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THE PAMPA

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Wednesday, July 5, 2006

Volume 102 • No. 77

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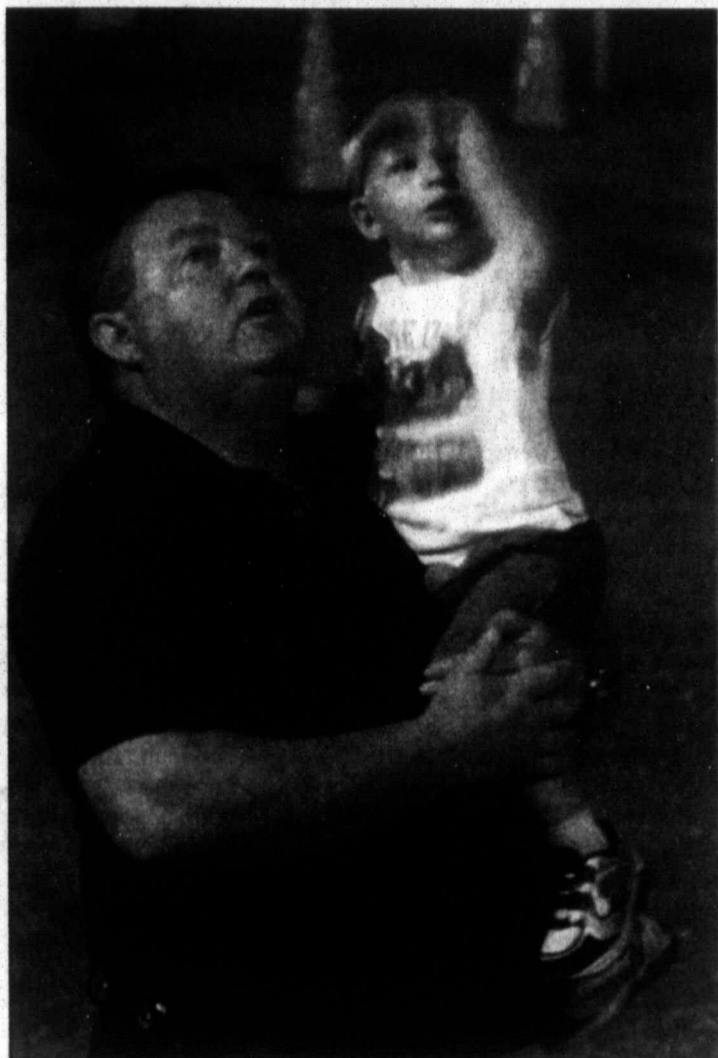
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Celebrating the Fourth

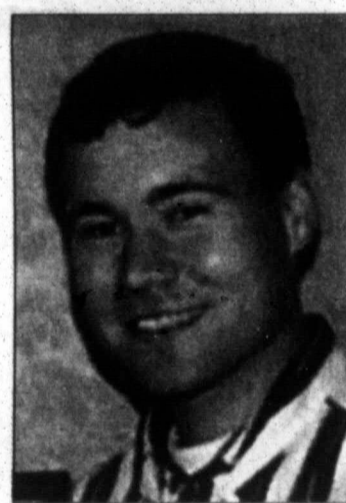
Pampa News photos by DAVID BOWSER Brilliant bursts of aerial pyrotechnics lit up the sky over Pampa Tuesday night during the annual Fourth of July fireworks show at Recreation Park.

Former Pampa man named White House liaison

WASHINGTON, D.C. - General Services Administrator Lurita Doan continues to build her leadership team within the agency and today announced the appointment of Pampa native John B. (J.B.) Horton as the agency's White House Liaison.

the Small Business Administration, within the Office of International Trade, managing activities related to SBA's U.S. Export Assistance Centers. "I'm very excited and appreciative for the confidence the White House and Administrator Doan have placed upon me by appointing me to this position," Horton said.

Business School in Leeds, England, earning a master's degree in 2005. GSA is a centralized, federal procurement, property management, policy development and information provision agency, created by Congress to improve government efficiency and help federal agencies better serve the public.



Horton

Appraisal District to hear protests

By DAVID BOWSER Staff Writer The Gray County Appraisal District's review board will meet Thursday to hear protests filed over mineral accounts and business property accounts. They will meet Friday to hear protests over real estate accounts.

Parking violations draw hefty fines

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer It's so tempting. You cruise a large parking lot, looking for a space where you can park and not have to walk half a mile to the store's entrance. Right there in front of you are a number of parking places in the spots closest to the door, with no one parked in them.



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS Fines for parking in handicapped-designated parking are steep.

expect to pay between \$300 and \$600 for a second ticket; the same for a third ticket plus not less than 10 nor more than 20 hours' community service; between \$500 and \$1,000 plus 20 to 50 hours' community service for the fourth; and \$1,000 and 50 hours' community service for more than four.

thank you... to all of our sponsors for making this year's business expo a success!

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Obituaries

Mary Dean Dozier, 89

Mary Dean Dozier, 89, of Pampa, Texas, member of the Texas Retired Teachers Association, Hospital Auxiliary, Pampa Senior Citizens Center, Knife & Fork Club, Pampa Fine Arts Association, Pampa Community Concert, Friends of the Library, and the First Presbyterian Church with CLP Nancy Ruff officiating.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, July 7, 2006, at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Forney, Texas, with the Rev. Jerry Griffin, a retired Baptist minister, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Dozier was born Dec. 27, 1916, in Forney. She graduated from North Texas University in Denton where she was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1947.

She was a teacher at Pampa High School for 30 years, retiring in 1977. She was a



Dozier

Survivors include many cousins, including Ollie V. Stark and wife Helen of Forney, and Leslie Stark and wife Murlene of Cedar Hill; and special friend, Stella Kiser of Pampa.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2006.

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

Donald Bennett Nicholson, 82

WHITE DEER — Donald Bennett Nicholson, 82, of White Deer, Texas, died June 3, 2006, at Pampa, Texas. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 6, 2006, at the United Methodist Church of White Deer with the Rev. Alan Wilson, pastor of the First Baptist Church of White Deer, officiating.

Burial will be in White Deer Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Nicholson was born Nov. 8, 1923, in Kingsmill. He had been a resident of White Deer most of his life. He married Betty Jo Panches on Nov. 25, 2003.

He farmed in the White Deer area for 25 years, and was the owner of Honest Don's for 10 years. He was the founder of the White Deer Senior Citizens Center and C.E.O for 21 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Jo Nicholson, of the home; one daughter, Nicki

Maples and husband Keith of Amarillo; one son, Brent Jay Nicholson and wife Pam of Dallas; three stepdaughters, Kristi Panches of Denver, Colo., Dolly Cowan and husband Danny of Panhandle, and Sandra Davis and husband Danny of White Deer; two stepsons, Darrell Kanaga of Bethany, Okla., and G.W. Panches and companion Diane Stackpole of Denton; two sisters, Roberta Williams of White Deer and Florine Gatlin of Amarillo; one brother, Leon Nicholson of Amarillo; two granddaughters, Keitha Maples and Kaci Maples; 10 stepgrandchildren; and two stepgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Alice Nicholson, on July 4, 2003.

The family requests memorials be to White Deer Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 744, White Deer, TX 79097.

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

Services tomorrow

DOZIER, Mary Dean — 2 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Pampa.

NICHOLSON, Donald Bennett — 10 a.m., United Methodist Church, White Deer.

Emergency Services

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Five traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart and the police department lobby.

Traffic accidents were reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart and the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Fifty two calls were received for violation of a city ordinance.

Three counts of assault causing bodily injury were reported in the 1800 block of North Williston.

Assaults were reported in the police department lobby, the 400 block of East Frederic, the 1100 block of Neel, and the 1100 block of West Juniper.

A violation of a protective order was reported in the 600 block of North Wynne.

Identity theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Domestic violence was reported in the 600 block of North Bradley.

Civil matters were reported in the 1200 block of East

Browning, the 1800 block of West Alcock, the 1900 block of North Hobart, in the police department lobby, and the 1100 block of Farley.

Burglaries of motor vehicles were reported in the 2700 block of North Hobart, the 800 block of North Deane, and three reports were made in the police department lobby.

Theft of a motor vehicle was reported in the 700 block of East Kingsmill where a window was shattered and a tool kit taken for an estimated loss of \$249.

Criminal mischief complaints were received in the 1000 block of North Sumner, 600 block of North West, the 1000 block of Huff, the 1900 block of North Christy, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the 500 block of North Hobart, the 800 block of North Duncan, the 700 block of North Faulkner where a vehicle was keyed and a tire slashed causing \$1,550 in damages, and the 700 block of North Wells, where a pickup windshield valued at \$250 was shattered.

Two counts of manufacture of a controlled substance were reported at One

Medical Plaza.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 700 block of East Harvester and the 100 block of South Starkweather.

Prowlers were reported in the 1000 block of East Francis, the 1500 block of North Faulkner, and the 900 block of South Wells.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart.

Thefts were reported in the 500 block of North Doucette, the 700 block of East Kingsmill, the 2200 block of North Nelson, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the 100 block of North Nelson, and in the police department lobby.

A burglary was reported in the 400 block of North Lefors.

Alarms were reported in the 100 block of South Hobart, the 300 block of North Somerville, the 1600 block of North Christine, the 900 block of North Hobart, the 2300 block of Chestnut, and the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Animal complaints were received from the 2100 block of North Banks, the 500 block of South Gray, the 1600 block of North Somerville, the 1900 block of North Grape, and the 400 block of East Frederic.

A dead animal complaint was received from the intersection of Kentucky and Mary Ellen.

Warrant service was attempted at one location.

A domestic disturbance was investigated in the 600 block of North Bradley.

Welfare checks were made in the 1900 block of North Hobart and the 500 block of North Lefors.

Disorderly conduct calls were received from the 600 block of East Craven, the 800 block of North Duncan, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the 1000 block of North Sumner, the 1000 block of East Kingsmill and two reports in the 900 block of South Faulkner.

A missing person was reported in the 600 block of

North Doucette.

A stolen vehicle was reported in the 2100 block of North Sumner.

Assisting other agency service was provided in the 1100 block of Prairie.

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

Kevin Nickleberry, 37, of Amarillo was arrested by GCSO on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.

Christopher Woodward, 20, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department on charges of injury to a child and public intoxication.

Nimitkumar Ishwar Patel, 24, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on a charge of running a stop sign.

Ryan Michael Davis, 20, of Pampa was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and minor in possession.

Christopher Dylan Whitten, 18, of Pampa was arrested on charges of fraudulent use of identifying information and minor in possession.

Cyle James Dye, 18, of Pampa was arrested on charges of evading arrest and public intoxication.

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

Tuesday, July 4
10:04 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1400 block of North Hobart to aid in cleaning up a fuel spill.

6:13 p.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to Recreation Park to stand by during the fireworks celebration.

7:30 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 800 block of South Barnes on a medical assist.

Wednesday, July 5
1:22 a.m. — Five units and nine personnel responded to the 900 block of Murphy on a vacant structure fire.

1:34 a.m. — Three units and three personnel responded

See RECORD, Page 3

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AUCTION: LOCATED 2 mi. north of Pampa Regional Medical Center on Hwy. 70, Pampa, Tx. July 8th, 9:30am. Elvis Presley memorabilia, 66 albums, pictures & others. Guns, ammo. Slim Graham 662-7695 (Lic.# 7420). Ed Bailey 204-0107 (Lic.# 10323).

FUN, FRIENDLY part-time sales associate for Julie's Hallmark, 125 W. Kingsmill, Pampa.

MISSING BLACK male Schnauzer. Reward. 665-0354.

NORTHFORK ANTI-QUES in McLean is going out of business. 75% off all merchandise. Sale begins July 5th at 10a.m.

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means suffering with
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THINK CHIROPRACTIC!

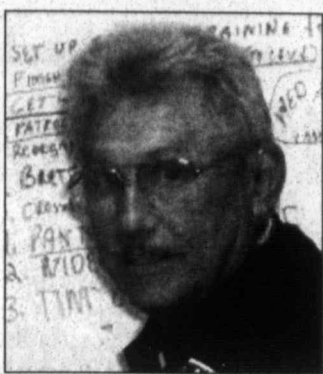
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COP CORNER

I was at the bicycle impound today and was really amazed that there were some nearly new bikes there. We pick up lots of bicycles as "found property" during the year.

I wanted everyone to know that we would really like to get the bikes back to the kids that had them stolen or just misplaced them. The bicycle impound is located where we keep our patrol cars and other support equipment.

It is on Municipal Drive near the intersection with West Brown. Right across the street is the Recycling Center. Municipal Drive goes from Hobart to Brown Streets and circles around through Hobart Street Park by the old softball fields.



Courtney

The bikes are in a chain link enclosure and are pretty easy to see. You can drive by and if you think your bike is there, then call or come by the Police Department so someone can meet you there. Hope this helps.

Cop Corner is provided by Pampa Police Department and Lt. Fred Courtney.

Parking

Continued from Page 1

Society doesn't work that way, however, so the laws governing handicapped parking and other handicapped access to public places were created as part of the Americans with Disabilities Act, enforced by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Compliance by motorists with the parking laws is dependent on local law enforcement. When local police and deputies are already stretched thin, however, such things as burglaries and thefts, violent crimes and vehicle accidents may take precedence over monitoring handicapped parking spaces.

"We respond to all calls for service," Pitner said. "Very rarely do we have the opportunity, due to call volume and number of personnel, to actively go out and look for handicapped parking violators. If someone calls, we go."

Three tickets were issued in 2005 by local law enforcement for parking in a handicapped zone. Between Jan. 1 and June 26, five have been issued, according to Belinda Stafford of Pampa Municipal Court.

The City of Amarillo's police department has employed civilian volunteers for a number of years to help monitor handicapped parking.

"It's been around for quite awhile, at least six or seven years," said APD Lt. Mike Miller, who along with a sergeant monitors the volun-

teers. "All they can do is write tickets for handicap violations," Miller said of the handicapped parking patrol. "We supply them with a city vehicle and a camera so they can take a photo of each time they write a ticket."

APD maintains between four and six volunteers in the patrol. To be one of them, a person must express the desire to do the patrol, have a valid driver's license, pass a criminal background check conducted by APD, and successfully complete training for the patrol, Miller said.

Volunteers in the APD handicapped parking patrol wrote 1,332 citations in 2005.

Pitner is not averse to the idea of employing volunteers in Pampa to monitor handicapped parking spaces.

"That's where the volunteer program interests me, if it's legal and we can control it," he said. "It is one we may definitely pursue."

What about businesses that don't have enough, if any, handicapped parking to begin with?

"An existing store doesn't usually meet requirements," said City Building Inspector Danny Winborne.

Owners of existing businesses which predate the Americans with Disabilities Act may decide whether to bring their property into compliance with handicapped parking requirements, he said.

City ordinances on the subject include "non-conforming use," meaning that businesses which fall in this category are not required by the city to meet current minimum standards for such things as handicapped parking unless other changes occur, such as the business sells or undergoes extensive remodeling and redesign.

These businesses may still come under the gun if a complaint about their non-compliance is filed with the Justice Department under the ADA.

"The ADA can come in and get involved," Winborne said.

New businesses generally know what they are required to provide concerning handicapped parking, and their plans must be approved before they are allowed to build, he said.

The number of handicapped parking spaces required of each new business is based on the physical size of the business.

"Retail are usually one space for every 200 square feet net," Winborne said.

What if no handicapped parking spaces are available?

"If the space is not properly marked, we can't enforce it," Pitner said of handicapped parking violations by non-handicapped drivers.

Gray County Weather

Today: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high around 78.

East wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Tonight: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. East wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 84. East-southeast wind around 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low near 67. Southeast wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy,

with a high around 86. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

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

Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 89. South wind around 10 mph.

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

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 92. West-southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south-southeast.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low near 69.

Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 91.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Record

Continued from Page 4

ed to the 600 block of Carr on a vehicle fire.

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today.

Monday, July 3

6:55 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of Henry and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:58 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2200 block of North Zimmers and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

10:06 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 700 block of Christy and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

12:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to BSA in Amarillo and transferred a patient(s) to the dialysis center.

5:49 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Jordan prison unit and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

9:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

Tuesday, July 4

1:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

7:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of Malone and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

7:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of Barnes and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

8:30 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the city fireworks display at Recreation Park on emergency standby.

10:24 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of 25th Avenue and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

Wednesday, July 5

1:30 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of Murphy on a fire standby.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atsberry Grain of White Deer:

Wheat	4.64
Milo	3.49
Corn	4.38
Soybeans	4.93

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

OXY	101.56	-3.03
BP PLC ADR	69.29	-1.07
Cabot Corp	33.81	-0.55
Celanese	20.31	-0.27
Cabot Oil Gas	47.41	-1.73
Coca Cola	43.00	-0.37
VLO	65.71	-1.19
HAL	73.37	-1.69
TRI	39.37	-0.17
KMI	99.61	-0.38
XCEL	19.28	+0.02
Kerr McGee	69.41	-0.05
XOM	61.99	-0.16
Nat'l Oilwell	61.19	-2.29
Limited	25.11	-0.39
Williams	23.01	-0.72
MCD	33.46	-0.51
Atmos	28.05	-0.18
Pioneer Nat	45.22	-1.44
JCP	67.11	-0.90
COP	66.06	-0.76
SLB	63.53	-1.82
Tenneco	25.18	-0.91
CVX	62.72	-0.03
Wal-Mart	47.17	-0.40
OKE	34.08	-0.75
NS Gp	53.90	-2.08

New York Gold623.50
Silver11.33
West Texas Crude.....73.93

Horton

Continued from Page 1

encourages a citizen-centric relationship with government by providing a single "point of entry" to the information and services citizens need in a timeframe they can appreciate.

This allows citizens to receive accurate, timely and consistent answers and information, and helps federal agencies better respond to citizen inquiries.

Protests

Continued from Page 1

11:30 a.m. Friday. All the meetings will be in the Gray County Appraisal District conference room, 815 N. Sumner.

The board is also expected to approve 2006 appraisal records and changes in the Texas Property Tax Code enacted during the state Legislature's special session earlier this spring.

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Amarillo teen killed on I-40 near Conway

CONWAY — A tire blowout caused an accident on Interstate 40 Tuesday that left an Amarillo teen dead and two injured.

A 1993 Ford SUV was westbound on I-40 8.6 miles west of Conway in Carson County when a tire blew out, causing the driver to lose control. The vehicle went into a ditch and rolled over, according to Daniel Hawthorne, public information officer for the Texas Department of Public Safety in Childress.

Joshua Craddon, 18, of Amarillo, the driver, and a passenger, Alisa Craddock, 43, of Amarillo were injured and taken to Northwest

Texas Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Another passenger, Pedro Krieger, 17, of Amarillo was dead at the scene according to Carson County Justice of the Peace Phyllis Tyler.

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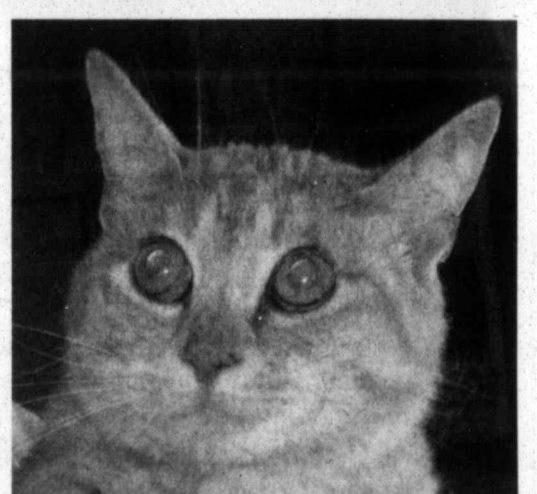
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Pet of the Week

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NEW HOURS Monday-Saturday 9-6, Office Open To The Public 5-6pm, Closed Sundays & Holidays.
FOUND A PET? Let us know ... we might be able to help them find their home.
LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing!

Viewpoints

Tennessee may give Dems sixth senate seat

For months, I have wondered which would be the sixth seat the Democrats could win to capture the Senate.

Because Vice President Dick Cheney would, of course, break any 50-50 tie in favor of the GOP, the Democrats, down 55-45 now, have to gain six seats in the 2006 election to get control.

Five prime Democratic targets have been obvious for some time. According to the latest Rasmussen polls, Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.) belongs on the endangered-species list, trailing Bob Casey Jr., his Democratic challenger, by 56-33. Also behind, although by lesser margins, are Sens. Mike DeWine (R-Ohio), who trails Rep. Sherrod Brown by 44-41, and Conrad Burns (R-Mont.), losing to Jon Tester by 48-44.

Burns, handicapped by his

appeal across party lines, has two defects as he runs for the open seat: He is black in a state with the lowest African-American population in the old Confederacy, and his uncle is facing serious corruption charges. But both of these drawbacks are quite obvious to the voters of Tennessee. If they are insufficient to doom his candidacy, this man may be a winner.

Appeal across party lines, has two defects as he runs for the open seat: He is black in a state with the lowest African-American population in the old Confederacy, and his uncle is facing serious corruption charges. But both of these drawbacks are quite obvious to the voters of Tennessee. If they are insufficient to doom his candidacy, this man may be a winner.

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sixth seat without which the Republicans would remain in charge of the Senate?

Now the Zogby poll indicates that Harold Ford, the Democratic candidate to succeed Majority Leader Bill Frist (R) in Tennessee, is running a surprisingly strong race against his three possible Republican opponents.

That could be the sixth seat.

Zogby has Ford tied with former Rep. Ed Bryant, with each winning 42 percent of the vote, and trailing by a small margin, 43-41, against former Rep. Van Hilleary. A third possible candidate, Chattanooga Mayor Bob Corker, leads Ford by 46-42.

Ford, one of a new generation of African-American politicians with considerable

appeal across party lines, has two defects as he runs for the open seat: He is black in a state with the lowest African-American population in the old Confederacy, and his uncle is facing serious corruption charges. But both of these drawbacks are quite obvious to the voters of Tennessee. If they are insufficient to doom his candidacy, this man may be a winner.

Appeal across party lines, has two defects as he runs for the open seat: He is black in a state with the lowest African-American population in the old Confederacy, and his uncle is facing serious corruption charges. But both of these drawbacks are quite obvious to the voters of Tennessee. If they are insufficient to doom his candidacy, this man may be a winner.

Appeal across party lines, has two defects as he runs for the open seat: He is black in a state with the lowest African-American population in the old Confederacy, and his uncle is facing serious corruption charges. But both of these drawbacks are quite obvious to the voters of Tennessee. If they are insufficient to doom his candidacy, this man may be a winner.

ically challenged family has to teach him about keeping his nose clean.

Harold Ford is exactly the kind of black Democrat whom moderates would love to love.

There are other possible problems on the Democratic horizon. The most serious is in New Jersey, where the open seat of former Sen. Jon Corzine (D), now the governor, is contested by Corzine's anointed heir, Democrat Bob Menendez, and Republican Tom Kean Jr., the son of the former governor.

Rasmussen's polling has Kean holding a narrow 40-37 lead. Since Kean is obviously a statewide name and Menendez has been little-known outside of his district, the congressman would seem to have the edge.

New Jersey, once a toss-up state, has become a true blue enclave largely because

of Hispanic in-migration, a vote that will turn out in droves for Menendez.

Rasmussen also reports that Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) has been falling of late in his polling, so that might be another Republican target. But neither Washington state nor New Jersey can be counted on for the Republican Party.

All of this is to show that President Bush had better shake himself up and address the gas-price and energy issues that he has so far failed to speak out about, except for one mention in his long-ago State of the Union address.

It is only by an ongoing relevance to this nation's key problem that Bush can hope to avert the disaster looming on the horizon.

Dick Morris was an adviser to Bill Clinton for 20 years.



Dick Morris
Columnist

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, July 5, the 186th day of 2006. There are 179 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Sixty years ago, on July 5, 1946, the bikini bathing suit made its debut during an outdoor fashion show at the Molitor Pool in Paris. Micheline Bernardini, a local nude dancer, modeled the skimpy two-piece outfit designed by Louis Reard.

On this date:

In 1811, Venezuela became the first South American country to declare independence from Spain.

In 1830, the French occupied the North African city of Algiers.

In 1865, William Booth founded the Salvation Army in London.

In 1935, President Roosevelt signed the National Labor Relations Act, which provided for a National Labor Relations Board, and authorized labor to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining.

'To wish to act like angels while we are still in this world is nothing but folly.'

— St. Theresa of Avila
Spanish Carmelite nun (1515-1582)

In 1940, during World War II, Britain and the Vichy government in France broke diplomatic relations.

In 1947, Larry Doby signed a contract with the Cleveland Indians, becoming the first black player in the American League.

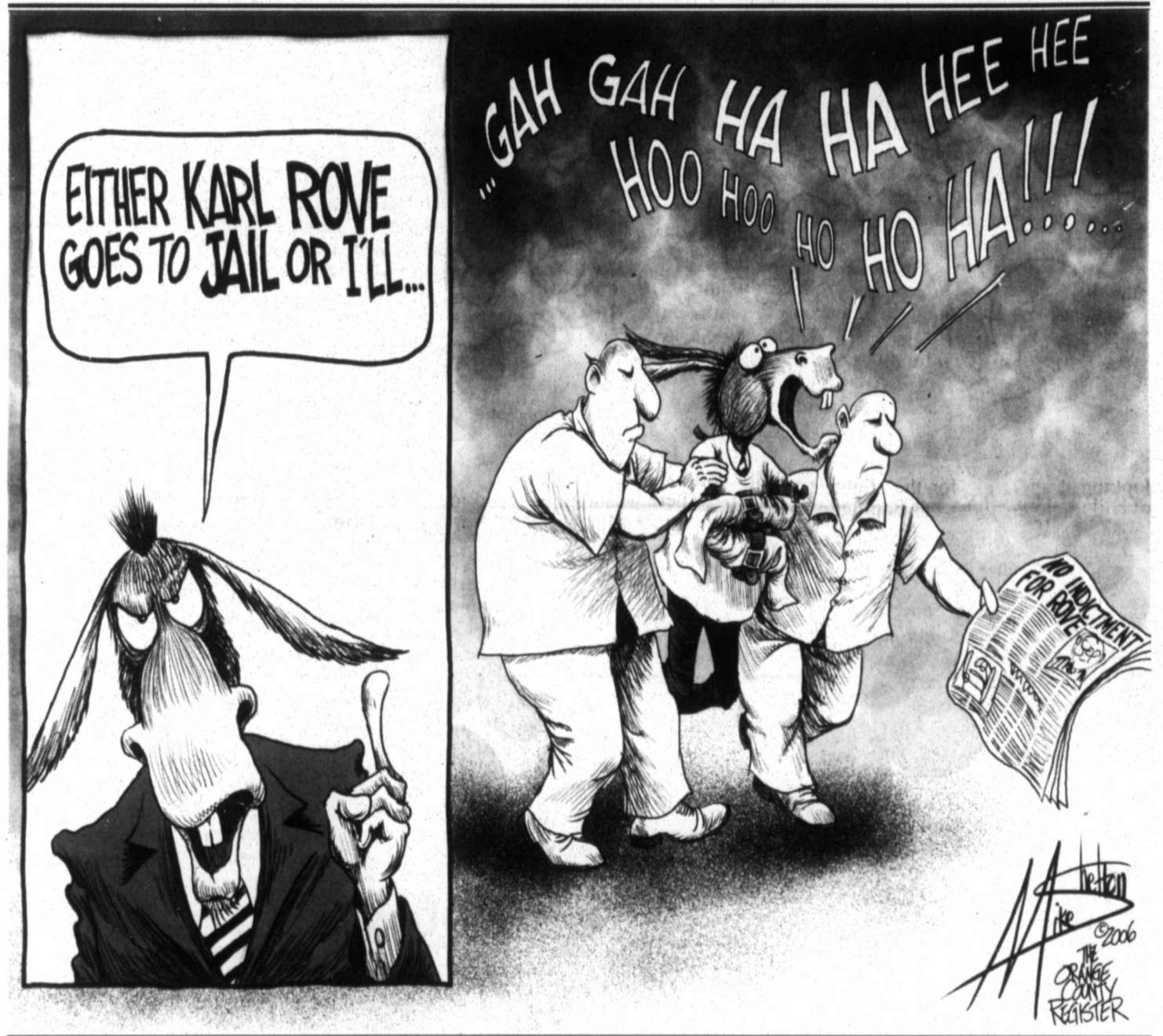
In 1954, Elvis Presley's first commercial recording session took place at Sun Records in Memphis, Tenn.; the song he recorded was "That's All Right (Mama)."

In 1975, Arthur Ashe became the first black man to win a Wimbledon singles title as he defeated Jimmy Connors.

In 1975, the Cape Verde Islands officially became independent after 500 years of Portuguese rule.

In 1991, a worldwide financial scandal erupted as regulators in eight countries shut down the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Ten years ago: The government reported the nation's unemployment rate fell to a six-year low in June 1996; nervous investors, fearing higher interest rates, gave the stock market its worst beating in four months, sending the Dow industrials down 114 points.



Don't depend on criminals to follow gun control laws

As one might expect of a man so brilliant, Thomas Jefferson had the perfect answer to modern politicians itchy to disarm the ordinary citizen.

"Laws that forbid the carrying of arms ... disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes. ... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."

This is an entry in his Commonplace Book, dated sometime between 1774 and 1776.

Can anyone argue against his logic? Criminals are by definition lawbreakers and don't obey gun-control laws. It will be no consolation to you that police may later charge the man who murdered you with the additional crime of possession of a firearm by a felon. That won't buy you a ticket out of the cemetery. You're history.

Even in our modern society, 99 percent of the time police don't get to the scene until after the crime has been committed. Between the

time you first perceive yourself as the pending victim of a crime until the police arrive (if they do at all), you are on your own. Self-defense is no longer a theory.

Running away is rarely an option. Your choice is to fight or suffer what the criminal has decided to do to you.

Having a gun won't guarantee you'll win a gunfight, but it will certainly guarantee that you will have a chance of winning. If the criminal is armed and you aren't, you have no chance at all. Some younger men who keep in shape might imagine they can handle their assailant, so I will simply pass on to them the advice of a taekwon do master who was a member of the South Korean intelligence agency.

"If your life is in danger, use a gun," he said.

Any honest martial artist will tell you about the principle of distance. You can't hit a man beyond the distance of your outstretched arm. You can't kick a man beyond the length of your leg. But a man

with a gun can stand 15 yards away and shoot you. And unlike Jackie Chan or Chuck Norris, you don't have a scriptwriter who will determine how the fight will end.

I'm not suggesting everyone go out and buy a gun. Owning a firearm for self-defense

is a serious business. A gun is an inanimate object. If it's loaded, cocked and the trigger is pulled, the gun will kill or maim anybody who happens to be in front of the barrel when the firing pin strikes the cap.

You want to be dead certain the person who gets the bullet deserves it, because killing is an act of finality. You can't undo it. You'd better be sure you can live with it. And for God's sake, don't leave a loaded gun where children — yours or a neighbor's — can get to it.

Because you can't rely on the modern justice system to produce justice, I will also pass along some advice an old country lawman gave me when I was a young reserve deputy.

"Son, if you ever have to use that thing," he said, "make sure the judge can hear only one version of what happened."

In plainer language, if you have to shoot somebody, kill him. Otherwise, in these crazy times, the perp may sue you even though he is a career criminal who initiated the assault. Or some prosecutor who doesn't believe people should defend themselves might try to indict you.

The human race hasn't changed over the millennia. There are still good people and bad people, kind people and cruel people. There are still predators who will prey on people they think are too weak to defend themselves. There is a lot more to self-defense than I have space to talk about, so I will close with a story from the 1800s.

A man on his way to Texas asked an Arkansas store owner if he thought he would need a gun. "Well," the store owner said, "maybe you will and maybe you won't, but if you do, you'll need it in a hurry."

Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.



Charley Reese
Columnist

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Publisher: Sean Smith
Editor: Dennis Spies
Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods
Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

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Sports Day

Easy as 1-2-3-4: top four make women's semifinals

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) - The Wimbledon seeding committee got this one just right.

The top four seeded players advanced to the women's semifinals at Wimbledon: No. 1 Amelie Mauresmo, No. 2 Kim Clijsters, No. 3 Justine Henin-Hardenne and No. 4 Maria Sharapova.

It's only the fifth time in 25 years that the semis have featured the elite four.

On Thursday, 2004 champion Sharapova will play Mauresmo, and Clijsters will face Henin-Hardenne in the 20th career match between the Belgian rivals.

"It just shows how long our careers have been already and how consistent we both have been," Clijsters said.

Clijsters leads Henin-Hardenne 10-9, not counting Henin-Hardenne's two victories in lower-tier events in 1998 and 1999. Henin-Hardenne has won three of the last four, including at the French Open and Eastbourne grass-court tournament last month.

This will be their first meeting at Wimbledon. Henin-Hardenne leads 4-2 at other Grand Slams.

"It will be the third time in a month, so I think that we know each other well enough," Henin-Hardenne said. "But never here in Wimbledon. I don't know what to expect about that. I'm just going to try to keep the same preparation, nothing different from what I did in the last few weeks. The best will win."

Neither player has lost a set in five matches at this tournament. Clijsters beat China's Li Na, 6-4, 7-5 in the quarterfinals Tuesday, while Henin-Hardenne downed French qualifier Severine Bremond, 6-4, 6-4.

"Now I really don't care who's standing in front of me," Clijsters said. "Doesn't matter if I'm playing Venus (Williams) or Justine or Lindsay (Davenport). Of course I know how Justine plays, but she's a really good player. It's a challenge that I look forward to."

The men's quarterfinals were set for today, featuring the matchup between three-time defending champion Roger Federer and Croatia's Mario Ancic, the last man to beat him on grass. That was 45 matches ago in the first round

of Wimbledon in 2002.

Also, 2002 champion Lleyton Hewitt will play Australian Open runner-up Marcos Baghdatis; French Open champion Rafael Nadal takes on Jarkko Nieminen; and No. 14 Radek Stepanek goes up against Jonas Bjorkman.



The Belgians - Henin-Hardenne from the French-speaking Walloon region, Clijsters from Dutch-speaking Flanders - have had a sometimes icy relationship, but insist they get along.

"There's a lot of respect between each other," Henin-Hardenne said.

"My feeling toward her has never changed," Clijsters said. "It has always been the same. I've always been nice to her."

Henin-Hardenne reached her first Grand Slam final here in 2001, losing to Venus Williams. She has won the French Open three times since, and the U.S. Open and Australian Open once each. If she wins Wimbledon, she'll complete a career Grand Slam of all four major titles.

Only nine women have accomplished the feat, including Serena Williams, Steffi Graf, Chris Evert, Billie Jean King and Martina Navratilova.

"As a kid, I wasn't dreaming about Wimbledon, I was dreaming of the French Open," Henin-Hardenne said. "Now things are probably different because it's a great challenge for me, Wimbledon. It starts to be something very important for me. For sure, I would sign for one Wimbledon in my career."

Henin-Hardenne has lost only

21 games in five matches and looks comfortable on the grass, which is bouncing higher than ever and giving baseliners more time to set up their shots.

"You have to be patient," Clijsters said. "But you can't just hit it back into the court because that's when (Henin-Hardenne) steps it up and she really tries to go for her shots as well. You have to play aggressive tennis, try to take your chances. That's what you try to do against every player. But against Justine, you have to expect every ball to come back."

Sharapova is the only former women's champion left after the exits of Venus Williams and Martina Hingis.

Sharapova beat Elena Dementieva 6-1, 6-4, in a match briefly interrupted by a male stalker in the second set. Mauresmo beat Anastasia Myskina 6-1, 3-6, 6-3.

Mauresmo has a 2-0 edge against Mauresmo, with straight-sets wins on hard courts.

Mauresmo, who turns 27 on today, lost in the semifinals at her three previous Wimbledons.

FIFA WORLD CUP

A shot will fill Lehmann's nightmares

By JIM LITKE
Associated Press

DORTMUND, Germany (AP) - Jens Lehmann launched all 6-foot-4 of himself to the right, the way he had thousands of times before, fingertips extended like a brush trying to paint the night sky.

The left-footed shot off Fabio Grosso's foot was curling back, back, back toward Lehmann, and for the briefest of moments, looking desperately for the slightest touch of ball to glove, all he was hoping to do was buy himself a little more time. Make the save, extend the game to a penalty shootout, and take his chances there.

Yet a heartbeat later, Lehmann's worst fears were confirmed. The ball slipped past and rippled the chords of the net just inside the far post. And then a minute later, attacker Alessandro Del Piero waltzed into the goalbox free as you please and put another one past Lehmann, this time just inside the other post.

All of a sudden, all those nervy standoffs that the goalkeeper won, the gut-wrenching penalty shootout against Argentina and the four other countries he parried aside on this intoxicating run, felt like they never happened.

Italy 2, Germany 0 in Tuesday night's World Cup semifinal wasn't the end of the road for Lehmann by any means. Come fall, he will return to his club team, English powerhouse Arsenal, and maybe the season will end just as spectacularly as the last one, with another challenge for the Champions' League Cup.

But it will be a long time before Lehmann can focus on anything but that curling shot.

After sitting on the bench for years, he finally climbed out of the shadow of national hero Oliver Kahn. It took a boost from coach Juergen Klinsmann, whose decision evoked howls of protest across the land. But when it was over, neither had anything to apologize for. Kahn made that much clear when he walked through the scattered celebrations of the Italians just after the

final whistle and embraced his teammate and sometimes rival.

"Every one of them is hugely disappointed," Klinsmann said afterward. "That's just normal. That's just the emotions of this. They all had big dreams, they all had big goals and that was to play in the final on Sunday. The dream didn't come true. It'll take some time to swallow."

"Jens," he added, "played a fantastic tournament."

There was a time, not so long ago, when putting "Lehmann" and "World Cup" in the same sentence would have drawn laughs. His career got off to the rockiest of starts just down the road from here with a club called Schalke, which just happens to be Dortmund's most hated rival. In a game against Bayer Leverkusen in 1993, Lehmann let in three horrible goals, was pulled after just 45 minutes and kept on walking out of the stadium and straight to the train stop, not bothering to wait for the team bus.

It took him almost four years of solid play to wipe that slate clean - clean enough, at least, to make the move to Italian club AC Milan. But there, too, Lehmann got off to a troubling start. Handed his walking papers after just five games, he returned to Germany to start all over again - coincidentally enough, with Dortmund in this same stadium. His game was much better, but his temper hadn't changed one bit. By the time Lehmann left the Bundesliga again, this time to join Arsenal in July 2005, he took a dubious record - the only goalkeeper ever shown the red card five times.

So when he turned the No. 1 job over to Lehmann, Klinsmann knew he hadn't lost his fire. After all, his nickname is "Crazy Jens," and just months earlier, playing for Arsenal against Barcelona in that Champion's League final, Lehmann rushed out of the box and cut down forward Samuel Eto'o. That earned him another red card and the distinction of being the only player sent off in the final.

See NIGHTMARES, Page 6

Astros rip Cubs; Rangers fall to Jays

Astros 7, Cubs 2

HOUSTON (AP) - Andy Pettitte feels like nothing has come easily for him this season. Fortunately for him, he faced a team on Tuesday that's struggled even more than he has.

Pettitte pitched six effective innings, Mike Lamb drove in three runs and a wild pitch by Mark Prior led to two runs for the Houston Astros in a 7-2 win over the Chicago Cubs on Tuesday.

"Well, it was a win," Pettitte said with a relieved smile. "That's always a good thing."

Pettitte (7-9) allowed seven hits, but only one run, and struck out three to earn his first win since he beat the Cubs on June 13. He also walked four.

"It wasn't like I cruised through it," Pettitte said. "It seemed like I had baserunners every inning."

Houston relievers Dan Wheeler and Brad Lidge pitched the final three innings to secure the Astros' fourth straight victory, their longest winning streak since mid-June.

Pettitte lost his last two starts and took a no-decision in Houston's 7-4 loss to Kansas City on June 18.

He got into immediate trouble against the Cubs, giving up hard-hit singles to Juan Pierre and Derrek Lee in the first inning and walks to Michael Barrett and Matt Murton in the second.

Manager Phil Garner said plate umpire Jerry Layne wasn't doing Pettitte any favors.

"He had a tight zone early," Garner said, "but he kept battling and grinding and he worked through it."

Pettitte had already thrown 35 pitches when Juan Pierre led off the third with a double, reaching base for the 22nd time in his last 23 games. Pierre trotted to third on Neifi Perez's groundout and scored on Lee's single to right.

"You walk a couple and you feel like you get behind in the count too much, then you

start to get too aggressive, then you make mistakes to the middle of the plate," Pettitte said. "There's a fine line there, especially the way my season's going."

Blue Jays 3, Rangers 2

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) - Roy Halladay demonstrated why he just picked up his fourth All-Star invitation.

Halladay pitched 7 2-3 scoreless innings, Russ Adams and Eric Hinske homered, and the Blue Jays beat the Texas Rangers 3-2 on Tuesday night.

Halladay (11-2) scattered six hits in a dominant performance two days after he was one of five Blue Jays named to the American League All-Star team. He struck out four and walked two while winning his third straight start.

"That was as strong as I've seen him all year," Blue Jays manager John Gibbons said. "That's been a tough team on him and it's a tough place to pitch."

Halladay began the night with a 3-4 record and 6.40 ERA in 13 career appearances against Texas. The last time he pitched in Arlington was last July 8, and he sustained a fractured left tibia on a batted ball by Texas' Kevin Mench, ending Halladay's season.

"I didn't think about last year," Halladay said. "I never put a lot of stock in thinking about coming back here."

Halladay was able to consistently get ahead of the Rangers.

"I was throwing strikes, trying to make pitches," Halladay said.

All-Star B.J. Ryan struggled to record four outs for his 23rd save in 24 chances to finish off a rare Blue Jays win over the Rangers.

He gave up an RBI single to Ian Kinsler in the ninth inning to make it 3-1. With two outs Rod Barajas struck out, but the ball got past catcher Bengie Molina on a wild pitch to allow Mark DeRosa to score and Barajas to reach first following an 11-pitch at bat.

Winfield, others inducted to new college Hall of Fame

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) - Dave Winfield found himself in another Hall of Fame on Tuesday as he and nine others were inducted into the inaugural class of the College Baseball Hall of Fame.

"This is a prestigious award," said Winfield, who played college ball at Minnesota before a 22-year career in the majors. "We have great players, great coaches, and - most of all - great people in this class. I was fortunate as a kid to find something that I loved in baseball, and we played it all the time. We only came home during the summer to eat and sleep."

Winfield was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., in 2001.

Others inducted into the college hall were fellow former major leaguers Will Clark (Mississippi State), Bob Horner (Arizona State), Brooks Kieschnick (Texas) and Robin Ventura (Oklahoma State).

"Before this honor winning the Golden Spikes Award was my greatest college baseball honor," Clark said. "I'm truly honored beyond my wildest dreams."

Ventura, who retired in 2004 after 16 years in the majors, set an NCAA record with a 58-game hitting streak at Oklahoma State in 1987.

"I didn't get any offers coming out of high school, and it has been a great run at OSU and in the majors," he said.

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ESantana, Romero (9) and JMolina Meche, JMateo (6), Woods (7), RSoriano (9) and Johjima. W-ESantana 9-3. L-JMateo 5-3. HRs-Los Angeles, JRivera 2 (8). Seattle, Ibanez (19), Sexson (16).

Baltimore 000 000 000 — 0 6 1
Chicago 137 010 10x — 13 18 0
RLopez, BChen (3), Rleal (7) and JvLopez Contreras, Cotts (7), Riske (9) and Pierzynski. W-Contreras 9-0. L-RLopez 5-10. HRs-Chicago, Konerko (21), Uribe (11).

Boston 000 101 103 — 6 11 2
Tampa Bay 002 100 15x — 9 14 1
Schilling, Timlin (8), Delcarmen (8) and Varitek Fossum, Harville (6), Switzer (7), Camp (8) and Navarro. W-Switzer 1-0. L-Schilling 10-3. Sv-Camp (4). HRs-Boston, DOrtiz (27), MRamirez (23), Kapler (2). Tampa Bay, JLugo (9), Gomes (18), Wigginton (16).

Detroit 000 010 000 0 — 1 6 0
Oakland 100 000 000 1 — 2 8 0
(10 innings)
Verlander, Zumaya (8), Rodney (10) and VWilson Haren, Calero (8), Street (9), Flores (10), Gaudin (10) and Kendall. W-Gaudin 1-2. L-Rodney 4-3. HR-Detroit, VWilson (4).

New York 100 000 000 — 1 9 1
Cleveland 430 091 20x — 19 21 1
Chacon, Villone (2), Beam (5), MMyers (5), Proctor (6), Farnsworth (8) Posada, and Stinnett (6) Westbrook, Mujica (8) and VMartinez. W-Westbrook 7-4. L-Chacon 4-3. HRs-Cleveland, Belliard (8), JhPeralta 2 (9), Hafner 2 (24), VMartinez (11).

Minnesota 002 000 000 — 2 8 1
Kansas City 004 010 02x — 11 0

Bonser, Lohse (4), Eyre (8) and Redmond Gobble, JoPeralta (6), Dessens (8) and Buck. W-Gobble 3-1. L-Bonser 2-2. Sv-Dessens (2). HRs-Minnesota, LFord (3). Kansas City, DeJesus (4).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Pittsburgh 011 013 000 — 6 14 2
New York 000 400 03x — 7 11 1
Duke, Capps (6), STorres (7), Rohernandez (8) and Paulino TGlavine, Heilman (6), DSanchez (8), BWagner (9) and RCastro. W-DSanchez 5-0. L-Rohernandez 0-2. Sv-BWagner (16).

Florida 000 200 110 — 4 9 2
Washington 010 002 003 — 6 9 2
Olsen, Tankersley (7), Mëssenger (7), Borowski (8) and Treanor JoPatterson, Stanton (6), Rauch (7), Bray (8), CCordero (8) and Schneider. W-CCordero 4-3. L-Borowski 0-2. HRs-Florida, HaRamirez (5). Washington, Zimmerman (12), Byrd (5).

Cincinnati 000 000 200 — 2 6 0
Milwaukee 000 500 00x — 5 5 0
Arroyo, Shackelford (8) and Ross DDavis, BShouse (9) and Moeller. W-DDavis 5-5. L-Arroyo 9-5. Sv-BShouse (2). HRs-Cincinnati, Hatteberg (7). Milwaukee, Koskie (12).

Chicago 001 000 001 — 2 10 1
Houston 002 002 03x — 7 8 1
Prior, Novoa (7), Ohman (7), Howry (7), Rusch (8) and Barrett, HBlanco (7) Pettitte, Wheeler (7), Lidge (9) and Ausmus. W-Pettitte 7-9. L-Prior 0-4. HR-Chicago, HBlanco (4).

San Diego 100 100 210 — 5 10 1
Philadelphia 000 500 001 — 6 10 1
Hensley, Adkins (7), Meredith (8) and Piazza, Bowen (8) Hamels, RFranklin (3), RiWhite (6), Cormier (7), Rhodes (8), Gordon (8) and Ruiz. W-Gordon 3-3. L-Meredith 1-1. HR-Philadelphia, Ruiz (1).

Alexandria, Amarillo Boxscore

ALEXANDRIA 5, AMARILLO 3

ALEXANDRIA				YTD				AMARILLO				YTD			
	AB	R	HBI	AVG		AB	R	HBI	AVG		AB	R	HBI	AVG	
K.Anderson CF	3	1	1	.353	M.Lewis CF	3	0	0	.308						
C.Davidson 2B	3	1	1	.240	D.Bravo 2B	3	1	0	.320						
T.Beamon DH	4	0	1	.305	C.Figueroa DH	4	0	2	.380						
J.Tranum 1B	3	0	1	.284	G.Schneidmil 3B	3	1	1	.320						
R.Paz 3B	3	0	0	.311	J.Davis 1B	4	1	1	.300						
L.Guance SS	4	0	1	.314	B.Stern RF	4	0	0	.083						
A.Bonner RF	3	0	0	.296	E.Davis LF	2	0	0	.254						
E.Mejias LF	2	1	0	.272	K.Griffin CAT	4	0	1	.250						
R.Smith CAT	3	2	2	.353	E.Padilla SS	3	0	0	.226						
A.Cox PIT	0	0	0	.000	B.Morrison PH	1	0	1	.345						
C.Borland PIT	0	0	0	.000	C.Griffin PIT	0	0	0	.000						
					K.Allen PIT	0	0	0	.000						
					J.Jensen PIT	0	0	0	.000						
					K.Pridgeon PIT	0	0	0	.000						
TOTALS	28	5	7	5	TOTALS	31	3	6	1						

ALEXANDRIA 000 040 100 — 5 7 2
AMARILLO 000 002 010 — 3 6 3
E--E.Mejias 2, J.Davis, C.Griffin, K.Allen. DP--ALEXANDRIA 3, AMARILLO 3.
LOB--ALEXANDRIA 5, AMARILLO 7. 2B--R.Smith (3), C.Figueroa (8).
SB--K.Anderson 2 (27), C.Davidson (18), L.Guance (13). CS--K.Anderson, E.Mejias, M.Lewis. HBP--E.Mejias, E.Davis. SF--C.Davidson. SH--K.Anderson.

		YTD						
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	ERA
ALEXANDRIA								
A.Cox (W,3-2)	7.0	2	2	1	4	4	0	4.37
C.Borland (S,3)	2.0	4	1	1	1	1	0	6.06
AMARILLO								
C.Griffin (L,2-2)	4.1	4	4	4	4	6	0	5.27
K.Allen	2.2	2	1	1	1	1	0	4.60
J.Jensen	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
K.Pridgeon	1.0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.00
HB--A.Cox, C.Griffin. WP--A.Cox 2. PB--K.Griffin. SO--C.Davidson, T.Beamon 2, R.Paz, L.Guance 2, A.Bonner, E.Mejias, C.Figueroa, J.Davis, B.Stern, K.Griffin, E.Padilla. BB--K.Anderson, J.Tranum, R.Paz, A.Bonner, E.Mejias, R.Smith, M.Lewis 2, D.Bravo, G.Schneidmil, E.Davis.								
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LIFE AFTER BEN

Pistons replace Wallace

DETROIT (AP) - The Detroit Pistons are already moving on without Ben Wallace.

A day after losing Wallace to the Chicago Bulls, the Pistons reached an agreement with free-agent center Nazr Mohammed on Tuesday, a person within the NBA told The Associated Press.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because NBA free agents can't officially sign contracts until July 12, said the team and Mohammed made an oral pact on a five-year contract - with the final year being an option - that will pay him about \$5 million next season.

Mohammed started in 30 of 80 games last season for the San Antonio Spurs, averaging 6.2 points and 5.2 rebounds. The 6-foot-10, 250-pound center will likely replace Wallace in the starting lineup, allowing Rasheed Wallace to remain as a power forward.

Mohammed, who turns 29 on Sept. 5, probably will not be able to rebound, block shots and provide energy like Ben Wallace did - but he will cost about \$9 million less next season.

The Bulls wooed Wallace away Monday night, according to the person within the league, for a four-year deal reportedly worth \$60 million - about \$10 million more than the Pistons were willing to pay the four-time Defensive Player of the Year.

Joe Dumars, the Pistons' president of basketball operations, said late last week that his top priority was to re-sign Wallace. But Wallace said he was disappointed with the Pistons' offer.

"We tried to work out a couple of deals," he told The Detroit News. "But there was nothing that Joe felt would work."

Mohammed has bounced around the

league during his career, which started when he was drafted by the Utah Jazz after they drafted him with the 29th overall pick in 1998 out of Kentucky.

He spent his first two-plus seasons with the Philadelphia 76ers, who traded him in 2001 to Atlanta. The Hawks dealt him three years later to the New York Knicks, who traded him to San Antonio at the 2005 trading deadline.

Mohammed's career averages are 7.1 points, 5.7 rebounds and 0.6 blocks.

The Pistons will likely start Mohammed but might play frontcourt reserves Antonio McDyess, Dale Davis and Jason Maxiell more than they did when Ben Wallace was on the team and playing a lot of minutes.

Detroit expects to add one more free agent this offseason - paying a player about \$1 million next season with its biannual exception - and might look to bring in a wing player to come off the bench to give shooting guard Richard Hamilton and small forward Tayshaun Prince more of a break than they've had in recent years.

Short term, losing Ben Wallace will likely hurt the Pistons, who advanced to four straight conference finals with him leading the way with his passion and blue-collar game. But the Pistons might benefit in a few years when they're not paying him as much as the Bulls will have to with the lucrative deal he agreed to Monday night.

Wallace helped the Pistons become an elite team with his frantic style of play, but during the 2006 playoffs, his offensive limitations - and perhaps a banged-up body that took away from his defense - seemed to hurt their chances of advancing to the NBA Finals for the third straight year.

Vive La France! Or Viva Portugal!

MUNICH, Germany (AP) - Back in December, France was a 12-1 longshot to win the World Cup, and Portugal was an even bigger underdog at 20-1.

Yet Sunday's championship game won't see Brazil, Argentina, Germany or the Netherlands, favorites long gone. In their place will be France or Portugal, who meet today for a spot in the final against Italy, the only pre-tournament favorite still standing after knocking off fellow 8-1 shot Germany in the first semifinal Tuesday.

"A semifinal is an exceptional moment," France coach Raymond Domenech said. "But the objective is July 9."

"We never aimed to be world champion. We just concentrated on the next game," Portugal coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said. "They're overcoming limits. When you do that, the limits fall away, and you can start dreaming."

History favors the French. France beat Portugal on penalty kicks in last year's World Cup, albeit the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in Brazil. As far as the real thing, Portugal is 0-7 against the French since a 2-0 exhibition win at Paris in 1975, including losses in the 1984 and 2000 European Championships.

When these teams last met in a match that counted, the 2000 Euro semifinals, it got ugly. France won 2-1 when Zinedine

Zidane converted a penalty kick with three minutes left in sudden-death extra time. Portuguese players protested the call by Austrian referee Guenter Benko, who ruled Abel Xavier used his left hand to block Sylvain Wiltord's shot.

Xavier was suspended from international competition for six months, Nuno Gomes got a seven-month ban and Paulo Bento a five-month penalty.

"There's huge rivalry between France and Portugal," Portuguese forward Helder Postiga said. "That 2000 game stuck in our throats. It was really frustrating."

France, coming off its first World Cup championship in 1998, went on to add the European title by rallying past Italy in extra time, but the French were bounced out of the 2002 World Cup in the first round without even scoring a goal. Portugal also was a 2002 flop, losing to the United States and South Korea, but made it to the 2004 Euro final, which it hosted, before losing to Greece. The French were knocked out in the quarterfinals when the Greeks ended their 22-match unbeaten streak.

Now Portugal has a 19-game unbeaten streak since a February 2005 loss to Ireland and has reached the World Cup semis for the first time since 1966. Scolari, coming off a penalty-kicks victory over England, is unbeaten in 12 straight World Cup matches.

Nightmares

Continued from Page 5

So what Klinsmann wondered about instead was whether Lehmann was cool enough to shoulder his nation's hopes in the biggest tournament of all.

That question was answered when Germany's quarterfinal against Argentina went to a penalty-kick shootout.

Four times the Argentians fired from the spot, and twice they were thwarted. Before facing the kicks, Lehmann reached into his sock and pulled out a sheet of paper the German staff had put together on each shooter's tendencies and studied it.

That singular performance so unnerved the Italians as the semifinals wore on - through 90 minutes of regulation and nearly all 30 minutes of overtime - that coach Marcello Lippi put four forwards out on the field in the final few minutes to avoid facing Lehmann in another shootout.

A joke on the front page of Thursday's Gazzetta dello Sport even guessed what Klinsmann would write on the sheet of paper he handed Lehmann if the two teams went to penalties.

Former TCU football player gets probation

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Former TCU wide receiver Cory Rodgers, who was drafted by the Green Bay Packers in April, has been placed on 15 months probation after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor gun charge.

Rodgers pleaded guilty Monday to a charge of unlawfully carrying a firearm. Rodgers was arrested May 26 after police said they heard two shots fired outside a bar where a fight had broken out. They found Rodgers in the back seat of his car with a .40 caliber handgun and ammunition.

As part of a deal, prosecutors agreed not to pursue a misdemeanor charge of firing a weapon.

Rodgers attorney Jeff Kearney said Rodgers was not involved in the fight and fired his gun into the air to scare off a group of men who had surrounded him.

"I think our investigation and the DA's investigation both indicated that, when he discharged the firearm, he didn't fire at or in the direction of anyone," Kearney said.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, July 6, 2006:

Much changes quickly this year. Often, you need to regroup and use your creative-thinking skills. You easily come up with solutions. Be honest with yourself about what you want. Not tuning in to yourself can create more problems than you would like. Sometimes others aren't very clear, which causes problems, especially financially. Other times your ideas could "cost" you or be more expensive than you realize. Support yourself in a need to take a stand and say no. Ultimately, you are responsible for yourself. If you are single, you'll find meeting people easy, though on some level you could be a bit demanding. If you are attached, your relationship flourishes. You, however, might want to separate your finances, if possible. SCORPIO understands you very well.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-Sp-So; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ You might not want to define today as a bad-hair day, but you easily could when you look back at events. Add in humor, and everything will look better. Don't move quickly. In hindsight, you see situations very differently. Use that ability. Tonight: Swap war stories. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Others could toss you into a tizzy and then reverse their tune. This could be simply one person who impacts you this way. Single Bulls might experience a second chance with a potential suitor. Pressure builds at home. Tonight: Don't lose your temper. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Easy does it. You might find that your energy cycles genuinely change. Someone might let you down when you least expect it. Be more fun-loving and open. Think positively about what can happen as opposed to what is happening. Tonight: Put your feet up. CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Your lively, fun side comes out when dealing with someone you always enjoy. His or her reaction could be quite different and a touch off. A money matter could make you feel out of whack. Think positively. Tonight: Laugh and don't dwell on a problem. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Anchor in on basics, especially if something heads in your direction. An offer or a change on the domestic front has been on the back burner, but probably not anymore. Think positively about a change in events. Tonight: Order in. Stay in. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Take action and move forward. You have a way with words, but you easily could say way too much today. You will laugh and enjoy yourself as long as you know it is OK to goof off. Nothing is wrong with relaxing. Tonight: Chat up a storm. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Your expenses might be compounded if you take a risk. Think through a decision rather than take action. You might find that friends give you bad advice. Do research and figure out what is important. Don't do anything halfway. Tonight: Don't overdo it. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You are mellow and doing just fine. Stay connected with a project, knowing what works and what doesn't. You could think someone is confusing a

situation much more than necessary. Unexpected news heads your way. Tonight: Say yes. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Be more willing to let others run the show. You will be happier as a result. You cannot always have the final say in what happens. Lighten up and don't personalize someone's comments. Tonight: Smile away. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Investigate alternatives more carefully. Don't make any money commitments, no matter what. Stay centered, knowing what you want. A meeting might have some implications you aren't comfortable with. Tonight: Easy does it. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Others run in a new direction. Think positively about a situation, but at the same time, don't delude yourself. You might not be able to make peace with a partner. Think positively about a must appearance. Tonight: In the limelight. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Read between the lines. Be willing to travel and head in a new direction. Vagueness surrounds the best ideas. Pushing to get clarity might not work. Pressure builds. Approach life more easily. Tonight: Take in a new perspective. BORN TODAY Artist James Browning Wyeth (1946), singer, broadcaster Merv Griffin (1925), actor Ned Beatty (1937) *** Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Pampa News Classifieds

11 Financial

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

THE Credit Builders, L.L.C.
We fix bad credit! No fee until you see results!
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13 Bus. Opp.

CLASSY antique store for sale in McLean. Just off I-40, Bldg., computer, security sys., signage, billboard, business sys. 806-779-2289 or 779-2947 aft. hours.

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement windows, steel siding & trim Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

14h Gen. Serv.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc. Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo.

Dale West Fence & Deck Sealing
Weather seal your fence or deck. Wash & seal your old fence or deck. Free estimates!
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14h Gen. Serv.

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JH Concrete Work, slabs, sidewalks, driveways, additions, roofing, fences. Call lv. msg., I will return your call aft 5:30 p.m. Free Est.
806-382-5408

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. Faucets, plumbing supplies, new constr., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

Larry Baker Plumbing Heating/Air Conditioning Borger Hwy. 665-4392

19 Situations

CERTIFIED CNA will work M-F for elderly. Call 806-664-5760 for more information and ask for Donna.

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for welder fabricators. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa.

COOK, Wait Staff & Kitchen Prep needed. Apply in person before 11 am, or after 2 pm. Dixie Cafe, Pampa.

SHAMROCK General Hospital needs RN. Full or part-time, 7p. to 7a. Good benefits. Call Jeanne Crossland, RN, DON. 806-256-2114.

CLASS A CDL drivers needed. The pay is good and we offer benefits and retirement plan. For info. please call 719-846-1522.

KITCHEN help needed. Apply in person at Dyer's BBQ, Pampa.

CNA'S needed, full-time w/ benefits 7am-3pm and 3pm-11pm. St. Ann's Nursing Home, in Panhandle. 806-537-3194.

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1445 S. Barnes Pampa, Tx.

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21 Help Wanted

EXP. Maintenance person needed. Must have own tools. Call to apply 665-4274 or 806-433-6939

CATERING full & part-time positions. Apply in person, Dixie Cafe, Pampa.

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Trainee: Minimum requirements: Masters or Bachelors degree plus related work experience. VRC Trainee evaluates needs and abilities of eligible persons with disabilities to provide services to attain suitable employment. Responsible and manages budget in compliance with policy. Travel required. Salary \$2536 to \$3597 per month. Closes 7/10/06 Completed State Applications must be received by 5:00 pm. Functional job description available with application are available on line at www.hhsc.state.tx.us and click on HHSC Job Openings. EOE Employer.

CALDWELL Production needs Bookkeeper. Computer exp. is a must! 1 wk. pd. vacation, 60 pd. holidays, Hwy 60 West, Pampa, 665-8888.

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CLERICAL position avail. for exp. person with background in Word and Excel, multi-tasking and exc. communication skills. Send resumes to Box 17, c/o Pampa News, Po Box 2198, Pampa, Tx.

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to qualify for this position you must have a high sch. diploma or equivalent, and be able to lift 50-70 lbs. and work in heat, wind and rain if necessary. Class A CDL a plus. work Schedule: 7am-4pm, Mon. thru Fri.

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Rooms \$70 wk., bills paid

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.
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\$28,500. 2 bdr., 1 ba., det. gar., c. heat, washer/dryer connection, new paint. 332 Miami st., Pampa, Tx. Call 806-358-2213.

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1921 Lynn 3 bdr., 2 ba., 2 lrg. liv. areas, 2 fireplaces, new laminate floor, class 4 roof, cov. patio, deck, 2500 sq. ft. Must see. Call 669-6964 or 683-9114 for more information.

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4.5 lots w/ nice 2-story home near Greenbelt Lake. Beautiful landscaping and large trees. Many, many amenities incl. storm cellar and play-house, tennis court, swimming pool 2 screened-in porches. Deer and turkey feed in front yard. 4 bdr., 4 ba., detached gar. w/parking for up to 8 cars. RV parking. 243 Palacio, Howardwick, 2228 sq. ft. \$209,900. For more info. contact ROY NORTHROP.

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AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

7-5 CRYPTOQUOTE

EGVT VPV XWLRJ RDE GVL
LVXYVOJWBT WT D ABBY, RGV
RBFMGJ DCDH DTC DOOFRC
GWH BX WTXWCYVWJZ.

— DHQLBRV QWVLOV
Yesterday's Cryptquote: ACTION MAY NOT ALWAYS BRING HAPPINESS, BUT THERE IS NO HAPPINESS WITHOUT ACTION. — BENJAMIN DISRAELI

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BUILDING SITES
CHAUMONT Prime lot overlooking golf course. \$27,500.
SHERWOOD SHORES 2 adjacent lots - make offer.

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INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD PICK UP APPLICATIONS AT CITY HALL RM. 304

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am acquainted with a young man who is 18. His mother is pushing him to marry a young woman from South America so she can stay in the United States. The young lady is an employee at the mother's store. The mother is a very strong force, and I'm afraid he will go along with her plans. I am sure this kind of thing is done all the time, but if this situation is discovered, what could happen to the young man? Could he go to jail for this? I would hate for him to ruin his life because of his pushy mother. I would like to present him with all the facts before he commits himself to something this life-altering. If you print my letter, please don't reveal my name or location, as his mother would never allow him to see us again. — **CONCERNED**

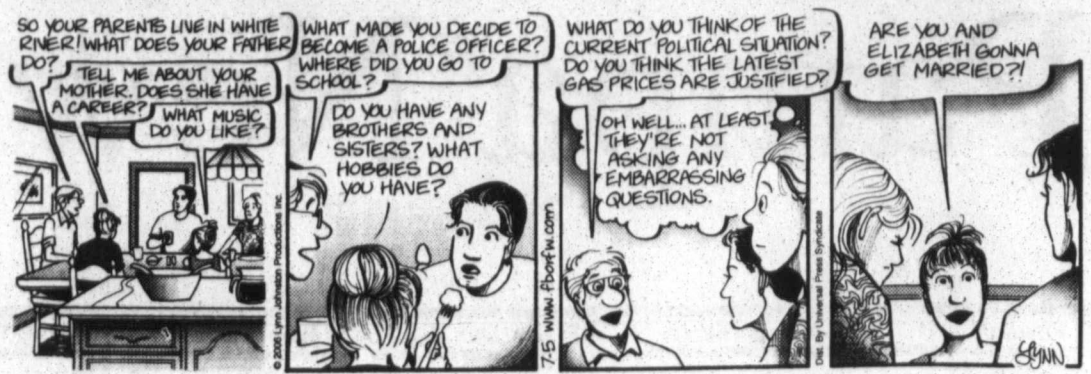
DEAR CONCERNED: His mother should be ashamed of herself. According to Judge Judith Champagne of the California Superior Court, the name for what you have described is "immigration fraud, and it is a felony that could, indeed, bring jail time." Please warn him that the feds are onto these kinds of shenanigans. "Couples who pretend to be married are called in for an interview and questioned separately about minute details that cannot be faked. Being convicted of a felony could ruin this young man's future, so I strongly advise against taking such a foolish risk."

DEAR ABBY: Please tell me what to do. I was at a birthday luncheon with six other women, and a discussion about female newscasters came up. One of the guests was raving about how wonderful a certain news anchor was, and said, "She has eight

children!" Feeling naughty, I said, "That just means she likes gettin' it on!" I realize my comment may have been off-color, but we've known each other 20 years, and I was just mouthing off. The woman who had brought up the newscaster immediately took great offense and replied, "My mother had eight children!" The lady whose 81st birthday we were celebrating then said, "Your mother must have liked to do it, too." The offended lady told us angrily that she didn't appreciate our remarks. I was very embarrassed and apologized repeatedly, both for myself and the honoree — who, I can assure you, meant no harm either. Then I had my lunch packed up, paid my share of the bill, and left. I told my husband what happened, and he assured me that I had done nothing wrong. The offended woman brought her mother into the discussion, and the lady whose birthday it was made the comment about her mother. I feel ashamed and angry at the same time. The woman ignored my apology and ruined the birthday party. Can't a group of senior ladies who have been friends more than 20 years share a little spice? Or am I out of step? — **STILL UPSET IN MID-LOTHIAN, VA.**

DEAR STILL UPSET: There is an old saying, "Never discuss sex, politics or religion" at parties — and you unwittingly touched on one (possibly two) of the subjects. Do I think you committed social suicide? No, I think the woman overreacted. Write her a short note apologizing again, and then drop it. Whether she accepts it or not is up to her.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



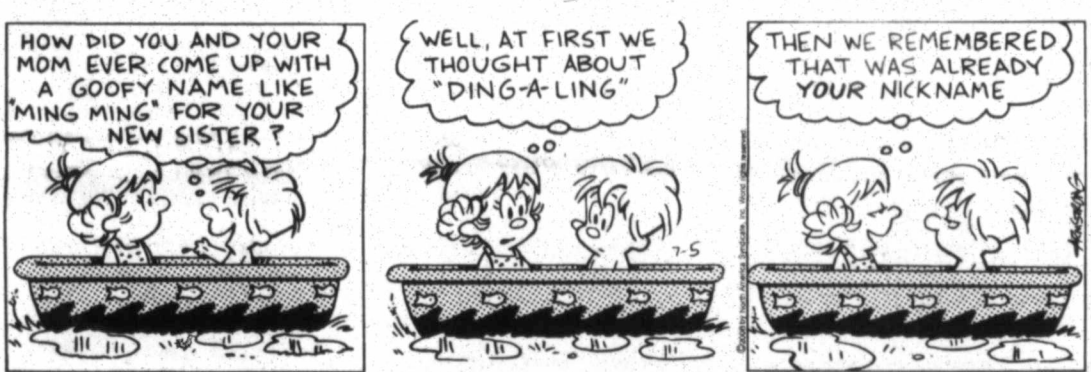
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

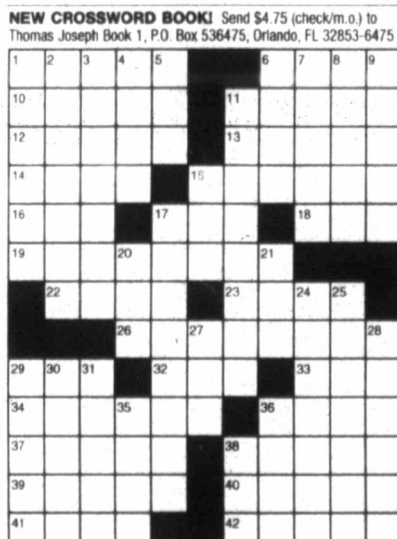
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS** 40 Essential
1 River boat 41 Went over
6 Ask for the limit help, in a 42 Nebula way
10 Bothered
11 Baseball's Satchel
12 No-frills
13 Raja's land
14 File stand-in
15 Prepares to propose
16 Building wing
17 Struggle
18 Filming site
19 Enter with enthusiasm
22 Identifies
23 Feels sorry about
26 Meet, as demands
29 Frankenstein's place
32 Ball point?
33 Stopped standing
34 Fridge, formerly
36 Pocket fuzz
37 Take the helm
38 "Taps" tooter
39 Bluefins
- DOWN**
1 Pampered
2 Fast
3 Firmness
4 Make headway
5 List-ending abbr.
6 Window part
7 Takes the bus
8 Sprightly
9 Baking need
11 Maine symbol
15 Family creator
17 Off-boomed
18 Minks' team
20 Chick holder
21 Anjou answer
24 Annapolis grads
25 Spider-Man's creator
27 Plague
28 Minks' cousins
29 Rosters
30 Carry on
31 Designer Geoffrey
35 Abacus part
36 Moon goddess
38 Massive



Yesterday's answer



Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends

