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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS Smart jock
Valedictorian Boyd bucks athlete stereotype **Page 8**

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Friday, May 27, 2011 Volume 107 • No. 45 75c Daily • Weekend \$1.50

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Pampa readies for Memorial Day events

ARNIE AURELLANO
editor@thepampanews.com

Pampa as a community has long been supportive of the armed forces, a fact not lost on Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657 Commander Danny Martin. "This community has always been good to us," Martin said. "Whether it's the veterans who are no longer on active duty or the troops serving around the coun-



Martin the city particularly special, said

try or overseas, Pampa has always shown their support." That makes Memorial Day — set this year for this coming Monday — around any way, whether it's Veteran's

Day or Memorial Day or just any day." The VFW will be holding its traditional candlelight vigil ceremony at 7:45 on Monday at Freedom Park, with the public invited to attend. "We'd love to see people there," Martin said. Martin will give the welcome address at the ceremony, with Highland Baptist Church pastor **MEMORIAL** cont. on page 6

NOT SO FAST...



Bob Steger playfully (and prematurely) celebrates a victory after completion of the recent March for Meals 5K for Pampa Meals on Wheels. The real first place winners of the 5K's age divisions were Teaira Jordon, Tanner Dyson, Juan Silva, Kendra Myers, Teresa Dyson and Mary Kaplan. First place winners of the walk were Kathy White, Stuart Stoffle, Betty Peeler and Leon Peeler.

C of C seeks celebration volunteers

ARNIE AURELLANO
editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce is seeking participants for the city's Summer Celebration, scheduled this year for Monday, July 18 from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.



"We're looking for anybody at all that's interested in the summer celebration," Weaver said, "whether that's as a volunteer or whether they want to set up a booth." For those interested in volunteering for the event, there is a meeting set up for Tuesday at noon. The Chamber will provide pizza; anyone interested should RSVP by Tuesday morning, Weaver said. With Amarillo's KFDA Channel 10 broadcasting three times from the event, Weaver added that the Summer Celebration presents an excellent chance to showcase Pampa. "The Summer Celebration is going to be a great opportunity to show off Pampa to the entire Panhandle, and actually even beyond that to all of Channel 10's viewing area," Weaver said. "This is a great opportunity for participants to get involved, get their name out and just show the area what a great place Pampa is. **CHAMBER** cont. on page 6

TEXAS REDISTRICTING MESS Redistricting failure leaves local representation in limbo

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AUSTIN (AP) — The Legislature has failed to adopt a plan to redraw congressional districts in Texas, so now the governor can either call a special session or allow a federal judge to draw a new map. Lawmakers are required to redraw political boundaries every 10 years when new census data is released, but they missed a midnight Thursday deadline for approving the necessary legislation to establish new districts for the 2012 election. That failure — temporarily, at least — puts off a plan that would eliminate District 88 as it exists entirely. District

88 includes Gray and 18 other Panhandle or West Texas counties, and is currently represented in the House by Pampa's Warren Chisum. The legislators' failure to act should also come as no surprise since lawmakers also failed to approve new maps in 1971, 1981 and 2001. This is a big year, though, with Texas adding four new congressional districts thanks to explosive population growth. That means Texas will have 36 representatives in Congress in 2013. Gov. Rick Perry has refused to comment on whether he will call a special session, but

aides close to him have repeatedly said that he doesn't want to. That would allow a federal judge to draw a new map. There is a certain logic in allowing that to happen. Texas is one of 16 states that have a history of drawing maps that suppress minority representation, so under the Voting Rights Act, officials must submit any redistricting proposal for federal review. Civil rights groups also have a long history of filing federal lawsuits to challenge redistricting maps. Allowing a federal judge to draw one would minimize those complications. **REDISTRICTING** cont. on page 6




Boomtown Block Party & Business Expo
and Top O' Texas BBQ Cook-off
July 9 at Recreation Park/Rodeo Grounds
Registration forms available at the Chamber Office
200 N. Ballard

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PAMPA FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
		
High 88 Low 62	High 92 Low 62	High 86 Low 61

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 60. East northeast wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 88. Breezy, with a north northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. Breezy, with a south wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 92. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. Windy, with a south wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph.

Memorial Day: Partly sunny, with a high near 86. Windy, with a south wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

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LAST MINUTE ADS

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NO PAMPA Newspaper on Mon. May 30th, so that our employees can enjoy the Memorial Day Holiday. Open Tues. May 31st, 8am.

Fatality in two-truck crash near Higgins

DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Texas Department of Public Safety troopers were investigating the head-on collision of two semi tractor-trailer rigs near Higgins this morning.

The two trucks were headed opposite directions on

U.S. Highway 60 between Higgins and Canadian about 7 a.m. today, according to officials.

Initial reports indicated that one person was killed.

Department of Public Safety troopers and area law enforcement officers were still on the scene late this morning. Few details were available.

Gov. Perry considers presidential bid

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry, the longest serving chief executive in the state's history and a politician who has never lost an election, said Friday he will consider seeking the Republican nomination for president.

The outspoken conservative has said for months that he wasn't interested in running for the White House.

However, Perry said he will decide whether to enter the race after the Texas Legislature adjourns Monday.

Perry has been the subject of

speculation as some Republicans lamented the slate of GOP candidates planning to challenge President Barack Obama.

When asked about the race before Friday, Perry had said repeatedly he was focused on the state's legislative session and not the 2012 presidential race.

Asked once again on Friday if he'd consider a run, Perry said: "I'm going to think about it."

The presidential buzz surrounding Perry increased last week after his speech to Republican insiders in Dallas won rave reviews.

Conservative radio host Rush Limbaugh spent 20 minutes on his talk show a few days later espousing Perry's appeal as a candidate.

A "Draft Perry 2012" Web site went live that night, sponsored by California Assemblyman Dan Logue. Five other California lawmakers are listed as sponsors.

Logue led a delegation of California lawmakers that visited Austin in April to see why so many businesses from the state had moved to Texas.

Joplin tornado death toll reaches 132

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP) — The death toll from the massive tornado that devastated Joplin, Mo., reached 132 Friday, a city spokeswoman said.

The state is working to pare down the list of people missing and unaccounted for since the storm.

Joplin city spokeswoman Lynn Onstot confirmed the new death toll to The Associated Press shortly before state officials announced that the missing list had been trimmed to 156 people.

Officials were working 24 hours a day to trim the list that stood at 232 a day earlier, Missouri Department of Public Safety deputy director Andrea Spillars told a morning news conference.

Spillars says at least 90 people on the original list had been located alive.

But at least six were identified as among the dead, and some new names had been added to the list.

Authorities had said they believed many of the

missing were alive and safe but simply hadn't been in touch with friends and family, in part because cell-phone service has been spotty.

But they also had cautioned that they believed many on the list may have been killed in the storm.

Sunday's savage storm was the nation's deadliest single tornado in more than 60 years. More than 900 people were injured.

Identification of the deceased has been slow because officials have taken extra precautions since a woman misidentified one victim as her son in the chaotic hours after the tornado hit.

A federal forensics team of 50 to 75 disaster mortuary specialists has been at work in six refrigerated trucks, collecting DNA samples for testing, taking fingerprints and looking for tattoos, body piercings, moles and other distinctive marks.

Obituaries

James A. "Jim" Weese, 76

WHITE DEER — James A. "Jim" Weese, 76, died May 24, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 28, 2011, at First Baptist Church of White Deer, with Rev. Alan Wilson, pastor, officiating.

Graveside services will be at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 28, 2011, at Higgins Cemetery in Higgins, with Masonic rites courtesy of Higgins Masonic Lodge #820 AF&AM. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Weese was born June 28, 1934, in Glazier to Willard and Josie Williams Weese. He graduated from Higgins High School and received a BA degree in marketing and management from Phillips University in Enid, Okla. He married Laura Detrixhe on August 13, 1955, in Higgins. He served in the U. S. Army from 1957-1959 with an 18 month tour in Germany.

Jim served as vice president of the First National Bank in Higgins for 13 years and president of the First Bank and Trust of White Deer for 26 years from 1970 to 1996. He was a member and former deacon of the First Baptist Church of White Deer. He served as treasurer of the White Deer-Skellytown Food Pantry and served on the Carson County Appraisal Board. Jim was a member of the Higgins Masonic Lodge #820 AF&AM, the Lubbock Scottish Rite Consistory, and Khiva Shrine Temple of Amarillo. He was a member of the Panhandle Kennel Club, Trinity Valley Westie Club, Greater Denver Westie Club



Weese

and West Highland White Terrier Club of America. He was preceded in death by his parents, and a little sister, Gail.

Survivors include his wife, Laura Weese of the home; a daughter, Kathy Osborne and husband Lonnie of Grand Forks, N.D.; two sons, Alan Weese and wife Ruby of Childress and Brian Weese and wife Jennifer of Grand Prairie; a sister, Kay Carpenter of El Paso; two brothers, Dean Weese and wife JoAnn of Lubbock and Linden Weese and wife Gay of Lubbock; four grandchildren, John Osborne and wife Marci, Michael Osborne, and Kurt Osborne and wife Kari, all of Grand Forks, N.D., and Lauren Weese of Grand Prairie; one great-granddaughter, Fionna Osborne of Grand Forks, N.D.; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church Building Fund, 411 S. Omohundro, White Deer, TX 79097

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

Ruth M. Sullins Wilkerson, 91

WICHITA, Kan.—Ruth M. Sullins Wilkerson, 91, died November 12, 2010, in Wichita, Kan.

Memorial graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 28, 2011, at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa, with Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church of Pampa, officiating.

Mrs. Wilkerson was born December 27, 1919, in Pampa, to Lewis Henry and Rose Alta Sullins. She married Hershel Vann Wilkerson on December 14, 1940. He preceded her in death on February 3, 1981. Ruth had been a resident of Wichita, Kan., since the early 1950's where she was a homemaker. She was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include a sister-in-law, Katherine Sullins of Pampa, and numerous nieces and nephews.

For the record

cont. from Thurs.

Sheriff's Office

Christopher Robert Swezy, 31, Sarasota, Fla., was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of marijuana.

Trevor Jay Graham, 33, was arrested by police on charges of possession of a dangerous drug and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Jason David Sprowls, 24, was arrested by police on charges of possession of marijuana.

Tara Dawn Slater, 29, was arrested by deputies on

forgery charges out of Potter County.

Estavan Calvillo, 37, was arrested by deputies on charges of violating probation in connection with theft over \$50 by under \$500 and on a capias pro fine warrants charging him with having an open container in a vehicle.

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Thursday.

Wednesday, May 25
Thomas Ray Kirby, 18, was arrested by police on

a capias pro fine warrant charging him with driving with no license.

Josiah Weeks, 20, was arrested by deputies on charges of violation of probation in connection with burglary of a habitation.

Corey Dean Graham, 19, of McLean, was arrested by deputies on charges of burglary on a building and theft of firearms.


Thursday, May 26
Benjamin Richard Reyna, 26, of McLean, was arrested by deputies on charges of public intoxication and disorderly conduct.



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The Pampa News



Loyd Waters Retirement Party
Tuesday, May 31 2-4

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AFTERNOON RUSH

Texas TAKS scores improve

AUSTIN (AP) - Texas students in grades 3 through 12 scored higher on state-issued reading and math tests in 2011, the last year the TAKS tests will be given.

The Texas Education Agency said Thursday that each grade has improved since the exams were first issued in 2003.

This year, 92 percent of high school seniors passed the four exit exams, compared to 89 percent in 2005. Since 2003, math scores have risen from 44 percent to 90 percent.

Scores for third-graders, the youngest to take the exams, also improved. Reading grades rose from 81 percent in 2003 to 89 percent this year.

Next year, students in grades 3 through 9 will take the new, more rigorous State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) exam. High school students will take TAKS tests.

Sales tax holiday starts Saturday

AUSTIN (AP) - Shopping for power-saving appliances is cheaper this weekend thanks to the Texas Energy Star sales tax holiday.

The joint federal and state program, for products that meet efficiency guidelines, is Saturday through Monday, Memorial Day. Sales can be in stores, online and through certain catalog providers.

Eligible products, with the Energy Star logo or Energy Guide label, may be bought for existing homes, new homes and non-residential properties.

Some limits apply, such as air conditioners must be priced at \$6,000 or less and refrigerators costing \$2,000 or less. Other eligible items include ceiling fans, incandescent and fluorescent light bulbs, clothes washers and dishwashers.

AA wraps up hail damage repairs

DALLAS (AP) - American Airlines is nearly back to normal with its flight schedule for the busy Memorial Day travel weekend as the last of its hail-damaged planes are repaired.

Spokeswoman Andrea Huguely says 24 flights were canceled Friday at the carrier's main hub, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, for weather-related schedule adjustments.

She told The Associated Press that 50 American Airlines planes suffered hail damage in Tuesday night's storms that battered North Texas. Another American spokesman previously said all damaged planes were back in service by Thursday night, but Huguely said four planes still needed repairs Friday.

Jerry Johns with the Austin-based Southwestern Insurance Information Service says the industry expects between \$200 million to \$300 million in damage claims from the storms.

Texas gas prices slip 9 cents

IRVING (AP) - Retail gasoline price across Texas have dropped 9 cents this week but are about a dollar higher than last year's Memorial Day holiday weekend.

AAA Texas on Thursday reported the average price per gallon at the pump is \$3.72. The average price nationally is also down 9 cents, to \$3.81 a gallon.

The state's least expensive gasoline is in Beaumont, averaging \$3.58 a gallon. The most expensive gasoline is in Corpus Christi, at \$3.75 a gallon.

AAA spokesman Dan Ronan (ROH'-nan) attributes the decline to crude oil prices dropping this month, along with lower wholesale gasoline prices.

Gasoline prices are still an average \$1.04 higher than late May 2010.

The association predicts 2.75 million Texas Memorial Day travelers. Most are expected to travel by automobile.

Perry to sign voter ID bill

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Rick Perry is scheduled to sign into law a measure that requires Texans to show photo identification before voting.

The scheduled Friday morning signing would mark a victory for Republicans who have been fighting for a photo ID requirement for years.

Perry declared the bill a legislative emergency early on, creating a legislative battleground. Republicans asserted the law is necessary to prevent voter fraud. Democrats say it'll only boost conservative voter margins by intimidating minorities and the poor.

The law would require voters to present a valid state or federal photo ID. A driver's license, personal ID card, military ID, passport or concealed handgun permit would be accepted.

Voters without IDs could cast provisional ballots but would have to show identification within six days for their votes to count.

Storms deals \$300M in damage

DALLAS (AP) - Intense thunderstorms that spawned tornadoes and dumped large hail on North Texas caused hundreds of millions of dollars.

President Jerry Johns of the Austin-based Southwestern Insurance Information Service said the industry expects from \$200 million to \$300 million ultimately in damage claims from the Tuesday night storms.

He said the fact that the wind and hail storms hit the Dallas-Fort Worth area toward the end of the evening rush hour resulted in more cars being exposed to hailstones larger than golf balls.

Johns also said he expects many homeowners may not realize the extent of their roof damage from wind and hail until the next rain exposes that damage. He urged homeowners not to immediately hire door-to-door roofers soliciting their business but to screen them and check their references carefully.

Installing a new whirlpool tub

HOME HOW-TO

Dear Pat: I have a fiberglass shower/bathtub, which I want to remove and add a drop-in whirlpool. What is the best type of whirlpool to get? What is the easiest method to install the new whirlpool myself? — Jenny G.

Dear Jenny: Adding a whirlpool tub can be wonderful for any bathroom, but you are looking at an expensive and labor-intensive job. You are in luck since you have a fiberglass tub and surround. This is the easiest type of tub to remove so you can quickly get on with installing the new whirlpool.

There are several options. You mentioned a drop-in whirlpool, which requires a deck and knee wall to be built around the whirlpool. You are probably going to have to pay more than \$1,000 for a good drop-in model.

An acrylic one is always a good choice. The number of jets and features you select will depend on your budget. Prices can be well over \$5,000 for the fancy, full-featured models.

Although you want a drop-in model with a deck and knee wall around it, you should first consider a lower-cost, simple retrofit whirlpool tub. This will be the same size as your old tub, and some of the plumbing just might line up with your existing pipes so you will just have to finish the wall behind it. This can be a great time-saver, and the acrylic ones have beautiful glossy finishes.

The first task is to remove your old tub and surround. You can wait until you remove it to make your final choice of the type of whirlpool you want. Turn off the water supply valves and disconnect the plumbing and drain. If there are copper pipes, you can just saw them off. If you have iron plumbing, remove the fittings.

Once the plumbing is disconnected, saw a 3-inch-wide strip of drywall from around the sides and top of the surround. This will expose the nails or screws, which secure it to the wall studs. Remove the nails or screws. Using a pry bar against the floor, raise the tub so you can slip it out. Saw it (wear a breathing

mask) into three pieces to make it easier to fit through the bathroom door.

For people with a cast-iron tub, break it apart with a sledgehammer, unless you know someone who wants one. A cast-iron tub can be refinished to look like new. If someone has a steel tub, there is no easy way to break it into pieces. Just get it loose and good luck getting it out through the bathroom door.

Since your new drop-in whirlpool tub is going to require more space than your old one, plan on

repositioning one of the bathroom walls out a bit into the bedroom or a closet. The tub itself will be larger, and you will need a narrow deck and knee wall around it to finish it attractively.

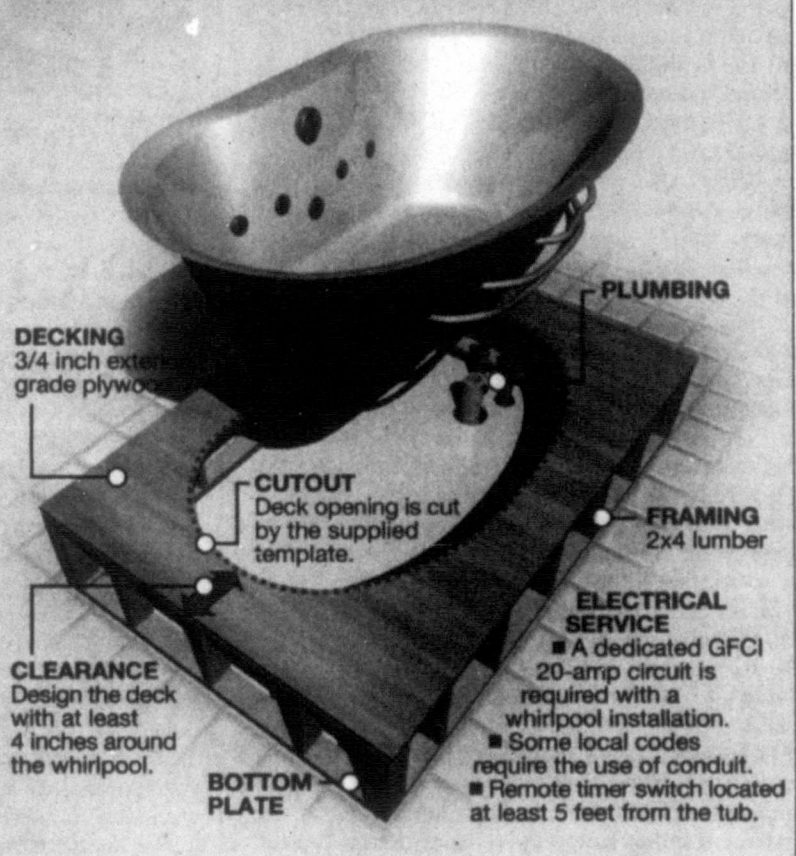
Once you have the support frame and deck built to specific whirlpool size, extend the plumbing so the faucet and knobs are in the deck. You will also have to provide electric power to operate the pump. Make sure to follow proper electrical codes for wiring in a wet area. At this point, just follow the manufacturer's instructions for securing the tub and making the final connections.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

HOME HOW-TO

Whirlpool

Installing a whirlpool is very similar to installing a bathtub, once the framing is completed. Most units come complete from the factory, making the actual hookup quite simple.



Source: www.familyhandyman.com

Creators.com/Bob Kast

Texas budget will have \$15 billion in cuts

AUSTIN (AP) - House and Senate negotiators on Thursday approved a two-year state budget that shorts public education by \$4 billion — ensuring thousands of teacher layoffs — and makes at least \$15 billion in cuts to all levels of state government, including health care.

Budget leaders expect the full chambers to vote on Saturday, which would then send the \$172.5 billion budget to the governor before the session adjourns Monday.

But an agreement on revised school funding formulas remains in limbo, and failure to come up with a new plan by Monday almost certainly would require lawmakers to return to Austin for a special session over the summer.

Rep. Jim Pitts, the

House's lead budget writer, said negotiators were working long hours to reach a school-funding agreement. Their proposal makes \$37 billion for basic school operations contingent on lawmakers agreeing to a new distribution system before the session adjourns.

Sen. Steve Ogden, the Senate's chief budget writer, called the finished document an "extraordinary accomplishment" given the circumstances.

Lawmakers have been grappling with a multibillion-dollar revenue shortfall since January. Republican leaders have vowed not to raise taxes and want to limit how much they spend from the state's Rainy Day Fund. The reserve fund is projected to have a balance of almost \$10 billion, before a \$3.1 billion withdrawal for a current-year deficit.

Instead, negotiators have made massive cuts to all

levels of state government, including public schools and health care for the disabled, elderly and poor. The \$15 billion in cuts compared to current spending doesn't account for billions in expected costs related to population and enrollment growth.

Although the budget conference committee agreed to lessen earlier proposed public education cuts by half, school operations still would be underfunded by about \$4 billion owed to them under current law. Schools, trying to finish their budgets for the fall semester, have been distributing pink slips and closing campuses across the state in preparation.

A teacher group called the plan the "worst public education budget in 27 years."

"This budget fails to meet the Legislature's constitutional responsibility to adequately fund the public

schools," said Rita Haecker, president of the Texas State Teachers Association. "It is a shameful disservice to the school children and taxpayers of Texas. It will cost thousands of school employees their jobs, cram kids into overcrowded classrooms and undermine preparations for our state's future."

In addition, spending on Medicaid would not pay for more than \$4 billion expected to be needed for projected enrollment growth.

"The far right's demand that our state's revenue crisis be addressed by cuts alone instead of through a balanced approach that uses the Rainy Day Fund and adds new revenue has forced damaging cuts to essential state services," said F. Scott McCown, executive director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, which advocates for the needy.

Foster care suit proceeds

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A judge says she will allow a lawsuit challenging Texas' foster care system to proceed as a class action.

U.S. District Judge Janis Graham Jack said during a hearing Thursday that she will grant class certification for the suit initiated by the advocacy group Children's Rights.

The suit contends that the Texas system is unconstitutional and should be reformed. It was filed in March on behalf of nine children between the ages of nine and 16.

A spokesman for Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott says the state will determine its next course of action when the judge issues a written order.

The suit is the 12th of its kind initiated by the New York-based advocacy group seeking to reform child welfare systems administered by state or municipal governments.

Ministerial Alliance presents

Fifth Sunday Sing

Sunday, May 29

Central Park Pavilion

6:00 p.m.

Public is cordially invited to attend

The service will include

an emphasis on

"God and Country"

in observance of

Memorial Day Weekend



Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, May 27, the 147th day of 2011. There are 218 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On May 27, 1941, amid rising world tensions, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed an "unlimited national emergency" during a radio address from the White House. The British Royal Navy sank the German battleship Bismarck off France, with a loss of some 2,000 lives, three days after the Bismarck sank the HMS Hood.

On this date:

In 1861, Chief Justice Roger Taney, sitting as a federal circuit court judge in Baltimore, ruled that President Abraham Lincoln lacked the authority to suspend the writ of habeas corpus (Lincoln disregarded the ruling).

In 1896, 255 people were killed when a tornado struck St. Louis, Mo., and East St. Louis, Ill.

In 1911, Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey was born in Wallace, S.D.; actor Vincent Price was born in St. Louis, Mo.; longtime Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek was born in Austria-Hungary.

In 1929, Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. married Anne Morrow in Englewood, N.J.

In 1935, the Supreme Court struck down the National Industrial Recovery Act.

In 1936, the Cunard liner RMS Queen Mary left England on its maiden voyage to New York.

In 1937, the newly completed Golden Gate Bridge connecting San Francisco and Marin County, Calif., was opened to pedestrian traffic (vehicular traffic began crossing the bridge the next day).

In 1964, independent India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, died.

Ten years ago: Indy rookie Helio Castroneves led teammate and fellow Brazilian Gil de Ferran in a 1-2 Roger Penske finish, giving the renowned owner a triumphant return to the Indianapolis 500.

Five years ago: A 6.3-magnitude earthquake in central Indonesia killed some 5,800 people.

One year ago: On the defensive more than five weeks into the nation's worst-ever oil spill, President Barack Obama insisted his administration, not oil giant BP, was calling the shots in the still-unsuccessful response.

Today's Birthdays: Dolores Hope (widow of Bob Hope) is 102. Novelist Herman Wouk (wobk) is 96. Actor Christopher Lee is 89. Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger is 88. Author John Barth is 81. Actress Lee Meriwether is 76. Musician Ramsey Lewis is 76. Actor Louis Gossett Jr. is 75. Country singer Don Williams is 72. Actor Bruce Weitz is 68. Singer Cilla Black is 68. Singer Bruce Cockburn is 66. Singer-actress Dee Dee Bridgewater is 61. Actor Richard Schiff is 56. Singer Siouxsie Sioux (The Creatures, Siouxsie and the Banshees) is 54. Rock singer-musician Neil Finn (The Finn Brothers) is 53. Actress Peri Gilpin is 50. Actress Cathy N. Jones is 50. Comedian Adam Carolla is 47. Actor Todd Bridges is 46. Actor Dondre Whitfield is 42. Actor Paul Bettany is 40. Actor Jack McBrayer is 38. TV chef Jamie Oliver is 36. Alt-country singer-songwriter Shane Nicholson is 35. Actor Michael Steger is 31. Actor Ethan Dampf is 17.

Thought for Today: "It is not half so important to know as to feel." — Rachel Carson, American biologist-ecologist (born this date in 1907; died 1964)



Texas job growth twice as nice

DAVID S. JONES
Senior Editor, Real Estate Center

COLLEGE STATION - Texas' economy is not only outperforming the United States, but the state's nonfarm employment is growing twice as fast.

Texas gained 254,000 jobs during the 12 months ending April 30, an annual growth rate of 2.5 percent, according to the latest Monthly Review of the Texas Economy produced by the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University. During that same period, U.S. nonfarm employment rose 1.1 percent.

The state's private sector employment growth also was higher than the nation as a whole, 3 percent compared with 1.7 percent.

Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment dipped to 8 percent in April, from 8.2 percent from the same time last year. Meanwhile, national unemployment fell from 9.8 percent to 9 percent.

"All Texas industries except the information industry had more jobs in April 2011 than a year earlier," said Center Research Economist Dr. Ali Anari, coauthor of the monthly report.

Mining and logging ranked first in job creation during the period with 31,800 additions, an annual growth rate of 15.9 percent. Jobs got a boost as the average number of active rotary rigs increased from 668.7 to 848.1, according to Hughes Tool Co.

The 24,500 new construction jobs (a 4.3 percent increase) ranked that industry second. Gains came in building construction (200 jobs), heavy and civil engineering construction (10,700) and specialty trade contractors (13,600).

Texas' professional and business services sector added 54,200 jobs, an annual growth rate of 4.3 percent. This included 46,900 jobs in administrative and support services and 7,300 in professional, scientific and

technical services.

The state's education and health services industry added 49,600 jobs, an annual growth rate of 3.6 percent. Health services accounted for 50,100 while education lost 500. The state's leisure and hospitality industry gained 30,400 jobs, an annual growth rate of 3 percent.

For the April-to-April reporting period, the trade sector added 41,100 jobs, up 2.5 percent. Jobs in this industry included 15,900 in wholesale and 25,200 in retail. Trade is the state's largest industry after government.

Other services (repair and maintenance; personal and laundry services; and religious, civic and professional organizations) gained 9,100 jobs, a 2.5 percent annual growth rate. Transportation, warehousing and utilities gained 9,200 jobs, a 2.2 percent growth rate.

All Texas metropolitan areas except Abilene had more jobs in April 2011 than they did in April 2010. Petroplex Odessa ranked first in job creation (up 4.5 percent) followed by petroplex Midland (up 4 percent) then Dallas-Plano-Irving (up 3.1 percent), Beaumont-Port Arthur (up 3.1 percent) and Amarillo (up 3 percent). The statewide average was 2.5 percent.

Texas Industries Employment Growth Rate, April 2010 to April 2011

1. Mining and logging: +31,800 jobs (15.9 percent).
2. Construction: +24,500 jobs (4.3 percent).
3. Professional and business services: +54,200 jobs (4.3 percent).
4. Education and health services: +49,600 jobs (3.6 percent).
5. Leisure and hospitality: +30,400 jobs (3.0 percent).
6. Trade: +41,100 jobs (2.5 percent).

7. Other services: +9,100 jobs (2.5 percent).
8. Transportation, warehousing, utilities: +9,200 jobs (2.2 percent).
9. Manufacturing: +11,400 (1.4 percent).
10. Financial activities: +2,000 jobs (0.3 percent).
11. Government: 2,300 jobs (0.1 percent).
12. Information: -11,600 jobs (-5.9 percent).

Sources: Texas Workforce Commission and Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University

Texas Metropolitan Areas Ranked by Employment Growth Rate, April 2010 to April 2011 (in Percent)

1. Odessa 4.5
2. Midland 4.0
3. Dallas-Plano-Irving 3.1
4. Beaumont-Port Arthur 3.1
5. Amarillo 3.0
6. Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood 2.6
7. Texas 2.5
8. Fort Worth-Arlington 2.4
9. College Station-Bryan 2.3
10. El Paso 2.1
11. Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown 2.0
12. Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos 1.8
13. Corpus Christi 1.8
14. Longview 1.7
15. McAllen-Edinburg-Mission 1.5
16. Victoria 1.4
17. Tyler 1.4
18. Brownsville-Harlingen 1.0
19. San Antonio-New Braunfels 0.9
20. Waco 0.9
21. Laredo 0.5
22. San Angelo 0.5
23. Wichita Falls 0.3
24. Sherman-Denison 0.2
25. Texarkana 0.2
26. Lubbock 0.2
27. Abilene -2.5

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Letter to the Editor

Reader appreciates help

Dear Editor:

Last month, I fell and injured my back. As a result, my husband is having to do most of the household chores, including buying groceries. He hasn't been in this position before; and, isn't familiar with where the groceries are located in the store.

I had a long list for him to buy when I got out of the hospital; and, he went to United Supermarket in Pampa to get the items. He was having a hard time locating the groceries; and, one of the managers asked him if he was finding everything okay.

My husband said he was needing some help, and this manager took the time to help him locate the items we needed.

I would like to thank whomever it

was who assisted him with the grocery list. And, I think that United Supermarket needs a public 'Thank You'!

I have always enjoyed shopping at United; they are certainly a class act. We are fortunate to have a business with such caring employees/managers in Pampa.

Pat Stubbs
Alanreed



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We welcome your letters

To ensure 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.
- E-mail submissions are preferred.
- The views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.

Texas lawmaker denounces 'sexist' lobbying fliers

WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) - One of the House's most-senior lawmakers fought back angry tears Thursday while taking the floor to denounce fliers using images of breast feeding to oppose an obscure insurance bill.

Senfronia Thompson, a Houston Democrat who is one of the most-respected members of the 150-member chamber, yelled into the microphone, her voice cracking when she proclaimed that the handbills issued by the Texas Civil Justice League were "an all-time low."

"We have not earned this kind of disrespect and I do not want it tolerated by anybody," she said.

At one point, Thompson waved the fliers over her head. One shows an infant nursing on a woman's breast and declares: "Don't expand the 'Nanny State.'" Another version simply showed a pacifier.

Both carried the logo of the Texas Civil Justice League, a group devoted to tort reform, and urged lawmakers to vote against an amendment to a bill that would modify part of the insurance code to regulate the operation of some consolidated insurance programs.

Texas Civil Justice League President E. Lee Parsley apologized and said the design depicting breast feeding was

brought to him as a flier design, but he rejected it.

"The handout that caused offense was never considered appropriate and I should have destroyed the copies," he said in a statement. "I showed extremely poor judgment in handing the flier to someone not associated with the Texas Civil Justice league, who scanned and distributed it."

The group admitted distributing the version with the pacifier, however, and declined further comment on Thompson's reaction.

"I don't appreciate this attack on women," Thompson said. "I don't perpetrate violence against somebody, but if they were here, I'd probably bloody their nose right here on this floor."

Thompson called a special point of personal privilege to address the House, which was frantically passing final versions of bills before the session ends May 30. She began her speech chiding her colleagues for focusing too much on abortion, saying the House had "spent 30 to 40 percent of the time kicking the reproductive organs of women down the road." She then focused on the fliers.

"God made me a woman. And thank God that he made your mother a woman because you men wouldn't be here," she said.

A line of female lawmakers formed to speak after

Thompson and denounced a general atmosphere of sexism in the House. Rep. Carol Alvarado, another Houston Democrat, said, "we have had almost 50-plus amendments and or bills come across the floor this session that I think have demeaned women."

Lawmakers eventually gave Thompson a standing ovation then called a brief recess so that cau-

ses of men from both parties could schedule a meeting to address concerns of sexism.

The Texas House has passed a series of abortion-related measures, some as amendments to otherwise unrelated legislation. It and the Senate approved a measure requiring doctors to perform a sonogram before conducting an abortion - a law that Republican Gov. Rick

Perry signed during a special ceremony Tuesday.

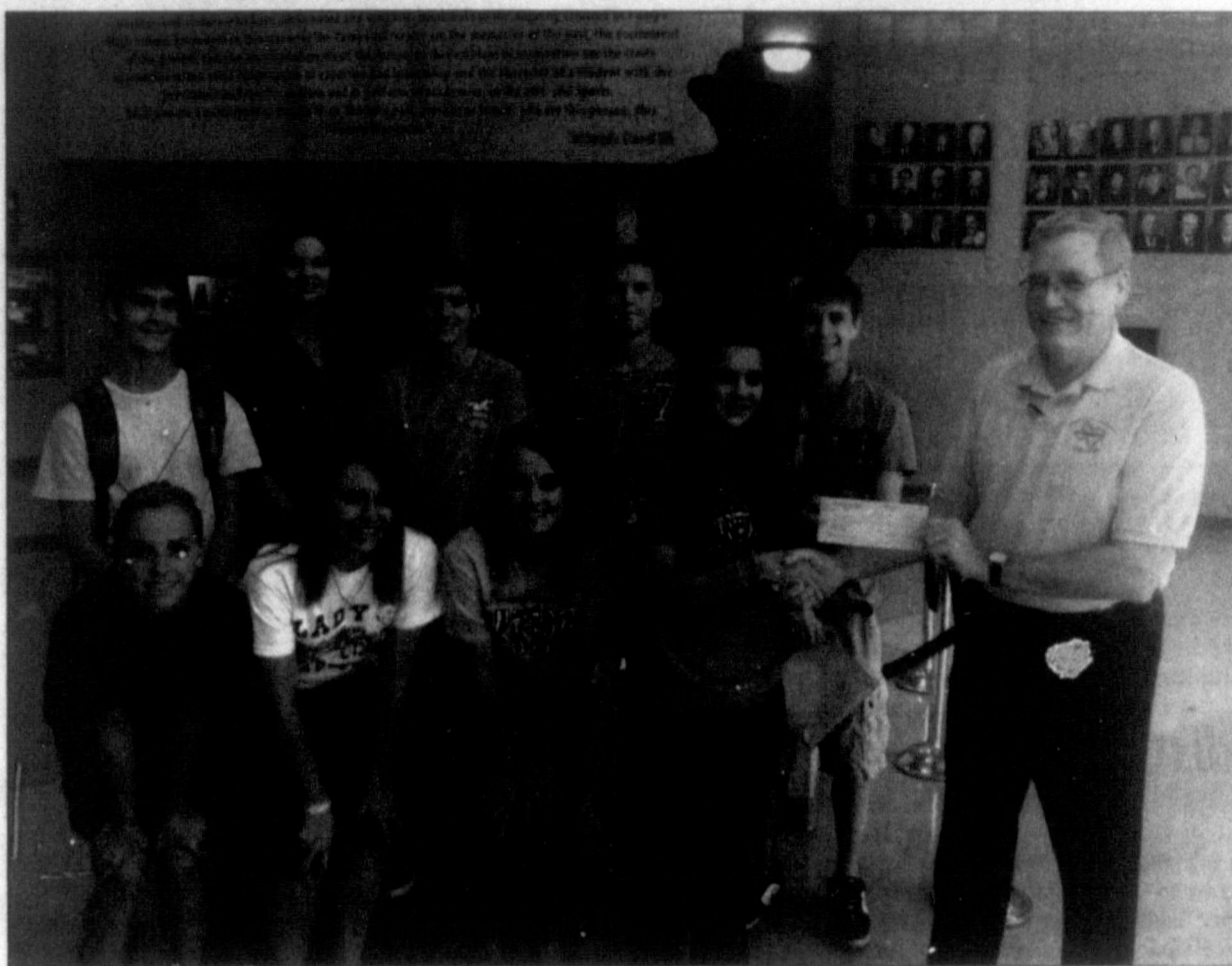
"I find these fliers - some of you may find them funny - but I find them despicable. I find them distasteful. I find them hateful, and I find them to be calls toward violence and disrespect toward women," Thompson said.

She is the sponsor of the bill in question, H.B. 2093, and could have called for a vote to pass it

right then - exactly what the fliers were trying to avoid. Instead, Thompson called a conference committee to discuss whether the controversial amendment should be removed, a move several Republicans said demonstrated her professionalism.

"Men," she said, "if you don't stand up for us today, don't you walk in this chamber tomorrow."

THANKS FOR THE HELP!



submitted photo

Pampa Chamber Executive Director Joe Weaver presents a check for \$7,815 to members of Pampa High School student organizations who helped with the Laura Bush banquet on Marcy 24. Front row, from left - McKinlee Stokes, Liz Hoelting, Kayla Hughes, Cali Gibson and Weaver; (back row, from left) Taylor Kennedy, principal Tanya Larkin, Evan McElwain, Matt Albracht and Trevor McVay.



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Driver's license data may be used to check work status

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is about to add more personal information to E-Verify, an immigration enforcement tool that is vulnerable to fake, stolen or borrowed documents.

The administration has said that it will add driver's license data from the state of Mississippi to E-Verify as early as June 8. The agency will test whether using the data can help E-Verify better identify people working illegally in the U.S. E-Verify checks workers' information against Social Security and immigration records. E-Verify was not designed to check whether a document with valid information belongs to the person who presented it.

Citizenship and Immigration Services, part of the Department of Homeland Security, has tried to make up for E-Verify's shortcomings by adding photos from U.S. passports, green cards given to legal permanent residents and work permits. But those only cover some workers.

About 80 percent of workers present driver's licenses to establish their identity when filling out paperwork at new jobs, including papers — known as I-9 forms — asking whether they are citizens or permitted to work in the U.S., said Bill Wright, a spokesman for Citizenship and Immigration Services, which oversees E-Verify.

"This initiative is a major step forward in allowing (Citizenship and Immigration Services) to more effectively combat identity theft and protect against fraud in the employment verification process," Wright said. Only data such as birth dates and driver's license numbers will be shared by Mississippi, not photos.

Other states will be watching the Mississippi experiment to see how it affects Americans' privacy. No other states have agreed to share data yet, although some others were asked.

Citizenship and Immigration Services

proposed using the driver's license data in a May 9 Federal Register notice. The public can comment on the proposal through June 8.

The addition of driver's license data raises concerns with the American Civil Liberties Union, which has been a leading opponent of E-Verify, created in 1996 but little used until after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"You are creating an enormous database filled with information on what would be, if it's mandatory, information on every American worker. That's a honey pot for identity thieves," said Chris Calabrese, an attorney with the ACLU in Washington.

He noted a recent Minnesota case in which names, birth dates, Social Security numbers and other information were not kept secure by a company the state hired to check employers' new workers through E-Verify.

The Federal Trade Commission

announced earlier this month it had reached a settlement with Lookout Services Inc., the Minnesota contractor, on charges of failing to safeguard the sensitive information. The FTC said because of the lax security, an employee of one of Lookout's customers was able to get access to sensitive information in the company's database, including Social Security numbers of about 37,000 people. Lookout did not admit wrongdoing.

Jon Kalahar, a spokesman for Mississippi's Department of Public Safety, said employers won't have access to information they don't already have. They will punch in driver's license numbers and other information to the E-Verify online site and the site will access the Mississippi driver's license information and confirm whether there is a match.

Kalahar said Citizenship and Immigration Services assured his agency that the license information will be kept safe during the six month experiment.

Memorial

Paul Nachtigall giving the opening prayer and one of the keynote speeches. Melissa Parr will sing the national anthem.

The VFW's flag detail and honor guard will post the colors and give the 21-gun salute, respectively, with Larry Ray playing taps. The evening will close with the

candlelight ceremony, during which Martin encouraged participation from the community.

"If anyone wants to say the name of a family member or a buddy or a friend while we're doing the candlelight ceremony, they're welcome to do that," said Martin. "It means a lot to a lot of people."

Martin said that, aside from the VFW's Monday vigil, there will also be a ceremony at Fairview Cemetery Saturday night at 6 p.m. The Pampa Kiwanis Club will also be putting up flags around the city at 6:30 a.m. on Monday to commemorate the holiday.

cont. from page 1

Chamber

"We want lots of people to attend, we want lots of people to get booth space, and we want lots of people to volunteer to show off how much Pampa cares about

its community."

For more information or to RSVP for Tuesday's meeting, call the Chamber at 806-669-3241.

cont. from page 1

Redistricting

The big question is whether the four new districts will be drawn in a way that benefits Republican candidates, minority candidates, or possibly both.

The Hispanic and African-American populations in Texas grew much faster than the white population, so some argue that at least three of the new districts should be drawn in a way that favors candidates from those groups.

Sen. Kel Seliger said his redistricting committee ran out of time, but did produce a map that a federal judge could consider. The committee has not made the map public, and Seliger would not characterize what his map would do in terms of ethnic representation.

"We will take our product ... and ask our state officers to present this product to the court as our answer to the legal proceeding," Seliger said. The court "will get dozens and dozens of them and ours will be a good deal more credible than almost all of them."

Fort Worth Rep. Marc Veasey, a Democrat on the House redistricting committee, also produced a map that will go before the court. He says his would create two Hispanic-opportunity districts and one African-American district.

"The dramatic growth of the Latino and African American population is the only reason Texas is receiving additional congressional seats, and any plan that fails to add at least three additional effective minority opportunity districts would violate the Voting Rights Act," Veasey said.

The Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund also proposed an alternative map that produced two Hispanic opportunity districts, one along the border and the other in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Meanwhile, U.S. Rep. Joe Barton, R-Arlington, has filed a lawsuit in a Corsicana state district court asking that the judge there draw new districts because the Legislature failed to act. The judge there has yet to rule on the request.

Seliger said he would prefer the Legislature do the redistricting, but admitted that any map would almost certainly end up in court.

"The federal courts since 1971 have always played a role in the final map," Seliger said. "If we get our map done and a special session done, there will still be someone who's not happy and will file a lawsuit. We accept that."

As for Gray County, the uncertain fate of its district leaves the future of its representation in question. The plan that missed Thursday's deadline called for Gray

County's district to be paired with that of District 85, currently represented by Rep. Jim Landroop of Plainview. With Chisum set to retire and possibly run for a seat on the Railroad Commission, Landroop would inherit the District 88 seat.

Sixteen of the 17 counties in District 88 would have been new to Landroop had the new district map been enacted. Of course, now, those counties — along with the rest of Texas — must play the waiting game to see what their representation will ultimately look like.

Chisum was unavailable for comment.

cont. from page 1

BANANAGRAMS!

Change one letter in the top word to one of the letters that appears in the bottom word, then rearrange the tiles to form a new common word. Do the same with each new word until you arrive at the bottom word. For example, the path from BARK to PLUM is BARK, MARK, RAMP, RUMP, PLUM.

T O M A T O

BRUISE

Yesterday's Answer: ARC, PEA, CIRCLE, DOT; NUT, SPHERE, EYE, ORBIT

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

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Worship

Memorial Day worthy of remembering

What does Memorial Day mean to you? To some it is simply a holiday. It should be a day for us to pay respect to those who have influenced our lives.

There is a tendency to forget the things we should remember and to remember the things we should forget. Jesus prepared his disciples by saying "Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19). They had many options for memories: miracles, opposition, deliverances, and so on. But Jesus wanted them to remember him.

In today's text, Paul calls for a deliberate preparation of the mind. Read the scripture. (Philippians 4:4-9) In verse 8 Paul writes, "Fix your minds" (ASAP). This calls for a deliberate act of the will. Paul is placing direct responsibility upon each one of us for what we think. What we watch, read and feed into our minds will determine what we think about in our relaxed moments. A major part of what we think is a direct result of our priorities. Still we can apply the truth of this passage to another area of our lives—the memories that we build.

The human mind is like a computer that we program throughout our lives. The deliberate recollection of certain things determines the pattern of our lives.

We are indebted to the heroes of the faith as reiterated in Heb. 11. This is not just a Hebrew heritage. It is ours as well. Remember the heroes of the New Testament—our Lord himself and those who gave their lives for the faith, Peter, Paul, John and others.

Remember our historical heritage—Martin Luther, John Hus, and many more who gave their lives for their faith.

Remember those of more recent history who provided so much for us—our denominational forefathers and those who founded this church in which we worship.



JIMMY FLYNN

the good word

Fix your mind upon those people and pay tribute to them.

Remember those who have paid a huge price for this great country. We owe something to everyone who has ever died fighting for America.

Remember those who have paid a huge price for this great country. We owe something to everyone who has ever died fighting for America.

Remember those in family who have passed the faith on to you. Some will have stronger feelings of gratitude than others. Those of us who have godly heritage are deeply blessed.

As we pay tribute to the past, the present takes on a new sense of value. Illustration: A watch may be inexpensive unless it is the one my father carried. Life can seem cheap unless someone has given it special meaning.

The deliberate exercise of fixing our minds on those things that are worthy eliminates much of that which would trouble us.

In verse 9, Paul gave the Philippians a formula for a mind at peace. That formula still works today if we will practice it in our lives. Life is what we make of it. Ninety percent of what happens in our lives is a direct result of the priorities that we set. As Paul instructed the Philippians, let us fix our minds on those things that are worthy of remembering.

Dr. Jimmy Flynn is the associate pastor at Central Baptist Church.

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT FBC to host "Coney Island Day"

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

First Baptist Church wants to spread the message of its Vacation Bible School theme when it hosts Coney Island Day on June 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the back lot.

Children's Ministry Director Nikki Routh said the event is the church's summer kickoff.

"It's kind of a spin off our VBS which is New York," Routh said. "We will have hot dogs and carnival games."

Anybody elementary age is welcome to attend. Routh said they have thrown a summer kickoff every year but are doing things different this year.

"We are pushing harder for more people and get the word out for our VBS," Routh said.

Revival at Iglesia Bautista Emanuel

Iglesia Bautista Emanuel extends an invitation to all Pampa and area to the evangelistic preaching services/revival. Brother Atilano Galaviz is the evangelist who will bring us the word of God. Brother Galaviz comes from Cuatemoc, Chihuahua, Mexico and comes regularly to the United States preaching in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. These services will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4, 2011, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and will end on Sunday, June 5, 2011, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Iglesia Bautista Emanuel meets at 1021 S. Barnes St.

La Iglesia Bautista Emanuel extiende

una invitación a todos los habitantes de Pampa e area a los servicios de predicación evangélicos/avivamiento. El hermano Atilano Galaviz es el evangelista quien nos traerá la palabra de Dios. El hermano Galaviz viene de Cuatemoc, Chihuahua, Mexico y viene regularmente a los Estados Unidos predicando en Oklahoma, Texas, y New Mexico. Estos servicios se llevarán a cabo el Viernes y Sábado, 3 y 4 de Junio, 2011, empezando a las 6:30 p.m. y acabarán el Domingo, 5 de Junio, 2011, empezando a las 10:00 a.m. La Iglesia Bautista Emanuel se congrega en el 1021 S. Barnes St.

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824 South Barnes
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2100 W. Kentucky
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806-665-3300
1301 North Banks Street
- **Hobart Baptist Church**
806-669-3212
1100 Crawford Street
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1021 S. Barnes
- **Lighthouse Baptist Church**
806-665-0262
725 West Brown
- **Macedonia Baptist Church**
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1615 North Banks Street
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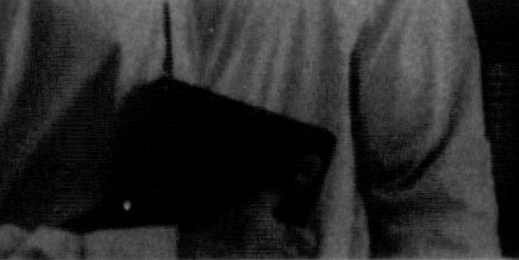
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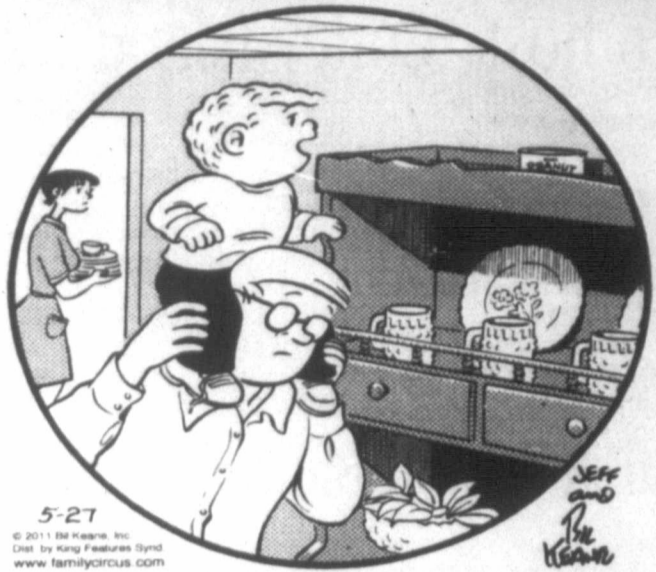
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comics PAGE

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5-27
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"Oh, so THAT'S where we're keepin' the peanut brittle!"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, May 28, 2011.

This year, your enthusiasm and spontaneity dominate. You usually land well, manifesting what you want, even if you didn't try. Friends evolve to an even higher priority. Many of you get into networking even more. If you are single, you could meet someone through a friend, or a friendship could become more. If you are attached, the more the two of you socialize as a couple, the closer you become. ARIES knows how to get you going.

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)
★★★★ Listen to your instincts. Know that you also are carrying a lucky rabbit's foot in your back pocket. Don't hesitate to take a leap of faith, especially if it involves travel or someone at a distance. Tonight: Impulsiveness suits you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ You continue to be more comfortable with a less-visible stance. In fact, you could be happy simply being a couch potato. Stay away from crowds, though one special person might be most pleased to be with you. Go along with a suggestion. Tonight: Why not add a little romance?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Zero in on others in general. Get together with friends for a spontaneous barbecue or to watch a ballgame. Whatever your choice, everyone will have a great time. Your popularity soars no matter what your status is. Stay open to new ideas. Tonight: You are the party.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Whether you are leader of the gang or have some important community or professional commitment, you cannot seem to relax. You have enough energy to do what you must, and even more as well. Loosen up with a long-time friend as soon as you can. Tonight: Take care of yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ The urge for adventure cannot be suppressed. Even if you don't leave town, you can choose to experience a new type of activity or happening. Some of you might opt for an escape and go to a concert or a movie. Tonight: Let your mind wander.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ A partnership or a get-together

with friends continues to be high profile. You update your perspective, and maybe your look, because of a friend. Discussions could be intense, but they serve you in a deep way. Tonight: Love the one you are with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might feel liberated from the recent seriousness. The people who surround you make it clear they won't deal with negativity. Your ability to transform and adapt to different situations emerges once more. Tonight: So many people, so many possibilities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Include a physical sport or some exercise in your plans. You might decide to walk rather than drive when running errands. Some of you might organize a softball game, while others get involved in another favorite pastime. A fit body is as important as a fit mind. Tonight: Roll with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Others really appreciate and enjoy being around you. Full of energy, you might decide to go hiking or perhaps to socialize in the manner in which most of your friends would choose. Tonight: Cupid's arrow could strike!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Whether indulging yourself or your family, you appear happiest close to home. Make an effort to draw in a loved one. Sometimes the people in your life are so strong that the remaining few might feel like shrinking violets! Tonight: Keep it close and intimate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your juggling of different activities, people and needs could keep you busy. Many people are very happy to visit, even if it is for a short period. Catch up on a neighbor's news, even if you would prefer to do something else. Join friends for a late lunch and a movie. Tonight: Hanging out with the gang.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You simply might not care as your spending goes unchecked. Though you remain optimistic about a professional situation or some other situation bringing in funds, the wise Fish will not spend until they see the funds. Remain tuned in to someone who cares about you and not this extravaganza. Tonight: Being noticed wherever you are.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



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Hagar The Horrible



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21 Help Wanted

GRAPHIC Designer w/ experience in AutoCAD and an Estimator. Please call 669-0158.

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TEXAS Rose Steak house is hiring for Cooks & Dishwasher. Apply in person. No phone calls!

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BOOKKEEPER. Experience with references. Part-time, working in a financial area. Please submit resume to Box 05, c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066

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Compensation commensurate with exp. and includes benefits. Please send confidential resume with salary history to: resume@texsar.com or by fax to 512-480-8732.

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GARAGE Sale 1237 Christine Sat. Only 8-?

SAT. 9am-? Sun 1pm-? 854 W. Foster. Kid's clothes, misc., old stuff.

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5-27 CRYPTOQUOTE

AIFM WTEW YI GT DP
DNOSISW LDC YI AI MIN D
LDFJ. Z KNTMTN YI YDJT
YXT OIAW ISY

KNZPVTW DPPT

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE ARE NO LINES IN NATURE, ONLY AREAS OF COLOR, ONE AGAINST ANOTHER. — EDOUARD MANET

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14e Carpet Serv.

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: While I am not from the South, many of my relatives are. They all were raised in medium to large cities, not rural areas. I'm embarrassed when they use crude terms and call their parents "Ma" and "Pa" in public. These are well-educated people, but they come across sounding like hicks and buffoons.

They think it's funny, but no one outside our family does. If someone laughs with them, it's because of embarrassment or discomfort. No one else is willing to speak up and when I try to, they make me feel like I'm a spoiled brat.

If these people were from rural areas or uneducated/uncultured I'd understand, but they're not. The sound of their "fake hickiness" is like fingernails on a chalkboard! Please help — KEEPING IT REAL IN LAGUNA BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR KEEPING IT REAL: I'm sorry that visits from your relatives are so painful for you. However, I see nothing wrong with calling one's parents "Ma" and "Pa" if those are the names they have been called all their lives. Believe me, I have heard parents called much worse.

The best advice I can offer would be for you to grow a thicker skin and, if that doesn't work, spend less time with your relatives. With your attitude,

you'll be doing them a favor.

DEAR ABBY: Should I be a bridesmaid in my best friend "Carla's" ex-husband's wedding? I'm still friends with him, which is fine with Carla. I have also become quite close to his fiancée, "Jenny." We have a lot in common and have been hanging out for some time. Jenny has asked me to be in her wedding.

I haven't talked to Carla yet to see how she'd feel about it. I don't feel like she'll be completely honest with me. Would I be stabbing her in the back if I'm in the wedding? I need advice, and quick — the wedding is soon! — FRIENDS WITH EVERYBODY

DEAR F.W.E.: Because you're concerned about Carla's reaction to your being a part of her ex-husband's wedding, you should address your question to her. My gut reaction is that if it feels to you like it could be stabbing her in the back, it might be perceived that way.

DEAR ABBY: What is the protocol for office romances? I have seen so many flings and love affairs go on. Sometimes it's fine, but other times it has caused a big distraction.

A supervisor dating a subordinate is probably frowned upon, but what if they're in different departments? Should an office romance be kept secret, or out in the open so rumors

won't spread? I have never been a part of this, but I have seen plenty. What's right and wrong? — CURI-
OUS IN THE CUBICLE

DEAR CURIOUS: There is no "protocol." Most companies discourage office romances because they're a distraction and make workers less efficient. If they happen between a supervisor and a subordinate and it doesn't work out, it could lead to accusations of sexual harassment and an expensive lawsuit. So while the temptation may be there, what's "right" is to avoid them and what's "wrong" is to indulge in one because it's risky business.

DEAR ABBY: When closing window blinds for the night, is it normal or proper to close them with the blades or slats in the upward or downward position? My wife and I disagree on this. I maintain they should be closed in the upward position. What do you or the experts say? — IN THE DARK IN TEXAS

DEAR IN THE DARK: I have never encountered this question, so my staff and I experimented with the mini-blinds in our office, which has many windows. Tilting the slats up blocked more light than when we tilted them down. However, this is not a question of what is "normal" or "proper." It's a matter of what works best for you.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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32 Lettuce variety
34 1949 film noir classic
35 Old pronoun
36 Severity
38 Bad writers

DOWN
1 Like a judge
2 Islands off Portugal
3 James Patterson book
4 It's a blast
5 Bakery buys
6 Inter —
7 James Patterson book
8 Convincing

39 Big wave
40 Pants part
41 Sugars, in suffix

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CEL		SOLE				
AGE		ACADIA				
SAGUARO		INN				
ALARM		NIXON				
LINGO		STINE				
SATES		SEES				

Yesterday's answer

10 Chaperone
12 Magnet ends
17 Auditing org.
19 Casserole staple
22 Affectation
24 Stops being silly
25 Needle heading
26 Island greetings
27 Buddhism branch
28 "Becket" actor
30 Dianne of "Rabbit Hole"
31 Some nobles
33 "Diana" singer
37 — Jima

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5-27



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NASCAR THIS WEEK

ON THE TUBE

**All times Eastern
Sprint Cup**
Coca-Cola 600
6 p.m., Sunday
FOX

Nationwide Series
Top Gear 300
2:30 p.m., Saturday
abc

Truck Series
O'Reilly Auto Parts 250
2 p.m., June 4
SPEED

BURNING ISSUES

► Carl Edwards' enthusiasm worked against him after winning the Sprint All-Star Race. He crippled his winning No. 99 with an ill-conceived skid through the Charlotte Motor Speedway grass. That particular Ford won't be available for the Coca-Cola 600.

► The notion that Edwards somehow did this to avoid post-race inspection is ridiculous.

► Here's a guess: Edwards will stick to the back flip next time.

► Here's to David Ragan for making a pass to win the Sprint Showdown when he could have made the All-Star field by finishing second.

► The world's largest high-definition replay board, glittering above the CMS back straight, is quite impressive.

► Texas Motor Speedway's Eddie Gossage has played "Keeping Up With Charlotte" for years. Wonder how's he going to top the Wonder Board?

► Wasted car notwithstanding, Edwards and his Roush Fenway teammates — Matt Kenseth, Greg Biffle and Ragan — figure to be strong in the Coca-Cola 600. The sport's longest race plays right into Kenseth's strengths.

► Jack Roush is accustomed to the boundless, sometimes ill-conceived, enthusiasm of Edwards, but losing that car has to smart.

► Surprised that no one has written, "It's just a case of Carl being Carl." Until now, perhaps.

► Congratulations to Ricky Stenhouse Jr., the first "Nationwide-only" driver to win a race in the series in almost 15 months.

2011 STANDINGS

Sprint Cup Series	Pos.
1. Carl Edwards	416
2. Jimmie Johnson	-24
3. Kyle Busch	-37
4. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	-52
5. Kevin Harvick	-54
6. Matt Kenseth	-74
7. Ryan Newman	-76
8. Clint Bowyer	-80
9. Kurt Busch	-80
10. Tony Stewart	-88
11. Mark Martin	-92
12. Greg Biffle	-105

Nationwide Series

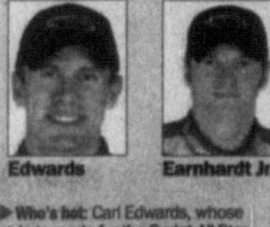
1. Elliott Sadler	418
2. Reed Sorenson	-7
3. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	-3
4. Justin Allgaier	-20
5. Jason Leffler	-43
6. Eric Almirola	-52
7. Kenny Wallace	-63
8. Steve Wallace	-103
9. Brian Scott	-115
10. Josh Wise	-129

Camping World Truck Series

1. Cole Whitt	260
2. Johnny Sauter	-1
3. Ron Hornaday Jr.	-3
4. Matt Crafton	-17
5. Austin Dillon	-20
6. Timothy Peters	-35
7. James Buescher	-58
8. Clayton Kester	-65
9. Parker Kligerman	-65
10. Max Papis	-88



WHO'S HOT AND WHO'S NOT



Who's hot: Carl Edwards, whose style is made for the Sprint All-Star Race, finally won it... Kyle Busch won Charlotte Motor Speedway's Truck race and finished second in the Sprint Cup main event.

Who's not: Dale Earnhardt Jr. was voted into the All-Star Race by fans, but his performance was unspectacular... Kurt Busch is suddenly being outperformed by teammate Brad Keselowski.

NASCAR

If you have a question or comment, write: NASCAR This Week, c/o The Gaston Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, NC 28053 or send an e-mail to mdutton@gastongazette.com

SPRINT CUP

Race: Coca-Cola 600
Where: Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord, N.C. (1.5 mi.), 400 laps/600 miles.
When: Sunday, May 29.
Last year's winner: Kurt Busch, Dodge.
Qualifying record: Elliott Sadler, Ford, 193.216 mph, Oct. 13, 2005.
Race record: Bobby Labonte, Pontiac, 151.952 mph, May 28, 1995.
Last week: Carl Edwards, in a Ford, won the Sprint All-Star Race for the first time, dominating the four-segment event. Kyle Busch finished second in a Toyota. David Ragan, also in a Ford, captured the Sprint Showdown.

NATIONWIDE

Race: Top Gear 300
Where: Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord, N.C. (1.5 mi.), 200 laps/300 miles.
When: Saturday, May 28.
Last year's winner: Kyle Busch, Toyota.
Qualifying record: Jimmie Johnson, Chevy, 187.735 mph, Oct. 14, 2005.
Race record: Mark Martin, Ford, 155.799 mph, May 25, 1996.
Last week: Ricky Stenhouse Jr., a Nationwide-only driver, outdueled Roush Fenway teammate Carl Edwards, who had won the Sprint All-Star Race the night before and flown to Newton, Iowa, afterward.

CAMPING WORLD TRUCK

Race: O'Reilly Auto Parts 250
Where: Kansas Speedway, Kansas City, Kan. (1.5 mi.), 167 laps/250.5 miles.
When: Saturday, June 4.
Last year's winner: Johnny Sauter, Chevy.
Qualifying record: Bill Lester, Toyota, 173.633 mph, July 1, 2005.
Race record: Ricky Hendrick, Chevy, 125.094 mph, July 7, 2001.
Last week: Kyle Busch, in a Toyota, claimed yet another victory at Charlotte Motor Speedway, where he has won four of the past six races. Kimi Raikkonen, making his NASCAR debut, finished 15th.

CHARLOTTE DATA

FOX May 21 May 29 Oct. 15 **abc**

Charlotte Motor Speedway

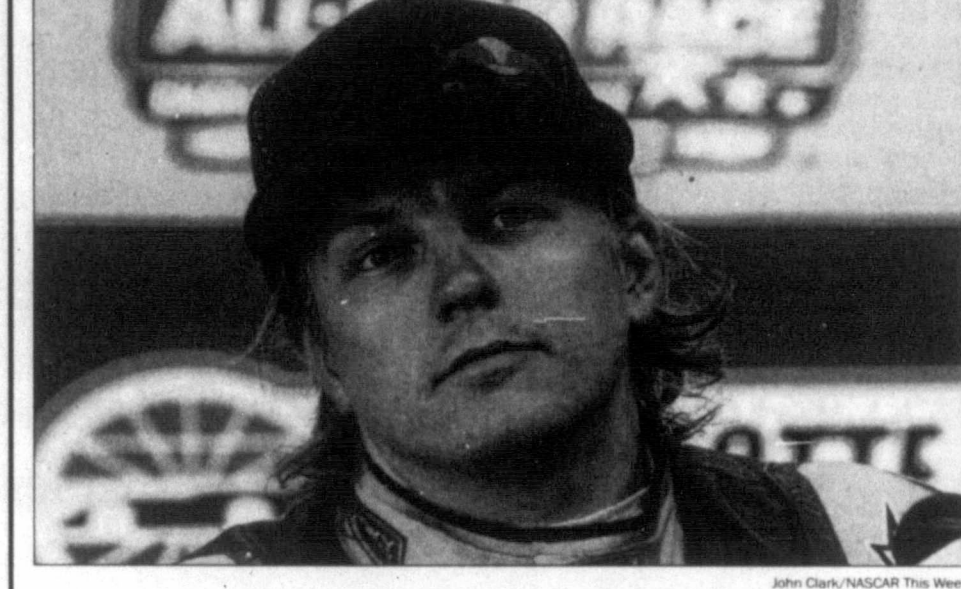
Distance: 1.5 mile oval
Length of frontstretch: 1,990 ft.
Length of backstretch: 1,500 ft.
Miles/Laps: 600 mi. = 400 laps

Banking in straightaways

Banking in turns: 14

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

KIMI RAIKKONEN CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES No. 15 PERKY JERKY TOYOTA



2007 World Driving Champion Kimi Raikkonen has entered the NASCAR scene, driving in the Craftsman Truck Series at Charlotte last weekend. Raikkonen will drive the Joe Nemecek-owned No. 57 Toyota this week in the Nationwide Series race.

Cautious And Eager To Learn

Young international driver Raikkonen to enter NASCAR ranks

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

CONCORD, N.C. — What could be more surprising than the 2007 World Driving Champion, a native of Espoo, Finland, showing up at Charlotte Motor Speedway to race pickup trucks? Oh, maybe that his No. 15 Toyota would be sponsored by something called Perky Jerky.

Raikkonen, 31, is the latest in a growing number of international stars migrating to NASCAR. Juan Pablo Montoya is now a successful and accepted part of the Sprint Cup Series. Nelson Piquet Jr. is competing in the Camping World Truck Series. Marcos Ambrose came to the Sprint Cup ranks from the Australian V8 Supercar Series.

"I think it's many, many different reasons for that," said Raikkonen. "Since I stopped in Formula One, my interests have always been in many different motorsports. I want to try different things, and this wasn't the first time that I have been offered to come here."

"I had a good time to come and see how it is, and learn and try to get better in it."

"That's really the only reason that I came. I was interested to see how it is, and how it feels, and how it is racing in NASCAR."

What's more, Raikkonen, whose main focus these days is World Rally Car racing, is going to compete again at CMS on May 28 in the Nationwide Series, driving a Toyota fielded by Joe Nemecek's team.

Raikkonen is not a talkative man. He remained tightly guarded during his much-celebrated NASCAR debut, conducting a press conference limited to 15 minutes on the day of the North Carolina Education Lottery 200, won by Kyle Busch.

Fifteenth place wasn't bad. Raikkonen kept his No. 15 Toyota out of trouble, though he brushed the wall in the opening laps and missed pit road on his first attempt.

"I don't have big plans," he said. "I don't have any plans for next year or anything of what I do. I see how it is because I didn't have any expectations when I came here."

"It's very popular here and maybe it looks easy, but it's not so easy to be fast. We'll see how it goes and what the future will bring. We go step by step and see what happens."

Kevin Harvick says consider the results

By Monte Dutton

CONCORD, N.C. — Is NASCAR more enhanced than hindered by feuds, crashes, verbal confrontations and the like?

Kevin Harvick's basic answer was "duh!" "Check the ratings," said the veteran of many feuds. "Every racing show ... the last few weeks ... the ratings went way up."

The Sprint Cup race at Dover last week had ratings that were up 28 percent.

Attendance was off. Perhaps fans were more willing to watch on TV lest they be hit by flying debris.

Dynamite one-liner — Dale Earnhardt Jr., who obviously watched the All-Star Race (then The Winston) as a young man, said he liked it better back in the 1980s when its format was more compact.

Back then, he said, it was "more a stick of dynamite instead of a row of M-80s."

What's Perky about the Jerky? Kimi Raikkonen's sponsor, Perky Jerky, is a



Harvick

guarana-fortified beef jerky. Guarana is a heavily caffeinated plant that has been used for decades by dieters and ... people who want to stay up all night.

In other words, Herky Jerky is an energy ... jerky. Perfect with a Red Bull.

What'll they think of next?

The loaman stayz — Will Raikkonen be back? Oh, yeah. The dour Finn, fresh off 15th place in Friday night's Camping World Truck Series race, will compete on May 28, in the Top Gear 300, Charlotte Motor Speedway's Nationwide Series race.

NUTS AND BOLTS

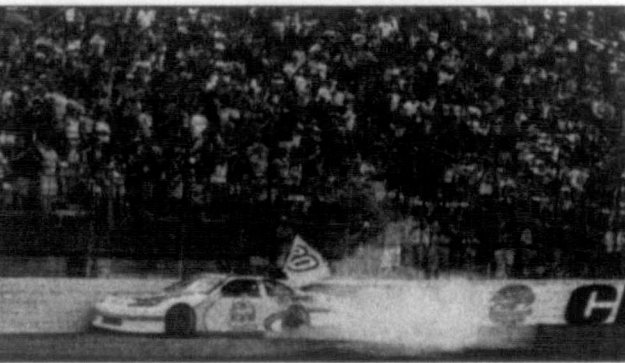
After winning the race, Kyle Busch said there was "a car at the shop," adding that neither he nor Joe Gibbs Racing owned it.

Apparently Raikkonen is ticketed for the No. 87 Toyota of Joe Nemecek's team, according to published reports.

In a stunner — Yes, Dale Earnhardt Jr. was voted into the Sprint All-Star Race field by a fan vote.



Kyle Busch



Joey Logano hits the wall as he smokes his tires during the Penzoil Ultimate Victory Challenge Saturday at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

In polling, Earnhardt reportedly ran ahead of hot dogs, apple pie and his own Chevrolet.

Emblematic — Joey Logano, whose third season to date hasn't been the best, actually crashed during Saturday's burnout competition, won by Casey Kahne.

FEUD OF THE WEEK

HARVICK **VERSUS** **ADDINGTON**
KURT BUSCH VS. STEVE ADDINGTON

Busch isn't happy with the way his No. 22 Dodge is running week to week. He hasn't specifically criticized his crew chief, but one can not help but wonder where this rift is going. His relentless and often profane criticism, on radio communication during races, has become a favorite dialogue for scanner listeners to monitor.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his take: "Addington is one of the most likable crew chiefs in the garage, but his driver's discontent is a divisive issue."

YOUR TURN

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Evolution Now?

This Week welcomes letters to the editor, but please be aware that we have room for only a few each week. We'll do our best to select the best, but individual replies are impossible due to the bulk of mail received. Please do not send stamped and self-addressed envelopes with your letters, which should be addressed to: NASCAR This Week, The Gaston Gazette, P.O. Box 1538, Gastonia, N.C. 28053.

Dear NASCAR This Week,

I have followed NASCAR on and off most of my life, from the days of Yarborough, Johnson and Petty and then picked it up again with Gordon, Gordon to [the] present day.

The reason I'm not as excited about racing today and only watching a few races on ".com" and Monday's newspaper is three main things.

I miss the competition between the automakers. The decline in competition has been going on for some time but has [gotten] much worse with the new car. In the past you could always count on them one-upping [one another] and the others having to catch up, which they always did. Another thing is racing should not be a team sport on the track. It should be one driver against the rest of the field. Restrictor-plate racing has become a joke and should be eliminated.

And, last, the importance of a single race has been lessened by the Chase. I used to watch or listen to a race as a stand-alone event, and now that has been replaced by 10 races with 12 drivers [who] are given the [right of way] during the race.

All sports evolve, but it is sad the way NASCAR has moved to the present day.

Devayne Frazier
Saina, Kan.

Thanks for taking the time to share your analysis of the sport and how it has changed. You make compelling points.

LEGENDS AND LORE

Qualifying A World Apart

In 1961, prior to the second World (now Coca-Cola) 600, Charlotte Motor Speedway used a pair of qualifying races to set the field. Richard Petty won the first in a Plymouth. Joe Westberry won the second in a Pontiac. A virtual unknown named David Pearson won the 600 in a Pontiac. He was a young man we got to know better.

FAN TIPS

Stewart, Office Depot Helping Schools Near Tracks

Tony Stewart's Office Depot sponsorship enables the NASCAR office to provide needed products and instruction to schools located near Sprint Cup venues. On May 25, Stewart personally delivered an Office Depot "Technology Makeover, Courtesy of Tech Depot Service" to students and teachers at Collierville Middle School in Memphis, Tenn. The makeover included Lenovo ThinkPad Edge laptop computers, All-In-One printers from Lexmark and support from Office Depot.

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Sports

Boyd intelligent on playing field and in classroom

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

There's a stereotype that athletes are dumb. Pampa High School senior Olin Boyd, who played football, track and tennis would disagree with that.

"It takes a different type of intelligence to play sports," Boyd said. "You have to figure out plays which can be difficult. You have to be able to perform in that sport."

Boyd has shown his intelligence also extends into the classroom as he will be Pampa's 100th valedictorian at its graduation 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Boyd said athletes don't excel with just natural talent.

"It's also work ethic," Boyd said. "That's something engraved in all of us."

Fourteen of Pampa's honor graduates were athletes. Boyd said managing his time well helped him balance academics and athletics.

"It certainly wasn't easy. I just had to prioritize," Boyd said. "I spent several nights up late studying."

Boyd said excelling on the field and classroom is good.

"Hopefully, I can be a role model and

show people you can do both," Boyd said.

The senior said he is honored to be valedictorian, remembering what it took to get there.

"It took a lot of hard work," Boyd said. Some of Boyd's friends have even asked him for help on classwork.

"I've tutored some," Boyd said. "I've helped some friends who have taken a class that I've already taken."

Boyd said he has finished his speech, but to hear what it's about, you'll have to be there.

"I've made some funny parts," Boyd said. "I've included some things about us being the 100th graduating class. I have some serious parts to inspire my classmates beyond high school."

Besides athletics, Boyd was the secretary of the National Honor Society, President of the Rotary Interact Club, and he is a Texas A & M Presidential Scholar. The senior was also part of the UIL math and science academic teams. Boyd earned an Eagle Scout and is a ranked marksman with the National Rifle Association.

Boyd's final GPA was 4.613 and will attend Texas A&M to study mechanical or electrical engineering.



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Olin Boyd catches a touchdown pass in a 7-on-7 game last year. Boyd earned valedictorian for the class of 2011.

Game wardens to promote safe boating over weekend

SPECIAL TO THE PAMPA NEWS

Hoping to prevent boating injuries and fatalities, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens will be increasing their numbers on lakes and other waterways Memorial Day weekend.

In addition, officials in some parts of the state will continue the tradition of the "no refusal" weekend to step up boating while intoxicated driving while intoxicated arrests and citations.

During the "no refusal" weekend on-site judges work with TPWD officers and law enforcement personnel with other agencies to issue search warrants for blood draws when a suspect is under investigation for a BWI/DWI charge and refuses a breath test. The "no refusal" weekend also employs mobile DWI/BWI intoxilyzer units.

"Memorial Day weekend kicks off our water safety season, and we want to start things off right and make sure everyone is safe and doing the right thing," said Game Warden Lt. Cody Jones, of TPWD's marine enforcement section.

Overall boating fatalities are down 26

percent from 2009 to 2010, decreasing from 38 in 2009 to 28 last year. So far this year 12 people have lost their lives in boating accidents. Jones attributes this decrease in fatalities to increased enforcement. He said officials made 316 arrests in 2010 associated with BWI/DWI charges as compared with 220 in 2009.

"There's been a decrease statewide in boating fatalities, and we would like to see that trend continue," Jones said.

Game wardens have five key safety tips for boaters:

1. Always wear a life jacket
2. Drink responsibly and designate a non-drinking operator for the boat
3. Be weather wise: pay attention to local weather reports
4. Keep proper safety equipment onboard your vessel
5. Know the rules: take an online boater safety course.

The online boaters' safety course is offered through www.boat-ed.com/tx/ for \$13. Boaters with the online course certificate may receive a discounted rate from their boating insurance provider.

Heat down Bulls, meet Mavs

CHICAGO (AP) — This was how LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh envisioned it when they decided to unite in Miami, and now that a championship is in sight, they're not offering any apologies.

"Don't like the decision? Still upset about how everything unfolded?"

"I me, but understand this: I wanted to team up with some guys that I understood would never die down in the moment," James said. "The opportunity presented itself with this great organization, and D-Wade came to me and said it was possible. We made it happen."

Did they ever, just when it seemed this series was about to be extended.

James scored 28 points, Wade added 21, and they led a furious rally in the final minutes as the Heat eliminated Derrick Rose and the Chicago Bulls 83-80 in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals on Thursday night.

James and Wade were simply spectacular down the stretch, each scoring eight during a game-ending 18-3 run as the Heat wiped out a 12-point deficit to win the series.

Now, they are headed back to the NBA finals for the first time since 2006, and in a fitting twist, they'll be facing the Mavericks. Back then, with Wade leading the way, Miami beat Dallas to capture the championship. This time, it'll be James and Dirk Nowitzki going at it for their first rings.

The Heat will host Game 1 on Tuesday night.

"There's no sense of relief right now," James said. "We've still got work to do. We'll look at this moment tonight, have a little bit of time tomorrow to go over this moment, what we just accomplished. But we get ready for Dallas very soon. We don't take for granted this win and take for granted being Eastern Conference champions."

Even so, this is exactly where the Big Three intended to be right from the start.

like it or not. And it's safe to say, most don't.

The Heat, after all, wore that villain label well. The free-agent frenzy left a bitter taste for many, particularly after James' announcement on national TV.

As for the hatred?
"What's today's date — the 26th?" James said. "I say we've got about a month left. About a month left of continued hate. We'll see what happens next year."

The Heat have more immediate matters at hand. They had their difficulties getting this far, including a five-game losing streak in March, but look at them now.

They just knocked off the team that won more games than any other, that boasted the league's MVP in Rose and sent expectations soaring around Chicago in a way not seen since Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen were racking up championships.

Rose led Chicago with 25 points but hit just 9 of 29 shots. He fouled Wade on a key four-point play and missed a tying free throw with 26.7 seconds left.

"At the end, it's all me," Rose said. "Turnovers, missed shots, fouls. The series is over."

James had 11 rebounds and six assists. Wade's late surge helped negate his nine turnovers. Bosh added 20 points and 10 rebounds.

"We had to go through a lot of adversity," coach Erik Spoelstra said. "That struggle that we went through in March, where we lost five straight — all of them close games, where we didn't execute down the stretch and weren't able to close games out — that helped us. As painful as that was, we had to go through that fire together to be able to gain the confidence where we could be successful now in the postseason."

The Bulls looked as if they were in good shape up 77-65 with about three minutes to go, but Wade started the deciding run with a runner and layup. A 3-pointer by James pulled Miami to 77-72 with 2:07 left. Rose then scored on a spin move in the lane.

Bird bracelets on doves an overlooked prize for hunters

SPECIAL TO THE PAMPA NEWS

AUSTIN — To a waterfowl hunter, a duck band is a treasured find. Affixed to a duck call lanyard, these rare small metal rings become testaments of the hunter's skill or luck and reinforce the conservation success story they represent.

Banding is an integral component for management of all game birds that travel across North America without regard for state, provincial or international borders. These migrants are a shared resource among all hunters. The unique identification numbers stamped onto each leg band illustrate the extent to which these birds are shared, for example, when a hunter on the Texas coast harvests a banded duck that originated in Saskatchewan.

Not all bird bands are viewed as prizes. In fact, the ones affixed to the migratory game bird that gets the lion's share of hunting attention in Texas are not being viewed at all.

Heading into the summer, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will be trapping and attaching tiny metal leg bands on several thousand mourning dove as part of a larger national effort coordinated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

White-winged dove will also be banded across the state and TPWD will be banding approximately 3,000 whitewings. Banding will be initiated June 1 and concludes August 15.

As whitewings continue to expand across the state, keeping tabs on these dove populations is becoming increasingly important. Only three states are consistently banding white-winged dove, with the Texas banding program being the most comprehensive.

Dove band recoveries are revealing extensive travel records and offer interesting insight into the ecology of this prominent migrant. For instance:

Most banded mourning dove in Texas do not survive to see a second year and extremely few live past three years of age. The oldest mourning dove ever recovered in Texas was 9 years old and the oldest mourner ever recovered was banded in Georgia and was a whopping

31 years old!

Mourning dove shot in Texas come from 21 states including Texas, with the most out-of-state banded birds coming from Kansas, Iowa, Oklahoma, and South Dakota. A few banded birds traveled all the way from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

The oldest white-winged dove ever recorded in Texas was 17 years old and the oldest whitewing ever recovered was banded in Arizona and was 21 years old!

White-winged doves banded in Texas have been recovered in four states including Texas, four countries, and one in international waters (oil rig). The farthest recovered white-winged dove banded in Texas originated in Hidalgo County and was recovered in Nicaragua, 1,242 miles from the original band site.

For Texas, the implications of dove management are significant considering the Lone Star State boasts fall dove populations in excess of 40 million birds and its 300,000 dove hunters harvest about 6 million birds annually or roughly 30 percent of all doves taken in the United States. Dove hunting also has a major economic impact, contributing more than \$300 million to the state economy. But, despite having more dove hunters than any other state and harvesting more birds than any other state, Texas has the lowest dove band recovery rate in the nation.

"I think most dove hunters aren't aware of the banding effort," said Corey Mason, TPWD's dove program leader. "Unlike with ducks, hunters aren't looking for bands and because dove bands are only about the size of a bead they don't stand out."

Size does not diminish the importance of these bands and the information they provide wildlife biologists. Data obtained from banding are used to estimate survival and harvest rates and population abundance. These estimates are then used in population and harvest models to determine hunting regulations.

The complete 2003-2010 Dove Banding Summary is available for review online at http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/game_management/dove_summary/.

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