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See expanded weather on Page 2

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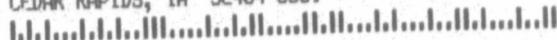
NBA Finals

Spurs hope
to finish
Cavs tonight.
SEE PAGE 9



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THE PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Volume 103 • No. 61

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Pampan proposes public fountain

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

Pampa businessman David Hutto wants to dam up Red Deer Creek and circulate the collected water through a fountain just west of Hobart Street.

Hutto approached the Pampa City Commission during their commission meeting earlier this week to see if there was any interest in such a project.

"If the city's not interested," Hutto said, "I need to drop this and go back to something else. If there is some interest, I'd be more than happy to figure out what it would cost."

The water would be piped from the last dam back into the fountain

in an almost closed circulation system.

"It's not going to run on down the creek," he said.

If the creek runs dry, Hutto said there's a well upstream from where he would like to see the ponds and fountain.

"We build three small dams along the creek," Hutto said, "capturing a small amount of water."

He said he envisions dams about three or four feet high.

In the middle, Hutto said he would like to put a fountain similar to ones in the parks of Lubbock or San Angelo, although their ponds and fountains are much larger.

"Del Rio does the same thing,"

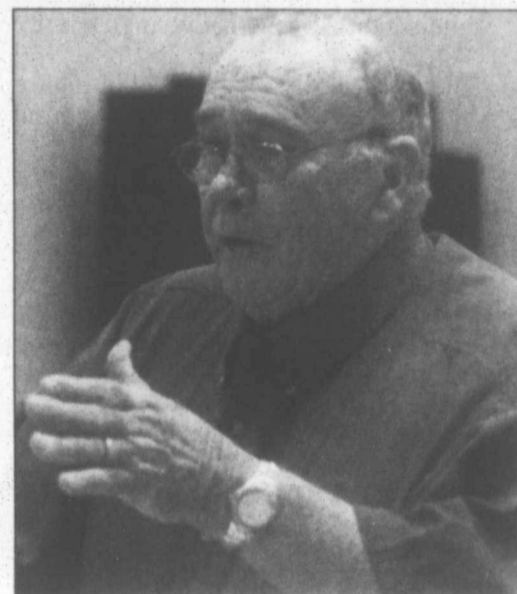
Hutto said, "but they use waste water to make a park with fountains in it."

He said he had asked around at various government agencies, but they all told him that they couldn't do anything unless they had the permission of the city.

The first thing that would need to happen, he said, is to get the state to agree to the impoundment of the water.

"I visited with one of the engineers out at the Soil and Water Conservation office," Hutto said, "and I can't even talk to them about damming that up unless the city's involved."

See HUTTO, Page 3



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER
David Hutto talks to the city commission about Red Deer Creek.



Flag Day's roots traced to 1880s

By KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

Flag Day, the holiday set aside specifically to honor the U.S. flag, has roots back in the 1880s. According to the Web site www.usflag.org and several others, the original idea is believed to have started in Fredonia, Wis. in 1885. Bernard John Cigrand, a 19-year-old teacher, arranged for his pupils to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes in 1777) as "Flag Birthday."

On June 14, 1889, a New York City kindergarten teacher, George Balch, planned a ceremony for his students and his idea of "Flag Day" was adopted by the New

York Board of Education.

The Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a flag day celebration on that day in 1891. The following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution also celebrated this day on June 14.

In 1893, the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority to display the flag on June 14. The Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution supported this resolution also.

The governor of New York directed that all public buildings should fly the U.S. flag.

See FLAG, Page 3

County to discuss rental policy on Carruth Pavilion

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Gray County commissioners will once again discuss the rental policy for Clyde Carruth Pavilion when they meet at 9 a.m. Friday in the second-floor courtroom at the county courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

The policy for the facility, also known as the Bull Barn, was examined at commissioners' June 1 meeting, but action on the issue was tabled until further study could be completed.

At issue is who should pay to use the pavilion. In the past four years, approximately \$41,000 has been spent to repair and improve the facility. About \$38,000 in natural gas costs for the bull barn were incurred last December, January and February. Income to the county from rental of the pavilion over the last three years totals \$8,300.

"That's a service. You can't ever make that break even," Precinct 4 Commissioner James Hefley said at the June 1 meeting concerning the

pavilion rental.

Another county facility, Perry LeFors Airport, will also be discussed Friday. The airport board has sent a written request to commissioners to enforce the county's policy of allowing hangars at the airport to be used for aviation purposes only, pursuant to homeland security.

The County Information Resources Agency service agreement with Gray County will be considered for possible renewal. The contract provides maintenance and

upkeep of the county's web site, and the service is available through the Texas Association of Counties.

County Treasurer Scott Hahn will be recognized for completion of 20 hours of instruction in the duties of his office, and completion of five hours of investment training under the Public Funds Investment Act.

The new minimum wage law's effect on Gray County will be discussed. The new law will raise mini-

See COUNTY, Page 3

Burnin' the Bricks results announced

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Winners have been announced in the events held during the Burnin' the Bricks in June weekend, June 9 and 10. No judging or awarding of placements was done at the cruise of Pampa's drag, but there were more than 240 entrants for that event.

Burn Out
Stock: Ray Davis, first place; Arron Gillenwater, second place.

Superstock: Adam Davis, first place; Gary Brawley,

second place.

Outlaw: Terry Scobee, first place; Casey Cunningham, second place.

Car Show

There were 117 car show entrants, including 58 from Pampa. Eight were from out of state, the farthest from Colorado.

Antique Car: Kenneth Cox, Pampa, first place, 1930 Model A; Bill McComas, Pampa, second place, 1941 Chevrolet; Bob Schiffman, Pampa, third

See CARS, Page 3



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Hailey, left, and Bailey Estes of Mobeetie stand beside Bailey's 1967 GTO, which earned second place in the 1973 and older GM Muscle Car division.

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NEXT DAY FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 81. Calm wind becoming southeast between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. Southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82. Southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64. South-southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 84. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 66. South wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

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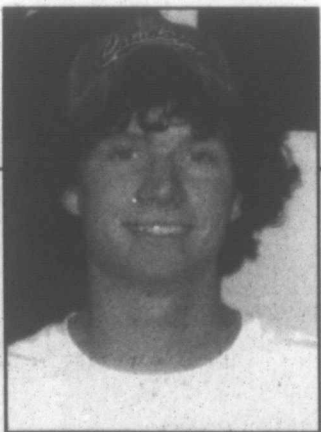
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In honor of Garrett Kennedy, the Greedless band is having a Memorial Show. This show is the first of hopefully many shows that will replenish the Garrett Kennedy Scholarship fund that is given to a graduating senior from Pampa High School.

Garrett was a 2006 graduate of PHS, and was attending Frank Phillips College. Come see the Greedless Band, who performs Texas Country music. The show will be held at the STARLIGHT ROOM of the AMERICINN on JUNE 15. DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 - SHOW STARTS AT 8:00. TICKETS ARE \$12.00 AT THE DOOR.

Obituaries

BORGER — Nancy Ellen Brown, 63, died Tuesday, June 12th in Lubbock.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Grace Fellowship Church with Pastor Ricky Griffin officiating. Interment will be in "The Garden of Hope" at Westlawn Memorial Park under the direction of Minton/Chatwell Funeral Directors of Borger.

Mrs. Brown was born on

Jan. 31, 1944, in Pampa, and she had been a Borger resident since 1964. Nancy graduated high school from the American School in Havana, Cuba. She was secretary for Panhandle Community Services.

She married Jim Brown on Dec. 8, 1963, in Pampa.



Brown

She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star #811, and served as a past worthy Matron and was Deputy District Grand Matron. She was a member of Grace Fellowship Church and was involved in the "Walk To Emmaus" at church.

Her survivors include her husband Jim, of the home; son, Shannon Brown and his wife Michelle of Fritch; brother, Ed Andrews and his wife, Karen of Lubbock; three grandsons, Jared, Ben and Jacob; a niece, Erin Andrews of Lubbock; and a nephew, Logan Andrews of Lubbock.

Honorary casket bearers will be her Life Group and the Tri-City Youth members.

Barbara Jackson Trimble, 76, of Pampa, Texas, died June 14, 2007, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Trimble was born Feb. 10, 1931, in Lafayette, Ind. She had been a resident of Amarillo for several years before moving to Pampa in 2003. She married Herbert Trimble on May 24, 2003, in Amarillo at the Ronald McDonald House.

She was a member of Trinity Fellowship in

Pampa. She was a volunteer with the Ronald McDonald House Host Mentoring Program and was a member of the Red Hat Society.

She had a contagious enthusiasm for life, which propelled her in all of her volunteer work. She loved the Lord her God with all her heart and with all her soul and with all her mind, and she loved her



Trimble

neighbor as herself.

She will be remembered as an inspiration to all those who knew her. She will be greatly missed by her family.

Survivors include her husband, Herbert Trimble, of the home; one daughter, Tamy Lane of Amarillo; two sons, Steve Westall of Amarillo and Dale Jackson of Ann

Arbor, Mich.; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Kelly Jackson; and two brothers, Paul Lull and Warren Lull.

MEMORIALS: Ronald McDonald House of Amarillo, 1501 Streit Drive, Amarillo, TX 79106.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Ethan Russell Veale, 4, of Amarillo, passed away on June 11, 2007, in Clarendon, Texas.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 16, 2007, at Southwest Baptist Church. Pastor Don Weemes with Victory Church will be officiating. Burial will be in Llano Cemetery. Arrangements are by Blackburn-Shaw Funeral Directors Martin Road Chapel.

Ethan was full of life and a very happy child. He loved Spiderman. He loved each and every one of his family members very much.

He is survived by his father, David Veale of Del City, Okla., and mother, Aja Foster of Amarillo. He has three brothers, Dakota Allen



Veale

Veale, David Michael Veale and Justice Alexander Veale. He has one Sister, Savannah Bree Foster; Grandparents, Yoby Hollis Henthorn and David Allen Henthorn of Alaska; Great-Grandparents, Russell and Linda Hollis of Pampa, Willis Arthur Veale

of Amarillo and Mary Orr Griffin of Canyon; and Great-great-grandmother, Dorothy Herd of Pampa.

The family will receive visitors on Friday, June 15, 2007, from 5-7 p.m. at Blackburn-Shaw Martin Road Chapel, 1505 Martin Road.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to a trust fund in Ethan's name at Wells Fargo and Amarillo National Bank.

Ethan Russell Veale, 4

Emergency Services

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

Two traffic stops were made resulting in one arrest.

A traffic complaint was reported in the 900 block of East Francis.

Animal control officers made calls concerning animals in the 300 block of Miami, the 1100 block of Seneca, the 900 block of South Banks, the 2700 block of North Hobart, the 900 block of Gordon, the 600 block of North Nelson, the intersection of Barnes and Frederic, the 600 block of Tignor, the 1100 block of Duncan, the 700 block of Deane and the 900 block of

South Wells.

Violations of a city ordinance were reported at the intersection Varnon and Crawford and in the 700 block of Bradley.

Agency assistance was provided on Highway 70, Loop 171 and in the 1200 block of East Frederic.

Civil matters were reported in the 1300 block of West Alcock, the 700 block of Roberta, in the police department lobby and in the 1000 block of South Faulkner.

Welfare checks were made at the intersection of Ballard and Francis, in the 2200 block of North Nelson and in the 1800 block of North Russell.

Suspicious vehicles were reported in the 400 block of West Brown, the 1300 block of Hamilton; and the intersections of Kentucky and Terrace, Huff and Prairie, and Brown and Hobart.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 900 block of South Hobart and near the intersection of Montagu and Gray where one person was arrested.

Harassment was reported in the police department lobby.

Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1500 block of North Hobart, the 300 block of East Frederic and the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Driving while intoxicated was reported at an undisclosed location.

One suicide attempt was reported.

An assault with minor injuries was reported in the 400 block of West Foster.

Thefts were reported in the 700 block of Brunow and in the 600 block of Hazel where an air conditioning unit worth \$229 was stolen.

A gas drive off was reported at Allsup's at 140 S. Starkweather where \$14 worth of gas was stolen.

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Wednesday, June 6
 10:35 a.m. — A 1999 Mitsubishi Montero driven by Klyn Brook Holmes, 17, of 901 S. Osborne, and a 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier driven by Jessica Maria Ontiveros, 23, of 717 N. Sumner, collided at the intersection of North Ward and West Browning. Ontiveros and a passenger, Lela Michelle Foley, 29, of 213 E. Kentucky, were transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center with non-incapacitating injuries. Holmes was cited for failure to yield right of way at a yield sign.

Monday, June 11
 7 a.m. — An unknown vehicle and driver collided with a legally parked 1996 Plymouth Voyager owned by Jason Aaron Stephenson, 1112 E. Browning, at the intersection of Browning and Magnolia. There were no known injuries and no citations issued.

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

Wednesday, June 13
 Rebecca Mullen, 47, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO to serve a sentence for possession of marijuana.

Marland J. Miller, 43, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for violation of probation for possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliv-

er. Tammie Knight, 46, of Lefors was arrested by the Lefors marshal on capias pro fines for disorderly conduct, running a stop sign, violation of a city ordinance/minimum living standards.

Judy Janean Hawkins, 21, of Pampa was arrested in the 800 block of North Sumner by Pampa Police Department on two counts of speeding, one count of running a stop sign, one count of possession of a controlled substance and capias pro fines for failure to appear and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Thursday, June 14
 Chafen Wayne Wilson, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 500 block of Gray by PPD on capias pro fines for failure to appear, bail jumping, possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

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

Wednesday, June 13
 10:53 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded 10-miles south on Highway 70 and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

11:51 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to Borger.

11:57 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Christy and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:08 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC.

5:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Jordan prison unit and transported a patient to PRMC.

8:05 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

8:49 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of Zimmers and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:11 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of Coffee and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:39 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Anne and transported a patient to PRMC.

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Cars

Continued from Page 1

place, 1929 Model A. '55, '56, '57 Chevrolet: Frank Thompson, Amarillo, first place, 1956 Chevy 210 sedan; Larry and Kay Stephens, Groom, second place, 1957 Chevy Bel Air; Jimmy Clark, Pampa, 1957 Chevy. 1953-1979 Corvette: Jeff Edmond, Amarillo, first place, 1967 Corvette; Mike McComas, Pampa, second place, 1966 Corvette; David Ishom, Fritch, third place, 1979 Corvette. 1980 to Present Corvettes: Roy Villarreal, Pampa, first place, 1981 Corvette; Danny Engle, Fritch, second place, 1981 Corvette. Pre-1949 Street Rod: Sonny Maxwell, Amarillo, first place, 1934 Chevy Sedan Wagon; Tom Salinas, Amarillo, 1946 Ford; Bill Willis, Pampa, third place, Ford; Sue Campbell, Pampa; fourth place, 1936 Humpback. 1949-1960 Custom Rod: Bobby Hefner, White Deer, first place, 1958 Chevy Impala; Don Van Houten, Pampa, second place, 1956 Chevy 210. 1961-Present Custom Rod: Mike Pitts, Dumas, first place, 1962 Volkswagen; John Wolfe, Amarillo, second place, 1961 Chevy Bel Air. 1967-1973 Camaro: Brandi Cooper, Dumas, first place, 1968 Camaro; Sandra Strickland, Borger, second place, 1967 Camaro; Adam Davis, Pampa, third place, 1973 Camaro. Pre-1973 Chevy Muscle: Steve Hoffman, Perryton, first place, 1970 Chevelle; Johnny Whinery, Pampa, second place, 1968 Chevelle; Don Campbell, Pampa, third place, 1969 Chevelle. 1973 and Older Other GM Muscle: Larry Turner, Dumas, first place, 1966 GTO; Bailey Estes, Mobeetie, second place, 1967 GTO; Carmen Norris, Pampa, third place, 1968 Oldsmobile 442. Pre-1973 Mopar Muscle: Carl and Shelia, first place, 1965 Plymouth; Steve Holt, Borger, second place, 1970 Plymouth; Jim Moyer, Pampa, third place, 1968 Charger; Lonnie Shelton, Pampa, fourth place, 1970 Charger. Modern Muscle: Josh Gilbreath, Amarillo, first place, 2007 Mustang; Elizabeth Campbell, Pampa, second place, 2005 Mustang; V.J. Rice, Booker, third place, 1987 Buick

Grand National. 1980 - Present Convertible: Brad Jenkins, Duncan, Okla., first place, 2006 Cadillac XLR; Joe Sangster, Dalhart, second place, 2007 Sky. Pre-1980 Convertible: Glen Bankston, Guymon, Okla., first place, 1965 Chevrolet; Winthon Jones, Amarillo, second place, 1964 1/2 Ford. Rat Rod: Bobby Jewett, Pampa, first place, 1934 Chevy pickup; Greg Parcell, Stinnett, second place, 1956 Ford pickup; Wade Jackson, Miami, third place, 1954 Dodge pickup. Special Interest: Kristi Fritts, Flowermound, first place, 1998 Mustang GT; Don Rose, Wheeler, second place, 1952 Willys Jeep and trailer; Matt Smith, Pampa, third place, 1963 Corvair. 1970 and Up Original Unrestored: Randy Dixon, Borger, first place 1979 Camaro; Ken Jenkins, Duncan, Okla., second place, 1987 Buick Grand National; Trevor Sanders, Pampa, third place, 1993 Mercury Cougar. 1969 And Earlier Original Unrestored: Tim Huckins, Pampa, first place, 1969 Pontiac; Cleo Meaker, Pampa, second place, 1959 Lincoln; Jon Clark, Pampa, third place, 1969 GTO. Race Cars: Steve Melzer, Elk City, Okla., first place, 1967 Camaro; Billy Barker, Pampa, second place, 1984 Chevy. Pre-1960, Original Restored: Jim Eakins, Pampa, first place, 1957 Ford Fairlane; Wyonna and Russell Seely, Pampa, second place, 1950 Hudson; Gary Winton, Pampa, third place 1948 Plymouth Deluxe. 1961-1975 Original Restored: Rick Mills, Childress, first place, 1961 Chevy; John Henderson, Pampa, second place, 1964 Chevrolet Chevelle; Brad Higby, Amarillo, third place, 1965 Thunderbird. Pre-1950 Antique Truck: Henry Jennings, Stinnett, first place, 1949 Ford; David Keahey, Pampa, second place, 1946 Ford. Original Truck: Ron Knipp, Pampa, first place, 1953 1/2-ton Chevy; Marla Hacker, Pampa, second place, 1954 Chevy; Cecil Newman, Pampa, third place, 1950 Chevy. 1950-1972 Classic Truck: Jeff Edmond, Amarillo, first place, 1967 Chevy; Tanner Rice, Booker, second place, 1971 Chevy; Don Campbell, Pampa, third place, 1953 GMC; Steve Carpenter, Pampa, fourth place, 1970 Chevy. Custom Truck: Ronnie Lee, Amarillo, first place, 1981 Chevy; T.J. Marnell, Amarillo, second place, 2005 Ford. 1973 and Up Modern Truck: Ken Rush, Amarillo, first place, 2003 Chevy SSR; Coby McEntire, Dumas, second place, 1981 Chevy; Matrisha Davis, Pampa, third place, 1985 Chevy. Most Unique; Jarrod Burnett, Dumas, 1957 Pontiac Custom Safari Wagon. High Plains Cruisers' Choice: John Henderson, Pampa, 1964 Chevelle. Best of Show: Phillip Murrack, Pampa, 1969 Camaro. Drag Races There were 64 local entrants, 65 out-of-town entrants, and four out-of-state entrants at the "Run What You Brung" drag races. High School: Conrad Munguia, Pampa, first place, 1967 Plymouth; Beau Phillips, Stinnett, second place, 2001 Trans Am. Imports: Alex Moran, Amarillo, first place, Subaru Impreza WRX; Joe Sangster, Dalhart, second place, 2007 Sky. Ladies: Tara Swearingem, Pampa, first place, 1996 Mustang; Jenny Rhoads, Amarillo, second place, 2000 Trans Am. Cruisers: Don Van Houten, Pampa, first place, 1956 Chevy; Ben Richman, Pampa, second place, 1963 Chevy Nova. Stock: Braden Raines, Perryton, first place, vehicle not identified; Sid Mauldin, Pampa, second place, Mercedes SH 55. Street Pre-1984: Jarad Stone, Amarillo, first place, 1983 Monte Carlo SS; Shelby Stone, Amarillo, second place, 1981 Cutlass. Street 1984 and Up: Brent Milson, Amarillo, first place, 2003 Cobra; Shane Hacker, Amarillo, second place, 2000 Trans Am. Diesel: Andy Brokenbek, Amarillo, first place, 2004 Duramax; Cody Welch, Amarillo, second place, 2004 Dodge. Gas Trucks: Landon Cartwright, Amarillo, first place, 1971 Chevy; Bill Kimble, Pampa, second place, 2003 Chevy SS. Outlaw: Irl Smith, Pampa, first place, 1963 Corvair; Shawn Smith, Dumas, second place, 1949 Mercury. Hard Luck Winner: Brady Broggin, Pampa, 1965 Impala SS. Outstanding Sportsmanship: Conrad Munguia, Pampa.

Hutto

Continued from Page 1

He said that unless he gets the city's permission, the engineers wouldn't even talk to him. Hutto said there would be some maintenance involved. "Another thing that we need to look at is the cost of building it," Hutto said,

"but there have been a lot of people that I've talked to that are willing to contribute." He's already got a Pampa company that's willing to do the survey for the project and another that's willing to landscape it. "There's been a lot of interest among the people that I've talked to," Hutto said. "One fellow said, 'That'd be great. It'd be nice to walk along there at night or stop and have a cup

of coffee." Mayor Lonny Robbins said that before a decision could be made, the commission would have to have more information, but he said that he didn't think anyone on the commission would object if Hutto could get more facts and details. Robbins, with the nodding heads of the other commissioners, asked Hutto to gather more facts and report back to them.

Flag

Continued from Page 1

on June 14, 1894. On this same day, the first public schoolchildren's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held and more than 300,000 children participated. Around this same time, the American Flag Day Association was organized to promote this holiday to more areas of the nation. This Web site said the holiday was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916. Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, but it was not until Aug. 3, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day. The American flag is a symbol that should be respected and it has its own rules of etiquette, know as the Flag Code, explaining how to take care of it. The flag should only be flown between sunrise and sundown, but if flown after dark it should be lighted at all times by an appropriate light source. It should

never be dipped to any person or thing and when it is lowered, no part of the flag should touch the ground or any other object. The flag should never be used for any decoration in general, any advertising purpose or any part of a costume or athletic uniform. A flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen and members of other patriotic organizations. When displayed on the same pole with another flag, state, community or society, the U.S. flag must always be at the top. If the flags are on separate poles, the flags can be flown at the same height and in a straight line as long as the U.S. flag is always placed in the position of honor, to its own right. The other flags may be smaller, but none can be larger. Many people in Texas believe that the Texas flag is the only state flag that is allowed to fly at the same height as the U.S. flag because it negotiated special provisions when it joined the Union. According to www.wikipedia.org and www.snopes.com Web sites, this is an urban legend and any state flag can be flown at the same

height. Danny Martin, commander of VFW Post #1657, said his organization will accept flags that are in bad condition and dispose of them in the proper manner. "The code states that flags should only be flown if they are in good condition and can still serve as a symbol of our country," Martin said. "When they are in poor condition, residents can drop them off at our post and we will either dispose of them or give them to the Boy Scouts to dispose of by burning them. We've been working with the city of Pampa to set up a burning ceremony so anyone can drop off their tattered flags, but we haven't finalized the details yet." Martin said once the old flags are dropped off to them, they have new flags that can be purchased or if someone cannot afford to purchase a new one, they will donate one to that individual. For more information on disposing of old flags or purchasing new ones, contact the VFW Post #1657 at 105 S. Cuyler or call 669-1264. To reach Martin, call his cell phone at 662-4367.

County

Continued from Page 1

minimum wage from its current \$5.15 per hour to \$5.85 per hour this summer, \$6.55 per hour in summer 2008, and \$7.25 per hour in summer 2009. Some part-time county employees are paid minimum wage, and increases in their salaries were not budgeted into the current fiscal year's planned expenditures. Bids on tax-delinquent properties to be voted on Friday are: William Shelton, \$1,500 for 928 S. Sumner, \$5,200 for 608 N. Sumner and \$4,600 for 709 N. Dwight; Jeremy Nicholas, \$4,500 for 1036 and 1044 S. Hobart; Dennis and Jackie Stell, \$2,800 for 1001 Farley and \$5,400 for 305 Roberta; Stanley Gray, \$251 for 525 N. Christy and \$161 for 525 N. Warren; Juan and Rosemary Cadena, \$400 for 318 Doyle; and John and Sheri Worthington, \$500 for 514 S. Barnes.

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Friday, June 15, 2007 • Amarillo, Texas

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Red Steagall • Dan Roberts • Chris Isaacs
Boys Ranch Cowboy Poetry Team

Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts
500 S. Buchanan, Amarillo, Texas
\$20 Adults, \$10 Children

Tickets for Friday evening show in Amarillo must be purchased through Panhandle Tickets 806-378-3096 or www.panhandletickets.com

Saturday, June 16, 2007 • Cal Farley's Boys Ranch

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Educational Youth & Adult Seminars
Western Arts & Trade Show • Entertainment

12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Chuck Wagon Meals

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Dave Stamey • Jean Prescott • Chris Isaacs
The Gillette Brothers • BR Cowboy Poetry Team

Dobkins Fine Arts Center, Boys Ranch, Texas
\$15 Adults, \$5 Children

9:30 p.m. - Midnight Dan Roberts & Band
Family Dance
Boys Ranch Dining Hall
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Viewpoints

Father's Day: Is finding the right gift a dilemma?

Fathers are special, aren't they? You never realize that as much as when you've lost yours. Mine died a number of years ago. I still think of things I want to ask him. It's hard to realize the answers to those questions are as out of reach to me as he is.

I will tell you this. The man was difficult to buy for. Oh, he made over everything I gave him, but it was a real challenge finding gifts that he would find useful.

Below are some gift-giving ideas for dads provided by Kern Communications in an electronic news release. I hope they help you in your gift-giving this year.

"Universally wanted." (Price Range: \$129.99 to \$269.99)

"A universal remote control that will allow him to

relax to the fullest extent in his easy chair. The Logitech® Harmony® is one advanced universal remote that can control all entertainment systems with the touch of a button. It's 'Web Wizard' feature makes setup programming a snap.

"Multi-gadget charging." (Price Range: \$19.95 to \$32.99)

"From cell phones to iPods to your child's GameBoy, gadgets reign supreme in many households. But, most need to be charged to remain functional. For that person with so many gadgets to charge but so little time, multi-device chargers such as The Power Station Traveler, which can charge up to three small portable devices simultaneously, will allow the recipi-

ent to tote an array of fully functional electronics with ease.

"Armor all." (Price Range: \$7.44 to \$16.77)

"For that person who's particularly 'hard' on their portable electronics such as cell phones, PDA's and

Skyla Bryant
News Editor



paggers and other personal gadgets, the Pelican Micro Case Series is a great solution. With a variety of fun colors to choose from, these polycarbonate watertight, impact absorbing cases protect small electronics and other valuables from wear and tear, accidental drops and other damage, and are small

enough to fit snugly into a backpack, purse, briefcase or other carry on.

"Wireless laptop devices." (Price Range: \$49.99 to \$69.99)

"Many people prefer a laptop computer for mobility — especially those who travel a great deal. But, after using the touch pad on a laptop for a few days, wrists, hands and fingers ache

for a more ergonomic solution. A Belkin Rechargeable Wireless optical mouse is a great gift since it's cordless, works for both right and left hand users, and features the popular scroll wheel.

"LCD display monitor

mounts." (Price Range: \$79.99 to \$329.99)

"These nifty computer monitor mounts will free up gift recipients, valuable desk space and relieve the eye, neck, and back strain of viewing LCD monitors. Adjustable LCD Monitor Mount Arms <<http://cableorganizer.com/lcd-mounts/lcd-monitor-mount-arms.htm>>, Stands <<http://cableorganizer.com/lcd-mounts/lcd-monitor-stands.htm>>, and Wall Mounts <<http://cableorganizer.com/lcd-mounts/lcd-monitor-wall-mounts.htm>> such as MOView® systems are a perfect gift that keeps on giving.

"Watts up?" (Price Range: \$72.95 to \$195.95)

"Want to save someone some real dough amid rising energy costs? Handy devices

such as the Watts Up? electricity meter will determine what each standard 120 volt AC electric device will cost to operate. No more guesswork about how much it'll cost to power something over a short or long span of time. These types of electricity meters will quickly display the wattage and the electrical usage cost of the appliance. Now "that's" a bright gift idea!

"iPod® cord control." (Price Range: \$4.99 to \$9.99)

"The Cableyo® POP is one nifty solution designed to store and protect iPod and other ear bud cords. This tiny cord winder keeps a headset organized and ready for use, and can be fastened

See BRYANT, Page 7

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, June 14, the 165th day of 2007. There are 200 days left in the year. This is Flag Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress in Philadelphia adopted the Stars and Stripes as the national flag.

On this date:

In 1775, the Continental Army, forerunner of the United States Army, was created.

In 1846, a group of U.S. settlers in Sonoma proclaimed the Republic of California.

In 1928, the Republican National Convention nominated Herbert Hoover for president on the first ballot.

In 1940, in German-occupied Poland, the Nazis opened their concentration camp at Auschwitz; the same day, German troops entered Paris.

In 1943, the Supreme Court, in West Virginia Board of Education v. Barnette, ruled that schoolchildren could not be compelled to salute the flag of the United States.

In 1954, the words "under God" were added

to the Pledge of Allegiance.

In 1967, the space probe Mariner 5 was launched from Cape Kennedy on a flight that took it past Venus.

In 1967, the movie "To Sir, with Love," starring Sidney Poitier, was first released.

In 1982, Argentine forces surrendered to British troops on the disputed Falkland Islands.

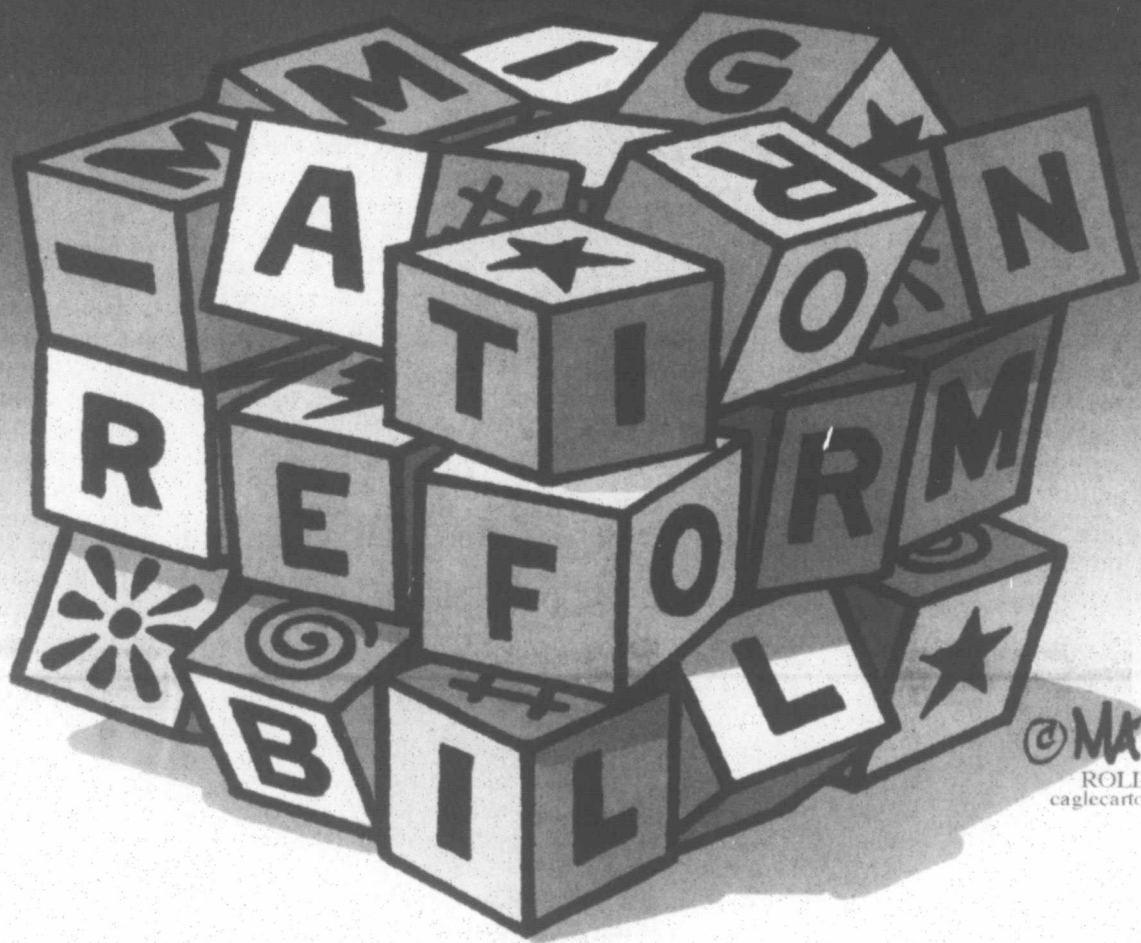
In 1985, the 17-day hijack ordeal of TWA Flight 847 began as a pair of Lebanese Shiite Muslim extremists seized the jetliner shortly after takeoff from Athens, Greece.

Ten years ago: President Clinton opened a yearlong campaign against racism with a commencement address at the University of California, San Diego, in which he defended affirmative action and pleaded with Americans to confront and erase their most deeply held prejudices. A 1939 comic book featuring the first appearance by Batman was auctioned off for \$68,500 at Sotheby's in New York.

Five years ago: American Roman Catholic bishops meeting in Dallas adopted a policy to bar sexually abusive clergy from face-to-face contact with parishioners but keep them in the priesthood. A suicide bomber blew up a truck at the U.S. consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, killing 14 Pakistanis.

'When a man is wrong and won't admit it, he always gets angry.'

— Thomas Chandler Haliburton
Canadian jurist and humorist (1796-1865)



Steps to take to become an e-mail pro

A recent study revealed that while surfing the Web was the most POPULAR Internet function, a lot of people were spending time working with e-mail. How about a few tips to speed up that process? Over the years, I've discovered some tips and tricks that have helped me wade through my e-mail ocean.

For the purposes of this article, all of these tips will work in Outlook or Outlook Express. If you have another e-mail program, chances are, these tips will work also, with a few modifications to the instructions.

Have you ever received a joke via e-mail? Of course you have! Sometimes, however, you have to scroll through quite a bit of junk before you actually get to the joke. That junk is typically what we call "e-mail headers." When a message gets

forwarded to someone, the entire message, including e-mail addresses, dates and subject, is copied into the new message.

Before you hit the "send" button, remove all the extraneous headers from the joke. Here's how: Pick a message you want to forward. Hit the "Forward" button in the toolbar. A copy of the message (with those silly headers) will appear. Highlight the parts of the message you don't want and hit the DELETE key on your keyboard.

If you are new to computers, highlighting is accomplished by positioning your mouse pointer right before the first letter of the words you want to highlight. Hold

down your left mouse button, and, while holding it down, drag the mouse diagonally down and to the right. Highlighting takes practice. Even computer nerds like

me get frustrated when I accidentally highlight too much or too little. Be patient.

Removing e-mail headers from forwarded messages is beneficial in two ways: First, it makes the messages easier to read. Second, it protects the privacy of those people whose addresses appeared in those headers.

Think about it. That's how most people end up on junk e-mail lists. Forwarded jokes typically contain hundreds of valid e-mail addresses. Once a junk e-mailer receives one of these jokes,

he simply adds all of those addresses to his list!

Another great tip is to organize your saved e-mail. Most people have anywhere from 30 to 500 messages in their Inbox. Once I read a message and deal with it, I delete it. But what if you have a message you need to keep? Don't leave it in the Inbox! Remember, your Inbox is just like your mailbox in front of your house. What if you decided to leave "important" mail in your mailbox? Pretty soon, your mailman couldn't cram any more items in it! Your e-mail Inbox should ONLY be for NEW e-mail.

To save important messages, create a folder. First, make sure you can see the Folder List on the left side of your screen. If you can't, you need to turn it on. In Outlook Express, pull down

See E-MAIL, Page 7

Eric Spellmann
Columnist



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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ **June 4**
Austin American-Statesman on state primaries:

Political party leaders were heard crying on both sides of the aisle when the bill to move up the Texas presidential primary died in the legislative session. They wanted Texas on par with two dozen other states seeking influence in the presidential primaries.

But there were huge problems with moving the primary from March 4, 2008, to Feb. 5 just so Texas could join the rush to a de facto national primary day. The first week in March is plenty early for Texas Democrats and

Republicans to hold their presidential primaries.

Respected political analyst Charlie Cook said Texas may have gained clout in the crowded race for the party presidential nominations by holding off efforts to move up the primary. In joining two dozen other states holding Feb. 5 primaries, Texas would not gain much influence and candidates wouldn't be spending much time here.

But if no clear winners come out of the early February primaries, Texas could be the deciding battleground for nominees seeking the Oval Office.

"Texas gives up having a 100 percent chance of a little bit of influence for a small chance of having a lot of influence," Cook noted.

On the national party scene, Texas is

an automatic player. It sends the second-highest number of delegates to the GOP national convention, with 140 following only California. It sends the third-highest number to the Democratic National Convention, with 228, after California and New York.

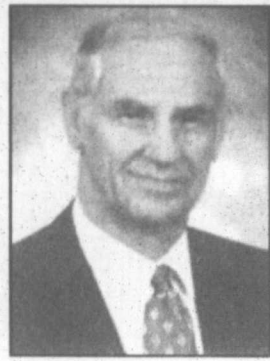
Texas also has a chance to make a national splash with the Republican candidates later this summer. State GOP leaders are planning a straw poll in Fort Worth over the Labor Day weekend and expect between 12,000 and 15,000 people to attend. They also hope to attract most, and maybe all, of the GOP field of candidates.

The straw poll will be non-binding, of course, but it could have huge impli-

See PRIMARY, Page 7

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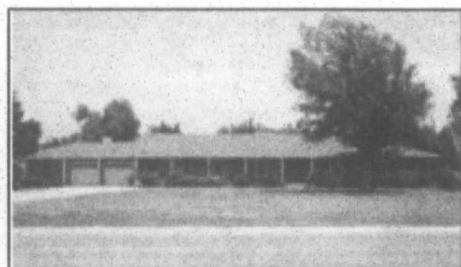
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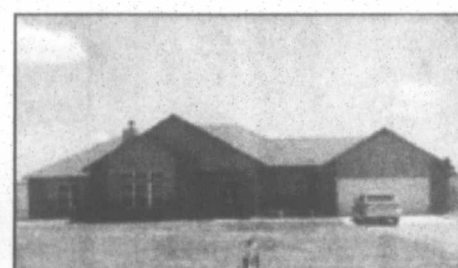
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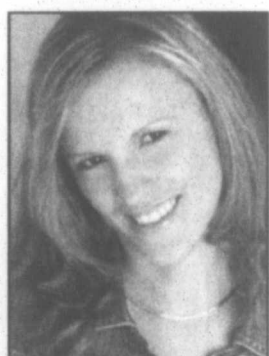
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I feel compelled to comment about the letter from "Miffed Pro in South Carolina" (April 20), the professional photographer who complained about guests taking photographs at weddings. I am a clergyperson who has seen more than my share of rude, incompetent professional photographers. I have seen them attempt to set up tripods at the altar, leaving no room for the wedding party to stand. I have seen them squat in the middle of the aisle, stopping each couple as they approach to get a "candid" shot. I have cleaned up front pews cluttered with their camera cases and jackets thrown over the altar, delaying the start of the ceremony. After the wedding, they set up equipment, checking lighting and settings interminably until the bride has lost every bit of "glow" and the candles have burned to stumps. One bride finally shouted, "Enough!" and burst into tears because she wanted to go to her reception. Ultimately, the bride and groom are often left with substandard photos at a premium price. This, I believe, is why guests bring their own cameras -- so they can capture some fulfilled memories of the day that are affordable. -- MICHIGAN MINISTER

DEAR MINISTER: Ouch! I'm sorry you have had such a disappointing experience with unprofessional professional wedding photographers. Some readers echoed your sentiments -- photos lost, lens caps accidentally left on, photo labs burning down -- while others described a wedding day spent in blissful harmony during which photographer, bridal couple and guests -- through compromise and communication -- made the experience a snap. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My wedding photographer explained to the guests that he was going to take the formal shots first, then they could take their pictures while we were still posed for a few more minutes. That way everyone could get the "good shots." As for the "candid shots" my guests took, I love them. In one of them, my 84-year-old uncle was doing the twist with my 92-year-old grandmother. I was delighted because I didn't see it happening. Please, Abby, tell the pros that everyone with a camera is contributing to the bride and groom's special day. -- CHERYL IN GEORGIA

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I hired a professional for our wedding. We waited patiently for four to six weeks after our honeymoon for word that the pictures were ready. He never called. I finally contacted him, and after several minutes of stammering he told me that he had "lost" all the rolls of film. Thank goodness my husband's sister had provided disposable cameras at each table at our reception, otherwise there wouldn't have been a single photo of our wedding day. -- ANNETTA IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: I was married two years ago, and one of the best presents we received was from a couple who took pictures through the entire ceremony. By the time our reception dinner was served, this couple had taken their photos to a one-hour lab, so we had pictures of our wedding before we even left for our honeymoon. -- LOVED THE CANDIDS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ABBY: Taking formal, posed portraits prior to the wedding ceremony is fine, but only if the bride doesn't mind letting her groom see her before the wedding. -- FORMER PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT IN KENTUCKY

DEAR ABBY: In many hundreds of weddings, I have never had a problem with guests stopping me from doing my job, and I have always treated them with respect and dignity. I often take guests' cameras when asked, and snap a few for them so they can be in their own photos. -- EXPERIENCED PRO IN WASHINGTON, MAINE

DEAR ABBY: Shortly after my wedding, I received a card with a photo in it taken by my husband's aunt. It was of my husband looking at me as I walked down the aisle. No one else had thought to take one like it. We had beautiful formal portraits done, but this is the one I keep on the nightstand so that the expression of love on his face is the first thing that greets me each morning. -- DEBRA IN NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASS.

For Better Or For Worse



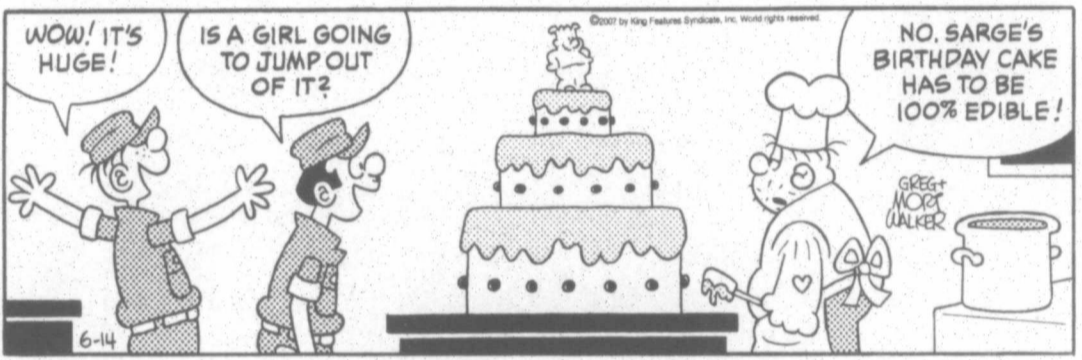
Zits



Garfield



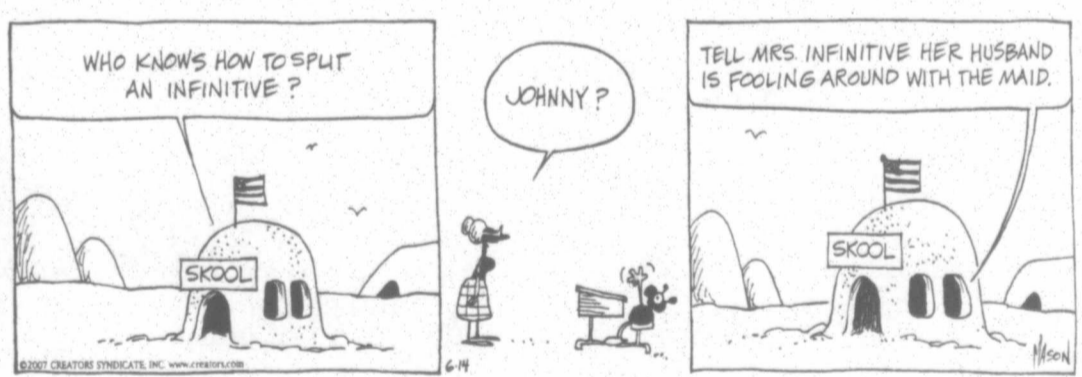
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



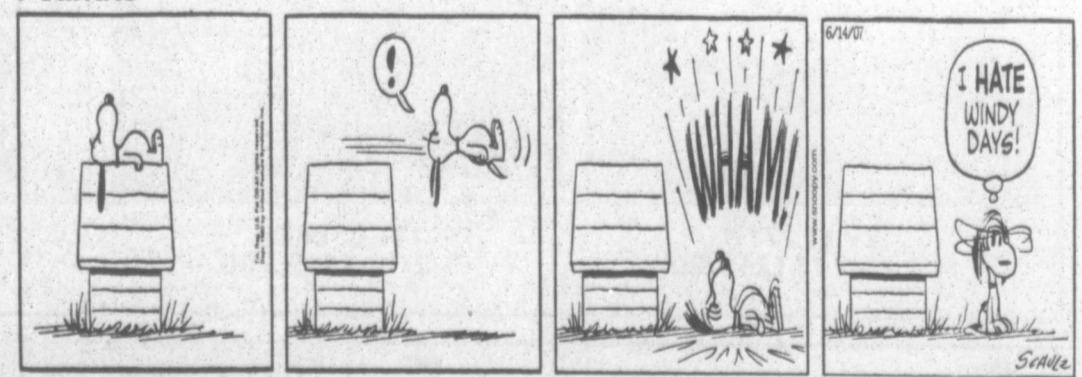
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 Cuzco
 - 1 Puzzle native
 - 44 Began to diagram
 - 5 Track cry
 - 45 Stagger sport
 - 11 Existence
 - 12 Milano's land
 - 13 One of the Baldwins
 - 14 Fiat
 - 15 Soft hazard
 - 16 Leather Hun head
 - 17 Summer sign
 - 18 Hide-aways
 - 22 Called to the phone
 - 24 Michael Caine role
 - 25 In the past
 - 26 Greek letter
 - 27 Easy runs
 - 30 One way to play
 - 32 Attacked swimmer
 - 33 Long swimmer
 - 34 Cheers on
 - 38 Traveler's PC
 - 41 Cosecant's reciprocal
 - 42 Pleistocene period
- DOWN**
- 1 Delighted
 - 2 Annoy
 - 3 James Brown hit
 - 4 Hazard
 - 5 Hun head
 - 6 Freshly
 - 8 — de France
 - 9 Long of "Love Jones"
 - 10 Whale group
 - 16 Lawn starter
 - 19 Beatles hit
 - 20 Comic Rudner
 - 21 Burn page
 - 22 Hiking route
 - 23 Taj Mahal setting
 - 28 Seafood sauce
 - 29 Curly, e.g.
 - 30 Put on game need
 - 31 Private answer
 - 35 Commentary
 - 36 Formerly
 - 37 Bona fide
 - 38 Ignited
 - 39 Perfect serve
 - 40 Shell-game

SILT	TIPTOP
OVEN	ABRADE
DAFT	MEAGER
ANT	SEXY
AFIRE	RED
TOILET	SPICE
OBOE	OGRE
TENTH	HOHUM
EYE	APART
FIRM	APE
NAPOLI	AWOL
AGENTS	RAMS
BOTTOM	TYPE

Yesterday's answer

19	Beatles	31	Private answer
20	Comic Rudner	35	Commentary
21	Burn page	36	Formerly
22	Hiking route	37	Bona fide
23	Taj Mahal setting	38	Ignited
28	Seafood sauce	39	Perfect serve
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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Flo & Friends



Mother's Day Out



COURTESY PHOTO
First Christian Church's 4- and 5-year-old Mother's Day Out class of Linda Bodie recently participated in special commencement exercises. The children wore white caps and gowns and enjoyed a Hawaiian luau type graduation. Above: Kelly Cameron, director, and Linda Bodie with William, from left, Jarren, Sarah, Jayden, Jaden, Klaire, Jaclyn, Landry, Jesus, Bailee, Timmy, Sydnee, Hailee, Stori and Braden.

Bryant

Continued from Page 4

to a belt clip, armband, shirt pocket, or bag. It also has a suction cup for stationary use. earPod is another great iPod headset accessory that houses the wires in a plastic round enclosure to keep them from twisting and tangling. The felt-lined center compartment on the earPod can even store ear buds and plug to protect them from damage or getting lost.

Label me thrilled. (Price Range: \$7.99 to \$799.99)

"While a label printer may not be on every dad's 'gotta have it' Father's Day wish list, these nifty gadgets are actually a luxury that people become die-hard addicts to once they own one. Perhaps the most versatile gadget on

earth, with dozens of makes and models to choose from, label printers have a myriad of possible uses both personal and professional. From filing systems to luggage tags to storage containers, this unexpected gift is a sure-fire winner.

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Remember: Don't wait until Father's Day to appreciate your father. He may not realize how deeply ingrained in your heart he truly is. Show him while there's still time.

You can also drag folders to different locations in the Folder List. AND, folders can contain folders. If you are a true pack-rat, you could theoretically keep EVERY message you ever received in your personal folders. I'll see you in Cyberspace!

left mouse button, and while holding it down, move your mouse (drag it) until it is over the new folder. Release the button and the message will "drop" into the folder. From now on, all of your important messages will be available, without clogging up your Inbox. Keep that Inbox empty! Over the last few years, some people have shared their strategies for storing important e-mail messages. Some people create a folder for every customer so that they can archive all customer correspondence. For most people, a "Jokes" folder will probably suffice.

If you ever want to delete your new folder, simply single-click it and hit the DELETE key on your keyboard. Be careful, though; deleting the folder will also delete all of the messages it contains.

E-mail

Continued from Page 4

the VIEW menu and choose "Layout." Then, check the box marked, "Folder List." In Outlook, simply pull down the "View" menu and choose "Folder List."

With the "Folder List" pane open, pull down the FILE menu and choose "New," then "Folder." A window will pop up asking for information about the new folder to be created. First, give it a name. If you don't have very many messages to save, simply call your folder "Keepers" or "Archive" or something similar.

If you are using Outlook, you will have an extra option at this point. You can choose what TYPE of folder you want. Will it contain e-mail

messages, calendar entries, to-do tasks, notes, contacts? You get to choose. For this example, though, choose "Mail Items."

The next option is applicable in both Outlook and Outlook Express. The program is asking WHERE you want to create the folder. Your new folder will be created UNDER whatever item you single click. For ease of use, you may want to put the folder at the same level as your other folders. In Outlook, single-click "Personal Folders." In Outlook Express, choose "Local Folders." Hit the OK button.

Your new folder will magically appear! Now, comes the fun part. Drag and drop your "keeper" messages into this new folder. To "drag and drop," position your mouse over one of your messages in your Inbox. Hold down the

season. That costs a lot of money and favors candidates with deep pockets.

The Feb. 5 primary date would have put too much pressure on everyone: candidates, voters, county clerks and poll workers. And it would have given startling advantage to incumbents, who hardly need more

advantage than they already have in Texas. So it is a good thing that the earlier primary bill died in the Texas Senate. The bill's death gives Texas a chance to play a lead roll in the presidential sweepstakes, not just a bit part on stage with two dozen other state primaries.

season. That costs a lot of money and favors candidates with deep pockets.

Primary

Continued from Page 4

cations for Republicans seeking the nomination. Straw poll results can give momentum to underdog or lagging candidates and they can stall momentum for some front-runners.

Many people may not remember that President Bush got a solid foothold on the GOP nomination for the presidency at the Iowa straw poll in 1999. Bush won that poll with 31 percent of the votes and went on to claim the nomination and the White House.

Texas Republicans are hoping the Fort Worth straw poll will have a similar impact. To be eligible to cast a ballot in the straw poll, to be held between Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, a voter must have been a delegate or alternate to one of the past four state Republican conventions or to one of the two previous national Republican conventions.

Regardless of what happens in Fort Worth, Texas primary voters will not have to begin considering candidates over the Thanksgiving holidays and candidates won't have to be campaigning during the Christmas

season. That costs a lot of money and favors candidates with deep pockets.

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Sports Day

Hidden Hills



Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN
 Ryen Lee (left) and Oscar Sargent evaluate their puts on Hole 5 this morning at Hidden Hills golf course. Also playing with Lee and Sargent were Dwayne Cash, O.K. Lee and James Lee.

A-Rod, Mussina help Yankees trim deficit

By The Associated Press
 Watch out, Red Sox, there's a buzz building in the Bronx: Alex Rodriguez and the streaking New York Yankees are chopping away at Boston's big lead.
 Rodriguez hit his major league-leading 25th homer, Mike Mussina earned his first win in more than a month and New York beat the visiting Arizona Diamondbacks 7-2 on Wednesday night for its eighth straight victory.
 Hideki Matsui added a three-run shot and Jorge Posada also connected to help the Yankees move within 8 1/2 games of the AL East-leading Red Sox, who lost 12-2 to Colorado at Fenway Park.
 In a little more than two weeks, the resurgent Bronx Bombers have sliced six games off their startling deficit. New York was a season-worst 14 1/2 games behind Boston after games of May 29.

"There is a lot of confidence in this clubhouse," Rodriguez said.
 The Rockies roughed up Curt Schilling in his first start since his near no-hitter, getting four RBIs from Todd Helton and a three-run homer by Brad Hawpe.
 Boston's 8 1/2-game cushion in the division is its smallest since the Red Sox led by nine after games of May 16. They still own the best record in the major leagues at 41-23.
 "You get blown out like that, you can deal with it — not like a 4-3 loss," first baseman Kevin Youkilis said. "It's one of those nights when you want to get the game over."
 Schilling (6-3) followed perhaps the best start of his career with one of his poorest since he came to Boston before the 2004 season. Last Thursday, he beat Oakland 1-0 and allowed one hit — a single by Shannon Stewart with two outs in the ninth.

Dynasty? Spurs not ready to go there yet

CLEVELAND (AP) — As far as Spurs forward Michael Finley is concerned, the last great dynasty had its run on TV.
 With San Antonio one win away from its fourth NBA title since 1999 and its third championship in five years, Finley was asked what he thought of when he heard the word "dynasty."
 "Blake Carrington," Finley quipped.
 Finley was referring to the central character on "Dynasty," the popular 1980s drama series — one that drew sky-high ratings ABC can only wish it get with this year's mostly unwatchable NBA finals.
 Leading the Cleveland Cavaliers 3-0 in the best-of-seven series, the Spurs can move themselves into rarified air with a win in Game 4 on Thursday night.
 Not only can San Antonio become the eighth team to sweep a finals, but another title would place the Spurs with the Boston Celtics (16), Los Angeles Lakers (14) and Chicago Bulls (6) as the only franchises to win four.
 Their remarkable consistency in this age of free agency had talk of a dynasty being kicked around the court inside Quicken Loans Arena on Wednesday as the Spurs practiced for perhaps the final time this season.
 "They have a dynasty already at work," said LeBron James, whose second son, Bryce Maximus James, was born early Thursday morning. "They don't have the greatest athletes in the world, they don't have the greatest shooters in the world, but they probably have the greatest team in the world."
 "And that's what this sport is all about. It's not about an individual. It's not like tennis. It's not like golf. You have to have one unit."
 One of the series' other main figures didn't want in on the dynasty discussion.
 "That's all psycho babble," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said, using one of his favorite expressions to downplay the notion. "When I think of dynasties, two come to my mind real quick — UCLA and Bill Russell. Everything else is just talk."
 Let's talk about the Spurs' run for a second.
 Beginning with their 1999 title, they've qualified for the playoffs every season — no given out West — made it to the semifinals eight times and advanced to the conference finals on five occasions.
 They are 3-0 in the NBA finals, and unless the cold-shooting Cavaliers begin knocking down jumpers and become the first team in history to overcome an 0-3 deficit, the Spurs will be a perfect 4-for-4 in the finals.
 Los Angeles' three straight championships from 2000-02 are sandwiched by the Spurs, who also won it all in 2005.
 "They've become the class of this league, there's no question about it," said Utah guard Derek Fisher, whose Jazz team lost to the Spurs in the Western Conference finals.
 Fisher was a key member on those Lakers teams led by Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal, and although it's tough for him to admit it, Fisher feels what the Spurs have accomplished has eclipsed what he and his teammates did.
 "I hate to say it," Fisher began, "but they're probably surpassing us, to be honest. We had that great four-to-five-year period, but you have to kind of look at the Bulls and the Celtics and the Lakers teams of the 80s that dominated an entire period."
 "I can honestly say they're surpassing us in terms of recent dynasties and teams that have been able to sustain that level of excellence over a long period of time."
 See SPURS, Page 10

Rains soften up Oakmont — will lower scores follow?

OAKMONT, Pa. (AP) — The rains came. The question now is whether lower-than-expected scores will follow at the U.S. Open.
 Tiger Woods was among a growing number below par early in their rounds as opening round play began on time Thursday at Oakmont Country Club, despite heavy fog that burned off just in time to accommodate the first groups off the tee.
 A thunderstorm dumped slightly less than a half inch of rain on Oakmont late Wednesday afternoon, softening up its wickedly fast greens right when the USGA felt they were in prime condition.
 As a result, there were plenty of scores in the red among the first golfers on the course — something Arnold Palmer didn't predict Wednesday, when he wondered aloud if Oakmont might be too tough for this field.
 With more than half those 156 golfers yet to tee off, Angel Cabrera was 3 under par through five holes, one stroke better than Jose Maria Olazabal (8 holes), David Toms (7 holes) and Pat Perez (4 holes). Six more were at 1-under, including Ernie Els, the 1994 winner at Oakmont, and Woods, who was a year away from playing in the U.S. Open the last time it stopped at Oakmont.
 Woods took a bogey 5 on No. 1, birdied No. 2 and was 1 under through seven holes in his first competitive round at Oakmont.
 This is a record eighth U.S. Open at Oakmont, but the first in 13 years, and only a dozen or so players have tournament experience on a course reputed to be the toughest in America.
 This Oakmont doesn't look like that pre-Tiger Oakmont of 1994, not with 5,000 trees leveled since then, the bunkers made deeper and more threatening and the Church Pews bunker expanded.
 With so much trouble awaiting, and so little Oakmont experience out there, Palmer predicted it could be a very shaky opening round or two for many. He hasn't missed an Open at Oakmont in more than 50 years, but he almost sounded relieved to be sitting this one out.
 For all the changes, he said, what sets Oakmont apart are greens so fast and tilted that the USGA is having trouble finding four adequate pin placements on each hole.
 "I've talked to some of the guys that have been out there and I've talked to some of the former champions who have been out there, and they tell me this field — and this is just an observation — is not really ready for Oakmont," said Palmer, the tournament's honorary chairman. "That they haven't really learned yet how to play Oakmont."
 Palmer is certain of that, if only because he has played Oakmont for 66 years and even The King isn't entirely sure if he fully knows a course whose greens are so frighteningly fast, so unnervingly difficult to read.
 "There are golf courses over the years that I could play a practice round or two and feel pretty comfortable that I knew how to play it," Palmer said. "Oakmont just doesn't happen to be that kind of golf course. I've played, well, since I was 12 years old. And I'm not even sure now that I know every shot that I should hit, if I could hit it."
 Phil Mickelson, among the favorites, won The Players Championship last month and had a pair of third-place ties before that, and would seem to have plenty of momentum since switching to Butch Harmon as his coach. But even he didn't know until he got on the course how much his left wrist injury would affect him.
 Mickelson played half a round Wednesday, and hasn't played a full round at Oakmont since injuring his wrist there chipping out of the thick rough last month. He wasn't scheduled to tee off until Thursday afternoon.
 Even if the wrist weren't a bother — he was resigned to playing in pain all week — there was the issue of his 72nd-hole collapse at Winged Foot last year, one that cost him his first U.S. Open title and his fourth major.

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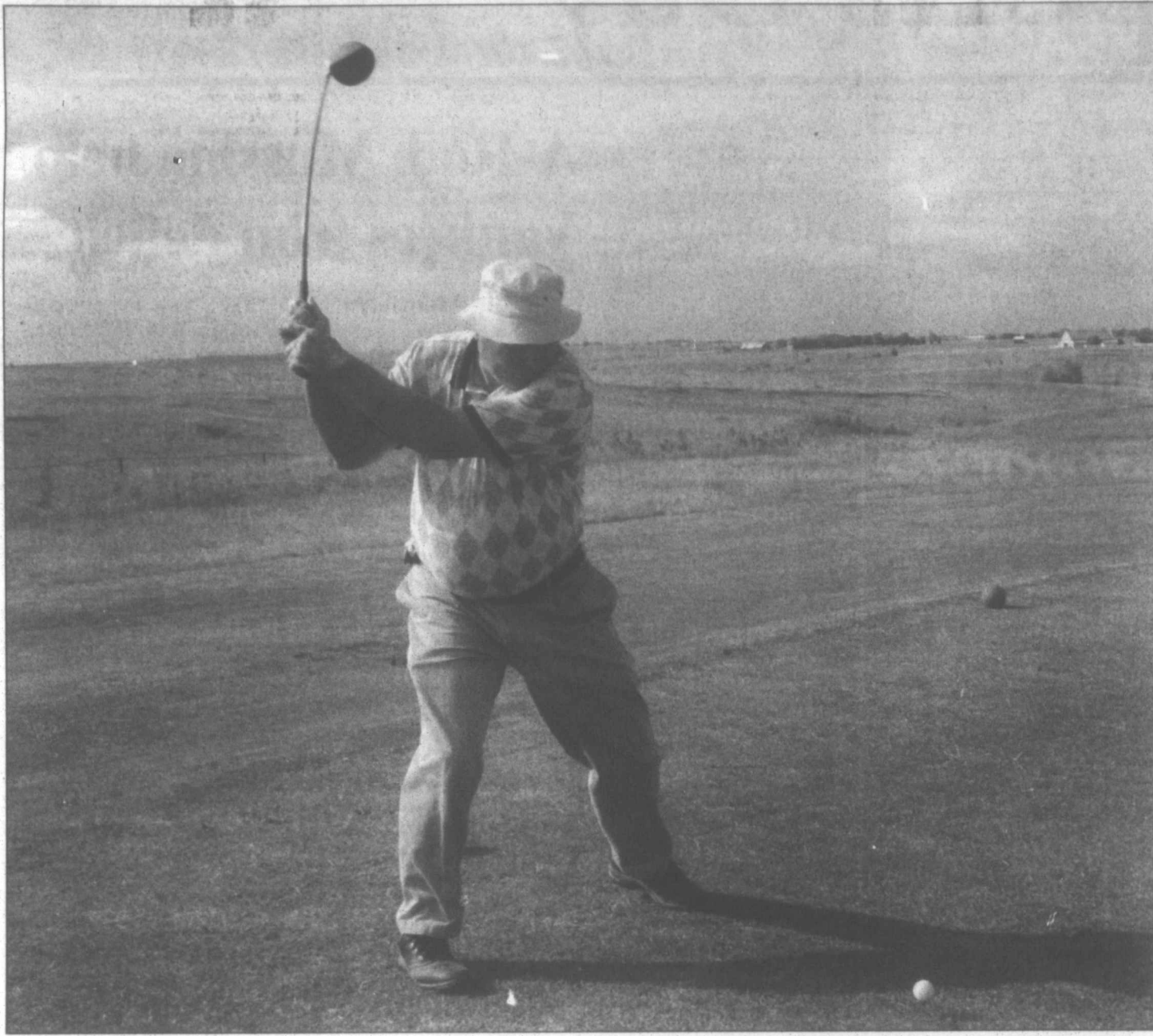
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Hidden Hills



O.K. Lee tees off on Hole 5 this morning at Hidden Hills golf course. Hidden Hills will host a golf scramble this weekend in celebration of their 17th anniversary.

Pampa News photo by JORDAN REAGAN

Two Cuban players turn up missing at soccer tournament

HOUSTON (AP) — Two players on Cuba's national soccer team didn't show up for a tournament in Houston and team officials worried the two had defected.

The Cubans lost in Houston Wednesday night in the first round of the 2007 CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer tournament and were eliminated. After the 5-0 loss to Honduras, Cuban coach Raul Gonzalez declined to say whether Osvaldo Alonso and Lester More defected.

More apparently went missing at a previous stop in East Rutherford, N.J.; Alonso didn't return from a group shopping trip before the game in Houston.

"I'm a football man, not a politician. I will not answer that question," Gonzalez told reporters.

"They went for the gold. I hope they don't end up with thorns. The ones who take another road take it because they want to take it."

Zac Emmons, Gold Cup spokesman, said the team planned to fly back to Cuba on Thursday morning. Gonzalez and Alonso had checked out of their hotel on Thursday morning.

CONCACAF, the govern-

ing body of soccer, issued a statement before the game saying it would not comment on rumors of a Cuban defection.

No one answered at the Cuban Interests Section in Washington, D.C. A call to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, which would handle defections, was not immediately returned.

Cuban athletes have defected from the communist country while in international competitions outside Cuba. In 2005, forward Maykel Galindo defected during a Gold Cup tournament in Seattle.

Cuba is a powerhouse in international baseball and at least 20 players have defected since 1991. Some have had great success in the major leagues.

In October 2002, Jose Contreras, a pitcher, defected while playing for his national team during a tournament in Mexico. He signed with the New York Yankees two months later. Contreras played for the Cuban team that won the gold medal at the 1996 Olympics.

Spurs

Continued from Page 9

Tracing the Spurs' path to prominence leads to one point: the 1997 NBA draft lottery, when the club won the rights to draft center Tim Duncan, their unappreciated star and perhaps the greatest power forward

ever.

Duncan has been the foundation around which the Spurs have built their empire, one that has been raised through savvy business decisions, adept international scouting and a family oriented philosophy laid out by owner Peter Holt and implemented by general manager R.C. Buford.

The Spurs went overseas

to find All-Star Tony Parker, their Road Runner of a point guard, as well as super sub Manu Ginobili and starting center Fabricio Oberto, who are both from Argentina.

San Antonio has also been able to lure free agents such as Brent Barry, Michael Finley and Robert Horry, valuable role players who joined the club with

hopes of winning an NBA ring, or in Horry's case, a seventh one.

"The Spurs are, a lot of times, not really appreciated because I don't think people really fully realize how difficult this is to do," Fisher said. "So you have to give them and their owner and coach Popovich and their players all the credit in the world."

Finley spent eight seasons with Dallas, but it took him heading south in Texas to land in his first finals. The 12-year veteran remembers marveling at the Spurs' consistency while he was with the Mavericks.

"From the outside looking in, we thought they were a perfect team, a team that didn't make mistakes, a team that went out and

played perfect ball," he said. "But once I got here, it was those imperfections that made them a good team. It's not a perfect team, it makes mistakes but the way it comes back from those mistakes and doesn't crumble to adverse situations is what makes it a great team."

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LeBron's girlfriend gives birth to couple's 2nd son

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James' girlfriend, Savannah Brinson, gave birth early Thursday to the couple's second son, Bryce Maximus James.

Keith Estabrook, a spokesman for the Cleveland Cavaliers star and his family, said Bryce weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21 inches long. He was born at 12:51 a.m. at Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital, near his father's hometown of Akron.

"Savannah and the baby are healthy and doing well," Estabrook said.

The boy was born as the Cavaliers prepared to host the San Antonio Spurs in Game 4 of the NBA finals Thursday night. The Spurs are one win from a four-game sweep.

The 22-year-old James and his girlfriend had their first child, LeBron James Jr., in October 2004.

Mickelson's wrist gives him an excuse when it's needed most

By **TIM DAHLBERG**
AP Sports Columnist

OAKMONT, Pa. (AP) — Phil Mickelson isn't exactly sure what is wrong with his injured left wrist, other than it hurts. That's a slight improvement over last year, when no one was certain what was wrong with his head.

The wrist now sports a glove more suited to making a 7-10 split than a 20-foot putt. Underneath the hat on his head, things have proven just as difficult to fix.

This was supposed to be the week when Mickelson would meet his demons head-on in the same tournament where his spectacular collapse a year ago instantly became a part of golf lore.

Either that or it was going to be the week where Mickelson confirmed what many have long suspected — that even Tony Soprano's psychiatrist would have trouble figuring out what goes on inside Lefty's brain.

One way or the other, this U.S. Open was going to provide some closure for golf fans everywhere.

Then the wrist messed everything up.

Mickelson messed it up practicing chips out of the rough while preparing for the Open. That's his story, anyway, and it does sound better than if he hurt it playing catch in the parking lot with his caddie, as he used to do to warm up before some majors.

Just what is wrong is murky at best. Mickelson says it's inflammation, and it's gotten bad enough to take a cortisone shot and wrap the wrist in a glove that looks more at home at a bowling alley than a golf course.

You half expected him to strap it onto the space-age contraption that his short-game guru was using to measure the speed of the greens and get a few electrical jolts to speed the healing. Mickelson politely declined autographs during Wednesday's practice round, pointing to his wrist as the culprit.

Injuries, of course, can be funny things, and no one is claiming Mickelson isn't being forthright about what ails him. If anything, he tends to give out too much information, in contrast to

Tiger Woods, who goes about his business with the openness of a secret agent.

With Mickelson, you knew almost to the hour when his wife was going to go into labor at the 1999 Open. With Woods, the only guess is that his baby will be born sometime this summer.

And look no further than Michelle Wie for evidence that wrist problems can create havoc with a golf game. Mickelson himself withdrew from the Memorial a few weeks ago because of his injury and hasn't played competitively since.

The injury seems serious enough to cost him a chance to win the tournament he wants — and needs — more desperately than any other.

In a strange way, though, it may have also happened at just the right time.

Without a sore wrist, Mickelson would have come to Oakmont with a lot of explaining to do. His wayward shots on the 18th hole at Winged Foot would have been replayed constantly on TV, and every move he has made since would be analyzed over and over again.

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Lions Camp



Pampa News Photo by KERRI SMITH

Pampa Lions Club is sending six children to Lions Camp in Kerrville for a week later this month. These children, with some type of disability, also received monogrammed towels to use while at camp. Pictured at a recent Lions Club meeting are, front row left, Brody Gilbert and Jady Triplett. Back row from left are Kolton Dyson, Porshe Henderson and Lauren Pingel. Not pictured is Renee Baggerman.

Events calendar

- **The 61st annual Dumas Noon Lions Club Dogie Days** celebration will be through Saturday at McDade Park in Dumas. The event will include a barbecue, a midway, a parade with prizes, games and more. For more information, contact Dumas/Moore County Chamber of Commerce at (806) 935-2123.
- **The Red Hat Dollies Society** of Pampa will meet at 11 a.m. June 21 at Pampa Senior Citizens Center. For more information, call 669-9916 or 669-9297.
- **The next Third Thursday at Amarillo Museum of Art** will be from 6-9 p.m. June 21. The event will include music by Roger Dean, a film, coffee tasting and art activities for adults and children. To find out more, call (806) 371-5050.
- **The entry deadline for "TPS 16: The National Competition"** of the Texas Photographic Society is July 5. The exhibition will open in Austin and

- tour Odessa, Houston, New York City and San Francisco. Cash prizes will be awarded. For more information, call (210) 824-4123 or log onto www.texas-photo.org on the Internet.
- **Texas Panhandle Mental Health Mental Retardation** will offer "Life Choices" from 1:30-3 p.m. July 9-13 for ninth and 10th graders; "The Hot Head Cool Down" from 2-4 p.m. July 16-20 for youth 11-14 years of age; and "Dating Smart" from 2-4 p.m. Aug. 1, 3, 8 and 10 for girls 15-16 years of age. Cost of each class is free. "The Hot Head Cool Down" and "Dating Smart" will be presented at the agency's Children's and STAR facility, 1500 S. Taylor, in Amarillo. "Life Choices" will be conducted at DSC Library in Hereford. For more information or to register for the classes, call (806) 359-2005 in Amarillo or (806) 363-7695 in Hereford.

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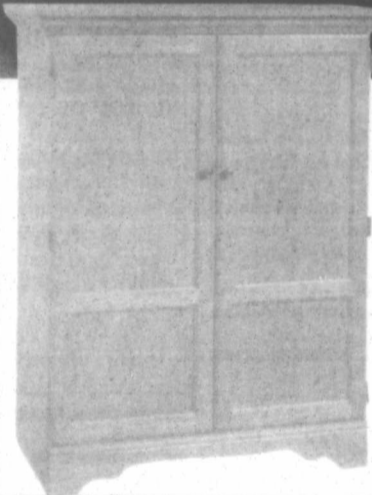


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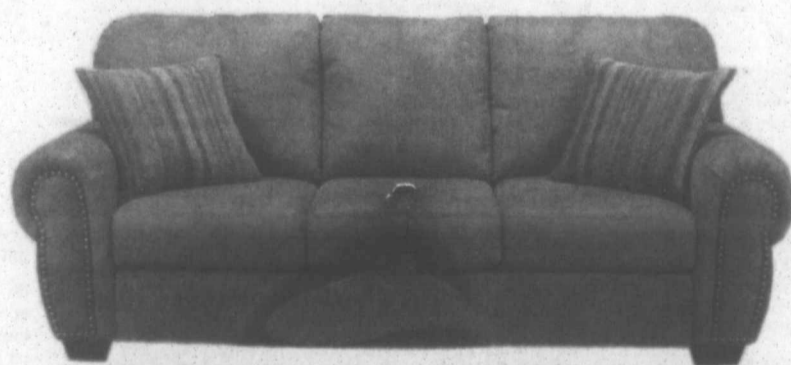


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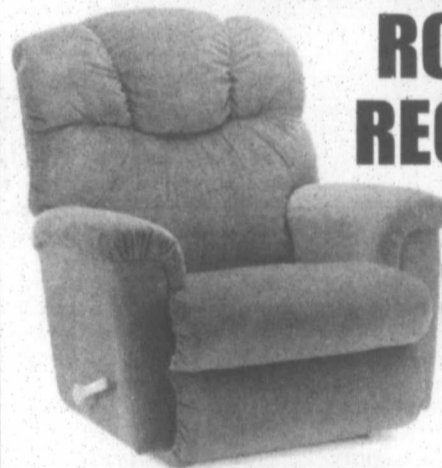


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