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The PAMPA NEWS

Wednesday, May 19, 2010 Volume 105 • No. 313 75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

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DISC DRIVE

Disc golf baskets installed in Pampa parks

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Heads up, Pampa. These aren't your father's Frisbees. Area residents may have already noticed the new, full 18-hole disc golf course has recently been installed in Pampa's Highland and West Central Parks. According to Assistant City Manager Shane Stokes, the course was installed two weeks ago by City of Pampa Staff, with assistance from inmates from local correctional facilities.

"The whole thing actually came about because of a guy by the name of Kelley Dewey," Stokes said. "(Dewey) is a member of the Professional

Disc Golf Association, and he travels around the country promoting the sport and getting disc golf courses built." Dewey secured funding from the Pampa Economic Development Corporation and local businesses to purchase the baskets and immediately turned them over to the city. Dewey also designed the layout of the course, with mapping help provided by the city.

The course is actually Pampa's second, with a smaller course being built in town during the mid-'90s. That course, comprised of nine holes over three baskets, can be found near the NBC Bank building.

"This new course is another beautiful addition to our park

system," said Stokes. "We're already seeing people out there in the evenings and on weekends, which is great." Already popular on many college campuses, disc golf was invented in 1965 by George Sappenfield, a recreation counselor in California.

The object of the game is to throw the discs into designated "holes," which are freestanding metal baskets with chains to "catch" the discs. Drives are made from designated tees around the course, with the number of throws it takes to get the disc into the target from the tee being marked down as the player's score for that hole.

Scoring is calculated as in **DISC** cont. on page 2



staff photo by **Randy Pribble**
 Disc golf baskets have been installed in and around Pampa's Central Park. The first hole is located just northeast of the Super Playground.

Local group aims to restore Lake McClellan

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

A new grassroots initiative is looking to restore the luster to a Gray County jewel. The Lake McClellan Community Restoration Service will be having its first open meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

The fledgling non-profit organization, which was started by a group of Pampa citizens in mid-March, aims to clean up the area around Lake McClellan, which has been in a state of disrepair since the March 2006 wildfire which swept through the Panhandle.

"It's just a mess right now," said LMCRS founder Zana Laden. "The fire burned out the permit office and there are a lot of dead trees still down on the ground blocking access to the lake.

"Well, my 16-year-old daughter (Chelsey Beck) came to me one day and she said, 'Mom, you had something to keep you off the streets in the summer, and that was Lake McClellan. We don't have that.' "Well, I looked at her and I said, 'You know, you're right. We need to do something about that.'"

Laden said that the LMCRS has contacted the appropriate local government agencies and is now aiming to stir up community support.

"We went and talked to the Forestry Service, and they asked us what we had to gain from all this," Laden said. "Well, we said there's nothing to gain, except for our heritage. So they gave us permission to start something, and we got in touch with John Mark (Baggerman), the (Precinct 3) county commissioner."

"What we're trying to do now is to try to reach **MCCLELLAN** cont. on page 2

Pampa ISD to hold public hearing on budget in June

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District board of trustees will have a public hearing in June on their 2010-2011 budget and tax rate.

The school district's new fiscal year begins July 1. In their meeting Tuesday night at Pampa Junior High, the school board called for a public hearing June 30 on the budget and tax rate for the next fiscal year. They proposed a tax rate of \$1.3688 per \$100 valuation for the next fiscal year.

In other business:

- The board is requesting the annexation of the land where they've built the new Pampa Junior High School on the north side of town.

The city will have to go through a series of meetings in order to annex the new school and the land upon which it sits, PISD Supt. Barry Haenisch told the school board during Tuesday night's meeting.

- Two new members of the school board were sworn in during the meeting, and the two members leaving the board were recognized for their service.
- Matt Brock and Cay Warner joined the board.
- Mark McVay was recognized for his service on the school board for the past three years, and Joe Martinez was recognized for his 12 years on the school board.
- Derrell DeLoach was elected president of the board of trustees. Lee Porter was elected vice president.

PISD cont. on page 3



staff photo by **David Bowser**
 PISD's Lea Ann Cochran (left) swears in Cay Warner and Matt Brock to the Pampa Independent School District board of trustees during the school board's meeting at Pampa Junior High Tuesday night.

Seventeen indicted in county court

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

A Gray County Grand Jury returned 17 indictments against 16 people to 31st District Judge Steven R. Emmert this month.

Mary Lee Bolin, 30, was free on \$100,000 bond today after being reindicted on charges of capital murder.

Bolin is accused of shaking her six-week-old daughter, Kenzee Renee Bolin, in the baby's death in May 2007.

Shawn Lee Weatherford, 39, was free on \$12,500 bond after being indicted on charges of assaulting a public servant. Weatherford is accused of striking Pampa Police Officer J.C. Blackburn when Blackburn was attempting to arrest Weatherford on March 11, 2009.

Miguel Antonio Valdez, 31, was free on \$15,000 bond today after being indicted on charges of assault causing bodily injury to a woman on June 27, 2009. He is accused of grabbing a family member around the neck. He was convicted in 2007 of violence against a family member.

Stanslay Surbayev, 45, was free on \$15,000 bond today after being indicted on charges of money laundering.

Surbayev is accused of possessing money involved in the sale of a controlled substance valued at more than \$20,000 but less than \$100,000 in connection with a Nov. 19, 2009, incident.

Zachary Wade Skinner, 25, was in Gray County jail today in lieu of \$50,000 bond in connection with aggravated kidnapping charges on March 26, 2010.

Skinner is accused of abducting Chauntyl Martinez and holding her.

Josh Kade Seymour, 23, was in Gray County jail today in lieu of \$15,000 bond in connection with an escape from Pampa Police Officer Chad Johnson on Sept. 4, 2009.

Seymour had been arrested by police on charges of theft.

Ignacia Jennifer Rojas, 22, was free today on \$15,000 bond after being indicted on charges of driving while intoxicated. Court records indicate that there was a child younger than 15 years old in the vehicle she was driving.

Gretchen Elizabeth Osborne, 44, **INDICTMENTS** cont. on page 3

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Family Bike Ride
 May 22nd 10am - 1pm
 All participants must be accompanied by an adult.
HELMETS ARE REQUIRED!
 For more info, contact 665-3241



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
High 77 Low 53	High 85 Low 65	High 92 Low 64

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 53. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 85. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. South southeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 92. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

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Obituaries

Larry Middleton, 58

Pampa — Larry Middleton, 58, died May 17, 2010 in Amarillo.

Memorial services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, May 20, 2010, at Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel, with Rev. Ronnie Goode, associate pastor of Trinity Fellowship, officiating. Masonic rites are courtesy of Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF & AM, and cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mr. Middleton was born May 23, 1951 in San Diego, Calif. He was reared in

Pampa where he attended Pampa schools, and graduated from Pampa High School. He married Debbie Walling on November 14, 1976 in Pampa. Larry was employed by Pampa Concrete Company, retiring in 2008 after 32 years of service. He was a member of the Pampa Masonic Lodge #966 AF&AM. He enjoyed flying RC helicopters and was an avid mechanic, and he loved riding his Harley-Davidson. Most of all, Larry loved spending time with his family.

Survivors include his

wife, Debbie Middleton of the home; two sons, Will Hacker and wife Kala of Friendswood, and Donovan Middleton of Las Vegas, Nev.; special nephew, Kris Middleton of Pampa; brother, Montey Middleton of Houston; and grandson, Drew Hacker of Friendswood. Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Bob Middleton and George and Joyce Murphy; and a brother, James Middleton.

Memorial may be made to CASA of the High Plains, 315 N. Ballard, Pampa, TX 79065.



Middleton

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today.

Officers reported 20 traffic-related calls and two accidents.

Animal control officers reported 21 animal-related calls.

Pampa EMS reported six ambulance calls. The Lefors Volunteer EMS reported one ambulance call.

Tuesday, May 18

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 2300 block of Navajo.

Public intoxication was reported at Somerville and Buckler.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

An alarm was reported in the 1000 block of North Hobart.

Public intoxication was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Officers assisted a motorist at Brown and Cuyler.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block of North Gillespie.

A theft was reported in the 700 block of North Powell.

A theft was reported in the 200 block of North Wynne.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 900 block of Crane.

Officials launched a fire investigation at Kentucky and Sumner.

An assault was reported in the 500 block of North Frost.

A 911 hangup call was

reported in the 1200 block of Hamilton.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of South Somerville.

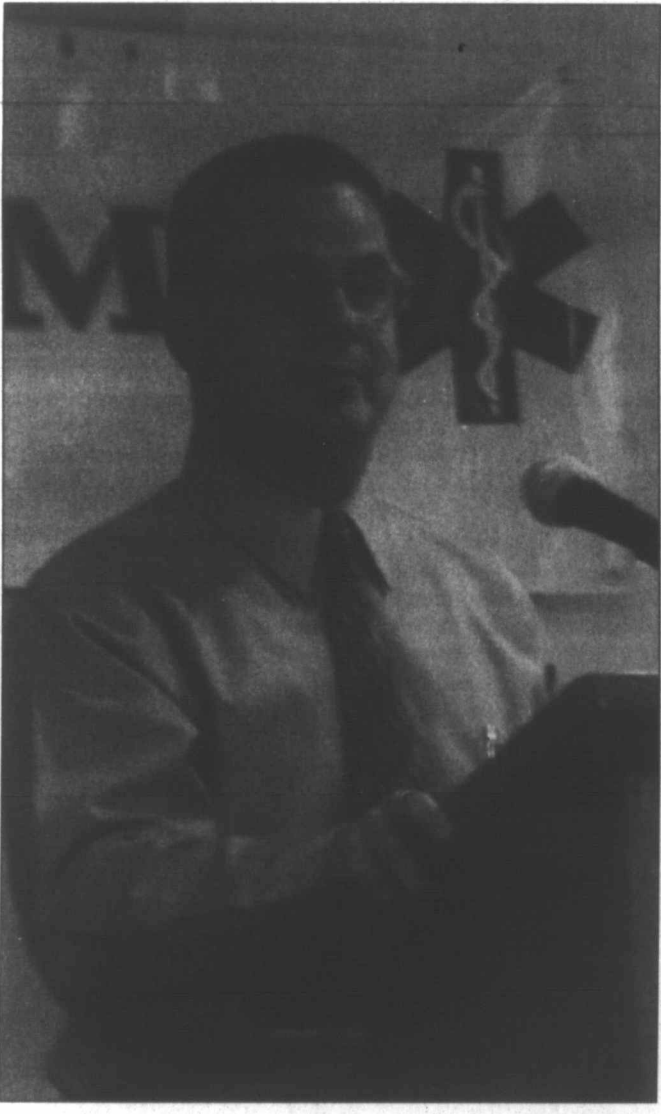
Wednesday, May 19
Officers made a welfare check in the 700 block of East Kingsmill.

A suspicious person was reported at 17th and Duncan.

A prowler was reported in the 100 block of West Albert.

A suspicious person was reported at Wilks and Wells.

CHAMBER LUNCHEON



staff photos by **Randy Pribble**

RIGHT: Joe Anstey of Pampa EMS was the keynote speaker, highlighting EMS Week, May 16 to 22. **TOP:** James Taylor (left) receives some gifts from Pampa Chamber of Commerce Director Joe Weaver (right) as Taylor's wife, Bea, and Pat Montoya look on. Taylor is retiring from his longtime maintenance position at the Chamber after being with the organization since its inception. "Thanks to each and every one of you," said a teary-eyed Taylor to the luncheon crowd. "I love you all."

Disc

cont. from page 1

golf, where the player with the lowest score at the end of the round wins the game.

Disc golf is played with special discs, which are smaller and heavier than traditional Frisbees. They are typically about 8 or 9 inches in diameter and between 150 and 190 grams.

Akin to the different clubs in golf, there are also specialized discs for different game situations. Putter discs, for example, are designed to fly straight, flat and slow for precision short-range accuracy. Drivers, on the other hand, are weighted on the outer edge rather than evenly distributed; they have sharp edges designed for aerodynamics and fly farther than other discs, but are also harder to control.

The sport has grown at a yearly rate of 12 to 15 percent for over a decade, with nearly 3,000 courses now around the United States.

Since the installation of the baskets, it seems Pampa has seen a small spike in disc golf popularity as well.

"We've started selling quite a few of these since in the last few weeks," said Ronnie Holmes, owner of Holmes Sports on Cuyler, of the sport's special discs. "We usually sell a few anyway, but we've seen more sales lately."

Stokes hopes that the new course will help promote health and fitness in the Pampa community, just in time for fairer summer temperatures to sweep through the area.

"We encourage people to go out there and use the course," Stokes said. "We didn't realize just how



staff photo by **Arnie Aurellano**

Disc golf discs are smaller and heavier than traditional frisbees, typically being about 8 or 9 inches in diameter and between 150 and 190 grams.

many disc golfers were out there."

Stokes said that he may even pick up some discs and try the new course out himself.

"You know what? I just might," he said with a chuckle. "It looks like fun out there."

McClellan

cont. from page 1

out to the whole Lake McClellan community, trying to find more people who are willing to help. We need to come together as a community in our hearts and our souls to make this happen."

Laden said that the group is already looking to schedule some events to raise awareness to their cause, including a bonfire and a "Heritage Day." They are also planning to place donation jars around town to raise money for chainsaws, weed eaters and other relevant equipment.

The organization is also launching a youth group, spearheaded by Beck, to contribute to the cleanup of the lake's surroundings.

"We can do this," Laden said. "For us and for our kids, I think we can do it."

For more information, you can find the Lake McClellan Community Restoration Service on Facebook, or contact Laden at 806-662-4737 or Tanya Gasaway at 806-440-2625.

LAST MINUTE ADS

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

YOU ARE invited to a Wedding Shower for Lacey Jane Sandlin & Justin Wade Helton, Sat. May 22nd, 2:30-4:30pm, Triumphant Truth Church, 1701 S. Manhattan St. (Inters. I-40 E. Nelson Exit, S. Frontage Road), Amarillo. Gift selections: Hyland's Pharmacy Wheeler, TX, and Bed Bath & Beyond.

PISD

president. Dana Terry was elected secretary.

- The board heard updates from Randy Stevenson on the district's new ag barn and junior high school. Stevenson is representing the district in overseeing construction on the projects.
- He said the animal pens have been assembled and delivered to the new ag barn. They should be installed in the next few weeks.
- Stevenson added that the new Pampa Junior High School is nearing completion. The irrigation system at the school should be finished this week. The planting of grass and landscaping should be completed around the new building in June.
- In mid-July, he said, the staff should have access to the building.
- The new junior high school is scheduled to be open for classes for the fall semester.
- Haenisch told the board that the school district's attorney had agreed that the district owns the copyright to the new junior high school's "Reaper" mascot in return for the \$2,700 they paid for the painting of the mascot.
- Haenisch, however, added that the district had not heard from the people who supplied the "Reaper"

cont. from page 1

artwork concerning the district's assertion.

- The school board tabled action on a rental request from Clear Wire to use a tower at Harvester Stadium for a wireless antenna for the adjoining neighborhood until the details could be worked out.
- Assistant Superintendent Evan Smith gave a curriculum report to the board outlining the initiatives the district plans for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Danny Seabourn, the district's director of federal programs, said the district had applied for two grants. One was for a \$5 million grant spread over three years from the U.S. Department of Education for math and science.
- The other is a state grant for Lamar, Travis and Wilson Elementary Schools.
- The grant from the Texas Education Agency would be for a million dollars per campus per year for three years.
- The board also approved the hiring of 10 new teachers.
- They are Braydon Barker, Melissa Barrow, Renee Brown, Stephanie Cameron, Pamela Funderburg, Abigail Lubbers, Nathan Maxwell, Debbie Sewell, Deana Welling and Brittnee Wilson.

Indictments

was free today on \$10,000 bond in connection with an indictment for evading arrest on Jan. 14, 2010.

Court records accuse her of fleeing from Pampa Police Officer Tyler Jernigan while he was trying to arrest her.

Amparo Moreno Ortega, 49, was free on \$20,000 bond today after being indicted on charges of driving while intoxicated, third or more offense, on Sept. 27, 2009.

Ortega was convicted of driving while intoxicated in 2002 and 2003.

Brandon Shelby Mills, 30, free on \$20,000 bond today after being indicted on charges of driving while intoxicated, third offense or more.

Mills was arrested in connection with March 12, 2009, offense. She had previously been convicted in 1998 and again in 2008 on driving while intoxicated charges. She was also convicted of driving while

intoxicated in 1990.

Marcos Vela Gonzales, 54, was free on \$25,000 bond today after being indicted on charges of driving while intoxicated, third offense or more, in connection with an Oct. 25, 2009, incident.

He was convicted of driving while intoxicated in connection with 1986 and 1988 cases.

Jason Dewey Kysar, 35, was in Gray County jail today in lieu of bonds totalling \$25,000 in connection with two indictments. One was for tampering with evidence. The other was possession of a controlled substance, less than one gram.

He is accused of concealing a plastic bag containing what may have been a controlled substance. Kysar was convicted in 1999 of forgery and in 2006 of possession of a controlled substance.

Wayne Lynne Britton, 52, was free on \$10,000 bond today after

cont. from page 1

being indicted on charges of fraud.

Britton is accused of fraud in connection with having a Medicaid identification card, social security cards, social security number, a Medicare health card, a Texas driver's license and a finance company account summary belonging to other people on Nov. 8, 2007.

Britton was convicted of forgery in 2004.

Jennifer Marie Brown, 26, was free on \$12,500 bond today after being indicted on charges of possession of a controlled substance of less than one gram.

Brown is accused of having methamphetamine on April 20, 2009.

Norma Whitley, 36, was free on \$12,500 bond after being indicted on charges of tampering with physical evidence.

Whitley was accused of concealing a bag of white powder during an investigation on Dec. 20, 2009.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband had an affair with a stripper. I found out about it because he bought her some jewelry and was stupid enough to have the bill sent to our home.

We have been married more than 20 years and I love him, but this haunts me every day. I am heartbroken, but I'm trying to make our marriage work. He never admitted to any of it and says nothing happened between them.

I don't know whether to keep on trying or leave him and hope to get on with my life. What's your advice?

— WOUNDED HEART IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR WOUNDED HEART: You have my sympathy, but one person can't save a marriage alone. It takes effort on the part of both husband and wife, plus honest communication and often professional counseling to heal a relationship when there has been infidelity. Your husband may say "nothing" happened with the stripper, but the only man I can think of who bought jewelry for a woman he wasn't related to or romantically involved with was Michael Jackson when he gave some to Elizabeth Taylor.

Even though you love your husband, it's time to start taking care of yourself. And the place to start is by insisting on professional counseling. If he won't go, go without him.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have a 24-year-old developmentally disabled son who lives with us. Three months ago, he met a nice girl at the mental health program he attends. They hold hands, go to the movies and occasionally smooch.

Recently, "Jasper" had a mark on his neck. We were over at a friend's house for dinner when my best friend noticed the mark. She then proceeded to tell me I should consider getting Jasper "fixed."

At first, I wasn't sure I'd heard her correctly, so I

asked her to repeat it. I am shocked that she thinks I should have my son sterilized.

Jasper is diagnosed with ADD and Asperger's syndrome. According to his mental health counselor, he could someday be married, have children and lead a productive, independent life. It just may take him longer to get to that point in comparison with his peers.

How should I respond to my friend about her suggestion? When she made it, I didn't know what to say.

— SPEECHLESS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR SPEECHLESS: If you still want to maintain the friendship with the woman, tell her what your son's mental health counselor said about his prospects for the future. But first, if you haven't already, make sure Jasper clearly understands every-

thing he needs to know to protect himself and his nice girlfriend from premature parenthood.

DEAR ABBY: Please answer a question for me. Why do we fall in love with people who we absolutely, positively cannot have?

— HEARTBROKEN IN INDIANAPOLIS

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: You have asked a question for which there is more than one answer. Some people do it because they don't recognize the warning signs quickly enough to back off before becoming enmeshed. Others can't resist a challenge. And still others do it because — believe it or not — it's less threatening than falling in love with someone we absolutely, positively CAN have.



The Pampa High School Soccer Booster Club is hosting a 3v3 tournament on June 5 to raise funds for the 2010-2011 PHS soccer teams. The tournament will be held at the Pampa High School Soccer Fields on 23rd Street.

Boys and girls teams consisting of 3 to 5 players are wanted. Entry fees per team are \$80 (U6), \$100 (U8, U10, U12, U14), and \$125 (High School and Adult). Each participant will receive a tournament t-shirt. All players in U6 and U8 will receive a participation award. First, second and third place trophies will be awarded in the U8 through Adult Divisions. All U6 and U8 teams can add an additional player for \$20. All other age divisions can add an additional player for \$25.

Registration and medical release forms are available by contacting Michele Dyson at 806-663-0737 or Coach John True at 806-632-2325. All registration materials must be received by May 28, 2010.

www.thepampanews.com

LIONS CLUB

Broom Sale

May 20 & 21 at 8 a.m.
Coronado Center

Door-to-Door Home Sales
May 20th

For pre-orders call Rusty
Tapped at 595-0513

Proceeds to benefit the blind & Lions Club.

Pet of the Week

Sponsored by The Pampa News

If you're looking for a "forever friend", call or visit us today!

For more information about these pets or any other questions, please contact the local animal shelter at 806-669-5775 or visit it at the Hobart Street Park. All photos of animals can be viewed 24 hours a day online at www.cityof-pampa.org. The animals can be seen through the window of the shelter anytime.

The shelter is open to the public
Monday - Saturday from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, May 19, the 139th day of 2010. There are 226 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 19, 1935, British Army officer T.E. Lawrence, also known as "Lawrence of Arabia," died in Dorset, England six days after being injured in a motorcycle crash.

On this date:

In 1536, Anne Boleyn, the second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded after being convicted of adultery.

In 1909, the Ballets Russes (Russian Ballets), under the direction of Sergei Diaghilev, debuted in Paris.

In 1943, in an address to the U.S. Congress, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill pledged his country's full support in the fight against Japan.

In 1962, during a Democratic fundraiser at New York's Madison Square Garden, actress Marilyn Monroe sang "Happy Birthday to You" to guest-of-honor President John F. Kennedy.

In 1964, the State Department disclosed that 40 hidden microphones had been found in the U.S. embassy in Moscow.

In 1967, the Soviet Union ratified a treaty with the United States and Britain banning nuclear weapons from outer space.

In 1992, the 27th Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits Congress from giving itself pay raises until the next congressional term, went into effect. Mary Jo Buttafuoco of Massapequa, N.Y., was shot and seriously wounded by her husband Joey's teenage lover, Amy Fisher.

In 1994, former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died in New York at age 64.

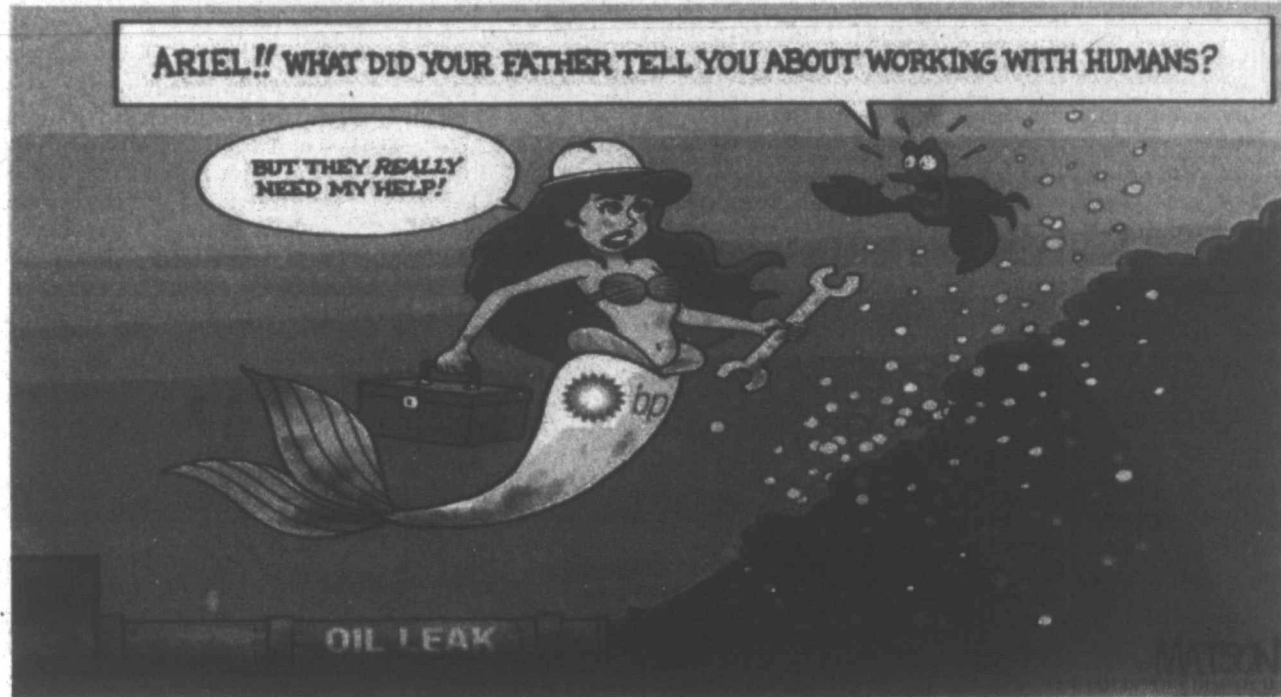
Ten years ago: China and the European Union reached a market-opening trade deal, clearing Beijing's largest remaining hurdle to joining the World Trade Organization.

Five years ago: Republicans and Democrats tangled over President George W. Bush's judicial nominees and the Senate's filibuster rules, with Democrats accusing Bush of trying to "rewrite the Constitution" and Republicans accusing Democrats of "unprecedented obstruction."

One year ago: President Barack Obama asked consumers to back his plan for higher efficiency standards for cars and trucks, saying drivers would make up the higher cost of cleaner vehicles at the gas pump.

Today's Birthdays: PBS newscaster Jim Lehrer is 76. Actor James Fox is 71. Author-director Nora Ephron is 69. Actor Peter Mayhew is 66. Rock singer-composer Pete Townshend (The Who) is 65. Concert pianist David Helfgott is 63. Rock singer-musician Dusty Hill (ZZ Top) is 61. Singer-actress Grace Jones is 58. Rock musician Phil Rudd (AC-DC) is 56. Actor Steven Ford is 54. Rock musician Iain Harvie (Del Amitri) is 48. Actor Jason Gray-Stanford is 40. Rock singer Jenny Berggren (Ace of Base) is 38. Actor Drew Fuller is 30.

Thought for Today: "If every nation gets the government it deserves, every generation writes the history which corresponds with its view of the world." - Elizabeth Janeway, American writer and critic (1913-2005).



THE FAILURE OF PLAN XXXXXXXXXXXX

Alternative options exist for U.S. to de-emphasize offshore drilling

NEW ORLEANS - From within the elegant and delicious Restaurant August at the corner of Gravier and Tchoupitoulas Streets here, the City That Care Forgot is quintessentially carefree. The chandeliers glisten, the patrons glow, and the oysters with truffle spoon bread could not be more delightful.

But about 40 miles south, a Delaware-sized oil slick threatens to blacken the coast like a nasty-tasting, pepper-encrusted redfish. As New Orleans and its environs confront yet another undeserved sucker punch in less than half a decade, it's time serious oil-and-gas reform.

"We are starting to find out that we will see shortages of Gulf seafood in the next three days," laments Crawford Leavoy, a manager at Restaurant August. "We try to focus on using local products from the waters of Louisiana, but because of this disaster we will be unable to...Restaurant August will start to support and serve seafood from the North Atlantic and North Pacific."

Worries about petroleum-marinated seafood, oil-infused waterfowl, and crude-battered beaches have chilled lawmakers' feet about expanding ocean-based oil production.

Regarding President Obama's plan to broaden offshore drilling, Senator Bill Nelson (D, Fla.) told MSNBC: "I think that's dead on arrival."

This calamity could metastasize. Some forecasters warn that the Loop Current could drive the oil slick from the ruins of BP's Deepwater Horizon rig south along Florida's west coast and around Key West. Once in the Gulf Stream, the oil spill would speed up the Eastern Seaboard, potentially fouling beaches from Miami to the Carolinas.

Such a fiasco surely would kill new offshore oil for a generation.

Today's mess may grease the skids for a grand compromise: a red light for new offshore oil in exchange for green lights for onshore oil production and offshore natural-gas drilling.

True, this approach would overlook plentiful oil supplies beneath U.S. oceans.

"You have over four times more resources offshore," says Dr. John Felmy, the American Petroleum Institute's

chief economist. In federal lands and waters, "There are about 21 billion barrels of oil onshore, mostly in Alaska, and 86 billion barrels of oil offshore."

Some four billion barrels of untapped oil rest under Montana and North Dakota. Americans use about 7.3 billion barrels annually. While the US would consume this deposit alone in just seven months, many similar reserves sit beneath American soil, rather than below domestic waters.

Meanwhile, natural gas abounds, offshore and on.

"There are about 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas offshore," Felmy estimates. "You have 187 trillion cubic feet of natural gas onshore...You also have exciting, new shale-gas supplies. The Marcellus Shale deposits in Pennsylvania and upstate New York are huge. There could be as much as 500 trillion cubic feet in Marcellus alone."

Americans use about 20 to 25 trillion cubic feet of natural gas annually. Hence, Marcellus could represent a 25-year natural-gas supply. Existing offshore reserves could add 20 more years of natural gas to America's energy menu.

Drilling also is much cheaper onshore than off. According to December 2009 Energy Department figures, from 2006 through 2008, major domestic firms spent \$36.90 to locate and collect an average barrel of onshore oil. The equivalent offshore figure: \$73.47 — almost precisely double.

It's worth re-stating the obvious: Offshore natural gas does not spill. At worst, if a natural-gas rig exploded, the ensuing fireball might scorch a passing flock of seagulls. The only onshore impact might involve sunbathers rising from their beach towels and asking, "What the hell is that?"

Offshore drilling will not end today, nor should it. But given its catastrophic potential, plus the immediate availability of cheaper and less environmentally calamitous substitutes, perhaps the Left and Right can agree, for once, to de-emphasize offshore oil while passionately embracing onshore oil and offshore natural gas.

This may be the best policy to keep the cares to a minimum and, as this city does so well, let the good times roll.

Deroy Murdock writes political commentary for the Washington Times. His articles have appeared in the Wall Street Journal, Philadelphia Inquirer, Orange County Register, Dallas Morning News, National Review, Insight and many more.



DEROY MURDOCK

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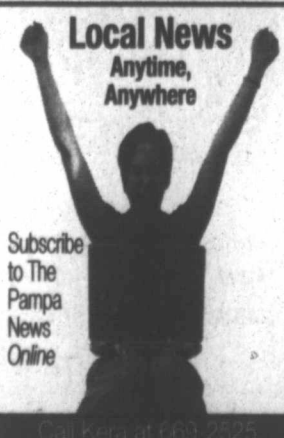
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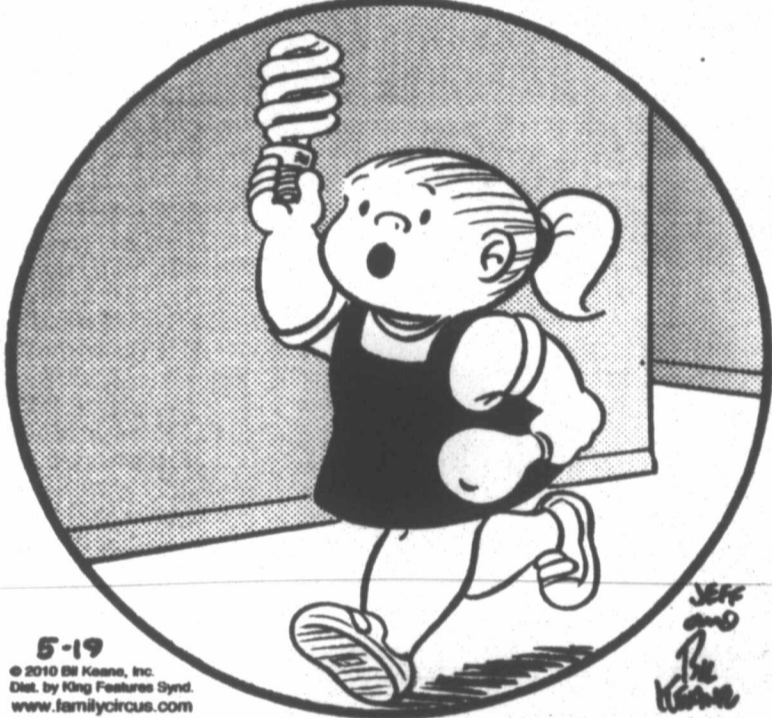
Marmaduke



Forget cooking dinner, Dottie. The boss wants to eat out."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



5-19
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"Daddy, can we put a squiggly bulb in rather than a fat one?"

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS DOWN

- 1 Skin hole
- 5 Thin cut
- 9 "— there yet?"
- 11 Crab's place
- 12 More pleasant
- 13 Stage direction
- 14 Film noir classic
- 15 Unsurpassed
- 17 Excited
- 19 Fresh
- 20 Macaroni shape
- 21 Abel, to Adam
- 22 Like argon
- 24 Funny fellow
- 26 Top actors
- 29 Paint buy
- 30 In sum
- 32 Order in the court
- 34 Spoil
- 35 Aspen aficionado
- 36 Artless
- 38 Melodies
- 39 Fork features
- 40 Raced
- 41 Defeat

A	R	O	M	A	S	H	A	N	D	
B	A	N	A	N	A	O	H	I	O	
C	H	E	N	I	N	B	L	A	N	C
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C	A	G	E	G	U	A	M			
M	A	R	E	C	A	P	L	E	T	
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T	Y	P	E	T	O	S	S			
P	L	E	A	S						
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N	O	T	E	S	T	O	N	E	R	

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	20					21	
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	24	25		26		27	28
29			30				31
32			33			34	
35				36	37		
38				38			
40							41

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



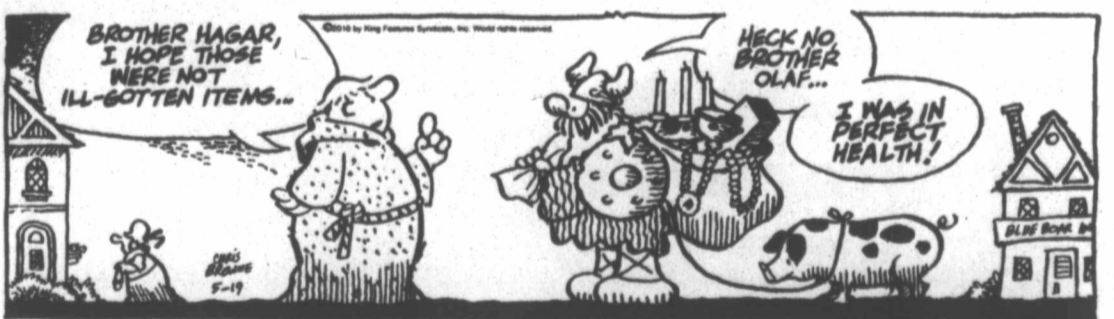
Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



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Blondie



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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> America's Top 200 - \$52.99/mo Over 220 channels <small>Everyday Price for 2 TVs</small>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connect your 2nd TV FREE	\$5/mo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Installation in 6 rooms FREE	Over \$130
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connect 3 HD TVs FREE	Nearly \$300*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Most HD Available	Nope
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fewest Consumer Complaints In the Industry*	Nope
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 24/7 complete customer service	Nope

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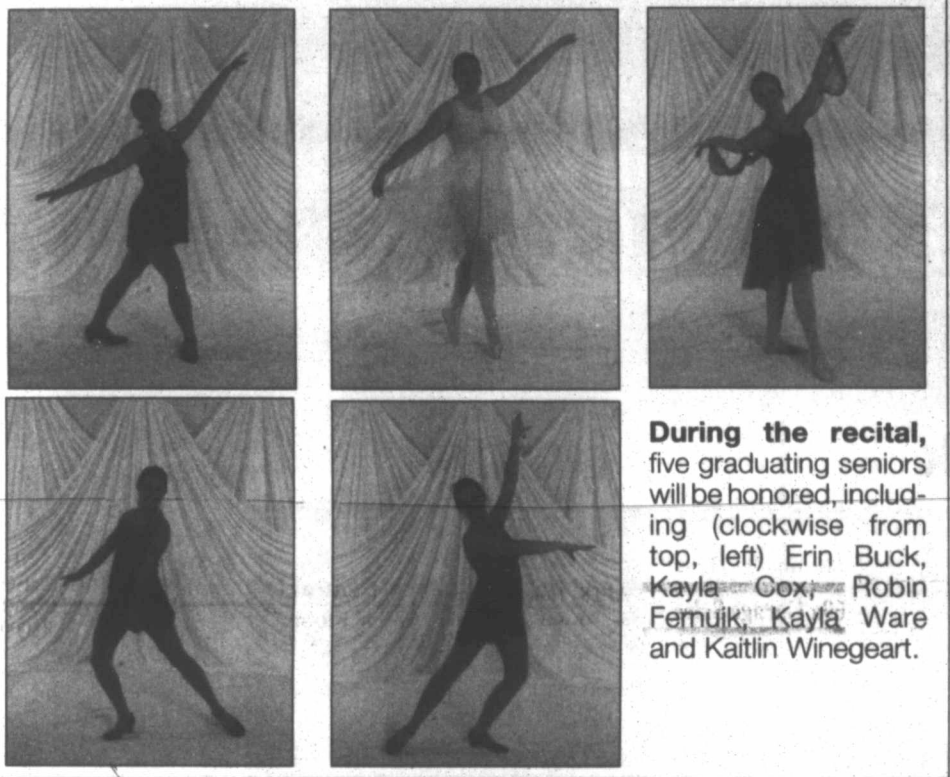
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Lollipop - (front row, from left) Sierra Sutherland, Jordan Perry, Presley Gasparlin, (back row, from left) Kayla Monds, Emman Doucette, Lacy Bilyeu, JaClyn Soliz, Jayci Carroll, Kathleen Cooper-Cameron.



Rockin' Robbin - (front row, from left) Kathleen Cooper-Cameron, Taylor May, Presley Gasparlin, Lacey Bilyeu, Jordan Perry, (back row, from left) Haley Hancox, Kami Ware, D'Asia Smith, Mariah Alvarado, Brook Hancox.

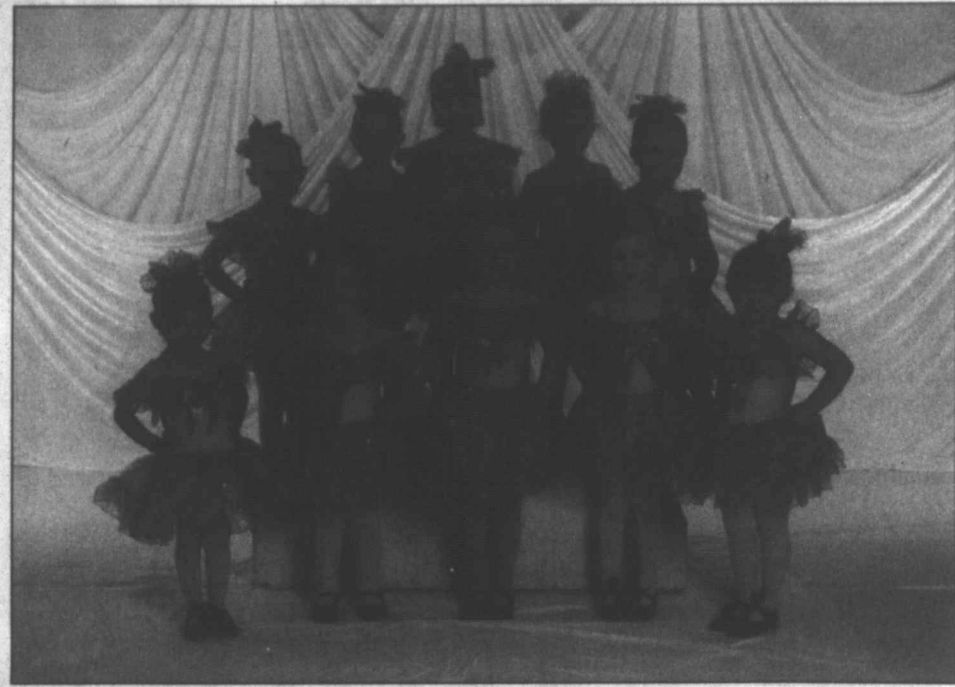


During the recital, five graduating seniors will be honored, including (clockwise from top, left) Erin Buck, Kayla Cox, Robin Fernuik, Kayla Ware and Kaitlin Winegeart.

Dance students in recital Saturday

The Dance Academy, under the direction of Deanna McGill, will present "Dance - The Tradition Continues" on Saturday, May 22 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Students will perform ballet, tap, jazz and acrobatic dances. Among the routines are "Lollipop," "When I grow up," and the jazz dance "Rockin' Robbin." The Pampa Civic Ballet will present an excerpt from the ballet "Rodeo."



When I Grow Up -- (front row, from left) Samantha Alderate, Tessa Maeifield, Olivia Reagan, Margeret Haley, Kynlee Matthesse, (back row, from left) Cassie Stubblefield, Hope Rippey, Kaley Bilyea, Gracie Stevens, Hannah Porter.



Pampa Civic Ballet "Rodeo" - (front row, from left) Kaylee Suttle, Kaylynn Kiker, Amy Kotara, Brooke Woelfle, (back row, from left) Samantha Sutterfield, Kayla Cox, Bailey Read, Hector Leal, Danielle Wall, Dacie McGill.

Scientists watching to see where oil spill is trending

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists waited anxiously Wednesday to see where a massive oil slick in the Gulf of Mexico might be heading as efforts to contain the spill proved elusive.

Tar balls that had floated ashore in the Florida Keys were not linked to the spill, the Coast Guard said Wednesday, but that did little to soothe fears a blown-out well gushing a mile underwater could spread damage along the coast from Louisiana to Florida.

U.S. and Cuban officials were also holding talks on how to respond to the spill, a U.S. State Department official said Wednesday, underscoring worries about the oil reaching a strong current that could carry it near the Florida Keys and the pristine white beaches of Cuba's northern coast.

The official was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Oil has been spewing since the offshore drilling rig Deepwater Horizon exploded off the Louisiana coast April 20, killing 11 workers, and sank two days later.

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee addressed the spill at a hearing Wednesday where leading Republicans including John Mica of Florida sought to pin blame on President Barack Obama's administration.

He cited Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's acknowledgment Tuesday that his agency could have more aggressively monitored the offshore drilling industry.

Outlining what he called the "Obama oil spill timeline," Mica said the administration failed to heed warnings about the need for more regulation and issued "basically a carte blanche recipe for disaster" in approving drilling by the Deepwater Horizon, leased by oil giant BP PLC, and several dozen other wells.

He also said the spill could have been contained more quickly if the Coast Guard and other agencies had a better plan.

"This went on and on," he said. "I'm not going to point fingers at BP, the

private industry, when it's government's responsibility to set the standards."

Committee Chairman James Oberstar, D-Minn., took issue with the criticism, saying the drilling was approved early in the Obama administration, essentially continuing practices from President George W. Bush's administration, and that decisions were made by career officials.

"I think it's inflammatory to call it the Obama oil spill, and wrong," Oberstar said.

Government scientists, meanwhile, were surveying the Gulf to determine if the oil had entered a powerful current that could take it to Florida and Cuba and eventually up the East Coast. Questions remained about just how much oil is spilling from the well.

New underwater video released by BP showed oil and gas erupting under pressure in large, dark clouds from its crippled blowout preventer on the ocean floor. The leaks resembled a geyser on land.

BP and the Coast Guard have said about 210,000 gallons of oil a day is gushing from the well, but professors who have watched the video and others say they believe the amount is much higher.

BP has tried several unsuccessful methods to contain the oil, but earlier this week managed to insert a tube into one of the leaks and says it has been sucking about 42,000 gallons a day to the surface.

BP is preparing to shoot a mixture known as drilling mud into the well later this week in a procedure called a "top-kill" that would take several weeks but, if successful, would stop the flow altogether.

Two relief wells are also being drilled to pump cement into the well to close it, but that will take months.

Salazar on Tuesday promised an overhaul of federal regulations and said blame rests with both industry and the government, particularly his agency's Minerals Management Service.

"We need to clean up that house," Salazar said of the service.

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Sports

Rotary Club edges Glo-Valve Service, tie for first

SPECIAL TO THE PAMPA NEWS

Julian Silva and Braden Sieck held Glo-Valve Service to only four hits to pull Rotary into a first place tie with Glo-Valve in a 5-3 victory Tuesday night in Pampa Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken League play. Silva allowed two hits and three runs in three innings to pick up the win. He walked five and struck

out three. Sieck was credited with a save, pitching the last two innings of a game shortened to five innings because of the time limit. He allowed no runs, two hits and no walks. He struck out four.

Ryan Lee, Brendon Woelfle and Colton Thompson pitched for Glo-Valve.

In the bottom of the first inning, Sieck walked on

four pitches to lead off the inning. He stole second and scored after two wild pitches giving Rotary a one-run lead.

Glo-Valve's offense came alive in the third inning. Kade Winkler and Joseph Radke walked. Thompson singled to center barely scoring Winkler.

After a double steal, Lee singled bringing in Radke and Thompson as Glo-

Valve took a 3-1 lead.

In the bottom of the third, Rotary bunched all of their hits to get the three runs back. With one out Engle singled. Carson Eubank walked. Rance Tipps belted a double scoring Engle and sending Eubank to third. Silva brought them both in with a single. Rotary regained the lead at 4-3.

Glo-Valve wasted an

infield single by Bryce Parker in the fourth and another single by Michael Mechelay in the fifth without scoring.

Engle led off the bottom of the fifth walking on a full count. He stole second and third and slid home on a wild pitch to end the scoring.

Both teams played errorless ball. The outstanding defensive play of the game

came when Thompson threw to Radke at shortstop to nip a runner trying to steal.

Rotary improved to 7-1 on the season and 3-1 in league play. Glo-Valve falls to 6-2 for the season and 3-1 in league play.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency.

2010 Pampa Partnership Golf Results

2010 Pampa Partnership May 15-16 at Hidden Hills and The Pampa Country Club

Championship Flight
First—Joel Burleson and Doug Mc Fatridge 67-63-130

Second—Matt Heasley and Bubba Bailey-67-66-133

Third—Daniel Heuston and Jumbo McKissick-66-69-135

Shea Cunningham and Jeff Henderson

Tyler Haynes and Bobby Richardson

First Flight
First—Aaron Simon and Bill Simon 70-69-139

Second—Shane Bridwell and Kieth Pingel 70-72-142

Third—Jon East and John East 69-74-143

Shawn Boyd and Cody Rodgers

Luke Palmer and Dustin Suitor

Second Flight
First—Dennis Kuempel and Ken Cambren 72-66-

138
Second—Anthony Tiedt and Lee Garcia 69-71-140

Third—Dee Joiner and Derik Dalton 71-70-141

Shane Fields and Gene Hurst

Kelly Everson and Brett Bromwell

Cory Fowler and Lonny Fowler

Craig Stout and Colby Morrison

Terry Hall and Dennis Holman

Third Flight
First—Seth Stribling and Steve Williams 72-66-138

Second—Charles Bradshaw and James Thompson 71-70-141

Third—Jimmy Peterson and David Fredman 72-74-146

Robert Cunningham and Don Hensley

Josh Larkin and Chris Jewett

Mike Voss and Tyson Buse

Mickey Manor and Danny Reagan

Fourth Flight

First—Billy Crain and Bill Heuston 78-77-155

Second—Kenny Maple and Martin Stevens 75-74-159

Third—Richard Peet and Tracy Peet 82-80-162

Bob Hogan and Taylor Harris

Darby Schale and Guy Conner

Fifth Flight
First—Matt Lilhtie and Gary Cudney 74-75-149

Second—S.D. Baize and Tom Atchley 77-77-154

Third—Pat Montoya and Ralph Baker 77-81-158

Bob Swope and Rick Swope

John Howell and Jerry Stephens

Jason Hall and Ben Padgett

Ronnie Wood and Bill Allison

Sixth Flight
First—Jonathan Polk and Fred Polk 79-80-159

Second—Larry Renfro and Jon Fesseden 84-80-164

First—Billy Crain and Bill Heuston 78-77-155

Second—Kenny Maple and Martin Stevens 75-74-159

Third—Richard Peet and Tracy Peet 82-80-162

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Pampa Country Club Thursday Night Scramble

May 13
Tee #1A-29-First
Daniel Williams
Dr. Joe Donaldson
Gene James
Dee Joiner
Tee #2A-30-Second
Daniel Heuston
Cory Devoll
Joe Manzanares
Brett Bromwell

Tee #3A-32
Terry Hall
Bob Cook
Connie Manzanares
Tee #4A-30
Riley Rodman
Taylor Harris
Buz Tarpley
John Locke
Tee #6A-33
Jon East

Gene Hall
Shelia McFatridge
Dennis Holman
Tee #7A-34
Shane Bridwell
Wayne Gordon
Randall Cross
Marc Reed
First \$35 each
Second \$25 each

Hidden Hills Senior Scramble

May 12
First—61
Eldon Maxwell
Bill Brown
Second—63
Ron Parnell
Bob Henderson
Buddy Epperson
Darrell Hinkle
Third—64
Roy Don Stephens

Jerry Stephens
James Lee
J.C. Furgason
Fourth—64
Pat Montoya
Charlie Bynum
Ray Covalt
Waldon Haynes
Fifth—65
Johnny Gilber
Travis Taylor

Lucio Moreno
Jim Jensen
Closest to Pin #6: Bob Henderson
Closest to Pin #15: Dick Dunham
Note: Some names were not included because they were illegible on our print-out.

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