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# The PAMPA NEWS

**TODAY IN SPORTS** **Head start**  
PHS volleyball team attends camp to ready for 2011  
**Page 8**

**inside:**  
**Dog Talk**  
**Page 3**

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## CONCRETE MEMORIES



staff photo by David Bowser

Concrete fenceposts sit at the southeast corner of the Pampa High School campus after the historic WPA fence was disassembled at the school.

## PHS fence holds special meaning

**DAVID BOWSER**  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Jerry Pope stood looking at the collection of concrete fence posts stacked on the Pampa High School Campus at Duncan and Harvester.

"I'd like to have one to mount my mailbox on," Pope said of the remains of the old concrete fence that used to sit in front of the school.

The fence was built during

the latter stages of the Great Depression, commissioned to give jobs to out of work laborers. For seven decades, the fence has stood in front of the high school, an ever-present symbol of enduring hard times through hard work.

Pope, who graduated from Pampa High in 1957, can remember the fence standing there from his high school days. He said his wife and four kids graduated from Pampa High as

well, and the fence was there when they attended PHS, too.

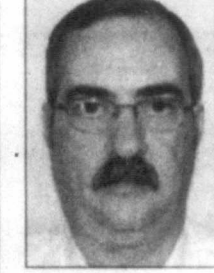
Just to the west on Harvester, Rusty Stevens and his two sons, Danni Vizcarra and Gunner Stevens, were moving one of the concrete fence posts with a front end loader. Work began on dismantling the fence last week.

Stevens, PHS Class of 1989, was taking the fence post to Lilith Brainard's in the 2100 **FENCE** cont. on page 5

## No Rec Park fireworks on Fourth of July

**DAVID BOWSER**  
dbowser@thepampanews.com  
**ARNIE AURELLANO**  
editor@thepampanews.com

Pampa's Deputy Fire Chief made it official today: Pampa will not have a fireworks display at Recreation Park on the Fourth of July.



**Randy Dunham**, Pampa's deputy fire chief, said today that the annual fireworks display has been cancelled for this year.

"We might have something later when it greens back up," he said.

Dunham said that in keeping with the proclamation of Gov. Rick Perry earlier this month, there will be no fireworks exhibition.

Gray County Judge Richard Peet had originally signed a fireworks ban along with a state of disaster declaration on June 8, a ban that was extended through July 5 due to the action from the Governor's Office. Mayor Brad Pingel had said a few weeks ago that he had visited with Judge Peet and that the fireworks show was "unlikely."

Dunham's comments echo the remarks made by Assistant City Manager Shane Stokes at yesterday's Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Stokes said that the fireworks had already been ordered and have arrived, and that if the county sees some rain in the near future, the city may hold a fireworks show **FIREWORKS** cont. on page 3

## Final numbers in for runoff early balloting

**ARNIE AURELLANO**  
editor@thepampanews.com

The early voting period for the Ward 1 city commissioners runoff election between John Studebaker and Cleo Meaker has ended, with 295 Pampa residents turning out to vote, according to official numbers so far.

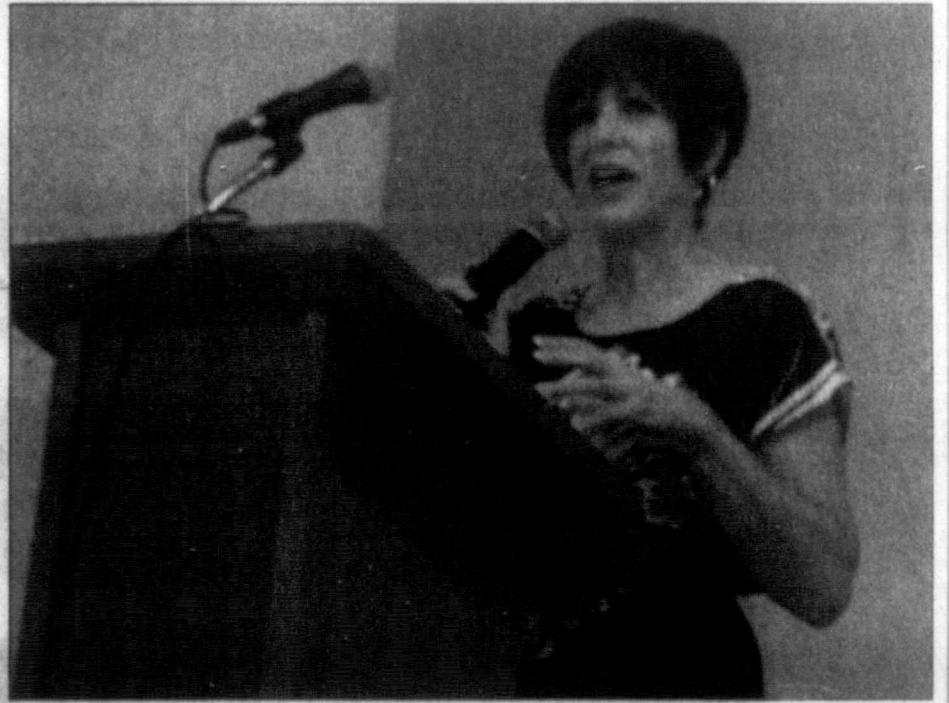
Gray County Elections Administrator Linda Lewis said that that total does not include mail-in ballots received during the early voting process. There are 17 such ballots, but they have yet to go through the ballot board process to make them official. That procedure, however, looks to be a formality, Lewis said.

"There's been, I think, but one time that we haven't qualified a voter (on a mail-in ballot), so that's a pretty sure thing."

Lewis said that she hopes that more voters will turn out during the official runoff election day, set for Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Lovett Memorial Library. **RUNOFF** cont. on page 5



## JUNE CHAMBER LUNCHEON HOUSE SPEAKER



staff photo by Andrew Glover

**Becky Davis**, development director of the Amarillo chapter of Habitat for Humanity, addresses the crowd at Tuesday's Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

**Top O' Texas BBQ Cook-off**  
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### PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		
High 97 Low 67	High 96 Low 66	High 97 Low 65

**Tonight:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. Breezy, with a south-southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Breezy, with a south-southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 67. Breezy, with a south wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 96. Breezy, with a south-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 66. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Saturday:** Sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 65. Windy, with a south-southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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## Authorities nab La Familia cartel leader

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Federal authorities apprehended the leader of the cult-like, pseudo-Christian La Familia cartel on Tuesday, saying they had dealt a debilitating blow to a major organized crime group that terrorized western Mexico.

Jose de Jesus Mendez Vargas, alias El Chango, or "The Monkey," was arrested in the central state of Aguascalientes without confrontation or casualties, said federal security spokesman Alejandro Poire.

A state official who was not authorized to speak on the record said Mendez was taken at a federal police checkpoint, but authorities didn't provide more details.

"With this arrest, what remained of the command structure of this criminal organization has been destroyed," Poire told a news conference.

With the death of La Familia founder and leader Nazario Moreno Gonzalez in December, Poire said Mendez was "the last remaining head of a criminal group responsible for homicides, kidnappings, extortion, corruption and even cowardly attacks on the authorities and civilian population."

But the leader of a violent splinter group, known as the Knights Templar, remains at large.

President Felipe Calderon personally lauded the arrest on his Twitter account, calling it a "big blow" to organized crime. The cartel was born in Calderon's home state of Michoacan in 2006, prompting him to deploy thousands of federal police there and warning that La Familia was corrupting local officials, extorting businesses and terrorizing the population.

According to the reward statement issued by the Attorney General's Office, college-educated Mendez was "responsible for the transfer and sale of cocaine, marijuana, crystal methamphetamine in various states of Mexico and the United States of America. He is the alleged mastermind of kidnappings and killings, mainly of members of other criminal organizations."

The government had offered a \$2.5 million reward for his capture.

Laura Sweeney, spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of Justice, declined to comment on whether Mendez is sought by the United States, like other drug lords. He had been listed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury in February 2010 as a drug trafficker, prohibiting Americans from conducting financial transactions with him and other La Familia cartel members.

His work in organized crime predated La Familia's origins.

Mendez had been arrested nine years ago in the city of Apatzingan on suspicion of killing gang members. He was let go, said the federal attorney general's office on Tuesday without specifying why.

He then was the chief of a group of hit men that worked for the Gulf cartel before La Familia's birth. He had a security team known as the "Twelve Apostles," the federal attorney general said.

La Familia first appeared four years ago when it rolled five severed heads into a Michoacan nightclub, vowing to protect local citizens from rival cartels. La Familia was part of the Gulf Cartel but later became an independent drug-trafficking organization, which ignited a rivalry between the two gangs.

Moreno, the leader, set a code of conduct for its members that prohibited the use of hard drugs or dealing them within Mexican territory, even as they gruesomely decapitated foes and sold cocaine and methamphetamine by the ton.

"They believe they are doing God's work, and pass out Bibles and money to the poor," according to a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration profile. "La Familia Michoacana also gives money to school and local officials."

Moreno was killed in December during two days of shootouts between La Familia and federal police. After his death, La Familia split into warring factions, causing increased bloodshed in western Mexico.

Mendez was believed to have remained the leader of the La Familia faction, according to federal police, while messages appeared in March

that the Knights Templar sought to replace La Familia.

That name alludes to a Christian order of knights founded in 1118 in Jerusalem to protect pilgrims in the Holy Land after the First Crusade.

Former school teacher and La Familia leader Servando "La Tuta" Gomez is believed to lead the Knights Templar, federal police say. Gomez, who has not been arrested, is wanted in the U.S. for conspiracy to import and distribute cocaine, according to an October 2009 Justice Department indictment.

The indictment says he also may be behind the murder of 12 Mexican federal law enforcement officers whose bodies were found in July 2009 while he still operated under La Familia.

An increase in gunfights between factions and clashes with police in Michoacan forced as many as 3,500 people to flee their hamlets in May and seek refuge in churches, schools, and recreation centers in larger towns nearby.

Federal police arrested 36 La Familia members a short time later, seizing more than 70 rifles, 20,000 weapon cartridges, three grenades and 14 handguns in an air and land raid that left two officers injured.

Federal Police Commissioner Fando Rosas said at the time that Mendez's faction had been substantially weakened.

Poire told reporters that with Mendez's arrest, 21 of the country's 37 top drug traffickers have been apprehended or killed since 2009.

More than 35,000 people have died in drug violence since, according to government figures. Local media say the number is closer to 40,000.

Officials of a northern Mexican state said on Tuesday they found 14 more bodies in a mass grave of a city, where investigators have so far unearthed 250 corpses since April.

Police in the city of Durango have offered no motives in the killings, but officials have said the mass murders are the result of an internal power struggle within the Sinaloa drug cartel, Mexico's most powerful gang.

## Obituaries

### Dan W. Hipkins, 62

AMARILLO—Dan W. Hipkins, 62, died in Amarillo.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, June 23, 2011, at First United Methodist Church in Pampa, with Rev. Blossom Matthews, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa, with military honors courtesy U.S. Army, Fort Hood, Texas. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Dan was born December 1, 1948, in Elk City, Okla., and was a 1967 graduate of Permian High School in Odessa. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War where he received the Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and Army Commendation



Hipkins

Medal. He resided in Pampa from 1975 until moving to Amarillo in 1989. Dan was vice president of Pro-Data Surveys and vice president of Rawhide Oil and Gas, both in Pampa. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Pampa and attended Polk Street United Methodist Church in Amarillo.

He was a beloved father of three daughters, Heidi Hipkins of Wheeler, Danielle Hipkins of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Hayley Hipkins and husband Scott Ellsworth of Tampa, Fla.; his mother, Kathleen Hipkins of Pampa; his sister, Janice Porter and husband Lee of Pampa; granddaughter, Mariah Marshall of Wheeler; his former wife, Cathy Burrell of Wheeler; two nephews, Chris Porter and wife Angela and Gavin Porter and wife Kelley, all of Pampa; niece, Jai Jai Porter-Diehl and husband Gerry of Waco; several great nieces and great nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Ralph R. Hipkins on May 7, 2005.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066-1981.

Sign the online register at [www.carmichael-whately.com](http://www.carmichael-whately.com).

## For the record

Cont. from Tues.

### Police Department

#### Monday, June 20

A suspicious person was reported at Francis and Albert.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 400 block of North Somerville.

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

Officers assisted a motorist in the 2800 block of North Charles.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1800 block of Holly.

A gas drive off was reported in the 1000 block of West Wilks.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 1000 block of East Browning.

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

Police reported 30 traffic-related incidents.

Animal Control reported 16 animal-related incidents.

Pampa EMS reported nine ambulance calls. The

Pampa Fire Department reported one medical call. The Lefors Volunteer Fire Department reported one medical call.

#### Monday, June 20

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of South Barnes and in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

Officers checked on the welfare of residents in the 1300 block of West Wilks.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1000 block of North Mary Ellen.

Found property was reported in the 1200 block of East Kingsmill.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1100 block of West Coronado Drive.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of North Russell.

A theft was reported to police.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic.

A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of Neel Road.

A theft was reported to police.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra.

A burglary was reported in the 100 block of East Sunset.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of Sierra.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2300 block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct was reported to police.

A domestic disturbance was reported to police.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1000 block of Tyng.

Officers assisted a motorist at Browning and Cuyler.

Officers made a welfare check in the 1000 block of Sirroco.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported to police.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 600 block of North Doucette.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of West Brown.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of Williston and in the 1600 block of U.S. Highway 60 East.

A drunk driver was re-

ported in the 1000 block of West Wilks.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2300 block of West Alcock, in the 1000 block of North Duncan and in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Criminal mischief was reported at Graham and Frederic.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of North Somerville.

### Sheriff's Office

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

#### Monday, June 20

Carl Allen Hinds, 28, was arrested by deputies on a warrant charging him with violation of probation in connection with a possession of a dangerous drug charge.

#### Tuesday, June 21

Jeremiah Layne Kendrick, 31, of Oklahoma City, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of marijuana more than four ounces but less than five pounds.

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# AFTERNOONRUSH Southwest will have to wait for fire-stifling rain

## More, storms, more outages

DALLAS (AP) - Thunderstorms have drenched parts of North Texas and left thousands of homes and businesses without power for another day.

Dallas-based utility Oncor on Wednesday reported nearly 33,000 customers without electricity.

Rain and strong winds early Tuesday left behind damage in Wise County. More bad weather reached North Texas by Tuesday night. Most of the latest Oncor outages are in the Fort Worth area.

## DPS warns of ticket scam

AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas Department of Public Safety wants violators to pay their traffic citations but the agency is not making calls about alleged overdue red-light tickets.

DPS today warned that scammers have been calling people, demanding credit card and Social Security numbers for immediate payments. The agency says the bogus callers say the alleged violator faces arrest unless the personal information is provided.

The Department of Public Safety does not collect traffic fines or oversee red-light camera enforcement.

DPS says anyone receiving the fake calls should contact the consumer affairs division of the Texas attorney general's office.

## Wildfire crews hope for rain

HOUSTON (AP) - Rain has boosted efforts to douse wildfires in Southeast Texas but not enough to allow hundreds of evacuees to go home.

Jason Curry, with the federal incident management team coordinating firefighting efforts, says Trinity County was getting a "downpour" Wednesday morning. Forecasters say the chance of thunderstorms continues through Thursday.

Curry told The Associated Press that the area has received as much as 2 inches of rain since Tuesday. The so-called Bearing fire, which has blackened more than 20,000 acres, is 60 percent contained.

Curry says the 1,800 homes and business in Grimes County, 60 miles northwest of Houston, evacuated Monday night must remain empty because nearby wildfires are not contained. He says 30 structures have burned.

## Wrongful conviction bill signed

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Rick Perry has signed into law a bill authorizing \$1.4 million for a man wrongly imprisoned for nearly two decades over slayings he did not commit.

Anthony Graves, 45, spent 18 years in prison, including a dozen years on death row. A 2009 Texas law says exonerees can receive \$80,000 for every year they were imprisoned.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in 2006 overturned Graves' conviction and ordered a new trial for him in the 1992 deaths of a grandmother and five children in Somerville. Graves, who had maintained his innocence, was declared innocent last fall by a special prosecutor.

In February, Texas Comptroller Susan Combs denied compensation for Graves because the order detailing his exoneration lacked the words "actual innocence."

Perry, who signed the bill Friday, supported compensation efforts for Graves, the Houston Chronicle reported Tuesday.

## Cliburn honored at contest

FORT WORTH (AP) - A renowned classical pianist from Texas is returning to Russia where his 1958 victory at a prestigious competition gained him international fame.

Van Cliburn will be an honorary chairman for the piano part of the Tchaikovsky competition in Moscow. The Van Cliburn Foundation on Tuesday announced his trip for the contest ending next week.

Cliburn won the first International Tchaikovsky Piano Competition at the height of the Cold War. He says this is the first time he has returned to the competition, although he's visited Russia several times through the years.

He's involved with but doesn't select winners of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. That competition is held every four years in his hometown of Fort Worth, Texas, most recently in 2009. Prizes include national concert tours for winners.

## Appeals court rejects UT case

AUSTIN (AP) - The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has rejected an appeal by two white University of Texas students who want the judges to rehear their 2008 challenge to UT admission standards.

By a 9-7 vote, the full New Orleans-based appeals court refused Friday to rehear the appeal of Abigail Fisher and Rachel Michalewicz. They sued UT-Austin in federal court in Austin, challenging whether the school could consider race and ethnicity in its admissions standards.

The women accused the university of violated their constitutional right to equal protection.

The majority of the full appeals court ruled, without comment, not to rehear the case. However, in a 10-page opinion written by Chief Judge Edith Jones, she and four other dissenting judges accused the majority of appearing "to countenance an unachievable and unrealistic goal of racial diversity at the classroom level to support the university's race-conscious policy." The other two dissenting judges did not comment.

The initial appeals court ruling in January by a three-judge 5th Circuit Court panel upheld a 2009 ruling by U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks in Austin that UT did not violate legal precedent in refusing admission to Fisher and Michalewicz to that year's freshman class.

The latest ruling, "as well as the previous favorable rulings and all of the effort we have put into defending this case to date put the university in a good position from which to respond if the plaintiffs petition the U.S. Supreme Court," Patti Ohlendorf, the university's vice president for legal affairs, told the Austin American-Statesman on Tuesday.

The Project on Fair Representation opposes the use of race in public policy and was helping to pay the legal bills of Fisher and Michalewicz, the American-Statesman reported. Project director Edward Blum told the newspaper that his legal team was "analyzing the powerful dissent from Judge Jones and the other four judges" and will decide soon whether to appeal the case further.

PHOENIX (AP) - Crews have made significant progress attacking three major wildfires in Arizona, but fire danger across the Southwest will remain for weeks to come until seasonal rains arrive.

Storms that normally stop the fire threat in the Southwest aren't expected to come until mid-July at the soonest. Officials say that means the large blazes churning across Arizona's forestlands won't be the last.

The state has seen one of its most dangerous fire seasons in years, forestry officials said, with more than 1,500 fires burning 1,300 square miles so far. That total far exceeds 2010, when just 132 square miles burned across the state.

"We're not even into our really hot days," said Cam Hunter, Arizona's deputy state forester, noting that virtually all fires in the state have been human caused. "We're really dependent on people being as conscientious as they've ever been when they're doing anything that can cause a spark or has a flame and is an ignition source."

While rain and snow farther north has led to huge snowpack in the Sierra Nevada range and the Rockies, much of the South and Southwest has received less winter precipitation than normal.

A wildfire outlook issued by the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, calls for above-normal fire potential in the Southwest through September, but normal or milder-than-normal fire conditions across the rest of the West.

Millions of acres across Arizona and New Mexico have been scorched in recent weeks. Firefighters also are battling tinder boxes in Texas, where officials said 22 fires currently burning have scorched 210 square miles and consumed at least three dozen homes.

And in Florida, hot and dry weather has sparked more than 3,600 blazes burning nearly 300 square miles acres. The outbreak has shown that even a small conflagration can be deadly. Two forest rangers were killed Monday while using bulldozers to plow around a 12-acre blaze near the Florida-Georgia state line.

Rains are expected to reduce the fire danger in Florida this week, but the Southwest's seasonal relief

won't come until later, and it's expected to begin with a threat. The beginning of the annual monsoon season will probably spark more fires because of lightning, Hunter said.

But "once the monsoon kicks in, it's all over for both New Mexico and Arizona," said Rich Naden, a fire weather meteorologist at the Southwest Coordination Center in Albuquerque, N.M., which coordinates fire resources for the region. "What we're figured out over the last decade is that we don't necessarily need record, earth-shattering rain to end the likelihood of large fire inci-

dents. It's just a matter of humidity."

The largest of the fires burning in the Southwest is in eastern Arizona, where a fire that broke out May 29 has consumed 825 square miles of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest.

A fire outside Sierra Vista in southern Arizona has destroyed at least 58 homes, and a blaze in the far southeastern part of the state has charred more than 330 square miles since it started May 8. In New Mexico, officials said conditions are abnormally dry. Much of the state is now in the grips of either severe to extreme drought. Grasslands began

burning in late February and the threat has now moved into the state's higher elevation forests, where recent blazes have led to evacuations.

In Texas, where the ground in heavily forested areas usually remains moist, drought has helped wildfires scorch about 4,800 square miles - more than any year in the state's history, according to the Texas Forest Service.

Blazes in that state this fire season are being blamed for four deaths - three firefighters battling separate blazes and a child killed in a car accident on a smoky interstate.

## Clearing up humane confusion



MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS  
Creator's Syndicate



affiliation with local SPCAs throughout the country, we assist SPCAs, humane societies and local shelters around the country financially, as well as provide human and other non-monetary resources toward animal shelter programs and innovations, legislative issues, anti-cruelty and disaster response efforts on a national scale."

One of the most rewarding things a person can do is go down to the local animal shelter and adopt a homeless dog or cat. Local shelters, local humane societies and local societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals (SPCAs) are notoriously understaffed, underfunded and overpopulated with animals just waiting for a good home.

Emphasis on local. The behemoth Humane Society of the United States serves a role in the nation's ongoing animal-welfare campaign, and it is certainly no bit player. But the HSUS doesn't operate a single animal shelter. Not one.

This very wealthy nonprofit works on a national stage, and while its concerns boil down to "animal welfare" at heart, its projects are largely legislative and investigative. The HSUS funnels much of its impressive operating capital into legislative campaigns to pass laws that protect animals and investigations into animal cruelty. Its more hands-on operations are its horse sanctuaries and wildlife rehabilitation centers, as well as the essential work it does in manning emergency shelters in disaster areas and providing veterinary services in remote areas.

In case you're wondering, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) has much more in common with the HSUS than with your local shelter. In the ASPCA's own words:

"While we do not have a formal

But the ASPCA differs from the HSUS in one way: It operates an animal shelter in New York City. One.

All of these organizations do good work. But they do very different kinds of work. Knowing the difference is important, especially if you happen to be one of those people who feels the real reward comes from the act of adopting a homeless dog or cat from a shelter.

The work our local shelters, local humane societies and local SPCAs do is invaluable. It's hard work — physically, psychologically and emotionally. It's necessary work. And it's work that makes a tangible difference every day, for people and animals in every city and every town across the country.

The HSUS and the ASPCA are long-standing national animal-welfare organizations. And we should pay close attention to them, as we should any wealthy and influential nonprofit. But to do so at the expense of our local shelters is like voting for president but skipping the mayoral race. Those closest to us really do have the greatest and most immediate impact on all that we hold dear.

Woof!

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"

# PET OF THE WEEK

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Your local animal shelter needs donations of the following items:

## Dog Food and Bleach

<p>Animal #10841</p> <p>"Mr. Giles" Male Schnauzer Cross</p>	<p>Animal #10849</p> <p>"Lady Gaga" Female Shi-Tzu Cross</p>	<p>Animal #10868</p> <p>"Jackie" Female Husky</p>
<p>Animal #10726</p> <p>"Spice" Female Cat</p>	<p>Animal #10852</p> <p>"Chessy" Female Spayed Declawed</p>	

For more information about these pets or any other questions, please call the Pampa Animal Shelter at 336-3363. All prizes are subject to availability. The winners will be announced through the Pampa News. If you're looking for a pet, please visit our website at www.pampaanimalshelter.com. The Shelter is open to the public Monday through Saturday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Wednesday, June 22, the 173rd day of 2011. There are 192 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On June 22, 1911, Britain's King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

**On this date:**  
In 1611, English explorer Henry Hudson, his son and several other people were set adrift in present-day Hudson Bay by mutineers aboard the Discovery; their fate remains unknown.

In 1870, the United States Department of Justice was created.

In 1940, during World War II, Adolf Hitler gained a stunning victory as France was forced to sign an armistice eight days after German forces overran Paris.

In 1941, Germany launched Operation Barbarossa as it invaded the Soviet Union.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the "GI Bill of Rights."

In 1945, the World War II battle for Okinawa ended with an Allied victory.

In 1969, singer-actress Judy Garland died in London at age 47.

In 1977, John N. Mitchell became the first former U.S. Attorney General to go to prison as he began serving a sentence for his role in the Watergate cover-up. (He was released 19 months later.)

In 1981, Mark David Chapman pleaded guilty to killing rock star John Lennon.

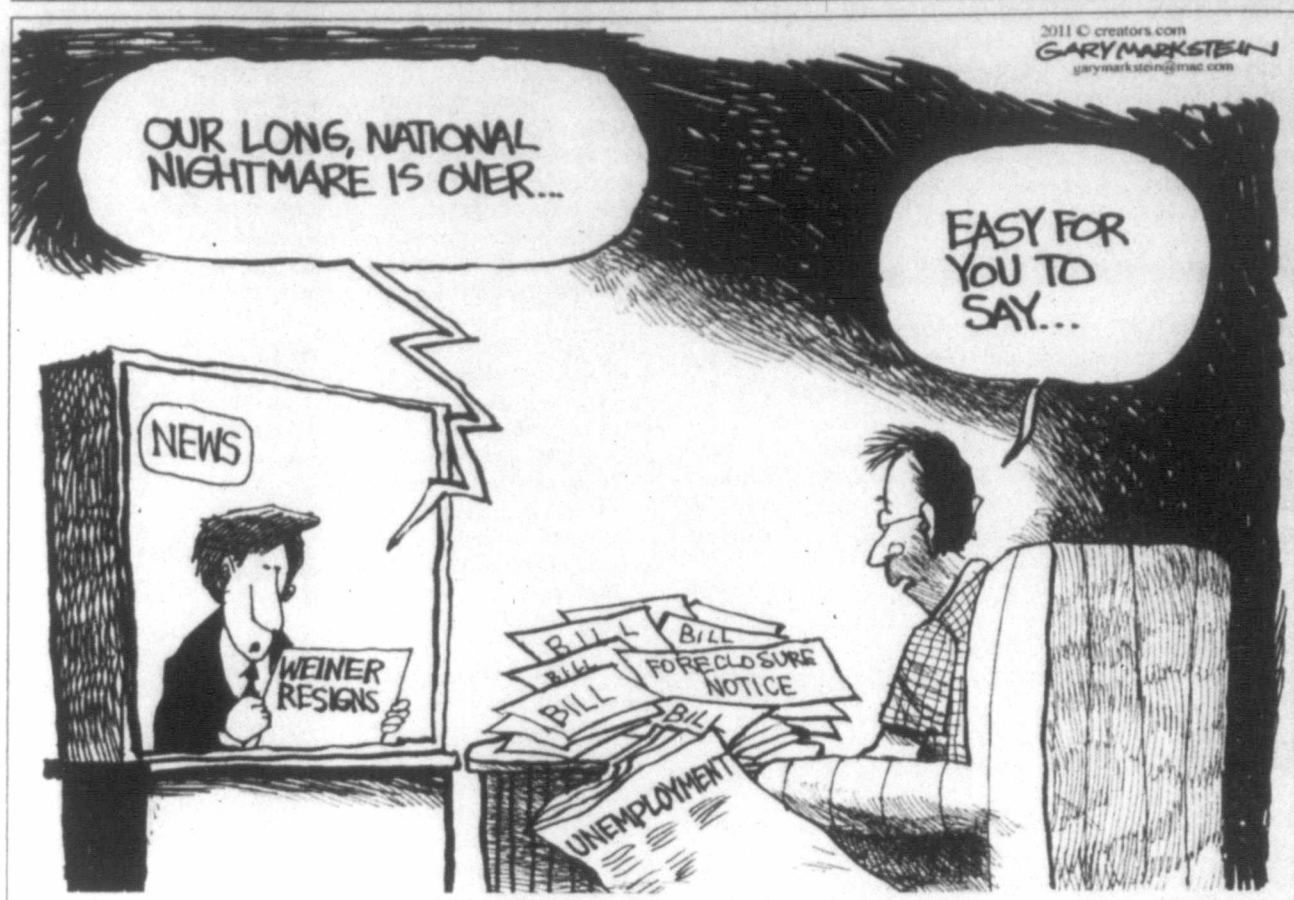
**Ten years ago:** The British government announced that 18-year-old Jon Venables and Robert Thompson, who were 10 years old when they kidnapped and killed toddler James Bulger, had been granted parole.

**Five years ago:** During a visit to Hungary to commemorate the 1956 revolt against communism, President George W. Bush said war-weary Iraqis could learn from the Hungarians' long and bloody struggle against tyranny.

**One year ago:** South Carolina Republicans chose Nikki Haley, an Indian-American and tea party favorite, to run for governor (she went on to win a runoff and the general election).

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Ralph Waite is 83. Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson is 75. Actor Michael Lerner is 70. Broadcast journalist Brit Hume is 68. Singer Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) is 67. Actor Andrew Rubin is 65. Actor David L. Lander is 64. Singer Howard "Eddie" Kaylan is 64. Singer-musician Todd Rundgren is 63. Actress Meryl Streep is 62. Actress Lindsay Wagner is 62. Singer Alan Osmond is 62. Actor Murphy Cross is 61. Actor Graham Greene is 59. Pop singer Cyndi Lauper is 58. Actor Chris Lemmon is 57. Rock musician Derek Forbes is 55. Actor Tim Russ is 55. Actor-producer-writer Bruce Campbell is 53. Actress Tracy Pollan is 51. Rock singer-musician Jimmy Somerville is 50. Author Dan Brown ("The Da Vinci Code") is 47. Rock singer Steven Page is 41. Actor Michael Trucco is 41. TV personality Carson Daly is 38. Rock musician Chris Traynor is 38. Country musician Jimmy Wallace is 38. Actress Alicia Goranson is 37. Actress Lindsay Ridgeway is 26.

**Thought for Today:** "If you look at life one way, there is always cause for alarm." — Elizabeth Bowen, Irish author (1899-1973)



## Govt. looks to past, free enterprise to future

Two years ago, in June 2009, the American economy emerged from recession, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research. But as this week's Economist noted, with typical British understatement, "The recovery has been a disappointment."

And maybe not a recovery for long. Robert Shiller, the economist who first identified the housing bubble, said last week that we may be headed for recession again. "Whether we call it a double dip or not," he told Reuters, "there is a risk."

His Case-Shiller housing price index indicated that home prices in March slumped to levels not seen since March 2003, and Shiller says they may keep falling for 20 years.

As I look back on these years of economic tumult, I sometimes think of an off-the-record session arranged by National Review with Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson back in the fall of 2007.

I asked Paulson when the government was going to change the SEC regulation under which the credit-rating agencies were paid by the sellers rather than the buyers of securities. That arrangement gave the credit agencies an incentive to give high ratings to the mortgage-backed securities that later turned sour.

Oh, we'll get to that, Paulson said, when we get through the rough stuff we face right now. Of course, he had not yet gotten to the stuff that was so rough that, as he wrote in his memoir, he had to leave meetings to throw up.

With the benefit of hindsight, it seems that our leaders, in both the Bush and the Obama administrations, responded to crises and challenges all too often with measures that attempt-

ed to revive the old pre-financial crisis economy rather than with policies that would allow a new economy to grow.

As in Paulson's comment, the thinking seems to have been that if we can just get things back in place, then we can attack the underlying problems.

Such was the theory behind the now seemingly puny stimulus package agreed to by George W. Bush and Democratic congressional leaders in early 2008. And behind the Federal Reserve's rescue package for Bear Stearns in March 2008.

It was behind the argument that Paulson used to persuade Congress to pass the \$700 billion TARP package in October 2008. He said he'd use the money to buy toxic mortgage-backed securities from the banks, but then decided to lend the banks tranches of \$25 billion, instead.

The Obama Democrats' February 2009 stimulus package doled out one-third of its \$787 billion to state and local governments so that public-sector employees (and union members) would not lose their jobs, as so many private-sector employees were. That worked for a while but did not prevent painful cuts and layoffs later.

Then there were the various mortgage forbearance programs, designed to prevent foreclosures. Precious few homeowners took advantage of them, and many who did ended up losing their houses anyway.



MICHAEL BARONE

And of course there was cash for clunkers, which increased car sales in the summer only to see them decline in the fall. Hundreds of millions were spent, but with no permanent effect except to increase used-car prices because clunkers traded in had to be junked.

Decision-makers have responded as if they were facing liquidity crises (we don't have enough cash to pay off debts immediately) instead of solvency crises (we will never be able to pay off these debts). Too often pain has not been prevented, but just postponed -- and prolonged.

In retrospect, much of the pain could not be avoided. As economist Tyler Cowen has put it, we were not as rich as we thought we were. Housing bubble prices did not turn out to be real wealth, unless you sold out at the peak and moved to a cave.

Trying to put everyone back in the position they once thought they were in simply won't work. But it does sound attractive politically. People can remember what life was like in the past.

We don't, however, know what it will be like in the future. Republicans want less government spending and more leeway for entrepreneurs to create new businesses and jobs. No one knows what innovative products and services will emerge.

That's the beauty of free enterprise, but it also makes it a hard sell politically -- unless voters have figured out no amount of government spending is going to restore the old status quo.

Michael Barone is a nationally syndicated columnist.

## Far deeper immorality reigns in Washington

While the well-deserved departure of Anthony Weiner draws rapt attention in our tabloid nation, the depredations of less colorful but more powerful politicians go unnoticed, so long as no genitalia are involved.

At the moment, for instance, Republican leaders in the House and the Senate are mounting yet another series of assaults on some of the most vulnerable Americans -- the poor single mothers who cannot feed their children, and the long-term unemployed who still have no prospect of work nearly two years after the recession supposedly ended.

Hardly anyone other than a lobbyist would normally pay much attention to the machinations of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, but that is where truly indecent behavior is running rampant these days. Members of that subcommittee, who oversee the Women, Infants and Children (or WIC) federal nutrition support program for the poor, recently decreed reductions in its annual funding, just as food prices are rising more rapidly than in many years.

Breaching a long bipartisan commitment to making sure this successful program's funding will be sufficient to the need, the subcommittee's Republican majority has decided we can no longer afford to ensure healthy nutrition for every hungry mother and child. (What we can apparently always afford, however, are more and bigger tax cuts for billionaires and petroleum companies.)

By cutting \$650 million from WIC, according to the experts at the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, the

subcommittee will deprive hundreds of thousands of indigent women and children of program services, which include healthy foods, nutrition counseling and referrals to health care providers when necessary. The exact number of victims will depend on how fast food prices go up. But there will surely be many more infants and children who must cope with the ill effects of low birth weight and anemia, and all the other ills arising from bad nutrition in this wealthy and verdant nation.

As usual, the mean impulse to save money by punishing the poor is short-sighted, since the obvious result is a growing population that is either crippled at birth or ruined in youth, requiring expensive hospitalization, special education or, eventually, prison cells. And as usual, the justifications for stupid policy are based on botched data and false arguments, such as the Republican claim that WIC is wasting 40 percent of its budget on administrative costs, when the actual number is 9 percent.

But then there is little real prudence among the proponents of these cuts.

Nor is there much mercy among them, either, despite the professed Christianity of the Ag subcommittee members, who mostly come from bastions of religiosity such as Iowa, Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama. No doubt these Bible-thumping politicians all know that Jesus once told his disciples to "suffer the little children to come unto me, for theirs is

the kingdom of heaven." Somehow in conservative circles, his profound remark seems to end at "suffer the little children."

Slashing WIC is only one aspect of the broad assault on the poor mounted by Republicans in Congress since they regained power. Just last week, House Ways and Means chairman Dave Camp, R-Mich., and Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, the ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, proposed radical changes in unemployment insurance that would snatch \$31 billion in benefits from families whose breadwinner has been jobless for six months or more.

Their bill would permit states to stop paying any benefits to those families -- and to use the money instead for other purposes, like reducing business taxes. If passed, that legislation will further reduce economic demand and drive more families into poverty.

And then there are the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program cuts in the 2012 Republican budget, which would reduce spending on food stamps by more than \$120 billion over the coming decade. If you've lost your job, after all, why should you or your children expect to eat?

Yes, Weiner is gone from Washington, and good riddance. Will we now scrutinize the far deeper immorality that reigns there?

Joe Conason is a nationally syndicated columnist.

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# Death row inmate, killer Mathis executed

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Convicted killer Milton Mathis was executed Tuesday evening for fatally shooting two people inside a Houston crack house in 1998, becoming the sixth death row inmate executed in Texas this year.

The lethal injection was carried out shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected appeals from his defense attorneys, who argued that Mathis was mentally impaired and therefore ineligible for execution.

Mathis, 32, was condemned for a shooting spree that killed Travis Brown III, 24, and Daniel Hibbard, 31, less than two weeks before Christmas in 1998. A 15-year-old girl, Melony Almaguer, also was shot and left paralyzed.

Almaguer, seated in a wheelchair and accompanied by her husband, was among a small group of people who watched Mathis die from behind a window at the Huntsville Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

"I never meant to hurt you," Mathis, strapped to a gurney with tubing taped to his arms, told Almaguer. "You were just at the wrong place at the wrong time."

Her husband stood with his hand on her shoulder and at one point brushed her face with his hand. They declined to speak with reporters after leaving the prison.

Mathis thanked his friends and relatives, and asked for mercy for himself and "these people carrying out this mass slaughter."

"The system has failed me," he said. "This is what you call a miscarriage of justice. Life is not supposed to end this way ... I just ask the Lord, when I knock at the gates, you just let me in."

He yawned and gasped, then began snoring as the lethal drugs began taking effect. Nine minutes later, at 6:53 p.m. CDT, he was pronounced dead.

An unsuccessful late appeal to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals briefly delayed the punishment.

In their appeal filed Monday with the Supreme Court, his attorneys also argued that Mathis' claims of mental impairment hadn't been reviewed by any federal court because of a "procedural quagmire" and "freakish coincidence" of state and federal legal issues involving the timing of his appeals. Attorney Lee Kovarsky also argued that if Mathis was executed, he likely would have the lowest IQ of any Texas inmate put to death since the Supreme Court nine years ago barred execution of the mentally impaired.

One test cited in Mathis' appeals put his IQ as low as 62, below the threshold of 70 considered by the courts to be the level for deciding mental impairment. Other tests showed Mathis' IQ considerably higher.

State attorneys cited a federal appeals court ruling declaring it was a "mystery how Mathis could have scored 10-20 points higher on his IQ test before trial as compared to after his conviction." State attorneys said the low test results could have been the result of his heavy drug use, including PCP and "Fry," a marijuana cigarette soaked in embalming fluid laced with PCP, alcohol and codeine cough syrup.

State lawyers who opposed the reprieve argued Mathis was not mentally impaired and that his claims were thoroughly litigated in a state court proceeding which included an evidentiary hearing with expert defense witnesses and legal assistance for Mathis.

"Mathis has already been afforded the requested relief in state court — review of his mental retardation claim — he fails to demonstrate that his right to further review is clear and indisputable," Laura Grant Turbin, an assistant Texas attorney general, told the Supreme Court.

## Runoff

"We want to keep reminding people that it's at the Lovett Library," Lewis said. "Normally, city elections are over at M.K. Brown (Civic Center), but there was a conflict, so this time it's at the library."

year's runoff early voting totals as "respectable," though she added some voting days had seen less turnout than in previous runoffs.

The City of Pampa's last runoff, Lewis said, saw particularly healthy voter traffic as the mayoral position

was up for grabs between Lonny Robbins and Jeff Andrews in May of 2003. That election had a two-week early voting process and, between early voting and election day itself drew 1,518 voters. Robbins won the election with 826 votes.

## Fireworks

at a different date.

Earlier this week, the Pampa Fire Department also announced an amnesty program in which local residents can dispose of their fireworks at the Central Fire Station in downtown Pampa. The fire department is working in tandem on the project with the Amarillo Bomb Squad, who will dispose of the fireworks under controlled conditions.

Because of the ongoing fireworks ban, anyone caught with fireworks will face a Class B misdemeanor charge, which carries a fine from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and possible jail time and legal liability for any damages that may be caused by the fireworks. Fire Marshal Michael Ryan has said that there would be a zero tolerance policy enforced regarding the ban.

## Fence

block of Mary Ellen. "We were the class that was 'Best of the West,'" said Brainard, PHS Class of 1948. "Don Lane was our class president." Brainard said the concrete post that she got will go in her front yard under a magnolia tree. "We may plant some flowers around it," Brainard said.

Brainard said a friend got a post, too. "We were thrilled that we got them," Brainard said. Pampa photographer Della Moyer took a picture of the fence being removed from in front of the high school and posted it on her Facebook page on the Internet. "That was my 'Picture of the Day,'" Moyer said.

It drew plenty of comments. "Some of the most bland pictures are the ones that get the most comments," she said. "That fence means a lot to a lot of people. It's a piece of Pampa history." Moyer said people were "ranting and raving" because the fence was taken down.



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I was a victim of domestic abuse by my wife, and I don't feel I have been treated fairly. There are many programs for abused women, but I haven't found any for men. This problem is more common than people realize, but men are embarrassed to say anything. I'd like my voice to be heard to encourage men to speak up.

I did not hit my wife back after she beat on me. I still love her, but I refuse to be abused any longer. Abby, please help me help myself and others. — BILL IN ARKANSAS

DEAR BILL: Gladly. Among the problems with spousal abuse is that it escalates. Over the last decade domestic violence groups have become more aware of female-to-male domestic violence and violent behavior in same-sex relationships, and are better prepared to offer help than they used to be. That's why it's important you contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline. The toll-free number is (800) 799-7233. Counselors there offer guidance to women and men who are being abused by their spouse or partner.

Another organiza-

tion, SAFE (Stop Abuse for Everyone), also assists victims of abuse regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation. Its website is [www.safe4all.org](http://www.safe4all.org).

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter is divorced with two children. She has been dating a man who has three children. Recently, they decided to move in together. All the children are first grade or younger.

What would be the proper way to handle birthdays?

If my daughter and her boyfriend were married, or even engaged, I wouldn't have a problem sending gifts to his children. But since my husband and I hardly know this man (we live in another state and have met him only once or twice), we're not sure how to handle this. Should we just continue to send birthday gifts to our daughter's kids and nothing but cards to his? Or would that look bad? What's the proper thing? — FAIR-MINDED IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR FAIR-MINDED: Your daughter and grandchildren have formed a household with her boyfriend and his kids. If you're compassionate people, you will treat all of the children equally for as long as the

relationship lasts. If they decide to marry, which is a possibility, you will wind up being grandparents to all of them. If they eventually separate, you will have done the right thing and lent some stability and happiness to those children's lives.

DEAR ABBY: For a lot of reasons — many betrayals among them — I have almost completely lost my faith in the basic goodness of people. I have started isolating myself because I believe that more contact with people will destroy what little belief I have left. I don't want to be so bitter and cynical, and I need help overcoming this. Any advice would be appreciated. — WOUNDED SOUL IN MINNESOTA

DEAR WOUNDED: I'm sorry you have suffered disappointment. But isolating yourself from others isn't the solution. I don't know anyone who hasn't been disappointed in someone at some point, but it's not a reason to hide.

Trust is something that has to be developed, and building it takes time. While I agree that relationships can be risky, unless you are willing to take some risk, there will be no reward.

## BANANAGRAMS!

For each of the three words below, change one letter to an **R** and then rearrange the letters to spell a type of tree.

DECAF

\_\_\_\_\_

CUSPED

\_\_\_\_\_

CYPHER

\_\_\_\_\_

Yesterday's Answer: PEWTER, PAJAMA, PAYOFF, MUTANT, PELLET, HYPHEN

6.22

## Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 45 Table parts
  - 1 Play places
  - 7 Help in crime
  - 11 Report card signer
  - 12 Verne captain
  - 13 To-do list
  - 14 Dejected
  - 15 Jordan neighbor
  - 17 Matching
  - 20 Next year's soph
  - 23 Saloon quaff
  - 24 List of outstanding people
  - 26 Rap's — Kim
  - 27 Rower's need
  - 28 Tax org.
  - 29 Not in custody
  - 31 Bolt partner
  - 32 Destines to failure
  - 33 Omelet start
  - 34 Cotton pest
  - 37 Norse god
  - 39 Whirlpools
  - 43 Flag waver
  - 44 Handles
- DOWN**
- 1 Hotel amenity
  - 2 Price place
  - 3 Is for two.
  - 4 Wish granter
  - 5 Concludes
  - 6 Headliner
  - 7 Ticks off
  - 8 Reacting in rage
  - 9 Outback bird
  - 10 Huck's pal
  - 16 Earlier
  - 17 Light lunch
  - 18 Justice Samuel
  - 19 Chilling out
  - 21 Show indifference
  - 22 Party givers
  - 24 Not as good
  - 25 Witch
  - 30 Reparation
  - 33 Town leader
  - 35 Suit part
  - 36 Inking
  - 37 Hogwarts messenger
  - 38 Conk out
  - 40 Believer
  - 41 Greek vowel
  - 42 Abel, to Adam

T	A	R	T	S		R	I	F	L	E
E	Q	U	A	L		O	N	E	A	L
R	U	B	B	E	R	B	A	N	D	S
N	A	Y	E	A	R	D	Y	E		
			S	P	Y	O	N			
C	A	T	T	Y	Y	O	K	E	L	
A	L	O	E			S	E	M	I	
R	E	N	E	W		P	E	N	U	P
			L	E	W	I	S			
A	S	S	A	R	C	S	K	I		
S	T	I	C	K	Y	N	O	T	E	S
P	A	R	S	E		I	N	A	N	E
S	T	E	I	N		C	A	R	T	E

Yesterday's answer

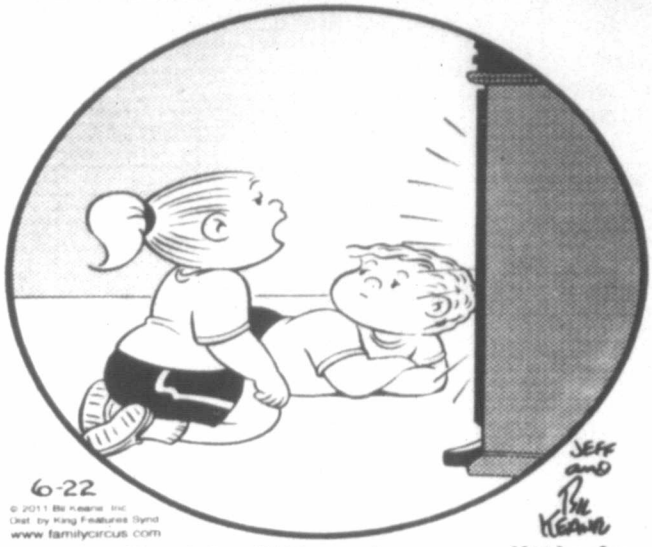
NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
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6-22

# comics PAGE

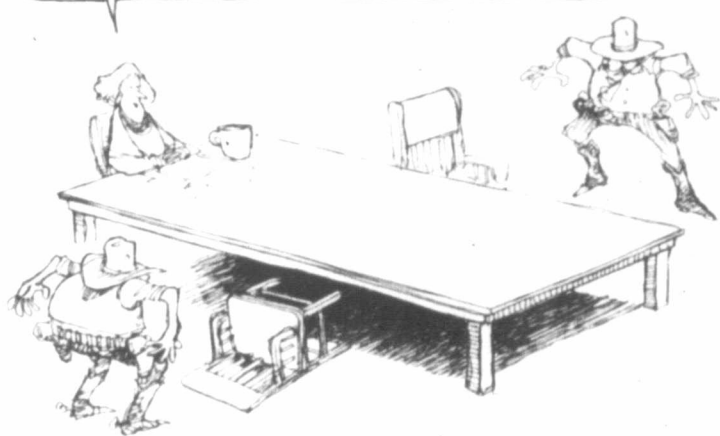
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



6-22  
"Poor Daddy. When he was little he had to watch his favorite TV shows when they were actually on."

Non Sequitur

SO YOU BOTH AGREE THAT THIS TOWN ISN'T BIG ENOUGH FOR THE TWO OF YOU. WELL, I THINK THAT SHOWS WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS HERE...



MEDIATION at the O.K. CORRAL

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Nest Heads

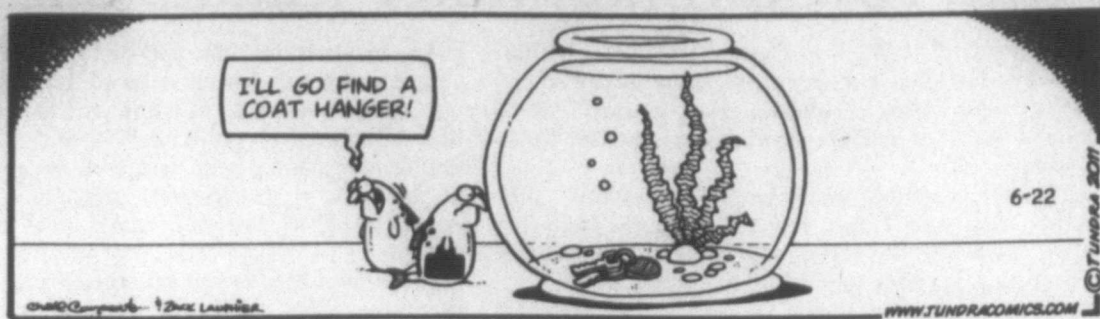


## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Thursday, June 23, 2011:  
This year, venture out on a new path, though it might feel conflict-ridden. Somehow, you always come out smelling like roses. Your friends and associates support you. Keep your long-term goals in mind, and you will experience success. You will want to let go of situations that don't work, especially professionally. Ask yourself what you want there. If you are attached, the two of you have much to adapt to, but you will do it if you keep the big picture in mind. If you are single, you will meet someone through a friend, or a friendship could become more. **ARIES** pushes you hard.  
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)**  
★★★★ Realize that sometimes even you need a bit of tension to get you going. Your fiery actions move you to a new level. Pressure continues to build to complete a project or deal with an older person. Try not to worm your way out. Tonight: Complete rather than begin.  
**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
★★★★ In between the obvious, there lies a space that is vague in your mind, especially regarding an important situation. What is clear is that you cannot change it without a different perspective. Detach and talk to someone whose advice you admire. Tonight: Take some needed personal time.  
**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
★★★★ Keep reaching out for new ideas, especially when dealing with others. They are a tremendous resource when utilized. Your style and approach could be very different if you relax. What might feel right today could be otherwise later. Tonight: Where the action is.  
**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
★★★★ Assume responsibility if you care about a situation or project. No one knows exactly what's in your mind; therefore, follow-through is close to impossible. Realize we all have limits. You are no different. Tonight: As late as need be or desired.  
**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
★★★★ You might be playing with the possibility of a change of plans. A sudden event might end the possibility and push you in yet another direction. Don't get entrenched in "shoulds" or "coulds." You are

being called upon to approach a matter far differently. Tonight: Start the weekend early — if you can.  
**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
★★★★ Deal with someone directly. The two of you work better together than as individuals when handling certain key matters. Friction seems to dissipate. Tonight: Be a team.  
**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
★★★★ Usually, you are the source of putting together plans and making arrangements. Events throw you in a new role, as others decide what to do and when. There could be an innate dragging of your heels. Do you feel as if you are losing control? Tonight: Get past a resistance, if you want to live your life well.  
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
★★★★ Creativity mounts as you plunge into an unpredictable matter that impacts your daily life. It is clear resisting change won't work. Fatigue could prevent you from seeing the issue clearly. Tonight: Dive into a project.  
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
★★★★ Check out the costs of an investment with care. How it looks today might not be realistic. Taking risks always is exciting and keeps your adrenaline pumping. Just make sure you can handle an unexpected twist or turn. Tonight: Avoid negativity.  
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
★★★★ You might want to anchor in. Check out a new possibility with care. Know that the unexpected could hit even in the best of plans. Your ability to flex will be tested. Clearly, you cannot count on the status quo remaining the same. Tonight: Home is where your heart is.  
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
★★★★ Keeping the conversation moving might cause an unexpected twist or turn. What is clear is that you alone can control yourself. Your reaction to another person might not be grounded. You might wonder who he or she reminds you of. Tonight: Hang out with your pals.  
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
★★★★ You have a lot to offer, yet you could cause yourself a problem when you try to manage a difficult situation involving key people and finances. It is clear that something has to give. You might be able to determine where to let go. Tonight: Pay bills, too.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



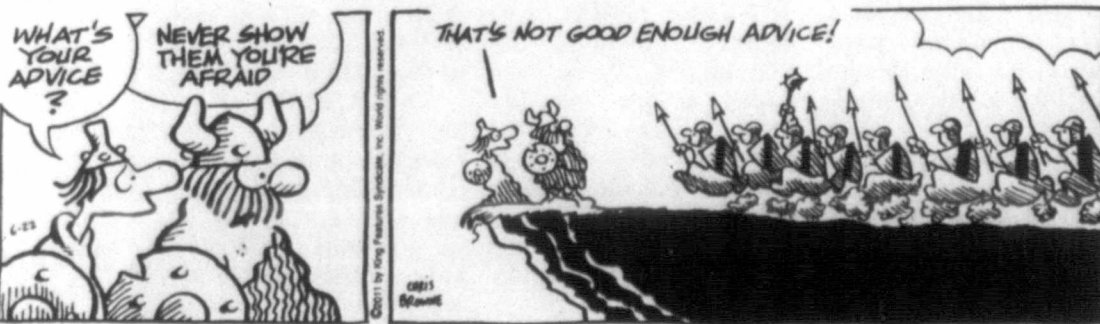
Beetle Bailey



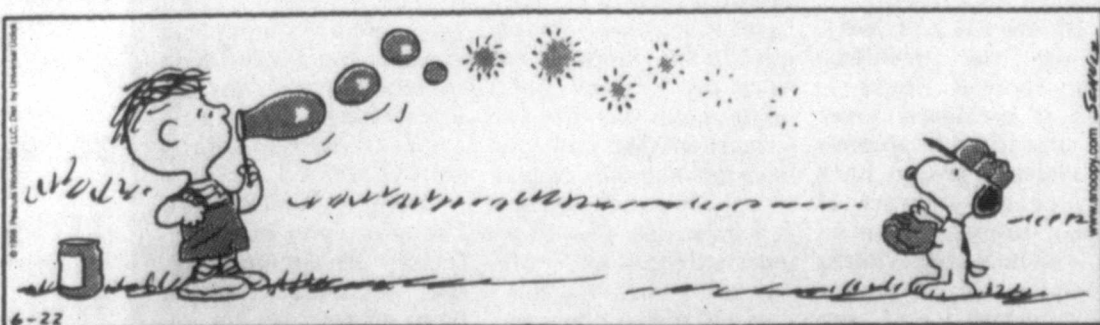
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# Sports

## Volleyball team prepares for 2011 in team camp

ANDREW GLOVER  
aglover@thepampanews.com

Volleyball two-a-day workouts may be five weeks away, but the Lady Harvesters are already preparing for the 2011 season. Pampa had a two-day camp with head coach Libby Garza's college coach Tony Graystone at McNeely Fieldhouse.

Senior Ramie Hutto said the camp helped pull the team together even more. "It showed our potential for next year," Hutto said. "It reminded us seniors that this is our last camp which means it's our last year to give it all."

Senior Alanna Stephens said the camp went well and learned a lot.

"We learned on new defense that has to do with swing blocking," Stephens said. "It made our defense strong and rely on the blockers."



Stephens

Hutto said the new defense helps them increase speed but maintain control.

"It made us more aggressive and have the same amount of control," Hutto said.

Senior Kirsten Kuhn said everyone stepped up during camp.

"Everyone pushed for balls," Kuhn said. Some of the junior varsity players from last year joined the varsity at the camp. Kuhn said it was fun getting to work with the younger players.

"We got to work Maddie (Fatheree) more," Kuhn said. "Madison Joyce and Dakota Watson also worked with us."

Hutto said the team continued where they left off last season.

"We built up from that," Hutto said. "We went from 9 to 12 and 1 to 4 and mostly worked on defense and out-of-system recovery."

Hutto said the out-of-system recovery will help if they don't make a perfect pass or serve.

"When the ball is not passed to the setter or is shanked, we recover from that and maintain the aggressive level just like if it was a perfect pass or set," Hutto said.

Senior Caitlin Sieck said it helps working with Graystone.

"He brings a lot of new stuff," Sieck said. "It's going to help speed up our game and reach our goal."

Senior Kailyn Troxell said she's ready to get this season going.

"I'm excited and ready to get this season going," Troxell said.

Kuhn said everyone is ready to get started.

"We want to reach our goal which is make state," Kuhn said.

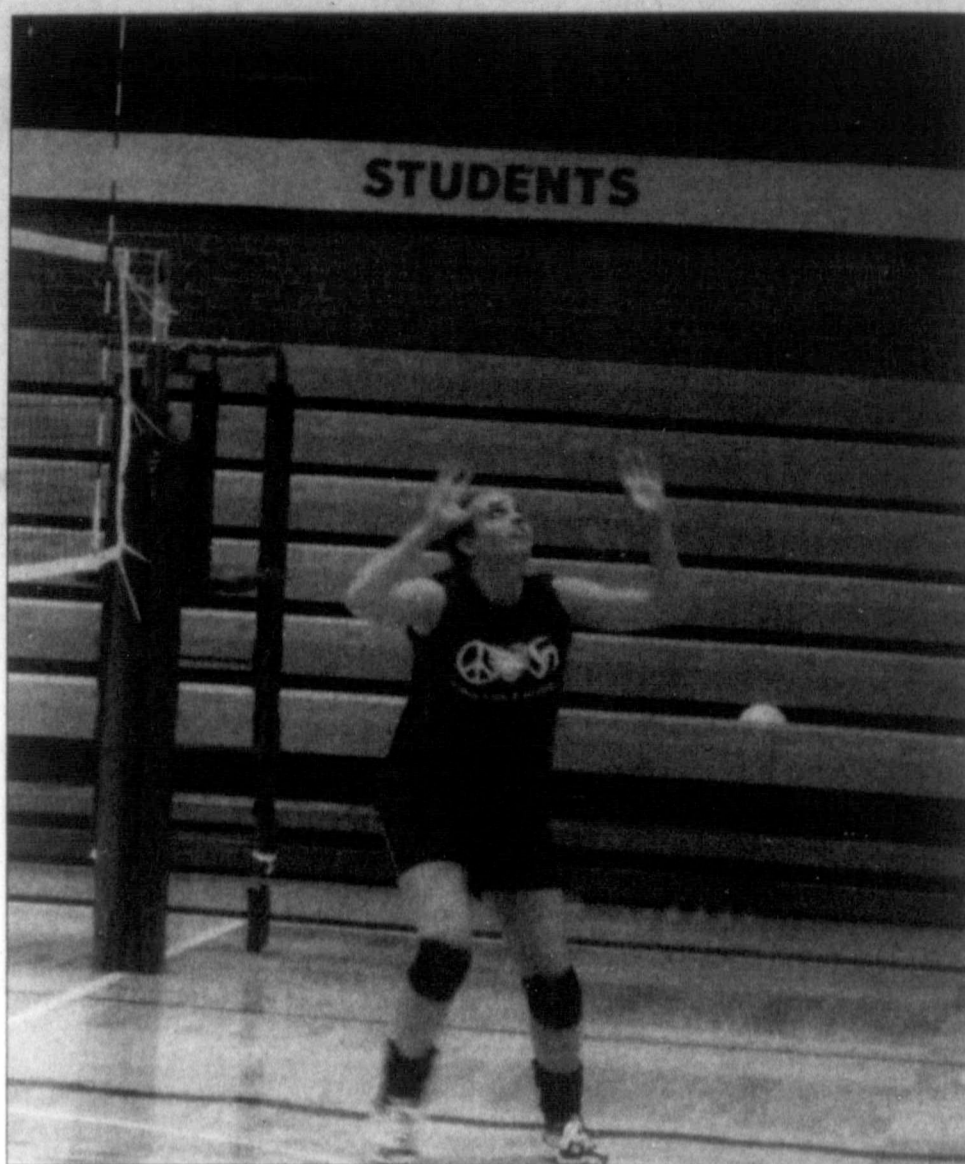
Last season, the Lady Harvesters went 27-14 reaching the regional quarterfinals. Pampa was ranked as high as tenth and finished the season 13.



Hutto



Kuhn



Senior Stephanie Allen sets a ball in a practice last season at McNeely Fieldhouse. The volleyball team had a two-day camp at McNeely Fieldhouse. Allen is one of eight seniors next season.

staff photo by Andrew Glover

### NFL LOCKOUT

## NFL owners, players to meet

ROSEMONT, Ill. (AP)

The next time NFL owners meet over labor, there is hope it will be to ratify a new collective bargaining agreement with the players.

Don't get carried away thinking a deal is imminent. Optimism is in the air, for sure. That doesn't mean the end of the lockout is at hand.

Owners were briefed Tuesday on discussions for a new CBA that would net the players just under 50 percent of total revenues. Next up: more talks with the players in the Boston area.

Several people with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press that Commissioner Roger Goodell and his labor committee will meet with players association chief DeMaurice Smith on Wednesday and Thursday. The owners spent five hours Tuesday getting updated on various CBA issues. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because the negotiations are supposed to be confidential.

"We're going to meet with them soon and we're eager to accelerate the pace of the negotiations," said Jeff Pash, the league's chief negotiator.

"We have a lot of work to do and we've got to do it right," Goodell added. "The agreement has to focus on several issues and the issues are complex. It must be done in a way that is fair to the players and a way that is fair to the clubs."

One person told the AP that the players' share would approach the 50 percent the NFLPA has said it has received throughout the last decade. But the expense credits — about \$1 billion last year — that the league takes off the top would disappear.

Also, there would no longer be "designated revenues" from which the players would share, the person said. Instead, the players would share from the entire pie, which they project will grow significantly over the course of the new CBA, which is

expected to run anywhere from six to 10 years. So if they are taking 48 percent or more of a much higher revenue stream — without the initial NFL deduction for operating expenses — the players still would receive far more money than they got under the previous agreement.

A salary floor keeping teams within 90 percent of the cap also would be included. The players have been concerned that some teams whose revenue streams don't match up with the richer clubs would try to hold down salary spending.

"It was a good day in the sense of we had a full discussion on the issues," Goodell said. "Ownership is united and determined to reach an agreement and have a full 2011 season. The ownership has a better understanding of the framework (of a new CBA)."

Several owners were expected to have objections to some of the proposals. Goodell was asked if there was a consensus among owners, to which he replied that "is a little deceiving because we don't have an agreement" with the players.

"The membership has a strong view of the priorities and what we need to do, and a determination to get there," Goodell said.

Both sides appear eager to find common ground for a new collective bargaining agreement rather than going back into court. A U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is considering the league's appeal of a lower-court injunction that originally blocked the lockout. That injunction is on hold, and a ruling could come anytime.

"This is the season to get a deal," Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay said. "I think the logic that you're pushing on both sides is saying why get a deal Oct. 1, or whenever, when you could have had July 7, or whatever."

The lockout began March 12. Training camps are scheduled to open in late July.

The person with knowledge of the negotiations said the players made economic

concessions over the last three weeks of "secret" talks on both revenue percentage and on future stadium credits; many NFL teams have heavy debt for stadium construction.

"The next financial model is going to look more like a division of percentage of total revenues," the person said. "That is the context being discussed. It is a simpler mechanism to understand. You take away the 60 percent of defined gross revenues, take away the upfront expense credits that keep growing and now will be gone, it becomes easier to deal with the economics on a macro level."



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