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See expanded weather on Page 2

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Pampa City Commission

Ball heads into EDC-sponsored business' court ...

By DAVID BOWSER The Pampa News

The ball is in United Medicorp's court now.

The Pampa City Commission voted not to forgive \$24,000 the company owes the city under an existing contract nor will they give the company a \$50,000 cash grant after City Attorney Franklin McDonough said there could be legal repercussions.

United Medicorp had requested that the city forgive the \$24,000 under a contract that is due to expire at the end of this year. In return for that and the \$50,000 grant, the company guaranteed they would remain in Pampa one more year.

McDonough said that under the contract with the city, negotiated by a former Pampa Economic Development Corporation, the are required to remain in the city through the end of the year anyway. He said the only way the city could justify forgiving the \$24,000 would be if the company extended the contract one year and committed to staying that year, beginning in January, 2009.

The attorney said that the city could give the company a \$50,000 grant, but it would have to do so through a program set up for such a purpose. That program would be the current PEDC, and

See UMC, Page 3



Pampa News photo by David Bowser

Talking about tourism, John Curry, right, speaks to the Pampa City Commission as Keith Pitner, executive director of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, looks on.

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# Junior golfer places third

By JULIE ANN THOMPSON The Pampa News

At only 13, Cole Buck has found his sport. The young golfer recently placed third at a North Texas Junior PGA tournament in Lubbock with a score of 89 and now, along with his father, is petitioning Pampa Junior High School to start their own golf program for fellow students. Not bad, considering he's only in the seventh grade.

"I always had those plastic clubs when I was little," Buck said. "I've been playing since I was 2 or 3."

It wasn't until two years ago, however, that Buck nament at Greenbelt. Now, considered competing in the it's as simple as going



Pampa News Photo by Julie Ann Thompson Seventh-grader Cole Buck, adorned with medals he's won at various tournaments, holds one of his trophies and his favorite golf club.

sport for the first time. The mother of a friend he played basketball with asked him to play on their team in a tournament at Greenbelt. Now, it's as simple as going

e online

"I have a membership with the Junior PGA, and if you go online, it shows you

See GOLFER, Page 3

# Pampa school trustees to meet Thursday

By JULIE ANN THOMPSON The Pampa News

The possible replacement of air conditioners at Travis Elementary School is one item up for discussion Thursday at the Pampa Independent School District's board of trustees meeting. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in the Carver Center Administration office, 321 W. Albert.

Other items of discussion will include

consideration and action to approve TASB Policy Update 82 and the approval purchase of Read180 Curriculum. In Personnel, the board will discuss approval and renewal of term contract employees, probationary contract employees, non-renewal of term contract employees and termination of probationary contract employees.

Under the consent agenda, there will be consideration and action to approve fall sports bids, the textbook selection commit-

See SCHOOL, Page 3

# Chief: Report may be in order on dog situation

By DAVID BOWSER The Pampa News

For the second time in as many meetings, the subject of dangerous dogs confronted the Pampa City Commission at its Tuesday afternoon session.

Three women, Sheila Eccles, Roxane Crossman-Funderburk and Judy Riley, protested dogs running loose in their neighborhood.

Eccles said she came to the city commission because two weeks ago two aggressive dogs threatened a woman and her baby in Eccles neighborhood. "It was a bad situation," Eccles said, "and it could have been a horrendous situation."

She said she and her neighbors asked around town to see if anyone else had problems with dogs running loose

"More people than what we thought had experienced this problem," Eccles said.

She said the dogs are dangerous animals.
"It doesn't matter what size, what color," Eccles said. "We need to do something about them."

She said that Pampa is not the only city with this problem. She cited a front page story this week in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal on dangerous dogs.

"Summer's coming up." Eccles said. "Everybody's

"Summer's coming up," Eccles said. "Everybody's outside. The kids are outside. Seniors are outside. Dogs are outside. We need to think about what's going to happen. Let's think about this before it gets out of hand."

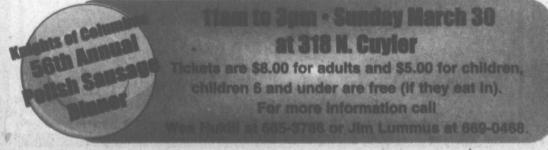
As a dog lover, she said she knows the problems of keeping dogs under control, even through they occasionally get out, but it is the owner's responsibility.

"We're all victims," she said. "We have children. We have parents. If you're out there with the kids on the soccer field and you see two pit bulls coming, what would you do?"

She also noted that she and her friends are taxpayers.

See DOGS, Page 3







Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 76. West-southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 40. North-northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57. North wind around 15 mph becoming east. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. East-southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 66. Southsoutheast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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nished by Edward Jones &		COP 75.81	+1.28	
Pampa			SLB 84.45	+1.81
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BP PLC ADR61.35	-0.40		CVX 84.90	+0.36
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# Obituaries

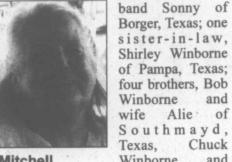
# Judy Mitchell, 67

SADLER, Texas — Judy Mitchell was born on Oct. 30, 1940, in Pampa, Texas, to the late Joseph and Wanda (Pruitt) Winborne. Judy moved to the Sadler area in 1976 and worked as retail sales cashier for many years before retiring in 2003. During retirement she enjoyed wood crafting, painting, and needlework. Mrs. Mitchell passed away on Monday, March 24, at Wilson N. Jones Medical Center at the age of 67.

Mrs. Mitchell is survived by three sons, Randy

of Sadler, Steven Mitchell of Calera, Okla., and Jason Mitchell and wife Carla of Sadler; daughter, Jozel Benson and husband Bill of Sadler; 15 grandchildren; great-grandchildren; five sisters, Mitchell Beth Bates of Iowa Park, Texas, Virginia

Patterson of Denton, Texas, June Ruthardt of White Deer, Texas, Erma Reeves and husband Clarence of Gordzelik and wife Deanna Sadler, Texas, and Phyllis



Borger, Texas; one sister-in-law, Shirley Winborne of Pampa, Texas; four brothers, Bob Winborne and Alie of Southmayd, Chuck Texas. Winborne and wife Diane of Ohio, LaRoy

Lima, Winborne and wife Beverly of Columbus, Ohio, and Johnny Winborne and wife Sharon of Pampa, Texas; and several nieces, nephews,

great-nieces/ and Batsford and husnephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clyde and Wanda Winborne of Pampa, Texas; three brothers, Joe Winborne of Ohio, Speck Winborne of Pampa, Texas, and J C "Dopey" Winborne of Pampa, Texas; and one great-grandson, Winegeart of Sadler, Texas.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Waldo Funeral Home. Private memorial services will be held at a later date.

# **Emergency Services**

# Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Seventeen traffic stops were made.

A traffic complaint was received from the 2800 block of Charles.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart and the 100 block of South Hobart.

Animal control officers made stops concerning animals in the 1800 block of Hamilton, the 700 block of North Nelson, the 300 block of North Banks, the 100 block of South Faulkner, the 1400 block of Williston, the 700 block of West Wilks, the 500 block of Lowry, the 1600 block of North Russell, the 1100 block of Terrace, the 800 block of Beryl, the 500 block of Dwight, the 1800 block of Duncan, the 1100 block of Starkweather, the intersection of Beryl and Tignor streets, the intersection if Kentucky and Hamilton streets, the 500 block of Doucette and the 1800 block of North Nelson.

Agency assistance was rendered on Highway 152 West.

Suspicious person calls were received from the 600 block of West Crawford and twice from the 1000 block of East Frederic.

A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 1000 block of Neel

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Neel Road, the 1900 block of Banks, the 300 block of Miami, the 700 block of Murphy and the 500 block of North Dwight.

Possession of less than two ounces of marijuana was reported in the 900 block of East Frederic.

Driving under the influence minor and possession of drug paraphernalia were reported at the intersection of Starkweather and Tyng

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

Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon was reported in the 1300 block of Garland. A knife used in connection with the incident caused a minor laceration on an arm.

Two alarms were reported. One building check was made.

tim's driver's license number was stolen and used to open a checking account and write checks. Forgery was reported at Allsup's,

Identity theft was reported in the

police department lobby. The vic-

140 S. Starkweather. The incident involved a counterfeit \$20 bill.

Theft was reported in the police department lobby.

Theft was reported in the 2400 block of Mary Ellen. Jewelry which had been sent off for a second appraisal revealed that some diamonds had been replaced with glass replicas.

# Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today. Tuesday, March 25

Rhan Scott Goldsmith, 18, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of East Frederic by Pampa Police Department for possession of mari-

Whitney Renee Brummett, 17, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of East Frederic by PPD for possession of marijuana.

Ian David Spencer, 23, of Pampa was arrested in the 900 block of East Frederic by PPD for possession of marijuana.

Wednesday, March 26

Cody McKay Ellis, 20, of Pampa was arrested in the 500 block of East Tyng by PPD for driving under the influence - minor and possession of drug paraphernalia.

# Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today.

Saturday, March 22

11:44 a.m. - Two units and five personnel responded to a smoke alarm in the 900 block of South Wells. Smoke from an oven had set off a false alarm.

10:01 p.m. - One unit and four personnel responded to a call for medical assistance in the 500 block of North Frost.

Sunday, March 23

1:29 a.m. - Two units and six personnel responded to the 100 block of South Russell on a false alarm.

11:44 a.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to a call for medical assistance in the 100 block of East Foster.

5:16 p.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to a call for lifting assistance in the 1100 block of Crane Road.

Monday, March 24 No calls

Tuesday, March 25

8:55 a.m. - Two units and four personnel responded to the 100 block of South Perry on a waste fire.

9:21 a.m. - Two units and six personnel responded to the 400 block of Ward on a false alarm.

9:49 a.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to the 1000 block of West Wilks on a vehicle fire.

10:35 a.m. - Four units and nine personnel responded to the 1500 block of North Hobart on a structure

11:58 a.m. - One unit and two personnel responded to the 300 block of West Atchison on an odor investiga-

1:06 p.m. - Four units and nine personnel responded to the 1000 block of Huff on a small grass fire in

4:59 p.m. - Two units and six personnel responded to the 400 block of North Ward on a false alarm.

# **Ambulance**

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls bewteen 7 a.m. Monday and 7 a.m. today.

Monday, March 24

3:57 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo and transferred a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

6:46 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of Christy. No transport.

11 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 300 block of East Browning. No transport.

Tuesday, March 25

10:37 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Hobart on a fire standby.

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THE KNIGHTS of Columbus Annual Polish Sausage Dinner will be Sun. March 30th at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 318 N. Cuyler, 11am-3pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Everyone is invited.

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# **UMC**

#### Continued from Page 1

they would have to follow their procedures in making such a grant, including holding public hearings on the matter.

"Under Section 380 of the Texas Local Government Code, the city may grant or loan public funds for economic development," McDonough said.

But giving United Medicorp the \$50,000 is not covered under the current contract the city has with the company.

The law requires that the city set up a program through which to fund such a grant.

"The program that has been established is the PEDC, which would be the current PEDC," McDonough said. "By law, I don't think the city is permitted to give \$50,000 at this time. That \$50,000 grant would have to be

passed through and approved by the current PEDC.'

He said that if the city chose to forgive the \$24,000 if could; however, under general contract principles, for the city to forgive the \$24,000, there would have to be some consideration for the city since this involves public funds.

Under the Texas Constitution, if public funds are involved, a public purpose must be served, McDonough said.

"The only public service that could be served," he said, "would be UMC guaranteeing that it would stay an additional year."

McDonough said, however, that UMC is under their current contract, they are required to be in Pampa through December.

"Any consideration for the public funds of forgiving \$24,000 would require an additional amount from December, McDonough said.

In effect, UMC would have to guarantee that by

the city forgiving \$24,000, UMC could remain open and functional under that contract until December 2009, McDonough said.

The city commission voted not to amend the current contract, leaving the possibility open for the company to go to the new Pampa EDC.

In other business, the city commission accepted 2006-2007 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

They also approved, on second and final reading, a city ordinance giving Pampa firefighters collective bargaining rights.

The commission also approved a resolution approving Southwestern Public Service Co.'s proposed amendment of certain tariffs. The move will, according to SPS officials, allow a lower rate for customers like churches and ball fields that do not demand continual electrical usage. SPS officials said that no one's rate would go up under the amended tariff.

The city commission also heard from John Curry of Pampa's tourism board and Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Keith Pitner concerning the budget for tourism.

In the past, Curry said that there had been a gentlemen's agreement that the tourism board would receive 14 to 15 percent of the hotel-motel tax. The city's budget, however, reflects a dollar amount, \$24,100, in its budget rather than a percentage.

Mayor Lonny Robbins and Commissioner Robert Dixon agreed that a change was in order. The mayor said the commission would deal with the issue at its next meeting.

The commission was also confronted by three women complaining about dangerous dogs on the

Billy Scribner also spoke to the commission concerning trash on his property next to a shopping area on the north side of town.

# Golfer

Continued from Page 1

what tournaments are coming up. If they're within three hours' drive, we sign up," Buck said.

According to Buck, tee times for the tournaments

are at 9 a.m. but he gets there at 7:30 to practice at the driving range. Then the players are given cards and put into groups. Each player in Buck's age bracket tees off at the

"It's a lot of fun," Buck said. "I really like to go." Competing individually is fine for now, but Buck knows that when he gets to high school he'll have more competi-

tion. It's for this reason that he's trying to get a program started at the junior high.

"Our kids at the high school level are just now learning how to play," Cole's mother, Shannon Buck, said. "Then they're competing against kids who have been playing all their lives."

Buck managed to collect almost 30 signatures, including those of golf pros from both Hidden Hills and Pampa Country Club. He sent his petition to every member of the school board, the superintendent and the athletic director.

'We haven't heard anything yet," Mrs. Buck said. All of the Bucks get together play regularly at Pampa Country Club and take advantage of each holiday to play or go to tournaments.

"It's something he's going to be able to do all of his life. It's cool for him to see some of the men who play out at the club. Ya know, some of them are in their 90s," Mrs. Buck

Buck also placed sixth in a tournament in Amarillo recently with a score of 96. When asked about how it went, Buck stops smiling for the first time.

"That's the worst I've ever done," Buck said. "I was really disappointed. I'd just been there before the tournament and played really well."

Buck plans to continue improving his game by attending a Kanakuk golf camp this summer and play in as many tournaments as he's able to. If his enthusiasm for the game is any indication, he'll be playing for a long time.

"I want to keep playing golf, definitely," Buck said. "That's my sport."

## Continued from Page 1

"We pay the animal control people to go out and to take care of these situations," Eccles said. "They can only do so much."

She questions what would have happened if the dogs had gotten to the baby and who would be liable.

nances from Dumas. "We thought their's was

Eccles cited dog ordi-

good," Eccles said. Pampa Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner said the Pampa ordinances were

similar. Eccles said maybe the on the issue. city should look more closely at fines.

"Where do we go with

talking about this out in the community."

Eccles questioned how many tickets are issued for dangerous dog offenses and how many of them are paid.

She said that last month that animal control officers wrote tickets that totaled \$3,364 in fines.

"That's a lot of bad dogs," Eccles said.

But out of that \$3,364, she said the city collected \$735 in fines.

She asked where was the rest of the money.

"I can't think of any other way we can talk to these people," Eccles said. Pitner said that as police

chief, he's the point-man "I think we need to do a report," Pitner said.

these problems?" she one completed the second smaller dog. asked. "We can't just keep city commission meeting in

Pitner said that after the complaints at the last city commission meeting, he found that one person had more than 40 tickets outstanding for his dogs.

"We have one person with over \$3,000 in tickets," he said.

Funderburk, who spoke to the city commission at its last meeting concerning two aggressive dogs threatening her mother in front of Funderburk's home, told the commissioners that she's still afraid to come out of her house.

"Maybe we ought to look at hiring some more animal control people," Funderburk said, "because the problem is out of con-

He said he should have so ago, one dog killed a department.

"This problem has got to

stop," Funderburk said.

Mayor Lonny Robbins said that the city is aware of the circumstances, but they are limited in what they can

"We're going to do everything within our power to help this situation," Robbins said.

But he said a lot of the solution would have to come from citizens like Funderburk reporting such

Riley complained about her neighbor's three dogs that bark all the time.

Pitner assured her that the city had various noise ordinances and that something could be done.

Riley said she had called animal control.

Pitner said if it's after She said that a week or hours to call the police

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# **School**

# Continued from Page 1

tee's recommendations and nomination of individuals

to the TASB Media Honor sent agenda will be acted ities as well as the Third Roll. Also under the con- on at one time. sent agenda, the Dress Code Violation Report will be presented at the meeting. Unless removed, items

Other reports include a construction update, personnel management, budget workshop, food services, identified within the con- building, grounds and facil-

Benchmark.

Public comments will be held at approximately 7 p.m. following the Pledge Allegiance of Invocation.

# Pets of the Week...

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This gray Schnauzer male dog will make a great addition to any family.



MAGGIE

This female Brindle boxer is great with kids.



This beautiful female basset cross is a wonderful dog with a loving attitude.



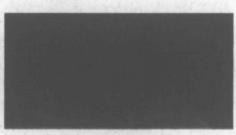
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# Viewpoints

# It's not compassion – it's Wright-wing racism

Michael

Reagan

Columnist

Most of the media and their fellow liberals were positively giddy over one of Barack Obama's recent speechs, all but comparing it to the Sermon on the Mount.

I won't deny it was a masterful piece of oratory – the man can be spellbinding – but when you stop to consider what Sen. Obama was really doing up there on the podium, invoking the specter of slavery and Jim Crow and the era of "whites only," it becomes clear that it was a con job designed to make the voters as giddy as he knew his worshippers in the submissive media would

The speech was meant to be an explanation and expiation of his guilt for his years of remaining mute in the face of the outrageous anti-Americanism spewed by his pastor and bosom buddy, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

Until that speech, Barack Obama (you can't use his middle name, which has now become the "H-word," allegedly a code word for anti-Muslim rhetoric) had steadfastly denied he ever heard his friend and pastor make his hateful remarks. In the speech, however, he just kind of mentioned that ... well, yes ... he guesses he was aware

Charley

Reese

of the Rev. Wright's offensive rhetoric after all. Mea Minima Culpa.

He then launched into a defense of his friendship with the man he credited for bringing him to Christianity, and helping to form his social and political philosophy and set him on the path to a life of public service. Admirably, while denouncing Wright's extremism, he refused to

denounce the man himself. Nobody expected him to declare Wright anathema and cast him into the outer darkness where there is weeping and wailing and the gnashing of teeth - one simply doesn't do to that

sort of thing to a longtime friend, benefactor and mentor even if he has been shown to have slipped the rails time-after-time.

What was not expected was Barack H. Obama's use of a litany of America's past racist offenses to justify not only Wright's blatant hatred of white America but his suggestion that it was a sentiment shared by most African Americans. And that is simply

Nor was it true, as Obama charged, that the Reagan coalition was created out of white resentment for affirmative action or forced busing.

He charged that "anger over welfare and affirmative action helped forge the Reagan coalition. Politicians routinely exploited fears of crime ... talk show hosts and conser-

vative commentators built entire careers unmasking bogus claims of racism while dismissing legitimate discussions of racial injustice and inequality as mere political correctness or reverse racism."

Poppycock! These are not only outright falsehoods, but echoes of what Obama learned at the feet of Jeremiah Wright and now preaches as his own beliefs. He learned his lessons well.

When he suggested that my father's coalition was based on anger over affirmative action and welfare, he was peddling a blatant falsehood as egregious in its falsity as Wright's charge that whites created AIDS to wipe out the black population.

Everything Obama said was directed at suggesting that while the Rev. Wright should not have used such inflammatory language, he was somehow justified because of America's white racism.

Try as he might, Barack Obama cannot claim the innocence of a lamb in his long years of worshipful association with the Rev. Jeremiah Wright. He was either fully aware of the seething racial hatred that motivated Wright, or something of a blithering idiot who can't spot a racist hater when he spends years genuflecting at his feet.

Barack Obama is not an idiot. He is a brilliant orator who exudes charm and arouses near-worship from his host of giddy, hypnotized supporters. He is also a committed socialist and a talented salesman for his brand of Marxist snake oil.

Beware of camels bearing gifts, and politicians promising utopia.

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

# Don't let facts get in the way of hysteria

spotted a picture of her son ther does she, or she would-

on an adult Web page. She was outraged, and outraged even more to find out it's not

Columnist against the

law to take pictures of people in public places. She's creating a hoopla to get a law passed.

Let's pause the hysteria and look at the facts. The picture presumably was neither retouched nor cropped. In other words, it is a true representation of the boy as als interested in young boys. he appeared at a public I don't blame her. I'd be swim meet, wearing a mad if I saw one of my swimsuit that either his parents purchased for him or approved of his wearing.

Nothing was shown in the picture that was not shown in public during the swim meet (a water polo match). Speedo swimsuits, favored by water-sports enthusiasts, are brief, like a woman's bikini. The theory is, I think, that they create less friction in the water, so competitive swimmers can go faster.

One of my grandsons, who's quite athletic and has exactly the kind of body that would make for a good competitive swimmer, refuses to try out for a swim team because he says he would be embarrassed to wear a Speedo.

So perhaps the outraged mother should consider talking to her son's coach about changing the swimsuits the team members wear, though I don't think

A woman in California obscene and apparently nei-

allowed him to wear one in public. I don't think the human body

obscene even "butt-nekkid," as we said in Georgia, though most of us look better with

n't have

clothes on. In fairness to her, what she apparently objected to were remarks made by patrons of the Web page, which caters to homosexugrandchildren's pictures on such a Web site, and I would try to get the site to pull it.

Changing the law, howseems unwise. Traditionally, the law says that whenever we venture into the public, we forfeit a certain amount of privacy. We can be photographed if we are in public places. What the photographer can't do is use our picture, without our permission, in advertisement. Remember all of the sur-

veillance cameras and the news photographers? Are journalists to be forbidden to photograph public sporting events involving children and teenagers? Or perhaps, to satisfy the hysteria about children, teen and preteen athletes should be required to wear burgas, as one wag suggested in a blog.

The newspaper that reported this story agreed to Speedos or bikinis are keep the family's name con-

fidential, so I can't ask the lady why a suburban mother was looking at an adult Web page. Probably someone tipped her off about it, I

The Internet, despite increasing attempts to rein it in, remains more or less a free territory. Anybody can scan an article or photograph and post it on the Web. There are so many

Web sites, it is impossible to keep up with them all. Just Googling my name results. in 105,000 references. I'm not about to waste my time checking them out. Heaven only knows what some of them are. I do know that with a face made for radio and a body that is grateful for clothes, there won't be any pictures of me on the

of parents' concern about sexual predators. One reason I decided against law enforcement as a career was that I knew in my heart I'd never get a child rapist to jail still breathing. I'm grateful for the convicts who brain the ones who do end up in prison. Yet reason children at public events FL 32802.

I don't wish to make light should not be criminalized. If we aren't careful, children will end up wearing burgas. What we want to prevent is physical or psychological harm to the child. Photographs of children participating in public events will cause neither, no matter who looks at them.

-Write to Charley Reese must apply. Photographing at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando,



# Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around

March 14 Houston Chronicle on STDs and

teen health:

Texas Gov. Rick Perry was right. Members of the Texas Legislature who last year shot down his plan to require that schoolgirls be vaccinated against the human papillomavirus were shortsighted. The evidence for this is a shocking statistic: One in four American girls and young women are infected with at least one of four com-

This jaw-dropping conclusion was the finding of a recent federal study into infection rates of sexually transmitted diseases among girls aged 14 to 19 who participated in a health survey conducted in 2003-04. The teens were tested for HPV, chlamydia, trichomoniasis and genital herpes.

mon sexually transmitted diseases,

including the cancer-causing HPV.

Researchers with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that 18 percent of the young women were infected with human papillomavirus, which can cause cervical cancer. Another 4 percent carried chlamydia, which can lead to infertility. Another 2.5 percent of the young

women were found to have trichomoniasis, and 2 percent had genital herpes. An astonishing 50 percent of black

teens studied were infected with at least one STD. The figure for white teenagers 20 percent was also high.

The inescapable conclusion is that teens need more help in avoiding the serious consequences of having sex before they are ready and without adequate protection.

Last year, Gov. Perry called on Texas to mandate that sixth-grade girls receive the only vaccine approved to prevent HPV as a means to cut their risk of getting deadly cervical cancer. The outcry from Texans to Perry's executive order was as ferocious as lawmakers' speed in shooting it down.

Some parents expressed fear that the HPV vaccine would encourage young girls to have sex.

The results of the CDC study show conclusively that no encouragement is needed. Lawmakers should look again at requiring the vaccine before girls become sexually active. It would be a sensible means of improving public

But this time, public health officials ought to lay the groundwork first by addressing other concerns surrounding this important immunization. Among those concerns is that the maker of the FDA-approved inoculation, called Gardasil, has had undue influence in states' decisions to make the vaccine mandatory. Also, blanket vaccines would be expensive and might not be safe. In clinical testing, however, Gardasil was found to be virtually 100 percent effective against four strains of HPV over a five-year period.

Meanwhile, as the study pointed out, HPV is only one of a host of sexually transmitted diseases that plague young people. That's one of the reasons most younger teens simply should not have sex. From the standpoint of emotional maturity, that probably goes for a large percentage of older teens, as well.

The problem is that few teens give the "decision" to have sex much thought. They just do it.

That's why adults have to do more, and in an organized and consistent way, to help young people navigate the treacherous territory of early sexual intercourse. Teens who have sex should know how to protect themselves from potentially devastating sexually transmitted diseases not to mention unintended pregnancy.

This groundbreaking study shows how pressing is the need for sound public policy on teen sexual health policy based on data and demonstrated best practices rather than emotion.



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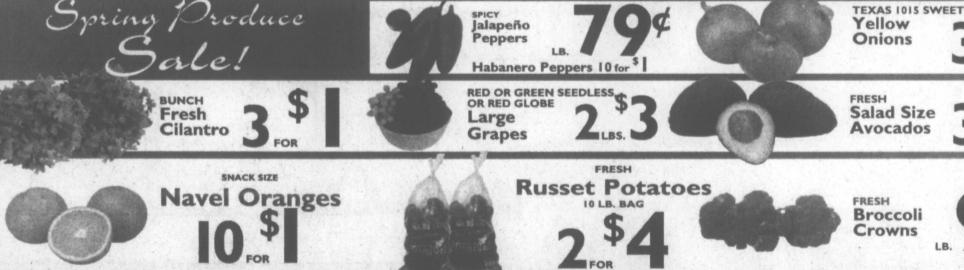




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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am struggling with the question of whether or not to reveal a confidence made more than two years ago. My boyfriend at the time, "Jerry," revealed to me that he was gay. We remained friends, but I moved on and started dating someone else. Jerry never confided his secret to anyone else and, eventually feeling overcome with depression, took his own life. Jerry told me more than once that he knew how his parents would feel if he told them he was gay. He saw the way they snickered when they saw a gay couple. They made it very clear to him that they didn't think it was normal. Jerry was sure, seeing the way his parents viewed gay people, that this was how he, too, would be viewed. His parents are now blaming me for the fact that Jerry took his own life. They say it was because we broke up. Would it be selfish of me to tell them the truth -- that THEY are the real reason? Or should I continue to keep his secret? -- HIS BEST FRIEND, ROCHESTER, N.Y.

DEAR BEST FRIEND: You should reveal that your friend told you he was gay and was worried about how his parents would accept it. However, when you tell them, do not expect them to believe you. It will be far easier for them to continue pointing the finger at you than to accept that they had a role in their son's suicide.

**DEAR ABBY**: My husband and I went to a restaurant tonight hoping to enjoy a relaxing evening of quiet conversation. Unfortunately, a man dominated all the conversations in the small restaurant by continually talking in a very loud voice. The same thing happened several months ago, when our quiet dinner was interrupted by an elderly woman across the room who talked loudly the entire time we were there.

She seemed to be hard of hearing, so we felt some sympathy for her. The man tonight, however, seemed to hear just fine. Abby, if my children were talking that loudly in a public place, I'd admonish them to use their "indoor voices." How do we handle the situation when the loud speaker is an adult and a stranger? -- INDOOR **VOICE, PLEASE** 

**DEAR I.V.P.**: Few restaurants today offer diners a place to enjoy "a relaxing evening of quiet conversation." The trend in recent years has been to create a "scene" with hustle and bustle and enough noise that the tables can be turned fairly quickly. If someone was conversing so loudly that I could not enjoy a meal, I would ask the host to be seated elsewhere. And if that didn't solve the problem, I would find another restaurant that was more conducive to the kind of evening I had in mind and patronize that one.

DEAR ABBY: I make embroidered tablecloths as wedding gifts for my nieces and nephews. Some of their marriages have failed. Would it be tacky of me to request these gifts be returned to the family member for whom I made them? I put a lot of time and love into those tablecloths, and I'd like to see them stay in the family. -- TAL-**ENTED STITCHER** 

DEAR TALENTED STITCHER: You could try asking nicely. Often wedding gifts are divided according to which side of the family -- the bride's or the groom's -gave the gift in the first place. However, when the divorce is a bitter one, the division of property sometimes must be decided by a judge. The time to get something like this settled would be before matters go that far, if possible.

#### For Better Or Worse



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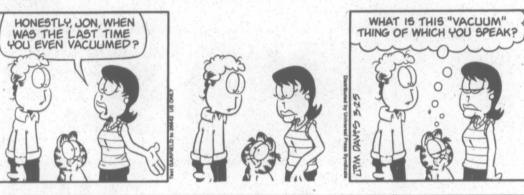
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#### Garfield



#### **Beetle Bailey**



## Marvin



# **Crossword Puzzle**



Yesterday's answer McEntire 7 Attraction 20 Business 33 Leg part reader 15 Extra 8 Jay-Z's wear 34 Cargo 16 Parka **21** Fly unit music 35 Lincoln catcher 18 Luggage 9 Big galoot 22 Scepter 21 History 10 Saloon nickname 14 Satellite 23 Parrot or 36 Cellist's book need topics path DUDDY 22 Anger 37 Okra 16 Canary 25 Conical 24 Nest item homes home holder 28 City near 38 Abel's 25 Young 17 Heart or Capri mother one liver 26 Father's 19 "Under-29 Folks 39 Wine 31 Pebble stand?" choice Day gift 27 Hit with a

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# Marmaduke

MEN



"Take it easy, Marmaduke. It's only a game."

IM

TELLING ON

YOU!

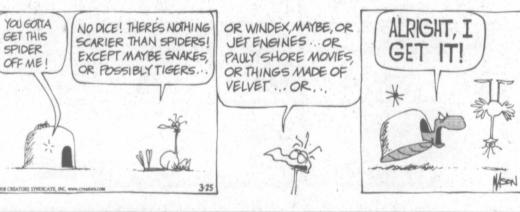
"What was it you did again?"

By Bil Keane

The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

B.C.



# Haggar The Horrible



# **Peanuts**



WELL, I'LL TELL YOU .. BUT FIRST, TELL ME WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO DO BEFORE I ASKED YOU IF YOU KNEW WHAT I'D DO IF I WERE YOU





3-25

# **Blondie**



# Sports

# VARSITY/JV SOFTBALL UPDATE

# Varsity softball defeats Palo Duro

**FLANARY Sports Editor** 

In a game played Tuesday night against the Palo Duro Donns, the Lady Harvesters defeated the Lady Donns, 10-0.

The Lady Harvesters improved their district record to 3-0 and their overall record to 13-11-2.

Teichmann Carlyn picked up the win to improve her record to 7-0-1 on the year. She had 13 strikeouts in the five inning game and gave up one hit.

Offensively, the Lady Harvesters put the ball in play and made the Donns commit errors.

Jasmain Moore had one hit, one run and one stolen

Kambra Jimenez had one

had one hit and scored two

Libby Dyson had two

Carlyn Teichmann had one run and one RBI.

Sammie Pearson had one hit, two runs and two

Shelbie Watson had two RBI's and one run, while Kamie Doughty picked up an RBI.

In the JV game, the Lady Harvesters defeated the Donns, 16-3.

Katelin Wall picked up her seveth win of the season. She gave up five hits while striking out five and not allowing any walks. She did hit one batter.

Devin Valentine played cather in place of injured Kenzie Carter.

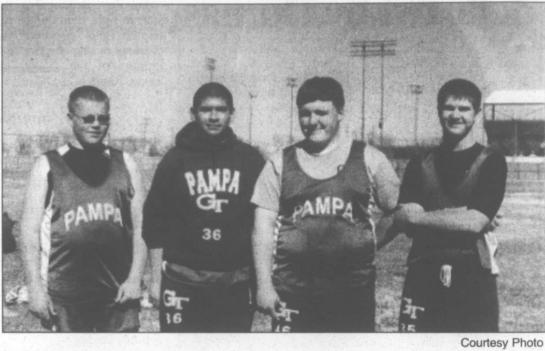
Leading hitters were

run, while Callie Preston Valentine, Wall, Rachel Heuston, Madi Shults, Candia Jimenez and Karla Dominguez.

Pampa improved to 14-7 on the season and 2-1 in District.

Both the Varsity and JV softball teams will be playing Hereford at home on Saturday. Varsity will be playing at 1 p.m. with JV to follow.

In other Varsity district games, Randall defeated Hereford, 8-6, to improve to 3-0. Dumas defeated Caprock 11-9, to improve to 2-1. The Lady Harvesters are currently tied with Randall for first place. The Lady Harvesters will face Randall Tuesday, while Dumas, who is in second place in district, will meet up with Randall on Saturday.



Four eighth grade boys pose for a photo while waiting to throw the discus and shot put at the Amarillo Track meet held Tuesday.

# Texas A&M beats **Texas-San Antonio**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) -Brian Ruggiano singled in the game-winning run in the top of the ninth inning Tuesday to give Texas A&M a 5-4 victory over Texas-San Antonio.

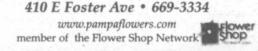
Pinch-runner Ben Feltner scored on the single to left field. Ruggiano went to third on a throwing error and was called out trying to steal

Texas-San Antonio took an early 3-0 lead on a double by Michael Rockett and singles by Tyler Carpenter and Ryan Rummel in the third.

Jose Duran singled in one run and Darby Brown doubled in another in the fifth for the Aggies (18-6). Nick Fleece singled in one run and scored on an error to take a 4-3 lead.

Texas-San Antonio (15-9) tied the game in the eighth on a single by Jose Hernandez.







Courtesy Photo The JV softball team poses for a photo after defeating Palo Duro in Tuesday's

Wildfires! We have a few copies left of the special magazine documenting the tragic wildfires of 2006. Get your copy at The Pampa News Office. Wildfires March 2006

### **BASEBALL**

# Pampa Harvesters defeated by Dumas

by KATHERINE FLANARY **Sports Editor** 

In a game played evening Tuesday Dumas, the Harvesters were defeated by Dumas, 8-4.

Starting pitcher Brett Powell pitched six innings, allowing eight runs, three earned runs, seven hits, five walks and four strikeouts.

Powell received the loss on the game and is now 2-4 on the season.

Offensive leaders

include Madison Wilson, who was 1-3 with a homerun and had three RBI's.

Braden Hunt was 2-3. Jeremy Maxwell was 2-3 with a run scored.

"I thought our kids did a great job competing tonight," Coach Clay Wilson said in an email. "We played with a lot of heart and emotion."

The Harvester's overall record is now 5-14, and their district record is 0-1.

Their next game is Saturday at 1 p.m. in Pampa. The Harvesters will be playing Caprock.

# **Howard leads Mavs past Clippers**

Mavericks that all is not lost without Dirk Nowitzki.

Erick Dampier had 19 points and 17 rebounds and Jason lifting the Mavericks past the 102, Washington 82

Los Angeles Clippers 103-90 on Tuesday night.

With Nowitzki out indefinitely with sprained ankle and knee, Howard had a simple game plan to pick up the slack for the Mavericks' leading scorer and rebounder.

"If everyone goes up four or five points,

said. was up only 60-58 and in the surge. Howard provided it, ket.' scoring 20 of the team's next 26 points for a 16-point lead made all 15 of his free early in the fourth quarter.

The win kept Dallas (45-26) in the seventh spot in the had 10 points, eight assists West, two games ahead of Golden State and 2 1/2 ahead of Denver. The Mavericks are headed on the road for lost their eighth straight. games against those two their next six against teams in Dunleavy said. "I thought we the playoff chase.

"We're up to the chal- up. We didn't bow out."

Josh Howard's perform- lenge," Stackhouse said. "We ance assured the Dallas don't have to win out, but we all have to pick it up a little."

In other NBA games, it - Howard scored 32 points, was: New Orleans 114, Jerry Stackhouse had 20, Indiana 106; San Antonio 107, Orlando 97; Chicago 103, Atlanta 94; Utah 128, Kidd neared a triple-double, Charlotte 106; and Portland

> At Dallas, Howard struggled early, going 2-of-11 and getting to the only line once in the first half. Dampier stepped in and got 12 points and 12 rebounds over the first

> > two quarters.

obviously

was

"Damp

 Avery Johnson Coach

Damp obviously

was very inspired.

We need him to do

what he did tonight,

not necessarily the

numbers but being

aggressive going to

the basket.

that'll cover it," Howard coach Avery Johnson said. Me need him to downat he In the third quarter, Dallas did tonight, not necessarily numbers but being need of a Nowitzki-like aggressive going to the bas-

Howard finished 8-of-22. throws, had seven rebounds and four steals, while Kidd and six rebounds.

Corey Maggette had 21 points for the Clippers, who

"We did a good job as long teams, and will play five of as we could," coach Mike played hard. We didn't give

# **Moore leads UConn over Texas**

from Maya Moore.

scored 24 points and the Orleans on Saturday. Huskies shot a blistering 60 percent from the field to beat Louisville," Cardinals coach Texas 89-55 on Tuesday Jeff Walz said. "There is a lot night in the second round of of excitement, but it's not our the NCAA tournament. The final goal.' top-seeded Huskies advanced to the Greensboro points and Earnesia Williams Regional semifinals on added 12 to lead the eighth-Sunday against Old Dominion.

Moore hit six of her first seven shots, including four 3pointers en route to her first 20-point game since scoring 29 against LSU on Feb. 25.

"We just feel she's going to hit every shot," Auriemma look and gets her feet set we and three blocks. don't think she's going to miss. "I don't know how to said Moore. "We just came explain it. We actually get out with a type of excitement Tupset when she doesn't make and the transition running a shot that's how confident and gunning game that we we are."

son UConn (34-1) has me, and they went in." advanced to the regional semifinals. Montgomery added 17 points

16 is nothing new for lent. They dominated the Connecticut, Louisville boards and played great team earned its first trip to the basketball."

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. regional semifinals in 12 (AP) — Connecticut coach tries by beating Kansas State Geno Auriemma has already in the other game in grown to expect great things Bridgeport on Tuesday night.

The Cardinals will face The fabulous freshman North Carolina in New

"It's great history for

Carla Cortijo scored 18 seeded Longhorns (22-13), who had won six of seven including a 72-55 win over Minnesota in the first round. The loss was Texas' worst in the NCAA tournament surpassing a 85-60 defeat to Louisiana Tech in 1984.

Moore was everywhere on said. "When she gets a good the floor, with 12 rebounds

"It was extremely fun," like to do. I was feeling it and It's the 15th straight sea- my teammates were finding

> Texas had no answer for Renee her or Connecticut.

"They didn't have a weakand Tina Charles had 15 for ness," Texas coach Gail the Huskies, who routed Goestenkors said. "They hit Cornell 89-47 in the opening the outside shot. They hit the 3s, pull-up jumpers. Their While making the round of transition game was excel-

# **Rangers top Mariners 5-1**

'I was healthy

tonight. There was

no pain at all and I

was able to do some-

thing I haven't done

all spring training -

I let the bal go

tonight. Health is

the big issue.'

Miguel Batista

major test.

Bradley, making his first chances during the first four high fly to straightaway right innings of the \_

Texas Rangers' 5-1 win over the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday night.

"He looked awesome," Rangers manager Ron Washington said.

Bradley, limited to designated-hitter since duty his making Cactus League debut Friday, was replaced

by Nelson Cruz in the top of singled Bradley home to give the fifth.

Hank Blalock homered and drove in three runs for the Rangers, who finished 2-1 against their AL West rival.

Right-hander Miguel Batista surrendered four runs on six hits over five innings, and Adrian Beltre homered for the Mariners, who have lost four of five.

"I was healthy tonight," spring. "There was no pain at inning. all and I was able to do something I haven't done all gle in the seventh. spring training - I let the

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — ball go tonight. Health is the Milton Bradley's surgically big issue. I want to get that repaired right knee passed a out of the way. It's the only way I can be reliable."

Bradley recorded the first start in right field this spring, out of the game when he settripled and handled two tled under Ichiro Suzuki's

field. In the bottom of the first, Bradley followed Blalock's two-run homer with a triple off rightfield wall, barely beating the relay to the bag after a slight bobble round sec-

ond. Frank Catalanotto

Texas a 3-0 lead. "He scared the heck out of me when he stumbled, turning that ball into a triple," Washington said. "It was him he was trying to prove it to. Where that ball was he said,

'It's a triple, not a double." Beltre homered to deep left in the fourth to pull the Mariners within 3-1, but Ian Kinsler put the Rangers back said Batista, who has been in front 4-1 with an RBI doubattling a sore back all ble in the bottom of the

Blalock added an RBI sin-

# Miller hits 2 home runs in 12-4 Baylor win

three to lead Baylor to a 12-4 victory over Houston Baptist Tuesday night.

Miller went 3-for-5 with two-run homers in the first and third innings. Horning the win, allowing no runs on went 3-for-4, including a two hits and striking out home run in the third and a three in 3 2-3 innings. Sean two-run double in the sixth.

to a 7-1 lead before Houston six hits in two innings. Baptist (14-7) cut the margin

WACO, Texas (AP) — to 7-4 with a two-run homer Aaron Miller had four RBIs by Andrew Taccolini and an and Adam Hornung added RBI on a fielder's choice in the fourth.

The Bears scored in all but the second and fourth innings.

Tim Matthews (1-0) got McLemore (1-4) took the Baylor (11-13) jumped out loss, giving up seven runs on

# UC Riverside defeats Tech, 8-6

Pellegrino each had two Pellegrino in the fourth and a RBIs and Mark Samuelson single by Pellegrino in the runs to help UC Riverside gle by Trevor Hairgrove by defeat Texas Tech 8-6 on in the fourth.

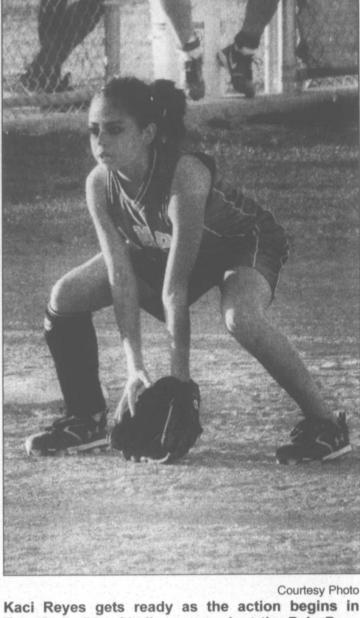
Tuesday. in the fifth.

UC Riverside (6-12) a fielder's choice and Shultz 2-3 innings.

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) stole home. Samuelson - Drew Garcia and Daniel scored on a groundout by went 4-for-5 and scored three fifth. Shultz scored on a sin-

Seefeld's homer cut the Texas Tech (12-11) took UC Riverside lead to 6-4. an early 2-0 lead as Roger Each team scored a run in the Kieschnick got his 11th sixth and eighth innings. D.J. home run of the season, a Smith picked up his first save two-run shot to right center of the year as he struck out that scored Jason Seefeld. two Red Raiders to end the Seefeld hit a two-run homer ninth with two players stranded.

Paul Applebee (1-4) got scored three runs in the top the win as he allowed three of the second Justin Shultz, runs on six hits and struck who went 2-for-2 with one out two in 5 1-3 innings. Sam RBI and scored two runs, Janca (1-1) took the loss, givsingled to score Aaron ing up three runs on three Wible. Samuelson scored on hits and striking out two in 1

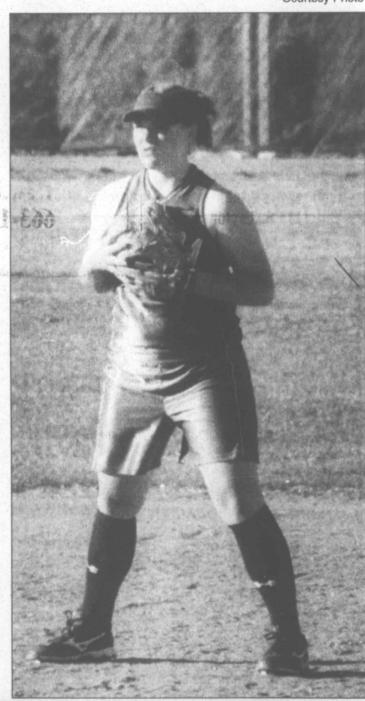


Kaci Reyes gets ready as the action begins in Tuesday's JV softball game against the Palo Duro Donns.

# JV softball

Below: Jordan Mayhew stands at attention in Tuesday's JV softball game against the Palo Duro

Courtesy Photo



# TUESDAY'S SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASEBALL

The Roger Clemens vs. Brian McNamee dispute over whether the seven-time Cy Young Award winner took performance-enhancing drugs has become a feud between Republicans and Democrats.

Reprising the partisan nature of last month's Clemens-McNamee congressional hearing, the leading Republican on that committee released a report questioning some of the Democratic majority's conclusions about the investiga-

The 109-page report contains details Rep. Tom Davis believes could challenge the credibility of Brian McNamee, the personal trainer who testified under oath he injected Clemens with steroids and

from 1998-01. Minority staff from the House Committee on

Oversight and Government Reform will pass along additional information to the Justice Department. The FBI is investigating whether Clemens testified truthfully to Congress.

The report does not take issue with the basis for the criminal referral — the core matter of whether Clemens lied to Congress about taking performance-enhancers. But it does question McNamee's versions of events on several points.

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) -The San Diego Padres exercised manager Bud Black's option for the 2009 season.

Black made his managerial debut with the Padres in 2007, leading the club to an 89-74 record. The team fell one win short of a third straight playoff appearance. The 89 wins were the most human growth hormone for the Padres since they won a franchise-record 98 games in 1998.

**OLYMPICS** 

PARIS (AP) — French President Nicolas Sarkozy suggested that a boycott of the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics was a possibility - making him the first world leader to raise the prospect of punishing China over its ongoing crackdown in Tibet.

The United States, Britain and Germany all condemned China for using force against Tibetan protesters, but they stopped short of threatening to boycott the games or the Aug. 8 opening ceremony.

China, meanwhile, showed no sign of letting up on its crackdown. At least two people were killed in a clash between protesters and police in an area of western China that borders on Tibet, state media and human rights groups report-

The clashes were the latest in most sustained uprising against Chinese rule in ment.

almost two decades - a challenge that has put China's human rights record in the international spotlight, embarrassing and frustrating a Communist leadership that had hoped for a smooth run-up to the Olympic Games.

China's response has also pushed human rights campaigners and governments re-examine their approach to the Olympics.

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) - Two-time gymnastics world champion Diego Hypolito had successful arthroscopic surgery on his right knee.

The Brazilian had an 80minute operation at Rio de Janeiro's Copa D'Or hospital and was released later in the day.

Within four weeks, Hypolito will be fit to resume training for the Beijing Olympics, Dr. Joao Grangeiro said in a statecure home, beaches, tray

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You work to understand the different people, trends and issues in your life this year. As a result, you might like to see the big picture. Pull back and detach often. Develop effective relaxation techniques. For some it might be surfing the Net, and for others listening to music. Use whatever means you need to get a total perspective. If you are single, you will meet people through your work and other community commitments. You have time on your side, as formalizing a bond might not be the best idea this year. If you are attached, you'll grow together if you both commit to a goal or project. SAGITTARIUS always presents a differ-

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

# ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\* Do whatever's necessary to maintain an overview. If you are not careful, you could be overwhelmed by a misunderstanding or an explosive realization. Stay as level as possible as you work through a problem. Tonight: Relax

# TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Surprises sometimes don't feel good. Remember, it is your perception that defines good or bad. Listen to someone who tosses a totally different perspective in your lap. Deal with change progressively. Tonight: Concentrate on one person, and only one person. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* You will want to take charge, but somehow obstacles appear. Use them well and do something that you have been putting off that makes you happy. Listen to news more carefully that revolves around a boss. Tonight: Murphy's law rules.

# CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\* How you see something and the way you approach it might make sense to you, but not to someone else. If you feel overwhelmed with questions, back off, but understand the cost of this decision. Tonight: Talk a problem

through rather than ignore it. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\*\* Allow your creative juices to flow, especially if you hit a strange prob-

lem. The unexpected runs rampant when you are dealing with a partner, jointly held funds and risk-taking. On the positive side, you could win the lottery. On the negative, you could lose big-time if you risk what you don't have. Tonight: Add more lightness to your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\* Basics count in a crisis. Listen to feedback. Wondering which way to go is appropriate, as there are two different alternatives. Trust in your ability to discern the difference. Work with a creative individual to get results. Tonight: Fun

and games. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\* Talk allows new changes. Recognize that you have everything in line. Simply don't worry, and trust much more. Surprises come in from out of left field. Expect energy surges and blackouts. Tonight: Call it an early day. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\* Examine what is going on and try to discover what needs to happen. If you are in touch with your feelings, you are likely to make the right choice when a

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SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\* Your big smile moves mountains. Deal with issues spontaneously. You come from a self or core that you might not always be in sync with. If you see that your gut response is very different from your mental response, stop.

surprise pops up. Eye romance and risk-

taking carefully. Tonight: Hold on to

your wallet.

Tonight: Indulge. Relax. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\* If your sixth sense is pulling at you, use the opportunity to stop the whirlwind that surrounds you that you call life. Pulling back and taking time to assess different situations is important. Tonight: Off on your own.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\* You are full of life and energy, especially when with friends or a group of people. Your personality blooms to an unprecedented amount. Your instincts come forward. Listen and consider your options. Tonight: Where people are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\* You might want to loosen up and not feel as threatened by a supervisor or authority figure. Stop and recognize what you have to offer. Try to record what seems like a series of wild thoughts. Creativity flows through. Tonight: A must appearance.

**BORN TODAY** Actor Michael York (1942), singer Sarah Vaughan (1924), singer Mariah Carey

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2008 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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KII

RMP MTLOIORN

YWIOA EWTDAKROWD

RMP

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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I have seen several dogs and cats left outside in below-zero weather this winter. Yes, animals have fur to help them keep warm, but that doesn't mean they don't get cold (even in dog houses). People get cold staying outside for an extended amount of time, even when bundled up, so imagine how the animals feel. These innocent animals can suffer from frostbite and hypothermia just like humans. Won't you please remind your readers that pets should be brought inside on cold days and nights? -- ANIMAL LOVER IN NORFOLK, N.Y.

**DEAR ANIMAL LOVER:** While some breeds of dogs fare better in cold weather than others, all of them need interaction with their guardians. The animals you observed may have been left in the cold out of ignorance on the part of the humans with whom they co-exist. I don't care how furry some of our furry friends appear to be. Check with your veterinarian to see when your breed should be brought indoors.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a divorced single mother with a 13-year-old daughter I'll call "Gia." We live next door to an attractive 62-year-old widow I'll call "Doris," who has become like a grandmother to Gia and a dear friend to me. Last night I went to my daughter's room and found her standing on a stool in her closet looking out a small window into Doris' bedroom. When I asked Gia what she was doing, she didn't answer, so I climbed up on the stool to see for myself. Abby, Doris was in bed with her son, "Jeff," having sex. I could hardly believe my eyes! Jeff is 36 and a mama's boy. He has his own home but visits his mother often. Gia said she has watched them many times since we moved here four years ago, and described some of the

things she's seen. I'm not sure how to handle this. Doris is very close to us, and Gia seems unaffected when we get together for dinner or the movies, etc. Should I tell Doris and Jeff that I saw them? And what do I say to my daughter, who has been "educated" beyond her years? -- SEEN ENOUGH, CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

DEAR SEEN ENOUGH: You should definitely tell Doris that your daughter has been getting an eyeful from her closet window, and strongly suggest that Doris' curtains be closed when Jeff is "visiting." And if you haven't already talked to your daughter about sex -- and appropriate behavior -- it's time you played catch-up, so don't delay. I would find it hard to continue a friendship with a woman in an incestuous relationship with her son. They're in serious need of counseling.

DEAR ABBY: I am an assistant librarian in New Mexico. My daughter recently told me she's going to convert to Buddhism. I'm perplexed by her choice. I want to support her because her aunt is also a Buddhist, but I wasn't raised Buddhist. What advice can you give me? -- LONGTIME READER

DEAR LONGTIME READER: As an assistant librarian, you're surrounded by books. The time has come to pick up a couple and start reading about Buddhism and Buddhist philosophy. If you're near a computer, Google it. You'll find an abundance of information on the subject. I would also recommend that you attend a couple of meetings with your daughter. That way, you'll have a better understanding of what she -- and her aunt -- are attracted to.

#### For Better Or Worse





## Zits





DHAY.

YOU WONDER WHY I NEVER

**Profes** 

**Uphols** System

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8

### Garfield



#### **Beetle Bailey**





## Marvin





# **Crossword Puzzle**

#### CROSSWORD **By THOMAS JOSEPH** 40 Play ACROSS group 5 Muscle 41 Murder quality mystery

9 Exemfind plary 11 Alma --**DOWN** 12 Caesar's 1 Ab land strength-13 Apse ener sight port

Yesterday's answer 2 Black Sea 14 Employ 15 Kinder 3 Peruse 11 The Say Hey Kid garten's anew 16 Marine kin 4 Sea dog 18 Pleasant 17 Some-5 Soft thing to mineral 21 Bit of change mind 6 Canada's 23 Fiddle 19 Tie the capital 7 Ap-(with) knot 24 Split base 33 Budget 20 Parting proached 8 Goofed 25 Crowdword

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# Marmaduke



"Don't growl at me. You're the one who's supposed to get him up on time."

# The Family Circus

27 Fermi of

**28** Not

physics

standing

29 Subject

holder

**30** Bud

31 Frail

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"The big trouble with a goldfish as a pet, he can't sleep in my bed."

# B.C.



# **Haggar The Horrible**



# **Peanuts**



# Flo & Friends



# **Blondie**

