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Jim Bruton

The PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, August 4, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 89 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Haenisch still optimistic on turf project

BY BETSY PHILLIPS
 editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa School Board of Trustees convened a special meeting to update progress on the laying of the turf at Pampa High School and to look at dates for a public hearing regarding the district's tax rate.

Superintendent Barry Haenisch told the board the final tests were being conducted Monday afternoon on the drainage of the base for the turf, they were going well, and the field was expected to pass. At that time, crews were expected to arrive today and begin work tomorrow (Wednesday, August

5). this morning it was reported that the company laying the turf was finishing up a project in Katy, and would not begin work until Thursday. This give the turf-layers a very small window to complete the project in time for the first home games, August 28. But Haenisch

remains optimistic. "There shouldn't be anything that stops the work except lightning," he told the board. A public hearing was set for 6 p.m. Thursday, August 20, at the Carver Center Administration

PISD cont. on page 3

Back to School Special

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RODEO PREP CONTINUES



staff photo by David Bowser

Silhouetted in the shade of the new rodeo grounds snack bar, Brian Jones, left, spreads wet cement as Gray County Deputy Robert Douglas and his grandson Robert Douglas pour more cement from at the rodeo grounds snack bar in preparation for this year's Top O' Texas Rodeo. The rodeo, scheduled for Aug. 13 through 15, will be preceded this weekend by the Kids Pony Show.

PHS coaches pleased with first practices

Harvester football and volleyball coaches were pleased with their teams' progress after their first practices Monday.

Football

Head Football Coach Heath Parker said everyone was excited to start.

"It's really exciting for the staff, team and kids," Parker said. "The kids are working hard to try and learn what we're trying to do."

Parker said he was pleased that his staff and players were eager to improve.

"I have no doubt in my mind that we we're a better football team at 9 o'clock tonight than we were when we started this morning," Parker said.

The coach said his staff will continue teaching their players their base system.

"We want to get what we want them to know in the first week," Parker said. "We want our players to play to their strengths and not a system of plays"

Parker said there are positions that will be up for grabs for the season.

"We have returning players that no matter who is coaching them, they are expected to be good players," Parker said. "We want to have as much open competition as possible."

Football will have their first scrimmage against Wichita Falls and Parker said he hopes to get a good look at everyone.

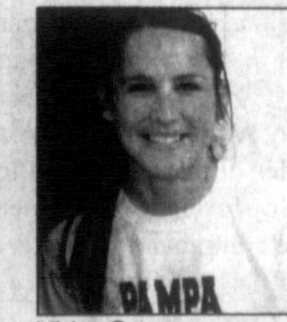
Volleyball

Head volleyball coach Libby Garza was also pleased with her team's first practice.

COACHES cont. on page 3



Heath Parker



Libby Garza

"Back to Back"—Pirates' goal is to retain championship

The Lefors Pirates took to the football field before the sun came up this morning—requiring the use of lights to begin practice.

The Pirates will have long practices each morning instead of the traditional two-a-day practices.

Coach Joey Czubinski thought that the players caught the ball very well

this morning but needed more conditioning which he said "would come with more practices." The Pirates have four returning seniors.

There will be an intersquad scrimmage this Friday night at midnight at Shaw Field in Lefors. "This will be the earliest time allowed to put pads

on and hit" Czubinski said. "I will be able to tell more about the players then."

Fans are encouraged to come out and support the Pirates at the scrimmage Friday night.

The motto for the Pirates this year is "Back to Back". Their goal is to retain last year's title of district champions.



The Lefors Pirates returning seniors for the upcoming season are Wakely Pairsh, Trevor Czubinski, Seth Fry and Keenan Lott.

Judge approves EPL reorganization

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal bankruptcy judge has approved a financial reorganization plan for independent petroleum producer Energy Partners Ltd., but the company still must obtain financing to complete the deal.

The pre-negotiated plan, approved Monday in Houston, calls for EPL's noteholders to get 95 percent of the stock in the new company. Current EPL shareholders would receive the remaining 5 percent. EPL said it is in discus-

sions with potential lenders. Judge Jeff Bohm said financing must be obtained by Sept. 10, unless the court extends it or the company and noteholders agree to a later date.

EPL cont. on page 3

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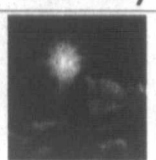
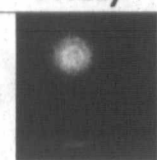
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Clue #2
 Local knowing place in town.
 Yesterday's clue was found at the Hamburger Station
 (Sponsored by Pampa Chamber of Commerce)



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		
High 96 Low 74	High 97 Low 73	High 96 Low 70

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Wednesday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 96. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 74. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 73. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 96. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRE

The Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls for service between 7 a.m. Monday, August 2 and 7 a.m. Tuesday, August 3.
 11:02 a.m.— Two units and six personnel responded to the 500 block of Lefors on a carbon monoxide investigation. CO was found in the structure.
 2:43 p.m.— Two units

and six personnel responded to the 1500 block of W. Kentucky on a fire alarm. There was no fire found.
 6:05 p.m.— One unit and three personnel responded to the 1400 block of Williston on a medical assist call.
 9:08 p.m.— One unit and three personnel responded to the 1400 block of Williston on a medical assist call.

CLARIFICATION

Yesterday the Pampa News reported The Gray County Sheriff department transported Ricky Lee Reynolds, 27, to a Texas Department of Criminal Justice facility on Friday. Reynolds was sentenced to Texas Department of Criminal Justice and is still in the Gray County Jail.

Man held in assisted suicide will argue insanity

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — A Nevada man accused of trying to smuggle the same type of animal tranquilizers into the U.S. that authorities say may have been used to help an Oregon woman commit suicide in Mexico plans to plead insanity, according to court documents.
 Jeff George Ostfeld of Las Vegas, who remained in custody Tuesday, was detained by Customs agents May 18 as he tried to re-enter the country from Progreso, Mexico.

Ostfeld was carrying a powerful animal tranquilizer when immigration officials — on the lookout for him after a call from Mexican authorities — stopped him at the bridge. Mexican authorities had found Jennifer Malone, 29, of Roseburg, Ore., dead in a Progreso motel room in what appeared to be a suicide.
 Ostfeld faces trial in September on two counts of importing a controlled substance and intending to distribute it.

LAST MINUTE CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

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

- LARGE BAR table with 4 chairs for sale call 669-1901
- GET READY for back to school with reading tutorials! Certified teacher would like to help. Reasonable rates. 662-3787
- GARAGE SALE to wait for is coming to Comanche St., the 7th & 8th. It's a Biggie!!
- CERAMIC TILE. Keith Taylor, 874-1779 lv. msg.

Obituaries There were no obituaries today

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department responded to the following calls during the period between 7 a.m. Thursday, July 30, to 7 a.m. Monday, August 3.

Animal Control Officers responded to 41 calls or stops.

Pampa Police Officers made 42 traffic stops, had 17 ongoing investigations, and responded to 18 requests for information.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of N. Nelson St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of E. Foster Avenue.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of E. Frederic Avenue.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1500 block of N. Russell St.

A suspicious person was reported in at the intersection of 19th and Coffee.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 700 block of E. Kingsmill Ave.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of N. Dwight Ave.

Theft was reported in the 110 block of S. Purviance St. A 20' and 6' ladder, and a ratchet set was stolen from a PISD truck. Estimated value was \$140.

Theft was reported in the 1200 block of E. Francis. Food, gas, cigarettes and prescription meds were stolen from the vehicle.

Theft was reported in the 100 block of S. Starkweather St. A 12 pack of Bud Light was stolen from a convenient store. Estimated value was \$12.49.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of N. Russell St.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of E. Campbell Avenue.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of E. Campbell Avenue. It was only verbal.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2100 block of Nelson St. A 2003 Chevy Silverado was scratched.

A welfare check was taken in the 1900 block of N. Duncan Street.

A welfare check was made in the 300 block of N. Faulkner St.

A civil matter was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill Avenue.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 700 block of N. Doucette St.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 900 block of S. Barnard Avenue.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 600 block of N. Sumner St.

An assault was reported in the 1000 block of E. Browning Avenue.

A warrant was serviced in the 1900 block of N. Coffee St.

A burglary was reported

in the 800 block of N. Dwight St.

A prowler was reported in the 200 block of Miami St.

A prowler was reported in the 200 block of Miami St.

A sexual offense was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill Avenue.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 1300 block of E. Kingsmill Avenue.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2100 block of N. Banks St.

Civil matter was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill Avenue.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of N. Cuyler St.

A traffic complaint was taken in the 500 block of N. Rider St.

A welfare check was made in the 900 block of S. Finley St.

A burglary was reported in the 2600 block of N. Hobart St. An estimated \$500 refrigerator was stolen.

An accident was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill Avenue.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of N. Hobart St.

An accident was reported in the 600 block of N. Frost St.

A 911 hangup occurred in the 1000 block of S. Christy St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of N. Gray St.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2200 block of N. Christy St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of N. Doyle St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of N. Garland St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1200 block of N. Hobart St.

Harassment was reported in the 300 block of E. Brown St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of S. Varnon Dr.

A violation of city ordinance was taken in the 500 block of N. Roberta St.

A violation of city ordinance was taken in the 300 block of N. Roberta St.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of N. Cuyler Avenue. A window was broken on a vehicle estimated cost was \$250.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of N. Christy St. Minor injuries occurred but no one needed medical attention. The incident is still under investigation.

A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block of Miami St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1500 block of N. Hobart St.

A sewer choke in the 1800 block of N. Banks St.

A suspicious person was reported in the Kentucky/

Sloan intersection.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2500 block of N. Rosewood Lane.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of E. Francis Avenue.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the Hobart/Alcock intersection

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 600 block of W. Francis Avenue.

Theft was reported in the 2100 block of N. Dwight St. A bicycle with an estimated value of \$100 was stolen.

A 911 hang-up occurred in the 2400 block of Cherokee Dr.

Officers responded to an alarm in the 500 block of E. Atchison Avenue.

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

A traffic complaint was taken in the intersection of Kentucky and Bradley.

An assault was reported in the 900 block of Faulkner St. No injuries were reported.

A violation of city ordinance was reported in the 300 block of Jean St.

A threat was reported in the 400 block of Graham St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of N. Hobart St.

A civil matter was reported in the 200 block of S. Anne St.

Officers responded to an alarm in the 2500 block of N. Chestnut Dr.

A civil matter was reported in the 700 block of Mora Ave.

Theft was reported in the 900 block of E. Frederic Avenue. An estimated \$3,000 worth of jewelry was stolen.

Officers responded to an alarm in the 500 block of E. Atchison Ave.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of N. Magnolia St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of N. Magnolia St.

A 911 hangup occurred in the 600 block of N. Frost St.

An assault was reported in the 400 block of N. Sumner St.

Public intoxication was reported in the 700 block of N. Gray St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block of Jean St.

A suspicious person was reported in the Highway 60/171 intersection

A welfare check was made in the 800 block of N. Wells St.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block of N. Davis St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 500 block of N. Yeager St.

A suspicious person was

reported in the 200 block of E. Brown St.

Lost property was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill Avenue. Keys to a house were lost in an unknown location and value is also unknown.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 300 block of S. Henry St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block of S. Houston St.

A welfare check was made in the 1200 block of N. Wells St.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 800 block of N. Wells St.

A burglary was reported in the 100 block of E. Browning Avenue. The door frame and safe handle were damaged. Money and a digital camera were stolen. Estimated damage cost is \$1,064.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of E. Kingsmill Avenue.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2200 block of N. Russell St. A DVD player worth an estimated \$170 was stolen.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1900 block of Coffee St. An Ipod worth an estimated \$300 was stolen.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 500 block of Yeager St.

A traffic complaint was taken in the Lefors/Harvester intersection.

Officers responded to an alarm in the 1100 block of N. Starkweather St.

A civil matter was reported in the 1300 block of N. Williston St.

An injured animal was reported in the Browning/Frost intersection.

An accident was reported in the 500 block of Doucette St.

A burglary was reported in the 800 block of E. Malone Avenue.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2300 N. Primrose Ln.

A civil matter was reported in the 1500 block of N. Coffee St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of E. Tying Avenue.

A suspicious person was reported in the Crawford/Sumner intersection.

A burglary was reported in the 1900 block of Coffee St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 200 block of W. Brown St.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the Alcock/Nadia intersection.

A burglary was reported in the 300 block of S. Henry St.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1800 block of W. Alcock St.

A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of S. Wilcox St.

Border agents recover marijuana worth \$750K

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) — It's been a busy start to the month of August for Border Patrol agents working the El Paso Sector. Agents recovered 950 pounds of marijuana in four separate incidents. Federal agents say the pot has a street value estimated

at more than \$750,000. Agents seized marijuana during a traffic checkpoint in Alamogordo Saturday. A search of a Chevy Avalanche revealed 214 bundles of marijuana with a combined weight of 524 pounds. The contraband has a street value of \$419,200.

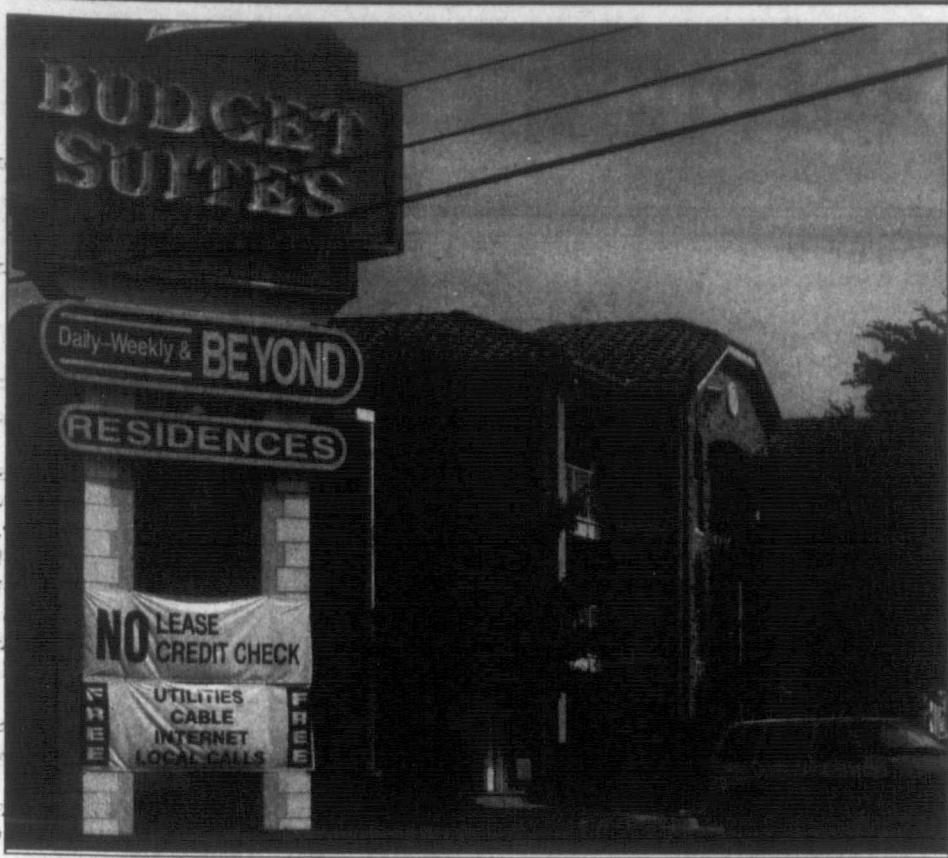
Agents recovered 350 pounds of marijuana while chasing smugglers near Lordsburg. The marijuana has a street value of approximately \$285,000. Traffic stops in Truth or Consequences and Las Cruces also yielded large drug seizures.

Woman dies after driving off Lake Austin boat ramp

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Austin police say a woman drowned after driving into Lake Austin at night when she apparently mistook a boat ramp for a road. The name of the victim was not immediately released. Sgt. Richard Stresing says a relative had reported

the woman missing. Police say the body was recovered Monday. Travis County parks officials say more warning signs could be added in the area.

Do you have a news tip? Call 669-2525



In this Wednesday, July 22, 2009, file photo, a Dallas motel where three emaciated children, at least one of whom appeared to be repeatedly sexually assaulted, were kept day and night in a bathroom for about a year when found by police earlier this month is shown. (AP Photo/Donna McWilliam)

Starvation case to proceed to grand jury

DALLAS (AP) — The case of a mother accused of keeping her three children starving in a hotel bathroom for at least nine months will proceed to a grand jury, a judge ruled Tuesday.

Judge Terrie McVea ruled during an examining trial that there was probable cause for a grand jury to consider indicting Abneris Santiago. A Dallas grand jury will likely get the case this month.

Santiago, 30, is charged with one count of injury to a child, and prosecutors have said they would likely add two more counts this week.

Police and a relative found Santiago's three children shut inside a hotel bathroom last month. The 11-year-old girl and her 10- and 5-year-old half brothers were emaciated and filthy, requiring hospitalization for 10 days. The doctor who examined them said the children appeared to have been starved and that their condition was life-threatening.

The 11-year-old said she had been sexually assaulted, and the eldest son was covered in bruises from a beating authorities said was delivered by his mother's boyfriend.

James Jamison, Santiago's attorney, said he expected the ruling and that he requested the optional examining trial to

get a preview of the state's case.

"It's relatively easy to show probable cause," Jamison said.

The mother's boyfriend, 37-year-old Alfred Santiago, faces charges of aggravated sexual assault and continuous sexual abuse. Three additional charges of injury to a child likely will be filed against him, Assistant District Attorney Eren Price said.

The Santiagos, who remain in the Dallas County Jail, are not married but have the same last name. The three older children have different fathers. The youngest child is the daughter of both Santiagos.

Alfred Santiago's attorney was out of town Tuesday and did not immediately return a message left by The Associated Press.

Abneris Santiago, wearing thick glasses and a gray-and-green-striped jail uniform, declined to make a statement during the court hearing. She has not spoken publicly about the case, turning down repeated requests for interviews

from jail.

During the hearing, Santiago appeared alternately sad and defiant. She lowered her head and blinked repeatedly as Dallas police detective Lisette Rivera described the condition of her children when they were found July 2. Santiago shook her head in disagreement when Rivera said the 11-year-old girl had told her mother that she had been sexually abused for three years.

"She did not realize the child was being sexually assaulted," Jamison said of his client. Rivera, the only witness questioned during the hearing, said the family lived in the Budget Suites of America hotel for nearly a year. The suite had a bed, a couch and a crib. The three older children spent day and night inside the bathroom, she said, and never attended school.

"Nobody knew (they were there)," Rivera said. "They never went out."

Rivera also said the children were so starved that their brains had atrophied.

Texas Rangers offering ticket discounts

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers, who have cut several staff members from their front office and may be sold, are offering a ticket discount for weekday games in August and September as they try to capture their first AL West title in 10 years.

The Rangers said Tuesday that the discount can reach up to 75 percent, depending on the seats.

Earlier this summer, the Rangers laid off a number of personnel and a spokesman said one of the reasons was the potential sale of the team by owner Tom Hicks. The Rangers reported a surge in attendance earlier this season.

The promotion with Southwest Airlines applies to all home games Monday through Thursday, beginning with a series against Minnesota on Aug. 17. The other series are against Toronto and Oakland.

Feds raid Texas environmental waste company

HOUSTON (AP) — Federal officials have raided two facilities of an environmental waste company in Southeast Texas where three workers have died in the last six months.

Davilyn Walston, spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's office, said the Houston and Port Arthur facilities of CES Environmental Inc., were being searched Tuesday. Walston declined to provide any more details.

CES transports and disposes of organic waste.

Port Arthur Justice of the Peace Tom Gillam said he began investigating the Port Arthur site of CES after a worker died from inhaling hydrogen sulfide, a gas produced by human and animal waste. Gillam said he alerted federal authorities after he discovered that hydrogen sulfide contributed to two of the three deaths.

Coaches

"The first day was really good," Garza said. "Everyone gave 200 times. The first day was kind of slow making sure they have good form. We worked a lot on passing." "Garza was hired last year, and said this year in preparing for the season has been easier. "The girls know me and what I expect," Garza said. "They know what I expect and the way I teach volleyball."

Garza was pleased with

how they were serving and passing. The coach said they will continue to work on those skills and others.

"We let the girls play every day," Garza said. "We will work on court awareness and working together as a team."

Volleyball will continue their three-a-day practices through Sunday. The team's first match will be the Canyon Randall Tournament.

cont. from page 1

EPL

When it filed for Chapter 11 reorganization under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code on May 1, EPL cited sharply lower petroleum prices, production interruptions stemming from hurricane damage, the collapse of credit markets and debt problems.

The company, founded in 1998, focuses its drilling and production in the Gulf of Mexico and onshore in south Louisiana.

Troubles ballooned for EPL, starting with the fall of oil prices from nearly \$150 per barrel last year. Last fall's hurricanes in the Gulf damaged pipelines and sharply cut production for EPL and other producers.

In January a major EPL investor and noteholder

— Wexford Capital LLC, based in Greenwich, Conn. — called for a shake-up, including the firing of all top management, a sharp reduction in costs, debt restructuring and a smaller board.

In February, EPL cut its board from 11 members

In March, the company's founder and chief executive, Richard Bachman, the former top officer at Louisiana Land & Exploration, left after the company's credit line was chopped from \$150 million to \$45 million, resulting in a borrowing deficit of \$38 million.

Alan Bell, a retired director of Ernst & Young's energy practice, then came aboard as chief restructuring officer.

cont. from page 1

PISD

office, 321 W. Albert, regarding the tax rate for coming year. Board President Derrell DeLoach called The Pampa News Tuesday morning to say the tax rate had been incorrectly reported by an area television station as a 15 percent increase. De Loach said he wants to clarify that proposed rate.

The Maintenance and Operation Fund tax rate will remain at \$1.04 per \$100 of property value.

The I and S Fund is going

to 32 cents, up from 28 last year. This brings the total tax from both funds to \$1.36 for every \$100 of property value. DeLoach said that is about a three percent increase, not 15.

In other business the board gave the go-ahead for a tobacco grant in the amount of \$3,400. The funds are used for student education about the dangers of tobacco use and Texas tobacco laws.

cont. from page 1

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

2	8	1	7	9	3	5	4	6
9	6	4	5	8	2	1	3	7
5	3	7	1	6	4	2	8	9
6	9	5	4	7	1	3	2	8
7	4	2	8	3	6	9	5	1
8	1	3	2	5	9	6	7	4
3	2	8	6	1	7	4	9	5
4	5	6	9	2	8	7	1	3
1	7	9	3	4	5	8	6	2

8	7		1					
							1	3
			9	7	4	8		
			4	6			9	8
4	6				7	3	2	
9		2						
	8				3	2		
3		1	7					8
	2			4	5			

Level: Beginner



ON VACATION WITH THE PAMPA NEWS!

Remember to take a copy of The Pampa News with you on your getaway. Take a photo of family and friends holding the newspaper. We'll print your picture in the newspaper.

So, whether you are going to Paris, France or Paris, Texas (or Clarendon for that matter) take us along for the ride!

- Remember to:
1. Identify every person in the photograph from left to right, front row first.
 2. Give us some information about the trip and the landmark in the photo.
 3. Give us a the name of a contact person and a telephone number/email address.

To see your photo in the paper faster, email the photo and information to: rpribble@thepampanews.com. Have a great summer and a safe trip!



Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 4, the 216th day of 2009. There are 149 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 4, 1944, Anne Frank, 15, was arrested along with her sister, parents and four other people by German security after they had spent two years hiding from the Nazis in a building in Amsterdam. (Anne, who'd kept a now-famous diary during her time in hiding, died in March 1945 at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.)

On this date:

In 1735, a jury found John Peter Zenger of the New York Weekly Journal not guilty of committing seditious libel against the colonial governor of New York, William Cosby.

In 1790, the Coast Guard had its beginnings as the Revenue Cutter Service.

In 1792, English romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley was born at Field Place near Horsham, England.

'When you love someone, all your saved-up wishes start coming out.'

— Elizabeth Bowen,
Irish author

In 1830, plans for the city of Chicago were laid out.

In 1892, Andrew and Abby Borden were axed to death in their home in Fall River, Mass. Lizzie Borden, Andrew's daughter from a previous marriage, was accused of the killings, but acquitted at trial.

In 1900, Britain's Queen Mother Elizabeth was born.

In 1916, the United States reached agreement with Denmark to purchase the Danish Virgin Islands for \$25 million.

In 1964, the bodies of missing civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Chaney were found buried in an earthen dam in Mississippi.

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter signed a measure establishing the Department of Energy.

In 1987, the Federal Communications Commission voted to abolish the Fairness Doctrine, which required radio and television stations to present balanced coverage of controversial issues.

Today's Birthdays: Journalist Helen Thomas is 89. Singer Frankie Ford is 70. Actress-singer Tina Cole is 66. Actor-comedian Richard Belzer is 65. Football Hall-of-Famer John Riggins is 60. Former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales is 54. Actor-screenwriter Billy Bob Thornton is 54. Actress Kym Karath ("The Sound of Music") is 51. Track star Mary Decker Slaney is 51. Actress Lauren Tom is 50. President Barack Obama is 48. TV producer Michael Gelman ("Live with Regis and Kelly") is 48. Boston Red Sox pitcher Roger Clemens is 47. Actress Crystal Chappell is 44. Author Dennis Lehane is 44. Rock musician Rob Cieka (Boo Radleys) is 41. Actor Daniel Dae Kim is 41. Actor Michael DeLuise is 40. Actor Ron Lester is 39. Race car driver Jeff Gordon is 38. Rapper-actress Yo-Yo is 38. Country singer Jon Nicholson is 36. R&B singer-actor Marques Houston is 28. Actors Dylan and Cole Sprouse are 17.



Editorial opinion from around our state

Fort Worth Star-Telegram on texting-while-driving laws:

Texting while driving is a bad idea. Those among the 270 million cellphone users in this country who've tried it know it's foolish (even if they don't fess up).

A study released this week by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute underscored the danger. The collision risk for drivers of heavy trucks some of the most experienced people behind the wheel was 23 times greater when they texted.

The practice already is banned in the District of Columbia and 14 states. The obvious question is, "What are the other 36 states waiting on?"

But there's another question that deserves discussion. Just because a texting ban should be a no-brainer for state lawmakers, should it be federal law?

Four Democratic senators, led by New York's Charles Schumer, announced their intent to sponsor legislation that calls for states to ban texting-while-driving or lose federal highway funds.

Congress has used the tactic before. Twenty-five years ago this month, Washington pushed states to raise their legal drinking age by using the power of the federal purse.

Under the National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984, any state that doesn't enforce a minimum drinking age of 21 can look forward to a 10 percent decrease in its annual federal highway funds.

Some people describe this in "carrot" rather than "stick" terms. The incentive for the states that adopted the minimum drinking age of 21 was receipt of 100 percent of their share of federal highway money.

Schumer and colleagues appear to prefer the stick approach, and it's a big stick for state lawmakers who are screaming about keeping up with their transportation challenges.

Details are sketchy, but early reporting says the feds would withhold 25 percent of federal highway funding from states that do not comply with a texting-while-driving ban.

Strict constitutional constructionists argue that the Founding Fathers didn't give Congress authority to tax citizens — in this case, through a federal excise tax on gasoline in the various states and then use that money to exert power over those states.

In a 1987 Supreme Court case that looked at this issue, South Dakota sued then-Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole over the minimum drinking age law. In the majority opinion written by then-Chief Justice William Rehnquist, the court upheld Congress' power to withhold federal funds in pursuit of national policies, such as the drinking age.

So Congress can make spending conditional on state law. That doesn't answer whether it should when it comes to texting.

No word yet on whether states that are taking steps to curtail texting would be cut some slack. Texas already has some restrictions, with more going into effect Sept. 1. For instance, cellphone use which includes text messaging is banned for passenger bus drivers when a minor is on board. And it will be illegal for drivers younger than 18 for the first 12 months they have a license. On Sept 1, it becomes state law that drivers can't use hand-held devices in school crossing zones.

None of this, of course, addresses the practical issue of enforcement and the need for police to catch someone in the act. But practicality never got in the way of the state

Legislature or Congress, for that matter.

San Antonio Express-News on education access limits:

The state of Texas would best be served if high school graduates, regardless of their immigration status, are allowed to continue to attend college and university classes at the lower in-state tuition rate.

In 2001, Texas became the first of 10 states in the country to adopt a law allowing undocumented immigrants to pay the lower in-state tuition at public universities.

During the last eight years, there have been repeated attempts to change the laws. Last fall, state Rep. Leo Berman, R-Tyler, asked the state attorney general for an opinion on the constitutionality of the Texas law.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's opinion was finally released last month, and he basically said that it was unclear whether a court would uphold the tuition law.

People on both sides of the issue claimed a victory over the murky ruling, and some illegal immigration opponents are now considering pushing the issue further with a lawsuit challenging the law.

Denying the 65,000 unauthorized immigrant children who graduate from American high schools each year an opportunity to attend college would be

economically disastrous.

It's bad economics to shut anyone out of an education that could help that person become a productive member of society and a taxpayer. A college education does not guarantee unauthorized immigrants citizenship. They will still have to follow immigration procedures to become citizens.

Earlier this year, the College Board, a group of 5,000 colleges and universities, announced its support of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors, or Dream Act.

The legislation would allow students who are unauthorized immigrants to apply for conditional immigration status in the United States if they were brought into the country before age 15, graduated from high school or earned a General Educational Development Diploma. If the students attend college or join the military for two years, they would be granted citizenship.

The board's research found that the Dream Act would help the U.S. economy.

The legislation needs to move forward. Children who were brought here as young children have few options for gaining legal immigration status and it is unlikely they will just leave the country and go back to a birthplace they don't know.

Attempts like Rep. Berman's to cut unauthorized immigrants' access to higher education offer no real solution.

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

We enjoyed reading your paper each of the five days we were in Pampa (for the Tri-State Senior Golf Tourney).

We wanted to thank all the people responsible for the very successful tournament on its 75th anniversary.

Thanks to the 80 plus business sponsors

and the Pampa Chamber of Commerce for the welcome and the friendly atmosphere of the city.

We also want to thank all those members and employees of the Pampa Country Club for making us feel at home.

Bob and Georgene Miller
Odessa

We welcome your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.

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BUSINESS REVIEW

CENTRAL BAIL BONDS II

Kenneth Knowles *Founder*
Angela Burgher *Owner*
Larry Ingram *Area Manager*

Central Bail Bonds II will continue to operate with the same pride and traditions set by the late Kenneth Knowles. Central is a privately owned company providing bail bonds services for the North Central and West Texas area. New owner Angela 'Knowles' Burgher will follow in her father's footsteps of running the Largest Bail Bond business in Texas which was founded in 1978.

Larry Ingram has been the area manager for the Pampa area since August 1997. The Pampa office covers 9 counties, which include Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Carson, Gray and Wheeler. On average, Larry drives over 50K miles yearly. Barbara Brogdon, secretary/agent since November 1999 handles the paperwork and backup for Larry. Together they make a great team to serve all your bail bond needs.

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Marmaduke



"Marm! It's a swing, not a chew toy!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



8-4

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"Dinner's takin' too long to cook, Mommy. We should've brought our microwave oven!"

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Garfield



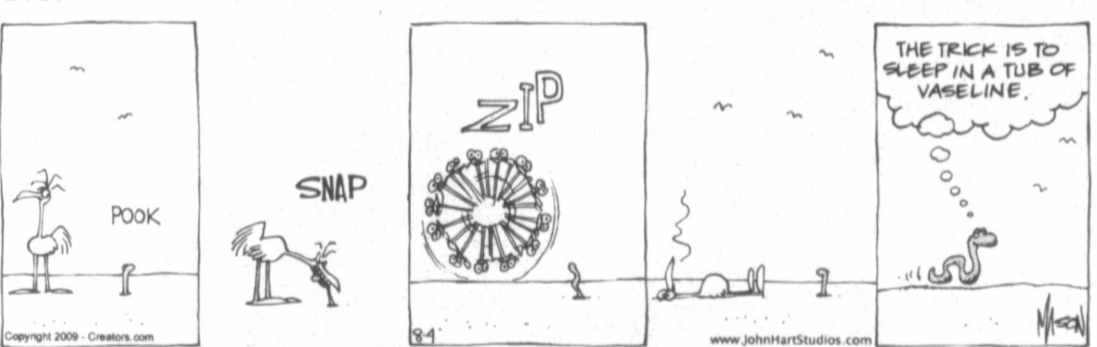
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Red

1 Canary Square container name

5 Toys with tails

10 "— there yet?"

12 Baghdad native

13 Thoroughbred racing event

15 Trade, for short

16 Pen fill

17 Spigot

18 Mimieux of "The Time Machine"

20 Vampire attack

21 Goof

22 Passed with ease

23 Church instrument

25 Exam

28 Rocker John

31 Addition column

32 Saw the sights

34 Road sealer

35 Singer McGraw

36 Honest —

37 Yacht racing event

C	O	L	T	G	R	A	N	D	
A	V	O	W	A	U	P	A	I	R
R	I	M	E	L	I	T	T	L	E
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I	C	E	P	I	E	R			
L	I	M	E	S	P	R	E	S	S
I	R	I	S	M	O	O			
L	O	N	G	A	S	B	A	G	S
A	N	T	A	S	T	A	I	R	E
C	I	T	R	U	S	B	L	O	T
S	N	E	E	Z	E	L	E	V	I
G	A	P	E	S	E	D	E	N	

Yesterday's answer

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Taxi driver | 9 Drank daintily | 25 Adds up |
| 2 Reach a destination | 11 Newspaper | 26 Tooth layer |
| 3 Old fellow | 14 Peppy | 27 Peaceful answers |
| 4 Lamb's mom | 19 Easy gaits | 30 Interstellar cloud |
| 5 Enterprise captain | 20 African language | 33 Train stop |
| 6 Taxing org. | 24 Second baseman | 35 Coloration |
| 7 Battle ploy | 38 Tear | |
| 8 Compare | Roberto | 39 Cry loudly |

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13							14	
15				16			17	
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37				38				39
40							41	
42								43

8-4

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BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2009:
This year, changes could occur in an electric manner. If you are a man, an identity crisis might not be a surprise. For a woman, if you're single, this also could mean a new relationship and/or a change in the relationship with a man. Don't try to predict what will occur, but rather be ready to deal with the unexpected. If you are single, of course your status could change, and a new opportunity will appear when you least expect it. If you are attached, understand a partner's identity crisis if you are a woman. If you are a man, don't play out an identity crisis in your relationship. Work that through first. AQUARIUS plays devil's advocate.

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)
***** The Full Moon eclipse weaves an interesting dance for all. You try to push creative ideas forward. Bottom-out issues with those who might not be family, but who you love deeply. A child could be a player here too. Tonight: Hold on to your hat. Get ready for many calls and conversations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
*** Pressure keeps building. Others hope you will take the lead. You will and can because of your innate talents. You might have trouble juggling all the innate demands of the day. Tonight: Say "no" if need be.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** You do a seesaw all day, juggling issues. Communication of all types floods your door. Your ability to zero in

on the bottom line could prove to be powerful. Refuse to see situations as either or. Tonight: Don't react if possible. Detach if you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
*** Use caution with your finances. If you can avoid making a money decision, do. Because, within one week, more information could play into the situation through another source or person. Tonight: Keep costs down.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Juggling work, people and/or situations could go haywire. The eclipse occurs in your opposite sign, yet demands you to handle different interests. You have the skills, but do you have the energy to handle a multi-area high-voltage scene? Tonight: Let someone else lead.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** You might want to renew a commitment that involves your daily life, work and/or your health. Your awareness will be necessary with events now and in the near future. Trust your sixth sense before acting. Tonight: Make it easy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Dig into your bag of creativity and find solutions and new ways. If you are on top of your game, you'll discover the power of your creativity and sometimes unusual thoughts in finding a solution. Are you triggering someone unnecessarily? Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
*** Your depth and understanding will come into play. How you deal with a key personal situation involving different people could define the issue. Your ability to understand another's motives is key. Tonight: Hide away at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** You could be very overwhelmed by what someone is sharing or the many people who seem to suddenly seek you out. If possible, detach and see past the obvious — others cannot right now. Tonight: Hanging out could be lively.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** Your more possessive side emerges when dealing with others. You also might have an instinct to move forward and not get hung up on the details of finances, people and issues. Sooner or later, you will need to. Understand what is motivating you. Tonight: Take a hard look at the bills.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** Listen to feedback before you impulsively go down a path or cause a problem. The lunar eclipse in your sign adds to the emotional and impulsive quality of what you do. Even you might have difficulty keeping yourself under control. Tonight: Some actions and words cannot be undone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Your ability to understand what is going on behind the scenes is tuned in, but not necessarily right-on. Give yourself space to make a decision or to work through a problem or insight. Time is your ally. Tonight: Chill!

BORN TODAY
Astronaut Neil Armstrong (1930), actress Kajol (1975), director John Huston (1906)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

8-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

ZLELG GSZ NTDLG OXSG XCZ
BND — XDBLGM CKWW FL
JLWKQBDLJ DX JX KD; CBO
MAXKW DBLKG TSZ? — VNGR
DCNKZ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: UNTIL HE EXTENDS THE CIRCLE OF HIS COMPASSION TO ALL LIVING THINGS, MAN WILL NOT HIMSELF FIND PEACE. — ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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121 Trucks
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VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross named Glenda Bell as Volunteer of the Year at their annual meeting recently. Bell is from Shamrock and was recognized for outstanding response to disasters in Wheeler County, and for never saying no is she is needed in any area of the panhandle. Jana Gregory, Eastern Texas Panhandle Red Cross CEO said, "We thank Glenda and the many volunteers that help the Red Cross be a part of our communities." (submitted photo)

Top O' Texas Rodeo Golden Horseshoe hunt

The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association is sponsoring the "Golden Horseshoe Treasure Hunt" again in conjunction with the Top O' Texas Rodeo, August 13, 14 & 15, 2009. A "Golden Horseshoe" has been hidden in the area and clues will be given each day that will help locate the horseshoe.

The lucky person who finds the horseshoe will receive a Box Seat to all

three performances of the 63rd Annual Top O' Texas Rodeo. The Box Seat is valued at \$150.00. They will also be able to ride in the rodeo parade on Saturday, August 15, 2009.

This year the clues will be placed in selected stores in Pampa and you can only get the clues by going into that store. Hints as to the location of these stores will be given each day in the newspaper and over the

radio. No clues will be given in the paper or on the radio as to where the horseshoe is hidden. Merchants have been asked not to give any information out over the telephone.

If you have any questions concerning the Top O' Texas Rodeo or the Golden Horseshoe Hunt, please call Cindy Kempf at the rodeo office, (806) 669-0434.

Biannual homecoming reunion Sept. 3-5

Come and be a part of the second biannual Pampa Homecoming Reunion. There will be food, fun, and games for the children—fellowship, fun, reminiscing for adults. The dates are Sept. 3, 4, and 5, 2009.

The Itinerary for the reunion is as follows:

- 9/3— 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Carver School
- 9/3— 5 p.m. - 12 a.m., Southside Senior Center, game night
- 9/4— 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Carver School
- 9/4— 5 p.m. - 12 a.m., Southside Senior Center, meet and greet/distribution of

T-shirts and packets
9/5— 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Picnic at Pampa City Park (Program will be in your packet)
9/5— 9 p.m. - 12 a.m., Reunion Dance at M. K. Brown Auditorium

If you know anyone who previously lived in Pampa, and who may want to attend this grand affair, please contact Carole Wilbon Shelvin, 2220 Erastus St., Houston, Texas 77020-2806, 832-620-0700, E-mail: carolshelvin@comcast.net



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Your answer to "Minneapolis Commuter" (June 8), who was sick of overhearing personal cell phone conversations, missed the mark. I ride public transit to and from Sacramento every day, and most of the time the passengers — like me — just want a quiet ride to work and back. Sometimes a rude, obnoxious and very loud person will get on and make life miserable for the rest of us.

Moving to another seat is not an option because their voices carry throughout the entire bus. Often these conversations are laced with profanity, and it becomes an endurance test to remain polite.

I no longer feel that being polite is the best solution with such people. They need to be reminded about common courtesy and respect for their neighbors. There have been days when the bus driver actually stopped the bus and ordered such passengers off. I dare say, you have not been on public transit in a while, or you would not have dismissed the complaint so quickly. — SACRAMENTO COMMUTER

DEAR COMMUTER: You are right. I haven't used public transit for some time, however, several of my staff use it daily and tell me, as you have, that phone users can be rude and obnoxious.

Contacting your local

public transit carrier and complaining seems to be the best way to handle the situation. If they receive enough complaints — and I'm sure they will — they may initiate policies to stop such rude behavior. And if all else fails: earplugs! Read on:

DEAR ABBY: "Commuter" is far from alone. I am a transit bus driver. Cell phones are an irritation to drivers and passengers alike on our service. To address this issue, our company initiated a cell phone policy that is printed in our transit guide. If using a cell phone on a bus, do not disturb the driver or fellow passengers, or you may be asked to stop using your cell phone. Keep it short, keep it down, keep it quiet, keep it off!

Since this policy has been in effect (it's not perfect), things have improved. I would encourage anyone who uses public transportation to ask their service to put a cell phone policy in place and enforce it. — BUS DRIVER

DEAR ABBY: Commuters on buses or trains should realize that it is not the library, and they should not expect the ride to be quiet. The writer of that letter should get a set of earplugs or, better yet, an MP3 player with headphones and listen to a recorded self-improvement book, or perhaps, something about

improving tolerance.

People talking on their cell phones are making productive use of their commute time, and it might be the only time they have to chat with friends and family. Commuters should make better use of their time than just sitting there and stewing. — COMMUTER CELL PHONE USER

DEAR ABBY: The reality is that the bus or train is often packed and there is no seat to move to, so we are forced to sit and listen to incredibly personal conversations or insane babbling because the person can't sit still and use the travel time to relax.

I've heard it all — the woman announcing her new address and phone number, the guy talking about how he's going to lie to the judge during his divorce hearing, the gory details of someone's recent surgery. It's enough to make you gag. I finally got headphones. — DENVER COMMUTER

DEAR ABBY: I, too, found the conversations on the bus to be quite colorful! I now wear earphones and spend my time listening to music and reading. The convenience of a relaxing ride to work far outweighs the annoyances. I find the bumpy ride is a great abdominal workout, too. — CALM-UTING IN ABQ

**

3 killed in fiery chain collision in Texas

GAINESVILLE, Texas (AP) — A tractor-trailer slammed into backed-up traffic on Interstate 35 near the Texas-Oklahoma border Monday, killing three people and leaving the northbound lanes of the heavily traveled highway closed for most of the afternoon.

The crash happened on a section of I-35 where two lanes narrow into one because of maintenance work being done on a bridge. It's about two miles southwest of Gainesville and about 13 miles south of the Oklahoma border.

The Texas Department of Public Safety identified the three people killed as Anthony and Kimberly Brandon of Bedford and Darryl Hoosier, 55, of Lafayette, La.

Trooper Mark Tackett said an 18-wheeler driven by James Crayton,

59, of Dallas, apparently never slowed before slamming into the rear car of the jam. That car, driven by Anthony Brandon with wife, Kimberly, as passenger, exploded on impact, killing both. No ages for the Brandons were available.

Tackett said the truck then slammed into another car, injuring Carol Whaley, 63, and his wife, Linda Whaley, 61, of Yalaha, Fla.

Tackett said the 18-wheeler then rammed the car driven by Hoosier into the rear of another 18-wheeler, killing him. The driver of the second truck was not injured.

Tackett said Crayton was taken to a Gainesville hospital for blood testing and questioning. No charges were filed.

RadioShack changing name to "The Shack"

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — RadioShack Corp. on Thursday gets a new nickname: "The Shack."

The Fort Worth-based electronics retailer says customers, associates and investors have long referred to the company as The Shack. Chief marketing officer Lee Applbaum says the company "decided to embrace that fact and share it with the world."

RadioShack in July announced the addition of T-Mobile to its lineup of wireless carriers in about 4,000 stores.

The company also is joining seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong, of Austin, to sponsor his new American Pro-Tour cycling team and work on his fight against cancer.

Armstrong, who finished third in this year's Tour, is a cancer survivor.

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