

Tomorrow's Weather

HIGH
96

LOW
71

See expanded weather on Page 2

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City not concerned that sales tax receipts under budget

By **DAVID BOWSER**
Staff Writer

For the third time this year, the sales tax receipts came in under budget, but city officials said there is no reason for alarm.

The city's portion of the sales tax this month was \$369,335.05 compared to the \$395,166.37 that had been expected.

Pampa City Manager John Horst said that the check the city received this month from the Texas State Comptroller for the city's portion of

sales taxes was about 6.5 percent lower than had been budgeted, but for the year, the city remains 9.5 percent ahead of budget.

"It's not alarming at all," Horst said. "We're still over for the year \$291,665.52."

The city has also collected \$338,961.12 more than it had for this time last year, or about 11 percent more than it collected in fiscal year 2005-2006.

Horst pointed out that the three months when the sales tax revenues

were not as high as projected in this year's budget, the months before or after the drop were quite a bit higher than had been projected.

February's sales tax check, for instance, was 2.85 percent below budget, but March's check was 49.33 percent more than what had been expected. January's check was 29.07 percent above budget.

June's check was 4.39 percent below budget, but May's check was 15.51 percent more than expected and July's check was 8.64 percent

above budget.

"It's impossible to exactly predict what the receipts will be," Horst said.

Sales taxes are at the mercy of seasonal retail trends and the way the calendar falls may also influence a month's receipts. There may be more weekends when people are out shopping in one month than another.

The 2006-2007 fiscal year budgeted was also amended in June to

See **TAXES**, Page 3

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AUG. 21
11-45AM

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The speaker is Davita Dane with Bell Helicopter.

Public is welcome, \$8.00 a plate. RSVP at 669-3241.

Friendly welcome



Courtesy photo
Davee Smith, left and Jerrod Imel, with Top O' Texas Oil Field Services, are donors of this welcome sign on Highway 70 at the south entrance to Pampa. Warren Smith, right, designed and made the "Welcome to Pampa" entrance sign.

Welcome to Pampa sign goes up

The Pampa Area Foundation for Outdoor Art has sponsored two welcome signs of pump jacks in Harvester green and gold that feature the area's oil related industry.

Top O' Texas Oil Field Services donated the pump jacks.

The first sign is at the south entrance to the city on Highway 70. The north sign on Highway 70 will be erected as soon as sandblasting and painting are completed.

Top O' Texas Oil Field Services transported the pump jack and the county provided the caliche base for the sign.

Bolch Painting was hired by PAFOA to do the sandblasting and painting.

Warren Smith, PAFOA president, said the project has been in the planning stages for several years.

The PAFOA will add solar lighting in the future.

New principal eager to begin

By **KERRI SMITH**
Staff Writer

Pampa Junior High School has a new principal this year since Randy Stephenson is now overseeing the renovations at the high school and the new junior high school. Paul Nies is the new principal and he is eager for the new school year to begin.

Nies, who is from Merkel, Texas, is in his 27th year as an educator. He was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minn., and has coached and taught not only in that state, but also Texas, Kansas, Arkansas and Wyoming.

He started his career as a football and basketball coach as well as teaching strength training and power lifting at a college in Minneapolis. He and his family have moved numerous times and ended up in Wyoming six years ago. Nies was the head coach and also the dean of students in charge of the discipline for a high school.

During this time, Nies decided he liked

the administration aspect of education and decided to go back to school and further his education. When he and his family moved to Merkel, he attended Abilene Christian University and got his master's degree. Six of the last seven years, Nies has been an administrator. The last three years he was the assistant principal at Merkel.

He is currently pursuing his doctorate and has just one year to go before he will earn that degree as well. He said his eventual goal is to become a superintendent of a school district.

"My family and I have lived in the Texas Panhandle before and really wanted to get back to this area," Nies said. "I started looking for a job in this area and the position here in Pampa was available so I applied and thankfully was hired. We love this part of Texas because we love the people and the weather."

See **NIES**, Page 3

Important dates for junior high

By **KERRI SMITH**
Staff Writer

The administration at Pampa Junior High School has some important dates coming up that they want students and parents to be aware of. In a story in the Special Education section that was in The Pampa News on Thursday, some of the dates listed for these special

events were incorrect. The correct dates are listed below.

From 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Thursday, sixth grade students will have orientation at the junior high. They can pick up schedules, tour the school, learn the rules and meet teachers and other students.

See **SCHOOL**, Page 3

Golden Horseshoe

Clue #3 can be found at a flower shop on Wednesday.

Tax rate on county agenda

By **MARILYN POWERS**
Staff Writer

The preliminary 2008 effective tax rate for Gray County property owners will be discussed at county commissioners' 9 a.m. meeting Wednesday in the second-floor courtroom of the county courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

Commissioners will have the choice of leaving the tax rate at its current amount, increasing county taxes, lowering them or adopting the effective rate, which is the rate needed in order to collect the same dollar amount of taxes as for the previous fiscal year.



An effective rate may actually represent a decrease

See **COUNTY**, Page 3



Pampa News Photo by **KERRI SMITH**
Paul Nies, the new principal for Pampa Junior High School, proudly shows off a speckled belly goose that he shot about six years ago just north of Ralls, Texas.

NEXT DAY FORECAST

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		
Sunny	Sunny	Partly cloudy

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 96. South-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 71. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 95. South 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 69. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 92. South-southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. South-southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Services tomorrow

PURKEY, Montine Virginia — 10 a.m., First Baptist Church, Shamrock.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Atchafalaya Grain of White Deer.	
Wheat	5.87
Milo	4.88
Corn	5.66
Soybeans	7.18
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Dallas.	
BP PLC ADR	65.67 +0.20
Labot Corp	39.05 -0.05
Celanese	35.73 +0.19
Cabot Oil Gas	33.85 +1.16
Coca Cola	54.68 +0.16
VLO	66.94 +0.22
HAL	33.79 +0.57
XCEL	20.85 -0.10
Anadarko	49.20 -0.13
XOM	83.20 +0.28
Nat'l Oilwell	118.17 +1.35
Limited	23.08 -0.38
Williams	33.00 +0.23
MCD	48.20 -0.51
Atmos	27.63 +0.21
Pioneer Nat	42.16 -0.52
JCP	64.00 -1.07
COP	79.78 +0.58
SLB	91.15 +0.47
Denison	34.61 -0.08
CVX	82.85 +0.40
Wal-Mart	44.16 -2.01
OKE	46.90 +0.20
New York Gold	680.90
Silver	12.86
West Texas Crude	71.62

Obituaries

David 'Lyle' Henning
 (October 5, 1922 - August 12, 2007)

Memorial Graveside Services for David "Lyle" Henning will be conducted from the Chappell Cemetery at Chappell, Nebraska on Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. (Mountain Time) with Pastor Richard Graeff, officiating. Inurnment will be in the Chappell Cemetery.

David "Lyle" Henning, 84 years of age, of Holdrege (formerly of Chappell) passed away on Sunday, August 12, 2007 at the Holdrege Memorial Homes. Lyle was born October 5, 1922 at Ringwood, Oklahoma, the third of four children of David Herman and Asenith Nellie Mae (Fillman) Henning. He received his education from Belpre, Kansas, graduating from Belpre High School with the class of 1941. Following his education, Lyle was employed at Arrow Manufacturing Plant in Wichita, Kansas, building

airplane parts where he was crew chief of twenty women at the plant and earned fifty cents per hour. While in Wichita, he played semi-pro baseball.

Lyle then served his country in the Army Air Force during WW II from October 31, 1942 until his honorable discharge on September 11, 1945. Lyle was a Technical Sergeant serving as an airplane mechanic gunner and he was a pistol marksman. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross air medal with four bronze oak leaf clusters. He also received a Good Conduct Medal and a Distinguished Unit Badge. He flew in B-17 Bombers in the Air Offense Europe, Normandy and Northern France. Following his service, Lyle returned to Belpre, Kansas.

In 1947 he was united in marriage to Edna Hughes at Stafford, Kansas and to his

union five children were born: Mary Lee, Rosie Jonelle, Betty Mae, David and Greg. The family made their home in Kansas, Colorado and finally in Chappell, Nebraska. Lyle was employed as a Deputy on horseback in Dodge City, Kansas and farmed in Colorado. He later owned and operated, Pizza To Go in Chappell and prior to his retirement he was employed by Leprino Foods. On September 15, 1984 he was united in marriage to Jeannette Larrington at Sidney, Nebraska. The couple made their home in Chappell until moving to Holdrege in 2005 to be near family. Lyle enjoyed making jewelry, riding horses, playing horseshoes, bowling, playing his guitar and singing. He loved telling his grandchildren and great-grandchildren about his cowboy days of the past. He leaves to mourn his

passing his wife, Jeannette of Holdrege; four children: Mary Lee Van Buskirk and her husband, Ronnie of Texas, Jonelle Lening and her husband, Don of Colorado, David Henning of Chappell, Nebraska and Greg Henning and his wife, Nancy of Whitefish, Montana; one sister, Betty Schartz and her husband, Mark of Larned, Kansas; three step-children; eleven grandchildren; sixteen step-grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; one daughter, Betty Mae when she was one year old; brother, Kenny Henning; sister, Juanita Wolf and one nephew, Randy Henning.

There will be no visitation, the family is honoring Lyle's wishes for cremation.

Ronald Earl 'Ronnie' Loter, 68

He retired from Cabot Corp. in May of 2003 as a production supervisor. He was a member of the First Baptist Church.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, stationed in Germany.

Ronnie loved playing golf with his friends. Survivors include his



Loter

wife, Wetia Loter, of the home; one son, Kelly Loter and wife Amy of Dallas; one daughter, Stacy Loter of Frisco; one brother, Lonnie Loter and wife Ann of Pampa; two sisters, Eloise Dowlen and Merilyn Howell and husband Jim, all of Amarillo; three grandchildren, Riley Loter, Sophia

Loter and Ava Loter, all of Dallas; and 11 nieces and nephews.

MEMORIALS: American Cancer Society Web site, in memory of Mr. Loter at www.acsevents.org/mosaicofmemories <<http://www.acsevents.org/mosaicofmemories>>

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

Montine Virginia Purkey, 85

SHAMROCK — Montine Virginia Purkey, 85, died Sunday, Aug. 12, 2007, at Wellington.

Services are scheduled at 10 a.m. Wednesday in First Baptist Church of Shamrock with the Rev. Mike Martin, pastor, and the Rev. Don Conner of Shamrock officiating.

Burial will be in Shamrock Cemetery under

the direction of Wright Funeral Directors of Shamrock.

Mrs. Purkey was born July 25, 1922, at Greenbrier, Ark.

In 1946, she married B.A. "Nig" Purkey at Greenbrier. The couple lived in the community of Lone Mound until moving to Shamrock in 2000.

She worked at Marie

Foundations in McLean for many years and was a homemaker who enjoyed sewing and cooking. She belonged to Shamrock First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Purkey was preceded in death by three brothers, Ed Wilcox Jr., Bill Wilcox and Joe Wilcox; a sister, Bonnie Cantrell; and a granddaughter, Kristina

Oldham.

Survivors include her husband, Nig of Shamrock; three daughters, Kay Martindale of Shamrock, Billie Ward of McLean and Elaine Haxton of Oklahoma City, Okla.; a sister, Nina Webb of Conway, Ark.; a brother, Wallace Wilcox of Conway; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Emergency Services

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

Three traffic stops were made. One stop in the 100 block of North Hobart resulted in an arrest.

Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of Price Road and Highway 60 and the intersection of McCullough and Wilcox streets.

Motorist assistance was rendered at the intersection of Cuyler and Brown streets.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1300 block of Terrace, the 900 block of Clark and the 1900 block of North Hobart.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 800 block of Gordon, the 800 block of North Frost, on two occasions in the 800 block of Beryl, the 600 block of East Browning, the 800 block of North Gray, on two occasions in the 1700 block of Chestnut, the 400 block of North Faulkner, the

1400 block of North Zimmers, the 300 block of East Brown, the 200 block of East Brown, the 1200 block of North Wells, the 1800 block of Coffee and the 300 block of South Cuyler.

Found property was reported at the intersection of Harvester and Lefors streets. A bicycle was found.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1400 block of North Hobart, the intersection of Price Road and Highway 152, the intersection of Rider and Baer streets, the intersection of Huff Road and Brown Street, the intersection of 5th and Court Streets in Lefors and on two occasions on Skyline Drive in Lefors.

A welfare check was made in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

A civil matter was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 1000 block of West Wilks, the 1500 block of North Hobart and the intersection of Nelson and Gwendolen streets.

Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 1000 block of South Banks, the 200 block of East 5th in Lefors and the 1000 block of North Frost.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of Brunow and the 700 block of Lefors.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of Short.

Harassment was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 100 block of West 30th.

A sexual offense was reported in the police department lobby.

Assault causing bodily injury/family violence was reported in the 1500 block of North Banks. Minor injuries which did not require medical attention were reported in connection with the incident.

Assault was reported in the police department lobby.

Three alarms were reported. One open door was checked.

Theft and an animal at-large

were reported in the 1100 block of Varnon Drive. A lock on a meter was broken and city water valued at \$50 was taken.

Theft was reported at United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart. A juvenile was arrested for stealing a bottle of pain reliever valued at approximately \$3.

Theft was reported at Dollar General, 2211 Perryton Parkway. Batteries, a five-pack of cigarette lighters, allergy medication, a key chain and body spray were taken. Estimated value of loss is \$30.

Theft was reported in the 1000 block of Twiford. A gasoline-powered weed eater valued at \$114 was taken.

Forgery was reported in the police department lobby. The incident occurred at Wayne's Western Wear, 1504 N. Hobart. A check was forged. Estimated value of loss is unknown.

Forgery was reported in the 1400 block of Hamilton. A check was forged. Estimated value of loss is unknown.

CITY BRIEFS

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

PAMPA HIGH School is having their FISH CAMP. Friday, Aug. 16th, 9am-3pm meet in the auditorium. Lunch will be provided, no parents, freshman come & be ready to have some FUN!!!

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN School Golf Scramble, Fri., Aug. 24th, Pampa Country Club, 8am-Tee Off. \$400 per team (4 players). Proceeds to fund School Scholarship Programs. Call Mark Hughes, 665-8431 to register your team.

COMET CLEANERS is closed, you can pick up your clothes by calling 688-9261. Fri. Aug. 17th, is last day to pick up your clothes.

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 Tour The School And Learn About High School Life

Teacher-astronaut to speak with kids

HOUSTON (AP) — The day has come for Barbara Morgan to fulfill the legacy teacher Christa McAuliffe dreamed of: Talking to students from space.

Today, Morgan will speak with students in Idaho, where she taught elementary classes before moving to Houston in 1998 to become the first teacher to train as a full-fledged astronaut. She finally launched into space on Aug. 8 aboard the shuttle Endeavour, after a two-decade wait.

Morgan was McAuliffe's backup for Challenger's doomed mission in 1986.

A list of topics Mission Control sent her earlier this week included questions from children about what it's like to be weightless, how the crew gets clean air aboard the shuttle, and what stars look

like from space.

Meanwhile, a team of NASA experts was evaluating whether astronauts should fix a deep gash on the Endeavour's belly before the crew returns home. Another team of experts was put together to pick and perfect the best way to fix the gouge and avoid extensive post-flight repairs. A decision was expected by Wednesday.

The gouge is relatively small — 3 1/2 inches by 2 inches — and the damage is benign enough for Endeavour to fly safely home. But part of it penetrates through the protective thermal tiles, leaving just a thin layer of coated felt over the space shuttle's aluminum frame to keep out the more than 2,000-degree heat of re-entry. Fixing any resulting structural damage could be

expensive and time-consuming.

To patch the gouge, spacewalking astronauts would have to perch on the end of the shuttle's 100-foot robotic arm and extension boom, be maneuvered under the spacecraft, apply protective black paint and then squirt in a caulk-like goop.

Mission Control told the crew late Monday that officials had ruled out a third repair technique involving a protective plate that could be screwed over the damage.

All three techniques were developed following Columbia's catastrophic re-entry, and NASA has never attempted this type of repair on an orbiting shuttle. Only the black paint has been tested in space.

TDA announces kids kitchen corral contest

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Agriculture kicks off the 4th Annual Kids Kitchen Corral Contest.

For contest details and an application packet, simply pick up a postage-paid entry card at select public libraries or in the produce aisle at your neighborhood Wal-Mart Superstore, while supplies last. You can also e-mail TDA at kidskitchen@tda.state.tx.us and request an entry card. TDA is accepting contest entry cards through the fall of 2007.

"It's great fun to see our young Texans cook up some creative dishes in the kitchen," said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples. "They're learning healthy eating and healthy cooking are something worthwhile with positive and long-lasting results."

The Kids Kitchen Corral Contest calls on kids from across Texas to submit their own unique healthy recipes

for judging. Recipes have to be original, nutritious, easy to prepare and contain no more than 10 ingredients.

The contest is open to Texans 6 to 18 years old and enrolled in a Texas school that participates in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Program. Each qualifying Texan who submits an entry card will receive an entry packet with nutrition information and contest details.

Past winners have received a medalion, donations from Wal-Mart, Texas Monthly magazine and/or Whole Earth Provisions, including gift cards, cooking supplies and a backpack with school supplies, and a framed certificate signed by Commissioner Staples. Their recipes have been featured on printed recipe cards and book covers distributed to all Texas public elementary schools.

Almost 270 recipes — everything

from granola mixes to wacky wraps to veggie pasta — were submitted to TDA last fall for the 3rd annual contest. TDA judges narrowed the recipe submissions to 12 finalists, and students from the Bowie High School Culinary Arts Program in Austin put them to the test by preparing and tasting each recipe, then choosing the four final winners.

Additional details and deadline information for the 4th Annual Kids Kitchen Corral Contest can be requested by sending an e-mail to kidskitchen@tda.state.tx.us.

To view the winning recipes and to find more healthy eating tips and nutrition information, visit TDA's Square Meals Web site at www.squaremeals.org and click on the link "For Kids."

PGWCD meeting scheduled Wednesday

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

WHITE DEER — The 2007-2008 budget and the tax rate top the agenda for the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District Wednesday.

The Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District will consider both items when they meet at 9 a.m. Wednesday at their offices in White Deer.

They will review the 2006-2007

budget and their agricultural loan account.

The board of directors will also consider bids on land in Potter and Donley counties, and they are expected to reconsider a non-compliant well drilled by PETCO Petroleum in southwestern Gray County that was tabled at their July meeting.

They will consider the following well permit applications: two one-inch wells for Anthony Saikowski in Potter

County, a one-inch well for Jim Peck in Potter County, a two-inch well for McIntyre Christner in Roberts County, three one-inch wells for Dome Development in Potter County, a two-inch well for Larry B. Rogers in Roberts County and an 18-inch well for the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority in Roberts County.

The board will also go into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Nies

Continued from Page 1

Nies has a 19-year-old son, a daughter who will be a junior at Pampa High School and a son who will be in kindergarten. He said his daughter is excited to be at a larger school because she is very involved in sports and academics. His wife, Christi, will be an English and ESL teacher at Pampa High School and also the yearbook

coordinator.

"I'm very honored to be hired for this position in Pampa," Nies said. "The people of Pampa have been so gracious and friendly and have made us feel at home in the short time we've been here. I'm proud to say that I'm from Pampa. I'm especially proud to be the principal in a school district that is so team oriented and is so involved in professional learning communities and having teachers collaborate and learn from one another."

Nies would like to invite all parents to the meetings the junior high school

is hosting on Aug. 20, 21 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the junior high school auditorium.

"This is an opportunity for parents to meet me and discuss my philosophy and what I envision for the future of Pampa Junior High," Nies said. "This meeting will be approximately 45 minutes to one hour and parents just need to pick one of the evenings to attend."

In his spare time, Nies loves to hunt and fish. When asked if his wife likes the participate in the same activities, Nies replied, "No, her favorite activity to do in her spare time is shopping."

County

Continued from Page 1

in the amount of tax paid by a property owner if total property valuations for the county are up.

"A lot of entities' values are up," said County Tax Assessor-Collector Gaye Whitehead.

Total appraised value for property taxed by Gray County is \$1,594,674,680, according to information provided to Whitehead by Gray

County Appraisal District. The total appraised value last year was \$1,377,369,900.

Of this year's total, the total taxable value subject to county tax is \$1,381,999,744. The total taxable value subject to the road and bridge tax is \$1,372,233,926.

The current tax rate adopted last year by county commissioners is .445623 per \$100 valuation. This rate consists of .399421 for the county general fund, .037536 for the road and bridge fund, and .008666 for indebtedness.

Commissioners will begin budget

discussion for fiscal year 2008 in a separate meeting which begins at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

A family protection fee, which allows district courts to charge a fee in certain criminal cases, is also on the county's agenda.

Commissioners may vote to seek bids for seal coating and repairing pot holes on County Road 12 1/2, place a county bridge in Precinct 3 in the state's off-system bridge participation-waived project, renew a two-year contract with Indigent Health Services, and discuss county longevity pay and workers' compensation policy.

School

Continued from Page 1

dents. The seventh and eighth grade students can pick up their schedules from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday (this was previously listed incorrectly as Aug. 21 and 22) at the main entrance or what is

known as the eighth grade door.

Parent informational meetings with the new junior high school principal, Paul Nies, will be at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 20, 21 and 23 in the junior high auditorium. This is a time for parents to meet the new principal and learn the rules of the school and ask any questions regarding their child's experience at the junior high.

The mother/daughter tea for sixth

graders will be at 6 p.m. on Aug. 23 in the junior high library. This is an opportunity for students and mothers to meet others before school starts.

The first day of school is Aug. 27 and individual school pictures will be done on Aug. 30.

For more information on any of these events, contact Pampa Junior High School at 669-4900.

Taxes

Continued from Page 1

reflect \$380,000 for street repairs. Horst said he expects next month's sales tax receipts to be up as back-to-school shopping shows up in the sales tax reports.

The sales tax receipts are based on

taxes collected two month before. In essence, August's receipts reflect the business activity of June in Pampa.

While the August sales tax check was below what had been expected for the month, the Texas Comptroller's office reports that Pampa's total collected amount of \$492,447.32 was 47.34 percent ahead of last year and 26 percent of the same reporting period last year, but that total also includes

\$123,111.68 that goes to the Pampa Economic Development Corp.

The comptroller's office reports that Borger's total of \$354,192.31 was up 16.8 percent from August, 2006, and up 12.25 percent for the year. Dumas, at \$237,207.89, was up 14.65 percent from last August and up 8.9 percent for the year. Perryton, with \$295,001.77, was down 10.15 percent from August, 2006, but up 3.64 percent for the year.

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MEET OUR STAFF

Michael Kirkpatrick acts as administrator and director of nursing. Her staff of RNs, LVNs and Texas Certified Home Health Aides are given monthly inservices and earn CEUs to update their patient skills and knowledge. The supervisory RNs are Board Certified in Wound Care, Home Health & Geriatric Care.

Teresa Henson is office operations manager. Her training and organizational skills help process all the needed paper work that will allow the patients to receive the care they need.

Both Michael and Teresa have been with Shepard's Crook since its inception.



Teresa Henson and Michael Kirkpatrick

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Viewpoints

Fishing equipment hot item at garage sales

I am still recuperating from this year's citywide garage sale, held Saturday by 50 entrants in the Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event.

My mother and I were one of 72 in last year's sale, and we did so well we decided to repeat the experience this year.

We were not disappointed. We had a steady stream of customers until well after noon, and from then until closing time, shoppers were still showing up sporadically.

As I watched what people bought, I compared this year's "hot items" to what was most popular in previous years.

I think there is an entire field of study waiting to be researched concerning garage sale psychology and garage sales as an economic and cultural indicator.

I normally do not put out books for sale, because in past years I have not had much luck selling them. I think everyone does what I do, and goes to the Friends of the Library's two sales each year.

This year, I decided to put price stickers on the books I had decided not to keep and see what would sell before I gathered them up to donate to the library book sale.

All but three of the books sold.

I don't know whether this means people are in a reading mood, more people are reading for recreation, or this year's books were more desirable than those in previous years.

Quite a few people were interested in things that involve work. A lawn mower, weed eater, two spreaders and two ladders went fast, as did cookware and kitchen utensils.

Recreation was not forgotten. In addition to the books, all the fishing gear sold. In

fact, I think all the fishing gear sold within the first hour.

Unlike the books, this was no surprise to me. We had some fishing gear in last year's sale, too, and it was one of the first things to go.

I confess I don't understand why a few things sold at all. I had an old footstool that was ancient and threadbare, as well as a clock that we discovered didn't work.

The footstool sold with no haggling over the price, and the person who bought the

clock said she wanted it because it was pretty to look at, whether or not it worked.

Some things that I thought would sell like hotcakes, on the other hand, are back in storage in case I decide to have on: more sale before the snow flies. The biggest item in this category is a table lamp, complete with brand-new, still-in-the-wrapper shade. The shade alone cost more than the price I put on the lamp and shade, but apparently no one needed a lamp or perhaps just didn't like the looks of this one.

Other things didn't sell simply because we didn't have time or space to put them out on display. I had

collected boxes and boxes of all types of things when I did a house-wide purge last winter, and even though we filled in gaps as things sold, we didn't get everything out on the tables before time to call it quits.

I may give in to the temptation to become a weekend merchant one more time this year. Even if the total profits aren't in the hundreds-of-dollars range, it is still thrilling to get money for something you were going to get rid of one way or another.

The next sale will have to wait a little while, though, until daytime temperatures are a little cooler.



Marilyn Powers
Staff Writer

Let the truth lead the way in Iraq, not partisanship

Recently, I was one of the House and Senate members asked to go to the Pentagon for a classified briefing from General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker in Baghdad. As I walked out of the tunnel-like hallways in the basement of the Pentagon, I was struck by the contrast between the factual report I had just heard and the debate going on in Congress. It was truly two different worlds.

Not that the news from Baghdad was all positive. It was not. There were areas where clear, significant progress is being made, and there were other areas that have been disappointing. But that report was based on the facts on the ground. The debate in Congress seems to be based on something else.

Henry Kissinger recently wrote, "Vietnam and Iraq are different conflicts in different times, but there is an important similarity: A point was reached during the Vietnam War when the domestic debate became so bitter as to preclude rational discussion of hard choices." My biggest concern is that we are approaching a point in the debate on Iraq where facts no longer matter.

Take a moment to think about what that means. Political partisanship and passions get so inflamed that rational decision making is not possible. Positions get so locked-in that no amount of evidence can change someone's mind. Decisions are based not on truth, but on politics, emotions, and what someone wants the truth to be.

There are ominous signs. Once it became clear last month that there were not enough votes to force our troops to leave Iraq, the Senate Majority Leader took

the entire Defense Authorization Bill off of the

Mac Thornberry
U.S. Representative



floor. If his position on Iraq was not going to prevail, he would not permit there to be any defense bill at all for the first time in 45 years. In the House, staff strains their imaginations to come up with new ways to vote on the Iraq issue every week. The impact of these acts on what the troops are trying to accomplish are brushed aside.

Of course, the danger of ignoring facts can apply to both sides in the Iraq debate. Just as there are those who pronounced the new strategy a failure before it was ever tried, there may be those who resist change even when a different course makes sense. Those of us who believe the strategy should be given a chance must be willing to objectively consider any evidence that it is not working. But the key is to be open to the facts, not locked into a partisan position.

General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker reported that all of the troops needed to implement their new strategy have been in place only since mid-June. The planned increase of civilians to help with reconstruction is only about one-half complete. There has been a remarkable turnaround in some provinces that had been seen as lost but were now rejecting Al Qaeda foreign fighters. Sectarian deaths have been dramatically reduced while the more spectacular vehicle bombings have gotten most of the

attention. On the other hand, the government of Iraq is moving too slowly to pass the reforms needed for reconciliation and rebuilding.

Of course, Al Qaeda is expert at using the media for their own purposes. It was recently revealed that the top Iraqi in the organization never really existed. He was a fictitious

character invented for the media. Our soldiers have learned that the truck bombs we hear about are carefully placed in locations where the American media is sure to cover it. Innocent lives are expendable to terrorists.

Iraq is a pivotal piece in the increasingly complex war on terrorism. General Petraeus will come back to Washington in mid-

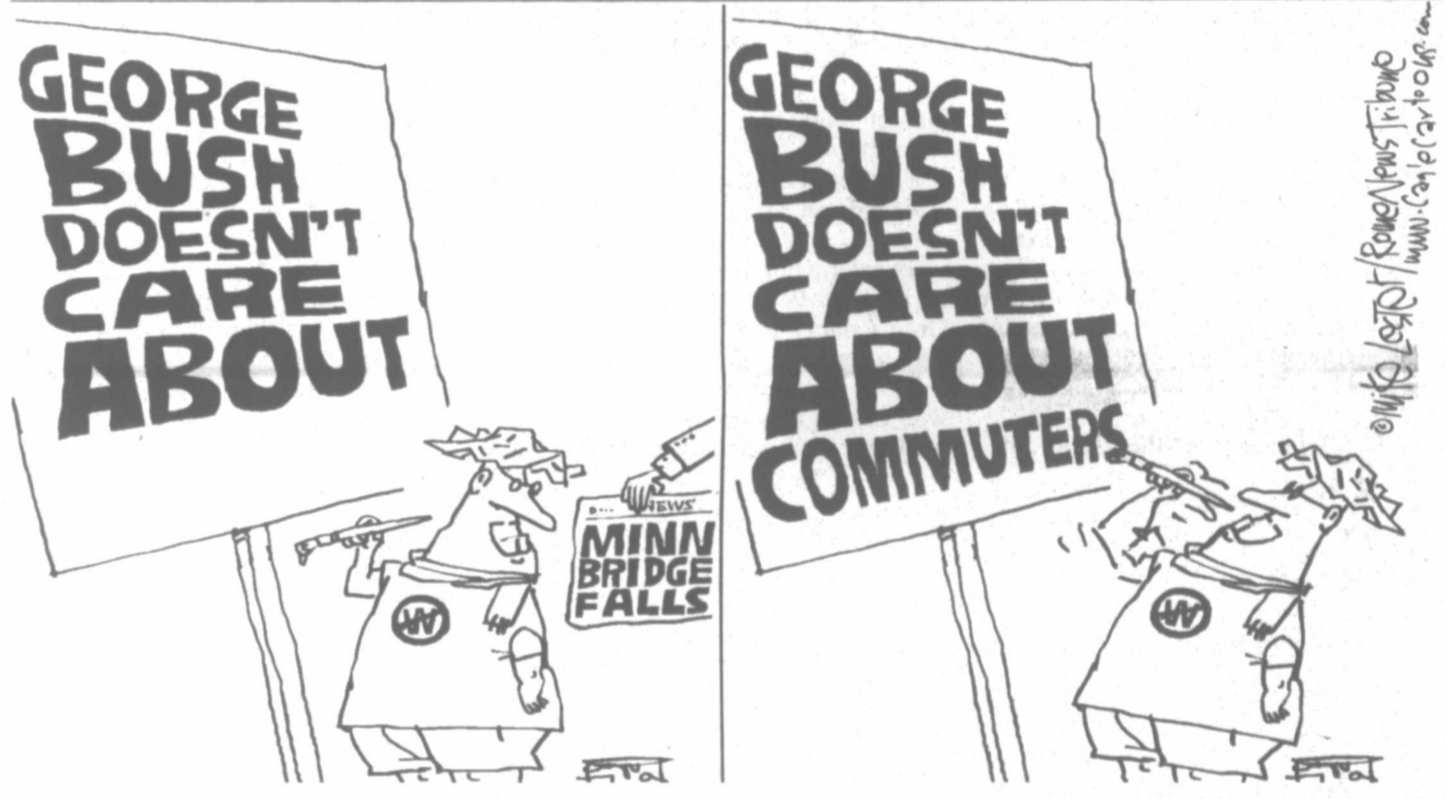
September to report on where we are and what the prospects are for success. We should all expect that his report will again include some good news, some not so good. Will we be able to listen to his professional military judgment objectively, or are the bitterness and divisions too deep?

There are well-intentioned people on both sides of the

debate, and there are clearly no simple answers.

That is why we must stay focused on the facts, put partisanship aside, and let the truth lead the way.

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry of Clarendon is a senior Republican member of the House Armed Services Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.



Open debate crucial to a free society

Global warming has become a big-ticket item in the eyes of its supporters. At stake are research funds, jobs and the ability to control lives all over the globe. Most climatologists agree that over the last century, the Earth's average temperature has risen about one degree Celsius.

The controversy centers around the source of the temperature change — manmade or natural causes. Global warming alarmists hold the view that it's manmade emissions of CO2 that's driving climate change, and they seek to suppress any dissent suggesting other causes.

According to the July 16 Washington Times, Michael T. Eckhart, president of the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), sent a threatening missive to Marlo Lewis, senior fellow at the Washington, D.C.-based Competitive Enterprise Institute, which read: "Take this warning from me, Marlo. It is my intention to destroy your career as a liar. If you produce one more editorial against climate change, I will launch a campaign against your professional integrity. I will call you a liar and charlatan to the Harvard community of which you and I are members. I will call you out as a man who has been bought by Corporate America. Go ahead, guy. Take me on."

The Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce and the Department of Energy are all members of ACORE.

Walter Williams
Columnist

Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee, held hearings on the matter. Following the hearings, the senator sent letters to the agencies asking them to "reconsider their membership in ACORE."

Speaking at the American leg of "Live Earth: The Concerts for a Climate in Crisis," Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., the son of the late Robert F. Kennedy, said, "Get rid of all these rotten politicians that we have in Washington, who are nothing more than corporate toadies." Referring to skeptics of manmade global warming, he said, "This is treason. And we need to start treating them as traitors."

Traitors are either shot or imprisoned. I wonder which Robert Kennedy has in mind for the skeptics.

University of Oregon's George Taylor holds the title of state climatologist. Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski wants to take that title from Taylor. The governor said Taylor's skepticism interferes with Oregon's stated goals to reduce greenhouse gases, the accepted cause of global warming in the eyes of a vast majority of scientists.

Earlier this year, the Weather Channel's Dr. Heidi Cullen called for the decertification of weathermen who were skeptical of manmade global warming. Grist Magazine's staff writer David Roberts said that his solution for the "bastards" who were members of what he termed the global warming "denial industry" is, "When we've finally gotten serious about global warming, when the impacts are really hitting us and we're in a full worldwide scramble to minimize the damage, we should have war crimes trials for these bastards — some sort of climate Nuremberg."

"Global warming driven by greenhouse gas pollution (but ultimately by greed, racism and lying) is killing our Planet," says an article in Media With Conscience. It goes on to say, "Our Planet, the Earth — is under acute threat from Climate Criminals threatening the Third World with Climate

Genocide and the Biosphere with Terracide (the killing of our Planet)." Sen. Inhofe maintains a Web site citing these and other many examples of attacks on skeptics of manmade global warming. (http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.Blogs&ContentRecord_id=04373015-802a-23ad-4bf9-c3f02278f4cf)

This kind of suppression of different ideas and dissent is simply the tip of a much larger iceberg that has many of its roots on today's college campuses. Suppression of ideas is far more dangerous to our civilization than man-made global warming — real or imagined.

Given the horrible history of brutal attempts to silence people who have different ideas or dissent from the conventional wisdom, those of us in the academic and scientific communities ought to openly repudiate and condemn the efforts to silence global warming skeptics. This is particularly so in light of the mounting evidence that manmade CO2 emissions have little or nothing to do with climate change. (See http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=c5e16731-3c64-481c-9a36-d702baea2a42)

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email: editor@thepampanews.com

Publisher: Sean Smith
Editor: Dennis Spies
Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods
Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

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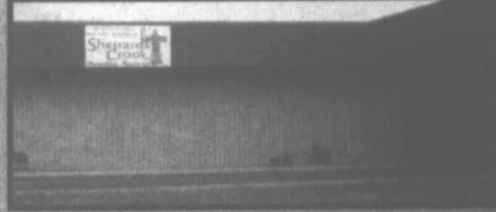
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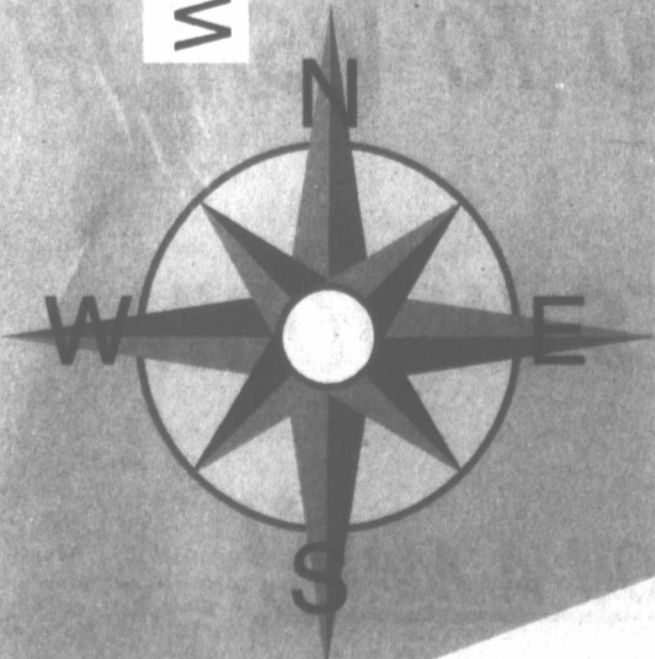
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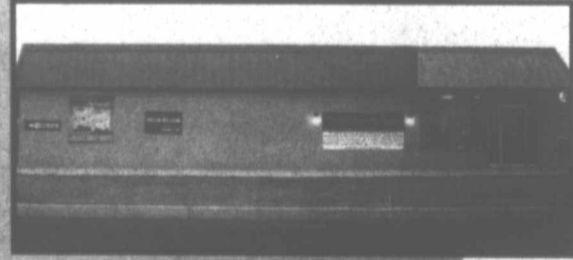
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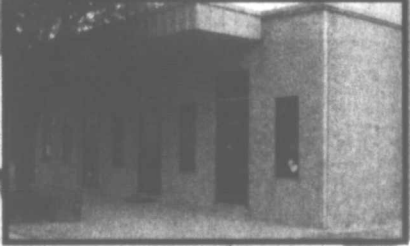
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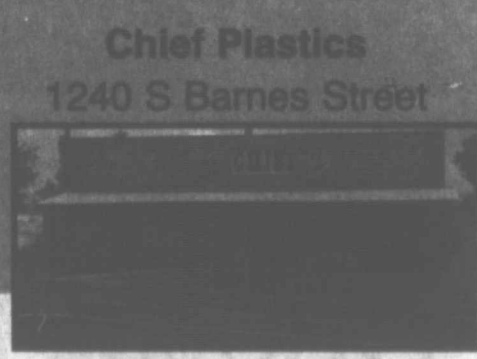
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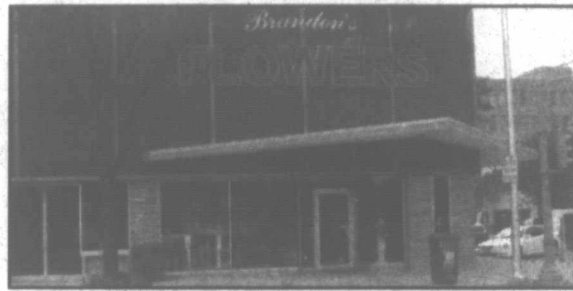


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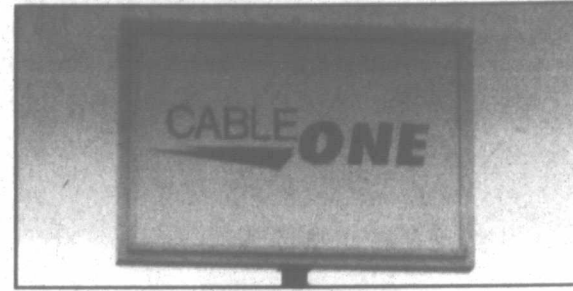
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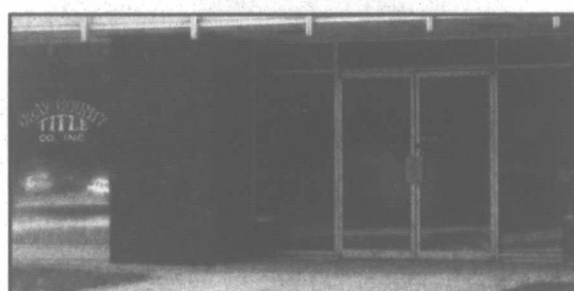
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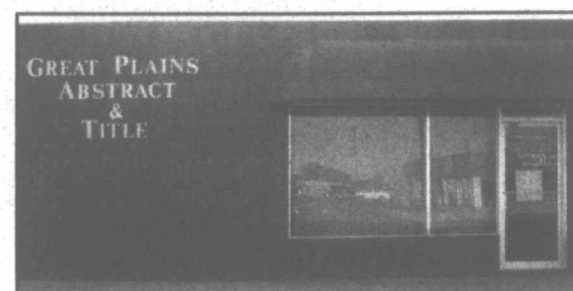
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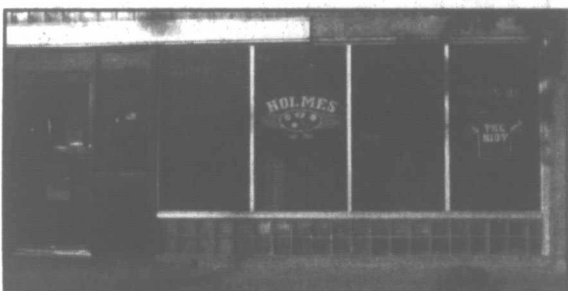
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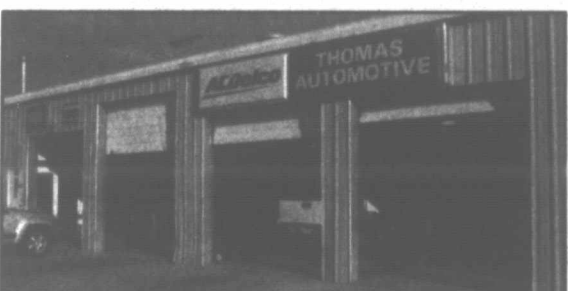
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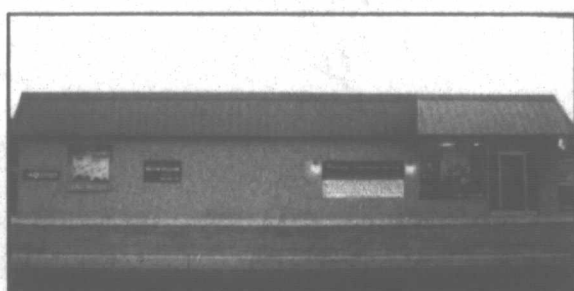
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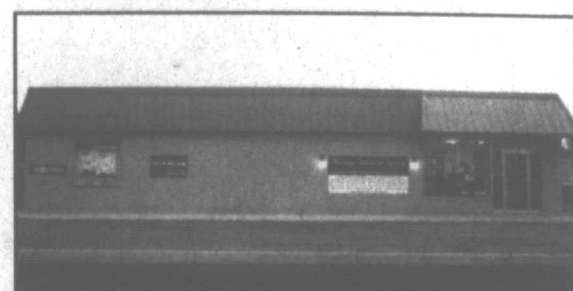
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BUSINESS REVIEW

Above the Clouds HAIR • NAILS • TANNING

Above the Clouds, located at 1405 N. Banks, is a full-service hair salon owned by Cel and Alan Cloud since 2001. It is open Tuesday through Saturday.

Customers can visit Above the Clouds and get their hair styled, their nails done, pamper themselves with a pedicure or catch up on their tanning.

"We offer a full-service nail salon that has recently been remodeled," said Cel. "We have a clean, friendly, non-smoking environment. The staff is available to accommodate customers old or new at their convenience."

Above the Clouds has two nail techs and five hair stylists. Nail techs are Angie Odell and Teresa Peters. Heather Douglas, Rachel Soto, Vicky Halliburton, Edwina Shouse and Ashli Poor Evans work as hair stylists.

Douglas manages Above the Clouds. She has worked in Pampa for 14 years as a licensed beautician.

Cel and Alan Cloud are both natives of Pampa. Cel has been employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 27 years as a program technician.

Alan is the vice president of D.E. Rice Construction located in Borger. He has been employed with the construction company for 17 years.

The couple originally rented the Above the Clouds starting in 1999 and purchased it in 2001.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am an avid Dear Abby reader, but I must question your answer to "Drippy's Wife" (June 4). She was frustrated by her husband's lack of motivation in repairing the leaky faucets around the house. Why didn't you tell her to get up and do it herself? If she doesn't know how, she can learn. Now I have to admit that as the "man around the house," I enjoy showing off my masculine ability to replace leaky faucets, unclog the drains, etc. But in those rare moments of glaring honesty, I face the fact that my wife would be just as capable as I am, if not more so, in doing all those "manly" chores. If something needs to be done, just do it. What's the worst that can happen? If the house gets flooded, at least the floor has been washed. — **MAN AROUND THE HOUSE IN TEXAS**

DEAR MAN AROUND THE HOUSE: Many readers agreed with you. They, too, felt "Drippy's Wife" should take the wrench by the handle and fix the leaky faucet herself. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I got the distinct impression that "Drippy's Wife" was more upset that her husband didn't do projects she decided were "HIS" than bothered by the leaking faucets. If she did a little research, she would find that changing a washer is fast, cheap and easy -- especially since her husband "has all the new tools." Plumbing may not be as much fun as whining, but surely, ending a source of marital conflict is worth 10 minutes and less than a dollar per faucet. Home maintenance isn't just for men. I was widowed unexpectedly and very young, and I took responsibility for my home. I have given myself the option of doing things myself or discussing them intelligently with a contractor (and spotting a con man in a hurry). — **C.H. IN ACWORTH, GA.**

DEAR ABBY: Honey, have you never heard the old saying, "If you want the job done right, do it yourself"? My husband is

also a procrastinator. I have found if I start working on HIS project and yell, "Oh, damn!" he comes running to see what is wrong. Then I say, "I am just trying to fix the thing." Invariably, he says, "Move over and let me do it." It works every time. Why spend money on getting something repaired if you know your husband knows how to fix it? This is called reverse psychology. It works with husbands and children every time. Try it. — **DEMORA IN RICHMOND**

DEAR ABBY: No amount of begging or nagging would get my husband to repair the leaky faucet in our bathroom. So I had an inspiration. I placed a measuring cup under the faucet, timed how long it took to get a cup (8 ounces), multiplied that by the minutes in a day, times 30 days in a month, etc. Well, you get the picture. When I told my husband how many gallons of water had dripped down the drain each month and how it equaled into dollars and cents down the drain, he got the drip fixed pronto. If it doesn't work for "Drippy's Wife," maybe the plumber's estimate will do the trick. — **DRIPLESS IN TEXAS**

DEAR ABBY: Not having read Monday's paper, I was confused when two of my children and a good friend called me at work to ask if I had written a letter to Dear Abby. That night, after reading your column I laughed so hard, I nearly cried! "Drippy's Wife" is living my life with two exceptions. Her husband takes her to home improvement shows and has plans of someday doing a project. My "handyman" watches do-it-yourself programs every Saturday, and imagines he has done and finished every project he has seen on TV. The only thing my "Gary" has finished in 37 years is the food on his dinner plate. — **STILL LAUGHING IN MENTOR, OHIO**

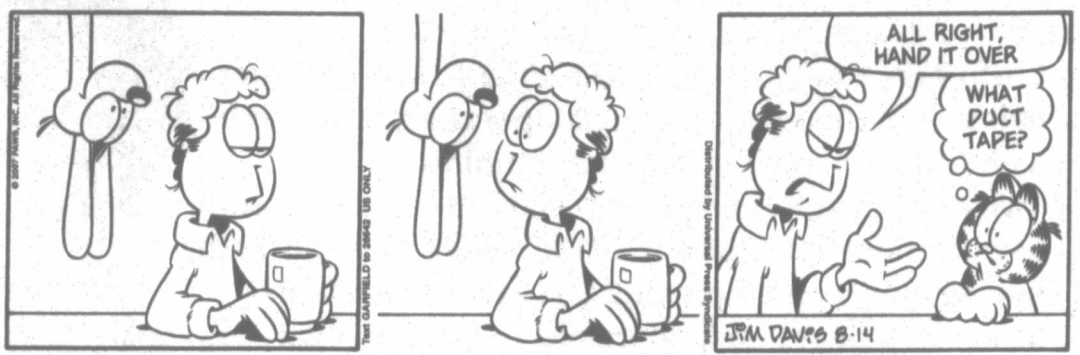
For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

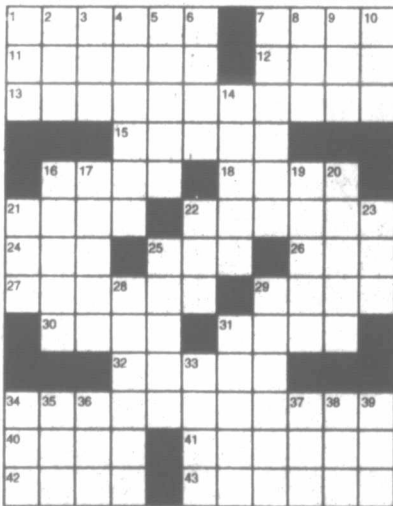
- 1 Canine-related
- 7 Noted surrealist
- 11 White rat, e.g.
- 12 Composer Satie
- 13 Morning pick-me-up
- 15 Oscar winner for "A Fish Called Wanda"
- 16 Merriment
- 18 Lofty
- 21 Ring match
- 22 Cookout spots
- 24 List-ending abbr.
- 25 Beat walker
- 26 Cave flier
- 27 Calm
- 29 Base group
- 30 Pleasant
- 31 Overcast
- 32 One of Chekhov's "Three Sisters"
- 34 It features grim humor
- 40 Bakery buy
- 41 Estevez of "Young Guns"
- 42 Fit
- 43 Quit

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Yesterday's answer

- 1 Wee dollop
- 2 Pipe angle
- 3 Court org.
- 4 Speeder's reward
- 5 Sock spot
- 6 Places
- 7 Conquer
- 8 Pound sound
- 9 Tell tales
- 10 Likable candidate
- 14 Like bar beer
- 16 Boarded
- 17 TV's Susan
- 19 Stellar
- 20 Like rich soil
- 21 Sleep spot
- 22 "The Raven" writer
- 23 Hog home in tennis
- 25 Store worker
- 28 Eaves dropper
- 29 Friend of Porthos
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- 35 High hit, in tennis
- 36 The whole amount
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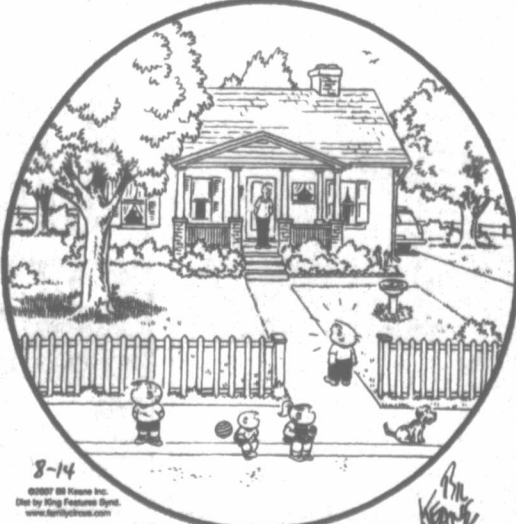
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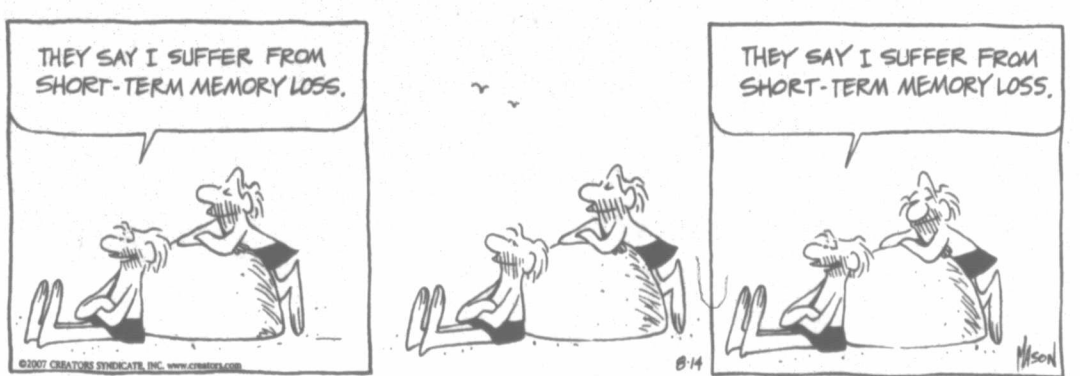
The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

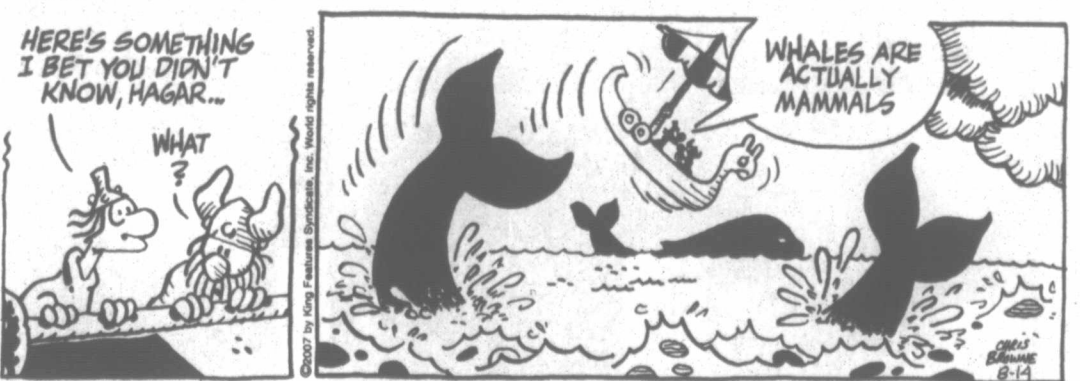
By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



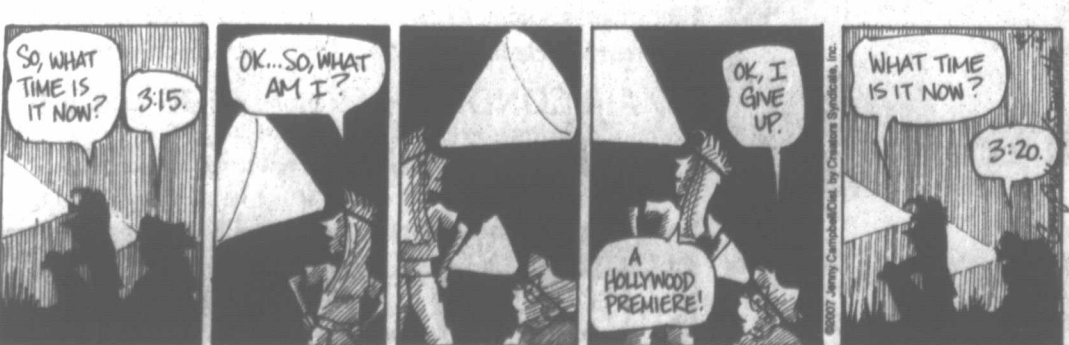
Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

Baseball and softball booster club meeting

Baseball and softball will be having their first booster club meeting to kick off the new school year.

They will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Pampa Optimist Youth Club.

Please try to attend as they will be electing new officers and discussing fund-raisers for the upcoming season.

Everyone interested in supporting the baseball and softball program are encouraged to attend.

Pampa ISD Athletic Department reminders

Pampa ISD Retirees that want to attend Pampa ISD athletic events for free (general admission) need to contact Pampa ISD Administration at 669-4700 to schedule an appointment for your ID badge.

Senior citizens and students may purchase Varsity Football general admission tickets for \$2 in the Pampa

ISD Athletic Building; if purchased before 2 p.m. on game day. All Varsity Football tickets purchased at the gate are \$6.

Reserved season tickets will be open to the public at 10 a.m. Monday.

Current season ticket holders may purchase their 2007 tickets through Friday at noon.

Doubles practice



Sammi Finney (back) hits from the baseline as doubles partner Alyssa Hoelting takes control of the net during tennis practice last week. Courtesy photo

Bonds gets cheered in possible final visit to Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH (AP) — For one night, all was forgiveness between Barry Bonds and Pittsburgh. The lack of clutch hitting during three playoff series failures. The throw that didn't get Sid Bream. The shouting match with Jim Leyland.

As a few cheer-filled hours Monday nearly made up for 15 years of constant jeering, Barry Bonds was Pittsburgh's own again. They greeted him more warmly than they did their own players, displayed signs in his honor and gave him multiple standing ovations.

The way baseball's new home run king was greeted in the city that once booed him like no other — where were all those "Barr-ee! Barr-ee!" chants of the past — it almost seemed as if he were a Pirates player again. Almost.

"That goes to show you Pittsburgh people, they understand the game,"

Bonds said in his first road appearance since breaking Hank Aaron's cherished home run record a week ago. "They were always great to me when I was here. When I was here, we never got booed. We brought a lot of excitement and they appreciated that."

He brought that excitement again, even if he was limited to a single in three at-bats in the opener of a Giants-Pirates doubleheader split. The crowd of 25,434 wasn't close to being a sell-out, but was far more than the Pirates normally would get for a Monday night makeup twinbill that wasn't listed on their original schedule.

"He got a really nice hand, and I'm glad," said Paul Maholm, who beat the Giants 3-1 on a three-hitter in the opener. "He deserved it. He's had a great career and it all started here for him. It was a great thrill just

pitching to him because I grew up watching him just like everybody else. It was kind of cool to get him out a couple of times."

Bonds said it was cool to be back in Pittsburgh, too, for what might have been the final time since he broke in with the Pirates 21 years ago. The Giants are likely to go young after this season, and the 43-year-old Bonds may have to be a designated hitter AL next year to get his at-bats.

"I don't know, could be," Bonds said when asked if this might be his final stop in Pittsburgh. "I'll wait and see."

In the only other NL game, the Astros beat the Dodgers 4-1 in Los Angeles.

Becoming baseball's career home run record holder didn't completely win over the Pirates' fans — there were a few boos during every plate appearance — but it was by far the warmest

response he's gotten since leaving after the 1992 season.

The last moment Bonds spent with the Pirates, his throw home that didn't get the slow-footed Bream and allowed Atlanta to beat the Pirates 3-2 in Game 7 of the 1992 NLCS, has remained in the memory banks of countless Pirates fans. So did his .191 average in 68 playoff at-bats from 1990-92, and those three lone postseason extra-base hits.

Those 758 homers he's hit during the regular season aren't as important to many Pittsburghers as the one single playoff homer he hit for the Pirates.

It was those failings, and not the much-later allegations involving performance-enhancing drugs and the BALCO lab, that turned Pittsburgh against him. The fans even tolerated his 1991 spring training blowup with Leyland, the manager he

now respects above all others.

But the Pirates haven't had a winning season since Bonds left — they are 14 losses away from a 15th consecutive losing season, one short of the record. Now, those days with Bonds patrolling left field in Three Rivers Stadium are being remembered more fondly.

"It was nice, it was great, I was happy," Bonds said of the warm welcome. "After all the years you played here and you come back and get that kind of welcome, it's nice."

Bonds also dropped a bit of news during his brief stay in town. After previously saying he intended to play in 2008 and beyond, he now seems convinced next season will be his last.

"(Playing) after next year? I don't know. I don't think so," Bonds said. "I don't think so. I don't think two years I can make."

So, if this was goodbye to Pittsburgh, at least it was a pleasant one.

"When you're an opposing player, they're supposed to get on you," said Bonds, who sat out the second game. "That's what gives you that drive to play, when it seems the odds are against you."

While Bonds' potential farewell was memorable, the doubleheader wasn't. After Bonds was held to a single as the Giants lost the opener, they beat the Pirates for the first time in five games over four days in two cities, winning 10-3 behind Noah Lowry (13-7), Ryan Klesko's grand slam and Rajai Davis' hitting and fielding.

Davis had two of his three doubles for the day in the second game. He also made an exceptional sprawling catch of Freddy Sanchez's drive to deep left-center with the scored tied at 1 in the fifth.

Oswalt wins fifth straight decision as Houston beats LA Dodgers 4-1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Scuffing around on the road like the Houston Astros? Then Roy Oswalt is your man.

Jason Lane hit a two-run homer, Oswalt won his fifth consecutive decision and the Houston Astros sent the slumping Los Angeles Dodgers to their ninth loss in 11 games with a 4-1 victory Monday night.

Oswalt (13-6) gave up a run and six hits in eight innings with two walks and three strikeouts. The right-hander hasn't allowed more than one run in any start during his winning streak.

"It feels great, especially when you know you can make a quality pitch when you need it," Oswalt said. "The more you pitch, the more you learn to try to keep the pitch count down, not try to strike out too many guys and get double plays when you can."

Thanks to their ace, the Astros improved to 2-9 against NL West teams on the road.

"You've got to have somebody that puts an end to your bad times and keeps your good times going, and Roy's the guy you can count on to do that all the time," Houston manager Phil Garner said. "He threw strikes, was aggressive and went after them."

Chad Qualls pitched a perfect ninth for his third save in six chances.

Chad Billingsley (7-4) allowed four runs and six hits, struck out seven and walked four in losing his fourth consecutive outing.

"It was a battle," he said. "Just got runners on and my mechanics started rushing and I found myself getting behind hitters more often. When things start going quickly, I start rushing and find myself getting in trouble and just barely missing, instead of just trusting my ability."

The Dodgers opened the four-game series against Houston with their third loss in a row. They have dropped seven consecutive series while falling out of first place in the NL West over the last two weeks.

Juan Pierre was the only Dodger with any success against Oswalt, going 3-for-4.

"He's a bulldog," Pierre said. "We hit a couple balls hard right at guys. When you're struggling as a team and you got a guy like that on the mound, the ball seems to find their glove."

The Astros extended their lead to 4-0 with three runs in the fifth. Luke Scott had an RBI single, followed by Lane's two-run shot into the left-field pavilion on a 1-1

count from Billingsley.

"I was frustrated with leaving some guys out there my first two at-bats, but I was able to make an adjustment," Lane said. "I feel like I'm having good at-bats and I'm always confident that I can get a big hit, and it's worked out a few times."

The Dodgers avoided the shutout on Rafael Furcal's sacrifice fly in the fifth.

Houston led 1-0 in the fourth on Chris Burke's RBI groundout.

Dodgers third baseman Nomar Garciaparra got ejected for the first time in his 12-year career in the bottom of the inning for arguing a called third strike by umpire Tom Hallion.

"There's a first time for everything," Garciaparra said. "I thought the ball might have fallen off the plate. We argued and had a disagreement. I was respectful to him and he was respectful to me."

Los Angeles manager Grady Little came on the field to talk to Hallion, while first base coach Mariano Duncan wrapped his arms around Garciaparra and attempted to lead him back toward the dugout.

Garciaparra continued shouting and pointed his bat at Hallion while taking a few steps toward the umpire, who then tossed him.

Mariners' Richie Sexson hits walkoff homer in 4-3 win over slumping Twins

By The Associated Press

For at least one at-bat, Richie Sexson stopped Seattle fans from booing him.

The slugger, hitting under .200 for much of the year, hit Matt Guerrier's second pitch of the ninth inning over the left-center field fence to lift the Mariners to a dramatic, 4-3 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Monday night.

The fans cheered Sexson as he rounded the bases, and his teammates mobbed him at home plate as the Mariners won for the sixth time in seven games, to stay one percentage point ahead of the New York Yankees in the wild card standings. Seattle inched to within three games of the idle Los Angeles Angels atop the AL West.

Sexson was glad to hear the cheers, but hasn't enjoyed how the fans have reacted to him this year because of his struggles. Even after a two-run double to start his return home, he still heard boos.

"With three or four years of not winning here, it's kind of strange that we're winning and they're booing," Sexson said. "Guess that's not how Seattle rolls."

Don't get him wrong, he understands he's been in a season-long funk.

"Nothing against them. I dug my own grave with the fans," said Sexson.

In other AL games, it was Boston 3, Tampa Bay 0; New York 7, Baltimore 6; Oakland 7, Detroit 2; and Kansas City 6, Toronto 2.

Johan Santana allowed three runs and seven hits in seven innings but Minnesota still lost its fifth consecutive game. It was the 10th time this season the reigning AL Cy Young Award winner has gotten a no-decision despite allowing three earned runs or less.

The Twins are two games under .500 for the first time since June 9.

"We're trying too hard," manager Ron Gardenhire said. "Kind of the same old

story."

Minnesota produced three runs or less for the 11th time in 12 games.

Felix Hernandez, pitching against the Twins for the first time since he strained a forearm against them April 18 and then spent almost a month on the disabled list, was poised for his third consecutive win after allowing four hits and one run on 110 pitches in six innings. But John Parrish, acquired last week from Baltimore, walked Jason Tyner and allowed a single by Nick Punto to begin the seventh.

After a sacrifice bunt, Jason Bartlett hit an RBI groundout to make it 3-2 against Sean Greep, and Joe Mauer followed with a fly ball near the left-field line. Heralded prospect Adam Jones ran far from left-center but had the ball carom off his glove for a double. Nick Punto scored to tie the game on Mauer's third hit while Jones banged his right knee into the stands and then fell in among the fans.

At the net



Courtesy photo
Coach Brittany Stark (back) works with Kevin Frels (left) and Bryce Hendricks on a volleying drill last week at tennis practice.



Courtesy photo
Myles Foreman (front, right) and James Vaid play on the other end of the volleying drill as teammates from behind wait in line.

Noose tightens around Vick at amazing speed

By **TIM DAHLBERG**
AP Sports Columnist

Right about now, Michael Vick would probably gladly trade a year or two out of football for a chance to rid himself of dogfighting charges. He was never going to play this season anyway, not if Roger Goodell, Arthur Blank and thousands of animal rights activists had anything to say about it.

The question now becomes whether Vick will ever play in the NFL again, and even the bravest Las Vegas bookie wouldn't offer odds on that happening.

Hard to imagine Blank or any other NFL owner would be willing to hire a quarterback who is now the poster child for animal abusers everywhere. It's even harder to imagine how the home fans would feel about an alleged puppy killer leading their offense.

Not that it much matters anymore. Because Vick has a lot more to worry about than whether he'll ever play for money on a Sunday again.

Finding a way to stay out of prison is now his No. 1 concern.

The news that two more of his co-defendants will go to court this week to enter plea bargains in the dogfighting case that ensnared Vick is the worst news yet for the man who allegedly not only financed "Bad Newz Kennels" but was actively involved in disposing of dogs who were unfortunate enough not to be major championship material.

It wasn't even a month ago that Vick and three others were indicted on charges they ran a dog fighting ring. Now he stands alone, his three co-defendants now seemingly more than eager to tell all to get their own sentences reduced.

His lawyers still talk bravely about a Nov. 26 trial. But the noose is tightening, just as it did around the necks of some dogs who never had a chance.

The New York Times quoted a source Tuesday as saying Vick's attorneys have been given a few more days to decide whether he should enter a guilty plea. They're playing hardball because if Vick doesn't agree, he could face even more charges in a

superseding indictment the government says it plans to bring in the case later this month.

That indictment would likely include even more gory details, though it's hard to imagine much worse than the stomach-turning tales of blood and death in the initial charges.

Vick got rich by making tacklers miss him. But, even with expensive attorneys at his side, it's hard to see how he's going to escape from the government's grasp.

He's basically left with two choices, neither of them very appetizing: Plead guilty and hope for less than the five years in the prison he could get, or go to trial, listen to his former buddies tell all, and risk even more prison time.

He might have been willing to take his chances at trial against the testimony of one of his co-defendants. But now all three can be expected to occupy the witness stand if Vick goes ahead with a trial.

And to think that only a few months ago all Vick had to worry about was a funny-smelling water bottle at the airport and a few one-fingered salutes to fans.

The case against Vick has, in fact, moved with amazing quickness. It was just in April that investigators were searching the Virginia estate he owned where the dog fighting operation was allegedly headquartered, and just a month ago that he was indicted.

Now all of his co-defendants are making deals, tongues are beginning to wag, and prison cells are being prepared.

There's little doubt the feds are making an example out of Vick to send a message that they have little tolerance with an activity that is still reportedly popular in certain rural areas of the south and in the hip hop culture. He's not the first athlete to face charges associated with dog fighting — the NBA's Qyntel Woods pleaded guilty in January 2005 to animal abuse and former NFL player LeShon Johnson has faced charges — but he is certainly the highest profile.

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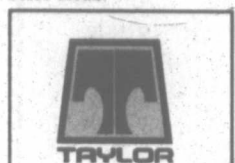
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CROSSROADS MARKET & DELI Morning & evening shifts avail. Clerks & Cooks needed. Competitive wages. Gas mileage allowance. Good atmosphere! Apply in person: 101 Commercial St Miami, Tx. 868-3221



TAYLOR Food Mart is now hiring CSR'S, Asst. Managers, Manger Trainees at all Pampa locations. Please contact 806-379-9000, or apply at 1324 N. Hobart or online at: taylorfoodmart.com

Attend our on site job fair, on Aug. 17th from 10-2pm, 11818 Hwy 60.

21 Help Wanted

FULL Time Crime Victim Coordinator position avail. Working knowledge of computer programs and grant-writing required; travel involved; multi-tasking, heavy report writing, coordinating and scheduling abilities a must; legal knowledge and bi-lingual a plus. Fax resumes to 669-8050.

FULL Time RN or Weekend RN and Full-Time LVN needed at Parkview Hospital Home Health, in Wheeler. Please call 826-1370 or come by 306 E. 9th St. for an application.

WAREHOUSE/DELIVERY Person Needed. Drivers License Required. Apply in Person. Johnson Home Furnishing, 801 W Francis.

OUTREACH Health Services is hiring providers to care for the elderly and disabled in their homes in the Pampa area. Must be 18+. No exp. necessary. Please contact Mary at 800-800-0697 or 806-373-0986. EOE.

21 Help Wanted

DOMINO'S PIZZA now hiring!! Delivery drivers positions avail. Apply at 1332 N. Hobart.

CASHIER needed 30-35 hrs. per week, off on Sundays. Apply in person, Hoagies Deli, Coronado Shopping Center, Pampa.



Needed - a well organized person; very comfortable using various computer programs; able to multi-task as they respond to and process data within time constraints. Pre-employment general physical exam and drug screen required. EOE.

Contact Titan P.O. Box 2316 11785 Hwy. 152 Pampa, Texas 79065 hr@titanspecialties.com

21 Help Wanted

MEDICAL MANAGER Mid-size medical office is seeking a front desk / schedule manager. A minimum of 1 year relevant exp. req. Insurance exp. a plus. Fax confidential resume with salary and benefits history to 806-669-6688. Introductory cover letters are appreciated.

NEEDED Immediately!! Part time nanny for 10 month old. Background check & references req'd. 669-3187 or 683-9554

SUBSCRIBE TO THE PAMPA NEWS! CALL 669-2525 TODAY

49 Pools/Hot Tubs
HOT TUB
Gorgeous. Brand New. Seats 6. Lounger. Therapeutic Jets. Waterfall. Lifetime Factory War. Free Cover & Chemicals! \$4,500. 806-677-0400

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

53 Machinery/Tools
WANTED Old Oil Engine, possibly still sitting in pump house (hit-miss). 10 hp & up. Must be complete. Portable engine on cart a +. Rusty or piston stuck ok! 848-992-1764.

60 Household
AUGUST SPECIAL All Pillow-Top Mattress Sets in stock 15% off, 15 to 20 yr. War. Starting @ \$189. Layaways avail. w/ no interest! 806-677-0400

69 Misc.
SOFIA sleeper & love seat for sale. End tables, etc. 1919 N. Faulkner. Call 676-9977 or 676-7844.

MEMORY Gardens of Pampa, Garden Devotion Section C, Lot #230, Spaces 6, 7, 8., Call 665-7489.

80 Pets & Suppl.

FREE Puppies-all males, to good homes. Please call 835-2805 or 595-0205.

95 Furn. Apts.

EFF. apts. & rooms \$150 a week and up. Apts., trailers, mobile homes & houses all furnished. Cable TV, phone, linens, maid service daily or weekly. 669-3221.

RANCH House under New Management. Daily & weekly rates. Dble. & single rooms avail. Refrig., microw., cable & internet. 669-1616.

96 Unfurn. Apts.
LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call for availability. References & deposit req. 669-4386

NUMEROUS Houses, Apts., Duplexes & Commercial properties thru-out Pampa for rent. Call 665-4274 or 665-1875.

70 Musical
BUNDY Alto Sax & case for sale. Only used 2 years, still in excellent condition, new pads. Call 883-3041 for more info.

75 Feeds/Seeds
SWATHING & Baling. Also looking for hay on the halves. Call 806-883-2152

80 Pets & Suppl.
BLUE FRONTED AMAZON PARROT (prefers men) 5 yrs. old with cage, \$500 Call 669-2828

97 Furn. Houses
WATERFRONT Lake Greenbelt, 3/3/3. Lrg. elegant br. home, w/ private dock. Built by JC Daniels, close to golf course. Serious inq. only. Lease \$9500 mo. 806-353-8429.

98 Unfurn. Houses

CONDO. 3 bdr., 1 1/2 bath, washer / dryer hook-up, fpl., swimming pool. 1143 E. Harvester. 665-3788 or 665-6936. Avail. Aug. 15, 2007.

CUTE 2 Bedroom House For Rent. Security deposit required. References required. 610-929-1761

NICE 2 bedroom house, 1312 Garland. \$450 mo., \$400 dep. Call 665-1976.

99 Stor. Bldgs.
TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.
OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823.

4,000 sq. ft. on N. Hobart office or retail space for lease, best location. Will build out to suit tenant. 2218 N. Hobart. For information, call 467-9600.

103 Homes For Sale
Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

2123 Beech. Beautiful brick home! 2 bedroom, 1-3/4 baths, central air & heat, garage. Great shop w/ carport, stellar corm in fenced yard. For appt. call 806-874-3290, 670-7564

3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, unfurn. Approx. 2100 sq. ft. 2228 Mary Ellen. Call 665-4475, 806-282-1840, 663-0482.

817 S. Texas, White Deer. 3 bdr., 1 1/4 ba., white brick. Cent. h/a, single car garage. Fenced back yard. 806-883-6511, 898-6946

HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

Investor Special! 1432 Hamilton 3 bdr., 1 ba. c. heat w/ ref. air Newly Remodeled \$29,000 No Owner Finance 440-1698

103 Homes For Sale

FIXER Upper w/ garage on corner lot. 852 E. Craven. \$5200. Call 669-3498 or 663-9338.

LEASE with option to buy. 3/1/1. Totally updated and super nice!! 2127 Nelson. \$58,900. 665-5667.

OWNER FINANCE Low Down & Low Monthly Payment

1012 Duncan 3 bdr., 1 ba.

1333 Garland 2 bdr., 1 ba. Habla Espanol Call Joe 806-336-1740

ROD DONALDSON AGENT 663-2800 Quentin Williams Realtors 669-2522

Hwy. 60 East 2-1 Acre Lots MLS 05-7161

6 Acres New Price! \$50,000 OE

Old Movie Theater 10,500 sq. ft. MLS 07-7683

1112 S. Nelson 2 bdr. 1056 sq. ft. \$15,000 OE

Your Listing Could Be Here!! Anyone can sell you a home! Let me find you a home!!

112 Farms/Ranches
Live Water on Lake Creek 467 acres in Donley County, near Lelia Lake or 8 miles E. Of Clarendon. Big trees, beautiful scenery, deer, turkey, quail, fishing ponds. New fence, barns and corrals. Must see to appreciate. Day or night: 806-676-6503; 806-248-7224; 806-204-0059; or 806-662-2511.

113 RV Parks
RED DEER VILLA RV RANCH by day, wk, mo. 2100 Montagu W. Lrg. lots-must see. 669-1122

114 Recre. Veh.
1991 40 ft. Bouncer Class A Motorhome. Washer, dryer, full ba. Walk around qu. bed. All the comforts of home! Runs great. \$13,000 or best offer. 669-2585.

FOR sale: 1999 Cardinal 5th Wheel Trailer. Excellent condition, has double slide. Asking \$14,200. 662-6163.

115 Trailer Parks
TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

116 Mobile Homes
14'X70' 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. With or without the lot. 1105 S. Wells. Call 662-7557.

118 Trailers
TANDAM AXLE Car Hauling Trailer new tires, bull dog hitch \$1400. Call 665-0379

120 Autos
2000 Honda Civic V-Tach engine-good sch. car. 1997 Nissan Maxima SE, V6, 4 dr. 665-1669, 665-3006

2000 Saturn SL2. Good clean car. 105,000 miles. Good gas mileage. Good school car! \$4000. Call 886-8449, 665-2245.

1974 Mercedes. Gas engine. Runs smooth w/ good tires. 1919 N. Faulkner, 676-9977, 676-7844

121 Trucks
2006 F-350 Ex-Cab power stroke 4x4. 22,000 miles, towing package, chrome package. 806-255-0136.

1995 Chev. K1500 4x4-in Miami. Great condition! \$6150. Would make great hunting vehicle. Call 662-0723 or 868-4504.

FOR Sale: 2002 Black LS Chevy Trailblazer, 4x4, loaded! \$10,000. Call 665-0379 for more information.

FOR Sale: 1979 Ford pickup, single cab, long wide bed. V-8. \$1,000. Call 665-0379 for more information.

1996 GMC w/ cover. Only 12,000 mi. Must see. Very clean! Call 669-3976, 806-674-4805.

122 Motorcycles
2005 Yamaha V-Star Classic 1100, in Miami. Not even broke in good! Only 1200 miles. \$7850. Call 662-0723, 868-4504.

2005 Honda Rebel 2,800 miles. Bought for kids but they won't ride it. Like new!! \$2,500. Call 883-3041 for more info.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2007:

You make a difference this year. Demonstrate your strength and commitment with a willingness to grow and let go of what is no longer working. You pioneer a new area in your life. In many ways you might serve as a role model. Communicate your intentions. Let others know how you feel about them. If you are single, you are blazing a new trail and are likely to meet very different people. Learn and grow as your "type" changes. Through 2007, romance can appear easily. If you are attached, commit to a common hobby or interest after the New Year. VIRGO can push your buttons.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Your willingness to transform and revisit situations and issues defines the quality of your day, if not weeks and months. If you resist, much will seem too difficult. Process and walk forward; you will have reason to smile. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ What doesn't resolve itself will become a challenge. You have fun working with a special or respected individual. Through you might need to relinquish a comfortable role to achieve results, it will be worthwhile. Tonight: Choose a favorite person and a favorite happening.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You could be hard-pressed to stand up to or challenge someone. The smart, long-term successful action would be to pull back and make decisions from

this spot. Check out an investment designed to make you feel more secure. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ You are able to move in a new direction. Realize what you want but also what it will take to make your desires so. Listen to your inner voice. Make sure you get what you want. Think positively. Tonight: Hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Your possessive streak points you in a new direction. Learn to let go of a need to control through feeling more secure. This process won't happen overnight, but taking the first step is smart. Listen to your inner voice. Tonight: Treat yourself!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Though you might sense some tension, you are on top of your game. Focus on a personal or domestic matter with an eye to growth and change. Be the initiator. You can be sure that in this case it is easier to be the leader rather than the follower. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Stepping back might feel more comfortable and is definitely the correct approach. Understanding points you in a new direction. Think, reflect and plan, but don't act. The timing might not be right just yet. Tonight: Do a vanishing act.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Friendship plays a substantial role in what occurs in the next few days. You might not be able to have everything as you would like, but teamwork might be more important. Expenses could be out of whack. Tonight: Only where people are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ You might be far more challenging than you realize. Some people might actually back off or pull away. Understanding others' limits could be essential. A harsh reaction from someone might have merit. Hold up a mirror. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ You ponder your choices more carefully than in the past. The decision you made yesterday might not work today. Update your thinking, understanding that everyone and every situation changes. Tonight: Think of a getaway, if only for a few hours.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Let a trusted associate or partner take the lead. What might have felt OK before could be close to overwhelming now. Be willing to revamp your goals, keeping them practical. Getting halfway there is better than not getting there at all. Tonight: A close encounter.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision, as a partner or several friends could be in your face about your choices. Knowing when enough is enough could be more critical than you realize. Be willing to take a stand. Tonight: Listen to what others would like, then decide.

BORN TODAY
Composer Jimmy Webb (1946), chef Julia Child (1912), actor Ben Affleck (1972)

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

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THE TRUCK THAT'S CHANGING IT ALL.

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CLASSIFIED LINE AD DEADLINES

DAY OF INSERTION
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SUNDAY

DEADLINE
FRI. 4PM
MON. 4PM
TUES. 4PM
WED. 4PM
THUR. 4PM
FRI. NOON

(If there is a HOLIDAY, deadlines WILL CHANGE for classified lineads and city briefs)

CITY BRIEF DEADLINE
WEEK DAYS 10 AM. day of publication
EXCEPTIONS: SUNDAY FRIDAY 12 NOON

AXYDLBAAXR 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.

8-14 CRYPTOQUOTE

YUWZH PC FYO UDO YUWZH

PC WAVY AV U VMWY VAXD

PIUP HCM OCD'P QUWY TCW

PYZYEA VACD. — UDCDHBCMV

Yesterday's Cryptquote: ASK NOT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY, FOR THEY ARE LIABLE TO TELL YOU. — MARK STEINBECK

Smithfield Premium Genetics Group

Put Your Ambition to Work!

SPG, the genetic supplier to the world's largest producer of pork, is actively looking for ambitious, career oriented people to add to our ever-growing workforce.

- Dayshifts only
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Opportunities for both production personnel and CDI drivers. Interested candidates should apply in person at 13051 Hwy 60 or call 806-663-7670, 8am-4pm., M-F

EOE, drug screen & physical required

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CHEVROLET SILVERADO & GMC SIERRA***

**NEW 2007 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
EXT CAB • 2WD**



MSRP\$28,855
C/S DISC\$1,667
REBATE\$3,000
BONUS CASH ..\$1,000
SELL PRICE
\$23,188

STK#C07027

**NEW 2007 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
CREW CAB • 4WD**



MSRP\$36,029
C/S DISC\$2,358
REBATE\$3,500
SELL PRICE
\$30,171

STK#C07179

**NEW 2007 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
CREW CAB • 2WD**



MSRP\$28,620
C/S DISC\$1,707
REBATE\$3,500
SELL PRICE
\$23,413

STK#C07156

**NEW 2007 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER
4WD**



MSRP\$29,000
C/S DISC\$1,388
REBATE\$4,000
SELL PRICE
\$23,612

STK#C06270

SUMMER SALE DOWN

ENDS SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

**NEW 2007 CHEVROLET TAHOE
LS • 2WD**



MSRP\$35,565
C/S DISC\$2,159
REBATE\$2,000
SELL PRICE
\$31,406

STK#C07171

**NEW 2007 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN
LT • 4WD • SPECIAL EDITION PACKAGE**



MSRP\$44,680
C/S DISC\$3,068
REBATE\$2,000
SELL PRICE
\$39,612

STK#C07057


**NEW 2007 GMC SIERRA 1500
EXT CAB • 4WD**



MSRP\$34,924
C/S DISC\$2,300
REBATE\$3,000
BONUS CASH ..\$1,000
SELL PRICE
\$28,624

STK#G07004

**NEW 2007 GMC SIERRA 1500
CREW CAB • 2WD**



MSRP\$28,495
C/S DISC\$1,854
REBATE\$3,500
SELL PRICE
\$23,341

STK#G07055



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