

THE PAMPA

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hursday, May 12, 2005







root feed trees! CELL 806-662-3141 PAMPA, TX



By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

Robert Dixon, Ward 3 Pampa city commissioner, has announced his intention of seeking a re-count of votes in his race in the May 7 general election.

Election results showed that Dixon received 1,300 votes while his opponent, Lana Miller, got 1,351 votes. Those two amounts total 2,651 votes, or 46 more than the 2,605 reported as the total number of ballots cast in the city elections.

Dixon presented a petition requesting a re-count to Mayor Lonny Robbins at about 10:30 a.m. yesterday, along with a cashier's check to pay for the re-count.

Volume 101 • No. 1259

The petition was rejected, however, because the amount of the cashier's check and the payee named on it were incorrect, Dixon said.

"I had gotten a cashier's check for \$50, made out to the City of Pampa," he said.

The check must be for \$350, made out to Robbins, he said.

"Included is the labor cost associated with the re-count," Dixon said.

Robbins confirmed in a telephone interview yesterday that payment for a re-count must be made out to the presiding officer of the canvassing authority.

The city commission is the canvassing authority for city elections, and Robbins, as mayor, is the presiding officer of the commission. "I'm not bothered by a re-count. I

want it to be right and I want it to be See DIXON, Page 3



50¢ Daily . Sunday \$1

Robert Dixon



purchase

Mesa Water announced Wednesday it has

executed water purchase contracts with 75

Texas Panhandle landowners covering about







These purchases mark a key element of its initiative to sell Ogallala Aquifer groundwater to downstate municipalities facing water shortages, according to a Mesa news release from Jay Rosser.

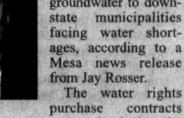
Allison's **Quality Quick Lube** 1807 Alcock • 688-0042 **Transmission Service** Free Pickup & Delivery Oil Change Hand Car Wash



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cover land in the

northeast corner of the Texas Panhandle in Roberts, Gray and Hemphill counties.

"We are pleased with this high level of response and support," said Boone Pickens, president of Mesa Water. "We have clearly demonstrated the value of area water rights and the viability of our initiative.'

About 90,000 acres are in Roberts and Gray counties with the remaining 10,000 in Hemphill County, according to the release. Owners of about 75,000 acres sold an undivided 50-percent interest in their water rights while owners of the remaining 25,000 sold a 100-percent interest.

"The demonstration of continued commit-

See WATER, Page 3

Campus beautification

Lefors Elementary fifth graders Story Pairsh and Amber Shephard plant flowers as part of a campus beautification program at Lefors School. The class is working in conjuction with community members on the project. Along with members of the community, the fifth graders at Lefors Elementary School have been involved in a campus beautification program. They have been busy planting and caring for flowers in front of the high school and elementary buildings. "This has been a great learning experience for the students who have enjoyed watching their work grow while improving their school and community," said fifth grade teacher Cal Holwick. Class members are Dustin Howard, Brenden Kimbley, Story Pairsh, Kaittlynne Porter, Taylor Ray, Seth Scully, Amber Shephard, Dennis Sprouse, and Meira Vaid.

'Ride to Freedom' poker run to benefit Tralee Crisis Center

By MARILYN POWERS Staff Writer

"Ride to Freedom," a poker run to benefit Tralee Crisis Center, will begin at

the Black Gold Restaurant, 1100 E. Frederic.

Motorcycles and autos are eligible to enter. The first Lanes, 1401 S. Hobart. vehicle starts at noon from

noon Saturday, May 14 at the Black Gold Restaurant, and the last vehicle starts at 2 p.m.

The run ends at Harvester Entry fee is \$10 per

motorcycle or auto. High hand will win a \$150 prize. Low hand will receive \$50. There will be a 50/50 drawing.

Tralee Crisis Center pro-

vides shelter and other assistance for victims of family violence and sexual assault. For more information on the poker run, call 665-8324.

DESTINY FLOOR IMPROVEMENTS ew Concept In Ceramic Tile 2143 HOBART • 806-665-4459 **CERAMIC TILE** CARPET LAMINATE FLOOR PEN SUNDAYS 9AM - 6PM



Pampa Partnership Golf Tournament May 14th & May 15th Sign Ups At Hidden Hills & Pampa Country Club

For More Information Call The Pampa Chamber Of Commerce At 669-3241

2 — Thursday, May 12, 2005 — The Pampa News

Obituaries

LaVada Hefner, 83

Charles Axel Nelson, II

dren.

grandchildren.

Phoenix, AZ 85014-5656.

Funeral Directors in Borger, Texas.

Francisco, Calif.; two stepsons, Dannie

Hefner of Killeen, Texas, and Joe Hefner of

Houston, Texas; one daughter, Donna

Coleman of Lambertville, N.J.; one step-

daughter, Susan Lees of Grand Saline,

Texas; two sisters, Juanita Oakley of

Michigan and Lenora Ryan of Wheeler,

Texas; one brother, Bill Earles of Littlefield,

Texas; five grandchildren; and three great-

Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower St.,

Mr. Nelson was a welder and a Baptist.

Dukes of Allison; a son, Charles Axel

Nelson, III of Allison; and three grandchil-

Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Survivors include a daughter, Charlene

The family requests memorials be to BSA

-Sign the on-line register book at

The family requests memorials be to

Arrangements are entrusted to Brown

PHOENIX, Ariz. — LaVada Hefner, 83, of Phoenix, formerly of White Deer, Lefors, Pampa and Fritch, died Monday, May 9, 2005, at Phoenix.

Graveside services are scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14, 2005, at Rowe Cemetery in Hedley, Texas, with the Rev. Gary Boles, pastor of First Methodist Church in Hedley, officiating.

Mrs. Hefner was born Nov. 27, 1921, at Eastland, Texas. She was a housewife and a Methodist.

Mrs. Hefner was preceded in death by a husband, Joe D. Hefner on Feb. 10, 1998.

Survivors include two sons, Gary Gaffney of San Mateo, Calif., and Jeff Gaffney of San

ALLISON — Charles Axel Nelson, II, 67, Cheyenne, Okla. He had been an Allison resof Allison, died Wednesday, May 11, 2005, ident for the past 29 years. at Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at the Cheyenne Cemetery in Cheyenne, Okla., with Rev. William Stiles, pastor of First Baptist Church of Allison, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Nelson was born July 7, 1937, at

Stocks

The following grain quotations are	Cabot Corp28.87	-0.01	Pioneer Nat 37.31 -0.86
ovided by Attebury Grain of	Cabot Oil Gas30.04	-0.35	JCP
ampa.	Coca Cola 44.33	+0.06	COP 103.53 -1.83
/heat	VLO	-2.16	SLB
ilo	HAL	-0.71	Tenneco
orn	TRI	+0.45	CVX
oybeans	KMI	-0.59	Wal-Mart
oyocuits	XCEL	-0.06	OKE
The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y.	Kerr McGee	-0.67	NS Grp
ock Market quotations are fur-	XOM	-0.76	
shed by Edward Jones & Co.	Limited	+0.18	
Pampa	Williams	-0.58	New York Gold
xy	MCD	+0.14	Silver
PPLC ADR 59.93 -0.64	Atmos	-0.03	West Texas Crude

Father accused of murdering daughter, friend denied bond

WAUKEGAN, Ill. (AP) — Laura Hobbs was supposed to be grounded for stealing about \$40 from her mom's purse but, authorities said, her mom gave in and let her go out to play.

That decision upset Laura's dad, released from prison just last month, who best friend, 9-year-old

went looking to bring his 8year-old daughter home, prosecutors said.

On Wednesday, a judge denied bail for Jerry Hobbs, 34, after prosecutors said he admitted in videotaped and written statements to beating and stabbing Laura and her

Krystal Tobias.

The girls were found dead Monday in a park in Zion. They had more than 30 stab wounds between them, and Laura was stabbed in each eye, prosecutors said.

"You can see through the injuries to these two individuals the rage that was prosecutor Jeff exhibited," Pavletic said. "This was a slaughter of two little girls.'

Services tomorrow-

AUSTIN, Floyd - Graveside services, 10 a.m., Shamrock Cemetery, Shamrock. HEFNER, LaVada — Graveside services, 2 p.m., Rowe Cemetery, Hedley. NELSON, Charles Axel, II - Graveside services, 10 a.m., Cheyenne Cemetery, Cheyenne, Okla.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests today. Wednesday, May 11

Fourteen traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were made at the intersection of 21st and Coffee streets and in the 1400 block of Charles.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Law enforcement assistance was rendered in the 300 block of South Price Road.

Emergency medical service assistance was rendered in the 300 block of Miami and the 600 block of Carr.

Prowlers were reported in the 300 block of Anne and the 700 block of North Russell.

Suspicious persons were reported at the intersection of Gwendolyn and Wells streets and the 600 block of East Frederic.

Suspicious vehicles were reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway and the 700 block of East 15th.

Warrant service was attempted on two occasions.

Two business alarms were reported. One hold up alarm was reported.

Civil matters were reported in the police department lobby and in the 400 block of West Kingsmill.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of North Banks. No injuries were reported.

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

Welfare checks were made in the 2800 block of Charles and the 500 block of Faulkner.

Theft was reported in the 2200 block of North Hobart and the 1000 block of Charles.

Identity theft was reported in the 300 block of East Brown.

Burglary was reported in the 500 block of Magnolia. Cash, an air conditioner and a lawn mower were taken, for an estimated loss of \$1,000.

Carrying a prohibited weapon was reported in the 2800 block of Charles. A knife or cutting tool was involved in the incident, which resulted in an arrest A narcotic drug law violation was report-

Ignacia Jennifer Rojas, 20, 521 Montague #3, was arrested in the 500 block of Montague for failure to control speed, unrestrained child under 4 years of age, public intoxication, three counts of failure to appear, and two counts of no valid driver's license.

Sheriff

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

Wednesday, May 11

Jeffery Mayfield, 50, 941 Sierra, was arrested on a motion to modify probation without a hearing.

Tammie Mae Young, 42, 1404 E. Browning, was arrested on a bench warrant.

Dejuan Anthony Jordon, 29, Indiana, was arrested on a warrant for probation violation on a charge of possession of over 2,000 pounds of marijuana.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, May 11

8:26 a.m. - One unit and three firefighters responded to the intersection of Gray and Harlem streets where a light pole had fallen. Xcel Energy officials were present and addressing the problem when the unit arrived at the location. The call was canceled at the scene.

9:41 a.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to the 100 block of West Kingsmill on a car fire. The fire was out upon arrival.

10:51 a.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded 1/2-mile west on County Road 6 and Gray H on a report of a gas odor. Hoover Volunteer Fire Department was also called out. The odor was caused by an oil field worker pumping gas off a well during routine maintenance.

was arrested in the 1200 block of Christine for criminal trespass. Thursday, May 12

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

WONDERLAND \$12 sat. May 14, in front of Wal-Mart, Pampa.

ALLERGIES, ASTHMA? Rotobrush air duct cleaning can help. Call Rug Rats at 665-1976 today. Free est.

COCA-COLA & the Meredith House- The Real Things!! The Residents & Staff of the Meredith House invite you to join us in honoring Coca-Cola for 120 years of service and contribution to our community on Sat. May 14, 1p-4p at 812 W. 25th Ave Pampa, Tx. Free Coke products, Hot dogs & Fun!

FISHING DILLS Catfish Handstamp tickets, on sale Ranch, open Saturdays, 12-7 p.m., 4 mi. west of Lefors, on Hwy. 2375, south on Rd. 12 1/2.665-7500.

> GRAND OPENING Sat. May 14, 9a-4p, free hot dogs & burgers 11a-1p, Prestige Autobody & Accessories, 101 S. Hobart, 665-3500

> MARIGOLDS \$4.99 flat, Impatiens \$5.99 flat. Pollies Greenhouse, 529 N. Hobart.

REDNECK LAWNMOW-ER Races, Sat. 2 p.m.

In Celebration of National Hospital Week

When Hobbs found the girls, Laura refused to go home, and he beat and stabbed the girls with a small kitchen knife, prosecutors said. Hobbs then allegedly dragged them into the woods and left them side-by-side.

Hobbs told investigators that Krystal pulled the knife to defend her friend, and he wrested it away. But prosecutors said they doubt the little girl was carrying a blade.

Hobbs stared at the courtroom floor as Pavletic described the case against him. Public Defender David Brodsky said he had not seen details of the case and could not comment yet, but would assign two capital defenders to represent Hobbs.

ed in the police department lobby. Criminal trespass was reported in the 2800 block of Rosewood and the 1200 block of Christine, which resulted in an arrest.

Assault was reported in the 1000 block of Prairie Drive.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of West Kingsmill. Windows were broken with a BB gun, resulting in an estimated \$2,000 damage.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1500 block of Williston. A window was shot out with a BB gun. Estimated amount of damage is unknown.

Schuyler Danner, 21, 300 Sunset, was arrested in the 2800 block of Charles for theft.

Luis Geraldo Acosta, 45, 939 Brunow,

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, May 11

10 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transferred a patient(s) to Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo.

3:55 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1400 block of Hobart. No transport.

8:20 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

Thursday, May 12

3:56 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

Gray County Weather

This Afternoon: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms, possibly severe, after 1 p.m.

Partly cloudy, with a high near 83. South wind around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent. Tonight: A chance of

showers and thunderstorms,

possibly severe, before midnight, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after midnight.

Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Friday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thun-

derstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 77. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low near 51. East northeast wind between 10 and 20 mph.

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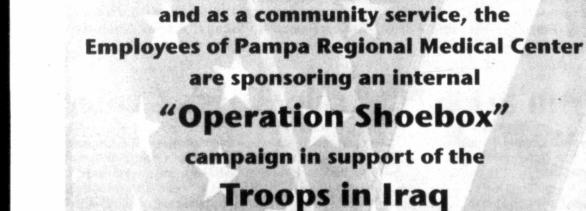
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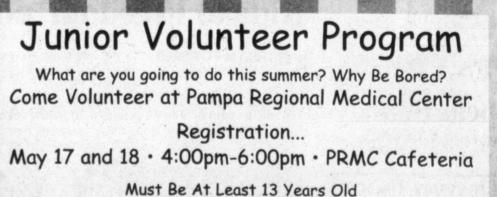
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In conjunction with this program, the hospital will be hosting a candlelight vigil at the front entrance of the hospital Thursday, May 12 at 9:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend the vigil



Parent or Guardian must be with you when you pick up your application

Questions? Call 663-5577

PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL

CENTER

Troubled Houston crime laboratory gets accreditation

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Police Department's troubled crime lab - with the exception of its DNA section - received national accreditation this week.

Directors in biology except for its capacity," said Irma Rios, the DNA, toxicology, controlled substances, firearms and document examination.

"Without question, we still have The lab was accredited by the a lot of work to do in terms of get-American Society of Crime Lab ting this lab back up and running to trust in the work we do."

crime lab's director. "There is no doubt this national accreditation seal of approval means a lot to the people who have been working tirelessly to regain the public's

Public confidence in the lab has lab's employees, insufficient docubeen eroded since myriad problems with its work surfaced.

The DNA section was shut down found serious deficiencies. The audit cited a lack of training of the

'E'VE GOT YOUR NEW

mentation and possible contamination of DNA samples.

Two prison inmates have been in 2002 when an outside audit released because their convictions were tainted by faulty crime-lab analyses.

1111

^{\$1099}

KING SET

QUEEN SET

\$749

FULL SET

\$699

TWIN-SET

Dixon

Continued from Page 1

honest. I want to give the city what they want and give the voters what they voted for. There is a discrepancy (in the voting totals)," said Miller yesterday in a telephone interview.

She said Robbins had called her yesterday morning to tell her about Dixon's intention to seek a re-count.

"I got to thinking about your phone call (a Tuesday interview), and the discrepancy in the official vote total and those cast in the Ward 3 race. I just thought that was unusual, something I needed to find out about," Dixon said concerning why he decided to seek a re-count.

Dixon had said in the Tuesday interview that he was not at that time seeking a re-count.

He has another 48 hours from mid-morning Wednesday to submit the petition with correct payment for the re-count, according to Texas

Robbins said. The date of any recount must be "not later than the seventh day after the petition requesting the re-count is approved," said City Secretary Phyllis Jeffers. "We're just in the

Election Code rules,

beginning stages of this," Robbins said Wednesday. If Dixon submits a cor-

rect petition with correct payment, votes cast for Ward 3 candidates will be re-counted.

"We will only count Ward 3. This will not affect canvassing of the mayoral and Ward 1 commissioner votes. We will go ahead and swear them in," Robbins said.

The canvassing has been scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday, May 15 in City Hall. Robbins and Brad Pingel, winners in the mayoral and Ward 1 races respectively, will be sworn in following approval of the election results for those two races, Robbins said.

Ward 3 votes will also be canvassed Sunday if Dixon does not submit a petition with correct payment.



SWEDISH

MATTRESS

PRESSURE RELIEVING

WEDISH MATTRESSES AND PILLOWS

"CHANGING THE WAY THE WORLD SLEEPS"

Water

Continued from Page 1

ment by the landowners retaining a 50-percent joint ownership interest with us is very supportive of our marketing efforts," Pickens said in the

rights when needed for a

ment for a downstate, project would likely be about 100,000 acres, he said.

directions, except west from our existing owner-

municipal project downstate," Pickens said. The additional require-

"We can expand in all

release. "We welcome them as partners."

Officials said the company has authorized its engineers and hydrologist to begin evaluating various well field configurations, another critical step in the process of marketing the water elsewhere in Texas.

Mesa Water will now own or control water rights under about 200,000 surface acres.

"Because we own so much water already, and the area is blessed with an extensive surplus of water rights owned by nonfarming landowners, we will have no problem acquiring additional water strate that to be the case."

r-

ship base," Pickens said. "With Amarillo already

having about a 300-year supply and Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) currently purchasing more water to cover primarily the demands of Lubbock, the principal municipal needs of the Northern Panhandle area are covered hundreds of years into the future," he said, adding, "We have encouraged CRMWA to purchase water and have emphasized to them that there is plenty of water in the area to meet all needs. These recent purchases by both of us clearly demon-

PRMC employees plan vigil for troops

In celebration of National Hospital Week and as a community service, employees of Pampa Regional Medical Center are sponsoring an internal "Operation Shoebox" campaign in support of the troops in Iraq.

In conjunction with this program, the employees also plan to host a candlelight vigil at the front entrance of the hospital at 9 p.m., tonight, Thursday, May 12. The public is invited to attend the vigil.

PFAA Photography Show opens Sunday at local shop

Photography of all types will be displayed at the Pampa Fine Arts Association's Photography Show beginning Sunday, May 15, and continuing to June 15 at the Pampa Custom Framing Shop, 107 N. Cuyler.

A reception will be held Sunday, May 15, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The show is open to anyone interested in photography. Those entering pictures should bring them to the Pampa Custom Framing from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. this Saturday, May 14.

Pictures should be framed or matted and include a title card with photographer's name and price, if item is for sale. For additional information, contact Larry Love at 665-0514 or the PFA office at 665-0343.



\$499

TWIN SET

QUEEN SET

\$899

KING SET

\$549

FULL SET

LA-Z-BOY AND LANE RECLINERS TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE



4 — Thursday, May 12, 2005 — The Pampa News

Viewpoints

Panhandle weather strikes with speed

to South Carolina to begin my college education. While living and working on the east coast, I not only had created this much damreceived a college education, age to the national forest and b e g i n but also an education in hurricane seasons.

Hurricane Hugo had crashed into the South Carolina coast the year before I arrived but the devastating effects it had on the environment were still clearly visible. Driving through a national forest on my way to campus, you couldn't help The good news about hurri-

Fifteen years ago, I moved but notice all of the trees canes is that the weather stabent halfway over and all in the same direction. The high winds from the hurricane I was still 45 minutes from the coast.

Over the next four years while working and attending school, there would be period of about three to four months during which we would have to pay close attention to the weather for fear of another hurricane.

tions give you plenty of warning. As a storm develops over the ocean, weather stations

Sean updates with the Smith current Publisher location of the storm,

strength of

the storm, and they can even predict the path of the storm days ahead of time. All of these things allow residents time to pre-

pare or evacuate if necessary. Before I moved to Pampa,

people would tell me how

flat the Panhandle is and how the wind would blow all of the time. While both of these

are true, I did not get the message about the tornado season. My first Saturday in town I heard the sirens going

off and I didn't know what was going on. The young lady at the front desk of the hotel was kind enough to explain that they were tornado warning sirens and they tested them every Saturday at noon.

I experienced my first severe weather warning this week with high winds, rain, and what sounded like small hail.

There were no tornados on this night but I did find myself paying much closer attention to the weather stations than I have in many vears. I had several people ask me the next day about the bad weather and if it was like anything I was used to. The difference in the weather here is the speed at which the storms develop and things change so dramatically so fast.

Fortunately I did not have to experience any hurricanes while in South Carolina and now I'm hoping we won't hear too many tornado sirens either.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 12, the 132nd day of 2005. There are 233 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 12, 1943, during World War II, Axis forces in North Africa surrendered.

On this date:

In 1870, Manitoba entered Confederation as a Canadian province.

In 1932, the body of the kidnapped son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh was found in a wooded area of Hopewell, N.J.

In 1933, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration were established to provide help for the needy and farmers.

In 1937, Britain's King George VI was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

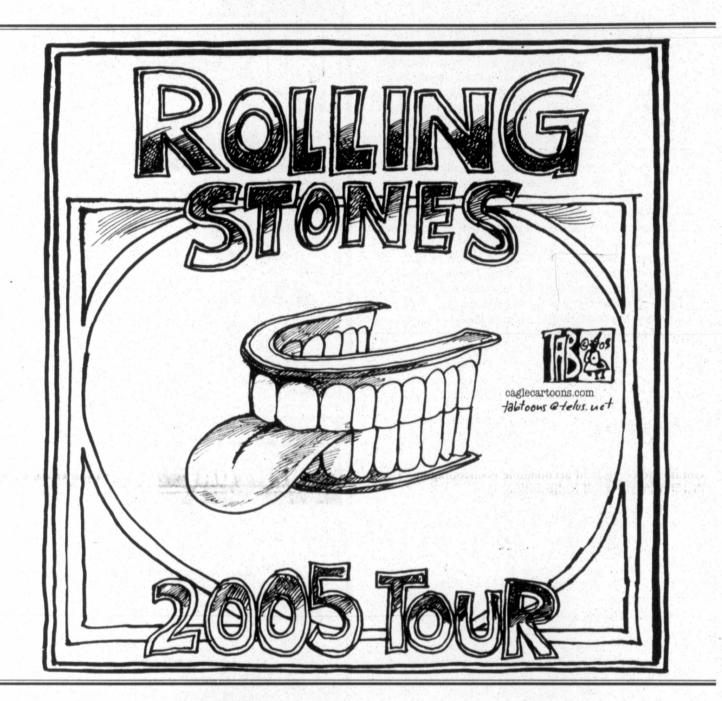
In 1949, the Soviet Union announced an end to the Berlin Blockade.

In 1965, West Germany and Israel exchanged letters establishing diplomatic relations.

In 1970, the Senate voted unanimously to confirm Harry A. Blackmun as a Supreme Court justice.

In 1975, the White House announced the new Cambodian government had seized an American merchant ship, the "Mayaguez," in international waters.

> In 1985, Illinois Gov. James Thompson commuted the sentence of Gary Dotson, who'd served six years in prison for a rape



at home makes for misery."

world, another

'One face to the

Amy Vanderbilt American etiquette expert

that the alleged victim later said never happened. In 1985, Amy Eilberg was ordained in New York as the first female rabbi in

the Conservative Jewish movement. Ten years ago: President Clinton, during a stopover in Ukraine, visited Babi Yar,

the site where more than 30,000 Kiev Jews were massacred by the Nazis in 1941.

Five years ago: During visits to Ohio and Minnesota, President Clinton called for open trade with China, saying it would help the communist nation move closer to democracy. Adam Petty, 19, the fourth-generation driver of NASCAR's most famous family, died in a crash during practice for the Busch 200 at New Hampshire International Speedway.

One year ago: Members of Congress expressed outrage after they were privately shown fresh pictures and videos of Iraqi prisoners being abused by U.S. troops. NBC completed a merger with the Universal television and entertainment businesses to create a major media conglomerate.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall-of-Famer Yogi Berra is 80. Critic John Simon is 80. Composer Burt Bacharach is 77. Talk show host Tom Snyder is 69. Comedian George Carlin is 68. Actress Millie Perkins is 67. R&B singer Jayotis Washington is 64. Country singer Billy Swan is 63.



403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

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It's not difficult to not be poor

Ministers Louis Farrakhan, Jesse Jackson, Al Washington, Sharpton, D.C.'s Mayor Anthony Williams and others recently met to discuss plans to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the October 1995 Million Man March.

Whilst reading about the plans, I thought of an excellent topic for the event: How not to be poor.

Avoiding long-term poverty is not rocket science. First, graduate from high school. Second, get married before you have children, and stay married. Third, work at any kind of

job, even one that starts out rently \$5.15. A man and his graduate

from high school Walter today with a Williams B or C average, in most Columnist places in our country

there's low-cost or financially assisted post-high-school education program available to increase your skills.

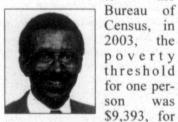
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Most jobs start with wages higher than the minimum wage, which is cur-

paying the minimum wage. wife, even earning the mini-And, finally, avoid engaging mum wage, would earn in criminal behavior. If you \$21,000 annually. According

the

was



a two-person household it was \$12,015, and for a family of four it was \$18,810. Taking a minimum-wage job is no great shakes, but it produces an income higher than the Bureau of Census'

Reservists who had expected

unaware there even was a

prison

guards

tar fire, with

no training

and almost

no supervi-

sion.

poverty threshold. Plus, having a job in the first place increases one's prospects for a better job.

The Children's Defense Fund and civil rights organizations frequently whine about the number of black children living in poverty. In 1999, the Bureau of the Census reported that 33.1 percent of black children lived in poverty compared with 13.5 percent of white children. It turns out that race per se has little to do with the difference. Instead, it's welfare and single par-

See POOR, Page 5

Abu Ghraib: Not our finest hour

England and others was necessary, but questions linger.

Perhaps it is as simple as what Winston Churchill said as long ago as 1946: "War was once glorious and squalid. Now it is just squalid." The unfolding case against Army Reserve Pfc. Lynndie England, who became something of a poster girl for purposeful humiliation at Iraqs notorious Abu Ghraib prison, could be the occasion for a certain amount of soulsearching among American policy-makers.

But the questions raised by those photographs those

Prosecution of Lynndie of England, grinning with a than of official policy. cigarette dangling from her mouth, pointing at a naked to drive trucks or push paper, prisoners genitals, or holding a naked, hooded prisoner Geneva Convention, were by a leash seem almost inno- expected to function as cent com-

darker than

mere poli-

cy consid-

erations.

pared to some of the Texas Thoughts under morothers are deeper and

With some evidence that interrogators with experience in Afghanistan encouraged MPs to "soften up" prisoners, you can almost understand how things got out of control. But what

prompted apparently ordinary Americans to become virtually obsessed with sexually oriented humiliation of prisoners? Why would they take so many photos to document their degrading and disgusting acts? What kind of things are apparently ordinary human beings capable of?

If it was peer pressure, as England told a military court, what does it say about American culture that peer pressure could lead to this?

Lest we dismiss Abu Ghraib as the work of untrained and unsophisticat-

See ABUSE, Page 5

Odessa American

The official reports on Abu Ghraib stress that the prisoner humiliation in the photos was largely an isolated phenomenon, more the result of a lack of leadership

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Continued from Page 4

enthood. When black children are compared to white children living in identical circumstances, mainly in a two-parent household, both children will have the same probability of being poor.

How much does racial discrimination explain?

So far as black poverty is concerned, I'd say little or nothing, which is not to say that

every vestige of racial discrimination has been eliminated.

But let's pose a few questions.

Is it racial discrimination that stops black students from studying and completing high school?

Is it racial discrimination that's responsible for the 68 percent illegitimacy rate among blacks?

The 1999 Bureau of Census report might raise another racial discrimination question. Among black households that included a married couple, over 50 percent were middle class earning above \$50,000, and 26 percent earned more than \$75,000.

How in the world did these black families manage not to be poor? Did America's racists cut them some slack?

The civil rights struggle is over, and it has been won. At one time, black Americans did not have the same constitutional protections as whites. Now, we do, because the civil rights struggle is over and won which is not the same as saying that there are not major problems for a large segment of the black community. What it does say is that they're not civil rights problems, and to act as if they are leads to a serious misallocation of resources.

Rotten education is a severe handicap to upward mobility, but is it a civil rights problem?

Let's look at it. Washington, D.C. public schools, as well as many other big city schools, are little more than educational cesspools. Per student spending in Washington, D.C., is just about the highest in the nation. D.C.'s mayors have been black, and so have a large percentage of the city council, school principals, teachers and superintendents. Suggesting that racial discrimination plays any part in Washington, D.C.'s educational calamity is near madness and diverts attention away from possible solutions.

Bill Cosby had the courage to speak out against individual irresponsibility. Surely those who profess to have the best interests of blacks at heart should be able to summon the courage to do so as well.

Walter Williams, Ph.D., is a John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

"Planting Season Hours"

Abuse

was serious on

several levels.

Continued from Page 4

ed troops, remember that the classic experiment on prisoner-guard behavior had to be suspended after six days when Stanford students selected for psychological stability certified members of Americas intellectual elite proved all too willing to engage in sadistic brutality.

That Iraqi and other terrorists torture and behead captives is unspeakable, but not relevant here. These are Americans, whose leaders say they are contending on behalf of civilized values against barbarism. Do those who bring up beheadings

think they justify Americans engaging in purposeful humiliation? We hope not.

The abuse at Abu Ghraib, despite some attempts to dismiss it as akin to fraternity pranks, The abuse at Abu Ghraib, despite some attempts to dismiss it as akin to fraternity pranks, The abuse at Abu Ghraib, despite some attempts to dismiss it as akin to fraternity pranks,

discipline could be so loose and U.S. soldiers could do such things.

Second, however, whether it was logical or not, the rev-

elation of those abuses probably did more to discredit U.S. policy in Iraq among more people on a deep emotional level than all the anti-war activities at home and abroad and even the failure to find weapons of mass destruction. For most people, for better or worse, images, especially squalid images, are more powerful than words or logic.

The continuing prosecution of England and other Abu Ghraib guards should also raise questions about policy and responsibility at higher levels of government. Are these enlisted personnel scapegoats? Should more be made of the fact that government lawyers, well before Abu Ghraib, busied themselves with memos and legal opinions that crept right to the edge of justifying torture?

We'll leave such questions for another day. Today we are simply sad.

The fact that those most directly responsible for Abu Ghraib are being held accountable is encouraging. The fact that it occurred at all is dispiriting.

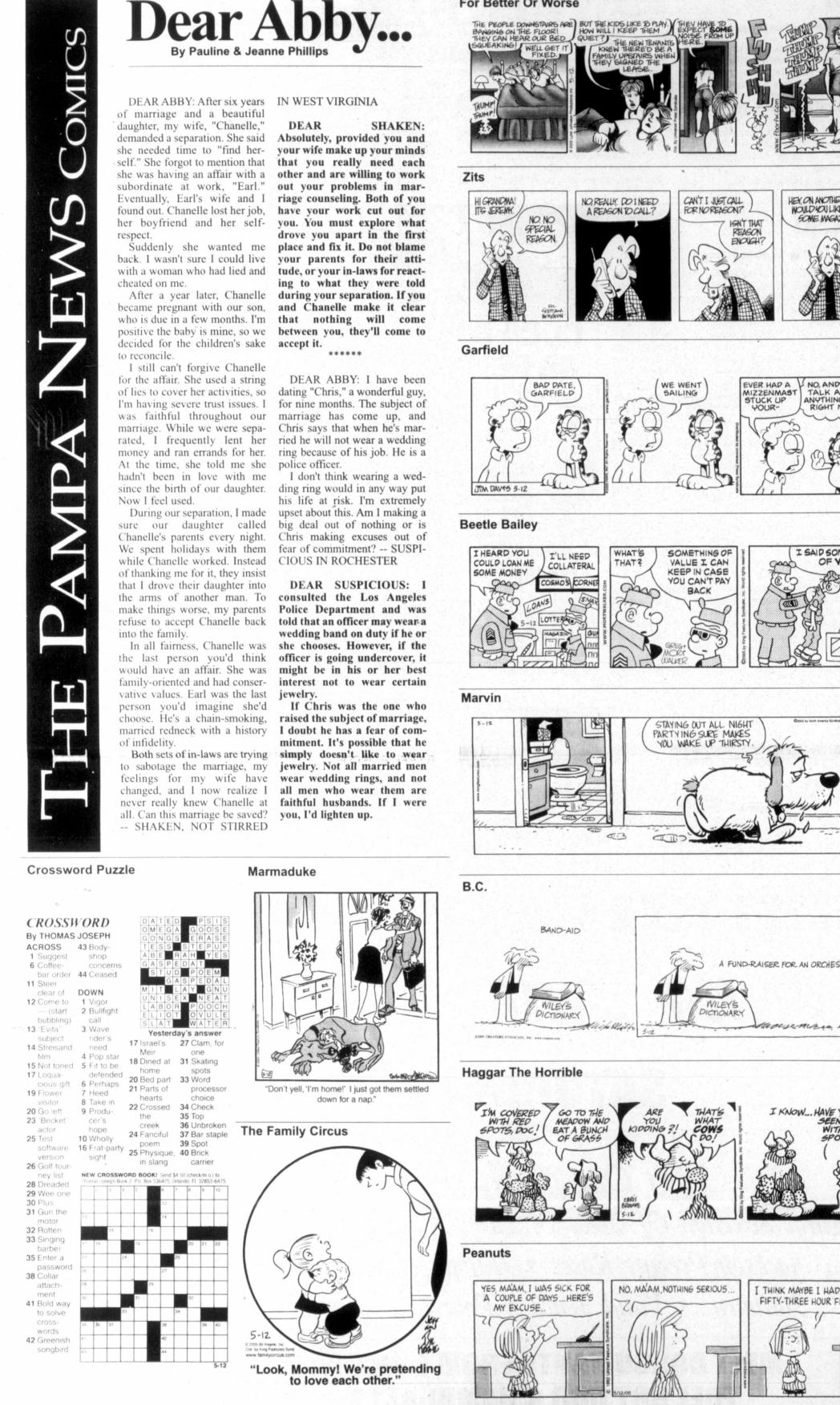


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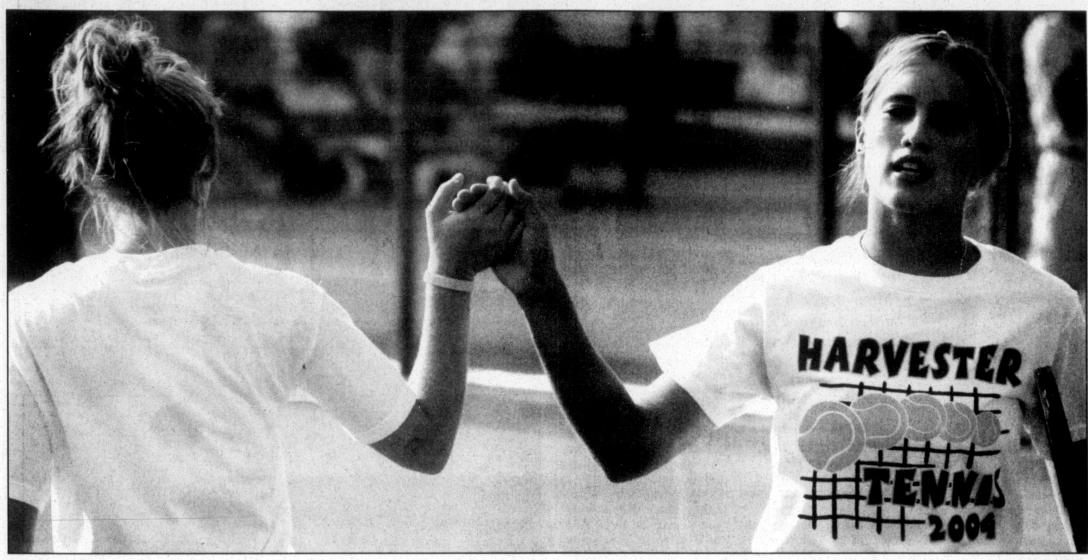
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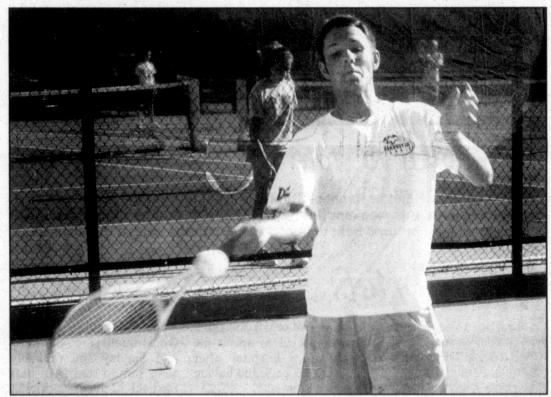
Sports Day



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

Outstanding Girl Player congratulates her double's partner, Tanna Stowers, on a point during a match against Randal this past fall. Lucus has a career win total of 102 with a season record of 44-28. Stowers received the Sportsmanship award last night with a season record of 39-41.

Tennis wraps-up season with banquet



Coaches name Crow, Lucus outstanding boy, girl players

By BEN BRISCOE **News Intern**

The tennis banquet at Knights of Columbus yesterday offically ended the reserved for a player who 2004-2005 fall and spring beats a AAAAA school went seasons with the team sitting as a Regional Quarter-finalist.

record of 44-28. Lucas also became a member of the "100 club," having over 100

> career wins. The out of the jar award,

Bragging Points

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team	wa	S S	

Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

Outstanding boy player, Senior Mitchell Crow returns a serve in a match earlier this fall. Crow has a career record of 107 wins and a season record of 46-28. He also placed forth at the Regional Tournament with his double's partner. Michael Foreman.

Forth Worth diving coach pleads guilty to indecency with student

Olympics diving judge accused of molesting boys over five decades pleaded guilty Wednesday to exposing himself to a child.

Wirt M. Norris, 77, was sentenced to 10 years' deferred adjudication, which means the charge will be cleared from his record if

he completes the terms of = probation. Norris, who previously denied the accusations, must also register as a sex offender and pay a \$5,000 fine.

As part of the plea agreement, prosecutors dropped a charge of indecency by fondling. Norris' trial was to start Monday, and if convicted, he faced a maximum 30-year sentence on both charges that stemmed from a 1995 incident with Will Hallman, then 12.

As part of the deal, Hallman's family dropped a civil lawsuit against Norris, a former diving coach and a Fort Worth real estate agent.

The family is pleased that Hallman, now 22, will not=

have to testify, said Bill Kirkman, the family's attorney. Hallman, who did not want his identity shielded, is being treated for drug and alcohol addiction at an out-of-state center and was not in court Wednesday.

Norris, walking slowly with a cane, declined to comment outside the courtroom. "The man admitted his guilt. That's

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - A 1976 what's important," Kirkman said. "I just hope that in Mr. Norris' twilight of his years, he reflects on what he has done, the anguish he has caused so many people and ... he just thinks about seeking some kind of help.'

> After the Hallmans reported the crime in 2002, nearly two dozen other

> > alleged victims came for-

ward. But most of the cases

limitations, which means

charges must be filed no later

than 10 years after an accuser

turns 18, said prosecutor Alan

"This is the tragic result of a

years, some of them, and no

The only other case that did

not exceed the statute of limi-

tations, allegations by a man in

The man had exceeded the statute of admitted his guilt.

That's what's important. I just hope that in the

twilight of his case that went on for 30, 35, 40 years, he reflects on what he has done, one ever reported it," Levy the anguish he has said.

caused so many people.'

> his 20s who said Norris tried to -Bill Kirkman molest him in 1987, resulted in Student's lawyer another indictment for Norris

=last year. That case also was dropped as part of Wednesday's plea agree-

Levy.

ment. Richard Chowning, who said he was molested by Norris in the 1950s, said Norris should have been sentenced to prison. But Chowning said he was pleased the ordeal was finally over for Hallman and the other victims.

Outstanding boy player went to Mitchell Crow who has a career win record of 107 wins and a season record of 46-28. Crow also received the Leadership award, the "100 club" award and the "Harvester Up" Award.

The Outstanding girl player was Ashlee Lucas with a career win record of 102 wins and a season

Pampa

Assembly

that

Spearman were the 2004-

2005 Out Male and

Tyler

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morning

Doughty

Female Athletes.

to Tanna Stowers, with a 39-41 record. Stowers also received the Sportsmanship award with Adam Gonzales who had a 20-41 record.

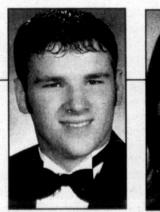
The Play Hard Award went to Nick Robbins, 38-19, and Megan Clark, 39-35. The Attitude award was shared by Maegan Patterson, 14-24, Natalie Knowles, 15-22, and Jareth Fortenberry, 20-36.

Michael Forman, 46-28, shared both the "Harvester Up" award with Crow and regional quarter finalist with 411 total wins this season.

the team award with Lacie Long, 21-28, and Sammie Pereira, 19-12.

Most improved boy went to Tyler Morris, 3-30.

Most improve Girl was Haley Acker, 31-37.





Tyler Doughty

PHS Presents top male, female athletes, winners of sports related scholarships

arships were award to stu-School District Athletic dent athletes.

McNeely Endowment Scholarship worth \$1,000.

Oklahoma State University presented a \$7, 200 baseball scholarship to Seth Foster.

Dusty Lenderman In addition to these two received a baseball scholawards four sports scholarship for books and

tuition from Dodge City Community College.

Frank Phillips awarded Trnidee Talley a rodeo scholarship of \$2,400 per year.

The US Marines Corps also presented the Distinguished Athlete Award to Cam Seager.

The US Army reconginzed Lindsey Ammons and East.

Basketball Booster Club to meet tonight

The Pampa High School Basketball booster club will meet Thursday night at 7p.m. in the high school library.

All parents of high school players are encouraged to attend.

Independent

Brittin East received the Director, Dick Dunham, announced at the Pampa Clifton High School Awards yesterday

Optimist Club

Glo-Valve winner in Cal Ripken League action

By JOHN W. WARNER For the News

Glo-Valve Service continues to live on the edge with a hard-fought 5-3 victory over Celanese Corporation in a make-up game Wednesday to remain in first place in the Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken League.

The winners improved their season record to 6-0. They have won two games by three runs, two games by two runs and one game by one run.

Glo-Valve exploded for three runs in the first inning on singles by Tyler Malone, Reid Miller, Micheal Fisher and Zach Graves sandwiched around Brennan Dickinson and Evan Meschke getting on base after being hit by a pitch. Miller had one RBI in the inning while Fisher had two.

A third inning walk to Celanese's Christian Williams, a double by Cole

Green and an RBI fielder's choice hit by Zach Ruth narrowed the score to 3-2.

An inside-the-park home run by Malone in the fourth, his second of the season, increased Glo-Valve's lead to 4-2. Celanese made in 4-3 in the bottom of the fourth when Jason Martinez walked and came around to score on two wild pitches and a passed ball.

Glo-Valve's Fisher slammed a pitch which hit a car beyond the left field fence and bounded back into the park for a home run in the fifth inning to provide the final margin.

Green pitched a complete game for Celanese. He permitted five runs on seven hits. He walked one, hit two batters and struck out six.

Glo-Valve played musical pitchers switching Malone and Miller back and forth between pitcher and shortstop. Malone pitched the first two innings.

Miller pitched the third, the first out in the fourth and all of the fifth. Malone came back to pitch the last two outs in the fourth and struck out the side in the sixth.

Malone gave up no hits or runs. He struck out eight while walk-

ing four and was credited 'Fisher was with the win. Miller was touched for two earned runs Glo-Valve's leading on two hits. He walked hitter with a home three, hit a batter and struck out four. run, a single, a run Celanese's catcher, Jason scored and three Martinez, threw out a runner trying to steal second. Glo-Valve's catcher, Fisher, returned the favor by throwing out a runner trying to steal third. The defensive player of the game was Celanese's Gavin Jimenez,

RBI. Close behind was Malone with two hits, including a home run, two runs scored and one RBI.

who caught two fly balls deep in center field. Fisher was Glo-Valve's

leading hitter with a home Engle, a Texas League single by Brent run, a single, a run scored and three RBI. Close behind was Malone with two hits.

> including a home run, two runs scored and one RBI. Graves also had two hits for Glo-Valve. Miller had a run, a hit and one RBI. Celanese was held to just two hits, a dou-

> ble by Engle and an RBI single by Green.

In Tuesday's action Garrett Ericson pitched two scoreless innings to be the winning pitcher and Hudson Bentley gave up only three runs in two innings as Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency ran away from Rotary Club 12-3 in a game called in the fifth inning because of rain.

DFB's catcher, Doug Smith, hammered a home run to left field to highlight his team's offensive efforts.

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

Texas League at a glance

Texas League First Half By The Associated Press East Division

Corpus Christi (Astros) 13 20.394 9 Frisco (Rangers) 10 23 .303 12

Arkansas 5, Corpus Christi 1

San Antonio 4, Springfield 1

Corpus Christi at Midland

Wednesday's Games

Wichita 6, Frisco 3 Midland 9, Tulsa 3

Thursday's Games

No games scheduled

San Antonio at Frisco

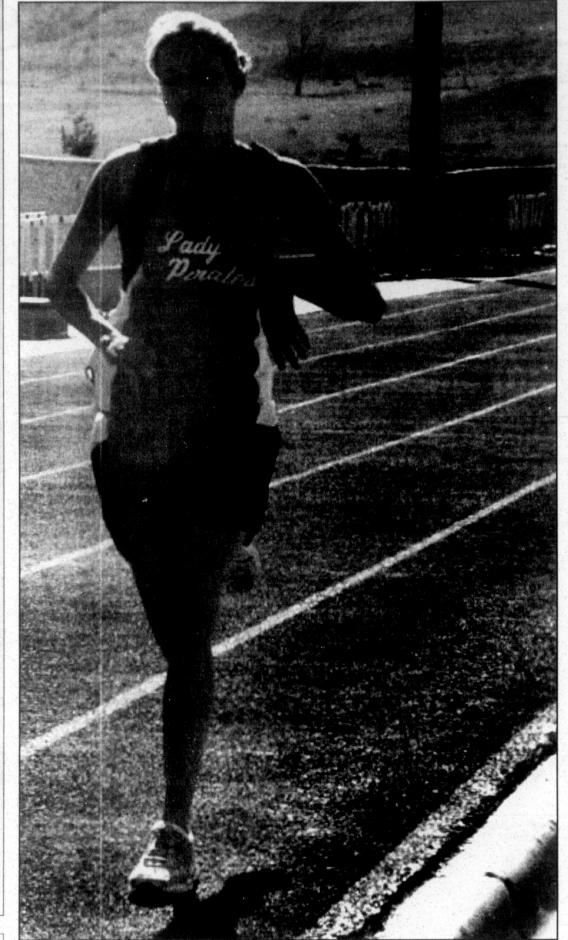
Wichita at Springfield

Friday's Games

Tulsa at Arkansas

All the way to state

Lefors Lady Pirate, junior Rachael Stubbs, will compete at the state track tournament in Austin this weekend in the 2-mile event. Stubbs placed second at regionals with a personal best time of 11:50.8. Stubbs is also the alternate in the mile.



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	San Antonio (Mariners)				18	
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, difficult financial decision. Talk about May 13, 2005:

You find that communication is key to vour success this year. You cannot skip around problems or ignore people and situations. You might try, but this behavior will ultimately backfire. Realize the power of the spoken word. Often, you could find yourself depressed because you try to ignore uncomfortable situations or feelings. Open up and discuss your feelings. Your ability to get the job done, whether you are a housewife or retiree, comes out. You enjoy routine more than ever. If you are single, new people will drop into your life during the fall. In the period that follows, you are fikely to meet someone significant to your life's history. If you are attached, share and talk more deeply. You will see the results faster than you think. CANCER can be hard on you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Make an effort to settle a difficult situation. Someone might be too uptight to talk about a decision. Help him or her loosen up. Think in terms of growth and new possibilities. You might gain a unique perspective. Tonight: Let someone close lead. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Put your best foot forward and don't let anyone intimidate you or cause a problem. Conversations could be sticky or difficult. Understand your limits. You can only loosen up a situation so much. Tonight: Try to help someone else talk.

◇◆★☆★☆ (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Your instincts guide you with a

your thoughts. This is the first step in making what you want happen. Others pitch in and help you. Tonight: Your treat

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Your smile proves to be a sure winner. Think in terms of gains and success. Not everyone works on the same level as you. Laugh and play along with friends. They might have a lighter perspective than you. Tonight: As you like it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

 \star The less you do, the better off you are. Others might want to coerce you into doing more for them, but you could feel a bit pushed. Think in terms of helping others step up to the plate. You cannot do everything. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

 $\star \star \star \star$ Your ability to take an overview will help you with a difficult friendship. Someone you care about might have a case of the blues or be somewhat withdrawn. Do a better job of listening and understanding. Tonight: Follow the action. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Take in news that might somehow add to your burdens and responsibilities. You might feel a bit dragged down, but you have the right answers. Focus on each person's story and perspective. Tonight: Ultimately,

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

you call the shots

★★★★★ Extremes mark your conversations. You might have a tendency to see issues in black and white. Though in some way this could be helpful to you, it might not be to others. Loosen up and enjoy yourself. Tonight: Check out information that

comes forward

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) $\star \star \star \star$ A restriction involving a

financial matter or partnership tumbles into your path. Logic and a quiet conversation could loosen up the situation. You might not realize what a strong role you play in others' lives. Tonight: Set up the atmosphere for a long-overdue chat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You still might be working too hard to get others to see things your way. You might as well give up. If you plug into your innate creativity and fun-loving nature, you will find others easier. Tonight: Give up being vested in the outcome of situations. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

 $\star \star \star$ Complete what is necessary to make yourself comfortable for the next few days. You don't want work or projects piling up on top of you. Be low-key and plan to spend as much time as you can at your home base. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** You might have great expectations, which could be easily crushed. Sometimes being a realist helps more than you realize. Make sure everyone is in tune with upcoming plans. Return calls. Work with a difficult child or loved one. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

BORN TODAY

Basketball player Dennis Rodman (1961), musician Stevie Wonder (1951), actor Harvey Keitel (1939)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. (c) 2005 by King Features Syndicate Inc

Sports briefs

By The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) -Defending Indianapolis 500 champion Buddy Rice was injured in a crash during practice, knocking him out of qualifying this weekend for the pole position.

Rice, last year's polesitter, was expected to spend the night in a hospital after injuring his back and having a concussion.

Several hours after the crash, track officials said Rice would not be cleared to drive until at least next

week. That will prevent him from qualifying Saturday and Sunday and probably force him to start from near the back of the 33-car field.

The top 22 spots are expected to be filled in this weekend's qualifying.

Mavericks 108, Suns 106

By BOB BAUM **AP Sports Writer**

PHOENIX (AP) ____ Dirk Nowitzki's late jumper and Joe Johnson's headfirst fall have suddenly tilted the Western Conference semifinal series in the Dallas Mavericks' favor.

Nowitzki's 12-footer over Quentin Richardson with 6.8 seconds left gave the Mavericks a rugged 108-106 victory over the Phoenix Suns on Wednesday night to even the best-of-seven series at a game apiece.

The Suns, meanwhile, lost Johnson when he was fouled on a drive to the basket and fell face-first to the court. He was taken to a hospital and was to undergo surgery Thursday to repair a displaced bone near his left eye. He also suffered a mild concussion.

Johnson, who has played in all 287 regular-season and playoff games for Phoenix since he was traded from Boston in his rookie season, will miss at least Game 3 on Friday night. That will move Jim Jackson into the starting lineup and deplete a bench that wasn't that deep in the first place.

Nowitzki's winning shot came after a defensive switch that left the smaller Richardson to guard him.

"I wanted to go to about 6 or 7 seconds with the shot and take it baseline and spin," Nowitzki said. "That's my move. I was fortunate when it left my hand. It didn't really look great, but it went in."

But the game belonged mostly to

Michael Finley, who shot 5-for-6 on 3-pointers, scored 31 points and even defended big Amare Stoudemire for a time, part of the Mavericks' strategy to switch things up and disrupt the Suns' high-flying offense.

"Hey, he's good, and good players win games," Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said, "and he won this one."

In the other game Wednesday, Indiana beat Detroit 92-83 to tie that series 1-1.

In Thursday's games, Miami is at Washington and San Antonio will play at Seattle. The Heat and Spurs lead those series 2-0.

At Phoenix, Finley was 12-for-18 shooting.

"I just had some open looks at the basket and I got into a nice rhythm offensively," he said. "My teammates kept finding me and kept leaving me open. I was just making the most of those situations.'

Richardson's 3-point attempt that would have won the game for Phoenix bounced off the back rim at the buzzer.

Nowitzki added 23 points and 12 rebounds as the Mavericks bounced back from a 127-102 blowout loss in Game 1.

Erick Dampier, called out publicly by Nowitzki after being outscored by Stoudemire 40-0 in Game 1, had 15 points, 10 in the first quarter, and grabbed 12 rebounds.

The Pampa News — Thursday, May 12, 2005

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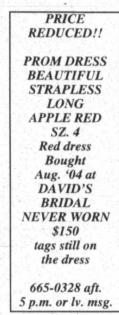
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JIUAN THGGUAQKK, JD	L
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Economy

Rates on 30-year mortgages up after falling repeatedly

WASHINGTON (AP) - Rates cent last week. on 30-year mortgages, after falling for five straight weeks, edged up a bit this week, reflecting in part indications that the recent economic slowdown would be shortlived.

Mortgage giant Freddie Mac reported Thursday in its weekly survey that rates on 30-year, fixedrate mortgages averaged 5.77 percent this week, up from 5.75 per- rise quickly, given continued

It marked the first increase in rates since March 31 when the 30year hit 6.04 percent, the high point so far this year.

Analysts attributed this week's increase to stronger-than-expected economic reports including news that the economy added 274,000 jobs in April. Analysts said they did not expect mortgage rates to uncertainty about the economy's mortgage rates. direction.

"The bond market isn't exactly sure how fast or slow the economy will expand in the long term and thus bond yields have remained remarkably low," said Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac's chief economist.

The housing market has continued at a strong pace this year, reflecting the still historically low

Analysts predicted that mortgage rates will rise in the months ahead but at a gradual pace that would leave the 30-year mortgage at around 6.5 percent by the end of the year.

Borrowing costs for other types of mortgages also rose this week, Freddie Mac reported.

Rates on 15-year, fixed-rate mortgages, rose to 5.33 percent,

up from 5.31 percent last week while rates on one-year adjustable rate mortgages edged up to 4.23 percent, compared to 4.22 percent last week.

Rates on five-year hybrid adjustable rate mortgages rose to 5.21 percent, up from 5.16 percent last week. These hybrid mortgages have a fixed-rate for five years and then adjust each year after that.

Voinovich agrees to allow Bolton nomination to go to full Senate

'We owe it to the

Senate."

— George

Voinovich

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a tense the private sector. atmosphere, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee debated John Bolton's fitness to so arrogant to think that I should impose my be United Nations ambassador on Thursday. judgment and perspective of the U.S. posi-

A critical Republican senator, George Voinovich of Ohio, agreed to let the nomination go to the full Senate but he called the diplomat "arrogant" and "bullying."

"This administration can do better than that," Voinovich said in the first big battle of President Bush's second term

Voinovich said he could not vote for the nomination, but would agree to send it to the floor without a recommendation of approval or disapproval.

Bolton an up-or-down vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate," Voinovich said.

Despite Voinovich's sharp criticism of Bolton, who now serves as the top arms-control diplomat at the State Department, the White House was clearly relieved that the Ohio senator had agreed to let the full Senate decide.

Bush spokesman Scott McClellan said the White House is confident Bolton will be confirmed by the full Senate.

Voinovich called Bolton "the poster child of what someone in the diplomatic corps should not be."

He said Bolton would be fired if he was in

"That being said, Mr. Chairman, I am not

tion in the world community on the rest of my colleagues," he added.

Voinovich later told reporters he planned to vote against Bolton in the full Senate. Will Bolton win eventual confirmation? "I have every faith in my colleagues. No one really is excited about him. We'll see what happens," he said.

Republicans hold an 10-8 edge on the panel. All eight Democrats have said they would vote against Bolton. Thus, a single "no" GOP

"We owe it to the president to give Mr. vote would deadlock the panel and keep the nomination from going to the floor.

"After hours of deliberation, telephone calls, personal conversations, reading hundreds of pages of transcripts, and asking for guidance from Above, I have come to the determination that the United States can do better than John Bolton," Voinovich said

Voinovich had been the only holdout of four GOP committee members who expressed misgivings about the Bolton nomination.

He said he hoped the full Senate, where Republicans hold a 55-45 majority, would reject the nomination.

By PAUL SCHATTENBERG Texas A&M News/Public Affairs

Purple Camp helps youth whose

family deployed with military

BROWNWOOD About 100 children from military families are expected to attend a free Operation Purple summer camp June 5-10 at the Texas 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood.

The camp is open fifthand sixth-grade children of military service members in Texas belonging to any branch of service and deployed between June 2004 and Sept. 2006.

The summer camp is a joint effort of the Texas National Guard, Army Reserves and the Texas 4-H program.

Operation Purple was developed by the National Military Family Association, with the color purple chosen to represent all branches of the military, said Marilyn Prause, Texas Cooperative Extension program specialist for military 4-H in Temple.

"The goal of these camps is to help provide children of military families the tools they need to address the stresses and problems that arise from a deployment," parent's Prause said. "This camp



(Texas Cooperative Extension photo by Marilyn Prause) Teen Leaders James and Christopher Page give archery instruction to children of military families at an Operation Purple summer camp last year.

Texas 4-H, in partner- shops and discussions ship with Southwest Region Army Installation Management Agency, will be hosting a similar free munity service project camp at the Brownwood making lap throws to be center Aug. 1-6 for youths donated to wounded sol-13 and older.

deployment, kids have to Antonio. Along with these, deal with a lot of issues,"

about deployment issues at this camp," she said. "There will also be a comdiers at the Brook Army "During a parent's Medical Center in San there will be fun and edu-

president to give Mr. Bolton an up-or-down vote on the floor of the U.S. U.S. Congressman

and others like it give kids the opportunity to meet with other kids who have similar concerns, and talk to them and let them know they're not alone."

Funding support for the camp is provided by Sears, Roebuck and Company and the Sears American Dream Campaign, which is administered by the National Military Family Association.

The camp is one of several being offered to military youths in different age groups from around the world.

Prause said. "They have to handle separation, loneliness, anxiety and a lot more. The camp gives these kids a way to talk about these important issues, but it also give them a chance to have fun and just be kids."

Operation Purple camp attendees can participate in camping, canoeing, fishing, swimming, a challenge course and archery. They also participate in activities designed to help develop interpersonal and teambuilding skills. "We'll have some work-

cational activities and a little good-natured competition among the kids."

The Texas 4-H Center at Brownwood is Lake accredited by the American Camping Association. Camp participants are housed in modern dormitories and provided with three meals a day, plus snacks.

Registration applications for the June camp will be accepted until May 15. For more information and to register, go to http://www.nmfa.org or call Prause at (254) 774-6024.

Culkin calls charges against Jackson 'ridiculous'; pop star testifies on tape

By TIM MOLLOY Associated Press Writer

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — Actor Macaulay Culkin was only a boy when he met Michael Jackson, but he said they were kindred spirits, having both been cast into the show business spotlight at a tender age.

The former child star of "Home Alone" described his relationship Wednesday at Jackson's trial, adamantly denying the pop star had ever touched him inappropriately and dismissing molestation charges against Jackson as "ridiculous."

Jackson himself finally had the chance to defend himself in court --- not from the witness stand but in videotaped outtakes of interviews he gave. The singer described his troubled childhood, denied being "weird," and explained that he loves children for their innocence and would never harm them.

"I'm not a nut," Jackson said in one interview. "I'm very smart. You can't come this far and be a nut."

The videotape, presented by the defense after the Culkin testimony, was made by Jackson's videographer as journalist Martin Bashir was making the "Living With Michael Jackson" documentary. It included large segments that did not appear in the documentary. Jurors were expected to see more of the footage Thursday.

> 'I'm not a nut. I'm very smart. You can't come this far and be a nut."

> - Michael Jackson Pop'star

"I haven't been betrayed or deceived by children," he said. "Adults have let me down.

The videotape provided a showcase for Jackson to explain his decision to build his Neverland ranch fantasy park and his feeling at times that he was safer with chil-

dren than adults - all without cross-examination.

During Culkin's testimony, the actor acknowledged sleeping in Jackson's bed several times between the ages of 10 and 14 - sometimes with other boys as well.

The pair's real bond was in shared experiences as child stars, said Culkin, who was just a boy when his wide-eyed role in "Home Alone" made him a household name.

"One day I'm just a normal kid who was an actor, and the next day people are hiding under bushes trying to take your picture," said Culkin, now 24. "You can't find other people who have been in these circumstances."

Culkin said he knew he and Jackson were "part of a unique group" and it was "a very comforting thing." When he spoke about how "profiteers" were out to get him, he said, Jackson understood because "he had lived through it."

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