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THE PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Volume 102 • No. 96

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PISD to pursue new junior high, PHS renovations

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

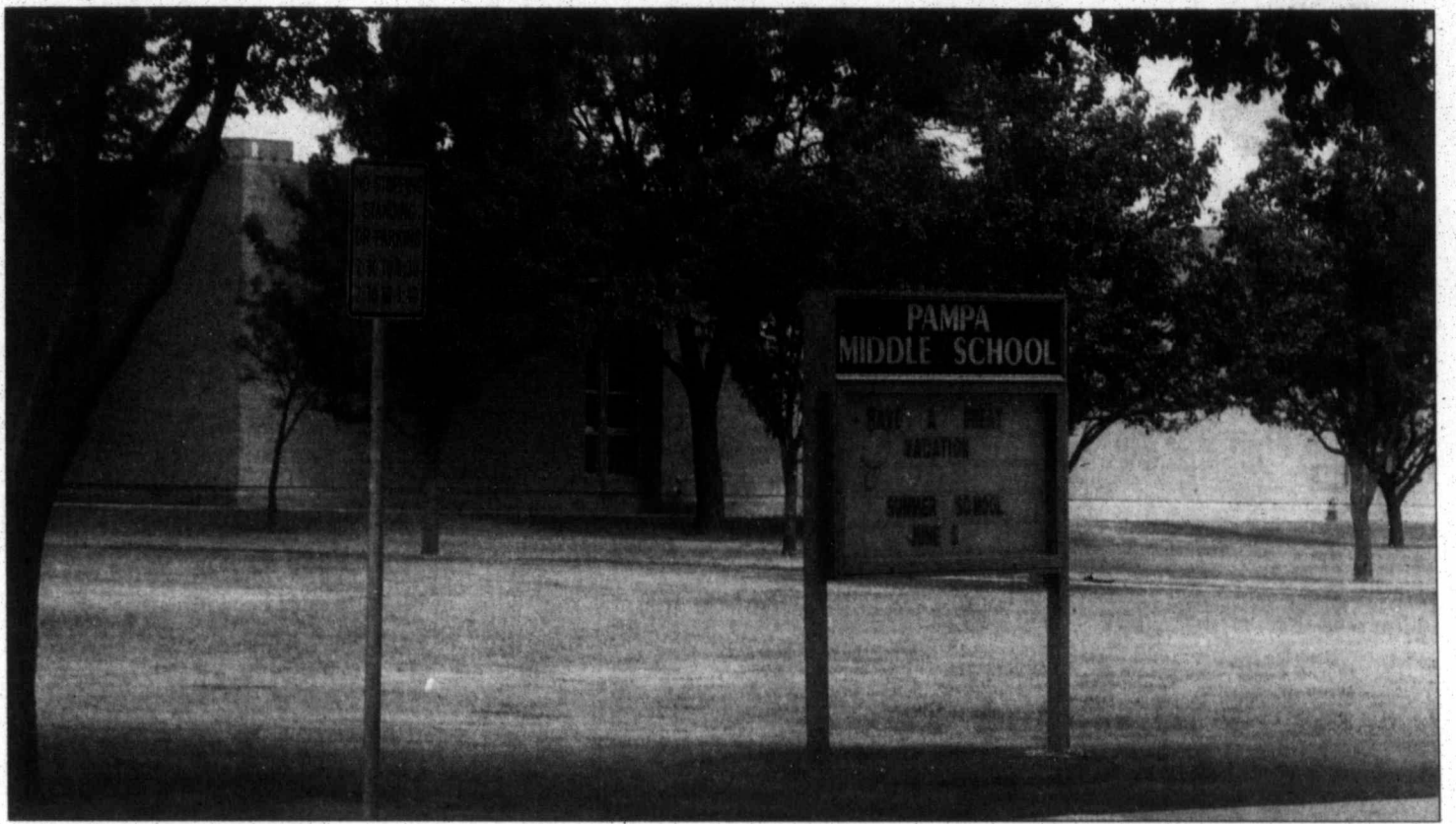
Everybody agrees that Pampa Junior High should be replaced and Pampa High School should be renovated and expanded. The problem is one of money.

Jay Edward with the architectural firm of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper met with the Pampa Independent School district board of trustees and a citizens advisory group Tuesday night at Pampa High School to present several floor plans for a proposed new junior high school.

After his presentation and going over the costs involved with the junior high and high school, Edwards suggested meeting next week for a final approval of what direction the district wanted to go. He was surprised when the group told him they'd already decided.

The district will pursue major renovations to Pampa High School at an estimated cost of \$21.2 million, building a new junior high at an estimated cost of \$23.7 million and renovating the old junior high for administrative offices at an estimated cost of \$2.1 million dollars.

Including the \$6 million



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Pampa Junior High School could be converted into administrative offices if a new Junior High School building is built.

that the district carries now from elementary school renovations, the district will need to pass a \$47 million bond issue this fall.

That would mean raising the sinking funds tax rate to 40 cents per \$100 valuation, of about an additional \$140 a

year on a \$50,000 home.

Under the new school finance bill passed by the Texas Legislature last spring, the tax rate for maintenance and operations is supposed to go down to \$1.33 and local school boards have the option of adding up to four

cents on that. In 2008, the maintenance and operations tax is supposed to go down to one dollar. With a rise in the interest and sinking fund rate to 40 cents to fund bonds to repair and replace crumbling schools, the lowering of the maintenance and oper-

ations tax rate to one dollar and the addition of four cents to the local rate, the tax rate in 2008 will still be more than a dime less than the rate for the past year of \$1.55 per \$100 valuation.

See PISD, Page 3

Exxon Mobil profits jump to second highest level

DALLAS (AP) — Exxon Mobil Corp. said today it earned \$10.36 billion in the second quarter, the second largest quarterly profit ever recorded by a publicly traded U.S. company.

The earnings figure was 36 percent above the profit it reported a year ago. High oil prices helped boost the company's revenue by 12 percent to a level just short of a quarterly record. Its shares rose to a new

high in morning trading.

Exxon Mobil's report comes as many drivers in the U.S. are paying \$3 for a gallon of gas.

Royal Dutch Shell PLC said Thursday that second-quarter earnings jumped 40 percent to \$7.32 billion as high oil prices offset production difficulties in Nigeria and the Gulf of Mexico.

Other oil companies reported big

numbers for the quarter this week as well. BP PLC reported its quarterly profit rose 30 percent to \$7.3 billion and ConocoPhillips said its earnings rose 65 percent to \$5.18 billion.

Chevron Corp. will round the field of five majors when it reports its second-quarter performance Friday.

These five were expected to earn an estimated \$33.6 billion, or a 32 percent boost, according to analysts

surveyed by Thomson Financial. Already the first four have reported earning \$30.16 billion.

Exxon Mobil, the world's largest oil company by market capitalization, said earnings amounted to \$1.72 per share in the April-June quarter compared with a profit of \$7.64 billion, or \$1.20 per share, a year ago.

See PROFIT, Page 3

Area Rotarians plan big bash Saturday in Amarillo

The president of Rotary International will be in Amarillo for The Rotary Foundation to present Paul Harris Fellowships Saturday to area Rotarians at the Amarillo Civic Center.

William B. Boyd, a retired magazine distribution executive from Auckland, New Zealand, will present Paul Harris Fellowships to an estimated 300 Rotarians from the 53-club district. Rotarians from an area bounded by Dalhart to Perryton to Big Spring and Pecos are expected to attend the dinner at the Civic Center, according to Tom Higley, an Amarillo Rotarian.

The 300 Paul Harris Fellowships represent a new Rotary International record for the number presented at one time, Higley said. One hundred of those will be presented to members of The Rotary Club of Amarillo, making it the first

100 percent Paul Harris Fellowship club of its size in the world.

The Rotary Club of Amarillo is the host club for Boyd's visit. District Gov. Roger Sepulveda of Borger is the district host.

"This is the first time a sitting Rotary International president has visited Amarillo or the Panhandle," Higley said.

The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programs, Higley said. It is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

The Foundation was created in 1917 by Rotary International's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, as an

endowment fund for Rotary to do good in the world. It has grown from an initial contribution of \$26.50 to more than \$117.9 million contributed in 2004-05. Anyone who contributes, or in whose name is contributed, a gift of \$1,000 or more to the Annual Program Fund of The Rotary Foundation may become a Paul Harris Fellow.

Rotary's top philanthropic goal is to eradicate polio worldwide, Higley said.

Since establishing the PolioPlus program in 1985, Rotary members have helped to immunize more than two billion children in 122 countries and have contributed more than \$600 million toward a polio-free world.

In addition to polio, Boyd's other concerns include hunger relief, clean water and literacy, Higley said.

"Literacy helps people escape poverty, empowers women and enables communities to care for their water resources and address issues related to health and hunger," said Boyd.

Boyd leads Rotary International's more than 32,000 clubs in 168 countries from July 2006 to July 2007, as the organization celebrates its 101st year. Rotary started in Chicago in 1905.

Boyd spent nearly 40 years working with Gordon and Gotch Magazines, Ltd., New Zealand's largest magazine distributor, most recently as general manager. He joined Rotary in 1971.

Boyd and his wife Lorna live in Howick, Auckland, New Zealand. They have two sons, two daughters and 11 grandchildren.

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Obituaries

Services tomorrow

COSTAS, Dan — 10 a.m., Second Baptist Church, Amarillo.

Cindy Cooper, 49



Cooper

AMARILLO — Cindy Cooper, 49, died July 24, 2006, at Houston. Services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday in Calvary Baptist Church of Pampa. Cremation will follow under the direction of Cox-LaGrone Funeral Home in Amarillo.

Mrs. Cooper was born May 31, 1957, in Pampa. She grew up in White Deer and moved to Pampa in 1975 with her husband, Benny.

A homemaker, Mrs. Cooper often volunteered as homeroom mother, school sponsor and Girl Scout Troop leader at the schools

her children attended. She was also active with Meals on Wheels, Special Olympics, Tralee Crisis Center, American Red Cross and the United Way.

She worked as an aide in the senior developmental class at Pampa High School for three years and was later employed with Texas Panhandle Mental Health Retardation for the past 12 years.

Mrs. Cooper was coordinator for Pampa Special

Olympics for more than seven years and earned numerous awards over the course of her 15 years of volunteer work, including having a volunteer award named in her honor.

She moved back to White Deer in 2000 and was diagnosed one year later with kidney cancer. She participated in many clinical trials in the intervening years since her diagnosis.

Survivors include her husband, Benny Cooper;

two daughters, Stefanie Davis of Edina, N.M., and Kaci Cooper of Dallas; her parents, James and Erma Britten of White Deer; a sister, Lynda Paul of White Deer; and her brothers, Nicky Britten of Houston, Nelson Britten of White Deer and Max Britten of Olathe, Kan.

The family will be at 405 Warren in White Deer following the funeral service and requests memorials be to Pampa Special Olympics, Box 375, Pampa, TX 79065 or to Dr. Robert Amato, The Methodist Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 4384, Houston, TX 77210.

Dan Costas, 68



Costas

AMARILLO — Dan Costas, 68, died July 25, 2006. Services are scheduled at 10 a.m. Friday in Second Baptist Church with the Rev. George Haddox officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Cox-LaGrone Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Mr. Costas, an Amarillo resident for 40 years, was born to Albanian immigrants George and Marie Costas on Jan. 27, 1938, at Philadelphia, Pa., where he grew up. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving as a paratrooper during the

Korean Conflict.

Mr. Costas was a commercial painter for many years, owning Dan Costas Paint Contractors, and had also worked for Consolidated Paint Contractors. He worked at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch with Paige and Associates General Contractors an additional 15 years. Following retirement, Mr. Costas worked for Hatcher Painting and did

other jobs on his own.

He was a longtime member of the Greek Orthodox Church and belonged to Second Baptist Church where he was a member of Samaritan Sunday School Class. He was also active in Amarillo Jaycees for many years.

Mr. Costas was preceded in death by his parents; and by a sister, Mary Spiro.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley Costas of Amarillo;

four daughters, Sophia Costas, Kristi Plemmons, Debi Moore, all of Amarillo, and Cindy Price of Pampa; three sons, Ric Hartline of Albuquerque, N.M., Terry Hartline of Naples, Fla., and Jimmy Hartline of Lubbock; a brother, Spiro Costas of Philadelphia; a sister, Elaine Quiras of Philadelphia; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family will receive visitors from 6-8 p.m. today at the funeral home and requests memorials be to BSA Hospice and Life Enrichment Center.

CITY BRIEFS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

CHRISTOPHER CROW Acoustic Promo CD's at The Coffee Shop, 220 N. Hobart.

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GARAGE SALE, 2238 Christine, Fri. 8am. Furniture.

AMARILLO — Dan Costas, 68, died July 25, 2006. Services are scheduled at 10 a.m. Friday in Second Baptist Church with the Rev. George Haddox officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Cox-LaGrone Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Emergency Services

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

received from the 700 block of Texas.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 1800 block of North Hobart.

An abandoned vehicle was reported at the intersection of Alcock and Sumner streets.

Animal complaints were received from the 700 block of North Christy, the 800 block of Bradley Drive, the 1300 block of West Kentucky, and the 300 block of Baer.

Found property was reported in the 800 block of Lefors.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 200 block of West Kingsmill.

A missing person was reported in the 700 block of North Russell.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1100 block of Terry Road.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 2100 block of North Sumner, the 800 block of West Foster, and the 600 block of North Dwight.

A prowler was reported in the 800 block of West 25th.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of West Somerville and the 400 block of Lefors.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of Carr.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 600 block of East Foster and the 1900 block of North Nelson, where the incident was verbal only and no injuries were reported.

A terroristic threat and domestic disturbance were reported in the 2100 block of Duncan.

Assault was reported in the police department lobby and in the 1800 block of Chestnut, where the incident was verbal only and no injuries were reported.

A domestic disturbance and aggravated assault were reported in the 1000 block of Huff Road. No injuries were reported, and the incident was verbal only.

One burglar alarm was reported. Identity theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Theft was reported in the

1000 block of North Hobart. A bicycle valued at \$125 was taken.

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

Wednesday, July 26
Kenneth Wayne Adkism, 50, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a blue warrant for a parole violation.

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

Wednesday, July 26
2:20 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1100 block of South Christy on a medical assist.

8:14 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 700 block of North Russell on a missing person call which was canceled en route.

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, July 26
2:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of South Christy and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

3:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 600 block of North Banks and transported a patient to PRMC.

3:50 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Jordan prison unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

Weather

Today: A 30 percent chance of rain and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 94. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tonight: A chance of in the evening, then a chance of rain and thunderstorms after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71.

South wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Friday: A slight chance of in the morning, then a slight chance of rain and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 94.

South-southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Profit

Continued from Page 1

The results topped Wall Street expectations but came in behind Exxon Mobil's record profit of \$10.71 billion set in the fourth quarter of 2005.

Analysts polled by Thomson Financial expected the company to earn \$1.64 per share.

Revenue rose to \$99.03 billion from \$88.57 billion in the prior-year quarter.

That was short of Exxon Mobil's record third-quarter revenue of \$100.72 billion.

Its shares rose 87 cents to \$67.47 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Cop Corner

The other day I went to a meeting in Shamrock where Eastern Panhandle Law Enforcement folks get together to discuss what is happening in the area. One of the things that came up was scams.

This is part one of two. We are forever hearing about people getting conned out of their money. Most of the time the victims are senior citizens. Now, I am pretty close to that senior citizen thing, too, and I can understand sometimes why a person would give their personal and banking information to a voice on the phone saying they are from the IRS.

I'm a "baby boomer" and was taught growing up that I was to trust people in authority, i.e. — the IRS, but I got lucky and became a cop. I found that it is better to stop and

think about why the IRS, or my bank, or my credit card companies would need to verify anything.

First of all, I have been paying income taxes for 46 years and the IRS and I know each other well.

Second, I applied for the credit cards so those guys have the information. I buy stuff and they send me a bill.

Third, I can go to my bank every day of the week. They know my face, and they don't have to call me on the phone. What I am trying to say here is: If someone calls you on the phone wanting your personal or financial information, then hang up! They are waiting to steal something from you. Don't be a victim.

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



Courtney

PISD

Continued from Page 1

The initial plans for the new junior high presented Tuesday night, however, were for a slightly larger structure than initially discussed, and therefore more expensive.

Edwards said his firm would try to pare them back.

The new junior high to be built on an as yet undetermined site would share the concept of a commons area that could be used as a cafeteria as in the high school plans that have been reviewed over the past month.

Edwards suggested a site

that would be large enough for a high school in 25 to 30 years.

Both plans for the junior high would feature wings for the individual grades and room for expansion. Administrative offices would look out over the commons area.

In an effort to save money, the auditorium would likely be eliminated and a stage placed in the commons area.

Edwards said that both Horace Mann and Carver would be demolished.

The old junior high school, he said, was not adequate for classrooms, but he thought it could be renovated for office and warehouse space.

Democrats still not satisfied with Bolton

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats today said they remain opposed to President Bush's pick for U.N. ambassador, contending that John Bolton has not yet repaired his reputation as an ineffective "bully."

"My concern is that at the moment of the greatest need for diplomacy in our recent history, we are not particularly effective at it," said Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, the Foreign Relations Committee's top Democrat.

Biden also has said Bolton should not get a confirmation vote until the White House turns over documents he requested when Bolton was nominated last year.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., cited recent press reports on Bolton's interactions with other U.N. officials as evidence that Bolton "clearly has an aversion, in my view, to building consensus."

A Senate Foreign Relations Committee confirmation hearing for Bolton, who has been serving as ambassador under a recess appointment, twice was interrupted by protesters opposing his confirmation.

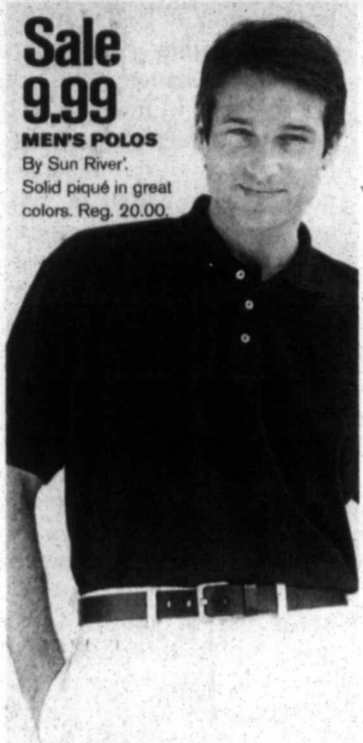
Shrugging off the criticism of Bolton, Republicans predicted that the U.N. ambassador would be confirmed soon for the position on a permanent basis. The White House on Thursday praised the work Bolton has done so far.

"We think Ambassador Bolton has done a terrific job," White House press secretary Tony Snow said.

retary Tony Snow said. "He's won over a lot of critics while building alliances on a range of issues, including Iran and North Korea, and working tirelessly to achieve meaningful results on reforms at the United Nations."

Bush last year temporarily installed Bolton as U.N. ambassador while Congress was in recess.

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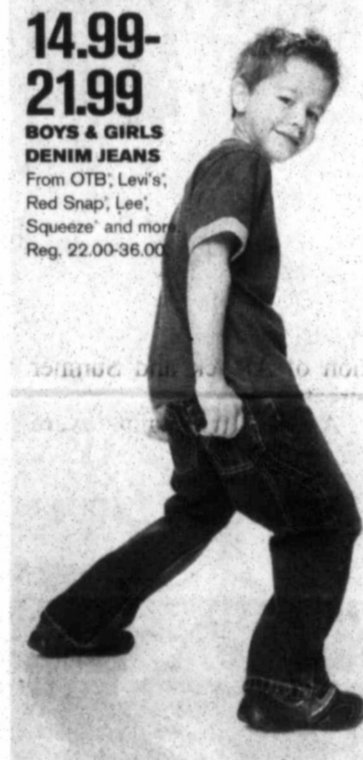
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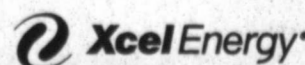
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Viewpoints

Newsmaker interviews: Sky Foerster talks about war

Whenever a fresh war breaks out in some dusty corner of the globe, it's a good bet Sky Foerster can explain what's going on and why. Foerster, who is as well-traveled and experienced as he is educated, is president of the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh, a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization devoted to promoting greater understanding of important international issues.

A former U.S. Air Force intelligence officer in southeast Asia, he is a former defense department security and arms-control adviser in Washington and Europe and received a doctor in philosophy degree from Oxford University. I talked with him recently as the Israeli-

Lebanon border was a war zone.

Q: What's the state of world affairs? Is the glass half full or half empty?

A: I am very worried. There are a lot of things to be happy about. The global economy is growing. All projections are that the economy will grow as a result of globalization, substantially, over the next decade or so. But the things that worry me the most are the radicalization of conflict and the continuing conflict over not only ideology but, increasingly, natural resources — water and energy, particularly oil.

Q: How do you see the Lebanon-Israeli crisis playing out?

A: What I have said to a couple of people this week is

that the best outcome I can foresee at this point is another generation of extremely radicalized politics in the Middle East with no real progress toward any peaceful solutions to the underlying problems. And that, good sir, is the best outcome that I can see. This has become so totally radicalized it makes it increasingly difficult for anyone to be in the middle trying to find some kind of compromise solution.

Q: Has Israel been disproportionate in its response to Hezbollah's terrorism?

A: I understand that Israel is wanting to defend itself by

pushing back the effective boundary of Lebanon by sending military forces into southern Lebanon. But I do not understand how it weakens Hezbollah and maintains the integrity of the Lebanese government, which is what our president keeps saying we want to do, by bombing Beirut Airport and knocking off all the roads and bridges. I don't get it. I think we're creating more sympathy for Hezbollah. I don't think it's going to accomplish the political solutions Israel wants. It may be a near-term prophylactic, but that's all.



Bill Steigerwald
Columnist

Q: People are saying that Hezbollah is doing Iran's work and Israel is doing the United States' work.

A: I think that would be oversimplified. Israel is doing Israel's work and Hezbollah is doing Hezbollah's work. Hezbollah gets support from Syria and from Iran, but Hezbollah is a powerful political force in its own right. It's part of a broader radicalized Shia movement that has focused on being the resistance to Israel. The political objective of Hezbollah is to terrorize the Israelis, and they are succeeding with the random use of Katyusha rockets. They can't hit the broad side of a barn, but they don't have to. The difficulty for all of us is that trying to use military force to achieve a more

sophisticated political objective — which is to say removal of a political force — is a very difficult thing to accomplish. We've discovered that in Iraq, too. There are parallels here about the challenges of using military force to deal with political resistance.

Q: Is the war in Iraq looking more or less like a good idea to you?

A: Our efforts to try and appear to be a helpful broker to a stable government is going to be complicated by the fact that we are associated with the Israeli re-occupation or at least with the attack of southern Lebanon and the bombing of Beirut and this current crisis. ... The real struggle in Iraq is

See WAR, Page 7

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 27, the 208th day of 2006. There are 157 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 27, 1789, Congress established the Department of Foreign Affairs, the forerunner of the Department of State.

On this date:

In 1794, French revolutionary leader Maximilien Robespierre was overthrown and placed under arrest; he was executed the following day.

In 1861, Union Gen. George B. McClellan was put in command of the Army of the Potomac.

In 1866, Cyrus W. Field finally succeeded, after two failures, in laying the first underwater telegraph cable between North America and Europe.

In 1953, the Korean War armistice was signed at Panmunjom, ending three years of fighting.

In 1960, Vice President Nixon was nominated for president at the Republican national convention in Chicago.

In 1974, the House Judiciary Committee voted 27-11 to recommend President Nixon's impeachment on a charge that he had personally engaged in a "course of conduct" designed to obstruct justice in the Watergate case.

In 1976, Air Force veteran Ray Brennan became the first person to die of so-called "Legionnaire's Disease" following an American Legion convention in Philadelphia.

In 1980, on day 267 of the Iranian hostage crisis, the deposed Shah of Iran died at a military hospital outside Cairo, Egypt, at age 60.

In 1995, the Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Washington by President Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-sam.

In 2003, comedian Bob Hope died in Toluca Lake, Calif., at age 100.

Ten years ago: Terror struck the Atlanta Olympics as a pipe bomb exploded at Centennial Olympic Park, killing one person and injuring 111. (Anti-government extremist Eric Rudolph later pleaded guilty to the bombing.) American Gail Devers won the women's 100-meter dash.

Five years ago: A judge in West Palm Beach, Fla., sentenced 14-year-old Nathaniel Brazill to 28 years in prison for fatally shooting teacher Barry Grunow at Lake Worth Middle School.

'The sentimentalist ages far more quickly than the person who loves his work and enjoys new challenges.'

— Lillie Langtry
English actress
(1853-1929)



Guide to when you should buy a computer

Every week or so I try to drop by a computer store and check out what's new. Over the past few years I've noticed some interesting trends. First, new computer speeds tend to increase ten percent every month. Second, the overall price of computers drops by about the same percentage in that same month.

Most people don't notice these rapid changes until they buy a new system. They quickly discover that new PCs depreciate faster than cars. If you want your PC investment to last as long as possible, make sure you buy a "current" system. What do I mean by that? Read on...

Processors

The most expensive part of your PC is the CPU (central processing unit). Think of it as the "brains" of your system. Roughly one-third to one-half the price of a PC is tied up in this little black

computer chip. The CPU is the most critical variable in determining overall system speed. Back in the old days, we measured CPU speed in "megahertz." Basically, a megahertz is the ability for a CPU to process one million instructions per second. Therefore, a seven hundred megahertz (700mhz) chip could process 700 million instructions per second. To take it a step further, 1000 megahertz is also known as one gigahertz. Today's chips now rate in the "gigahertz" range. When looking for a new system, make sure the chip rates somewhere between 2 and 4 gigahertz.

RAM

The second most important variable in the computer

speed equation is RAM, the onboard memory used by running programs. RAM is measured in bytes. Similar to "hertz," it breaks down this way: One byte is roughly the equivalent of one letter of the alphabet or one numeric digit. So, in order to store the letter "A" in a computer, you would need one byte of storage.

A thousand bytes is called a kilobyte. A thousand kilobytes (or a million bytes) is called a megabyte. One thousand megabytes equals one gigabyte; and finally, one thousand gigabytes is called a "terabyte." These days, RAM is measured in megabytes. In my opinion, if you were buying a new computer today, it should have somewhere between 256

megabytes and 1 gigabyte of RAM installed.

megabytes and 1 gigabyte of RAM installed.

CD/DVD Burners

When buying a CD/DVD-RW drive, also known as a Burner, you need to know what factors make one unit better than another. Three speed variables define the usefulness of these devices. For instance, you may see a drive advertised as "32X/12X/40X." The first number represents the "write speed" of the unit. In other words, how quick can it permanently "burn" data to the blank CD?

The second number is "rewrite speed." Most CD/DVDs can only be "written to" once. However, RW disks can be erased and re-used a number of times. The final variable is the "read speed." (How fast can data be transferred from the CD/DVD to your computer.)

See BUY, Page 7



Eric Spellmann
Columnist

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Fax: 806-669-2520

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

July 17

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Tom DeLay:

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks once told an Austin-based magazine, The Good Life, that a federal judge has "enormous authorities and powers. The real key to this job is learning how not to use this power."

The Republican Party of Texas is thinking that Sparks has used that power a tad too freely of late. In fact, the state GOP and its former favorite

son, Tom DeLay, brought it on themselves.

With his future clearly clouded, the former U.S. House majority leader could have decided before the March 7 Republican primary to leave Congress, giving other candidates a fighting chance to win the nomination and build momentum for the November general election.

Theoretically, Texas GOP Chairwoman Tina Benkiser could have persuaded DeLay to clear out early enough to spare the party a legal kerfuffle in trying to keep a Republican in his seat.

Having waited until early April to announce his departure plans, DeLay could have withdrawn from the ballot as Texas election law provides instead of trying to get a replacement candidate named.

But no.

The great manipulator — and, apparently, his cohorts — believed that even as he departed Congress, the rules were malleable.

Thus, DeLay moved to Virginia in April and notified Benkiser of his relocation in a May 30 letter — a draft of which he first sent to Benkiser for edit-

See DeLAY, Page 7

Bush signs Voting Rights Act extension amid midterm fanfare

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on today signed legislation extending for 25 years the Voting Rights Act, the historic 1965 law which opened polls to millions of black Americans by outlawing racist voting practices in the South. "Congress has reaffirmed its belief that all men are created equal," he declared.

Bush signed the bill amid fanfare and before a South Lawn audience that included members of Congress, civil rights leaders and family members of civil rights leaders of the recent past. It was one of a series of high-profile ceremonies the president is holding to sign popular bills into law.

The Republican controlled Congress, eager to improve its standing with minorities ahead of the November elections, pushed the bill through even though key provisions were not set to expire until next year.

"The right of ordinary men and women to determine their own political future lies at the heart of the American experiment," Bush said. He said the Voting Rights Act proposed and signed by then-President Lyndon Johnson in 1965 "broke the segregationist lock on the voting box."

"My administration will vigorously enforce the provisions of this law and we will defend it in court," Bush said.

The legislation bears the names of three women who were active in the civil rights movement: Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King. Bush said he was signing the bill "in honor of their memory and their contribution to the cause of freedom."

Hamer, a Mississippi sharecropper, was beaten and jailed in 1962 for trying to register to vote. She co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and

gave a fiery speech at the 1964 Democratic National Convention. In 1955, Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Ala., sparking a mass boycott by thousands, mainly black women domestic workers who had long filled the buses' back seats.

King was a prominent civil rights activist and the widow of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Later Thursday, Bush is to sign another bill sure to resonate with voters in this congressional election year: legislation establishing a national Internet database designed to let law enforcement and communities know where convicted sex offenders live and work.

By contrast, Bush chose to exercise the first veto of his 5 1/2 years as president in privacy last week, with no audience, no cameras, no reporters. The bill he vetoed would have expanded federally funded

research of embryonic stem cells.

White House officials said an open ceremony to veto a bill seemed inappropriate, although other presidents have done just that. Forty minutes after the Oval Office veto, Bush gave a major address on the issue in the East Room, open to the press and surrounded by families who have "adopted" leftover frozen embryos and used them to bear children.

In May, Bush took to the South Lawn to sign into law a bill that extended \$70 billion in previously passed tax cuts. That package was also seen by Republicans as an opportunity to boost the popularity of the president and the Republican-controlled Congress.

Presidential bill-signings usually occur in an office building next to the White House, not on the South Lawn, and on Wednesday workers scurried to get things ready for the Voting Rights Act signing, setting

up water stations and a large stage for Bush and the bill's primary supporters.

The list of some of the 600 expected guests reads like a who's-who of prominent black leaders and civil rights veterans, including the Revs. Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson; friends and relatives of the Kings, Ms. Parks and Dorothy Height, the longtime chairwoman of the National Council of Negro Women.

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi have used the occasion of the Voting Rights Act extension to criticize Bush's administration for politicizing civil rights policy and weakening enforcement of the law's provisions.

The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 98-0 and the House 390-33. The overwhelming majorities belied the difficulties getting to that point.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am in my 60s. My first husband, "Seymour," and I divorced more than 30 years ago. For the last several years, every time I see him, he makes several attempts to "touch" me in some way. Seymour insists on hugging me hello and goodbye, and also tries to kiss me on the mouth. I do not encourage him in any way. I try to avoid him when the family gathers, but Seymour comes up behind me and attempts to "sneak one in." He will use any situation to touch me in some way. If I reach for a spoon on the buffet table, he will grab my hand and squeeze it. Seymour and I have both remarried, and my present husband, "Michael," and I are very happy - thank you very much. But Seymour won't leave me alone. I'm always stressed out when he's around. It is impossible to enjoy myself feeling I always have to keep looking over my shoulder. Seymour has been invited into our home a few times, for family parties involving the grandchildren. When he comes he adopts a proprietary air and acts as if he is the homeowner. Michael can't stand to be in the same room with him, and I have to watch that situation closely, too. I have considered having Michael approach Seymour at the next party and ask him to keep his hands off me. But I'm afraid it might lead to an altercation, as Seymour is very confrontational. The reason I left him in the first place was because he was both physically and verbally abusive. Seymour has told me he still loves me and is sorry for the past. I responded by telling him thank you for apologizing, but I felt his affection was misplaced and should be directed toward his new wife. Aside from excluding myself from family situations that I know Seymour will be attending, what's my alternative? — **OLDER AND WISER**

DEAR OLDER AND WISER: Your ex-husband's behavior could be classified as creepy. After all this time, he is still trying to assert control over you. Talk to Seymour's new wife and tell her how uncomfortable her husband's harassment makes you - because harassment is what it is. If that doesn't put an end to it, the next time Seymour grabs you, treat him as you would any other stranger who tried to assault you. Say, "Don't touch me. I don't like it!" And if he persists after that, the person who should be excluded from the family gatherings is Seymour - not you.

DEAR ABBY: I need some help. The guy I live with, "Arnold," doesn't want to get married, but I do. We have been together for 19 years. What should I do? Also, I don't love Arnold like I did. Should I try to get back with my first love or what? (It's my former husband.) We were married eight years and had three kids. They are all grown now. — **CAN'T DECIDE IN OHIO**

DEAR CAN'T DECIDE: If marriage is what you really want, then you have already devoted far more time than you should have to Arnold. Because you no longer love him as you did, the time has come to make other living arrangements and go on with your life. If you still care for your former husband, once you are on your own I see no harm in contacting him. However, a lot of water has drifted under the bridge over the last 19 years - so don't bet that he's still available.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



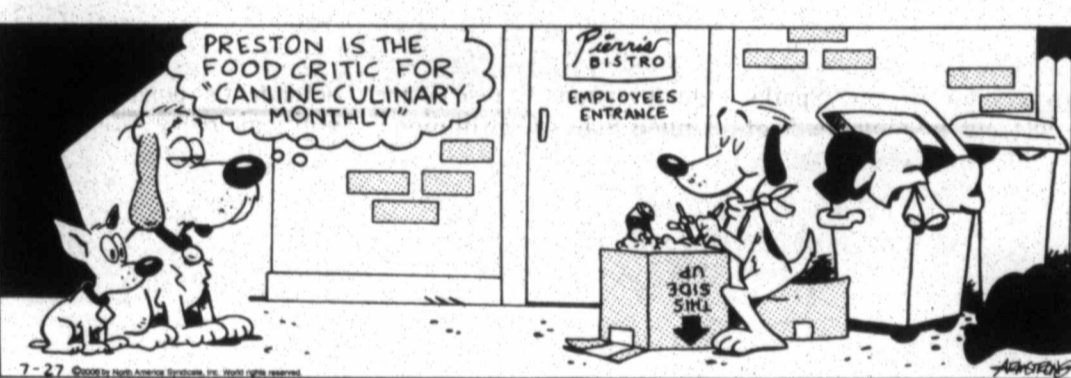
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

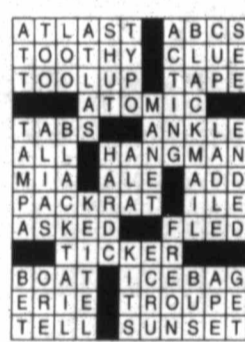
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Blue hue
- 5 Swift horses
- 10 Cheering loudly
- 12 Apartment window sign
- 13 Failed sitcom of 2000
- 14 Martini extra
- 15 Common bill
- 16 Shameless woman
- 18 Cattish feature
- 20 The lot
- 21 Peak
- 23 Co-star of Betty and Rue
- 24 Bit of change
- 26 Swimmer Diana
- 28 Crew member
- 29 It's a long story
- 31 Ignored a diet
- 32 TV's Bryant
- 36 Sound unit
- 39 Magnificent, e.g.
- 40 Draw out

DOWN

- 1 Powerful person
- 2 Game site
- 3 Campaign ad target
- 4 Sun - sen
- 5 All-inclusive
- 6 Part whelms
- 7 Thieves' nemesis
- 8 Cut on a slant
- 9 "Street-car" cry
- 11 Turns down
- 17 Shade - sen
- 19 Outlaw
- 22 Over-roles
- 24 Area of eastern France
- 25 Carry out
- 27 Orange tuber
- 28 Rhythmic
- 30 Epoch
- 33 Hooch
- 34 Strayed
- 35 Top roles
- 37 Secures
- 38 Nap sacks
- 42 Singer
- Phair



Yesterday's answer

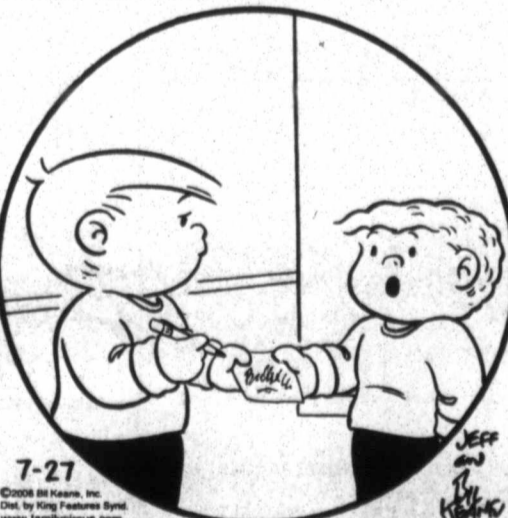
Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



War

Continued from Page 4

between the Shia and Sunni, who weren't prepared to lock arms and go into the sunset together. And we can't force them. Until they do, we're stuck.

Q: What do you say to people when they argue that U.S. foreign policy is too aggressive, too unilateral, too interventionist, too global — all those bad things create a lot of enemies for us and causes us grief that we should not have?

A: There is no alternative to American engagement in the world because we're the only country in the world with the ability to project military power and sustain it anywhere in the world. That's a force potentially for bad and for good. The tsunami — support for the tsunami is an example of a force for good. We are one-third of the world's economy. We have a singularly powerful military. We project power around the world and people look to us as a country of power — not necessarily benign, but they look to us as a powerful country and they hope that we will exercise that power well.

Q: Is there a period in the last 60 years that we have exercised that power well?

A: Well, in the aftermath of World War

II, we demonstrated ourselves as a very responsible power that demonstrated that power for good, and people looked to us for leadership. In the main, throughout the Cold War we were viewed as a benign power as well by most of the countries of the world. Countries looked to us to continue to exercise leadership in a responsible way after the Cold War and we ourselves were reluctant in the '90s to engage. We had a decade-long debate about whether to really be engaged.

We debated what our vital interests were and Afghanistan was never amongst them. Africa was never amongst them. And those are the issues that are biting us on the backside now. Really attacking the problems of the Middle East was not among those vital interests and we are hurting ourselves now. Our dependency on oil was something we never really addressed, and that is hurting us now. So our indifference to our global engagement priorities — our real priorities — that took place in the '90s is hurting us, because we don't really understand the dynamics of the world in which we are currently living, and these are not the dynamics that defined the world of 10, 20, 30 or 50 years ago.

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

Buy

Continued from Page 4

er?) Basically, you should find a drive with high numbers across the board.

How to Benchmark Your System

So, now that you know some of the current speed standards, how do you find out where your current system ranks? You need to benchmark it and compare it to today's systems.

One of my favorite utilities for this purpose is Fresh Diagnose (<http://www.freshdevices.com>). It analyzes every aspect of your system and displays the results in easy-to-read graphs. Another great utility is the Belarc advisor (<http://www.belarc.com>). In

addition to displaying your hardware specifications, it lists every installed program along with your software license numbers. The results are shown in an easily-printed Web page format.

I'm often asked, "When's the best time to buy a PC?" My answer is always the same: "Right now!" Prices will continue to fall and speeds will increase. Given that truism, you need to accept the fact that PC's are only good for about five years. It's not that they quit working after five years; they're just not powerful enough to run the software developed five years from now. Oh, and one more thing. The recommendations I made in this week's column are only good for about a month, if that long...

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

DeLay

Continued from Page 4

ing and to Texas party lawyers for review, Sparks points out in footnote 5 of his findings of fact and conclusions of law.

After getting a final copy of DeLay's letter explaining his ineligibility, Benkiser ... well, declared him ineligible to run for the District 22 seat. The clear intent was to put up a replacement candidate for the ballot — someone party-picked rather than selected by voters.

When the Texas Democratic Party sued in state district court to nip these shenanigans in the bud, Benkiser and the GOP got the case moved to federal court, where it landed before Sparks, a 1991 appointee of President George H.W. Bush.

Sparks wasn't fooled by the finagling.

The U.S. Constitution, he declared, sets the eligibility for members of the House of Representatives: They must be at least 25 years old, a U.S. citizen for seven years and an "inhabitant" of the state of their election "when elected." The court, Sparks wrote, "finds no ambiguity in this language."

Allowing Benkiser to determine ballot eligibility based on current living arrangements would "amount to a de-facto in-state residency requirement in violation of the U.S. Constitution," Sparks concluded.

He noted conflicting evidence that cast doubt on DeLay's residency intentions: DeLay's Virginia home is a condo that he has owned and occupied for 12 years; his wife, Christine, still lives in the couple's

Sugar Land home. "There is no evidence that DeLay will still be living in Virginia tomorrow, let alone on Nov. 7, 2006, the only day that matters under the Qualifications Clause of the United States Constitution," Sparks wrote.

Benkiser has asked the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to overturn the district court decision, saying — without a whit of irony or self-consciousness — that it "serves to thwart the public's interest in voter choice and competitive elections."

The Democrats might be playing with fire if the GOP's appeals fail, DeLay refuses to withdraw and voters still prefer an indicted

politician over former Rep. Nick Lampson, the Democratic nominee. But that's no reason to let the Republicans have their way.

"Were the court to adopt defendant's position, either political party could and would be able to change candidates after the primary election and before the general election simply by an administrative declaration of ineligibility by the party chair based on a candidate's 'move' to another state," Sparks said. "This would be a serious abuse of the election system and a fraud on the voters, which the court will not condone."

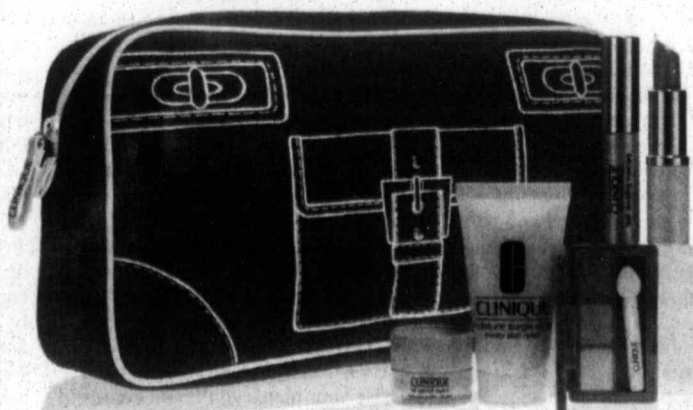
The 5th Circuit shouldn't condone it, either.

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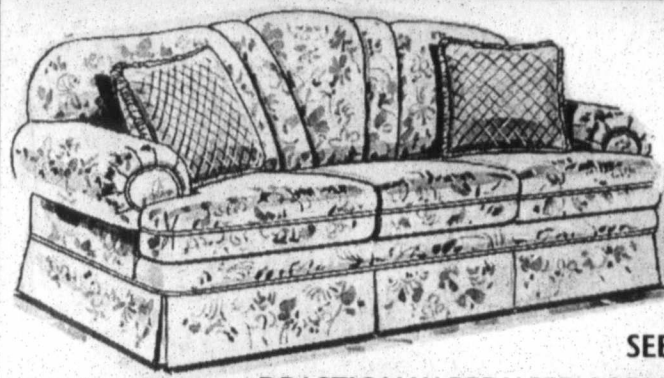
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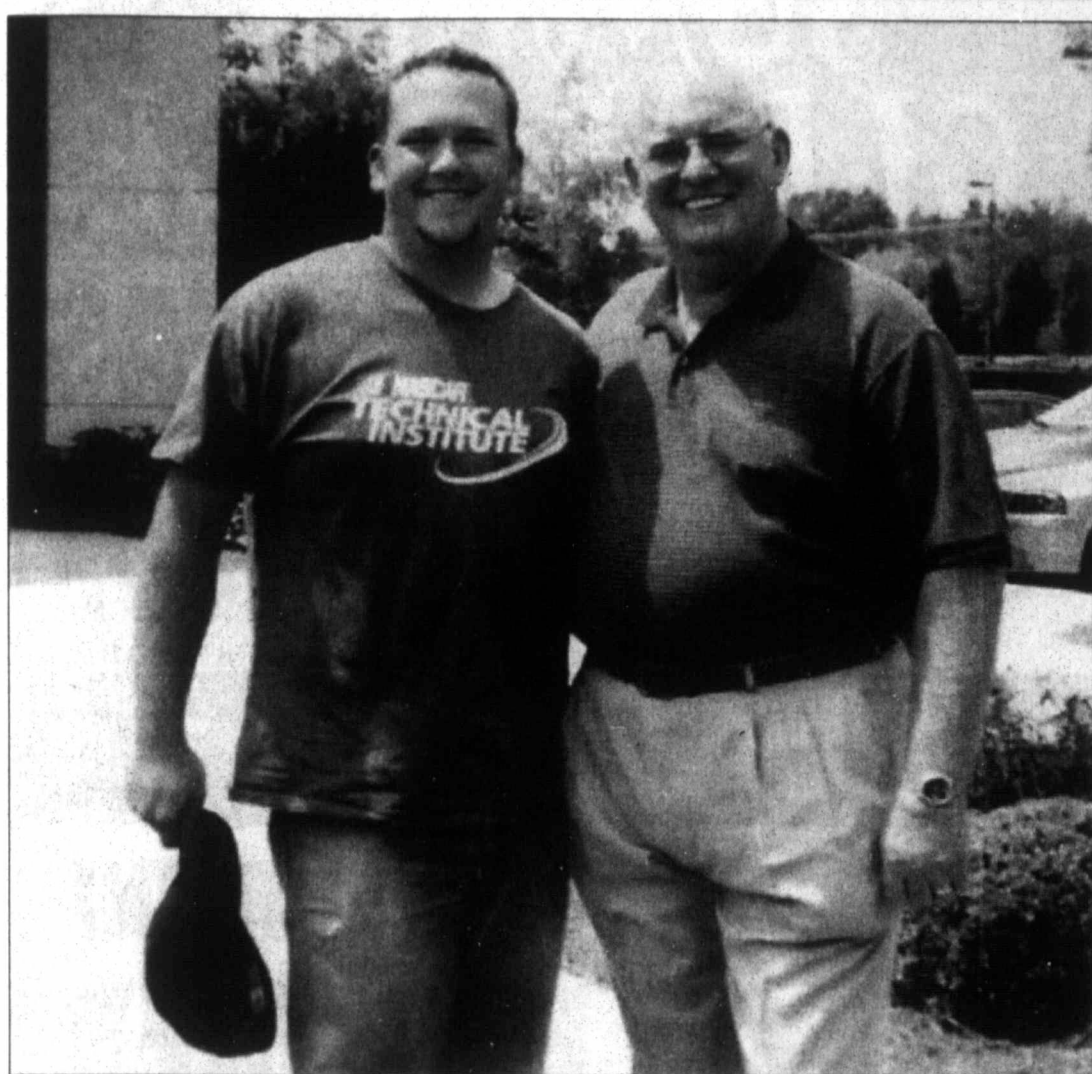
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Sports Day



My son Michael (left) with Benny Parsons outside Jack Roush Racing near Concord, N.C.

Parsons is sick, not dying

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Not long after my son Michael moved to Mooresville, N.C., to attend the NASCAR Technical Institute, he met one of my stock car racing heroes, Benny Parsons. Michael was working for a guy at the time who owned a detailing business. Most of his clientele was made up of the area race shops. They cleaned and polished the car haulers and some of the employees, driver's and owner's personal vehicles.

I told my son not long after he moved there he ought to buy a couple of those disposable cameras and keep them in his truck because you just never know who you will meet.

He did. Good thing.

One day while cleaning vehicles at Jack Roush Racing, Michael happened to bump into Parsons. The former driver turned television commentator was stopping by on business. Michael introduced himself and asked Parsons if he would autograph a piece of paper for him. He (Michael) then remembered the cameras. "Would you mind if I take your picture?" he asked. "Not at all," replied

Parsons. Michael grabbed a camera and was ready to take the shot when Parsons said, "Hang on. Excuse me folks but would you mind taking a picture of us?" to some people that happened to be passing by.

He then took a few moments to visit with Michael who told him of his goal to graduate and to become a member of a team, eventually getting back behind the wheel. Parsons offered my son three of the most positive words in the English language. "Don't give up."

Parsons announced Wednesday that he has been diagnosed with lung cancer and will begin chemotherapy immediately. The 65-year-old said he took his last drag from a cigarette in 1978 and disdains smoke even to this day.

Parsons is a positive personality and an excellent motivational speaker, which gives me cause to believe this is but a bump in the road. One must believe he or she can win the fight, not hope they can.

In 1985, my best friend was diagnosed with melanoma cancer. However,

his was advanced and required surgery to remove lymph nodes and create skin grafts. Even then, he was given little chance of living more than six months. I am proud to say he is still around today. Why? Faith, a positive attitude and the belief he could win the fight.

What Parsons — and any one going through the same thing needs — is a positive supporting cast. He is sick but not contagious so don't make it a focal point of conversation. I saw Tony Stewart do an interview weeks after breaking his shoulder blade and the reporter asked if it was still hindering his driving in any way. "Let's talk about something else. I'm tired of talking about my shoulder," Stewart replied.

Pray for Parsons. Pray for any one close to you that may be going through the same thing. However, lift them up, too. Do not prematurely memorialize them or curse them with pity. While they need to believe they can win the fight, it is important for them to know those close to them believe it as well.

Final round: Beebe still leads

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

George Beebe entered today's final Championship Flight round of the 72nd annual Tri-State Seniors Golf Tournament with a 2-shot lead over Duane Pittman at the Pampa Country Club. Both players fired rounds of 77 Wednesday.

Eddie Rice, tied with Beebe after the opening round Tuesday, fell to third with round of 80.

Despite carding an 83 Wednesday, Tom Adams continued to lead the Super Seniors field entering today's final round with a cumulative score of 156. Earl Simpson and Roy Hartman made up ground as each player finished Wednesday with rounds of 77 (162).

The ladies wrapped up their tournament Wednesday with Judy Rice (gross) and Peggy Adams (net) taking first. Sherma Brown finished second (net).

Tri-State Seniors Golf Tournament
Pampa Country Club
July 26, 2006

Round 2 Championship Flight

1 George Beebe	(80, 77)
2 Duane Pittman	(82, 77)
3 Eddie Rice	(80, 82)
4 Gary Bowe	(83, 80)
4 Tommy Tomlinson	(84, 79)

Super Senior Flight

1 Tom Adams	(73, 83)
2 Earl Simpson	(85, 77)

2 Roy Hartman	(85, 77)
4 Frank Howell	(82, 82)

Flight 1

1 (gross) Judy Rice	(182)
1 (net) Peggy Adams	(149)
2 (net) Sherma Brown	(157)

Flight 3*

1 Boyd Spurlock	(-4, 6)
2 Gary Hudson	(-4, -2)
3 Dale Williams	(-9, -1)
3 Gary Elliott	(-2, -8)
3 Ken Wight	(-8, -2)

Flight 4*

1 Don Adams	(1, 2)
2 Bill Fontenot	(-4, 1)
3 John Wilson	(-4, 0)
4 Joe Gonzalez	(-1, -5)

Flight 5*

1 J.C. Beyer	(0, 4)
2 Charles Swearingen	(3, -1)
3 Doyle Munkres	(2, -2)
4 Bill Riffe	(-2, 1)

Flight 6*

1 Bill Clemmons	(2, 1)
2 Steve Stevens	(0, 1)
2 Jack Phillips	(1, 0)
4 Bob Dantzer	(-5, 3)

Flight 7*

1 Bill Scholz	(-2, 5)
2 Harry Frye	(-4, 1)
3 O.C. Penn	(-4, -3)
4 Tom Murphy Jr.	(-10, 1)

*Stableford scoring by Chicago points.

Hidden Hills Monday Night, regular senior scramble results

Monday Night Scramble
Hidden Hills Golf Course
July 24, 2006

1st Place
Clint Miller
Tom Grantham
Bob Brandon
Carolyn Allison

2nd Place
Howard Wells
Harley Knutson
Jim Osborne
Jackie Harper

4th Place (63)
Jim Cantrell
Jack Thompson
Morris Driver
Dale Butler

5th Place (63)
Jerry Dorman
Bob Young
Jess Mathis
Gary Herr

6th Place (63)

Whitey White
Carroll Pettit
John Gentry
Paul Hinton

7th Place (63)
Harley Knutson
Jerry South
Duane Cash
Wayne Jones

Closest to the Pin
Whitey White (#6)
Howard Wells (#15)

Regular Senior Scramble
Hidden Hills Golf Course
July 26, 2006

1st Place (60)
Gerry McCabe
Jerry Davis
Lucio Moreno
Bill Abbernathy

2nd Place (62)
Jim Brashears
Kenneth Williams
Carl Johnson
Charlie Rand

3rd Place (62)
Eldon Maxwell
Billie Mac Millican
James Lee
Joe Wheeley

3v3 champs



Courtesy photo

First-place winners from Pampa in the girls' age 14 and under group at Kids Inc.'s recent basketball competition in Amarillo are, from left, Autumn Chidester, Kay Kirkham, Shaylie Thompson and Kirsten Kuhn. Each of the four received a plaque and a nylon carry bag for winning first place.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, July 28, 2006:

You have your hands full this year. Use kid gloves with partnerships and financial concerns. The unexpected weaves in and out of your life. Whenever you decide that plans or a situation is settled, bingo! Information isn't always complete. Promise — boredom will not be an issue this year, though you actually might find yourself longing for uneventful days. Good will and caring come from and to you. If you are single, check out anyone you hook up with, as this person might not be everything you think he or she is. Proceed carefully, and you will be much happier. If you are attached, the two of you flourish with a lot of private time. VIRGO can cost you money.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Your nerves could be fried, and as a result, you easily could react. What has been a misunderstanding and/or confusing will start sorting itself out. You might want to re-evaluate much that has occurred in recent weeks. Tonight: Easy does it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You have an opportunity to rethink a situation and do it differently. Your forthright behavior and fun nature might come out if you relax. Do yourself a favor: Don't get uptight. Your laughter goes far. Tonight: Be as lively as possible.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You come from a secure place, but you might regret leaving home today! Many people do the unexpected and

shake up the status quo. You could either react or decide to let others relax with the moment. You know what works. Tonight: Easy does it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ As you make calls and go through your day, plans change, as well as your perspective. Take each moment for what it is. Curb creating an uproar, and stay centered if possible. Others will inadvertently test their boundaries. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Know when to pull back, as a tendency to be extravagant or to go overboard is predominant in your life right now. What has been a problem will unravel soon enough. A touch of caution goes a long way. Tonight: Be conservative in your choices.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Even though you might have to revise your plans, you'll still come out smiling. A problematic friend has been on your mind. News is about to come forward that will bring you understanding. Tonight: Others dance to your beat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★ Know when you don't want to get involved, and honor your feelings. You will be a lot happier. Kick judgments to the back seat. Evaluate carefully. Your feeling about an authority figure could change; just be open. Tonight: Get some extra sleep.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to rethink an agreement. If you need to change course or direction, expect flak. Honor what is good for you, or ultimately problems will occur. No one wants to deal with a resentful Scorpio. Tonight: Happy is the word.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ When you take responsibility, often you have a way of shaking up the status quo. The best intentions could run amok right now. Just when you thought you had everything locked down and secure, you find out otherwise. Ouch! Tonight: Could be late.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Plans rapidly change. New information feeds into a revamping of your schedule. You could be overwhelmed by what you have to get done. Putting up with others' instability will take a lot of patience. Tonight: What was OK isn't now!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Take a strong stand financially, because if you don't, you won't be happy. What works could change radically before you know it. Be smart and don't get stuck in rigidity. Flow if you want to be happy. Tonight: With a close associate.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Pressure will build enormously if you're not careful. Not everyone sees events as you do. The problem lies in that you might be more reactive than you realize. Others become unusually emotional. Hold on tight! Tonight: Go along for the ride.

BORN TODAY
Actress Sally Ann Struthers (1948), basketball player, politician Bill Bradley (1943), first lady Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis (1929)

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

7-27 CRYPTOQUOTE

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

U Q F Q Q U K N R Z K Z Y R X Q G

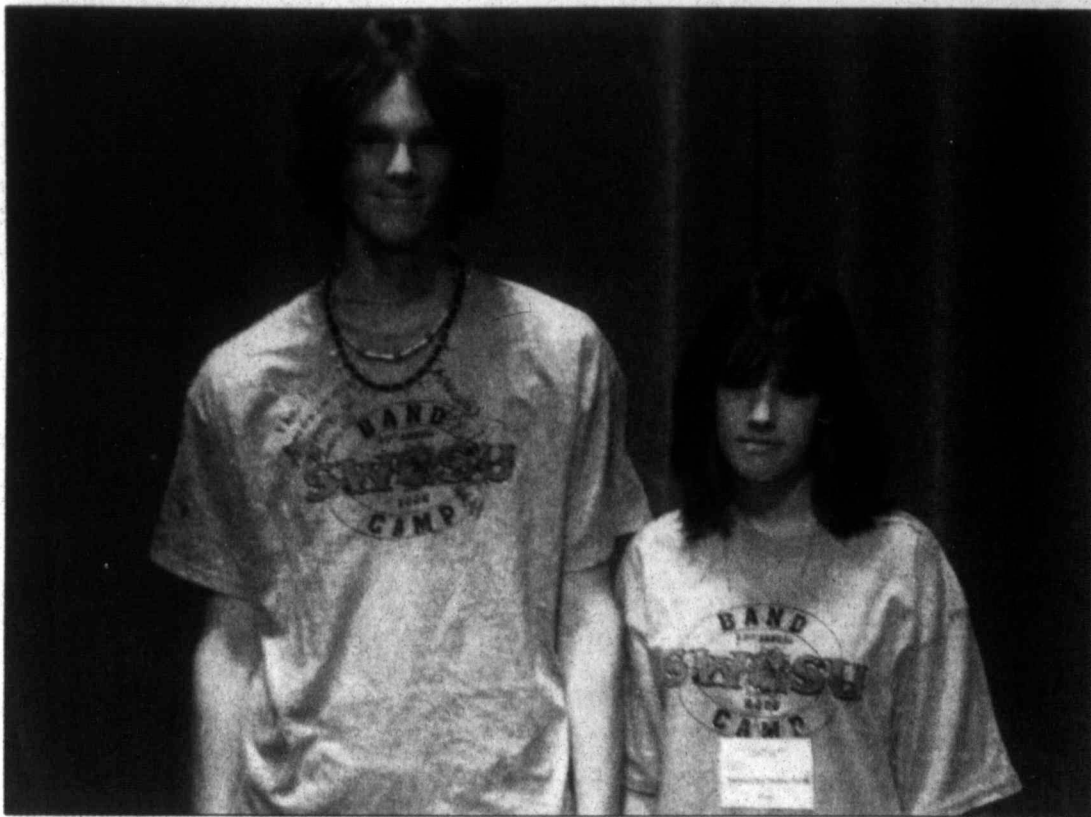
ZYBL, Q M N R K N S S U Q X Q G

A Q F Q Q U — K N S S N Y W D L A A
Yesterday's Cryptquote: LIBERTY UNDER THE CONSTITUTION IS NECESSARILY SUBJECT TO THE CONSTRAINTS OF DUE PROCESS.
— THOMAS JEFFERSON

Jaqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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Band camp



Southwestern Oklahoma State University's 51st annual band camp, held recently on the Weatherford campus, attracted 459 students from eight states. The event is Oklahoma's oldest and largest band camp. The students auditioned for placement in one of five concert bands and participated in rehearsals as well as a variety of recreational activities. The camp ended with a final concert featuring all five bands. Among the students attending the camp were, from left, Darren Minier and Samantha Sutterfield, both of Pampa.

Events calendar

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

• **The Pampa High School Class of 1986** reunion will be held Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 665-8685 or 669-4800.

• **The 22nd Annual Greg Black Memorial 10-K and 5-K Run** will be held Saturday in Hereford. The event will kick-off at 8 a.m. at the Hereford YMCA. Registration will be from 7-7:45 a.m. Entry fees are \$12 in advance or \$15 the day of the race. For more information, call (806) 364-6990.

• **Author Bill Meador** will be in Pampa from 2-5 p.m. Wednesday at Hastings, Books, Music & Video, 1205 N. Hobart.

The author will sign books and discuss writing and book publishing.

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

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

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