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LOW 67

See expanded weather on Page 2

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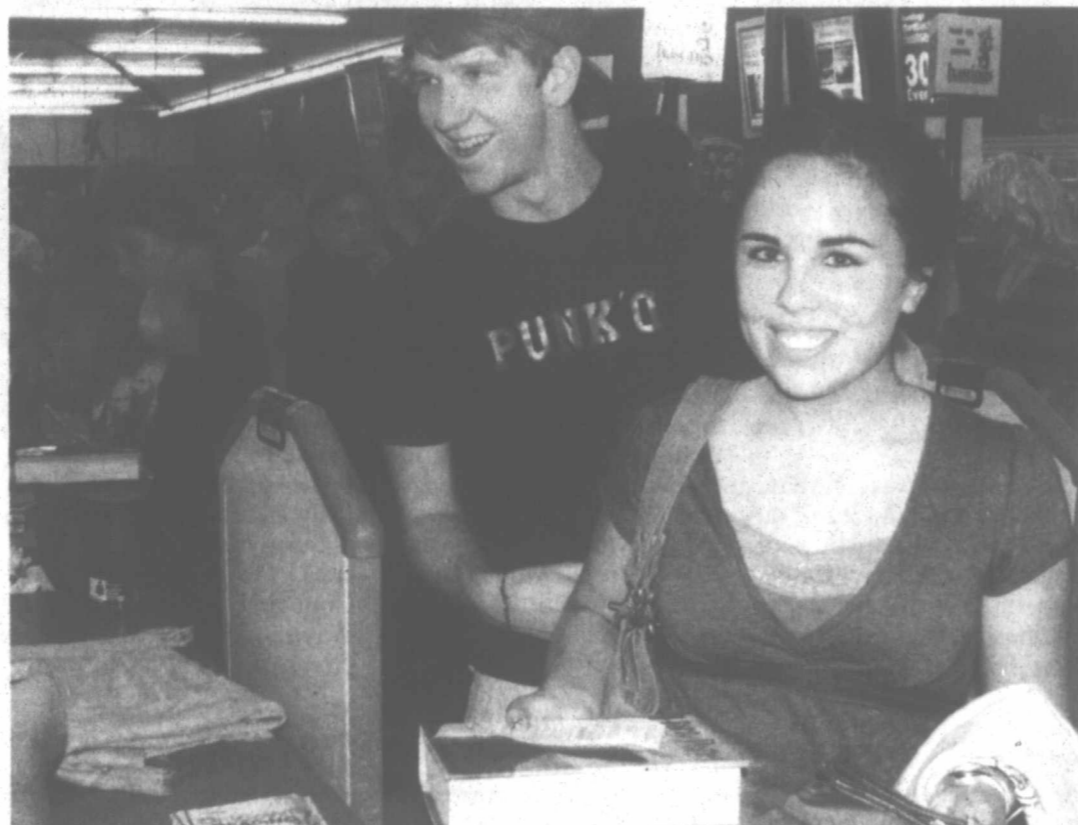
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Harry Potter fans



Pampa News photo BY JORDAN REAGAN
Kayla Mendoza and Stetson Smith are among the first to purchase a copy of the much-anticipated final book of the Harry Potter series minutes after midnight Saturday at Hastings.

City to discuss fence at park

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

The Pampa City Commission will hear about a fence at Recreation Park, consider bids on tax delinquent properties and approve June disbursements before holding a work session to discuss the 2007-2008 Public Works capital budget and annexation plans when they meet in regular session Tuesday afternoon.

Michael Craig of the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association will speak to the commission about a fence around the dance platform at the rodeo grounds in Recreation Park.

The commission will consider a bid of \$140 from Sheri Worthington for two lots at 435 Crest, a bid from Claudette Deason for \$100

for a lot on South Gray, a bid from Patrick Edwards for \$500 for a lot at 1060 Prairie Drive and a bid of \$150 from Tammy Knight for two lots at 713 Brunow.

The city commission will also review and vote on the city's disbursements for June totaling \$1,560,221.42.

During a work session scheduled after Tuesday's meeting, the commission will discuss the 2007-2008 Public Works capital budget.

They will also discuss plans to annex land north and west of Pampa Regional Medical Center and land north of the city within Loop 171 into the city.

The commission will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the commission chambers on the third floor of City Hall.

Emergency coordinator Hall plans retirement

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Pampa / Gray County Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Hall will leave behind 16 years' worth of innovations and improvements when he retires from his position at the end of August.

Hall, a Pampa native, has worked in public service positions ever since he served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. More than 25 years' worth of that work has been for the benefit of Pampa and Gray County residents.

After being born in Pampa, Hall spent part of his childhood away from the city but then returned with his family and graduated from Pampa High School. From there, he attended West Texas State University in Canyon for a couple of years, then enlisted in the Navy as the Vietnam War raged.

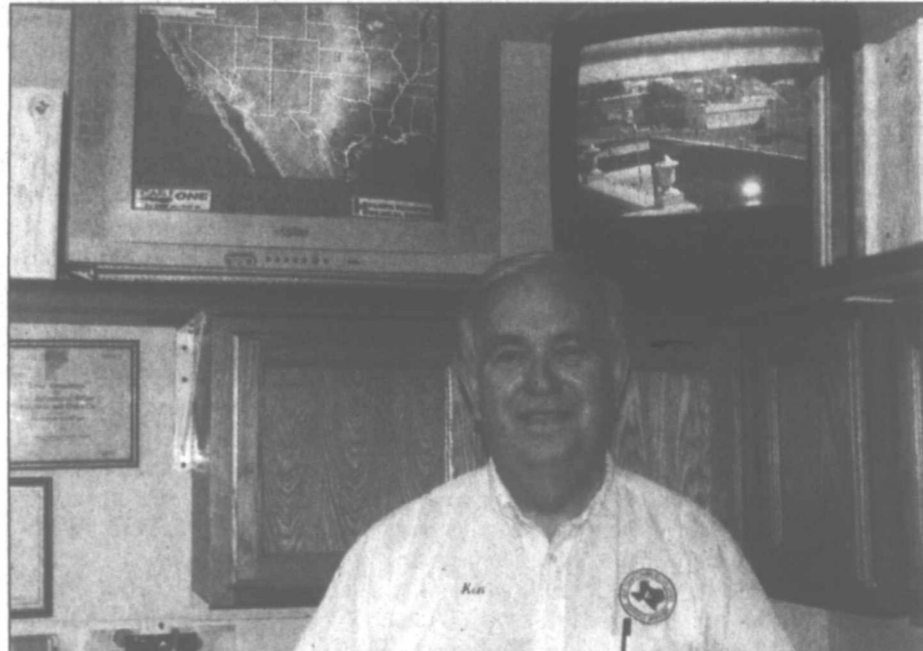
"I spent three years, 10 months and nine days in the Navy," Hall

said. "When I got out of the Navy, I was thinking about going back to WT. I needed a temporary job between semesters, and went to work for the Plainview police department."

He met his future wife, Carolyn, in Plainview. Carolyn retired last November from another Pampa public service position, that of STD/HIV nurse for the Department of State Health Services, which she held for 18 years.

Hall began his career as a police officer in Plainview in April 1970. He found that he enjoyed the work and decided to stay in the position.

"About that time, the Law Enforcement Education Program was started," Hall said. The program provided federal grant money for peace officers to attend college. The grant would not have to be repaid if the officer stayed in law enforcement for at least four



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS
Pampa's Channel 11, shown in the television screens at top, often displays current weather information and a radar image of the area, one of a number of innovations completed during the tenure of Pampa/Gray County Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Hall, who retires at the end of August.

See HALL, Page 3

Goat auction planned

Courtesy photo

A female goat, brown and white in color, will be auctioned off at 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Pampa Animal Control Shelter in Hobart Street Park if no one claims it. Animal Control Officer Sandy Burns said the goat showed up last Wednesday on a porch in the 1400 block of East Francis Avenue. She said the goat was at one time apparently a show animal. Burns said the goat has an ear tag showing the number AZA 00251.



NEXT DAY FORECAST

Tuesday



Partly cloudy

Wednesday



Partly cloudy

Thursday



Partly cloudy

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. Southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67. South wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 89. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 69. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 88. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Emergency Services

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

Friday, July 20

Two traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

Traffic complaints were received from the 400 block of North Wynne, the intersection of Browning and Starkweather streets, the 1700 block of Aspen and the 400 block of Hughes.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 500 block of Doucette, the police department lobby and the 1500 block of Alcock.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 100 block of South Sumner, on three occasions in the 1000 block of Mary Ellen, the 900 block of Twiford, the 500 block of Cook, the 1000 block of North Christine, the 100 block of South Faulkner, the 1000 block of Huff Road, the 1400 block of North Russell, the 1000 block of Neel Road and on two occasions in the 600 block of North Hobart.

An unattended death was reported in the 400 block of North Faulkner.

A welfare check was made in the 300 block of Miami.

A runaway was reported in the 2300 block of North Dwight.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 1400 block of North Hobart and from Recreation Park, 1600 E. Highway 60.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 400 block of Lowry.

Violation of a protective order was reported in the 1000 block of North Wells. An arrest was made in connection with the incident.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the police department lobby, the 400 block of Hughes, the 600 block of North Christy and the 400 block of Lefors.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1000 block of West Wilks.

Criminal mischief was reported at the Ranchhouse Motel, 720 E. Frederic. The door frame to the laundry room, the main office door and the manager's entire apartment were damaged. Estimated cost of damage is unknown. Cash valued at \$150 was taken.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 200 block of West Craven and the 800 block of East Locust.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 2100 block of North Sumner, the 1100 block of Duncan and the 200 block of Miami, where a vanity and toilet were broken, resulting in an estimated \$500 damage, but no injuries were reported in

Obituaries

Services tomorrow

MOORE, Opal Faye — Graveside services 10 a.m. in Prairie Dell Cemetery in Hemphill County.

Miguel Angel Hernandez, 41

Miguel Angel Hernandez, 41, died Friday, July 20, 2007, in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Hernandez was born June 10, 1966, in Mexico. He married Corey West on Feb. 6, 1985, in Plainview. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1993. He

worked for West Texas Landscape for the past several years. He was a Catholic.

Survivors include his wife, Corey Hernandez of the home; two sons, Anthony Hernandez of Plano and David



Hernandez

Hernandez of Mexico; one daughter, Cassandra Hernandez of the home; two sisters, Gloria Hernandez-Lopez and Alicia Hernandez, both of Mexico; four brothers, Arturo Hernandez-Lopez

of Mexico, and Victor Hernandez-Lopez, Carlos Hernandez-Lopez, and Mauro Hernandez-Lopez, all of Pampa; one granddaughter and several nieces and nephews.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Charles Clinton 'Charlie' Fletcher, 81

dent of Pampa for more than 40 years.

Shortly after the war, he went to work for Southwestern Bell, retiring in 1980 after 37 years of service. He also worked in the cattle business for a number of years. He was a member of the Central Baptist Church, and was a member of the Southwestern, Bell

Pioneer Club. His passion was the outdoors. Upon his death, he wished to convey his appreciation to the community for such a good life he lived here in Pampa.

Survivors include one son, Charlie Fletcher of Baytown; one daughter, Charlene Steadman of Arlington; three grandsons, Richard Williams of Hasco, Pat Steadman of

Arlington, and David Fletcher of Midland; two granddaughters, Kimberly Dowling and Angela Fletcher, both of Midland; and 10 great-grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: Southwestern Bell Pioneer Club or a favorite charity.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Opal Faye Moore, 73

COPPERAS COVE — Opal Faye Moore, 73, died Friday, July 20, 2007, in Copperas Cove.

Services were at 10 a.m. Monday, July 23, 2007, at Sheppard Chapel of Memories with Deacon Rich Barrett, the Rev. Reese Hutcherson and the Rev. Scott Smith officiating.

Burial will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 24, 2007, in Prairie Dell Cemetery in Hemphill County under the direction of Sheppard Funeral Home.

Mrs. Moore was born Jan. 23, 1934 in Mountain air N.M. to Floyd Lee Pyeatt and Beulah Hazel Poindexter Pyeatt. She was a

public schoolteacher for 27 years and was a member of Crestview Christian Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Billy Pyeatt.

Survivors include four sons, Floyd Lee White of Copperas Cove, Darrell Wayne White of Waco, Gregory Don White of

Rosenberg and James Edwin Moore of Pampa; and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be to National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc., 2600 Network Blvd., Suite 300, Frisco, Texas 75034.

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Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Abery Grain of White Deer

Wheat	5.39
Milo	4.65
Corn	5.43
Soybeans	7.24

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa

OXY	61.09	-1.01
BP PLC ADR	74.00	+0.13
Cabot Corp	48.24	+0.13
Celanese	37.40	+0.09
Cabot Oil Gas	36.95	-0.19
Coca Cola	53.35	+0.14
VLO	72.43	-0.70
HAL	37.58	+1.01
TRI	53.86	-0.04
KMI	NA	NA
XCEL	21.14	+0.27
Anadarko	52.80	-1.15
XOM	91.98	+0.04
Nat'l Oilwell	116.57	-1.13
Limited	27.16	+0.17
Williams	34.55	-0.17
MCD	52.29	+0.20
Atmos	30.22	+0.37
Pioneer Nat.	48.04	-0.56
JCP	75.24	+0.29
COP	84.63	-1.67
SLB	97.06	+0.38
Tenneco	35.74	+0.10
CVX	91.76	-0.36
Wal-Mart	48.10	+0.04
OKE	55.03	+0.17
New York Gold	684.70	
Silver	13.40	
West Texas Crude	75.57	

connection with the incident. Possession of less than two ounces of marijuana was reported in the 800 block of Municipal Drive. Two alarms were reported.

Forgery was reported in the 1300 block of Mary Ellen. Checks of unknown value were forged at an unknown location.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 309 N. Hobart. Fuel valued at \$30 was taken.

Burglary was reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of North Sumner. The incident involved a white 1988 Chevrolet Cavalier, when was later located in Amarillo.

Saturday, July 21

Seven traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1900 block of North Faulkner and the 1700 block of Aspen.

A vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Foster and Ballard streets.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 500 block of North Dwight, the 2700 block of Navajo, the 700 block of East Frederic, the 700 block of North Naida, the 2200 block of North Sumner, on two occasions in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill, the 500 block of North Russell, the 1000 block of Charles, the 100 block of West 30th, the intersection of Brown and Cuyler streets and the 1900 block of North Hobart.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1300 block of South Hobart.

Warrant service was attempted on one occasion and resulted in at least one arrest.

A welfare check was made in the 2800 block of Charles.

A runaway was reported in the 900 block of South Banks.

Found property was reported in the 800 block of East Kingsmill and the 1700 block of Beech.

Civil matters were reported in the 1100 block of Darby and the 1000 block of East Frederic.

A suspicious person call

was received from the 1000 block of Varnon Drive.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received on two occasions from the 300 block of Jean.

A prowler was reported in the 2700 block of North Hobart.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 400 block of North Faulkner.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 500 block of Montagu.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of East Murphy, the 400 block of North Wynne, the 1900 block of Lynn and the 1100 block of Finley, where an arrest was made in connection with the incident.

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

Violation of a Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission law was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 900 block of Rham and the 1800 block of Hamilton.

Two alarms were reported.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby, the 100 block of South Starkweather and the 700 block of East Frederic, where a prescription drug, a box of needles and a food stamp card were taken.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1500 block of North Faulkner. The incident involved a black four-door Cadillac which was later located at the intersection of Randy Matson and Faulkner streets.

Sunday, July 22

Seven traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

Traffic complaints were received from the 400 block of South Cuyler and the intersection of Hobart and Kingsmill streets.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 400 block of Hughes.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 800 block of East Kingsmill, the 700 block of South Somerville, on two occasions in the 2200 block of North Dwight, the 2300 block of Comanche, the 600 block of North Wells and

Recreation Park.

Welfare checks were made in the 800 block of East Murphy, the 800 block of Municipal Drive and the 300 block of North Sumner.

A civil matter was reported in the 1700 block of Beech.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of North West, the 600 block of East Frederic and the 1900 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the intersection of Christine and Louisiana streets and Recreation Park.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 2200 block of Hamilton and the 2100 block of North Faulkner.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of North Nelson.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 800 block of Beryl, the 1300 block of Coffee and the intersection of Browning and Harvester streets.

Assault was reported in the 1100 block of South Christy.

Three alarms were reported.

Monday, July 23

Two traffic stops were made, resulting in at least one arrest.

A suspicious person call was received from the 1100 block of Jordan.

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

Wednesday, July 18

Trevor Slater, 26, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a probation violation for deadly conduct.

Marcos Chavez, 42, of Tucson, Ariz. was arrested by GCSO on a warrant to serve time in jail until a fine is paid.

Adam Scoggin, 28, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO to serve sentences in a Texas Department of Criminal Justice facility for burglary of a habitation and possession of a controlled substance.

Saturday, July 21

Esteban Jaimes Osoria, 37, of Amarillo was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for driving

while intoxicated, first offense.

Autora T. Grant, 30, of Blytheville, Ark. was arrested by GCSO on a bond surrender for possession of a controlled substance and a bond forfeiture for possession of a controlled substance.

Betsy Amanda Crossman, 23, of Pampa was arrested in the 1900 block of Lynn by Pampa Police Department for assault causing bodily injury/family violence.

Sunday, July 22

Davalos Delfino Martinez, 25, of Oklahoma City, Okla. was arrested by DPS for driving while intoxicated with a child under 15 years of age.

Victor Manuel Soto, 22, of Pampa was arrested in the 800 block of East Kingsmill by PPD for no valid driver's license, running a stop sign and a capias pro fine for no valid driver's license.

Adrian Antony Diaz, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 1300 block of Coffee by PPD for assault causing bodily injury.

Manuel DeJesus Quintero, 48, of Phoenix, Ariz. was arrested by DPS on a Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainer.

Monday, July 23

Jason Ellis, 24, of Pampa was arrested at the intersection of Crawford and Barrett streets by PPD for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls ending at 7 a.m. today.

Friday, July 20

7:41 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 400 block of North Faulkner. No transport.

9:17 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of North Coffee and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

2:41 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of Gardenia in White Deer and transported a patient to BSA Hospice.

Saturday, July 21

9:51 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Kentucky and transported a patient to the 1700 block of Evergreen.

See RECORD, Page 3

Grand opening



Cash AdvantEdge, a new financial business inside Rent-A-Center, held a grand opening celebration Friday. Pictured from left are Monica Castillo, manager, and Maria Rodriguez, assistant manager.

Courtesy Photo

Gonzales vows to fix 'troubling' image

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Alberto Gonzales says he's staying at the Justice Department to try to repair its broken image, telling Congress in a statement released today he's troubled that politics may have played a part in hiring career federal prosecutors.

Gonzales' ability to lead the department were preparing to hammer him about the firings of eight U.S. attorneys and conflicts between his earlier statements and the testimony of a former aide.

The attorney general's comments came in 26 pages of prepared testimony that was released on the eve of

his scheduled appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee. After months of critics calling for his resignation, Gonzales appears to have weathered the political furor that began with the prosecutors' purge last year and subsequently revealed a Justice Department hiring process that favored

Record

Continued from Page 1

11:29 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the Northwest Texas Hospital and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:47 — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Nursing Center and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to PNC.

7:43 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Craven and transported a patient to PRMC.

8:33 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of East Harvester. No transport.

8:43 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:24 p.m. — A mobile

ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 800 block of West 25th.

Sunday, July 22

2:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC.

4:12 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 800 block of West 25th.

11:59 — A mobile ICU responded to the 1300 block of North Hobart and transported a patient to PRMC.

Monday, July 23

1:12 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of Miami and transported a patient to PRMC.

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

today.

Saturday, July 21

4:10 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to Price Road, south of Memory Gardens Cemetery, on a grass fire.

8:42 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 800 block of 25th on a medical assist.

Sunday, July 22

No reported calls.

Monday, July 23

5:05 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1600 block of Somerville on a Dumpster fire.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

PEDC to discuss portable booth, Web site

The Pampa Economic Development Corp. will discuss a portable booth for expos and job fairs, the EDC Web site and hear from the EDC executive director at their meeting Tuesday morning.

The economic development corporation board of directors will meet at 11 a.m.

Tuesday in the Nona Payne Room in the Pampa Community Building, 200 N. Ballard, to hear a project update report from EDC Executive Director Dwight Fiveash, a report on the EDC Web site and logo and a portable booth they can use for expositions and job fairs.

Hall

Continued from Page 1

years.

Hall attended Wayland Baptist University in Plainview and continued working for Plainview PD for 11 years before deciding to move on.

"I called Pampa Police Chief J.J. Ryzman, and he said he was interviewing for a patrol officer," Hall said. He applied for and got the position, and served in patrol for several months. While a patrol officer, he took a promotional exam and was promoted to lieutenant. He then moved into the department's criminal investigation division, where he stayed for five years.

When the position of deputy chief became open, Hall applied for and was named to the position, where he served until 1991.

At that time, Pampa's former emergency management coordinator, Steve Vaughn, had left and an interim coordinator was filling the position.

"They wanted to hire from within the city government," Hall said. "They asked me if I'd be willing, and explained the job. I had been serving as assistant emergency management coordinator for Steve, and it sounded like what I was looking for, so I took the job in June 1991. That's where I've been ever since, enjoying myself."

One area of the local emergency plan which Hall saw needed improvement after he became coordinator was its fragmentation, he said. The cities of Lefors and McLean were not included, an oversight which Hall sought to rectify.

"I got together with representatives of those cities, and we developed a plan to make an umbrella plan that covers the entire county, which was kind of unique at that time," he said. "I'm very proud we got that done."

Training exercises, in

which simulated disasters of various types are handled, are used to test the county's emergency plan. Both tabletop and full-scale exercises are employed.

"We learn a lot from those," said Hall, who chairs the local emergency planning committee, made up of representatives of local government and industry.

A backup generator for KGRO/KOMX radio station was bought by the city during Hall's tenure as emergency management coordinator.

"We wanted to make sure they stay on the air in times of emergency," he said.

The city's system of sirens also came to Hall's attention.

"When I came on board, our sirens were 1954 vintage," he said. "They were working intermittently and were a high-maintenance system."

He called the situation to the attention of the emergency planning committee, which agreed that the system needed to be updated. Fund raising netted \$210,000, with which the seven old sirens were replaced and an additional three sirens were added. The new sirens are capable of broadcasting messages as well as sounding an emergency tone.

Cable Channel 11 is another legacy of Hall's. The television channel displays current weather conditions and radar images of the Pampa area, and airs the National Weather Service's radio broadcasts for the Gray County area.

"I thought it would be a really neat idea if we could broadcast radar images," Hall said. "Right now, we get radar images from a private vendor. CableOne gives up free Internet access to access imaging. Panhandle Regional Planning Commission pays the fee. The service costs \$1,800 a year."

"I've had people who subscribed to satellite service say they keep basic cable service so they can

have that channel," he said.

A recent project accomplished by Hall and a team of others is a new communications tower which was bought by the city of Pampa and installed to provide emergency radio transmissions for city departments.

"It's up and running. It will give us 40 to 50 years of service. We can move our radio repeaters to this tower from the tower we pay a fee for to use," Hall said.

The latest project for Hall is a new emergency generator for City Hall. Work is currently under way outside the east side of the building to install the generator.

"In the past, when we had power outages, we'd lose power here at City Hall," he said. "The generator out front would run three rooms, and is no longer serviceable. The new backup generator will operate everything in City Hall."

Hall has also helped consolidate emergency management activities into one location in City Hall. When he became coordinator, the department was spread out among his office, communications and the police department's briefing room. After the city eliminated its jail, the consolidation became possible.

The emergency management center was recently upgraded thanks to LEPC and city of Pampa funds. Work stations were created, and television and Internet access was provided. A system for keeping an event log is capable of printing everything written on its large screen and is accessible by computer by the governor's division of emergency management in Amarillo and Austin.

"Other than Amarillo, there's probably not an emergency center in the Panhandle as up-to-date as ours," Hall said.

The Halls have three daughters, five grandchildren and another grandchild on the way.

"I'm looking forward to retiring here," he said.

Republican loyalists.

In his written testimony, Gonzales touted the department's focus on terrorists, violent crime and even aid to the 2005 Hurricane Katrina victims. He made no reference to the fired U.S. attorneys and only briefly mentioned the controversy that has torpedoed morale at the Justice Department and has called the fairness of its attorneys into question.

"Reinforcing public confidence in the department is also critical, and will be one of my top priorities as attorney general for the remainder of my term," Gonzales said in the prepared statement.

"I believe very strongly that there is no place for political considerations in the hiring of our career employees or in the administration of justice," he said.



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Viewpoints

Civil War veterans scraped to get by as they aged

Civil War veterans scraped to get by as they aged

The old man walked from house to house in the middle class North Dallas neighborhood.

When he knocked on the door of printer Bryan Snyder Jr.'s home at 4409 Irving Ave. that summer day in the early 1930s, Mrs. Margarite Snyder graciously let him in. Doffing his sweat-stained hat, the visitor looked around the family's living room. His still-clear eyes stopped at the oil painting hanging over the mantle above the Snyder family's gas-log fireplace. The artwork, done from life, depicted Maj. Gen. Sterling Price in his Confederate uniform.

Snapping to attention with a click of his heels, the old-timer presented a crisp salute to the long-dead officer.

In the early days of the Depression, many a man — young

and old — peddled something or another in an effort to get by. But this man, though as destitute as most of the door-to-door men, had a different story. The gray coat he wore had brass buttons and faded yellow chevrons on its sleeves. He had fought in the Civil War.

Mrs. Snyder's oldest son, Bryan III, listened as the old-timer made his pitch. For two bits, he offered a Civil War-related pamphlet.

"I don't remember what the booklet was about," the now 85-year-old son recalled recently, "but Mother gave him a little money for it."

Thanking her, the old soldier shouldered his worn leather satchel, put his hat back on his head, wished the Snyders a good day and walked slowly downhill toward the next house on the street.

Snyder never knew if the old soldier who came to his family's

home that day had served under Price, but one of Dallas' United Veterans of the Confederacy camps had been named after the general. For Snyder, the connection to Price was much closer — the colorful general was his great-great grandfather.

Mike Cox

Texas Tales



Best known for the key part he played in the Battle of Pea Ridge in Arkansas, Price was born in Virginia but grew up in Missouri. He represented the "Show Me" state in Congress and served until the beginning of the Mexican War, when he signed up to fight.

After the war, Price was elected as Missouri's governor. When the Civil War broke out, Price again donned a uniform — this one gray. Following the collapse of the Confederacy in 1865, an unreconstructed Price fled to Mexico hoping the South could continue the fight. He died in St. Louis on Sept. 29, 1867.

The oil painting of the general remains in Dallas, hanging in the home of Oliver Snyder, one of Bryan Snyder's two brothers. But the Snyder family no longer has the pamphlet Mrs. Snyder bought from the veteran and Bryan Snyder, now the oldest descendant, has no idea who the old man was other than a survivor of what still ranks as America's deadliest war.

The booklet could have been a publication produced by the UVC in 1907, "A History of Confederate Battle Flags." The organization

sold the pamphlet for 25 cents, but it proved a financial flop. Today, of course, it's a collector's item and would be worth considerably more than a quarter.

One thing is certain: The old Rebel who came to the Snyder residence was one of a rapidly dwindling number. The Confederate Veteran, a monthly magazine that for 40 years had played an important role in uniting Southern veterans, published its last issue in December 1932. In a story noting that, Time Magazine observed that only about 4,500 still lived.

Long before then, the UVC and its members had given up on their dream of getting another shot at the Yankees, but they had continued to fight for veterans' benefits. While always a contentious political issue, thanks to the UVC, the state and U.S. government offered

See SNYDER, Page 5

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, July 23, the 204th day of 2007. There are 161 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 23, 1967, a week of deadly race-related rioting that claimed 43 lives erupted in Detroit.

On this date:

In 1885, Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president of the United States, died in Mount McGregor, N.Y., at age 63.

In 1886, New York saloonkeeper Steve Brodie claimed to have made a daredevil plunge from the Brooklyn Bridge into the East River (however, few historians believe the jump actually occurred).

In 1892, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia was born.

In 1914, Austria-Hungary issued an ultimatum to Serbia following the killing of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Serb assassin; the dispute led to World War I.

In 1945, French Marshal Henri Petain, who had headed the Vichy government during World War II, went on trial, charged with treason.

'There is nothing harder than the softness of indifference.'

— Juan Montalvo
Ecuadorian essayist and political writer (1832-1889)

son. (He was condemned to death, but his sentence was commuted.)

In 1951, Henri Petain died in prison.

In 1952, Egyptian military officers led by Gamal Abdel Nasser launched a successful coup against King Farouk.

In 1977, a jury in Washington D.C. convicted 12 Hanafi Muslims of charges stemming from the hostage siege at three buildings the previous March.

In 1982, actor Vic Morrow and two child actors, 7-year-old Myca Dinh Le and 6-year-old Renee Chen, were killed when a helicopter crashed on top of them during filming of a Vietnam War scene for "Twilight Zone: The Movie." (Director John Landis and four associates were later acquitted of manslaughter charges.)

In 1986, Britain's Prince Andrew married Sarah Ferguson at Westminster Abbey in London. (The couple divorced in 1996.)

Ten years ago: The search for Andrew Cunanan, the suspected killer of designer Gianni Versace and others, ended as police found his body on a houseboat in Miami Beach, Fla., an apparent suicide.

Five years ago: Thousands of Palestinians marched to bury their dead after an Israeli airstrike killed a top Hamas leader and 14 civilians, including nine children. Welsh archbishop Rowan Williams was chosen to be the 104th archbishop of Canterbury, spiritual leader of the world's Anglicans.

SOCIALISM ILLUSTRATED...



Neocon idiots and their allies on the march

Idiot in Israel, along with those American idiots in the punditocracy who can't see where they are going because their vision is blocked by Israeli backside, are trying to pressure our idiots in the White House to commit an act of insanity.

That act of insanity is launching a military attack against Iran because the idiots and their followers believe, despite a total lack of evidence, that Iran is pursuing a nuclear bomb. If you think the Middle East is in turmoil now, just watch what happens if idiocy prevails.

Let's review a few facts. There is no evidence that Iran is pursuing a nuclear weapon. Of course the Iranians put a lot of their nuclear facilities underground. After all, they saw the Israelis — in clear violation of international law and without any evidence that

Iraq was building a bomb — attack and destroy a nuclear reactor in Baghdad without a peep from the U.S.

Given how the Israelis constantly rant against Iran, Iranians would have been fools not to put as much of it as possible underground.

Iran signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Israel refuses to sign it. Iran allowed international inspectors. Israel never has. Israel has nuclear weapons — and apparently a lot of them. Iran doesn't have any, not one. If you are worried about an Islamic nuke, I remind you that Pakistan already has them. A Hindu nuke? India has them.

So Israel, Pakistan and

India all have nuclear weapons, all refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and all are warmly held allies of the idiots in Washington.

Here's another fact to stack against the clear evidence of insanity on the Potomac. Suppose Iran is lying about peaceful uses and does

build a bomb (even the Israelis say it will take until 2009). So what? The world is full of nuclear weapons. My whole life, since the 1950s, has been lived 30 minutes away from nuclear annihilation.

People, especially in the press, tend to get hysterical about nuclear weapons. A nuclear bomb is, after all, a

bomb. It has, whatever its size, a limited burst radius. Fallout is a captive of the wind. There have been lots of nuclear detonations on the ground and in the atmosphere, counting the two we dropped on Japan, plus all the nuclear tests conducted by us, the Russians, the French and whoever else. So far as I know, the people around the world are still producing normal babies, and no giant spiders or ants have appeared over the horizon.

Furthermore, having five or six nuclear weapons does not make you a threat against a country with 200 nukes (Israel), much less the U.S., which has more than 3,000 nukes.

So let these facts settle into your head. Iran says it seeks to enrich uranium for

See REESE, Page 5

Charley Reese

Columnist

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

July 16

The Dallas Morning News on Colombia's FARC:

Shortly before the 9/11 attacks, America's biggest declared threat was not the one posed by al-Qaeda but rather by Latin America's oldest guerrilla group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

The war on terrorism has distracted this nation from the war on drugs, which continues to absorb billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars in Colombia. Considering the ongoing carnage in Iraq and Afghanistan, it almost seems quaint to return our attention to that

ragtag gang of Marxist leftovers roaming Colombia's countryside.

Lest we forget, the FARC embodies every outrage and atrocity that Americans condemn in far-away places like Darfur or Sierra Leone. It supports a nationwide kidnapping mafia that ransoms infants, the elderly, nuns, legislators and human-rights activists. Three American contractors are among the group's current hostages, along with Ingrid Betancourt, a Colombian senator kidnapped in 2002.

The FARC forces kids as young as 12 into combat, long before they can understand what it means to end another human's life.

It is a major beneficiary of Colombia's multibillion-dollar drug trade, belying every value Karl Marx

espoused. Despite massive drug proceeds and protection money being funneled to FARC's leadership, there is little evidence that any has helped the rural poor whom the guerrillas claim to defend.

Violence is second only to drugs as the FARC's biggest export. It was years ahead of al-Qaeda in discovering the killing power of propane gas and plastic explosives. It has arranged guns-for-cocaine deals with international arms traders via Venezuela, whose sympathetic Socialist government has presented minimal roadblocks.

Last month, the FARC abducted 11 provincial lawmakers, hoping to pressure President Alvaro Uribe into nego-

See FARC, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Injured Iraq veterans sue government over delays in care

By HOPE YEN
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Frustrated by delays in health care, a coalition of injured Iraq war veterans is accusing VA Secretary Jim Nicholson of breaking the law by denying them disability pay and mental health treatment.

The class-action lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, was to be filed today in federal court in San Francisco, seeks broad change in the agency as it struggles to meet growing demands from veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Suing on behalf of hundreds of thousands of veterans, it charges that the VA has failed warriors on several fronts — from providing prompt disability benefits, to

adding staff to reduce wait times for medical care to boosting services for post-traumatic stress disorder.

The lawsuit also accuses the VA of deliberately cheating some veterans by allegedly working with the Pentagon to misclassify PTSD claims as pre-existing personality disorders to avoid paying out benefits.

A spokesman for the VA did not have immediate comment. The VA and Pentagon have generally denied such charges.

"Unless systemic and drastic measures are instituted immediately, the costs to these veterans, their families, and our nation will be incalculable, including broken families, a new generation of unemployed and homeless veter-

ans, increases in drug abuse and alcoholism, and crushing burdens on the health care delivery system," the complaint states.

The lawsuit comes amid intense political and public scrutiny of the VA and Pentagon following reports of shoddy outpatient care of injured soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and elsewhere.

It asks that a federal court order the VA to make immediate improvements that would speed disability payments, ensure fairness in awards and provide more complete access to mental health care.

Earlier this month, a federal appeals court in San Francisco issued a strong rebuke of the VA in ordering the agency to pay retroactive benefits to Vietnam War veter-

ans who were exposed to Agent Orange and contracted a form of leukemia.

"The performance of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has contributed substantially to our sense of national shame," the opinion from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals read.

Nicholson abruptly announced last week he would step down by Oct. 1 to return to the private sector. He has repeatedly defended the agency during his 2 1/2-year tenure while acknowledging there was room for improvement.

More recently, following high-profile suicide incidents in which families of veterans say the VA did not provide adequate care, Nicholson pledged to add mental health services and hire more sui-

cide-prevention coordinators.

Some veterans say those measures aren't enough. In the lawsuit, they note that government investigators warned as early as 2002 that the VA needed to fix its backlogged claims system and make other changes.

Yet, the lawsuit says, Nicholson and other officials still insisted on a budget in 2005 that fell \$1 billion short, and they made "a mockery of the rule of law" by awarding senior officials \$3.8 million in bonuses despite their role in the budget foul-up.

Today, the VA's backlog of disability payments is now between 400,000 and 600,000, with delays of up to 177 days to process an initial claim and an average of 657 days to process an appeal.

Snyder

Continued from Page 4

increasingly better benefits and care for Civil War veterans as they continued to age.

Texas had not always treated its old vets as respectfully as Mrs. Snyder did.

In the spring of 1909, W.W. Walker, later described as "between 70 and 80 years of age" took

the train from Nacogdoches to Austin to collect his \$15.25 pension warrant and take care of some other business.

The old soldier got his money, but before he could get back on the train for East Texas, someone assaulted him and took his cash. When he learned that Walker had not made it home, Rep. Homer Dotson of Nacogdoches went looking for him.

As the Galveston Daily News reported, the lawmaker "found the old man walk-

ing about the streets. He said he had no money and had not eaten since yesterday."

Dotson and a legislative colleague passed a hat in the House and collected \$23.55 to give the aged former soldier. The Nacogdoches lawmaker bought Walker a ticket home and escorted him to the depot to make sure he suffered no further harm in the capital city.

Mike Cox, a member of the Texas Institute of Letters, is the author of a dozen Texas-related books.

South Texas starts to dry out

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The flood threat continued to ease in South Texas today as runoff moved downstream after early weekend downpours prompted numerous high-water rescues, some by helicopter.

As much as 17 inches of rain fell early in the weekend, with the heaviest rain falling about 50 miles west of San Antonio, said Pat McDonald, a National Weather Service forecaster in San Antonio.

Rising river levels caused some anxious moments Sunday night and early today, but that alarm had mostly passed. The high water posed little threat to homes but was a problem for some recreational areas and ranches.

"We were concerned about the Medina River, but that crested last night without flooding," Medina County Sheriff Randy Brown said today.

Only isolated showers were forecast

through Tuesday, but several Central Texas rivers were either at flood stage or expected to reach that level today through Thursday as the flood crests move downstream, according to weather service reports.

Those included the Guadalupe, Medina, Atascosa, San Antonio, Nueces and Frio rivers. Some major flooding was possible in the Nueces and Guadalupe river basins later this week, according to weather service forecasts.

Medina County saw the heaviest rain and worst flooding Saturday, especially along Sego Creek, which flows through D'Hanis.

"Sego" is Spanish for "dry," Brown pointed out.

There were no immediate estimates of the number of homes destroyed by the flood, but Brown said he believed it was more than a dozen. There were no reported injuries.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

peaceful purposes, as it is legally entitled to do under the terms of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. There is no evidence to contradict that. Iran has said repeatedly that it has no desire to acquire a nuclear weapon. It has never despite the propaganda based on a misquotation —

ever threatened Israel or the United States, or, for that matter, anyone else.

So what's afoot? I'll tell you what I think. The neocons in the U.S. and their pet bully, Israel, intend to dominate the Middle East and its oil. That means any country not run by a servile suck-up (Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, etc.) must be weakened or destroyed.

We've pretty much destroyed Iraq and Lebanon, so that leaves

Syria and Iran. I imagine the neocons plan on Israel taking out Syria while the U.S. carpet-bombs Iran. The neocons are not only idiots, they are evil. They show a complete disdain for peace, a callous disregard for human life and utter contempt for the rule of law. If that ain't evil, the devil had better retire.

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

FARC

Continued from Page 4

tiating a prisoner exchange. When they were killed, the guerrillas said in a prepared statement, "We failed in our mission to care

for them and bring them to a hostage exchange."

This is only the most recent example of the rebels' weak excuses and twisted ideology, which have driven Colombians overwhelmingly to support Mr. Uribe's iron-fisted response.

We don't always agree with the way U.S. taxpayer dollars have been spent in Colombia, but the FARC's anachronistic "revolutionary struggle" convinces us that this is one fight worth winning.

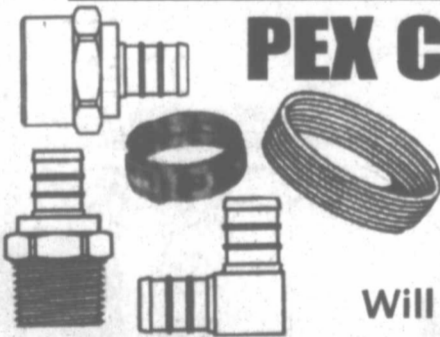
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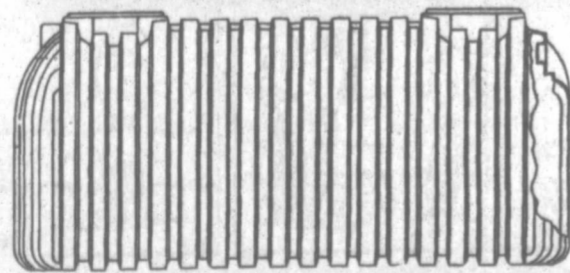
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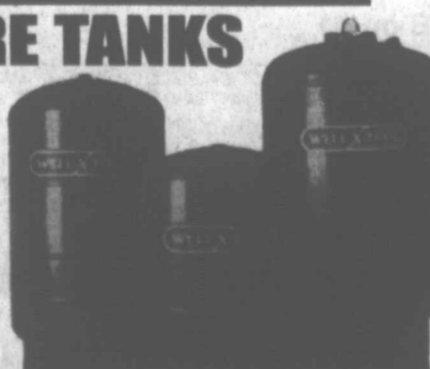
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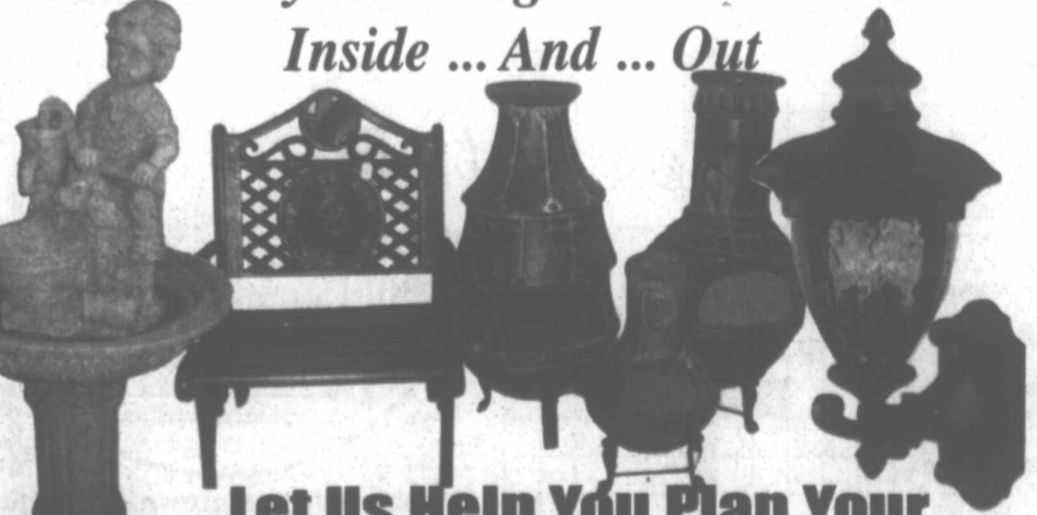
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have recently begun using Internet dating sites to meet guys in my community. With my busy work and home schedules, I have found this to be a good alternative. The problem I'm having is that some of these sites allow matches to ask if you are emotionally and mentally healthy. In my case, I have suffered from depression in the past. I have been hospitalized for this issue and have received medication. At this point in my life, I manage my depression with non-drug-related therapies. I no longer need a counselor or a therapist, and have in place strategies for when I feel I'm cycling downward. How should I respond to gentlemen who are looking for an "emotionally healthy" match? I consider myself "recovering" and do not take my mental health for granted. Your advice would be much appreciated. — **NOT SO BLUE IN EVERETT, WASH.**

DEAR NOT SO BLUE: The men asking about an "emotionally healthy match" should be told that very few people today come without some sort of emotional baggage -- them included. And, unlike some people who are carrying steamer trunks of baggage on their backs, yours is manageable. If a man gives you any argument on that, remind him that someone who has recognized he or she had a problem -- and dealt with it -- is healthier than a person who has a problem, is afraid to own up to it and lets it fester.

DEAR ABBY: I am having a conflict with my granddaughter. My mother passed away a year ago. Years ago, she had become engaged to a guy in the Army who gave her an engagement ring. Mother married my father while her fiance was away on active duty. My granddaughter now says Mother told her she could have the ring. Abby, my mother said nothing to me

about any such promise. My granddaughter has not spoken to me since the funeral. At this point, if I give her the ring I feel I would be buying her affection. What do you think? — **IN A BIND IN TEXAS**

DEAR IN A BIND: You and your granddaughter are overdue for a frank chat. If your mother truly intended for her to have the ring, she should have put it in writing. What your granddaughter appears to be attempting is emotional blackmail. Giving her the ring will not guarantee her affection or her presence in your life. If I were you, I'd sell the ring. It appears to bring bad luck to everyone connected with it.

DEAR ABBY: On Memorial Day, I attended the funeral of a respected member of our community. During the motorcade from the mortuary to the cemetery, I noticed a man who had been working in his garden. When he saw the hearse and the motorcade, he stood, bowed his head and held his cap over his heart. I'm sure the man did not know the deceased, but his respectful act of honoring the person who had passed was noticed by many and was deeply appreciated. We could learn a lesson from this kind individual. A thoughtful gesture that takes but a few moments can mean a great deal to people who have suffered such a loss. — **CHARLES IN MINNEAPOLIS**

DEAR CHARLES: I agree. Years ago, the gesture of respect you described was quite common. However, in the last decade or so, it seems to have been forgotten. I'm for reviving it. Even if the deceased is not known to us, taking a moment to dwell on the fact that none of us lives forever can spur us to better spend the time we are given.

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin

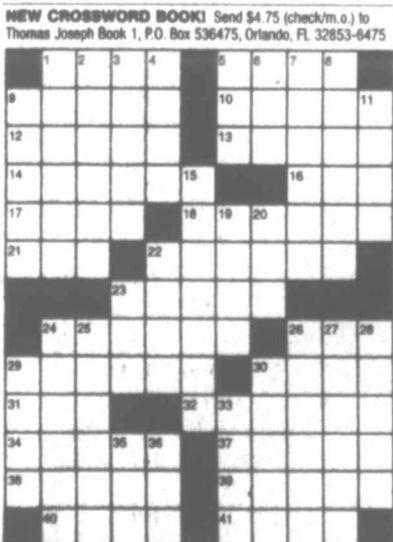


Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Snapshots
 - 5 "Mamma Mia" group
 - 9 2006 mockumentary
 - 10 Challenges
 - 12 Unaccompanied
 - 13 Saloon order
 - 14 Tendons
 - 16 "Goshi!"
 - 17 Frozen desserts
 - 18 Donkey sound
 - 21 Homer and Marge's neighbor
 - 22 West Pointers
 - 23 Sheriff's symbol
 - 24 Fictional castaway
 - 26 Navy vessel
 - 29 Playground fixture
 - 30 Drummer Krupa
 - 31 Sleeve filler
 - 32 Sipping aids
 - 34 Go
 - 37 Convent attire
 - 38 One who accepts a bet
- DOWN**
- 1 Beat walkers
 - 2 Decreased?
 - 3 Walking aids
 - 4 Hearty dish
 - 5 Find a sum
 - 6 Saloon
 - 7 Radiant
 - 8 Virgil hero
 - 9 Wash-room fixture
 - 11 Slant
 - 15 Dark areas
 - 19 Border
 - 20 Shoebox
 - 22 Home for José
 - 23 School carrier
 - 24 Breakfast choice
 - 25 "Ocean's Eleven," for one
 - 26 Navy builder
 - 27 Relax
 - 28 Defeats letters
 - 29 Shaker fill
 - 30 Very serious
 - 33 Thunder-bolt hurler
 - 35 Geese formation
 - 36 Goof

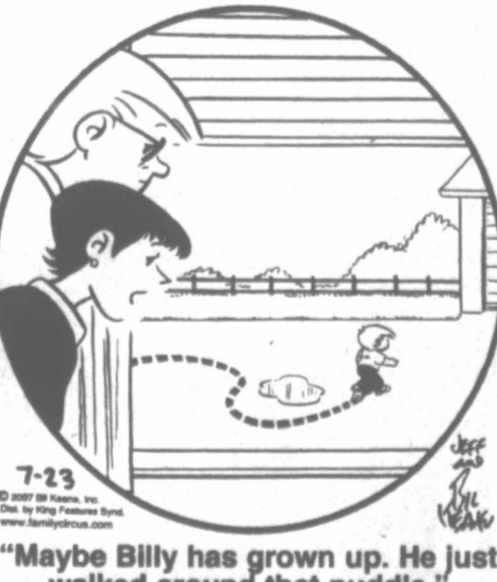


Marmaduke

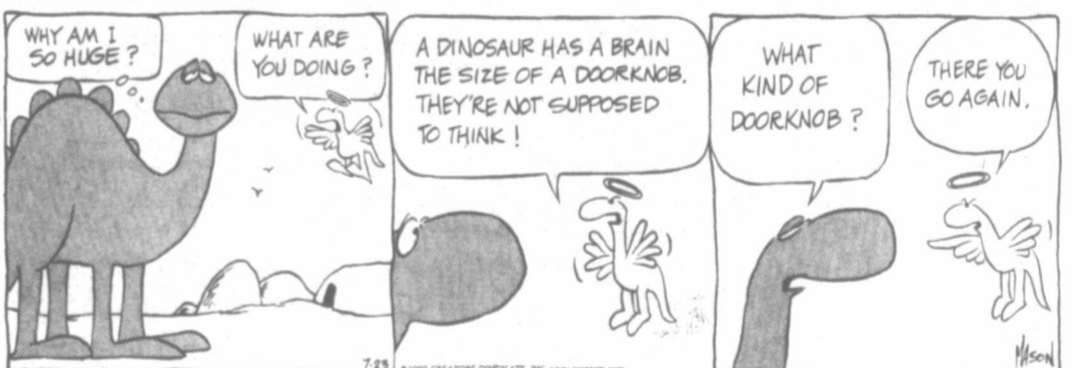


The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Flo & Friends



Blondie



Sports Day

9-10 year-old All-Stars end season at regional tournament

The Pampa Optimist 9-10 year old all stars competed this weekend in the Cal Ripken Southwest Regional Baseball Tournament.

The double elimination tournament started Friday morning and will conclude on Tuesday.

The winner of this tournament will advance to the Cal Ripken World Series in Indiana beginning Aug. 14th.

Teams from Mississippi, Louisiana, South Arkansas, North Arkansas, South Texas, Oklahoma, Pampa, Plainview and North Randall County are competing.

Pampa earned the right to play in this tournament by finishing in the top three at the West Texas State Tournament.

Pampa began the tournament Friday afternoon and had to play the Oklahoma State Champion team from Hugo, Okla.

Pampa would jump out to a 5-0 lead in the bottom of the first and

that would all the scoring for the entire game as Pampa held on for a 5-0 win.

Ethan Hunt picked up the win by pitching the first three innings, giving up no runs on two hits, striking out three and walking one.

Casey Martindale pitched the final three innings, giving up no runs on two hits, striking out three and walking one.

In the bottom of the first, with one out, Cade Engle started the 5-run rally with a single.

He eventually stole second and third and scored on a wild pitch. Martindale walked and stole second and third.

Martindale would score from third on a single by Hunt. Hunt would move to 3rd on two wild pitches.

Thomas Haley and Nathan Ferguson walked to load the bases.

Jonathan Doyle then hit a bases clearing double, that scored Hunt,

Haley and Ferguson.

Pampa would commit only one error and continually made outs when they needed to.

That win would set up a winners, bracket game with Plainview on Saturday.

The team had already played Plainview four times, winning one of those games.

Pampa was hindered by numerous errors and gave the game to Plainview by a score of 11-1.

Ethan Hunt pitched three innings, giving up six runs on only three hits, striking out four and walking three.

Casey Martindale pitched the final three innings giving up five runs on three hits, striking out none and walking three. Both pitchers were hurt by numerous errors.

Cory Chidester made the defensive play of the game in left field when he dove and caught a hard line drive that would have scored at

least one run.

Cade Engle and Jacob Nelson recorded the only two hits for Pampa.

Thomas Haley scored the only run in the bottom of the first after he walked, stole second, went to third on a wild pitch and then scored on a passed ball.

By losing this game, Pampa would fall to the loser's bracket and play an excellent Louisiana team on Sunday afternoon.

Pampa got off to a shaky start again by giving up three runs in the top of the first.

Then in the top of the second, the wheels fell off for Pampa as they would give up nine runs.

Thomas Haley started on the mound for Pampa and pitched two innings giving up 12 runs on five hits, striking out one and walking five.

Ethan Hunt pitched the final three innings giving up two runs on

three hits, striking out two and walking two.

For Pampa, it was another rough game at the plate as they could only muster three hits, all singles.

Getting hits for Pampa were Cade Engle, Jonathan Doyle and Jacob Nelson.

Pampa was also stung with four errors and couldn't string together anything on offense.

The kids worked hard and represented Pampa very well.

This is a rare opportunity for kids to play for a chance to play in the world series.

All in all, the Pampa team played three tournaments and had an overall record of 10 wins and six losses. They finished second in district, third in state, and fifth in regionals.

The Pampa Optimist Club is a United Way sponsored agency.

My take on high-profile sports allegations

Just as in the rest of the world, crime and controversy will never rest in the world of sports.

The story that has been catching everyone's attention lately has been that of the NFL's Michael Vick and alleged illegal dogfighting.

This is a story that has more opinionated sports fans up in arms than Barry Bonds, or even that alleged point-shaving NBA ref could ever dream of having.

I have to admit that I have a bad habit of jumping to conclusions and almost immediately taking sides as allegations emerge in high-profile cases, so I guess it's a good thing I don't have any aspirations to pursue a career in law.

This case is no different, but in a way, it really is.

Some of the highest-paid professional athletes sometimes tragically find themselves wrapped up in the world of crime.

Whether they're motivated by greed, fame or new wealth, most criminal cases I've seen in my lifetime involving professional athletes have been more or less

victimless.

Cases of illegal sports betting, substance abuse, drug trafficking and such are all too common, but quite fortunately, we don't see many cases of violent crimes.

And yes, I'm old enough to remember the O. J. Simpson trial — he was found not guilty, right?

Vick's case, unlike many we've heard of recently, deals with sickening violence, not toward mankind, but toward man's best friend.

According to the allegations Vick is facing, he was involved in an illegal dogfighting ring.

In recent years, the grotesque underground sport of dogfighting has become more and more glorified through the music entertainment industries.

Again, unlike the glorification of drug abuse to which I've really just grown apathetic, I find the

sport of dogfighting to be especially sick — specifically the ways in which Michael Vick and his buddies allegedly "executed" these dogs by hanging them, slamming them on

the ground repeatedly, or stomping on their heads.

Micahel Vick has already, as far as much of the country is concerned, soiled his reputation.

It's a shame, because there are so many children that look up to Vick and other professional athletes as role models.

If Vick has had some role models of his own recently, then they apparently weren't very good ones.

I've always had a slight infatuation with the organized crime, but I've never actually wanted to whack somebody, and I most certainly don't consider Tony Soprano a role model of mine.

Regardless of how Michael Vick allegedly got

himself into making dogs kill one another for his own enjoyment, he has some rough times coming his way, and I'm not too sure how this is going to affect the NFL.

I don't think the NFL has taken any action as far as deciding whether or not Vick will play this season, and I don't think it would be right for them to do so, since he has not been proven guilty of anything yet.

I do believe it would be in the best interest of Vick and the NFL if he would voluntarily take this season off to deal with the allegations he faces.

Like I said before, I have the tendency to find those who are held to a higher standard guilty and in need to prove themselves innocent.

As the investigation continues, I will try my best to not be so harsh in my personal judgment, and that's a struggle for me, more often than not.

Luckily, I won't be serving on the jury on the expected trial.

Jordan Reagan
Sports Editor

9th Annual Texas Deer Assoc. Convention and Trade Show

9th Annual Texas Deer Association Convention & Trade Show welcomes all members to attend, Aug. 23-25 at the Westin La Cantera Resort & Hotel in San Antonio.

Features exhibitors from around the hunting industry, non-fund-raising auctions that include whitetail and exotic hunts, hunting equipment and firearms; and other exciting events, such as the 2007 Superior Genetics Whitetail Deer Auction, golf tournament, and more.

Keynote speaker will be

The Honorable Todd Staples, Commissioner, Texas Department of Agriculture.

For more info, visit www.texasdeerassociation.com or call 210-767-8300

Headquartered in San Antonio, the Texas Deer Association is the only non-profit organization solely dedicated to the health and welfare of native deer herds, and to improving the quality of Texas deer herds through improved habitat practices, modern harvest strategies and breeding practices.

Football Booster Club Meeting

Today at 7 p.m.

Ready Room at the High School Athletic Building

The booster club will continue to meet every Monday night through the football season. The booster club is a vital part of the football family. There are many ways to be a part, and something for everyone to do. Please come and help support our boys.

Lee beats Miyazato in Women's Match Play

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. (AP) — Ai Miyazato watched Seon Hwa Lee's birdie putt disappear into the hole, then turned and trudged up the steep hill behind the 15th green.

The hill only took a few big strides to scale. Climbing out of a 2-down hole with three to play against Lee was way too much for the little Japanese star to overcome Sunday in the final of the HSBC Women's World Match Play Championship.

Never giving Miyazato a chance to catch up, Lee followed the pivotal birdie on the par-4 15th with another on the par-5 16th, this time for a halve, and ended the 2-and-1 victory with one more birdie on the downhill, par-3 17th.

"I feel really great. I love match play," Lee said.

The 21-year-old Lee, the rookie of the year last year after lapping Miyazato to win the final ShopRite

LPGA Classic, knocked off the 12th-seeded Miyazato after beating No. 10 Mi Hyun Kim 2-up in the morning in an all-South Korean semifinal.

After Miyazato cut Lee's lead to one hole with a conceded birdie on the par-4 14th, Lee took the 15th with a 6-foot birdie putt after Miyazato missed an 8-footer.

"That was a very important putt," Miyazato said.

They halved the 16th with birdies — Lee holed a 7-footer and Miyazato followed from 4 feet — and Lee ended the match with an 8-foot birdie putt on the 17th. Miyazato had about 5 feet left for birdie, but the match ended when Lee's putt tumbled in.

"My putter was really good this week," Lee said.

Lee took an early 2-up lead on the hilly Wykagyl course, countering a bogey loss on No. 2 with par wins on Nos. 1, 3 and 4.

Harrington survives, Garcia seethes at British Open

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP) — As Padraig Harrington scampered around the 18th green, posing for pictures with the claret jug and wearing a bewildered smile, a tiny sliver of rainbow poked out from the clouds above the Scottish coast.

It was a magical bit of timing, considering the week of relentless gloom, and all the more appropriate under the circumstances. Somehow, a guy who plopped not one, but two balls into a creek at the 72nd hole of the British

Open was now reaping the glory.

By all rights, Harrington should have been another Jean Van de Velde.

Instead, he'll go down as the Open champion.

"There were so many things going through my head," Harrington said after Sunday's gut-wrenching playoff victory, having endured enough ups and downs to fill a career. "A huge amount of it was genuine shock."

Harrington wasn't the only one trying to figure out

what happened.

How about Sergio Garcia, denied of his first major title yet again after starting the day with a three-shot lead and going to the 18th hole merely needing a par to clinch it? How about Andres Romero, a little-known Argentine who sank an astonishing 10 birdies and had the lead with two holes to go, only to buckle under the intense pressure?

Seventy-two holes weren't enough. Not at Crazy Carnoustie. Four more were required before it was

all sorted out, the prize going to a golfer who simply refused to believe he could lose, even after he knocked one shot into the Barry Burn, then another.

Harrington's not sure he could have handled the alternative.

"The one thing I never, ever let in my head was that I'd lost," the Irishman said. "It would have been incredibly hard to take. To come so close and not to win ... I think I would have struggled in the future."

See BRITISH, Page 8

David and Victoria Beckham are given the red carpet treatment at welcome-to-Los Angeles party

LOS ANGELES (AP) — David Beckham attracts Hollywood stars the same way he draws defenders on the soccer field. In large numbers.

A glittery array of actors and entertainment world luminaries turned out Sunday for what was billed as an official welcome-to-Los Angeles party for the international soccer icon and his wife, Victoria Beckham.

With Tom Cruise and Will Smith playing co-hosts for the invitation-only bash at the Museum of Contemporary Art's Geffen Contemporary gallery, the

guest list was long and deep.

Ron Howard and producer Brian Grazer were among the first to arrive. Brooke Shields was there. Eva Longoria showed up, followed by "American Idol" creator Simon Fuller, who managed the Spice Girls pop group that made Victoria Beckham famous.

Wesley Snipes and Quincy Jones came to welcome the soccer star, as did Bruce Willis, Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher. Jim Carrey and Jenny McCarthy stopped to pose for the throng of international paparazzi.

The Beckhams arrived with Cruise, accompanied by his wife, Katie Holmes, and Smith, with his wife, Jada Pinkett Smith. Cruise flew in from Germany, where he is shooting his newest film, "Valkyrie."

For the British Beckhams, it was a taste of classic Hollywood. A red carpet was rolled out at the entrance. A small army of police patrolled streets for blocks, keeping gawkers at a distance. There were limousines and TV cameras by the dozen. Helicopters thumped overhead.

Inside, the warehouselike

venue was transformed with couches, elaborate lighting and floral arrangements into a glittery nightclub. Music blared.

Beckham, hindered by a nagging ankle injury, played only 12 minutes in his debut Saturday as a Los Angeles Galaxy player. The Galaxy lost to Chelsea 1-0, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the sold-out crowd, whose cheers were so loud Beckham admitted to being "a little bit embarrassed at times."

Minor league coach dies after being struck by line drive

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Tulsa Drillers coach Mike Coolbaugh died Sunday night after being struck in the head by a line drive as he stood in the first-base coach's box during a Texas League game with the Arkansas Travelers, police said.

The game was suspended in the ninth inning after the 35-year-old Coolbaugh was struck by a hard-hit foul ball off the bat of Tino Sanchez and taken to Baptist Medical Center-North Little Rock.

"It's a tragedy for all of baseball," Drillers president Chuck Lamson told the Tulsa World in a story posted

on the newspaper's Web site early Monday. "He just joined the staff and was a former Driller player. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family."

Travelers spokesman Phil Elson said Coolbaugh was hit on the right side of his head or on the forehead — "I'm getting conflicting reports," he said — and fell to the ground immediately.

According to a report on the Drillers' Web site late Sunday, Coolbaugh was knocked unconscious and CPR was administered to him on the field.

Sgt. Terry Kuykendall, spokesman for North Little

Rock police, said Coolbaugh was still alive when he was put in an ambulance, but stopped breathing as the ambulance arrived at the hospital.

"They tried to resuscitate him, but he was pronounced dead at 9:47 p.m.," Kuykendall said.

Coolbaugh played 44 games in the major leagues for the St. Louis Cardinals and Milwaukee Brewers over two seasons. The Drillers' Web site said Coolbaugh joined the Tulsa staff on July 3 as a batting coach. He played for the team briefly in 1996.

Tulsa is a Colorado

Rockies affiliate.

Aaron Rifkin, the Drillers' first basemen, said recently that Coolbaugh's coaching style had already been a help to the team.

"He game in and didn't try to change guys, just fine-tune what they were doing. He's been great for me," Rifkin told the Tulsa World.

A native of Binghamton, N.Y., Coolbaugh went to Roosevelt High School in San Antonio and was drafted in 1990 by the Toronto Blue Jays in the 16th round.

He played third base and bounced around the minors for a decade, before making his major league debut with

the Brewers in 2001. He played five more big league games for the Cardinals in 2002. He hit two home runs in 70 major league at-bats.

Coolbaugh spent three years in the Houston Astros organization, first signing as a minor league free agent in July 2003, the Houston Chronicle reported on its Web site Monday. He played at Class AA Round Rock in 2003, at Class AAA New Orleans in 2004 and at Class AAA Round Rock in 2005.

In 2005, he was named the Astros' Class AAA Most Valuable Player, hitting .281 with 27 homers and 101 RBIs.

Coolbaugh's older brother, Scott, also played 167 major league games over parts of four seasons with Texas, San Diego and St. Louis in the early 1990s.

The Travelers, an Angels affiliate, led 7-3 at the time the game was suspended with no outs and a runner on first in the top of the ninth inning. Officials said a date and time for finishing the game had not yet been chosen.

Coolbaugh is survived by his wife, Mandy, and two young sons, Joseph and Jacob, all of San Antonio. Mandy Coolbaugh is expecting another child in October.

Ambres sends Mets past Dodgers in battle of division leaders

By The Associated Press

Mets manager Willie Randolph leaned over to bench coach Jerry Manuel and let him in on a hunch: Chip Ambres was about to make his trip back to the majors memorable.

Ambres got his first hit for the Mets in the most opportune spot, singling home the go-ahead run in the 10th inning on Sunday and sending the NL East leaders to a 5-4 victory over the NL West-leading Dodgers in Los Angeles.

"I get those feelings sometimes," Randolph said, "and sure enough, the next pitch he got a hit on. So I'm happy for him because he's been in Triple-A and he's been around a while."

"That was awesome," Randolph said. "I was talking to the kid before the series started about how excited he was about being up here and how proud his dad was of him."

"I said to Jerry, 'He's going to get a hit here. He's going to come through and do it for his dad.'"

Lastings Milledge singled with one out in the 10th against D.J. Houlton (0-1). Carlos Beltran singled and David Wright grounded to third, just beating the relay throw to avoid a double play. Ambres, who was recalled earlier in the week from Triple-A, then grounded a single past third baseman Nomar Garciaparra, who was playing in on the edge of the grass with two outs.

"I just wanted to put the ball in

play and get that man in from third base," Ambres said. "I had faced Houlton in Triple-A, and Marlon Anderson reminded me of the pitches that he had. He said Houlton likes to get ahead with the fastball and then comes back with the curve ball."

It was Ambres' first hit since Oct. 2, 2005, for the Kansas City Royals at Toronto.

"Being able to come through in the clutch like that and help out the team, it's one that I'll always remember," Ambres said. "It's unbelievable. I'm on Cloud 9."

In other NL games, it was Florida 9, Cincinnati 3; Washington 3, Colorado 0; Milwaukee 7, San Francisco 5;

Arizona 3, the Chicago Cubs 0; Philadelphia 9, San Diego 0; Pittsburgh 1, Houston 0; and St. Louis 7, Atlanta 2 in 10 innings.

Jonathan Broxton, who saved Saturday's 8-6 Dodgers victory, was summoned again in the ninth because Takashi Saito was sitting out his fourth straight game because of tightness in his right shoulder. But the Mets tied it when Matt Kemp allowed Shawn Green's fly to short right to fall for an error as pinch-runner Anderson Hernandez came home from third.

"It's definitely not fun to play right field here during the day," said Green, who plays the same position for the Mets and also played right field for the Dodgers.

"It can be really tough. It's hard see the ball off the bat, and you also have to deal with the sun."

Pedro Feliciano (2-1) pitched a perfect ninth for the win after two perfect innings by Aaron Heilman. Billy Wagner worked the 10th for his 22nd save in 23 attempts, striking out three after allowing the potential tying and winning runs to get into scoring position on a wild pitch.

"It's an outstanding win on the road, a great gutsy win by the club," Randolph said. "This is the kind of game that you might look back on at the end of the season and say this might have been a big turning point for us."

Yankees keep scoring against Devil Rays

By The Associated Press

The New York Yankees spent the weekend taking what appeared to be extended batting practice against Tampa Bay pitchers.

The Yankees had 25 hits, reaching 20 in consecutive games for the first time in more than 100 years in a 21-4 rout of the Devil Rays on Sunday. On Saturday, the Yankees had 20 hits in a 17-5 win that finished off a day-night doubleheader sweep.

"I've never seen anything like it," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "Even in batting practice you don't get hits every time you swing the bat."

Recently called up rookie Shelley Duncan homered twice, including a three-run

drive that capped a 10-run fourth inning, and Alex Rodriguez, batting with sunglasses on a sunny afternoon, hit his major league-leading 34th homer and No. 498 of his career.

Hideki Matsui, Bobby Abreu and Robinson Cano also homered to give the Yankees six home runs in a game for the first time in two years.

Matsui tied his regular-season high with five hits, and every Yankees starter had a hit, a run and an RBI.

"I think after a doubleheader it was impressive," Rodriguez said. "After a doubleheader, I was wondering how we were going to respond."

The Yankees, a season-best five games over .500

and 7 1/2 games behind AL East-leading Boston, took three of four from the Devil Rays, hitting .408 in the series with 49 runs, 62 hits and 11 homers. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, the Yankees franchise last had back-to-back 20-hit games on Aug. 23 and 25, 1902, when the team was playing in Baltimore.

"When you have a big day like this, you can't feel content," Duncan said.

New York is 9-3 since the All-Star break, playing two series with Tampa Bay around one with Toronto, and is scheduled for 16 more games against teams with losing records before a trip to Cleveland on Aug. 10.

In other AL games, it was:

Kansas City 5, Detroit 2; Toronto 8, Seattle 0; Boston 8, Chicago 5; Los Angeles 7, Minnesota 2; Baltimore 2, Oakland 0; and Cleveland 8, Texas 3.

With the score 3-all, New York broke open the game with 10 runs in the fourth. Cano tripled leading off, and the Yankees made it 10-3 on six RBI singles and a throwing error by catcher Dioner Navarro.

Duncan's first homer came off reliever Casey Fossum and made it 13-3, and his second was a leadoff drive off Shawn Camp in the sixth. Music from "The Natural" played as Duncan rounded the bases.

"It's a crazy experience," Duncan said. "You kind of get frozen in the moment."

Sosa sits out in Rangers' loss to Cleveland Indians

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Victor Martinez, Josh Barfield and Jason Michaels drove in two runs apiece to help the Cleveland Indians beat the Texas Rangers 8-3 Sunday night.

Barfield went 3-for-4 and scored two runs and Casey Blake also had three hits for Cleveland, which bounced back one night after Martinez and teammate Cliff Lee had an animated discussion during an 8-5 loss to Texas. The Indians also held a closed-door meeting after Saturday night's game.

Martinez, an All-Star catcher, made just his 15th start of the season at first base. His RBI single in the fifth put Cleveland ahead 3-0 and ignited a three-run inning. He added a sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Cleveland won three of four against the Rangers and moved within a game of first-place Detroit in the American League Central.

Cleveland's Paul Byrd (8-4) did not allow a hit until Marlon Byrd tripled with two outs in the fourth. Paul Byrd allowed two runs and three hits in 5 2-3 innings.

Robinson Tejeda (5-9) allowed five runs, three earned, and five hits in five innings for Texas. Since going 3-1 in April, Tejeda is 2-8 with a 7.93 ERA.

Before the game, Cleveland manager Eric Wedge downplayed Saturday night's players-only meeting. When asked about possible tension

between Martinez and Lee, he said: "They had a discussion during the game, but nothing beyond that."

Texas slugger Sammy Sosa was not in the starting lineup after getting hit in the head by a pitch Saturday. Sosa said before the game that he was fine, and manager Ron Washington said he plans to have Sosa back in the lineup tonight against the Seattle Mariners.

Rangers catcher Gerald Laird left the game in the second inning with a bruised left hand after he was hit on an inside pitch from Byrd. Preliminary X-rays were negative and Laird's status is day to day.

Adam Melhuse replaced Laird behind the plate.

Third baseman Travis Metcalf's error in the fourth inning put runners on second and third for Barfield, who delivered a two-out, two-run single to left to put Cleveland ahead 2-0.

Blake led off the fifth with a double, and Martinez followed with an RBI single to center.

Jhonny Peralta walked one out later. After a ground-out, Michaels lined a two-run single to left to give the Indians a 5-0 cushion.

Cleveland added another run in the sixth when Barfield scored on a wild pitch.

Texas got within 6-3 in the sixth inning on RBI doubles from Frank Catalanotto and Melhuse, and a run-scoring single from Brad Wilkerson.

British

Continued from Page 7

He surely recalls what happened to Van de Velde, who hasn't come close to contending in another major since he went to the last hole of the '99 Open with a three-stroke lead, facing this same diabolic course. He threw it all away with a triple bogey, which included a shot into the very stream that would gobble up Harrington twice.

The Frenchman also got a second-chance playoff, but he was merely a spectator his next time through the 18th hole, clapping forlornly as Paul Lawrie claimed a win that should have been Van de Velde's.

Eight years later, Harrington wrote a different script. He birdied the first playoff hole to take a two-stroke lead over Garcia that endured the rest of the way.

Neither of them had to worry about Tiger Woods, who came to Carnoustie seeking his third straight Open title but never seriously challenged on the final day. He finished five strokes back, in a tie for 12th.

When Harrington came to No. 18 in the playoff, still up by two strokes, he didn't attack with a driver as Van de Velde foolishly

did. He played it safe off the tee, laid up in front of the burn, got it onto the green, sent a long putt 3 feet past the cup, and rolled that one in for a bogey.

Good enough.

"I know it was only a short putt, but the emotions of it — I couldn't believe it as it was rolling in," Harrington said. "I'm thinking, 'The Open champion. Am I the Open champion? What does this mean?'"

Garcia, perhaps the best player in the world without a major title, was at the opposite end of the emotional scale.

He sounded wounded, bitter, even a bit petulant, like a child who found that toy he always wanted under the tree Christmas morning, only to be told it belonged to someone else. He struggled to a 1-over 73, which was caught by Harrington's 67. They went to the playoff at 7-under 277.

"It is tough, mainly because I don't feel like I did anything wrong," Garcia said. "I didn't miss a shot in the playoff and I hit unbelievable putts, but they just didn't go in."

The most excruciating putt for Garcia came at the last hole of regulation.

He knew up ahead that Harrington had made double bogey on 18, giving Garcia a one-stroke advantage. Needing par for the championship, he blasted out of a greenside bunker to

10 feet.

Garcia hovered over his new belly putter, a change he made to steady his jittery stroke. He collapsed over the club when the ball caught the left side of the cup and spun out, a major championship denied by a fraction of an inch.

"I'm not sure how I missed it," Garcia moaned.

In a way, the playoff was anticlimactic. Garcia caught a bunker at the first hole and two-putted for bogey. Harrington hit a marvelous approach and sank his putt for birdie. They matched pars over the next two holes, then Harrington clinched it with his cautious bogey at the end.

The real drama was in the last hour or so of regulation.

Romero, a 26-year-old player on the European Tour who has yet to win a significant pro event, stormed to the lead with a string of birdies.

It looked as though Argentina would claim its second major in a row — Angel Cabrera won the U.S. Open last month — until Romero hooked a wounded duck of a shot off the burn's wall at No. 17. The ball bounced crazily back toward the 18th fairway, past the out-of-bounds marker that divides the last two holes.

Romero wound up with a double bogey. Still shaken, he bogeyed the last hole

despite a marvelous drive — missing the green with a short iron, flubbing a chip and lipping out a putt to save par, a la Garcia.

If the putt had gone in, Romero would have made it to the playoff. As it was, he settled for third place, one stroke behind Harrington and Garcia.

"The pressure certainly caught up with me," Romero conceded.

Maybe it got to Harrington, too.

He went to the 72nd hole with a one-stroke lead on Garcia, but the drive faded right, hopped once at the edge of the fairway and twice more on a tiny bridge over the burn. It looked as if it might make it to the other side, but the angle of the shot sent it plunging over the railing.

After shaking off his dazed look, Harrington headed off to take a drop. In a fitting bit of timing, he and Garcia crossed the bridge at nearly the same time, heading in opposite directions.

Garcia appeared to be strolling toward a championship. Harrington seemed to be staggering toward the misery of what might have been — especially when he knocked his next shot into the same burn farther down the fairway.

Before they were done, the roles changed again.

Apparently, there's room for only one Van de Velde at Carnoustie.

Dynamo calls it a tie at 3 with Revolution

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — The Houston Dynamo extended its unbeaten streak to 11 matches, but had to settle for a 3-3 tie with the New England Revolution on Sunday.

New England midfielder Shalrie Joseph converted his third penalty kick of the season, in the 66th minute, to help the Revolution (7-3-6) salvage a tie against the defending MLS Cup champions.

Houston (10-5-4) is now 8-0-3 in its last 11 matches, but had an MLS record streak of 727 shutout minutes snapped when New England's Patrick Noonan chipped a volley over the head of an onrushing Dynamo goalkeeper Pat Onstad in the 32nd minute.

Houston, which lost 1-0 at home to New England on May 19, tied the match at 1-1 in the 49th minute when Dwayne DeRosario curled a 27-yard drive from the left wing into the far top right corner of the New England net past Revolution goalie Matt Reis.

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

7-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

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D P B H O C T R X O H X R X P

R F P J O H P B A E D P B H

Q L E E G T O C T L R J F T A

Saturday's Cryptquote: I DON'T WANT A LAWYER TO TELL ME WHAT I CANNOT DO; I HIRE HIM TO TELL ME HOW TO DO WHAT I WANT TO DO. — J.P. MORGAN

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, July 24, 2007:

You have the wherewithal to create much more for yourself. Your home life could be an issue, as much frustration surrounds home, real estate and other domestic matters. Create much more of your desires with your endless creativity. If you can apply this talent to your problems, dynamic changes will occur. You have unusual gifts; use them. If you are single, you will have to fight to keep that status, or you might ever decide to dot the horizon with your many suitors. If you are attached, you might opt to add to your bond through a child, new pet or whatever fits the bill. SAGITTARIUS reads you cold.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:

5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You might have a difficult time sorting through what is relevant and what is not. How you deal with others could completely change as a result of confusing information. Be a skeptic; be smart right now. Tonight: Distance yourself before you judge. Decide based on facts; ignore fiction.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★ Others throw a tantrum, if it is their style; otherwise, they could be difficult. You might want to define a situation, but clearly someone you answer to will not. The unexpected occurs with an emotional situation. Tonight: Touch base with a loved one.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★ How you deal with others could change considerably. Your ability to get

21 Help Wanted

Chiropractic Office is expanding our team! You can make the difference! Direct patient care position. On the job training! Fax Resume to 665-0537

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$57K annually including Federal benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacation, FT / PT. 1-866-483-6490. USWA.

WTL Equipment

is accepting appl. for a wash bay attendant. Drug test required. Apply in person at: West Texas Landscape, 120 S. Hobart No Phone Calls

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

MAINTENANCE Man

needed. Must have own tools & transportation. Plumbing exp. a must!! Call 665-1875.

SIVALLS Inc.

is looking for Welder Fabricators. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa.

TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

D.E. Chase, Inc. is looking for Exp. Drivers for the Pampa & Wheeler area
Top pay with benefits 5 days on & 2 days off. Must pass drug screen, CDL & DOT physical required

Apply in person 1445 S. Barnes Pampa

NOW HIRING:

Experienced Motor Grader Operator. Up to \$60 hrs a week. Drug test required. Apply in person to South or Brian

West Texas Landscape 120 S. Hobart. Please No Phone Calls!!!

NOW HIRING

General Laborers. Must be at least 18 & submit to drug test. Apply in person at West Texas Landscape 120 S. Hobart. Please No Phone Calls!!!

AXYDLBAXR

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

7-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

Q L E E G T O C T L R J F T A

D P B H O C T R X O H X R X P

R F P J O H P B A E D P B H

Q L E E G T O C T L R J F T A

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21 Help Wanted

***KENNEL** Tech needed for local animal hospital. Must be mature, responsible & available for limited weekend hours. Please send resume to Box 45, c/o The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

RN: PRN, WEEKENDS Immediate openings! EOE. Call (806)273-3785, or apply in person, Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm. BORGER HEALTHCARE CENTER, 1316 S. Florida.

LOCAL Delivery Drivers

for Pampa, TX. Class A CDL req. with Hazmat & Tanker endorsement. Salary based on experience. Health & Dental ins., 401K and uniforms provided. Call 806-595-0495 Mon-Fri., 7:30-4:30pm.

The Nursery at Trinity Fellowship Church

is growing and so is our staff! We are looking for Part-Time Workers that love God and have a heart for children ages birth to 5 years.

Please pick up an application at: 1200 S. Sumner

And be a part of something amazing!

Unarmed Security Officers

needed for local post. Must pass: FBI background check, Texas DPS fingerprint check & drug test. Apply in person at Allstate Security Industries, Inc., 3433 Plains Blvd., Amarillo Tx, or call 354-3200. Iv. message for Captain Iv.

KOYOTE Trucking needs

Full-Time flat-bed truck driver. 2 years driving exp. req. 806-665-0984.

EXPERIENCED Diesel

Mechanic wanted, must have references, Hwy 207 S., Borger Tx. 866-415-4104 or 806-273-6300.

NURSE Aide Positions 6-2 & 2-10 positions open, will train and certify, competitive wages, shift differential. Apply in person 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler Tx. See Donna Cox RN DON or Angie Kincannon, LVN ADON.

WHEELER Nursing & Rehab. Housekeeping position open. Experienced preferred but not required. Apply in person 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler Tx.

GREAT opp. Manager

needed for small Pampa motel. Great for couple or individual. 665-1875.

NEWSPAPER CARRIER needed for *The Pampa News*

Apply in person 403 W. Atchison No Phone Calls Please

PART-TIME Provider

needed for Pampa patients. Above average pay. Nurses By Prescription, 806-355-1899.

PAMPA ISD is accepting

applications for Substitute Teachers for the 2007-08 school year. Apply in person at the personnel office, 321 W. Albert.

PART Time Sales Person

needed at Tralee Resale Shop, 308 S. Cuyler. Pick up application at the store.

FULL time employment,

must be at least 18. Insurance, vacation, sick leave & retirement. Bartlett's, 500 W. Brown.

NEEDED Full-Time RN

and LVN at Parkview Hospital Home Health in Wheeler. Please call 806.826.1370 or come by 306 E. 9th for application.

Know what is important. Tonight:

Balance your checkbook.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ What seems to be unredeemable becomes easier. Kick back and relax with others. You might want to understand what makes some of your associates or those in your daily life act the way they do. Trust that soon you won't even care. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ How you deal with a friend or group of associates depends on how much you can tolerate ineptitude.

Recognizing their lack helps you realize more. Understanding helps you make headway. Tonight: Take needed time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Reach for the stars with the knowledge that you can change what is going on by assuming more responsibility. The real question lies in whether you really want to. Understanding evolves. Tonight: Find your pals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Use your imagination to find the right answer. How you deal with someone could change your choices and direction. Extremes could create caustic comments or irritation. Let go of an issue. Tonight: Out late.

BORN TODAY

Actress, singer Jennifer Lopez (1970). Baseball player Barry Bonds (1964). "El Libertador" Simon Bolivar (1783)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at

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21 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED oilfield winch truck driver, truck pushers wanted, Hwy 207 S., Borger Tx. 866-415-4104 or 806-273-6300.

HOSPICE Care of the Southwest, RN position to join our growing team. 806-356-0026, fax 358-3114 jobs@fmcip.com

ATMOS ENERGY

Atmos Energy has an immediate opportunity for a Service Technician in Pampa, Texas.

HS / GED required, plumbing exp. preferred. Must be 18, drug test & background checks.

Respond by mail, fax or email:

Atmos Energy, P.O. Box 1121, Lubbock, TX 79408 806-798-4416 employment-wtx@atmosenergy.com No phone calls. EEO / AA / M / F / DV

EXPERIENCED Roust-

about hands & experienced maintainer operator needed. Apply in person Electric Motor & Equipment, 725 S. Price Rd.

SEEKING small animal

veterinary tech for area veterinary hospital. Exp. a plus! But will train right applicant. Send personal info., resume & references to Box 49, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066-2198.

Hughes Christensen

a Division of Baker Hughes currently has an opening for a Technical Field Rep located in Pampa, TX. To learn more about this opportunity, please visit our website at www.bakerhughes.com and click on the JOBS tab to access current openings.

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White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household

Cheerleaders at camp



Courtesy photo

The 2007-2008 Pampa High School cheerleaders left for cheerleading camp today at Texas Tech. They will return from camp and host the junior cheerleading camp at PHS from July 30 to Aug. 3. Top row from left, Teysha Parker, Kamie Doughty, Moncia Schepp, Chandler Talley, K'lyn Holmes, Cindy Meza, and Marii Street. Middle row from left, Kara Stephens, Robin Fernuik, Kimberly Curtis, Kelby Doughty, Ashley Williams, and Keisha Crowell. Bottom row from left, Karlie Novian, Diana Mechelay, Stephanie Jasso, and Kiersten Taylor.

Education board delays curriculum

AUSTIN (AP) — The State Board of Education has postponed until next year the adoption of new reading and writing curriculum standards for Texas public school students.

Education groups urged the board to allow more time for teachers to provide input on how to best teach English language arts.

"Revisions are necessary because we learn more about how to better teach and because our world changes. When the textbooks were written, students weren't as well versed with technology as they are now," said Cynthia Tyroff, supervisor of secondary language arts for San Antonio's Northside Independent School District and a member the Coalition of Professional Associations of English and Reading Teachers.

The state's reading curriculum was last revamped 10 years ago. Last week's decision means the board will vote on new curriculum in February, rather than taking a preliminary vote this September and final action in November.

Board Chairman Don McLeroy, R-Bryan, and acting Texas Education

Commissioner Robert Scott had wanted to push ahead for a preliminary vote on the plan this fall.

But the board said it wants the new curriculum for the 2009-2010 school year, with new standards accompanied by new instruction materials and end-of-course exams, said board member Terri Leo, R-Spring.

The state spent more than \$9 million rewriting the English language arts curriculum a decade ago.

"We recognize that this is going to be costly ... but we feel like the cost is well worth it because the end result is that kids will have higher achievement," Leo said.

Board member David Bradley, R-Beaumont, said ACT results from the 2006 class showed many students leaving high school didn't have the reading skills required for success in college. Seventy-seven percent of African-American students, 72 percent of Hispanic students and 40 percent of white students scoring below 21 in reading. Researchers say 21 is the requirement for success in social studies among first year college students.

Hundreds turn out for asbestos screening in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — More than 500 current and former residents of a West Dallas neighborhood that was home to a vermiculite plant showed up for asbestos screening over the weekend, officials said.

Parkland Memorial Hospital used a \$250,000 state grant to X-ray up to 300 people. But a higher turnout meant officials had to make a list of residents who were turned

away. "People are hurting and sick, and they're looking for any way to get help," said Sue Pickens, Parkland's director of strategic planning, as the waiting room overflowed.

In 2005, the federal government determined that the Texas Vermiculite plant could have exposed its employees and neighbors to asbestos.

W.R. Grace & Co. operated the plant from 1953 to 1992 before it was demolished between 2001 and 2002. It produced fire-retardant materials extracted from vermiculite. The process released asbestos fibers, which are small enough to be inhaled, into the air and the surrounding area.

Human exposure to the fibers increases the risk of lung cancer

and other disorders, including asbestosis, a condition that makes breathing difficult. Most cases occur 15 or more years after initial exposure.

Health officials screened 25 people with chest X-rays in May. Eight of them showed signs of asbestos-related disease. Further testing is needed to confirm those results.

"It was higher than we were

expecting," said D. Brad Walsh, a Parkland senior planner, who organized the screening campaign.

Parkland had sent letters to former employees of the plant and people known to have lived nearby. Last week, Parkland issued a media alert asking for the workers and neighbors to participate in the screening.

Couple recovering from bee attack

COPPERAS COVE, Texas (AP) — A Copperas Cove couple are recovering from an attack by bees that swarmed over them as they returned from checking the construction progress of their new home.

Doctors stopped counting Karen Folger's stings at 500. Charlie Folger had more than 100 stings on each arm after the attack earlier this month. The couple's 13-year-old daughter, 11-year-old son and 2-year-old son were protected from the attack inside the family's sport utility vehicle.

Charlie Folger said he felt something hit his ear as he started to get into the SUV.

"Then I swatted at it, and it felt like five bullets hit me in the back of the head," Folger said. "I heard this roar, and I looked down, and my shirt, my arms were just covered in bees. I couldn't see any skin. It was literally two seconds from the first sting on my ear to the time they covered me."

The Folgers both said the bees filled their mouths, making it difficult to breathe. They said doctors at a local hospital told them they

were lucky to survive the July 8 attack.

Lampasas police Sgt. Tony Barrio said he'd never encountered such a ferocious bee attack.

"I've been doing this 17 years, and I've never seen an attack like that. I've been on a lot of bee calls, and I've never been aggressively pursued by bees," he said.

"The fire department put a thousand gallons of water down that tree and hit it with two hoses," he continued, but it hardly slowed them down. "At that point, we sealed off the street for a half a mile."

As he was swarmed, Charlie Folger ran down the road, trying to get the bees off.

"I ran to the top of the intersection and stopped so I could clear my throat because they filled my mouth," Folger said in a story in Sunday's Killeen Daily Herald. "I chewed them up and swallowed them to keep them from blocking my airways. I was pulling them out of my mouth and just crushing them with my hands."

Volunteer of the Year



COURTESY PHOTO

Rafford Marchman, back, was recently honored as "2007 Volunteer of the Year" for the Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross. Pictured with Marchman is Jana Gregory, chapter CEO.



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