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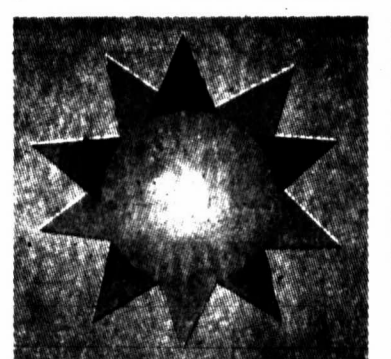
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Pampa

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Pampa Cyber Net
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High today 102-103
Low tonight mid 70s
For weather details see Page 2.

MS Chapter to meet in Borger

Panhandle Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society is sponsoring a seminar "Exploring Multiple Sclerosis" in Borger at Frank Phillips College, Saturday, July 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with lunch provided.

"Living Well with MS", "MS Research: 2000 and Beyond", "Stress Management" and "Accessibility and Independent Living" are among the issues to be addressed. Anyone interested in learning more about MS is invited. Please call 806-468-7500 or 1-800-FIGURE MS to register. The meeting will be at Frank Phillips College, Fine Arts Bldg., Plainsman Room.

Persons needing a ride to the seminar can contact Kayla Pursley, 665-2736.

No Lotto winner; next jackpot \$6 million

No tickets matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday for Lotto Texas. The numbers drawn Wednesday night were: 18-31-34-44-45-48. Saturday's drawing will be worth an estimated \$6 million.

Cornyn decision affects medical care

HOUSTON (AP) — Public hospitals cannot provide free or discounted preventive care to undocumented immigrants, Texas Attorney General John Cornyn says in a decision that may destroy an alternative to keeping illegal residents out of overcrowded emergency rooms.

- Carolyn Ann Leonard, 72, avid gardener.
- Margaret Roberta Stevens, 71, former bank officer.

Classified7
Comics4
Sports5

PAMPA'S CINEMA 4
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CRMWA ups Pampa water rates 12%

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Pampa will pay 12 percent more for water next year than they did this year, and they're one of the lucky one cities.

Canadian River Municipal Water Authority officials estimate that water charges for fiscal year 2002 for their member cities will rise an average of 26 percent. The increases will vary with each city. Borger is expected to pay 34 percent more. Brownfield is expected to pay only about five percent more.

Pampa City Manager Bob Eskridge said the city knew there would be an increase when the Roberts County well field goes

on line but did not know how much it would be.

CRMWA officials said the projected increase is due primarily to rising energy costs to pump water.

At their regularly scheduled meeting here Wednesday afternoon, directors heard an update of the water authority's Conjunctive Groundwater Supply Project, their well field in Roberts and Hutchinson Counties. The project, which was supposed to be in operation last Spring, was delayed due to lack of electrical power. Pumping is expected to begin in September, according to John Kelley with CRMWA.

"Continued increases in electrical power costs necessitated an additional

increase in the pumping energy and chemical cost rates being charged to the member cities, effective on August 1," said John Williams, general manager of CRMWA.

Because of the continued rapid increase in fuel costs, CRMWA attorneys have been instructed to intervene in filings by Southwestern Public Service when they (See CRMWA, Page 3)

What it means to average user

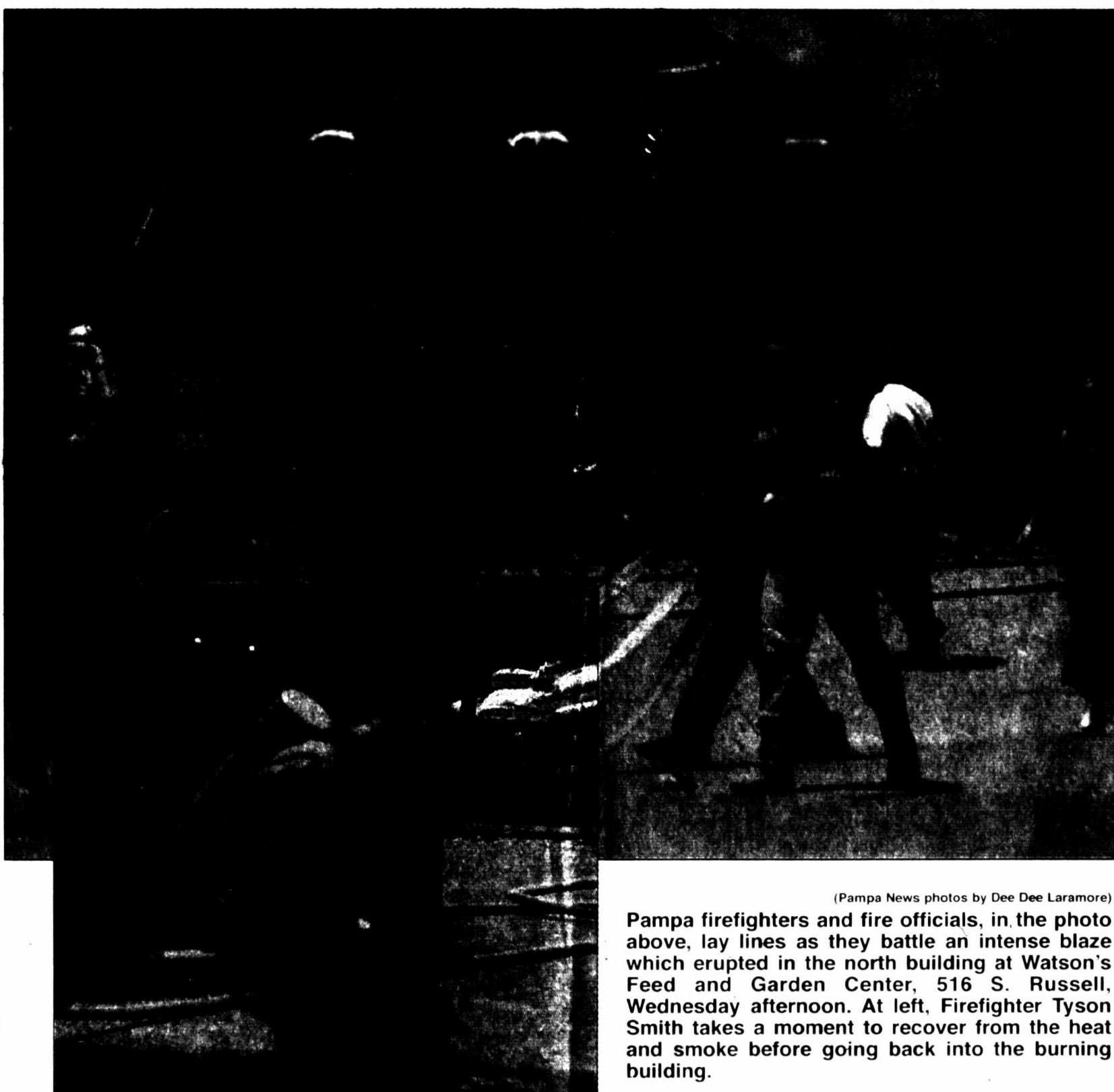
Preliminary calculations show that a minimum 15 cents per 1,000 gallons usage will be needed to cover the CRMWA increase, City Finance Director John Horst said today.

For an "average" user of 8,000 gallons a month, Horst said the increase would be \$1.20 per month.

Horst stressed the figures are preliminary and said the plans for an increase have not yet been presented to the Mayor and City Commission.

When new rates are approved, Horst said it's likely they will be effective on Jan. 1, if all goes as have some recent increases.

Blaze erupts at Watson's ...



(Pampa News photos by Dee Dee Laramore)

Pampa firefighters and fire officials, in the photo above, lay lines as they battle an intense blaze which erupted in the north building at Watson's Feed and Garden Center, 516 S. Russell, Wednesday afternoon. At left, Firefighter Tyson Smith takes a moment to recover from the heat and smoke before going back into the burning building.

Fire marshal says electrical fire cause of \$130,000 in damages

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

Pampa Fire Marshal Gary Stevens today said electrical problems caused a \$130,000 fire at Watson's Feed and Garden Center Wednesday that sent two people to the hospital, suffering from the affects of heat and smoke.

Fire officials did not have the names of the two people injured in the fire, but emergency radio traffic identified one as a 19-year-old Watson's employee and the other as the owner of the business. One person was taken to the Pampa Regional Medical Center emergency room from the 500 block of South Russell at 1:46 p.m. Wednesday and a second person was transported at 2:27 p.m., according to Rural Metro Ambulance Service reports.

Pampa Fire Department first received the report of a "big fire" in a 9-1-1 call to the garden center, 516 S. Russell, at 1:47 p.m. Seven units and nine personnel responded to the fire.

A black plume from the fire floated across downtown Pampa, spurring a crowd of curious drivers seeking the source of the heavy smoke.

When firefighters, police, and ambulance

Firefighters, wearing full bunker suits and breathing apparatus, took turns battling the flames in the 102-degree heat.

"They're wearing 40 to 65 extra pounds," Pampa Fire Chief Kim Powell said. "It's like wearing a snow suit to the beach."

lance personnel arrived at the scene, the north building of the Watson's three-building complex — a steel frame covered by shade cloth — was engulfed in flames. Shreds of the cloth covering floated into the air and settled around the fire scene.

A wooden loading dock adjacent to the garden center also sustained fire damage, fire officials said.

Stevens said today that the fire was first discovered by a customer who had been in the building looking at the merchandise

for only a few minutes when she saw the north wall and the shelves on the north wall were on fire.

"She ran up front to tell them it was on fire," Stevens said. "The owner tried to put it out with a garden hose, but it had went too far."

The fire marshal said large fans used to cool the building actually contributed to the fire.

"Those big fans just sucked the air into the fire. They can take a little fire and make it big," he said.

Another contributing factor to the size of the blaze was the number of flammable objects in the building.

"There was so much fire load in that area," Stevens said. "There was a lot of burlap and it was just full of those grapevine wreaths."

Firefighters, wearing full bunker suits and breathing apparatus, took turns battling the flames in the 102-degree heat.

"They're wearing 40 to 65 extra pounds," Pampa Fire Chief Kim Powell said. "It's like wearing a snow suit to the beach."

"(A fire crew) would be physically brought back to the station and put under (See FIRE, Page 3)

Kidnapping, sex assault nets arrest

Victim 3 years old

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

A house-to-house search by local law enforcement officers, looking for a lost 3-year-old girl Wednesday afternoon, led to the arrest of a Pampa man on kidnapping and sexual assault of a child charges.

Barry Max Bryant, 42, 513 N. Cuyler, remained in Gray County Jail at press time today on bonds totaling \$100,000, according to Chief Deputy Kelly Rushing. In a bond hearing this morning, Justice of the Peace Joe Martinez set bond at \$50,000 each for the two charges.

At 5:22 p.m., Wednesday, a 9-1-1 call came into the city's emergency communications center reporting a missing 3-year-old girl in the 500 block of North Cuyler, according to police records.

Pampa police officers were immediately dispatched to the area, not realizing at the time, that a family member had reported the missing child in person to the Gray County Sheriff's Office and that deputies were also responding to the call.

Deputy Morse Burroughs, one of the first units to arrive in the area, began a house-to-house search, police said. When Burroughs approached 513 N. (See ASSAULT, Page 3)

Appraisal District's '02 budget proposed

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
Staff Writer

Gray County Appraisal District (GCAD) board members and local taxing entities are considering an annual 2002 budget totaling \$520,198 in projected expenditures.

Nine local taxing entities bear most of the cost of the appraisal district: Grandview-Hopkins Independent School District (ISD), Gray County, City of Letors, Letors ISD, City of McLean, McLean ISD, City of Pampa, Pampa ISD, and Water District. Each agency pays a portion of the budget according to a percentage of its total tax levy.

"We anticipate certain increases in costs of operation due to requirements relating to insurance, training, appraisal record keeping, and overall operational expense," Chief Appraiser Pat Bagley said in a cover letter to the entities.

Although the total proposed budget is \$520,198, the taxing entities will only be responsible for \$478,189, approximately 5.4 percent more than 2001.

Bagley said \$42,000 of the projected expenditures will be funded (See APPRAISAL, Page 3)

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

ALVEY, Lola Mae — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.
CHAMBERS, Wilma — 10 a.m., Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.
LEONARD, Carolyn Ann — Celebration services, 11 a.m., First Baptist Church, Ingram.
REID, Raymond Edward — Memorial services, 3 p.m., St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Pampa.
STEVENS, Margaret Roberta — 11 a.m., White's Chapel United Methodist Church, Southlake. Committal service, 1:30 p.m., Azleland Memorial Park, Azle.

Obituaries

CAROLYN ANN LEONARD
KERRVILLE — Carolyn Ann Leonard, 72, died Tuesday, July 10, 2001, at Oklahoma City, Okla. Celebration services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in First Baptist Church in Ingram with Dr. David McFadden officiating. Burial will be in Garden of Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Overby Funeral Home of Kerrville.
 Mrs. Leonard was born Jan. 13, 1929, at Franklin, Ala. During her husband's career as a pastor, she served alongside him in many churches where she was involved in teaching Bible studies to young married couples. She was an avid gardener.

Survivors include her husband, the Rev. Jesse Leonard of Ingram; two daughters, Gina Ireland of Kerrville and Gay Ivey of Boise, Idaho; two sons, Ray Leonard of Stevenson Ranch, Calif., and Jay Leonard of Corona, Calif.; three sisters, Laurene Beckett, Willette Springer and Eleanor Bryant; two brothers, Joseph Bryant and Jack Bryant; and several grandchildren.
 The family requests memorials be to First Baptist Church of Ingram.

MARGARET ROBERTA STEVENS
SOUTHLAKE — Margaret Roberta Stevens, 71, a retired bank officer, died Monday, July 9, 2001, at Alex, Okla., following an automobile accident. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in White's Chapel United Methodist Church. A committal service will follow at 1:30 p.m. in Azleland Memorial Park in Azle. Arrangements are under the direction of Robertson Mueller Harper.
 Mrs. Stevens was born Jan. 20, 1930, in Mobeetie, Texas, to Robert and Tassie Patterson Leonard. She was a longtime resident of Azle, where she was a bank officer with Azle State Bank.

She was a member of White's Chapel United Methodist Church.
 She was preceded in death by her son, Fred Powell; and by her husband, Marvin Stevens.
 Survivors include a daughter, Donna Palon of Southlake; a stepdaughter, Debbie Trout of Huntington Beach, Calif.; brothers, Jesse Leonard of Kerrville, A.L. Leonard of Pampa, Dinzel Leonard of Canadian, and Joe Fred Leonard of Wichita Falls; a sister, LaVerne Newman of Chickasha, Okla.; and several grandchildren.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Anthony Gram of Pampa.

Wheat	2.71	dn 0.05
Milo	3.51	dn 0.02
Corn	3.69	dn 0.01
Soybeans	4.20	dn 0.01

The following show the prices for which these mutual funds were bid at the time of compilation.

Occidental	26.56	dn 0.19
Fidelity Magell	106.06	dn 0.02
Puritan	18.27	dn 0.01

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

BP Amoco	47.89	up 0.57
Celanese	22.67	up 0.87
Cuba	36.10	up 0.55
Calumet	23.18	up 0.09
Chevron	87.50	dn 0.17
Coca Cola	45.03	dn 0.48
Columbia HCA	43.50	dn 0.65
Enron	49.35	dn 0.88
Halliburton	32.34	dn 0.88
KMI	53.36	dn 0.44
Kerr McGee	61.10	dn 0.32
Linnco	16.41	up 0.57
McDonald's	26.95	up 0.31
Exxon Mobil	84.49	dn 0.46
New Atmos	22.25	up 0.05
OCJ	28.77	dn 0.24
NOI	22.19	dn 0.41
OKI	19.25	up 0.01
Penney's	26.33	up 1.70
Phillips	55.65	dn 0.35
Pioneer Nat.	15.55	up 0.13
SLB	50.48	dn 0.77
Tenneco	3.26	up 0.01
Texaco	65.51	dn 0.24
Ultramar	47.50	up 0.60
Wal Mart	50.66	up 1.81
Williams	32.12	dn 0.43
New York Gold	268.75	
Silver	4.26	
West Texas Crude	27.50	

Correction

Vickie Goheen was incorrectly identified as Vickie Going in a story in Wednesday's edition of *The Pampa News* regarding the Kids Klown Kontest. We apologize for the error.

Police report

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

Wednesday, July 11
 Elizabeth Anne Hoover, 43, 1021 Mary Ellen, was arrested in the 1000 block of Mary Ellen for assault causing bodily injury to a family member.
 A red suitcase filled with clothes and other items, total value \$500, was reported lost in the 1800 block of North Hobart.
 Assault causing bodily injury to a family member was reported in the 1000 block of Mary Ellen.
 Kidnapping of a 3-year-old child was reported in the 500 block of North Cuyler. (See related story.)
 A representative of Allsup's, 1025 W. Wilks, reported three thefts of gasoline for \$3, \$10, and \$30.85, between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. Wednesday.
 Assault was reported in the 100 block of North Wynne.

Thursday, July 12
 Theft of a lawn sprinkler valued at \$75 between 10 p.m., July 11, and 6:30 a.m. today.
 Artura Ambriz Villarreal, 18, no address listed, was arrested in the 100 block of South Starkweather for public intoxication.

Ambulance

Rural/Metro made the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, July 11
 7:55 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 600 block of Powell and transported one to BSAW.
 10:35 a.m. - A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported one to NWTH.
 1:46 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of South Russell and transported one to PRMC.
 2:27 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of South Russell and transported one to PRMC.
 10:05 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of North Christy and transported one to PRMC.

Thursday, July 12
 12:18 p.m. - A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South Starkweather and transported one to PRMC.

Fires

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

Wednesday, July 11
 1:12 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass fire at the Top O' Texas Rodeo grounds, east of Pampa. It was determined to be a controlled burn - rodeo directors were cooking the barbecue for Thursday night's rodeo performance.
 1:47 p.m. - Seven units and nine firefighters responded to a structure fire at Watson's Garden Center, 516 S. Russell. The fire caused an estimated \$130,000 damage and is under investigation. (See related story.)
 2 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass fire on Price Road. No fire was found. Firefighters determined the report stemmed from smoke coming from the fire on South Russell.
 5:18 p.m. - Two units and five firefighters responded to a grass fire 1 1/2 mile south on Bowers City highway. Approximately one-half acre was burned.
 6:48 p.m. - Four units and seven firefighters responded to a grass fire on East Loop 171 caused by a one-vehicle accident.
 7:50 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass/ trash fire at Watson's Garden Center, 516 S. Russell. Tree limbs and railroad ties were still smoldering from the earlier fire.

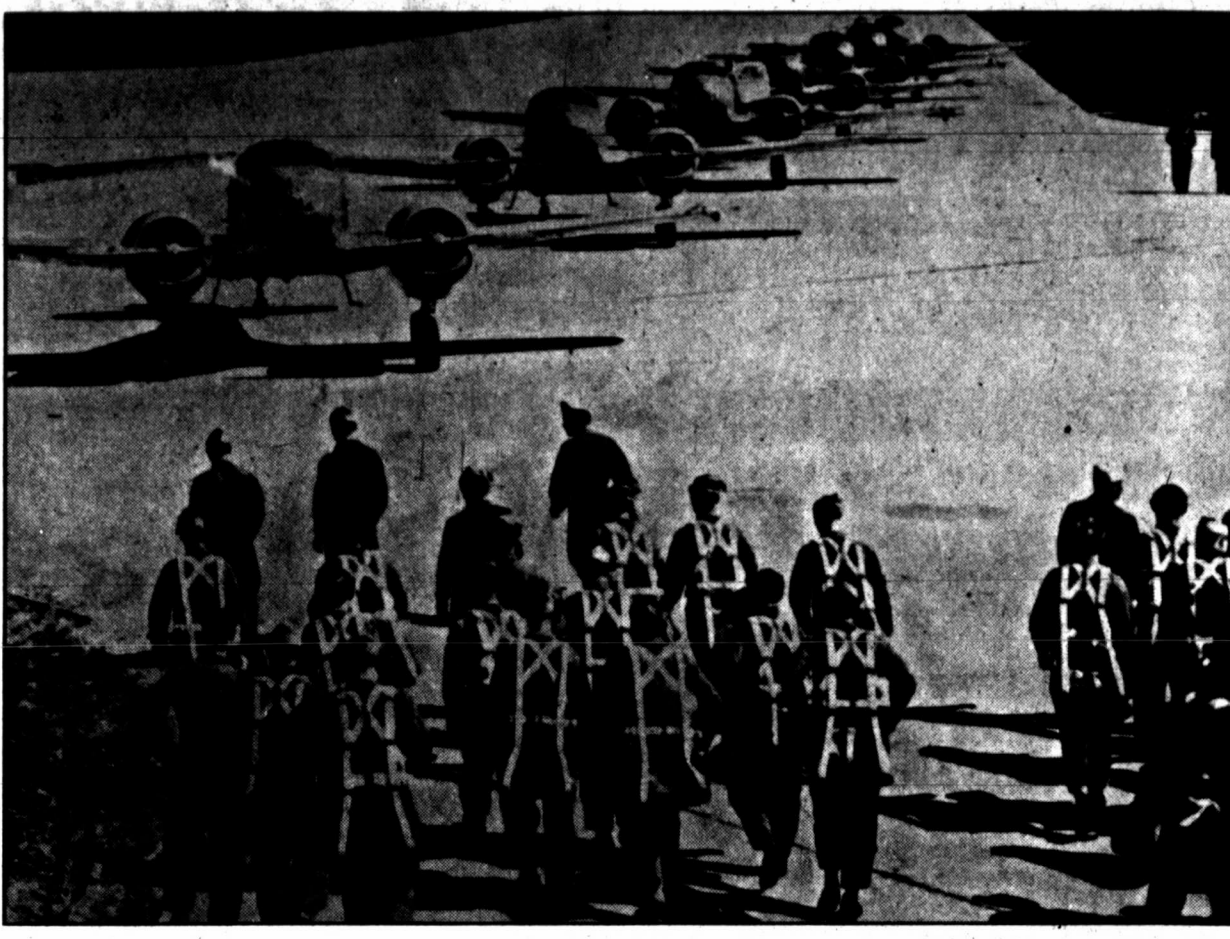
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 2 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass fire on Price Road. No fire was found. Firefighters determined the report stemmed from smoke coming from the fire on South Russell.
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 6:48 p.m. - Four units and seven firefighters responded to a grass fire on East Loop 171 caused by a one-vehicle accident.
 7:50 p.m. - One unit and two firefighters responded to a grass/ trash fire at Watson's Garden Center, 516 S. Russell. Tree limbs and railroad ties were still smoldering from the earlier fire.

Sheriff's Office

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests and incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, July 11
 Barry Max Bryant, 42, 513 N. Cuyler, was arrested for aggravated kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault of a child. (See related story.)
 Ronald Ellis, 36, Groom, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety and sheriff's deputies on a charge of harassment.

Book signing ...



Flight crews head to planes in this picture taken at the old Pampa Army Airfield.

Author to be here Saturday

Book has chapter on Pampa Army Airfield

By DARLENE BIRKES
 For the News

Author Thomas Alexander will present a program on the Pampa Army Airfield and book-signing at Freedom Museum USA, 600 N. Hobart, at 1 p.m., Saturday, July 14.
 An Air Force veteran, Alexander has included a chapter on the Pampa Army Airfield in "The Stars Were Big and Bright: The U.S. Army Air Forces and Texas During WWII," volume II. Alexander did extensive research on 10 air fields in this second volume, which follows his award-winning first volume published in 2000.
 In addition to the Pampa base, "Alexander includes chapters on Bergstrom Field in Austin, Ellington Field in Houston, Laughlin Field at Del Rio, Biggs Field at El Paso, as well as Marfa, Lubbock, Midland, Big Spring, Fort Worth and Hondo. The author includes detailed data about

each base as well as photographs of the principal aircraft assigned to the airfields.
 In his research, Alexander did interviews of those living in the hosting cities, and includes newspaper accounts and pictures, giving a visual image of Texas' home front during the war years.
 Following his military service in the Strategic Air Command and the Illinois Air Guard, Alexander was instructor navigator with the rank of major. He was in retailing 30 years, retiring as executive vice-president in retailing at Nieman Marcus. He later owned and operated a cattle ranch in Erath and Comanche Counties and now lives in Fredericksburg, Texas, with his wife.
 Sponsors of Saturday's program include the Freedom Museum USA, White Deer Land Museum and the Gray County Historical Commission.

Boy found in hot car dies at hospital

DALLAS (AP) — The death of a 3-year-old Plano boy, trapped in a sport utility vehicle as the outside temperature neared 100 degrees, is a painful reminder of how dangerous automobile interiors can be during the summer months, authorities said.
 Police and weather forecasters say people can take precautions to prevent such accidents, including leaving car windows cracked to keep heat from building up in closed cars and never leaving children or pets in vehicles.

At least two other North Texas children have died in hot cars this year.

Cory Clark died Wednesday after he was found inside his family's Chevy Suburban.
 Plano police Sgt. Mark Hunt said the boy was outside playing with siblings and friends. The children had been playing in and out of the car. But Hunt said the door closed and the boy couldn't get out.
 Hunt said he did not know the age of the other children.
 The temperature inside a closed vehicle as outside temperatures approached the century mark could reach 150 degrees, the National Weather Service said.
 Police said Cory was unconscious when paramedics arrived. They believe he was in the vehicle for about 20 minutes before his parents realized he was in the car. They were inside the house.
 The boy was taken to the Medical Center of Plano, where he later died.
 Police are investigating the death, which they say appears to be an accident.
 A National Weather Service meteorologist in Fort Worth said the temperature in the Dallas area was 97 degrees around 3:30 p.m., when the boy was found.
 Meteorologist Jesse Moore said temperatures inside a car can

Former Pampans killed when ejected; no seat belts

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Two former Pampa residents died from injuries incurred in a one-vehicle rollover Monday in Alex, Okla. (See obituaries this page).
 The Leonards and Stevens were enroute to the funeral of a niece, Helen R. Newbrough-Reyes, 67, and also a former Pampa resident, of Chickasha, when the rollover occurred.
 Chief Investigator Don Brooks with the Alex Police Department said Roberta Stevens, 71, died at the scene of the accident. Her sister-in-law, Carolyn Leonard, 74, was airlifted to University Hospital in Oklahoma City, Okla., where she died Tuesday.
 He said Jesse Leonard, 72, husband of Carolyn Leonard, was driver of the 1998 Chevy Blazer which was traveling westbound on Highway 19 when he lost control of the vehicle, causing it to rollover three times.
 The two women were ejected from the vehicle, said Brooks. He said neither woman was wearing a seat belt, but said the driver of the vehicle was seat-belted.
 Jesse Leonard, a retired Baptist minister and former Pampa resident, is a brother to local resident, Chunky Leonard.

City Briefs

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

- LONE STAR** Country Club, 1300 S. Barnes St. Opening Fri. July 13th-4 p.m. till Midnight, Sat. July 14th-4 p.m. till 1 a.m. Memberships Available!
- JEWELRY, SHIRTS,** clothes, accessories, antiques, collectibles, all for you at the Cottage Collection!! 922 W. 23rd.
- CONY ISLAND** will resume its reg. hrs. 11am-7pm beginning July 10th.
- MOVING MUST** sell almost new Whirlpool white refrig., \$200 firm. 665-1819, 665-1877.
- CHRISTMAS IN** July Sidewalk Sale at garage sale prices! Fri. 13th & Sat. 14th, 10-5:30 p.m. Celebrations, Coronado Center, 665-3100. We deliver.

People in the news ...

HAVANA (AP) — Puerto Rico-born **Benicio Del Toro** says that although Hispanics have made gains in Hollywood, more work is needed to increase the presence of people with Latin American roots.
 When it comes to Hispanics in Hollywood, "there are few writers, there are few directors," said Del Toro, who won a best-supporting actor Oscar earlier this year for his role in "Traffic."
 The 34-year-old spoke Wednesday during a visit to screen the **Steven Soderbergh** film about drug trafficking between the United States and Mexico.
 "The reality is that Latinos must do it themselves," he said. "Neither the studio nor anyone else is going to do it for them."
CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — **Arnold Schwarzenegger** says his support for the Special Olympics is driven by his desire to help people.
 Schwarzenegger was in Cape Town for the launch of a Special Olympics initiative to recruit an additional 100,000 African athletes by 2005.
 "We all know the intellectually challenged are still the most neglected and stigmatized people in the world. We have to do everything to make them equals," he said at a press conference.
 Schwarzenegger, whose movie credits include the "Terminator" films, "Total Recall" and "True

Lies," has been an ambassador for the Special Olympics since 1979.
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — **Lisa Marie Presley** cut the ribbon on the wrought-iron gates leading to Presley Place, a 12-unit, rent-free apartment building for homeless people trying to get back on their feet.
 The 33-year-old daughter of rock 'n' roll king **Elvis Presley** donated \$1.3 million to the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association to build the apartments.
 "Giving back is a check for me," she said. "The one thing that helps keep me sane and happy is to help others."
 Presley, who lives in Los Angeles with her two children, was accompanied Tuesday by **Nicolas Cage**. The two have been appearing together publicly for several weeks.
 Elvis Presley Enterprises, which handles the licensing and marketing of everything with Elvis Presley's name and image, will pay the operating costs for Presley Place for five years. Lisa Marie Presley is owner and chairman of the board.
 Presley, who died in 1977, lived in Memphis public housing as a boy.

Weather focus

PAMPA — This afternoon, mostly sunny. Highs 102 to 104. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph.
 Tonight, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 70s. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph and locally gusty.
 Friday, mostly sunny. Highs 103 to 105. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph.
 Friday night, mostly clear. Lows in the mid 70s. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph and locally gusty.
 Thursday's high was 103; the overnight low 73.
STATEWIDE — Texas temper-

atures should remain hot up to the weekend under the influence of a high-pressure ridge which is blocking formation of showers and thunderstorms.
 But some widely scattered rain. It is expected for the weekend as the ridge weakens.
 Early-morning temperatures were mostly in the 70s under clear skies, ranging to the middle 80s along the Rio Grande and middle Gulf coast.
 It was 73 degrees at Austin and 83 at Del Rio and Palacios.
 Winds were generally southerly at 5 to 10 mph.
 Mostly sunny conditions were expected to continue through Friday as the high-pressure dome remains stationary over the Southern Plains.
 A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms was forecast for the north, central and northeast regions.
 Daytime highs should range from the 90s in the east to 107 in the west and around the century mark along the Rio Grande.
 Lows in the 70s were expected overnight.
 Some high cirrus clouds from the Gulf were moving inland along the entire Coastal Plains and to the San Antonio area.

APPR

ed through GC Reserve fund for the past 1 said.
 "It's part of down reserve assets," he explained.
 Appraisal of the taxing entity is approximately 30 day budget, Bagley GCAD by received the b the July 3 meeti has been mail entities, he said.
 "I like to gi days and the b to look at it ar he said.
 According to Tax Code, appr rests on the GC ders, but the t "disprove" th said. To chan majority of the prove it, he sai

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 Pampa poli deputies bega investigation o "We did a q dence and sui has been fou Chief Charlie I

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WICHITA F — State Sen. To played an inflt year's legislati battling Parkin Thursday at l home. He was

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APPRAISAL

through GCAD reserves. Reserve funds have been used for the past two years, Bagley said.

"It's part of the plan to spend down reserves and replace assets," he explained.

Appraisal board members and the taxing entities have approximately 30 days to evaluate the budget, Bagley said.

GCAD board members received the budget proposal at the July 3 meeting and the budget has been mailed to the taxing entities, he said.

"I like to give the entities 30 days and the board has that long to look at it and ask questions," he said.

According to the State Property Tax Code, approval of the budget rests on the GCAD board's shoulders, but the taxing entities can "disprove" the budget, Bagley said. To change the budget, a majority of the entities must disprove it, he said.

Almost 3/4ths of the budget — \$381,899 — goes toward employee costs including salaries/ wages, retirement, FICA, insurances, car allowance, training, licenses, travel and mileage.

The 2002 budget reflects a 4.1 percent increase in pay — \$11,298 — and related expenses for the nine GCAD employees from this year's budgeted employee costs of \$362,704.

"It is our intention to reward good employees for their efforts to eliminate mistakes and waste, and to move forward with an efficient and productive operation," Bagley said in the letter.

Health and life insurance predictions were also boosted by \$8,000 for 2002.

Contractual services increased slightly from this year's projection — an estimated \$95,460 compared to \$92,800 for 2001. Bagley said this covers costs of professional consultants for mineral, oil and gas, and industrial appraisals, plus maintenance of the facilities, the annual financial audit, postage meter maintenance and computer software.

Utility expenses for the coming year of \$11,330 are a rough estimate, as well, he said. "I'm just trying to estimate the gas and electricity," he said. "I don't think I have enough for gas. It really caught us off guard this year."

Bagley added an additional \$1,250 to the estimated cost for natural gas which he said he hopes will cover any greater expense needed to heat the GCAD building this winter.

Estimated costs for supplies decreased \$1,425 from \$23,875 set for 2001 to \$22,450 expected in 2002.

"In mineral appraisals you really need a petroleum engineer and/or a geologist to deal with engineers and geologists," he explained. "Industrial appraisals have always been a big item in the budget. That is a big item on the tax roll. You need an expert to do it."

The chief appraiser allowed \$10,000 for legal expenses, but concedes, "It's really something you can't predict."

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"A missing child report is pretty routine," Morris said. "Nine times out of 10, they've gone over to a friend's house to play and forgot to tell their parents. But once in awhile it's something like this. That's the reason we do an all-out search every time."

"This was one for the good guys," he added.

"We commend Deputy Morse Burroughs for his excellent job," Morris said.

CRMWA

try to get approval for fuel cost adjustments and surcharges from the Public Utility Commission, Williams said.

CRMWA directors also heard a status report on the water authority's Salinity Control Project, upstream on the Texas-New Mexico state line.

The salinity project also faced delays due to power costs. Tests in which brine will be injected in the ground to decrease the salt content of the Canadian River on its way to Lake Meredith are expected to be conducted on the project Monday.

Williams also said the water authority is concerned with a lawsuit filed against the State of Texas by landowners in the area immediately downstream from the Sanford Dam, seeking title to land that was considered state property before the dam was built, as well as payment of oil and gas royalties collected by the state from oil and gas production on the land.

The suit is an outgrowth of a suit by landowners further downstream in which the land from the high water mark to the edge of the water was ruled to be private, not state, property, although no royalties were involved.

Williams said the outcome of the most recent case could effect CRMWA's flood control activities.

During their meeting, the directors also approved CRMWA's \$3.98 million general operating and maintenance budget, up from \$3.72 million last year.

The directors also amended

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

their manual to allow for ground water fees from the Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District and authorized an engineering study of aqueduct capacity at an estimated cost of \$50,000 to \$75,000. Williams said he wanted the study to be done within three to six months in case CRMWA needs to purchase more water rights.

"I'm not sure that the water rights we've been offered will be available in two years or five years," Williams said.

He said that three different groups had offered to sell water rights to CRMWA.

The Canadian River Municipal Water Authority provides water to 11 communities in the Texas Panhandle and Texas South Plains, including Pampa.

The directors also amended

Approximately 3 1/2 years ago, Watson's Feed and Seed, then under different ownership, was destroyed in a fire believed to have been caused by lightning, fire officials said. The business had recently been relocated to 516 S. Russell.

Fire officials did not have the

name of the current owners of the business. The Pampa City Directory lists the owner as Sharlet Watson.

The Pampa News was unable to reach anyone at the business by press time today. Repeated calls received a busy signal.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ASSAULT

Cuyler, he apparently interrupted a sexual assault of a child in progress, police said, and by 5:28 p.m., he had made an arrest.

Pampa police and sheriff's deputies began an intensive investigation of the crime scene.

"We did a search of the residence and quite a bit of evidence has been found," Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris said today.

"The investigation is continuing. As a matter of fact, it has a high priority."

Morris said the child has been to a medical facility for treatment, adding that the nature and extent of her injuries are not clear at this time.

Det. David Connors has been assigned to investigate the kidnapping and sexual assault and was interviewing the suspect this morning, the chief said.

"The investigation is continuing. As a matter of fact, it has a high priority."

Det. David Connors has been assigned to investigate the kidnapping and sexual assault and was interviewing the suspect this morning, the chief said.

State Sen. Tom Haywood dies at 61

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — State Sen. Tom Haywood, who played an influential role in this year's legislative session despite battling Parkinson's disease, died Thursday at his Wichita Falls home. He was 61.

"He died of an apparent heart attack," said Todd Gallaher, an aide in Haywood's Austin office.

Haywood was a two-term Republican who planned to announce a re-election bid in September.

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VIEWPOINTS

THE Pampa NEWS

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Texas Editorials

By The Associated Press

A sampling of editorial opinion around Texas:
The Dallas Morning News on House bans Mexican trucks:
The U.S. House of Representatives tarnished itself by voting to ban Mexican trucks from U.S. territory.
Congressmen who voted for the ban say that they did so to keep unsafe Mexican trucks off U.S. highways, and some of them may actually mean it. But make no mistake: The ban is a sop to organized labor, which resents foreign competition and lobbied strenuously to keep the Mexican trucks out. Some congressmen who voted for the ban may even have been motivated by prejudice, as Ari Fleischer, President Bush's spokesman, hinted.

Some Mexican trucks are unsafe. So are some U.S. trucks. The proper way to keep the unsafe Mexican trucks off U.S. highways is not to ban all Mexican trucks. It is to ensure that all trucks are safe, regardless of their country of origin or their drivers' nationality.
Mr. Bush has a good plan to ensure that the Mexican trucks would be safe. The trucks would have to comply with U.S. safety standards. In addition, Mexican truckers would have to obtain "additional ... certifications of compliance," according to a government blueprint. The truckers would receive classroom instruction and training materials and "be subject to intensified roadside monitoring." Federal regulators "would take expedited action if a Mexican carrier engages in conduct that poses a potentially serious threat to public safety."

Mr. Bush proposed to more than double funding for truck safety inspectors along the U.S.-Mexico border. The House inexplicably rejected his request.
The United States is obligated to let the Mexican trucks in under the North American Free Trade Agreement, which both houses of Congress approved in 1993. The trucks were supposed to enter Texas and the other border states in 1995, all the other states (except Hawaii and Alaska) in 1998. But President Bill Clinton refused to let the trucks in on the specious grounds that they were unsafe, even though the accord specified the trucks would have to comply with U.S. safety standards.

Mexico sued to force the United States to meet its obligation. An arbitration panel sided with Mexico, which meant that Mexico had a right to impose compensatory tariffs on U.S. goods. But Mexico did not impose the tariffs because Mr. Bush promised to let the trucks in starting in January 2002. The House's irresponsible action based on the arrogant and unsustainable belief that it can pick and choose which provisions of free-trade agreements to implement throws the timetable into doubt.

Four North Texans voted for the ban Republican Pete Sessions and Democrats Ralph Hall, Martin Frost and Eddie Bernice Johnson. They were wrong to do so.
Mr. Bush should fight to keep the Senate from repeating the House's mistake. He should stop the ban from becoming law.

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum**
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Pampa Phone: 665-3552
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736
- State Sen. Teel Bivins**
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Phil_Gramm@gramm.senate.gov
- Texas Gov. Rick Perry**
P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711-2428.
Constituent Hotline: 1-800-843-5789
www.governor.state.tx.us/e-mail.html

'Thinking cooler' during outage

Brown outs and low water pressure are not what I want when I go home in the evenings, nor on the weekends. But you don't always get what you want. These have been experiences I have learned to live with lately.

We sure take a lot for granted in life. During the past few weeks I have learned just how much I depend on my water and electricity to be available at my beck and call.

A few weeks ago most everyone in my small community experienced a "brown out". Talking on the phone to a friend who lives in the country when my lights went down to a "glow", I commented on how eerie it looked. She told me to shut my lights off immediately, and anything else I didn't want to replace or to explode with the surge of power when electricity returned.

My first thought was my refrigerator! Then, I immediately began unplugging the air conditioning, computer, television, radios-everything. We were getting just enough power to barely keep anything electrical "faintly" running.

Since it was about 8 p.m. and well before dark, I was able to gather candles and flashlights with ease. The traffic on my battery-operated police scanner informed me of what was taking place. I knew the city crews as well as the electric company were trying to solve the problem.

However, it seemed as though the problem went on and on. At least the evening was fairly cool. When the electricity goes off during the winter due to ice storms, a fire in the



Nancy Young

Managing editor

fireplace is quite pleasant. This wasn't appealing a couple of weeks ago.

After several hours I went to sleep and awakened at 12:30 a.m. to find we had electricity again. So, around the house I went setting alarm clocks while making a mental note to get a wind-up clock the next day. I was certainly grateful that I was going to be able to shower before I went to work the next morning. And knew everyone at work would appreciate the fact that I had after having no air conditioning for several hours.

Just before 1 p.m. last Saturday we again lost electricity because of a wire "shorting out". Our City Administrator explained in technical terms what occurred, and it boiled down to no electricity. We again experienced "low voltage" resulting in a "brown out".

At least I was home. Immediately, I unplugged all my appliances again. I was told anything with freon in it is especially subject to damage with low voltage.

City employees were going door-to-door to tell people to stop watering their grass, and to cut consumption immediately. The pumps to the water station were shut down so they wouldn't be destroyed by the low voltage.

As it became hotter and hotter inside my home, I decided I would go to Berger and run some errands- in air conditioned buildings. Smug that I had found a solution, I open the door to the garage when I realize I can't do that- I have an electric garage door and my car is in the garage!

Cooking was out as my house is all electric, so I snacked. Then I remembered a murder mystery which is set in Yellowstone National Park during the winter. I decided to pull it out to try to "think cooler."

On Monday a sub station blew a disconnect. It again affected the water wells.

About 6:30 a.m. Wednesday I went to water my flowers and my dog, Boog, as is my pattern. I could barely get a trickle of water. An early morning house fire had caused a severe drain on our water supply.

Water conservation is being urged. I was relating this to my daughter, Kathy, who lives in San Diego and thought she could really understand due to the electrical shortages in that area. She said they have not experienced any brown outs.

At least I have learned something from all this- Keep the car out of the garage when it is super hot. I have learned a lot about "low voltage" and the damage it can do to your appliances.

As of yet, I haven't had to pay as much as my brother-in-law- his central air and heat system went out shortly after our first brown out. Another neighbor has had to replace her washer. Several others are having appliance problems. It can be expensive.

As reports of energy costs are rising, I'm glad I've got electricity and water.

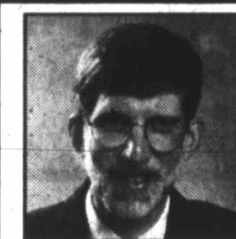
God, America and classic cars ...

"America's not what you see on the six o'clock news," said Tom McRae, founder and CEO of The Great Race. "America's about loving God, honoring country and singing 'God Bless America.'"

Rhetoric and reality often differ, except maybe on the Fourth of July, but recently in Leadville, Colo. - at 10,200 feet the highest incorporated city in the United States - brought the two together. That's because the 19th annual Great Race, featuring over 100 antique cars making their way from Atlanta to Pasadena, had its lunch stop in this city of 2,800 located near the Continental Divide.

First, the 22-piece U.S. Navy Ceremonial Band marched down Harrison Avenue, the city's main road. The band regularly traveled at the head of the race until budget cuts four years ago forced it to stay home. Now, \$50,000 in private contributions covers the group's travel budget. Perhaps a thousand townsfolk and tourists clapped to Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

Then McRae, a white-bearded 62-year-old who 25 years ago was a potsmoking, heavy-drinking manic depressive, explained that the event he founded is a timed endurance rally-race that awards \$290,000 in prizes not to the fastest but the most accurate. Drivers of fractious antique cars try to match to the second the times for each segment of the trip established by a test driver earlier this year.



Marvin Olasky

Syndicated columnist

Then the cars began to roll in, with spectators high-fiving drivers of a 1916 Hudson Speedster and other cars with thin, sculpted bodies, spindly wheels and narrow axles. Onlookers applauded a sporty 1925 Pierce Arrow Roadster, a 1917 Hudson Super Six Racer that looked like a steel mailbox on wheels, and a 1935 Auburn Cabriolet with a rumble seat.

Amazingly, a 1909 Ford Race Car - a plank on wheels with an engine at the front and a stuffed chair in the middle - had made it all the way from Atlanta. So had a 1916 American La France Speedster, resembling a flashlight topped by an upholstered couch, and a 1917 Hudson Super Six Racer that seems carved for a soap box derby race.

The stuff of movies came to life: a black 1932 Ford sedan perfect for a gangster film, a 1934 red Ford pickup truck, a 1925 Rickenbacker Roadster.

The Great Race is now sponsored by the History Channel, which makes sense given the

way a century of cars has changed America. We have more mobility and less community, roomier homes and traffic jams, and many other auto-related changes for good and ill. Autos for all: that was America's second Declaration of Independence, and the Leadville lunch stop was an opportunity to celebrate liberty.

But some people, living under liberty, imprison themselves. That was Great Race founder McRae's story. "At age 37," he tells one and all, "I had tried it all ... going for the gusto, living the good life. It turned out to be a black hole so deep I couldn't see a way out." He went to a doctor/friend, figuring "maybe he's got some pills that will fix everything." Instead, the doctor talked about Christ and challenged him to learn more: "Either Jesus was who He said He was, or He was a liar or lunatic."

McRae became a Christian and filled that black hole. By 1983, drug and alcohol addictions were in the past, and a newly confident McRae seized the opportunity to build his cross-country race for classic cars. Last week, as he led Leadville in the singing of "God Bless America," he noted that the song title contains his two favorite proper nouns, "God" and "America."

Those two words are separate and unequal, even though they are sometimes mixed up, but most Americans are thankful for the existence of both.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 12, the 193rd day of 2001. There are 172 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On July 12, 100 B.C., Roman dictator Julius Caesar was born.

On this date:

In 1543, England's King Henry VIII married his sixth and last wife, Catherine Parr.

In 1690, Protestant forces led by William of Orange defeated the Roman Catholic army of James II at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland.

In 1812, United States forces led by

Gen. William Hull entered Canada during the War of 1812 against Britain. (However, Hull retreated shortly thereafter to Detroit.)

In 1817, naturalist-author Henry David Thoreau was born in Concord, Mass.

In 1854, George Eastman, inventor of the Kodak camera,

was born in Waterville, N.Y.

In 1862, Congress authorized the Medal of Honor.

In 1974, John Ehrlichman, an ex-

aide to President Nixon, and three others were convicted of conspiring to violate the civil rights of Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist.

McCain-Feingold campaign-finance reform

There is no question, at least among sensible people, that the First Amendment was designed to protect political speech.

Yes, I know some blockhead judges have spread it over such actions as dancing naked and burning flags, but James Madison was no blockhead. He and his compadres were concerned about the free flow of ideas, especially those relating to government and politics, neither with sexual titillation nor infantile acting out.

It is for this reason that you should take pen in hand or keyboard to fingers and let your congressman know that you disapprove of the McCain-Feingold campaign-finance reform bill. Unfortunately, the millionaires in the Senate already have passed it. Let's hope it dies in the House or at least is seriously amended.
This bill would be better labeled the Politician Protection Act. Before the general elections and primaries, it would prohibit all kinds of political speech by all kinds of people - except, of course, politicians.
Not unions nor corporations nor non-profit groups could speak under certain circumstances, and, in other cases, non-profit groups that did engage in "political speech" would have to disclose their memberships.

It seems pretty basic to me that Congress shall pass no law that infringes on, much less prohibits, American citizens, as individuals or as members of groups, from voicing their opinions on political issues and on the members of the herd of mediocrity who run for public office. As for which groups we belong to, that's none of the government's business.
In better days, one could count on any federal official who could read and write to strike down such a flagrant violation of the First Amendment. These days, however, how federal judges will rule on any issue is less cer-



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

tain than playing the slots in Las Vegas. Years of ideological patronage have taken their toll.

John McCain may be a hero, but he's thin-skinned and apparently resents bitterly those peasants who criticize politicians while they are actively engaged in keeping their plush jobs. Incumbency is one of the curses of American politics. We ought to clean the stables on a far more regular basis than we do.

Years ago, a California senator wrote a funny book called "What Makes You Think We Read the Bills." One of the points he makes is that once a fellow gets a seat at the trough and discovers all those lobbyists with their campaign contributions, he realizes that he doesn't need the folks back home. He can raise his whole campaign kitty right where he legislates.

Nothing irritates an incumbent more than for someone to expose his record while he's out spreading the carefully crafted campaign blarney his hired experts have provided him. Telling the truth about an incumbent politician is usually labeled "negative campaigning."
But if the democratic process isn't free, it isn't democratic. To silence people 30 to 60 days before an election is such an outrageous slap at freedom, I'm surprised the whole country isn't in an uproar. But, methinks most Americans care little about freedom these days, as long as

they are comfortable.

At any rate, the remnant that does value freedom better raise Cain about McCain-Feingold's assault on the Bill of Rights.

Erik S. Jaffee, in a pamphlet written for the Center for Individual Freedom on this bill, raises another good point. These yo-yos seem to confuse influence with corruption.
The whole purpose of the political process in a free society is for the people to influence their elected officials. That's the purpose of the game. For example, I try to influence them not to mess with the Second Amendment and others try to influence them to abolish it. Unlike a totalitarian society, in a free society, no issue is ever really settled. A free society involves an ongoing process of interaction between the people and the government. Free speech is the cornerstone of a free society.

That's not to say it can't be abused. It often is these days, but, in the end, it boils down to this. Belief in God is ultimately a matter of faith. So, too, is belief in freedom. In this case, you have to have faith that no matter how much apathy, lies, corruption and propaganda there are that ultimately Americans will find the pony in the manure pile and do the right thing.

They cannot, however, if the government shuts their mouths, which is what the McCain-Feingold bill hopes to do.

We need more speech, not less. We need more folks joining together to accomplish their political goals, not fewer.

If McCain has grown too thin-skinned, let him retire. He married a rich girl with an even richer poppa, and McCain can easily live out his days in an environment where everybody will kowtow to him.
But let's keep our political arena wide open and as free and as rough as a barroom brawl. That at least will weed out the pantywaists.

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL

Pampa Area Literacy Council office is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

OPEN DOOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Open Door Alcoholics Anonymous at 910 Kentucky (across from Albertson's) meeting schedule — seven days a week — two meetings a day — noon till 1 p.m. and 8-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday noon meetings are non-smoking. For more information, call 665-9702.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER

Women's Support Group for Child Management offers parenting skills to assist parents and children in dealing with anger and behavioral issues resulting from peer pressure, sibling rivalry, family violence and/or sexual abuse from 7-8 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call Tralee Crisis Center, 669-1131.

LAS PAMPAS WATER GARDEN AND KOI SOCIETY

Las Pampas Water Garden and Koi Society meets at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at First Landmark Building in the Pampa Mall. For more information, contact Sharron Andrew at 665-6138 or Loyd Waters 665-6466.

MONTHLY GOSPEL SINGING

First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

American Heart Association meets at 12 noon the second Thursday of each month at Chaney's Restaurant.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood hosts "Dose of Reality" at 6 p.m. the second of Monday of each month in Suite 173A of the Hughes Building. The program is open to teens 13 to 19 years of age.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

Macedonia Baptist Church, 441 Elm, will hold daily prayer services at 7:30 a.m., 12 noon and 6 p.m. for the citizens of Pampa — churches, schools, etc. The prayer services are open to everyone. For more information, call 665-4926.

PAMPA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

Pampa Area Ministerial Alliance meets the first Monday of every month. Location changes monthly.

GRAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Gray County Genealogical Society meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month in the Gray County Sheriff's Department classroom. (Enter through the north door of the jail building.) For membership inquiries, contact Harley Madison at 669-6294.

CLARENDON VFW CHARITY BINGO

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7782, Hwy 287 east, Clarendon, will host charity bingo every Saturday beginning Aug. 4. Doors open at 6 p.m. with games starting at 7 p.m. Ten games are played per session. For more information, call 874-VETS. The maximum award is \$750 per game and \$2,500 per session.

BEEF AMBASSADOR CONTEST

Top "O" Texas CattleWomen is seeking youth between the ages of 15-19 to compete for the Beef Ambassador Award. For more information, contact Amy Brainard at (806) 323-6397.

PY&CC

Pampa Youth and Community Center will begin offering swim lessons June 4. The hour-long lessons will be conducted in two-week sessions, Monday through Friday, throughout the summer and include Levels I, II, III, IV and V. Payment is due upon registration. Enrollment at 1005 W. Harvester. For more information, call 665-0748.

VBS POLAR EXPEDITION

July 16 through the 20th, Hi-land Christian Church, 1615 N. Banks, will host "Come and Chill Out" vacation Bible school from 6:30-9 p.m. nightly. The VBS is being hosted by Hi-Land Christian, First Christian Church, First Presbyterian Church and St. Matthews Episcopal Church. For more information, call Jamie at 669-3371.

BSA TRAINING

BSA Hospice is sponsoring a volunteer training class from 5:50-8:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and again from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, July 16-28. Volunteers are the "heart and soul" of the Hospice team. Volunteers visit patients, work in the in-patient and home care division, help with mailings, transport patients and provide clerical and spiritual support. For more information or to register, call Deborah Andrews, LSW, at BSA (806) 212-8715.

OUTWARD BOUND

North Carolina Outward Bound will offer three paddling adventures for teens during the 2001 summer break. In addition to outdoor activity skills, NCOB courses provide instruction for navigation, basic first aid, wilderness safety, camping techniques and environmental stewardship as well as teamwork and leadership. For more information on these courses or other NCOB summer offerings, call 1-877-77-NCOBs, e-mail challenge@ncob.org or visit <http://www.ncob.org/summer.html> on the Internet.

CGC GRANT FUND

Consumer Guidance Corp. has established a grant fund to help people in financial difficulty due to high energy costs. The program is funded by private donations from corporations and private citizens who receive a tax exemption because of the organization's 501(c)3 non-profit status granted by IRS. To receive a grant application or for more information, call (202) 595-1035 or visit www.ConsumerGuidance.org on the Internet. To contribute to the fund, send tax deductible donations to: Consumer Guidance, P.O. Box 96051, Washington, DC 20090-6051.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

The Texas Department of Health will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases including polio, diphtheria, lock jaw (tetanus), whooping cough (pertussis), measles, rubella, mumps, HIB (haemophilus influenzae Type B) and chickenpox (varicella). Flu vaccines may also be offered at designated clinics. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinics will be offered: 9:30 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m., July 18, Harvest House, 736 Cuyler, Pampa; and 12 noon-4 p.m.,

HARRINGTON CANCER CENTER

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center has announced the following upcoming breast cancer screening clinics: July 9, First United Methodist Church Educational Building, 201 E. Foster, July 13, Planned Parenthood, 408 W. Kingsmill, and July 24, Shepard's Crook Nursing Agency, 916 N. Crest, Pampa; July 11 and 25, Hemphill County Hospital, Canadian; July 26, Family Care Clinic, and July 27, Family Care Hospital, Shamrock; July 9, Parkview Hospital, Wheeler. Participants will receive a low-cost self-exam mammogram and a breast health appraisal along with individual instruction by a registered nurse in breast self-examination. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are by appointment only. For more information, call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673.

SCIENCE SPECTRUM

The Science Spectrum and Omnimax Theatre in Lubbock have announced upcoming events throughout the month. Omnimax Theatre will offer the following presentations: "Journey into Amazing Caves," featuring spelunkers Nancy Aulenbach and Dr. Hazel Barton; "Island of Sharks," featuring underwater shots of the Cocos and surrounding islands; and "Adventures in the Third Dimension." Science Spectrum will offer Health and Safety Day July 28. For more information, call (806) 745-2525 or (806) 745-MAXX or visit www.sciencespectrum.com on the Internet.

COOP OF WOMEN ARTISTS

Cooperative of Women Artists is seeking participants for its 2001 annual National Multimedia Juried Art Show slated Oct. 5-26 at the Katy and E. Don Walker Education Center, Sam Houston Memorial Museum in Huntsville. The entry deadline is Aug. 10. Cash awards will be given in various categories. For more information, call Golda Rich at (936) 295-5377 or write: CWA Multimedia, 266 Elkins Lake, Huntsville, TX 77340.

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL

First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, is currently accepting aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will benefit Heifer Project International, an Arkansas-based service organization which provides livestock (chickens, pigs, sheep, cattle) along with training and support services to families and communities worldwide. For a limited time, donations will be matched 3-1 by a private foundation. HPI is a non-denominational not-for-profit agency. For more information, call the church office at 665-1031. Office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Friday and before 10:45 a.m. Sunday. For more information about HPI, call 1-800-422-0474 or visit <http://www.heifer.org> on the Internet.

USS COLUMBUS REUNION

USS Columbus Veterans Association will host a reunion Sept. 12-15, 2001, at Rapid City, S.D. For more information, contact Alvin S. Lewis, president, 726 E. Covina Blvd., Covina CA 91722-2955;

(626) 339-3568; homeport@lewisengraving.com

BOY SCOUTS

The Golden Spread Council of Boy Scouts of America is open to boys between the ages of 6 and 18 and includes a 27-county area in the Texas Panhandle. The BSA program includes Club Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing, a new program for 14- to 20-year-old boys and girls. For more information, call (806) 358-6500.

CASE

Cultural Academic Student Exchange is seeking families of all types — retired couples, couples with children, single parent families and childless couples — to host a high school exchange student. For more information, call 877-846-5848.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BOOKLET

The Cost Containment Research Institute in Washington, D.C., recently published a 32-page booklet, "Free & Low Cost Prescription Drugs." The revised third edition provides information on how and where to get free and low cost prescription drugs. Consumers can obtain a copy by sending \$5 to cover printing, postage and handling to: Institute Fulfillment Center, Prescription Drug Booklet # PDF-370, P.O. Box 462, Elmira, NY 14902-0462. The information is also available at www.institute-dc.org.

FEI DIRECTORY

The Free Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., is offering the booklet "Directory of Micro Loan Sources." The booklet includes information on how and where to get micro loans of up to \$25,000. Consumers can obtain a copy by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to: Free Enterprise Institute, Micro Loan Sources - Dept. DMLS-0313, P.O. Box 96071, Washington, DC 20090-6071; by calling (202) 595-1032; or by visiting www.FreeEnterpriseInstitute.org on the World Wide Web.

FEI BOOKLET

The Free Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., is offering the booklet "The 100 Most Popular Government Giveaway Programs." The booklet includes information on how and where to take advantage of the most popular government giveaway programs. Consumers can obtain a copy by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to: Free Enterprise Institute, 100 Government Giveaways - Dept. 100GG-0110, P.O. Box 96071, Washington, DC 20090-6071; by calling (202) 595-1031; or by visiting www.FreeEnterpriseInstitute.org on the World Wide Web.

FHRC BOOKLET

The Family Health Research Council is offering a free booklet "Getting the Sleep You Need" with information about sleep and suggestions on how to cure insomnia. To receive a copy, consumers should send \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to: Regional Fulfillment Center, Sleep Booklet #143, P.O. Box 692634, Boston MA 02269-2634. The information is also available at the Council's website at www.familyhealthresearch.org.

TRRC extension of severance tax exemption for two-year inactive wells

AUSTIN — Texas Railroad Commissioner Charles Matthews supported a motion to extend the tax exemptions for two and three-year inactive wells that are brought back into production.

"This exemption will continue the incentive program that already has benefited the public through increased oil and gas production," Matthews said. "This production may not have been economically feasible without the tax incentive program. This incentive has contributed to a greater supply of energy, more jobs in the oil and gas industry and the efficient allocation of existing natural resources."

The rulemaking amended Statewide Rule 83 to reflect the legislative extension of the deadline for certification of wells as two-year inactive wells. The Texas Tax Code authorizes a 10-year severance tax exemption for the production from wells

that have had no more than one month of production in the two-year period prior to application for the tax exemption. The Railroad Commission's authority to designate two-year inactive wells originally expired on Feb. 28, 2000. However, the legislature amended the Tax Code to extend that certification deadline to Feb. 28, 2010.

"During the initial period of this exemption beginning September 1997 through May 2001, over 5000 wells have been brought back into production, and I believe the extension of this incentive will encourage producers to increase that number," said Matthews.

The motion passed with support from all three Commissioners. For further information log on to the Commission website at www.rrc.state.tx.us or contact Dorsey Twidwell at (512) 463-6742.

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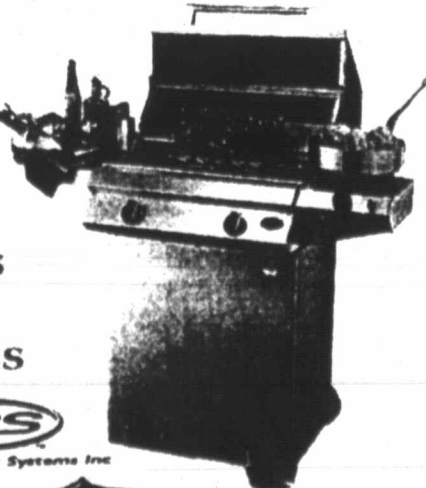
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JULY 12 2001

Police want Condit, three others to take polygraph test

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police are starting a search of vacant buildings in the nation's capital, looking for clues in the disappearance of former federal intern Chandra Levy, who had ties to a member of Congress.

Meantime, negotiations are under way to set conditions under which Rep. Gary Condit, D-Calif., would submit to a lie detector test in the case. Condit, who police say is not a suspect in Levy's disappearance, told authorities last week that he had a romantic relationship with the 24-year-old woman, police sources say.

"We have to explore the possibility that she may be dead and we're looking for the remains," said Terrance Gainer, the city's No. 2 police official. "So we're looking at about one-seventh of the District of Columbia right now, at abandoned buildings."

"Our officers begin walking through those buildings today

Pacific figures in brigade sites

WASHINGTON (AP) — Home bases for the Army's newest special combat brigades are planned partly to put them in quicker reach of the Pacific.

Current brigades in Hawaii, Alaska, Fort Polk, La. and Army National Guard in Pennsylvania will be transformed into so-called Interim Brigade Combat Teams, according to Rep. Ike Skelton of Missouri, the top Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee.

One such brigade was set up a year ago in Washington state to test the concept, part of the Pentagon's post-Cold War strategy of making the service nimble enough to ship thousands of troops anywhere in the world in a matter of days.

The new locations were being announced Thursday by Army Secretary Thomas E. White and Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

"Where the brigades are going to be stationed will support our emerging national strategy," Army spokesman Maj. Tom Collins said Wednesday, adding that the focus is on the Pacific.

Pentagon officials have said they need to shift more attention to that part of the world. And citing the potential for conflict between Taiwan and mainland China, a recent Pentagon sponsored study suggested the United States expand its military presence on the Pacific island of Guam and consider asking Japan for use of its southernmost Ryukyu islands as a staging base.

"Hawaii has long been and will continue to play a key role in the strategic training and deployment of our armed forces," Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii.

Formation of the first Interim Brigade Combat Team started in late 1999 and the unit for more than a year has been training at Fort Lewis, Wash., developing tactics, techniques and procedures for future brigades. Formation of a second is under way in Washington, and Thursday's announcement of plans to form four more between now and 2003 would bring the number to six, Collins said.

and we may use cadaver dogs if it's necessary," Gainer said on CBS' "The Early Show."

Gainer said investigators are still working on four theories in Levy's disappearance: that she was a victim of foul play, committed suicide, walked away voluntarily or is wandering around not knowing who she is.

The assistant chief said he talked Wednesday with Condit's lawyer, Abbe Lowell, about hav-

ing the congressman take a lie detector test. "The congressman's attorney has suggested we can get to a polygraph test," Gainer said.

The Washington Post and CNN, citing police sources, reported police have asked three other men to take polygraph tests. One said he occasionally socialized with Levy, but the connection of the other two to Levy was not immediately clear.

Several items taken from

Condit's apartment during a search that ended at 3 a.m. Wednesday were being turned over to the FBI crime lab in Quantico, Va., said Sgt. Joe Gentile, a police spokesman.

Condit voluntarily allowed the search of his home to show his cooperation in the search for Levy, a constituent from Modesto, Calif., whom he has described publicly as a good friend.

The Post reported in

Thursday's editions that FBI agents have interviewed a Pentecostal minister who described an affair between his then-18-year-old daughter and Condit.

The minister, Otis Thomas, was quoted by the Post as saying that Condit had told his daughter never to speak of the relationship. Thomas said his daughter is afraid to talk with the FBI and has gone into hiding. Thomas, whose church is in Modesto, Calif., did gardening work at the Levy home in Modesto, the Post said.

Thomas told the Post that his daughter met Condit at a political

rally and ended the relationship about seven years ago.

Asked about that report, Gainer would say only that "the names and stories aren't unfamiliar to us."

Marina Ein, a spokeswoman for Condit, said the Post report was "discountable—there's no confirmation from the principal," referring to the daughter.

Asked if she was denying the congressman had an affair with the woman, Ein said: "We're not going to get in the territory of accounting for each and every one of the tabloid cases that are presented."

Community Day Care Center



(Special photo)

The children at Community Day Care Center recently took a break from their hectic schedule of play to smile for the camera. Above: (bottom row, left-right) Tanner Swaney, Jose Silva, Alex Thompson, Misti Bowers, Raven Landers, Kaylan Smith, Chancie King, Terry Botello; (second row, l-r) Danielle Kirby, Lauren McCollum, Meagan M. Collum, Kirsti Winegeart, Jacob Clark, Larry Ragan; (back row, l-r) teachers Juanita Munoz and Lesley Clark.

Background check at DPS license office leads to arrest

ATHENS, Texas (AP) — A trip to the local driver's license office meant a trip to jail for Shannon Thomas, 19, of Athens.

Thomas was arrested Tuesday on warrants for aggravated robbery and evading arrest after Department of Public Safety workers ran a background check on him at the local driver's license office.

"He didn't know he had warrants on him," Athens Police detective James Cook said. "It's a pretty bad mistake, or a good mistake, depending on how you look at it."

Justice of the Peace Bill Burton set Thomas' bond at \$128,000. Thomas remained in the Henderson County Jail late Wednesday.

Thomas was wanted for questioning about a purse-snatching Thursday in Athens.

A woman told police that a man stopped his vehicle and asked her for a cigarette. The man grabbed her purse and ran over her foot as he drove away.

Police said the evading arrest warrant was issued because they say Thomas fled when they tried to stop a vehicle matching the description given.

Men out of hospital; runoff from refinery observed

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Three men injured in the refinery blast and fire at Ultramar Diamond Shamrock in Three Rivers have been released from a Coastal Bend hospital, a company spokeswoman said.

Greg Likens, 47; Arnulfo Guerrero, 40; and Gerald Pierson, 50, were released Wednesday from Christus Spohn Hospital following Monday's explosion and blaze.

Cleanup crews have already started working to repair the refinery, said Diane Mitchell, an Ultramar Diamond Shamrock spokeswoman. She was not sure when the plant would operate again.

The cause of the explosions and vapor leak has not been determined, said James Jungman, Live Oak County fire marshal and emergency management coordinator.

"I don't expect us to get a cause for a few weeks — maybe months," he said.

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission tested water in the nearby Frio River on Tuesday for hydrofluoric acid, a corrosive chemical used to produce high-octane gasoline.

Runoff from the refinery has been detected inside Three Rivers' wastewater treatment plant, said Dick Lewis, TNRC spokesman.

The liquid, which included traces of hydrofluoric acid and benzene, was mixed with water used to prevent further release of hydrofluoric acid vapors.

The contaminants entered the treatment plant through a manhole cover in a ditch in the northeast corner of the plant.

"We were confronted then with untreated sewage and contaminated water that was leaving the plant and entering the Frio River," Lewis said in Thursday's editions of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times.

The discharge lasted for about five hours.

The Frio River is a source of drinking water for Three Rivers and Beeville.

Lewis said booms located where water from the treatment facility feeds into the river contained the pollutants, where it would be collected and removed.

"We don't see any threat to the source of drinking water to the city of Corpus Christi, nor do we see any immediate threat for drinking water sources for Three Rivers or Beeville," Lewis said.

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Young Victims of Abuse Are Urged to Reach Out for Support

DEAR ABBY: You printed a column from stepchildren in loveless homes. Both letters were signed, "No Name, No Address, No Phone." I hope you'll convey this message to the teen-ager in high school.

Please remember that in three years you'll be graduating and be able to start a new and independent life. Despite your surroundings, make every effort to make these important years count.

Wake up each morning, make your bed, and get yourself out of there so you can focus on your future. Take refuge at the library and at school. Work toward a scholarship. Prove your parents and stepparents wrong by becoming a shining example for your younger sister and brother. *You can do it!*

Many adults in this world want to see young people succeed and fulfill their potential. Talk with your teachers, coaches, counselors, ministers and the parents of friends. Reach out, and you'll find the support you need to get through this difficult time.

You deserve a life filled with love and support. I'm sending a big hug for you and your siblings.

TWIN CITIES MOM
AND TEACHER

Dear Abby

Is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips,

DEAR ABBY: Seventeen years of my life were spent being kicked, punched and beaten. I was choked, shamed, told I was worthless, starved, berated — you name it.

My relatives saw what was happening, but my mother would tell them I was such a terrible child I deserved worse than I was getting. If someone had just once asked me what was going on, I would have gladly told them. But I wasn't allowed to speak to anyone unless Mother said it was OK.

Children should feel safe in their own homes. Unfortunately, abuse goes on right under people's noses. I'm willing to bet that many people reading this know someone who is being abused, but the person is too embarrassed to admit it. Victims are made to carry the guilt of the abuser, so they become masters at hiding it. I was told I was so bad no one would believe me. I was too

afraid to confide in my teachers or friends for fear of retribution. I had been warned that if I ever told, I would be beaten beyond recognition.

By the way, if you're wondering where my father was during all this, he was as afraid of my mother as I was.

I finally moved out at the age of 17. Mother always said if I didn't like the way she treated me, I could leave any time. I think she was more surprised than anyone else when she saw me packing my belongings. Within an hour I was gone.

To this day, every interaction I have with her is painful. She denies everything, even though many of my relatives have told her they witnessed her abuse. While I have moved on, she is depressed and talks about suicide. I will accept no responsibility for her depression. She should have gotten her act together a long time ago.

SURVIVOR

DEAR SURVIVOR: In your case, that's healthy thinking. You have suffered enough for a lifetime. Your abusive mother could outlive you. Let your "loving family" deal with her. Keep your distance and do not allow yourself to be manipulated.

Have A Story Idea...
Contact Dee Dee or Nancy
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Wildwood

TRY PICKING YOUR NOSE. -- WOMEN LOVE THAT. **REALLY?**

A MAN WHO PICKS HIS NOSE IN PUBLIC EXUDES A SAUCY "I DON'T CARE" CONFIDENCE.

THANKS, MR. LENNY! I'LL TRY IT.

THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY WORK FOR HIM.

NO, BUT I'VE GOT AN OPENING LINE FOR THE REST OF THE NIGHT.

Marmaduke

"We sure do...don't you, Marmaduke?"

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- Floats on the breeze
- Useful skill
- "The Waste Land" 1970 film writer
- Ingenuous
- firma
- Uttered
- Took home
- Unprocessed
- populi
- Bleachers occupant
- Makes amends
- Capri coin
- Rangers' worries
- Sommer of cinema
- Muskrat or mouse
- "Treasure Island" monogram
- Suffer
- Cove
- Glass base
- Like the Capitol
- Koran topic
- In reserve
- Israel's Meir
- School books
- Car of the '50s

DOWN

- Sopping
- Pub pint
- Independence
- Day sight
- Tripled, a 1970 film
- Deprives of food
- Wing
- Uttered
- High die roll
- Vigil time
- Danson of "Becker" hit
- Facial feature
- Decathlete
- Johnson
- Island
- Energetic folks
- Concert venue
- Janet Jackson hit
- Social page word
- Topper
- Leaves
- White House workers
- Church group
- Oaf
- Morse symbol
- "A Chorus Line" song
- Blend
- Fruit cooler
- "2001" computer

Yesterday's answer

RESIN PAST
ERASE LASER
ERNIE OLIVE
VATS SWEDEN
ETA RIB END
SUFFERED
METS AIDA
SUMMERED
AMP LOS ARE
LIESTO SWAM
ENNUI TONTO
TURN ALIEN
TYPE BONDS

The Family Circus

"We're playin' Match the Socks."

For Better or For Worse

MY FOLKS SAID AS LONG AS I WAS IN SCHOOL, THEY'D PAY SO MUCH A MONTH TOWARD RENT ON FOOD, AN I HAVE TO MAKE UP THE REST.

YEAH, THE DEAL WITH MY FAMILY IS ABOUT THE SAME... ELIZABETH, LOOK!

IS RUDY PUTTING THE MOVIES ON CANDAGE, OR WHAT?

WE'RE GOIN' FOR PIZZA, GUYS! -- WANNA COME?

COME ON, RUDY DOESN'T MOVE UNLESS FOOD IS INVOLVED!

Zits

THIS IS YOUR BRAIN

THIS IS YOUR BRAIN WHEN YOUR GIRLFRIEND UNEXPECTEDLY BREAKS UP WITH YOU...

WHIRRRRRRR!

ANY QUESTIONS?

Garfield

I WANT YOU TO SQUISH MY LOUSY NO-GOOD HUSBAND!

THEN I WANT YOU TO POUND HIM INTO MULCH, AND THEN RIP HIS LEGS OFF AND STUFF THEM DOWN HIS CRAW!

HE GAVE YOU VACUUM CLEANER BAGS FOR YOUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AGAIN, DIDN'T HE?

CANISTER BAGS!... AND I HAVE AN UPRIGHT!

Beetle Bailey

ZERO, SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A PENCIL

OKAY

LOOK WALKER

THERE'S A WHOLE LOT OF THEM AT THE PX!

Marvin

HERE'S YOUR BREAKFAST, BITSY

SEE THAT? MY UNCANNY PORTRAYAL OF BITSY COMPLETELY FOOLED YOUR MOM

YEAH

...AT LEAST UNTIL SHE'S HAD HER MORNING COFFEE AND PUT IN HER CONTACTS

B.C.

WILEY'S DICTIONARY

WILEY'S DICTIONARY

ONE OF TWO WAYS TO MISPELL MISPELL...

Haggar The Horrible

HELLO, DEAR... HOW WAS YOUR RAID ON THE ENGLISH?

UNFORTUNATELY I MADE A BIG MISTAKE...

I LET THEIR CIVILIZED, GOOD MANNERS FOOL ME!

Peanuts

WELL, AREN'T YOU COMING?

IT DIDN'T SAY "TROT"

Blondie

REMEMBER, NO COFFEE IN MY NEW CAR... I DON'T WANT ANYBODY SPILLING ANYTHING

AND NO BAGELS OR DOUGHNUTS, ESPECIALLY THE POWDERED KIND... AND DON'T GET ANY DIRT ON MY FLOOR MATS

...JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE RIDE!

HOW?!

Mallard Filmore

GET A CAMERA CREW OVER TO M-STREET RIGHT AWAY!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT JUDGING FROM ALL THE NEWS VANS HEADED THIS WAY, IT'S EITHER A HOSTAGE SITUATION...

...OR SOMEBODY SPOTTED JENNA BUSH JAYWALKING.

STUMPED?
For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SPORTS

Notebook RODEO

SHAWNEE, Okla. — Brianna Brooks of Booker won the first go-round in barrel racing Wednesday at the International Finals Youth Rodeo.

She defeated her nearest competitor by almost two seconds with a time of 14.48 seconds. She collected \$1,533.61.

Meanwhile, Marty Eakin of Caprock was second in the first go-round of saddle bronc, scoring a 75 and collecting \$518.88.

The rodeo continues through Saturday.

CYCLING

VERDUN, France (AP) — Lance Armstrong finished in the main pack after a difficult stretch of racing to remain in seventh place in the Tour de France.

Laurent Jalabert of France, who broke three ribs in February while changing a light bulb, captured the fourth stage. He edged Ludo Dierckxsens of Belgium in a sprint finish.

Australia's Stuart O'Grady kept the overall leader's yellow jersey for a second day.

Armstrong finished seven seconds behind the leaders on a day of racing that ended at the scene of one of World War I's bloodiest battles. The two-time defending champion was 30th in the 133.5-mile stage.

FOOTBALL

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Bill Cowher, his future as the Pittsburgh Steelers' coach seemingly in jeopardy only 18 months ago, was given a three-year contract extension Thursday.

The Steelers gave Cowher the extension through the 2005 season despite missing the playoffs the last three seasons. They went 22-26 over that span.

Cowher asked for the extension after coaching the Steelers to a 9-7 record last season, and the new contract was worked out following several months of talks between Cowher's new agent, Phil de Picciotto, and Steelers vice president Art Rooney II.

The extension is worth about \$7 million and raises Cowher's average salary to about \$3 million, the current going rate for NFL coaches. He will make \$4.8 million over the next two seasons on a deal he signed in 1998.

Cleveland Browns coach Butch Davis and New York Giants coach Jim Fassel also recently signed contracts worth about \$3 million per season.

Cowher's status seemed in doubt following the 1999 season, when the Steelers went 6-10 and quarterback Kordell Stewart was benched. But Cowher won a postseason power struggle with director of football operations Tom Donahoe, who was allowed to resign and later took a similar job with the Buffalo Bills.

The Steelers rebounded from consecutive losing seasons to go 9-7 last year and win nine of their last 13 games following an 0-3 start, but still missed the playoffs.

Flashback

1977: Pampa's Dusty Hudson had the tournament's low-round of 72 in the second round of the District 3-4A Golf Tournament in Amarillo. Hudson overcame a double bogey on the first hole to shoot even par.

Pampa is in third place in district with three rounds to go.

For the Harvesters, Ed Sackett was second on the team with an 80 in the second round.

Pampa All-Stars go against Tulia

PAMPA — The 11-12 year-old Pampa All-Stars will be playing in the West Texas State Tournament, beginning July 14 in Lockney.

Pampa meets Tulia at 2:30 p.m. in first round action. Pampa All-Stars are Shavious Kelley, Brett Ferrell, Robbie Dixon, Bradley Johnson, Blake Nusser, Colby Copeland, Jonathan Carr, Mark Stone, Bobby Sikes, Colden Fortenberry, Travis Marsh, Aaron Carr, Colby Greenhouse, Sameer Kelley and Matthew Trusty. Coaches are Ron Carr, John Warner and Danny Nusser.

The team has also received extra help from Optimist League coaches Robert Dixon and Ed Ferrell during two to three hour daily practices.

There's plenty of experience on this year's all-star team. Many of the players have been on state championship all-star teams. Others have seen post-season action in the YMCA Amarillo YMCA Baseball League.

The coaches combine for over 30 years of experience.

The All-Stars' strength may be in their pitching. Of 15 players on the roster, 14 of them have experience as a pitcher.

They also have some power at the plate. One player hit five home runs over the fence during practice.

The 11-12 All-Stars have raised approximately 100 percent of their budget for the upcoming tournament. The coaching staff thanked the community for their generous support.

DUMAS — Pampa scored three quick runs in the first inning off doubles by Jed Martin and Hunter Craig, a triple by Tyler Doughty, and a sacrifice fly by Shea Brown. But it wasn't enough in the West Texas State 14-15 Tournament. Plainview used clutch pitching to send Pampa to the loser's bracket with the 8-4 comeback win Tuesday.

Johnny Moore slammed a triple in the third inning and scored on Doughty's infield grounder to finish up the scoring for Pampa. Plainview advances to the state tournament in Seminole in two weeks.

Pampa played the Dumas-Lockney winner last night. The Pampa 14-15 All-Stars won its first two tournament

Glo-Valve Service



(Courtesy photo)

Glo-Valve Service (above) won its 14th league title this season and its ninth City Championship with a 22-2 record. The team competes in the Pampa Optimist Cal Ripken 11-12 League. Team members are (front row, from left) Janice Parker, team mother (11-year-olds); Jonathan Carr, Aaron Carr, Travis Marsh, Andy Parker, Lex LaRue and Tammy Carr, head team mother; (second row, from left) Garrett Eggleston, Robbie Dixon, Brett Ferrell, Craig Crowell, Bobby Sikes and Jarron Clark; (back row, from left) Ron Carr, coach; Michelle Crowell, team mother (12-year-olds); Robert Wayne Dixon, coach; John W. Warner, manager, and Ed Ferrell, coach. Not pictured is LeKeith Towles.

Heupel, Nebraska spiker land Big 12 honors

DALLAS (AP) — Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel and Nebraska two-sport star Greichaly Cepero have been named Big 12 Conference athletes of the year.

The male and female honorees, announced Wednesday, were picked by administrators from each conference school and media for the academic year.

Athletic directors nominated one male and one female for their school.

Selections were based upon the 2000-2001 athletic performance and academic achievement with citizenship as a tiebreaker.

Heupel had an incredible statistical year in 2000, in leading

the Sooners to a 13-0 record and their first national title since 1985. He was runner-up in voting for the Heisman Trophy.

Heupel was the Big 12 offensive player of the year and the conference's football student-athlete of the year.

For this honor, he beat out Baylor's Kelly Shoppach, Colorado's Jorge Torres, Iowa State's Cael Sanderson, Kansas' Nick Collison, Kansas State's Justin Beasley, Missouri's Justin Smith, Nebraska's Shane Komine, Oklahoma State's Mark Munoz, Texas' Nate Dusing, Texas A&M's Bashir Ramzy and Texas Tech's Robert Monroe.

Cepero was the conference's volleyball player of the year

while leading the Cornhuskers to a 34-0 record and their second national championship. She also started in 16 basketball games, averaging 6.1 points and 5.3 rebounds per game.

Her competition for the award came from Baylor's Danielle Crockrom, Colorado's Kara Grgas-Wheeler, Iowa State's Gina Curtis, Kansas' Andrea Bulat, Kansas State's Austra

Skujyte, Missouri's Amanda Lassister, Oklahoma's Stacy Dales, Oklahoma State's Maria Boden, Texas' Colleen Lanne, Texas A&M's Melissa Gulli and Texas Tech's Janelle Jones.

Richardson golfer leads Texas State Open

FORT WORTH — Following round two of the Texas State Open, overnight joint leader Michael Connell of Richardson gained the outright lead. Connell fired a course record second round of 65 to follow his first round of 67 for a 36-hole total of 132 (12 under par).

Connell had a round Wednesday that included seven birdies and 11 pars. Round one joint leader Joey Gullion of

Dallas is three shots back after firing a round of 68 to follow his first round of 67 for a 36-hole total of 135 (9 under par).

Lindy Miller of Fort Worth made the biggest jump of the day. Following round one, he was tied for 82nd at three over par yesterday. Miller fired a second round of 68 to jump 63 paces into a 19th-place tie. He had a 36-hole total of 143 (1 under par).

The Texas State Open is being conducted at The Links at WaterChase, located in Fort Worth. The Steven D. Plumer designed golf course has been nominated to Golf Digest's Best New Courses in 2001 and was voted one of the top 10 new courses in Texas.

The par 72, 7304-yard championship layout is proving to be a demanding test for the 156-player field.

Men's NCAA basketball tourney reduces travel in first and second rounds

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA is changing bracketing rules for the men's basketball tournament to allow teams to play closer to home during the first two rounds.

Beginning next March, the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee will assign the top four seeds in each region to subregional sites with an emphasis on reducing travel, regardless of where the teams would play in regionals the following week.

The change, announced Thursday, is designed to eliminate situations like the one this year that had Maryland, Georgetown, George Mason and Hampton assigned to first-round games in Boise.

The committee will place teams in two groups at each subregional site, but the groups may feed into different regional sites.

"For student-athletes, it means less travel, fewer missed classes and a more exciting atmosphere in the arenas," said Mike Tranghese, chairman of the basketball committee and commissioner of the Big East Conference. "For parents, friends and alumni, it means easier access to their favorite teams' games."

Until now all the teams placed in a particular region played their first- and second-round games at one of two sites in that region, then advanced to the regional in that same region.

"We also believe this change will minimize the need for teams to be away from their campuses for long periods of time," Tranghese said. "Some teams that have been sent out

of their region have gone directly from their first/second round site to the regional site; we are optimistic that the need for that to occur will greatly diminish."

Tranghese said the change also should cut teams' expenses and boost attendance in the opening rounds.

"Of nine non-dome sites in this year's tournament, only three had attendance less than 89 percent of capacity. This adjustment would have significantly enhanced attendance at those sites, which would have created a better atmosphere in those arenas," he said.

Tranghese said the new change will not eliminate teams' having to play outside their home regions.

"Because we want to balance the strength of the four regions, and because of the geography of where our schools are located, the committee will continue to have to move some teams out of their region," he said.

The committee also will now have the flexibility to place the fourth team selected from a conference in the same region as the highest-seeded team from that conference. Previously, once the highest-seeded team from a conference was assigned a region, no other team from that conference could be assigned there until the sixth team was selected from that conference.

The committee also will no longer place a team seeded fifth at a potential "home-crowd disadvantage" in the first round. Previously, the committee had afforded that protection only to teams seeded one through four.

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7-12 CRYPTOQUOTE

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 U B V T I M , " F M F M I ' J X F I S " ;
 J X F P M , " F M F M I ' J V E P B , " ;
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Horoscope
 BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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)
 ***** Your high energy bowls others over. You're full of happiness and energy. You don't mind pitching in or doing more than your share. Unexpected developments encourage you to adapt and change your plans. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ***** Step back and think through a decision involving your finances. Airing out ideas helps tighten up concepts and projects. An important discussion takes place later in the day. Give up worrying so much, and greet more convivial times with a smile. Tonight: Opt for quiet.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ***** Listen to someone. Your instincts remain excellent. Swap ideas and brainstorm. You succeed beyond your dreams. Think more in terms of financial gain for the next few months. You have the talent and the wherewithal to develop a stronger money picture. Tonight: Where your friends are.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ***** Express your ideas with security and optimism. You know what you want. Take charge as only you can. You head in a new direction. Listen to feed-

back from another. Jupiter, the planet of expansion, moves into your sign, which initiates a new 11-year lucky cycle. Tonight: Celebrate.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ***** Reach out for those at a distance. In fact, make plans to meet someone halfway. Later, clear the air with an associate who might be driving a hard bargain. A meeting fosters unexpected events, taking you in a new direction. Go with the flow. Tonight: A friend surprises you.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ***** Work quietly with a partner. Listen to his objectives, and see if it is a match. Once you understand each other, you opt for a new direction. The unexpected occurs at work or in your day-to-day life. Demonstrate your flexibility. Tonight: A night for two.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ***** Work demands your attention, but those around you do all they can to get your attention. Your sense of humor comes out with a child or loved one who delights in adding mischief to your life. Schedule meetings for the end of the day. Tonight: Follow someone's lead.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ***** You might not always have as much control as you would like. Focus on information, research and the big picture. Your ability to understand another helps clear out any project that is pending. Adjust to his needs. Consider a home office. Tonight: Do something relaxing.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** Your fiery energy answers a partner's demands. Though you tend to think in the here and now, you need to address the long term. Unexpected statements and news help distract you. Understand what your ultimate goal is within a relationship. Tonight: Play the weekend in.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ***** Others distract you from the real issue at hand. Don't put yourself in a non-negotiable situation. It is crucial that you stay focused. Security comes before anything else, in your book. An unexpected financial change could work in your favor. Study and use it. Tonight: Your home is your castle.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ***** Others find you easily accessible and often very interesting, yet you very well could stun someone with your words and choices. Clear off your desk and get a project completed as soon as possible. Remember a brother or sister who means a lot to you. Tonight: At a favorite spot.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ***** Review a recent stand. Use your instincts creatively, and understand what is going on. Your imagination sometimes takes you on wild-goose chases. Focus on financial goals and don't go past your limits. A child or loved one rebels or distracts you. Tonight: Treat another to something after work.
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 Actor Harrison Ford (1942), comedian Cheech Marin. (1946), actor Patrick Stewart (1940)

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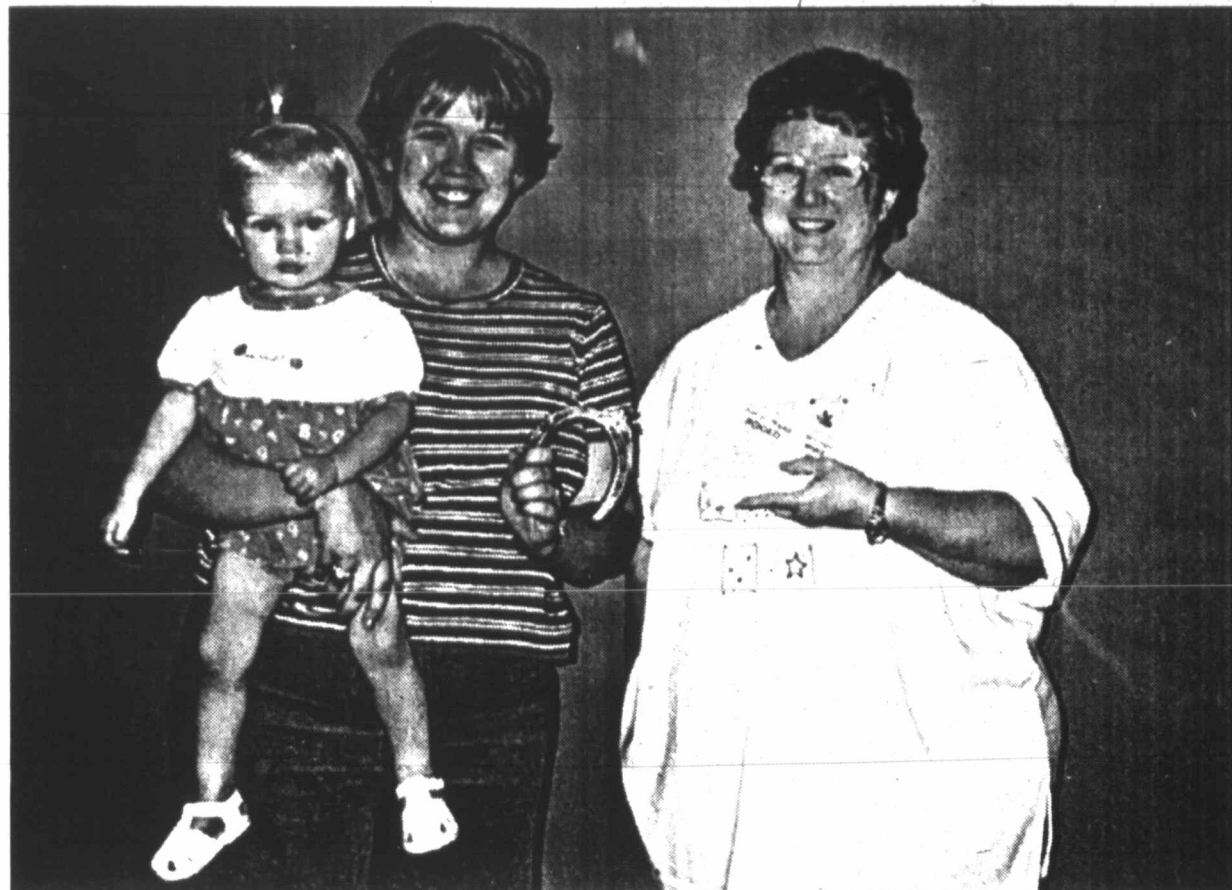
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Golden Horseshoe winner



(Courtesy photo)

Golden Horseshoe winners Kylan and Christa LaRue, left, get tickets to a box of seats from Jane Jacobs of the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association. The Golden Horseshoe was found under the foot of the "lizard" that stands near the walking trail just off Somerville. The winners may also ride in Saturday's downtown rodeo parade.

Transportation Department under fire as House panel weighs action on unscrupulous movers

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's every family's moving nightmare: belongings held hostage for an inflated fee, unnecessary packing materials used to further hike bills, irreplaceable items damaged.

Now, after a critical report by congressional investigators accused the Transportation Department of shirking its duties to regulate interstate moving companies, members of Congress are asking why.

Rep. Tom Petri, chairman of the Transportation highways and transit subcommittee, has called a hearing Thursday to push for answers. Aides say Petri, R-Wisc., was alarmed to hear of growing consumer complaints three years after the agency promised to make improvements.

The General Accounting Office, the investigative arm that issued the report, planned to detail many of the complaints at the hearing.

"Consumer complaints against household goods carriers have multiplied while the (Transportation) department has conducted limited oversight of the industry," JayEtta Hecker, a GAO director said in prepared testimony.

David Longo, spokesman for the Transportation Department's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, said Wednesday officials were concerned about whether moving companies are complying with federal motor carrier safety and commercial regulations.

"We will work closely with Congress and all interested parties on this important issue," Longo said.

Already, some consumer advocates are pushing for the federal government to give states and local governments the power to enforce federal law against interstate movers.

"With virtually no federal oversight, and states and individuals hamstrung ... consumers have no recourse against unscrupulous movers," Wendy Weinberg, executive director of the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators, said in prepared testimony.

Weinberg cited federal telemarketing laws as a precedent for the federal government and states sharing enforcement authority.

Joseph Harrison, president of the American Moving and Storage Association, said his group wants to eliminate unscrupulous movers but opposes expanding federal law. He prefers pushing the Transportation Department to exercise its enforcement authority.

"The very nature of moving may create problems that are unavoidable — loss or damage, delayed pickups or deliveries — situations that can impact the operations of the most efficient and reputable movers," Harrison said. "Certain problems are unavoidable yet they become the catalyst for persistent consumer complaints."

Each year, between 1.3 and 1.5 million households use commercial moving firms to most their household goods to another state, officials estimate.

There are 2,900 motor carriers registered with the Transportation

Department to transport household goods across state lines.

Hecker said despite the growing industry, the transportation agency has devoted only five of 2760 full-time staff to the household goods moving issue. The GAO is also concerned that a complaint database that was scheduled to begin operating in April of this year is delayed for several months.

On the Net:

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee: <http://www.house.gov/transportation/>
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/index.htm>
American Moving and Storage Association: <http://www.moving.org/>

Democrats vow to derail Bush energy plan, shift emphasis to cutting energy use

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration's energy development plans are meeting resistance in Congress as Democrats block new drilling in federal monument areas and vow to stymie attempts to develop oil and gas reserves in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and an Arctic wildlife refuge.

Another showdown was likely today as the Senate considers a delay of oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf off Florida and Alabama, although the Interior Department has scaled back development plans there dramatically.

That attempt to block the Gulf plans, complained a frustrated Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, "may be the only vote on energy production we ... have the rest of this year."

Two months ago, the energy blueprint President Bush disclosed focused heavily on the need to find new sources of coal, natural gas and oil and to build more power plants and electricity transmission lines.

An Interior Department spokesman said Wednesday the department has no plans to develop leases in the national monuments or parks. The Bush plan does not specifically exclude that, however.

Democrats and moderate Republicans in Congress have frustrated measures to develop energy in areas where environmentalists have expressed misgivings. They have sought to shift emphasis to cutting energy use.

The Senate voted Wednesday to prohibit new exploitation of coal, oil and gas resources on federally protected monument areas across the West. Drilling and mining under existing leases in the monuments could continue.

"Damaging these irreplaceable lands is not going to solve America's energy crisis," argued Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill. He

rejected protests by Western GOP senators that fencing off significant oil, gas and coal reserves in those areas defies logic.

The ban on new drilling in the monuments, similar to an action already taken by the House, passed 57-42.

Thursday's on whether gas lease sales in 1.5 million acres of the eastern Gulf of Mexico was to provide another test for Bush's energy agenda. The House already has delayed any such lease sales for six months.

The leases in question "are in the Gulf of Mexico right off my front porch" back in Mississippi and pose no environmental danger, Lott complained. "If we're not going to explore anywhere for oil and gas, what are we going to do?"

Last week, the Interior Department dramatically curtailed the lease area to push it to at least 100 miles away from all land including Florida's coast. The new proposals eliminated three-fourths of the leases once under consideration.

Meredith House



(Courtesy photo)

Visiting Meredith House recently were Billy Gage, Gail Mertz, Stephen Barrett, Mason Stanfield and Jacob Jenkins, all from PACK - Leadership Group at Wilson Elementary.

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