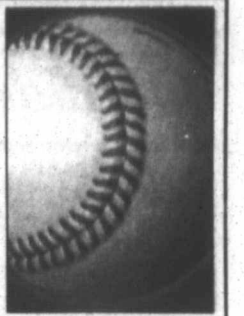


### Today's Weather

HIGH  
77  
LOW  
56

### Make That Five

Showalter  
joins growing  
list.  
SEE PAGE 5



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# THE PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, October 4, 2006

Volume 102 • No. 155

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## Several area schools on S&P's 'outperformers' list

NEW YORK -- Standard & Poor's School Evaluation Services today recognized 77 Texas school districts as academic "outperformers," including 12 districts in the Texas Panhandle.

In a separate analysis, Standard & Poor's announced it has identified 41 Texas schools that have significantly narrowed the achievement gap between higher- and lower-performing student groups.

Five schools were able to narrow both the gap between economically disadvantaged students and non-disadvantaged students and the gap between white and Hispanic students. Among this group is Edwin F. Williams Intermediate School in the

Perryton ISD.

To be identified as an outperformer by Standard & Poor's, school districts, over the course of two consecutive school years (2003-04 and 2004-05), had to show a significantly higher percentage of students that scored proficient or above on the state's reading and math tests when compared to other school districts with similar levels of economically disadvantaged students.

Academic achievement levels are compared with the percentage of economically disadvantaged students because educators and researchers have found that there is often a strong correlation between the two indicators.

Panhandle area schools that were picked as academic outperformers include Claude ISD; Farwell ISD; Gruver ISD; Hale Center ISD; Hedley ISD; McLean ISD; Plemons-Stinnett-Phillips CISD; Silverton ISD; Springlake-Earth ISD; Stratford ISD; Vega ISD; and Wellington ISD.

Other districts in the state include Alpine ISD; Anson ISD; Anthony ISD; Ballinger ISD; Balmorhea ISD; Bosqueville ISD; Chillicothe ISD; Chireno ISD; DeKalb ISD; Denver City ISD; Eagle Pass ISD; Forestburg ISD; Glasscock County ISD; Gorman ISD; Grady ISD; Hamlin ISD; Haskell CISD; Hidalgo ISD; Hillsboro ISD; Hudson ISD;

Itasca ISD; Keene ISD; Knippa ISD; Leveretts Chapel ISD; Linden-Kildare Consolidated ISD; Lometa ISD; Los Fresnos Consolidated ISD; Lufkin ISD; Martins Mill ISD; Mason ISD; Maud ISD; Meadow ISD; Menard ISD; Moulton ISD; Mumford ISD; New Boston ISD; New Home ISD; Nueces Canyon Consolidated ISD; O'Donnell ISD; Orange Grove ISD; Palacios ISD; Plains ISD; Point Isabel ISD; Prairiland ISD; Rankin ISD; Robert Lee ISD; Roby Consolidated ISD; Roscoe ISD; Rule ISD; Saltillo ISD; Sam Rayburn ISD; San Isidro ISD; San Perlita ISD; Schulenburg ISD;

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS  
Walter Miller, left, and Don Emmons of Freedom Museum USA, 600 N. Hobart, hold the three styles of children's coats currently for sale at the museum. The coats, representing, from left, the U.S. Air Force, Navy/Marines and Army, are available in sizes 4 through 12 and range in price from \$35 to \$45.

## Museum raising funds with military clothing

By MARILYN POWERS  
Staff Writer

Pockets, patches and zipper pulls help make the children's coats available at Freedom Museum USA eye-catching.

There are three styles available in children's sizes 4 through 12. Sizes 4/5 and 6 are priced at \$35; sizes 7 and 8 cost \$40; and sizes 10 and 12 sell for \$45.

The three styles represent various branches of the U.S. military: Air Force, Army and Navy/Marines.

The Air Force jacket is made of brown imitation leather with a white fleece collar and is styled like a bomber jacket. It has patches depicting the U.S. Ship John F. Kennedy, the B-17G, Airshow USA, the Tomcat,

and the EA-68 Prowler.

The Navy/Marines jacket is olive in color and has patches representing NASA, Top Gun, the Blackhawk helicopter, the first lunar landing, and the USA jump team.

The Army jacket is green camouflage with a black fleece collar and patches for the Tomcat, Special Forces, a staff sergeant's chevrons on the right sleeve, and a fighter jet on the back.

The zipper pulls on the Air Force and Navy/Marines jackets are in the shape of airplanes. The zipper pull on the Army coats is a dog tag.

Each style of jacket has plenty of pockets of various sizes and fastenings, along

See **MUSEUM**, Page 3

## Blood drive Saturday

Coffee Memorial Blood Center will hold a Community Blood Drive in Pampa from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday.

The location is Clarendon College-Pampa Campus at 1601 W. Kentucky in the lobby area and classroom 201.

Every donor will receive a Vein Drain T-shirt.

Prospective donors are asked to call 1-877-574-8800 to schedule an appointment.

A press release from the center indicated that there is an urgent need for all blood types.

## Government talk



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS  
State Rep. Warren Chisum, third from left, spoke on state government Tuesday at Clarendon College-Pampa Campus. Chisum addressed students in Instructor Tim Thomas' Texas government class which met at 5:30 p.m. Students who attended included, from left, Evan Grice, Casey Dunham and James Dunn.

## 2006 TRIBUTE TO WOODY GUTHRIE

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

**JOHNSON, Floyd Newton** — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Glen Haven Memorial Park, Sylmar, Calif.

Gray County Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, with a high near 77. North-northwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 56. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south-southeast.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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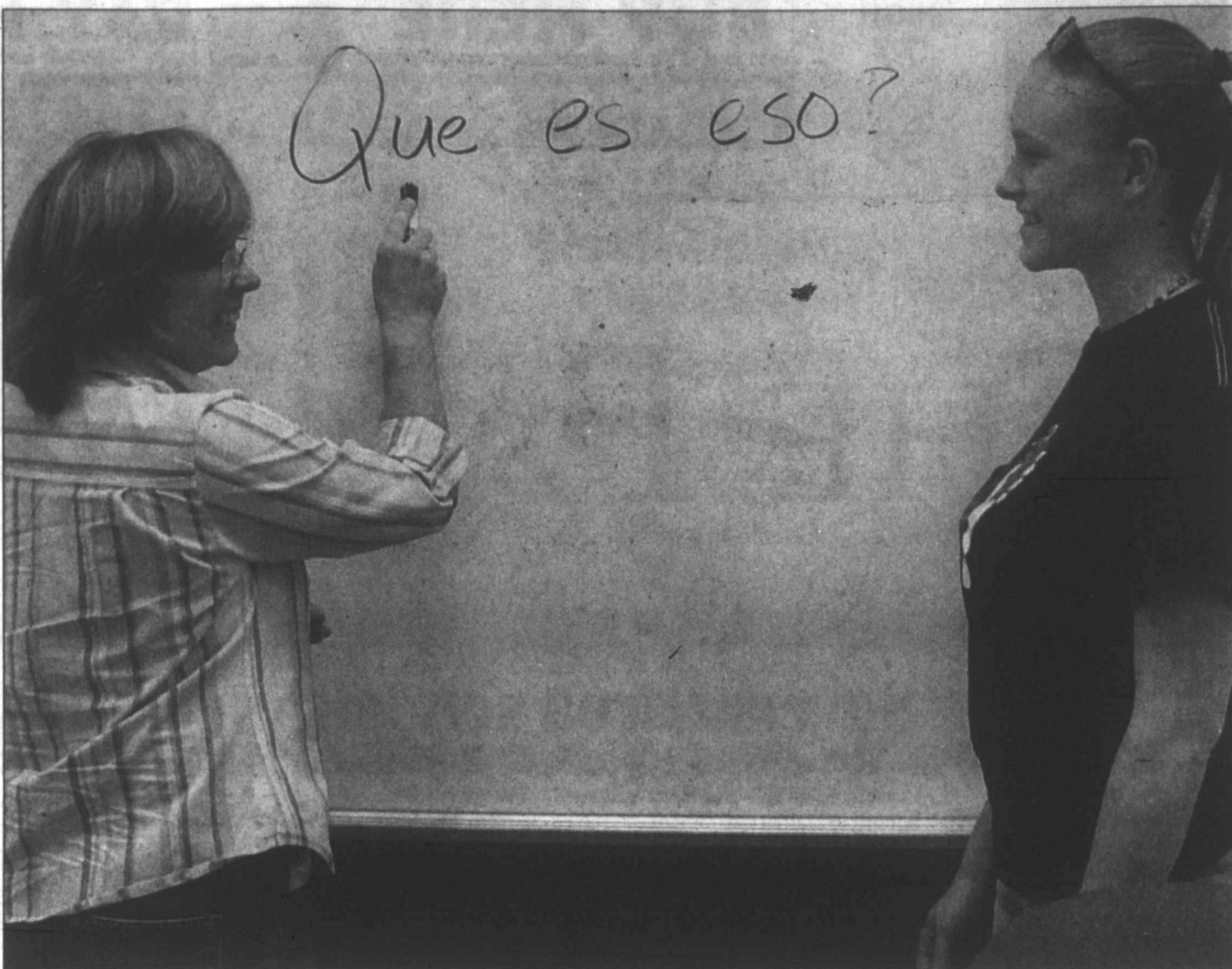


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Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Spanish Class

Laura Winters, left, is the instructor for a new conversational Spanish class at Clarendon College-Pampa Center. Winters is explaining the meaning of the sentence written on the board to Amber Doyle, one of approximately 20 students enrolled in the class. The first day of classes for the new offering at the college was Tuesday.

Emergency Services

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today. Tuesday, Oct. 3

Hector Ramos Jr., 34, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Terry Road by Pampa Police Department for burglary of a habitation.

Joseph Edward Montemayor, 26, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Terry Road by PPD for burglary of a habitation and possession of one or more grams but less than four grams of a controlled substance.

Placido Lemon Ayala, 30, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Terry Road by PPD for burglary of a habitation.

Raul Aguilar, 45, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Terry Road by PPD for burglary of a habitation.

Gustavo Olivarez, 43, of Pampa was arrested in the 1100 block of Terry Road by PPD for burglary of a habitation.

April Adams, 44, of Skellytown was arrested in the 2800 block of Charles by PPD for driving while

license is invalid.

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Seventeen traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1900 block of North Williston.

Calls concerning animals were received from the 600 block of East Foster, the 800 block of North Dwight, the 1100 block of Prairie Drive, the 800 block of South Barnes, and the 1900 block of North Zimmers.

A missing person was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Runaways were reported in the 2700 block of Navajo and the 2600 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 300 block of North Hobart, the 1500 block of East Browning, and the 1000 block of North Somerville.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Brown and Ash streets.

A civil matter was reported in the 100 block of North Ballard.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of Coffee.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 800 block of North Nelson and the 300 block of North Wells.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 2400 block of Charles and the police department lobby, where an arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Criminal mischief was reported at Express Lane #12, 2801 Perryton Parkway. Approximately \$1,500 damage was done to an automatic car wash brush.

Criminal mischief was reported at Panhandle Community Services, 411 N. Cuyler. A vehicle window valued at \$200 was broken.

One burglar alarm was reported.

Theft was reported in the 18000 block of North Sumner and the 1400 block of North Hobart, where an arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1800 block of Evergreen.

Frisco district wants to open art teacher's personnel file

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — The Frisco school district wants to open an art teacher's personnel file to the public to defend itself against her claim that she was reprimanded for allowing a fifth-grade student to see nude art.

Sydney McGee is on paid administrative leave and the district's superintendent said

last week that he planned to recommend that her contract not be renewed next year.

The 28-year veteran teacher has said her troubles started when she took students on a school field trip to the Dallas Museum of Art in April. McGee's lawyer, Rogge Dunn, has said she was admonished by her

school principal when a parent complained about a student seeing nude art.

District officials maintain that McGee's suspension from the classroom is based on other performance issues.

Superintendent Rick Reedy sent a letter to McGee on Tuesday asking for permission to open her personnel file

so the district could respond to criticism over her case.

"I believe some of the information being disseminated to the press is not true and is misleading, especially the allegation that the district has disciplined a teacher for exposing students to nude art," Reedy said in a prepared statement.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atchafalaya Grain of White Deer:  
Wheat ..... 4.44  
Milo ..... 4.13  
Corn ..... 4.98  
Soybeans ..... 4.38

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa:  
OXY ..... 44.83 -0.15  
BP PLC ADR ..... 64.39 +0.67  
Cabot Corp ..... 36.81 +0.02  
Celanese ..... 17.75 -0.04  
Cabot Oil Gas ..... 43.90 -0.63  
Coca Cola ..... 44.58 +0.02  
VLO ..... 48.95 +0.78  
HAL ..... 26.79 +0.22  
TRI ..... 42.50 -0.43  
KML ..... 104.99 NC  
XCEL ..... 20.76 NC  
XOM ..... 65.75 +0.34  
Nat'l Oilwell ..... 53.03 +0.95  
Limited ..... 27.65 NC  
Williams ..... 23.33 +0.30  
MCD ..... 39.85 +0.17  
Atmos ..... 28.49 -0.11  
Pioneer Nat ..... 36.96 -0.05  
JCP ..... 70.03 +0.25  
COP ..... 56.31 +0.28  
SLB ..... 58.10 -0.24  
Tenneco ..... 21.95 -0.52  
CVX ..... 63.26 +0.32  
Wal-Mart ..... 48.36 -1.10  
OKE ..... 38.65 +0.26  
NS Grp ..... 64.67 +0.06  
New York Gold ..... 581.50  
Silver ..... 11.05  
West Texas Crude ..... 58.68

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**BREAST CANCER Benefit** Dance Saturday, Oct. 7th, 7:30 pm. Knights of Columbus Hall. \$10 admission.

**FOR SALE 2003 Yamaha** YZ 250, fresh top end, new tires, excellent condition. Call 440-2585 or 669-6833 lv. mess.

**WILDFIRE BOOKS** are still available for \$10 at the Pampa News and Dunlaps in the Coronado Center. Come by today!



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS  
**Walter Miller of Freedom Museum USA holds bumper stickers and symbolic dog tags which are for sale at the museum at 600 N. Hobart.**

## Museum

Continued from Page 1

with a U.S. flag on the left sleeve.

Also available for purchase at the museum are bumper stickers and symbolic dog tags, which are popular with families of those currently serving in the military, said Walter Miller, museum volunteer.

The bumper stickers cost \$1.50 and feature a bald eagle and the words, "America -- Home of the Free Because of the Brave" in red, white and blue.

The dog tags have one of three Bible verses on one

side along with the U.S. flag, and a Prayer of Salvation on the reverse side. Each dog tag on a neck chain is \$5.

The three Bible verses available are Philippians 4:13, John 15:13, and Joshua 1:19.

All profits from sales of the coats, bumper stickers and dog tags go toward maintenance and operating costs of the non-profit museum, said volunteer Don Emmons, a Korean Conflict veteran and member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657.

Museum hours are noon to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. The museum is located at 600 N. Hobart.

## Schools

Continued from Page 1

Spring Branch ISD; Spur ISD; Sudan ISD; Sundown ISD; Valley Mills ISD; Valley View ISD; Webb Consolidated ISD; Wellman-Union Consolidated ISD; Weslaco ISD; Whitewright ISD; and Windthorst ISD.

Standard & Poor's developed the analysis used to identify outperforming school districts as a way to highlight outstanding academic performance, and to help educators in school districts with similar characteristics identify appropriate benchmarks to guide their own improvements.

Standard & Poor's conducted its analysis using state-reported data and used the state department of education's definition of economically disadvantaged students. Analysts determined academic performance by using the aggregate percentages of students scoring proficient or better on the state's reading and math tests.

Standard & Poor's has identified 41 schools that have significantly narrowed achievement gaps between the 2003-04 and 2004-05 school years. The schools are located in 38 school districts throughout the state, with many districts having multiple schools that merit recognition. Three school districts — Katy ISD, Mansfield ISD, and Tomball ISD — each have two schools that have significantly narrowed at least one achievement gap between student groups. This report represents Standard & Poor's first analysis of achievement gaps in Texas.

To be recognized by Standard & Poor's for narrowing achievement gaps, schools had to meet all of the following criteria:

- test at least 30 students in each student group being analyzed;

- reduce at least one achievement gap between student groups in reading and math proficiency (RaMP) rates by more than 5 percentage points from one year to the next; and simultaneously raise the RaMP rates for each student

group being compared; and • reduce at least one achievement gap between student groups in a grade-level reading test by more than 5 percentage points from one year to the next; and simultaneously raise that grade-level reading proficiency rate for each student group being compared. Schools must demonstrate similar progress in math, though not necessarily at the same grade level.

There were 21 Texas schools that narrowed the achievement gap between economically disadvantaged students and non-disadvantaged students. These schools include O'Bryant Intermediate, Bellville ISD; Grace E Hardeman Elementary School, Birdville ISD; Boerne High School, Boerne ISD; Bonham Elementary School, Bryan ISD; Columbus Elementary School, Columbus ISD; Ginnings Elementary School, Denton ISD; Oak Crest Intermediate, East Central ISD; Elgin Elementary School, Elgin ISD; Greenwood Intermediate, Greenwood

ISD; Robert King Elementary School, Katy ISD; Willow Springs Elementary School, Killeen ISD; Mary Orr Intermediate, Mansfield ISD; Bailey Intermediate, North Lamar ISD; Brauchle Elementary School, Northside ISD; Washington 6th Grade Center; Palestine ISD; Groves Elementary School, Port Neches-Groves ISD; Sabine Elementary School, Sabine ISD; Selman Intermediate, Sealy ISD; Northpointe Intermediate School and Tomball Intermediate, Tomball ISD; and Matias De Llano Elementary, United ISD.

Five schools were able to narrow both the gap between economically disadvantaged students and non-disadvantaged students and the gap between white and Hispanic students. These schools include Travis Intermediate, Conroe ISD; Midway Intermediate, Midway ISD; Rogers Middle School, Pearland ISD; Edwin F. Williams Intermediate School, Perryton ISD; and Northeast Elementary School, Snyder ISD.

## Coroner found gruesome scene in Amish school

QUARRYVILLE, Pa. (AP) — When the deputy coroner reached the Amish schoolhouse, she found blood on every desk, every window broken and the body of a young girl slumped beneath the chalkboard. Ten children had been shot, five fatally, and the gunman was dead.

"It was horrible. I don't know how else to explain it," Amanda Shelley, deputy Lancaster County coroner, said today. "I hope to never see anything like that again in my life."

The gunman, a 32-year-old milk truck driver and father of three, was wearing jeans, a T-shirt and a button-down shirt, Shelley said. He had stationed weapons around the schoolhouse and "really appeared he had planned on staying there a few hours," she said.

Authorities say Charles Carl Roberts IV had started buying supplies for a long siege six days before he stormed the tiny schoolhouse. He made a checklist of what to bring and wrote out four suicide notes, one talking about how he was "filled with so much hate" and "unimaginable emptiness."

Monday morning, Roberts ran his milk route as usual and walked his own children to school, police said. Then he drove to the Amish school and walked inside.

Teacher Emma Mae Zook, 20, said she immediately sensed something was off.

"He stood very close to me to talk and didn't look in my face to talk," she told the *Intelligencer Journal* of Lancaster in Wednesday's edition. She thought he was saying something about a metal object in the road.

Roberts walked back to his truck, then reappeared at the door with a gun, she said. He sent the adults and

boys out and bound the 10 girls in a row at the chalkboard, police said. He had been inside for about an hour, at one point speaking briefly by cell phone with his wife, when authorities closed in and Roberts opened fire on the girls at close range, fatally wounding five of them and then killing himself.

"We're quite certain, based on what we know, that he had no intention of coming out of there alive," State Police Commissioner Jeffrey B. Miller said.

The letters Roberts left behind and that short conversation with his wife indicated Roberts had remembered molesting two relatives 20 years ago and had been tormented by dreams about molesting again.

Roberts had brought lubricating jelly to the school-

house and may have planned to sexually assault the Amish girls, Miller said. He said a piece of lumber found in the school had 10 large eyebolts spaced about 10 inches apart, suggesting that Roberts may have planned to truss up the girls.

In the suicide notes, Roberts also said he was haunted by the death of his prematurely born daughter in 1997. The baby, Elise, died 20 minutes after being delivered, Miller said.

Elise's death "changed my life forever," Roberts wrote to his wife. "I haven't been the same since it affected me in a way I never felt possible. I am filled with so much hate, hate toward myself hate towards God and unimaginable emptiness it seems like everytime we do something fun I think about how Elise wasn't here to

share it with us and I go right back to anger."

The state police commissioner on Tuesday laid out the steps Roberts took in the days and hours leading up to his attack on the West Nickel Mines Amish School in Lancaster County, where the Amish live an 18th-century lifestyle with no automobiles and electricity.

"He certainly was very troubled, psychologically deep down, and was dealing with things that nobody else knew he was dealing with," Miller said. But he said Roberts, who was not Amish, did not appear to have anything against the Amish people.

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# Viewpoints

## Making sense: Let's call treason 'treason'

Benedict Arnold was a war hero whose courageous actions at the Battle of Saratoga helped turn the tide for the colonists in the American Revolution, so it is not fair to him to compare him to the sniveling nest of traitors now endangering our national security in the name of cheap partisan politics.

They are not Benedict Arnolds — they are in a class all by themselves — political and journalistic hacks willing to do anything to win an election and oust an administration they loathe even if by so doing they endanger the safety of their fellow Americans.

Time after time, for months on end, we have watched the spectacle of government officials in the intelligence agencies violate their oaths by leaking the most sensitive secrets to dedicated anti-American newspapers such as the treasonous

New York Times.

Vital anti-terrorism operations designed to monitor communications between terrorists overseas and their agents in the United States or track the international movement of funds meant to finance terrorist activities have been compromised, if not rendered useless, by leaks to the Times and The Washington Post.

Both newspapers loathe the Bush administration and the Republican Party, and both have wallowed in self-congratulation for their coups against the security of the American people, delighted to be inflicting harm on the president and his attempts to safeguard the American people if it will help turn the Congress over to their Democrat allies.

They are being enabled by what amounts to moles lurking in the CIA and other intelligence agen-

cies, who ignore the fact that they are committing real crimes by betraying their oaths for the most sordid of political purposes.

**Michael Reagan**  
Columnist



This latest episode, the leaking of the purported April National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) to the Times and the Post, however, is a different kettle of rotten fish. To begin with, the stories in the Times and the Post distorted what was in the NIE — a fact that quickly emerged when relevant parts of the authentic document were declassified and released.

What has emerged since the lat-

est leaks were publicized is the very obvious involvement of the Democrats in the whole shameful episode.

What is at stake here is simply the government's ability to do its job of fighting a global war against a shadowy enemy that has made no secret of their goal of killing us and conquering the West.

That government simply cannot do that job as long as there is a fifth column operating within our borders. And that fifth column is composed of The New York Times and the rest of the liberal media dedicated to crippling the administration's ability to fight the war and ensure the safety of the American people.

Call it whatever you want, but no matter what name you give it, it remains treason. And if the nation is to be protected from deadly attacks against the homeland by the

enemy, the people involved in this treasonous activity have to be stopped from their ongoing betrayal of the United States and the American people, and stopped now.

This is no longer a matter of mere finger pointing. This is time for the handcuffs to come out.

As the president has reminded us, we are at war. With an active fifth column doing its level best to make us lose that war, the time has come to root it out and make its participants pay for their betrayal.

Let's roll, Mr. President.  
—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, Oct. 4, the 277th day of 2006. There are 88 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 4, 1957, the Space Age began as the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first man-made satellite, into orbit.

On this date:

In 1777, George Washington's troops launched an assault on the British at Germantown, Pa., resulting in heavy American casualties.

In 1822, the 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, was born in Delaware, Ohio.

In 1931, the comic strip "Dick Tracy," created by Chester Gould, made its debut.

*'You do not know what life means when all the difficulties are removed! I am simply smothered and sickened with advantages. It is like eating a sweet dessert the first thing in the morning.'*

— Jane Addams  
Social worker and Nobel Peace laureate (1860-1935)

In 1940, Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini conferred at Brenner Pass in the Alps, where the Nazi leader sought Italy's help in fighting the British.

In 1965, Pope Paul VI became the first reigning pontiff to visit the Western Hemisphere as he addressed the U.N. General Assembly.

In 1966, the kingdom of Lesotho gained its independence from Britain.

In 1970, rock singer Janis Joplin,

was found dead in her Hollywood hotel room.

In 1976, agriculture secretary Earl Butz resigned in the wake of a controversy over a joke he'd made about blacks.

In 1978, funeral services were held at the Vatican for Pope John Paul I.

In 1980, some 520 people were forced to abandon the cruise ship Prisenadam in the Gulf of Alaska after the Dutch luxury liner caught fire; no deaths or serious injury resulted.

Ten years ago: A judge in Philadelphia issued an injunction preventing Major League baseball umpires from striking for the remainder of the postseason over an incident in which Roberto Alomar of the Baltimore Orioles spat on umpire John Hirschbeck.

Five years ago: A Russian airliner flying from Israel to Siberia was accidentally shot down by a Ukrainian anti-aircraft missile over the Black Sea, killing all 78 people aboard. Barry Bonds hit his 70th home run to tie Mark McGwire's 1998 record in a 10-2 victory over Houston.

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## Chavez is a sharp rock in Bush's boot

Hugo Chavez, the president of Venezuela, is certainly a sharp rock in the cowboy boot of President George W. Bush and therefore a prime candidate for the Bush administration's main tool of foreign policy — regime change.

That's just a bureaucratic phrase that means overthrowing somebody else's government. Two attempts have already been tried, but both failed. Chavez is neither a dictator nor a stupid man.

As I've said before, I listened to two long speeches by Chavez, both to foreign audiences. Like most Latin politicians, he's a bit wordy for my taste, but I've never heard him say anything that a decent American could take issue with. However, as for Bush being the devil, as Chavez said at the United Nations recently, I'm not sure I agree with him on that point. I've always thought of the devil as a very smart chap.

Chavez is a socialist, as are several of our European allies, and since the president is not trying to overthrow those European governments, I assume the problem with Venezuela is not socialism. Chavez is, of course, trying hard to end poverty and illiteracy, and that might well strike a lot of rich people as "destabilizing."

"Destabilizing" is the sin of last resort when American politicians can't come up with any credible sin that some person they don't like has actually committed. Oh, he's destabilizing the region, Condi Rice, our esteemed secretary of state, says.

I don't know how supplying medical care and education to poor people and giving poorer countries loans and a break on the price of oil can be called destabilizing, but that's all Chavez is doing. He is opposed not to America and Americans, but to the American empire. I go along with that. The world and America were much better places before our politicians got jealous of the European empires and decided the U.S. needed an empire, too.

**Charley Reese**  
Columnist



The Spanish-American War was our grab for empire, and all the wars we've been in since have been imperial wars. World War I was a clash of European empires, and World War II in Europe was a continuation of that clash. World War II in the Pacific was a clash between Japan, which wanted an empire, and the British, French, Dutch and American empires already in the Pacific. The Cold War, with its little hot wars, was a struggle between the American empire and the Soviet empire. The ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are also about empire, not democracy.

Lying, by the way, is a characteristic of empires and imperial wars. For Bush to refer to Afghanistan and Iraq as suc-

cessful democracies is a lie. The first duty of any government is to provide security for its citizens. Neither the government in Kabul nor the one in Baghdad can do that. Any government that requires the continued presence of foreign soldiers to stay in power is illegitimate.

Well, if you are into praying, you might want to add a prayer for Chavez. The federal government has some really vicious war dogs on its payroll. I fear as soon as the CIA finally realizes that Chavez is a sure bet to win the December election, these dogs of war will be unleashed.

I have a feeling Chavez will prove to be a tragic figure. He's a good man and sincere about wanting to end illiteracy and improve the lives of the people of his region. He's a bit naive, though. I don't share his enthusiasm for Fidel Castro or Daniel Ortega, and I don't believe Chavez understands the immense power and malice of the people who would like to see him dead.

Maybe he'll be lucky. I hope so. In the meantime, by God, I'll be glad when Bush leaves office so I will hopefully have an administration I can support. I don't mind being a dissenter, but I truly wish that just once in a while, Bush would say or do something honest and decent that I could support. I'm beginning to feel like a foreigner in my own country.

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

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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# Sports Day

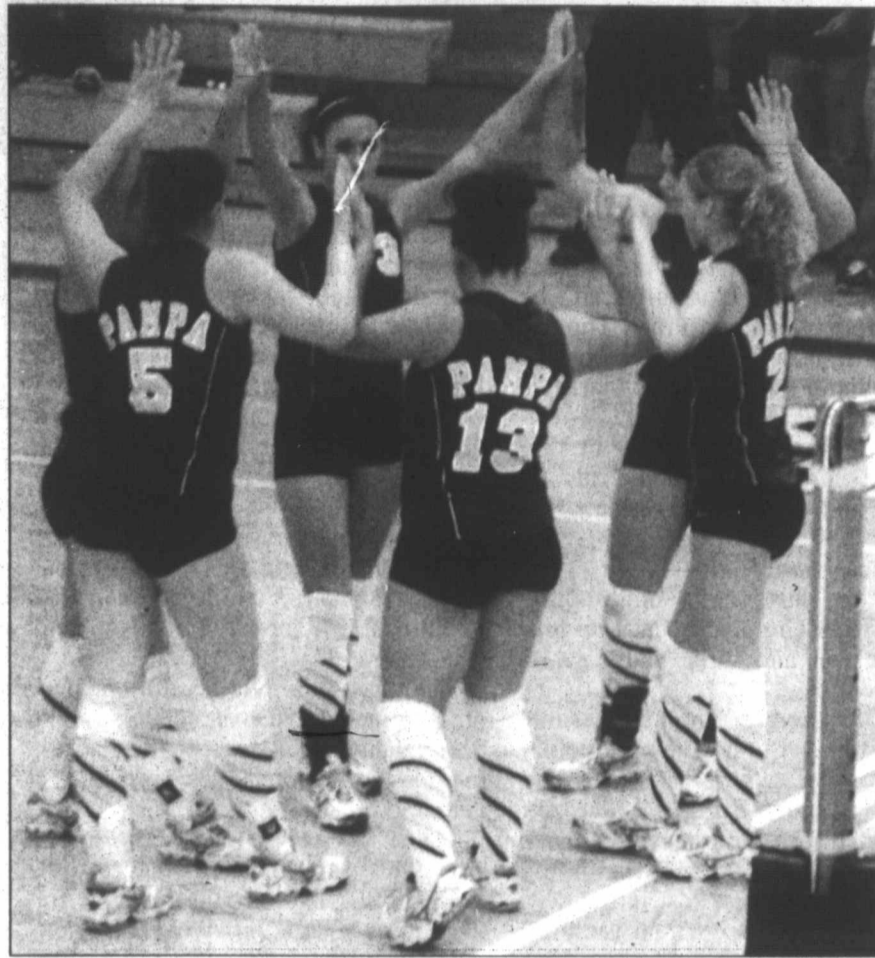
## UT: Streak or fluke?

AUSTIN (AP) - So what's it going to be Mack Brown? A streak or a fluke? Was that 45-12 win over Oklahoma with the swaggering Vince Young at quarterback the start of a winning streak over your big rival? Or was it a once-every-six-years result that Adrian Peterson and the Sooners will squash this weekend? The Texas coach said this week he's glad the spotlight on the game is no longer focused on him and the five-game losing streak to the Sooners. But a loss and a return to the bitter days of 2000-2004 would have Texas fans gnashing their teeth again. You can just hear the critics now: Sure he could win with Vince, but .... Sorry Mack. There won't be any escaping it until you beat Oklahoma with Colt McCoy, the steady West Texas yin to Young's free-wheeling, hypertalented yang. Last season was a glorious ride to the national championship, something that hadn't happened in 36 years. The Sooners are on

the schedule every October. That means Longhorns fans want to win this game and party at the State Fair of Texas every year, not listen to Boomer Sooner ringing in their ears. Brown is 87-20 at Texas. He regularly beats the heck out of every other Big 12 team and hasn't lost to the Longhorns' other big rival, Texas A&M, since 1999. It was that losing streak against the Sooners, more than any bowl game loss or random defeat at Stanford, that raised the questions of could he win the big one. And lest anyone need reminding, he won THE BIG ONE. After dominating the Sooners last season, Brown, Young and the Longhorns beat two-time defending national champ Southern California in the Rose Bowl. They sang "The Eyes of Texas," confetti flew and Brown cupped the crystal football trophy in his hands while grown men cried. It doesn't get any bigger than that.

See **STREAK**, Page 6

## Lady Harvester huddle



The starting lineup for the Lady Harvesters varsity match against Hereford gathers for a pre-game huddle Saturday. Pampa hosted Randall Tuesday night at McNeely Field House, falling to the Lady Raiders 20-25, 16-25, 19-25. The team travels to Dumas Saturday.

Courtesy photo

## End of Texas winning streak doesn't change Stoops' approach

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) - For the first time in five years, Oklahoma enters Saturday's Texas showdown without beating the Longhorns the previous year. That makes no difference to Sooners coach Bob Stoops. "Even when we were on our run, what'd I say every year? 'It doesn't matter what happened a year ago. We've got to win it again,'" Stoops said Tuesday at his weekly news conference. "You've got to be able to do it all over again. Each year is different, each team is different and I believe that now as well." The Sooners lost last year's meeting at the Cotton Bowl 45-12, ending a five-game winning streak during which Oklahoma outscored Texas 189-54. That's all in the past now, as is the talk of whether the Sooners had a psychological edge on Texas or whether Stoops had some innate ability to beat Longhorns coach Mack Brown. "You have to get yourself in a position to win it now,"

Stoops said. "What happens next year doesn't matter, what happened last year doesn't matter." Even this year, Stoops doesn't expect the fact that the 13th-ranked Sooners (3-1) enter as the underdog to No. 7 Texas, the defending national champion, to provide much motivation. "I don't prefer it either way. It doesn't matter to me," Stoops said. "We've won it (as the) underdog and we've won it being favored. ... We're not sitting here like that's our mantra. It's not our deal." Stoops said he thinks the Sooners are better in all three phases of the game than they were entering last season's Red River Rivalry. "It's not even close," he said. "There's no question we're a much different football team coming into the game than we were a year ago. "I don't even know that you can compare the two. And one of the biggest reasons, too, is Adrian Peterson's healthy. That changes everything."

See **STOOPS**, Page 6

## Tigers prepare for Tech's passing attack

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - Missouri's cornerbacks are aware of Texas Tech's reputation for throwing the football. And for a group that says it has yet to be challenged this year, that's part of the excitement. The 23rd-ranked Tigers (5-0, 1-0 Big 12) travel to Lubbock, Texas, Saturday to play Texas Tech, a team whose 347.6 passing yards a game leads the Big 12 Conference. The Red Raiders (4-1, 1-0) rank third in the country in passing, while their 432.8 yards per game rank third in the conference in total offense. "It's exciting because it's a good football team and they throw the ball all over the place," Missouri cornerbacks coach Cornell Ford said. "So I would think any corner, they are pretty excited to play against a passing team like this." Starter Darnell Terrell said Missouri's defensive line and linebackers have played so well that the secondary hasn't really been tested yet. But he knows that will change this week.

"It's a great challenge," he said. "This team doesn't run the ball a lot; they put the ball in the air a lot. This is probably going to be a true test for the secondary." Through its first five games, Missouri has given up an average of 143.2 passing yards per game. But that was before Dominique Johnson injured an ACL in his right knee during Saturday's 28-13 win over Colorado. Missouri Coach Gary Pinkel said Johnson will need surgery and probably won't play again this season. "Those usually take about four to five months," Pinkel said after practice Tuesday. Ford said he has a stable of young corners who are ready to step in for Johnson. The sophomore from Texas City, Texas, lost his starting spot against Ohio on Sept. 23 for disciplinary reasons, and Ricks played so well in his place that he also started against Colorado. True freshman Del Howard also will be expected to play quite a bit against Texas Tech. Previously list-

ed as Terrell's backup, Howard will now help Ricks shore up the side that was vacated by Johnson. Junior college transfer Paul Simpson is listed behind Terrell. Pinkel said playing young cornerbacks early in the season helped them prepare for the Red Raiders. "That's why you get backup players ready to play, and we're lucky to have a Del Howard that is a freshman that can actually play and do a good job," Pinkel said. "Certainly, he'll be tested this week." Texas Tech quarterback Graham Harrell averages over 300 yards passing per game, and Robert Johnson and Joel Filani rank first and second in the Big 12 in catches per game. But Terrell said he isn't worried about the young corners. Through five games, Ricks' 11 tackles are tied with Johnson for the most by any of Missouri's

corners, and Howard's two interceptions are the only two by a corner. Terrell and Ricks, who are roommates, already have started late-night film sessions. "I think they are going to be up for the challenge," Terrell said. "They know this is a team that is going to put the ball up in the air. I think we're going to be prepared for this team."

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F-39 Oct. 4, 2006

## Man files complaint against Tigers' Rogers

DETROIT (AP) - Detroit police were interviewing witnesses to find out what happened between Tigers pitcher Kenny Rogers and a man who filed a complaint against him after an incident near Comerica Park. Rogers was driving out of a parking structure near the ballpark after Saturday night's loss to Kansas City when a man started beating on Rogers' car, Detroit police spokeswoman Yvette Walker said Tuesday. She said Rogers got out and exchanged words with the man, who wanted an autograph. The man told officers that Rogers grabbed him by the collar and had to be restrained, but multiple witnesses said there was no physical contact, Walker said. Rogers

got back in his car and drove away. "I just heard about it. I'm worried a little bit more about the Yankee assault," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said before his team's postseason opener at Yankee Stadium. Rogers served a 13-game suspension for shoving two television cameramen June 29, 2005, when he was with the Texas Rangers. Detroit signed him as a free agent in December to a two-year, \$16 million contract. Rogers is scheduled to start Game 3 of the AL division series against New York on Friday in Detroit. The incident was first reported by WDFN-AM and the Detroit Free Press. But the Rangers weren't

## Showalter out

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) - Buck Showalter is out as the manager of the Texas Rangers, ending four seasons in which he was never able to get a team with several young All-Stars above third place in the AL West. Texas was 80-82 this season, its sixth losing record in seven years since last making the playoffs in 1999. Showalter was 319-329 with the Rangers, his third managerial job, and still had three seasons left on his contract. Showalter was the AL manager of the year only two years ago, when after AL MVP Alex Rodriguez was traded in the spring the Rangers remained in playoff contention until an 11-inning loss in the 158th game of the season. Showalter didn't immediately return calls seeking comment. The Rangers were 89-73 in 2004, the fourth-best record in team history and an 18-win improvement over 2003. They finished only three games back in the AL West, but still in third place behind the division-winning Angels and Oakland.

able to build off the momentum of that unexpected playoff chase. They backtracked last year with only 79 victories, and were only one game better than that this season. Showalter is the fifth manager to lose his job in the past week. Joe Girardi was fired by the Florida Marlins on Tuesday, and Dusty Baker (Chicago Cubs), Frank Robinson (Washington) and Felipe Alou (San Francisco) have also been dismissed. Girardi, the potential NL manager of the year and a candidate to replace Baker in Chicago, could also be pursued by the Rangers.

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# Major League Baseball playoffs

## Yankees 8, Tigers 4

NEW YORK (AP) - Derek Jeter and the rest of the modern-day Murderers' Row overwhelmed the young Detroit Tigers, getting the New York Yankees off to a quick start in the first round of the AL playoffs.

Jeter tied the postseason record for hits, going 5-for-5 with a home run to lead New York over Detroit 8-4 Tuesday night in its postseason opener.

Bobby Abreu had a two-run double and Jason Giambi hit a two-run homer in the third as New York's big boppers staked winner Chien-Ming Wang to a 5-0 lead. The five-run burst started, however, with something small - Johnny Damon's slow roller for a single.

After the Tigers crawled within two runs, Abreu added a two-run single in the sixth and Jeter hit his 17th postseason home run in the eighth.

Six of New York's eighth RBIs came from Abreu and Giambi, surprising given that Tigers starter Nate Robertson held lefties to a .181 average during the regular season, the best among AL pitchers.

New York's lineup, now that everyone's healthy, poses a mighty challenge for opposing pitchers. All nine starters are current or former All-Stars. Robinson Cano became the first player to ever start a postseason game batting ninth after finishing among the top three in his league in batting, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Alex Rodriguez, the reigning AL MVP, was dropped to sixth in the

order, his lowest slot since Seattle batted him eighth on May 7, 1996, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. He was a quiet 1-for-4.

Wang, a 26-year-old right-hander who rose through the Yankees' rotation to become their ace this year, didn't have his best sinker but got the win by allowing three runs in 6 2-3 innings.

Craig Monroe and Curtis Granderson homered for the Tigers.

## Athletics 3, Twins 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - In the place where Johan Santana usually can't be beaten, Barry Zito and Frank Thomas slowed Minnesota's momentum and gave Oakland a big boost to start this AL division series.

Zito threw eight innings, besting Santana behind two big home runs by Thomas and sending the Athletics to the win.

Thomas went 3-for-4 with two homers, the last one a ninth-inning shot off Jesse Crain. Zito gave up four hits, one run and three walks while striking out one.

The 38-year-old Thomas became the oldest player to have a multihomer game in postseason history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Closer Huston Street gave one back to the Twins after a leadoff triple by Michael Cuddyer was lost in the ceiling by right fielder Milton Bradley. Torii Hunter drove in Cuddyer with a groundout before Rondell White flew out to center to end the game.

The favorite to win his second AL

Cy Young, Santana hadn't lost at the noisy Metrodome since Aug. 1, 2005, going 16-0 in 23 starts over that span.

Santana went eight innings and finished with a career playoff-best eight strikeouts. He allowed five hits and walked one.

## Cardinals 5, Padres 1

SAN DIEGO (AP) - With one swing of Albert Pujols' bat, a St. Louis Cardinals lineup that looked so sickly in September suddenly got a lot better under the California sun.

Padres ace Jake Peavy tempted Pujols with one pitch too many and the slugger, who has a shot at a second straight NL MVP award, responded with a two-run homer that launched the Cardinals over San Diego in the opening game of the division series Tuesday.

Chris Carpenter, the reigning NL Cy Young winner, held the Padres' suspect offense to one run and five hits in 6 1-3 innings. He struck out seven and walked one.

The three-time NL Central champion Cardinals have won seven straight postseason games against the Padres, including division series sweeps last year and in 1996.

Game 2 is Thursday afternoon, when 43-year-old San Diego native David Wells is scheduled to start for the Padres against Jeff Weaver.

Peavy allowed five runs and 11 hits in 5 1-3 innings, struck out two and walked one.

### NBA CHANGES

## Despite Shaq's complaints, league officials say new ball is better than the old

NEW YORK (AP) - Some of the NBA's biggest stars say the new game ball is too sticky when dry, too slippery when wet, and too well, not the old one. The league is convinced it's better, no matter what the likes of Shaquille O'Neal, Dwyane Wade or Steve Nash have to say about it.

*'Feels like one of those cheap balls that you buy at the toy store, indoor-outdoor balls.'*

— Shaquille O'Neal  
*Miami Heat*

what the players say, the new ball's grip is an improvement, even when wet.

"If you moisturize a leather ball, it also feels very slick," he said. "But this new ball has a better grip when it's wet than a leather ball."

Players have already had plenty of exposure to the new ball, which was sent to all teams after the All-Star break and to players during the summer.

Most players were probably exposed to it even before that. The ball was used in events at the last two All-Star games, which O'Neal played in, and was tested in summer league and D-League play. It is also used at the amateur levels, so most players grow up using it.

"It's a better ball," Jackson said. "But as a product matter, composite balls are used in every league throughout the world. And they've been used in every level of play over the last 10 years domestically in the NCAA and also in high school."

Jackson said O'Neal would not be fined for his outburst, in which he said that the person who decided to change the ball "needs his college degree revoked." But he did say that the change would not have been made if there were many similar complaints when the ball was tested.

"We would have pulled the ball," Jackson said. Of seven Heat players interviewed about the new ball at the team's media day Monday and after practice Tuesday, not one preferred it to the old leather model. Certainly not Shaq, who took a spinning jump hook in the lane during practice, about six feet from the basket. But the ball slipped in his hand and went straight up in the air - without moving toward the hoop at all.

It was one of three times Shaq lost the handle in a span of about 15 minutes. "I'm right with him," Heat coach Pat Riley said. "I think it's horrible. ... It really does feel like an indoor-outdoor ball. We'll see how it works. Maybe they'll learn to love it."

## Kiel pleads not guilty

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Chargers safety Terrence Kiel pleaded not guilty on Tuesday to charges he shipped bottles of codeine-based cough syrup to Texas.

Kiel, 25, a starter with the Chargers, faces a maximum of seven years and four months in state prison if convicted of all five felony drug counts against him, according to Deputy District Attorney James Fontaine.

Kiel was arrested Sept. 26 in the locker room after authorities turned up at Chargers headquarters. Drug Enforcement Administration officials said Kiel admitted to shipping at least two parcels of prescription cough syrup to Texas via FedEx.

The agency has found widespread abuse in Texas of codeine-based cough syrup mixed with soft drinks or drugs and referred to as "lean."

Fontaine said the district attorney's office is still investigating where Kiel got the cough syrup.

Kiel's attorney, Robert Grimes, said his client was cooperating with the investigation.

According to an affidavit for a search warrant, FedEx managers searched a package Kiel mailed with his FedEx account in June and found 15 bottles of Prometh prescription cough syrup in the box. A boarding pass found inside the box led DEA agents to an address Kiel used to register a car. Three bottles of Prometh were seized last week at that address.

Kiel paid cash to send a second package to Texas in September, prompting a FedEx manager to contact the DEA, according to the affidavit.

Kiel, free on \$160,000 bail, didn't accompany the team to its game in Baltimore last Sunday. His status for this Sunday's game against Pittsburgh hasn't been determined.

Kiel is making \$500,000 this season, his fourth with the Chargers.

## Stoops

Continued from Page 5

Peterson had only three carries for 10 yards last season while nursing a sprained ankle. In his absence, the Sooners had a season-low 77 rushing yards on 33 carries.

Meanwhile, Texas is without its star from last year's game, quarterback Vince Young. Now the starting quarterback for the Tennessee Titans, Young threw for three touchdowns and ran for another last year against Oklahoma.

"There's no denying with Vince Young back there, it's just different," Stoops said. "They run a lot of similar plays and again Colt McCoy's doing an excellent job. But you're talking about a guy who was picked second or third in the NFL draft who can make plays happen when they weren't there."

Obviously, that's a big difference in how you attack what they do because he was back there."

Stoops said it's not as simple as whether opponents could use a conventional defense against Young. He said at times Young's presence would mean defenses had to be more aggressive but "there's a lot more to it."

"There's a different dimension when he's back there," Stoops said. "Does it make it any easier to stop certain other plays? Maybe not. But I also know that the style of what you do defensively can change because he's not back there."

Some combination of Young's absence and his team's improvement has Stoops feeling good heading into the weekend.

"We expect to win, and we're confident about it. But we've got to work for it and we recognize them as a great team," Stoops said. "We're excited about it."

## Streak

Continued from Page 5

And for nine months Brown didn't have to hear "When are you going to beat Oklahoma?"

"I'm glad this game is back to where it is instead of about how I screwed up," Brown said Monday.

It didn't get him a lifetime pass. A bad game by a freshman quarterback and a loss Saturday could stir up some really bad memories.

The Longhorns (4-1, 1-0 Big 12) should win Saturday. They have the better team.

The Sooners have the best player in Peterson. But put 11 on 11 and Texas has better talent and arguably a better all-around coaching staff.

Last year, Young was the best player. He had the physical talent to go with the dancing, laughing, we're-better-than-you attitude that put Texas over the hump and ended the streak. Peterson was hurt last year and never had a chance to counter what Young did for the Longhorns.

But Young is gone. He's in the NFL now, taking his lumps as a rookie.

In his place is McCoy, who has been good, not great, for Texas so far this season.

Is it fair to demand he be great? Few freshmen quarterbacks are. But it is not too much for Texas to expect the best game of his young career.

McCoy has seen but has-

n't played in the Cotton Bowl with the stands split down the middle in crimson and burnt orange. He was on the sideline last year, but didn't have to play after running out of the tunnel to the jeers of Sooners fans.

All he had to do was watch Young fling touchdown passes and the defense tee off on the Sooners' Rhett Bomar.

"Vince played awesome," McCoy said.

So far, McCoy has beaten three overmatched teams (North Texas, Rice and Sam Houston State), one decent one (Iowa State) and lost to a great one (No. 1 Ohio State).

McCoy said playing the Buckeyes prepared him for a game he's dreamed of playing since he was a boy.

"I've thought about it for a long time, but it's not about me. It's not about me going out there and winning this game," he said. "It's about this team."

Sorry Colt, but it is about you too.

The Buckeyes were a huge test to see if McCoy, Brown and Texas could win a big game without Vince Young and they failed. McCoy was making just his second start, but the Longhorns were at home, hadn't lost in 21 games and were ranked No. 2 at the time.

Ohio State won 24-7. It turns out the Buckeyes are the best team in the country right now.

"You don't get redos," Brown said. "But we're a much better team than we were."

## NFL standings, weekly schedule

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	3 1 0	.750	88	64
N.Y. Jets	2 2 0	.500	96	91
Buffalo	2 2 0	.500	70	65
Miami	1 3 0	.250	51	71
South	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	4 0 0	1.000	121	87
Jacksonville	2 2 0	.500	77	74
Houston	1 3 0	.250	66	113
Tennessee	0 4 0	.000	47	121
North	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	4 0 0	1.000	86	33
Cincinnati	3 1 0	.750	98	85
Pittsburgh	1 2 0	.333	48	54
Cleveland	1 3 0	.250	69	89
West	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	2 1 0	.667	36	31
San Diego	2 1 0	.667	80	23
Kansas City	1 2 0	.333	57	32
Oakland	0 3 0	.000	27	79

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	3 1 0	.750	117	73
Dallas	2 1 0	.667	89	48
Washington	2 2 0	.500	93	91
N.Y. Giants	1 2 0	.333	81	92
South	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	3 1 0	.750	94	65
Atlanta	3 1 0	.750	69	42
Carolina	2 2 0	.500	66	78
Tampa Bay	0 3 0	.000	27	67
North	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
Chicago	4 0 0	1.000	116	29
Minnesota	2 2 0	.500	63	65
Green Bay	1 3 0	.250	67	115
Detroit	0 4 0	.000	71	115
West	W L T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	3 1 0	.750	78	83
St. Louis	3 1 0	.750	88	78
Arizona	1 3 0	.250	68	96
San Francisco	1 3 0	.250	71	126

### Sunday's Games

- Oct. 9
- All times Eastern
- Buffalo at Chicago, 1 p.m.
- Detroit at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
- St. Louis at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
- Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
- Miami at New England, 1 p.m.
- Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
- Washington at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
- Cleveland at Carolina, 1 p.m.
- Oakland at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
- N.Y. Jets at Jacksonville, 4:05 p.m.
- Kansas City at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
- Dallas at Philadelphia, 4:15 p.m.
- Pittsburgh at San Diego, 8:15 p.m.

Open: Cincinnati, Seattle, Atlanta, Houston

Monday, Oct. 9  
Baltimore at Denver, 8:30 p.m.

3 Person ADOPTI Galore? cially sec LOVE & baby. Tel 562-8287

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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** My sister, "Cindy," and some of her friends have been playing the "choking game" where you deprive yourself of oxygen by tying something around your neck in order to get high. They say it's safe because they do it with someone else there to make sure they're OK. However, last week there was an article in the paper about a boy who died doing it. Cindy asks me to monitor her when she does it in our room. I don't want to help her, but she says she's "hooked" on the high she gets. I'm afraid if I refuse, she'll do it anyway. I love my sister very much and would never forgive myself if something happened to her. Cindy and I have an understanding. We don't tell our parents on each other, and she hasn't told on me when she's known things that would get me in trouble. However, I think I should make an exception when her life may be in danger. Do you agree? — **WORRIED SISTER, RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIF.**

**DEAR WORRIED SISTER:** The fact that Cindy says she's hooked on the high should tell you that if she gets a strong enough craving and you're not around, she's likely to play the game alone. What she's doing could be considered a form of Russian roulette. Because we don't allow people we love to take foolish chances with their lives, you should inform your parents immediately.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am 19 years old. I have seen you help many people through your column, and I'm hoping you can help me. I have been with my fiance, "Jeremy," for three years, and I used to be crazy about him. Now that our wedding day is approaching, I'm beginning to have second thoughts about our entire relationship. He

constantly has to know where I am and what I'm doing. He also has a temper. If I don't make him first priority all the time, he gets mad and we end up in a huge fight. I am about ready to call it quits, but I'm afraid because of the emotional state he is in. The last time I tried to end the relationship, Jeremy tried to kill himself. I need to know if I should say "I do" even though he and I aren't exactly getting along right now. — **TRAPPED IN OKLAHOMA**

**DEAR TRAPPED:** To marry someone because you are "afraid to call it quits" is the wrong reason to marry anyone. You have described a young man who is immature and self-destructive. It's time to call it quits, but before you do, contact Jeremy's family — preferably his parents — and warn them that their son may need psychiatric help once you tell him the wedding is off. (It's the truth.) Then tell him in the presence of your family and, because he is unstable, put some distance between the two of you after you deliver the bad news.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am in my late 20s and have a close bond with a younger female cousin of mine. We are good friends and enjoy being together. Sometimes when we go to a restaurant or a movie together, people give me funny looks. I guess they assume I am an adult who is taking advantage of a young girl. What can I do to get people to realize she's just a younger cousin? — **OLDER COUSIN IN THE WEST**

**DEAR OLDER COUSIN:** Ignore them. Evil is in the eye of the beholder. Don't make something your problem when it's really theirs.

## For Better Or For Worse



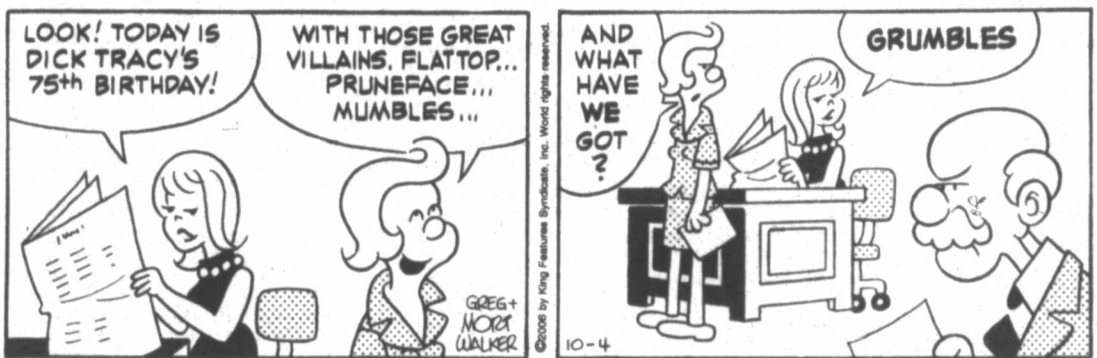
## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

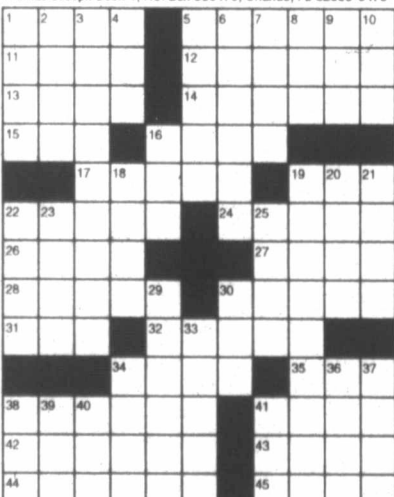
- 1 Assess
- 5 Stay
- 11 Cart
- 12 Track bet
- 13 Honey drink
- 14 Current fashion
- 15 Moose's cousin
- 16 Covered with gold
- 17 Choose
- 19 Express despair
- 22 Praise
- 24 Handle
- 26 News-paper section
- 27 Invasion
- 28 Witch trial town
- 30 Colorful flower
- 31 Pupil's place
- 32 Busy
- 34 Reason to pack
- 35 Binary base
- 38 Medieval weapon
- 41 Rough guess
- 42 Marigold color
- 43 Choir voice
- 44 United
- 45 Rose on the diamond



Yesterday's answer

- 6 Glorifies
- 7 Cartoonist
- 8 Hole in one
- 9 " — not for me to say"
- 10 Basket-ball's Holman
- 16 Hair goop
- 18 Misplace
- 19 Atlantic jellyfish
- 20 Singer
- 21 Murder mystery
- 22 Facility
- 23 Inside pic
- 25 Pitching stats
- 29 Desert
- 30 Baby
- 33 Vetoed
- 34 Care for
- 36 Bulb unit
- 37 Clarinet's cousin
- 38 Sound of a comics punch sound
- 39 Valuable rock
- 40 Young man
- 41 Easy mark

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



## Marmaduke



"I'll be glad to give you a fresh bone...no need for a trade."

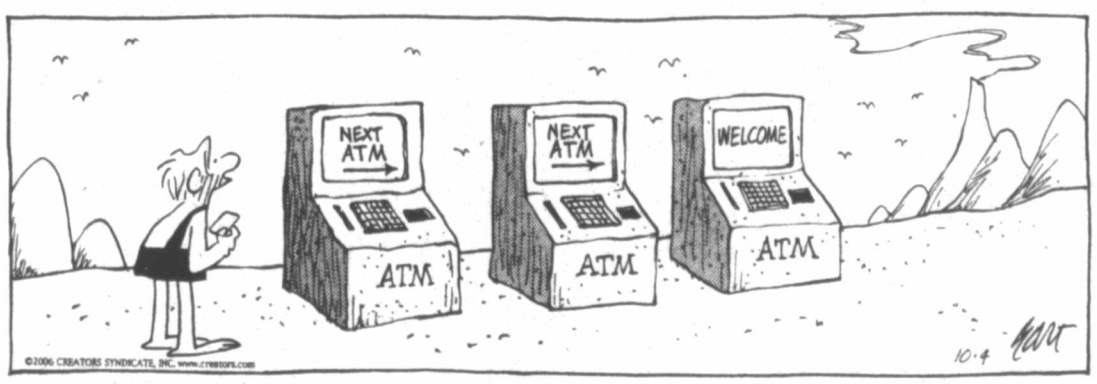
## The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Math has way too many numbers in it."

## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends

