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Rodeo recollections

Columnist relates
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SEE PAGE 9



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Thursday, June 2, 2005

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County won't pay questioned constable bills

By MARILYN POWERS
Staff Writer

Gray County will not pay three invoices received for expenditures incurred by Precinct 2 Constable Chris Lockridge.

The decision was made after discussion of the three items with Lockridge at the county commis-

sioners' meeting Thursday morning in Gray County Courthouse.

"I never submitted those three bills for payment by the county," Lockridge said in a telephone interview this morning. He explained that the businesses to which the three bills were owed had themselves sent the invoices directly to the county.

Count Auditor Elaine Morris had

said at the commissioners' May 16 meeting that the three bills had not been submitted by Lockridge.

Commissioners had delayed action on the invoices because Lockridge did not respond to a letter requesting his presence at the May 16 meeting, and did not attend that meeting. A certified letter was sent to his residence notifying him of yes-

terday's meeting and asking him to attend, but it was returned unclaimed to Judge Peet's office this morning.

One bill was for a physical exam of Lockridge which was done last year.

"It was for a required physical for meth(amphetamine) lab school last

See **BILLS**, Page 3



Pampa News photo by DAVID BOWSER

Veteran cowboy Bob Holloway, his top lip split from an accident, works cattle at the Four Sixes Ranch between White Deer and Borger.

Four Sixes team loses one member to horse 'wreck'

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

DIXON CREEK — Bob Holloway is all stove up. He isn't on the team this year.

"He was going to be," says Joe Leathers, ranch manager here at the Four Sixes Dixon Creek Division and a native of Clarendon.

But Holloway was in a wreck. While working cattle,

Holloway was right behind another cowboy, backing him up so the calves couldn't get behind him. When the calves turned, their horses turned.

"His horse turned plumb around," Holloway said.

The horse's head caught Holloway in the face.

"It knocked me out when he hit me," Holloway said.

Although there was some

concern that Holloway's hip might have been broken, x-rays showed no broken bones. Most of his right side was badly bruised, however, and Holloway spent several days on crutches.

"Tuesday morning, we gathered the pasture to brand and while we were cutting cows off the calves, I had my

See **COWBOY**, Page 3

Pampa ISD faces bus driver deficit

By BEN BRISCOE
News Intern

As the Pampa Independent School District assembles its staff for the next school year, Head of Maintenance and Personnel, John Kendall, notes that there is one area where there are staffing shortages. Bus drivers.

"We don't really have a problem right now, but if we have a lot of out of town trips, or drivers who are sick, it could be bad. I think we probably need two to three more drivers," he said.

This came after the Associated Press reported earlier this week that school districts nationwide are suf-

fering a severe shortage of drivers. Reasons for the lack of drivers

stem from the low pay, which, according to the AP usually starts at around \$13,920, to the unusual hours.

"I think a lot of potential drivers are discouraged by the salary and the fact that it is not an 8-hour job. If they have to take students on a long trip, driv-

ers might have to work for 24 or more hours straight," Kendall said.

"I also think that more people don't drive buses because it is only a nine-month job. In June, July and part of August, most of our drivers don't work."

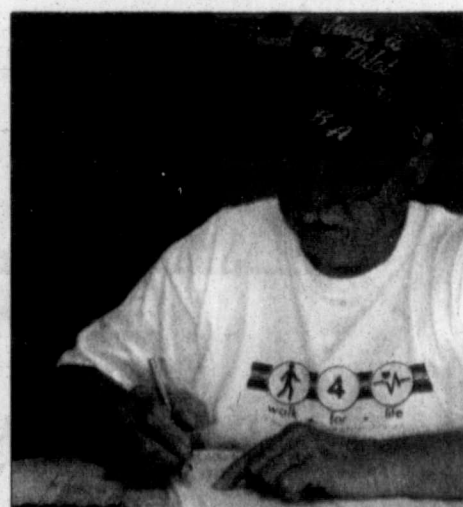
Bus Driver LeRoy Proctor feels the lack of drivers stems far beyond the low pay.

"Raising the pay would help get more drivers until they get down to the bus barn and find out every thing they have to do to be a driver," he

See **DRIVERS**, Page 3

"I think we probably need two or three more drivers."

— John Kendall
Pampa ISD



Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

School bus driver, LeRoy Proctor, double checks bus routes he mapped out on the computer.



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THURSDAY JUNE 2
Free Bar-B-Que For
Ticket Holders 5:30PM
FRIDAY JUNE 3
Family Night
SATURDAY JUNE 4
Rodeo Parade 10:00AM

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and arrests today.

Wednesday, June 1

Eleven traffic stops were made. Traffic complaints were received from the intersection of 23rd and Duncan streets and the 600 block of North Russell. Motorist assistance was rendered in the 200 block of North Russell.

A vehicle accident was reported in the 300 block of East Brown. Hit and run accidents were reported in the police department lobby and in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Emergency medical services assistance was rendered in the 800 block of North Christy and the intersection of Alcock and Price streets.

A civil matter was reported in the police department lobby.

Warrant service was attempted at one location.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 500 block of North Hobart, the intersection of 26th and Perryton Parkway, the 900 block of West Harvester, the 1400 block of Williston, and the 200 block of Tignor.

Disorderly conduct/fighting was reported in the 1300 block of Coffee and the intersection of Campbell and Reid streets.

Disorderly conduct/noise was reported in the 500 block of North Naida.

Runaways were reported in the 600 block of Davis and the 300 block of North Nelson.

Assault by threat was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

Theft was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

Found property was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells and the 100 block of North Naida.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of West Brown.

A narcotic drug law violation was reported in the 500 block of Warren.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 200 block of West Kingsmill.

A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 700 block of East Kentucky.

Telephone harassment was reported in the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of Wilcox.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2700 block of Cherokee. A window was broken out of a vehicle, resulting in an estimated \$400 damage.

Rexall Dwayne Millins, 32, 946 S. Faulkner, was arrested in the 900 block of South Faulkner on a blue warrant for parole revocation on a charge of burglary of a habitation.

Juan Daniel Cano, 22, 506 Warren, was arrested in the 500 block of Warren for sexual assault of a child.

Accidents

Pampa Police Department reported the following accidents today.

Monday, May 30

2:50 p.m. — A 1995 Ford F-150, driven by Lesley Edna Helm, 44, 1200 S. Osborne, collided with a legally parked 1999 Chevrolet 1500, owned by Terry Coffee of Panhandle, in the 1000 block of South Barnes. The impact caused the Chevrolet 1500 to collide with a legally parked 2004

Dodge Stratus, owned by Dee Foster of Panhandle. After striking the Chevrolet, the F-150 then collided with a tree. Helm was transported by Guardian EMS ambulance to Pampa Regional Medical Center with non-incapacitating injuries. No citations were issued at the time of the accident.

Tuesday, May 31

10:20 a.m. — A 1996 Chrysler LHS, driven by Maria Juanita Alva, 43, 1526 N. Faulkner, and a 1995 Oldsmobile Sierra, driven by Mary Prescott Winegeart, 69, 1933 N. Sumner, collided in the 1200 block of North Hobart. Alva was taken to PRMC by Guardian EMS ambulance with possible injuries. Alva was cited for failure to yield right of way.

12:33 p.m. — A 2000 Ford F-150, driven by Jimmie Coye Carter, 69, 730 Brunow, and a 1995 Lexus ES300, driven by Pamela Knight Dalton, 41, 2715 Aspen, collided in the 800 block of North West. No injuries were reported. Carter was cited for backing without safety.

1:25 p.m. — A 1985 Nissan pickup, driven by Carlos Estrada Regalado, 30, 1021 S. Wells, and a 2001 Chevrolet Blazer, driven by Tonya Anita Martinez, 28, 2109 Hamilton, collided in the 100 block of North Cuyler. No injuries were reported. Regalado was cited for failure to control speed and no proof of financial responsibility.

Sheriff

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

Wednesday, June 1

Timothy Mack Thornburg, 49, Amarillo,

was arrested on a Randall County warrant for indecency with a child.

Duane Daniel Stutzman, 32, McLean, was arrested on a Crawford County, Ark., fugitive warrant for failure to appear and theft.

Fire

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

Friday, June 1

8:14 a.m. — One unit and four firefighters responded to a lifting assist in the 500 block of Sloan.

Ambulance

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

Wednesday, June 1

8:19 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to Highway 152 and Price Road and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:59 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to Baptist-St. Anthony's West, Amarillo.

4:43 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient(s) to BSAW.

5:07 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 500 block of Sloan.

11:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

Obituaries

Golden B. Crawford, 74

Golden B. Crawford, age 74, of Edmond, Okla., died May 30, 2005.

Mr. Crawford was born Sept. 12, 1930, in Bristow, Okla., to James T. and Goldie (Doty) Crawford. He graduated from high school in White Deer, Texas; attended Texas State College at Denton, Texas, and the University of Texas at Austin; retired from Kerr McGee Corporation; and worked as a consulting engineer for Texaco and Kerr McGee. He farmed part-time as well.

Mr. Crawford served four years with the U.S. Air Force, was a 32nd Degree Mason, was a member of Bethel Congregational Church of Edmond, and participated in various community activities.

He was preceded in death by a son, Randall Birch Crawford; a daughter, Judy Darlene Crawford Chapman; and his parents.



Crawford

He is survived by his wife, Molly, of the home; his daughters, Patricia Bradley (Phillip) of Indianola, Okla., and Gina Boling (Tom) of Edmond; his brothers, James (Ellen) of Bay City, Texas, Kenneth (Betty), Roger (Linda), and David (Ellie), all of Pampa, Texas; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be held on Friday, June 3, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. at Baggerley Funeral Home, 930 So. Broadway, Edmond, Okla., (405-341-3737) with internment following the service at Whisler Cemetery in Edmond.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions may be made to Bethel Congregational Church, 2131 NW 234th St., Edmond, OK 73003, or Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, 825 NE 13th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73104.

A. Wayne Maddox, 88

MIAMI — A. Wayne Maddox, 88, of Miami, died Tuesday, May 31, 2005, at Amarillo. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of

Pampa.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Adele Morrison, 91

DUMAS — Adele Morrison, 91, of Dumas, died Thursday, June 2, 2005, at Amarillo. Services are pending under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Morrison was born Nov. 11, 1913, at Graham and had lived in Pampa from 1933 until moving to Dumas four years ago.

Mrs. Morrison was a member of Eastern Star Chapter 653 in Dumas, Pampa Senior Citizens, Sonshine Club and Dumas First Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents,

Rufus and Eva Mullanax; two sisters, Opal Magerkurth and Ethel Matthews; two brothers, Morris Mullanax and Doyle Mullanax; and a grandson, Robert Wayne Adair.

Survivors include a daughter, Joan Adair of Dumas; a son, Ken Morrison of Amarillo; a sister, Eve Funderburg of Alvin; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Services tomorrow

CRAWFORD, Golden B. — 1:30 p.m., Baggerley Funeral Home, Edmond, Okla.

Gray County Weather

Today: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, possibly severe, after 4 p.m. Partly sunny early, then becoming sunny, with a high near 90. South wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, possibly severe, mainly before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. South wind

between 15 and 20 mph.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a high around 87. South wind around 15 mph.

Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low near 61. South wind around 15 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. South-

west wind around 15 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. Southwest wind around 15 mph.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high around 88. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa.

Wheat 2.94
Milo 3.37
Corn 4.13
Soybeans 5.93

The following 9:30 a.m. N.Y. Stock Market quotations are furnished by Edward Jones & Co. of Pampa.

Oxy 74.76 -0.04
BP PLC ADR 61.12 +0.03

Cabot Corp 29.35 +0.18

Cabot Oil Gas 33.75 +0.46

Coca Cola 44.42 -0.20

VLO 70.99 -0.31

HAL 42.89 -0.38

TRI 50.66 -0.04

KMI 79.09 -0.27

XCEL 18.70 +0.01

Kerr McGee 73.71 -0.33

XOM 56.93 -0.21

Limited 21.44 +0.64

Williams 18.67 -0.03

MCD 30.86 -0.17

Atmos 28.46 -0.07

Pioneer Nat 40.84 +0.02

JCP 51.12 +1.18

COP 54.91 -0.19

SLB 69.40 -0.40

Tenneco 14.93 -0.15

CVX 54.46 -0.27

Wal-Mart 48.10 +0.19

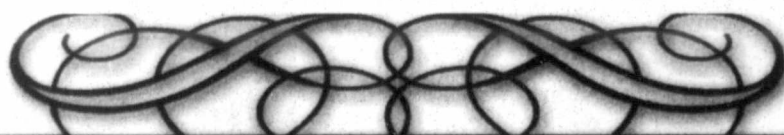
OKE 30.76 NC

NS Grp 28.89 -0.01

New York Gold 415.48

Silver 7.46

West Texas Crude 54.60



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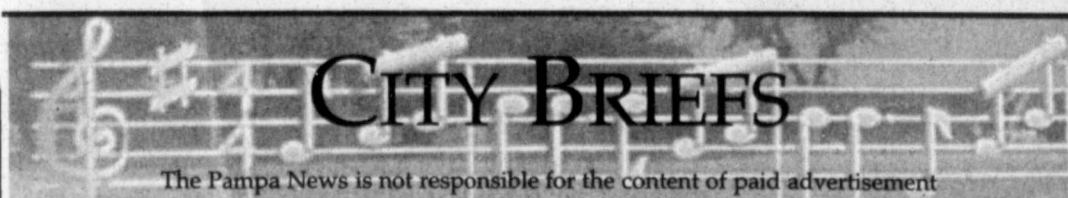


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Roach

Continued from Page 1

exchange for agreements in which some part of the seized money would be returned to them via their attorneys, but the rest would be kept by Roach.

"We're denying that it was improper to do so," Kelly said. He added that Roach was not denying that the agreements were offered or made.

Section 12 of the pre-sentencing report dealt with 15 firearms found in a metal locker on the fourth floor of Gray County Courthouse.

"We're not disputing they were there," Kelly said.

"There were also five found in his office, and others in his briefcase," Robinson said.

"We're not denying they were there. We're denying any illegality as regards his possession of the guns. They were seized items. We dispute that they were improper," Kelly said.

Kelly also disputed the impropriety of the ammunition found at a Pampa apartment leased to the DA's office.

Section 29 dealt with firearms found in the DA's office and home.

"We do not dispute that they were there. They (guns found at Roach's house) were hunting rifles used for hunting. The office guns (had been) seized pursuant to forfeitures," Kelly said.

Robinson again pointed out that five guns were found in Roach's office, and another two, which were loaded with ammunition, in his briefcase, on the day of his arrest by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents.

"The reason the guns were in his office was that there was no other place to keep them. The metal cabinet (the footlocker containing 15 guns) was full," Kelly said.

The next portion of the report to draw Kelly's objections was the one dealing with pornography found on Roach's home and office computers.

"We do not dispute what was taken off the office computer and his personal computer. However, we do dispute the interpretation given to that. And we dispute that there was child pornography," Kelly said.

"I believe you furnished an affidavit to the court that while some images were pasteovers, others were clearly of minors," Robinson said.

"I don't recall saying specifically that they could

be under 18 years of age," Kelly said.

Robinson then read a portion of the affidavit previously submitted by Kelly concerning the issue.

"We're denying stating specifically that they were under age 18," Kelly then said.

A set of weight scales and a book on manufacturing methamphetamine, both found in Roach's office during execution of a search warrant, were the subjects of the next part of the report to be cited by Kelly.

"We do not dispute that the scales were there or that a book on methamphetamine manufacture was there," Kelly said.

"You're just denying impropriety?" Robinson asked.

"Yes," Kelly said.

Both the presence of firearms in Roach's office and home, and the presence of firearms during the commission of another offense, would increase the amount of prison time allowable for Roach's sentence, Robinson said.

'We deny that he conducted himself in unethical ways during his tenure. We specifically deny that.'

— Bill Kelly
Roach's defense attorney

"We deny he was in possession of any methamphetamine, cocaine or any other contraband at the time of his arrest with the firearms," Kelly said.

"Traces of cocaine were found in a nasal spray bottle in his possession, and also cocaine and methamphetamine were found in his office," Robinson said.

Kelly maintained that the presence of these substances was not "improper."

Kelly returned to the subject of child pornography found on computers at Roach's office and home.

"There is no evidence that Mr. Roach downloaded or stored any child pornography," Kelly said.

"You don't deny that it was on Internet temporary folders?" Robinson asked.

"We don't deny that. Other people had access to those computers," Kelly said.

Further denials were made by Kelly on Roach's behalf.

"We absolutely deny that any bribe was made by Mr. Roach to anyone and specif-

ically to any law enforcement officers. We deny that he asked law enforcement officers to wear their uniforms and use their state vehicles on their days off to work part time for him.

"We deny that Mr. Roach was an estranged father to his sons.

"We deny his alleged use of marijuana two years prior to his arrest.

"We deny that he conducted himself in unethical ways during his tenure (as district attorney). We specifically deny that.

"There's not any evidence to prove that Mr. Roach intended to dispense, disperse or sell (illegal) substances.

"We deny that he agreed to dismiss charges against persons with large sums of money in order to keep some of that money. We don't deny that some cases were dismissed, but we do deny any misuse of trust.

"We're denying that he ever made comments of a sexual nature about child pornography and that he ever showed (a district attorney's office employee) child pornography. We agree that he showed her adult pornography, but not a child, and she was mistaken when she thought it was a child," Kelly said.

Robinson then discussed a section of the report which stated a small bottle of clear liquid and a syringe were retrieved from Roach's office, and that Roach had injected methamphetamine into his (sexual organ).

"You've said Mr. Roach was mixing methamphetamine and Levitra and injecting that?" she asked Kelly.

"The bottle taken out of the credenza drawer (in Roach's office) was tested, and there were no drugs in that," Kelly said. He did not deny the injections.

"Does he deny he called (a female employee) in to observe him injecting himself?" Robinson asked.

"We do not deny that," Kelly said.

"Yes ma'am, he definitely has a sexual dysfunction," Kelly subsequently said to Robinson.

Robinson referred to a report on Roach by Amarillo psychologist Priscilla Kleinpeter.

"The report on Mr. Roach's mental state says he suffers from bipolar disorder," Robinson said.

Kelly ended by saying that Roach would not take the stand due to pending state charges against him, but that he was prepared to make a statement "at the appropriate time."

driving is that you make friends with all of these amazing kids," he said. "They appreciate you, and they will tell you all the time that they do. Like on

the last day of school, several told me that they will miss not being on my bus next year. It is stuff like that which makes you feel good and keep driving."

Bills

Continued from Page 1

year. It was over 180 days before the doctor sent the bill," Lockridge said.

"I submitted it to insurance for payment as soon as I got it, but insurance refused to pay because it was over 180 days old," he said.

An invoice for a pancake-style air compressor was also refused payment by commissioners.

The compressor, bought at a local auto parts business, is intended for the shooting range maintained for local law enforcement officers outside Pampa, said Gray County Judge Richard Peet this morning.

The compressor is one component of a target machine that ejects items into the air for shooters to aim at, Peet said.

"We moved for him to return it, and then re-buy it as a private individual and donate it if he wishes. He will have to pay sales tax on it," Peet said.

Lockridge has paid the invoice, with sales tax added, on the compressor and intends to donate it to the shooting range, he said.

The third item, a cable to connect a personal computer to a television, has already been returned to the store where it was purchased, Lockridge said.

"I returned it as soon as I got it because it didn't work out," he said.

Commissioners

expressed concern over Lockridge's balance for the remaining five months of fiscal 2005, even without payment of the three invoices.

Lockridge currently has a balance of \$573.49, Peet said. His average fuel bill is \$168 per month, or \$840 for five months, Peet said.

No reimbursement has been received on a service contract claim concerning Lockridge's patrol car, Peet said this morning. The vehicle, which is provided by the county, had to have repairs around the first of this year, at least some of which were covered by an extended service contract on the vehicle, according to information provided earlier in the year at a commissioners' meeting by Lockridge.

Cowboy

Continued from Page 1

horse wreck," Hollowell said. "Bunged this hip all up. Bit through my lip."

That meant that Hollowell will be a spectator, not a participant, at the Coors Ranch Rodeo this weekend, part of the Cowboy Roundup USA celebration in Amarillo this weekend.

"We opted not to let him compete this year just so he could mend up, and maybe he can go next year," Leathers says.

Hollowell, 68, was scheduled to be on the team, but the horse wreck may have been a blessing, albeit a painful one. Now, he can sit in the stands and root not only for the Sixes team at the rodeo but also his son Billy on the JA Ranch team.

"He's the foreman down there," Hollowell said beaming with pride. "He pretty well grew up in the business. He really likes it."

His son rode for the Sixes in the ranch rodeo before going to the JA. Several years ago he won All Around Cowboy at the Coors Ranch Rodeo.

"He was pretty well in the saddle before he could walk," Hollowell said.

From the stands, Hollowell can yell for both teams this year.

"He probably will," Leathers says with a grin.

Hollowell, a 24-year veteran of the Sixes, was born at Canadian and grew up around Pampa, working on area ranches around Pampa and Lefors.

"I haven't strayed very far," Hollowell said.

It's bad enough that Hollowell will have to watch the rodeo from the stands. He also missed the movie and the artists.

The Sixes hosted some 32 cowboy artists for several

days before the movie crew arrived.

A film crew working on an IMAX movie spent several days on the Sixes shooting the cowboys gathering cattle. It is to be part of a movie featuring a ranch in Spain, a ranch in Patagonia and the Sixes.

"It was an experience," Leathers said. "It was well worth it. I think it's going to be a really good deal for the

ranch and the industry in general."

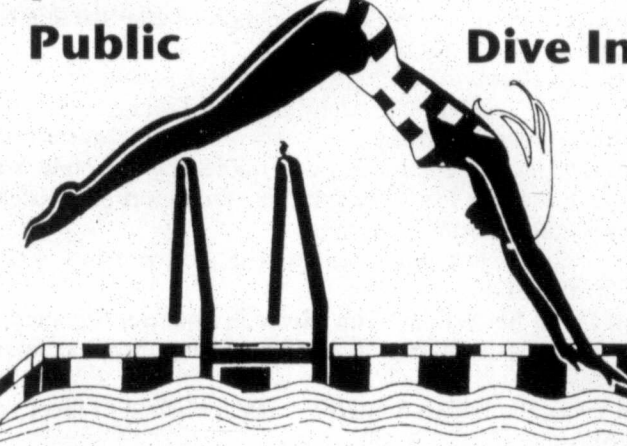
Leathers said everyone got along very well.

"They were real nice," Leathers said of the film crew. "There was no friction or anything like that. It was just a lot of work."

The film crew is still shooting in Guthrie.

"I missed that whole thing," Hollowell said. "I missed the whole deal."

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Drivers

Continued from Page 1

said. "We have to have two endorsements on our license; you have to be certified from a bus driving school and you have to have a background check. That all scares a lot of people away from driving."

With two fatal bus accidents in Virginia this year, according to the AP, and a Florida driver being charged with misdemeanor battery when two teens broke out into a fight on his bus, another reason for the shortage might be because of the responsibility involved in the job.

"Finally, I think the problem is that there is a lot of pressure on the drivers because there are a lot of kids on that bus. It is hard to be a driver and be in charge of yourself, the kids and driving right," Kendall said.

According to Kendall, the only way to fix this problem is to "just keep trying to talk people into getting their bus license."

While there may be downsides to the job which are the cause of the shortage, Proctor has a hard time seeing how they outweigh the benefits of the work.

"The gratification of

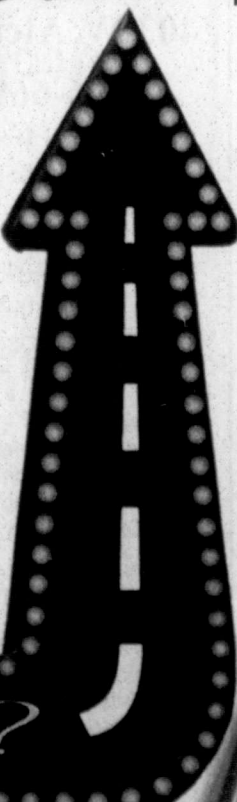


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Which Way Do I Go?



Viewpoints

Spotlight must remain on sexual predators

The Texas Attorney General's Office recently conducted an investigation that found sexual predators in Texas are receiving "erectile dysfunction drugs" courtesy of hard-working, law-abiding taxpayers.

"(R)esults of an initial investigation (found) that nearly 200 registered sex offenders in Texas," the AG's Office said in a faxed press release, "have obtained Viagra and other sex-enhancing drugs with Medicaid dollars."

"Giving Viagra to a convicted sex offender is akin to handing a can of gasoline to an arsonist," Texas Attorney

General Greg Abbott concluded in the press release. "This unconscionable practice must stop and I am calling on Texas leaders to join with me in finding an immediate solution."

Abbott recommends the following steps:

— calling on the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to change its Medicaid rules to prevent convicted sex offenders from obtaining taxpayer-funded prescriptions for Viagra and other sexual enhancing drugs;

— requiring as a condition of probation and parole that registered sex offenders

not use taxpayer dollars to obtain sex-enhancing drugs; and

— asking the Legislature to pass legislation that would prohibit convicted sex offenders from receiving any type of sex-enhancing medication."

The press release said the announcement "comes amid reports that confusion over a federal directive apparently resulted in Medicaid-paid Viagra for sex offenders in

other states."

The nation's Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has since begun, the AG's Office said, rectifying the situation by

"notifying" states that no mandatory rule exists requiring them to provide such medications to known sex offenders.

Why should the government (a.k.a. taxpayers) ever provide funding for such drugs?

The AG's Office seems to

be shining its brights on Texas' sexual predators.

The AG reports a Texas high court recently turned down an appeal by a sex offender by the name of Michael Fisher.

Fisher did not want to abide by a state law, a press release said, "requiring violent sexual predators to be under strict supervision and treatment" following a prison term.

"In issuing its opinion," the AG's press release explained, "the Court overturned a lower court ruling that had held the Texas Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators Act to be

unconstitutional because it was deemed punitive toward mentally incompetent individuals who committed violent sexual crimes."

So it's cruel and inhumane to keep tabs on violent, sexual predators who are not operating at full mental capacity, but if such criminals are deemed of sound mind it's perfectly acceptable to curtail or carefully monitor their activities.

How could a court — upper court, lower court, any court — make such a ruling!

Sexual predators beware — may the Texas AG's spotlight shine on.

Skyla Bryant

News Editor



Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, June 2, the 153rd day of 2005. There are 212 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth II of Britain was crowned in Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

On this date:

In 1886, President Cleveland married Frances Folsom in a White House ceremony.

In 1897, Mark Twain, 61, was quoted by the New York Journal as saying from London that "the report of my death was an exaggeration."

In 1924, Congress granted U.S. citizenship to all American Indians.

In 1941, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

In 1946, the Italian monarchy was abolished in favor of a republic.

"Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; truth isn't."

— Mark Twain
American author

In 1966, the U.S. space probe Surveyor One landed on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1975, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller said his commission had found no widespread pattern of illegal activities at the Central Intelligence Agency.

In 1979, Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

In 1986, for the first time, the public could watch the proceedings of the U.S. Senate on television as a six-week experiment of televised sessions began.

In 1997, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy in the Oklahoma City bombing. (He was executed in June 2001.)

Ten years ago: A U.S. Air Force F-16-C was shot down by a Bosnian Serb surface-to-air missile while on a NATO air patrol in northern Bosnia; the pilot, Captain Scott F. O'Grady, was rescued six days later.

Five years ago: President Clinton, visiting Germany, was honored with the prestigious International Charlemagne Prize at Aachen Cathedral.

One year ago: Three foreign aid workers and two Afghans were shot and killed in an ambush in northwestern Afghanistan in an attack claimed by resurgent Taliban militants.

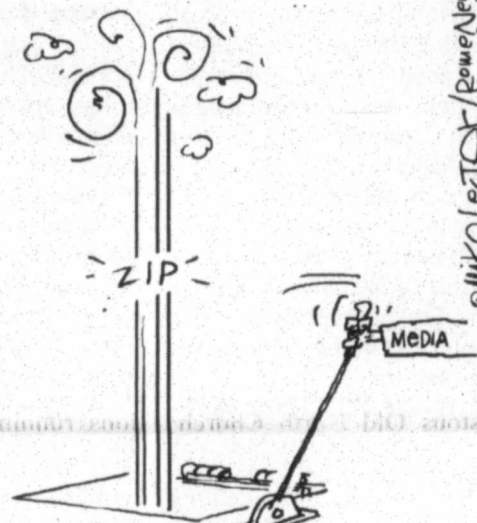
Today's Birthdays: Actor Milo O'Shea is 80. Actor Stacy Keach is 64. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 64. Singer William Guest (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 64. Actor Charles Haid is 62. Composer Marvin Hamlisch is 61. Movie director Lasse Hallstrom is 59.

WHAT DO YOU CALL
MARK FELT WHO
BLEW THE WHISTLE
ON A REPUBLICAN
PRESIDENT



"DEEP THROAT"

WHAT DO YOU CALL
LINDA TRIPP WHO
BLEW THE WHISTLE
ON A DEMOCRATIC
PRESIDENT



"DEEP SIX"

P.C. destroys effective policing

Police departments must use race and sex preferences in hiring as a result of federal court consent decrees and political pressures. To meet these demands, many police departments have lowered, and in some cases eliminated, established standards for personal character and intellectual and physical capacity.

Jan Golab writes about this in "How Racial P.C. Corrupted the LAPD" in the May 2005 issue of The American Enterprise. While most of Mr. Golab's article chronicles how Los Angeles damaged its police force in its quest for "diversity," where it's had to fire 100

police officers, identical damage has occurred in other cities. Washington, D.C., had to indict or fire 250 cops; New Orleans indicted more than 100. In these cities, policemen have been charged with crimes ranging from murder and rape to robbing drug dealers and selling confiscated drugs.

Most policemen are honest, dedicated and hard-working people who put their lives on the line to protect us against criminals. A

few, Mr. Golab reports, are no less than criminals themselves. In 1997, L.A. policeman David Mack was arrested for the armed robbery of a Bank of America branch in which he heisted \$772,000.

In the late 1990s, as many as 25 L.A. policemen were believed to have direct gang ties. A significant number of L.A. policemen had off-duty jobs providing security for hoodlums in the rap music industry deeply involved in drugs and gang violence. At

least one policeman was arrested as a guard at a cocaine house.

In the wake of L.A.'s Rampart Division scandal, where 30 officers were suspended or fired, former LAPD deputy chief Steve Downing said, "Rampart wasn't about cops who became gangsters. It was about gangsters who became cops." Downing adds that elected officials refuse to acknowledge the obvious: Institutionalized racial preferences "allowed persons of poor character to be hired."

Police departments not only must pass racial diver-

See P.C., Page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Missions Act not unconstitutional

Last fall, Congress passed the California Mission Preservation Act, which will provide up to \$10 million to preserve and restore various California missions. Almost immediately, Americans United for Separation of Church and State filed a challenge to the acts constitutionality, on the grounds that it will provide direct government subsidies to religious organizations, in that most of the missions are still functioning Roman Catholic congregations.

We confess to a good deal of sympathy for Americans United's stance on policy grounds. We are convinced the lawsuit will fail, howev-

er, on constitutional grounds. And rightly so. There is no question that California's missions possess great historical significance, and most of them are interesting places to visit for any number of reasons. Whether it is appropriate for taxpayers in Texas or Florida or even those in California who don't care much about these missions to pay to restore and preserve them, however, is another question.

Americans have become all too accustomed to the

idea that anything worth doing is worth taxing people so the government can do it. In the case of historical preservation, in most cases funds can be raised privately, and doing so prevents preservation projects from becoming too overtly politicized.

When the object to be preserved houses an active religious institution, even though there is little threat that government funding will amount to "establishing" a church and thus running afoul of the First

Amendment, sound policy would suggest even more caution.

In the case of the mission preservation act, however, whether it is good policy or not, it is doubtful that it is unconstitutional. Not all bad policy is actually unconstitutional. Reading a brief from The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty and talking to Derek Gaubatz, the attorney who wrote it on behalf of what are called defendant-intervenor in legal jargon, convinced us that objections must be based on different grounds.

For starters, funds from

See MISSIONS, Page 5

Texas Thoughts

Odessa American

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, June 3

8 p.m. - Frontier Follies, Miami Auditorium
9 p.m. - Chamber Bake Sale, School Foyer

After - Visiting with friends, Methodist Church

SATURDAY, June 4

7-10 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast, Methodist Church

9 a.m. - Renaissance Reenactment, Park and Pioneer Roundup, Community Center

10:30 a.m. - Historical marker dedication, Museum

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Museum open house

11:30 a.m. - Barbecue by Miami Vol. Fire Department

1 p.m. - COW CALLING CONTEST, Lions Club: Turtle Race, Sack Race & Train

Seniors 2006: Ice cream, drinks & games

Afternoon Class Reunions -TBA

9 p.m. - American Legion Dance featuring "Back Stage Pass", Miami Fire Barn

SUNDAY, June 5

10:30 a.m. - Community Cowboy Church, School auditorium.

Miami gears up for Cow Calling Contest

By SETH DAVIDSON
For The News

MIAMI - Miami's attractions are its beauty and authenticity. If you're looking for traffic jams, expensive entry fees, high-dollar parking and the hassle of a big urban weekend event, you won't find it here!

Instead, you'll find friendly people, a family atmosphere, something that won't even stretch (much less break) your weekend entertainment budget, great food, a charming town and the one thing that Disneyland can never deliver - an experience that is based on things that are real.

Visitors who may never have actually heard a cow call, curious folks "just passing through" who'd like a plate of the galaxy's best barbecue and newcomers to the area are all invited to the only cow calling contest around on June 3, 4 and 5 in Miami.

The contest itself has categories for kids, men, women and seniors. Contestants stand up on a

stage set up in the city park and make their best cow call. Judges standing off towards the end of the park judge the calls based on loudness, steadiness of tone, length of call, and whether or not the contestant seems to have any idea what he or she is doing.

No experience is necessary, just a sense of adventure or a good sense of humor.

The National Cow Calling Championships began in 1949 at the suggestion of "Old Tack" - otherwise known as humorist, columnist, publisher, and conservationist Gene Howe of Amarillo.

Gene Howe and County Judge Woody Pond were standing on the courthouse steps one morning discussing ways to get Miamians to return for an annual picnic. They heard someone in the distance calling cows and realized this was becoming a bit unusual in the modern world.

They decided that the annual event for Miami should be called a Cow Calling contest to make it unique. It worked, and the

Amarillo Globe-News ran front page stories each year extolling the "one and only national cow calling contest."

No one's really sure why Howe thought Cow Calling would be just the right event for Miami, and given the stature and reputation of the man, not to mention his skills in publicity, no one even thought about questioning him.

Instead, the Men's Service Club of Miami sponsored the event, which was held on May 14, 1949, at the Red Seitz Ranch. Woody Pond, cowboy and current county judge, won the men's division and Mrs. Russell Fitzgerald won first place among the women.

That first Cow Calling was attended with a basket lunch and the 500 ranchers and country folk who showed up for the festivities ensured that the first event wouldn't be the last. In other years, crowds have peaked at more than 1,000. So now, plowing into the 21st Century with

more than 50 years of cows being called, Miami celebrates yet another edition of its hallmark event.

The town has had its ups and downs, to be sure. There was the "county war" between Parnell and Miami to see who would get to be the county seat, elections that included a "Mr. Buzzy" and his "21 sons of voting age" and gunmen who sought to take control of the county's records.

Miami and Roberts County have benefited from the discovery of oil and natural gas, have survived through the swings in both mineral and agricultural prices and through it all have continued to celebrate friendship and cattle culture once a year at Cow Calling.

Cow Calling is a time for friends to come to get together, and it's a time to welcome new people into the community.

For more information about the 2005 Cow Calling, go to www.miamitexas.org or call (806) 868-3071.

P.C.

Continued from Page 4

sity muster but sex diversity muster as well. Erica Walter discusses this in a companion article, "Cops and Gender P.C.," in the same issue of American Enterprise. Few male officers measuring 5 to 5-and-a-half feet, weighing 100 to 130 pounds, are hired. Mrs. Walter reports that most female officers come close

to that description, and as such, risk being overpowered by big thugs.

There are other male/female differences relevant to police work. The typical man has been exposed to fist fights; he's bloodied and been bloodied. Most male policemen have played contact sports, been exposed to firearms, and are more likely to be experienced and competent at aggressive high-speed driving. Few women policemen have these attributes. Plus,

most women couldn't carry a wounded officer to safety.

The difference between male and female officers was recently painfully demonstrated by the slaughter at an Atlanta, Ga., courthouse where a judge and three others were murdered. It turns out that Brian Nichols, a 6-foot-1, 210-pound former football linebacker, awaiting trial for rape, was being guarded and escorted by a 50-something, 5-foot grandmother. Nichols simply overpowered her, taking her

pistol, allowing him to go on a deadly rampage.

Mrs. Walter interviewed one LAPD detective who explained, "Most bad guys fall into two categories. Either they show no respect to female cops because they know they can take them, or they fear female cops because they know the women know they can be taken and will shoot quickly." Mrs. Walter concludes her article stating that women are often excellent, and sometimes better than

men, in some aspects of policing that don't involve violence and physical confrontation.

She warns that police forces should respect the reality that male and female officers are not interchangeable, adding that the real-world effects of pretending otherwise are ugly.

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

'Most bad guys fall into two categories. Either they show no respect to female cops because they know they can take them, or they fear female cops because they ... will shoot quickly.'

— LAPD detective to reporter Erica Walter

Missions

Continued from Page 4

federal taxpayers have long been used to restore religious buildings with historical significance, from Boston's Old North Church

to Touro Synagogue in Rhode Island to the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., to mosques and Native American sacred sites.

While those subsidies have probably indirectly aided the religious institutions running the buildings

money not spent on maintenance or restoration, after all, can be spent on other things they have been provided mainly because of historical significance, and have gone to buildings housing many religions. Thus they do not "establish" one religion as the official gov-

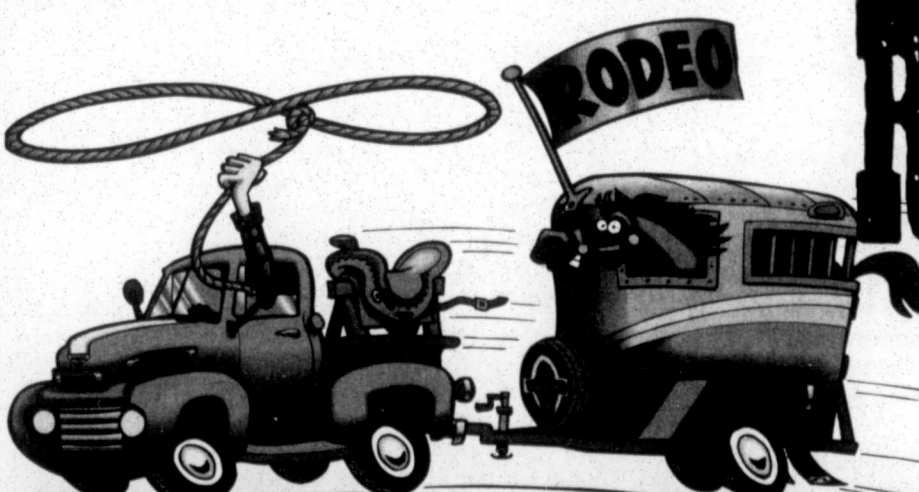
ernment-approved religion. Indeed, to exclude religious buildings from preservation projects might amount to discrimination.

In the case of the California missions, two are actually owned by the state government and are now museums rather than church-

es. The funds will go through the nonsectarian California Missions Foundation, which will review grant applications and dole out the money.

It would still be better for these funds to be raised privately and if government didn't tax and spend so much,

especially for projects that have little or no relation to governance, more private money would be available. But the California Missions Preservation Act is almost certainly not unconstitutional on its face. The courts are likely to agree when they hear the case in June.



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---	--

LOCAL BUSINESSES WITH DISPLAYS

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---	--

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CLOWN & COLORING CONTEST
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1:00PM
TIL 3:00PM

FUTURE
RODEO QUEEN
APPEARANCE
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Photo by DELLA MOYER

Family entertainment

The Armstrong family reunion was held at Cottonwood Springs Guest Ranch on May 27, 2005. Over 45 members of the Armstrong family attended. Angela Worley, granddaughter of Pampa residents Buck and Cleo Worley, provided the entertainment with her belly dancing.

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Live Aid Organizers announce five new concerts with major stars

LONDON (AP) — Twenty years after the Live Aid concerts, musical superstars are joining in a five-city spectacular to push a political solution for African poverty.

"We don't want people's money. We want them," Bob Geldof, the driving force behind the Band Aid and Live Aid campaigns, said Tuesday as he announced plans for Live 8 concerts on July 2 just days before leaders of the world's richest countries, the G8, meet in Britain.

Musicians including Madonna, Paul McCartney, U2, Bon Jovi, Brian Wilson, Crosby Stills & Nash, Coldplay, Sting, Stevie Wonder and Jay-Z will grace stages in London, Philadelphia, Berlin, Paris and Rome.

The 1985 Live Aid concerts, held in London and Philadelphia on the same day, sold out both venues, drew a TV audience of millions around the globe and raised \$40 million for poverty relief in Africa.

Since then, Geldof said, Africa has

only become poorer.

"Twenty years on, it strikes me as being morally repulsive and intellectually absurd that people die of want in a world of surplus," Geldof said. "This is to finally, as much as we can, put a stop to that."

Geldof said he had resisted any recreation of Live Aid, but relented to pressure from U2's Bono and others: "It seemed to me that we could gather again, but this time not for charity but for political justice."

The aim of the concerts was to create attention and "political heat" ahead of the G8 meeting to persuade the leaders to agree to cancel Africa's unpayable debts, double aid for the continent and make trade fair, Geldof said.

Africa is expected to be high on the agenda of the meeting of the group of eight wealthy nations — which includes Britain, the United States, France, Germany, Russia, Canada, Italy and Japan. British Prime Minister Tony Blair has said he wants rich nations to

write off the debts owed by the world's poorest countries and to double international aid, initiatives the White House has ruled out.

"We obviously welcome any campaign which raises awareness of the need for action in Africa," a spokesman at Blair's office said Tuesday. "The prime minister is obviously working very hard to secure a comprehensive outcome for Africa at the G8 summit."

The concerts will be free. Musicians will donate their services, and other costs will be met by corporate sponsors.

Venues for the July 2 events include London's Hyde Park, a location near the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Circus Maximus in Rome and along Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway at the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Geldof said negotiations for the Paris venue continued.

Geldof, an Irish pop icon, said organizers had "scrambled like crazy to put this together."

Fox News' radio service embarks on journey towards national expansion later this week

NEW YORK (AP) — With a newly constructed Manhattan studio and expanded news offerings, the fledgling Fox News Radio is marking a key step in its growth plans.

The service started two years ago and has offered one-minute newscasts to affiliate stations. As of Wednesday morning, it's offering the longer newscasts that many talk-oriented stations demand.

"It's important if we're in this business that we're in it

in the visible ways that the old-line guys are in it," said Kevin Magee, senior vice president of Fox News Radio.

Fox's earlier agreement with Clear Channel will take effect this summer and, by August, the news service's outlets will reach about 500 nationwide, Magee said. There are more than 10,000 commercial radio stations in the country.

Many talk stations spend hours criticizing major media outlets as liberal, then

turn to market leaders ABC and CBS for newscasts at the top of the hour, he said. Fox will offer a newscast with many of the same personalities and tone as seen on Fox News Channel, he said. Laurie Dhue was scheduled to anchor the first five-minute newscast.

"It's not opinionated," he said. "It's straight news, but it's news fair and balanced, where we believe both sides should get a fair hearing."

The Clear Channel deal and Magee's appointment

earlier this year are important steps in helping Fox News Radio reach critical mass, said Tom Taylor, editor of the trade publication Inside Radio, which is owned by Clear Channel.

Fox News Radio currently presents talk shows with Tony Snow and Alan Colmes. Magee said he expects to expand that lineup, but offered no details. Fox News Radio recently hired 30 people to put its radio expansion plans in effect.

People in the News: Spears loves pregnancy, McCartney writes book

NEW YORK (AP) — Britney Spears is loving life as a pregnant woman — the cravings, watching sonograms and especially the sex.

"I think it's better than it was before," Spears tells People magazine in the issue on newsstands Friday. "I think it's best. Sex is crazy good."

The 23-year-old pop star, who's due this fall, says that she's been battling "horrible" morning sickness and been dealing with the hormone swings that have caused her to lose her temper, "like twice." But otherwise, Spears says she's in "nesting mode" and finds being pregnant "empowering."

"I think it brings out a pure side of you," she says. After first seeing a sonogram of her baby, Spears was speechless.

"You can't really say anything. I was emotional. I think it's the best feeling in the world."

Spears says that she hasn't yet tried to find out whether it's a boy or a girl — but doesn't expect it to be her last, regardless. She ultimately wants three children and doesn't plan to return to her day job soon.

"I'm sure there's going to come a time when I get back to work again, but it'll be a totally different way of life than it was before," she says.

NEW YORK (AP) — Move over Madonna, Paul McCartney is getting into children's books.

The former Beatle has signed on to publish "High in the Clouds: An Urban Furry Tail" for the Penguin Young Readers Group, the publisher announced Wednesday.

McCartney will team up with veteran children's book author Philip Ardagh and animator Geoff Dunbar. The picture book is to be released this October with a first print of 500,000 copies.

"Having worked on this story and the characters for many years, it's very exciting for me to see things come to fruition in what I think will be a remarkable book," McCartney said in a statement.

The book's story was inspired by an animated film called "Tropic Island Hum," on which Dunbar and McCartney collaborated. It will follow the story of two friends, a squirrel and a frog, who save a number of animals.

The top five list

TELEVISION

1. "American Idol" (Wednesday), Fox.
2. "American Idol" (Tuesday), Fox.
3. "CSI: Miami," CBS.
4. "Lost," ABC.
5. "House," Fox.

(From Nielsen Media Research)

FILM

1. "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith."
2. "Madagascar," DreamWorks.
3. "The Longest Yard," Paramount.
4. "Monster-In-Law," New Line.
5. "Kicking & Screaming," Universal.

(From Exhibitor Relations Co.)

HOT FIVE

1. "We Belong Together," Mariah Carey. Island.
2. "Hollaback Girl," Gwen Stefani. Interscope.
3. "Oh," Ciara (feat. Ludacris). Sho'nuff-MusicLine.
4. "Just a Lil Bit," 50 Cent. Shady.
5. "Don't Phunk With My Heart," The Black Eyed Peas.

A&M.

(From Billboard magazine)

ALBUMS

1. "Mezmerize," System of a Down. American.
2. "Honkytonk University," Toby Keith. DreamWorks.
3. "The Emancipation of Mimi," Mariah Carey. Island.
4. "Stand Up," Dave Matthews Band. RCA.
5. "Album II," Kem. Motown.

(From Billboard magazine)

CONCERT TOURS

1. Eagles.
2. Kenny Chesney.
3. Rod Stewart.
4. Josh Groban.
5. Motley Crue.

(From Pollstar)

VHS RENTALS

1. "National Treasure," Dimension Home Video.
2. "Assault on Precinct 13," Universal Studios Home Video.
3. "In Good Company," Universal Studios Home Video.
4. "Meet the Fockers," Universal Studios Home Video.
5. "Racing Stripes," Warner Home Video.

(From Billboard magazine)

VHS SALES

1. "Racing Stripes," Warner Home Video.
2. "National Treasure," Dimension Home Video.
3. "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events," Paramount Home Entertainment.
4. "Dora the Explorer: It's a Party," Paramount Home Entertainment.
5. "Meet the Fockers," Universal Studios Home Video.

(From Billboard magazine)

DVD SALES

1. "National Treasure (Full Screen)," Dimension Home Video.
2. "National Treasure (Widescreen)," Dimension.
3. "Racing Stripes (Full Screen)," Warner Home Video.
4. "Assault on Precinct 13 (Widescreen)," Universal Studios Home Video.
5. "The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou," Dimension.

Farm Scene

Officials warn about planting noxious weeds

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP)

Gardeners shopping for a new shrub or flowering plant should make sure they don't accidentally purchase a noxious weed from a nursery, state agriculture officials said.

The warning comes after two merchants in the last week unwittingly sold noxious weeds, highlighting the need for consumers to check out a plant's origins before buying, according to the state Agriculture Department.

"Unless you actually identify the plant by the scientific name, it's very hard to tell," said Rachel Seifert-Spilde, a state noxious weed specialist. "A lot of these have three, four or five common names."

"Unless you actually identify the plant by the scientific name, it's very hard to tell (if it is poisonous). A lot of these have three, four or five common names."

— Rachel Seifert-Spilde
State noxious weed specialist

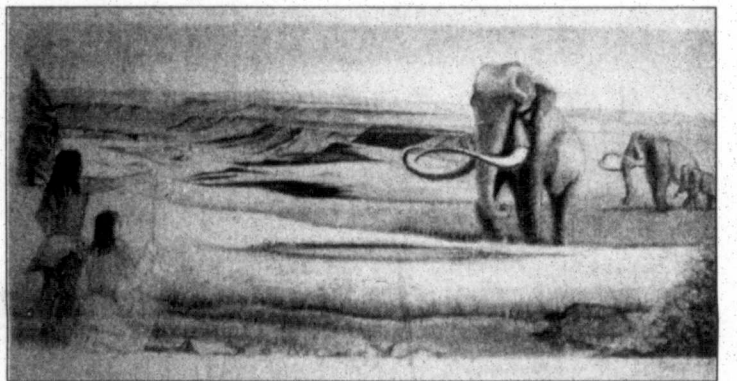
North Dakota lists a dozen plants as noxious weeds, meaning they are difficult to control, spread easily and can harm crops, livestock or other property. Several of the weeds originally were ornamental plants, and some occasionally are still available for commercial sale.

The Agriculture Department has stepped up efforts to educate gardeners about those weeds, Seifert-Spilde said.

"It's been more concentrated in the past few years because our newer noxious listed weeds — saltcedar and loosestrife — are really popular ornamental plants," she said.

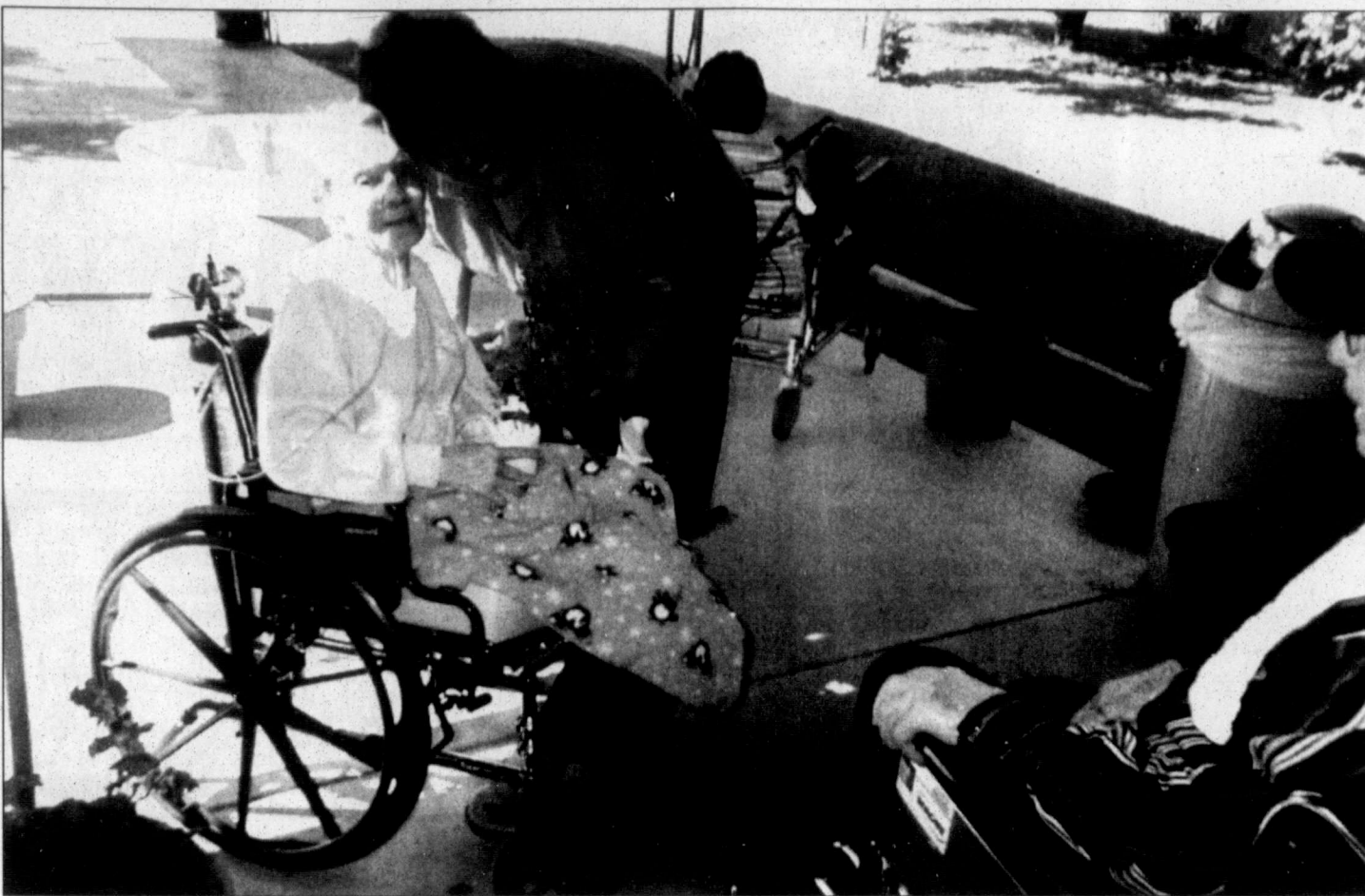
The merchants had saltcedar and yellow toadflax for sale but weren't aware the plants are noxious weeds, said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson. They were asked to get rid of the plants, he said.

County weed control agents and nursery owners also are working to develop an educational brochure.



Mammoths

The Roberts County Museum will hold the Dedication Ceremonies for the Miami Mammoth Kill site at the Museum on June 4 at 10:30 a.m. Brett Cruse and Patricia A. Mercado-Allinger with The Texas Historical Commission will be here for the dedication. Mercado-Allinger will give a short talk during the dedication. Marijane Kent and Connie Rankin are the artist that are painting the mural showing the mammoths and what the country looked like 12,000 years ago.



Morning Glory

Activity Director Jodie Jones at Coranodo Health Care Center helps Velma Wright plant flowers uring morning activities.

Slow progress, dismaying setbacks as women try to expand into firefighting

NEW YORK (AP) — Her credentials are impressive: Coast Guard reservist, trophy-winning distance runner, veteran of risky Ground Zero duty on the morning the World Trade Center collapsed. Even Adrienne Walsh has felt the sting of resentment from men who do not want women alongside them in the ranks of firefighters.

Walsh last year became the first woman assigned to one of New York's elite Fire Department rescue companies. Within five weeks, she transferred out. A few weeks ago she again took the trail-blazing step, this time getting a warm welcome as she joined a rescue company in a different borough.

The eight-year firefighting veteran is proud of her achievements, grateful to many male colleagues who have supported her, yet frustrated by the slow pace of change in a department and a profession where women remain a tiny minority.

"You have to change the department from the top down," Walsh said. "You've got to show people you want

them."

The status of women in firefighting mirrors Walsh's up-and-down experience: Depending on where one looks, there is ample cause for celebration or dismay among those who want gender barriers lowered.

Of roughly 296,000 professional firefighters about 6,500 are women. That's up from zero as of 1972, but "nowhere near the point where you lose your token status," said Terese Floren, director of the Madison, Wis.-based Women in the Fire Service.

Firefighting forces are more than 10 percent female in several big cities; two of them, San Francisco and Minneapolis, also have women as fire chiefs. In -Boston and Philadelphia, barely 1 percent of the firefighters are female; New York has only 29 women out

of more than 11,000 firefighters.

In many other cities, women who did get hired have complained of gender-related bias and harassment. Among the recent cases:

Fast Facts

Of roughly 296,000 professional firefighters about 6,500 are women. That's up from zero as of 1972, but "nowhere near the point where you lose your token status," said Terese Floren, director of the Madison, Wis.-based Women in the Fire Service.

they faced retaliation for complaining they were not provided proper protective gear and bathroom facilities.

—Two Bridgeport, Conn., firefighters recently lost a federal court suit seeking nearly \$1 million in damages for alleged bias and harassment. The women said they were called vulgar names, given punitive assignments

and exposed to pornography.

—Two women dismissed from fire academy in St. Paul, Minn., received \$100,000 each to settle a discrimination suit. They said instructors forced them to take tests with broken equipment and refused to give guidance provided to other recruits.

—In Los Angeles, a dozen firefighters recently were disciplined for harassment of women and blacks in the department, which has 92 women on a force of 3,382.

"Firefighting is the last big macho stronghold," said Maureen McFadden of Legal Momentum, an advocacy group monitoring the bias cases. "As a society, we keep holding steadily to the notion of the brawny, mustachioed firefighter, even though physicality is less important to the job than it used to be."

No major fire department embodies a new approach to gender more than San Francisco's, where 230 of the 1,700 firefighters are women, and the chief is 41-year-old Joanne Hayes-White.

Heard Jones
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FOUNTAIN SPECIALS SATURDAY ONLY

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Your readers have a history of responding enthusiastically to the good advice you share with them. Because of that, I'm writing on behalf of the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Women's Health and the Federal Citizen Information Center to offer our new, free Women's Health Information Kit. It contains some of Uncle Sam's best advice on more than a dozen health topics that concern today's women.

All of these materials are part of the Take Time to Care information series. Between caring for their families and staying busy at work, women are always on the go. That is why it's more important than ever for women to "take time to care" about their own health. Whether they're managing their medications, looking for ways to minimize their risk of heart attack or learning about menopause -- they'll find some great advice in our Women's Health Information Kit.

Thanks, Abby, for always providing timely, practical and good advice to your readers. And please ask them to place their orders now, because supplies are limited. -- MARSHA HENDERSON, ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH, F.D.A.

DEAR MARSHA: I'm delighted to spread the word. Readers, as many of you know, the information in these special kits for women has been compiled by the government at taxpayer expense. That's why they're offered at no cost to you -- not even postage. I have reviewed the kit, and it contains a gold mine of handy-dandy information on topics that include heart disease (the leading killer of women in the United States), mammography, Pap smears, menopause, depression, strokes -- and more.

There are three ways to order this TTTC Women's Health Information Kit. Order online at www.pueblo.gsa.gov. Send your name and address to Women's Health

Information kit, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1-888-878-3256 weekdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (EST) and ask for the Women's Health Information Kit. If you're interested, don't wait. Do it today.

DEAR ABBY: I have recently recovered from a life-threatening illness, and it has made me want to re-prioritize my life. I have decided I no longer want to spend holidays with some of my relatives. The person I specifically would like to eliminate from my life is vain, shallow and a tightwad -- even though her husband is well-off.

She insists on hosting holiday and family parties at her house, then tells everyone not only to bring the food but also to bring extra portions -- which she uses to feed her own family the following week.

The gifts she gives are either recycled, or stained and torn items of clothing she purchased from thrift stores. When I give her gifts, she tells me to return them and give her the money. If she admires something of mine, she'll beg until I give it to her, then return it to the store for the money or sell it in one of the garage sales she holds twice a month.

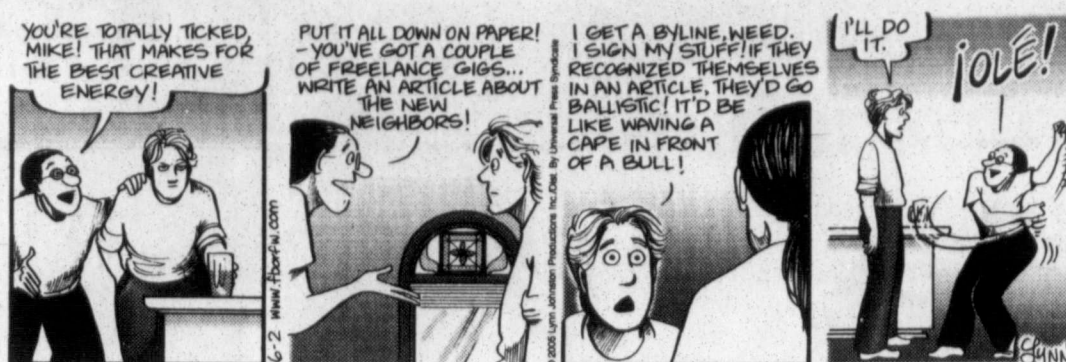
When her kids were little, her philosophy was that everyone else should drive them, baby-sit them, take them places and foot the bill. Reciprocity is not a word in her vocabulary.

I feel life is too short to waste on people like this. Is this how people get rich? -- FED UP IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR FED UP: On the contrary. This is how people impoverish themselves in every way that's important.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 45 Flight

1 Fling makeup

5 — Work 46 Tankard

(rock band)

10 Assumed name

12 Rust, for one

13 Merriment

14 Compare

15 Apple

16 With everything taken into account

18 Reply to "Gracias"

20 Tall tale

21 Archaeologist's place

23 Not to mention

24 Make tea

26 Writer

Wiesel

28 Dolphin's home

29 New Haven school

31 Call upon

32 Flexible

36 "Way to go!"

39 Chaotic place

40 Way to go

41 Road reversal

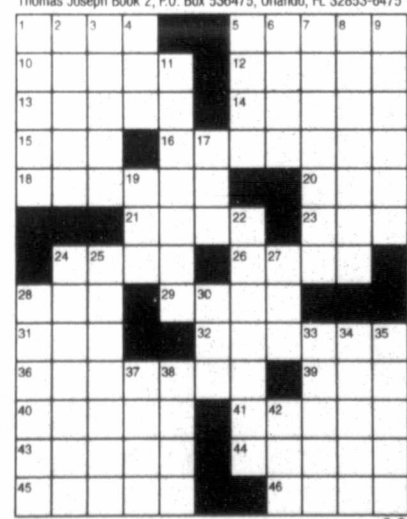
43 Mark replacers

44 Race prize



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Marmaduke



The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports Day

DFB puts up fight in 4-0 loss

Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency battled league-leading Glo-Valve Service virtually even Wednesday but fell 4-0.

DFB had eight base runners. Glo-Valve did too. DFB left six runners on base. Glo-Valve stranded three. DFB made three hits. Glo-Valve had four. DFB made one error to none for Glo-Valve. DFB pitchers walked only two batters. Glo-Valve pitchers gave up five free tickets. Both sides used three pitchers who threw for two innings each.

The difference in the Optimist 11-12 Cal Ripken game was that each of Glo-Valve's four hits resulted in a run.

In the top of the first inning, Tyler Malone singled and went to third on a double by Reid Miller. Malone scored and Miller moved to third on a ground out by Evan Meschke. Miller scored on a passed ball to give Glo-Valve an early 2-0 lead.

Malone singled again to lead off the third inning. Miller singled him to third and took second on the throw to third. Meschke again produced an RBI ground ball out. Micheal Fisher executed a sacrifice bunt to get Miller home. That ended the scoring.

DFB threatened several times. Cody McIntyre double and Dane Pereira walked in the bottom of the first but were left on base. Olin Boyd walked in the second inning but died on third.

Kolton Adams led off DFB's third inning with a double. He took third on a passed ball. McIntyre drew a walk to put runners at the corners with nobody out. Malone fielded a soft fly ball and caught McIntyre off first for a double play. After a walk, Glo-Valve's catcher, Meschke, threw to Miller at shortstop to catch a runner stealing.

DFB wasted a walk to Zach Murray in the

fourth and a single by Adams in the fifth.

Miller pitched the first two innings for Glo-Valve and was credited with the win. He allowed one hit, two walks and struck out five. Fisher pitched the third and fourth innings. He walked three, allowed one hit and struck out one. Davis finished up striking out four, walking none and permitting one hit.

Both sides made terrific defensive plays in the well-played game. DFB's left fielder, Brady Royce, snagged a line drive to prevent a double in the second inning. Olin Boyd followed a batter later with a fly ball catch in right field. McIntyre, who had two of the three DFB hits, picked up a loose ball at third base and threw a runner out at home.

The Malone to Davis 4-3 double play and the Meschke to Miller caught stealing were the defensive gems for Glo-Valve.

Miller, who was two for three including a double and two runs scored, and Malone, who was two for two with two runs scored, were the only Glo-Valve players with hits.

Glo-Valve improved to 12-0-1. D. E. Chase, Inc., who won the early game by a forfeit over Rotary Club, is in second place at 7-3-2. Chase plays Celanese at 5:45 p.m. today, Glo-Valve at 7:45 p.m. Friday and Cabot at 7:45 p.m. Monday. DFB is back in action again Rotary at 7:45 p.m. today and at 5:45 p.m. against Cabot Friday.

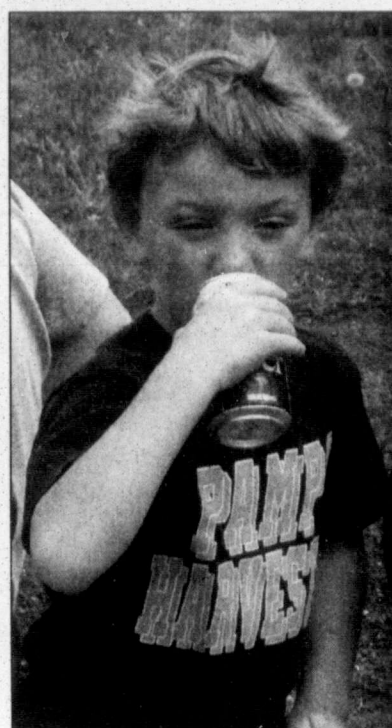
Monday, June 6, is the last day of the regular season for the Pampa United Way agency. The City Tournament, which begins next week, will have its schedule announced when the pairings are computed after the last regular-season game.

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



Pampa News photos by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Camper Tanner Davis gets some shoe assistance from PHS player Eric Willingham Thursday morning. At right, Davis takes a cool drink during snack break.



Coaches, campers having fun

By MICHAEL J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

While tending to one camper with an eye issue during a snack break, Coach Clint Allen noted, "We're having a great time. We've got 50 kids here." It might be hard to tell who was having more fun, Coach Allen or the campers.

Coach Allen and other members of the Pampa High School baseball community have been working with boys and girls ages five through 12

this week, teaching them fundamental skills and technique.

Among those honing their talent at this year's camp, 6-year-old Austin Elementary student Tanner Davis. When asked what he like most about camp, Davis replied, "Catching fly balls."

Camp for this group will run through tomorrow. Next week, it will be the 13-15-year-olds who will take to the field.

For more information, contact Coach Clint Allen at 668-7648.

Heard part of winning team, takes pin honors in scramble

Senior Regular Scramble
Hidden Hills Golf
Course
June 1, 2005

1st Place (61)
Harley Knutson
Larry Heard
Howard Musgrave
Buddy Briley
Harvey Malone
2nd Place (62)
Fred Courtney
O.K. Lee
Morris Driver

Gene Winegeart
3rd Place (64)
Eldon Maxwell
Jack Mitchell
James Lee
Waldon Haynes
4th Place (64)
Bill King
Carroll Pettit
Joe Mabry
Wayne Jones
Closest to the Pin
Jim Cantrell (#12)
Larry Heard (#15)

Spurs 101, Suns 95

PHOENIX (AP) — San Antonio had just beaten Phoenix to win the Western Conference finals when Tim Duncan sought out Amare Stoudemire.

The two-time MVP had the Spurs in the NBA Finals for the third time since 1999, and he wanted to acknowledge the awesome, still-growing talent that the 22-year-old Stoudemire displayed.

"He said I played a heck of a series," Stoudemire said after the Spurs' 101-95 victory Wednesday night. "He said there will be plenty of more times when I'll be back in that position. It was good to hear that from Tim. He's one of the marquee players in this league, so best of luck to him."

So a series much more competitive than its 4-1 finish would indicate ended with mutual respect, and an understanding that there will be more to come.

Stoudemire, just 22 years old, averaged 37 points in the five-game series, capped by a career playoff-high 42, 16 rebounds and four blocked shots Wednesday night.

"He had an incredible, another incredible, game," Duncan said. "He's extended his game so much. He was hitting 15-, 18-footers tonight like it was nothing. And with his athleticism and his ability, just knowing that he's going to get even better, it's kind of scary."

There will be more Duncan-Stoudemire showdowns, but for now, Duncan and the Spurs again rule the West, and will wait to see whether they will face Detroit or Miami in the finals, a series that won't start for another week.

Stoudemire scored 17 of his 42 points in the fourth quarter, several on the

See SPURS, Page 10

RODEO RECOLLECTIONS

When ponies attack: My near-death and embarrassing riding experiences

Foot-In-Mouth Disease

At the risk of sounding boastful, there is not much on this earth that I fear. There is little I haven't tried or, save for a bit of a weight issue, might not like to try. I have had the privilege to do some extraordinary things in my 40-plus years.

I have had some less-than-perfect experiences along the way. Moments in my life's time that have caused me to step back and ask myself, "What in the heck was I thinking?" And the common denominator in most happens to be a horse.

As a young radio upstart in Colorado many years ago, I was invited to take part in a media event during the Pikes Peak or Bust Little Britches Rodeo. It was kind of a big deal and the organizers wanted to make sure any equine challenged among us would have at least a working knowledge of said pony.

So I show up at the arena one afternoon and this guy starts working with me. I learned I was going to ride a horse, throw a rope around a little goat, jump off the horse, push the little goat down and tie his legs. I was a little more fit back in the day. My mentor taught me how to do this without looking the fool or hurting myself in the process. He even taught me some cool rodeo lingo. For at least a day, I was a cowboy.

I did well in my event. Got me a ribbon as I recall. Afterward, I asked one of the organizers who the dude was that helped me. After learning his name, I said something flip like, "Wow, he's pretty good." I didn't learn until later that Larry Mahon was an icon in the rodeo world. He also happened to be the guy who pinned my number on the back of my shirt. At

least I kept it.

Thundering Hooves

Shortly after moving to Amarillo, the family and I took a ride to Palo Duro Canyon. We heard about this place long before deciding to move. Upon entering the canyon, we saw a riding stable. As a family that sort of enjoys doing things spur-of-the-moment (keeping with my rodeo theme), we stopped in to inquire about the trail ride. The young fella gave his speech. Then he came to, "Any of you have riding experience?"

Michael J. Stevens
Sports Editor



Where we like doing things unexpected, we are also a family not willing to show any sign of weakness. "Oh sure," we said. After a funny look, the outfit hooked us up with horses, gave us some last minute instruction and sent us on our way. I recall my horse's name was Black Jack. He was big.

It was a peaceful ride. Laid back and really very relaxing. We got to a spot where the horses knew to turn around and head for home. Again, very smooth. Then, it happened.

I am not sure if Black Jack was wearing a watch and felt as though we were taking too long, but something in him caused him to just start running. Not an 'I have to win the derby' kind of run. But a speedy gallop that had me slowly falling out of my saddle. At one point, I was parallel to the earth, all manner of vegetation smacking me upside the noggin. My wife and kid laughing, "Go dad, go."

All I could think was how embarrassing the newspaper article was going to be the next day. "Radio personality done in by cute, adorable trail pony." Not cool. It is this that gave me the strength I needed to pull myself back up in the saddle and slow that steed down.

After we stopped, my wife — who to this day believes I was showing off — and son caught up with me. I gathered my composure, and we made for the stables. Once there, one of the folks who sent us out asked, "Did you have a good time?" I'm sure my walk back to the car must have given some clue as to how much fun I had on the trail that day.

Too Much Horse

A couple of years ago, I took part in a celebrity penning event in Amarillo. I show up, get assigned a horse and we are allowed some practice before the folks in the stands watched our amazing rodeo skill. My charge and I mosey into the arena to get to know each other better. After a short stroll, I nudged him with my heels. "Here we go again," I thought. It was Black Jack revisited. Only this time, people could see me. This one wasn't so bad really. He slowed down about as fast as he started to run. His owner rode up next to me with another pony in tow. "Mr. Stevens, he may be too much horse for you," she said. "Maybe you should try this one."

Ego effectively destroyed, I mounted the second ride. When my turn came to round up the little cows, the horse I was now on went no where. I tried everything I could to get him to move. I've had better luck with a penny in front of a grocery store than I was having with this thoroughbred. Needless to say, I didn't do very well.

49ers' Reynolds apologizes for mistake

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Kirk Reynolds made just the kind of offensive gaffe he'd preached to the 49ers players about avoiding.

San Francisco's well-liked public relations director is suddenly on his way out of the organization after producing a controversial in-house video meant to prepare players for dealing with the media.

It showed them exactly what not to do, all right.

The 15-minute film leaked to the San Francisco Chronicle features racist jokes, lesbian soft-porn and topless blondes — and even a scene of Reynolds impersonating San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom in the mayor's office.

Reynolds called it a "terrible mistake."

"I'm more sorry than anybody," he said in a phone interview with The Associated Press. "My intention was to deliver a message important to our team. Certainly the execution and my decision-making were way out of line. I deeply regret it."

Reynolds said he made the video to coach players on handling media questions in diverse San Francisco — and never meant it for public consumption.

The video was shown to players last August during training camp in Santa Clara, where it was part of a diversity workshop.

"I certainly offended people and I never intended to offend anybody,"

Reynolds said. "Anybody who knows me, that's not a reflection of who I am. I did something for a certain audience that got out of hand. ... It was contradictory to my values and beliefs and contradictory to the team's values. I completely apologize to anybody who was offended."

The mayor and the city's gay leaders are among those furious with the video — and Reynolds knows the anger probably stretches across the country.

The team's owners are embarrassed. The Chronicle published an image showing Reynolds with the half-naked women under a screaming headline Wednesday.

See MISTAKE, Page 10

Brown says his first job is to get LeBron James to 2006 NBA playoffs

CLEVELAND (AP) — Mike Brown's first head coaching job will be to make sure LeBron James isn't watching the NBA playoffs next season.

Brown, a 13-year NBA assistant who won a league title with San Antonio, has been hired as the coach of the Cleveland Cavaliers. The team ended weeks of silence to confirm Brown as the choice.

The 35-year-old Brown

spent the last two years as Rick Carlisle's top assistant in Indiana.

Brown's main challenge in Cleveland will be getting James, the Cavs' All-Star forward, into the NBA playoffs for the first time. Cleveland was poised for a return to the postseason for the first time since 1998 before its 2004-05 season collapsed amid an ownership change and the firing of coach Paul Silas.

Foreman forehand



Michael Foreman uses a forehand return during Wednesday morning's practice session at the Pampa High School tennis courts.

Pampa News photo by BEN BRISCOE

NBA's first dominant big man dead at 80

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — George Mikan, professional basketball's first dominant big man who led the Minneapolis Lakers to five NBA championships, has died, family members said Thursday. He was 80.

Six-foot-10 with thick glasses, Mikan was so effective as a center at DePaul that he forced the NCAA to adopt the goaltending rule.

Mikan had suffered from diabetes and kidney failure. One leg was amputated several years ago, and he recently was hospitalized

for six weeks for treatment of a diabetes wound in the other leg. He also underwent kidney dialysis three days a week.

Last Saturday, he was moved from the hospital to a rehabilitation center, his son, Terry, said. He died Wednesday night, according to family members.

Mikan's Lakers won five of the first six NBA titles after the league was formed in 1948. He averaged 23.1 points per game in seven seasons with Minneapolis before retiring because of injuries in 1956. Mikan was the league's

MVP in its inaugural 1948-49 season, when he averaged 28.3 points in leading the Lakers to the NBA title.

A statue was erected in honor of the NBA Hall of Famer outside the Target Center in Minneapolis.

In recent years, Mikan has spoke out against the small pensions given to those who played in the league before 1965. Terry Mikan said most of his father's awards and memorabilia had been sold. Mikan received a monthly pension check of \$1,000, his son said.

Spurs

Continued from Page 9

powerful slam dunks that have become his trademark, helping Phoenix trim a 13-point deficit to three with 2:45 left.

He finished the series with the highest scoring average for a conference finals first-timer, breaking Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's 35-year-old record by 2.8 points per game. His five straight 30-point games broke his own club playoff record and it made him the first Suns player to do that in any five games since Charles Barkley in March 1993.

"No question about it, I've grown a lot in this postseason as a player," Stoudemire said. "My confidence level went up, and I think my IQ as a basketball player has gotten better. It was a great experience and I'm looking forward to doing better next year."

San Antonio had too much depth and too much experience for the Suns, who went from 29 victories a year ago to an NBA-best 62 this season with a fan-friendly, fast-paced style.

"We think, we hope, that it's just the first step now and we've got to keep building," Phoenix coach Mike D'Antoni said. "We understand that by now San Antonio is a better team, and couple of other teams are maybe a little bit better. But there's no reason why, with us being so young and so new together, that we can't improve and next year have a better year."

Defense for Phoenix was too often an afterthought, and the Spurs took advantage. Duncan had 31 points and 15 rebounds. Manu Ginobili added 19 points and Tony Parker 18.

Duncan was coming off a rare bad playoff game — 15 points and 3-for-12 free-throw shooting — in the Spurs' loss at home in Game 4 on Monday night.

But as opponents long ago figured out, Duncan's emotionless demeanor masks an intense competitiveness. Two bad games in a row are as rare as an icicle on a Phoenix awning in July.

"Tim Duncan was a possessed individual," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "You would never know it by looking at his face or talking to him. I haven't talked to him for two days. I just leave him alone in these situations."

San Antonio took the lead with a strong defensive stand in the third quarter, when the Suns shot 6-for-20 (30 percent) and committed five turnovers. The Spurs took an eight-point lead into the fourth, and Phoenix never could quite close the gap.

"We had to go out and play a good, strong third quarter and make that push and put some doubt in their mind and put some fear into them," Parker said. "We came out, played aggressive, played good defense. We're very happy with what we did."

Suns owner Robert Sarver had called out "Remember the Red Sox!" after the Game 4 victory, recalling Boston's comeback to beat the New York Yankees in last year's ALCS. But that's baseball. No NBA team has come back from a 3-0 deficit to win a series, or even force a Game 7 for that matter. Phoenix would have had to beat the Spurs four games in a row. Instead, they lost all three home games in the series.

Steve Nash, the conductor of the Suns' frenetic style, had 21 points and 10 assists in the final game of his MVP season.

Nash was seen carrying one of his twin six-month-old daughters down a corridor near the locker room, smiling and making faces at the little girl so oblivious to her dad's disappointment.

"We really didn't find an answer to Tim," Nash said later. "He's just such a terrific player."

Mistake

Continued from Page 9

General manager Terry Donahue showed a snippet to team owner John York in January, just one day before he was fired, and sent a copy to York at York's request in March. Team lawyer Ed Goines got the tape about three weeks ago, the Chronicle reported.

Team owners Denise and John York on Wednesday called the video offensive, inexcusable and "absolutely contradictory to the ideals and values of the San Francisco 49ers."

"Ostensibly, the video was created to raise player awareness about how to deal with the media and to demonstrate by example how poor conduct can unintentionally make news," the Yorks' statement said.

"Unfortunately, this video is an example in itself."

An NFL statement supported the Yorks' viewpoint.

"We share their view that the video was inappropriate, offensive in every respect, and of no value whatsoever," the league said.

"It does not reflect the 49ers' values and traditions or those of the league and its member clubs."

The Yorks didn't address Reynolds' future. Reynolds said he told the team recently he planned to "depart before training camp" to explore other interests, and said this incident would likely speed up the process.

"I'm focusing on dealing with the issue and what I've created," Reynolds said. "I'm

going to stand up to what I've done."

Goines said in a statement that the team's executives never reviewed or approved of the video, and has since issued "appropriate discipline to the person or persons responsible."

'I know the courts say we can't do this. We make our own rules here in San Francisco.'

— Kirk Reynolds
Public Relations, San Francisco 49ers

"I know the courts say we can't do this," Reynolds says before the happy couple engages in heavy petting. "We make our own rules here in San Francisco."

Reynolds then goes to SBC Park, where acting as "mayor" he throws out the opening pitch, then takes a bribe from the catcher, who thanks him for supporting "hookers and booze."

"You do something controversial, you say something controversial, it will have an impact on this team. So remember, be mindful of your actions," Reynolds says, wearing only a towel before joining three topless blondes for a group hug in a strip club's dressing room.

Newsom — shown the tape by the Chronicle — was not amused.

"It wasn't right to do it to the Asian community, particularly the Chinese community. It was wrong to do it to the gay and lesbian community. It was wrong to exploit women as they were exploited in this video," the mayor told Fox affiliate KTVU.

"The video is reprehensible."

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, June 3, 2005:

You have far greater influence on others than you realize. Your words resonate in others' minds this year. Your actions set a precedent for many. You have a natural gift or talent that draws others and opportunities. If you are artistic, you could have an outstanding achievement or accomplishment this year. Often, you will want more private time to ponder your life and choices. Take up hobbies, such as yoga, that allow you to center yourself. Your instincts are accurate with a money matter. You could frequently purchase winning lottery tickets. Work with unpredictable bosses and associates. You know how to handle them. If you are single, you will meet many people, but make it a point to get to know someone well before diving in. Remember, you have a lot to offer. If you are attached, romance feeds on quiet weekend get-aways. TAURUS is a great healer.

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)

★★★ Sometimes an over-involvement with money causes you to lose sight of more important values. Your family needs to take precedence in your decisions. Check out an investment carefully. Tonight: Revamp your budget.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Relax more, as your words are finally taken in the way you intend. Others respond to your efforts and good will. Your smile draws surprising results. What occurs in a meeting could never have been anticipated. Tonight: Do your thing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Know when to do little — like now. Someone might not understand where you are coming from. Take your time explaining. A public appearance or an encounter with a boss could go in a different direction than you'd anticipated. Tonight: Get some extra R and R. You will need it soon enough.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Venus enters your sign, adding to your allure and desirability. Although you might have opted to maintain a low profile, right now others won't allow you to. A meeting is far more important than you think. Listen well. Tonight: It's Friday night; find your friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Visualize what you want for yourself ultimately, especially in the public and professional sectors of your life. Listen to what others share. They really care about you. Someone you meet today or in the near future might not be all he or she appears to be. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You want to take an overview and not get caught up in the details. You find that your ability to grow and see life from a renewed point of view helps. A friend could be instrumental in making what you want happen. Tonight: Get away from conventional thinking.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Listen to a partner, dear friend or associate. You might not agree with him or her, but for the moment, respect this person's logic. You draw others to you, as if you're honey and they are bees. Enjoy. Tonight: You gleam, but focus on that special person.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Make it your pleasure to go along with others. You show that you care through understanding. Clearly,

your way isn't the only way. A new opportunity or person has a way of helping you understand others. Tonight: Do something totally different.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ You might be left holding the bag, at least at work. Ultimately, you don't mind if you have to postpone some plans. A partner or associate appreciates all the effort you put in for him or her. Tonight: Allow someone to dote on you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Add that lighthearted touch, and others will respond well. In fact, where many might be stumped, you find a solution. A partner, friend or co-worker expresses appreciation for your efforts. Say yes to a spontaneous invitation. Tonight: Give up being serious.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Head home as early as possible. A new interest or project could not only occupy your thoughts but also become a source of great pleasure. Choose some much-needed private time, even if it is to complete a work-related matter. Tonight: Stay close to home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You say and do the unexpected. How you deal with a loved one might surprise even you. Your gentleness comes through when dealing with a special person. Your caring efforts will be better received if you don't act so unpredictably. Tonight: Go with your imagination.

BORN TODAY

Actor Tony Curtis (1925), poet Allen Ginsberg (1926), actress Lalahe (1987)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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RANGER BASEBALL

Texas falls to Tigers, 6-4

DETROIT (AP) — The Texas Rangers were upset with themselves for the way their winning streak ended.

Brandon Inge's tiebreaking, two-run single in a five-run seventh inning lifted the Detroit Tigers to a 6-4 victory over Texas on Wednesday night.

The Rangers had won nine straight games, matching the second-longest streak in team history. They were trying to equal the longest streak in the majors this season, the New York Yankees' 10-game run from last month.

"It's a tough one to take home with you," David Dellucci said. "But we just have to try and start another streak."

Texas had a three-run lead that starter Ryan Drese (4-5) quickly lost in the seventh.

The Tigers' rally started with Rondell White's leadoff single. It continued with Ivan Rodriguez's single that went off Drese's glove, Craig Monroe's RBI double and Chris Shelton's RBI groundout. Tony Giarratano, making his major league debut, hit an RBI single and Nook Logan bunted directly at Drese, who made a wild throw and was charged with an error.

Inge then followed with a single to right off Doug Brocail past a drawn-in infield.

"It seems like one little thing can cause a snowball effect," said

Kevin Mench, whose two-run homer gave Texas a 3-0 lead in the fourth. "They took advantage of it."

Detroit has won four of five, with its previous victory also coming in a comeback against AL East-leading Baltimore. The Rangers fell into a first-place tie with the Los Angeles Angels in the AL West.

"When you play against good teams like that and you come from behind to win, and we've done it twice now recently, it's good," said Detroit's Ivan Rodriguez, who singled and scored in the seventh, one day after breaking his right hand. "It's nice for the fans to see that."

Despite a game-time temperature of 73 degrees, the game drew just 15,428 fans.

Detroit trailed 4-1 before its rally.

"It didn't look good for a while, did it?" Tigers manager Alan Trammell said. "That's a hot team, as we all know, so I'm happy."

Jeremy Bonderman (6-3) gave up four runs and 10 hits while striking out six and walking none in 7 1-3 innings.

Kyle Farnsworth relieved Bonderman in the eighth, striking out two, and Ugueth Urbina struck out the side in the ninth for his ninth save in 11 opportunities.

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5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found

LOST 3 mo. old f. Shi-Tzu, "Emmalee," needs med. Return to 1201 E. Foster, 669-3373. Very elderly lady misses her.

FOUND male Yorkie-no tags. Call 669-3195.

14d Carpentry

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement windows, steel siding & trim Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

NEW Const., remodeling, replacement windows. Shawn Deaver Constr. 662-2977, 665-0354.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

ADDITIONS, remodeling, roofing, cabinets, painting, all types repairs. Mike Albus, 665-4774.

14e Carpet Serv.

NU-WAY Cleaning service, carpets, upholstery, walls, ceilings. Quality doesn't cost...It pays! No steam used. Bob Marx owner-operator. 665-3541, or from out of town, 800-536-5341.

14h Gen. Serv.

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

IS your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in bricks or walls? Door won't close? Call Childers Brothers, Inc., Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo.

West Fence & Deck Sealing
Weather seal your fence or deck. Wash & seal your old fence or deck. Free estimates! 440-1581 or 665-7594

14h Gen. Serv.

HANDYMAN: carpentry, painting, fencing, dry wall, hauling. Credit cards accepted. 665-2017.

BURK & Assoc. Constr. Roofing, additions, cabinets, brick repair. Bonded. Insured, 806-374-2569.

ALINET Eldredge, DBA Al's Bookkeeping & Tax Service, 332 Perry st., Pampa, Tx. 79065-5748, 806-665-4905.

14n Painting

DALEY'S Painting & Roofing. Farm, Ranch, Industrial. Free estimates. Call 866-265-3081.

14r Plowing/Yard

LAWNCARE- mulching, mowing, weedeat. Most yards \$25-\$40. 440-6584 or 662-3355.

14s Plumbing/Heat

JACK'S Plumbing & Faucet Shop, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115. faucets, plumbing supplies, new const., repair, remodeling, sewer / drain cleaning, septic systems installed. Visa/MC

Larry Baker Plumbing
Heating/ Air Conditioning
Borger Hwy. 665-4392

21 Help Wanted

College Students/ HS Grads

SUMMER WORK

Great Pay, Flex. hours, sales/service. No experience Necessary. Work in Pampa. Apply in Amarillo. Conditions apply. All ages 17+. Call (806)359-7500.

CREATE a Beat Art Center needs instructors for private/group lessons (Art, computer art, voice, piano, guitar, trumpet, writing, etc.) call 665-7474 for more info.

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for welder fabricators and a paint test service technician. Welding and drug tests req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111, Pampa.

BRIDGE Contractor needs: Surveyor/ Instrument person. Exp. Req. EOE. 1-800-783-8589

W&W FIBERGLASS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS CDL TRUCK DRIVERS
Fiberglass Manufacturing General Labor
•40 hrs./wk
•Salary based on exp.
Apply in person: 107 N. Price Rd., Pampa

CRALL PRODUCTS
Immediate Openings
•Welders
40hrs + wk.
Salary based on exp.
Apply in Person:
W. Hwy 152, Pampa

IMMEDIATE OPENING
LVN 10-6pm
Dietary Help
CNAS-all shifts
McLean Care Center
Call 806-779-2469
ask for Administrator
Billy Ray Johnston

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CRUDE OIL
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1-800-737-9911
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Top Wages Pd. Weekly
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Ext. 200

21 Help Wanted

ASSISTANT
needed for busy chiropractic office. Hands on patient care. Willing to train. Fax resume to 665-0537

CNAS full-time, 3-11 shift, benefits. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, Tx. (806)537-3194.

21 Help Wanted

PRODUCT SUPPORT TECH
Waukesha-Pearce Industries, Inc. is a recognized leader in the Oil and Gas Industry. We are seeking an individual to work from our Pampa office that is capable of increasing our market sales in the oil and gas industry. This individual will possess the following qualifications:

- Mechanics degree or equivalent work history in the Oil and Gas Industry.
- Working knowledge of gas engine and compressors.
- Strong sales background in developing and building new customer contacts and relationships.
- Current experience and business contacts with local oil and gas contractors.
- Benefits consist of automobile expense program, travel expense, company medical and dental, 401(k) and profit sharing program.

Please send your resume to our Pampa office.
ATTN: Store Manager
WAUKESHA-PEARCE INDUSTRIES, INC.
P.O. BOX 1976
PAMPA, TX.
79066-1976

Drivers
CRUDE OIL
Mission Petroleum
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Pampa Area Hauling
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Carriers
Pampa Area Hauling
Long Term Career
Positions
Home Daily
Great Benefits
Top Wages Pd. Weekly
1-800-737-9911
Ext. 200

21 Help Wanted

HELP Wanted: Floor Hand for pulling unit. Must have valid Texas Drivers License, 2601 W. Kentucky.

TRUCK DRIVER

Join a winning team!

Baker Tanks, an established and growing industrial / environmental service company, is seeking an energetic Class A commercially licensed Driver for the Borger area. Must be customer service oriented, have previous driving experience, current CDL and a clean driving record. Candidates must possess an understanding of the following:

- State, local and DOT regulations
- Variable workloads with flat-bed and winch type loads
- On and off road experience helpful

We offer top wages and a great benefit package that includes medical / dental / life ins., profit sharing and a 401(k) plan. Confidential, fast learners, please send your resume with salary history or give us a call at:

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Attn: Mike Livingston
Ph (806)273-3747
Fax (806)273-3766
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Excellent Income National Capital Funding Group: Now hiring courthouse researchers! Will train to work from home on your computer. No experience necessary. Call 1-800-440-7234.

21 Help Wanted

\$500 SIGN ON BONUS
LVN, Charge Nurse 2-10 or 10-6. Contact Donna Cox, DON, Wheeler Nursing and Rehab, 1000 S. Kiowa, Wheeler, Tx. GENERAL help needed at Lentz Conoco. Apply in person, 300 N. Hobart, Pampa.

ADDRESSERS wanted immediately! No exp. necessary. Work at home. Call toll 405-447-6397

EARN up to \$10 per hr. Domino's is hiring Delivery Drivers. Must be 19 yrs. old with 2 yrs. driving history. Apply at 1332 N. Hobart, Pampa.

SEM Crude has an opening for a full time driver in the Pampa area. Must have a Class A, CDL with X endorsement. Meet DOT qualifications. Excellent benefits package. Please call Joe Critchlow at 806-681-2405, or 806-934-7505 for an application.

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber
101 S. Ballard
669-3291

60 Household

\$128 QN mattress set, brand new never used with warranty, QN Pillow top double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr., sell \$199, Full Pillow top Double sided mattress set new, still pkgd, warr., sell \$169, Full size mattress set new, never used \$89, \$170 King mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, warranty, \$218 King Pillow top mattress set, brand new, still pkgd, warranty, Queen Cherry sleigh bed, new, still boxed, List \$750 sell \$350, new 7 pc QN cherry wood bdrm set w/sleigh bed, still boxed, sell \$999, new 7 pc QN Pinewood bdrm set w/4 poster bed, still boxed, \$999. Call 806-517-1050.

NEW Mattress Sets
In Plastic, 10 yr warr.
F-120, Q-150, K-\$210
While supply lasts!
806-677-0400

NEW Luxury Hot Tub
6 person w/Lounger, Redwood Cab, Ozonator, Waterfall, All Digital, Air Injection, Full warr. will sell \$3900. 806-670-9337

NEW, in Plastic, Pillow Top Mattress Sets w/15 yr. warr. Q-\$327
While supply lasts!
806-677-0400

ELECTRIC cookstove self cleaning oven, black & cream, \$75. Must pick up. 669-2020.

69 Misc.

COMPLETE LAWN CARE ALSO VACANT LOTS AND SMALL ACREAGE 10 YRS. EXPERIENCE CALL 665-5725 FOR ESTIMATES LEAVE MESSAGE

FREE Kittens 11 wks old. Call 665-8340 or 663-2999.

FREE 2 female cats, 8 weeks old, 669-3968.

KITTENS, Kittens, Free Kittens, 14+, all different colors. Call 669-7036, 665-8554, 662-7050.

89 Wanted To Buy
WANT TO BUY A POP UP CAMPER, OR A 25 FOOT TRAVEL TRAILER. 886-665-5419

95 Furn. Apts.
\$125 week, \$400 month & up. Air, tv, cable, linens. All bills paid. Call 669-3221.

95 Misc.
TWO Mausoleum Crypts Side by Side \$3995.00 Call 440-2449

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CRYO treat your Baseball Bats. Decreases denting and hand shock. Increases hitting power. Call Pete at Clifton Supply 665-0089.

3 year old Welch mare. \$200 firm. Also have pen for rent with 18 acres. Call 665-9588 or 440-1605

69a Garage Sales
FRI 1-5 Sat 8-3. Furn., wicker furn., silk flowers, comp., dishes, clothes, odds, ends. 2521 Chestnut

1112 Sirroco, Fri. & Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. No early birds!

ANNUAL SALE
2010 Charles, Fri. Only, 8-6 p.m. Home decor, toys, high chair, children's items, furn., exerciser, yard tools, misc.

FRI. & Sat. 8-7 Feather beds, recliner, girls clothes, Harley parts, misc. 1708 Dogwood.

Shop Father's Day!
Dream Catcher Flea Market & Gift Shop 1/2 mile West of Price Rd. on Borger Hwy., Turn left on Western, 1st house on Right! Open Fri.-Sun 10a-6p.

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INSIDE Sale Fri, Sat, Sun. 9-7 2000 Alcock. Dressers, chests, end tables, new bunkbeds, dining tables, Or. Pest-o-Pedic vibe bed, chest, dresser, 2 night stands, sofas, washers, dryers, stoves, refrig., new office chairs. Too much to list. Come see!

50 yrs. accumulation. Bring grocery sack & fill with bargains. Beside 832 Deane Dr., Fri. & Sat. 10-5, 664-6630

601 Powell. Cleaning out closets, storage building and garage. You name it, I'll try to find it. Thurs & Fri. 1-5 pm, Sat. 9-2 pm.

2312 ROSEWOOD
Baby items, Home Interiors, lots of good items & clothes. Fri & Sat. 9-5.

80 Pets & Suppl.
FREE puppies, 6 wks. old, 2 males, 4 females. Real cute! 669-7340 after 5 p.m.

FREE Kittens 11 wks old. Call 665-8340 or 663-2999.

FREE 2 female cats, 8 weeks old, 669-3968.

KITTENS, Kittens, Free Kittens, 14+, all different colors. Call 669-7036, 665-8554, 662-7050.

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WANT TO BUY A POP UP CAMPER, OR A 25 FOOT TRAVEL TRAILER. 886-665-5419

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2312 ROSEWOOD
Baby items, Home Interiors, lots of good items & clothes. Fri & Sat. 9-5.

95 Furn. Apts.

ALL real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

1 bdr. Upstairs apt. Water paid. \$250. 1-806-433-2558.

Beautifully furn. 1 bdr. starting at \$360.
We pay gas & water, you pay elec. 6 mo. leases. Pool & laundry on site.
Caprock Apts.
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EXTRA clean 1 bd. with appliances. Quiet neighborhood. Mature Renters Only! 665-8525

96 Unfurn. Apts.
1 bdr. apt. All bills paid. Clean, newly remodeled, refrigerated air cond. 1113 S. Banks. Call 665-0379.

1 bdr., appliances. Gas & water paid. HUD app. 417 E. 17th #1, Pampa. Call 669-7518 or 1-806-355-5049.

AVAILABLE NOW!
1 bdr unfurn. apts. Newly Remodeled. \$300 mo. Janette 665-4274

CAPROCK APARTMENTS
1, 2, & 3 bdrn. Starting at only \$320. 6 mo. lease available.
• Roof
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• Club room
• On-site management
• SOFTENED WATER
M-F 8:30-5:30, Sat. 10-4
1601 W. Somerville
806-665-7149

DOGWOOD Apts. now avail. 2 bdr., unfurn. We pay all utilities except elec. Deposit, references req. 669-9817, 669-2981.

GWENDOLEN Plaza Apts., 1&2 bdr. Gas / water pd. 3, 6 mo.-1yr. lease. 800 N. Nelson, 665-1875.

LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. avail. Ref., dep. req. 669-2981 or 669-4386

PAMPA MANOR
SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS
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120 Autos
ACCEPTING sealed bids on a 1999 Chev. Blazer. Call 835-2773 for more info. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

2001 Chevy Prizm
Good gas mileage
\$6500
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2002 golden brown Ford Expedition, 62,000 miles, 4x4, 6 disk cd player, \$16,500. Call 665-0626

1997 LINCOLN TOWN CAR, LOADED, 53,000 MILES. EXCELLENT CONDITION! \$9000. CALL 806-323-8436.

126 Boats & Access.
1968 Sea King, 15 ft. boat, motor, trailer, \$800. Call 662-0835 aft. 6 p.m.

102 Bus. Rent. Prop.
OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

LOWEST Rents in City! Downtown locations- stores, warehouses, rec. facilities. Call Janette 665-4274.

103 Homes For Sale
Twila Fisher
Century 21 Pampa Realty
665-3560, 440-2314
669-0007

3 bdr., 2 ba., dbl. gar., corner lot, 2 stor. bldgs.
1533 N. Zimmers.
\$85,000 669-3095

3 or 4 bdr. home, 2 1/2 baths, 3300 sq. ft. Nice location. 1615 N. Russell. Appt. only, 669-7198

3/2/2 Ch/a. Approx. 1600 sq. ft. Large storage bld. in back. New stove & oven. 1605 N. Christy 688-0022

601 E. Foster, 2 bdr., fireplace, carport. Newly remodeled inside. Good cond! Make offer. 665-2763 aft. 3 p.m.

BRICK 3/2/2, ch&a, corner lot, nice, approx. 2000 sq. ft. Shown by appt. Only. 669-6630.

MARIE EASTHAM Realtor
665-4180, 440-1100
Pampa Realty Century 21

MY home, best loc. Brick 3/2/2, stm. cel., fpl., c h/a, 1650 sf., fully capeted. 665-6211.

106 Coml. Property
BUILDING-corner of Hobart and Foster, for sale or lease. C h&a. 1900+ sq. ft. 580-343-2828.

112 Farms/Ranches
3540 Acres, Stonewall County. Big hills,



Athlete and a Scholar

Recently Britten East received the third annual Clifton McNeely Endowment Scholarship based on his combined accomplishments in both athletics and academics. Britten is pictured above with Peggy McNeely, the wife of Coach McNeely, and their daughter, Sheryl McNeely Shaw. Britten plans to attend Texas Tech this fall.

Dutch voters turn out in force to oppose EU constitution

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — European leaders may have to scrap the proposed EU constitution after Dutch voters rejected it by a massive margin, voicing their concern over dwindling national identity in a rapidly expanding union and their distrust of increasingly powerful bureaucrats.

The outcome in the Netherlands from the referendum Wednesday — three days after a similar vote in France — was likely to halt the European momentum, which had been welcomed by some as creating a new world power but disdained by others as smothering their cultures in a vast superstate.

With 99.8 percent of the ballots counted, unofficial

results showed 61.6 percent voted "nee," while 38.4 percent said "ja." The level of opposition and the turnout of 63 percent exceeded all projections.

Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende conceded defeat Wednesday night and said his government would accept the will of the people. Parliament, which has the final say on ratification because the referendum was nonbinding, meets on Thursday to debate the results.

Balkenende acknowledged the huge gap that has emerged between the politicians and the electorate.

"The idea of Europe has lived for the politicians, but not the Dutch people. That will have to change," he

said. "We will need to bring across the message that there are doubts here about the fast pace of change, the Dutch identity and other, financial, concerns."

The vote was seen by some as symbolic of an introverted attitude by the Dutch in recent years as they struggle to deal with issues such as integration, a shrinking economy and fears over Islamic radicalism.

It was the first vote held in the Netherlands on the Dutch involvement with Europe, and opponents spoke of a breakthrough for European democracy. The extent of the opposition was a shock to the political establishment, which campaigned for the charter until the final hours of voting.

North Korea says latest Cheney remarks compel it to avoid nuclear talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea called Vice President Dick Cheney a "blood-thirsty beast" and said Thursday his recent remarks labeling ruler Kim Jong Il irresponsible are another reason for it to stay away from six-nation nuclear disarmament talks.

"What Cheney uttered at a time when the issue of the six-party talks is high on the agenda is little short of telling (North Korea) not to come out for the talks," an unnamed North

'What Cheney uttered at a time when the issue of six-party talks is high on the agenda is little short of telling (North Korea) not to come out for the talks.'

— unnamed N. Korean Foreign Ministry spokesperson

also called for an apology for being labeled one of the world's "outposts of tyranny" by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

In a Sunday interview on CNN, Cheney called North Korean leader Kim "one of the world's most irresponsible leaders" who runs a police state and leaves his people in poverty and malnutrition.

President Bush himself has sounded a more conciliatory tone recently, referring to Kim this week at a news conference using the title "Mr." Rice has also said the U.S. recognizes the North as a sovereign nation, and U.S. officials insist they have no intention to attack the communist state.

But North Korea said Thursday that the remarks by Cheney, "boss of the hawkish hard-liners, revealed the true colors of this group steering the implementation of the policy of the Bush administration."

The North also leveled a bitter personal attack on the Cheney, saying he was "hated as the most cruel monster and bloodthirsty beast as he has drenched various parts of the world in blood."

Annan fires U.N. staffer over oil-for-food scandal

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan fired a staffer for manipulating contracts under the Iraq oil-for-food program, the first dismissal to result from a U.N.-backed probe of the \$64 billion humanitarian operation, a spokesman announced Wednesday.

Joseph Stephanides, a Cypriot diplomat and longtime U.N. staffer, was dismissed over accusations that he tainted the competitive bidding process for a company to inspect humanitarian goods entering Iraq under oil-for-food.

"Mr. Stephanides was advised accordingly yesterday and was separated from service with immediate effect," U.N. associate spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

Reached by The Associated Press after the announcement was made, Stephanides rejected the charges and vowed to appeal. Stephanides, who had planned to retire in September when he turns 60, has two months to appeal.

"I am very disappointed by this decision," Stephanides told The AP. "I look to the appeal process in the confident hope that justice will be made and I will be exonerated because I have committed no wrongdoing."

The oil-for-food program, established to help ordinary Iraqis suffering under U.N. sanctions imposed after Saddam Hussein's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, is the target of several corruption investigations and has become a lightning rod for critics of the United Nations.

An independent, U.N.-appointed inquiry led by former U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker first detailed the allegations against Stephanides in an interim report released in February. When the report came out, senior U.N. officials promised to punish anyone found guilty of wrongdoing.

Stephanides, head of the U.N. Security Council Affairs Division, had been accused of helping Britain-based Lloyd's Register Inspection Ltd. win an inspection contract even though there was a lower bidder, France-based Bureau Veritas, Volcker's probe found.

'I look to the appeal process in the confident hope that justice will be made and I will be exonerated ...'

— Joseph Stephanides
fired U.N. staffer

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