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**HIGH 87**  
**LOW 60**

See expanded weather on Page 2

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## Mesa

### Picken's rep said mogul's 'desire is to be fair'

By **DAVID BOWSER**  
The Pampa News

CHILDRESS — Boone Picken has a public relations problem.

About 120 people crowded into the Childress Fair Park Auditorium here this month for a town hall meeting with a handful of state legislators in response to a series of meetings Picken's

Roberts County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1 and Mesa Power are holding in connection with their plan to buy up a right-of-way from the Texas Panhandle to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex for a water pipeline and power transmission lines. But significantly, Ray Floyd of Collingsworth County voiced a comment at the Childress meeting that others mentioned while waiting for the meeting to start.

"The way it was presented to me was very offensive," Floyd said.

He said if Picken had approached the people here differently, it could have helped everyone.

"It looks like it is for his benefit only," Floyd

said.

A number of people commented that when they went to one of Mesa's meetings, Picken wasn't there.

When State Sen. Robert Duncan asked the people crowded into the auditorium here if the legislators present should support Mesa's project, nary a hand was raised. When he asked if the lawmakers should oppose it, almost everyone raised their hand. Some raised two hands.

The other problem at the meeting was that while most everybody agreed that the wind power project was good, transporting water from the Texas Panhandle was outrageous. No one wanted to talk about eminent

See MESA, Page 8



**Wreck**

Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers

The front door area of The Cottage Collection, 922 W. 23rd, was damaged Friday afternoon when a motorist in a green BMW sedan collided with the building. Pampa Police Department, Pampa Fire Department, Guardian EMS Ambulance Service, Gray County Sheriff's Department and a Gray County constable responded to the wreck, which occurred at about 4 p.m. No one was transported by ambulance from the scene, according to emergency services personnel.

**BUCKLE UP**

### Seat belts focus of initiative

By **MARILYN POWERS**  
The Pampa News

A law with which some Texas drivers don't always agree will be the focus of a statewide campaign which begins today and runs through June 1.

The seventh annual Click It or Ticket campaign, sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation, will spotlight the state's requirement for motor vehicle drivers and passengers to use their safety belts. Anyone ticketed for not being properly buckled in may receive a citation and be required to pay a fine of up to \$200.

Thousands of Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, police officers and sheriff's

deputies across the state will be participating in the Click It or Ticket campaign, according to Mark Cross of TxDOT in a news release.

A local kickoff to the campaign was held at 10:30 a.m. today at Clarendon Junior College in Clarendon. Speakers were scheduled to include State Rep. Warren Chisum, Transportation Commission Member Fred Underwood, Clarendon Junior College President Dr. Bill Auvenshine, Dr. John Howard of Clarendon Family Medical Center, Trooper Daniel Hawthorne of the DPS Childress office, and seat belt survivor Melissa McCoy.

While more than 92 percent of Texas drivers

See SAFETY, Page 2

### Weapon lands Lefors man in jail

By **MARILYN POWERS**  
The Pampa News

a knife.

Gray County Sheriff's Deputy Dennis Elliott and Lefors City Marshal Kerry Hodge responded to a call received at 2:35 a.m. Friday concerning a man with a knife. They arrived at the convenience store to find Leander Joseph Felmer, 24, with the weapon.

"This knife is apparently an

See KNIFE, Page 2

### Authorities search for dog

By **JULIE ANN THOMPSON**  
The Pampa News

A child was bitten by a Chihuahua yesterday in the 1000 block of South Nelson. While the bite was not severe, if the dog is not found in 10 days the child will have to take a series of vaccinations.

"We're looking for a solid black, or black and tan Chihuahua," Sandy Burns of Animal Control said. "He's very skittish."

Burns added that the dog acted as if it was lost. The child reached down to pet the animal and was bitten on the hand. If a bite breaks the skin it is

See DOG, Page 2

### Miami ISD to convene next meeting

By **JULIE ANN THOMPSON**  
The Pampa News

A wind energy project is just one of the items to be discussed at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Miami School District tonight at 7:30.

Other items to be discussed are available property for sale, the 2008-2009 budget and the resignation of a board member. The Board will also go over the Math TAKS scores for the fifth and eighth grades.

The meeting will be held at the Administration Office located at 100 Warrior Lane in Miami.



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

Arriving high and dry in a speedboat at Friday evening's Pampa High School Prom were, from left, Tanner Dyson, Rusty Snider, Kristin Smitka and Chelsie Douglas. Conveyances used to deliver promgoers to the red carpet leading to the front doors at M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium included a mule-drawn carriage, horses, motor vehicles of various types, a bathtub and a love seat. This year's prom featured a Hollywood theme and began at 7:30 p.m.

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The SBDC will be holding a

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on May 20th from 6-8 pm, free of charge.

If you have any questions contact the Chamber office at 669-3241.



**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**



**Sunny**



**Sunny**



**Sunny**

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. East wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. East-southeast wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 89. Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 66.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66.

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**Dogs apparently kill 7-year-old on road**

ABILENE, Texas (AP)—A 7-year-old boy died after he was apparently attacked by two dogs along a road, according to the Stephens County Sheriff's Department.

A driver saw Tanner Joshua Monk of Breckenridge lying next to a road near Hubbard

Lake on Sunday with two pit bulls nearby and stopped to check on the child, Sheriff Jim Reeves said. When she left her car, the dogs became aggressive and she called 911, he said.

The dogs also became aggressive toward the two deputies who arrived, and they shot and killed them. The deputies found that Tanner was dead, Reeves said in Monday's edition of the Abilene Reporter-News.

The two pit bulls, along with two others seized at the scene by law enforcement, belonged to a neighbor of the child's family, Reeves said. An autopsy will be ordered for Tanner, and tests will be performed on the dogs that were shot.

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**Obituaries**

**Services tomorrow**

**SHIPLEY, Patricia Fern** — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Memory Gardens Cemetery, Pampa.

**Patricia Fern Shipley, 64**

Patricia Fern Shipley, 64, died May 15, 2008, at Amarillo, Texas. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at Memory Gardens Cemetery, with Frankie Lemons, minister of the Southside Church of Christ, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral directors.

Mrs. Shipley was born Oct. 21, 1943, in Oklahoma. She later moved to Borger where she attended Borger

schools. She then moved to Pampa in the early 1970's, and worked in the health care industry at Pampa Nursing Center, retiring in the early 1990's.

She loved to cook, watch golf, and spend time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.



**Shipley**

Survivors include two daughters, Kristie Fuller and husband Johnnie of Pampa, and Kendra Henderson of Vernon; two brothers, Eugene Cryer and wife Dana of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, and Jerry Cryer and wife Linda of Texas; two sisters, Martha Williams and husband Johnny of Angleton,

and Wadene West of Dickinson; two grandsons, Bryson Fuller and Joshua Fuller, both of Pampa; and a host of nieces and nephews. Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, Wade and Junita Cryer; and a sister, Shirley Griffin.

MEMORIALS: American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065.

—Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

**Safety**

Continued from Page 1

buckle up, passengers are lagging behind when it comes to using safety belts. According to the Texas Transportation Institute, only 87 percent of passengers in Texas use a safety belt, and that number dips to 79 percent when evaluating pickup truck passengers.

"Since pickups are twice as likely as passenger vehicles to roll over in a fatal crash, we worry about the safety of people who don't take the simple precaution of buckling up when they're in a truck," said Carlos Lopez, TxDOT's traffic operations director. "Wearing a safety belt reduces the risks of dying in a pickup rollover crash by as much as 80 percent."

Safety advocates report that drivers and passengers who buckle up have a 50 percent better chance of surviving serious traffic collisions and avoiding serious injuries.

Since the Click It or Ticket campaign was first launched in Texas in 2002, there have been an estimated 1,600 fewer traffic fatalities in Texas and 37,000 fewer injuries as a result of increased safety belt use, according to the news release.

"The simple act of buckling up is the easiest, least expensive and most effective way to prevent traffic deaths and injuries," Lopez said. "It also can keep you from getting a ticket."

**Emergency Services**

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

**Saturday, May 17**

Miranda Michelle Smith, 22, of Amarillo was arrested by Pampa Police Department for public intoxication.

Salvador Rodriguez, 30, of Pampa was arrested by PPD on a probation violation for violation of a protective order.

Chauntyl Fay Martinez, 25, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for no valid driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, possession of drug paraphernalia unrestrained child under 2 years of age and three counts of failure to appear/bail jumping.

**Sunday, May 18**

Aaron Ray Miller, 24, of Olney was arrested by PPD for possession of drug paraphernalia and no liability insurance.

Jeffery Baker, 43, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a capias pro fine for no valid driver's license.

Luis David Torres, 20, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for driving while intoxicated, no liability insurance and no valid driver's license.

Kenneth Eugene Lovejoy, 28, of Skellytown was arrested by PPD for manufacture/delivery of four grams or more but less than 200 grams of a controlled substance in a drug-free zone.

Estevan Manuel Portillo, 25, of Levelland was arrested by PPD for a seat belt violation, failure to yield, failure to maintain financial responsibility and two counts of failure to appear.

David Ernest Hiser, 58, of Eureka, Calif., was arrested by GCSO for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Steve Moses Rodriguez, 18, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for possession of marijuana, driving while intoxicated, no valid driver's license and theft of property over \$50 and under \$500.

Marshall Clayton Johnson, 42, of Pampa was arrested by PPD for driving while intoxicated, expired motor vehicle registration, no valid driver's license and no liability insurance.

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

**Saturday, May 18**

2:12 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 300 block of South Gray on a call for lifting assistance.

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today.

**Saturday, May 17**

6:31 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of Powell and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:16 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1500 block of Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

10:08 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of Tignor and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:22 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of Locust. No transport.

3:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to a local nursing center.

7:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 700 block of Brunow and transported a patient to PRMC.

**Sunday, May 18**

12:52 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of North Hobart. No transport.

4:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded north of Pampa on Highway 70 and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

6:03 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

9:47 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to County Road 12 1/2 and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

10:21 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing facility and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

11:37 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 200 block of Wells and transported a patient to PRMC.

**CITY BRIEFS**

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

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**EARLY CLASSIFIED** Deadlines: Class. Ads & City Briefs for Sun. May 25 is Fri. May 23 at noon. Mon. May 26 is Fri. May 23 @ 2pm. Tues. May 27th is Fri. May 23 @ 4pm. have a Happy & Safe Memorial Day weekend. *The Pampa News!*

**EARLY DEADLINES** for Sun. May 25: weddings, engagements, babies, etc. (all lifestyles items) is Tues., May 20th, at 5pm. Have a safe & happy Memorial Day & weekend. *The Pampa News.*

**SKELLYTOWN NEWSPAPER** Carrier needed. Apply in person, Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison.

**Knife**

Continued from Page 1

extremely large knife," said GCSO Lt. Joe B. Hoard. "He apparently called someone and told them he had a knife and if the police did not

show up, he was going to be dead. He did not threaten anyone with the knife."

Feltner was arrested and

booked into Gray County Jail at 3 a.m. Friday on a charge of unlawful carrying of a weapon.

**Grand opening**



Photo by Kerri Smith  
**Georgina Tamouys, left, and Carmen Rodriguez make fresh flour tortillas during the grand opening of Fiesta Foods Saturday. Corn and flour tortillas will be made fresh daily at the newly renovated store.**

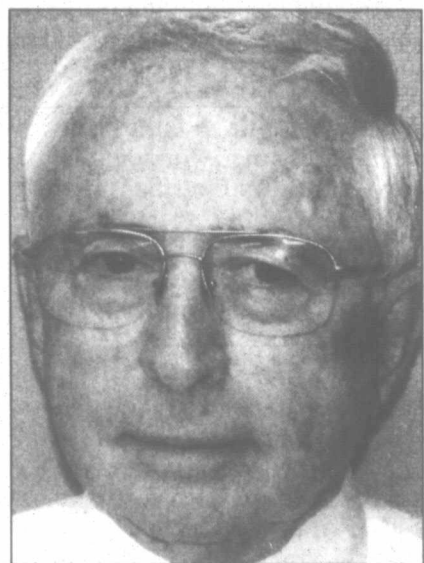


# Chamber

## CHAMBER LETTER

Seemingly there has been a significant increase in activity in May. One of the more significant happenings was the passage of the Clarendon College-Pampa Campus 5 percent Maintenance Tax. I realize the additional tax authorized by the passage of this item was not welcome by everyone — because, after all, it is an additional tax. However, there will be several benefits that our residents will enjoy.

First, the tuition for Gray County Residents will be lowered and a further enticement for our young people to stay a least an additional two years in Gray County. Second, the college will be able to add additional buildings, and therefore offer additional vocational training. First and foremost the passage sends a message to all that Gray County is both aggressive and progressive in providing educational opportunities to all of its residents.



■ Keith Pitner

From an economic development standpoint, the passage is a strong indicator that Gray County is being proactive in providing vocational training opportunities for its workforce — both young and old alike. We at the Chamber look forward to working closely with Bill Auvenshine, Interim Clarendon College President, and Raymond Jaramillo, Dean of Clarendon College-Pampa Campus, as our Pampa Campus grows.

The Annual Pampa Partnership Golf Tournament was held this month on May 10th and 11th, Saturday at Hidden Hills and Sunday at the Pampa Country Club. It was a little windy Saturday, but Sunday was near perfect. Both courses looked great.

Our first annual Cookin' on the Bricks is coming along well with several entries already in. It will be held directly across from the east side of the courthouse on the Bank of America lot (now owned by Rusty Stevens). It will be held in conjunction with the Burnin' of the Bricks on June 14th — which has grown into a "must participate and/or see" event in Pampa. You are invited to enter (come by the Chamber office for entry forms) or come by the participants' grills and/or cooking trailers and sample our local area chefs' special recipes.

All of us at the Pampa Greater Area Chamber of Commerce congratulate our area graduating seniors! It is an important time in your lives and how you handle your new responsibilities — whether in pursuing higher education or in your jobs for the next few years will be very important in how you succeed during the rest of your lives. We hope you face your challenges seriously and with vigor. We wish you the best and look forward to hearing about you in the future.

Keith Pitner  
Executive Director

## Pampa Chamber of Commerce Cookin' on the Bricks



**Time: 8am—8pm**  
with different  
judging times

**Date: 06/14/2008**

**Where: Located in the parking lot west of Bank of America drive-ups 301 N. Cuyler.**

The competition cooking category classes consist of: Briskets, Chicken, Pork Ribs, and Pork (Boston Butt, Picnic, Whole Shoulder). Entry Fees are: \$50 for individuals and non-profit organizations and \$100 for business' and professionals. If your team is interested in entering more than one cooking category, there will be an additional charge of \$5 per class.

Contact the Chamber office @  
669-3241 or stop by 200 N.  
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# Viewpoints

## Texas Tales: Cowpokes love a greenhorn chump

The cowpoke took a deep sip of lukewarm beer, then slid his mug down the bar for a refill.

Casually glancing at the mirror behind the bar, he saw a young stranger walk into the saloon. His bloodshot eyes warmed, radiating pleasure and a glint of evil as he watched the neatly dressed drummer, a traveling salesman, gingerly approaching the bar.

Not only did the drummer appear to be a dandy, more than likely he hailed from that place Texans tended to dismiss as "Back East."

The cowboy sauntered over to the young gentleman.

"Buy you a drink, bud?"

"Well, I might take a glass of water."

"Hey, Joe," the cowboy yelled to the bartender, "this gentleman would like a glass of water."

As the drummer sipped his drink, the cowboy assessed the dude peddler.

"Listen friend, I see you're new in town. I bet you didn't even know we had a bad-

ger fight lined up today, did you?"

"Why no," he replied, wide-eyed, "I didn't. But what, sir, is a badger fight?"

"Well now, bud, you're in luck. I think you still might be in time to get in on this one. In fact, since you're new in town, we'll let you have the honors."

"The honors?"

"Yeah, com'on, I'll show you."

The cowboy stood up on a chair and announced:

"Hey boys, this drummer's never seen a badger fight. I told him he was just in time for one today."

At that, the other boys grabbed their drinks and began moving upstairs. Quickly, the room above the saloon, used mostly for storage, was cleared to accommodate a crowd.

Soon, a man came up the stairs hefting a big barrel. Another man came in with a ferocious looking dog, straining on its leash.

A badger fight, someone explained to the drummer, was just that. The barrel held one of the strip-faced animals known for its vicious temper. As soon as the bets went down, the badger and the dog would fight to the death.

"To show this here drummer a good ole West Texas welcome," the lead cowboy announced, "we're gonna let him pull the badger outta the barrel."

The drummer couldn't believe his luck.

After placing a chair atop a table, a couple of the cowboys carefully lifted the barrel and put it on the chair.

With great ceremony, someone then ushered the drummer to a point near the barrel. "When you're ready," his new friend told the drummer, "reach up and pull that barrel down toward you. That old badger will come flying out right past you and lit straight into the dog."

Already composing in his mind the letter

he would send his family to tell them of the singular honor he had been accorded, the proud drummer did as he had been told. Reaching up to put his hand on the top edge of the barrel, he jerked it as hard as he could.

As the cowboys roared in delight, weeks of accumulated slop flooded down on the hapless greenhorn.

Initiations like this happened all over the West. The modus operandi varied from perpetrator-to-perpetrator. Sometimes a full chamber pot (used as a "Porta Potty" before indoor plumbing) was inside the barrel instead of slop.

My late grandfather, L.A. Wilke, who told me this story, says the good folks of Sonora were still laughing about this particular badger fight when he went there from San Angelo in 1915 to buy a printing press.

Granddad would have only been 18 at the time. Makes me wonder why the Sonora boys didn't try the stunt on him.

**Mike Cox**  
Columnist



## McCain not convincing as another 'Rambo'

Sen. John McCain has said he will be Hamas' worst nightmare. It's a juvenile thing to say. The line sounded more convincing when Sly Stallone said it in one of his Rambo movies.

What does the Senator propose to do to Hamas? Refuse to recognize the Hamas members who are the legitimately elected representatives of the Palestinians? It's already been done. Assassinate Hamas' leadership? The Israelis do that every chance they get. Put Hamas' elected officeholders in prison? Done that. Seal off the Gaza Strip and impose collective punishment on a million innocent people? The Israelis have done that. Set up roadblocks? Done. Periodically attack the Palestinians with advanced weapons? Done.

What Sen. McCain is much more likely to do as president is become America's worst nightmare by continuing the failed policies of the Bush administration. Here is a man who has publicly admitted that he knows nothing about economics and who confuses Sunnis and Shiites. What are the two major problems facing America? Economic troubles and a war in the Middle East involving Shiites and Sunnis. Sen. McCain finished near the bottom of his class at Annapolis and launched his political career by dumping the wife who stood by him during his imprisonment and marrying big money. Excuse me if I'm not overwhelmed with his resume.

Decades ago, he got shot

**Charley Reese**

Columnist



down and became a hero, along with all the other men who were prisoners of war. Enduring imprisonment and torture, however, is not the skill set necessary to be president. Nobody will lock him up in the White House. He will need to act in a wise manner to get the U.S. out of the hole George W. Bush and his howling tribe of neocons dug. I don't know how he will do that while embracing Bush and his howling neocons.

Sen. McCain was a hero in the past. In the present, he's a politician. Americans would do well to remember that and to assess him on his qualifications and not on his history. He's also 71 years old and will be 72 if and when he takes office.

There are a billion Muslims in the world. There are a billion Chinese and a billion people in India. There are two nuclear powers we should be concerned about — Russia and China. Instead, you hear our politicians make threats against Iran, which is a non-nuclear power and not much of power at that. If you think there is something in the water in Washington that makes people lose their marbles, it's understandable.

However, the source of all the so-called anxiety about Iran is Israel and its lobby. There is a simple

solution. That is to tell the Israelis that if they are afraid of Iran, they are free to go to war with Iran. Israel already has nuclear weapons. We should tell the Israelis that we won't help them, but we won't hinder them, either. After all, Israel is a sovereign nation and can do what it pleases. In the meantime,

we have other fish to fry.

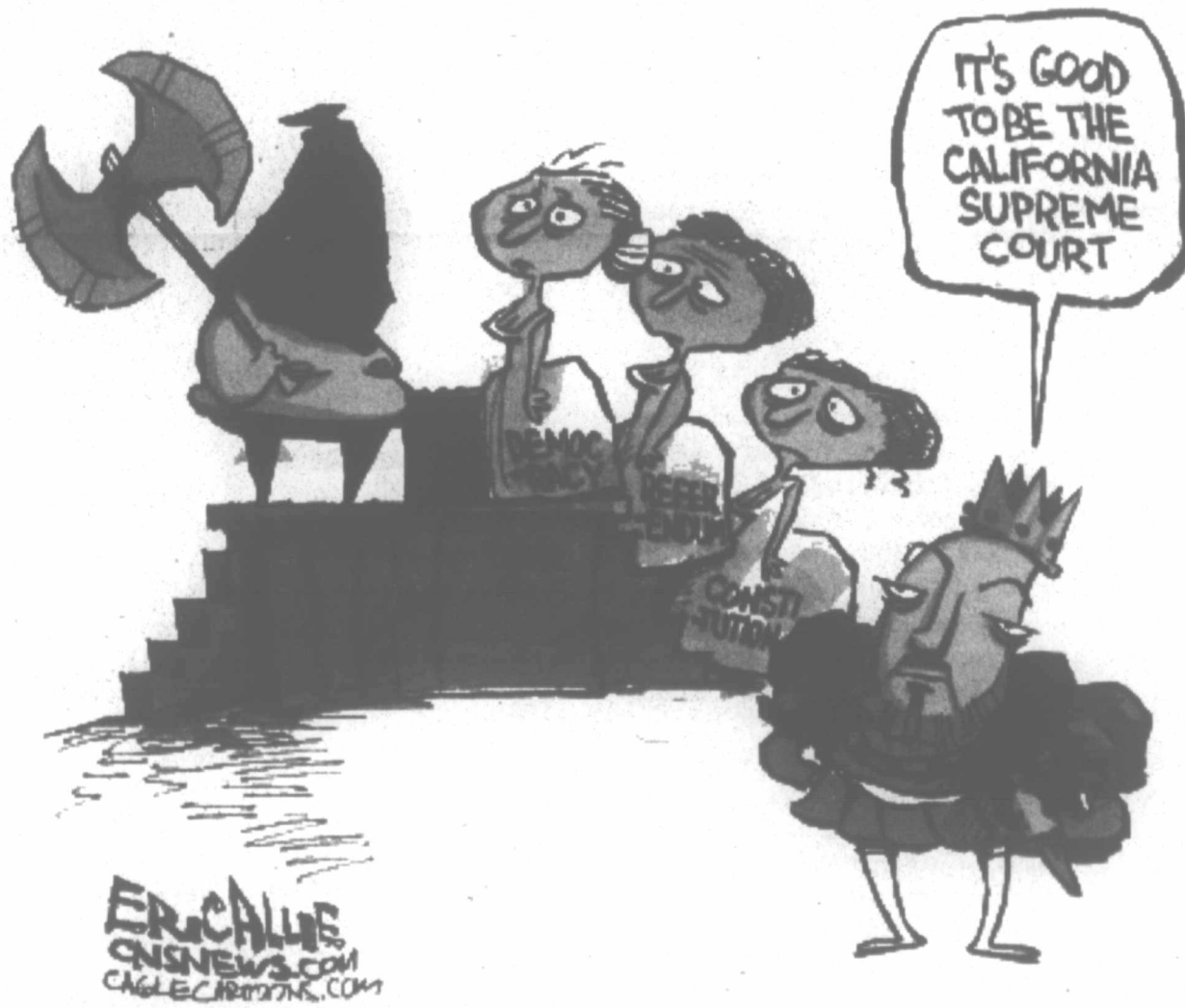
Iraq and Afghanistan can bankrupt us if we don't get out of there. Sen. McCain said it is OK with him if we stay in Iraq 100 years. Well, I hope that's not OK with the American people. Iraq is never going to settle down so that we can peacefully occupy it for the next century. Anybody who

believes that doesn't know much about the Iraqi people.

All Sen. McCain is promising is more of the same, which is precisely what the American people don't need. We need to repair our economy and to mend fences abroad. Macho talk borrowed from make-believe macho movie

characters should have no place in our diplomacy. Hollywood heroes have scriptwriters to make sure the bad guys miss. American presidents and the American people don't.

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



## Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Austin American-Statesman on where taxpayers' money goes:

Phantoms of the payroll make taxpayers' money disappear right under legislators' noses. The Texas House of Representatives, which is not even in session, is in an uproar over the outing by the American-Statesman of a number of its "ghost employees," who are listed as full-time employees but put in few hours of work. Often, these employees — including several former state representatives — are paid low salaries, but they qualify for state health insurance and pension benefits.

Despite some attempts to justify it, the practice cheats taxpayers and should stop.

Our ghostbuster was Mike Ward, an American-Statesman reporter who disclosed in the May 2 editions that House Speaker Tom Craddick had ordered the House General Investigating and Ethics Committee to look into the practice and that subpoenas had been issued by the Travis County district attorney.

Among those first identified as hiring ghost employees were two Democratic representatives, Craig Eiland of Galveston and Jim Dunnam of Waco, and one Republican, Byron

Cook of Corsicana.

For example, Dunnam last fall hired former state Rep. Miguel Wise of Weslaco to serve — full-time — as his "legislative legal counsel/staff" for all of \$100 a month. Low pay for little work, but Wise's full-time status entitles him to state-paid health insurance and counts toward qualifying him for a state pension.

State lawmakers say the practice is common, has been done for years, is well known among legislators and is legal. In part, at least, it reflects the part-time nature of the Legislature itself, which meets in regular session for only five months every other year.

Why, then, the sudden spotlight on ghost employees? Because, critics say, Craddick is out to damage House opponents who tried to oust him last year — a group that includes Eiland, Dunnam and Cook.

But two can play this game. As we also learned last week, at least one member of Craddick's leadership team also has had a ghost employee — Rep. Tony Goolsby, a Dallas Republican and chairman of the House Administration Committee, which oversees internal House business.

Goolsby, Ward reported, hired a lobbyist, Jennifer Shelley Rodriguez — daughter of one of the best-connected lobbyists in Austin, former state Rep.

Dan Shelley — for a four-month period in 2003-2004 as a full-time employee at \$500 a month to put out a newsletter. Goolsby conceded that he probably should have classified her as a part-time employee.

It was Goolsby, a Craddick ally, who earlier had sent out a stern letter directing all House members to comply with rules that require full-time House employees to actually work 40 hours.

Craddick's aides deny that the speaker is politically motivated in working to end the practice of hiring ghost employees. But Craddick, with 39 years as a state representative, is the senior member of the House and nobodys fool; it's hard to believe that he just learned about ghost employees.

Yet Craddick is right to push the House to end the practice. Lawmakers should not be putting former legislators on their state-paid payrolls as full-time employees in little- or no-work jobs just to help them qualify for pension benefits or get health insurance.

Nor should they do it to provide taxpayer-paid health insurance to friends, allies, buddies or their relatives in a state where 24 percent of its residents do not have health insurance of any kind, though they daily pay sales taxes that help pay for state government. URL: <http://www.statesman.com>

**THE PAMPA NEWS**  
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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** Is 33 too young for a man to have a midlife crisis? I honestly believe that is what's happening to my husband. We have been married almost 13 years and have three children. Suddenly he wants out. Don't get me wrong, although our marriage has been rocky, I truly believed that we loved each other. He says he has been unhappy for years, and I'm the only one who didn't see it. He now has a girlfriend and talks about having his body pierced, etc. I spend each day praying he'll return to his senses and come back. Does the hurt ever go away? One day I'm happy-go-lucky, and the next I spend crying. Am I crazy? Is it possible to love and hate someone all at once? I need a dose of wisdom from someone besides my family and friends. Please help me. I'm trying to hold it together for the children, but it gets harder with each passing day. -- **IN TURMOIL IN TENNESSEE**

**DEAR IN TURMOIL:** You and your husband married young. If a midlife crisis can be defined as panic that life has passed a person by and doing something irrational, then that may be what has happened to your husband. However, from where I sit, it appears that your husband has taken up with a wild-and-free woman, which has caused temporary amnesia. He has "forgotten" to be a responsible father of three and a husband. This is less a mental breakdown than a moral failure. Considering the way you have been blindsided, I'd say your mood swings are normal. This may seem like small consolation, but with time, your hurt and anger will subside to the point that

they are not all-consuming. Right now, you need the support of friends and family. You also need to begin thinking seriously about how to create a life for yourself should Mr. Pincushion make his absence permanent. If he does eventually come to his senses, it will make you more attractive. If he doesn't, it will make you stronger, more self-reliant, and help to distract you from the pain you're experiencing. You have my sympathy, but please believe me when I tell you that, painful as this may be, it does not have to be the end of the world.

**DEAR ABBY:** My stepsister, who I have to share my room with when she stays with us, snooped in my drawers when I wasn't there and found my birth control pills. Now she's blackmailing me. She says she will tell my mother if I don't give her money. Mother would go crazy if she found out I was using the pill. I know she wouldn't let me see my boyfriend anymore, and I couldn't handle that. I never thought I would feel like killing somebody, but that's the way I feel right now. Please tell me what to do. I don't want to give in to blackmail. -- **VICTIMIZED IN WYOMING**

**DEAR VICTIMIZED:** Murder isn't an option, and neither is giving in to blackmail. If you give a blackmailer money, the demands will only escalate -- which leaves you with one other choice: Tell your mother before she does. While the pill may protect you against pregnancy, it does not protect against sexually transmitted diseases. And because you are now sexually active, you need to be seen by a gynecologist to be sure you don't have one.

## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

#### ACROSS

- 1 Ocean chasm
- 6 Lasagna
- 11 Minister to
- 12 Make invalid
- 13 Devilfish
- 14 Jewel
- 15 Heaps
- 17 Crayon makeup
- 18 Opening aid
- 22 Destroy
- 23 Pencil
- 27 Heavyset
- 28 Intent
- 30 Distraught
- 32 Not "fer"
- 33 Contest for hot rods
- 35 Chapeau
- 38 Duo plus one
- 39 Even a little
- 41 Christie of Andrews
- 45 Determination
- 46 Chilled
- 47 Barbecue rods
- 48 Comical

#### DOWN

- 1 Cash dispenser

CABOT DONUT  
ALAMO ADORN  
SCREW BEGAN  
HORNER ONE  
EVE LOSTOUT  
DEN RAPIDS  
FACES  
APACHE WAS  
CRANKED ARC  
ACT STRIDE  
RATES RAVEN  
ANODE AGENT  
TENSE PESTS

#### Saturday's answer

- 2 Bikini piece
- 3 Longing
- 4 Was idle, in a way
- 5 Celery
- 6 Church serving
- 7 Crumb bearer
- 8 Skiing surface
- 9 Casserole staple
- 10 Baseball's Rodriguez
- 16 Small bill
- 18 Maid's target
- 19 Aware of
- 20 Skunk's defense
- 21 Discuss
- 24 Long story down from
- 25 Rock's Clapton
- 26 Painter
- 28 Pecan candies
- 31 Golf goal
- 34 Typical soldier
- 35 Bad shoe marking
- 36 Looking down from
- 37 Car for hire
- 40 Turned on
- 42 Topper
- 43 Here, to Henri
- 44 Wide shoe marking

## Marmaduke



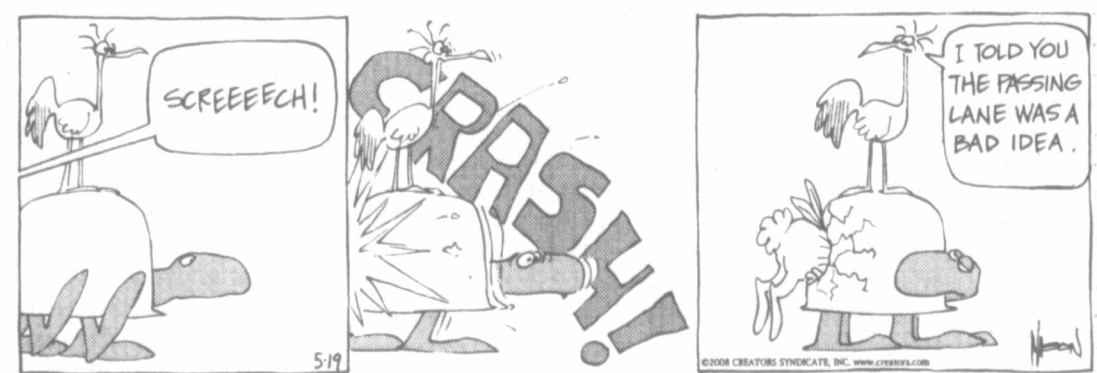
## The Family Circus

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Flo & Friends



## Blondie





# Sports

## Altus to hold Jr. Open Tennis Tournament

The 2008 Altus Junior Open Tennis Tournament will be held June 6-8, 2008. Play for 14s, 16s and 18s singles (boys and girls) will begin on Friday, June 6 at 9:00a.m. The majority of singles play starts and concludes on the same day. Singles for 10s and 12s boys and girls will start at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 7. Doubles for all divisions will be played on Saturday. Play on Sunday, June 8 is set aside for weather days.

"We will rarely play on Sunday," Tournament Director Jesse Stovall said.

Since the "AJO" is sanctioned by the United States Tennis Association, USTA membership is required for

all participants. Enrolling in the tournament and obtaining USTA membership may be done online. Cost for annual membership is \$18 per youth. An additional flat fee of \$20 allows contestants to play in singles and doubles. There is a \$3 fee added by the web master to online entries. To enter, go to [www.altustennis.vze.com](http://www.altustennis.vze.com). Once there, click the link for the "Altus Jr. Open." Follow the instructions for USTA membership and/or entering the AJO. Contestants who sign up online by May 31 will receive a free t-shirt when they check-in on tournament day. E-mail Stovall your shirt size after registering online. This year the AJO will fea-

ture a mixed doubles mixer on Friday night, June 6 at 7:30. Male/female pairs will need to sign-up for the division and will paly together in each round. The Friday night mixer is open for adults and youths and will last about two hours. There is no charge for the mixer and USTA membership is not required. Interested parties should sign-up for the mixed doubles on June 6 by seeing Stovall at the tournament desk at the high school courts.

For more information contact Jesse Stovall at: 580-481-4190, 580-482-9831 or e-mail [jessestovall2002@yahoo.com](mailto:jessestovall2002@yahoo.com).

## Ochoa reaffirms No.1 status in Sybase Classic

CLIFTON, N.J. (AP) — Lorena Ochoa answered every challenge in the Sybase Classic.

A day after leaving Annika Sorenstam in the dust and reaffirming her status as the world's best female golfer, Ochoa overcame a balky putter to shoot a 1-under 71 and post a one-stroke victory over five players on Sunday for her sixth win in nine starts this year.

"I'm feeling good," Ochoa said after her 23rd overall win and 20th since April 2006. "I want to make this a very special season. I always thought that 2008 would be a great year the way I started, and I'm going to make sure I continue that. I'm going to go into every tournament 100 percent trying to win every week."

This was an important week for Ochoa.

For the first time since taking over the No. 1 ranking,

the 26-year-old Mexican seemingly was facing a serious challenge to the top spot with Sorenstam coming off consecutive wins, including a record-setting performance the previous week at Kingsmill.

Sorenstam, who announced on Tuesday that this would be her final season on the tour, then went out and took the opening-round lead at the Sybase at the Upper Montclair Country Club.

After a washout on Friday, Ochoa responded on Saturday by taking a two-shot lead and opening a five-shot margin over the 37-year-old Sorenstam.

Ochoa then did something out of the ordinary on Sunday. She didn't run away from the rest of the field. She opened a four-shot lead and then had her putter betray her. For the round, she missed 10 birdie chances of

20 feet or less, including nine under 15 feet.

It put her under pressure, and she still found a way to win.

"It was a tough day, but I did it," Ochoa said. "I think that was what was important. It doesn't matter how you do it sometimes; you play really good, other players struggle, sometimes you just keep yourself in a good position. Today it was different; it was a different win, but I enjoyed it a lot."

Her five other wins this year were by a combined 37 strokes, with the closest margin being three shots.

The \$300,000 top prize pushed her career earnings past the \$12 million mark, making her the fastest player on the LPGA Tour to reach that plateau.

Ochoa accomplished it in just over five years, more than four years faster than the old mark set by Sorenstam, who never was a factor in the final round after a bogey on the first hole.

"I wanted to start with birdies, put some pressure on and it started the other way," Sorenstam said. "It was tough to come back."

Sophie Gustafson of Sweden, Morgan Pressel, Catriona Matthew of Scotland, rookie leader Na Yeon Choi and Brittany Lang all finished the 54-hole tournament at 9-under-par 207, a shot behind Ochoa in the rain-shortened 54-hole tournament.

Gustafson had a 12-footer to tie. The putt was right all the way.

### API Scholarship Tournament results

The 2008 American Petroleum Institute Scholarship Tournament played recently at Pampa Country Club. Winners of the a.m. flight were the Hughes Christian Team with a 57, while Holman Services dominated the p.m. flight with a 53. In the a.m. Brad Bailey won the Happy State bank "Closest to the Hole," Jason Orr the Fenton Motors Long Drive, Joe L'Esperance the API Long Drive, and George Mendoza the API "Closest to the Hole." In the p.m. it was Rob Graham taking Happy State Bank, Shae Cunningham the Fenton Long Drive, Cheryl Lanham the API Long Drive and Rusty Logue the API "Closest to the Pin." Chris Ford made a hole in one on #7 with an 8 iron from 150 yds. He won a Boze sound system sponsored by Fenton Motors.

## Big Brown cruises to another easy victory in Preakness

BALTIMORE (AP) — Big Brown charged to the lead turning for home and then cruised down the stretch to win the Preakness on Saturday, still perfect and squarely pointed toward thoroughbred racing's first Triple Crown in 30 years.

Just as he did two weeks ago in a Kentucky Derby marred by the breakdown of Eight Belles, the colt named for UPS delivered another stunning win, this time by 5 1/4 lengths. Macho Again was second and Icabod Crane was third.

Big Brown broke from the middle of an undistinguished pack and jockey Kent Desormeaux took him off the pace. They ran third down the backstretch before roaring around the final turn and pulled away from the field.

"It was almost like the Kentucky Derby. He just set sail," Desormeaux said.

In the Derby, Big Brown started on the far outside of 19 horses and used an explosive finishing kick to win by 4 3/4 lengths, the tightest margin in his 5-0 career.

The bay colt joined Majestic Prince (1969), Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew (1977) and Smarty Jones (2004) as undefeated Derby and Preakness winners.

"He just keeps on getting better," trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. said.

Big Brown is the first 3-year-old since Smarty Jones to head for the Belmont Stakes with a triple try in play. The final leg of the Triple Crown will be raced Saturday, June 7. It's been 30 years since Affirmed swept the Derby, Preakness and Belmont to give racing its 11th Triple Crown winner.

Desormeaux didn't even need the whip in the stretch; he simply crossed the reins to let Big Brown know it was time to take off. At various points, Desormeaux ducked his head under his right arm to check on the fading com-

petition. There was no need. Big Brown was in total control.

"I looked between my legs, under my arms, they were eight back," he said. "I just stopped riding, reeled him in and just made sure he didn't pull up. He just kept kicking his legs up and striding for the wire."

Big Brown covered 1 3-16 miles in 1:54.80. Sent off at 1-5 odds, he paid \$2.40, \$2.60 and \$2.40.

Macho Again returned \$17.20 and \$10.40, while Icabod Crane paid \$5.60.

The victory put the sport's focus back on racing after two weeks of frenzied debate about safety and breeding following Eight Belles' catastrophic breakdown. His dominating performance came in front of a crowd that surely breathed easier after all 12 runners returned safely. On the same track just two years ago, Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro broke down early in the race.

The Preakness win also means Big Brown's connections — Dutrow, Desormeaux and principal owners Michael Iavarone and Richard Schiavo who once worked on Wall Street — are headed back to their New York base with a horse that could make history.

Big Brown again backed up Dutrow's boast that the Preakness was his race to lose and if the colt broke out of the starting gate cleanly, he would win.

Dutrow got his hands on the silver Woodlawn Vase at Pimlico, where his late father Richard Sr. was a leading trainer in the 1970s and his brother Anthony saddled horses Saturday.

It was an especially meaningful trip to the winner's circle, since Dutrow had accompanied his father on past Preakness days before the two fell out over the younger Dutrow's drug use and blown chances. In the past, his training license was

revoked for personal drug use and he was suspended for doping horses.

The Preakness was also a homecoming for Desormeaux, the Cajun jockey who launched his career in Maryland in 1987. Cheering him on were his wife and two sons, including 9-year-old Jacob. The boy was born with Usher syndrome, a genetic disorder that stole his hearing at birth, and is slowly robbing him of his sight.

In 1998, Desormeaux rode Real Quiet to wins in the Derby and Preakness only to be denied Triple Crown immortality when Victory Gallop stuck his nose in front at the wire in the Belmont.

Big Brown earned \$600,000 for the win and boosted his earnings to \$2,714,500 for Iavarone and Schiavo, co-owners of IEAH Stables, and Paul Pompa Jr. Pompa named Big Brown in honor of UPS, a major client of his Brooklyn trucking business.

The festive mood at Pimlico after the race was in sharp contrast to the scene at Churchill Downs two weeks ago. Eight Belles, the filly who took on 19 colts and finished second, broke both front ankles while galloping out and had to be euthanized on the track, the first time that has happened in the Derby.

It was the second time a horse had broken down in the past five Triple Crown races. Barbaro shattered his right rear leg shortly after the start of the 2006 Preakness, stunning more than 100,000 fans, many of whom cried at the sight of the Derby winner taken away in an ambulance. Barbaro was euthanized eight months later because of laminitis, an often fatal hoof disease.

There was no sadness Saturday, only giddy anticipation that racing might see another first Triple Crown winner in long last.

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.

### 5-19 CRYPTOQUOTE

MCB NY FWB UW WTCI WMG

UIWNFG; MCB NY ILBDCI

SICSLIC RWI JDLB HY BW

OWVC — OHOCIW

Saturday's Cryptoquote: JUSTICE IS THE INSURANCE WE HAVE ON OUR LIVES AND PROPERTY; OBEDIENCE IS THE PREMIUM WE PAY FOR IT. — WILLIAM PENN

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, May 20, 2008.

You have a lot going for you this birthday year, especially after 2008. You discover the sheer magic of your personality and charisma. Knowing how to mobilize and use your different talents could be instrumental. Events and situations invite you to look at the big picture. If you are single, understand that you remain so by choice. Look around; see your options. If you are attached, travel and perhaps taking a mutual interest in a hobby will enhance your bond. SAGITTARIUS can often challenge you.

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)

\*\*\*\* Situations encourage an overview rather than an immediate answer. The process might be more significant than the end results. With this knowledge, you can and will make headway. Consider yourself an explorer rather than a solution-finder. Tonight: Let your mind wander.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\*\*\* You often learn the hard way, but how much fun is that? Learn to look at the big picture. Right now you will need to defer to someone who is absolutely sure that he or she is right. Open doors rather than close them. Tonight: A discussion could be like a ping-pong match!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\*\* You might feel a distinct switch in energy, as if the Force is on your side. Listen to your instincts, but at the same time avoid major challenges. The ball

feels like it is in your court, but it might not have landed... yet. Tonight: Do what you do best — socialize.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\* Let others do what they must. You could be overly tired or simply have had too much on your plate. Sometimes it is nice to say that you are done with an issue. Try it on for size, if nothing else. Lie back. Do only what you must. Tonight: Yawn... get some extra zzz's.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

\*\*\*\* Your willingness to be creative and a bit avant-garde is known by many. Others see you stepping up to the plate and greeting accomplishment once more. Know that you are about to hit a home run — maybe not today, but in the next few weeks. Tonight: Let your hair down.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\*\* Focus on family values and priorities. You won't go wrong if you stay centered on these topics. Problems will ensue if you get distracted. Bosses or authority figures could demand way too much — another opportunity to practice saying no diplomatically. Tonight: Stay close to home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\*\* You have an impact like few can or will have. Your mind helps you travel to new horizons and do what might appear to many as new or revolutionary. Take an offer with a grain of salt. Pick and choose your priorities. Tonight: Hang out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\* Be careful when dealing with money. What seems like a great idea one minute could be a disaster in the making the next. Don't travel down that path. Rather, open up to new possibilities.

Think positively. Tonight: Pay bills, then decide.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

\*\*\*\* You know what is happening, especially as you seem to be taking the lead and dominating. Others respond well to your leadership. Make what you want happen. You know what you are doing. Tonight: Act like the world is your oyster!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

\*\*\*\* Know when to back off and let someone else take the lead. You don't always need to be "the one." In fact, you might enjoy a break from the hectic pace. Decide what is reasonable as far as taking some time off. Tonight: Vanish. You really can.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

\*\*\*\* Zoom in where there are discussions and people. Events happen quickly and definitively. You could be close to impossible to stop. Lighten up and know when something is really impossible. Tonight: Happy with friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\*\*\* You might be pushing way too hard, but you don't see any path around this problem. Knowing what is possible could be critical to your well-being. Be willing to back off of a project that is too much for you to handle. Tonight: In the whirlwind of the moment.

BORN TODAY

Novelist Honore de Balzac (1799), first lady Dolly Madison (1768), Israeli general Moshe Dayan (1915)

\*\*\*\*  
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.  
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## Family files lawsuit in metal bat injury case

WAYNE, N.J. (AP) — The family of a boy who suffered brain damage after he was struck by a line drive off an aluminum baseball bat, sued the bat's maker and others, on Monday, saying they should have known it was dangerous.

The family of Steven Domalewski, who was 12 when he was struck by the ball in 2006, filed the lawsuit in state Superior Court. It names Hillerich & Bradsby Co., maker of the 31-inch, 19-ounce Louisville Slugger TPX Platinum bat used when Steven was hit.

The lawsuit also names Little League Baseball and

Sports Authority, which sold the bat. It claims the defendants knew, or should have known, that the bat was dangerous for children to use, according to the family's attorney, Ernest Fronzuto.

"People who have children in youth sports are excited about the lawsuit from a public policy standpoint because they hope it can make the sport safer," Fronzuto said after filing the suit Monday morning. "There are also those who are skeptical of the lawsuit and don't see the connection between Steven's injury and the aluminum bat."

Little League denies any

wrongdoing, as does the bat manufacturer.

Sports Authority has not responded to several telephone messages seeking comment.

Steven was pitching in a Police Athletic League game when he was hit just above the heart by a line drive. His heart stopped beating and his brain was deprived of oxygen for 15 to 20 minutes, according to his doctors.

Although he was not playing in a Little League game, the organization is being sued because it gave its seal of approval to the bat, certifying it as safe for use by children, Fronzuto said.

### Football Booster Club Meeting

The Harvester Football Booster Club will be having a booster club meeting July 14th at 7 p.m. in the Ready Room. All parents of football players are encouraged to attend.

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**1 Public Notice**

The Lefors Volunteer Fire Department is currently accepting sealed bids on the following property:  
 Lot Eight (8), Nine (9), Ten (10), and Eleven (11), Block No. Seven (7), Original Town with improvements.  
 The Fire Department will open and review the bids at its June 3, 2008, regular meeting. All bids must be received by June 3, at 6:00 p.m. The Fire Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids received. Property will be sold as is; no warranty expressed or implied. Bids may be dropped off at Lefors City Hall, 101 N. Court, Lefors, Tx, or mailed to P.O. Box 361, Lefors, Tx 79054. For more information contact Linda Stanton (806)835-2915 or Karen Noble (806)835-2291. A-82 May 16, 18, 2008

**3 Personal**

**\*\*ADOPT\*\*** A TV costume designer Mom & video editor Dad will LOVE & CHERISH your baby. Expenses pd. Bruce & Heidi, 1-800-816-8424

**EARLY CLASSIFIED Deadlines:**  
 Class. Ads & City Briefs for Sun. May 25 is Fri. May 23 at noon.  
 Mon. May 26 is Fri. May 23 @ 2pm.  
 Tues. May 27th is Fri. May 23 @ 4pm.  
 Have a Happy & Safe Memorial Day weekend.  
 The Pampa News!

**4 Not Respon.**

AS of this date May 15, 2008, I, Jimmie C. Adams, will no longer be responsible for any debts other than those incurred by me. Signed, Jimmie C. Adams.

**5 Special Notices**

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

**10 Lost/Found**

LOST- 1900 Block of Hamilton. Adult Female Cat. Tri color. Deceased in front no collar. Please Call 662-5660. Reward if found.

**13 Bus. Opp.**

GREAT investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

**14d Carpentry**

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. Replacement windows. Ref. avail. Shawn Deaver Const. 662-2977 or 665-0354.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

RICHARD'S General Carpentry, Roofs & Painting, Building & Remodeling. 886-0267, 275-9038

**14e Carpet Serv.**

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...it pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

**14h Gen. Serv.**

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COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. Call 665-3453 leave message, Jesus Barraza.

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**19 Situations**

CHILD CARE in my home. Call 669-3718.

**19 Situations**

EXP. housekeepers will clean homes & businesses. Call 664-4635.

**21 Help Wanted**

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

GREAT opp. for single or retired couple, for 12 unit motel in Pampa. Lrg. apt. incl. 665-4274, 665-1875.

MAINTENANCE Man needed, remodeling exp. for various properties. Painting, drywall & plumbing a must!! Must have own tools & trans. 665-1875, 665-4274.

YARD/SALES Person. Highly self-motivated. Full time. White House Lumber, 101 S. Ballard.

LAW firm seeking experienced Executive Secretary. Fax resumes to 806-669-0440.

SERVICE Truck Driver Needed must have experience in repairing all types of tires must be available for call outs. Pay based on experience. Interested parties please call 806-669-2750 for interview. Serious applicants only!

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Avg. Pay \$20 / hr. or \$57K yr. incl. Federal benefits and OT. Placed by AdSource, not aff. w/ USPS who hires. 1-866-483-6490.

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for an Industrial Maintenance Technician. Electrical & Mechanical background a must. Drug test required. Benefits & Health Ins., Profit Sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays & 10 Vacation days per yr. Call 806-665-7111. Pampa.

DOMINO'S Pizza. Earn good money. Part Time! Need Drivers and inside help. Apply at 1332 Hobart.

SEMRUDE has openings for a Full-Time Bobtail and Transport drivers in the Pampa and surrounding areas. Must have Class A/CDL with the X endorsement and meet DOT qual. Exc. benefit pkg. incl. medical, dental, vision, life ins.; along with a 401K package and paid vacation, sick and holidays. Please call 806-934-7505, for application.

NEED Exp. Cook to manage a Small Grill Opening Soon Must Be Able to Cook and prep food. Send resume to: Box 9069, Pampa News, 15 W. Foster, Pampa, TX 79066.

NEED Overhead Door Helper or Technician. Rasco Construction, 1000 S. Price Rd. Please No Phone Calls.

EXPERIENCED Cook needed at Granny's Home Cookin. 328 E. Frederic. No phone calls.

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EXPERIENCED Book-keeper, over 18 with some computer skills. Call White House Lumber 665-8475 for appt.

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**21 Help Wanted**

COODER'S Dixie Cafe now hiring for Wait Staff, full-time, 18 yrs. or older. Apply in person, 2219 Perryton Pkwy. No phone calls.

PETCO Petroleum is hiring a Pumper and Cable Tool Operator. Must have own transportation, will be reimbursed. 401K, ins., paid holidays. 669-3947 after 8:30 ask for Dennis.

Pampa Area Driver Wanted  
 Local Bus Transit Company has a driver position open for the Pampa area. Applicant must have good driving record, stable work history, neat and clean in appearance. Must pass D.O.T. Pre-employment drug screen and be acceptable to vehicle insurance co. Bi-lingual is a plus. General knowledge of surrounding areas is helpful. Contact Panhandle Community Services 800-676-4727 ext. 255 for additional info. and application. M-F 8am-5pm. Equal Opportunity Employer. Application can be picked up, 411 N. Cuyler, between 8am-5pm.

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FOR Sale. Whirlpool Refrigerator w/ Ice Maker. Call 440-1888 for info.

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

WILL haul off any old or unwanted vehicles. Towing is free. 806-665-3546 or 806-662-2706.

DOCTORS Orders! Find a super person to join our front staff. This is a people job with lots of telephone, scheduling and attention to detail. Fax us your resume to 665-3511.

GOLF Course Maintenance. Seeking seasonal Summer help. Apply in person Pampa Country Club, 1765 E. Harvester, ask for Trey.

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MEDICAL office: Looking for a Medical Assistant / LVN and Administrative Assistant. Must be compassionate, professional and qualified. Positions are full-time M-F. Salary based on exp. Must pass drug testing & criminal background check. Please fax resume 806-665-2138 or apply in person at 3023 Perryton Pkwy. Ste. 201.

**Home HealthCare**  
 is now taking applications for HOME PROVIDER (PAMPA AREA)  
 CALL 1-800-892-3301 (ASK FOR MINERVA) OR Apply in person at 1201 N. Hobart Space D (Coronado Center)

NEED Construction worker. Must be able to travel. Must be 21 with good driving rec. Apply @ V.W. Sports, 94 Main, Panhandle, TX, 537-3526.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: National Bank of Commerce, Pampa, Texas, is taking applications for a new accounts secretary. Apply at 1224 N. Hobart, Pampa, Texas. Prior bank experience is preferred. National Bank of Commerce is an Equal Opportunity Employer

DRIVERS Needed at Pizza Hut Delivery (1500 N. Banks). Ins. avail. & 401(k). Apply in person. No Phone Calls Please!

HAVE fun at work! Great hours! Must be dependable & have good references. Serious applicants apply after 3pm. Heard-Jones, downtown Pampa.

FLORAL Designer needed Part-Time or Full-Time. Come by Pampa Flowers, 410 E. Foster.

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FOR Sale. Whirlpool Refrigerator w/ Ice Maker. Call 440-1888 for info.

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**69 Misc.**

FOR Sale: 81" Mastercraft Sofa, winged back chair. New Stihl Weed-eater. 665-1141 or 662-5964.

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THE Schneider House, now leasing apts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 S. Russell or call 665-0415.

FOR Rent: 5br, 2 1/2 bath two story home, horse barn, offset garage and acreage, \$850 mo./dep. 665-6600.

LRG. 2 bdr., 1 1/2 ba. W/D hookups, gar. \$500 mo., \$500 dep. 665-8550, or lv. msg. 662-4675

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

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

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Twila Fisher Century 21 Pampa Realty 665-3560, 440-2314 669-0007

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COUNTRY Living with well water & 3 acres close to town on Loop 171, 4 bd, lg. kitchen, new stainless steel appliances, lg great room with Austin Stone fireplace, new granite counter and bathroom tops, wood and tile floor throughout house, sprinkler system, 2 car garage, 800 sq. ft. bonus room, great playroom or hobby room with central h/a. Total living 3800 sq. ft. built in 2005, all newly redone. Call 806-886-5754.

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Mon. May 26 is Fri. May 23 @ 2pm. Tues. May 27th is Fri. May 23 @ 4pm. Have a Happy & Safe Memorial Day weekend. The Pampa News!

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# Mesa

Continued from Page 1

domain. They only wanted to talk about sending Panhandle water to Dallas.

Mike Boswell with the Mesa Group said there were a lot of misconceptions about the project as he watched from the back of the auditorium.

Not the least of the misconceptions was that many of the speakers talked of their wells going dry and wanting to keep the water in the Ogallala Aquifer in the Panhandle. The problem in most cases was that the speakers farmed or ranched southeast of the Panhandle and do not get their water from the Ogallala.

In April, Mesa Power, a limited partnership formed by Pickens to produce electricity from the world's largest windmill farm, sent letters out to landowners in counties through which the proposed transmission lines will pass, inviting them to one of five open houses.

At the open houses, Mesa officials could check their computers and tell landowners if the right-of-way is targeting their land.

Mesa and the freshwater district are proposing a \$3.5 billion joint project that will require a right-of-way of more than 250 miles. Construction is expected to begin in 2009, according to Ron Bassett, president of Roberts County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1.

State Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, said he and neighboring State Sens. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, and Craig Estes, R-Wichita Falls, were getting numerous calls from their constituents concerning the Mesa project and hastily scheduled their town hall meeting here to listen to constituents.

Duncan, Seliger and Estes were joined at the meeting by State Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, and Delwyn Jones, R-Lubbock.

Duncan said Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, House Appropriations Committee chairman, had expressed interest in the meeting but had a scheduling conflict as did Rep. John Smithee, R-Amarillo.

The meeting was cast as a discussion of eminent domain, a hot topic in Texas since the Supreme Court's

Kelo decision, in which the court said a local government could take over private property and give it to developers if it would improve the value of the property, and since Gov. Rick Perry's proposed the Trans Texas Corridor, a toll road from Oklahoma to the Mexican border, but most of the speakers spoke out against sending water from the Panhandle to the Metroplex.

Through two changes in state law during last year's Texas Legislative Session, Pickens formed the Roberts County Fresh Water Conservation District No. 1 on eight acres of his Mesa Vista Ranch in Roberts County. The five directors include his ranch manager and ranch manager's wife and three Mesa associates in Dallas.

The fresh water supply district, under Texas law, has taxing authority, condemnation authority under eminent domain and the authority to sell bonds.

The first was a bill that was amended was initially intended to solve some problems in the Houston area. That bill changed the operation of governance of a fresh water district to allow only property owners in fresh water districts to serve a directors, but it also said property owners do not have to reside in the district.

"In other words," Duncan said, "you could create a district technically that didn't even have enough people to constitute a board — you have to have five — as long as you had property ownership with people outside the county, they could govern the fresh water district."

He said that while the amendments to the law passed during the last session, there is another chance to amend the law when the legislature meets again, beginning in January.

The other piece of legislation was Senate Bill 3, the omnibus water bill.

Duncan said that in the Senate there was an attempt to put an amendment on the bill to allow electrical transmission lines to follow water lines.

"In other words," Duncan said, "if you wanted to develop transmission lines you could piggyback on a fresh water district's pipeline and use that fresh water district's authority of eminent domain to run that

transmission line down that right-of-way."

Duncan said Seliger fought successfully to defeat that in the Senate, but in the House and ultimately in the final bill that amendment was added back and passed in the waning moments of the legislature. But while seemingly everybody at the Childress meeting appeared to support the wind energy initiative, it was the water they were worried about.

About 10 years ago, Pickens established Mesa Water in what he said was an effort to protect the water beneath his Roberts County ranch from being sucked out by the City of Amarillo and the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, who were buying up water rights at the time. Pickens said at the time, he would develop the water resources and sell the water to thirsty cities downstate.

Duncan said he believes that there are more viable and economical water alternatives available to Dallas and other major metropolitan areas than a multi-billion

dollar pipeline from the Panhandle to Dallas.

"This is not an attack on Mesa," Duncan said. "It's not an attack on Boone Pickens, and I don't think that would be appropriate for us to do that."

The meeting in Childress, he said, was a discussion of the issues.

"I disagree with Mesa with regard to the procedure that they're going through in using this fresh water district in a way it wasn't designed," Duncan said. "That's my position as a member of the Texas Senate."

But Ron Harris, a former County Judge for Collin County for 16 years and now a consultant for Mesa, pleaded with those present to have patience. Harris took to the podium to ask landowners only for a chance for Mesa's land staff to make an offer before they said no.

"We're fair in compensating all of you for your land and any damages," Harris said. "Mesa is not here to steal your land."

Harris said Pickens' desire is to be fair as he moves on the right-of-way issue. Harris said he is not

aware of anyone who has gone to the length that Mesa has to be fair in their dealings.

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