



Tomorrow's Weather

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LOW 73

See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

Volume 103 • No. 108

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Top O' Texas Rodeo deadlines are announced

BY KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

The 61st annual Top O' Texas Rodeo will be held Aug. 23-25 at the Top O' Texas Bowers Arena.

Rodeo officials said the location is the same as in previous years, the arena at Recreation Park. They are just calling it the Bowers arena this year.

The Kid Pony Show will be held at the same arena Aug. 19-21.

Many of the deadlines for entry into the events surrounding the rodeo

are approaching and residents need to make sure they get signed up before these deadlines pass.

A coloring contest open to children in fifth grade and younger is being held once again. Fenton Dodge will award prizes of Pampa Bucks to the winners, which will be announced at 2 p.m. on Aug. 25. Participants must be present to win. Coloring forms are available at Fenton Dodge, 123 N. Hobart, and the rodeo office, 200 N. Ballard, and must be returned to Fenton by Aug.

18. The deadline for signing up for the double mugging, which will be held nightly during the rodeo, is Aug. 20.

The rodeo parade, which is one of the largest in the Texas Panhandle, will be held at 10 a.m. Aug. 25 with State Rep. Warren Chisum serving as the 2007 parade marshal. The parade will begin at the M.K. Brown Auditorium parking lot, wind through downtown Pampa and then return to the auditorium parking lot. Entries are being accepted for the

parade through Aug. 24.

Tickets are currently available at the rodeo office for the Miss Rodeo Pageant luncheon and style show which will be held at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 24 at the country club. Seating is limited so tickets should be purchased early.

Residents can register for two giveaways, one free and one that requires a ticket purchase, that will occur during the rodeo. Gebo's will

See **RODEO**, Page 3

Wet breakfast



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

A horse east of Pampa makes a breakfast of wetland grasses in its flood pasture.

Traffic stops net 4 arrests on drug counts

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Three traffic stops resulted in four arrests on drug-related charges for Gray County sheriff's deputies within a 24-hour period beginning at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Deputy Robert Douglas stopped a vehicle at about 11 a.m. Tuesday in the 1900 block of Alcock for having no license plates.

The driver of the vehicle, Marcus Edward Babb, 47, of Breaux Bridge, La., was found to have had his driver's license suspended and was placed under arrest, according to GCSO Lt. Joe B. Hoard.

A search of the vehicle yielded drug paraphernalia, and a patdown of Babb netted a rock in the front watch pocket of his pants, Hoard said. The item is believed to be rock cocaine.

Babb was charged with

See **DRUGS**, Page 3

Chief Pitner will take time to replace Burton

BY KERRI SMITH
Staff Writer

Pampa no longer has an assistant police chief since Dennis Burton resigned a few weeks ago, but Chief Trevlyn Pitner said he has no plans to immediately fill that position.

"Dennis Burton came to Pampa in October of 2006 and was a good fit for the assistant police chief position," Pitner said. "He was over dispatch and animal control as well as being our public relations person. He also did a lot of other various duties

as well." Pitner said that when he came to work in Pampa in late 2002, he did not have an assistant police chief then and did not fill that position until Burton was hired in October of 2006. He said that he and his three lieutenants did the duties that the assistant chief would do and that is how they plan on handling the situation again.

"I have three lieutenants, one over criminal investigations, one over patrol and one is over administra-

tion," Pitner said. "They will pick up some additional duties and I will as well. I want to take time and make sure the new person we hire for that position is qualified and fits the force. We can also consider internal applicants as long as they have the experience or qualifications necessary."

When Pitner feels like the need to advertise for an assistant chief has arrived, he will want an extensive background in law enforcement.

"The qualifications we will look

for will be at least 10 years in the law enforcement program and five of those years should be in an upper command level," Pitner said. "We will look for someone who has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice or a related field. I will also want other leadership skills and additional education for this person also. We want to make sure that the person that does fill Burton's shoes is a great fit for this force."

Emergency farm loan applications being accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans for damages and losses caused by high winds on June 20, 2007, are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located at 321 Sully St. in Clarendon and 12125 S. Fredric in Pampa, Larry Goetze said today.

Gray County is one of six recently named by the Administrator eligible for loans to cover severe physical

losses only resulting from the high winds.

FSA Farm Loan Manager Larry Goetze said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agriculture business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest is 3.75 percent.

Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to consider proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until March 28, 2008, but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing, with possible delays into the new farming

season," Goetze said.

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U.S. citizenship

See **FARM**, Page 3

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Friday

Saturday

Sunday



Sunny



Sunny



Sunny

Thursday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 99. South-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 73. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. South wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 75. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 96. South wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 73. South wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of White Deer.

Wheat	5.80
Milo	4.95
Corn	5.74
Soybeans	7.04

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

OXY	55.76	+0.41
BP PLC ADR	67.29	-0.08
Cabot Corp	39.35	+0.48
Celanese	36.83	+1.62
Cabot Oil Gas	32.95	-0.20
Coca Cola	54.97	+0.51
VLO	64.83	+0.81
HAL	34.49	-0.20
XCEL	21.04	+0.05

Anadarko 51.15 +0.68

XOM 86.19 +0.49

Nat'l Oilwell 116.62 -0.76

Limited 24.40 +0.21

Williams 32.37 +0.40

MCD 50.21 +0.48

Atmos 27.10 -0.78

Pioneer Nat 41.87 -0.63

JCP 68.49 -0.50

COP 80.40 +0.42

SLB 89.23 +0.47

Tenneco 36.17 +0.34

CVX 83.87 +0.69

Wal-Mart 47.10 +0.04

OKE 47.70 +0.15

New York Gold 682.30

Silver 13.10

West Texas Crude 72.42

Services tomorrow

FRANCIS, Exie Darlene — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Gageby Cemetery, Hemphill County.

Terry Don Braddock, 53

LUBBOCK — Terry Don Braddock, 53, formerly of Pampa, died Sunday, Aug. 5,

2007, at University Medical Center in Lubbock.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bartley Funeral Home of Plainview.

Memorial services were scheduled at 10 a.m. today in First United Methodist Church Chapel.

Exie Darlene Francis, 84

Exie Darlene Francis, 84, died Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2007, in Amarillo.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Gageby Cemetery in Hemphill County with the Rev. Norman Rushing, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Pampa, officiating.

Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Miss Francis was born Jan. 29, 1923, in Hemphill County, Texas, to John Henry and Maye Barker Francis. She resided with her parents on their farm in the

Gageby Community until age 19. At that time, she attended business college in Amarillo for eight months and then went to work for Magnolia Petroleum Co. in Amarillo on June 14, 1943.

Exie was transferred to Dallas on Oct. 1, 1962, where she worked in several different departments of Magnolia/Mobil, retiring on July 1, 1982, after 39 years of service.

She was a past president of Desk and Derrick Club of Dallas and was a member of the Book Mark Review Club. Her church membership was still at First Baptist Church of Amarillo. She loved God, her country, her beloved family, and her many good friends.

Survivors include her brother, Cecil Clay Francis of Pampa; her sister, Noveta Faye Shannon of Pasadena,

Texas; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by a brother, Zane Gray Francis.

MEMORIALS: BSA Hospice, P. O. Box 950, Amarillo, TX 79105; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, 600 SW 11th Ave., Amarillo, TX 79101; or Park Place Towers, 1300 S. Harrison, Amarillo, TX 79101.

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



Francis

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 48-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Monday, Aug. 6

Twelve traffic stops were made.

Traffic complaints were received from the 1100 block of South Faulkner, the 1500 block of North Hobart, the 1100 block of Sirroco and the 1000 block of South Banks.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 1900 block of North Hobart.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1000 block of South Reid, the 1100 block of Gwendolen, the 1700 block of Chestnut, the 100 block of North Wynne, the 800 block of Beryl, the 2400 block of Alcock, the 500 block of North Faulkner, the intersection of Harvester and Duncan streets, Recreation Park, the 400 block of North Somerville, the 2800 block of Charles, the 700 block of Octavus, the 1900 block of Chestnut, the 1900 block of Dogwood, the 1300 block of West Kentucky and the 1200 block of East Foster.

Agency assistance was rendered at the intersection of Short and Yeager streets.

Lost property was reported on two occasions in the police department lobby.

Welfare checks were made in the 1100 block of Neel Road and the intersection of Brown and Cuyler streets.

A runaway was reported in the police department lobby.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of Lefors.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of North Warren.

A threat was reported in the police department lobby.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive.

Theft was reported at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles.

A gas drive-off was reported at Allsup's, 1900 N. Hobart.

Burglary was reported in the police department lobby.

Tuesday, Aug. 7

Eight traffic stops were made, resulting in one arrest in the 1200 block of East Frederic for driving while intoxicated and one arrest in the 2200 block of Charles for traffic offenses.

A traffic complaint was received from the intersection of Starkweather and Francis streets.

A vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Kentucky and Duncan streets.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 400 block of North Wells, the 700 block of Municipal Drive, the 300 block of Miami, the 600 block of East Browning, the 900 block of Love, the 1100 block of Willow Road, the 300 block of Tignor, on two occasions in the 700 block of North Naida, the 2200 block of Grape, the 700 block of Octavus, the 1000 block of North Price Road, the 300 block of North Ballard and the 1100 block of North Starkweather.

A runaway was reported in the

1600 block of North Hobart.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1900 block of Alcock and the 700 block of East Francis.

Welfare checks were made in the 2300 block of Fir and the 1700 block of Hamilton.

Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Frost and Cook streets and the 700 block of East Kentucky.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of 17th and Beech streets.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of North Sumner and the 1100 block of North Starkweather.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2100 block of North Wells.

Violation of a protective order was reported in the 2600 block of Navajo.

Harassment was reported in the 300 block of North Perry and on two occasions in the police department lobby.

A sexual offense was reported in the police department lobby.

Assault was reported in the 1000 block of Varnon Drive.

One alarm was reported.

Theft was reported in the 1000 block of South Nelson. Approximately \$250 was paid for work not done.

Theft was reported in the 2200 block of Dogwood. Three rings with diamonds were taken. Estimated value of loss is unknown.

Theft was reported in the 800 block of East Kingsmill. Cash valued at \$1,200 was reported taken.

Theft was reported at United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart.

Burglary was reported in the 1100 block of East Foster. A back door was damaged and a bag with approximately \$100 in change was taken. Estimated cost of damage is unknown.

Wednesday, Aug. 8

Two traffic stops were made.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 900 block of South Banks.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 2000 block of Coffee and the 800 block of North Christine.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the intersection of Kentucky and Hobart streets.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of East Browning.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1900 block of Lynn. Eggs were thrown at a vehicle. Estimated cost of damage is \$20.

Assault was reported in the 100 block of West 30th. Minor injuries were reported.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accident today.

Tuesday, Aug. 7

8:34 p.m. — A 2002 Oldsmobile Intrigue, driven by Octavio Rios Tinajero, 28, of 1418 N. Russell, and a 1999 Chevrolet Blazer, driven by Jerry Edward Harris, 59, of 2106 N. Nelson, collided at the intersection of Kentucky and Duncan streets. No injuries were reported. Tinajero was cited for

failure to yield right of way while making a left turn.

Sheriff

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

Tuesday, Aug. 7

Ryan J. Wohlford, 21, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance.

Angela Lea Mithlo, 40, of Wellington was arrested by GCSO for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Marcus Edward Babb, 47, of Breaux Bridge, La., was arrested by GCSO for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance.

Cesario Aldaba Hernandez, 45, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a Potter County warrant for unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

Dustin Levi Jefferis, 28, of Pampa was arrested in the 2200 block of Charles by Pampa Police Department for expired operator's license and warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.

Erica Ann Lapka, 37, of Miami was arrested in the 1200 block of East Frederic by PPD for driving while intoxicated, second offense.

Wednesday, Aug. 8

Christina Ragan, 28, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for possession of less than two ounces of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Fire

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

Tuesday, Aug. 7

1:23 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 600 block of Hazel on arcing power lines.

2:09 p.m. — One unit and five personnel responded to the intersection of Cuyler and Brown on a car fire.

6:18 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2000 block of Mary Ellen on a call for lifting assistance.

8:35 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Kentucky and Duncan on a motor vehicle accident.

Ambulance

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

Tuesday, Aug. 7

9:34 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

10:34 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to University Medical Center in Lubbock.

8:35 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Duncan and Kentucky streets. No transport.

State security costs for Perry trips abroad exceed \$250,000

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas has spent more than \$250,000 to provide security for Gov. Rick Perry and his wife during international trips, state records show.

Most of the trips were touted as economic development missions, but the security tally also includes a Grand Cayman vacation last year and a 2004 trip to the Bahamas with campaign donors that the governor's office said was to discuss education.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has spent \$259,428 on the Governor Protective Detail for nine trips since 2004, according to figures obtained by Texas newspapers.

When it comes to Perry's direct expenses, travel costs

are normally covered by a privately funded economic development program overseen by his office, business contributions or his campaign. But the state covers security costs.

"Whenever the governor travels, we go with him. That's the way it's been with past governors," DPS spokesman Tom Vinger said.

Perry spokesman Robert Black said the governor's travel is important to advancing his economic development agenda.

"As the leader of the 10th largest economy in the world, the governor has made job creation and economic development a cornerstone of his administration, and that means ... bringing jobs to this state, whether from inside our own country or from around the world," Black said Tuesday.

The DPS highway patrol budget, financed mostly by the state gasoline tax and vehicle registration fees, funds the security detail.

Perry's security expenses are lower than those racked up by former Gov. George W. Bush, whose campaign for the White House added to the costs. The state spent \$285,873 on Bush's security detail in 1998, before he announced his presidential bid. In 1999, when he began campaigning around the country, the total was \$2.65 million.

Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said Perry's security expense is "not a small amount of money." But he said the government should pay for security.

"Obviously we wouldn't want our governor going without security," Chisum said. "If he got kidnapped or something, we'd spend 10 times as much trying to get him out."

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YARD MACHINE Riding Lawnmower. 17.5 hp., 7 spd., 42 in. twin blade, rear bag. \$1000 obo. 1701 Mary Ellen, 665-8910.

4 state organizations to share USDA grant money

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Four Texas organizations will receive a share of more than \$480,000 in grant money from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop innovative technologies and solutions to environmental issues on working agricultural lands.

Recipients of the NRCS' Conservation Innovation Grants are:

- The Post Oak Resource Conservation and Development in Bryan will receive \$75,000 for an alternative fuel program. The agency will field test varieties of cool-season vegetable oil seeds that can be grown successfully to produce biodiesel for on-farm use.

- The Railroad Commission of Texas will receive \$75,000 for an energy tri-

generation system on a central Texas dairy farm. The purpose of the project is to show that an innovative distributed tri-generation system (combined cooling, heating and power) on the farm will deliver increased energy efficiency; reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions; provide more reliable, cleaner power on demand; and result in greater grid independence for the operation.

- The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station will receive \$73,697 to demonstrate the effects of fire to control Opuntia (prickly pear) population growth and survival in mesquite- and juniper-degraded rangelands at the Sonora Experimental Research Station.

- The Texas Water Resources Institute will receive two grants totaling \$143,561. The first grant will fund

a project to demonstrate and evaluate the effect of stocking rate on pathogen transport from intensively managed irrigated pastures in order to develop guidance for landowners on restoring water quality.

The second grant will fund a project to assemble an on-farm "manure to energy" conversion system. It will be used for on-site demonstrations to educate producers about the benefits of converting their operation's waste stream into useable energy to supplement or completely supply its energy needs.

NRCS also offered grants through a national competition. The Wildlife Habitat Federation will receive \$120,000 to demonstrate the conservation and producer benefits of converting pastures in south central Texas.

Library penguin movie to be screened

Lovett Memorial Library movie at 2 p.m. Saturday about penguins from Antarctica and how one misfit penguin tries to fit in and be accepted by his peers.

The library will show a Free popcorn will be provided.

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Drugs

Continued from Page 1

possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. A passenger in his vehicle, Angela Lea Mithlo, 40, of Wellington was also arrested. She was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Babb remained in Gray County Jail as of press time in lieu of \$4,000 bond. Mithlo was released to pay a \$300 fine at a future date, according to jail records.

At 1 p.m. Tuesday, Douglas observed a vehicle run a stop sign at the intersection of Somerville and Sumner streets, Hoard said.

He stopped the vehicle in the 400 block of North Sumner and arrested the driver for traffic violations. During a patdown of the driver, a baggie with a white powder that may be methamphetamine was found in one of the driver's pockets.

Ryan J. Wohlford, 21, of Pampa was taken to Gray County Jail and charged

with possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. He remained in jail as of press time in lieu of \$2,500 bond.

A vehicle which failed to signal a turn at the intersection of Highways 60 and 70 prompted Deputy Steven White to initiate a traffic stop at 1:36 a.m. today. The male driver of the vehicle, which also contained a female passenger, gave consent for the vehicle to be searched, Hoard said.

The vehicle was impounded because the driver had no driver's license, Hoard said, and the driver was released at the scene.

The passenger, Christina Ragan, 28, of Pampa, was arrested on a previous charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. When she arrived at Gray County Jail, she admitted she had marijuana in her pants, Hoard said.

Ragan was charged with possession of less than two ounces of marijuana. She remains in jail in lieu of \$2,000 bond.

NASA begins fueling shuttle Endeavour

By RASHA MADKOUR
Associated Press Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — With good weather forecast for launch time, NASA fueled space shuttle Endeavour in preparation for a Wednesday evening liftoff and the climax of a two-decade wait for teacher-turned-astronaut Barbara Morgan.

In 1986, Morgan was Christa McAuliffe's backup for the Challenger flight, the shuttle mission that was meant to send NASA's first teacher into space. Morgan was watching a few miles from the launch pad when the Challenger exploded barely a minute into flight.

Many of the other educators who had competed with McAuliffe and Morgan to become the first teacher in space were in Florida on Wednesday to watch Endeavour finally take one of their own into orbit.

Morgan, 55, will be seated on the lower deck in the middle, the same spot where McAuliffe sat 21 years ago.

"I think the great thing about it is that people will be thinking about Challenger and thinking about all the hard work lots of folks over many years have done to continue their mission," Morgan said last month.

Wednesday morning, NASA had nearly completed pumping more than 500,000 gallons of supercold liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen into the ship's tank.

Forecasters gave NASA an 80 percent likelihood that the weather would be favorable for the scheduled 6:36 p.m. liftoff.

Among those on hand for the launch, the widow of Challenger's commander called Morgan a role model for students because of her patience and perseverance in following her dream.

"The Challenger crew — my husband Dick Scobee, the teacher Christa McAuliffe — they would be so happy with Barbara Morgan. They'd be excited for her, they'd be proud of her and her following through with the mission for the teacher to fly in space," said June Scobee Rodgers, founding chairman of the Challenger Center for Space Science Education.

The seven-member crew is slated to spend two weeks at the international space station on a mission to continue construction of the orbiting outpost. They will attach a new truss segment to the space station, replace a gyroscope that helps control the station's orientation, and deliver 5,000 pounds of cargo.

If the mission is extended from 11 days to 14 days, a decision that won't be made until the mission is well under way, the astronauts could add a fourth spacewalk to install protective panels to protect the station from debris.

Rodeo

Continued from Page 1

give away a Dr Pepper bicycle during the Aug. 24 performance and the winner must be present. Entries are being accepted at Gebo's. A truck will be given away during the Aug. 25 performance and \$10 tickets can be purchased at the rodeo office or from any rodeo director.

Other events scheduled that do not require prior entry are the clown contest and little princess contest. Both of these contests will be at 3 p.m. Aug. 25 at Fenton Motors, which will award Pampa Bucks and Wrangler Jean gift certificates to the first, second and third place winners in each contest. Each of these contests are open to children third grade and younger. Barrelman Jim Bob Feller and bullfighters Andy Burelle and Wacey Munsell will also be on hand.

Fenton Motors will also

offer carriage rides from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Aug. 24 for those interested.

Rodeo officials do not want area residents to forget about any of the other events surrounding the rodeo and kid pony show. A calf scramble and nickel drop will be held each night for youngsters. At 9 p.m. nightly, there will be a rodeo dance at the Top O' Texas Norris Pavilion and tickets can be purchased at the door. A mounted color-guard team will perform before the rodeo each night.

A free barbecue will be provided to Thursday night ticket holders prior to the performance. Friday is family night and discounted tickets are available for senior citizens and children when an adult ticket is purchased. The new rodeo queens will be crowned during the Saturday night performance.

For more information about any of these events or to register, contact the Top O' Texas rodeo office at 200 N. Ballard, 669-0434.

Farm

Continued from Page 1

requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by individuals holding a majority interest.

The FSA offices are open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Clarendon phone number is 806-874-3561 and the Pampa phone number is 806-665-6561.

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Viewpoints

In the company of true-blue American heroes

It's not every day that you get to rub elbows with some of the most courageous Americans alive, but that's what happened to me the other day when my daughter Ashley and I visited our wounded warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

This is the second time I've been there, and after I leave I am utterly uplifted by the experience. After being among these splendid men and women, I realize that my worst day will never be anywhere near as bad as some of the worst days these badly wounded warriors went through while battling for freedom in a foreign land and in the aftermath that

left them terribly disabled. When I have a bad day, I whimper, I cry, I wimp out — I complain about the unfairness of it all. But these Americans to whom fate has dealt the cruelest of blows remain upbeat, are getting on with their lives and actually looking forward to getting back to their units — or if that is no longer possible, going home to be with their families and getting on with their lives.

When you sit there and listen to their recollections of the horrors they've endured in behalf of their country, you begin to understand that nothing you have gone through even begins to equal their ordeals. Their upbeat attitude, in

spite of some of the most terrible wounds imaginable, is a lesson in the real meaning of courage and selflessness.

Michael Reagan

Columnist

As you move among them and see a warrior who has lost a leg or an arm, you find yourself astounded to be thinking that that man or woman is lucky. Most of the wounded have lost both an arm and a leg, mostly on the same side because of an IED explosion. Some have lost both legs, and both arms.

One young man I saw had lost the entire lower part of his body, yet when I

approached him he literally jumped up, by pushing on his arms. And he was smiling and thanked me for coming by. There was no self-pity. He was filled with plans for the

future, and spoke of going back to school and getting a college degree and having a career in communications. As he spoke, I wondered just how I would be if I were in his situation — and I doubt that I would have that kind of optimism and the guts to face the future with confidence that I could overcome such a terrible disability and

face the future with determination.

It is amazing to watch how well these wonderful men and women adapt themselves to their new circumstances. I watched one young woman who had lost a leg. She wasn't sitting around bemoaning the loss of her limb. She was skipping rope, thanks to her new prosthetic leg.

As you move among these courageous men and women, you begin to appreciate the caliber of our all warriors now in harm's way. You'll understand that what you are seeing in the courage of the wounded and their determination to overcome the awful consequence of their disabili-

ties are mirror images of the character of all our men and women now in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

They are an extraordinary breed, and the hope of this nation's future.

If you want to begin to appreciate what your fellow Americans in uniform are doing for you and your freedom, when you come to Washington go out to Walter Reed and visit these heroes to whom we owe so much. You'll be filled with awe and wonderment, as I was.

—Mike Reagan, the eldest son of the late President Ronald Reagan, is heard on more than 200 talk radio stations nationally as part of the Radio America Network.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 8, the 220th day of 2007. There are 145 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 8, 1974, President Richard M. Nixon announced he would resign following damaging new revelations in the Watergate scandal.

On this date:

In 1876, Thomas A. Edison received a patent for his mimeograph.

In 1907, 100 years ago, jazz musician, composer and bandleader Benny Carter was born in New York.

In 1942, six convicted Nazi saboteurs who had landed in the U.S. were executed in Washington; two others' lives were spared.

In 1945, President Harry Truman signed the United Nations Charter.

In 1945, the Soviet Union declared war against Japan during World War II.

In 1963, Britain's "Great Train Robbery" took place as thieves made off with 2.6 million pounds in banknotes.

In 1968, Richard M. Nixon was nominated for president at the

Republican national convention in Miami Beach, Fla.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew branded as "damned lies" reports he had taken kickbacks from government contracts in Maryland, and vowed not to resign — which he ended up doing.

In 1978, the U.S. launched Pioneer Venus II, which carried scientific probes to study the atmosphere of Venus.

In 1994, Israel and Jordan opened the first road link between the two once-warring countries.

Ten years ago: The Teamsters and United Parcel Service completed a second day of federally mediated talks, with neither side reporting progress toward ending a strike.

Five years ago: Saddam Hussein organized a big military parade and then warned "the forces of evil" not to attack Iraq as he sought once more to shift the debate away from world demands that he live up to agreements that ended the Gulf War. Bankrupt telecommunications firm WorldCom said it had uncovered another \$3.3 billion in bogus accounting, adding to the \$3.85 billion fraud it had revealed in June.

One year ago: Sen. Joe Lieberman lost the Connecticut Democratic primary to political newcomer Ned Lamont. (However, Lieberman ended up winning re-election to the Senate by running as an independent).

The Federal Reserve left a benchmark interest rate unchanged after 17 consecutive rate hikes over more than two years. Roger Goodell was chosen as the NFL's next commissioner.

'Man adjusts to what he should not; he is unable to adjust to what he should.'

— Jean Toomer
African-American author-poet (1894-1967)

FAIRFIELD
OF THE TELEVISION



A bad investment is a bad investment

When people have more money than they can spend and invest wisely, they tend to start spending and investing unwisely. They are captives of the old belief that you must always have your money at work. Sometimes, I think, it needs a rest.

A bad investment is a bad investment, regardless of how much money you have. There has been an excess amount of money in the system, thanks to government spending and borrowing, and this has been the cause of a lot of what economists have called "growth."

Economics got off on the wrong foot when some people started believing it's about numbers and statistics and formulas. Economics is about human psychology and human behavior. It's not too much of an oversimplification to say that economies fluctuate between greed and fear.

Human greed leads to booms, which in turn lead to busts. Despite all the bullish talk, I think our economy is on the verge of going bust shortly after the leaves change color this year.

Inflation created the false impression in many people's minds that housing values could only go up. As happened in the past, speculators started buying houses as an investment, figuring they would turn them over in a few months. Lenders started making bad loans to people who normally wouldn't qualify. Inventory eventually exceeded demand.

Now we are seeing the natural course of human events. Housing prices are dropping, mortgage interest

rates are going up, foreclosures are going up, and the housing boom has turned into a housing bust. Since most of these mortgages were packaged and sold and resold to hedge funds, some

of these hedge funds now find themselves with an inventory of junk. All of a sudden, lenders are getting cautious. Consumers are getting cautious. Fear is beginning to replace greed.

I'm not predicting a Great Depression, though I suppose one is possible, but there definitely will be a recession. Yes, I know it is a global economy, but when Americans slow down their buying, the global economy will slow down with it. China's and India's consumers are not quite ready to

buy the same number of Japanese cars that Americans buy.

The Hollywood and Wall Street crowds will still be able to afford their cocaine and booze. Our esteemed public servants in Washington will stay in the top 5 percent of income. The very rich won't even notice the recession. Recessions affect mainly the middle and lower income groups. They are the people who get laid off, foreclosed on, evicted and have their credit cards shredded.

It will put those folks in a bad mood — hopefully a bad-enough mood that they will vote out of office most of the incumbent politicians. I'm not suggesting that politicians cause recessions or booms. Most of them don't know enough about economics and finances to run a hot-dog stand. I'm just trying to

See REESE, Page 5

Charley Reese

Columnist

Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ July 30

Austin American-Statesman on future area highways:

Preliminary figures indicate that area drivers will indeed pay for access to good new roads maybe not gladly, but they'll pay. The new 183-A toll road has about 150 percent more traffic than 2004 estimates, reports the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority.

In fact, the authority's executive director, Mike Heiligenstein, is considering whether to speed up the planned extension of the 183-A expressway lanes, perhaps all the way to their northern connection with U.S. 183,

within a few years, much sooner than the current target date of 2017.

That the traffic count on the new highway is so strong is especially noteworthy when you drive it and realize how little development there is along it at least for now. There's a lot of room for more subdivisions, shopping centers and office buildings.

It's not just 183-A. The Texas Department of Transportation reports that other new toll roads that have opened up in the past year or so Texas 130, Texas 45, the Loop 1 extension are all seeing significantly more use than projected, and a large section of Texas 130 that takes motorists close to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport hasn't even opened yet.

The possibility of speeding up com-

pletion of 183-A is a reminder that for all the strong interest in promoting residential growth in Austin's central city, areas at and beyond the city limits continue to expand at a high rate, whether you prefer to call it healthy economic growth or ugly suburban sprawl.

It's great to have the new condos and apartments coming to downtown Austin, not only for those who can afford them, but for the economic and civic health of the entire city. But most families, especially young ones, can't afford to live downtown or prefer a house with a yard, privacy and elbow room. To get to and from those homes, they need new highways like 183-A and existing ones like Loop 1 (MoPac Boulevard).

See TRAVEL, Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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OIL & GAS

Drilling Intentions

Intentions to Drill
HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) B&W Operating, L.L.C., #8 Hefley '4', 1150' from South & 650' from East line, Sec. 4,4,AB&M, PD 11600'.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., Sec. 15,1,I&GN, PD 18000' for the following wells:

#6 Mendota '15' NW, 2000' from North & 1900' from West line of Sec.

#7 Mendota '15' NE, 850' from North & 467' from East line of Sec.

#8 Mendota '15' NW, 467' from North & West line of Sec.

#9 Mendota '15' NE, 2000' from North & 467' from East line of Sec.

HEMPHILL (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., Wiggins '9', Sec. 9,1,I&GN, for the following wells:

#5, 660' from North & 1980' from West line of Sec., PD 12500'.

#6, 1980' from North & 660' from West line of Sec., PD 12430'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & CARRIE KILLEBREW Morrow) Ranch Production Co., #11 Courson Ranch 'TEW', 836' from South & 840' from East line, Sec. 1,44, T.C. White, PD 9500'.

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co. of Colorado, #9 Earp '60', 1425' from North & 497' from West line, Sec. 60,B-1,H&GN, PD 11100' (BHL: 1200' from North & 2300' from West Sec. line) Directional well - Rule 37

ROBERTS (WILDCAT & RED DEER CREEK Granite Wash) Rockford Panhandle, L.L.C., #1035 Vicky Ruth, 474' from North & 700' from East line, Sec. 35,M-2,H&GN, PD 10800'.

WHEELER (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1560A, Helton, 467' from South & 2310' from West line, Sec. 60,M-1,H&GN, PD 14000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & ALLISON-PARKS Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.L.C., #4 Fuhrman '19', 467' from South & East line, Sec. 19,RE,R&E, PD 15000'.

WHEELER (WILDCAT & KIRSTEN Granite Wash) Forest Oil Corp., #1043 Blasdel, 660' from North & 990' from East line, Sec. 43,A-4,H&GN, PD 14370'.

Oil Well Completions

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) Linn Operating, Inc., #23 Crosby & Hatcher 'A', Sec. 5,M-24,TCRR, spud 2-25-07, drlg. compl 3-22-07, tested 5-30-07, pumped 14 bbl. of — grav. oil + 98 bbls. of water or 24 hour test, GOR 4929, TD 3614', PBTD 3358' — Form 1 in Stallion Energy

Gas Well Completions

HEMPHILL (BUFFALO WALLOW Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #10 Lola '235', Sec. 235,C,G&MMB&A, spud 3-5-07, drlg. compl 3-26-07, tested 5-2-07, TD 13700', PBTD 13422' —

HEMPHILL (DYCO Granite Wash) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #1 Bob '14', Sec. 14,M-1,H&GN, spud 3-15-07, drlg. compl 4-4-07, TD 14100', PBTD 13981' —

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Douglas) Cordillera Texas, L.P., #4 Flowers '49', Sec. 49,41,H&TC, spud 1-9-07, drlg. compl 1-26-07, tested 6-13-07, potential 87 MCF, TD 8182', PBTD 8065' —

HEMPHILL (HEMPHILL Granite Wash) Mewbourne Oil Co., #M2 Hoover, A.J. Morgan Survey, spud 5-31-07, drlg. compl 6-14-07, tested 7-12-07, TD 10846', PBTD 10788' — Operator plans to commingle w/other fields

HEMPHILL (N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Cimarex Energy Co., #1 W.R. Campbell, Sec. 53,B-1,I&GN, spud 3-2-07, drlg. compl 5-8-07, tested 5-16-07, potential 1074 MCF, TD 11315', PBTD 10780' — Recompletion

HEMPHILL (N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Samson Lone Star, L.L.C., #1916 Campbell, Sec. 16,1,I&GN, spud 3-23-07, drlg. compl 4-10-07, tested 6-16-07, TD 11905', PBTD 11840'.

ROBERTS (CLARK MARTIN Granite Wash) Cordillera Texas L.P., #3094 Flowers Unit, Sec. 94,C,G&M, spud 9-23-06, drlg. compl 10-7-06, tested 2-20-07, TD 9800', PBTD 9537' —

ROBERTS (N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) Devon Energy Production Co., L.P., #3 Mendota Ranch '30', Sec. 30,B-1,H&GN, spud 2-8-07, drlg. compl 4-5-07, tested 4-8-07, TD 12000', PBTD 11217' — Re-Entry

ROBERTS (RED DEER CREEK Granite Wash) Questar E&P, #11 Christie Tipps '25', Sec. 25,B-1,H&GN, spud 3-9-07, drlg. compl 3-28-07, tested 6-13-07, potential 1650 MCF, TD 11150', PBTD 10572' —

WHEELER (FRYE RANCH Granite Wash 'A') Questar E&P Co., #208 Harris, Sec. 8,A-3,H&GN, spud 3-26-07, drlg. compl 4-28-07, tested 6-13-07, potential 2872 MCF, TD 15772', PBTD 15729' —

WHEELER (FRYE RANCH Granite Wash 'A') Questar E&P Co., #104 Mitchell, Sec. 4,— AB&M, spud 3-6-07, drlg. compl 4-14-07, tested 6-13-07, potential 4335 MCF, TD 15400', PBTD 15370' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Atoka) Dominion Oklahoma Texas E&P, Inc., #1 Hink '3', Sec. 3,2,B&B, spud 3-4-07, drlg. compl 4-2-07, tested 5-20-07, TD 15802',

PBTD 15676' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Chesapeake Operating, Inc., #2 Brummett '22', Sec. 22,A-3,H&GN, spud 4-17-07, drlg. compl 5-7-07, tested 7-2-07, potential 7547 MCF, TD 13700', PBTD 13656' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #10 Britt Ranch 'G' 44, Sec. 44,A-3,H&GN, spud 11-17-06, drlg. compl 2-22-07, tested 5-24-07, potential 8634 MCF, TD 16120', PBTD 16012' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #11 Britt Ranch 'C' 35, Sec. 35,A-3,H&GN, spud 1-20-07, drlg. compl 4-14-07, tested 6-15-07, potential 5765 MCF, TD 15700', PBTD 15650' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #12 Britt Ranch 'I' 4, Sec. 4,2,B&B, spud 4-22-07, drlg. compl 5-26-07, tested 6-22-07, TD 15780', PBTD 15701' —

WHEELER (STILES RANCH Granite Wash) Newfield Exploration Mid-Con., Inc., #3 McCoy '27', Sec. 4, Lot 27, Camp CSL, spud 10-29-06, drlg. compl 4-15-07, tested 6-20-07, potential 3175 MCF, TD 15180', PBTD 15139' —

Plugged Wells

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Jaco, Inc., #5 J.B. Bowers 'B', Sec. 120,B-2,H&GN, spud 7-15-83, plugged 6-7-07, TD 3080' (oil) — Form 1 in B.L. Hoover, Jr.

GRAY (PANHANDLE) Mon Corp., #3W H.B. Lovett, Sec. 36,B-2,H&GN, spud 11-18-41, plugged 6-6-06, TD 3003' (disposal) — Form 1 in Walsh & Watts, Inc.

GRAY (PANHANDLE) P-2 Exploration Co., #2 Gina 'D', Sec. 1,B-2,H&GN, spud 5-2-85, plugged 2-14-07, TD 2906' (oil) —

HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Devon Energy Production Co., #33 Mathers, J. Flowers Survey, spud 10-29-78, plugged 5-2-07, TD 7260' (gas) — Form 1 in McCulloch Oil Corp.

HEMPHILL (S.E. CANADIAN Douglas) Devon Energy Production Co., #36 Mathers, Sec. 166,41,H&TC, spud 9-22-78, plugged 5-9-07, TD 7339' (gas) Form 1 in McCulloch Oil

HUTCHINSON (PANHANDLE) SNW Operating Co., #4 Burnett 'A', Sec. 120,4,I&GN, spud 6-25-81, plugged 6-19-07, TD 3380' (oil) — Form 1 in Fraley Oil Corp.

ROBERTS (N.W. MENDOTA Granite Wash) BP America Production Co., #1 Mahler 'B', Sec. 111,C,G&M, spud 6-21-74, plugged 5-22-07, TD 9940' (gas) — Form 1 in Diamond Shamrock Oil & Gas

Events calendar

• **Church of the Nazarene**, 500 N. West, will present a Southern Gospel concert with recording artists Bill and Vicki Sky at 7 p.m., Thursday at the church.

• **Borger will be the site of the second round of Texas Historical Commission Preserve America workshops** scheduled from 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday at Hutchinson County Museum.

• **Pease River Playhouse** will be the site of a production of "Steel Magnolias" Aug. Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the auditorium in Goodlett. For show times and ticket information, call (940) 674-2477.

• **The next Cowboy Poetry Breakfast** will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Big Texan in Amarillo. Tom Moss will be the featured entertainer. Pat Henry, former president of Southwest Cowboy Poets Association, will act as MC.

• **The 19th Annual Harmon County Blackeyed Pea Festival** will be Saturday at Hollis, Okla. The event will kick-off at 9 a.m. with a parade. The festival will also include food, free watermelon, Harmon County Opry, arts & crafts booths, a quilt drawing, Hollis Ranch Rodeo, a tractor pull and show, bingo, train rides, buggy rides, silent auction, children's games and more.

• **Carson County Historical Commission** will hold a public meeting at approximately 8 p.m. Monday in the Hazlewood Education Building of Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle immediately after the Board of Trustees convenes. Items on the agenda include a project focusing on World War II veterans and the refurbishing of historical markers within the county.

• **Amarillo Botanical Gardens** will offer the "Art of Science and Flowers" with art instructor Cynthia Padilla from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 15-16 at the gardens. The two-day workshop/seminar will teach participants how to draw, paint and understand floral structure. A certificate of attendance will be awarded to those who complete the course. Tuition is \$175. Advance registration is required. For more information, call (806) 352-6513.

• **The Third Thursday** at Amarillo Museum of Art is scheduled from 6-9 p.m. Aug. 16 at the museum. The event will include music with Mike Fuller, the film "Matisse and Picasso," an adult and children's art activity and more. For questions about this monthly event, call the museum at (806) 371-5050.

• **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinic(s) will be offered: 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., Aug. 15, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler.

GOSPEL MEETING
Speaker Evangelist Ian Jones
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Reese

Continued from Page 4

revive the old custom of turning over the politicians on a fairly regular basis. The Founding Fathers did not contemplate lifelong careers in politics. They certainly did not foresee that the people would allow their politicians to vote themselves into the upper income bracket and to

devise the most lucrative set of perks and pensions this side of Mars.

But that's an aside. Economies run in cycles, and so if we have a recession, it will eventually end as the bad debt is liquidated and the excess inventories are used up. The thing to learn from a recession is to be extraordinarily careful about getting into debt, because nobody today who works for a paycheck can be sure those paychecks will always be there.

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

Travel

Continued from Page 4

As a result, the traffic burden on existing highways continues to grow, and so does the need to expand and improve them: U.S. 183 from Interstate 35 to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, for example, and U.S. 290 in the northeast and southwest corners of Travis County.

Those projects form a large part of the now moribund \$1.8 billion, Phase II regional highway construction plan, effectively put on ice by protests that highways already built shouldn't have tolls and suspicion that the area wasn't getting its full share of state highway money. Yet, Gov.

Rick Perry and the Legislature have made it quite clear that they will not raise the state's gasoline tax, 20 cents a gallon since 1991, no matter how strong the statewide demand for new roads.

State Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, as chairman of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, is overseeing a new look at how Central Texas could pay for construction of a regional highway system that matches this area's size and growth.

Don't expect any miracles, though. Chances are, either local motorists pay tolls to use existing but much improved highways, or we just live with clogged traffic indefinitely, wasting time and gasoline.

Pet of the Week

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE LOST PET BOARD POSTED IN THE ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER WINDOW!

SNUGGLES...
IS A YOUNG SHIH TZU CROSS. THIS SWEET BALL OF FLUFF IS VERY SWEET AND LOVING. COME BY THE SHELTER AND VISIT US!



For information about these pets or any other contact the Animal Shelter at 669-5775 or come by their location at Hobart Street Park. Pictures of stray animals can be viewed in the window of the shelter office 24 hrs a day.

NEW HOURS Monday-Friday Noon-6PM
Sunday & Saturday Noon-2PM • Closed Holidays
FOUND A PET? Let us know... we might be able to help them find their home.
LOST YOUR PET? Come by the shelter every 2-3 days to check for your animal. We hold stray animals for 72 hours only. So PLEASE call us as soon as your pet is missing!

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR READERS: Yesterday, I printed some of the reactions I received to a letter I got about a disabled person whose wheelchair overturned, and who was left lying on the sidewalk by passers-by who failed to offer assistance. Today's responses are examples of how little it takes to help someone in distress, and how each of us is capable of assisting someone in need. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My aunt was driving her power scooter up the new access ramp at the local library when it suddenly flipped and landed on top of her, pinning her down like a beetle on its back. When she looked up, she found herself staring into the face of a smiling young man whose first words were, "What's wrong with this picture?" It turned out he was the engineer who had built all the walkways. On her next visit to the library, true to his word, the problem with the ramp had been corrected. If that gentleman happens to read this, I just want to say "thank you." You made her day. — **GRATEFUL NIECE IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR ABBY: Last fall, I fractured my ankle badly and was in a wheelchair for almost two months. I call it my character-building experience. I never realized how hard it is for the disabled to get things done. However, my experience with people was the complete opposite of "Horried's." People would dash in front of me to open doors. I can't count the number of times I heard, "Do you need my help?" from complete strangers. I always believed there were wonderful people in the world, and my experience confirmed it. — **GLAD I LIVE IN THE MIDWEST**

DEAR ABBY: I have witnessed the opposite of what happened in Dover, Del. As I sat in an airport waiting for my flight to

leave, I heard a loud crash and turned to see someone fall down the steps of an escalator. I started toward her, but saw at least five people closer than I was rushing to her. Every single person in the immediate vicinity responded instantly with compassion. — **SACRAMENTO FLIER**

DEAR ABBY: "Horried's" letter reminded me of a quote that I came across years ago. It changed my way of thinking about life and has made me a braver person. It goes something like this: "I wondered why 'somebody' didn't do something. Then I realized, I was somebody." Sometimes people are self-conscious about taking public action. They assume it will be taken care of by someone who is more experienced or assertive. Perhaps people need to be reminded that we are all "somebodies" with the power to help and make a difference, however small that action might seem. — **CAROL IN POTSDAM, N.Y.**

DEAR ABBY: I was at a traffic light and noticed a man near the side of my van had tipped over in his wheelchair. He had no legs and was stuck between the fence, the ground and the bus stop bench. I told my 4-year-old daughter not to move, put on my hazard blinkers and went to offer assistance. I picked up his wheelchair and was struggling to pick him up, and still nobody helped. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a truck whipped into the nearby parking lot and the driver picked the man up in one swoop, put him in his chair and left in seconds! I have a bulging disc in my back, but still I was determined to help the man in the wheelchair. I am still amazed at the kindness of the person who came to the rescue of both me and the man who had the accident. — **CINDY, OUT WEST**

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

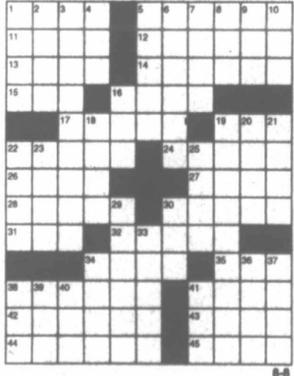
ACROSS 45 "Beetle Bailey" dog

- 1 Urban fleet
- 5 Redeems, as a check
- 11 Uttered city
- 12 Stick
- 13 Turn down
- 14 High point
- 15 Shaggy beast
- 16 Lash
- 17 Nerdy guy
- 19 Night flier
- 22 Floppy topper
- 24 Ignominy
- 26 Qom's country
- 27 Peak
- 28 Raises
- 30 White-horse's river
- 31 Charter
- 32 Give over
- 34 Coffee holders
- 35 Ludacris' music
- 38 Sweet-heart, in Paris
- 41 Valley
- 42 Plane place
- 43 Hover crafts?
- 44 Make a new paragraph

UPON SCOPE
PINES PUPIL
STEVE CARELL
ETC ROT NEE
TEASER STIR
DRANK TONY
BASTE
AFAR CHATS
RICE RELIEF
ANT EEL SCI
RAINN WILSON
ALoud POUND
TENTS WEDS

Yesterday's answer
19 1991 Ron 30 "Sure thing!"
4 Crafty Howard film 33 Static
5 Secret supply 20 Clip 34 Goad on contents 36 Tons
6 Unscripted lines 21 Prom participant 37 Cuban coin
7 Pack and send 22 Unwanted 38 Greek X mail 39 Solo of
8 Skirt part 23 Cincinnati "Star Wars"
9 History bit 25 Carry 40 Football lineman
10 Scandal subject 29 Damascus native 41 Pair

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Marmaduke

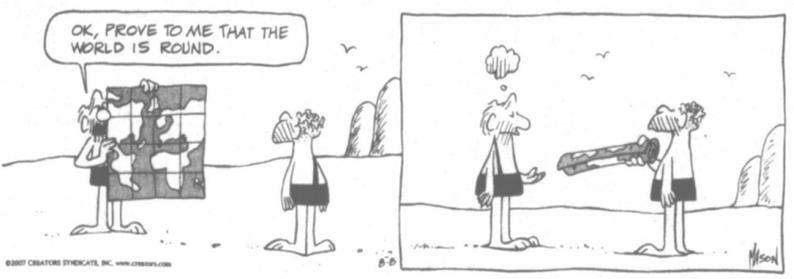


The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

Local boxers take on the world at Kansas City

By JORDAN REAGAN
Sports Editor

The Pampa Youth Survival Boxing Club traveled to Kansas City, Mo. to compete with boxers from all around the world in the 2007 Ringside World Championship.

More than 1,300 boxers from all over the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan and many other countries came together last week to compete in a week-long event at the KCI Expo Center in Kansas City.

Four Pampa boxers made their way through to the semifinals and two made it to the finals.

"They did really good, I was proud of them," club owner Mark Ambriz said.

Celia Garcia picked up two wins to make it to the finals on Friday night, and lost her first match in the finals of her weight class.

Freddy Ambriz won three straight matches to get himself into the finals, and also lost his first match Friday night in the finals.

Emmanuel Mena, Christavol Larrazolo and Joshua Mena made it to the semifinals in their weight classes, where they picked up their first and only losses.

Russell Kelly, Sammy Mena and Nick Tambunga lost one fight each.

The Youth Survival Boxing Club is a non-profit organization designed to give Pampa youth a positive way to spend their free time and pick up on valuable box-



Courtesy photo

Pictured here are some members of the Pampa Youth Survival Boxing Club that traveled to Kansas City, Mo. last week: (back row, L-R) Russell Kelly, Christavol Larrazolo and Nick Tambunga. (front row, L-R) Emmanuel Mena, Freddy Ambriz and Celia Garcia.

ing skills.

The club is currently in the process of looking for a building in which to work out and practice.

For more information, contact Mark Ambriz at 664-4400.

Texas has question marks, but still the favorite in Big 12

By The Associated Press

A sixth straight 10-win season was no reason to celebrate at Texas.

The Longhorns went 10-3 in 2006, but dropped their last two regular-season games, including a 12-7 stunner to rival Texas A&M. The Longhorns settled for a trip in the Alamo Bowl after botching a golden chance to win the Big 12 South.

Not good enough. Not after Vince Young took them to the national championship the previous year.

"There's been a real high standard set at our place now," coach Mack Brown said.

The Longhorns have enough talent this season to bull their way into the national-title discussion and again be the favorites to win the Big 12 — though they have some holes to fill.

Texas lost 10 starters from last season, most of them on the offensive line and in the secondary. Brown also needs a backup quarterback and has to break in a new defensive coordinator after Gene Chizik left for Iowa State.

"We have a lot of question marks with our team," Brown said.

One big certainty is quarterback Colt McCoy, who returns after an impressive freshman season. The offense should be one of the nation's most explosive, with Limas Sweed and Quan Cosby heading a veteran pack of receivers and 2006 leading rusher Jamaal Charles spearheading the ground attack.

The Longhorns had the

third-best rushing defense in the country last season (61 yards per game) and massive tackles Frank Okam, Derek Lokey and Roy Miller return, along with all the linebackers. Texas ranked 99th in pass defense (236 yards per game) and — for better or worse — only one starter is back in the secondary.

The list of capable challengers to Texas is long.

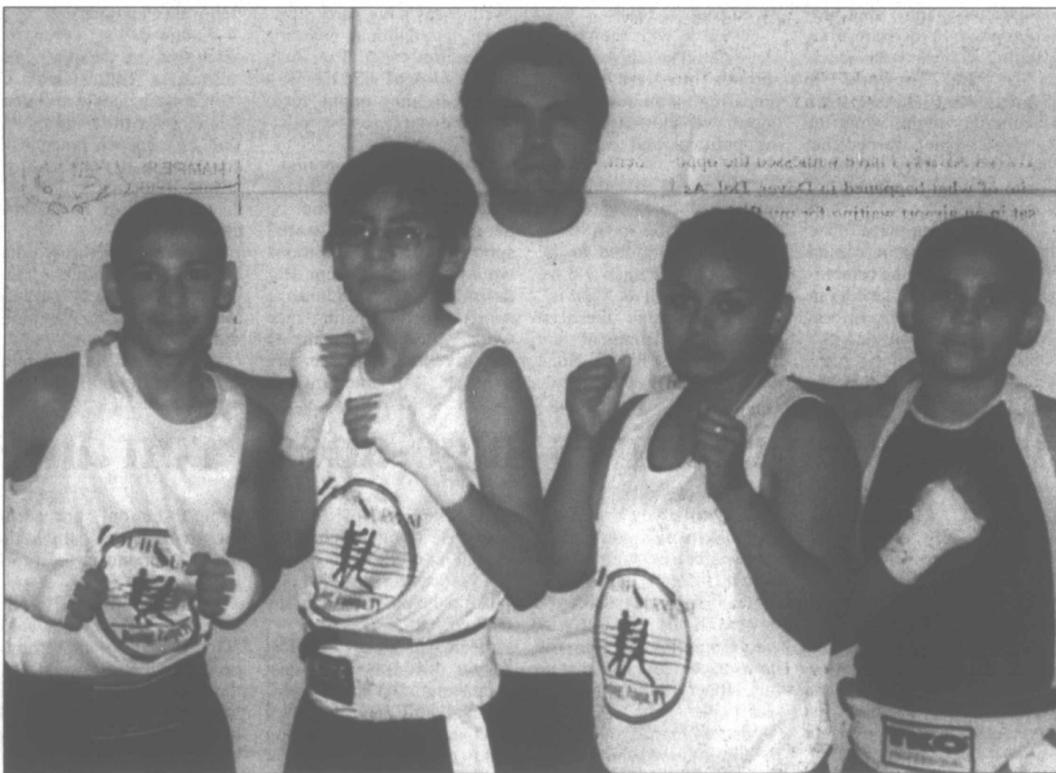
Texas A&M and Missouri are positioned for breakout seasons, Nebraska is strong again and Oklahoma State and Texas Tech still have the offenses to spring an upset or two.

And as usual, Oklahoma is the most formidable contender of all. Like the Longhorns, the Sooners have some preseason questions, most notably at quarterback.

The situation is not nearly as dire as it was last August, when Rhett Bomar was kicked off the team and converted receiver Paul Thompson was thrown in as a last-minute replacement. This year, Sooners coach Bob Stoops has more time to evaluate three contenders for the job.

Junior Joey Halzle is the most experienced of the trio, but he only appeared in two games in 2006. Redshirt freshman Sam Bradford and true freshman Keith Nichol are also in the mix.

The Sooners also have gaps to fill at linebacker, but they should again have one of the nation's top secondaries. Oklahoma led the Big 12 in scoring defense last year, giving up only 17 points per game.



Courtesy photo

(L-R) Emmanuel Mena, Freddy Ambriz, club owner Mark Ambriz, Celia Garcia and Joshua Mena pose together after making their way to the semifinal rounds.

Bonds hits No. 756 to break Aaron's record

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — For one spectacular moment, Barry Bonds and everybody cheering him could forget about the controversy surrounding his chase and appreciate the phenomenal feat: 756.

Nobody in the majors — not Hank Aaron, not Babe Ruth — has ever hit more home runs than the San Francisco star.

On Tuesday night, in his home ballpark, it didn't matter how many of them might have been fueled by steroids or performance-enhancers. Bonds has the title of home run king all to himself, ending Aaron's 33-year reign.

"This record is not tainted at all. At all. Period," Bonds said.

And more than 43,000 adoring Giants fans, including his godfather, Hall of Famer Willie Mays, surely agreed.

Bonds raised both arms

over his head like a prize fighter in victory, fists clenched — and then he took off. It was over at long last.

Bonds did it with a shot to the deepest part of the ballpark with one out in the fifth inning against Washington's Mike Bacsik.

Bonds sent the 84-mph fastball arcing high into the night, 435 feet into the right-center field seats. And then, the celebration began in force — fireworks, streamers, banners commemorating the accomplishment, and even a party in McCovey Cove.

Conspicuous by their absence were the commissioner and Hammerin' Hank himself.

Though he was on hand for the tying homer three days ago, deciding to put baseball history ahead of the suspicions plaguing the Giants slugger, Bud Selig wasn't there for the record-

breaker.

Instead, he sent two emissaries, Major League Baseball executive vice president Jimmie Lee Solomon and Hall of Famer Frank Robinson. Selig also issued a statement.

"While the issues which have swirled around this record will continue to work themselves toward resolution, today is a day for congratulations on a truly remarkable achievement," Selig said.

Bonds also heard personally from the commissioner with congratulations.

"I was very happy about that," Bonds said.

As for Aaron, he said all along he had no interest in being there whenever and wherever his record was broken. He was true to his word, but he did offer a taped message of congratulations that played on the stadium's video board during a 10-

minute, in-game tribute.

"It is a great accomplishment which required skill, longevity and determination," he said.

"Throughout the past century, the home run has held a special place in baseball and I have been privileged to hold this record for 33 of those years. I move over now and offer my best wishes to Barry and his family on this historic achievement.

"My hope today, as it was on that April evening in 1974, is that the achievement of this record will inspire others to chase their own dreams."

A woman who answered the phone at Aaron's home in Georgia shortly after Bonds' homer said that Aaron was asleep.

"When I saw Hank Aaron that made everything," Bonds said. "We've always loved him. He's always the

See BONDS, Page 8

Little Harvesters



Courtesy photo

NBC's "Little Harvesters," Pampa's U-6 girls soccer team, came home with a first place trophy from the Dawg Days of Summer 3 v. 3 tournament that was held in Borger on July 21. The girls were coached by Ivan Gutierrez and A.J. Johnson. Pictured here are: (back row, L-R) coach Ivan Gutierrez, Callin Burleson, Zoe Fry, Allyson Gutierrez and coach A.J. Johnson. (front row, L-R) Shea Johnson, Kinley Beyer and Allie O'Brien.

China begins 1-year countdown to Beijing Olympics with dancers and fireworks in Tiananmen Square

BEIJING (AP) — China celebrated the one-year countdown to the start of the Beijing Games with dance, music and fireworks in Tiananmen Square on Wednesday night, while the Olympics chief warned that the capital's dirty air could force the rescheduling of some events.

The sprawling plaza in the heart of the Chinese capital was the center of the celebration that included dancers in glittery garb and pop singers belting out a theme song as a countdown clock hit 8 p.m., exactly 12 months until the

start of the opening ceremony on Aug. 8, 2008.

Mixed in with the spectacle, politicians spoke of the smooth progress toward preparing for an event China hopes will showcase its rising political and economic clout.

"We want to take this opportunity to the show the world that the people of China are committed to the success of the games and we believe we will deliver it," said Wu Bangguo, the head of China's parliament and the Communist Party's No. 2 ranking official.

Hours before Wednesday's big party, however, International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge said the dirty air in Beijing might force some events to be postponed.

"Yes, this is an option," the normally cautious Rogge told CNN. "It would not be necessary for all sports, sports with short durations would not be a problem. But definitely the endurance sports like the cycling race where you have to compete for six hours, these are examples of competitions

that might be postponed or delayed to another day."

Wednesday's ceremony intended to display the "immense enthusiasm" of the Chinese people and government for the Games, Wu said in a speech laden with communist jargon such as "Deng Xiaoping theory" and the building of a "harmonious society."

Rogge told the crowd that Beijing organizers had worked "extremely hard to give Beijing an Olympic shape."

"The world is watching China and Beijing with great

3rd Annual PHS Mini Tennis Camp

This Saturday, Mini Tennis Camp, open to Kindergarten-5th graders, will take place at the Pampa High School tennis courts.

From 10 a.m. through noon, campers will learn fundamental tennis skills, play games, win cool prizes in a fun for all, safe environment.

The cost is \$15, and all proceeds will go to the Pampa High School

Tennis program.

To register, send an entry form including the camper's name, grade, home address, school and phone number to:

Pampa Harvester Tennis Booster Club
P.O. Box 2133
Pampa, TX 79065

Late registration is also accepted the day of camp.

For more information, contact Synda Foreman at 688-7772.

Japan's Sadaharu Oh congratulates Bonds

By The Associated Press

Next up on the home run chart for Barry Bonds: Sadaharu Oh.

Oh hit 868 homers in Japan, and congratulated Bonds after the San Francisco star broke Hank Aaron's record by hitting No. 756 Tuesday night.

"Over the past 10 years, I'm sure he has struggled a lot physically, and there no doubt have been many tough days for him," Oh said.

"Hitting home runs requires tenacity and passion for baseball while overcoming hardship, and I want to congratulate him from the bottom of my heart," he said.

Oh now manages the Fukuoka Softbank Hawks. After Bonds homered against Washington, the Giants star said he still had plenty of baseball left in him.

Craig Biggio drives in go-ahead run and Astros beat Cubs 5-2

HOUSTON (AP) — The Chicago Cubs are missing Alfonso Soriano's bat.

Craig Biggio drove in the go-ahead run in a four-run sixth inning and the Houston Astros beat Chicago 5-2, the second straight game the Cubs have lost since Soriano went on the disabled list because of a torn right quadriceps.

In those games, the Cubs have scored three runs.

"Any time you lose a guy like that, there's going to be some affect on your team," reliever Kerry Wood said. "Even if it doesn't affect you on the field, mindset-wise it's going to bother you. You hate to see a guy like that go out. Hopefully he'll be back real soon."

Matt Murton, who led off the seventh with his second home run of the year, agreed. "It's never easy to replace

a guy like Soriano," Murton said. "He brings a lot to the club. You don't replace him. All you can do is go out and pick up the pieces and do the best you can."

Sean Marshall (5-6) lost for the third time in his last four starts. He lasted 5 1/3 innings and gave up five runs and seven hits, striking out two.

Marshall, who retired nine straight batters before man-

aging to get only one out in the sixth, doesn't think the loss of Soriano is the problem.

"I don't think that's bothering us," Marshall said. "Good teams go through droughts. The Brewers went through one last month. We just have to bounce back tomorrow and swing the bats."

Manager Lou Piniella would like to see that. He

also questions how much the loss of Soriano is affecting his team.

"It's hard coming by runs right now," Piniella said. "Everybody's just got to do their part. I don't think anybody's being asked to carry more of the load than they can."

"We just need a game where we swing the bats and score some runs and then go from there."

It was the third straight loss for the Cubs, who have dropped five of their last six.

The hit was Biggio's 3,023rd, tying him with Lou Brock for 22nd on the all-time hit list.

Woody Williams (6-12) went six innings, allowed one run and four hits. He struck out seven, walked two and retired the final 10 batters he faced.

Bonds

Continued from Page 7

home run king." President Bush, through spokesman Tony Snow, congratulated the slugger on Wednesday, though Snow said the president was most likely asleep when Bonds connected.

"No, no call to Barry Bonds. The president does congratulate Barry Bonds on breaking really one of the most treasured records in all of sports," Snow said. "The home run record is one that has always captured the imaginations of sports fans and it obviously was an historic occasion."

With a long, satisfied stare, Bonds watched as the ball sailed over the fence and disappeared into the scum in the first few rows. Then he raised both arms over his head like a victorious prize fighter, fists clenched, and took off. "I knew I hit it," Bonds said. "I knew I got it. I was

like, phew, finally."

His 17-year-old batboy son, Nikolai, was already bouncing on home plate as Dad rounded third and ran the final 90 feet to make it official. After a long embrace, the rest of the family joined in — his mother, two daughters and wife. And then there was Mays, who removed his cap and congratulated his godson.

Bonds saved his most poignant words for last, addressing his late father, Bobby.

"My dad," he said, looking to the sky and choking back tears. "Thank you."

Bonds had wanted to break the record at home, where he would be assured of a friendly crowd. They were all right, unlike in San Diego where some fans held up signs with asterisks.

Bonds has always denied knowingly using performance-enhancing drugs.

After doubling and singling his first two times up, Bonds hit a solo home run. Bacsik put his left hand to the back of his head as soon

as Bonds connected.

"I dreamed about it as a kid, but when I dreamed about it, I was the one hitting the home run and not giving it up," Bacsik said.

"I didn't really want to be part of history as a bad part, but I am," he said. "I'm OK with it."

Bacsik later spoke with Bonds and got an autographed a bat from the Giants star.

Bonds took his position in left field to start the sixth, then was replaced and drew another standing ovation. The Nationals won the game, 8-6.

A fan wearing a Mets jersey wound up with the historic ball. Matt Murphy of New York emerged from the stands with the souvenir and a bloodied face, and was whisked to a secure room.

Even with Bonds at the top of the chart, fans will surely keep debating which slugger they consider the true home run champion. Some will continue to cling to Aaron while other, older rooters will always say it's

Babe Ruth.

"It's all about history. Pretty soon, someone will come along and pass him," Mays said before the game.

Aaron held the top spot for 12,173 days after connecting for No. 715 to pass the Babe on April 8, 1974.

"This is the greatest record in all of sports," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. "We are all fortunate to witness it. It's awesome. This road to history has been a lot of fun."

Bonds homered exactly three years after Greg Maddux earned his 300th victory at the same ballpark. It's been quite a week of baseball milestones — over the weekend, Alex Rodriguez hit his 500th home run and Tom Glavine won No. 300.

A seven-time NL MVP, the 43-year-old Bonds hit his 22nd home run of the year. Bonds broke Mark McGwire's single-season record by hitting 73 in 2001 and while he's no longer such a force, opposing pitchers remain wary.

Bonds and Giants management bickered in the off-season over contract issues. This big night was the main reason owner Peter Magowan brought back the star left fielder for a 15th season in San Francisco, signing him to a \$15.8 million, one-year contract.

Bonds' once-rapid quest for the record had slowed in recent years as his age and balky knees diminished his pace. He hit 258 home runs from 2000-04, but has only 53 since then.

While steroids have tinged Bonds' pursuit, it was race that was the predominant issue when Aaron broke Ruth's mark in 1974. Aaron dealt with hate mail and death threats from racist fans who thought a black man was not worthy of breaking the record set by a white hero, the beloved Babe.

Bonds was destined for stardom at an early age. The son of All-Star outfielder Bobby Bonds and the godson of one of the game's greatest players, Bonds

spent his childhood years roaming the clubhouse at Candlestick Park, getting tips from Mays and other Giants.

"I visualized him playing sports at a high level. He was 5 when he was in my locker all the time," Mays said.

In a matter of years, Bonds went from a wiry leadoff hitter with Pittsburgh in 1986 to a bulked-up slugger. That transformation is at the heart of his many doubters, who believe Bonds cheated to accomplish his feats and should not be considered the record-holder.

There are plenty of fans already hoping for the day that Bonds' total — whatever it ends up — is topped. Rodriguez may have the best chance, with his 500 home runs at age 32 far ahead of Bonds' pace.

Bonds said he hadn't yet thought beyond 756. He plans to play in 2008.

"I'll tell you one thing: I'm going to hit a lot better from now on," he said after

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Direction of Iraqi War may depend on Petraeus' report

BAGHDAD (AP) — If Gen. David Petraeus is feeling the heat as he readies his momentous Iraq war report to Congress, it is hard to tell by the cool confidence with which he discusses the toughest mission of his career.

Rarely in recent history have the words of one general loomed so large in determining the direction of a war.

Two things in particular give his coming September assessment and testimony to Congress great weight: He is viewed as the master of counterinsurgency strategy, having

written just last year the military's manual on how it should be done. And secondly, President Bush has repeatedly said he would count on the judgment of his top Iraq commander.

"I will rely on General Petraeus to give me his recommendations for the appropriate troop levels in Iraq," Bush said last month when pressed on the timing of when Americans might start coming home — five years into the war and 18 months before he leaves the White House.

"I'm going to wait to see what David has

to say. I'm not going to pre-judge what he may say. I trust David Petraeus' judgment," the president added.

Petraeus is keeping his counsel close, five weeks before he heads to Capitol Hill to pass judgment on the Iraq war strategy — with the direction of the conflict hanging in the balance.

It's not easy to unnerve a guy who was shot in the chest in a training accident at Fort Campbell, Ky., earlier in his career, and who has spent a combined three years in Iraq in three different tours of duty. He led the 101st

Airborne Division, with 17,000 soldiers, in the initial U.S. invasion in March 2003.

In February he became the top U.S. commander in Iraq, replacing Gen. George Casey.

In an Associated Press interview in late July in his office at the U.S. Embassy, Petraeus betrayed no sign of anxiety, except perhaps a hint of worry that he might tip his hand too early, thus opening himself to challenge from critics before he has fully armed himself with credible arguments for why the buildup is working.

DARFUR

UN says pledges for force available

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United Nations said it has received pledges of troops and police for a predominantly African peacekeeping force to help end the four-year conflict in Darfur that has claimed more than 200,000 lives, a development that would meet a key Sudanese demand.

A large number of countries from Africa, several from Asia, one from the Middle East and none from the West were included in a preliminary list of nations that have offered military and police personnel for the 26,000-strong joint African Union-United Nations force, issued by the U.N. Peacekeeping Department and the new Department of Field Support.

"We are hitting the target of a predominantly African force, and we're very pleased about that," Assistant Secretary-General Jane Holl Lute, acting head of the Department of Field Support, said Tuesday.

The U.N. Security Council authorized the "hybrid" force a week ago after months of delay in getting agreement from the Sudanese government. It is the first joint peacekeeping operation by the African Union and the U.N. and will replace the beleaguered 7,000-strong AU force that will remain in Darfur no later than Dec. 31.

Lute, a lawyer and retired U.S. army officer who was formerly on the staff of the National Security Council, said she was pleased with the number of infantry battalions pledged at an "extraordinary" meeting last week of potential troop and police contributing countries. But she said the hybrid force still needs aviation and ground transport units.

The list of potential troop contributors includes Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Egypt, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Bangladesh, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand. The list of countries offering at least 50 police officers includes Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Egypt, Indonesia, Nepal, Nigeria and Pakistan.

The U.N. stressed that these countries may or may not be included in the final force, which must be decided by Aug. 30 under the terms of the U.N. resolution.

Lions Camp



COURTESY PHOTO

Lauren Pingel of Pampa recently traveled to Kerrville this summer to attend Texas Lions Camp. The camp, open to children aged 7-16, affords children with visual, hearing or physical disabilities an opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities such as arts & crafts, field sports, horseback riding, swimming, theater and more. Lauren was sponsored by Brad Pingel, a Pampa Lions Club member.

Fed leaves key interest rate unchanged due partly to concerns about inflation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Borrowers looking for some interest rate relief will have to keep on waiting.

Although Federal Reserve policymakers held interest rates steady Tuesday, they gave themselves some wiggle room for a cut down the road should economic conditions take a turn for the worse.

"Financial markets have been volatile in recent weeks, credit conditions have become tighter for some households and businesses and the housing correction is ongoing," said the Fed, its first acknowledgment of the recent conditions that have shaken Wall Street and Main Street. "Downside risks to growth have increased somewhat."

The Fed did throw "investors a bone," one analyst said, even though it stopped well short of saying a rate cut was imminent.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his central bank colleagues expressed hope that the economy will safely make its way. The policymakers also clung to their belief that the biggest potential danger to the economy is that inflation won't recede as they anticipate.

Against these economic crosscurrents, the Fed left an important interest rate at 5.25 percent on Tuesday. In turn, commercial banks' prime interest rate for certain credit cards, home equity lines of credit and other loans — would stay at 8.25 percent.

The central bank's key rate hasn't budged for more than a year. Before that, the Fed had raised rates for two years to fend off inflation.

On Wall Street, investors bid stocks higher. The Dow Jones industrials gained 35.52

points to close at 13,504.30.

Analysts believe the Fed probably will leave rates alone at its next meeting on Sept. 18. However, economists and investors now think the odds are growing that the Fed might lower rates by the end of this year — if the economy shows signs of faltering and if inflation isn't worrisome.

For now, the Fed stuck to a forecast that the economy is likely to expand at a moderate pace in coming quarters. They also said they expected "solid growth in employment and incomes" — vital ingredients to the country's economic health.

The Fed "didn't completely satisfy investors but they did throw investors a bone," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. "They indicated that if things continue to weaken in financial mar-

kets, they will respond." The Fed was faced with a delicate dance, analysts said. To maintain credibility, it needed to acknowledge recent market gyrations, fears about a worsening housing slump and worries about a spreading and painful credit crunch. At the same time, it needed to send a comforting message but not be viewed as overly optimistic or pessimistic.

"They acknowledged and rightly so, the elephant in the room — problems in the credit market. But they didn't feed it any peanuts by cutting rates," said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at PNC Financial Services Group. "But the statement gives the Fed a little more flexibility — a crack in the door — for them to cut rates later on" if the economy loses traction, he said.

'They indicated that if things continue to weaken in financial markets, they will respond.'

— Mark Zandi
Economist



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Premium Full Set Dentures	\$945
Reline (each)	\$145
Gold Denture Crown.....	\$180
Simple Extraction (each).....	\$65
Full-mouth X-ray (required for extractions).....	\$60

Fees effective January 29, 2007

TIANA HALL DDS, P.A.

2110 S. Western St.
Amarillo, TX 79109
(806) 352-4500

General Dentist
Tiana Hall, DDS

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