to 8,053.

Recruiters work 12- and 14-hour days and attend weekend events to reach their quota of two enlistees a month.

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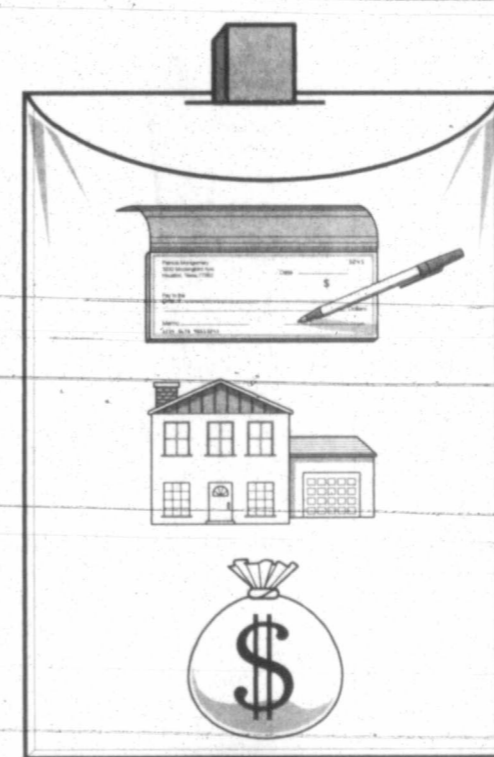
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