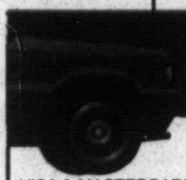


Today's Weather

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, August 3, 2006

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New regs driving up landfill costs

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The rising costs of state environmental standards and increased fuel costs are being blamed for the need to increase solid waste rates at the Pampa landfill.

Donny Hooper with the city's Public Works Department said the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is working

on what he termed a major upgrade in regulations from the regulations in 1995 under which the city was permitted for its landfill.

While the state environmental agency is allowing cities time to comply with the new regulations, Hooper said some steps will need to be taken by the end of the year.

The new regulations have to do with the liner at the landfill and

groundwater protection.

"A lot of things have to be done," Hooper said. "Every landfill in the state is going through this."

The new regulations will require, among other things, wells to monitor groundwater.

The city is also about to start a fourth cell at the landfill.

Pampa Public Works Director Richard Morris said that with the

new rules, closing out the existing site and opening the new cell will cost about \$2.14 million by the end of the 2007-2008-budget year.

Morris said fuel costs for the sanitation department are about \$30,000 this year, more than had been expected. He said they are expected to increase again next year.

See COSTS, Page 3

Texas shoppers gearing up for tax-free holiday

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Texas' annual opportunity to shop tax-free for clothing and shoes will be Friday through Sunday.

This is the eighth year for the sales tax holiday, designed to help parents save on back-to-school clothing for their children. Adult clothing and shoes are included in the savings.

Most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 will be tax-free during the three-day tax holiday. Tax-free items will include children's clothing and school uniforms, adults' clothing and work uniforms,

socks, underwear, and shoes, including tennis shoes.

Items that cannot be purchased tax-free this weekend include handbags and wallets, jewelry, accessories, athletic shoes, safety gear, backpacks and school supplies.

"This tax break is real, and it is available to everyone," said Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn. "Families save about \$8 for every \$100 they spend on school clothes for the kids and new outfits for mom and dad."

Shoppers saved an estimated \$47.4 million in state and local sales taxes during the 2005 sales tax holiday. Since Strayhorn implemented the first sales tax holiday in 1999, taxpayers have saved \$287 million, including \$226 million in state sales tax and \$61 million in local sales taxes.

More information on the holiday, including a list of tax-exempt items, may be found on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx98_490/tx98_490.html.

TAX FREE LIST

■ Items which will be sales tax-free Friday through Sunday if each is priced under \$100 are:

- Baby clothes
- Belts with attached buckles
- Boots, including cowboy and hiking
- Caps/hats, such as baseball, fishing, golf and knitted
- Coats and wraps
- Diapers, adult and baby
- Dresses
- Gloves
- Gym suits and uniforms
- Hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts
- Hosiery
- Jackets
- Jeans

Jerseys, baseball and football

- Jogging apparel
- Neckwear and ties
- Pajamas
- Pants and trousers
- Raincoats and ponchos
- Robes
- Shirts
- Shoes — sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking
- Socks, including athletic
- Shorts
- Suits, slacks, and jackets
- Sweatshirts
- Sweat suits
- Sweaters
- Swimsuits
- Underclothes
- Work clothes and uniforms

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High school rodeo club planning party Sunday

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Pampa High School Rodeo Club will host a "Howdy Party" from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Recreation Park.

The party is for high school students who are interested in rodeoing in Tri-State High School Rodeo Association events. Students' parents may also attend. Club sponsors and members will be at the party.

Hot dogs and soft drinks will be served. Membership applications will be available.

The PHS Rodeo Club will produce the second rodeo of the first semester schedule for TSHSRA, according to Terri Sexton, club sponsor. Other sponsors are Dennis Golleher and Pam Spangler.

For more information, call Sexton at 665-4487.

Thirsty blooms



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

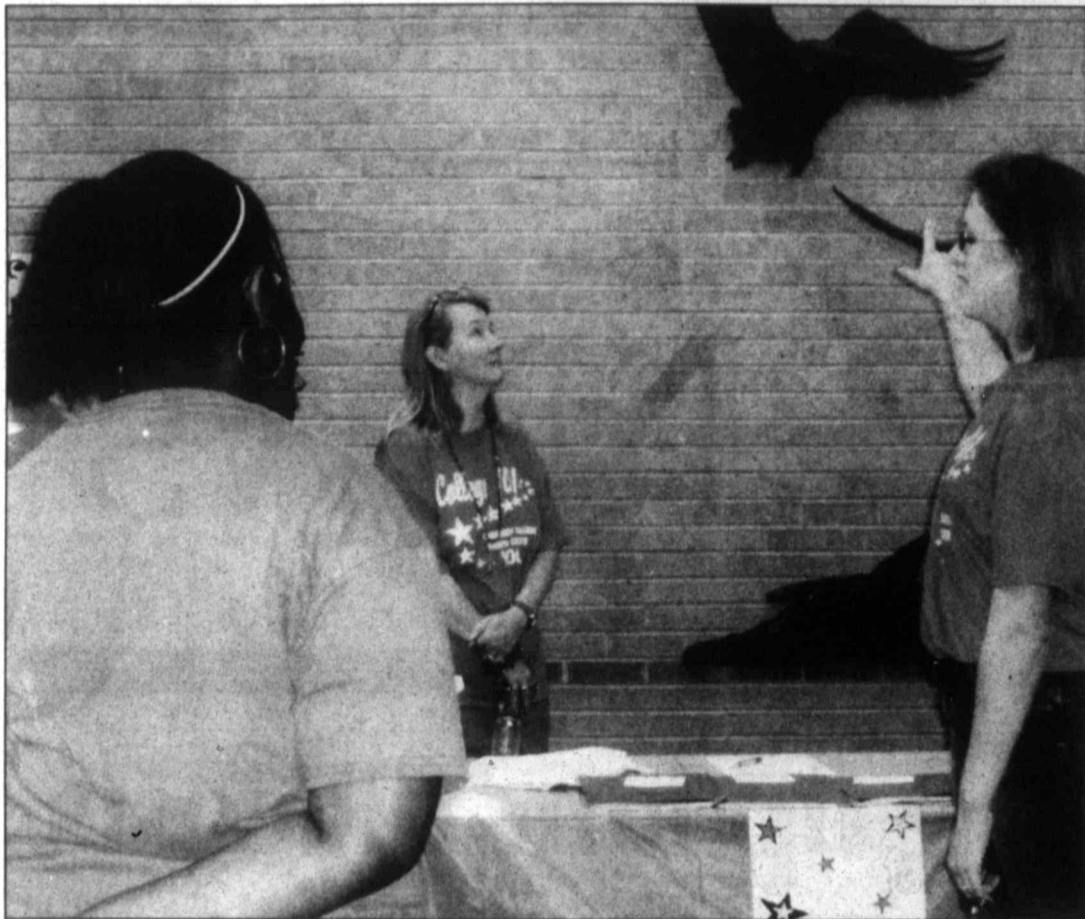
Raindrops cling to the brightly-colored blossoms of a vine this morning after a thunderstorm moved through the Pampa area. The automated weather station near Recreation Park recorded 0.28 inch of rainfall as of 10 a.m. today. Another 0.20 inch fell on the area Wednesday, according to station records.

JOB RECRUITING FAIR

A National Customer Service Company Will Conduct A "Job Recruiting Fair" In Pampa
Tue., Aug. 8 - 4-8pm & Wed., Aug. 9 - 8am-8pm. At The Clarendon College Pampa Center 1601 W. Kentucky

For More Information Contact The Pampa Chamber Of Commerce At 806-669-3241

'College 101'



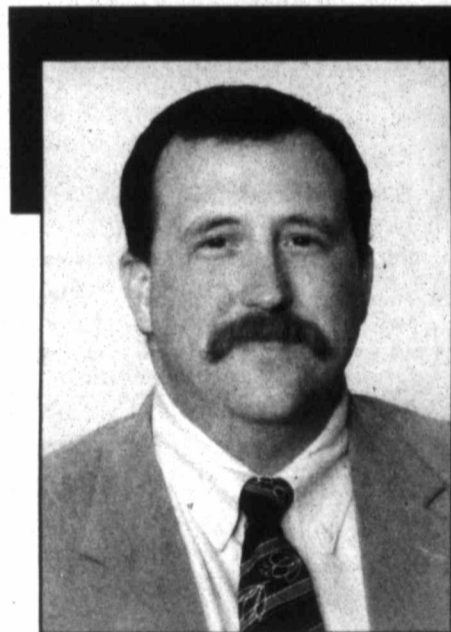
The group at the left listened intently as Lindsey Been, right, Enrollment Services counselor at Clarendon College-Pampa Center, conducted a tour of CCPC during "College 101" Wednesday at the school. The event, an effort to orient interested students to CCPC programs and campus, included games, tours, refreshments and guest speakers.

Gray County Weather

Today: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could produce heavy rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 83. East-northeast wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent. Tonight: Showers and thunderstorms likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67. East-southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible. Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thun-

derstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 88. South-southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 72. South-southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 95. South wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 73. South-southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 95. South-

southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 71. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 92. South-southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 71. Tuesday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 91. Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. Wednesday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 93.



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General Surgeon

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Detroit, Michigan

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Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
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Tarleton State University
Stephenville, Texas

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BS in Clinical Laboratory Science



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Obituaries

Ollie Thelma Parks, 85

Ollie Thelma Parks, 85, of Pampa, died Aug. 3, 2006, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Blayz Logan Searsy

Blayz Logan Searsy, infant son of Josh and Misty Searsy, died July 31, 2006, at a hospital in Levelland. Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. today in Resthaven Memorial Park's Babyland. Blayz is preceded in death by a brother, Devon Luke Searsy; and his great-grandparents, Johnie and Bonnie Chilton. Survivors include his parents, Joshua and Misty; his grandparents, Janie Simpson, Renee and Ronnie Brown, Larry and "Pete" Searsy; and his great-grandparents, J.B. and Shirley Langwell, Maxine and Gene Searsy and Florene Coldeaway.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Thirteen traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received from the 700 block of East Brunow and the 800 block of Bradley Drive. Animal complaints were received from the intersection of Hobart and Foster streets and the intersection of Barnes and Albert streets. A vehicle accident was reported in the 100 block of West 30th. Lost property was reported in the police department lobby and the 1900 block of Hamilton.

Civil matters were reported in the 1600 block of North Sumner and the police department lobby.

A welfare check was made in the 700 block of North Russell.

Warrant service was attempted on two occasions, resulting in at least one arrest.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

A prowler was reported in the 1200 block of Duncan.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2600 block of North Hobart.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 600 block of Sloan.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of North Naida. Two vehicles were damaged. One vehicle sustained damage to the windshield, mirror and hood. A second vehicle sustained damage to the left mirror and left door. Total estimated damage is \$2,000.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 300 block of Jean. A brick was thrown through a vehicle's windshield. Estimated cost of damage is unknown.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road. A vehicle was keyed, resulting in an estimated \$500 damage.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of Duncan.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2300 block of Mary Ellen and the 300 block of North Ward, where the incident was verbal only.

Assault was reported in the 1800 block of North Sumner.

Assault and theft was reported in the 1600 block of North Russell. No injuries were reported. Decorations valued at \$655 were taken.

Minor in possession of alcohol and open container were reported in the 1000 block of South Hobart.

Possession of less than two ounces of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia were reported in the 300 block of West Tyng. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Driving while intoxicated and resisting arrest were reported in the 600 block of East Frederic. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

One open door was checked.

Two burglar alarms were reported.

Fraud was reported at Cabot and NOI Employees Credit Union, 320 W. Francis.

Theft was reported in the 1800 block of Wilcox. Two potted plants valued at \$18 were taken.

Theft was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart. A bicycle valued at \$60 was taken.

Theft was reported in the 1100 block of Cinderella, the 400 block of North Wynne, the 2400 block of Evergreen, and the police department lobby.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 140 S. Starkweather.

Burglary was reported in the 800 block of East Craven.

Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 400 block of Crest. Cords on various electrical appliances were cut, and numerous items of clothing were damaged. Jewelry was taken. Total estimated loss and damage is \$3,500.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 100 block of East 30th. The vehicle, a 1994 Toyota 4Runner, was later recovered in the 1000 block of North Starkweather.

Sheriff

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

Tuesday, Aug. 1

Christian Edward Bruce, 26, of Pampa was arrested

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902 E. Fisher. Near Wilson Elem., lrg. living, (bookcases), dining, 2 bdr., 1 ba., dishw., fenced pen, window air, cent. heat & fans. Private play lot. \$450 rent + 1 mo. dep. Cell# 512-294-0092.

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JAMMING AT The Woodie Guthrie Center, 320 S. Cuyler, Pampa. Fri., Aug. 4th, 7pm.-? Come play or listen!!

PRE-ENROLLMENT FOR Gray Co. Latchkey students, is Thur., Aug. 3rd, 4-6pm. at Lovett Memorial Library. All elem. sch. age children are eligible for this program which operates daily 3-5:30pm.

SOWING THE Word with David Tompkins at Light-house Covenant Fellowship 18th and Banks, Sun-Wed.

Fire

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

Wednesday, Aug. 2

3:12 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1500 block of North Christie on a call for medical assistance.

Thursday, Aug. 3

6:58 a.m. — Two units and six personnel responded to the 100 block of South Russell on a possible fire. No fire. An alarm had malfunctioned.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat	4.31
Milo	3.38
Corn	4.27
Soybeans	4.64

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

OXY	106.60	-1.08
BP PLC ADR	72.34	-0.44
Cabot Corp	32.31	-1.84
Celanese	17.42	-0.31
Cabot Oil Gas	53.94	-0.87
Coca Cola	44.25	-0.06
VLO	67.10	-0.09
HAL	33.44	-0.28
TRI	38.86	-0.14
KMI	101.09	+0.01
XCEL	20.39	-0.06
Kerr McGee	70.28	+0.15
XOM	68.46	-0.02
Nat'l Oilwell	66.09	-0.81
Limited	25.73	+1.24
Williams	24.63	+0.31
MCD	35.45	-0.14
Atmos	28.87	-0.05
Pioneer Nat	45.44	-0.07
JCP	64.22	-0.02
COP	69.01	-0.02
SLB	66.22	-1.07
Tenneco	22.24	-0.45
CVX	65.70	-0.27
Wal-Mart	44.56	+0.19
OKE	37.86	+0.30
NS Grp	48.41	-0.90

New York Gold651.75
Silver12.15
West Texas Crude75.81

LONE STAR STATE

State, plaintiffs argue for map remedy in redistricting fight

AUSTIN (AP) — The three-year-old Texas congressional redistricting fight heads back to the courthouse Thursday, with all sides scheduled to argue their cases to a three-judge federal panel.

The judges have been tasked with deciding how the boundaries of a huge southwest Texas congressional district should be redrawn to restore minority voting power, which was diminished when concentrations of Hispanics were split into two districts. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that the district, now represented by Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio, violates the Voting Rights Act.

The ruling was the result of lawsuit against the state filed by Democrats and several groups of minority rights activists.

Each side has submitted maps they'd like to see adopted.

It's unclear when the judges will issue their decision, but Texas elections officials say a ruling by Monday is necessary for the changes to be on the Nov. 7 ballot.

"It is recommended by our office that the court have a map in place by (Aug.) 7th," said Scott Haywood, a spokesman for Secretary of State Roger Williams.

Williams' office submitted a letter to the court to emphasize the urgency of a speedy resolution to the case.

Having a new map by Monday would provide enough time for candidates to file paperwork required for a place on the ballot and for counties to adjust the polling locations and precinct boundaries.

Williams must certify the ballot by Sept. 6.

The high court upheld most of the map, drawn by state Republicans in 2003, but ruled that Bonilla's district is unconstitutional.

The district stretches from Laredo to San Antonio and west to the edge of El Paso. It's the only district that must be

redrawn, but neighboring districts will likely need to be tweaked to comply with any changes.

The federal panel can select one of the maps submitted by the parties in the case or draw their own voting lines to fix the district in question.

In their submissions to the court, Texas' Republican leaders were mindful not to hurt the GOP's majority in the U.S. House by ensuring their party's incumbents don't end up in competitive races.

The biggest shake up in the state's suggested map would be in Austin. The hometown of longtime Democratic Rep. Lloyd Doggett would shift into a district now represented by Rep. Lamar Smith, a San Antonio Republican.

The change could pit Smith against Doggett on the ballot. Doggett also could choose to run in his current district, even though if the state's plan is accepted, it wouldn't include Austin.

Travis County, which contains Austin and is one of the most liberal counties in Texas, could end up split among three Republican districts with a majority of county voters in other districts.

A map crafted by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, which successfully argued the problems with Bonilla's district, shifts the Hispanic population of Webb County, where the unconstitutional split of Hispanic voters occurred.

The GOP-controlled Legislature redrew the map in 2003 to put more Republicans in office.

Democrats and minority groups sued the state, accusing Republicans of an unconstitutional power grab in drawing boundaries that booted four Democrats from office. The district boundaries were effective for the 2004 congressional elections.

'It is recommended by our office that the court have a map in place by (Aug.) 7th.'

— Scott Haywood
Spokesman

Israel launches new airstrikes

BOURJ AL-MULOUK, Lebanon (AP) — Israel renewed airstrikes on Beirut's southern suburbs Thursday and an Israeli missile killed three people in a border village, a day after Hezbollah launched its biggest rocket barrage yet on the Jewish state.

The Shiite guerrillas retaliated by firing at least 132 rockets at northern Israel — 100 within several minutes — killing at least seven people in Acre and Maalot. It was the bloodiest day since eight people were killed July 16 near a train maintenance depot.

Three weeks into the conflict, six Israeli brigades — roughly 10,000 troops — were locked in fighting with hundreds of Hezbollah guerrillas in southern Lebanon, and the battle looked likely to be long and bitter.

Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Saniora said more than

900 people had been killed and 3,000 wounded, but he did not say whether the new figure — up from 548 confirmed dead — included people missing.

More than 1 million people, a quarter of Lebanon's population, have been displaced, he said, adding that the fighting "is taking an enormous toll on human life and infrastructure, and has totally ravaged our country and shattered our economy."

At the United Nations, France circulated a revised resolution calling for an immediate cessation of Israeli-Hezbollah hostilities.

It also spells out conditions for a lasting solution to the crisis, including: deploying peacekeepers; creating a buffer zone in south Lebanon free of Hezbollah militants and Israeli troops; the release of two Israeli soldiers abducted by Hezbollah; and the "settle-

ment of the issue of the Lebanese prisoners detained in Israel."

So far, Washington has resisted calls for a cease-fire without simultaneous steps to deploy peacekeepers and tackle Hezbollah's disarmament. France insists the fighting be halted first to pave the way for a wider peace.

Elsewhere, an emergency meeting of the Islamic world's biggest bloc demanded that the United Nations implement an immediate cease-fire and investigate what it called Israel's flagrant human rights violations. Iran's hard-line president said the obliteration of Israel would cure the Middle East's woes.

Amid the diplomatic wrangling, Hezbollah's chief spokesman said his group will not agree to a cease-fire until all Israeli troops leave Lebanon.

Costs

Continued from Page 1

"We are proposing an increase of 50 cents per month for trash pick up," Horst said. "About 20 cents of that increase is for fuel cost increases and the other 30 cents is to cover mandated TECO fees related to the landfill."

Morris said that would amount to about \$27.50 a ton fee, a \$1.50 a ton increase, at the landfill. That would be the same as the fee for customers in Lubbock. It would be less than the \$41 a ton that Plainview charges and the \$30 a ton that Dumas charges.

Amarillo charges \$23 a ton. The increased fee would also be charged to the 11 communities in five counties that use the Pampa landfill.

Morris said that without the economies of scale that the Pampa landfill has

because of the other communities, the city would probably have to charge about what Plainview does in order to be self-sufficient.

The fee, if approved by the city commission, would go into effect in October.

"We would be doing really well if we didn't have all these state and federal mandated rules," said Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins.

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Ford recalls 1.2 million trucks, SUVs and vans over possible engine fires

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ford Motor Co., already reeling from business setbacks, recalled 1.2 million trucks, sport utility vehicles and vans Thursday amid concerns about potential engine fires.

Ford said the recall was tied to the speed control deactivation switch system, which could corrode over time, overheat and ignite. It builds upon one of the largest recalls in U.S. history.

The recall was the latest setback for the No. 2 U.S. automaker, which said late Wednesday that its second-quarter loss more than doubled from what it previously reported because of higher-than-expected pension costs.

Ford also said that its luxury division will not be profitable this year. And Ford hired a turnaround specialist amid a report that the automaker is reviewing poorly performing units, including Jaguar, with an eye toward the possible sale of some operations.

Underscoring the woes in North America, Ford last month for the first time sold fewer vehicles than Toyota Motor Corp. in the United States.

Shares of the Dearborn, Mich.-based company fell 18 cents to \$6.78 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

The recall involves vehicles fueled by gasoline or natural gas and equipped with speed control, including the 1994-2002 F-250, F-350, F-450 and F-550 F-Super Duty trucks, 2000-2002 Excursion SUVs, 1994-1996 Econoline vans and 1996-2002 E-450 vans, and 1998 Explorers and Mountaineers. The recall does not involve similar vehicles fueled by diesel.

Last September, Ford recalled 3.8 million pickups and SUVs from the 1994-2002 model years, including the top-selling F-150 pickup, because of the concerns over engine fires. It was the fifth-largest auto industry recall in U.S. history.

In January 2005, the company recalled nearly 800,000 pickups and SUVs from the 2000 model year because of similar issues.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Thursday it closed a nearly two-year investigation into the cause of the fires. The agency has received 1,472 complaints connected to the problems, including 65 reports of fires.

NHTSA said there have been no confirmed deaths or injuries, but lawsuits have been filed over three deaths in Iowa, Georgia and Arkansas, allegedly connected to vehicle fires.

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Viewpoints

Newsmaker Interviews: Illuminating the Shadow Party

The Shadow Party — the network of big money, ex-Clinton political operatives, unions and left-wing grassroots organizations that now essentially controls the Democrat Party — was not discovered or named by David Horowitz and Richard Poe.

But in their new book, "The Shadow Party: How George Soros, Hillary Clinton, and Sixties Radicals Seized Control of the Democratic Party" (Nelson Current), Horowitz and Poe set out to expose what their publisher says are "the influential and powerful Americans secretly stirring up disunion and disloyalty in the shifting shadows of the Democratic Party."

Horowitz, a long-ago radical Marxist who is now the

tireless and articulate conservative nemesis of the Left, is a columnist, author and president of the David Horowitz Freedom Center (horowitzfreedomcenter.org) in Los Angeles. I talked to him recently.

Q: What is the Shadow Party?

A: The Shadow Party is a George Soros conglomerate. George Soros, a billionaire, has engineered campaign finance reform, by pouring tens of millions of dollars — and getting others to do it, too — into the campaign finance reform movement. What this did was it limited the ability of the political parties to raise money. As soon as the campaign finance laws came into place, they had a loophole — and naturally they would,

because Soros was behind this — for private organizations like MoveOn.org, called 527s, that could collect money.

Soros managed to put together a coalition, which we call the Shadow Party, which accounted for about \$300 million in the Democratic

Bill Steigerwald
Columnist



campaign. Actually, it was much more than that. He put together a group that orchestrated media ads, so that meant that his groups, since they were in place before the democratic nominee was even chosen, were able to shape the message of the John Kerry campaign and, in

effect, control the campaign that way.

But through another organization they have, Americans Coming Together, they also put together the ground war.

ACT was composed of big government unions, like SEIU, and teachers unions.

They were able to produce 100,000 campaign workers and huge amounts of money to knock on doors and get out the vote. Because Soros and the group he put together control both the ground war and the air war of Democratic campaigns, that means that every elected Democratic official has got

to pay attention to what they say.

Q: Your book is just an attempt to throw light on Shadow Party?

A: It gives the history of the Shadow Party. It gives a biography of George Soros — who this man is, how this group came about and details how they operate. There are a lot of profiles in the book. If I name the people, you won't know the names. ... You've probably never heard of Wade Rathke, but he's the head of ACORN, which is the biggest radical organization in the United States. It controls many American cities. For example, one of the things they've done is it has gotten 359 American cities to pass resolutions that they will not cooperate with

homeland security.

Q: What is new to the Shadow Party that your book adds?

A: First of all, it goes inside George Soros. You have to understand who this man is, because he can be portrayed in many ways — philanthropist, capitalist. In fact, he says that the capitalist system has replaced communism as the greatest threat. Second, he says America is the greatest obstacle to world justice and stability. His agenda is what he calls "to burst the bubble of American supremacy." In other words, he's a lefty.

We've also described the radical components of the Soros operation. This is not just something you talk about in electoral terms, as

See **PARTY**, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 3, the 215th day of 2006. There are 150 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Twenty-five years ago, on Aug. 3, 1981, U.S. air traffic controllers went on strike, despite a warning from President Reagan they would be fired, which they were.

On this date:

In 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, on a voyage that took him to the present-day Americas.

In 1914, Germany declared war on France.

In 1923, Calvin Coolidge was sworn in as the 30th president of the United States, following the death of Warren G. Harding.

In 1936, the State Department urged Americans in Spain to leave because of that country's civil war.

In 1943, Gen. George S. Patton slapped a private at an army hospital in Sicily, accusing him of cowardice. (Patton was later ordered by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to apologize for this and a second, similar episode.)

In 1949, the National Basketball Association was formed as a merger of the Basketball Association of America and the National Basketball League.

In 1958, the nuclear-powered submarine Nautilus became the first vessel to cross the North Pole underwater.

In 1980, closing ceremonies were held in Moscow for the Summer Olympic Games, which had been boycotted by dozens of countries, including the United States.

In 1993, the Senate voted 96-3 to confirm Supreme Court nominee Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

In 1994, Stephen G. Breyer was sworn in as the Supreme Court's newest justice in a private ceremony at Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's Vermont summer home.

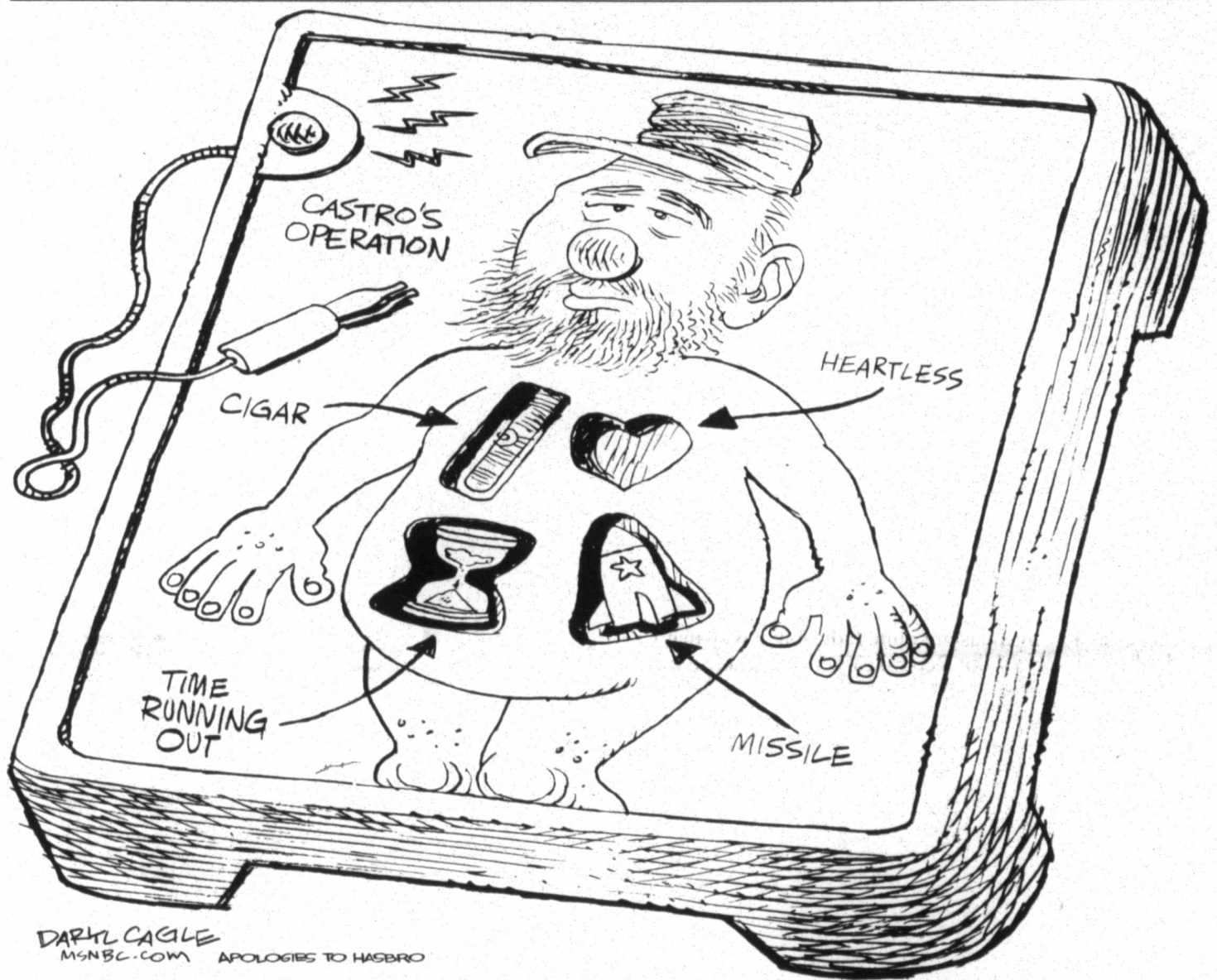
Ten years ago: At the Atlanta Olympics, the U.S. men's 400-meter relay, without Carl Lewis, failed to win the gold medal, finishing behind Canada. The American women's 400 and 1600 relays and the men's 1600 all won gold. The U.S. men's basketball "Dream Team" beat Yugoslavia 95-69 to win the gold.

Five years ago: U.S. Fulbright scholar John Tobin was released from a Russian prison after serving half of a one-year drug sentence and winning parole. Actor Christopher Hewett died at age 80.

One year ago: Fourteen Marines from a Reserve unit in Ohio were killed in the deadliest roadside bombing suffered by American forces in the Iraq war.

"It takes a great deal of history to produce a little literature."

— Henry James
American author
(1843-1916)



Internet safety: Filtering out the bad ...

Many times, when I speak before groups, I get questioned about some of the adult information on the Internet. Usually, the questions come from concerned parents or teachers. Being a parent myself, I understand their concerns. There are definitely places on the Internet that I don't want my children going.

But, you have to put it in perspective. There are definitely places in our community that I wouldn't want my children going. The Internet is like any community. Just as any town has churches, schools and bars, the Internet has churches, schools and bars. The solution is not to disallow access to the Internet altogether. After all, in this day and age, kids without access to the Internet are labeled "disadvantaged" by their teachers. The Internet is the best resource for students to learn more about their studies and the world.

The key is to control their

access to the Net. Of course, how this is done is the subject of many debates on Capitol Hill. Congress attempted to legislate this issue a while back. They wrote a bill called the "Communications Decency Act" (CDA) and attached it to the "Telecommunications Act of 1996." What the bill basically stated, was that it was "illegal for a minor to view indecent material on the Internet."

The Supreme Court threw out the CDA almost immediately. They cited two reasons: First, who got to determine the definition of "decent?" Eric Spellmann? Congress? The President? The word "decent" is incredibly subjective. Since it couldn't be defined in a black and white manner, it was unenforceable.

Second, the Supreme

Court quickly realized that "inappropriate sites" would simply move to other countries to escape our laws. Remember, laws made by our Congress are only enforceable as far as our borders. We do not have the right to dictate the information another country puts on the Internet.

Today, the government is a little smarter when it comes to protecting our youth.

The president and many congressmen have decided to back a new solution, one that doesn't infringe on First Amendment rights.

Filtering software is the answer. Here's how it works: Parents install filtering software on their system. They lock it with a password. The software then monitors all information transmitted or received from the Internet.

Kids are protected in three ways. First, the software comes with a predefined list of sites that are deemed inappropriate for kids. If little Johnny attempts to go to one of those sites, the software blocks the attempt and logs it for parents to view later. Most filtering software also comes with a utility to update those sites once per month. Parents can add to or delete sites from the list.

The second level of protection is at the word level. If the software detects certain language on a Web page or an e-mail message, it will not display it. This technique not only protects the kids from inappropriate language, but can also be set up to prevent them from sending personal information to strangers. Once again, parents can add to and delete words from this list.

Finally, the third level of protection involves an enforced timer. Parents can set the software to restrict

See **SAFETY**, Page 5

Eric Spellmann
Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ July 23

San Antonio Express-News on agricultural disaster relief:

What qualifies as a ranching and farming disaster? According to the Department of Agriculture, just about anything.

When the Bush administration drafted the Livestock Compensation Program in 2002, it was intended as a limited measure to help ranchers and dairy farmers hurt by severe drought in Western states.

But as with so many government programs, what began as a limited measure with good intentions grew into a monstrosity that bore little resemblance to what came out of the White

House four years ago.

An investigative report by the Washington Post revealed that the Livestock Compensation Program ended up costing taxpayers \$1.2 billion. Ranchers and farmers who weren't in drought areas successfully lobbied to have the scope of the program expanded.

See **RELIEF**, Page 5

Party

Continued from Page 4

though it is the usual special interests coming together. At the base of this is a grass-roots movement which has actually bankrupted the city of New York, which they did by loading the welfare roles. The core of it was called the National Welfare Rights Organization and their strategy was to recruit people to the welfare system in order to break it.

Q: It's safe to say that the Shadow Party couldn't exist without George Soros?

A: Yes, Soros put it together. He has bought together elements of the philanthropy world, the political world, the business world, the union world and the world of radical street politics and created a juggernaut.

It is the Democrat Party, in a way. No Democrat can certainly be elected without it. He's made an alliance of course with Hillary Clinton and the Clinton team, which is the organization called the Center for American Progress, which is run by Clinton's former chief of staff, John Podesta, and there is a whole constellation of organizations around that solidifies his power. So there really is no other center of power that is significant in the Democratic Party anymore.

It's odd that the book "The Shadow Party" is coming out the same day of the Connecticut primary. The mere fact that Joe Lieberman, who is a three-term senator, an incumbent, and who was on the presidential ticket of the Democratic Party in 2000, should be fighting for his political life against these forces shows how powerful the people in the Shadow Party are.

Q: What has been the Shadow Party's biggest exploit so far?

A: They lost the election, that's true, in 2004. But they ran it. John Kerry was an appendage of what they did.

Q: What is the Shadow Party ultimately trying to do?

A: Soros said his number one goal is to "unseat Bush." It's social justice, is the way you describe it. What they want is a form of socialism. They don't articulate it as such, but if you read their statements and as we show in the book, their agenda really is socialist. It is to convert the war on terror into a criminal operation. It is to withdraw from Iraq, which would let Iraq fall to the terrorists. It is to make America part of the World Court, to institute world government. Soros is technically an American but he is very hostile towards the United States.

Q: There are rightwing Republicans who try to influence elections and get bills passed, etc. What makes this more sinister than what the Republicans or right-wingers do?

A: Well, first of all, it is much more organized. There are obvious constituencies in the Republican coalition, who have different agendas, but in the end they compromise and they are part of the national party. Here, you have part of a party that is not really visible. Very few Americans, very few Democratic voters, know this even exists. It's working behind the scenes and its agendas are quite radical in a way that I don't think any of the Republican constituencies are. Most Republican constituencies known to me, in the end, they compromise and they vote.

Q: Is the Shadow Party getting stronger or weaker as we approach 2008?

A: In my view, it's much stronger. This Lieberman thing even shocked me. Think of it from a political point of view. You're an old style pol, OK? You understand that national political battles are won and lost in the center. Everybody understands that. So here you have a guy, Joe Lieberman — the one Democrat who is a really prominent supporter of the war. So he makes your party look like a big tent. About 80 percent of Democrats are against the war. But there are 20 percent who are for the war.

You want Lieberman in your party. He can't affect your majority. He's not going to change your vote. But these people are such zealots — they are religious in their passion — that they want to get rid of him. And they are going out to get rid of a statesman of their party.

It makes no sense in terms of ordinary American politics. It makes a lot of sense in terms of SP politics. These are people on a mission. They are not thinking straight on this issue. Soros himself is a cleverer person. I don't want to give the idea that Soros makes every decision. It's not that kind of party.

He's put together a coalition of forces. He does manage a lot of the money. But what he has done that is unique, in my view, in the history of American politics, is that he has put together a coalition of billionaires, of giant unions, of street radicals, and of seasoned political operatives. It's a never-before-seen combination in American politics

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

Relief

Continued from Page 4

to do with ranching or farming a qualifying event.

So hundreds of ranchers in East Texas cashed in on the space shuttle Columbia disaster to the tune of \$40,000 each even though no shuttle debris fell on their land and even if their operations weren't affected in the slightest way.

Texas ranchers and farmers were, in fact, the biggest beneficiaries of this mammoth porker of a program. All 254 counties qualified for disaster relief.

In many cases, the qualifying events were as inconsequential as the ice storm that earned Cooke County \$906,000. The head of the USDA county office told the Washington Post, "There was no damage ... to crops or livestock. Maybe a few pine trees got knocked down."

In an agricultural industry that is vulnerable to real disaster, there's a legitimate role for the government to play as the insurer of last resort. The perversion of the Livestock Compensation Program delegitimizes even that limited role.

Safety

Continued from Page 4

Internet access to certain times of the day. Not only does this curtail mischief, it prevents kids from spending too much time behind the PC. Homework and chores have to be done, too!

So, which software is the best? Three titles spring to mind: Cyber Patrol (<http://www.cyberpatrol.com>), Surf Control (<http://www.surfcontrol.com>)

), and Net Nanny (<http://www.netnanny.com>). All three have received awards for their performance. However, after testing all three and talking to many parents, Cyber Patrol seems to get the highest marks.

Parents and teachers need to remember, though, that this software should not be used as a substitute to supervision. I believe strongly that all kids should be monitored by an adult while surfing the Net. School labs should always have a teacher handy to supervise and assist the

students. Before allowing access to the Internet, schools should also have the students and parents sign off on a "Proper Internet Usage" agreement.

In my opinion, filtering software is a better solution than government intervention. Think about it: It's not the government telling you what you CAN and CAN NOT see. It's not your Internet Service Provider dictating the information you can view. The power is in your hands. You can turn it off or on. You make the

final decision about what comes into your home or school.

One last thing: Filtering software is not perfect. It is meant as a tool to assist the parent and teacher, not to replace them. Personal responsibility should be emphasized in both the classroom and at home. When it comes down to it, we should all be held responsible for our own actions and those of our children.

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

Generals: Haditha probe reinforces corps' integrity

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. (AP) — As the leadership of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force changed hands, the departing and incoming commanders said they believe an investigation into accusations that U.S. Marines deliberately shot civilians in Haditha, Iraq, will ultimately strengthen the corps.

Lt. Gen. Keith Stalder took command of the Camp Lejeune-based group on Wednesday from Lt. Gen. James Amos, who is headed to the Pentagon to become deputy commander in charge of combat development.

"We don't know the facts on Haditha, let alone what the facts mean at this point," said Stalder. "We do owe it to the American people to check

our assumptions."

Pentagon officials, speaking Wednesday to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity in Washington, said evidence collected about the deaths of 24 Iraqis in Haditha supported allegations that Marines deliberately fired on civilians, including women and children.

Navy and Marine Corps prosecutors are reviewing evidence, and the commander of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force will ultimately decide whether to bring charges.

All of the Marines accused in the Haditha shootings are members of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, which is based at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

But Amos, who was in charge of the

2nd Marine Expeditionary Force when the accusations were made, said Marine Commandant Gen. Michael Hagee has since talked to thousands of Marines throughout the corps "to take them back to their roots."

"We're going to come out of this just fine," Amos said. "I don't know what the investigation is going to say. The truth will come out and the Marine Corps is going to do the right thing. The American people will know the truth."

In the Haditha case, the Marines first said the Nov. 19, 2005, killings of 15 civilians was caused by a roadside bomb and crossfire between Marines and insurgents. A separate investigation is looking at whether officers tried to conceal the events.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have never been overly fond of my brother-in-law, "Ivan." He's an obnoxious, overbearing bully, and his wife, "Anita," is envious and deceitful. My husband and I have been married 24 years, and I have tolerated these two because my husband and Ivan were in business together. By the way, my husband is 10 years older than Ivan and has much more business experience. In their personal lives, Ivan and Anita have gone out of their way to upstage us. We bought a car; they bought a more expensive one. We redecorated our kitchen; they remodeled their whole house. We sold our home and bought a bigger one; they sold theirs and bought a house larger than ours. It became a family joke. Ivan refused to consult my husband on business matters and purchased so much inventory, we nearly had to file for bankruptcy. Finally, after 13 years, we had enough. We sold our share of the business and have never been happier, nor more successful. Abby, after putting up with their shenanigans for so many years, I literally hate Ivan and Anita. I know it sounds terrible, but I don't speak to them, and I refuse to be in their presence. Although my husband speaks to them, he doesn't really care for their company either. The dilemma: I realize it's not fair to the rest of the family that I won't attend family functions if Ivan and Anita are there, but should I make myself miserable for the sake of my husband's family? -- FREE AT LAST IN FAIR-BANKS

DEAR FREE AT LAST: From your description of Ivan and Anita, they are more to be pitied than hated. Their self-esteem issues are so severe they destroyed a successful family business. You are free now and more successful than ever, so why are you hanging onto your anger this way?

To make your family "choose" which of you to invite to family gatherings is unfair. For the sake of your husband's family, bite the bullet and attend, but concentrate on other family members and avoid Ivan and Anita whenever possible.

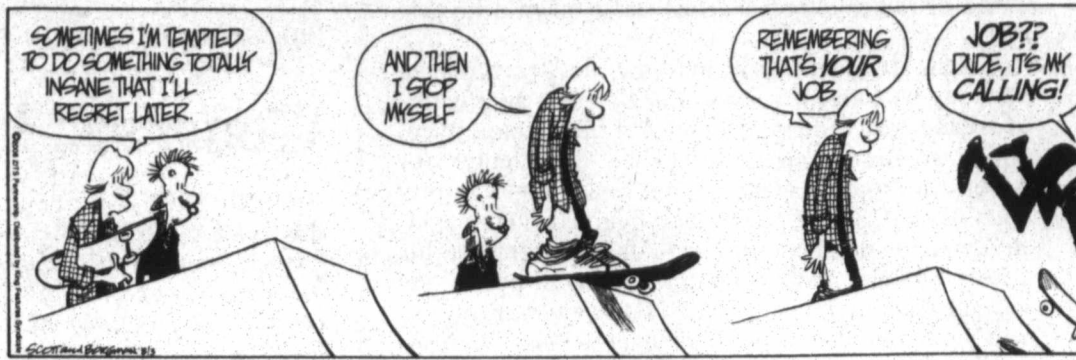
DEAR ABBY: Our father died three years ago. He was married to "Mildred," his second wife, for more than 10 years. We weren't close to her. However, we do write occasionally and see her once or twice a year. He left everything to her in his will, which we accept. Never in all the time since our father died has Mildred offered to give us anything of Dad's. Just something small and personal would be greatly appreciated and treasured. We're not talking about anything of monetary value. Also, there are numerous items such as old family photographs, a few things of my grandmother's, etc. We can't figure out why she would want to keep them, and we feel they should be kept in our family. We thought that in time, she'd give us these items, so we haven't asked her about them. Perhaps if she sees this letter she will realize that this means a lot to us. What do you think we should do, Abby? Or should we just ask her? -- HIS CHILDREN

DEAR CHILDREN: Mildred isn't a mind reader. By all means, ask her. Granted, offering you something that belonged to your father would have been the sensitive thing to do, but she may have been preoccupied by her own grief, or perhaps she didn't think there was anything you wanted. Don't count on her seeing your letter in my column -- speak up.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

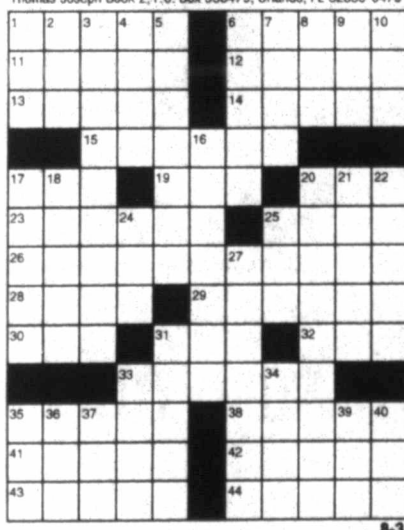
- 1 Long tales
- 6 Coup —
- 11 Isolated
- 12 Greek letter
- 13 Conductor
- 14 Ford fore-runner
- 15 Oblique
- 17 Inlet
- 19 Beamer or Burrows
- 20 Yak it up
- 23 Lose one's tension
- 25 Top-rate
- 26 Emulate
- 28 Wait to pounce
- 29 Most muffled
- 30 — out (scrape by)
- 31 Swift plane
- 32 "Golly!"
- 33 Writer Susan
- 35 Spritelike
- 38 Lab liquids
- 41 Fimsy fabric
- 42 Nairobi's nation
- 43 Story meanings
- 44 Honed



Yesterday's answer

- 17 Taps
- 18 Aimee of film
- 20 Be in little demand
- 21 Biscotti flavor
- 22 Singer Midler
- 24 Pen fill
- 25 Craft
- 27 Unused footage
- 31 Music's tooter
- 33 Tag datum
- 34 Served well
- 35 Conceit
- 36 Drop behind
- 37 Stole material
- 39 Color
- 40 Blue

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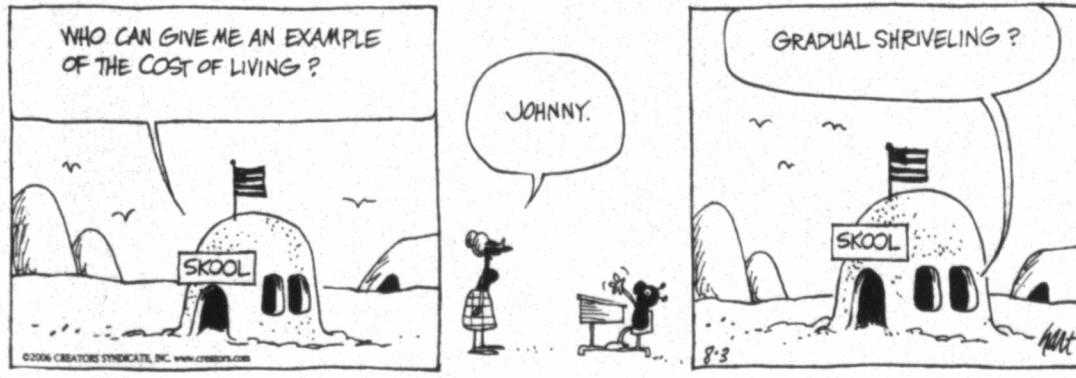
The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Hi Diddle Diddle! The Cat and the Fiddle! The Cow jumped over the Space Station..."

B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Cuba's Raul Castro remains in Fidel's shadow

HAVANA (AP) — Raul Castro has spent his entire life in the shadow of older brother Fidel. As Cuba's acting president, he continues to be on the sidelines.

The focus remained entirely on Fidel Castro Wednesday as Cuba's state-run media ran messages wishing a swift recovery after surgery for intestinal bleeding to the only ruler most Cubans have ever known.

In the first two days after he was granted temporary

control of the country, Raul Castro — the brother Fidel reportedly trusts more than anyone — was nowhere to be seen.

The reason why was unclear. The elder Castro could be reluctant to relinquish power after his 47-year rule, even if it's temporary, or media run by the Communist government could be focusing solely on him out of respect and habit. Raul, who has long deferred to his elder brother, could be keeping a low profile for the same rea-

Juanita Castro, who lives in Miami and has been estranged from him since 1963, told CNN she had spoken with people in Havana who told her that her brother was released from intensive care Wednesday morning.

sons. The elder Castro also made no appearances Wednesday, though his inner circle issued a statement late Tuesday telling Cubans he

was in good spirits and beginning his recovery. His sister Juanita Castro, who lives in Miami and has been estranged from him since 1963, told CNN she had spo-

ken with people in Havana who told her that her brother was released from intensive care Wednesday morning.

"He's not dead," she said, addressing rumors and speculation in South Florida that her brother had died. "He's very sick, but he's not dead."

Cuban Parliament Speaker Ricardo Alarcon told the New York-based independent radio show Democracy Now! that Castro was "very alive and very alert" when the men spoke the previous day, and that Castro was

clearly in charge when he delegated specific tasks of government to his brother and six other high-ranking officials during his recovery.

Other than that, there was no new information about Castro's health. The daily current events show on state television, replayed late Wednesday, focused on such sports as martial arts and synchronized swimming.

People in Havana continued to go about their daily business, with no signs of an uprising.

MEXICO

Protesters vow to maintain blockades

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Conservative Felipe Calderon said he won Mexico's disputed presidential election fairly and called for peace as a sprawling protest camp favoring his leftist opponent continues to disrupt much of the capital's financial and cultural heart.

The former energy secretary called "on all Mexicans to safeguard peace and work together for a Mexico that's more prosperous and fair" in a nationally televised address late Wednesday.

"I have acted responsibly and not let myself be provoked because I firmly believe in the power of

peace and because we won cleanly," he said.

The official results from the July 2 election — awaiting certification by Mexico's top electoral court — gave Calderon an advantage of less than 0.6 percent, or about 240,000 votes.

His comments came shortly after his rival, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, told tens of thousands of protesters to continue to block Mexico City's stylish Reforma Avenue and maintain a sprawling tent city in the central plaza until the electoral court rules on his request for a vote-by-vote recount.

He claims a recount will

expose fraud that tilted the race in Calderon's favor.

Lopez Obrador, who stepped down as Mexico City's mayor to run for president, said that street blockades aside, no further civil resistance was planned until the court decides on the recount.

He said that decision would come in three days or less, though it was unclear what led him to that assumption. The Federal Electoral Tribunal has until Sept. 6 to declare a president-elect or annul the election after weighing challenges filed by both sides.

"Our measures are annoying to some people but we have to convince

these people that it will be much worse if democracy is damaged," the former mayor said. "We don't want a small group deciding who will be president of Mexico."

"We are making history," he added, as thousands of followers chanted, "If there's no solution, they'll be revolution!"

Hours later, a violent rain storm dumped hail on much of Mexico City, knocking out electricity and sparking widespread flooding of streets, homes and businesses. Yet Lopez Obrador's supporters remained huddled under their tents, refusing to give up their posts.

Internet pharmacy physicians charged with selling diet drugs

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Two doctors helped peddle millions of dollars' worth of diet drugs through an online pharmacy, approving thousands of prescriptions without seeing anyone in person, according to charges filed Wednesday.

By signing off on the orders, Doctors Ranvir Ahlawat and Steven Klinman helped RxMedicalOne.com take in \$33.6 million in nine months, according to the indictment.

Most of the orders were for highly addictive, controlled drugs, they said.

"This is high-tech drug dealing," said U.S. Attorney Patrick Meehan.

Ahlawat, 42, of Toms River, N.J., and Klinman, 57, of Elkins Park, Pa., reviewed the questionnaires customers sent in with their orders, prosecutors said. Ahlawat reviewed 1,000 to 1,500 a day at times.

Their lawyers did not immediately return calls Wednesday. A message left after-hours with RxMedicalOne.com also went unreturned.

Prosecutors said more people could be charged in the case. They said five doctors approved more than 350,000 prescriptions from September 2003 to May 2004, most for weight-loss drugs such as Phentermine and Adipex and sleep aids such as Ambien.

The indictment also charges pharmacy operator Michael Bezonsky; pharmacist Alexander Atchildev, who is accused of shipping the drugs without ensuring the prescriptions were valid; and Thomas Beaulieu, who helped Bezonsky run the business.

Events calendar

• **Pampa Community Concert Association** Presents "Live On Stage" has released its current concert schedule. The schedule is as follows: "The Centurymen" 7 p.m., Sept. 20, First Baptist Church in Pampa; pianist Alpin Hong, 2:30 p.m., Oct. 1, M.K. Brown Auditorium; "Puttin' on the Hitz, A Salute to Irving Berlin," 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15, Borger High School Auditorium; Bronn and Katherine Journey, harpist and vocalist, 7:30 p.m., March 19, M.K. Brown Auditorium. Membership fees are \$30 for adults, \$70 for families; and \$15 for students. For more information, call 665-0343 or 665-2631.

• **Habitat For Horses, Inc.**, is in the area distributing horse feed, hay, medical and barn supplies. The volunteer organization will continue to organize feed and hay drives to the fire damaged area and coordinate distribution centers as needed. For more information, call (866) 434-5737 or (806) 681-5858.

• **The 14th Annual Dallam 4-H Arts & Crafts Bazaar** will be Aug. 4-5 at Dalhart Elementary School in Dalhart. The bazaar will open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call (806) 244-4434.

• **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinic will be offered: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 4, Baker School, 723 Cheyenne, Canadian; and

9:30-11:45 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m., Aug. 18, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.

• **Roberts County Crime Victims Services Program** will host a training on child abuse and neglect from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Aug. 7 in Miami High School Library in Miami. The training and presentation will be conducted by Diana Bartlett. Refreshments will be provided, and CEU's will be offered upon request. Participants must RSVP by Aug. 3 by fax, (806) 868-6521 or e-mail, teda@amaonline.com. The training and presentation are free. The event targets educators, law enforcement officials, clergy, emergency personnel and members of volunteer service organizations.

• **The Home and Land Owners Association of Texas** will host a free public forum with Reps. David Swinford, John T. Smithee and Warren Chisum from 6-7:30 p.m. Aug. 9 in Region 16 Service Center in Amarillo. For more information, call (936) 291-3337 or log onto www.halotx.com on the Internet.

• **Special Delivery Infant Adoption Agency** will host a free inquiry meeting at 2 p.m. Aug. 12 at 6709 Woodard in Amarillo for Christian couples considering adoption. Information packets will be available at the meeting. To register call, (806) 367-6755.

• **The 82nd Airborne Division Association**, which represents all Airborne veterans, present active and past, will hold its 60th National Convention Aug. 9-12 in Orlando, Fla. Other events to be celebrated by the association include National Airborne Day in the USA Aug. 16 and Southern California Airborne Days Oct. 6-8 in Cypress, Calif. For complete details and material for membership, call (937) 898-5977, e-mail srgabn@aol.com or write Airborne USA, 5459 Northcutt Pl., Dayton, OH 45414.

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Sports Day



File photo

First year head coach Andy Cavalier and his staff will open the 2006 Pampa Harvester football season with equipment check-out and practice Monday.

Pampa High School football: equipment check-out, practice starts early Monday morning

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

The 2006 Pampa Harvester football season begins next week with equipment check-out and practices. First year head coach Andy Cavalier and his staff will issue equipment Monday morning and hold the first practice of the season that afternoon.

The complete schedule for next week is as follows:

Monday, Aug. 7
Equipment Check-Out
12th grade at 8 a.m.
11th grade at 9 a.m.
10th grade at 10 a.m.
9th grade at 11 a.m.
Practice
10th, 11th and 12 grades, 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 8
Practice
Varsity and JV, 7 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.;
4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Freshman, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 9
Practice
Varsity and JV, 7 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.;
4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Freshman, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 10
Practice
Varsity and JV, 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Freshman 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 11
Practice
Varsity and JV, 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Freshman 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 12
Picture Day
Varsity at 8 a.m.
JV at 9 a.m.
Freshman at 10 a.m.
Practice
Varsity and JV, 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Back-to-back wins for Astros

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The stat of the night, besides Craig Biggio's two homers, was that the defending NL champion Houston Astros won consecutive games for the first time in nearly a month.

"That's a little crazy and sad at the same time," Biggio said after the Astros beat the punchless San Diego Padres 7-1 Wednesday night.

"We've got to keep grinding it out," said Biggio, whose Astros are third in the NL Central, 7 1/2 games behind St. Louis. "To come back and play better tonight was nice. It's a good start to the road trip."

On Tuesday night, Andy Pettitte outdueled Jake Peavy in a 1-0 Houston win. Biggio's second homer Wednesday, his 13th, came off Jon Adkins with one out in the ninth. Biggio and Mike Lamb hit back-to-

back homers in the sixth off starter Woody Williams.

The Astros have won the first two of the three-game set to capture their first series since winning two of three against the Chicago Cubs from July 3-5. The wins against the Cubs on July 3-4 were the Astros' last consecutive victories, coming at the end of a four-game winning streak.

Brandon Backe threw 7 2-3 strong innings in his third start after a long stay on the disabled list with a sprained right elbow. Backe (2-1) held San Diego to one run and seven hits. He struck out three and walked two.

Backe knows that the Astros would have to go on a tear just to win the wild card.

"It's definitely doable," he said. "Nobody thinks it's impossible. This is a great start for us."

The Padres, who continue to cling to the NL West lead, have scored just two runs in their last 29 innings. They've lost three straight and nine of 14.

Todd Walker had a rough debut for the Padres, committing two throwing errors in his first start at third base since 1997, while with Minnesota. The second error by Walker — who's played second base the bulk of his career — came with two outs in the fifth and led to the Astros' first run.

"It's no fun to struggle and I feel sorry for Woody," Walker said. "He threw the ball fairly well tonight and it takes a lot to run out there when you haven't played there in a while. I expect a little more out of myself, but at the same time, it's a very, very difficult thing to do."

See **ASTROS**, Page 9

Wood, Sargent, Hinkle and Hayden take weekly scramble by one stroke

Regular Senior Scramble
Hidden Hills Golf Course
Aug. 2, 2006

1st Place (60)
Ronnie Wood
Oscar Sargent
Darrel Hinkle
Louis Hayden

2nd Place (61)
Don Adams
Jack Davis
John Gentry
Paul Hinton

3rd Place (61)

Jim Brashears
Bille Mac Millican
Norman Willingham
Jim Jensen

4th Place (62)
Bill King
Jeßs Mathis
James Lee
Bob Brandon

5th Place (62)
Tom Lindsey
Gerry McCabe
Jack Thompson
Calvin Lacy

6th Place (62)
Jerry Davis
Jerry South
Bob Swope
Nathan Lancaster

7th Place (63)
Ron Parnell
Joe Mabry
Carl Johnson
Joe Wheelley

Closest to the Pin
Billie Mac Millican (#6)
Bill Hammer (#15)

BIG RED BOOSTERS

Bomar given boot, but why?

What went wrong in Soonerville? Late Wednesday came word via Oklahoma City media that OU starting quarterback Rhett Bomar and lineman J.D. Quinn were kicked off the Sooners football team for what has been described as improper compensation.

Though school officials — including head football coach Bob Stoops — have not singled out Bomar and Quinn as the players given the Big Red boot, the two are no longer listed on the team's roster.

The issue here is that college athletes are allowed to work and earn some extra money, however, they are only allowed to earn so much. According to school officials, the athletes in question — likely Bomar and Quinn — worked for Norman, Okla., car dealership Big Red Sports and Imports. That dealership recently underwent a change in ownership. The current owners say the accused did not work for them, but, "We do believe they probably did (work at the dealership)," said attorney Jeff Atkins, speaking for the current owner. "We have people who tell us they did."

Since the story broke late Wednesday, the dealership has unfairly received threatening phone calls.

This is a Catch 22 situation. The NCAA and each university makes it very clear to all athletes there is a strict guideline they must abide by when it comes to earned income. Yet at the same time, as a good friend told me years ago, you do not put a razor blade in a baby's crib. A bit graphic but does drive home the point you should

never tempt fate. These may be talented athletes, but they are still kids. They are still maturing.

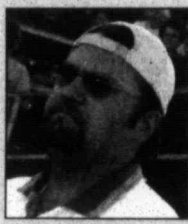
Still, it is up to the athlete to 'just say no'. Each one should treat every improper compensation offer as if it were a potential drug deal. Perhaps even a sting operation and you just never know who is wearing a wire.

At the root of many of these unsavory transactions often times is a shady character known as a "Booster".

Team boosters are supposed to be, among other things, a support group whose function is to raise added funds and team spirit for their chosen sport. Unfortunately, some lose sight of what they are supposed to do, getting wrapped up in their own desires. Read between the lines of what has been made public regarding Bomar, Quinn and the prior owner of the car dealership in question (Mike Donohue) and you will see a faint hint of greed through the forest of Big Red trees.

Coach Stoops is expected to make a general comment on the matter following today's OU practice. Bottom line however is two athletes — one them the starting QB of a year ago — are gone.

Way out-of-the-box
If it is revealed that Donahue tempted the two with surplus greenbacks, could he not be held accountable at some level? I mean, if smokers can go after tobacco companies, why can't Bomar and Quinn do something about Donohue if he is found guilty of luring the pair with cash?



Michael J. Stevens
Sports Editor

Landry was right about Wright

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Two years into his NFL career, Rayfield Wright wasn't doing much for the Dallas Cowboys as a backup tight end.

Yet he was big and strong, quick and a hard worker — the kind of things coach Tom Landry liked.

So one day Landry had an idea: How about playing tackle?

"I looked at him with amazement because I never played tackle before in my life," Wright recalled. "I said, 'Coach, are you sure? He said, 'Yeah, you'll make a good tackle.'"

Hall of Fame good.

Wright will be enshrined Saturday, joining Landry and two players he blocked for, Roger Staubach and Tony Dorsett. He's the team's first offensive lineman to get the honor, making it as a seniors committee nominee.

"He was absolutely the best," Staubach said. "Rayfield was a big, strong guy that was able to transfer his size and strength from tight end to tackle. He also had such quick feet that he was able to deal with some of the faster defensive ends and even the linebacker blitzes. If he got beat, I don't remember it."

Calvin Hill ran behind Wright for six of his 12 NFL seasons and says it's no coincidence that all four of his Pro Bowl trips came when Wright was opening holes.

"In the 1970s, he was the standard," Hill said. "When you thought about offensive lineman, he was the guy that you automatically thought of."

Wright made the Pro Bowl six times and was voted All-Pro four times. He anchored the line for an offense that finished in the top 10 in scoring all 10 seasons in the 1970s, while helping pave the way for the first five 1,000-yard rushers in team history.

Most importantly, he was a key contributor on teams that won seven division titles and played in five Super Bowls, winning twice. He was one of the team captains for most of those years, too.

Many of the defensive stars of his era called Wright the toughest player they ever faced. Former Minnesota star Carl Eller summed it up one time by saying, "An all-day fight with Rayfield Wright definitely is not my idea of a pleasant Sunday afternoon."

The position switch from tight end wasn't the only unusual part of Wright's route to Canton.

Unable to make his high school football team, he went to Fort Valley State (Ga.) to play basketball. The following summer, coach Stan Lomax made him quit his summer job at a mill to get ready to join the football team.

Lomax tried Wright at free safety, then used him as a punter, defensive end and tight end. The coach also became a father figure to the fatherless Wright.

"And still is today," said Wright, who will be presented by Lomax at Saturday's ceremony.

Wright was another big influence. Wright trusted his coach's instincts so much that he threw himself into his new position with gusto. Everything clicked for him one day when he was watching films of the tackles he admired most and realized that keeping a defender from getting to the quarterback was akin to keeping someone from driving to the rim in basketball.

"You do that by quickly shuffling your feet," Wright said. "If you cross your feet, you get beat."

At 6-foot-6, 255 pounds, Wright proved so nimble he was nicknamed "Big Cat." And he was big for his era. He also played at a time when the right tackle was the most important spot on the line, so that's where Landry put him.

Wright was a backup the first two months of the 1969 season, then was thrust into the starting job when Ralph Neely got hurt. The timing was brutal.

See **WRIGHT**, Page 9

Eastern U.S. continues to sweat under heat wave

NEW YORK (AP) — As if another day of triple-digit temperatures wasn't bad enough, Queens grocer Salm Ali had another problem: A power outage forced him to pitch about \$5,000 worth of withered, wilted produce.

His Liberty Deli and Grocery was just one of thousands of energy customers across the eastern United States that experienced scattered blackouts Wednesday as the oppressive heat and humidity prompted record-setting demand.

"This is the life," Ali said sarcastically. "Even the fan isn't working."

The region was in for another day of steamy weather today. The heat wasn't expected to break until evening, when a cold front should force temperatures down into the 80s, said National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Simpson.

The National Weather Service again posted heat warnings from Massachusetts to South Carolina and in parts of Oklahoma. Since Sunday, authorities have

The National Weather Service again posted heat warnings from Massachusetts to South Carolina and in parts of Oklahoma. Since Sunday, authorities have confirmed heat played a role in at least 12 deaths and suspect it played a role in 7 more.

confirmed heat played a role in at least 12 deaths and suspect it played a role in 7 more.

The same heat wave was blamed for as many as 164 deaths last week in California.

In Boston, autopsy results were pending on a pregnant woman who died Saturday after collapsing at a sweltering Red Sox game and suffering an apparent heart attack. A medical team was able to deliver her 4-pound infant at a hospital.

In Kentucky, an 18-month-old boy was found dead Wednesday inside a van about 60 miles northeast of Lexington. In Illinois,

at least six heat-related deaths have been confirmed in Cook County since Sunday, and police believe that another six deaths in Chicago Wednesday could be heat-related. Four deaths were reported in Maryland, including three elderly victims who did not have air conditioning, officials said. In Oklahoma, authorities said a 92-year-old man found near his car Tuesday died of heat related-causes.

By late afternoon Wednesday, the temperature had risen to 101 at LaGuardia Airport, but it felt like 106. Hartford, Conn., Providence, R.I. and Taunton,

Mass. also hit 100 degrees. The mercury hit 99 at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, and Baltimore and Philadelphia each climbed into the upper 90s.

Even on Cape Cod, which is usually a haven during the steamiest summer weather, residents were buckling. Carla Sullivan, the dockmaster at Hyannis Marina, said she saw people dousing a dog with water after the animal collapsed from heat stroke.

"The water just pours off of you," said Sullivan. "This is Texas hot."

Utility officials urged people to resist cranking up air conditioners amid heavy electric demand. Consolidated Edison, the utility that serves customers in and around New York City, set its second record in two days for peak demand. The Long Island Power Authority and ISO New England also reported record-setting energy use.

In Queens, many residents found themselves in the dark again after recovering from a 10-day outage in late July.

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Temperature will be taken from the official National Weather Service in Amarillo. You may change your guess from week to week, however, only your LAST temperature guess will be used as your official entry. In the case of more than one correct entry, the winner will be drawn at random from all correct entries. The winner will be announced in the September 11 edition of The Pampa News. Entries must be received by 5pm on September 6.

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Mel Gibson charged with misdemeanor drunken driving five days after traffic stop

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mel Gibson was charged with misdemeanor drunken driving Wednesday, five days after he was stopped on Malibu's Pacific Coast

Highway for speeding and made anti-Semitic comments that have stained his public image. Prosecutors made no mention of Gibson's self-described "belliger-

ent behavior" and "despicable" remarks in the complaint, which also charges him with having an elevated blood-alcohol level and an open container of liquor in his car.

If convicted, Gibson faces up to six months in jail, the district attorney's office said. "The ball is now in his court whether he is going to ask for a

trial," said district attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons. He does not have to appear for his Sept. 28 arraignment. A lawyer may appear in his place.

People in the news

NEW YORK (AP) — Meryl Streep won't be stealing any scenes in her next gig.

The Oscar-winning actress narrates "Hurricane on the Bayou," shot before and after Hurricane Katrina, MacGillivray Freeman Films announced Wednesday.

The documentary will open in New Orleans on Aug. 29 to mark the anniversary of Katrina's surge through the Gulf Coast, the company said. It will be released in Los Angeles on Sept. 8 and in IMAX theaters worldwide on Dec. 22.

"Meryl Streep's ability to connect with audiences and the depth she brings to everything she does makes her the ideal narrator for this film, which has so many moods," director-producer Greg MacGillivray said in a statement.

In 1995, Streep lent her voice to his film, "The Living Sea."

MacGillivray said "Hurricane on the Bayou" is a call to restore Louisiana's coastal wetlands, which help protect New Orleans against deadly storms, as well as a "profound musical celebration of a city that has been called the soul of America."

The film stars music producer-songwriter Allen Toussaint, blues singer-guitarist Tab Benoit, 14-year-old fiddler Amanda Shaw and zydeco accordion player Chubby Carrier.

Streep, 57, has won Oscars for her roles in "Sophie's Choice" and "Kramer vs. Kramer." Her screen credits also include "The Deer Hunter," "Silkwood," "Out of Africa" and "The Bridges of Madison County."

On the Net:
<http://hurricaneonthebayou.com>
<http://www.merylstreeponline.net>

PARIS (AP) — A song parodying Zinedine Zidane's head butt in the World Cup final has rocketed to the top of the

French music charts.

"Coup de Boule," or the "Head Butt," pokes fun at Zidane for ramming his head into the chest of Italy defender Marco Materazzi during the July 9 match. Italy won on penalty kicks.

Lyrics warn listeners to "Watch out: it's the head-butt dance," while a chorus of "Zidane, he hit him" plays repetitively over an upbeat African tune.

"We lost the World Cup but we still laughed a lot," the song says. "Trezeguet didn't play. Barthez didn't stop anything. The sponsors are all upset."

David Trezeguet missed a penalty in the shootout, and Fabien Barthez was the goalkeeper who didn't stop any of Italy's penalties.

Two French producers from La Plage Records composed the song in 30 minutes after watching Zidane's outburst from their studio. Nine days later, the record had sold 60,000 copies in France and reached the top spot in the French music charts, according to Warner Music spokesman Guillaume Crisafulli.

Warner is working on an English-language version. Spanish and Italian versions of the song already exist.

As a cell phone ring, the "Head Butt" song has been downloaded 110,000 times online and is wildly popular in Japan, Crisafulli said.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Helena Bonham Carter has signed on to play fanatically evil Lord Voldemort devotee Bellatrix Lestrange in the next "Harry Potter" film.

The Oscar nominee joins incoming composer Nicholas Hooper, who will create the score for "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," the fifth film adaptation of author J.K. Rowling's epic series, according to a statement released Wednesday by Warner Bros.

'Meryl Streep's ability to connect with audiences and the depth she brings to everything she does makes her the ideal narrator for this film, which has so many moods.'

— Greg MacGillivray
 Director-producer



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