

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH 67
LOW 47

See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Monday, May 14, 2007

Volume 103 • No. 33

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Please join us in the MK Brown Room for a menu of chicken fried steak, green beans, potatoes with gravy, salad, cookies provided by R&R Catering. John Crowell with North Rolling Plains RC&D will be speaking on Resource, Conservation & Development and the Windfarm Developments. Cost is \$8.00 a person. Please RSVP at 669-3241.

Dixon wins city race; tax amendment passes

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

Pampa's newly elected City Commissioner Robert "Bob" Dixon said today that his victory hasn't sunk in yet.

Dixon, in the only contested race for city commission, defeated Teresa Henson for Place by 38 votes.

Dixon had 270 votes against Henson's 232 in Saturday's election. City Secretary Karen Price said the Pampa City Commission will canvass the vote at their May 22 meeting.

Dixon said today that he would

like to express his gratitude to the residents of Pampa for electing him to another term on the city commission. Dixon served on the commission for 16 years before being defeated by Lana Miller. Miller decided not to run this term, leaving the seat open for the Dixon-Henson race.

"I'd like to congratulate Teresa on a well run campaign," Dixon said, "and wish her the best of luck."

Dixon said there are a lot of good things going on in Pampa right now. He said he supports the moves to improve the city's infrastructure,

including a comprehensive street program.

"We need to make use of available funding to best advantage," Dixon said.

Gray County Clerk officials said county voters approved a constitutional amendment concerning a reduction in ad valorem taxes on elderly or disabled citizens by a vote of 793 for to 111 against in light voting. The clerk's office reported that only 904 people voted in the constitutional amendment election.

Proposition One was a constitutional amendment authorizing the

Legislature to provide for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for public school purposes on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect any reduction in the rate of those taxes for the 2006 and 2007 tax years.

In Panhandle, voters approved a \$27.5 million school bond issue to finance a new elementary school and science labs and cafeteria for secondary schools.

Miami voters approved an

See **ELECTION**, Page 3

Bar owner jailed after shots fired

By **MARILYN POWERS**
Staff Writer

The owner of a bar on Alcock Street remains in Gray County Jail as of press time today in lieu of \$25,000 bond after he allegedly fired a pistol at his place of business in response to a brawl.

Zacarias Rodriguez Torrez, 50, of Pampa was arrested and booked into the jail at 1:40 a.m. Sunday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

County sheriff's deputies had gone to the Monte Carlo Club on Alcock Street at about 12:30 a.m. Sunday after receiving a call concerning a disturbance there, according to GCSO Lt. Joe B. Hoard.

"Multiple people were involved," Hoard said of the disturbance.

"On arrival, the deputies were told there'd been shots fired in the bar," he said. "No injuries were reported from the gunshots. Several people reported being assaulted."

Torres was arrested for allegedly grabbing a pistol from under the bar and shooting it into the melee, Hoard said.

"Several people have reported being assaulted, and the case is still under investigation," he said.

No other charges have been filed as of today concerning the incident.

Down and dirty



Pampa News photo by **MARILYN POWERS**
Stephen McCarley, an employee of Prestige Auto Center, pilots the center's buggy through the trench in an exhibition run during the ATV-class competition at Saturday's Mud Bog, held at Recreation Park. Clear skies and warm temperatures helped bring out plenty of spectators and contestants to the annual event.

Vanderpool leaving chamber post for N.M. position

By **KERRI SMITH**
Staff Writer

Pampa will lose the executive director of the Chamber of Commerce when Pat Vanderpool leaves his post at the end of this month. Vanderpool has accepted a position as executive director of the Greater Tucumcari Economic Development Corp., a private non-profit organization.

Vanderpool, who has been with

the Pampa Chamber of Commerce since Jan. 15, 2006, said he was not actively seeking employment elsewhere.

"I am very happy living in Pampa and love what I do here so I wasn't looking for another job," Vanderpool said. "I've done quite a bit of economic development work in New Mexico over the past 30 years, so this organization approached me and I told them I would consider the

offer."

Vanderpool went to high school in Pampa in the mid 1960s, but lived in New Mexico from 1976 - 2006. He originally moved there to study classical guitar at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He worked for a bottling company in Albuquerque until he became an economic development specialist in 1989.

In 1993, he moved to Raton to

work with the chamber of commerce and the economic development council. A few years later, he began working all over the state for a rural development council.

"I started working as an economic development specialist for U.S. Sen. Pete Domenici in 1997," Vanderpool said. "Again, I worked all over the state of New Mexico in the area of

See **CHAMBER**, Page 3

Meetings planned Tuesday

Gray County

By **MARILYN POWERS**
Staff Writer

Gray County commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday in the second-floor courtroom of the county courthouse, 205 N. Russell, to canvass the results of the constitutional amendment election which was held Saturday.

Glen Elms will address commissioners on his concerns regarding a tax bid on property

in the City of Lefors.

Commissioners will vote on whether to go out for bids for a 1986 Chevrolet C-39 pickup in Precinct 3.

Three individuals will be named to the Gray County Industrial Development Corp., an entity formed as a result of the re-investment zone approved earlier this year by commissioners.

Bills and salaries will be presented for payment, and commissioners will hear the

See **DMEETINGS**, Page 3

Crash kills Pampa man

A Pampa man died Sunday afternoon in a one vehicle traffic accident on State Highway 70, according to Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper Daniel Hawthorne.

At approximately 3 a.m. Sunday, a 2000 Ford pickup driven by Loil Glin Woodruff Jr., 49, of Pampa was traveling north on SH70 at mile post 106, 22 miles south of Pampa.

His vehicle left the road

and traveled into the east ditch. The driver then over-corrected to the left then back to the right. The pickup then rolled several times and came to rest of its roof partially on a barbed wire fence. Woodruff did have his seat belt on.

Woodruff was pronounced dead by Justice of the Peace Kurt Curfman and next of kin was notified. The body will be taken to Lubbock for an autopsy.

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Tuesday **Wednesday** **Thursday**



Mostly cloudy **Mostly cloudy** **Partly cloudy**

Tuesday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 67. North northwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. East northeast wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 63. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 49. Southeast wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 67. South southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. South wind around 10 mph.

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Milo.....5.70	XOM.....81.54 +0.36	Nat'l Oilwell.....92.03 +0.32
Corn.....6.49	Limited.....27.61 -0.06	Williams.....28.85 +0.25
Soybeans.....6.26	MCD.....50.76 +0.11	Atmos.....32.17 +0.10
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa		Pioneer Nat.....49.06 -0.18
OXY.....52.14 +0.21	JCP.....76.06 -0.43	COP.....70.60 +0.41
BP PLC ADR.....66.59 -0.01	SLB.....75.22 +0.84	Tenneco.....30.52 -0.37
Cabot Corp.....46.11 -0.88	Tenneco.....30.52 -0.37	CVX.....80.46 +0.42
Celanese.....36.23 +0.21	Wal-Mart.....47.66 -0.13	OKL.....50.39 +0.14
Cabot Oil Gas.....37.31 +0.20	Coca Cola.....52.88 +0.19	New York Gold.....672.30
VLO.....74.49 +0.78	HAL.....33.92 +0.36	Silver.....13.31
TRI.....53.31 -0.01	West Texas Crude.....62.37	

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

MECHAM, Duane — Graveside services 1 p.m. Tuesday, Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery in Canadian.

Duane Mecham, 58

CANADIAN — Graveside services for Duane Mecham, 58, of Canadian will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, 2007, at Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery with Jerry Smith officiating. Burial will follow under the direction of Hughs Funeral Home of Canadian.

Mr. Mecham passed away Friday, May 11, 2007, in Canadian.

Duane was born on Dec.

14, 1948, in Canadian. He was a graduate of Canadian High School. Duane was a Veteran of the U.S. Army serving in Vietnam for two tours. He locally owned the DD and Highway 83 restaurants in Canadian. He was currently working for G & R G trucking of Odessa and was a member of the Church of Christ. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Johnnie Golleher, his step-grandfather, Roger Batts and

and his grandmother, Addie Golleher-Batts. He was also preceded by one uncle Don Golleher.

He is survived by one son, Brian Mecham and wife Lisa of Odessa; one daughter, Sheila Resser and husband Chris of Cooksville, Tenn; his parents, Ralph and Velma Hornberger of Canadian; two sisters, Susie Baxter and husband Shaffer of Canadian; and Linda Bennett and husband David

of Amarillo; two grandchildren, Brian and Brandon Mecham both of Odessa; and many nieces and nephews.

The family suggest memorials be made to Hemphill County Hospice, 1020 S. 4th, Canadian, TX 79014.

You may send condolences online at www.hughsfuneralhome.com.

Georgia Ann Word, 60

Georgia Ann Word, 60, died Monday, May 14, 2007, in Amarillo.

Memorial services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, 2007, at Sisters Spudnut Shop at 800 W. Foster in Pampa. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately

Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Word was born Dec. 17, 1946, in Pampa where she had been a resident most of her life. She was a Kmart manager for 10 years, working in several locations. She also worked several years at Bob Clements Cleaners. She attended Cross Pointe

Baptist Church.

Survivors include three daughters, Shelly Smith of Pampa, Kim Reed of Bixby, Okla., and Krissy Dennis of Wheeler; two stepdaughters, Theresa Word and Wendy Word, both of Del Rio; one sister, Carolyn Lambright of Sand Springs, Okla.; eight

grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Riley McClure.

Memorials may be to BSA Hospice, P.O. Box 950, Amarillo, Texas 79105.

Wayne Couch, 83

FLORESVILLE — Wayne Couch, 83, died Sunday, May 13, 2007, in Floresville.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Couch was born March 6, 1924, in Goree. He was the youngest of four children born to Bill & Leah (Manna) Couch. He graduated from high school in Goree.

He joined the U. S. Army in April of 1943 in Abilene, and received his boot camp

training at Camp Hood in Killeen. Sgt. Couch was a squad leader serving with the 41st Division in the South Pacific, SOU Philippines in World War II. He earned an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign medal, Combat Infantry badges with two Bronze Stars, one Bronze Arrowhead, and a Purple Heart for wounds received in combat on March 21, 1945.

He was honorably discharged in January of 1946. He married Jean Howard on July 4, 1947, and moved

to Pampa where he worked for Cabot Corp. He retired from Cabot Tech Service in 1988.

He owned and operated Couch's Café in Skellytown from 1989 until 1996. He belonged to the First Baptist Church of Skellytown. He was a lifetime member of the VFW and belonged to the Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM.

Survivors include one son, Bill Couch of Buda; three grandchildren, Wm. Jared Couch and Leah Jean

Couch, both of Buda, and Chelsea Couch Nietenhoefer and her husband Alan of Perkins, Okla.; two great-grandsons, Austin and Kellan of Perkins, Oklahoma; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, and his wife Jean in 1990.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whately.com

Emergency Services

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 72-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, May 11

Two traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received from the 800 block of South Hobart, the 1000 block of Cinderella, the 700 block of North Somerville and the 1000 block of East Kingsmill.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 600 block of Red Deer, the 600 block of Magnolia, the intersection of Alcock and Hobart streets and the 1300 block of Garland.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1100 block of Perry, an unreported location, the 900 block of Twiford, the 600 block of North Dwight, the 1400 block of Williston, the 1900 block of North Wells, the 1100 block of Terry Road, the 700 block of North Dwight, the 1800 block of North Banks, the 1800 block of North Sumner, the 1500 block of North Faulkner, the 1900 block of North Christy, the 1300 block of North Hobart and the 700 block of East Browning.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 2400 block of Comanche.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

A runaway was reported in the 1200 block of East Foster.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of Magnolia and the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway.

A prowler was reported in the 1000 block

of South Dwight.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 700 block of North Banks.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1500 block of Dogwood.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of Sloan and the 800 block of North Wells, where an estimated \$30 damage was done when a window screen was damaged.

Criminal mischief was reported at the office of Gregory T. Kelly, DDS, at 1835 N. Hobart. A window was shattered. Estimated cost of damage is unknown.

A threat was reported in the 600 block of North Wynne.

A domestic disturbance, cruelty to animals and possession of drug paraphernalia were reported in the 1300 block of Coffee. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill and the 2200 block of Williston.

Theft was reported in the 500 block of Magnolia. Two lawn mowers were taken, resulting in a loss valued at approximately \$290.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 309 N. Hobart. Fuel valued at \$88 was taken.

Saturday, May 12

Six traffic stops were made, resulting in at least two arrests.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1800 block of Coffee, the intersection of 17th and Aspen streets and the 1400 block of North Hobart.

A vehicle pursuit was reported at the inter-

section of Beryl and Finley Streets.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 1100 block of Charles.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 600 block of East 23rd. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals on two occasions in the 800 block of East Locust, the 900 block of North Sumner, the 400 block of East Foster, the 2100 block of North Zimmers, the 700 block of North Nelson, the 1100 block of Willow, the 1200 block of Tyng, the 1200 block of North Russell and the intersection of Harvester and Jupiter streets.

Welfare checks were made in the 1300 block of North Hobart, the 1200 block of North Hobart, the 1500 block of Dogwood and on two occasions in the 1600 block of East Highway 60.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby. A Game Boy was found in the 1000 block of North Frost, at the Super Playground.

Agency assistance was rendered at the intersection of 20th and Williston streets and the 500 block of North Warren.

Warrant service was attempted on one occasion, resulting in at least one arrest.

A civil matter was reported in the 700 block of East Locust.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of Hazel and the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 400 block of Lefors.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1600 block of East Highway 60 and the 1300 block of North Banks.

Violation of a protective order was reported in the 100 block of South Starkweather.

Disorderly conduct -- noise was reported in the 1600 block of East Highway 60. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of East Highway 60, the 1100 block of Varnon Drive, the intersection of Alcock and Hobart streets, the 300 block of Jean, the 1100 block of South Nelson and the 600 block of North Wells.

Criminal mischief was reported at Central Park, 1000 block of Duncan. An estimated \$500 damage was done to toilets and pipes.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of Beech. A brick and metal mailbox sustained an estimated \$1,000 damage.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of East Randy Matson.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby, the 2800 block of Charles and the 1200 block of North Wells.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 400 block of East 17th and the 800 block of East Campbell, where minor injuries were reported but no medical attention was need-

ed.

Assault on a family member was reported in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill. Minor injuries which did not need medical attention were reported.

Assault was reported in the 1000 block of North Dwight and the 900 block of Alcock, where minor injuries which did not need medical attention were reported.

Sunday, May 13

Seventeen traffic stops were made. Traffic stops in the 900 block of West Rham and the 2000 block of Alcock resulted in at least two arrests for driving while intoxicated.

A traffic complaint was reported in the 1500 block of North Hobart.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 28900 block of Charles.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 300 block of North Faulkner, an unreported location and the 1900 block of North Christy.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 2100 block of Alcock and the 200 block of North Russell.

A runaway was reported in the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Civil matters were reported in the 1700 block of Duncan, the 800 block of North Nelson and the 600 block of North Dwight.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 300 block of Miami.

A prowler was reported in the 1000 block of Denver and the 700 block of North Dwight.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received on two occasions from the 700 block of Lefors.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of East Craven, the 1600 block of West Somerville, the 900 block of Varnon Drive, the 700 block of North Dwight, the 700 block of East Murphy and the 1200 block of North Wells.

Criminal trespass was reported in the police department lobby.

Assault was reported in the 700 block of North Russell.

One burglar alarm was reported. Burglary was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby, the 200 block of North Faulkner and at Hastings Books, Music & Video, 1205 N. Hobart, where a Transformer toy valued at \$24 was taken.

Monday, May 14

One traffic stop was made, resulting in an arrest for driving while intoxicated and resisting arrest, search or transport.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 200 block of North Russell and the 1300 block of Plum.

A suspicious vehicle report was received from the 400 block of East Browning.

Telephone harassment was reported in the

See RECORD, Page 3

CITY BRIEFS

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

ATTN: GRADUATES Its time again this year for the Special Graduation Edition from the Pampa News. If you did not take your picture for the annual you can come by the Pampa News and have your picture taken or bring one in that you have had made. Deadline for pictures is May 15. Also, some photos have been misplaced in the past and even though you took a picture for the annual we might not have it. If you would like to check please call us at 669-2525 after the 9th to see if your on our list.

BASIC LAWN Care. Call 665-0310 leave message.

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN School Fajita Cookout & Bake Sale, Fri., May 18, 11-1. \$10. Tickets available at C.C.S. 220 N. Ballard, 665-3393.

GRADUATE PARENTS if you would like to congratulate your child on his/her graduation please contact the Pampa News to place your ad in the Special Graduation edition. Pampa, White Deer and Lefors will be in this Keepsake Edition. 669-2525 Deadline is May 15th!

FOUND OLD Military Picture and picture of Ann Shreidan in Frame at 23rd and Dogwood. Please call 669-2525 Pampa News

IDA MAE Johnson Estate Sale. Furniture, appliances, clothing, shoes, garage items, kitchen items, etc. May 17, 18, & 19 starting at 8am. 2728 N. Cherokee.

MONDAYS AT Pak-A-Burger: Jr. Burger & Fries \$1.99. 669-2865.

Cleaning up



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Gray County Precinct 2 employee Jonathan DeLong loads a trailer with tree limbs which were being cleared off of property at the intersection of Buckler and Rider Streets on Friday. At least three trailer loads of limbs were cleared from the location.

Record

Continued from Page 2

800 block of North Wells. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of East 17th.

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

Saturday, May 12

Rustin Lee Horton, 17, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana.

Billy Ray Barker, 43, of Pampa was arrested at Recreation Park by Pampa Police Department for disorderly conduct -- noise.

Spencer Neff, 33, of Pampa was arrested in the 1000 block of East Frederic by PPD on a capias pro fine for expired motor vehicle registration.

Juan Daniel Cano, 24, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for escape from custody, fictitious inspection or insurance document and capias pro fines for animal at large and animal not restrained.

Salvador Rodriguez, 29, of Pampa was arrested in

the 1100 block of East Kingsmill by PPD for assault causing bodily injury and family violence.

Larry Dale Ely, 39, of Pampa was arrested in the 2200 block of Chestnut by PPD for driving while intoxicated.

John Robert Byrne, 39, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of Rham by PPD for driving while intoxicated.

Julie A. Tucker, 41, of Pampa was arrested in the 2000 block of Alcock by PPD for driving while intoxicated, failure to retain Texas driver's license within 30 days, failure to retain Texas license plates within 30 days and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Lesley Wayne Alexander, 44, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of East Kingsmill by PPD for public intoxication and disorderly conduct -- language.

Sunday, May 13

Zacarias Rodriguez Torrez, 50, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Anthony Curry Pendleton, 19, of Pampa was arrested in the 2300 block of Perryton Parkway by PPD for possession of

less than one gram of a controlled substance.

Dustin Ray Langley, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 2300 block of Perryton Parkway by PPD for no valid driver's license and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Monday, May 14

Jeanetta Kay Adamson, 34, of Pampa was arrested in the 700 block of East Browning by PPD for resisting arrest, search or transport; driving while intoxicated; and a bond surrender for theft by check.

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 48-hour weekend period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, May 12

No reported calls.

Sunday, May 13

8:33 a.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 500 block of Doyle on a lift assist.

11:34 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1800 block of North Nelson on an arcing power line.

6:50 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 500 block of North Dwight on a gas leak.

Texas senators to consider compromise transportation bill

AUSTIN (AP) — Hoping to avoid a veto override fight and a special legislative session, the Texas Senate was expected to discuss a proposal today that aims to address the governor's concerns with a sweeping transportation bill.

The bill is similar to one law-

makers sent Gov. Rick Perry last week, with more exemptions to the two-year moratorium on most new privately financed toll road projects.

Among the newly exempted projects is the development of the Interstate 69 corridor in the Rio

Grande Valley. South Texas officials had loudly protested the original bill, saying it could derail a project that is vital to the region's development.

The compromise bill would still tighten controls on comprehensive development agreements, used in

contracts for private-public road building. But the agreements could last up to 50 years, instead of the 40 years included in the original legislation.

The compromise also would change provisions for local participation in the building of toll roads.

Perry threatened to veto the original transportation bill last week and said he would call a special session if lawmakers chose to override him. He said the bill would shut down road construction, kill jobs and prevent access to federal highway money.

Meetings

Continued from Page 1

county treasurer's and an internal auditor's reports.

Lefors ISD

By KERRI SMITH
 Staff Writer

Members of the Lefors ISD School Board will canvass the results from the election held Saturday, swear in newly elected board members, approve the hiring of a school principal and a high school business teacher and possibly approve district improvement plan goals during a regular meeting to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

The board will canvass results from Saturday's bond election and adopt an order declaring the results. They will also swear in any new board members and have them take the oath of office. New board officers will be elected.

Also on the agenda is consideration and possible approval of hiring a school principal and a high school business teacher. Members will possibly approve district improvement plan goals.

Two transactions will be considered to transfer funds from debt service revenue and the debt service fund balance to the general fund. A revised bid on delinquent tax property will be considered. The bid was originally rejected by Gray County due to an error.

Election

Continued from Page 1

\$800,000 school bond issue.

McLean Independent School District Supt. Jimmy Hammon said today he was excited that the bond issue there passed.

School bond issues for Lefors and Fort Elliott passed as well.

Dallas mayor's race ends in runoff

DALLAS (AP) — City Councilman Ed Oakley and businessman Tom Leppert are headed to a runoff to replace Dallas Mayor Laura Miller as voters around the state Saturday chose new officials and decided bond issues.

Suburban voters in Farmer's Branch became the first in the nation to prohibit landlords from renting to illegal immigrants. Statewide, voters approved a constitutional amendment to allow elderly and disabled homeowners to enjoy the same property tax cut as other homeowners.

With all precincts reporting, Leppert had 27 percent and Oakley had 21 percent, according to final but unofficial results.

Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill was in third place with 14 percent, followed by banker and former Councilman Max Wells at 12 percent.

Because none of the 11 candidates for Dallas mayor achieved 50 percent of the vote, the top two will advance to a June 16 runoff.

"I think I have a background that people identify with combined with a message that looks at the future

of Dallas," Leppert said.

Oakley predicted more interest in a two-candidate runoff.

"There were so many candidates and so many messages," Oakley said. "People are anxious to hear our messages."

In the only statewide item on the ballot, voters decided to amend the Texas Constitution to provide property tax relief for elderly Texans. With all precincts reporting, 88 percent favored the amendment, according to final but unofficial results. The change was necessary to get around a freeze on tax rates for the elderly and disabled and allow them to enjoy the rate cut that all other homeowners got in a recent tax relief package.

The anti-illegal immigrant measure in Farmer's Branch passed with 68 percent in favor and 32 percent opposed in final but unofficial returns.

The U.S. Justice Department was monitoring the Farmers Branch and other elections to ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act. Observers were to be dispatched to polling sites to ensure that individual

voting rights were protected, a Justice Department spokeswoman said.

In Houston, Melissa Noriega headed into a runoff for the city council seat vacated by Shelley Sekula-Gibbs. Noriega grabbed 47 percent of the votes. She served in the Texas House for seven months in 2005 while her husband was deployed in Afghanistan and she was by far the best-funded candidate with the most institutional support.

She will face retired Air Force officer Roy Morales, who garnered 19 percent of the vote.

In San Antonio, Mary Alice Cisneros won a seat on the city council. With most precincts reporting, the wife of former Democratic star Henry Cisneros led with 63 percent of the vote in a three-person race.

Voters there also followed the mayor's lead in supporting \$550 million worth of bonds covering 151 projects ranging from road and drainage improvements to libraries and parks. With all but a few precincts reporting, the five measures each carried about 70 percent of the vote each.

Chamber

Continued from Page 1

workforce development. We would recruit, screen and train employees for technical jobs. This helped the employers greatly who were looking for qualified employees."

In 2006, Vanderpool said he found out about Pampa looking for a new chamber director and decided to throw his hat in the ring. Since he had roots in Pampa and his brother and his family still live here, he thought it would be a great place to come back to.

"It is very hard to leave Pampa, my brother and all of the wonderful friends that I've made since moving back here," Vanderpool said. "Pampa is a great town with a strong economy so I know it will continue to

thrive. There are many things that I've liked about living here. The educational system is very good here and I've loved the many parks also. The board of directors here at the chamber have been great to work with."

Vanderpool said he is looking forward to living in Tucumcari, one town in New Mexico where he has not lived. He said it is smaller than Pampa and that is one thing his wife and kids will enjoy. He has a 22-year old daughter, Catherine, who is graduating from the University of New Mexico. He and his new wife Colette, who he met and married in Pampa, also have four children living at home, Chase, 16, Max, 14, Rachel, 12 and Savannah, 9.

"One thing that was attractive about moving back to New Mexico is the lottery scholarship program

they have for higher education," Vanderpool said. "They use proceeds from the lottery and provide a tuition-free education to any child that graduates from a New Mexico high school. So, all four of our kids can attend college in New Mexico and all we have to pay is room and board and books. That is a great program."

Vanderpool said one other plus about moving to Tucumcari is living halfway between his brother here in Pampa and his mother, who lives in Albuquerque.

Discussions are ongoing by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce board to find a replacement. Vanderpool said that Keith Pitner, tourism coordinator, will be the interim director, pending board approval on Wednesday. Then the search for a permanent director will begin.

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Viewpoints

Everybody wants a portion of the oil bonanza

It seems as though everybody wants a piece of the oil bonanza.

In Washington, politicians want to tax "windfall profits."

In foreign countries (such as Venezuela), politicians want to "nationalize" oil reserves discovered and developed by oil companies.

And, Jesse Jackson said as the oil industry's biggest meeting, the Offshore Technology Conference, began in Houston that, "We intend to inject ourselves into the struggle for fair access to energy."

Sen. Robert Casey, D-Pa., said he will introduce a bill that will place a 50 percent tax on crude oil from major oil companies priced at more than \$50 per barrel. The

money taxed away would be used to subsidize transportation for the poor. Casey's bill also would increase oil and gas royalties on federal lands.

Venezuela President Hugo Chavez announced that he will take over four large oil projects in Venezuela that were operated by ExxonMobil Corp., Chevron Corp., ConocoPhillips, BP PLC, Total SA, and Statoil ASA. Petroleos de Venezuela, the national oil company of Venezuela, took over operations on May 1.

Jackson said his Rainbow PUSH Coalition plans to buy stock in 20 of the world's largest energy companies. As investors, the group will seek change by attending annual

meetings, calling for talks with the companies' chief executives and pressing for the hiring of more blacks at energy companies.

Alex Mills

Columnist



Even though Texas collected more than \$3 billion in oil and gas production taxes (doesn't include royalties on state lands, sales taxes, property taxes and a dozen fees) in fiscal year 2006, lawmakers in Austin want to increase bonding

requirements 500 percent, to a level that would put many companies out of business.

Former Vice President Al Gore wants to put a stop to everyone getting a piece of the Golden Goose. He believes that carbon emissions create warmer temperatures. The temperatures are so warm that they are melting Greenland, which allegedly will result in all kinds of catastrophic events. If Mr. Gore gets his way, crude oil will be outlawed as soon as possible.

There goes Sen. Casey's plan to help the poor with their transportation needs. President Chavez will take over oil fields that are virtually worthless. The Rev. Jackson will

have a lot of overvalued stock in energy companies, and no place to put his minority workers. The State of Texas will be back in an economic and financial slump.

Doesn't seem fair, does it? Switching from fossil fuels may sound good on the surface. There will be consequences, however, and those consequences will touch everyone.

Alex Mills is President of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, which represents more than 3,000 companies in 25 states. The opinions expressed are of the author and do not necessarily represent the opinions and policies of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, May 14, the 134th day of 2007. There are 231 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Four hundred years ago, on May 14, 1607, English colonists went ashore in Virginia to begin building a permanent settlement, named Jamestown after England's King James I.

On this date:

In 1643, Louis XIV became King of France at age 4 upon the death of his father, Louis XV.

In 1796, English physician Edward Jenner administered the first vaccination against smallpox to 8-year-old James Phipps by using cowpox matter.

In 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory left St. Louis.

In 1900, the Olympic games opened in Paris, held as part of the 1900 World's Fair.

In 1942, Congress voted to establish the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps.

In 1948 (according to the current-era calendar), the independent state of Israel was proclaimed in Tel Aviv.

In 1973, the United States launched Skylab I, its first manned space station.

In 1975, U.S. forces raided the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and recaptured the American merchant ship Mayaguez. All 40 crew members had already

'The family you come from isn't as important as the family you're going to have.'

— Ring Lardner
American humorist
(1885-1933)

been released safely by Cambodia, but some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in the military operation.

In 1987, actress Rita Hayworth died in New York at age 68.

In 1998, singer-actor Frank Sinatra died at a Los Angeles hospital at age 82.

Ten years ago: Jurors at the Timothy McVeigh trial in Denver saw chilling black-and-white surveillance pictures of a Ryder truck moving toward the Oklahoma City federal building minutes before a bomb blew the place apart.

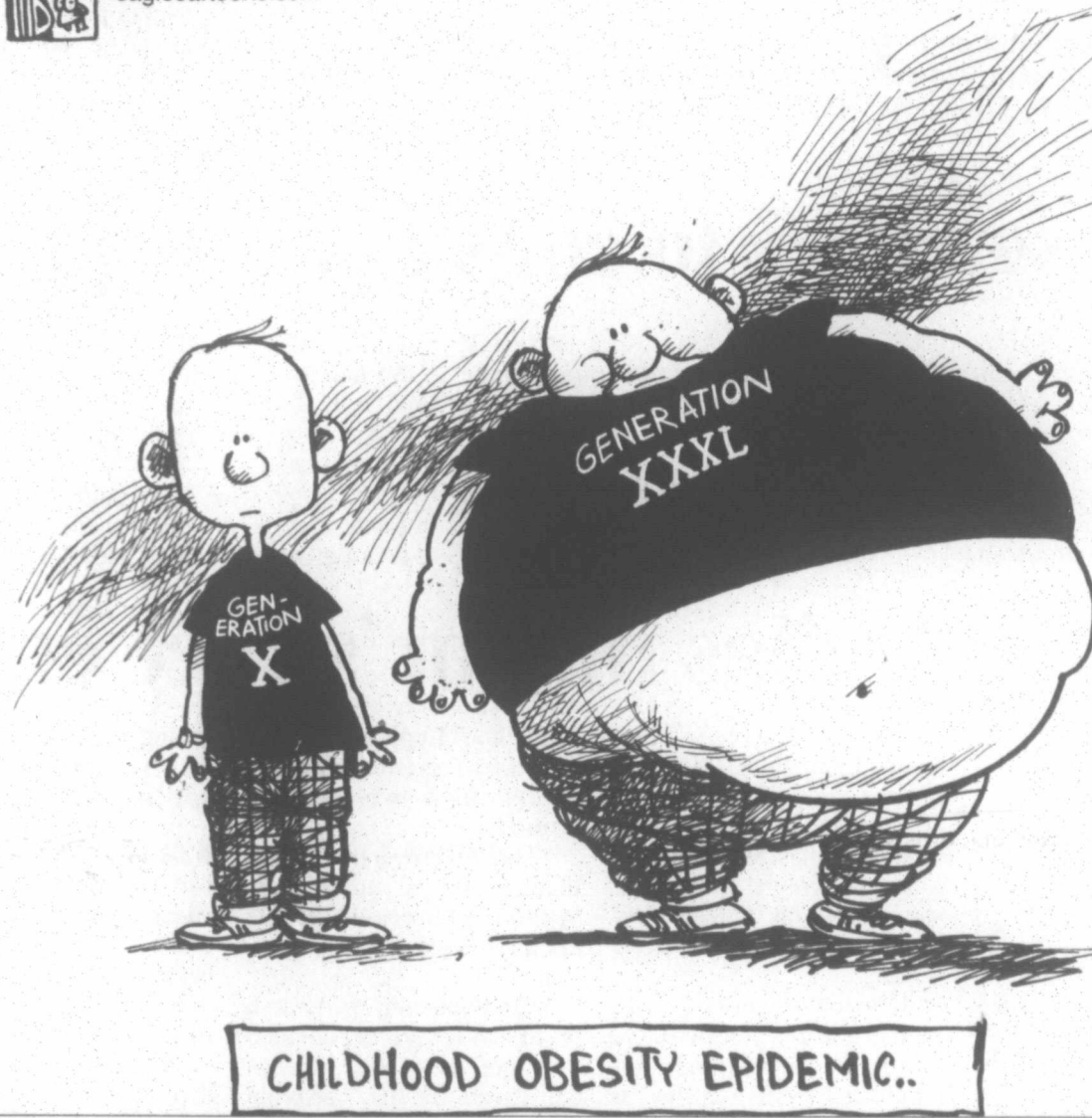
Five years ago: NATO and Russia reached a historic agreement to combat common security threats in the post-Sept. 11 era. Former President Jimmy Carter addressed Cubans in an unprecedented hour of live, censored television — telling them that their country did not meet international standards of democracy.

One year ago: Mexican President Vicente Fox telephoned President Bush to express his concern about the border between the two nations, a day before Bush's planned Oval Office speech on immigration. Rene Praval was sworn in as Haiti's president for the second time in a decade.

Former U.S. poet laureate Stanley Kunitz died in New York at age 100. Aras Baskauskas, a 24-year-old yoga instructor from Santa Monica, Calif., won "Survivor: Panama, Exile Island," the 12th edition of the CBS reality show.



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Bad destiny to be born in a small country

The row over the removal of a statue of a Soviet soldier in Estonia is another bit of evidence why major powers should never ally themselves with small, powerless countries.

By the second day, Estonian officials were calling for the European Union to consider the Russian response as an "attack on the EU." It was, of course, no such thing, but little kids with big bodyguards are always quick to employ their surrogate muscle.

The Baltic States — Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia — are small countries sitting against the breast of Mother Russia. Yes, they have suffered, both under Nazi occupation and later Soviet occupation. Yes, many brave people died in their futile effort to win their independence.

But facts are facts, and

small countries that close to Russia are independent by Russia's permission. It is in their self-interest, despite bitter memories, to cultivate good relations with Russia. But when the West comes

along and says to join the EU and NATO, their politicians are encouraged to believe they can spit in the eye of the Russian bear.

World War II was a murderous business in Russia. Some 18 million Soviet citizens died in it. It resonates strongly among the Russian people, even today. It was a foolish thing to do to dismantle the statue of a Russian soldier, erected in 1947, and dump it in a park on the outskirts of the city.

The bear may only growl this time, but he is still a bear.

The removal caused a riot, and the Russians are hopping mad about it — and rightly so. Just as the sins of

Hitler should not be visited on the present-day Germans, so, too, the sins of Stalin should not be visited on today's Russia. That statue does not symbolize Soviet occupation. It symbolizes the Red Army's victory over the Third Reich. And it is a statue of a common soldier, not of Stalin.

It is a bad destiny to be born in a small country that larger countries use in their wars. When the Nazis occupied the Baltic countries,

they murdered the people who were communists and who cooperated with the communists. When the Soviets came back in, they murdered the people who were Nazis and those who cooperated with Nazis or who wanted independence.

A lot of blood has been spilled in the Baltic countries, but despite our admiration for the courage of Baltic patriots, it is important to remember that they never succeeded, either against the Germans or the Russians. Little countries do not have the manpower or the resources to whip big countries.

Which brings me to the point: Alliances are only for the purpose of war-fighting. No one needs an alliance during peacetime. When Russia disbanded the

See REESE, Page 10

Charley Reese

Columnist



Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ May 7

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on disorder in the court:

Let's call Judge Brent Keis' in-court comments to Dallas lawyer Nuru Witherspoon and his clients what they were: absurd.

Keis might have believed that he was just being sociable to an unfamiliar African-American lawyer whose name the judge found odd. But the best he could do was to muse on the slave trade making African-Americans beefier athletes?

Welcome to Tarrant County Court at Law No. 1: You have now been pigeon-

holed in front of your clients.

This wasn't two "buddies" sharing an after-work brew. It wasn't office colleagues arguing over last night's game. It wasn't a TV sports commentator having a bad mike day.

It was a judge, an elected officer of the court acting in his official capacity, where he carries the power of the state over whether litigants get a fair hearing. And it raised questions about the judge's impartiality.

Perhaps even worse, Keis all but told Witherspoon's clients that they wouldn't have much sway with a Tarrant County jury. While explaining the risks of a trial to David and Toni Goodman, Keis said that Tarrant County is made up of Republicans who think like him, Witherspoon recounted in a complaint

to the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct.

David Goodman told Star-Telegram reporter Max Baker that he considered Keis' comments a racial slur against his attorney and felt that a "hostile court situation" compelled him and his wife to forgo a trial and settle with the insurance company they were suing.

Judges should encourage parties to settle, because not every case can or should be tried. But a judge shouldn't strong-arm litigants with insinuations that their case has been prejudged by him or by a potential jury.

The Texas Code of Judicial Conduct states that judges shall not "by words or conduct manifest bias or prejudice" and

See COURTS, Page 10

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Ten years ago when I was in college, I worked briefly as a topless dancer to pay my rent. I am not proud of it, and frankly, I try to forget it ever happened. I am now married and have young children. My husband knows about my past and doesn't judge me. We have an agreement -- we just pretend it never happened. Of course, nothing has been said to our children or other family members, and we do not plan to say anything. I have a friend from college, "Nancy," with whom I get together once or twice a year. We recently had her over. Out of the blue, Nancy looked at my 2-year-old daughter and said, "Did you know your mommy used to be a stripper?" Then she laughed. I was stunned. I let out a nervous laugh and stammered, "Uhh ... I try to forget I ever did that." She laughed and repeated her comment to my child! Nancy is the last person I would have expected to say something like that. It wasn't meant maliciously, but I don't know why she said it. Maybe it was just a joke that turned out incredibly not funny. She has no children, so maybe she doesn't realize how impressionable a 2-year-old is. My husband wasn't in the room when it happened. When I told him about it a few days later, he was very upset. He said I need to address this with her before we get together again. He says if I don't, he will. I feel that we don't see Nancy often enough for this to be an issue. I couldn't believe she said it in the first place, but I can't believe she'll do it again. Of course, I'd be horrified if she did. What do I do? -- **STRIPPED OF MY PRIDE**

DEAR STRIPPED: I believe your friend will do it again. Nancy appears to be a person who lacks good judgment, or is simply

unaware of how embarrassed you are by this part of your past. Although your daughter is too young to have understood the significance of your old college chum's statement, it should not have been made in the first place. Explain to Nancy that you are not proud of what you did and ask her not to bring it up again, especially in front of your children. If she won't comply, then it may be time to end the friendship.

DEAR ABBY: My brother and his fiancée are being married this year, and I couldn't be happier for them. My problem is they want me to be part of the wedding party, but I just don't happen to be the "bridesmaid" type. I haven't worn a dress since I was a toddler and really don't feel comfortable wearing one. The rest of our family expects me to be in the wedding, and I don't want to hurt my brother's or the bride-to-be's feelings. However, I feel it is better to take the risk of hurting feelings now than have a miserable bridesmaid ruining their perfect day. Is there any way I can let them down gently? -- **NEVER THE BRIDESMAID**

DEAR NEVER: You should definitely be a part of your brother's wedding. The role you play does not have to be a bridesmaid. Ask your brother and his fiancée if you could do something that does not require that you wear a dress. Perhaps you could do a reading instead. I'm sure you can work something out so everyone will be happy on their perfect day.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



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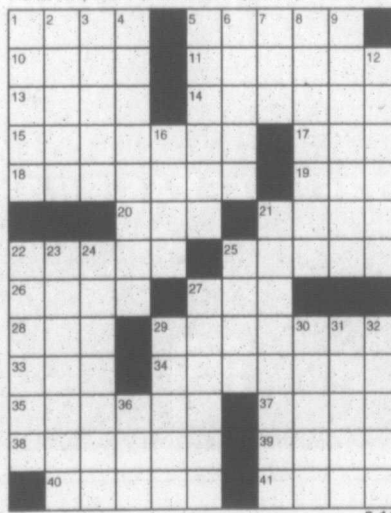
Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 38 Worked
 - 1 Highlands the soil family
 - 5 Fleet
 - 40 Viola's members
 - 10 Overly
 - 41 Dyeing suave tubs
 - 11 Moon of Jupiter
 - 13 Resting on
 - 14 Kitchen gadget
 - 3 Isolated
 - 17 That lady
 - 18 Multiplies by three
 - 19 Keats poem
 - 20 "— Misérables"
 - 21 Asset
 - 22 Fake
 - 25 Snoozed
 - 26 Parcel of land
 - 27 Brewed drink
 - 28 Floral garland
 - 29 Enter dramatically
 - 33 Young fellow
 - 34 Scrutinize
 - 35 Salad green
 - 37 Qualified
- DOWN**
- 1 Resort site, often
 - 2 Bottle size
 - 3 Isolated
 - 4 Dennis Franz series
 - 5 Musical transitions
 - 6 Is sore
 - 7 Writer Levin
 - 8 Driver's bane
 - 9 Accelerate
 - 12 Collar
 - 16 Bullfight cries
 - 21 Big screen choice
 - 22 Danseur's forte
 - 23 Marine
 - 24 Waffle-making need
 - 25 Blood fluids
 - 27 Groom's garb
 - 29 Angled edge
 - 30 Leg bone
 - 31 Cove
 - 32 Requires
 - 36 Poorly

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Marmaduke

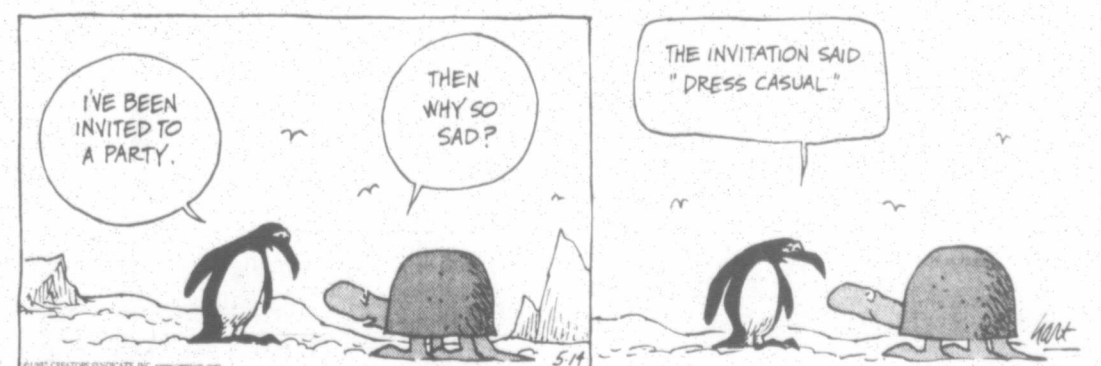


The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie

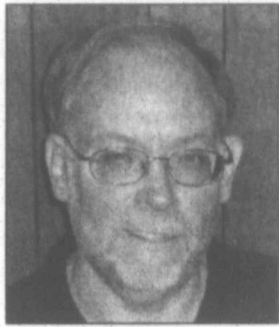


Chamber

Letter from the desk of the executive director

GOING SOMEWHERE

C.S. Lewis once said "We all want progress, but if you're on the wrong road, progress means doing an about-turn and walking back to the right road; in that case, the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive."



Vanderpool

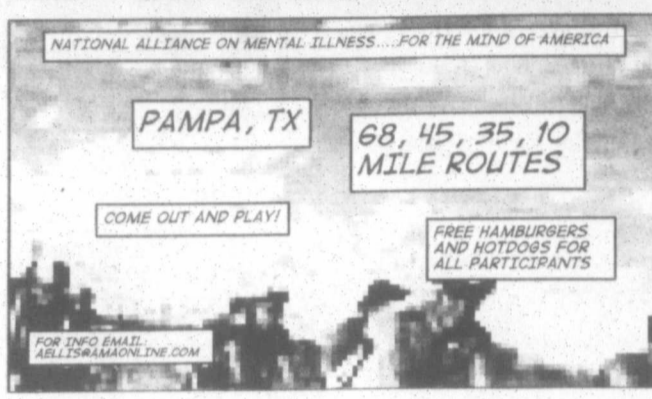
I will be leaving as Executive Director of the Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce at the end of May. Pampa is a fabulous community. I love Pampa. But I've been given an opportunity and challenge I simply can't turn down. So I will be taking another road. There are a lot of great people here. There are a lot of good things happening, and I regret that I won't be here to participate in all of those things. Maybe, just maybe, I'll be able to help out from time to time. I hope so.

One of the most difficult decisions we face in life is knowing which way to go when we come to a fork in the road. Sometimes there are road signs that help out. Sometimes there are not. My Dad asked me one time if I knew what I was going to do with my life, and I told him I didn't have any idea. His suggestion for me was to "pick something." I'll admit that took me back a bit. I responded "You don't just pick something." Dad said "Why not? At least then you're going somewhere. You can always change your mind later."

And that is the secret, I think. "Going Somewhere." It sure beats going nowhere. I like to say "Get off your seat and move your feet." So I will. Maybe with a little providence to guide me. How about you?

Bob Dylan once said, "I almost didn't make it tonight ... I had a flat tire ... there was a fork in the road."

Pat Vanderpool
Executive Director



Thank you

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Chamber Luncheon

Tuesday May 15 11:45 a.m. in the M.K. Brown room in the Community Building. Lunch will be provided by R&R Catering: Chicken Fried Steak, Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Salad, & Cookies. Speaker will be John Crowell with the North Rolling Plains RC&D. He will speak on RC&D (Resource, Conservation, & Development) and Windfarm Development. Price is \$8 a person. Please RSVP at 669-3241 or e-mail harvest@pampachamber.com.

You're invited

The Chamber of Commerce would like to invite everyone to participate in the 8th Annual Business Expo on Saturday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the M.K. Brown Auditorium. If you would like to have a booth at this event contact the Chamber at 669-3241 or e-mail harvest@pampachamber.com. Admission is FREE! Come out and enjoy the activities, Door Prizes, Samples, Kid Print by Pampa Police Dept., "Patches" and the Pumper, and Texas Flag Give-Away.

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Sports Day

Lady Harvesters overcome third round stigma



By JORDAN REAGAN
Sports Editor

PLAINVIEW— Two years ago, the Pampa Lady Harvesters made their way to the third round of the playoffs to take on the Lady Steers from Big Spring, only to be defeated as they had two years prior to that in 2003.

This year, Pampa pulled out all the stops to turn the tables on Big Spring to advance into the fourth round.

To follow up on Friday's 10-4 victory over the Lady Steers, the Lady Harvesters finished the three-game series with a 3-0 win in Game 2 Saturday.

Cassy Tice gave up only three hits while picking up the win to improve to 15-3 on the season.

Nicole Clark, Libby Dyson and Kelby Doughty each scored on hits by Logan Winkelman, Kambra Jimenez and Doughty.

"This was a great win for the team," coach Bobbi Gill said, "The girls are excited, but I don't think they are done!"

Gill said the girls are loaded with determination, which is what it will take for them to keep advancing.

The Lady Harvesters improve their record to 29-6-2, and will continue this weekend to take on Denton Ryan (28-5).

Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN

Second-baseman Stephanie McVay stands ready as Nicole Clark sends a pitch to Big Spring during Game 1 Friday in Plainview.



Courtesy photo by JOEY SALAZAR

Senior Brett Ferrell steps up to the plate against El Paso Riverside during Friday's first game.

New coach pays off for Mickelson

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Phil Mickelson took the yellow flag from the 18th green, scribbled a message in the corner and then presented it to his new swing coach.

"Butch, the 1st of many!" Mickelson wrote above his signature.

Butch Harmon gladly accepted the token of appreciation, then did like any good teacher would: He gave his student all the credit.

"Obviously, it's very rewarding from a teacher's standpoint to have the opportunity to work with one of the greatest players in the world," Harmon said. "And to have a chance to work with him at this time of his career, after he's already won 30 tournaments and three majors, it's very rewarding honestly."

It's paying huge dividends for Mickelson, too.

Playing his third week with a new coach, Mickelson made The Players Championship look easy Sunday.

He missed only four fairways and two greens, and had only one bogey when it no longer mattered. Mickelson closed with a 3-under 69 for a two-shot vic-

tory over Sergio Garcia. "What's most exciting is I feel like we're just getting started," Mickelson said.

Maybe so. The real test could come next month at the U.S. Open, played at Oakmont Country Club in Pennsylvania.

"If I keep working at these things and keep progressing, I should be able to take on the ultimate tough challenge at Oakmont," Mickelson said.

Mickelson escaped the TPC Sawgrass without much challenge, at least not on the final two holes.

He built a two-shot lead over Sean O'Hair heading to the daunting par-3 17th and its famed island green, then watched O'Hair play himself out of contention.

O'Hair, who started the round with a one-stroke lead, matched Mickelson shot-for-shot along the back nine. But O'Hair failed to convert several birdie putts and was two strokes back with two holes to play — a deficit he felt forced him to take aim at the pin on 17.

Mickelson took home the crystal trophy and \$1.62 million from the richest purse in golf (\$9 million). He trails Tiger Woods by \$60,000.

Pampa baseball falls to Riverside

ANDREWS— Following their Game 1 loss to El Paso Riverside Friday, the Pampa Harvesters were defeated 8-4 by the Rangers in Game 2

Saturday. Senior Brady Eakin was 2-for-4 with two RBIs, and 2-for-3 with one RBI. Sophomore Blake Sieck

recorded the loss to bring his record to 4-3 on the season. Sieck had four strikeouts, allowed eight runs and 14 hits, and gave up two walks.

The Harvesters ended their season Saturday at 22-12-1.

Celanese Corp. Gets by Rotary Club in Cal Ripken Play

Celanese and Rotary squared off Saturday afternoon in Optimist Club Cal Ripken 11-12 year old play.

Celanese starting pitcher, James Thompson, fielded a ground ball, a fly ball and struck out a batter for a three up three down top of the first inning.

In the bottom of the first, Celanese catcher, Brandon Stokes, lined a single to left field off Rotary starter, Riley Douglas.

Thompson then reached on a hit by pitch and both scored on a single by second baseman, Bobby Haley.

Chris Howard and Kyler Allen reached base then scored in front of Trey Wiggins, who tripled to right field.

In all, Celanese scored five runs in the first inning to take a 5-0 lead.

Rotary's Ryan Damron led off the second inning with a single off of Thompson, but

was then picked off of first base and Rotary failed to score in the inning.

In the bottom of the second, Stokes led off with a bunt single and scored on a Thompson double.

Thompson then scored on a double by Haley and Celanese led 7-0 after two innings.

In the third inning, Rotary's Joseph Slatten walked, stole second and third and scored on an infield

single by Douglas.

The inning ended for Rotary with Douglas stranded on third base.

Cody Parks pitched the bottom of the third for Rotary and struck out the side.

Bobby Haley relieved Thompson on the mound for Celanese and pitched a scoreless fourth inning.

In the bottom of the fourth, Cyler Clifton led off for Celanese and drove a

fastball from Parks over the left field fence for his first home run of the season.

Celanese led 8-1 after four innings.

In the top of the fifth, Parks got his revenge for the Clifton home run by riving a long, two-run home run of his own over the center field fence.

The home run capped a four run inning for Rotary making the score 8-5.

Celanese scored three

more runs in the bottom of the fifth inning before time ran out in the game with the final score Celanese 11 and Rotary 5.

Celanese evened its conference record at 1-1 and Rotary falls to 1-3 on the season.

Both teams play again Monday night as Celanese takes on Cabot and Rotary plays DFB.

Base hit



Callie Preston bunts to first base during Friday's Game 1 against Big Spring.

Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN

Burleson, Davis set new Pampa Partnership Tournament record

The Pampa Partnership golf tournament took place this weekend at Hidden Hills Golf Course and the Pampa Country Club.

Joel Burleson shot a sizzling 62 on his own ball Sunday at the Pampa Country Club playing with his partner Craig Davis combined for a tournament record score of 126.

Richard Andrade made a hole-in-one on the 150 yard 7th hole at the Pampa Country Club with his partner, Chuck Roach.

All tournament results are as follows:

Hidden Hills May 12, 2007

Ladies Flight

- 1st Place (74) Yolanda Bell
- Debbie Hargus
- 2nd Place (77) Jane Jones
- Ann Dunivan
- 3rd Place (82) Melody Goad
- Patty Fulcher
- 4th Place (89) Sheila McFatrige
- Connie Lynch

Champion Flight

- 1st Place (65) Craig Davis
- Joel Burleson
- 2nd Place (68) Merlin Rose
- Tim Whipkey
- 3rd Place (69) Steve Williams
- Jason Marler
- 4th Place (70) Jon East
- John East
- 4th Place (70) Clint Miller
- Daniel Williams
- 4th Place (70) Bill Sherrill
- Dustin Sherrill
- 4th Place (70) Ken Cambern
- Rebel Aistrup

First Flight

- 1st Place (71)

- Lonnie Fowler
- Cory Fowler
- 1st Place (71) R.D. Stephens
- Don Adams
- 1st Place (71) Tim Brown
- Yolanda Bell
- Ron Whipkey
- 1st Place (71) William Buck
- David McGill
- 6th Place (72) Chuck White
- Greg White
- 6th Place (72) Lee Garcia
- Anthony Tiedt

Second Flight

- 1st Place (73) Bill Simon
- Max Simon
- 1st Place (73) Don Alexander
- Jerry Walling
- 1st Place (73) Gary Mullins
- Craig Phillips
- 1st Place (73) James Thompson
- Charles Bradshaw
- 5th Place (74) Weston Teichmann
- J.K. Harrison
- 6th Place (75) Joe Manzanares
- Cooper Brazille
- 6th Place (75) Joe Harris
- Ryan Edwards
- 6th Place (75) Seth Stribling
- Jay Sherrill
- 9th Place (77)

- Terry Hall
- Clayton Hall
- 9th Place (77) John Allen
- Cullen Allen

Third Flight

- 1st Place (72) Terry Holt
- Sam Maples
- 2nd Place (73) S.D. Baize
- Tom Atchley
- 2nd Place (73) Jackie Williamson
- Mike Goad
- 2nd Place (73) Scott Smith
- Danny Brown
- 5th Place (74) Jason Bass
- Jeff McCurdy
- 5th Place (74) Pat Montoya
- Joe Valdez
- 7th Place (75) Ralph Baker
- Buster Kelly
- 7th Place (75) Bill Allison
- Ronnie Wood
- 7th Place (75) Ricky Martin
- Jed Martin

Fourth Flight

- 1st Place (76) Chuck Roach
- Richard Andade
- 1st Place (76) Sam White
- Jeff McClendon
- 3rd Place (77) Chris Jewett
- Joel Morgan
- 3rd Place (77) Terry Garner
- Darrel Crafton
- 5th Place (78) Benny Silva
- Abe Garcia
- 5th Place (78) Steve Cox
- Scott Wiseman
- 5th Place (78)

- Jamie Wariner
- Doug Ware
- 8th Place (80) Ronnie Loter
- Jerry Stephens
- 8th Place (80) John Hervey
- Russ Hervey
- 8th Place (80) Willie Nickleberry
- Joe Young
- 5th Flight

- 1st Place (81) John Clark
- Jimmy Logan
- 1st Place (81) Butch Lanham
- Jim Dowd
- 3rd Place (83) Jeff McCormick
- Carlos Cortez
- 3rd Place (83) Terry Cox
- Tommy Lindsey
- 5th Place (85) Pete Denney
- Rick Valingo
- 6th Place (88) Jimmy Peterson
- Keith Reining
- 7th Place (91) Armando Soto
- Fabian Soto
- 8th Place (92) Rick Melanson
- Martin Stevens

Pampa Country Club May 13, 2007

Ladies Flight

- 1st Place (153) Yolanda Bell
- Debbie Hargus
- 2nd Place (154) Jane Jones
- Ann Dunivan
- 3rd Place (171) Melody Goad
- Patty Fulcher
- 4th Place (176) Sheila McFatrige
- Connie Lynch

Champion Flight

- 1st Place (126) Craig Davis
- Joel Burleson
- 2nd Place (132) Merlin Rose
- Tim Whipkey
- 3rd Place (140) Clint Miller
- Daniel Williams
- 4th Place (140) Steve Williams
- Jason Marler
- 5th Place (140) Ken Cambern
- Rebel Aistrup
- 6th Place (144) Bill Sherrill
- Dustin Sherrill
- 7th Place (144) Jon East
- John East

First Flight

- 1st Place (142) R.D. Stephens
- Don Adams
- 2nd Place (143) Tim Brown
- Ron Whipkey
- 3rd Place (143) William Buck
- David McGill
- 4th Place (144) Aaron Fulcher
- Hayden Merket
- 5th Place (145) Chuck White
- Greg White
- 6th Place (146) Lonnie Fowler
- Cory Fowler
- 7th Place (146) Lee Garcia
- Anthony Tiedt

Second Flight

- 1st Place (144) James Thompson
- Charles Bradshaw
- 2nd Place (145) Gary Mullins
- Craig Phillips
- 3rd Place (146)

Earnhardt, Gordon have successful weekends

DARLINGTON, S.C. (AP) — Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jeff Gordon both felt like winners at Darlington Raceway, even though only Gordon left with the Dodge Avenger 500 victory.

Earnhardt had thrown NASCAR into a frenzy with his decision to leave DEI — the company founded by his late father — and wasn't certain heading into the weekend he had the support of his crew members or fans.

Junior was worried for nothing. His fans were as boisterous as ever while his crew ended a high-pressure week with an eighth-place finish.

"Fortunately, when things go good, all your problems are gone," Earnhardt said.

Gordon had problems all race long. His engine nearly blew, his radiator ran hot and he thought teammate Jimmie Johnson would run him down at the end. Even Gordon's mother, there for pre-race introductions, was-

n't around as her son took the checkered flag on Nextel Cup's first Mother's Day race in 21 years after rain Saturday night delayed things until Sunday.

"They bailed on me," Gordon said, laughing. "I can't wait to call and chew them out."

Still, Gordon had plenty to celebrate with his seventh Darlington win and 78th career Nextel Cup victory. It was the eighth win in the past nine races — including a perfect 5-of-5 in Car of Tomorrow events — for Hendrick Motorsports.

Gordon finished in front of Denny Hamlin, who complained that NASCAR didn't throw a caution at the end with gunk and car parts on the track when it could've given him a chance for victory.

"And of course, if caution comes out, it's game over," said Hamlin, who won the Busch race here Friday night.

Red Sox, Athletics win with big rallies in ninth inning

By The Associated Press
Even slugger David Ortiz, with all those game-winning hits in his career, thought the Boston Red Sox were just about finished.

He was wrong.

Trailing by five runs with one out and none on in the ninth inning, Boston pulled off an improbable rally to beat the Baltimore Orioles 6-5 on Sunday at Fenway Park.

Baltimore starter Jeremy Guthrie carried a three-hit shutout into the ninth, but was lifted after catcher Ramon Hernandez dropped a popup for an error that became the turning point. The Red Sox took advantage, getting four hits, and three walks against Dany Baez and Chris Ray (3-3).

"At one point, it seems

like we had no chance," said Ortiz, who doubled in Boston's first run. "In the ninth, 5-0, fly ball, catcher misses it, and that was the difference in the game. Everybody started going crazy."

Oakland wouldn't quit in the ninth inning, either.

Jack Cust homered for the fourth straight day, capping a five-run outburst with a three-run drive that gave the Athletics a 10-7 victory over the visiting Cleveland Indians.

It was Cust's sixth homer in seven games since he was acquired from San Diego on May 3 in a little-noticed deal for a player to be named or cash. But with Mike Piazza on the disabled list, the A's called up Cust to be their

regular designated hitter. His six homers in his first 26 at-bats with the team is an Oakland record.

"It's unbelievable," teammate Mark Ellis said. "I've been hitting behind him these last couple of games. His swing is so powerful. The way the ball jumps off his bat is incredible. It's been fun to watch, and he's been huge for us. He's really impressive."

In other AL games, it was: Seattle 2, New York 1; Texas 7, Los Angeles 6; Minnesota 16, Detroit 4; Kansas City 11, Chicago 1; and Tampa Bay 2, Toronto 1.

Nursing a 7-5 lead, Cleveland closer Joe Borowski retired his first two batters in the ninth and got an 0-2 count on Eric

Chavez. But Chavez singled and Milton Bradley tied the score with a home run against his former team.

"I love being in those situations," Bradley said. "I have all the confidence in the world. I'd be lying if I said I didn't have a little extra incentive doing it against the Indians."

Dan Johnson and Bobby Crosby followed with consecutive singles that chased Borowski (0-2), who blew his second save in 14 opportunities. Cust greeted Fernando Cabrera with his game-ending shot to left on a 1-0 pitch.

"I'm just trying to take advantage of the opportunity and make a contribution somehow," Cust said.

Chavez's solo homer in

the seventh off Tom Mastny started Oakland's comeback. Crosby also hit a solo home run.

At Boston, Jason Varitek hit a two-run double off Ray to cut it to 5-4. One out later, he and Eric Hinske scampered home when Ray dropped the toss at first base on Julio Lugo's RBI infield single, which could have been a game-ending ground-out.

Ray was charged with an error that allowed Hinske to score the winning run. It was Ray's third blown save of the season.

Orioles manager Sam Perlozzo took full responsibility for yanking Guthrie after 91 pitches, a move that obviously backfired.

"Well, this was only his

second start," Perlozzo said. "He wanted to stay in, but that was definitely my decision. My decision. We didn't make a couple of plays that we should have. Game should have been over."

The rally saved Josh Beckett from his first loss of the year. He left after four innings with a torn flap of skin on his right middle finger, failing to become the first eight-game winner in the major leagues and tie the franchise record — held by Babe Ruth and two others — for wins to start a season.

"My skin broke and it just ripped more and more each pitch," Beckett said. "Hopefully, I can make my next start. But that is a big 'hopefully.'"

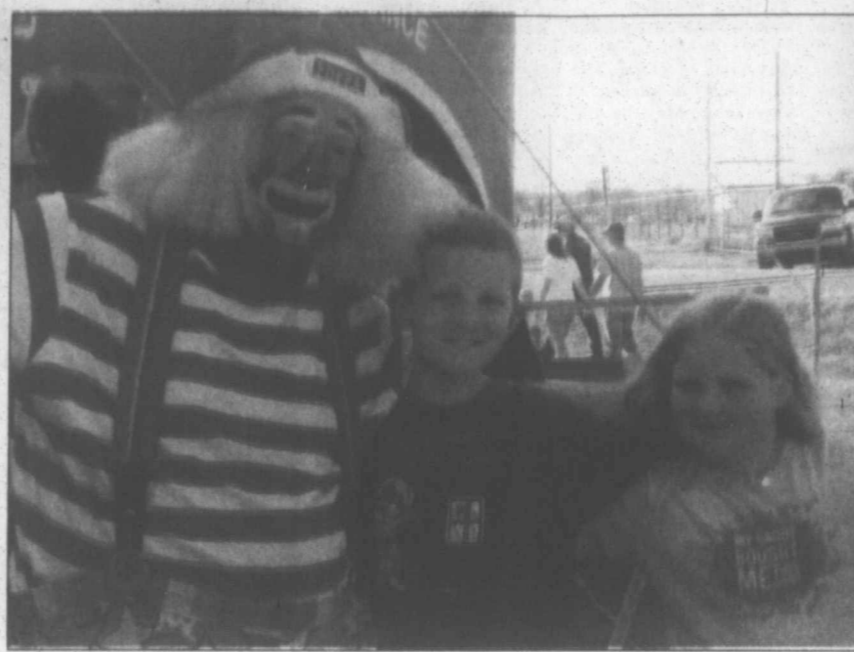
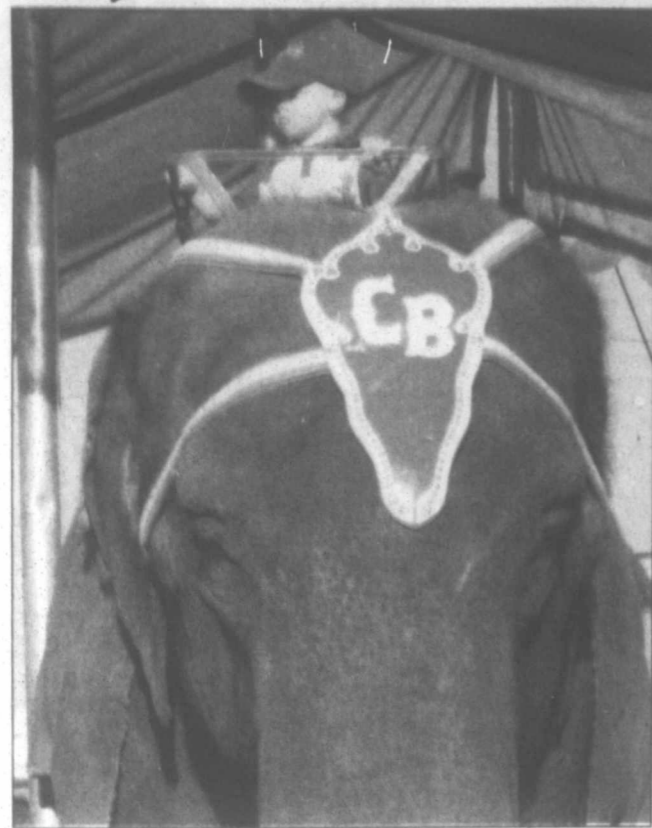
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A day at the circus



Pampa News Photos by KERRI SMITH
 Pampa children enjoyed the Carson and Barnes Circus on Friday. Jayton Whittington, 4, was excited to ride an elephant. Jacob Clark, 10, and Emily Clark, 7, enjoyed clowning around with Poppa the clown. Enjoying snow cones are Tyson Crain, 5, Abbi Crain, 2, and Austin Miranda, 9.

U.S. commander in Mideast is off to a quiet start

By ROBERT BURNS
 AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Admirers of Adm. William J. Fallon salute his reputation for deft diplomacy. Judging from his first weeks as top commander of American forces in the Middle East, a talent for tact has served him well in many countries of the region except, perhaps, the one that matters most — Iraq.

Fallon is off to a quiet start as President Bush's surprise choice to succeed Army Gen. John Abizaid as head of Central Command. He is overseeing the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan while managing military relationships with Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and other nations at the center of Bush's strategy in fighting terrorism.

About the biggest splash he has made is deciding to retire the phrase "Long War," which is how the Arabic-speaking Abizaid described the global conflict against Islamic extremists.

The term was used frequently by Pentagon officials, including Defense Secretary Robert Gates. Fallon apparently was concerned it alienated Middle Eastern audiences by giving them the impression U.S.

forces would remain in combat indefinitely.

The white-haired admiral is concerned, too, about alienating Iraqi leaders, and that troubles some in Washington.

Fallon told a Senate panel this month that his chief priority is securing Iraq. He described himself as "guardedly optimistic," but he tread lightly on the question of how to push the fractious Iraqi government into the political compromises deemed necessary to stabilize the country.

Push too hard, he warned, and Iraqis will lose confidence in the durability of U.S. support.

"If they get the perception that we are ... going to walk away from them, then this just encourages the factional militias," he said, and that would lessen further the chances of creating a government of national unity.

So Fallon was reluctant, when pressed, to say explicitly that the Iraqis have not lived up to their promises.

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said he was troubled that Fallon seemed unwilling to use tough talk with the Iraqis.

"I think your message is very much weakened, and it's troubling to me because you meet with the leaders of Iraq," Levin said, adding that Fallon had "let them off the hook."

It is too early in Fallon's tenure to know how he will use his experience in building relationships. He has a strong personality and a knack for navigating the political paths in Washington and abroad.

When Gates announced Fallon's nomination, he stressed Fallon's record of success.

"He has forged new partnerships to help combat the influence of violent extremist networks and ideologies that threaten the moderate Muslim nations of the Pacific," Gates said.

No one expected Fallon to find a quick solution to the problem of conflict involving Iraq's majority Shiites, who were repressed under Saddam Hussein's rule; the minority Sunnis, who feel shut out by the Shiites; and the Kurds, who want to maintain the autonomy they enjoyed in northern Iraq under U.S. protection after the 1991 Gulf War.

He says he is looking beyond the immediate crisis to what a longer-term U.S. relationship with Iraq

might look like, as well as the future U.S. military presence elsewhere in the Middle East and Central Asia.

Fallon's reputation for diplomacy comes mainly from his efforts to deepen a military dialogue with China during his time in charge of U.S. Pacific Command, his last assignment before replacing Abizaid.

Earlier, while Fallon was vice chief of naval operations — the No. 2 admiral at Navy headquarters in the Pentagon — he was sent to Tokyo to deliver a U.S. apology for the February 2001 accidental ramming of a Japanese fishing vessel by a Navy submarine near Hawaii in which nine Japanese were killed.

Since taking over for Abizaid in mid-March, Fallon has spent most of his time traveling in Iraq and elsewhere in his region. He has kept a lower public profile than David Petraeus, the U.S. general in Baghdad who reports to Fallon.

Bush often cites — even quotes — Petraeus in public remarks about Iraq; he rarely mentions Fallon.

A close observer of Iraq developments, Thomas Donnelly of the American Enterprise Institute, said

he is not surprised that Fallon thus far has not emerged as a leading public voice in the fight against terrorism.

"The one bit of news he (Fallon) has made — his remarks about no longer calling it the 'Long War' — wasn't a very helpful contribution," Donnelly said.

Without criticizing his predecessor, Fallon has suggested it is time to focus more on diplomacy in the Middle East. He said he got the impression in his first round of talks with regional leaders that they felt slighted.

"There is a feeling ... that we haven't paid much attention, or enough attention, to the opinions of the folks there, and whatever happened in the past, we have to deal with today," Fallon said.

Unlike Abizaid, Fallon started his assignment from a dead stop. Abizaid had been a deputy to Gen. Tommy Franks, the Central Command chief during the initial invasion in March 2003; Abizaid succeeded Franks four months later.

Fallon, 62, is the first Navy admiral to hold the Central Command's top job.

Strong wind hampers firefighting efforts

LAKE CITY, Fla. (AP) — Hope in the form of rain turned to fear of stronger wind gusts today as firefighters faced another tough day battling a massive wildfire along the Georgia-Florida line.

The wildfire that raced through the Okefenokee Swamp in southeast Georgia and into Florida was started by lightning more than a week ago. By today, it had burned 102,500 acres in Florida after charring 132,000 acres in Georgia — more than 366 square miles in all.

Scattered rain showers swept the area Sunday, but the extent of the rain's effect wasn't known, and the wind in

the fire zone today was expected to reach 15 mph with gusts up to 25 mph, said U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Nina Barrow.

In Florida, the blaze was 30 percent contained this morning, and the smoke was beginning to lift enough for firefighting aircraft to take off after being grounded all weekend because of low visibility.

Smoke from the fires has plagued drivers in many parts of the state. About 75 miles of Interstates 10 in north Florida and 75 in South Florida were expected to open only intermittently today. About 570 residents still were not allowed to return to 150 homes

evacuated between I-10 and the Florida-Georgia state line.

Off Southern California, cool weather Sunday helped firefighters on Santa Catalina Island maintain control of a blaze that had threatened the resort community of Avalon.

The 4,200-acre or 6.5-square-mile fire was 76 percent contained Sunday and was expected to be encircled by Tuesday evening. One home and six businesses burned Thursday but no one was seriously injured.

A blaze feeding on drought-stricken forest in northern Minnesota was only 20 percent contained this morning.

General: Iraq puts strain on Guard

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Guard isn't as strong as it should be because of the war in Iraq and American communities will suffer as a result, retired Air Force Gen. Melvyn Montano said Saturday.

Delivering the Democrats' weekly radio address, Montano said the strain means it will take longer for Greensburg, Kan., to recover from a devastating tornado that leveled the town a week ago.

"Crucial equipment used by the Guard for disaster relief is now in Iraq instead of stand-

ing ready to respond to crises here at home," said Montano, who was once adjutant general of the New Mexico National Guard.

"When the tornado struck Kansas last week, the Guard had half the number of Humvees and large trucks they usually would have at their disposal," Montano said.

"The recovery process now will take longer," Montano echoed Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, a Democrat, who clashed with the Bush administration last week.

Courts

Continued from Page 4

that they must "strive to enhance and maintain confidence in our legal system."

Maybe Keis couldn't see it, but he undermined the perception that justice would be done in his court.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

Warsaw Pact armies, the U.S. should have disbanded NATO. NATO was formed in 1947 to deter the Soviet Union from attacking the West. Even so, when the age of the nuclear missiles came along, it was clear to anybody that if war came, it would be the United States and the Soviet Union. The smaller countries of NATO would have been fools to get mixed up in it. So what is the value of a military alliance with Estonia or Latvia or Lithuania? Zilch

and zero.

There are some mad fools calling the shots in the West, trying to extend U.S. hegemony right up to the suburbs of Moscow. They may well end up provoking a nuclear war. NATO no longer has a legitimate purpose, and using NATO to intervene in the Yugoslav Civil War and now in Afghanistan just robs every member in it of any kind of moral high ground. It is now become simply an instrument of imperialism.

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

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