



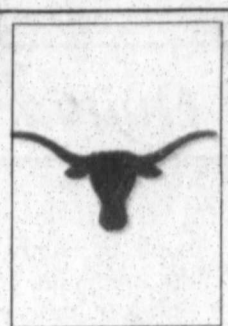
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Arrested Development

Two UT players arrested.
SEE PAGE 5



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Volume 102 • No. 131

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Hurricane Rita refugees find new home in Pampa

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Three-year-old Diana Mendoza used to love Oreo cookies, but she's not too crazy about them ever since Hurricane Rita hit the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast last September.

"They were her favorite, but she had to eat a lot of them coming up here," said Diana Navarro, her mother. "Now she's not very fond of them."

The family had to grab what they could find to carry with them to eat when they left Houston as Rita threatened the coast. Parents Jose Mendoza and Navarro knew little Diana liked Oreos, and they were able to bring some on the road trip north. But non-perishable foods were in short supply in Houston and the surrounding area, and the little girl grew tired of the monotonous diet.

"We just brought some clothing, water and food for some meals. We ran out of food pretty quickly," Mendoza said.

The family of three lived on the Gulf Freeway in Houston at the

time Rita made landfall on Sept. 24, 2005, near the Texas-Louisiana state line. Mendoza was the owner of a vehicle detail shop, and the family was renting-to-own their home. They had a van and a Toyota SUV.

Then it all fell apart. Hurricane Katrina had hit New Orleans and other parts of the Louisiana and Mississippi coasts on Aug. 29. Refugees from those areas had already arrived in Houston, and the Gulf Coast was in an upheaval in Katrina's wake.

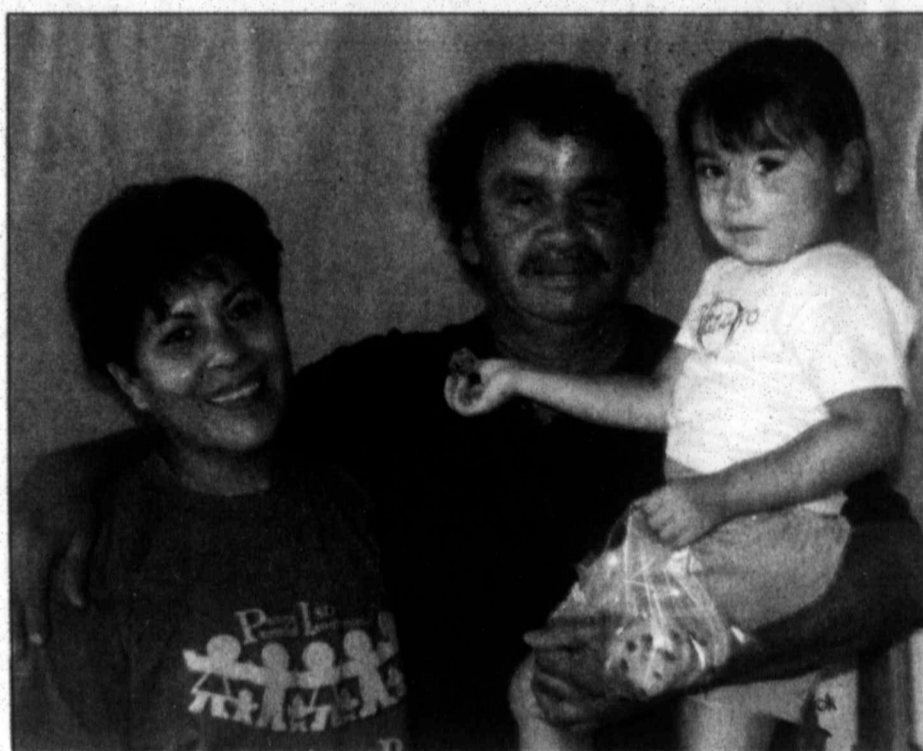
"There were a lot of thefts and vehicles being stolen after Katrina hit," Mendoza said.

Within a month, another hurricane threatened the Gulf Coast.

"The warnings started over a weekend. We left at midnight Wednesday, when the evacuation warnings got serious," Mendoza said.

Hurricane Rita made landfall on Thursday, Sept. 22. Evacuees found it difficult at times to get out of the path of the expected storm.

See FAMILY, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
From left are Diana Navarro, Jose Mendoza and their daughter, Diana Mendoza. The family of three came to Pampa to stay with Navarro's sister's sister-in-law, and decided to stay here. One year later, they recount their experiences when Rita made landfall and they were part of the evacuation from Houston.

Hazardous waste to be collected Saturday Shuttle launch put off

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

The annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Community Recycling Center in Hobart Street Park.

The service is free to all Pampa residents and offers an opportunity to safely and legally dispose of waste items that should not be placed in Dumpsters or in the city landfill.

Materials which will be

accepted at the center

Saturday include paint, solvents, varnish, tires, pesticides, herbicides, drain opener, oven cleaner, stain removers, polish, certain hobby supplies, pool chemicals, transmission and brake fluids, motor oil, antifreeze, acids, batteries, and photographic chemicals. Also accepted will be any products labeled "Caution," "Warning," or "Poison," and recyclables, including plastics 1 and 2, glass, aluminum

and paper.

Items to be disposed of Saturday should be transported in their original containers, and should not be mixed together. Containers should be properly sealed and not subject to leaking. Hazardous waste containers should be placed in the trunk or back of the vehicle, away from passengers.

Acceptable items which will be recycled are tires, car batteries, motor oil, used oil filters, antifreeze, latex

paint, plastic, glass, aluminum, and paper. A limit of 10 tires from each participant will be accepted.

The paint will be mixed together and provided free of charge at the city service center to anyone who wishes to use it. Last year, 50 five-gallon buckets of paint were collected.

Items which will not be accepted at Saturday's event include explosives, radioactive waste.
See WASTE, Page 3

School spirit



Courtesy photo

The Pampa High School football team had a tough time with Perryton Friday night, but one thing they had on their side to encourage them was the music and drumbeat of the Pampa High School Band. The school budget did not include money for the band to travel to the first out-of-town game, but that did not stop the music. Almost half of the 130 students in the band gathered their instruments and traveled to the game on their own, according to Lane McNeely.

Shuttle launch put off

CAPE CANAVERAL (AP) — NASA postponed the launch of space shuttle Atlantis by at least another day after discovering a problem with its electrical power system early today.

The fueling of the external tank had yet to start when a coolant pump that chills the system used to generate electricity on Atlantis gave an erratic reading. The electrical system is made up of three fuel cells.

The space agency planned to further examine the problem, consult with the fuel cells' manufacturer and, if possible, try to launch Atlantis at 12:03 p.m. EDT Thursday.

Astronaut Jeff Williams, 220 miles above Earth at the space station, wasn't optimistic when Mission Control told him about the problem.

"That doesn't sound promising," he said. Mission Control responded, "It's hard to say. We want to be ever hopeful."

The problem was discovered shortly before an overnight meeting to decide whether to start pumping the shuttle's fuel tank with supercold liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen. When the shuttle's fuel cells were

See SHUTTLE, Page 3

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 • 9:00AM-3:00PM

Bring Your Hazardous Materials To The Pampa Recycling Center At
Hobart Street Park For Disposal Free Of Charge To All Area Residents

Sponsored By The City Of Pampa, Keep Pampa Beautiful, Celanese And TOI Hazardous Waste Committee

Obituaries

Lena F. Henry, 70

Lena F. Henry, 70, died September 3, 2006, in Pampa, Texas.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, September 8, 2006, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with Frankie L. Lemons, minister of the Southside Church of Christ, officiating.

Entombment will be in Memory Gardens Mausoleum under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Henry was born July 2, 1936, in Sulphur Springs. She graduated from Carver High School in Pampa in 1954. She graduated from Bishop College in Marshall with a B.S. degree in business education.

She taught in Pampa, Plano and Spring. She married Charles Henry on September



Henry

15, 1966, in Panhandle. She was a member of the Southside Church of Christ. She loved to cook and entertain her family, and she was a Christian.

Survivors include her husband, Charles Henry of the home; one daughter, Colette Henry of Fresno, Texas; one son, Charles Henry Jr. of Austin; four grandchildren; three sisters, Linda Johnson of Ontario, California, and Margaret Nickelberry and Claudette Deason, both of Pampa; three brothers, Edward E. Cash and Joe Cash, both of Pampa, and Larry L. Cash of Altadena, California; and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mildred & Leonard Cash and Arthur Anders, and a brother, Hurbert Cash.

The family requests memorials be to Southside Church of Christ, 11923 W. McCullough St., Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Lucille Hulsey Attaway, 90

Lucille Hulsey Attaway, 90, died September 6, 2006, in Pampa, Texas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Attaway was born January 25, 1916, in Wewoka, Oklahoma, to J. W. & Rossie Hulsey. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1930. She married Truman Attaway on October 10, 1934, in Pampa. He preceded her in death on May 18, 1997.

She was a member of the Central Baptist Church for over 60 years. She was a member of the Pampa Chapter #65 Order of the Eastern Star for over 40 years. She was a loving mother and homemaker. She enjoyed working in her

yard and garden, and visiting with her friends. She loved the Lord.

Survivors include two daughters, Leona Willis & husband Bill of Pampa, and Murline Stephens & husband Loyd of Escondido, California; five grandchildren, Melissa Hogan of Lubbock, Lynn Willis of Pampa, Sean Stephens of San Diego, California, Brad Stephens of Hampton Cove, Alabama, and Derek Stephens of Mustang, Oklahoma; 10 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents and 10 brothers and sisters.

The family requests memorials be to Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, Texas 79065, or Pampa Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 475, Pampa, Texas 79066-0475.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com



Attaway

Stocks

| | | | | |
|--|--------|------------------|-------|--------|
| The following grain quotations are provided by Atebury Grain of White Deer. | | XCEL | 20.29 | -0.02 |
| Wheat | 4.14 | Anadarko | 49.58 | -0.66 |
| Milo | 3.04 | XOM | 68.07 | -0.41 |
| Corn | 3.94 | Nat'l Oilwell | 67.03 | -1.05 |
| Soybeans | 4.18 | Limited | 25.96 | -0.19 |
| The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa. | | Williams | 24.74 | -0.23 |
| QXV | 48.88 | MCD | 36.45 | -0.20 |
| BP PLC ADR | 67.40 | Atmos | 28.53 | -0.22 |
| Cabot Corp | 33.05 | Pioneer Nat | 41.91 | -0.60 |
| Celanese | 18.07 | JCP | 64.93 | -0.10 |
| Cabot Oil Gas | 50.27 | COP | 63.25 | -1.03 |
| Coca Cola | 44.81 | SLB | 61.22 | -1.08 |
| VLO | 54.54 | Tenneco | 22.90 | -0.55 |
| HAL | 32.38 | CVX | 65.94 | -0.40 |
| TRI | 44.05 | Wal-Mart | 45.56 | -0.01 |
| KMI | 104.40 | ORKE | 38.85 | -0.20 |
| | | NS Grp | 46.48 | -0.53 |
| | | New York Gold | | 637.90 |
| | | Silver | | 12.97 |
| | | West Texas Crude | | 68.66 |

Gray County Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high near 75. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 73. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Emergency Services

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Eight traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 2300 block of Primrose and an unreported block on Buckler Street.

Motorist assistance was rendered in the 300 block of South Hobart.

A vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Francis and Gray streets.

Calls concerning animals were received from the 700 block of North Christy, the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway, and the 800 block of East Francis.

Found property was reported in the 800 block of

Duncan. A wristwatch of unknown value was found.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

Welfare checks were made in the 2000 block of North Hobart and the 1000 block of North Sumner.

A civil matter was reported in the 1100 block of South Sumner.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 300 block of South Gray.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block of South Hobart, the 700 block of East 15th, and the 800 block of North Gray.

Criminal trespass was reported in the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2100 block of North Hobart by The Pampa News. The glass was broken on a newspaper dispenser. Estimated cost of damage is \$20.

Criminal mischief was reported in the police department lobby and the 1800 block of Hamilton.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road.

Assault was reported in the 1000 block of Sirroco, the 1100 block of Neel Road, and at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles, where no injuries were reported.

Assault causing bodily injury was reported at PJHS. Minor injuries were reported.

One open door was checked.

Theft was reported in the 700 block of East Browning and the 200 block of North Sumner, where an oxygen cart valued at \$30 was taken.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2000 block of West 23rd.

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

Tuesday, Sept. 5

Charles Wayne Jones, 33, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for possession of more than four grams but less than 200 grams of a controlled substance, and possession of more than one gram but less than four grams of a controlled substance in a drug-free zone.

Jessica Carol Smith, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of Sirroco by Pampa Police Department on a bond surrender for a Potter County charge of theft.

William Stephen Martin, 26, of Amarillo was arrested in the 800 block of North Gray by PPD for resisting arrest, search and transport; evading arrest/detention; and a Randall County charge of criminal mischief over \$50 and under \$500.

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Lance Allan Herr, 44, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for discharging a firearm inside city limits and failure to appear.

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Saturday, Sept. 2

9:52 p.m. — A 1998 Jeep Wrangler, driven by Kenzi Lea Nickell, 17, of 617 Red Deer, and a 1995 Chevrolet Tahoe, driven by Jose Jacinto Cabrales, 38, of 517 N. Dwight, collided at the intersection of Kentucky and Hobart streets. No injuries were reported. Nickell was cited for failure to yield right of way while making a left turn.

Tuesday, Sept. 5

5:09 p.m. — A 1986 Ford Tempo, driven by Kathy Joan Cole, 43, of 405 S. Houston, and a 2001 Jeep Grand Cherokee, driven by Andrew Anthony Ramirez, 34, of 1321 E. Francis, collided in the 400 block of West Francis. No injuries were reported. Cole was cited for failure to pass to the right safely.

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

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HOME FOR Sale: 2416 Evergreen, \$160,000. 669-9272, 898-3677.

PUTMAN ESTATE Sale. 83 yr. accumulation, new & used antiques. 9-5 Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. 4th & Main, Skellytown.

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Tropical storm could become new hurricane

MIAMI (AP) — Tropical Storm Florence gained strength in the open Atlantic on Wednesday and could become a hurricane by the weekend, but forecasters said it was too soon to tell if it would reach the United States.

Florence had sustained wind near 50 mph Wednesday morning, over the 39 mph threshold for a tropical storm. The minimum for a hurricane is 74 mph.

"Several days down the road it could very well strengthen into a hurricane," said National Hurricane Center forecaster Jack Beven. Forecasters have said that could happen as early as Friday.

At 11 a.m. EDT, the storm was centered about 800 miles east of the Northern Leeward Islands.

Donation



Courtesy photo
Dr. Mark W. Ford Jr. of Ford Family Chiropractic has contributed \$600 to Challenge Day, a program in which 200 Pampa student will participate Thursday and Friday. From left are students Joseph Johnson and Geoff Bowley; Ford and Laura Logsdon, a team member in his office; and students Natalie Knowles and Natasha Bailey.

Shuttle

Continued from Page 1

powered up, a low voltage reading came from one of the units, and the other two spiked up to compensate.

Fuel cells have forced launch delays before and even ended missions early.

The second flight of Columbia in 1981 was delayed because of a low pressure reading on an oxygen tank that fueled a cell, and the 5-day mission was cut short when the cell failed.

In 1995, an Endeavour launch was delayed eight days so workers could remove and replace a bad fuel cell that was registering higher than allowable temperatures.

A 1997 flight of Columbia returned to Earth four days after launch when a cell failed in orbit. The cell had shown some erratic readings before the launch but the shuttle was cleared to fly. The mission was rescheduled and Columbia launched again a few months later.

The delay puts more pressure on NASA to get Atlantis off the ground this week or postpone a daylight launch until most likely late October. A Russian mission to the space station is scheduled later this month.

NASA had scheduled launch attempts for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The weather forecast for all three days put the chance of weather prohibiting an attempt at 30 percent.

NASA almost didn't get a chance at all this week because of Tropical Storm Ernesto. Workers started moving the shuttle back to an assembly building last week because of the approaching storm, but NASA managers reversed course and decided to leave the spacecraft at the launch pad.

COP CORNER

It's Harvester Football time again. We got a new coach, new players, and of course new fans going to the games. Just a note here on what to expect at a home game. Parking will be a headache for those who get there close to game time. You may even have to park in front of the high school. We try to accommodate as many cars as we can on Randy Matson, but remember the area in front of the stadium ticket office is no parking. We also have to remember that the visiting football team dressing room is at McNeely Field House so at the beginning of the game, half time and at the end of the game there is lots of pedestrian traffic. Usually the Harvester Band also crosses the street in formation at the beginning of the game. I hope everyone keeps his or her speed down in this area.

We will have police officers at the game. This is for

everyone's safety. There is a change this year for the junior high students. They will be sitting in the north end zone in the portable bleachers. There will be extra PISD staff helping to maintain pedestrian traffic control in the concession areas and under the bleachers. For all you smokers out there remember: don't smoke inside the stadium area. Also, any form of alcohol is prohibited on school property. Police officers will have a "Zero Tolerance" policy for anyone that forgets this state law.

Cop Corner wishes the "Harvies" and Coach Cav the best of luck for the 2006 season and hope as many Harvester fans as can attend the short home game season.

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

Family

Continued from Page 1

"When we were trying to leave, it took seven hours to get to downtown. It normally takes 25 minutes," Mendoza said.

"We made it a short distance from home and filled up the Toyota. We were told not to have the air conditioner on, or to use it sparingly, because of the fuel shortage," he said.

They stopped at a Wal Mart near the Sam Houston monument to get supplies, but found the shelves all but bare.

"After waiting in line to get in, we found the shelves empty. We found some broken crackers, bologna and one apple, and bought that," Navarro said.

Evacuees had been instructed to take as much cash with them as they could, but Mendoza said store owners were afraid to take cash and wanted payment by credit cards instead, due to the possibility of theft.

The family slept on the side of the road in their vehicle, but kept moving north without stopping any more than necessary. Mendoza estimates he got three hours' sleep during the drive to Pampa, which took 46 hours.

"My legs were swollen by the time we got here," said Mendoza, who has diabetes.

"We saw some people passed out on the side of the road due to the heat," he said. "The roads were crammed, but one strip was kept open for emergency vehicles. Traffic was backed up for 100 miles."

Things began to look up for the family when they reached Decatur.

"Someone at a Dairy Queen in Decatur offered us food and a place to stay," Mendoza said. "There was a lot of help after the freeways opened up and we got to this side of Dallas. There were stations by the highways with water and food."

Mendoza, Navarro and their daughter came to Pampa because Navarro's sister's sister-in-law, Martha Leal, lived in Pampa and they planned to stay with her temporarily. They returned to their home and business after the storm had passed, only to find their home, possessions and business in tatters.

"Two weeks later, we went back to Houston and found all the damage," Mendoza said. "The business was gone, and there was damage to the house."

The area of Houston where the family had lived and worked was without electricity for two weeks. The doors of the family's van, which they had left behind in Houston, were gone and they never found them. Part of the roof of their home was blown off.

They salvaged enough possessions to fill the back of a pickup and left Houston for the second and last time.

"We decided to turn around and come back up here," Mendoza said.

Rita was the last straw for the family. They had also experienced the devastation caused in June 2001 in the Houston area by Hurricane Allison.

"We were flooded badly during Allison," Mendoza said. "I was out of work for two weeks."

"We will go back to Houston just to visit, but not to live," Navarro said.

Mendoza and Navarro miss their business, and little Diana misses her bed, which could not be salvaged. They did not have

insurance on their property, but have remedied that situation.

"We have insurance now," Mendoza said.

They found helping hands in the Pampa area.

"I met Mike Helms of White Deer," Mendoza said. "He gave me a job and loaned me money. When we were trying to get settled into our new home here, a man named Robert Ponce loaned me rent money one time when I couldn't get it, and everything fell into place after that."

Mendoza found a job with Bill Allison, who owns a used car business in Pampa. The family now lives in a Pampa home under a lease/purchase agreement. Navarro sometimes helps Mendoza at work, but is mostly a stay-at-home mom. Diana attends Head Start and Community Day Care Center, where she is beginning to learn English.

"I would like to start my own business again, but Bill Allison has been so good to me, I can't see leaving him," Mendoza said.

They were not one of the 70 families who were hurricane evacuees who received assistance from the Eastern Texas Panhandle chapter of the American Red Cross, they said, because they did not know about the local Red Cross office. Local Red Cross director Jana Gregory was distressed at not having had the opportunity to help.

"We want people to know that in times of disaster, Red Cross will help," she said.

Others who offered help have a special place in the family's hearts.

"We've met a lot of really nice people here who've been good to us. We like it here and want to give something back to the community," Mendoza said.

Waste

Continued from Page 2

ive materials, dioxins or waste generated by businesses and farms, containers larger than one gallon except for motor oil and paint, compressed gas cylinders, and water reactives.

Sponsors of this year's collection day are the City of Pampa, Keep Pampa Beautiful, Celanese, and the TOT Household Hazardous Waste Committee.

Last year's collection day drew almost 400 people from 375 households, 125 more than in 2004.

For more information, call 665-5614 or 669-5840.

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Viewpoints

New Orleans: Feds have supplied recovery funds

For a long time now we've been listening to the Democrats and their toadies in the media complaining about the Bush administration's handling of the Hurricane Katrina disaster and its aftermath.

They charge it up to what they call the administration's incompetence, implying that had the Democrats been running the show, things would have been handled much better.

It takes a lot of gall to make that charge because as one Town Hall blogger, Cato's Corner, recently pointed out, the Democrats were in charge before, during and ever since Katrina hit the Gulf Coast.

In the United States, the authorities at the state and local levels are responsible for what happens in their areas. In Louisiana the gover-

nor is a Democrat, and the mayor of New Orleans is a Democrat. They were the so-called first responders, and their response was pitiful. They can blame President Bush all they want, but it was their job to handle the disaster and their handling of it was a disaster in itself.

That incompetence continues, especially in New Orleans where the cleanup and rebuilding efforts are lagging far behind where they would have been had they done their jobs competently. And they can't blame that on the president or the federal government.

The fact is that \$11.8 billion has been allocated. That's everything that New Orleans asked for. They got \$6 billion in December, another \$4 billion in May, another \$1.8

billion recently, and yet they haven't spent the money.

One big problem: New Orleans has yet to come up with a master plan that will allow people to know what they can do and how to do it.

Michael Reagan
Columnist



The city refuses to relax the red-tape provisions to allow the people to get the money to be able to rebuild, which is exactly the opposite of what Mississippi's Republican Gov. Haley Barbour has done in his state. He cut

through the red tape to allow the people to get the funds necessary to go ahead and rebuild.

Another reason is that the folks in Mississippi are working together, not standing around waiting for the federal government to rebuild. Officials in Louisiana are still whining, waiting for somebody to do everything for them.

I was talking to a member of Congress from Louisiana who recalled that the Congress had authorized \$6 billion last December but New Orleans made the determination that they were not going to spend any of it until they got the whole \$10 billion they were then demanding.

In Mississippi, on the other hand, as they were getting the money they were finding ways to

spend it to help the people rebuild.

Tragically, the President is playing into the hands of his critics by implying that he is somehow to blame for the situation. He's allowing the Democrats to use him as fodder in their attacks on him.

He needs to stand up and shout, "We're not to blame. We gave you the money. If the people in New Orleans don't have the money it's not because the federal government hasn't done its job; it's because your local government officials refuse to do theirs."

—Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 6, the 249th day of 2006. There are 116 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 6, 1901, President William McKinley was shot by anarchist Leon Czolgosz at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y. McKinley died eight days later; he was succeeded by Vice President Theodore Roosevelt.

On this date:
In 1837, the Oberlin Collegiate Institute of Ohio went co-educational.

In 1909, American explorer Robert Peary sent word that he had reached the North Pole five months earlier.

In 1916, the first self-serve grocery store, Piggly Wiggly, was opened in Memphis, Tenn., by Clarence Saunders. (The store was set up to allow customers to hand-pick their groceries, rather than request them from a

'The happiness of most people we know is not ruined by great catastrophes or fatal errors, but by the repetition of slowly destructive little things.'

— Ernest Dimmet
French priest,
lecturer and author
(1866-1954)

clerk standing behind a counter.)

In 1939, South Africa declared war on Germany.

In 1941, Jews over the age of 6 in German-occupied areas were ordered to wear yellow Stars of David.

In 1948, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands was coronated.

In 1952, Canadian television broadcasting began in Montreal.

In 1966, South African Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd was stabbed to death by a deranged page during a parliamentary session in Cape Town.

In 1970, Palestinian guerrillas seized control of three jetliners which were later blown up on the ground in Jordan after the passengers and crews were evacuated.

In 1997, Britain bade farewell to Princess Diana with a funeral service at Westminster Abbey. Weeping masses gathered in Calcutta, India, to pay homage to Mother Teresa, who had died the day before at age 87.

Ten years ago: The death toll from Hurricane Fran rose to 17 in Virginia, West Virginia and the Carolinas.

Five years ago: In a dramatic shift, the Bush administration abandoned the Clinton-era effort to break up Microsoft. Mexican President Vicente Fox addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress, urging greater trust between the neighboring countries as the basis for "a new partnership in North America."

Barry Bonds became the fifth player in baseball history to hit 60 home runs in a season, connecting in the second inning of San Francisco's game against Arizona. The NFL referees' union rejected the league's latest contract offer (replacement officials worked the opening weekend of the regular season).



Bigotry: Islamic religion not militaristic

President George Bush's ignorance of the Middle East and its people is well-known. So also is his habit of parroting words and sentences given to him by other people. He hit a new low when he referred to "Islamofascists."

No two more opposite concepts are to be found. Fascism glorifies the nation-state; Islam is transnational. Fascism demands slavish devotion to a national leader; Muslims are far too independent-minded to be slavish followers of anybody. Virtually all the people Saddam Hussein murdered were people trying to overthrow him. Fascism is militaristic. Islam is not.

Mr. Bush, who has dubbed himself the "war president," has made a pathetic and absurd effort to picture himself as Winston Churchill facing off against evil. He is no Churchill.

The West faces no threat from Islam. Islam is one of the fastest-growing religions in the world, but it really is a religion of peace. There is no Muslim pope, no College of Cardinals, no bishops, no priesthood. Any five Muslims anywhere in the world can start their own mosque. Imams are teachers and, like Protestant preachers or Jewish rabbis, can be fired by their congregation.

A fatwa is a statement issued by an imam, usually explanatory. It is similar to statements issued by the pope, with this important difference: No Muslim is bound by any fatwa. Muslims are free to pay attention to it or to ignore it.

Islam, like Christianity, is a universal religion that ignores nationality, race or

color. To become a Muslim, one must profess belief in one God, acknowledge Muhammad as his prophet, recognize the Quran as the word of God, pray five times a day, provide for the poor and, if possible, make a trip to Mecca once in your lifetime. The God Muslims worship is the same God Christians and Jews worship.

Charley Reese
Columnist



To dispose of some of the slanderous misstatements being floated about, Islam forbids forced conversions. People would do well to read some history rather than rely on ignorant and malicious radio and TV talk-show hosts. The oldest Christian communities in the world are all in Muslim countries.

There have always been Christian and Jewish communities in the Muslim world. Muslims are commanded to treat Christians and Jews as they would treat themselves. The disputes you see in the modern Middle East are not religious; they are all about secular matters, principally Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

The Arabs see Israel as the last European colonialist state imposed on them by the European powers. That's

true, in fact.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad are concerned only with ending Israeli occupation of Palestine. Hezbollah is concerned with ending Israeli occupation of Lebanon. Al-Qaida wants to overthrow the Persian Gulf governments and is at war with us because we are the principal backers and supporters of those governments. Al-Qaida alone is most un-Islamic and has been so labeled by a majority of Muslims. It is a small group.

If you wish to understand Islam, turn off your TV and go to the library. Introduce yourself to some of America's 6 million Muslims. You'll find them to be very decent and patriotic people. There are some fanatics among Muslims, just as there are among Jews and Christians.

The way to combat the fanatics is to extend the hand of friendship to ordinary Muslims and to protest the slander and libel of Muslims and Islam, just as you should protest the slander and libel of Jews and other groups. Bigotry should have no place in our public dialogue, regardless of the target.

It's obvious that President Bush will never understand the world into which he was born, but most Americans have more open minds — except, of course, those who prefer to click their heels and salute when their Fuehrer of choice speaks.

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

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Aug. 27

San Antonio Express-News on more expensive overdue taxes:

Leave it to the federal government to find the most expensive solution to a problem. This fall, three private tax collection agencies will begin collecting delinquent taxes for the Internal Revenue Service, the Express-News and other media reported.

IRS officials admit it will cost more to outsource the collection of federal tax debts than if they had done it them-

selves.

Sadly, Congress gave the agency little choice when it refused to allow the hiring of additional revenue officers to combat the growing delinquent tax debt in this country.

The companies hired include Austin-based Linebarger Goggan Blair & Simpson, which has offices in San Antonio, Iowa-based CBE Group Inc. and Pioneer Credit Recovery Inc. out of New York.

The three firms hired to do the IRS' dirty work will have more than \$750 million in overdue tax bills to collect. Each of the firms will be allowed to keep 22 cents to 24 cents on each dollar they collect.

If the IRS had been allowed to hire more revenue officers, they would have spent about 3 cents on the dollar for the work.

Over the next 10 years, the IRS plans to expand private tax collection to include 10 companies and recover \$1.4 billion.

This is not the first time the IRS has attempted to privatize tax collection.

In the late 1990s, a similar project was cut short after it cost more than it was collecting and spawned complaints about heavy-handed collection tactics.

One would think a lesson would have been learned, but apparently not.

The math on this plan still does not add up.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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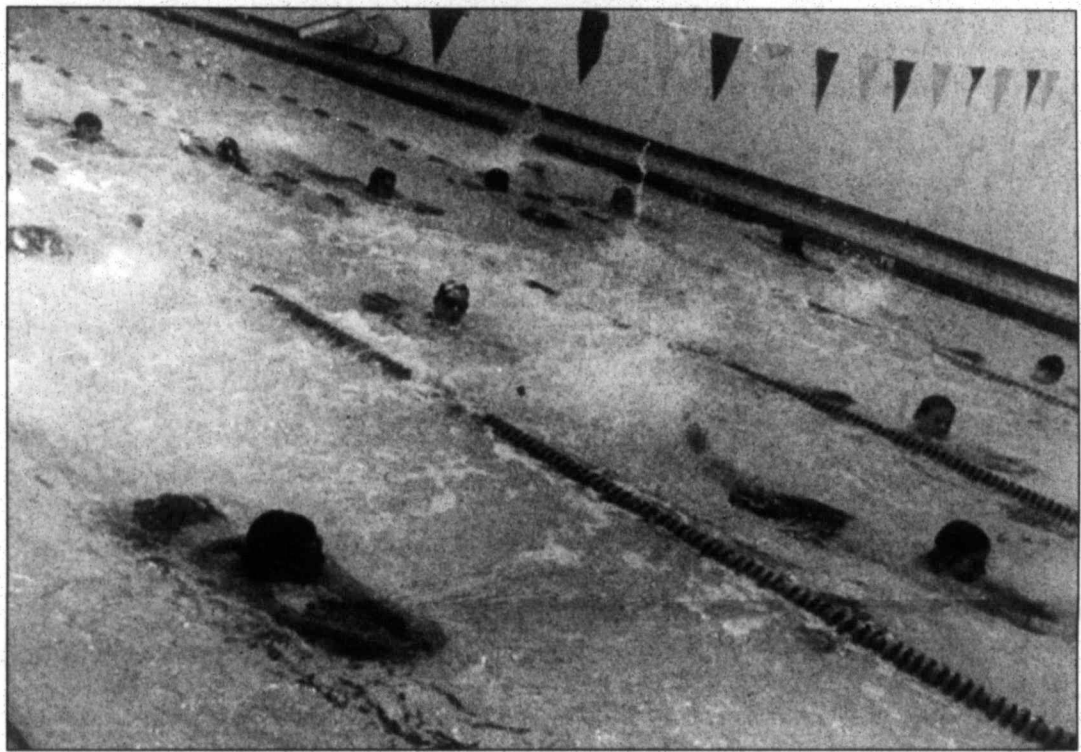
Sports Day

Swim team



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Pampa High School swim team member Abby West (above) does warm-up laps along with the rest of the team (below) during an afternoon practice session at the Pampa Youth and Community Center swimming pool Tuesday.



Two Texas football players suspended

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - Texas starting cornerback Tarell Brown and backup linebacker and special teams player Tyrell Gatewood were suspended for Saturday's game against No. 1 Ohio State after their arrest on misdemeanor charges.

The loss of Brown, a senior and Texas' top cover corner, is a big blow to a defense counting on him to match up with the Buckeyes' top receiver, Ted Ginn Jr. Gatewood made one tackle on special teams in the No. 2 Longhorns' season opener against North Texas.

The players were arrested early Monday, along with former Longhorn linebacker Aaron Harris, when their car was pulled over by Travis County sheriff's deputies.

Brown was charged with unlawfully carrying a weapon after he was found with a loaded 9 mm handgun on his lap, according to deputies. Brown, Gatewood and Harris all were charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

Texas coach Mack Brown would not say Tuesday if the suspensions were only for the Ohio State game.

"I'm just trying to get through Saturday," the coach said. "As a head coach, No. 1 you have to look at the legal system and cooperate with the authorities completely.

"No. 2, you must go through the university because that's who we work for. No. 3, you are concerned about distractions for your football team. ... No. 4, you care about the three young men involved and their families."

Also Tuesday, the lawyer representing the suspended players alleged Travis County deputies unnecessarily used Tasers on his clients. Lawyer Jamie Balagio said he wants a videotape of the arrest made public.

"They were both unnecessarily tasered," Balagio said in a story posted Tuesday on the Austin American-Statesman's Web site. "If a tape is there, let them release it to the media."

Travis County Sheriff's spokesman Roger Wade declined comment on the case.

"We don't respond until we get to court," Wade said.

CHANGING TIMES

Why seeing isn't always the same as believing

By JIM LITKE
Associated Press

In less cynical times, 10 years ago, say, Ryan Howard would have been a great story: A roly-poly kid in just his second season in the bigs closing in fast on Roger Maris' single-season record of 61 home runs.

Today, it's not that simple. Reflecting the current, conflicted state of affairs, some people think Howard isn't getting enough credit, others that the sinister trinity of Bonds, McGwire and Sosa has already been there and ruined that for everyone else. A suspicious few have even questioned whether Howard, despite appearances and his bona fides as a minor league slugger already established, is part of that unholy performance-enhancing alliance himself.

"I just think it (stinks)," Howard responded recently to the whispers that attach themselves to anybody accomplishing anything out of the ordinary in baseball anymore.

"The thing about it is, if you're going to make those kinds of comments, have proof," he added. "Otherwise, you can ruin people's reputations."

It's already too late for that, and the 26-year-old Phillies first baseman has a decade's worth of elders - pitchers as well as hitters, not to mention loopholes in the drug-testing policy - to blame. Seeing still isn't the same thing as believing in baseball, and might never be.

Perhaps because we've been scouring everything for several seasons now - leaked grand jury testimony, the bags of pharmaceuticals the feds found while raiding former Diamondbacks pitcher Jason Grimsley's home-based business, even the factories where baseballs are wound tighter than ever and bats cured to a hardness unimaginable a few years ago - and the pictures still come back fuzzy.

There's still no tests to detect human growth hormone, for example, and players still aren't tested randomly or regularly enough to certify anyone as clean.

In the absence of clarity, what some people have resorted to is proposing rolling back the record to Maris, effectively wiping out the stretch of four years when McGwire, Sosa and Bonds bettered it six times, playing "Can you top this?" until Bonds finally planted a flag all the way out at 73. Not surprising, the Maris family are among its strongest backers.

Rich Maris, the fifth of the late Roger Maris' six kids, was part of the moveable feast caught up in the 1998 home-run race between McGwire and Sosa. He doesn't regret everything that happened in those few dizzying weeks, just most of it.

"We were along for the ride like the rest of the country," he told Yahoo! Sports on Tuesday. "Every time McGwire hit one, it was like, 'Wow, he did it again.'"

"And now you just look at that," Maris added, "and laugh."

Commissioner Bud Selig and George Mitchell, the former Senate Majority leader he appointed to get a handle on the breadth of baseball's drug problem, aren't laughing, though. Nor is the commissioner planning any celebrations should Howard collect the nine homers he needs to pass Maris in the two dozen games Philadelphia has left.

Maybe that's because the big kid hasn't been the only slugger picking up his pace, and Selig can't bring himself to call the party planners and prepare for the day when Bonds goes by Henry Aaron and his record of 755 career home runs. But the Maris family has no such reservations.

"If he breaks it, it's legit," Rich said. "With the McGwire thing and the Bonds thing, everybody thought the record was so far out there, it's not even attainable. My dad's pretty much an afterthought. All of a sudden," he added, "it's like everyone has this new perspective, like the heck with McGwire and Bonds."

Fellow Associated Press columnist Tim Dahlberg arrived at the same conclusion 10 days ago, not long after visiting the Roger Maris museum in Fargo, N.D., and recalling that 45 years earlier, he sat in the stands in old Wrigley Field in Los Angeles, not Chicago, and saw the home run that made Maris the first player to reach 50 in August. Nice idea.

But like a few other signposts, it's been passed too many times to pretend it's a frontier again. Then think about all the other places that would have to be wiped off the map, all the interrelated stats that would have to be amended, and you know why Selig is paralyzed by inertia.

Howard isn't the first guy to get hosed this way, and he won't be the last. Everybody playing the game is under suspicion. What makes his case notable, so far at least, is that he appears to have done everything right.

See LITKE, Page 6

Meetings and events

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Boxing

A night of boxing is on the card Saturday at the Bull Barn located at Recreation Park in Pampa.

Coach Jose Larrazolo, who heads up the local Pampa Boxing Club, says boxers from the all across the region have signed up for the first ever event.

Doors will open to the public at 6 p.m. with the first bout scheduled to begin at 7. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children five to 10 with those under five admitted free.

For more information contact Coach Larrazolo, 662-4000, or Rosa Garcia, 664-0389.

Pre-game Party

Top of Texas Ice, 1945 N. Hobart, will

host a pre-game party for all Pampa Harvester football fans Thursday morning from 6:30 to 8:30.

The public is invited to attend and organizers say there will be plenty of door prizes up for grabs.

There will also be free breakfast burritos while they last.

KGRO's voice of the Harvesters radio broadcaster Donny Hooper will be on hand with a live broadcast.

The Harvesters are home Friday night to host Lubbock Estacado.

Baseball/Softball

The Pampa High School baseball and softball booster club will meet Thursday, 7 p.m. in the school library.

It is important all parents attend as a new president is to be elected for the upcoming season.

Dayne happy in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) - Ron Dayne is happy for another chance in the NFL, and even more excited that it's coming in Houston.

After being released by Denver, Dayne was brought to Houston by Gary Kubiak, the former Broncos offensive coordinator.

"It's probably the best situation I could have been in," Dayne said. "Being able to come to a place where I know the offense."

It showed on Tuesday afternoon when the 1999 Heisman Trophy winner suited up for his first practice with the Texans.

"Ronny is just what I knew he was," Kubiak said. "He jumped into the huddle today, made no mistakes and knows exactly what we're doing."

Dayne adds experience to Houston's young running

back duo of rookie Wali Lundy and second-year player Vernand Morency. And at 5-foot-10 and 245 pounds he's about 30 pounds heavier than the two so he could be valuable in short-yardage situations.

The Texans added Dayne after Domanick Davis, the team's leading rusher the last three years, went on injured reserve, ending his season. Davis missed all but two days of training camp with a sore knee.

Though Kubiak has said Lundy will start in the opener Sunday against Philadelphia, Dayne did take some snaps with the first team in practice Tuesday.

"I want to bring a winning attitude and just a little leadership, especially for the younger players," he said.

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Dallas school boasts pair of Heisman winners

DALLAS (AP) — There are some mementos in a trophy case, a few yellowed pictures and an outdoor track that's dedicated to Tim Brown and Davey O'Brien but bears no signs with their names.

For being the only public school in the country to graduate two Heisman Trophy winners, Woodrow Wilson doesn't make it obvious.

But ever since 1987 — when Brown, the former Oakland Raiders great, won the Heisman at Notre Dame — Woodrow Wilson has quietly enjoyed its unique distinction and status as the answer to one of the most popular trivia questions in sports.

Between Brown and O'Brien, the 5-foot-8 quarterback who won the Heisman at TCU in 1938, the school with an otherwise forgettable football history boasts the unlikely legacy of two alumni awarded college football's top individual honor.

"I guess when you have a 75-year history, you better produce a few good people every once in a while," said Woodrow Wilson coach Bobby Estes, who began his ninth season at the school with a 34-14 win over Atlanta on Saturday.

Woodrow Wilson's distinction doesn't have quite the luster it once held. After Southern Cal quarterback Matt Leinart won the Heisman in 2005, Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, Calif., produced its second winner. The private Catholic school's first was former Notre Dame quarterback John Huarte, who won in 1964.

Fork Union Military Academy in Virginia has also produced two Heisman winners, Vinny Testaverde and Eddie George.

Still, Woodrow Wilson can claim ownership as the only public school to produce multiple Heisman winners. And unlike Mater Dei, one of the most dominant prep programs in the nation, no one would mistake Woodrow Wilson as a football factory.

Since opening in 1928, Woodrow Wilson

has made the playoffs just 13 times — four of which came in the past four years, when Texas linebacker Sergio Kindle carried the Wildcats.

Brown's athleticism couldn't help Woodrow Wilson win more than one or two games a year, and the school's farthest playoff run remains the state semifinals in 1969.

Estes said the opening of Skyline High School, alma mater of former NBA star Larry Johnson and five-time Olympic gold medalist Michael Johnson, sapped the athletic talent Woodrow Wilson was already struggling to find in its middle-class suburban neighborhood about five miles east of downtown.

Even Kindle, the nation's most sought-after high school recruit last season, had transferred to Woodrow Wilson from across the city. Kindle was a powerful, often unstoppable running back in high school but has practiced exclusively on defense since enrolling at Texas in January.

"He could probably be the third (Heisman winner) we've had here," said Estes, adding that NFL team scouts to evaluate Kindle his senior year. "He probably won't get that chance, but I would like to add a Lombardi to our two Heismans."

Brown, who lives in the Dallas suburb of DeSoto, remains close to the school. He attends a handful of games each year and takes part in a golf tournament that Estes said raises more than \$10,000 each year.

Brown's No. 6 and Kindle's No. 2, while not formally retired, are off-limits to new players. O'Brien's No. 8 is still used, to which Estes has no explanation other than the number was already being used when he arrived at the school.

"We all know it's special because it's a tradition no one else has," said Woodrow Wilson wide receiver Greg McCoy, a senior. "I hope we can keep it going. I want Woodrow to have three one day."

East, Tucker like what they saw Tuesday

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

While their 7th grade teammates were busy in Dumas, the Pampa Junior High 8th grade football team hosted the Demons at PJHS field Tuesday afternoon.

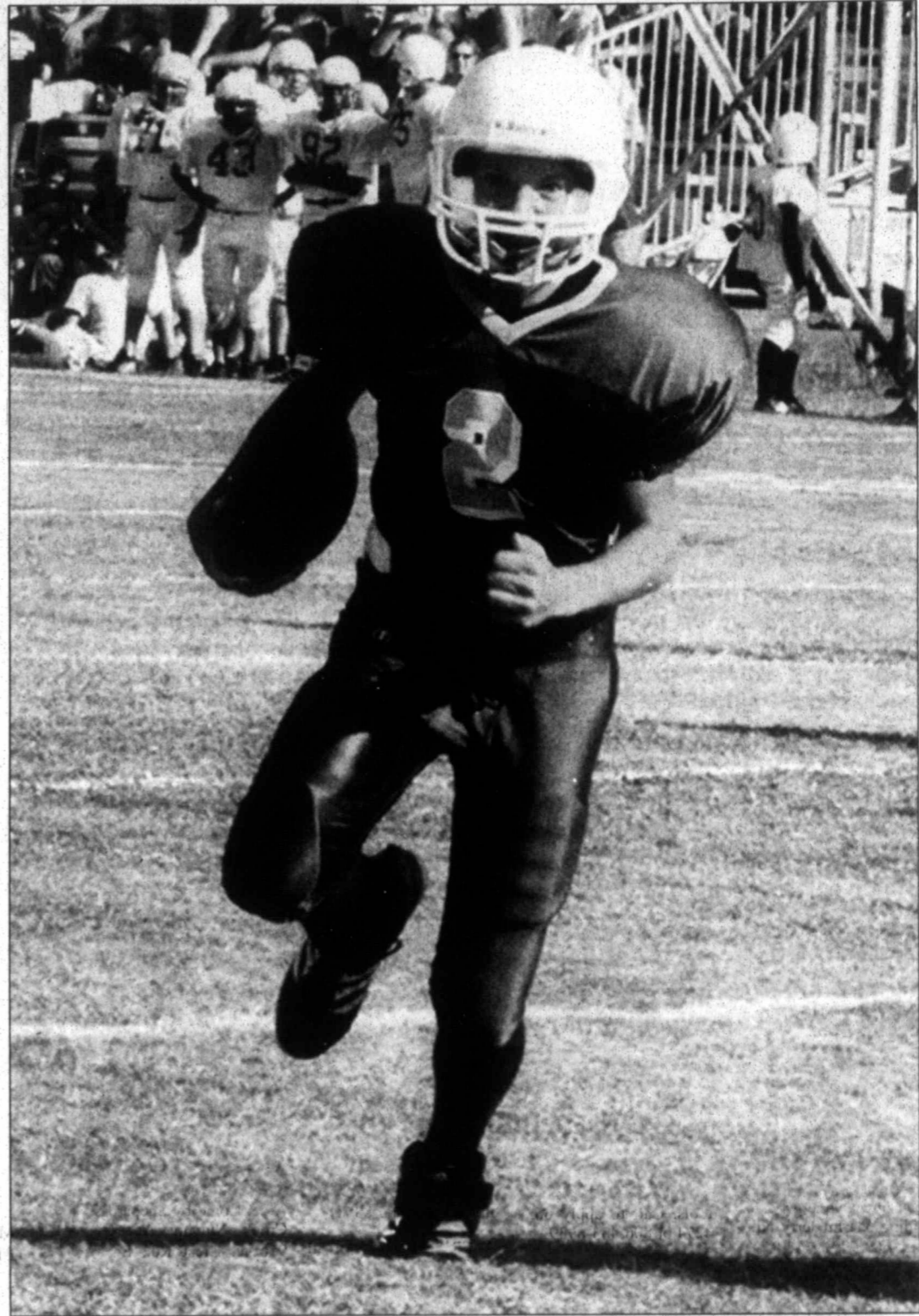
Coaches Ches Tucker and John East guided Pampa through the scrimmage and say there were pleased by the team's overall performance.

"Our kids gave a great effort both offen-

sively and defensively," East said. "We passed the ball far better than anticipated and had some kids make some great catches and runs."

East says offensive blocking assignments still need some attention.

The defense, East said, "will work the line on recognizing counter blocks and linebacker reads and flow," prior to Pampa's season opener Tuesday on the road in Borger. The Gold team will start at 5 p.m., followed by the Green team at 6:30.



Pampa News photo by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Eight grade quarterback Garrett Ericson runs with the ball in open field during Tuesday's scrimmage between Pampa Junior High and Dumas Junior High.

Rain postpones 31-year-old pitcher's debut

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Brian Mazone bounced around from the independent leagues to the minor leagues, waiting and hoping for an opportunity to pitch in the majors.

The Philadelphia Phillies were finally ready to give him a chance, only to have bad weather alter those plans.

Mazone, a 31-year-old left-hander, was to make his big league debut on Wednesday against the Houston Astros. However, rain postponed Tuesday night's game between the Phillies and Astros.

It has been rescheduled for Sept. 25. So, Randy Wolf, who was to start Tuesday night, will take the mound on Wednesday against Andy Pettitte.

Meanwhile, Mazone repacked his bags and headed to Rochester, N.Y., to pitch for

Triple-A Scranton Wilkes-Barre in a playoff game today.

"It hurts. Obviously, it's disappointing," Mazone said. "But from where I came from to be in this position, getting sent back is one of the easiest things to overcome."

Mazone's wife already drove from Rochester to Philadelphia with the couple's two children, and family and friends were expected to fly in from San Diego to see him pitch. Mazone hopes they can reuse those tickets later this month.

"It's out of my control," he said. "Hopefully, I'll be back after (Scranton's) playoffs."

Mazone was 13-3 with a 2.03 ERA in 20 starts for the Red Barons this season. He went 1-3 with a 2.39 ERA in six starts at Double-A Reading.

AP NCAA Top 25

(AP) — The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Sept. 4, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

| Rank | Team | Record | Pts | Pvs |
|------|-------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| 1. | Ohio St. (39) | 1-0 | 1,568 | 1 |
| 2. | Texas (7) | 1-0 | 1,453 | 3 |
| 3. | Southern Cal (3) | 1-0 | 1,410 | 6 |
| 4. | Notre Dame (8) | 1-0 | 1,408 | 2 |
| 4. | Auburn (3) | 1-0 | 1,408 | 4 |
| 6. | West Virginia (5) | 1-0 | 1,356 | 5 |
| 7. | Florida | 1-0 | 1,191 | 7 |
| 8. | LSU | 1-0 | 1,185 | 8 |
| 9. | Florida St. | 1-0 | 1,130 | 11 |
| 10. | Michigan | 1-0 | 841 | 14 |
| 11. | Tennessee | 1-0 | 839 | 23 |
| 12. | Georgia | 1-0 | 836 | 15 |
| 13. | Louisville | 1-0 | 820 | 13 |
| 14. | Iowa | 1-0 | 800 | 16 |
| 15. | Oklahoma | 1-0 | 725 | 10 |
| 16. | Virginia Tech | 1-0 | 673 | 17 |
| 17. | Miami | 0-1 | 624 | 12 |
| 18. | Clemson | 1-0 | 564 | 18 |
| 19. | Penn St. | 1-0 | 467 | 19 |
| 20. | Oregon | 1-0 | 436 | 21 |
| 21. | Nebraska | 1-0 | 358 | 20 |
| 22. | California | 0-1 | 212 | 9 |
| 23. | TCU | 1-0 | 198 | 22 |
| 24. | Texas Tech | 1-0 | 196 | 25 |
| 25. | Arizona St. | 1-0 | 134 | 24 |

Others receiving votes: Alabama 96, Wisconsin 35, UCLA 29, Georgia Tech 27, Boise St. 25, South Carolina 13, Boston College 11, Texas A&M 11, Pittsburgh 9, Purdue 9, Rutgers 7, Tulsa 7, Arizona 6, Fresno St. 3, Missouri 3, UTEP 2.

Litke

Continued from Page 5

He won Rookie of the Year honors last year, with basically a half-season's worth of games and his march toward one of the best all-around seasons any player has had should be generating a world of buzz. He's lifted the Phillies, almost single-handedly, into wild-card contention and forced his way into

every discussion worth having about who should get the National League Most Valuable Player award.

But in a fitting rebuke to baseball, all those conversations don't amount to much. There won't be cuts during the broadcasts to follow Howard's at-bats or fireworks to mark the moment he gets to 62. Take note when it happens; Howard deserves that much, at least. Then cross your fingers and hope.

Rangers sneak past Athletics, 5-4

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The Texas Rangers heard about their owner's critical words back home, then went out and won their third straight game and took a series from the division leader.

As far as mental toughness goes, the Rangers disagree with Tom Hicks' assessment that it's something they're lacking.

Mark DeRosa hit a three-run homer, and Michael Young went 4-for-5 with a triple and scored twice in the Rangers' 5-4 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday night.

"Toughness is not an issue in this clubhouse," Young said. "If we get outplayed, fine, I'll say it and answer questions about it. But don't question my approach to the game or my passion for baseball. I know it wasn't directed at me, but he called out the team and the ones who shoulder the load take it personal."

Mark Teixeira walked in his first three plate appearances and doubled. Carlos Lee reached base three times and drove in a run for the Rangers,

who won their third straight.

"We need to be a little tougher," Hicks told Dallas radio station KTCK-AM. "We need to be mentally tougher. I think we missed David Dellucci (traded to the Phillies before the season) this year. I think that leadership in the clubhouse part is really important, and we didn't have that after he left."

Frank Thomas hit his 31st home run of the year, a three-run shot in the sixth that pulled Oakland within 5-4. It gave the Big Hurt 1,553 career RBIs and moved him past Fred McGriff for 36th place on the career list. The 38-year-old Thomas, enjoying a resurgence this season following two injury-shortened years with the White Sox, is two RBIs from tying Willie McCovey for 35th — and he's making the case for Oakland to bring him back for the 2007 season.

"That's the time of year men come out, and he's playing like a man," manager Ken Macha said of Thomas.

Oakland has lost a series for the first time in 12 chances. The A's won 10 and split a four-game set with Kansas City after dropping two of three games

to the Boston Red Sox at home from July 24-26.

Adam Eaton (5-4), who lost to the A's in Arlington on Aug. 26, won for the first time in three road starts. He gave up five hits and four runs, struck out five and walked one in 5 2-3 innings. Akinori Otsuka, who has had migraine headaches in recent weeks, pitched a perfect ninth with two strikeouts for his 31st save in 34 opportunities.

The A's had the go-ahead run on first after Jay Payton hit a broken-bat infield single following Eric Chavez's one-out walk from Wes Littleton. But Nick Swisher, who had homered earlier, struck out swinging and pinch-hitter Mark Kotsay grounded out.

After Thomas' homer, Chavez walked and later stole third. He initially was called out by third base umpire Marty Foster, but DeRosa apparently dropped the ball on the throw from catcher Gerald Laird. Chavez was credited with his third stolen base of the season.

With rain backing up Open, tournament becomes endurance test

NEW YORK (AP) — All of the rain could end up turning this U.S. Open into a real test of endurance for James Blake, Marat Safin and others.

Unlike at most tournaments, men play best-of-five-sets matches throughout Grand Slams, benefiting from the days of rest built into a two-week schedule. But bad weather has been steadily erasing those breaks, and if someone like the fifth-seeded Blake or 2001 champion Safin, for example, is going to make a run to the final, he would have to play four matches in five days.

Safin's fourth-round match against No. 14 Tommy Haas was stopped after only three games Tuesday, while Blake and No. 12 Tomas Berdych didn't even set foot on court at all before the rain set in. There have been six day or night sessions canceled so far, the same

number of washouts for the four previous U.S. Opens combined.

Only one match was completed Tuesday, and Jelena Jankovic of Serbia reached her first Grand Slam semifinal by upsetting 2004 runner-up Elena Dementieva 6-2, 6-1. It's quite an achievement for Jankovic, who considered quitting tennis altogether when she was mired in a 10-match losing streak early this season.

"Ten losses in a row, nine losses — how many, I don't know," said Jankovic, a 21-year-old who's seeded 19th at the Open. "It was terrible. I don't know what was wrong with me. I didn't have the will to practice, didn't want to play."

That drought wasn't the only thing Jankovic lost count of: She wasn't quite sure how badly she was beating Dementieva, who was seeded fourth

here.

"I cannot believe that I won in two sets," Jankovic said. "What was the score? I don't even know the total score."

She now gets the benefit of waiting around while the other women try to earn their way into the semifinals. Jankovic will meet the winner of the quarterfinal between past Open champions Lindsay Davenport and Justine Henin-Hardenne, one of the matches that was postponed until Wednesday because of rain.

Every singles player other than Jankovic who's still in the tournament was scheduled to play Wednesday. The other women's quarterfinals on tap: No. 1 Amelie Mauresmo vs. No. 12 Dinara Safina (Safin's younger sister), and, at night, No. 3 Maria Sharapova vs. No. 27 Tatiana Golovin.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I need your advice on how to break an engagement with my fiance, whose tour of duty in Iraq has been extended four more months. He has been there eight months, and during his absence, I met someone else I would like to start dating. I didn't want to stress out my fiance, and I wanted to wait until he returned to talk to him, but now I feel too guilty, so I need to address it soon. Please help me. — **FEELING GUILTY, MEMPHIS, TENN.**

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: It's time to grow up and think about someone other than yourself. There is something more important right now than assuaging your guilt. It's making sure that nothing distracts your fiance from the job he is doing -- and will be doing until he is safely back home. Under no circumstances should you write him a "Dear John" letter or tell him anything that could unnerve or depress him. If you feel guilty now, how do you think you would feel if he was injured or killed after you dumped that kind of news on him? I can't stress strongly enough how important it is that you put his feelings first right now. What you have in mind can wait until his tour of duty is behind him.

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend, "Libby," who has a lot of personal problems. She recently confided that I am the only person who keeps her going day to day. She has attached herself to me because of my "step-on-me" personality, and I have allowed it. I don't mind her telling me her problems, but she's putting too much pressure on me by making me her crutch. (Without me, she would fall permanently.) Please don't think I am selfish, but I have a lot to deal with personally in my own life. How can I lessen my load without cracking her fragile personality? — **STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT IN WYOMING**

DEAR STRETCHED: Lighten your load by no longer allowing your friend to put off resolving her problems by confiding them in someone who isn't equipped to help her. Libby needs a licensed psychotherapist. If she can't afford one, please tell her (kindly) that help is available on a sliding-fee scale through your county department of mental health services or social services. Take her to her first appointment if necessary, and then start backpedaling from there.

DEAR ABBY: I have been widowed for more than two years, and a nice man has asked me out. We hit it off great, but I have one problem. A friend of mine dated him years ago, and it didn't work out. She is now happily seeing a man she has been involved with for almost two years. She says you don't date a friend's past date. I think she's being childish. I believe this man and I will have a good relationship, and I don't want to lose him because of this. She will find out eventually, and I can't decide if I should take the chance of her not knowing for a while and see how it goes. In any case, I may lose her. Am I wrong? I have been out of the dating loop for 21 years and this is all new to me. I'd appreciate your opinion. — **UNDECIDED IN BROCKTON, MASS.**

DEAR UNDECIDED: I see no reason to make any announcements to anyone right now. Keep dating the man and see where it leads. Because your "friend" has been in a satisfying relationship for nearly two years, she should be happy that you have met someone and "clicked." If she isn't, then she is not your friend, and your question is moot.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



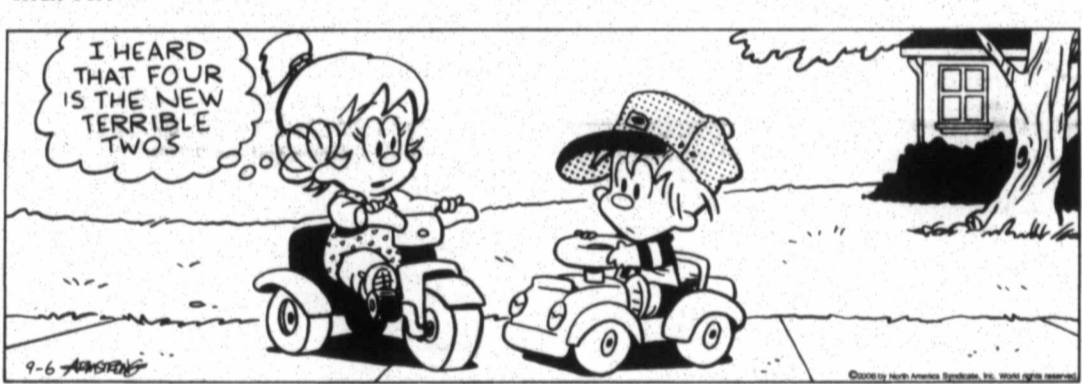
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Crew cry | 1 Woeful | 20 Field | 33 Clinic |
| 5 Germany's oldest port | 2 Snow of music | 21 "Stand --" | 34 Sheep coat |
| 11 Valentine trim | 3 Billion cubed | 22 Suit part | 36 Like a loafer |
| 12 Misplay at bridge | 4 Agreeable answer | 23 Choir voice | 37 Blended gold |
| 13 Kitchen pests | 5 Quidditch need | 25 Ready to pick | 38 Take the film's |
| 14 Small stock buy | 6 Station worker | 29 Spirit session | 39 Lupino taste |
| 15 Try the slopes | 7 Some linemen | 30 Bond, for one refuge | 41 Place of refuge |
| 16 Medicos | 8 Crooner | | |
| 17 Andes animal | 9 I strain | | |
| 19 Potential pipe | 10 Capture | | |
| 22 Sound in voter | 16 June honoree | | |
| 24 Stand-in | 18 Sylvester's trademark | | |
| 26 Yale students | 19 Formal | | |
| 27 News article | 20 Field team | | |
| 28 Ceases part | 21 "Stand --" | | |
| 30 Book | 22 Suit part | | |
| 31 Load unit | 23 Choir voice | | |
| 32 Kick out | 25 Ready to pick | | |
| 34 Cautious | 29 Spirit session | | |
| 35 Saucy quality | 30 Bond, for one refuge | | |
| 38 Ryder of "Beetle Juice" | | | |
| 41 Opera set in Egypt | | | |
| 42 Utter folly | | | |
| 43 Dice turn | | | |
| 44 View from Vesuvius | | | |
| 45 Pad's place | | | |

SOIL IRISH
ASNER MANTA
LIFTA FINGER
ERA GIN EVE
SICKLE MAIM
STEAL ORES
ENDOW

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SIR PIE JAI
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ELIOT HENIE
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Yesterday's answer

Marmaduke

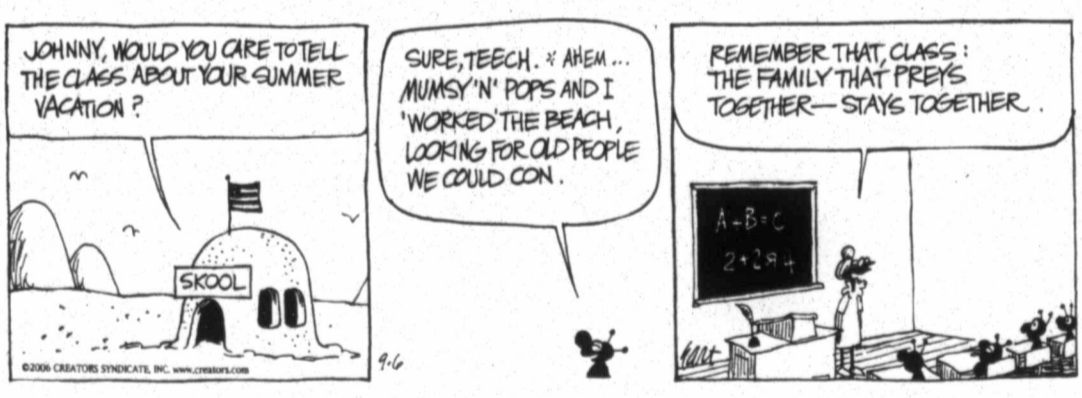


The Family Circus

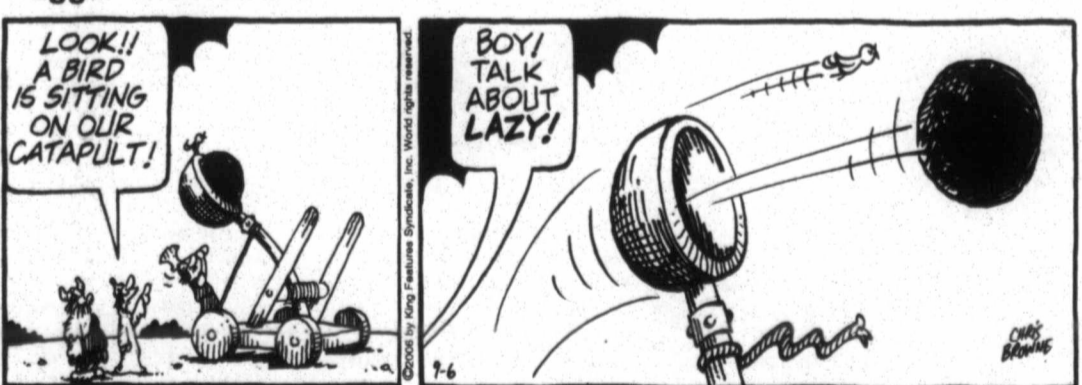
By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie

