



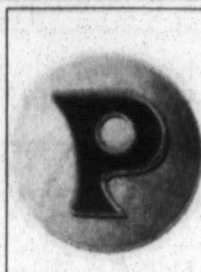
### Today's Weather

HIGH 79  
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### Tough Trip

No. 1 Sandies take Pampa in quick three.  
SEE PAGE 5



# THE PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Volume 102 • No. 137

50¢ Daily • Sunday \$1.25

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## Commission takes initial steps on setting budget

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

The Pampa City Commission took the first steps toward setting their 2006-2007 budget this week, but took no action at appointing or reappointing the members of several city boards and commissions.

At their meeting Tuesday afternoon, the city commission passed on first reading the adoption of the city's budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1, and setting the ad valorem taxes to support that budget.

They set the total tax levy at 69.5 cents per \$100 valuation, the same as last year. They had discussed setting

it at 68.5 cents, but as Commission Brad Pingel noted, the savings would be small. It would amount to about \$6 on a \$60,000 house. At the same time, the lesser rate would cut about \$42,000 from the city's budget.

City Manager John Horst said the city could use that money. He said the city would finally be able to fund some long neglected capital improvements.

The tax levy for the general fund will be, if the ordinance passes a second reading, 47.3271 cents per \$100 valuation. The levy for maintenance and support of Lovett Memorial

Library will be three cents, and the levy for the Interest and Sinking Funds will be 19.1729 cents.

The commission amended the ordinances concerning trash collection and disposal, water rates, and sewer rates for the prison.

The rate collection went up to \$14.65 from \$14.14. Horst cited increased fuel costs and rising landfill costs to meet new state landfill requirements. He said the collection rate is lower than any other town in the Panhandle except for Amarillo.

The disposal rate was raised from \$26 to \$27.50 per ton. Horst said that because the landfill is a regional

landfill managed by Pampa and serving 11 areas towns, the costs are lower than they otherwise would be. He said Plainview's disposal rate is \$41 per ton.

The commission set monthly water rates at \$14.30 for five-eighths of an inch of metered water, \$16.87 for one inch, \$21.14 for 1.5 inches and \$26.27 for two or more inches of water for the first 1,000 gallons. There will be a \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons charge for anything over the 1,000-gallon minimum.

"We have no other choice," Horst  
See CITY, Page 3

## Natural beauty



This butterfly in a field of wildflowers in eastern Gray County is a contrast in colors to its surroundings. The rest of the week should be mild but windy with gusts to 30 mph predicted for Thursday.

Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

## Winton's dedication recognized by city

By DAVID BOWSER  
Staff Writer

For the second day in a row, the dedication of a Pampa firefighter was heralded by public officials Tuesday.

Capt. Gary L. Winton of the Pampa Fire Department was honored Tuesday afternoon at the city commission meeting for his dedication and injuries suffered in April while fighting a wildfire west of Pampa. He was recognized Monday in the State Capitol where he was awarded the Star of Texas.

The Star of Texas Award, according to Pampa Fire Chief Kim Powell, is an award given by the governor for extraordinary service involving personal risk. Powell nominated Winton for the award.

Powell said that after the wildfire that burned almost a million acres in March, grass fires were fanned once again in April.



Winton

"We had a bunch of the grassland around town on fire," she said, "and the community was threatened once again. That's where Capt. Winton came in with his crew."

She said Winton and his crew were fighting a grass  
See WINTON, Page 3

## DPS makes two stops Tuesday, arrests five, gets more than \$1 million in drugs

Texas Department of Public Safety troopers scored twice Tuesday on traffic stops on Interstate 40, seizing cocaine, marijuana worth more than \$1 million, and making five arrests.

Troopers made the first stop at 11 a.m. nine miles west of Groom in the eastbound lane of I-40 when they stopped at 2003 Jeep Liberty for a traffic violation.

After consent to search was given, they found a false compartment in the rear cargo area which they discovered contained 20,000 grams of cocaine. The drug has an estimated street value of \$1,120,000.

Arrested and booked into Carson County jail in Panhandle were Eduardo Ramirez, 21, of San Diego, Calif., Arron Gonzalez, 25, of San Ysidro, Calif., and Mario Alberto Perez-Munoz, 25, of San Ysidro.

Troopers said the cocaine was believed to have originated in San Diego and was on its way to Illinois.

At 4:54 p.m. troopers made a second stop seven miles east of Vega in the eastbound lane of I-40. They stopped a 2006 Chevrolet

MLT on a traffic violation. Later they discovered 64 pounds of marijuana in the trunk of the vehicle. The marijuana as an estimated street value of \$26,944.

Arrested and booked into the Oldham County Jail in Vega were Shannon Lee Diamond, 22, and Andre Maurice Tucker, both of Schenectady, N.Y.

Investigating troopers said the marijuana was believed to have originated in Phoenix, Ariz., and was headed to Schenectady.

"This is the fifth significant load of cocaine our troopers have seized in our area this year," said Senior Trooper Wayne Beighle, Public Information Officer. "The largest Panhandle area load of cocaine this year was seized back on April 1, 2006, when 29,000 grams worth \$1,600,000 was taken off I-40."

Other large loads of cocaine confiscated this year include 20,000 grams worth \$1.1 million on Feb. 23, 2006; 2,000 grams worth \$112,000 on March 1, 2006; and 8,870 grams worth \$496,000 on March 29, 2006.

## AG candidate Van Os stops here Thursday

David Van Os, the 2006 Democratic candidate for Texas Attorney General, will make an appearance on the south side of the Gray County Courthouse at 8:15 a.m. Thursday.

Van Os is in the middle of a 254-county whistle stop tour of Texas by visiting each court house in the state.

His speech will discuss issues of relevance to Texans such as the Trans Texas Corridor and its impact on farmers/ranchers and the environment, the high price of gasoline, oil and gas company monopolization as well as insurance company monopoliza-



Van Os

tion and the high price of homeowner's insurance in Texas.

Van Os, a native of Kilgore, attended the University of Texas and received his law degree

See VAN OS, Page 3

## Obituaries

### Services tomorrow

**FRISBY, John J.** — 10 a.m., St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Austin. Graveside services, 9 a.m., Fairview Cemetery.

### McKenzie Joyce JoBeth Holt

McKenzie Joyce JoBeth Holt, infant daughter of John and Tricia Holt of Pampa, was stillborn Sept. 12, 2006, at Borger.

Graveside services are scheduled at 10 a.m. Friday in Fairview Cemetery with Scott Rankin officiating.

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

Survivors include McKenzie's parents: John and Tricia; four brothers, Talacen Holt, Kiley Holt, Dylan Holt and Waylan Holt, all of the home; paternal grandparents, Peggy and Ray Davis of White Deer; and paternal grandmother, Freda McCuller of Pampa.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

### Edna Jordan, 92

Edna Jordan, 92, of Pampa, Texas, died Sept. 12, 2006, at Canyon, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Jordan was born Aug. 13, 1914, in Rockwall County, Texas, and had been a resident of Pampa since 1948. She married Alvin Jordan on Jan. 5, 1929, in Wellington. He preceded her in death on Nov. 28, 2000.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Hobart Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda Kay McPhillips and husband John of Conroe and Myrtle Carey of Pampa; one son, Charles A. Jordan of Pittsburg, Texas; nine grandchildren, Darrell Carey and wife Linda

of Canyon, Sharon Carey of Huntsville, Karen Carter and husband Jerry of Amarillo, Betty Jo Sanders of Pampa, Jay McPhillips and wife Kim of Conroe, Bobbie Annette Jordan of Anahuac, Rita Taft, Tina Jordan and Paul Jordan, all of South Dakota; numerous great-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by a son, Bobby Lloyd Jordan; and a daughter, Lenora Blanche Jordan.

MEMORIALS: American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, Texas 79065.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

### Sandra Friend, 63

Sandra Friend, 63, of Pampa, Texas, died Sept. 12, 2006, at Amarillo, Texas. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, 2006, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, with Pastor Paul Nachtigall of the Highland Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Friend was born Dec. 13, 1942, in Barnsdall, Okla. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1965. She was a graduate of Liberal High School and Clarendon College.

She was the manager of Johnson Home Entertainment Center. She was a member of Highland Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Mona Reagan of Amarillo and Julie Hudson & husband Cliff of Pampa; one son, Wade Wood of Pampa; three sisters, Janice Hubbard of Pampa, Karen Holt of Kansas City, Kan., and Linda McCollough of Shaduck, Okla.; one brother, James Frazier of Houston; and two grandsons, Carson Hudson of Pampa and Zackary Wayman of Amarillo.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Weldon & Opal Frazier, a brother, Merlin Frazier, and a son-in-law, Alan Reagan.

MEMORIALS: Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks, Pampa, Texas 79065.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).



Friend

### John J. Frisby, 84

John J. Frisby, 84, of Austin, Texas, died at Brackenridge Hospital on September 11, 2006, with his wife, Patsy and two children at his bedside, shortly after receiving the Sacrament of the Sick from his pastor, Msgr. Oliver Johnson.

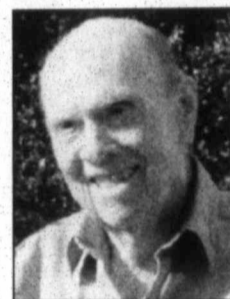
Mr. Frisby was born January 10, 1922, in Monrovia, Calif., to John and Mollie Frisby. He was raised in McAllen, Texas; he learned lessons of frugality, honesty, and hard work from the Great Depression.

After graduating from McAllen High School, he volunteered for the Army Air Corps and served during World War II as a B-17 tail gunner from Italian bases. He reached the rank of Technical Sergeant and was awarded a Silver Star and a Purple Heart. After the war, he moved to Pampa, Texas, and took up work in the oil fields.

He married Patricia Dunigan, his love at first sight, on April 18, 1949, at Holy Souls Catholic Church. He bought Atlas Tank Company and operated it with pride through the 1950s.

After selling his company in 1964, he moved his family to McAllen in the Rio Grande Valley where he was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church and the local VFW post.

John exemplified a person who was content. He and his wife settled west of Austin in 1993 to be close to many of their children



Frisby

and grandchildren. They enjoyed their annual reunion with members of his B-17 crew. He was a member of St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his son, Jay Keith. He is survived by Patricia, his beloved wife of 57 years, of Austin, Texas, and four sons and two daughters, Mark and Deborah of Lebanon, Ind., Kathleen of Fairbanks, Alaska, Gary and Dawna of Mission, Texas, Chris and Erika of Houston, Texas, Mollie Bea and Stefan Passernig of Austin, Texas, Joel and Georgiana of Austin, Texas, as well as 20 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

The Funeral Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated for Mr. Frisby at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church in Austin on Thursday, September 14, 2006, at 10 a.m., with Msgr. Oliver presiding. Burial arrangements in Pampa, Texas, will be arranged by Carmichael-Whatley.

There will be a graveside service on Saturday, September 16, 2006, at 9 a.m. at his family's plot in Fairview Cemetery with Deacon Barnabas Radke, of St. Vincent's de Paul Catholic Church, officiating.

Arrangements under the direction of Cook-Walden/Forest Oaks Funeral Home, 6300 W. William Cannon Drive, Austin, Texas 78749.

## CITY BRIEFS

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**SR. T-SHIRTS** sold at PHS before sch. and during lunch Thursday, Sept. 14.

## Gray County Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high near 79. South southwest wind around 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 61. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 84. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. South southwest wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 58. South southwest wind around 10 mph becoming north northwest.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. North northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

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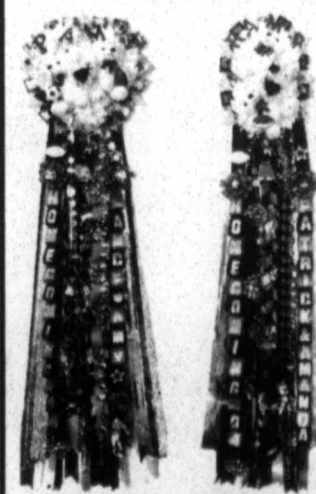
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## Emergency Services

### Pampa PD

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

Four traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were reported in the 900 block of South Wells and the intersection of Price and 23rd.

Accidents were reported in the 200 block of East Brown, the 700 block of North Deane, and the police department lobby.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of North Houston and the 2200 block of North Perryton Parkway where a 6 x 3 window was broken in a Pulse building door at First Bank Southwest.

Assaults were reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart, the 1100 block of Cinderella, the 1800 block of Coffee, the 400 block of Doucette and two instances in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Warrant service was attempted at two locations which resulted in one arrest.

Dead animals were reported in the 800 block of East Kingsmill and the 800 block of South Barnes.

Animal complaints were reported in the 500 block of Lowry and the 1900 block of North Fir.

Suspicious persons were noted in the 700 block of South Cuyler and the intersection of Hobart and McCullough.

Thefts were reported in the 100 block of East Harvester, the 2200 block of North Perryton Parkway, and the police department lobby.

A civil matter was reported in the 2200 block of North Perryton Parkway.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 800 block of Crawford.

A narcotics violation was reported at the intersection of Varnon and Huff.

Medical assistance was

provided in the 1300 block of Garland.

Disorderly conduct calls came in from the 1400 block of North Hobart, the 1000 block of Neel Road, the 1200 block of East Francis, and the 300 block of North Wynne.

An alarm was investigated in the 500 block of East Atchison.

### Sheriff

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

**Wednesday, Sept. 6**  
Aaron Acevedo, 22, of Plainview was arrested by GCSO on charges of burglary of vehicles, criminal mischief, theft and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

**Tuesday, Sept. 12**  
Jana Turlington, 32, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department  
See RECORD, Page 3

# Record

Continued from Page 2

on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

Mario Portillo, 42, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on charges of improper passing, expired inspection and failure to appear.

Jacob Rowsey, 19, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on charges of possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Joseph Huson Huffman III, 23, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on charges of no seat belt and failure to appear.

David Ellison, 40, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on charges of manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance, resisting arrest and evading arrest.

Efrain Hernandez, 26, of Balch Spring, Texas, was arrested by Department of Public Safety on a charge of driving while his license was suspended.

Terrence Tillman, 33, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on charges of manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance.

Oaty Don Scott, 30, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on a charge of injury to a child.

## Fire

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

Tuesday, Sept. 12  
2:59 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 12000 block of East Frederic on a medical assist.

3:17 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1400 block of Charles on a medical assist.

3:37 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1400 block of Hobart on a medical assist.

# Winton

Continued from Page 1

fire just west of Memory Gardens.

"We had 55 mph sustaining winds," Powell said. "You couldn't see your hand in front of your face."

Winton and his crew went out there in booster truck, a truck equipped to fight such fires.

"He was perched like a hood ornament on the front of that truck," Powell said, "trying to fight the fire."

The flames were about four feet high.

Winton called for the truck to make a turn to attack the fire, but the truck lurched throwing Winton from the truck into the fire and injuring his shoulder.

"His statement to me was that he looked up and saw the flames coming at him," Powell said. "He said he felt he only had a couple of choices. He could lie there and think about his injuries,

but his first thought was for his crew in the truck. His second thought was of the Pampa Fire Department equipment."

Powell said Winton got back on the truck and directed his crew out of danger.

"He didn't bring his injury to my attention," Powell said. "The equipment got back on the road and called in to say, 'My captain's hurt.'"

When Powell arrived, she asked him how he was doing. She said he looked at her and replied, "I'm OK, chief. We're busy."

It was apparent, she said, that he had hurt his shoulder. While they tried to pull his coat off, Powell said he was still looking around checking equipment and directing his men.

"We couldn't even pull his coat off," Powell said. "He was in so much pain."

Over Winton's protests, Powell and his crew took him down the road to a waiting ambulance and rushed him to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

"He put his equipment, his department and his community ahead of his own health," Powell said. "That's why he was nominated for the 2006 Star of Texas Award."

Powell said when she first notified Winton of the award, he said, "But I was just doing my job."

"That tells you where his heart is and where his mind is," Powell said.

"I'm kind of honored to have this award," Winton said. "Of course, this is not the way I chose to get it."

He said it was a thrill to be on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives and getting to meet Gov. Rick Perry.

Winton said when he was introduced to the governor, the first thing Perry said was "Y'all are finally getting some rain up there."

"It was a real nice ceremony," Winton said. "I was just doing my job. I didn't think I deserved anything like that."

"We're really honored that we had one of our fire

captains be a part of this," Powell said.

"It was quite an experience," Winton said.

Winton was honored Monday afternoon in the Texas House of Representatives chamber of the State Capitol with the Star of Texas Award along with five firefighters killed in the line of duty, including Engineer James Wilson McMorries Jr., Howardwick Volunteer Fire Department, and 17 firefighters injured in the line of duty, including Captain Jeffrey Dean Cook and Firefighter Joseph Louis Garcia, both with Howardwick Volunteer Fire Department. Also honored at Monday's ceremony were 16 peace officers killed in the line of duty, 10 peace officers injured in the line of duty and a flight nurse killed in the line of duty.

McMorries was killed and Cook and Garcia were injured in the March wildfires that swept along Interstate 40 in March.

# Meetings Thursday

The Pampa Economic Development Corporation will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday in the Nona Payne Room of the Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard, to discuss a logo for the EDC and a Web site.

They will also hear the treasurer's report.

The EDC board will go into closed session to discuss business prospects. They will reconvene to take any action.

The Pampa City Commission will meet in special session at 4 p.m. Thursday in the commission chambers in City Hall to discuss a Pampa EDC incentive package for a business prospect.

The discussion will be in closed session. The commission will reconvene in open session to take any action on the proposal.

# City

Continued from Page 1

said. Part of the water rate increase goes to the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority indebtedness as they increase their ground water supplies. He said the city is also trying to replace some water mains that are close to 50 years old.

The commission increased sewer rates for the prison to \$1.10 per 1,000 gallons a month from 80 cents.

The commission also approved an interlocal agreement with the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission for 911 service and equipment.

Pamela Nielsen with the PRPC told commissioners that it was the same contract they had with the city

in previous years with one exception. In past years, PRPC had insured the equipment, but so had the City of Pampa. Under the new contract, the insurance will be under the city.

The PRPC and representatives of the city also developed the Hazard Analysis and Mitigation Action Plan, which the commission approved. The plan is required by the federal government.

Ken Hall, emergency management coordinator, said developing the plan is a tedious process, but the city and planning commission had done it before for the state.

The commission passed a resolution denying Southwestern Public Service a requested rate increase of \$48 million across their service area. Pampa is one of several cities that have allied themselves to oppose the rate

increase. Residential rates could go up more than 20 percent.

Horst said that if the rate increase is approved by the Texas Public Utility Commission, rates for the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority could go up as much as 40 percent. That increase would come back to CRMWA members.

A public utility commission hearing is expected in November. A final ruling won't be made until next year.

After an hour in closed session to discuss appointments to the Board of Adjustments, Planning and Zoning Commission, the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, the board took no action.

The commission also discussed in closed session a potential incentive offer to a Pampa EDC business prospect.

# Court to consider DeLay conspiracy charge

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The state's highest criminal appeals court said today it would consider reinstating a conspiracy charge against former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, further delaying his felony money laundering trial.

A Travis County grand jury indicted DeLay and two political consultants last year on charges stemming from Republican fundraising during the 2002 legislative races.

A state district court judge later threw out one of two conspiracy charges. Prosecutors asked the appeals court to reinstate the dropped charge,

and the court said Wednesday that it would consider that request.

Judge Pat Priest said he would proceed with DeLay's trial when the appeals process has ended.

DeLay stepped down as majority leader after the charges were filed and announced his resignation from Congress a few months later. He and other Texas Republicans have accused prosecutor Ronnie Earle, a Democrat, of conducting a political vendetta.

"It's just another bump in the road," DeLay's attorney, Dick DeGuerin, said Wednesday. "I thought they would just refuse to get involved but at the same

time, I'm not really shocked by it."

Earle did not immediately return a phone call from The Associated Press.

Both sides will be given time to file their arguments with the Court of Criminal Appeals, which will then set a date for oral arguments. A ruling is not likely to come before next year, said Ed Marty, general counsel to the court.

Prosecutors accuse DeLay and the two consultants of violating state law by funneling \$190,000 in illegal corporate money to the Republican National Committee, which then donated the same amount to Texas candidates.

# Van Os

Continued from Page 1

from UT in 1976. He has been named as Texas "Super Lawyer" by Texas Monthly Magazine in 2003, 2004, and 2005. He now owns his own law firm in San Antonio where he champions constitutional law, labor, and civil rights.

He decided to visit each court house in Texas to take his message to small town, rural Texas where he believes the roots of populism still survive.

In the tradition of Jim Hogg, he campaigns on a platform of giving the people of Texas representation in the courts, and holding corporations accountable for breaking the law.

He has said he wants to restore state government to the people who rightfully own it and will represent all Texans as the people's lawyer.

# Pet of the Week

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# Viewpoints

## Preserving America's historical treasure chest

Since its founding, the United States of America has been a beacon of liberty to the entire world. The colonists fought for freedom, and many have sacrificed to extend it. Particularly in the past century, we have been generous in helping spread worldwide the individual liberties that have helped the U.S. achieve prosperity and success.

While we labor to extend freedom around the world, we must not forget the principles on which our own democracy is based. It's particularly important that young Americans appreciate our rich U.S. history, and the struggles that have accompanied development of our country, and the blessings of a free and educated society.

To accomplish that, there's no substitute for a first-hand look at the landmarks of our democratic heritage. Many Texans are able to visit Washington, D.C., and see precious historical documents at the National

Archives near the Capitol. In the building's central rotunda are The Charters of Freedom — the actual original documents (under glass of course) of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. There's even one of four existing original copies of the Magna Carta there as well.

Nothing is more memorable than a personal encounter with history. But in this cyber age, the National Archives and Record Administration (NARA) has established a Web site that may be an even better learning tool for the principles and experiences that have shaped our nation.

NARA is the agency that preserves our government and historical records. It also provides public access to the written and recorded material that collectively comprises American history. The primary sources available include millions of documents and photographs, and

countless hours of recorded history, in Washington, regional archives, and Presidential libraries.

History teachers usually want their students to examine "primary sources," and for good reason. These are original documents, created in the time period being studied, by people who actually participated in or witnessed events. They allow the reader to get as close as possible to history.

When I was in school, as a practical matter, access to primary sources was extremely limited. They could be found in a few books, usually available to most only through the public library system.

But today, in our digitalized society, students and educators can open the docu-

ments that record our country's development from their personal computer through the Internet. None is more relevant to American history and current events than the Web site of the NARA, [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov).

As the school year gets underway this fall, I hope parents, teachers and students are aware of the treasure chest of

information available through primary documents on this interactive Web site.

Students can print out a copy of the Declaration of Independence and sign it themselves. They can meet our Founding Fathers, those chosen to participate in the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and get acquainted through their biographical sketches. The site contains facts that bring history alive

to elementary and secondary school pupils.

The same primary documents at the Archives building are also on display at the NARA Web site. A visitor can also delve deeply into important moments in our history. There's a recording of President Franklin Roosevelt reading a declaration of war against Japan in 1941. Also on virtual display are President John Kennedy's speech index cards — including "Ich bin ein Berliner" — from his 1963 speech at the Berlin Wall.

There's also a wealth of original documents across the decades, recording Jefferson's purchase of the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the U.S.-Mexico War in 1848, Lincoln's letters to his generals, Indian treaties, and the drives to extend voting rights to women and freed slaves.

For those interested in

how their own ancestors fit into the landscape of American history, the Web site also contains genealogical research information. The breadth of resources available — from family trees to landmark historic events — is inspiring.

Even when we read about despotism and tyranny abroad, or see their violent legacy in televised news reports, it's easy to take for granted the blessings of democracy that we all enjoy. An appreciation of U.S. history, and the incredible difficulties our country has faced and overcome, helps put today's problems in perspective.

A visit to the National Archives — in person or online — is well worth the time of all citizens, and especially our students. It's also a worthwhile investment in our future.

**John Cornyn**  
U.S. Senator



## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 13, the 256th day of 2006. There are 109 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:  
On Sept. 13, 1788, the Congress

of the Confederation authorized the first national election, and declared New York City the temporary national capital.

On this date:  
In 1759, during the final French and Indian War, the British defeated the French on the Plains of Abraham overlooking Quebec City.

In 1803, Commodore John Barry, considered by many the father of the

*'Revolt and terror pay a price. Order and law have a cost.'*

— Carl Sandburg  
American poet and author (1878-1967)

American Navy, died in Philadelphia.

In 1851, American medical pioneer Walter Reed was born in Gloucester County, Va.

In 1922, the highest shade temperature on the earth's surface was recorded in El Azizia, Libya, which reached 136.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

In 1948, Republican Margaret Chase Smith of Maine was elected to the U.S. Senate, becoming the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress.

In 1971, a four-day inmates' rebellion at the Attica Correctional Facility in upstate New York ended as police and guards stormed the prison; the ordeal and final assault claimed 43 lives.

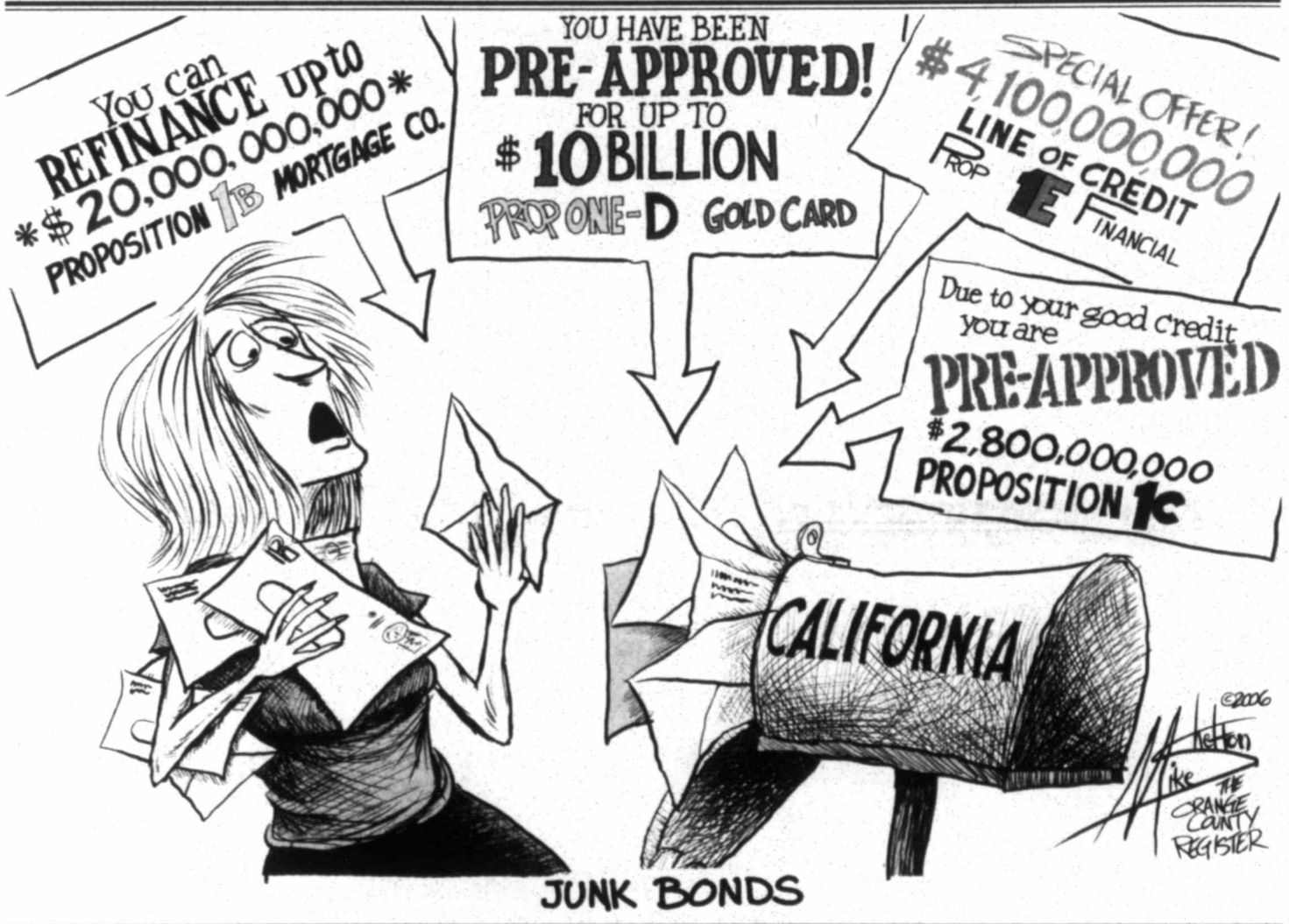
In 1977, conductor Leopold Stokowski died in Hampshire, England, at age 95.

In 1989, Fay Vincent was named commissioner of Major League Baseball, succeeding the late A. Bartlett Giamatti.

In 1993, at the White House, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat shook hands after signing an accord granting limited Palestinian autonomy.

In 1998, former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace died at age 79.

Ten years ago: Rapper Tupac Shakur died at a Las Vegas hospital six days after he was wounded in a drive-by shooting; he was 25.



## GOP is no more conservative than Dems

Congressional Republicans, the pundits say, are running against fascism, which, of course, doesn't exist in today's world. That's OK. The same buffoons are waging a war against terrorism, which they can't even define.

My fondest hope for this political season is that every Republican senator and representative up for re-election is defeated. It's not that the Democrats are any great prize, but they are marginally more intellectually honest than the Republicans.

Most Democrats are leftists and socialists, and most of their rhetoric reflects that, as do the issues they support. Most Republicans, however, are big fat hypocrites who campaign as conservatives when in fact, judged by their actions and their votes, they are no more conservative than Pol Pot or Karl Marx.

A true conservative would balance the budget, would vote against all foreign aid and would practice an isolationist foreign policy. A true conservative would make sure corporations pay their fair share of taxes, would cut out all subsidies to big business and would take whatever steps were necessary to stop the shipping of manufacturing jobs overseas and the import of vast numbers of illegal aliens, who are a source of cheap labor.

Most of these windbags in both parties have only two skills: conning voters and raising money from lobbyists. Most of them couldn't manage a small law firm or even run a successful hot-dog stand. As for foreign affairs, most of them don't have a clue as to what's going on outside their own country club and favorite fancy restaurants.

They are mental and moral midgets.

Most of them neither speak nor read a foreign language. If they have traveled overseas it's usually on those paid-for VIP tours arranged by special-interest groups. They don't read, most of them. In fact, aside from raising their own already bloated pay, they spend the majority of their time raising money for their next campaign. Very few of them have ever served in the armed forces.

**Charley Reese**  
Columnist



There are a handful of good men and women in both parties, but if in doubt, always vote against the incumbent. If you judge contemporary politicians by their record, it's abysmal. Congressional hearings have become largely a farce, where panel members make speeches rather than ask intelligent questions. They usually don't start work until Tuesday and are out of there by Thursday afternoon or Friday. They have more holidays than Santa Claus. Therefore, it's no surprise that they never, ever get their work done on time.

We are a nation of 300 million people. It's shameful that these 535 nabobs are the best we can do to run the government. Actually, they don't run it. Special interests and the corporate elite run it. Congress has allowed both the judiciary and the executive branch to usurp most of its authority. Can you

imagine a member of the executive branch telling a senator or representative that he or she can't see something because it's classified? Congress and the executive branch are coequal. Under our Constitution, the president is not a higher office than that of a senator or a representative.

And all of them, Americans must never forget, are just the temporary hired help. They are not our lords and masters. They are hired help who are supposed to work within the strict limits set by the Constitution. Under our system, sovereignty rests with the people, not with the government. It's too bad Americans have allowed government to encroach on their freedoms to the point that, according to some polls, some Americans are actually afraid of their own government.

Ah, if only the American people would dump 200 or 300 incumbents, which would send a 50-megaton political shock wave to Washington that would rattle the Washington Monument. You'd see a sudden and big change in the attitude of the surviving politicians.

These politicians don't respect you. They think you are dumb (after all, you keep voting for them). Well, if they won't respect you, then the next best thing is for them to fear you, and the way to do that is to demonstrate their jobs are in perpetual jeopardy. Election Day can be a revolution if the American people choose to make it one.

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

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# Sports Day

## No. 1 Sandies take Pampa in three straight matches

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS  
Sports Editor

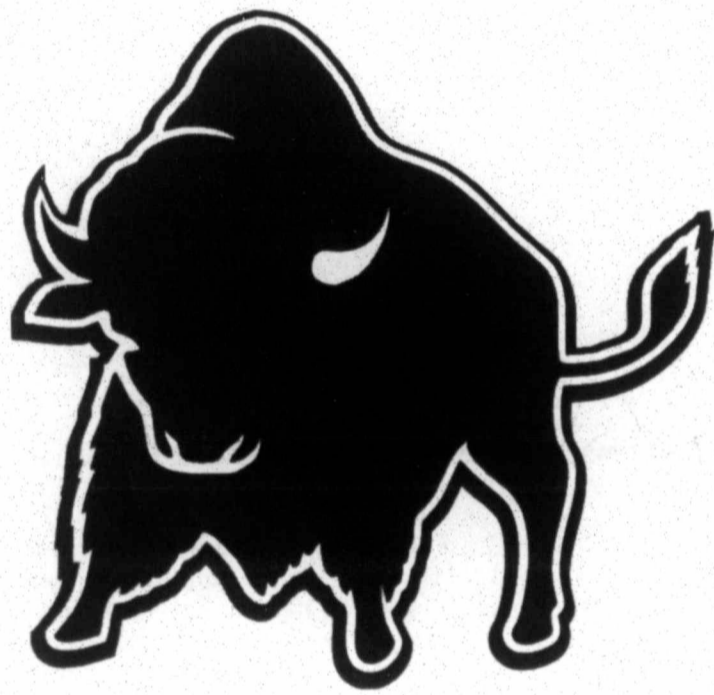
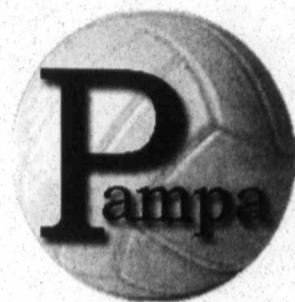
The Lady Harvester volleyball team made a visit to Amarillo Tuesday where they faced the top ranked 5A team in the state, the Amarillo High Sandies (24-1).

Though Pampa (14-10) fell in three straight sets (25-7, 25-3, 25-11), coach Sonia VanGilder says it is important to remember the Sandie's well deserved status, and that her team gave it their all, especially on defense. "The scores do not reflect how we did. I think defensively, we did great. It was just hard hitting around a big block," she said.

The Lady Harvesters will host Frenship Saturday afternoon at McNeely Field House. Varsity will take the court at 1, junior varsity will play at 2.

### Pampa at Amarillo High Individual Stats

Stephanie McVay- 2 assisted blocks, 1 solo block, 2 digs, 9 assists  
Logan Winkleman- 3 kills 6 digs  
Krishna Henderson- 3 kills 4 assisted blocks, 3-digs  
Jackye Barber- 3 kills, 5 solo blocks, 1 assisted block, 2 digs  
Cassy Tice- 2 digs  
Nicole Clark- 1 kill, 1 Solo block, 10 digs  
Libby Dyson- 3 digs  
Kelby Doughty- 1 dig



## WT's Garza nets second honor; Women's golf team takes third

CANYON — For the second time in the 2006 season's first three weeks, West Texas A&M volleyball setter Libby Garza has been honored for her outstanding play as Monday she was named Lone Star Conference South Division Setter of the Week.

After the Lady Buffs dropped three of four matches against some of the nation's top competition in the team's last action at the Colorado Premier, the WTAMU volleyball team was in need of a strong showing over the weekend at the BritKare Lady Buff Challenge. Garza and the team's three other upperclassmen made sure of that, leading the squad three-game sweeps of Southeastern Oklahoma and UT-Permian Basin.

The Dallas, Texas, native set the tone in the two victories as she tallied 81 assists (33 against SE Oklahoma and 48 vs. UT-Permian Basin) to bring her season total to 355 on the year. The senior also chipped in with six kills and 16 digs.

Garza also garnered the LSC South Setter of the Week honor on Aug. 29 after helping the Lady Buffs open the season with a perfect 4-0 record and capture the championship of the www.grapevinewoods.com Lady Buff Classic.

DENVER CITY, Colo. — The West Texas A&M women's golf team opened its season over the weekend and after a weather shortened round on Sunday, completed play at the Rocky Mountain Shootout Tournament on Monday, finishing the event in third place.

The Lady Buffs finished third overall at the tournament with a score of 699, 74 strokes behind Western New Mexico, which ended with a two-round total of 625 to capture the team win. Individually for WTAMU, Mollie Peterson completed play in seventh place overall with a two-day total of 164, 19 strokes behind individual winner Heather Dorris (Western New Mexico), who posted a two-round scorecard of 145.

WTAMU's Beth Nussbaum finished in a tie for 8th with a final score of 106, shooting an 84 on the first day and a final round 82. Kaylee Zaiontz ended her tournament in 16th place (87-86--173), while Krista Williams rounded out the Lady Buff contingency a final score of 196.

"I thought our team showed a lot of mental toughness this weekend," said head coach Meredith Easley-Jameson. "Mollie Peterson's performance was impressive because she had to complete 27 holes today, which is not easy to do. This was a nice tournament for us to start the season and it gave our freshman some experience as they make the transition to competition at this level."

## Armstrong calls report 'hatchet job'

(AP) - Lance Armstrong bristled Tuesday at a report that two former teammates admitted using performance-enhancing drugs, calling it "a hatchet job ... to link me to doping through somebody else's admission."

Frankie Andreu and another former Armstrong teammate who requested anonymity because he still works in cycling told The New York Times they used the endurance-booster EPO to prepare for the 1999 Tour de France, when Armstrong won the first of his seven titles.

Neither rider has ever tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs and both said they never saw Armstrong take any banned substances.

"I think it's a pretty nasty attempt by The New York Times to link me to doping through somebody else's admission. You have to read way down in the article until Frankie says, 'I never saw Lance do anything.'"

"To me, this is a story about Frankie Andreu," Armstrong said during a telephone interview with The Associated Press from Los Angeles. "The fact he took drugs has nothing to do with me."

The Times first reported the story on its Web site Monday night. Armstrong could not be reached for comment by the Times because he was attending a meeting of the Presidents Cancer Panel in Minneapolis.

"We feel the story is completely fair. It says in the eighth paragraph his teammates never saw him take drugs, and in next paragraph, that he always denied using performance-enhancing drugs," Times sports editor Tom Jolly

said. "They are two of his former teammates. Obviously, he was the star of that team and that's their claim to fame. The story never accuses him of using drugs."

Andreu admitted taking EPO for only a few races and said he came forward now because he's worried doping is having a negative effect on the sport.

"There are two levels of guys," he told the paper. "You got the guys that cheat and guys that are just trying to survive."

Armstrong has devoted considerable time and money fighting doping allegations in the past, both during interviews and with lawsuits. He said any implication that he used performance-enhancers was "ludicrous."

"I can't prove a negative. All I can say is what I said a million times: I was tested at races, in my house, in hotel rooms, airports - you name it. I had a lot of pressure on me," he said. "My performances never did anything but get better and stronger amid all the pressure and the improved testing."

This summer's Tour de France winner, Floyd Landis, also tested positive for elevated testosterone and synthetic testosterone after one of the race stages and is appealing the decision to strip his title. Landis was also Armstrong's teammate for two tours; he has denied using performance-enhancing drugs.

The Times report was based on interviews and court documents from a contract dispute between Armstrong and SCA Promotions. The Dallas-based company tried to withhold a \$5

million bonus owed Armstrong for winning a record sixth straight Tour de France, citing allegations of cheating in the book "L.A. Confidential: The Secrets of Lance Armstrong." He responded with a lawsuit.

After three weeks of testimony from dozens of witnesses, including Andreu, his wife, Betsy, and Steve Swartz, another former Armstrong teammate, Armstrong walked away with the bonus, plus \$2.5 million in interest and lawyers costs.

"Three arbitrators listened to everything they said and decided none of them were credible," Armstrong said. "Andreu, his wife and Swartz all had their day, and at the end, the arbitrators gave us 50 percent more than the original bonus."

"That was a 'W,'" Armstrong said, meaning a win. "It's been that way time after time. I can't remember if it's 6-0 or 10-0, but we're unbeaten. You don't win those cases if you're that dirty."

Armstrong also acknowledged that his continuing high profile and the string of allegations that have extended into his retirement made him the "800-pound gorilla" for every doping story involving cycling.

"Well," he replied, "the 800-pound gorilla has stood up to every test, every investigation, every interrogation, everything - and never lost."

Pat McQuaid, president of cycling's governing body, UCI, said he didn't understand Andreu's objectives in revealing he used EPO.

## Kenseth won't change much in first Chase race

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - Well, the Chase is finally here and now all anyone wants to ask me is, "How do you approach it?"

For me, it's the same as the 26 races before. This No. 17 team has done a really good job of taking it one race at a time all year. Do I look at the points? Sure. But, I don't dwell on them or think about the different scenarios or anything like that.

Here's what I know: If we can get the car as fast as we possibly can each week, have good pit stops, no part failures, and don't wreck, then we'll consistently have good finishes and things will take care of themselves. I know that first pays more points than second, second more than third, and so on.

We can't control how good other teams run, all we can control is how good our car is and how good the pit stops we have are and how good of race I run. I like the way our team is performing right now, but that doesn't guarantee us anything for the next 10 races. We have to continue to approach it one race at a time.

Crew chief Robbie Reiser and the guys have done a great job in the first 26 races. Overall, our cars this year have been better and more competitive than ever. We've been fortunate to win four races and close enough to win four or five more.

This is the first year where I've felt like we were capable of winning eight to ten races so far. Hopefully, we'll have a chance to win a few more. We're all excited about going into the Chase as the points leader, but we also know that they don't pay anything to the leader after 26 races. We have to continue to perform at the level we're at if we're going to compete for the championship in these final races - and that all starts at Loudon this weekend.

Kenseth also sat down to answer questions with AP Auto Racing Writer Jenna Fryer:

Q: NASCAR changed the championship format after your runaway title to "add excitement." Did that offend

you?  
A: "Maybe when NASCAR first announced it, it did. They did wait until after New York, after we were done celebrating the championship, and I was thankful for that. But they maybe could have called and told us before they announced it to the media, even if it was just five minutes before. I didn't know anything about it, and all of a sudden I'm getting all these questions about the points system. But looking back, I can see why they did it and I understand that they are trying to compete with the NFL, and I'm actually thankful for it."

Q: The perception is that your title run was boring, and that you are also boring. Why do people think that about you?

A: "I don't know and I don't really care, either. From my standpoint being a fan, I think the Busch Series championship is boring. Nothing against Kevin Harvick, but if someone tunes in with five races to go and sees that he already has the title wrapped up, they're going to think that is boring, too. So I understand where people are coming from when they say my title run was boring. NASCAR wants to make it more exciting, and I can totally see that now."

Q: The top 10 drivers are going to New York City this week to promote the Chase. Since you say you aren't boring, what do you plan to do in the big city?

A: "Nothing. My media commitments and that's it. Wait, actually, I am getting to go on Letterman, and I always said that was something I wanted to do, so that will be pretty cool. But that's really about it. I'm a country boy, and the things I like to do don't involve bumping elbows with a million people."

Q: You are a country boy, from tiny Cambridge, Wis., and I know you are a huge Packers fan. How brutal was their 26-0 loss to the Bears?

"Well, I went to the game and I really enjoy doing that. But me and (wife) Katie went with a couple of friends who are Bears fans,

so that was painful. But we got to go down on the field, and see Lambeau Field in September when you aren't freezing your butt off. That part is just awesome, and really gives me an appreciation for the sport and the history and the tradition of the

Packers. But the game? That was terrible. Luckily I had gone to Chicago to pick my friends up and fly them to the game, so they didn't dare give me any crap because they knew it would be a long five-hour drive home for them if they did."

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## AFCA Division II Poll

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Grand Valley State, Mich. (26)	2-0	696	1
2. Northwest Missouri State (1)	2-0	653	2
3. North Alabama	1-0	635	3
4. North Dakota (1)	2-0	626	4
5. Saginaw Valley State (Mich.)	2-0	585	5
6. Valdosta State (Ga.)	2-0	546	6
7. Pittsburg State (Kan.)	2-0	532	7
8. Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	2-0	511	8
9. West Texas A&M	2-0	453	9
10. Southeastern Oklahoma State	2-0	422	11
11. South Dakota	2-0	411	12
12. Bloomsburg (Pa.)	1-1	344	13
13. Winona State (Minn.)	2-0	332	t15
14. Shepherd (W.Va.)	2-0	322	14
15. North Carolina Central	3-0	300	18
16. Delta State (Miss.)	2-0	254	21
17. C.W. Post (N.Y.)	2-0	201	20
18. Northwood (Mich.)	2-0	187	23
19. Central Missouri State	2-0	173	24
20. Nebraska-Omaha	1-1	159	10
21. Catawba (N.C.)	2-0	154	25
22. Presbyterian (S.C.)	2-1	145	22
23. Missouri Western State	2-0	82	—
24. Arkansas Tech	2-0	69	—
25. Washburn (Kan.)	1-1	51	t15

## Tailgate party



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Eight-year-old Austin Elementary School students Emily Deloach (left) and Indy Sullivan (right) enjoy some of the food available during the tailgate party that preceded the football game Friday night between Pampa and Lubbock Estacado.

## AP Top 25 Poll

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

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Ohio St. (56)	2-0	1,614	1
2. Notre Dame (3)	2-0	1,468	4
3. Auburn (2)	2-0	1,447	4
4. Southern Cal (2)	1-0	1,446	3
5. West Virginia (2)	2-0	1,380	6
6. LSU	2-0	1,287	8
7. Florida	2-0	1,249	7
8. Texas	1-1	1,150	2
9. Florida St.	2-0	1,029	9
10. Georgia	2-0	944	12
11. Michigan	2-0	942	10
12. Louisville	2-0	911	13
13. Tennessee	2-0	782	11
14. Virginia Tech	2-0	763	16
15. Oklahoma	2-0	755	15
16. Iowa	2-0	690	14
17. Miami	1-1	625	17
18. Oregon	2-0	547	20
19. Nebraska	2-0	455	21
20. TCU	2-0	285	23
21. California	1-1	284	22
22. Arizona St.	2-0	206	25
23. Boston College	2-0	193	—
24. Texas Tech	2-0	186	24
25. Penn St.	1-1	95	19

Others receiving votes: Clemson 92, Boise St. 72, Alabama 70, Georgia Tech 33, UCLA 33, Rutgers 32, Wisconsin 28, Pittsburgh 11, Texas A&M 11, Missouri 9, Purdue 1.

## DiPietro inks 15-year deal

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) - Rick DiPietro wasted little time in signing his landmark contract.

The quick way things change around the New York Islanders, it was as though he didn't want to give anyone a chance to take it away.

One week shy of his 25th birthday, the brash goalie from New England grabbed a pen and confidently inked his name to a record-long, 15-year deal that will pay him \$4.5 million each season until 2021, totaling \$67.5 million.

"We did a lot of calculations," DiPietro said Tuesday after signing the longest playing contract in NHL history. "To get this kind of security, I'm more than willing to leave some money on the table."

"This is where I want to play, this is where I want to retire. If I do win a Stanley Cup, this is where I want to be."

Standing next to him was Garth Snow, his 37-year-old former teammate and backup, who hung up his skates earlier this summer the same day he took over as Islanders general manager. If that was strange enough, he was replacing Neil Smith, who had been on the job a little more than a month.

"I guess it's pretty beneficial to be a goaltender on Long Island right now," DiPietro said. "Fifteen years seems like a long time," he said before a deep sigh. "It is a long time."

Snow's biggest priority suddenly became negotiating the deal to keep the Islanders' most popular player in the fold until he's

nearly 40.

"At first it was a little awkward," DiPietro said.

And so it goes for the Islanders, who always seem to make more news and noise during the offseason than in winter.

"You have to have a commitment to who you're working with," said owner Charles Wang, who called DiPietro a friend. "I've done this all my business career. Now I'm doing it in sports and everybody is like, 'Oh my God. How could he do that?'"

He's been hearing that a lot. The Islanders missed the playoffs and then led the league in summer news conferences.

Since they last played, the Islanders have hired a coach (Ted Nolan) who was out of the league since being dismissed by Buffalo in 1997; a GM (Smith), in NHL exile since he was fired by the Rangers in 2000; and then his replacement (Snow), who was set to play another season.

DiPietro's deal topped the one given to enigmatic teammate Alexei Yashin in 2001, a 10-year, \$87.5 million contract that sent NHL salaries soaring and led to the cap that ended last year's lockout.

It also saddled New York with a player who is nearly impossible to move and takes up a big chunk of the team's \$44 million maximum payroll.

"We have to do it together," said Yashin, one of several Islanders at the news conference. "The contract is the contract, and we have to keep focus on the game now."

## Tigers nip Rangers, 3-2

DETROIT (AP) - The Detroit Tigers were jumping around in the rain like Little Leaguers.

Carlos Guillen led off the ninth with a solo home run to give Detroit a 3-2 win over the Texas Rangers on Tuesday night.

"Obviously everybody was pretty pumped up," said Tigers manager Jim Leyland, who joined in the celebration. "I was real happy I know that."

Guillen said he was looking for a fastball and that is what Ron Mahay (1-3) served up.

"Guillen's a good hitter. You make a mistake, he's going to hurt you," Texas catcher Gerald Laird said. "He did tonight twice. It just happens."

Guillen, who also homered in the second inning, was greeted at the plate by his teammates and Leyland.

"It was a very exciting win for us," Guillen said. "I was just trying to get on base, make something happen."

Marcus Thames tied the score with a solo shot in the seventh for the slumping Tigers who won for just the sixth time in 19 games. Detroit, which had a 10-game lead over Chicago

and 10 1/2 over Minnesota in the AL Central when play ended Aug. 7, leads the Twins by only 1 1/2 games.

"Marcus came through big time," Leyland said.

Fernando Rodney (7-3) pitched a perfect eighth and ninth to pick up the win.

Texas' Gary Matthews Jr. hit a tiebreaking single in the top seventh, but Thames hit his 26th home run of the season in the bottom half.

"We did tonight what we talked about, we hit the ball out of the ballpark," Leyland said. "There's no defense for the home run."

Tigers starter Kenny Rogers gave up two runs and 10 hits in seven innings for his second straight no-decision after four straight wins.

Vicente Padilla allowed two runs and five hits in seven innings. He got out of a two-on, no out jam in the fourth, with an inning-ending double play. Padilla gave up six earned runs in each of his last two starts.

"He pitched well enough to win," Rangers manager Buck Showalter said. "It's tough conditions to pitch in and everybody had some tough defensive plays in the tough weather."

## Cardinals drop Astros, 6-5

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Albert Pujols broke his bat on a 1-2 fastball in on the hands from Brad Lidge. All that meant was that the winning hit, which handed the Houston Astros an agonizing loss, lacked a certain solid tone.

Even without good wood Pujols got the best of Lidge again Tuesday night, this time hitting a two-run double with two outs in the ninth inning that gave the St. Louis Cardinals a 6-5 victory.

"Everything went our way," Pujols said. "It's good that we're catching those breaks."

"I wasn't trying to do too much, just put the ball in play." Preston Wilson homered for the Cardinals, who have won the first two games of a three-game series against the third-place Astros, knocking them seven games back in the NL Central. St. Louis has a five-game lead over the Reds. "Too much baseball left," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "It means we won the series."

Houston began the day 4 1/2 games behind wild-card leader San Diego. The Cardinals got to

Lidge, who blew his sixth save in 37 chances, for the third time this season. Lidge (1-5) had a blown save and a loss against St. Louis in the last two games before the All-Star break.

Lidge is 0-2 with a 9.00 ERA and four saves against the Cardinals this season, allowing seven runs in seven innings spanning six games.

"It seems like stuff like that has happened this year," Lidge said. "I was able to get in there and broke his bat, but he was able to put it in a place we couldn't get it."

Chris Burke's two-run homer in the sixth put the Astros ahead 5-4, and Mike Lamb also homered for Houston in a game that featured five lead changes.

The Astros used seven pitchers - starter Andy Pettitte left in the third inning with an elbow injury.

Pinch-hitter John Rodriguez singled off Reds. "Too much baseball left," Cardinals manager Jose Vizcaino's sacrifice. Wilson struck out and Scott Spiezio was hit by a pitch before Pujols doubled down the left-field line to score both runners without a play.

### DALLAS COWBOYS

## Romo says he's ready to be team's starting QB

IRVING, Texas (AP) - Tony Romo thinks he's ready to be the starting quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys. And maybe he is.

Thing is, Romo thought he was ready last year.

And the year before. Probably the year before that, too, even though he was lucky to have made the team as an undrafted rookie.

Confidence is certainly one of Romo's strengths, probably his biggest. He believes in himself more than Drew Henson and Chad Hutchinson combined, which might explain why he's still in the league and those guys, who were blessed with more raw ability, aren't.

Yet bravado, popularity and even a new contract don't make him the best option for the Cowboys.

At least, as Bill Parcells so conspicuously put it Monday, "not right now."

Drew Bledsoe wasn't so terrible in the 24-17 loss at Jacksonville that he deserves getting benched. The bigger factor is that Romo hasn't done enough to prove he deserves to start.

Actually, let's clarify that: He hasn't done anything, period, in the 49 games since he's been on the roster. (Well, he's been the holder a bunch of times, but Parcells hasn't even let him try to throw a pass on a fake field goal.)

Thus, a priority this week should be ending the bizarre fact that Romo has been around for so long, and is already locked up for next season, without having thrown a pass.

It's time to see what he's got. And Sunday night at home against Washington is as good of a time as any - better than waiting for Bledsoe to get hurt or play so badly the decision becomes obvious.

Parcells needs to come up with a plan for breaking in Romo, then stick with it.

Tell Romo he's going to play, say, the first drive of the second quarter no

matter what. He's got to put him in regardless of whether Bledsoe is 10-for-10 or the Cowboys take over at their 1-yard line. Maybe even script Romo's first few plays and let him get comfortable with them in practice this week.

Have an "exit strategy," too. (Insert your own political joke; this is sports, after all.) Either pick out another series or two that he'll play or tell him that's all he's getting.

Forget Bledsoe's feelings. Forget whatever message it might send the team. Better yet, deal with it all now.

Tell everyone it's coming because this is what's best for Romo, which means it's best for them. Look at Bledsoe and say that includes him. (No need to remind him that his only Super Bowl ring, and last playoff appearance, came after he lost his job to Tom Brady. Save that line in case Romo turns out as good as he thinks.)

If anyone questions the move, remind them you are Bill Freaking Parcells, not Chan Gailey, Dave Campo or some other Jerry Jones-controlled coach. You might also want to tell them again that you are too old to lose because your overall record in Dallas is now 50-50, but that's another story.

There's no down side to easing Romo into action.

If he fouls it up against the Redskins, chalk it up to first-time jitters. If he's good, then maybe there's a quarterback controversy. So? Isn't there one already?

Spend the bye week giving Romo more work with the starters, then follow it with more playing time against Tennessee - than he gets against Washington.

Maybe then it will be time to think more seriously about which quarterback is best suited to run this team.

The answer easily could be Bledsoe - and not by default.

The best thing this plan could do is spark Bledsoe. He sure looked good in the preseason after watching his understudy take every snap in Seattle.

Just last week, the 14-year veteran was talking about wanting to make the most out of this season because he knows he's nearing the fourth quarter of his career. He also praised this team as one of the most talented he's been on. That's what made the brain cramps against the Jaguars so maddening.

After a great start, and a 10-0 lead, Bledsoe missed on some passes that could have put the game away early. Trying to make up for it, he wound up throwing an interception that let Jacksonville tie the game at halftime.

Still, Bledsoe is far from the only one who messed up.

Parcells blamed himself for being greedy and letting Bledsoe keep throwing with a 10-3 lead while knowing Dallas was getting the ball to start the third quarter. He also botched a challenge, costing the Cowboys a timeout they desperately needed later.

Flozell Adams gets called out for some poor blocking and two penalties. And if you want to talk about judgment lapses, how about Terry Glenn getting called for a false start - twice! Once apparently wasn't enough for him to go back to basics and make sure the ball gets snapped before taking off.

At least those folks all played. The same couldn't be said for first-round pick Bobby Carpenter, who was made inactive, and high-priced kicker Mike Vanderjagt, who Parcells said is fighting the shanks and its linked condition, the doubts.

But a quarterback's mistakes are the most visible.

Bledsoe has made enough of them in his career to know all about that. Now it's time to let Romo start learning that.

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**1 Public Notice**

City of McLean Ordinance #309  
An Ordinance Fixing The Tax Rate and Levy In And For The City of McLean, Texas, For The Year of 2006, Upon Taxable Property In Said City of McLean, Texas, For The Purpose Of Providing For The General Fund For The Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2007, Providing For A Penalty: Providing That In The Event Any Provision Of This Ordinance Be Held Unconstitutional And Invalid: That Such Holding Shall Not Affect The Remaining Provisions Thereof; And Repealing All Ordinances And Parts Thereof In Conflict Herewith.  
F-25 Sept. 13, 2006

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**10 Lost/Found**

LOST 2 male Pit Bulls, 1 blue / white, 1 brown / white in 1800 bl. Beech area. Reward: 669-3463, 236-9888  
FOUND male Boxer in Wilson School District area. Call 665-5111.

**13 Bus. Opp.**

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

**3 Personal**

**\*ADOPT\*** A loving financially secure happy couple longs to LOVE, hug & provide everything for your baby. Nicole & Dave 1-800-990-7667. Expenses paid.\*\*\*\*\*

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

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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

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EXP. Healthcare Provider has part-time openings. Have references. Call 669-2586.

WILL do babysitting in my home. CPR Certified and References. 669-2634, 630 N. Zimmers.

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

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**TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED**

4 days on / 2 days off Medical & Dental Ins. Uniforms Monthly Safety Bonus Retirement Plan

**Requirements:**  
CLASS A CDL  
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Tanker Endorsement

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PART-time maintenance for sm. apt. complex. Maint. backgr. helpful. 806-665-2828 for apt.

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Is Seeking an Employee. Must Be Experienced in:  
**Auto Body Repair & Painting**  
Apply in Person at: 317 E. Brown Or call 665-3546

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Field Personal Fiberglass Fabricators  
Wages based on exp. Apply in person 100 N. Price Rd. Pampa

Accountant or Exp. Bookkeeper needed for local company. Organized management skills and strong ability to multi-task required. Quickbooks exp. preferred. Salary based on exp. Fax resume to 1-360-838-8549 by September 18th

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WHEELER Nursing and Rehabilitation taking appl. for nurses aid, 6-2 and 2-10 shifts, cooks, PT or PTA. Will certify in house for nurses aid. Apply in person or call 806-826-3505, ask for Donna, RN, DON. 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler, Tx.

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ASME code shop needing experienced & motivated fabricators/welders \$16-\$20 per hour. BC/BS Health/life ins./401K/vacation pay/paid holidays. Apply in person. 1333 N. Price Rd. Weld test req'd.

CERTIFIED Dietary Mgr. (must be certified by the state). Apply in person. No phone calls. Coronado Healthcare, 1504 W. Kentucky, Pampa.

**FREE Removal of Junk Autos only.** Call 665-6628.

SWAP SHOP, 1001 E. Frederic. Tools, purses, used furn., Western & Indian decor. Come see us!

FOR sale: Jet 3 elec. power chair 4 wheel, red. Exc. cond. \$1200. Call 662-5964 or 665-1141.

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EXP. Heavy Equipment Operators and Oiler needed for heavy equipment. Oiler must have Class A CDL w/ HazMat endorsement. Call 888-817-2347, Mon. thru Fri. 9am.-4pm. to apply. EOE.

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**103 Homes For Sale**  
Twila Fisher Century 2

# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** There's a man in our community I'll call "Uncle Harry." Uncle Harry is in his mid-70s and considers himself one of the finest Christians in the area. Many of us, however, know this to be an exaggeration. The main problem with Uncle Harry is his insistence on hugging almost all the women he comes in contact with. These "hugs" are not chaste, loose hugs about the shoulders. Uncle Harry insists on bear hugs, where he puts both arms around the woman and presses her breasts against his chest. Occasionally, his hands will also drift to the area of the buttocks. Several women have complained, and family members have cautioned Uncle Harry about his behavior. He will stop temporarily, and then start up again in a few days. He has convinced himself that all these women want to hug him, but I have seen the expressions on the faces of some of his hug victims, and most are not at all happy. The women are hesitant to complain because Uncle Harry's wife IS one of the finest Christians in the area. What can be done about Uncle Harry? I see him as a sexual predator, but he insists his hugs are just an example of his fine Christian fellowship. — **NO HUGS, PLEASE, IN ALABAMA**

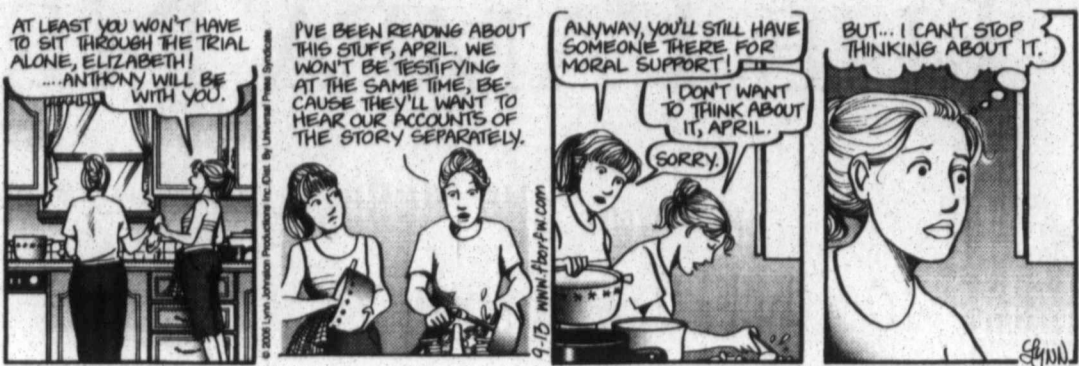
**DEAR NO HUGS, PLEASE:** Because the complaints have been ignored, a dose of aversion therapy might dampen the ardor of lecherous Uncle Harry. I recommend that the ladies who are offended by his behavior form a "united front." By this I mean, agree to put thumb tacks in your brassieres (facing outward, of course) when you know you'll be seeing him. I predict that if you do, he will hug you less enthusiastically from then on. Seriously, any woman who objects to Uncle Harry's "hugs" needs to open her mouth and tell him so in no uncertain terms. Enough is enough.

**DEAR ABBY:** My 8-year-old daughter has had the same "boyfriend" since preschool almost four years ago. They play

together at recess, and "Eric" has always been invited to her birthday parties. His mother, "Geneva," and I have always gotten along well and joked about the little couple. Recently, though, Geneva learned that her son has been hugging my daughter goodbye. I have no problem with this, as I see children hug babies and friends all the time. But she has now banned the children from playing together! This causes problems because Eric often plays at his cousins' house, which is right next door to mine. When Geneva drops Eric off next door, the neighbors get the unpleasant job of telling my daughter she isn't welcome in their yard, where she has always played with their kids. And I get to try and explain to her why everything has changed. Abby, Geneva will not return my phone calls, and I don't know how to make things right. Also, I fear that if a hug elicits this kind of reaction, her son may just be more intrigued with physical affection. Should I keep leaving messages on her answering machine, or drop it and write her off as a nasty woman? — **VEXED IN ILLINOIS**

**DEAR VEXED:** I don't know what has sent Geneva off the deep end, but the fact that she has taken the leap doesn't make her "nasty" -- it makes her worried and over-protective. Something tells me more may be going on with her than you are aware of, and since you have left messages for her that haven't been returned, you should not harass her. Explain to your daughter that Eric's mother felt her son was too young to have the serious kind of relationship she felt was developing between him and your daughter. It's the truth. And it's better than allowing her to think that because she's no longer welcome to play at the neighbor's, there is something wrong with her.

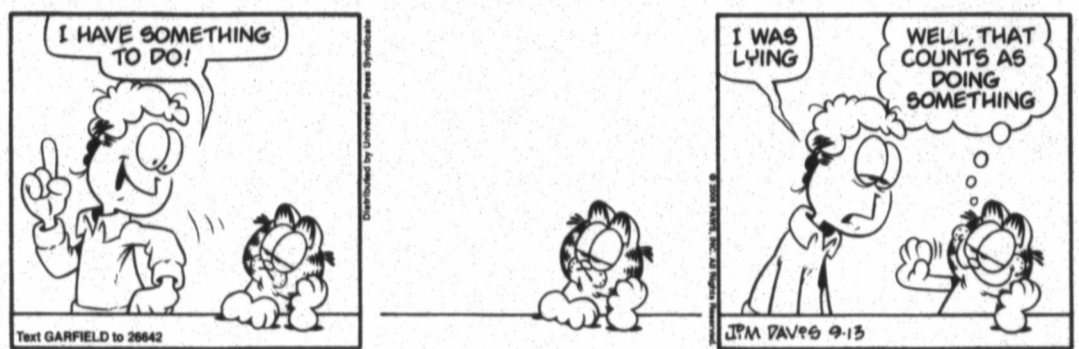
## For Better Or For Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

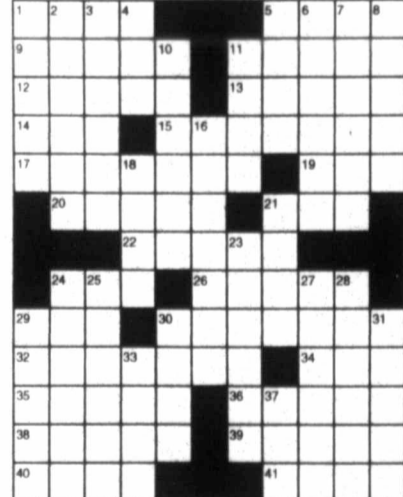
- 1 Chowder
- 2 bit
- 5 Lettuce variety
- 9 Insurance worker
- 11 Annoyed state
- 12 Fresh air
- 13 Change
- 14 Take the title
- 15 Chisholm Trail end
- 17 Ten-sided figure
- 19 Lush
- 20 Kick back
- 21 Lb. and oz.
- 22 Big name in auto racing
- 24 Energy
- 26 Some doors
- 29 Oxford
- 30 Some computers
- 32 "I should be going"
- 34 Chum
- 35 Ryan's daughter
- 36 Mislead
- 38 Mino-taur's home
- 39 "— alive!"
- 40 Publicity
- 41 "Candy is dandy" poet

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D E L H I  
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Y A R N G A I N E D  
A P E G A P T R Y  
M A N O R S S A V E  
Z I A N E C A P E  
L E A S H  
K E V I N S P A C E Y  
I V A N K A R A T E  
M E T E S N A P A T

Yesterday's answer

- 18 Grad, for short
- 21 Sub-poena, e.g.
- 23 Kicks out
- 24 Zealous believer
- 25 Foot instrument
- 27 Kansas city
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## Marmaduke

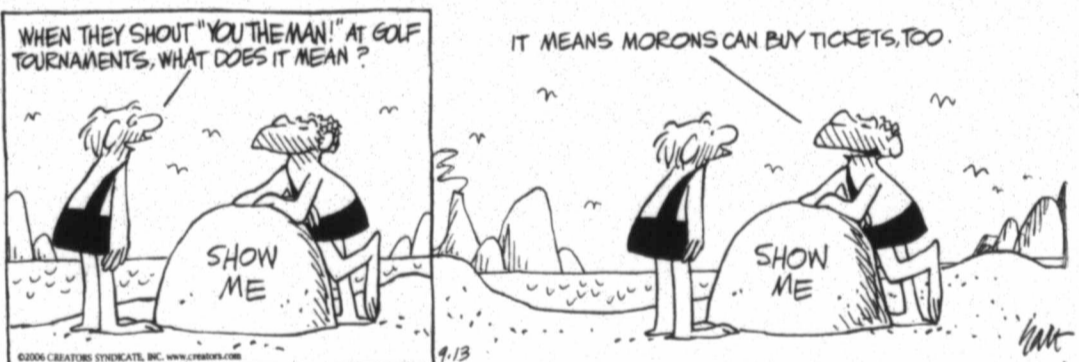


## The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends

